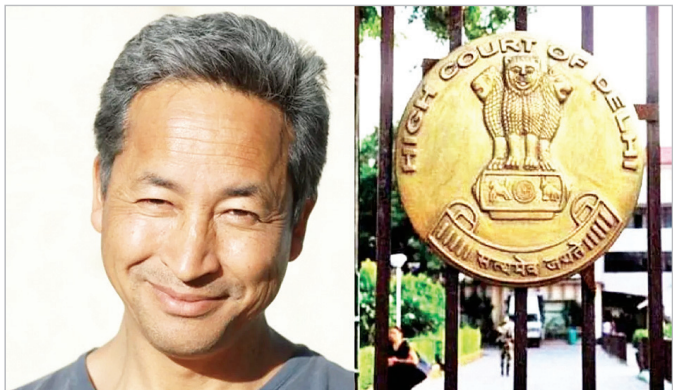




High Court Orders Sonam Wangchuk's Transfer to Medanta Hospital



New Delhi(GNS): The Delhi High Court on Tuesday directed that Sonam Wangchuk be shifted from Safdarjung Hospital to Medanta Hospital. The court said Medanta would constitute a panel of doctors for his treatment. The order came in response to a petition filed by his wife, Geetanjali Angmo.

Sonam Wangchuk has been on a hunger strike since June 28. After his health

deteriorated on July 18, police shifted him from Jantar Mantar to Safdarjung Hospital. His wife approached the High Court seeking permission to move him to a hospital of their choice. Meanwhile, members of the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) continued their protest at Jantar Mantar for the 32nd consecutive day on Tuesday. By noon, thousands of protesters had gathered at the site. Workers of the Congress

Seva Dal distributed breakfast to the protesters in the morning. When police arrived in the morning to make security arrangements, CJP supporters raised slogans against them. Earlier, following the Parliament march, Delhi Police had cleared Jantar Mantar late Monday evening, but protesters gathered again during the night. Wife Alleges Wangchuk Was Kept Under House Arrest - Like Conditions Social activist Sonam Wangchuk's wife, Geetanjali Angmo, welcomed the Delhi High Court's decision. She alleged that he had been kept under conditions similar to house arrest at Safdarjung Hospital to prevent him from meeting outsiders. She said Wangchuk's health

was not critical and that medical examinations could have been conducted at Jantar Mantar itself. Five FIRs Registered Over Violence During Parliament March Delhi Police have registered five FIRs against unidentified persons in connection with the CJP's Parliament march. The cases have been lodged at Parliament Street, Barakhamba, and Connaught Place police stations under charges of rioting, damaging government property, and attacking government employees. Police are identifying those involved in the violence through CCTV footage and social media posts. Deepke Says Hunger Strike Will Continue, Parliament March Cancelled Abhijit

Rahul Gandhi Meets Speaker Over Paper Leak Issue Demands Discussion in Lok Sabha; Kharge Says Opposition Not Being Allowed to Speak

New Delhi(GNS): Proceedings of both Houses of Parliament were adjourned till Wednesday. Earlier on Tuesday, as soon as the proceedings began at 11 a.m., the Opposition demanded a discussion on the paper leak issue, displayed placards, and raised slogans. Amid heavy uproar, the proceedings of both Houses were first adjourned till noon and later till 2 p.m.

Speaking outside Parliament, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge said that the Opposition was not being allowed to speak in Parliament and that such actions were against the spirit of democracy. Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi also met the Lok Sabha Speaker.

Congress MPs K.C. Venugopal and Syed Nasir Hussain submitted a notice under Rule 267 in the Rajya Sabha, demanding an immediate discussion on the 2026 paper leak case. Earlier, a meeting of the Congress Parliamentary Party was held in Parliament House. After the meeting, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had assured the members that those responsible for the paper leak would face strict punishment.



Deepke said on Tuesday that Sonam Wangchuk had been prepared to end his hunger strike on Monday after considerable persuasion. It was the 23rd day of his

fast, and they had urged him to call it off, saying his life was too valuable to risk further. However, after witnessing what he described as police brutality and the events

of Monday, Wangchuk decided to continue his hunger strike. Deepke added that the Parliament march has been cancelled for now because, according to

him, the government and police had used force against students. He said the movement would continue, and Sonam Wangchuk would remain on hunger strike.

India No Longer a Trainee, Now a Trainer: Kochi Emerges as Naval Training Hub for 25 Nations

Operation Southern Readiness Begins with Participation of Navies from 25 Countries

New Delhi(GNS): A four-day multinational training exercise, Operation Southern Readiness, commenced on Monday at the Southern Naval Command in Kochi. The naval exercise is being attended by the navies of 25 countries that are members of the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF).

With changing geopolitical dynamics, the role of the Indian Navy has entered a new phase. India has moved beyond the role of a trainee and has emerged as a trainer. The large-scale exercise, which will continue in Oman, and Seychelles.

Kochi is rapidly establishing itself as a major and modern training centre for navies from around the world. The Southern Naval Command, located in the city, possesses state-of-the-art naval institutions, advanced simulators, and world-class infrastructure, giving it a distinct international identity. This is why navies from across the globe prefer Kochi for regular and high-level military training. Confidence in Kochi's naval training infrastructure continues to grow globally.

CMF Includes More Than 40 Countries

The Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) is a multinational maritime partnership comprising more than 40 countries. Its objective is to strengthen maritime security, enhance cooperation, and ensure freedom of navigation.

Farmers Postpone Delhi March in Protest Against Trade Deal

Haryana Seals Borders; Farmer Leaders and CJP Supporters Placed Under House Arrest Traffic Snarls at Kundli-Singhu Border

Gurugram(GNS): In view of the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP)'s Parliament gherao and the proposed farmers' mahapanchayat, security has been tightened along the borders of Haryana adjoining Punjab, Delhi, and Uttar Pradesh. Farmer leaders and CJP supporters have been placed under house arrest or detained in several districts. Punjab farmers had announced a march to Delhi's Kisan Ghat on Tuesday in protest against the proposed India-US Free Trade Deal. However, following strict security arrangements by Haryana Police at the Shambhu and Khanauri borders and a meeting with Haryana agitation for the time being. Dilbag Singh Dirajke, General Secretary of the Bharatiya Kisan Union Kitna Sangharsh Pradesh, said the farmers had demanded the release of arrested farmer leaders and a meeting with the Central Government.



Pilgrims Not Allowed to Take Holy Dip in Mansarovar

Chinese Ban Since 2018 Continues; Lack of Toilets During Kailash Parikrama Adds to Difficulties

Pithoragarh(GNS): Pilgrims undertaking the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra are not allowed to take a holy dip in the sacred Mansarovar Lake. The Chinese administration has prohibited bathing in the lake in order to keep its waters free from pollution.

As a result, pilgrims draw water from the lake in buckets and bathe outside the lake to fulfil the religious tradition. During the Kailash Parikrama, a shortage of toilets at Derapuk and Zuthulpuk has also caused considerable inconvenience to pilgrims, especially women. Each Pilgrim Receives One Bucket Taking a holy dip in Mansarovar Lake after having darshan of Mount Kailash has been regarded as a centuries-old religious tradition. However, since 2018, the Chinese administration has banned pilgrims from entering the lake for bathing. According to the authorities, the decision was taken to preserve the lake from pollution. This year as well, every pilgrim was provided with a bucket at the beginning of the journey. Pilgrims used the bucket to draw water from Mansarovar Lake, bathed with it, and completed the religious ritual.

10 Workers Killed in Landslide at Under-Construction Tunnel in Sikkim

Seventeen Still Trapped; Tunnel Blocked by Debris Rescue Workers Fall Unconscious During Operation

Gangtok(GNS): A landslide struck an under-construction tunnel in Sikkim on Monday, blocking its entrance and trapping 27 workers inside. Ten workers have been confirmed dead, while the identities of three of the deceased are yet to be established. Seventeen workers remain trapped.

Construction work was underway at the Samardung Tunnel in Mamring, Namchi district. Superintendent of Police Sonam Dolma said the number of



trapped workers could be more or less than 27. There is a possibility of a methane gas leak inside the tunnel. Several rescue personnel experienced dizziness while entering the tunnel, and some

even lost consciousness, affecting the rescue operation. Special Rescue Team Brought from West Bengal

District Magistrate Tamling said the administration received information about the accident at around 3:40 p.m. Following this, teams from the NDRF, SDRF, district police, and the fire brigade reached the site. It is feared that a total of 27 workers, including 21 from Patel Engineering and six from NHPC, are trapped inside the tunnel.

US Admits 100 Soldiers Injured in Iranian Attacks

Says Information Was Delayed for Security Reasons; US Launches Strikes on Nine Iranian Cities

Aviv/Tehran/Washington D.C.(GNS): The United States has acknowledged that nearly 100 of its soldiers were injured in Iran's retaliatory attacks. Pentagon spokesperson Sean Parnell disclosed the information, stating that the soldiers were injured in attacks carried out after July 7. Of them, 96 have recovered and returned to duty. He added that most of the personnel suffered mild head injuries (concussions).

Parnell made the statement in response to a report by The New York Times, which claimed that

the US Department of Defense was withholding information about American soldiers injured during the conflict with Iran. He said the disclosure had been intentionally delayed, keeping the security of the soldiers in mind.

Meanwhile, exchanges of attacks between the United States and Iran continue. On Monday, Iran targeted countries hosting American military bases. In response, the United States carried out airstrikes on nine Iranian cities on Tuesday morning.

According to Iran's Labour



News Agency, the targeted locations included Abadan, Bandar Abbas, Bandar Lengeh, Bushehr, Chabahar, Qeshm Island, Sirik, Shiraz, and

Konarak.

Iran Considers Increasing Petrol Prices

Iranian Parliament member Mohammad Bakhshi Ghazi said that the government is considering a proposal to increase petrol prices. According to him, the government believes that the current subsidy system cannot continue indefinitely because the war has placed immense pressure on state revenues.

Ghazi said that no final decision has yet been taken and discussions between the

government and Parliament are still underway. Petrol in Iran currently costs around ₹1 per litre in terms of Indian currency, making it among the cheapest in the world due to heavy government subsidies.

However, raising petrol prices remains a highly sensitive political issue in Iran. After fuel prices were increased in 2019, widespread protests and violence erupted across the country, resulting in hundreds of deaths. Consequently, the present government is proceeding cautiously on the matter.

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.

Black Day for democracy: Sanjay Raut slams Centre over action against CJP protesters

New Delhi, Agency: Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut on Monday launched a sharp attack on the Centre over the police action against student protesters during the CJP's march to Parliament in Delhi.

He called the previous day a "Black Day" for Indian democracy and demanded that July 20 be observed annually as "Coward's Day," news agency PTI reported.

Addressing a press conference, Raut said the country's youth had expressed their anger in a democratic manner and alleged that police used "inhuman" force against the protesters.

"Yesterday, the youth power of the country expressed their anger and outburst in a way that we consider as democracy. The kind of inhuman lathi charge, tear gas, dragging,



breaking legs, and splitting heads that Narendra Modi and Amit Shah's government and their police did on those young boys and girls," Raut said.

Repeating his demand for a symbolic observance, Raut said, "That's why I said yesterday was a very dark day in Indian democracy, a 'Black Day'. From now on, July 20th should be observed as 'Coward's

Day'." Raut said he remained in touch with the protest leaders throughout the night and also visited the protest site.

His remarks came a day after Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) activists marched towards Parliament demanding the resignation of Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan.

According to Delhi Police, the protest left more than 118 police personnel injured, while more than 60 protesters were also reported injured. Earlier, CJP spokespersons met Union health minister JP Nadda and pressed three demands: Pradhan's resignation, compensation of Rs 1 crore for the families of NEET aspirants, more than 20 of whom the CJP claims have died, and the immediate release of Sonam

Wangchuk, who remains admitted to Safdarjung Hospital after being taken from the protest site.

CJP activist Abhijeet Dipke has vowed to continue the agitation, accusing police of using violence against protesters.

The protest has triggered strong reactions from the Opposition over the government's handling of the demonstrations.

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi also alleged that "students were beaten for asking legitimate questions about their own future."

Gandhi demanded a detailed discussion during Parliament's Monsoon Session on the alleged police brutality against students and the NEET examination paper leak controversy in a post on X.

Woman, 2 children killed after fire breaks out in Delhi's BK Dutt Colony house



New Delhi, Agency: A woman and her two children died after a fire broke out in a third-floor house in BK Dutt Colony in south Delhi's Lodhi Road area on Tuesday morning, fire officials said. According to the Delhi Fire Services (DFS), a call about the blaze was received at 10.21am from a house located in B-Block, opposite Chawla Sweets, in B.K. Dutt Colony.

Firefighters immediately rushed one water tender, one water bowser and one breathing apparatus tender to the spot to carry out rescue and firefighting operations.

Upon reaching the building, firefighters found that the fire had engulfed a house on the third floor. As they battled the flames, the teams entered the premises and found three occupants - a woman and two children - inside the house. All three were found dead, senior fire officials said.

As the operation continued, a senior official was rushed to the spot to supervise the firefighting efforts. The blaze was brought under control by around 11.10am, following which firefighters carried out cooling operations to ensure there was no possibility of the fire reigniting.

Delhi traffic police issues advisory ahead of farmers' protest at Kisan Ghat; check affected routes



New Delhi, Agency: Traffic movement is likely to be affected in parts of central Delhi on Tuesday as the Delhi Traffic Police has issued an advisory ahead of a demonstration scheduled at Kisan Ghat from 8.30am.

Commuters have been warned of possible diversions and congestion on several key roads.

According to the advisory, diversions may be enforced on a need basis to ensure smooth traffic management and public safety.

Traffic is likely to be diverted from Delhi Gate, Rajghat Crossing, Guru Nanak Chowk,

Shantivan Chowk, Rajghat DTC Depot and the IP Flyover.

Motorists have been advised to avoid Satyagrah Marg, Velodrome Road, Rajghat DTC Depot Road, Rajghat DTC Bypass Road and surrounding stretches, where traffic movement is expected to be affected due to the gathering.

The Traffic Police has urged commuters travelling to the airport, railway stations and adjoining areas to plan their journeys in advance and use navigation applications for real-time traffic updates.

It is fine it is always fine JP Nadda's first reaction after talks with CJP delegation amid 'Sansad Chalo' protest

New Delhi, Agency: Union health minister JP Nadda on Tuesday said discussions with a Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) delegation went off "fine".

Speaking briefly as he arrived for the NDA Parliamentary Party Meeting, 'Mangal Milan', Nadda said, "It was fine, it is always fine".

Nadda met CJP national spokesperson Ashutosh Ranka and chief spokesperson Saurav Das at his residence amid an intensifying protest that saw thousands of demonstrators attempt to march towards Parliament on Monday, demanding the resignation of Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan over the alleged NEET-UG 2026 paper leak.

Das said the delegation raised three demands during



the meeting, including the resignation of Dharmendra Pradhan and compensation of Rs 1 crore to the families of the NEET aspirants, "more than 20 of whom have lost their lives".

He also said activist Sonam Wangchuk, who is currently in hospital, should be "released immediately". Das added that the protest

would continue until Dharmendra Pradhan resigns. Ashutosh Ranka also posted about the meeting, saying, "The demands have been conveyed, including immediate resignationsacking of Dhar mendra Pradhan," he said. The minister assured us he will discuss this at the appropriate level. However, no commitments

have been made so far. The peaceful protesters will not rest until the demand is met!" he added. In a separate post on X, Nadda on Monday said it was the first time the protest organisers had themselves proposed talks with the government.

This morning, for the first time, a proposal came from the protesters to hold talks with the government, and our discussions have been ongoing since 11:50 AM. The meeting took place in a cordial atmosphere," he said. An initial verbal discussion was held in detail with their delegation, and they submitted a written petition to me around 4 PM. I have requested all the protesters to end their sit-in and assist the administration in restoring normalcy," he added.

FIR registered over violence, stone-pelting during Parliament march; security stepped up at sensitive locations

New Delhi, Agency: Delhi Police has registered an FIR against unidentified persons in connection with the violence, stone-pelting and vandalism of police vehicles during a protest near Regal Cinema in Connaught Place a day earlier. According to sources, protesters allegedly pelted stones at police personnel and damaged several police vehicles during the unrest at the Outer Circle of Connaught Place, news



agency PTI reported.

A police source said efforts are underway to identify those involved through CCTV footage, video recordings and other electronic evidence. Security has been tightened across several parts of the national capital in view of protests by the Cockroach Janta Party and farmers' groups, with heavy deployment of Delhi Police and paramilitary personnel at sensitive locations.

Delhi reworks school recognition rules for more pvt campuses in dense areas

New Delhi, Agency: Aiming to eventually increase the number of private schools in densely populated areas and reduce procedural delays, Delhi govt has replaced the decades-old mandatory essentiality certificate with a self-certification system for granting school recognition.

The move eliminates an applicant's requirement of first obtaining govt approval certifying that a new school is needed in a locality. Instead, promoters will self-certify compliance with prescribed norms under the Right to Education (RTE) Act, including infrastructure, safety and staffing requirements.

Govt said the move will simplify the approval process, reduce red tape and encourage the establishment of more private schools.

The decision does away with long-standing provisions under the Delhi School Education Act and Rules (DSER), 1973, and follows the recommendations of the high-level compliance reduction and deregulation exercise.

According to officials, the changes bring Delhi's school recognition framework in line with the provisions of the Right of Children to Free and

Compulsory Education (RTE) Act, 2009, under which recognition is based on objective norms such as infrastructure, safety standards, teacher qualifications and pupil-teacher ratios, rather than a govt's assessment of whether a new school is required in a particular area.

By replacing the outdated essentiality Certificate with a simple self-certification system, we are shifting the focus from unnecessary administrative paperwork to what truly matters, which is excellent infrastructure, qualified teachers, and a good student-teacher ratio," Delhi education minister Ashish Sood said.

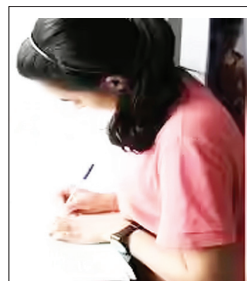
As part of the changes, Rule 44(3) has been amended to remove the requirement for govt intervention. Rule 50(ii) has also been revised, doing away with the provision that required authorities to assess the "real need" for a school by considering the number of existing schools in the area before granting recognition.

This reform brings Delhi's rules in alignment with the central RTE Act, ensuring that school recognition is based strictly on transparent standards, not subjective hurdles," Sood added.

As DU admissions gather pace, university warns against AI-generated documents

New Delhi, Agency: Delhi University has issued a notice warning applicants against submitting artificial intelligence-generated, digitally altered or heavily edited documents during the UG and PG admission process.

The notice said it has come to the admission branch's attention that "several candidates applying for various undergraduate and postgraduate programmes are uploading AI-generated, digitally altered, or heavily



ily edited documents."

Calling such practices a threat to the integrity of admissions, the university said, "Applicants are hereby strictly warned that such practices undermine the integrity of the admission process."

Meanwhile, in the first round of

undergraduate admissions, DU offered seat allocations to 93,033 candidates. Of these, 81,979 candidates, or 88.12%, have accepted their allotted seats, according to the latest data released Sunday.

So far, 45,316 candidates have confirmed their admissions, accounting for 48.7% of the total allocations. Meanwhile, payment links have been generated for 33,383 applications as the admission process continues.

Microsoft India and FITT, IIT Delhi Unveil UNNATI AI 2.0 to Accelerate India's AI Innovation Ecosystem

New Delhi Agency: Unnati AI 2.0, Unnati se Pragati, a flagship CSR initiative of Microsoft India and Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer (FITT), IIT Delhi, has officially been launched on July 19. The programme aims to strengthen India's AI innovation ecosystem at the grassroots by democratizing access to artificial intelligence, nurturing startups, building AI talent, and expanding innovation opportunities across Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities.

The first edition of Unnati AI initiative was launched in April 2025, to accelerate AI-based startups across healthcare, education, sustainability and agriculture complemented with AI skilling for developers across India.

In the last one year, Unnati AI accelerated 10 startups, skilled more than 1,000 AI developers, generated a portfolio valuation of around ₹ 1,690 Cr and created more than 200 jobs.

As artificial intelligence reshapes industries,

economies, and the future of work, AI skilling has emerged as a strategic national priority. Building AI fluency is no longer limited to technology professionals; it has become an essential capability for developers, entrepreneurs, researchers, students, and innovators to create responsible, scalable, and impactful AI solutions. Building on the strong foundation of its first edition, UNNATI AI 2.0 marks the next phase of the programme by expanding beyond startup acceleration to cultivate a robust AI innovation ecosystem. Through a unique blend of AI skilling, startup enablement, mentorship, and ecosystem partnerships, the programme empowers talent, incubation leaders, and startups to translate ideas into real-world solutions, while creating a sustainable pipeline of AI innovators capable of driving India's next wave of technology-led growth.

The programme was announced during a special interaction on DD National



featuring Mr. Rajiv Kumar, Managing Director and President, Microsoft India Development Centre, and Mr. Ankit Saxena, Vice President, FITT IIT Delhi. The discussion highlighted the evolution of UNNATI AI from its successful first edition and emphasized the growing role of AI innovation beyond

India's major technology hubs, creating new opportunities for startups, developers, students, incubators, and innovators across the country.

India has the talent, ambition, digital infrastructure and ecosystem of venture capital and the local market, to lead in the AI era. The opportunity now is to help more

innovators, entrepreneurs and developers turn ideas into real-world solutions that create impact at population scale. Through UNNATI AI 2.0, we are partnering with FITT, IIT Delhi to strengthen India's AI talent and innovation pipeline, expand opportunities, and help next generation of startups build solutions that contribute to the country's growth and progress." said Mr Rajiv Kumar, Managing Director & President, Microsoft India Development Centre.

As per Dr Nikhil Aggarwal, Managing Director, FITT IIT Delhi, "At FITT, IIT Delhi, we believe that the next phase of India's innovation journey will be defined not merely by the creation of startups, but by the strength of the ecosystems that nurture them. Our approach goes beyond conventional acceleration models. We aim to create a robust pipeline of AI-ready talent, empower incubation leaders, and enable startups to translate innovation into measurable societal impact. By inte-

grating capacity building, startup enablement, and real-world pilot deployments, the programme seeks to establish a sustainable foundation for innovation-led growth in India.

The launch of UNNATI AI 2.0 (Unnati se Pragati) on DD National marks an important milestone in taking India's AI innovation story to households across the country. Following the launch, an extensive nationwide outreach campaign will be rolled out across Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities through institutional partnerships, AI workshops and startup engagement programmes. Join the Movement Startups, developers, students, incubators, academic institutions, ecosystem partners, and industry stakeholders are invited to become part of UNNATI AI 2.0. The programme offers opportunities for AI capacity building, startup acceleration, pilot deployments, incubation managers training, and access to a nationwide innovation ecosystem.

DDA opens lifetime membership for Dwarka Golf Course from July 21; 850 slots on offer

New Delhi Agency: Golf enthusiasts in Delhi will be able to apply for lifetime membership of the Delhi Development Authority's (DDA) 18-hole championship Dwarka Golf Course from July 21, following directions from Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu.

The DDA has opened 850 lifetime memberships for the first time since the golf course was inaugurated in 2024, alongside its existing three-year and five-year tenure membership options.

The online application process will remain open for two months. Of the 850 lifetime memberships, 250 have been earmarked for the government category and 600 for the non-government category. Applicants will have to pay a non-refundable registration fee of Rs. 2,500, while successful applicants must deposit the applicable



membership fee online within 30 days of receiving the offer of membership.

The lifetime membership fee has been fixed at Rs 3.50 lakh for the government category and Rs 7.50 lakh for the non-government category. The DDA will also continue offering three-year memberships at Rs 1.20 lakh (government) and Rs. 2.50 lakh (non-gov-

ernment), while five-year memberships are priced at Rs 1.80 lakh and Rs 4-50 lakh, respectively.

If the number of eligible applications exceeds the available memberships in any category, allotments will be made through a computerised draw of lots. The DDA has also clarified that only one application per applicant will be accept-

ed, and multiple applications will be rejected.

Spread across 158 acres in Sector 24, Dwarka, the 18-hole championship golf course stretches over 7,377 yards and features one of the country's longest driving ranges, measuring 375 yards with 52 bays. The facility also includes North Shore SLT grass fairways-the first of their kind in India. The golf complex is equipped with a clubhouse, restaurant, cafeteria, conference hall, multipurpose hall, tech studio, lecture hall, pro shops, equipment fitment studio, swimming pool, sauna and steam facilities. A golf academy is also being developed as a centre of excellence. According to the DDA, the golf course is supported by a computerized automatic irrigation system, underground drainage network and stormwater recharge wells to promote efficient water use and conservation.

MSM Unify Hosts First Edition of 'Elevation' in New Delhi, Strengthening Partner Network Ahead of Canada Fall 2026 and Winter 2027 Intakes

New Delhi Agency: MSM Unify, a leading global platform for international student recruitment, has launched Elevation, a new flagship partner engagement series, with the inaugural Elevation by MSM Unify - New Delhi Chapter, bringing its strongest North India recruitment partners into one room to deepen collaboration and unlock new opportunities for students across upcoming international intakes.

Held in New Delhi, the day-long event brought together some of North India's most trusted education consultants and recruitment partners for a focused programme of institutional showcases, strategic discussions, and recognition anchored around the theme of shared growth: rising together.

A central highlight of the event was the Canada Fall 2026 & Winter 2027: The Opportunity session, which presented admission pathways, programmes, and intake insights from eight Canadian institutions - Vancouver Community College (VCC), Mount Saint Vincent University (MSVU), NOIC



Academy, St. Thomas University (STU), Saskatchewan Colleges, Selkirk College, Northern Lights College (NLC), and Mount Allison University (MTA).

The programme also spotlighted MSM Unify's wider portfolio of online programme management (OPM) and transnational education opportunities including Davis, Woolf, and Florida Coastal University, expanding the range of pathways partners can offer students beyond traditional study destinations.

The event concluded with the inaugural Elevation Awards, recognising outstanding partner contribution and celebrating the consultants and teams driving successful student outcomes.

NGT orders DDA, flood control dept to end Yamuna floodplain deadlock

New Delhi Agency: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Monday directed the Principal Secretary (Environment), Government of NCT of Delhi, to convene a joint meeting of officials from the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) and the Irrigation and Flood Control (I&FC) Department within one week to resolve issues delaying the demarcation of the Yamuna floodplain.

The direction was issued by a Bench comprising Justice Prakash Shrivastava, chairperson, and Dr Afroz Ahmad, Expert Member.

The DDA informed the Tribunal that, in compliance with the NGT's order dated March 25, 2026, it had commenced the physical demarcation of the Yamuna floodplain along the 22-km stretch between the Wazirabad and Okhla barges and had installed 206 out of 277 bollards.

However, on June 6, the Irrigation and Flood Control Department sent a revised flood-



plain map after the demarcation work had already begun.

According to the DDA, implementing the revised map would require the relocation and reinstallation of the bollards already fixed, resulting in the suspension of the ongoing work.

The Tribunal observed that the floodplain demarcation is required to be carried out in accordance with the River Ganga (Rejuvenation, Protection and Management) Authorities Order, 2016, using the prescribed parameters of one-metre contour data and the 1-in-100-year flood level.

Prateek Group: Building Landmarks, Setting Benchmarks in Noida's Real Estate Journey

New Delhi Agency: Real estate is not only about constructing buildings. It is about creating spaces that influence how people live, work and connect. Over the last two decades, Prateek Group has emerged as one of the recognised real estate developers in Noida and NCR by consistently focusing on design innovation, quality construction, timely delivery and resident-centric communities.

Guided by its philosophy of "Creating Landmarks, Setting Benchmarks", Prateek Group has built a portfolio that reflects the changing aspirations of modern homebuyers. From introducing new concepts in luxury living to developing integrated townships, the Group's journey represents a continuous effort to redefine residential experiences.



Established with a vision to create distinctive residential destinations, Prateek Group has delivered more than 20 million sq. ft. of development and served over 50,000 families across NCR. With more than 10 million sq. ft. of ongoing development, the Group continues to expand its footprint through thoughtfully planned communities. The Group's recognition by Forbes India as one of India's Most Promising Brands further reflects its growing reputation as a trusted real estate name. This recognition highlights the organisation's focus on brand building, innovation and creating long-term value for its

stakeholders. Over the years, Prateek Group has developed several landmark addresses including Prateek Stylome, Prateek Edifice, Prateek Fedora, Prateek Wisteria, Prateek Grand City and Prateek Canary, each representing a different milestone in its evolution. Innovation has remained at the core of Prateek Group's approach. The Group has consistently introduced concepts that were ahead of market expectations and contributed to the evolution of luxury housing in Noida.

Prateek Stylome introduced a new interpretation of premium living with expansive residences, contemporary architecture, resort-inspired features and landscaped environments. It also became one of the early projects in Noida to introduce distinctive night

facade illumination, creating a new visual identity for residential developments.

Prateek Edifice further elevated the luxury housing segment with several industry-first concepts. From grand triple-height entrance lobbies and zero surface parking to expansive residences, private balconies and resort-style amenities, the project introduced a new benchmark for premium living in Noida.

The Group has also embraced advanced construction practices, including the adoption of Mivan technology, helping improve efficiency, consistency and construction quality. Innovations such as the use of RO water in construction demonstrate Prateek Group's focus on maintaining quality standards throughout the development process.