



PM Modi unveils 'Ganga-Mahakam Vision' to redefine India-Indonesia ties

Jakarta(GNS): Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday unveiled an ambitious "Ganga-Mahakam Vision" to redefine India-Indonesia ties, proposing a long-term strategic partnership spanning maritime security, defence, connectivity, economic growth and the Global South, while placing the joint development of Indonesia's Sabang port and India's Great Nicobar project at the heart of the two countries' Indo-Pacific cooperation.

Addressing the Indonesian Parliament after holding summit talks with President Prabowo Subianto, Modi said the two maritime neighbours were entering "a new era" of partnership and outlined a



five-pillar framework centred on civilisational links, shared development, strategic trust, maritime prosperity and a stronger voice for the Global South. "From Sabang to Great Nicobar, from the Malacca gateway to the Indo-Pacific, we

The vision comes a day after India and Indonesia agreed to jointly develop Sabang port in Indonesia's Aceh province, barely 100 miles from India's upcoming Great Nicobar transshipment port project, a move expected to significantly strengthen maritime connectivity and strategic cooperation in the eastern Indian Ocean. Describing India and Indonesia as "natural partners" and major maritime powers, Modi said the two countries together represented nearly one-fifth of humanity and could shape the future of the Indo-Pacific through closer cooperation in defence, trade, technology and security.

Ice Shivling at Amarnath Cave Melts Almost Completely

Srinagar(GNS): The naturally formed ice Shivling at the Amarnath Cave shrine has almost completely melted, just five days after the commencement of this year's annual pilgrimage. The 57-day Amarnath Yatra began on July 3. During the first four days of the pilgrimage, nearly 86,000 devotees visited the holy cave. Officials expect the number of pilgrims to cross one lakh on the fifth day. Around four lakh devotees have registered for this year's Yatra, meaning that more than three lakh pilgrims are yet to undertake the pilgrimage and offer prayers at the shrine.



Naturally Formed Ice Shivling

Unlike man-made ice structures, the Amarnath Shivling is a naturally occurring ice stalagmite. It is formed when water droplets dripping from the cave's ceiling freeze layer by layer on the cave floor. Similar to mineral stalagmites found in limestone caves, the ice formation develops naturally over time. Its size varies every year depending on weather conditions, temperature, and the availability of water, making it one of the unique natural phenomena associated with the Amarnath shrine.

Khamenei's Final Journey Reaches Holy Shia City of Qom

Tel Aviv/ Tehran/ Washington DC(GNS): The final funeral procession of Iran's former Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, reached the holy Shia city of Qom on Tuesday, where millions of mourners gathered for the second consecutive day to pay their last respects. After the ceremonies in Tehran, the mortal remains of Khamenei and his deceased family members were brought to the Jamkaran Mosque. Ayatollah Javadi Amoli led the funeral prayers, while the mosque complex and surrounding streets witnessed an overwhelming turnout of mourners. Drone footage showed massive crowds filling the entire area. Qom is regarded as the spiritual and religious center of Shia Islam. Khamenei received his early Islamic education in the city, making this stop a significant part of his final journey. On July 8, Khamenei's body will be taken to the Iraqi cities of Najaf and Karbala, where members of the Shia community will pay their final respects. The body will then return to his hometown of Mashhad in Iran, where he will be laid to rest on Thursday at the Imam Reza shrine complex.

Film Producer Receives Death Threat Over Kala Hiran

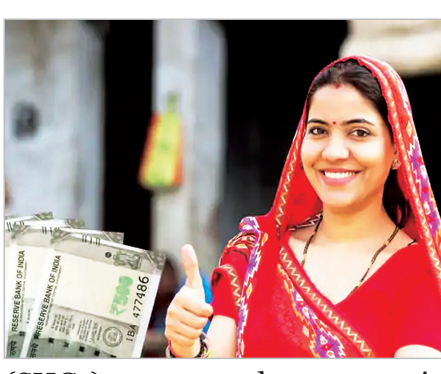
Datia(GNS): Film producer Amit Jani has received death threats from Pakistani phone numbers over the release of his upcoming film Kala Hiran in Madhya Pradesh's Datia district. According to the complaint, a man identifying himself as Pakistani terrorist Shehzad Bhatti sent audio and video messages via WhatsApp, warning Amit Jani not to release the film. The caller threatened to blow him up with a bomb if the movie was released.

Police said Amit Jani, a resident of Noida, had come to Datia to offer prayers at the Shri Pitambar Peeth Temple and was staying at a private hotel in the city. During his stay, he received WhatsApp calls and threatening messages from Pakistani phone numbers. Following the incident, Datia Police registered an FIR and launched an investigation. Security and intelligence agencies have also been alerted.

"No Amount of Security Can Save You": According to Amit Jani's complaint, at around 1 a.m. on July 6, he received audio and video clips from the Pakistani number +923287503050. The following morning, at around 9:47 a.m., he received another call from +923236250185.

EAC-PM Recommends Higher Cash Assistance for Women in 15 States

New Delhi(GNS): The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) on Monday recommended that the amount provided under cash assistance schemes for women in 15 states should be reviewed periodically and increased whenever necessary to keep pace with inflation and rising household expenses. In its report, the Council studied Maharashtra's



(SHGs) to strengthen women's

long-term economic independence.

Cash Transfer Schemes Boosted UPI Usage

The Council noted that direct cash transfers have also led to increased use of UPI for digital payments. Women have been spending more on education, healthcare, and improving their overall quality of life. According to the EAC-PM, around 12 crore

women across 15 states are receiving direct financial assistance in their bank accounts under various welfare schemes. The Council emphasized that direct financial support not only improves the economic condition of families but also enhances women's participation in the economy. It therefore recommended that the assistance amount should be revised from time to time in line with inflation.

Heavy Rains Batter Maharashtra: 13 Dead 10 Injured; Red Alert for Hill Regions

Bhopal/Jaipur/Lucknow/Patna(GNS): Continuous heavy rainfall has wreaked havoc across several districts of Maharashtra, claiming 13 lives and injuring 10 others over the past two days. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued an Orange Alert for Mumbai, where nearly 380 mm (15 inches) of rainfall has been recorded in the last 48 hours.

As a precautionary measure, all government and private schools and colleges in Mumbai have been closed. Educational institutions in Nashik have also remained shut, while the Trimbakeshwar Temple and the Saptashrungi Temple have been closed to devotees for the day.



Meanwhile, a landslide struck a tunnel project site in Wayanad, Kerala, on Tuesday, injuring five workers. All the injured have been admitted to a local hospital. According to the State Emergency Operations Centre, the torrential rain and gusty winds have damaged nearly 100 houses and displaced hundreds of people. Rainfall over the past 24 to 48

hours has been particularly intense in the coastal and western parts of the state. Lonavala recorded the highest rainfall at 625 mm in the last 48 hours. During the past 24 hours, Raigad received 236 mm of rain, Thane 161 mm, Ratnagiri 152 mm, Palghar an average of 132 mm, while different parts of Mumbai recorded between 100 mm and 161 mm of rainfall.

Rivers Flow Above Danger Mark: Several rivers in Maharashtra are in spate due to continuous rainfall. The Ulhas, Kalu, and Pinjal rivers have crossed the warning level, while the Amba, Savitri, Kundalika, Patalganga, Jagbudi, and Ulhas rivers are flowing above the danger mark. Flood alerts have been issued for Badlapur, Mohane, and Jambhulpada.

Trailer Runs Over Family on Jaipur Roadside, Four Killed

Jaipur(GNS): Four members of a family, including three children, were killed after a speeding trailer truck ran over them while they were sitting on a footpath in Jaipur on Tuesday morning. The children's mother suffered critical injuries and lost both her legs in the accident. The mishap was so horrific that the bodies of the children were torn apart, with body parts scattered into a nearby drain. One child's body was split into two pieces due to the impact.

The accident occurred at around 8:46 a.m. on the 200-Foot Bypass in Kamla Nehru Nagar under the Shyam Nagar police station limits. The deceased were



identified as Chandraprakash, a resident of Jaipur in Rajsamand district, and his three sons—Ramesh (11), Deepak (8), and Ratan (10). Chandraprakash's wife, Kailashi, sustained severe injuries and is undergoing treatment at the Trauma Centre of SMS Hospital after both her legs were amputated.

Ahmedabad Serial Blast Case: Death Sentence of 38 Convicts Upheld

Ahmedabad(GNS): The Gujarat High Court has upheld the Special Court's verdict in the 2008 Ahmedabad serial bomb blast case, confirming the death sentence awarded to all 38 convicts and the life imprisonment imposed on 11 others. The High Court also directed that the families of the 56 victims be paid compensation of 10 lakh each, while more than 200 injured victims will receive 1 lakh each.

Sentences Were Awarded in 2022: In February 2022, the Ahmedabad Special Court sentenced 38 convicts to death and 11 others to life imprisonment. The convicts had challenged the verdict before the Gujarat High Court, but the appeals were dismissed, and the original judgment was upheld. The investigation and trial lasted nearly 12 years. Court proceedings continued even during the nationwide COVID-19 lockdown. It was the first time in India that 49 accused were convicted together in a terrorism case.

Bengal Gang Rape-Murder: Three Arrested, Including Main Accused

Kolkata(GNS): West Bengal Police on Monday arrested the main accused in the rape and murder of a 12-year-old girl in Baruipur, South 24 Parganas district. The accused has been identified as Anand Sardar. He was apprehended from the city's market area following a search operation. With this arrest, the total number of accused held in the case has

risen to three. Police have constituted a six-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the incident. The girl had gone missing on July 4. Investigation revealed that she had left home to buy a gift for her friend.

When she failed to return, her family lodged a missing person complaint. Her body was later recovered from a pond in the



Suryapur Haat area on Sunday. Police found injury marks on her head. The post-mortem exam-

nation revealed that the accused allegedly threw the girl alive into the pond after sexually assaulting her. Water was found in her lungs and stomach, indicating that she died due to drowning along with excessive blood loss. Police also examined CCTV footage from the area, which allegedly shows four individuals taking the girl away. Authorities are

working to establish the identities of all four suspects. According to police, the preliminary post-mortem report found injuries to the victim's private parts, along with scratches and bite marks on various parts of her body. Investigators said the girl had either been struck on the head with a heavy object or slammed against a hard surface.

Rising cybercrime in the era of digital revolution is a big challenge

(Lalit Garg)

The digital revolution has brought India unprecedented speed, convenience, and transparency. Today, mobile banking, UPI, e-commerce, online education, digital healthcare, and artificial intelligence (AI) have simplified and streamlined the lives of ordinary citizens. India is rapidly emerging as one of the world's largest digital economies, and the vision of "Digital India" and "Developed India 2047" is based on this technological transformation. However, parallel to this bright landscape, a terrifying darkness is rapidly spreading: the growing empire of cyber-crime. Digital arrests, online financial fraud, phishing, identity theft, investment scams, breaches of personal privacy, crimes through social media, the dissemination of child sexual abuse material, and the misuse of artificial intelligence have become not just technological problems but serious challenges to national security, economic stability, and social morality. Ironically, the very technology that was intended to make human life safe, convenient, and knowledge-rich is becoming the most effective weapon for criminals. As rapidly as society has capitalized on the infinite potential of the internet, criminals have also rapidly adapted it to their own ends. As a result, the crisis of trust in the digital world is deepening.

Trust is the most important asset of the digital system. When a citizen scans a QR code on their mobile, makes a payment using UPI, or invests on an online platform, they rely not only on technology but on the reliability of the entire digital system. If this trust is continually eroded by incidents like cyber fraud, fake calls, phishing, the fear of personal information being exposed, investment scams, and identity theft, the foundation of the digital economy will weaken. Just as the proliferation of counterfeit currency threatens the entire economic system, the rise of digital fraud can weaken the concept of a cashless economy. There is a fundamental difference between traditional crimes and cybercrimes. Earlier, crimes were limited to a specific area, and the likelihood of identifying and arresting the criminal was relatively high. Today, a cybercriminal can reach millions of people in a matter of minutes, even from thousands of kilometers away. For them, the risk is minimal and the profit is maximum. This imbalance makes cybercrime extremely dangerous. This new form of crime is challenging the traditional boundaries of borders, languages, and laws.

The concern isn't limited to economic crimes. Recent allegations of child sexual abuse content being disseminated on social media platforms have shocked the entire world. If such paid advertisements can be broadcast on popular digital platforms, it's not just a technical error but also a moral and social failure. The question is: can social media companies absolve themselves of responsibility simply by calling themselves technology platforms? When artificial intelligence and algorithms determine which advertisements reach which audiences, the responsibility of those platforms becomes equally significant.

Many digital platforms today claim to remove objectionable content, but in practice, their priorities often appear to be revenue and commercial interests. If advertisements and content related to child sexual abuse, pornography, cyber fraud, or organized crime can remain active for long periods, it raises serious questions not only about the success of the perpetrators but also about the accountability of digital platforms.

Editorial

On the Russia-Ukraine conflict

More than four years into Russia's invasion, Ukraine has found ways to raise the cost of the war for the Kremlin — striking its energy infrastructure with drones and imposing a drone blockade on Crimea. When the war began in February 2022, Ukraine's immediate response was to resist Russia's battlefield advances, while mobilising international support. As the war dragged on, Ukraine received advanced defensive and offensive weapons from its western partners, while Russia was subjected to sweeping sanctions. But this approach did not slow Russia, which reinforced its front lines and captured more Ukrainian territory. Both sides have suffered tens of thousands of casualties. Ukraine's economy has become heavily dependent on western aid. Kyiv has also transformed the way the war is fought by launching hundreds of drones each day at Russian troops and critical infrastructure. For President Vladimir Putin, who initially sought to shield the Russian public from the consequences of the war, these attacks are a stark reminder that the war has come home. Strikes on Russian oil facilities, described by Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy as "long-range sanctions", have knocked out parts of Russia's refining capacity. Ukraine has also targeted the electricity infrastructure and fuel logistics of Crimea, the Black Sea peninsula Russia annexed in 2014, forcing a state of emergency.

Mr. Zelenskyy wants to use this offensive pressure to force Mr. Putin to the negotiating table and secure a ceasefire. But drone warfare has only slowed Russian advances. Last week, Russia's Defence Ministry announced the capture of the eastern city of Kostiantynivka and a closing in on Lyman. Russia now controls over 20% of Ukraine since 2014. Russia has repeatedly accused NATO countries of enabling Ukraine to strike deep inside its territory. Mr. Putin is already under pressure over his inability to secure a decisive victory, and nationalist voices have urged him to widen the conflict to increase pressure on NATO.

A decisive attack on female foeticide

(Advocate Kishan Sanmukhdas Bhavani)

Will the combination of stringent criminal laws with the PCPNDT Act (Amendment) 2003 become the most effective weapon to end the illegal sex determination mafia? - Needs to be adopted by all states - A comprehensive analysis

Not just doctors, the entire syndicate is targeted: A possible major step by the Maharashtra government towards making the PCPNDT Act more stringent. The involvement of brokers, agents, illegal sonography centres, people preparing fake documents and gangs working together for financial gain along with doctors in female foeticide is the basis of MCOCA

Globally, India has been considered a civilization that has revered the mother power for centuries. Our scriptures say, "Yatra naryastu pujiyante ramante tatra devataah," meaning, "Where women are respected, gods reside there." Ironically, some individuals have misused the advances in modern science to give rise to the inhuman crime of female foeticide. Technologies like ultrasonography, intended to protect the health of the unborn child, are now being used as a means to illegally determine the sex of the fetus and end the lives of daughters before they are born. This is not only a violation of the law, but a direct attack on the Constitution, human rights, women's dignity, and humanity. To address this serious social challenge, the Government of India enacted the Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act (PCPNDT Act) in 1994, which was further strengthened in 2003. The basic objective of this law is clear: any form of sex selection or determination of the sex of a fetus, either before or during pregnancy, is strictly prohibited. The law applies not only to doctors but to the entire system involved in any form of illegal sex determination or female foeticide. I, Advocate Kishan Sanmukhdas Bhavanani, Gondia, Maharashtra, would like to point out that cases reported in recent years in several states across the country, including Maharashtra, have indicated that the illegal sex determination business is no longer solely an individual crime. Brokers, agents, illegal sonography centers, people preparing fake documents, and gangs operating in an organized manner for financial gain are being found involved. The high-profile case in Pune, in particular, attracted the attention of the entire state and country. Referring to the matter in the Assembly, several public representatives stressed the need to classify it as an organized crime, stating that punishing the doctor alone would not solve the problem; rather, the entire criminal network must be dismantled. Against this backdrop, on July 1, 2026, the Health Minister in the Maharashtra Assembly clearly indicated that the government was seriously considering making the PCPNDT Act more effective. He stated that if any gang is repeatedly found to be involved in crimes such as illegal sex determination and female foeticide, the possibility of using more stringent legal provisions against them would be explored. The relevant departments were also instructed to strengthen surveillance, increase decoy operations, conduct regular inspections of registered sonography centers, and ensure prompt prosecution of those found guilty.

Friends, today the need is not just to enact a law but also to implement it effectively. Thousands of registered sonography centers operate across the country, where it is mandatory to maintain records of every examination in a prescribed format. Falsifying records, providing false information, or failing to provide necessary documents are also punishable offenses under the law. Its purpose is to ensure that medical technology is used only for medical needs, not for determining the sex of the fetus. Under the PCPNDT Act, a first-time offender is punishable by up to three years' imprisonment and a fine. In the event of a recurrence, a sentence of up to five years and a higher fine can be imposed. The registration of the doctor concerned can be suspended or revoked, and the

license of the sonography center can also be revoked. But the question is: if the crime is being committed in an organized manner, is such punishment sufficient? This very question has become a topic of national debate today.

Friends, in reality, the impact of female foeticide is not limited to a single family; its adverse effects affect the entire society. When the child sex ratio continues to be imbalanced, the number of marriageable women in the future decreases, giving rise to serious problems such as human trafficking, forced marriages, crimes against women, and social imbalance. Therefore, this is not just a health issue, but also a matter of national security, social justice, women's rights, and sustainable development. India has attempted to bring about positive change in society through campaigns like "Save the Girl Child, Educate the Girl Child." Many states are implementing schemes for girl child education, encouraging girl child births, and women's empowerment. However, if the illegal sex determination continues to operate, the effectiveness of all these efforts will be limited. Therefore, both law and social awareness are equally important.

Friends, experts believe that the time has come to adopt a strategy that eliminates the entire chain of crime rather than taking action only after the crime has occurred. Measures such as digital records, tracking ultrasound machines, artificial intelligence-based monitoring, interstate coordination, investigating financial transactions, and strengthening whistleblower networks can prove extremely useful. Just as network-based action is taken against drug trafficking, hawala, human trafficking, and organized crime, it is also necessary to attack the network of illegal sex determination. It must also be kept in mind that not all doctors can be viewed with suspicion. Most doctors in the country follow the law and play a vital role in protecting maternal and child health. Therefore, action should be taken only against those individuals and institutions that knowingly violate the law. This will protect the reputation of the honest medical community and ensure that the guilty receive severe punishment.

Friends, the judicial process also needs to be made more effective. If serious cases remain pending for years, the fear of the law will diminish. Therefore, special courts, timely trials, scientific evidence, and an effective prosecution system should be developed for such cases. An increased conviction rate will automatically reduce crime. Better coordination between the central and state governments at the national level is also crucial. Many times, criminals register in one state and operate illegal activities in another. In such cases, shared digital databases, joint investigations, and regular information exchange can effectively control criminals.

Friends, changing the mindset of society is as important as the law. Until the discrimination between sons and daughters is eliminated, legal strictness alone will not be enough. Families, schools, religious institutions, social organizations, the media, and public representatives must work together to spread the message that daughters are not a burden, but an equal partner of the family, society, and the nation. If the stringent measures being considered by the Maharashtra government are effectively implemented and other states take inspiration from them, they could become a new model for the entire country. This will send a clear message that female foeticide is not merely a violation of medical rules, but a serious crime against humanity, for which no leniency will be tolerated.

Therefore, if we study and analyze the above description, we will find that the dream of a developed India will be realized only when every daughter has equal opportunities to be born, live, receive an education, and progress with dignity. The PCPNDT Act is not merely a legal document, but a constitutional pledge to protect the lives, equality, and dignity of India's daughters. If this law is implemented rigorously, transparently, and impartially, combined and female foeticide will become a thing of the past.

Bangladesh's changing military thinking and the new security challenge facing India

(Kantilal Mandot)

India-Bangladesh relations have long been considered one of South Asia's most important bilateral partnerships. India played a decisive role in Bangladesh's emergence as an independent nation in 1971. For decades, the two countries have enjoyed significant cooperation in areas such as security, trade, water sharing, border management, and cultural ties. However, recent changes in Bangladesh's internal politics, military thinking, and foreign policy have raised new concerns. In particular, reports of increased prominence of religious symbols and Islamic identity within the Bangladesh Army have attracted attention throughout the region, including India.

Recent developments have seen some new battalions of the Bangladesh Army named after early caliphs from Islamic history, and there has been talk of religious slogans replacing the army's traditional nationalist slogans. If this trend continues, it will not only be a change in military tradition but also a sign of Bangladesh's changing ideological direction. The character of an army is determined not only by its weapons, but also by its values, symbols, and training.

Following the fall of the Sheikh Hasina government, there has been increasing discussion about the growing influence of Islamic organizations and religious groups in Bangladesh's politics. For a long time, the Awami League had championed secular nationalism and the slogan "Jai Bangla" as the foundation of national identity. Now, the increased emphasis on religious

identity within the military is part of an ideological shift that is also evident in the country's politics and society.

There are several reasons behind this shift in Bangladesh's thinking. The first is domestic politics. Governments and ruling establishments often use cultural and religious symbols to appease their supporting social groups. If the influence of Islamic organizations grows, it is natural for their influence to be felt in other institutions, including the military.

The second reason is regional power balance. Bangladesh is also moving towards strengthening its defense ties with China and Pakistan. Defense equipment procurement, military training, and joint exercises are considered part of this strategy. This seeks to broaden

its defense options to avoid excessive dependence on any one country.

Third, there are some old and new disputes with India. Issues such as illegal border infiltration, border security, water sharing, trade imbalances, and political rhetoric have periodically impacted relations between the two countries. Some political and religious groups in Bangladesh have also exploited anti-India sentiments to garner support in domestic politics. However, it would not be fair to say that all of Bangladesh or its entire population is anti-India. There are also a large number of citizens, intellectuals, and businesspeople who believe that good relations with India are in their country's best interest.

From India's perspective, the most important issue is the security of the northeastern states. If military

activities increase near the India-Bangladesh border or tensions develop in the border areas, it could directly impact states like Assam, Tripura, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and West Bengal. India has already strengthened its border surveillance system, fencing, and security force deployment. Consequently, any provocative activity or infiltration will naturally be closely monitored.

Illegal immigration has long been a sensitive issue for India.

In recent years, India has tightened border management and emphasized legal action against illegal foreign nationals. This has led to periodic tensions between the two countries on this issue. However, it is important to note that it is not appropriate to hold an entire community or country responsible for any illegal activity.

Over 1 crore native plants to be planted in Delhi's Ridge

Union Minister Amit Shah launches eco restoration drive

New Delhi, (GNS) : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday launched the Eco Restoration Mega Plantation Drive in Delhi under the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign and announced that over one crore native plants would be planted across the Ridge area over the next four years as part of the government's plan to transform it into the "lungs of Green Delhi."

The event also marked the launch of a mission to plant 70 lakh saplings across the national capital. Shah planted a sapling during the programme, which was attended by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, BJP MPs Ramvir Singh



Bidhuri, Kamaljeet Sehrawat and Praveen Khandelwal, along with Delhi Ministers Manjinder Singh Sirsa and Kapil Mishra. Addressing the gathering, Shah said the plantation drive formed part of a broader master plan for the capital's development. "Today many programmes have been brought together from this single platform. The foundation stone of the high-security prison in

Narela was laid, the e-inauguration of the automated vehicle testing centre was done, three newly built depots were inaugurated, 300 electric buses were launched, and most importantly, we have started the programme to rejuvenate the Ridge and make it green once again," he said.

Highlighting the environmental significance of the Ridge, Shah said the government had provided legal protection to a large part of the forest area and initiated a long-term ecological restoration plan.

"In the remaining four years of our Delhi government, we will protect 6,300 hectares of the Green Ridge forest sector by planting trees. These

6,300 hectares of Green Ridge will become Delhi's lungs and protect Delhi's environment. More than one crore native plants, over 35 lakh large tree saplings and 65 lakh other shrubs, bamboo and medicinal plants will be planted," Shah said.

He said native species such as peepal, banyan, neem, gular, arjun and jamun would be planted to restore biodiversity and improve the capital's ecological balance.

The Union Home Minister urged Delhi residents to participate in the campaign by registering on the Green Drive portal and planting trees under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' initiative.

CM Rekha Gupta, Amit Shah launch eco restoration drive with mission to plant 70 lakh trees in Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS) : Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday launched a tree plantation drive in Delhi's RK Puram area, with the aim of planting 70 lakh trees in the national capital region.

"Today we are launching Eco restoration mega plantation drive 2026, this campaign is for giving back the respect to our nature, a campaign to rejuvenate greenery, where such greenery is to be rejuvenated. Our culture considers rivers as mothers. Our culture teaches us that environment should be respected," Delhi CM said during her address.

"It is a matter of happiness for us that the campaign to plant 70 lakh plants in Delhi has started today," Delhi CM announced during the drive.

Thanking Amit Shah for supporting the initiative which comes under 'ek Ped Maa ke naam' initiative, CM Gupta said that this synergy between the Delhi Government and the Centre proves that if both work together, then even the biggest challenges



are possible to be overcome.

"This is a campaign to protect the environment, I would like to thank Amit Shah ji, you have always given priority to Delhi. Your marg darshan gives us the confidence that when the Centre and state work together then even bigger challenges are possible," Delhi CM said.

Earlier, Delhi CM and Amit Shah planted tree saplings at Central ridge area. The area houses the President's Bodyguard in the area.

Delhi CM Rekha Gupta and BJP MPs Ramvir Singh Bidhuri, Kamaljeet Sehrawat, Praveen Khandelwal and Delhi Ministers Manjinder Singh Sirsa and Kapil Mishra also present.

Delhi traffic Police issues traffic advisory ahead of Guruji's birthday celebration SSN Marg, Bhatti Mines road restricted

New Delhi, (GNS) : Delhi Traffic Police has issued a traffic advisory ahead of the birthday celebrations at Guruji Ashram at Bhatti Mines area, saying that traffic movement is likely to be affected till late night of July 7.

According to the traffic advisory, officials have called commuters to avoid routes from SSN Marg (Chhattarpur Road), Bhatti Mines Road, Gadaipur Police Post area, Roads around Guruji Ashram at Bhatti Mines and use alternate routes whenever possible.

"Special traffic arrangements are in place in connection with the Guruji Birthday Celebration at Guruji Ashram, Bhatti Mines on 07.07.2026. A large number of devotees are expected to attend and traffic movement is likely to remain affected from the intervening night of 06/07.07.2026 till late night on 07.07.2026," Delhi Traffic Police posted on X.



Devotees have also been advised to reach the Ashram early in the morning.

The restrictions at Bhatti Mines roads, between Chhattarpur Road (SSN Marg), and Gurugram Road T-Point has been restricted since Midnight of July 6, with restrictions in place till July 7 midnight.

Traffic police has said that any heavy vehicles coming from Mandi-Dera Border towards Guruji Ashram Complex will not be allowed to take the right turn at Gadaipur Police Post.

President Droupadi Murmu Flags Off Trophies Of Durand Cup Tournament 2026 In New Delhi

President Droupadi Murmu unveiled and flagged off the trophies for the Durand Cup 2026 in New Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS) : Addressing the gathering, the President said that new teams will compete this year for the Durand Cup, the President's Cup and the Shimla Trophy. Expressing happiness over the participation of a Sri Lankan team in this year's tournament, she said the inclusion of new teams would make the historic competition even more popular.

President Murmu extended her best wishes to all the teams and players participating in the tournament. She urged them to uphold the true spirit of sportsmanship and further enhance the prestige of the historic competition through their best performances. The President also expressed happiness that, in addition to Kolkata, Guwahati, Imphal and Shillong, this year's Durand Cup will also be hosted



in Ranchi.

Highlighting the unifying power of football, President Murmu said the sport has the unique ability to bring people together. She noted that the values of sportsmanship extend far beyond the playing field by promoting discipline, determination and team spirit. She said India still has a long way to go to emerge as a leading force in football and called upon everyone to contribute to this journey.

Office Of Principal Controller Of Communication Accounts Delhi

New Delhi, (GNS) : Office of Principal Controller of Communication Accounts, Delhi, will hold a Pension Adalat on 6th of next month in New Delhi for the resolution of grievances of the pensioners. The pensioners include the Department of Telecommunications, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) units of Delhi circle, whose pension cases relate to issue of PPO, maintenance of service books, disbursement of pension, etc. The Ministry noted that matters related to court cases will not be entertained in the Pension Adalat and only registered grievances will be entertained. For settlement of grievances, pensioners may register before the 20th of this month through e-mail at cca.dl-dot[at]nic[dot]in and by calling at toll-free number 1800118119 and via post at the postal address at Sanchar Lekha Bhawan.

Delhi govt, NDMC to plant 70 lakh trees in response to PM Modi's appeal: Minister Parvesh Sahib Singh

New Delhi,, (GNS) : Delhi Minister Parvesh Sahib Singh on Tuesday participated in a plantation drive at Children's Park, India Gate, as part of a citywide campaign to plant 70 lakh trees. Speaking at the event, Singh said the initiative was launched in response to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to plant 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'.

"The Prime Minister had appealed to the entire nation to plant 'one tree in the name of one's mother.' Responding to this appeal, both the Delhi Government and the NDMC are launching a campaign today to plant 70 lakh trees



across Delhi," Singh said.

"Our Home Minister will personally plant trees at three locations today," he added. Shah will inaugurate the 'Mission 70 Lakh Tree Plantation Campaign', the Delhi government's ambitious campaign to plant 70 lakh trees. The plantation drive will be carried out with support from the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC).

During the event, he will also inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for several development projects undertaken by the Delhi government. Union Home Minister Amit Shah also took part in the drive and planted a sapling on the premises that house the President's Bodyguard in the Central Ridge area on Tuesday.

Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, MPs Yogender Chandel and Manoj Tiwari, and Delhi Ministers Manjinder Singh Sirsa and Parvesh Singh were also present at the event.

Delhi-NCR records highest-ever quarterly flex office space take-up, capturing 45 in Q2 2026 CBRE

New Delhi, (GNS) : Delhi-NCR recorded its highest-ever quarterly flexible office space take-up in the second quarter of 2026 (April-June), with flexible space operators accounting for 45 per cent of the region's total leasing of approximately 3.6 million square feet (msf). The data in the latest CBRE report titled 'India Office Figures' for Q2 2026 showcased a strong shift toward adaptable workspace options in the commercial real estate market.

Other sectors also drove



commercial demand in NCR during the April-June period. Research, consulting, and analytics firms accounted for 17 per cent of the leasing volume, while technology enterprises secured a 12 per cent share. This surge occurred alongside the introduction of roughly 2.0 msf of fresh office supply to the

regional market.

The performance of Delhi-NCR mirrors a broader national expansion. Flexible space operators emerged as the primary occupier segment across India, capturing a 27 per cent share of the office sector. Together with technology and banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI) firms, these operators drove nearly 63 per cent of the country's second-quarter leasing and 58 per cent of leasing for the first half of the year.

UAE Visa on Arrival Policy for Indians Changed

New Delhi, (GNS) : Planning a trip to Dubai, or anywhere else in the UAE? There's a big update you don't want to miss. The UAE visa on arrival policy for Indians has been modified under the new UAE visa changes 2026, impacting travellers who previously used a UK visa or UK residence permit to enter the country.

Latest UAE visa on arrival news states that Indian passport holders with UK visa or UK residence permit will no longer be eligible to avail UAE's visa-on-arrival facility. Thousands of Indian tourists, business travellers



and frequent visitors who have enjoyed easy access to the United Arab Emirates till now, are likely to be affected by the change.

If you are not sure about your eligibility then it is best to apply for Dubai Tourist Visa before departure to avoid any last-minute travel disruptions.

What Changed in the

UAE Visa on Arrival Policy for Indians?

The most significant UAE visa rule changes for Indians in 2026 are for travelers who have previously entered the UAE on a valid UK visa or UK residence permit.

Earlier, holders of Indian passports were entitled to a visa on arrival if they held valid visas, residence permits or Green Cards issued by countries that are on the UAE's approved list. However, under the new United Arab Emirates visa rules, UK issued visas and residence permits are no longer accepted for visa on arrival purposes.

Delhi govt planning major administrative rejig, officers 'in comfort zones' in focus

New Delhi, (GNS) : The Delhi government is planning a major administrative reshuffle with around 60-70% of cadre and ex-cadre officials - including DANICS (Delhi, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep, Daman and Diu, and Dadra and Nagar Haveli (Civil) Service) officers, ad-hoc DANICS officers, Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs) and other Grade-I officers - likely to be transferred, said sources. These officials and staffers "have been working in a 'comfort zone' for over five years" in their departments, sources added.

According to sources, the latest move - which is being executed weeks after the Capital saw a major



bureaucratic rejig - comes in the wake of the directions from Chief Minister Rekha Gupta to bring transparency and curb corruption. "The process has already been started and transfers are taking place. The CM strictly ordered that there is no place for corruption, laxity, or negligence at any level of governance....," said a senior official. The officers may be transferred within or outside their respective departments.

Recently, the govern-

ment conducted a major reshuffle in the Finance and Accounts department where 52 officers, who had been serving at the same place for five years or more, were transferred with immediate effect. These included 23 Deputy Controllers of Accounts and 29 Senior Accounts Officers. In addition, 19 Senior Accounts Officers were promoted as Deputy Controllers of Accounts, expanding their responsibilities in recognition of their performance.

"Following the CM's directions, the transfers and postings have been made purely on the basis of administrative requirements and with the objective of promoting integrity and transparency in the

system. To make the administration more efficient, the government has assigned new responsibilities to 23 Deputy Controllers of Accounts and 29 Senior Accounts Officers," said an official.

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Besides, the CM has also been seen actively keeping an eye on the functioning of bureaucracy and administrative level officials.

Delhi CM cracks whip on waterlogging, reviews Kanwar Yatra preparations

New Delhi, (GNS) : Declaring a "zero-tolerance" approach towards waterlogging, Delhi Chief Minister (CM) Rekha Gupta on Monday directed officials to ensure that flood-prone areas are monitored on the ground and that complaints are addressed within fixed timelines, warning that residents should not suffer because of jurisdictional disputes between agencies. Chairing a meeting of the District Development Committee (DDC) Apex Committee at the Delhi Secretariat, Gupta reviewed the progress of Mission Kayakalp to upgrade government schools, the Capital's monsoon preparedness and arrangements for the upcoming Kanwar Yatra.

Taking stock of preparations for the rainy season, the Chief Minister asked officials to move beyond office-based monitoring and personally inspect vulnerable locations. She said pumps should be deployed at waterlogging



hotspots, drains cleaned and drainage links restored without delay.

"The public is not concerned with whether an area falls under the PWD, MCD, Delhi Jal Board or DDA. They only want a permanent solution," she said, directing departments to carry out joint inspections wherever multiple agencies are involved.

The meeting reviewed flood-prone locations, including Baljeet Nagar, Patel Nagar, Sangam Vihar, Bawana, Kirari, Patparganj, Laxmi Nagar, Krishna Nagar and Mandawali, with officials asked to prepare time-bound action plans for pending projects.

Form child protection panels by month end or face action: Delhi govt to schools

New Delhi, (GNS) : The Delhi government on Monday asked all 5,633 schools in the Capital to set up child protection committees by July 31. Lieutenant-Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu who, along with Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, reviewed safety measures for schoolchildren as part of the month-long 'Child Protection Month' initiative, also directed that a standard operating procedure to handle Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cases be implemented in every school. Additionally, he asked Education Department officials to seek compliance certificates from schools regarding the safety checklist for students issued by the Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR).

Mr. Sandhu warned of strict

action against schools that do not adhere to the directions in time.

"A report will be sought from the Education Department by the end of the month regarding the progress of the formation of the committees and the safety checklist compliance as per the DCPCR. If non-compliance is found by any school, action will be taken as per provisions of the POCSO Act," said a Lok Niwas official. "There is no room for complacency in ensuring a safe and sensitive environment for every child," the L-G said, stressing that all departments must complete the assigned tasks within the stipulated timelines.

The CM said child protection programmes should become a permanent feature of every institution.



Pollution hotspots being identified trees to be planted across Delhi Sirsa

New Delhi, (GNS) : The Delhi Government has decided to wage a war against pollution, with plans afoot to kick-start anti-pollution strategy well ahead of the winter season.

In an exclusive interview with The Tribune, Minister of Industries, Food and Supplies, Environment, Forest and Wildlife Manjinder Singh Sirsa outlined the government's new pollution roadmap, which includes hyperlocal AQI monitoring, district-wise action plans, crackdown on illegal polluters and a green mission.

Asked to describe the anti-pollution strategy, Sirsa said the government



would adopt a hyperlocal approach to identify pollution sources at hotspots so that interventions could begin before air quality deteriorates during winter. "Three major contributors of pollution requiring continuous intervention have been identified - pollution hotspots, vehicular emissions and dust generated

by construction and industrial activities," he said. The objective was to find the source of pollution and eliminate it before it spreads across Delhi.

The minister said district-specific pollution profiles were being prepared. "Meetings with District Magistrates have been conducted to identify existing and emerging pollution hotspots. Soon, meetings will be held to ascertain the causes of pollution in every district. Each district will have its own action plan," he said.

Tie-up with IIT-Kanpur for solutions

On the solution front, Sirsa cited plans to deploy advanced pollution-moni-

toring devices capable of identifying the source of pollution within 1-km radius. The Delhi Government is implementing the initiative through an MoU with IIT-Kanpur's AIRAWAT initiative. "The devices will not merely measure AQI, but also tell us why pollution has increased - whether because of traffic, dust, industries or any other source. That is the future of pollution control," Sirsa said. Acknowledging that road dust in the main contributor to Delhi's pollution, Sirsa said an inter-ministerial coordination mechanism had been put in place for continuous cleaning and dust suppression.

Delhi BJP marks Syama Prasad Mookerjee's 125th birth anniversary

New Delhi, (GNS) : The Delhi unit of the BJP on Monday commemorated the 125th birth anniversary of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee with floral tributes, a tree plantation drive, youth conclave and a memorial lecture, with senior BJP leaders highlighting his contribution to national unity, constitutional integrity and education.

Delhi BJP president Harsh Malhotra led party leaders in paying floral tributes at Mookerjee's statue at Shaheed Park before a memorial lecture and youth conclave were held at the Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Civic Centre. Union Minister Nitin Gadkari and CM Rekha Gupta addressed the gathering. Speaking at the event, Gadkari said Dr



Mookerjee's legacy continued to inspire generations. "Unfortunately, Dr. Mookerjee is no longer with us. Any government can eliminate an individual or dismantle a system, but no one can destroy ideas. Dr Mookerjee's ideals are immortal," he said. Emphasising India's pluralistic traditions, Gadkari added, "The same reverence that we hold for Lord Shri

Ram and Lord Shri Krishna, we also hold for Lord Mahavira and Gautama Buddha, because we believe that a person's greatness lies in his virtues."

CM Gupta said Mookerjee's vision of India was steadily becoming a reality and recalled his opposition to the special constitutional status previously enjoyed by Jammu and Kashmir.

VDO.AI Continues Longstanding Partnership with SarkariResult.com to Deliver Seamless Video Monetisation

New Delhi, (GNS) : As digital publishers increasingly seek to grow advertising revenue without compromising site performance, VDO.AI, a global advertising technology innovator, has extended its longstanding partnership with SarkariResult.com, one of India's most visited education and government jobs portals. For more than four years, SarkariResult.com has relied on VDO.AI's Native Video Player to monetise its website through seamlessly integrated video experiences designed to complement the user journey.

Serving millions of users searching for government



job notifications, examination results, admit cards and admission updates, SarkariResult.com operates in an environment where speed, accessibility and uninterrupted navigation directly influence user retention. VDO.AI's Native Video Player enables contextually embedded video experiences that preserve the website's performance while creating high-quality monetisation opportunities for advertisers and the publisher alike.

Arjit Sachdeva, Co-Founder, VDO.AI, said, "Digital publishing has entered an era where user attention is the most valuable asset. Monetisation strategies that compete with the content experience ultimately become unsustainable. Our focus has been to help publishers generate greater value from every engaged user through contextual, high-performing video experiences that respect how audiences consume content. Our continued collaboration with SarkariResult.com reflects this philosophy and reinforces that revenue growth and user experience can move in the same direction."

Ayesha Masood Makes a Striking Debut with Unsung Thresholds, a Poetic Exploration of Life's Quiet Transformations

New Delhi, (GNS) : In a literary landscape often drawn to grand narratives and dramatic storytelling, debut poet Ayesha Masood offers readers something profoundly intimate with *Unsung Thresholds*, a collection of twenty-one poems that celebrates the quiet moments shaping the human experience. Rather than relying on sweeping declarations or elaborate metaphors, the collection embraces life's understated beauty, illuminating the emotional spaces that often remain unnoticed. It is a debut that speaks softly yet leaves a lasting impres-

sion, reminding readers that some of life's most defining moments unfold not through spectacle, but through silence, memory, and reflection.

Rather than seeking drama, *Unsung Thresholds* turns its gaze toward life's subtle transitions--the spaces between staying and leaving, remembering and becoming, devotion and departure.

Through restrained language and emotional precision, the collection captures the unnoticed crossings that define relationships, work, identity, culture, cities, animals, and



the silences that accompany change. Each poem serves as a quiet meditation on the moments that shape us without demanding our attention, revealing that the most meaningful transformations often occur gradually, hidden within the ordinary rhythms of everyday life.

The poems explore experiences that are deeply per-

sonal while remaining universally relatable. They linger on familiar routines that provide comfort, on emotional burdens carried without recognition, and on the gentle shifts that redefine relationships over time. Whether reflecting on the comfort of belonging, the uncertainty of change, or the enduring influence of memory, the collection invites readers to pause and reconnect with emotions that are often overlooked in the rush of daily living. In doing so, *Unsung Thresholds* becomes not only a work of poetry but also a quiet companion for

reflection. Each poem encourages readers to slow down and consider the invisible thresholds they have crossed throughout their own lives. The collection reminds us that transformation rarely arrives with spectacle; more often, it unfolds through routines, quiet resilience, gentle goodbyes, and acts of enduring love that leave lasting impressions. These seemingly ordinary experiences gradually shape identity, alter perspective, and redefine our understanding of ourselves and others. By giving voice to these subtle transitions,

Ayesha Masood encourages readers to discover meaning in moments they may have once considered insignificant.

Speaking through themes of tenderness, endurance, belonging, memory, and emotional resilience, *Unsung Thresholds* offers a contemplative reading experience that resonates with anyone who has found meaning in ordinary moments. Its understated voice and reflective depth make it a collection that rewards both first-time readers of poetry and seasoned enthusiasts alike.