



# Five Arrested in Attack on TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee

### Mamata Says Helmet Saved His Life; BJP Leaders, Officials Pressured Hospital

**Kolkata, Agency:** Police Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee described the attack on her nephew as a conspiracy. She said that had Abhishek not been wearing a helmet, he could have lost his life. According to her, blood clots developed in his body following the assault. Banerjee alleged that after Abhishek was admitted to hospital, pressure was exerted

on the administration not to provide treatment and to discharge him quickly. The incident took place on Saturday in South Sonarpur, where Abhishek had gone to meet TMC workers allegedly affected by post-poll violence. According to allegations, BJP workers surrounded him, raised slogans and assaulted him. Stones, shoes and eggs

were hurled at him, and his shirt was torn. He was escorted away wearing a helmet. After the attack, Abhishek was first taken to Apollo Hospital, where doctors advised rest at home. He was later shifted to Belle Vue Hospital. Following a visit to the hospital, Mamata alleged that BJP leaders and the Deputy Commissioner of

Police (South Kolkata) had made threatening calls to doctors and hospital authorities. Questioning the circumstances of his discharge, she asked why he had been kept in the Intensive Therapy Unit (ITU) if his condition was not serious. She said Abhishek would now receive treatment at home with oxygen support and other medical equipment.

## Onion Farmers Seek 10,000-Crore Relief Package From Centre

Growers Cite Export Restrictions, Price Crash and Crop Losses



**Nashik(GNS):**Onion farmers in Maharashtra have demanded a special relief package of 10,000 crore from the Central Government, citing severe financial distress caused by export restrictions, natural disasters and falling market prices. The demand was raised by Bharat Dighole, founder-president of the Maharashtra State Onion Growers' Farmers' Organisation.

According to the organisation, repeated export bans imposed in 2019, 2020 and 2023-24, along with a 40 percent export duty and periodic minimum export price restrictions, caused substantial losses to growers.

Farmers also blamed government interventions through agencies such as NAFED and NCCF for depressing onion prices in domestic markets.

Heavy rains, hailstorms, unseasonal rainfall, floods and droughts have further damaged onion crops in recent years. The organisation also cited losses due to counterfeit seeds and crop diseases.

The group has demanded direct financial assistance to farmers' bank accounts and called for subsidies on certified onion seeds and storage infrastructure.

Additional demands include support for onion-processing industries, creation of a dedicated onion stabilization fund, a stable national export policy and the establishment of an independent National Onion Producers Corporation.

The organisation estimates that between one million and 1.5 million farming families across nearly 30 districts in Maharashtra depend on onion cultivation.

## Villagers Welcome BSF Fencing Along Bengal Border

**Kolkata(GNS):** Residents of a village along the India-Bangladesh border in West Bengal celebrated the arrival of Border Security Force (BSF) teams tasked with surveying land for border fencing.

The village of Sakarpara, located near Jalangi in Murshidabad district, lies along a 600-kilometre stretch where sections of the border remain unfenced.

Villagers distributed sweets when BSF personnel arrived to begin measurements. The village has a population of about 4,000 and nearly 2,500 voters, with most residents dependent on agriculture.

Local resident and Panchayat member Pintu Mondal said farmers were often unable to visit their fields after evening hours, while intruders from across the border allegedly entered fields and harvested crops.

He claimed disputes had occurred regularly over the past three decades but expressed confidence that fencing would improve security.

According to officials, 27 kilometres of land have already been handed over to the BSF since the formation of the new state government. Of this, 18 kilometres are earmarked for fencing and nine kilometres for border outposts.

The state government aims to provide nearly 600 acres of land to the BSF within 45 days for fencing and related security infrastructure.

# Main Accused in Student's Murder Killed in Police Encounter in UP

### Surya Chauhan's Mother Demands Proof; Seeks Action Against Other Accused

**Ghaziabad(GNS):** The main accused in the murder of Class XI student Surya Chauhan was killed in a police encounter in Ghaziabad early Sunday morning.

Police said Asad (19), who was attempting to flee the city, opened fire when a police team intercepted him around 4 a.m. in the Vasundhara area. He was killed in retaliatory firing. Authorities had announced a reward of ₹50,000 for information leading to his arrest a day earlier.

Seventeen-year-old Surya Chauhan was allegedly murdered on May 28. According to a juvenile



witness, Asad called Surya to a location, where he and his associates surrounded him and repeatedly stabbed him.

The witness claimed that before the attack, Asad taunted the victim by asking whether he had ever seen

an animal being slaughtered and then lured him to the spot.

## Heatwave Eases in Seven States; Sandstorm Alert for Jaisalmer and Jaipur

### Kedarnath Pilgrims Halted in Rudraprayag as Weather Deteriorates

**New Delhi/ Bhopal/ Lucknow(GNS):** A western disturbance has brought relief from the intense heat that had gripped Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Haryana, Chandigarh, Chhattisgarh, Bihar and Odisha for nearly two weeks. Thunderstorms, rain and hailstorms have pushed temperatures below 40°C in these states.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an orange alert for thunderstorms and rain in eight states, including Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan. In Uttarakhand's Rudraprayag district, pilgrims travelling to Kedarnath have been stopped at safe locations due to deteriorating weather conditions.

Despite the relief, temperatures in 36 cities across the country remained above 40°C on Saturday. Chandrapur in Maharashtra's Vidarbha region recorded 44.8°C, making it the hottest place in the country. A massive sandstorm swept through five Rajasthan districts—Sri Ganganagar, Bikaner, Churu, Hanumangarh and Sikar—on Saturday afternoon. The storm affected nearly 200 square kilometres. The phenomenon reportedly originated in Hanumangarh and Sri Ganganagar and was intensified by strong dust-laden winds from Pakistan. Wind speeds touched 56 kmph.

## Modi Hails National Sprint Records Promotes Traditional Summer Drinks

### Brings Back 1,000-Year-Old Chola Copper Plates from Netherlands

**New Delhi(GNS):** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday highlighted traditional Indian summer beverages and celebrated the achievements of Indian athletes during his monthly radio programme Mann Ki Baat.

Speaking about the weather, Modi said Indian kitchens often provide natural solutions to combat summer heat. He encouraged people to consume traditional drinks such as aam panna, lassi, chaas, sattu sharbat, kokum sherbet, sol kadhi, panakam, neer mor and bel



pana. The Prime Minister also praised Indian sprinters Gurindervir Singh and Animesh Kujur after the men's 100-metre national record was broken three times within two days.

Gurindervir Singh had clocked 10.09 seconds at the Federation Cup Senior National Athletics Championships in Ranchi on May 23, becoming India's fastest man and surpassing Animesh Kujur's previous mark. Modi also spoke about the return of ancient Chola-era copper plates from the Netherlands.

## BJP Wins the 'Semifinal' for Power in Himachal



# Supreme Court Upholds GST on Casinos and Online Gaming

## Tax Liability Arises at Time of Betting, Not After Results

**New Delhi(GNS):** The Supreme Court has upheld the levy of Goods and Services Tax (GST) on online gaming, fantasy sports, casinos and other betting-based activities, ruling that tax liability arises at the time a player places a bet rather than after the outcome of the game is known.

A Bench comprising Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice R. Mahadevan rejected arguments by casino operators that GST should be calculated only on Gross Gaming Revenue (GGR)—the amount remaining after payouts to winners.

Casino operators had contended that when payouts exceeded collections, no taxable income remained and GST should therefore not apply.

The Court disagreed, observing that GST is imposed on a taxable supply and not on the profit or loss of a business.

The Bench held that GST becomes applicable as soon as a



player purchases chips or tokens and places a wager. The tax liability does not depend on whether the player eventually wins or loses.

The Court further clarified that chips and tokens are integral to participation in casino games and constitute the mechanism through which bets are placed. Therefore, transactions involving them cannot be excluded from taxation. According to the judgment, linking GST liability solely to the final profits or losses of a casino could create opportunities for underreporting and reduce transparency.

## Acharya Chanakya was a great architect of Indian politics, economics and culture

**Kapil Bhargava**

World Brahmin Pride Day and the birth anniversary of Acharya Chanakya are sacred occasions to remember the glory of Indian culture, knowledge, national policy, and the eternal tradition. This day is not merely a celebration of a particular community, but an honor to the great tradition of knowledge, education, culture, sacrifice, and national service. In Indian civilization, the Brahmin community has always been considered a guide to knowledge and religion. Acharya Chanakya, with his unparalleled knowledge, foresight, and political acumen, shaped Indian history.

The Brahmin community has held a crucial position in India's ancient culture. Brahmins played a key role in preserving and propagating the Vedas, Upanishads, Puranas, and scriptures. This community has always played a leading role in keeping the guru-disciple tradition alive, imparting moral education to society, and protecting religion and culture. In ancient times, Brahmin teachers carried the light of education to the masses through Gurukuls. They guided society not only in religious knowledge but also in subjects such as science, mathematics, Ayurveda, astronomy, politics, and philosophy.

World Brahmin Pride Day

inspires us that knowledge and culture are the greatest strengths of any society. Only societies that respect education, morality, and culture progress. Even in today's modern era, the Brahmin community is making significant contributions in the fields of education, administration, literature, science, art, and social service. This day provides us with an opportunity to connect with our cultural roots and introduce Indian values to the new generation. Acharya Chanakya, also known as Kautilya and Vishnugupta, was a great Indian politician, economist, teacher, and diplomat. He was born at a time when India was divided into many small states and

the threat of foreign invasions was growing. At that time, Acharya Chanakya resolved to unite India through his extraordinary knowledge and strategy. He educated and trained Chandragupta Maurya and established the Maurya Empire, which later became India's most powerful empire. Acharya Chanakya was not only a great teacher, but also a visionary who considered national interest paramount. His famous work, Arthashastra, is still considered an important text on politics, economics, administration, and diplomacy. In it, he outlined numerous principles for state governance, justice, tax policy, security, foreign policy, and

public welfare. His ideas remain a subject of study in administrative and management institutions even today. Chanakya Niti provides numerous principles for successful life. He described truth, discipline, self-confidence, education, and hard work as the foundations of success. He believed that a person becomes great not by birth, but by their actions. He always inspired young people to be aware, educated, and patriotic. His principles teach us that even in difficult circumstances, a person who acts with patience and intelligence is sure to succeed. In today's times, when society is facing numerous challenges, the thoughts of Acharya

Chanakya become even more relevant.

Amidst the growing trend of corruption, moral degradation, social division, and selfishness, Chanakya's teachings offer us the message of national interest, honesty, and devotion to duty. If the younger generation adopts his ideals, the country's future can become even brighter. On the occasion of World Brahmin Pride Day, we should remember the great sages, teachers, and scholars who, through their knowledge and austerity, established Indian culture worldwide. Great men like Maharishi Ved Vyas, Maharishi Valmiki, Adi Shankaracharya, and Acharya Chanakya made India a land of knowledge and spirituality.

### 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. An Ebola vaccine could be on the market very soon! Most of the symptoms of the Ebola virus and other infections appear to be similar. High fever, headache, body aches, skin rashes, vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, extreme weakness, and a sore throat are also early symptoms of the Ebola virus. Internal and external bleeding from the eyes, nose, ears, or urine is also a significant symptom. Ebola is also spread by eating the meat of infected animals (bats or monkeys). The infection is so severe that European countries, the United States, and India have been forced to declare and implement a "high alert."

## Mission Demography: The ill effects of the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, 1983

**Advocate Kishan Sanmukhdas Bhavnani**

- Government to crack down on illegal immigrants - A comprehensive and comprehensive analysis of India's changing demographic challenge

The question of demographic change in India is not merely a matter of statistics but involves a complex balance between the Constitution, citizenship, human rights, democracy and national security.

Mission Demography has become not just a campaign against illegal immigration but a question related to the future social, political and security structure of India.

Globally, the debate surrounding illegal immigration, border security, and changes in India's demographic structure is not new. However, in 2026, this issue has once again become central to national political and security discourse. By announcing the formation of a high-level committee on demographic change under Mission Demography, the central government has signaled that illegal migration is no longer viewed solely as a law and order or humanitarian issue, but as a broader challenge to national security, democratic balance, border management, resource pressure, and social stability. The unnatural demographic change referred to by the Union Home Minister is directly linked to areas where, according to the government, unusual changes in population structure are being observed due to illegal immigration, cross-border activities, and organized settlement. Against this backdrop, the government has formed a high-level committee headed by former Supreme Court judge, Justice Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar, to comprehensively study issues such as illegal immigration, border infiltration, voter identification, fake documents, border management, and population imbalance. At the center of this debate, an old and controversial law has once again come into focus: the IMDT Act of 1983.

Critics consider it a major cause of demographic change in Assam, while supporters maintain that it is necessary for the protection of minorities. I, Advocate Kishan Sanmukhdas Bhavnani, Gondia, Maharashtra, believe that the political and ideological conflict surrounding Mission Demography today has its roots in the Assam agitation, illegal Bangladeshi infiltration, and allegations of vote-bank politics in Indian democracy. This is why the government now appears to be actively implementing the policy of detect, delete, and deport at the national level.

Friends, if we consider the issue of illegal migration in India, it has been particularly relevant to the northeastern states, particularly Assam. Assam was long considered a hub of alleged illegal infiltration from Bangladesh. In the 1970s and 1980s, this issue became so significant that a widespread public movement, known as the Assam Movement, began. The activists alleged that the large number of illegal immigrants was changing the state's demographic structure, exerting pressure on local culture and linguistic identity, and that the inclusion of outsiders in voter lists was disrupting the democratic balance. Against this backdrop, the Illegal Migrants (Determination by Tribunals) Act, or IMDT Act, was enacted in 1983. This law was applicable only to Assam and its stated purpose was to identify illegal immigrants.

Friends, the most significant feature and controversy of the IMDT Act was that it placed the responsibility of proving a person a foreigner on the state and the complainant. Under the Foreigners Act, 1946, applicable in the rest of India, if a person was suspected of being a foreigner, that person had to prove his or her identity as an Indian citizen. However, the IMDT Act had the opposite provision. Critics said that this made it nearly impossible to identify illegal immigrants. Complainants had to provide detailed evidence, while the administrative process was so

cumbersome that action could not proceed in thousands of cases. This led many nationalist and regional organizations to call it a law that protected infiltrators. Concerns expressed about demographic change in Assam were not just about population numbers but also about political representation and cultural identity. Claims were made of shifting religious and linguistic composition in several districts. Local organizations alleged that the names of illegal immigrants were being included in voter lists, affecting electoral dynamics. This led to the intertwining of demography and democracy. Critics argued that allowing large numbers of outsiders to become voters could weaken the political influence of local communities. Supporters of the IMDT Act, on the other hand, argued that many Bengali-speaking Muslims and poor citizens living in Assam were at risk of being arbitrarily declared foreigners, and that the law was necessary to protect human rights. This dispute eventually reached the Supreme Court of India. In 2005, the Supreme Court struck down the IMDT Act. The court stated that the law was ineffective in preventing illegal immigration and made the process of identifying foreigners extremely cumbersome. The court also commented that it had an adverse impact on Assam's demographic situation and national security. Subsequently, the Foreigners Act's rules were implemented in Assam to identify foreigners. While many considered this Supreme Court decision a landmark decision from a national security perspective, some human rights organizations expressed concern that it could significantly increase the likelihood of harassment of innocent citizens. Friends, the ideological background of the Mission Demography that the central government is now talking about in the year 2026 appears to be linked to this historical debate. The objective of the new high-level committee formed by the Home Ministry is stated to be not only to identify illegal immigra-

tion but also to conduct a scientific and evidence-based study of demographic changes taking place in various regions of the country. The committee is chaired by Justice Prakash Prabhakar Naolekar, a former Supreme Court judge and former Lokayukta of Madhya Pradesh. The committee includes members such as former bureaucrats, police officers, economic experts, and Census Commissioners to conduct a multifaceted study of this sensitive issue. The key tasks assigned to the committee reflect the seriousness of the issue. It will study the causes of demographic changes, including illegal immigration. It will analyze the role of cross-border activities, economic opportunities, planned migration, unusual settlement patterns, and socio-environmental factors. The committee will also study structural population changes at the level of religious and social communities, especially in areas where data deviate from national trends. It is also tasked with recommending a permanent institutional framework for the legal, fair and timely identification, detention and deportation of illegal immigrants.

The government's three-pronged strategy—detect, delete, and deport—is considered part of this broader strategy. Detect means identifying illegal immigrants, delete means removing fake names from voter lists or government records, and deport means sending back illegal foreign nationals. The government claims that this campaign is not merely a political issue but a question of national security. Activities such as infiltration, fake documents, terror financing, human trafficking, and organized crime in border areas are being linked to it. This is why Home Minister Amit Shah has called for a 360-degree plan to be implemented on all borders, in which the Border Security Force, intelligence agencies, central departments, and state governments will work together. However, the political dimension of this entire issue is also crucial.

## Attack on MPs Abhishek and Kalyan in West Bengal? Politics of Enmity

**Sanat Jain**

In West Bengal, mobs of BJP workers have been attacking TMC workers, their offices, and senior TMC leaders in recent days. These attacks have increased sharply since the BJP came to power, with offices being demolished. It seems a new gang war has begun in West Bengal with the change of power. Paramilitary forces are still deployed in West Bengal. The way MP Abhishek Banerjee and later MP Kalyan Banerjee were beaten on the street by mobs, their videos were made, and the political vendetta being carried out is resonating in West Bengal as well as in all states across the country. Violent incidents involving elected MPs have

raised serious questions about the democratic system. Political differences are natural in any democracy. When disagreements escalate into violence and mobocracy, it is no longer just a problem for one party or leader but a matter of concern for the entire democratic structure. The way the ruling party has used the EDCBI against opposition parties over the past decade has been demonstrated by the ruling party.

Now, the political battle that began through the SIR is turning violent. The situation that has developed since the change of power in West Bengal is deeply worrying.

The country is currently facing numerous challenges. Unemployment, inflation, dissatisfaction with the education system, irregularities in competitive exami-

nations, the insensitivity of the central and state governments, and the pro-government judiciary. The government and police are harshly suppressing public protests. Prolonged jail time for cases is already causing public discontent. The incidents being witnessed in West Bengal have heightened the growing frustration among the public and youth. When ordinary citizens begin to feel that their problems are not being resolved, their discontent manifests itself in various forms. In such a situation, political parties resort to violence to spread terror or consolidate power. In such a situation, political parties and politicians themselves are showing the mob a new path. In the current situation, it is impossible for any system to handle mobocracy. When the common

man loses faith in dialogue, elections, and constitutional processes in democracy, and when the mob begins to administer justice, the situation becomes extremely dangerous. Political parties, especially the central and state governments, need to learn lessons from such incidents that have occurred in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal in recent years. History shows that public discontent cannot be suppressed for long through administrative power. Political instability, inflation, corruption, etc. have led to major changes in public discontent. Each country's circumstances are different. Given the nature and timing of the incidents occurring in West Bengal, it can be said that lessons need to be learned from these incidents. Understanding public senti-

ment and addressing them in a timely manner should be the government's top priority. The way TMC workers, MPs, and public representatives are being attacked after the elections in West Bengal. Lakhs of paramilitary personnel were deployed during the elections. If such attacks are occurring during their deployment, it is a matter of grave concern. This is not just a law and order issue; it is also a question of a political culture that operates like a gang war. Opponents are increasingly seen as enemies rather than democratic rivals. Such thinking ultimately weakens the Constitution and democracy.

The central government, state governments, and all political parties must understand that the power of democracy lies in dialogue.

# Over 980 tankers deployed as Delhi battles water stress

**New Delhi, Agency:** Amid soaring temperatures and mounting pressure on the Capital's water network, the Delhi Government on Saturday announced a series of measures to ensure uninterrupted drinking water supply across the city, while also accelerating plans for long-term water security.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta reviewed the water supply situation during a meeting and directed officials to improve distribution, prevent leakages, resolve complaints swiftly and promote water conservation.

A major boost came after Haryana assured Delhi of a minimum supply of 1,000 cusecs of water through the Munak Canal. The assurance followed a conversation



between Chief Minister Gupta and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, as the city grapples with increased demand during the summer months.

To meet immediate needs, the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) has deployed more than 980 water

tankers, making over 6,000 trips daily across the capital. Smaller tankers have also been pressed into service to reach congested neighbourhoods and narrow lanes.

Officials said additional borewells in the Yamuna Khadar area have increased water production capacity by 10.5 million gallons per day (MGD).

The Chief Minister directed officials to take strict action against leakages and closely monitor public grievances. According to DJB data, 11,055 complaints were received through its helpline in the past week, with more than 8,500 already resolved. Officials have been asked to clear the remaining complaints promptly and ensure

sufficient tanker availability in water-stressed areas.

Highlighting the importance of conservation, Gupta said: "Every single drop of water is precious and any kind of wastage will not be acceptable." The government is also working on several long-term projects aimed at reducing Delhi's dependence on emergency measures. These include a proposed pipeline to bring water from Haryana, for which a feasibility study is being conducted by IIT-Roorkee.

Other projects under consideration include dredging and de-silting of the Yamuna near Wazirabad, setting up new water treatment plants and developing additional borewells in the Yamuna Khadar region.

# 53 stolen tyres, alloy wheels recovered; two arrested

**New Delhi, Agency:** The Gurugram police arrested two men for allegedly stealing tyres and rims from vehicles parked in housing societies and along roads. The police recovered 53 stolen tyres, eight rims, eight alloy wheels, a jack and Rs 600 from the accused.

According to the police, the accused were identified as Sagar (28), a resident of Shakti Park in Gurugram, and Naveen (35), a resident of Ujina village in Nuh district. Sagar was arrested on Tuesday from Shakti Park, while Naveen was arrested on Wednesday from the NH-8 service road in the Raj Nagar area. Both were produced before a court and remanded in police custody for three days.

The police said a man lodged a complaint at the Sector-93 police chowki on May 9, stating that he had parked his friend's car on the service lane outside MRG Balcony Society. When he returned the next morning, he found that all four tyres and rims had been stolen. A case was subse-



quently registered at Sector-10 police station under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Acting on the complaint, a Crime Branch team from Manesar arrested the two accused.

"During interrogation, it was revealed that Sagar and his associates surveyed vehicles parked in housing societies and on roads. Using a jack, they removed tyres along with rims and carried out the thefts. Naveen's role was to buy the stolen tyres.

# Cuet-UG tests nerves as glitch delays exam at many centres

**New Delhi, Agency:** After the NEET-UG and CBSE chaos, on Saturday, Cuet-UG 2026, the gateway to undergraduate admissions in universities across the country, was thrown into disarray after a glitch delayed exams by several hours at centres across the country, forcing National Testing Agency (NTA) to revise schedules, grant compensatory time and announce a re-exam for 3,700-odd candidates who left exam centres without taking the test.

The disruption hit the morning shift of the three-hour computer-based exam, with candidates at several centres reporting that despite



completing entry formalities and being seated well before the scheduled 9am start, the test did not begin till 11.30am. Students remained inside while relatives outside were left without any clarity on the

delay.

At some centres, the exam reportedly began four hours behind schedule. Notices about the delay were pasted outside centres after parents protested. NTA tech partner

TCS said the glitch was fixed and students were given more time.

Around 15.7 lakh candidates were expected to appear for the test nationally. There are 306 Cuet centres in India and 15 outside. While it is not clear how many were affected, reports of disruptions came in from Delhi, Jodhpur, Noida and several other places in UP.

The delay cascaded onto the afternoon shift as candidates from the morning session exited much later than planned. NTA revised the afternoon schedule, directing candidates to report from 2.30pm and announcing that exams would begin at 4pm

instead of the scheduled 3pm. Candidates are officially required to report to the Cuet exam centre at least 2 hours before the commencement of their scheduled shift, after which entry is stopped.

In a statement, NTA said its technology partner, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), had reported a technical glitch that delayed commencement of Cuet-UG at some centres. It said the issue had been resolved and that candidates were being given full compensatory time. "Morning-session candidates are being given the full duration of the paper and may exit only after completing it," NTA said, apologising for the inconvenience caused.



# Main accused in Class 11 student's murder killed in Ghaziabad police encounter

**New Delhi, Agency:** The main accused in the murder of a 17-year-old Class 11 student here died after sustaining injuries in an encounter with police early Sunday, police said. Asad, a resident of Khoda area, was wanted in connection with the stabbing of Surya Chauhan, who succumbed to injuries on Friday while undergoing treatment. Deputy Commissioner of Police (City) Dhawal Jaiswal said in a press statement that Asad was injured during an exchange of fire with a police team in the Khoda area. He was immediately taken to a hospital where he later died.

Chauhan, a resident of Navneet Vihar Colony in Khoda, was stabbed during an altercation on May 28 and was initially admitted to a local hospital before being referred to a private hospital in Noida, where he died.

Based on a complaint lodged by the victim's family, police registered a case against five persons. Three accused were arrested soon after the incident, while Asad, named as the main accused, remained absconding.

A reward of Rs 50,000 had been announced for information leading to his arrest. Earlier, police had said preliminary investigations suggested that the accused and the victim were friends and that a dispute over riding a motorcycle escalated into an argument, during which Chauhan was stabbed. The victim's family, however, alleged that Chauhan had been lured to a meeting spot after receiving a phone call and was attacked by multiple assailants armed with knives.

Following Chauhan's death, Uttar Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya had said on Saturday the killers would not be spared and face the strictest punishment under the law.

# 'Sounded like a generator blast': Residents recount horrific moments of building collapse in south Delhi

**New Delhi, Agency:** Residents recounted hearing a loud sound resembling a "generator blast" moments before a five-storey building collapsed near Saket Metro station on Saturday evening, triggering panic and a large-scale rescue operation.

According to police, the ground floor of the building housed a coaching institute, while construction work was underway on the upper floors. Officials suspect that students and other occupants may be among those trapped.

A local resident, who lives behind the building, said he initially thought the sound was an explosion. "I live right behind the building, and suddenly there was a sound like a generator blast," he recounted. He added that dust, mud and rubble quickly filled the



surroundings, prompting him to warn others not to step outside before learning about the collapse.

The resident also said there were reports of people being trapped inside and that rescue teams were already at work.

Locals and neighbours rushed to the spot as emergency services launched search and rescue operations. Many people were also seen using mobile phone torches to look through the debris.

Some residents said the

building regularly had students and office workers, raising concerns that the situation could have been more severe if it had collapsed during peak hours.

"It was a commercial building where students attended classes and people worked. Had the collapse occurred during office hours, the damage could have been even worse," a resident said. Another local said the impact appeared limited to a few nearby structures, which remained largely unaffected.

"The impact was limited to a few smaller structures nearby, while the surrounding buildings remain intact," he said. He also noted that the glass-fronted building made it difficult to determine how many people were inside at the time of the collapse.

# School buses face action over safety lapses; 69 challans issued

**New Delhi, Agency:** To ensure the safety of schoolchildren, the Gurugram traffic police inspected school buses operating across the city between May 1 and 29. During the special enforcement drive, police issued challans to 69 school buses and drivers for traffic violations, safety lapses and failure to produce valid documents. Officers also urged drivers to strictly follow traffic rules.

During the inspections, the traffic police briefed school bus drivers on key safety measures. These included parking buses at safe locations while picking up and dropping off students, carrying only the permitted number of passengers, ensuring first-aid boxes are fully stocked and in good condition, replacing fire extinguishers after their validity



period expires and regularly checking that onboard cameras are functioning properly.

Drivers were also informed about the Dial 112 emergency service and the 1095 helpline for assistance in emergencies.

"Students are the nation's future, and ensuring their safety is our foremost responsibility. The Gurugram traffic police appeals to all school managements to ensure their bus drivers strictly comply with traffic rules. We remain committed to serving, protecting and supporting the public at all times," a senior traffic police officer said.

# Court orders charges against Sukesh, Jacqueline in over Rs 200-crore extortion case

**New Delhi, Agency:** A Delhi court has ordered framing of charges against Sukesh Chandrasekhar, his wife Leena Maria Paulose, actor Jacqueline Fernandez and 14 others in a money-laundering case linked to an alleged over Rs 200-crore extortion racket. Parallely, special judge Prashant Sharma also directed framing of charges against Sukesh and 18 others under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA) in an extortion case registered by Delhi Police on a complaint by Aditi Singh. Three others will face charges of criminal conspiracy and cheating. The matter is listed on June 3 for formal framing of charges, with all accused directed to appear in person. In the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) case, the court observed that



Chandrasekhar "knowingly indulged in the process of generating and layering proceeds of crime" and committed the offence of money laundering under Sections 3 and 4 of the Act. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) case stems from an Aug 2021 FIR by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW), alleging that Chandrasekhar posed as the Union law secretary to cheat and extort money from Aditi Singh on the pretext of securing bail for her jailed husband. The

ED alleged he used spoofing technology to impersonate senior officials and extorted over Rs 200 crore, routing the proceeds through shell companies, hawala channels and luxury purchases involving associates, celebrities and jail staff. The court rejected Jacqueline Fernandez's plea that she was being made a scapegoat and could not be prosecuted under PMLA as she was not named in the scheduled offence under MCOCA. It noted that a

person can be prosecuted under PMLA even if not accused in the scheduled offence. Observing that Fernandez was "aware" of Chandrasekhar's criminal background yet continued to receive luxury gifts, payments to her brother and a car for her parents, the court said this attracted liability under PMLA provisions for use of proceeds of crime.

**WESTERN RAILWAY**  
**VARIOUS WORK**  
 Divisional Railway Manager (WA),  
 Western Railway, 6th floor, E-2, Con-  
 struction Control, Mumbai-400001.  
 Invites Tender No.: BC/2025-27/ES Date:  
 28.05.2026 Work and Location: 1) Shriwastan-Extension of NIVOL-SHMET  
 By pass line to UP Loop with provision  
 of extension of DN1 up to 5-5/10N.  
 2) Track work in connection with  
 Surat: Construction of New TRIP  
 shed. Approx. Cost of Work:  
 ₹25.55.30.324.831. EMD: ₹51.10.800/-  
 Date & Time for Submission: 01/06/2026, 15:30 hrs. Date & Time of  
 Opening: on 26.05.2026 at 15:30 hrs.  
 For further details please visit our  
 Website: www.westernrailway.gov.in  
 Follow us on: X.com/WesternRailway

# Haryana supply to cushion Delhi's water crunch; CM steps up response

**New Delhi, Agency:** As Delhi faces an acute water shortage, chief minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday reviewed the situation and directed officials to work on a war footing to ensure adequate drinking water supply. She also spoke to Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini, who assured "a minimum supply of 1,000 cusecs through the Munak Canal". The review came amid a drop in Yamuna levels, reducing raw water availability by 80-100 million gallons per day (MGD). This has put pressure on treatment plants and widened the gap between peak summer demand of about 1,250 MGD and current supply of 900-950 MGD.

At the meeting, attended by water minister Parvash Verma, Delhi Jal Board (DJB) vice-chairperson



Satish Upadhyay and senior officials, the CM assessed water availability, plant output and supply measures. Officials said over 980 tankers are making around 6,000 trips daily, with smaller vehicles deployed in congested areas. Additional borewells in Yamuna Khadar have added 10.5 MGD to supply.

Gupta directed officials to increase tanker deployment where needed and act against leakages. "Every single drop of water is precious, and wastage will not be accepted," she said.

Delhi depends on Haryana and Uttar Pradesh

for over 85% of its water. Against a demand of 1,250 MGD water, Delhi is currently receiving only 900-950 MGD because a sharp drop in Yamuna water levels has reduced raw water availability at critical water treatment plants, forcing supply cuts across several parts of the city.

"The water level at Wazirabad has fallen from 674.5 ft to around 668 ft, cutting production by 80-100 MGD," said Verma, adding that additional raw water is being diverted from the Carrier Line Canal through the twin mains system, while emergency pumping from the riverbed is adding about 40 MGD. Along with 130 MGD diverted from canal systems, these measures have helped sustain operations at Wazirabad and Chandrawal plants, he added.

## Ex-CA Employee on the run for 6 years held for fraud

**New Delhi, Agency:** A former employee of a chartered accountant has been arrested by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) for allegedly cheating the Sansad Marg branch of a public bank of over Rs 5 crore through forged cheques.

The accused, 58-year-old Sudama Narware, had been absconding for six years and was declared a proclaimed offender.

The case was registered on Jan 10, 2020, when the bank alleged that around Rs 6.3 crore had been withdrawn from the account of a renowned private university fraudulently through three cheques in Aug 2019. Two of these cheques had reportedly been presented for clearance through another bank.

A total amount of Rs 5.2 crore had been transferred to two accounts, one to a firm in Vadodara, Gujarat, and another to an NGO in Betul, MP. The transfer through the third cheque was stopped during the process, police said.

"Rs 2.1 crore of the Rs 2.7 crore received by the NGO was later diverted to the firm, and the cheated Rs 4.2 crore was further transferred to Delhi in the accounts of five shell firms," said DCP (EOW) Subodh Kumar Goswami. Narware, the secretary and authorized signatory of the NGO, was nabbed from a remote area of southern MP, police said, adding that three of his co-accused had earlier been arrested, whilst the remaining are abs

## BBA student held for dragging traffic cop on car bonnet

**New Delhi, Agency:** A 20-year-old BBA student was arrested after he allegedly hit and dragged a Delhi Traffic Police constable during a checking drive near Patiala House Court in central Delhi on Thursday.

The drive was being conducted by three traffic personnel near Tilak Marg Traffic Circle at Purana Qila Road around 5pm. When a grey car bearing a defective registration number with tinted windows was signaled to stop, the driver allegedly did not comply and hit the officer, who fell onto the bonnet of the vehicle. "The car then proceeded to Dr Zakir Hussain Marg with the constable on the bonnet before he fell from the vehicle," said a senior police officer. An FIR was registered. The accused, identified as Satyajit (20), was arrested.

## Cigarette row turns deadly; 3 juveniles held for murder in Jahangirpuri

**New Delhi, Agency:** Three minor boys have been apprehended for allegedly murdering a 26-year-old man after a quarrel over a request to fetch cigarettes in north-west Delhi's Jahangirpuri on Friday night.

The victim, Arbaj, a resident of the area, suffered a fatal stab injury in C-Block. Police said he worked as a driver occasionally. He was taken to Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial Hospital, where he died during treatment.

Police said the dispute escalated into a violent confrontation. According to Arbaj's brother, the incident began around 11 pm on Eid night when either Arbaj or one of his friends asked a boy to bring cigarettes. The boy refused, and the matter appeared to end. "Later, he returned with his brothers and got into an argument. My brother tried to defuse the situation, but it escalated," the brother said.

He alleged the accused arrived armed with knives. "They came prepared," he claimed, adding he rushed to the hospital after being informed by Arbaj's wife.

# Uglier side of matrimonial litigation: SC concerned over estranged couples filing frivolous criminal cases

**New Delhi, Agency:** Expressing serious concern over estranged couples filing frivolous criminal cases, including those under the POCSO Act, to settle personal scores, the Supreme Court has asked the courts below to remain vigilant and scrutinise them meticulously. "We wish to underline a worrying trend that has come to our attention. Parties involved in matrimonial or commercial relationships with one another are resorting to filing of frivolous and vexatious claims and allegations of a criminal nature to settle personal scores and grudges against each other and therefore turn to nefarious/oblique means to attain the said objective," a Bench of Justice BV Nagarathna and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan said.

The Bench quashed more



than 10 criminal cases, including those under the POCSO Act and rape provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), against a husband and his family members.

One of the cases filed by the wife alleged that her 14-year-old daughter was raped by her husband and her brother-in-law and was also physically assaulted by other in-laws. He top court cautioned against judicial overreach and mechanical acceptance of allegations and asked the courts below to exercise "utmost caution and

restraint" while entertaining such proceedings, as mistakes can have far-reaching consequences on the mental and physical well-being of the parties involved and may undermine the sanctity of the institution of marriage.

"The Courts have to be extremely careful before taking cognizance of complaints made while invoking the provisions of rape, especially in cases where parties have already been heavily embroiled in matrimonial litigation, since the scope of manipulation, fabrication and vexatious litigation is exponentially high due to pre-existing bad blood between the parties who are often emotionally charged against one another and allegations of rape becomes an aid towards arm twisting tactics" the Bench said, setting aside an Allahabad HC verdict.

## Ragpicker woman sexually harassed while sleeping on footpath in Delhi; accused arrested

**New Delhi, Agency:** A ragpicker woman sleeping on a footpath in Delhi's Palam area was allegedly sexually harassed by a passerby, police said. The incident occurred on May 24, 2026. The accused, a resident of the Palam area who works at a tent house. According to officials, a PCR call was received on May 24 reporting that a man had been touching a woman inappropriately on the footpath. Police reached the spot and found a ragpicker woman present. However, the woman told police that nothing had happened and that she did not wish to take any action. A search was launched for the accused based on the PCR call, and he was later traced and arrested.

A case under Sections 74, 75 and 296 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) has been registered.



## Uglier side of matrimonial litigation:

# SC concerned over estranged couples filing frivolous criminal cases

**New Delhi, Agency:** At least 27 people have alleged they were duped of nearly Rs 14 crore in an online investment scheme that promised steady returns through "advanced" trading technology, police said.

According to complainants, most victims were from middle-class families with limited understanding of forex trading, cryptocurrency markets or digital



investment systems. Many invested life savings, while some bor-

rowed money after being assured of consistent monthly returns.

Investigators said the scheme was promoted through webinars, seminars, social media campaigns, WhatsApp groups, online meetings and personal referrals. Prospective investors were approached by acquaintances and existing participants and invited to presentations portraying the model as a sophisticated platform

operating in international forex and cryptocurrency markets.

"The promoters claimed the platform was powered by artificial intelligence, automated trading algorithms and financial infrastructure capable of generating stable monthly returns," said a Shahdara resident among the complainants. Another complainant said he invested Rs 21.9 lakh in the scheme, initially seeing

profits reflected on the platform. However, the system later stopped functioning, and his funds remain blocked. Similarly, a woman said she invested around Rs 8.5 lakh, including personal savings and borrowed money, after being assured of monthly returns. The platform subsequently stopped releasing payments, leaving her investment inaccessible.

To build credibility,

investors were given access to digital dashboards showing investment balances and purported profits. The figures showed steady gains, creating the impression of genuine trading activity and prompting higher investments.

Victims alleged they were asked to transfer funds through bank accounts, digital wallets and cryptocurrency transactions.

## 8 rescued after building collapses in South Delhi

**New Delhi, Agency:** At least eight persons, including one injured victim rescued late at night, were pulled out after a multi-storey building collapsed onto an adjacent tin-shed canteen on Saturday evening.

Rescue teams from the Delhi Fire Service (DFS), National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA), police personnel and local residents continued search operations.

According to the DFS, information was received at around 8.30 pm regarding the collapse of an under-construction building with multiple floors, triggering a major emergency response. Senior DFS officers reached the site to oversee rescue efforts.

Preliminary reports indicat-



ed that the ground-plus-three-storey structure, which was under construction on the third floor, collapsed onto an adjacent temporary tin-shed canteen. Several children were reportedly having dinner inside the canteen when the

building came crashing down, trapping them beneath the rubble.

By 10.20 pm, three persons were rescued safely by members of the public and PCR personnel before the arrival of fire service teams. Subsequently, four more people were rescued by DFS personnel with assistance from the NDRF and shifted to a nearby hospital.

At around 10.45 pm, rescue teams pulled out another injured person from the debris and rushed the victim to hospital for treatment, taking the total number of rescued persons to eight.

Authorities said rescue operations were continuing late into the night to locate any remaining trapped persons. The exact number of people buried under the debris and the cause of the collapse were yet to be ascertained.

## Alert relative, swift police action foil cyber fraud targeting 72-year-old

**New Delhi, Agency:** A 72-year-old woman was saved from falling prey to a "digital arrest" scam after a relative alerted police, prompting swift action by the cyber helpline.

According to police, the incident came to light around 2.45 pm on Saturday when constable Rekha, a cyber responder posted at the 1930 Cyber Helpline, received a distress call from a man identified as Sahil. He informed police that he had been unable to establish proper contact with his elderly relative, who lives alone in Rohini's Sector-13. He said she appeared distressed and was speaking incoherently during their conversations.

When asked if she had mentioned anything specific, Sahil told the constable that she had referred to the "CBI"

during one of their brief conversations. Suspecting a possible cyber fraud, Rekha alerted inspector Parveen Kumar of the Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit.

Parveen informed the SHO of Cyber Police Station Rohini and simultaneously raised an emergency alert through the 112 helpline. A police team was rushed to the woman's residence. During the inquiry, police found that she had received calls on her landline as well as video calls from individuals posing as law enforcement officials. The callers falsely claimed that her name had surfaced in a Rs 6-crore money laundering case and that she was under "digital arrest". Fearing legal action, she stayed on calls with the fraudsters and avoided speaking to others.

# PO held in 6.25 cr bank fraud case in Selhi Delhi shocker: Delivery executive delivers vibrator, tells woman, 'Why this? Use me instead'

**New Delhi, Agency:** The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Delhi Police has arrested a proclaimed offender who had been absconding in connection with a multi-crore cheque forgery and cheating case involving Allahabad Bank and funds belonging to Amity University.

The accused, identified as Sudama Narware (58), a resident of Betul district in Madhya Pradesh, was arrested in connection with a case registered under Sections 420, 467, 468, 471 and 120B of the IPC.

According to police, Narware had been evading arrest despite repeated raids and had been declared a proclaimed person by the court. The case was registered on a complaint filed by the Assistant General Manager of Allahabad Bank's Sansad Marg branch in New Delhi regarding the fraudulent withdrawal of Rs 6.25 crore from Amity University's bank account.

The police said in August 2019, three cheques purportedly issued by Amity University were presented for clearance. Two cheques were successfully cleared through ICICI Bank,



resulting in the transfer of Rs 5.2 crore to two separate accounts - one in Vadodara, Gujarat and another in Betul, Madhya Pradesh. A third cheque presented through IndusInd Bank was stopped before payment could be processed.

During the investigation, EOW officials examined account statements and traced the flow of funds. One cheque amounting to Rs 2.5 crore was credited to the account of NS Infrastructure in Vadodara, while another cheque worth Rs 2.7 crore was deposited in the account of an NGO based in Betul. Investigators found that Rs 2.07 crore was subsequently transferred from the NGO's account to another firm in Vadodara. The police further alleged that Rs 4.16 crore of the defrauded amount was routed to five shell firms in Delhi.

**New Delhi, Agency:** When Aditi took the personal messenger she had ordered out of the Blinkit bag, the package was unsealed. "As is the drill, I took photos and uploaded them to the app to request a return. A delivery driver arrived to pick it up," the 36-year-old Delhi resident says. She wasn't prepared for what happened next.

"He took the messenger out of the box, sniffed it and gave me a sly smile. He then asked me if I wanted a replacement," she says. "I was disgusted and terrified. I told him to leave."

But Aditi couldn't quite slam the door shut on last year's episode. Her private order became an 'I know what you bought last summer' secret the rider carried with him, one that was conveyed to her through smirks the few other times their paths crossed - she lives in the same neighbourhood, he too still works there. Last week, a Faridabad based media strategist's



recounting of a chilling encounter with a rider who delivered a vibrator she ordered showed neither her nor Aditi's experience were isolated ones and that delivery apps have serious questions to answer on how they handle customer privacy.

Pooja Joshi had ordered the product from Blinkit's sexual wellness section. The rider didn't keep the package and leave. He asked her what she bought. According to Pooja, when she told him to mind his own business, he left. Seconds later, her phone rang. The rider was calling again. When she answered, he allegedly told her, "Why are you using a vibrator? Use me instead."

Wondering how he could make the call to her even after the delivery, Pooja said it was possible the man had not officially marked the delivery as 'completed' to retain access to her phone number, just so he could start a conversation. "I was so scared," she told Media . "This stranger who told me I should have sex with him knew exactly where I lived."

After Pooja filed a complaint with Blinkit, the company informed her it had dismissed the rider. This, she says, made her more afraid: "I got him fired. Thanks to the delivery, he had my address."

After she posted about her experience on LinkedIn, many commentators asked her why she couldn't have ordered a vibrator from "a safer place". Some suggested Amazon, which sends parcels in cartons. "That is not the point," she told Media .

"The point is if such products are available on a quick commerce website, it is the

company's responsibility to protect the customer's privacy." A former executive at a quick commerce platform said there is a separate protocol in place for handling sexual wellness, medicine, intimate care and reproductive health products. The apps mark them under the 'personal use items' category. These are then packed in a way to ensure the product is not visible to delivery personnel. Media asked delivery drivers whether they are aware of what is in the bags they take to customers' homes. They said if a package is for 'personal use', it is wrapped to hide its contents.

But evidently, it's different in practice. And riders who want to find out do. Noida resident Sweta (30) bought a pack of condoms from Zepto last month that arrived in the open. "Along with each grocery item, the delivery person handed me the condoms as well. He gave me a judgemental look.