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Annual income up to ₹12.75 lakh tax-free

Affordable air travel for 1.6+ crore passengers under the UDAN Scheme

Metro connectivity expanded from 5 cities to 26 cities

12 Saal *Vishwas ke, Vikas ke, Jan-kalyan ke*



Through historic initiatives such as tax relief on annual income up to ₹12.75 lakh and the UDAN Scheme, our government has provided the middle class with opportunities for a better quality of life.

- Shri Harsh Sanghavi, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Gujarat

Modi and Macron held a bilateral meeting in Nice France Visited the historic Villa Carrillos, took a selfie

PM said – India is a solution-giver, not a solution-seeker

New Delhi/ Paris/ Bratislava, (GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a bilateral meeting with French President Emmanuel Macron in Nice, France on Sunday. The Prime Minister was accompanied by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar, and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri.

The two countries discussed strengthening cooperation in defense, technology, AI, semiconductors, space technology, health-tech, investment, and strategic cooperation. Earlier, the two leaders inaugurated the "India



Innovates 2026" program, which saw participation from startups and venture capital funds from India, France, and other countries. Following the program, President Macron took Prime Minister Modi to the Villa Carrillos near Nice, one of France's renowned historical and cultural sites. Macron took a selfie with the Prime Minister and shared it on the social media platform X. PM Modi is on a six-day visit to France and Slovakia, starting June 13. He will attend the G7 summit in Evian, France, on June 17. During the visit, he will meet with US President Trump.



Five Killed in Storm and Lightning Incidents in Uttar Pradesh

Tree Falls on Ambulance in MP; Pre-Monsoon Activity Intensifies Across Nine States

New Delhi(GNS):Pre-monsoon activity has intensified across large parts of the country, with rainfall reported in nine states, including Rajasthan. Severe weather conditions in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have caused widespread damage.

Rain lashed four districts of Madhya Pradesh, including Bhopal, on Saturday, while strong winds uprooted trees and damaged electricity lines.

In Uttar Pradesh, five people lost their lives in rain-related incidents. Two people died after being struck by lightning in Unnao and Ghazipur, while three members of a family were killed when a house roof collapsed in Kasganj.

In Churu district of Rajasthan, four members of a family were trapped under debris after a wall collapsed during a storm. Local residents launched rescue operations and shifted the injured to hospital.

Monsoon Enters Jharkhand and Odisha

The southwest monsoon has

advanced into parts of Jharkhand and Odisha and is expected to reach Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh within the next three days.

After making landfall in Kerala on June 4, the monsoon has covered 19 states in just nine days.

States Covered by the Monsoon

As of June 13, the monsoon had reached Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Manipur, Tripura, Nagaland, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Assam, Meghalaya, Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand and Odisha.

Between June 14 and July 5, it is expected to advance into Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi and Rajasthan.

Heatwave Conditions Continue

Several cities in Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh recorded temperatures above 40 degrees Celsius.

Khan Sir Coaching Dispute: Death of Roshan Anand's Brother Under Suspicious Circumstances

Patna(GNS): Prince Yadav, the brother of Gyan Bindu Coaching Director Roshan Anand, has been found dead in a hotel in Biratnagar, Nepal. According to reports, Prince had injuries near his eye, and poisoning is also suspected. Nepal Police has detained five people for questioning. Prince had been named as an accused in an FIR lodged by popular educator Khan Sir, also known as Faizal Khan, following an attack on his coaching institute on June 2. After the FIR was registered, Prince reportedly travelled to Nepal with six or seven friends. He died under mysterious circumstances late at night.

Roshan Anand's family has left for Nepal after receiving the news.

Prince had previously been accused of involvement in an attack on Khan Sir's coaching institute in 2021. His uncle, Manoj Singh, said the family learned of his death through social media on Sunday morning and that the exact cause of death remains unknown.



Congress Demands US Apology Over Death of Indian Sailors

New Delhi(GNS): The Congress party has questioned the Central Government's response to the deaths of Indian sailors in an incident near the coast of Oman and demanded that the United States apologise and ensure accountability. Congress Media and Publicity Department Chairman Pawan Khera said on Sunday that the official statements issued after talks between External Affairs Minister Dr S. Jaishankar and US Secretary of State Marco Rubio suggested that India had not taken a sufficiently firm stand. Khera argued that a softer approach was inappropriate in a case where Indian citizens had lost their lives. He stated that under international law, commercial vessels belonging to third countries cannot be targeted during armed conflicts. Referring to the San Remo Manual on International Law Applicable to Armed Conflicts at Sea and the 1949 Geneva Conventions, he said those responsible for such actions must be held accountable. According to Khera, since Indian citizens lost their lives in the incident, the Central Government should formally demand an apology from the United States, seek an impartial investigation, and ensure accountability.

Bihar Police Recruitment Exam: Stone Pelting and Vandalism at Patliputra Station

Patna(GNS):Chaos erupted at Patliputra Railway Station before the Bihar Police recruitment examination, with students protesting alleged administrative lapses.

Six people have been arrested in connection with the incident. Protesters stopped several trains and vandalised station property as well as an examination special train, leaving shattered glass scattered across the premises.

To control the situation, Railway Superintendent Jitendra Rana reportedly ordered firing.

Patna District Magistrate Dr Tyagarajan said the administration received information around midnight that a group of people was creating a disturbance.

Officials appealed to the protesters to maintain peace and cooperate with fellow candidates appearing for the examination. According to the District Magistrate, certain anti-social elements repeatedly pulled emergency chains and raised various demands, including the operation of additional special trains, despite two special trains already being in service.



New Delhi(GNS): The first batch of pilgrims for the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra 2026 was flagged off from New Delhi on Saturday. Minister of State

for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita presided over the ceremony held at Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan. Congratulating the pilgrims, the Minister said

Kailash Mansarovar Yatra 2026 Begins First Batch of Pilgrims Flagged Off from Delhi

they would be accommodated at newly developed acclimatisation centres, recently inaugurated virtually by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Margherita also appreciated the coordinated efforts of various Central ministries and departments, along with the governments of

Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Uttar Pradesh, for ensuring a safe and comfortable pilgrimage experience. Earlier this week, India's Ambassador to China, Vikram Doraiswami, visited Lhasa in Tibet to jointly review the arrangements made by local authorities for Indian pilgrims.

Kolkata's Major Private Hospitals to Reserve 10% Beds for Poor Patients

Kolkata(GNS):The newly formed BJP government in West Bengal has announced a major initiative to improve healthcare access for economically weaker sections. State Health Minister Dr Sharadwat Mukherjee made the announcement after a meeting with officials of government and private hospitals.

He said that 17 major private hospitals and nursing homes in Kolkata that had received government land allocations would now have to reserve 10 per cent of their beds for poor

and needy patients.

These beds will be specifically earmarked for patients referred by government hospitals.

Out of the 6,573 beds available in these institutions, approximately 660 beds will now be reserved for economically disadvantaged patients.

Major hospitals covered under the policy include:

Apollo Hospital – 75 beds
Fortis Healthcare – 33 beds
Ruby General Hospital – 40 beds
Peerless Hospital – 67 beds



Narayana Hospital – 68 beds

KPC Medical College and Hospital – 106 beds

According to Health Department sources, two major private hospitals are yet to agree to the arrangement. The state government will hold another meeting with private nursing homes and medical colleges across West Bengal to extend the model statewide.

The government clarified that treatment costs for government-referred patients occupying these reserved beds would be reimbursed to the

private hospitals. Kolkata to Host Main International Yoga Day Event

The main national celebration of the International Day of Yoga on June 21 will be held in Kolkata and attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Initially planned for Brigade Parade Ground, the venue has been shifted to Red Road due to the possibility of rain. Around 30,000 participants are expected to perform yoga alongside the Prime Minister. Kolkata Police has been entrusted with screening participants as part of the security arrangements.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day: A pledge to respect and protect

(Sunil Kumar)

Elders are a priceless treasure of our experiences, culture, and life values. It would not be wrong to say that they are a treasure trove of experience and guidance that cannot be compared to any material possession. The truth is that elders are not only a part of our past, but also the foundation of our present and the guiding light of our future. The identity of any civilized society is determined by how it treats its children and elders. Elders are like dense, shady trees that hold the family together. Through their experiences and values, they provide the right direction to the new

generation and inspire them to achieve success and heights in life. Indeed, elders are the bearers of our culture and traditions and serve as role models for children. Their presence in the family provides a sense of security, trust, and emotional support. They play the role of mediators in resolving differences and disputes among family members, maintaining unity and harmony within the home. Therefore, it is our moral and social duty to respect, protect, and properly care for the elderly. With this goal in mind, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is observed annually on June 15. This day is dedicated to

raising awareness about the exploitation, neglect, violence, and economic abuse of older people.

Let me inform readers here that World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was first initiated on June 15, 2006, in collaboration with the International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse and the World Health Organization. Subsequently, in December 2011, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) officially recognized June 15 as World Elder Abuse Awareness Day through its resolution A/RES/66/127. Since then, this day has been celebrated worldwide as an official UN

observance. Due to changing lifestyles and family structures, many older people today face neglect, loneliness, and abuse. We must not forget that we too will one day enter old age. Therefore, we must understand that we should give our elders the same respect we expect for ourselves. This day raises awareness of physical, mental, emotional, and financial abuse against the elderly. Many elders are unable to report abuse due to fear, shame, social pressure, or lack of information. Therefore, the main objective of this day is to encourage them to raise their voice and provide them with an

effective security mechanism.

If we look at the statistics, according to the World Health Organization, one in six elderly people worldwide, or approximately 15.7 percent, is a victim of some form of abuse. Even more worrying is the fact that only one in 24 cases involving the elderly reaches the authorities. Most cases remain hidden within the four walls of the home due to fear of stigma, the breakdown of family relationships, or the loss of loved ones. Mental or emotional abuse constitutes the largest share of abuse cases, accounting for approximately 11.6 percent. This includes

taunts, insults, denial of communication, or abandonment.

The sad fact is that in most cases, the perpetrators are not outsiders, but family members themselves—such as children, spouses, or close relatives. This is followed by cases of financial fraud and economic exploitation. It is estimated that by the year 2050, the number of people over the age of 60 in the world will nearly double to 2 billion. If effective steps are not taken in time, the number of victims of elder abuse may increase to more than 320 million, which will be a serious social challenge for the entire world.

Editorial

Long overdue: On coal exchanges

Unveiled at a time of record domestic coal production, the Coal Exchange Rules, 2026, are a case of better-late-than-never. They will create a broad market-based mechanism through regulated trading platforms for the lynchpin of India's energy system — coal. They are aimed at enhancing price discovery, transparency, access for small consumers, as well as, one would hope, reduce bilateral agreements that are often opaque and come with a whiff of graft, too often. Today, most coal transactions between producers and buyers take place through long-term contracts, primarily for the power sector, followed by auctions, imports and captive mining. While India's commodity exchanges are well established, they function largely as financial markets rather than physical delivery platforms. Coal exchanges, however, appear closer in design to power exchanges, which, despite modest volumes, play a role in price discovery, market signalling and the development of secondary markets. As if to prove this point, coal exchanges are expected to serve the non-regulated sector, which relies on Coal India auctions where coal is often sold at a premium to the highest bidder. Power exchanges are not merely niche trading platforms; they serve as points of reference for the broader power market. They have enhanced price discovery and served as a balancing market without replacing long-term power purchase agreements. Initially the power exchanges were only balancing shortages, but eventually the spot prices became a barometer of the broader power market indicating scarcity, surplus and system stresses for all electricity stakeholders. Perhaps the first role of coal exchanges could be to open up inventories, allowing surpluses to balance out shortages across India. The templates for the two exchanges are not very different though the specific rules framed by the Coal Controller Organisation of India will determine the success of coal exchanges. Just as with the successes, the failures of power exchanges can also serve as lessons learned for coal.

Somvati Amavasya: A grand festival of faith, belief and folk life

(Kantilal Mandot)

In Indian culture, dates, festivals, and celebrations are not just religious rituals, but also living symbols of society's faith, tradition, and cultural consciousness. Somvati Amavasya holds a special place among these important festivals. When the Amavasya Tithi falls on a Monday, it is called Somvati Amavasya. In 2026, this auspicious occasion will be celebrated on June 15th. This day marks a remarkable confluence of Amavasya, Monday, remembrance of ancestors, worship of Shiva, and charity.

Somvati Amavasya holds immense significance in public life. This day, associated with faith and belief, symbolizes people's joy, faith, and spiritual awakening. On this day, large numbers of devotees across the country bathe in holy rivers, offer prayers at temples, and express their devotion to society and religion through charity.

In Sanatan Dharma, Amavasya is considered a day to remember and offer prayers to ancestors. It is believed that the offerings, Shraddha, and donations made on this day please the ancestors and bless their descendants with happiness, prosperity, and progress. When this Amavasya falls on a Monday, its significance increases manifold, as Monday is considered a special day for worshipping Lord Shiva. Thus, Somvati Amavasya becomes a unique confluence of ancestral worship and devotion to Shiva.

According to religious



beliefs, waking up in the Brahmamuhurta and bathing on this day holds special significance. Bathing in the Ganges or any other holy river is considered highly virtuous. Those unable to reach pilgrimage sites bathe at home by mixing Ganges water with their bathwater. After bathing, Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati are ritually worshipped. Water, milk, and bael leaves are offered to the Shivalinga, and wishes for happiness, prosperity, and well-being for the family are offered.

Worshipping the Peepal tree on Somvati Amavasya also holds special significance. In Indian tradition, the Peepal tree is considered a sacred tree. It is believed that the gods reside in it. Women and men worship the Peepal tree, circumambulate it, and pray for the happiness, health, and longevity of their families. This tradition is not only religious but also conveys a message

of nature conservation. Indian culture has also promoted the spirit of environmental protection by making trees sacred.

In folk life, Somvati Amavasya isn't limited to worship and rituals. It's also a festival of social harmony and human compassion. The tradition of giving charity on this day inspires people to help those in need. By donating food, clothing, fruits, sweets, grains, and other essential items, people fulfill their responsibility towards the weaker sections of society. This strengthens social harmony and the spirit of cooperation.

Somvati Amavasya is celebrated with varying traditions and customs in different states of India. Large fairs are held in some places, while religious processions are organized elsewhere. Special prayers are held in temples, and hymns and kirtans create a devotional atmosphere. Rural areas

also celebrate this festival with special enthusiasm. Family members worship together and participate in religious events. This also strengthens family unity and social cohesion.

Somvati Amavasya is also considered to be of special significance for women. Many women observe a fast on this day and worship Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati for the well-being and prosperity of their families and the long life of their husbands. It is a religious belief that a fast observed with faith and devotion bestows positive energy and auspicious results in life. Somvati Amavasya in 2026 is considered particularly significant because of the combination of several auspicious coincidences. The new moon falling on a Monday, the end of Jyeshtha Adhik Maas, and Gemini Sankranti further enhance the day's religious significance. From an astrological perspective, it is also

considered a virtuous occasion. It is believed that chanting, penance, charity, and worship performed on this day yield greater results than on normal days.

Somvati Amavasya also provides us with an opportunity to express gratitude to our ancestors. In the hustle and bustle of modern life, when people are increasingly distanced from their traditions and values, festivals like these serve to connect us with our cultural roots. Remembering our ancestors is not merely a religious ritual, but a means of expressing respect for our heritage, family, and traditions.

In today's times, when materialism and competition are becoming increasingly central to life, festivals like Somvati Amavasya offer us the message of spirituality, service, compassion, and philanthropy. This day reminds us that life isn't limited to personal success; our responsibilities to society, family, and nature are equally important.

Ultimately, it can be said that Somvati Amavasya is an important festival in the vibrant traditions of Indian culture. It is a unique confluence of faith, belief, devotion, charity, and respect for ancestors. It is deeply rooted in folk life, and the faith of millions is associated with it. This festival not only holds religious significance but also strengthens social unity, family harmony, nature conservation, and human values.

Retail inflation has increased the problems of the market and the common man

(Manoj Kumar)

Regardless of government statistics, the truth remains that inflation continues to plague the country. Retail inflation has risen for the fifth consecutive month, reaching 3.93 percent in May. However, it remains within the Reserve Bank of India's target range of 2-6 percent. In the previous month of April, retail inflation was 3.48 percent.

According to government data released on Friday, rising prices of food products and fuel were particularly responsible for the increase in retail inflation in the country. The inflation rate in May is the highest ever recorded under the revised CPI series implemented in January this year.

The biggest contributors to the rise in inflation in May were increases in food prices and fuel

prices. Food inflation continued its upward trend, rising from 4.20% in April to 4.78% in May, indicating that food prices are rising faster than a month earlier.

Along with rising food prices, fuel prices have also increased transportation costs. The rise in fuel rates has also contributed significantly to inflation. State-owned oil distribution companies increased fuel prices four times during May, increasing transportation costs and fueling inflation.

You know that inflation can be understood more by the concerns of the common man's plate, kitchen, pocket, and heart than by statistics. While government reports measure inflation in percentage points, its true impact is felt by families who must manage the monthly expenses of rations, gas, electricity, children's

education, medicine, and travel on limited income. The retail inflation rate's rise to 3.93 percent in May rekindles this concern. In April, the rate was 3.48 percent, meaning inflation has accelerated again. Rising food prices are the biggest reason for this. Food inflation, reaching 4.78 percent, indicates that the kitchen budget is now under greater pressure than ever before. Inflation isn't just a game of numbers; it's a direct story of the common man's plate, kitchen, travel, children's education, and the entire household budget. Vegetables become more expensive in the market, fuel prices rise, cooking gas becomes more expensive, and the cost of daily necessities increases, impacting poor and middle-class families first. Controlling inflation is a significant responsibility

for the government and the Reserve Bank. The Reserve Bank uses the CPI as a key metric when formulating monetary policy. The government has set a target of keeping inflation around 4%, with a two-percentage point. While the May figures appear to be within this range, concerns are natural given food inflation, fuel prices, and global crises. If inflationary pressures persist, they will impact demand, investment, and economic growth. Fuel is further fueling the inflationary fire. Rising petrol and diesel prices not only increase the cost of driving, but also impact freight, public transport, rent, food, and the service sector. The increase in petrol and diesel prices since May has further increased the common man's expenses. Urban transportation has also been affected by the

rise in CNG prices. When transportation costs rise, the price of every commodity reaching the market increases. This is why fuel inflation gradually spreads throughout the market. The increase in the price of domestic LPG cylinders has further exacerbated the hardships of ordinary families. Hotels and restaurants have already seen food prices rise due to the increased prices of commercial gas cylinders. Now, the rise in domestic gas prices has directly impacted the kitchens of ordinary households. Families with limited incomes are finding it increasingly difficult to balance expenses such as gas cylinders, vegetables, milk, school fees, and electricity and water. Inflation isn't driven solely by domestic factors; global conditions also play a significant role.

Delhi Govt shields consumers from fuel price shock

New Delhi, (GNS): Amid concerns over a recent revision in the Power Purchase Adjustment Cost (PPAC), Delhi Power Minister Ashish Sood on Saturday said the Delhi Government has taken steps to ensure that consumers, particularly those receiving electricity subsidies, remain protected from the impact of rising global fuel prices.

Sood clarified that the PPAC is a statutory provision under the existing electricity laws that allows power distribution companies to adjust electricity tariffs in line with fluctuations in fuel and power procurement costs. He stressed that the mechanism is not a new arrangement and is implemented across the country.

"Power Purchase Adjustment Cost (PPAC) is not



a new arrangement. The electricity laws of the country already permit power companies to adjust for the rising cost of fuel used to generate electricity. Due to the situation in West Asia and other prevailing circumstances, fuel costs have risen sharply, leading to a 31 per cent increase in power procurement costs during the past month," Sood said.

The minister said the recent increase in power procurement

costs was driven by a sharp rise in global fuel prices amid the ongoing crisis in West Asia and other international developments. However, he maintained that the Delhi Government intervened to ensure that consumers were not burdened with the full impact of the cost escalation.

"Even though power procurement costs rose by 31 per cent, the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC) has allowed only an average increase of 2.4 per cent in the PPAC. Earlier, the PPAC had been capped at 14.5 per cent till March 31. With the latest revision, it stands at approximately 17.5-17.9 per cent. This demonstrates our commitment to protecting consumers from the full impact of rising global energy prices," he

stated.

According to the minister, the latest order issued by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission seeks to balance the financial sustainability of power distribution companies with consumer interests. He noted that the order also includes deferred recovery mechanisms to limit the immediate burden on consumers.

Sood reiterated that households benefiting from the Delhi Government's electricity subsidy scheme would not see any increase in their bills due to the PPAC revision.

"I want to categorically state that all consumers receiving Delhi Government electricity subsidies will face absolutely no impact on their electricity bills due to this regulatory adjustment.

Delhi: DFS advocates for sprinklers smoke detectors in new buildings

New Delhi, (GNS): When houses were large, they had ventilators and fewer highly flammable materials, giving residents about 15-17 minutes to escape a fire, but with rising population and more combustible housing materials, Delhi residents now have less than 5 minutes to escape.

To overcome this, the Delhi Fire Service (DFS) had submitted a proposal named "Har Ghar Surakshit, Bharat Viksit" to the Delhi Government to mandate sprinklers and smoke detectors, like in most developed countries to overcome the recurring fire incidents in the national capital.

According to DFS Chief Fire Officer Abhilash K Malik, newer buildings have become significantly more vulnerable to rapid fire spread due to factors such as reduced ventilation, extensive use of air-conditioners and synthetic materials and lower floor-to-ceiling clearances.

Malik said the proposal advocates for making these fire alarm and safety systems mandatory with immediate effect for under-construction buildings. Additionally, older constructions should be given special initiatives to install such arrangements.

With implementation of such systems, fire-related casualties could be curbed by over 97 per cent, Malik said.

The plan, if put in action, can result in drastic reduction in blaze-related deaths in the national capital within three years.

At present, smoke detectors and automatic sprinklers are mandatory in all commercial buildings, high-rise residential buildings (exceeding 15 metres in height) and basements larger than 200 square metres. The Delhi Fire Service requires these properties to hold and periodically renew a fire safety certificate (FSC).

Currently, independent houses and low-rise residential buildings (below 15 metres in height) are exempt from requiring a fire safety no objection certificate (NOC) and mandatory detector installations.

Man held for robbing deaf-mute person in Delhi's Jahangirpuri

New Delhi, (GNS): A man has been apprehended in connection with the robbery of a mobile phone from a specially-abled person in northwest Delhi's Jahangirpuri area, police said on Sunday, a day after a video of the incident went viral on social media.

According to police, the victim is a deaf and mute man whose mobile phone was allegedly snatched during the incident. Police traced an eyewitness who had intervened to help the victim during the robbery. The witness sustained a minor knife injury while trying to stop the accused and later provided a detailed statement to investigators.

The accused, identified as Firoj Alam, was nabbed by a team from Jahangir Puri police station after officers analysed CCTV footage and gathered local intelligence.

Police said the accused was further identified by the victim and



his father during the course of the investigation. The eyewitness also identified Alam as the person involved in the crime.

A background check revealed that the accused has previously been involved in cases of robbery and offences under the Arms Act, police said.

A case has been registered under sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Police said efforts are being made to recover the robbed mobile phone.

8 years, multiple outbreaks: Why Kerala remains India's nipah hotspot

New Delhi, (GNS): The latest nipah virus infection in Kerala has once again drawn attention to a striking public health pattern: while India has reported the deadly disease from only two states in the past 25 years, Kerala has accounted for most confirmed cases and outbreaks since 2018, making it the country's principal nipah hotspot.

The latest case, involving a 43-year-old man in Kozhikode, has triggered intensive surveillance and contact tracing, with the Centre deploying a joint national response team to identify where the patient may have contracted the infection and assess the risk



of further spread.

The multi-agency team will support epidemiological investigations, risk assessment and containment efforts alongside state authorities. Health ministry officials said its immediate priority is to trace the source of exposure and determine how the patient became infected.

Historically, nipah virus has been reported only from

West Bengal and Kerala. India's first outbreak was recorded in Siliguri, West Bengal, in 2001, followed by another in Nadia district in 2007. Kerala reported its first outbreak in 2018, after which repeated outbreaks and sporadic cases were detected in Kozhikode, Malappuram and Ernakulam. West Bengal also reported confirmed cases in North 24 Parganas earlier this year.

"Kerala's repeated nipah outbreaks are likely driven by a combination of a close animal-human interface and a highly sensitive surveillance system. Fruit bats frequently interact with human settlements, orchards and fruit-growing areas, while the

state's healthcare system has developed a high level of awareness because of previous outbreaks, allowing cases to be detected quickly," an official familiar with nipah surveillance said.

Fruit bats, or flying foxes, are the natural reservoir of nipah virus, a zoonotic disease that can spread to humans through contact with bat secretions or contaminated food, and also through close contact with infected individuals.

Researchers say Kerala's ecology may favour recurring nipah spillovers. Studies have documented widespread populations of Pteropus fruit bats and roosting sites close to human settlements.

Delhi Tughlaqabad building fire was deliberate act of arson, probe reveals chilling details

New Delhi, (GNS): Two days after a fire tore through a five-storey residential building in southeast Delhi's Tughlakabad Extension, killing three people and injuring eight others, police said that the blaze was a deliberate act of arson and have nabbed four persons, including a 17-year-old girl.

The fire broke out around 2.24am on June 12 at a Building in street No. 1. The flames quickly spread from the ground floor to the fifth floor, engulfing the building and trapping several residents inside.

Eight people suffered burn injuries and were rushed to AIIMS Trauma Centre and



Safdarjung Hospital. Three victims - Pankaj Pandey, Sonia Kumari and Sushila Devi - later succumbed to their injuries.

Read more: Mumtaz saved 2 sisters, but futile search for cat landed her in ICU

Police had initially registered a case under provisions

relating to negligent handling of fire and causing death by negligence. However, as reported earlier, during the investigation, CCTV footage showed a woman entering the premises shortly before the blaze broke out, prompting investigators to probe the possibility of foul play.

The investigation led to the apprehension of a 17-year-old girl who allegedly told cops that she had been told to set fire to a scooter belonging to Deepak, a resident of the building's fifth floor.

"The teenager said that she had been instructed by a 27-year-old woman, who provided her with petrol and a matchbox and directed her to

target the vehicle over a monetary dispute involving Deepak," a senior police officer said.

Media was the first to speak to Deepak, a bike taxi driver, on the day of the fire at the Safdurjung hospital's burn ward as his wife, Mumtaz was in ICU critical, and his two sisters in law were also critical at AIIMS burn ward.

Police said the 27-year-old woman, in turn, revealed during questioning that she had acted at the behest of a 33-year-old man and his 27-year-old brother.

Investigators suspect the fire was part of a conspiracy hatched to settle a personal dispute.

Campus entry banned for DU teacher for 'clicking' photo of student, ICC probes

New Delhi, (GNS): A teacher at a Delhi University college has been barred from entering the campus pending an inquiry into allegations that he secretly clicked photographs of a woman student during an examination earlier this week.

The college authorities have also confiscated his mobile phone and he has been removed from examination duty. Further action, including the possibility of a police complaint, will be considered after the internal complaints committee (ICC) completes its probe, officials said.

ICC has been asked to submit its report within seven days, by June 20. The college administration said subsequent action would be taken based on the committee's recommendations.

The principal said that after receiving a complaint from the student, the administration examined



CCTV footage from the venue and allegedly found evidence of the teacher, who was on invigilation duty, clicking photographs. "Accordingly, his phone was checked and confiscated. Upon examining the phone, several such photographs were found," the principal told Media.

Wrong-side SUV hits traffic cop in SE Delhi; sales director arrested

New Delhi, (GNS): A sales director at a private firm has been arrested in connection with an alleged hit-and-run case in which a traffic police constable was injured while attempting to stop an SUV being driven on the wrong side in southeast Delhi's Sarai Jullena. CCTV footage of the incident had gone viral, showing the officer being knocked down by the speeding vehicle.

The accused, identified as Mohammad Mubashshir Abbas, 31, holds a postgraduate degree in mass communication. He had been working in Dubai for the past two years and returned to India about 10 days before the incident. He is currently employed as a sales director with a private firm in Connaught Place.

DCP (Crime) Sanjeev Yadav said that on June 10, head constable Rahul Kumar was deployed with other personnel at the Sarai Jullena traffic intersection leading towards Jamia

Nagar. Around 9.45 am, a black SUV was seen approaching at high speed from the Jamia side on the wrong side of the road.

When Kumar signalled the driver to stop, the latter allegedly accelerated, hit the constable and sped away towards Mata Mandir Marg. A case was subsequently registered and an investigation initiated.

"The team under supervision of ACP Satendra Mohan examined CCTV footage along the route taken by the vehicle. Simultaneously, ground intelligence was developed, which helped identify the accused as Mohammad Mubashshir Abbas, a resident of Jamia Nagar," Yadav said. Police traced Abbas to Connaught Place Friday.

During interrogation, Abbas told police he was heading to his workplace and was running late. To avoid heavy congestion near Sarai Jullena, he chose to drive against traffic.

No stay on Jaipur Polo Ground eviction, Centre takes possession

New Delhi, (GNS): Central govt on Saturday took physical possession of the 15.2-acre Jaipur Polo Ground in the Race Course area, after Indian Polo Association (IPA), which manages the facility, failed to get relief from court on an eviction notice by Land and Development Office (L&DO).

L&DO officials pasted a notice on the front wall of the ground, which stated, "This is the property of Land & Development Office, Govt of India. Any unauthorised occupation, encroachment, construction or illegal activities is a punishable offence under the law."

IPA has termed the eviction "wrongful, arbitrary and contrary to law", and said it would



pursue all available legal remedies to safeguard its rights and interests.

Refusing to grant interim relief to the association Friday, vacation judge Dharendra Rana said he was not inclined to halt the implementation of the eviction order issued on May 20.

Delhi High Court disposed of a plea on June 8, directing the Patiala House court to hear the

association's stay application on June 10 and asking the parties to appear before the district and sessions judge. While disposing of the matter, the vacation bench of the high court orally made critical observations regarding Centre's proposed takeover and its probable impact on the current landscape of Lutyens' Delhi.

During Friday's hearing, central govt's standing counsel, Ashish Dixit, asked the court for more time to file its response to IPA's challenge against the eviction order and its request to put the order on hold.

The request was opposed by the IPA counsel, who urged the court to stay the execution of the order until central govt filed its response.

In response, Dixit argued that the association had incorrectly submitted before Delhi High Court that its request for interim relief wasn't considered by the district court and claimed that no separate stay application was filed by IPA.

After hearing the parties, the judge noted that the district judge had not granted any stay on June 3 and that the writ petition filed by IPA before the high court was disposed of on June 8 without any interim protection. "Therefore, keeping in view the judicial discipline and propriety, I am not inclined to stay the execution of impugned order even till next date," the court said, refusing to stay the eviction order while asking Centre to file its reply on June 17.

India must build system that emerges stronger through uncertainties

disruptions: Principal secy to PM

New Delhi, (GNS): India must increasingly build an "antifragile system" that emerges stronger through uncertainties and disruptions, principal secretary to PM, PK Mishra said on Saturday while highlighting that the nature of risks and vulnerability is changing. He also stressed on the need to "introspect and analyse" why all ideas and insights known and often talked about are not implemented and delivered on ground.

Mishra's observations at the golden jubilee celebrations of National Institute of



DR P K MISHRA

Urban Affairs (NIUA) are significant in the light of multiple global disruption since the Covid-19 pandemic, including the current West Asia conflict, that have impacted nations and the chronic governance issue of gap between ideas and implementation on ground.

Country's top bureaucrat said that disruptions are no longer isolated or temporary and they can cascade rapidly across sectors, institutions and economies. "This requires us to think differently about development itself where resilience must be understood as the capacity to anticipate, absorb, adapt, transform and increasingly build antifragile systems that emerge stronger through uncertainty and change," Mishra said. He said that as cities remain at the forefront of climate related

stresses, future urban development must focus on proactive planning, nature-based solutions, green infrastructure and sustainable urban systems to build resilient, inclusive and climate sensitive cities.

Mishra added while traditional approaches often focus on 'bouncing back' after disruption, the emerging paradigm requires systems that can learn, adapt, and emerge stronger through disruption, moving towards bouncing forward and increasingly becoming antifragile systems.

Delhi CP Golchha honours cops for courageous acts:

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Police Commissioner Satish Golchha on Saturday felicitated several police personnel for acts of exceptional courage, outstanding investigation and exemplary public service. During the ceremony, the Commissioner conferred out-of-turn promotions on constable Angad Singh Meena and Manish Kumar of Mehrauli police station (South District), elevating them to the rank of Head Constable (Executive).



The promotions were granted in recognition of their bravery during a building collapse in south Delhi on May 30, when both officers reportedly entered deep into the debris at considerable personal risk to rescue trapped persons and assist in evacuation efforts, saving several lives.

The commissioner also presented the prestigious Asadharan Karya Puraskar, along with a cash reward of Rs 50,000 each, to eight personnel of South District for their role in responding to a major fire at Flourish Stay in Hauz Rani, Malviya Nagar, on June 3. According to Delhi Police, the fire had trapped several occupants inside the building. Working in coordination with the Fire Department and other emergency responders, the police personnel carried out rescue operations that led to the safe evacuation of multiple people, including foreign nationals. The Asadharan Karya Puraskar was presented to Sub-Inspector Ram Kishan, Head Constables Kartar, Hargyan, Dinesh Kumar and Sampat and constables Surrender, Ravi Kant and Sanjay.

Man found with stab wounds near Shakarpur flyover in east Delhi, probe under way

New Delhi, (GNS): A 26-year-old man was found with multiple stab injuries near a flyover in east Delhi's Shakarpur area on Sunday, police said.

The injured man, identified as Mohit Tiwari, a resident of Ganesh Nagar, was initially admitted to a private hospital before being shifted to the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan (LNJP) Hospital, they said.

According to police,



a PCR call was received at 1.45 am regarding an injured person. A police team rushed to the hospital and began an inquiry into the incident. A 30-year-old resident of Shakarpur identified as Ankit Shankar

informed police that he had spotted an injured man lying near the Mother Dairy flyover towards the Laxmi Nagar Metro Station and rushed him to the hospital.

Police said the injured man was later identified as Tiwari. "A medical examination revealed four incised wounds on different parts of his body," a senior police officer said. Due to the seriousness of his condition, doctors referred

him to the LNJP Hospital for specialised treatment, police said. Investigators said the circumstances leading to the attack are yet to be ascertained. Teams have inspected the spot where the injured man was found and are examining all available leads, including CCTV footage from the surrounding area, to establish the sequence of events and identify those responsible.

Delhi govt invites applications for DERC chairperson, two members

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi govt has invited applications for the posts of chairperson and two members of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC), the statutory body that regulates the capital's power sector.

According to a notice issued by the power department, eligible candidates can apply for the positions by July 3. The selected chairperson and

members will hold office for five years or until attaining the age of 65, whichever is earlier.

The notice stated that candidates should be "persons of ability, integrity and standing, with adequate knowledge of and experience in fields such as engineering, finance, commerce, economics, law or management."

DERC comprises a chairperson and two

members, as mandated under the Electricity Act, 2003.

Justice Shabihul Hasnain served as chairperson from July 2021 to Jan 2023. Justice Jayant Nath was pro-tem (interim) chairperson from Aug 2023 to March 2025, followed by Justice Umesh Kumar, a former Allahabad High Court judge, who headed the commission from March 2025 to July

2025. In effect, the statutory body has been functioning without a full-time 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 in Delhi.

Fire breaks out in south-east Delhi restaurant

elderly woman rescued from adjoining building

New Delhi, (GNS): A 70-year-old woman was rescued from an adjoining building after a fire broke out at a restaurant in south-east Delhi's Kalkaji area early on Sunday, the Delhi Fire Service said.

Sita Devi was evacuated by the Delhi Fire Services (DFS) personnel from the second floor of the building during the firefighting operation. She is stated to be stable, they said.

According to the DFS, a call regarding the fire at the 'Punjabi Tadka' restaurant, located near the Kalkaji-Govindpuri flyover, was received at 4.45 am.

"The fire involved a building comprising a basement, ground floor and three upper floors, along with a temporary structure on the terrace of the third floor. During the incident, three commercial LPG cylinders exploded, further intensifying



the blaze," the officer said.

Nine fire tenders were pressed into service. The fire was brought under control at around 5.40 am. Firefighters also carried out a search and rescue operation in nearby structures as a precautionary measure, during which Sita Devi was rescued.

Delhi Minister launches Rs 20-crore development works in Deep Vihar

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Minister for Social and SC/ST/OBC Welfare Ravinder Indraj Singh on Saturday launched development projects worth approximately Rs 20 crore in Deep Vihar under the Urban Development Fund, marking the beginning of extensive road and drain construction works aimed at strengthening civic infrastructure in the area.

The projects are expected to significantly improve connectivity, drainage facilities and overall living conditions for residents of Deep Vihar and its adjoining localities.

Bawana MLA and minister Ravinder said, "Deep Vihar is an important part of the Bawana Assembly constituency and that residents had long

been demanding improvements in road connectivity and drainage facilities. The Urban Development Fund is providing the necessary resources to strengthen civic infrastructure and ensure sustainable and quality development for the benefit of the public."

The minister said development works were being undertaken on a priority basis across the Bawana Assembly constituency, noting that the completion of the road and drain projects would provide residents with improved connectivity, a cleaner environment and a more efficient drainage system.

Ravinder said, "The implementation of various projects in Bawana reflects the government's commitment to ful-



filling the promises made to the people. The government firmly believes that there should be no gap between commitment and action and that every promise made to the public should be fulfilled within the stipulated time-frame."

Emphasising inclusive growth, the minister said, "Continuous efforts are being made to bridge the development gap between villages, unauthorised colonies and urban areas so that every citizen can benefit equally from the process of development."

Delhi: Speaker Vijender Gupta inaugurates civic infra projects across Rohini

New Delhi, (GNS): Delhi Legislative Assembly Speaker and Rohini MLA Vijender Gupta on Saturday inaugurated a series of civic infrastructure projects across the Rohini Assembly constituency, including community facilities and newly constructed RMC roads, aimed at strengthening neighbourhood infrastructure and improving access to public amenities.

The projects inaugurated by Gupta included a newly built toilet facility at Green Valley Apartments in Sector 18, a recreation centre at Lotus Apartments in Pocket H-18, Sector 7 and several ready mix concrete (RMC) roads. The roads cover the stretch from Gopal General Store to Jindal Traders in Naharpur Village, from House No 24 to House No 44 in Pocket

F - 19,



Sector 8 and newly developed roads in Pockets F-15 and F-16 of Sector 8.

Addressing residents during the programme, Gupta underscored the importance of neighbourhood-level infrastructure in improving citizens' daily lives. He said, "Cities are ultimately judged not by the scale of their infrastructure, but by the quality of life they provide to their citizens. Development must be vis-

ible in the roads people travel on, the facilities they use and the public spaces that strengthen community life."

Highlighting the significance of quality roads, sanitation facilities and community spaces, Gupta said they were essential elements of a well-planned urban environment and played a crucial role in enhancing public convenience, accessibility and social well-being. He added that development should not be limited to large scale projects, but rather be reflected through visible improvements in local communities.

Speaker Gupta also placed strong emphasis on transparency and quality

control in development works. He stated that contractors should not receive payments until local resident welfare associations (RWAs) or residents have certified that the projects have been completed satisfactorily and according to prescribed standards.

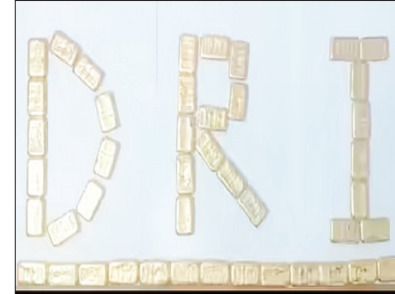
Reiterating his commitment to accountability, Gupta said, "Every rupee spent from the public exchequer must translate into visible and lasting public benefit." He further noted that Rohini had recently witnessed sustained investments in civic infrastructure, including roads, parks, community assets and public facilities. According to him, the objective of such initiatives was not merely the creation of infrastructure but the overall improvement of neighbourhoods and the quality of life of residents.

10 arrested as DRI seizes 17 kg of smuggled gold worth Rs 25 crore in Kolkata, Agartala

New Delhi, (GNS): The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) seized around 17 kg of foreign-origin gold worth approximately Rs 25 crore in coordinated operations in Kolkata and Agartala, arresting 10 people and dealing a major blow to organised gold smuggling networks, the finance ministry said on Saturday.

The seizures were made on June 12 in two separate operations targeting smuggling routes through an international airport and the Indo-Bangladesh border.

In a press release, the ministry said, "In a major strike against the organised smuggling of gold, the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), carried out coordinated operations in



Kolkata and Agartala, and seized approx. 17 kg foreign origin gold valued cumulatively at Rs. 25 crore (approx.), and arrested 10 persons in connection with the case."

In Kolkata, DRI officials busted a smuggling syndicate that was allegedly attempting to bring 11.6 kg of gold from Thailand through Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport. Seven people, including a woman, were arrested in the operation. The seized

gold is estimated to be worth around Rs 17 crore.

According to the ministry, the Kolkata operation exposed an organised network involved in trafficking foreign-origin gold into India through air routes.

"On 12.06.26 in Kolkata, DRI busted a smuggling syndicate while they were attempting to smuggle 11.6 kg of gold from Thailand through Kolkata airport. Seven persons, including one woman, has been arrested in the case. The estimated value of seized gold is Rs. 17 crore approx.," the statement said.

In a separate operation on the same day, DRI officers in Agartala seized around 5.1 kg of foreign-origin gold valued at approximately Rs 8 crore.