

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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## Flag hoisting is not the culmination of a yajna, but the beginning of a new era: Yogi

Ayodhya

Chief Minister and Gorakhpeethadhishwar Yogi Adityanath began his address at the flag hoisting ceremony with devotional chants of “Jai Siyavar Ramchandra,” “Mata Janaki,” “Maa Saryu,” “Bharat Mata ki Jai,” and “Har Har Mahadev.” As he chanted, the entire temple



complex echoed with the same reverence and enthusiasm. Reflecting on the historic moment, the Chief Minister said: Aju Safal Tapu

Teerth Tyagu, Aju Safal Jap Jog Biragu, Safal Sakal Subh Sadhan Saju, Ram Tumahi Avlokat Aju. He emphasized that the flag hoist-

ing is not the conclusion of a yajna but the beginning of a new era. He added, “The grand temple of Lord Shri Ram, he said, represents the faith, honor and self-respect of 1.4 billion Indians.” He extended heartfelt congratulations to the karmayogis whose dedication made the construction of the temple possible. CM Yogi

Adityanath dedicated this momentous day to the saints, devotees and warriors who devoted their lives to the movement. The occasion, coinciding with Vivah Panchami added spiritual significance to the celebration. The ceremony took place atop the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple in the presence of

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and RSS Sarsanghchalak Dr Mohan Bhagwat. After offering salutations to the saffron flag, CM Yogi presented mementoes to the Prime Minister and Dr Mohan Bhagwat. He affirmed that the unfurling of the flag symbolizes the eternal light of righteousness and the timeless ideals of Ramrajya.

## Centuries-old wounds are healing, pain is being laid to rest and long-cherished resolve is being fulfilled today: PM Modi



Ayodhya

Prime Minister Modi addressed the gathering during the saffron flag hoisting ceremony at the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple in Ayodhya. He began with the chants, “Jai Siyavar Ramchandra, Jai Siyaram.” He said that today, Ayodhya witnesses a historic turning point in India cultural consciousness. The entire nation and indeed the world, is filled with the spirit of Ram. Every devotee feels an unparalleled sense of satisfaction, boundless gratitude and immense spiritual joy. He added, “Centuries-old wounds are being healed, long-standing pain is finding

rest and a centuries-old vow is finally being fulfilled. Today marks the culmination of a 500-year-long yajna, a yajna that remained steadfast in faith and unwavering in belief. The divine energy of the sanctum sanctorum of Shri Ram Temple has now been enshrined in the form of the Dharmadhvaj atop this magnificent temple.” The Prime Minister said, “The Dharmadhvaj is more than a flag: it is a symbol of the renaissance of Indian civilization. Its saffron hue, the glory of the Suryavansh, the Om symbol and the Kovidara tree inscribed upon it represent the ideals of Ramrajya.

## Dhwajaroohan ceremony resounds with ‘Jai Shri Ram’

Ayodhya

The historic hoisting of the Dharma Dhvaj atop Shri Ram Mandir has infused Ayodhya with unparalleled devotion. Devotees thronged the city major streets, including Dharmapath, raising chants of “Jai Shri Ram” that echoed through the air. Thousands gathered at Lata Mangeshkar Chowk to witness the Dhwajaroohan live on screen. When Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted the Dharma Dhvaj atop the Ram Mandir, the entire crowd erupted in overwhelming joy, chanting “Jai Shri Ram” in unison. Devotees streamed in not only from Ayodhya but also from neighbouring districts such as Sultanpur, Basti, Ambedkar Nagar and Barabanki, as well as from across North India making the moment a truly pan-



regional celebration of faith. Rajendra Prasad Pandey, who came from Shravasti, said that he reached Ayodhya on November 17th and feels proud today. He said that PM Modi and CM Yogi had restored Ayodhya glory and made the city

healthy and beautiful. Vishwanath Jaiswal, also from Shravasti, said that the construction of the Ram Mandir was historic. PM Modi and CM Yogi had accomplished what no one had been able to do before. A Ram devotee

from Gopalganj, Bihar, dressed as Hanuman filled the atmosphere with devotion through his dancing and singing. Madhu, Dharana, Santosh, and Pooja, women devotees from Delhi said that upon reaching the Ram Mandir complex, they felt like they were in heaven. Sant Ramakant Sharma, who has been visiting Ayodhya for the past 25 years, said that Ayodhya has both modernized and regained its Treta Yuga glory. Amid the melodious sounds of drums and cymbals, the group of sant transformed the event into a divine cultural festival. This event was not merely a religious ritual, but emerged as a living symbol of the confluence of faith history and modernity, in which Ayodhya re-established its spiritual prestige before the world.



Ayodhya flag hoisting: Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath felicitating PM Modi by presenting him a memento.

## A sea of faith surged in Ayodhya...

The historic moment of hoisting the Dharma flag on the top of the Shri Ram temple filled Ayodhya with devotion. Devotees thronged all major streets, including Dharmapath, chanting “Ram’s name.” Thousands of devotees gathered at Lata



Mangeshkar Chowk to watch the live broad-

cast of the flag hoisting. As Prime Minister

Narendra Modi hoisted the Dharma flag on the temple’s top, the crowd erupted in emotional chants of “Jai Shri Ram.” The devotees were overwhelmed with enthusiasm, describing the grandeur as resembling that of the Treta Yuga.

## Congress suppressed Sardar Patel's contribution: Nadda



Bengaluru

The ongoing power struggle within the Congress party over the Chief Minister's post and government change in Karnataka continues unabated. On Tuesday, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar met with Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge. Meanwhile, Chief

Minister Siddaramaiah once again appealed to the party high command's decision. He stated that the party high command must end the confusion surrounding the Chief Minister's post in the state. Siddaramaiah reiterated his commitment to abide by the high command's decision regarding the Chief Minister's post.

## Custodial violence and deaths a blot on the system: Supreme Court

New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Tuesday issued a strong remark, stating that violence and deaths in police custody are a “major stain” on the system and that the country will no longer tolerate it. The Supreme Court is hearing a suo motu case related to the malfunctioning of CCTV cameras in police stations across the country. The court expressed deep concern over 11 custodial deaths in Rajasthan



in eight months. The two-judge bench, comprising Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, stated, “The country will no longer tolerate such incidents. This is a blot on the system. Deaths in custody cannot happen.” Solicitor General Tushar Mehta stated

that no one can justify custodial deaths. However, the court was displeased with the fact that the central government had not yet filed its compliance report. The court sharply questioned this, asking, “Why is the central government taking this court lightly?” Following this, the central government promised to file an affidavit within three weeks. The Supreme Court praised Madhya Pradesh. The Supreme Court noted that Madhya Pradesh

has done exceptionally well, with every police station and outpost connected live to the district control room. The bench praised this. The American example and discussion of ‘open air prisons’ During the hearing, the American model was mentioned, where CCTV footage is live-streamed and some private prisons exist. The Solicitor General informed the court that a suggestion had recently been made to build private prisons using CSR funds.

## Ethiopia volcano's ash cloud weighs on flights

New Delhi

A massive plume of ash from Ethiopia's Haile Gubbi volcano has reached Delhi, disrupting air services to several cities, including the capital. Air India, as a precautionary measure, has cancelled several international and domestic flights. The airline stated that this step was taken to ensure the safety of passengers and crew. Air India stated that all affected passengers are being continuously updated via SMS and email, and full

refunds and rebooking options are being offered without additional fees. The airline also clarified that the situation is being monitored 24/7 and future flights will be operated in accordance with international safety protocols. In light of the volcanic ash, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has issued strict instructions to all airlines. The regulator has mandated that flight plans be planned to avoid ash-covered airspace.

## A.K Sharma participated in the Unity March during his Mau visit on the occasion of Patel Jayanti

Lucknow

Urban Development and Energy Minister A.K Sharma enthusiastically participated in the Unity March organized on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the Iron Man of India and the symbol of national unity and integrity, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. The march was taken out from Galibpur Kings Eden School to Barhadpur Kutti, in which public representa-



tives, office bearers of social organizations and a large number of local citizens participated. The patriotic slogans and enthusiastic atmosphere energized the entire march. Sharma

said that Sardar Patel was such a brave son of mother India who dedicated his entire life to the service of the nation. He especially mentioned that at the time of independence, the historic and extremely challenging task of integrating the 565 scattered princely states into one nation was accomplished by Sardar Patel with unmatched strategy, strong determination and extraordinary leadership. This integration

became the foundation of India unity and stability, whose benefit the entire nation is experiencing today. The active participation of public representatives, social organizations and thousands of local citizens in the Unity March gave the program a grand form. During this, patriotic slogans and messages made the atmosphere even more inspiring. On this occasion, Sharma appealed to all

## An 8th-grade student took her own life after her parents refused to give her a mobile phone

Nagpur

In Nagpur, Maharashtra, when her parents refused to give their daughter a mobile phone, the teenager, driven by stubbornness, committed suicide. The 8th-grade student hanged herself. Upon receiving the information, police arrived at the scene and sent the body to the hospital for a postmortem. The incident occurred near the Hanuman Temple in the Chankapur area of Nagpur. The 13-year-old 8th-grade student hanged herself because her parents refused to buy her a new smartphone.

New Delhi

The central government has begun efforts to bring all opposition parties together for dialogue to ensure the smooth conduct of the Parliament session, which has been marred by frequent disruptions. According to news agency ANI, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju has called an all-party meeting on November 30th. The central government will use this meeting to build consensus on the smooth conduct of the winter ses-

## An all-party meeting is proposed on November 30



sion. What are the government's preparations for the winter session? The winter session of Parliament is scheduled to begin on December 1st, and the government is preparing to introduce 10 new bills. The most important of these is the Atomic Energy Bill,

2025, which will open the country's civilian nuclear sector to private companies. Until now, this sector has been completely under government control. The government says that this new law will modernize and make the framework for the use and regulation.



## Briefs

**LALITPUR**  
**Women Protest Illegal Liquor Trade**

Angry women from Baroda Swami village protested at the District Magistrate's office, demanding an immediate stop to the illegal liquor trade in their village. They alleged that the illicit sale has ruined the social fabric, with youth falling prey to addiction. The women accused local police of inaction despite repeated complaints and warned of drastic steps, like mass suicide, if the administration fails to act. The DM has assured a probe and necessary action.

**BALLIA**  
**DM Inspects SIR Form Filling Progress**

District Magistrate Mangla Prasad Singh inspected the SIR (Special Intensive Revision) form filling process at Primary School Majhawa and the Gram Panchayat secretary's office. He closely reviewed the work being done by the BLOs and directed officials to ensure all enumeration forms are filled and submitted to the tehsil in a timely manner. He warned that no negligence or delay would be tolerated at any level in this administrative process.

**BALLIA**  
**Youth Leader Pledges for High-Tech Panchayat**

Ram Babu Yadav, a social worker from Kodarha Naubarar, has announced his intention to contest the upcoming panchayat elections. He aims to transform the panchayat into a smart and high-tech unit, focusing on cleanliness, solar street lights, and a mini-stadium for youth. Emphasizing development over caste politics, he has already provided an ambulance for villagers and built a Hanuman temple, urging youth to join him in reigniting development.

**BALLIA**  
**VC Inspects University Exam Centers**

JNC University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sanjeet Kumar Gupta inspected exam centers at Gaurishankar Kanya Mahavidyalaya and Kunwar Singh Postgraduate College. He monitored strong rooms and exam halls, seeking details from center superintendents to ensure a fair and copy-free examination process. The odd-semester exams, running in three shifts for 82,916 students across 7 nodal and 39 centers, are being conducted with strict vigilance, including special flying squads.

**LALITPUR**  
**Warm Clothes Distributed to Destitute Families**

As part of MP Anurag Sharma's 'Sewa Rath Abhiyan,' warm clothes were distributed to destitute families in Gram Sadhumal. BJP leader Shiva Singh Tomer also informed attendees about various government welfare schemes, guiding them on how to avail benefits. The recipients expressed happiness, and villagers praised the MP's ongoing efforts.

**HOISTING | PM****Centuries old wounds are healing : PM**

AYODHYA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoisted the saffron Dharmadhvaj atop the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple on Vivah Panchami, calling the moment a significant chapter in India's cultural narrative. Opening his address with traditional chants, he said the ceremony marks a historical milestone that resonates across the country and beyond. According to the Prime Minister, the event symbolizes the culmination of a long-standing civilizational aspiration linked to the Ram Temple.

PM Modi stated that "centuries-old wounds" are being healed and that a long-cherished resolve has reached fulfillment. He described the Dharmadhvaj as more than a flag—calling it a representation of values associated with Lord Ram, including truth, duty, and fortitude. Its saffron colour, along with symbols such as the Om and the Kovidara tree, were highlighted as reflecting ideals attributed to Ramrajya.

**Event highlights symbolism of the Dharmadhvaj, and the broader message of heritage**

He emphasized that the flag would continue to represent principles of truth, righteous conduct, and societal harmony for generations. The Prime Minister said the flag offers a symbolic link even to those unable to travel to Ayodhya, adding that it stands as a reminder of moral duties and collective responsibility.

PM Modi acknowledged the contributions of devotees, planners, laborers, and architects involved in the construction of the temple, calling Ayodhya a place where ideals translate into action. He referred to the mythological associations of the city and said the site illustrates how Ram evolved from prince to exemplar through guidance from sages and interactions with figures like Nishadraj, Shabari, and Hanuman.

**Flag hoisting marks beginning of a new era: CM**

AYODHYA

Ayodhya hosted a historic flag hoisting ceremony atop the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple, where the CM stated that the unfurling of the saffron flag marked the beginning of a new era. He opened his address with devotional chants, which resonated across the temple premises. Reflecting on the occasion, the CM described the event as a significant moment for devotees and emphasized that the ceremony represented continuity of faith across centuries.

**CM describes saffron flag as symbol of dharma**

The CM stated that the saffron flag symbolizes principles such as dharma, dignity, truth, justice, and national unity. He acknowledged the contribution of individuals involved in the construction of the temple and noted the importance of the ceremony coinciding with Vivah Panchami.

The event took place in the presence of national leaders, including the Prime Minister and the RSS Sarsangchalak.

**If elections are fair, even BJP workers won't vote for them: Akhilesh Yadav**

LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav strongly criticised the ongoing Standardisation of Electoral Rolls (SIR) process in Uttar Pradesh, alleging that field staff involved in the exercise are facing excessive pressure. He said that if elections were held fairly, even families of BJP workers would not vote for them. His comments follow similar concerns raised after the Bihar elections.

Akhilesh Yadav posted a detailed statement online, claiming that Booth Level Officers (BLOs) are being assigned "impractical" targets that are causing mental strain. According to him, treating BLOs as if they can work round-the-clock is inhumane and reflects the difficult working conditions created under the current system. He alleged that the pressure on employees is part of a larger political wrongdoing.

**Akhilesh Yadav alleges unrealistic targets for BLOs under the SIR exercise, calling the process mentally exhausting for staff**

The SP chief questioned why BLOs should be held accountable if stress forces them to quit or puts their

**Akhilesh's attends brother's Wedding**

Akhilesh Yadav's cousin Aryan Yadav married Serin, a Supreme Court lawyer from Ladakh, in Saifai. The ceremony featured family participation, including Dimple Yadav leading the baraat. Senior family members blessed the couple, and guests from political and social circles attended the event.

safety at risk. He urged government employees across the country to speak up collectively, stating that the Samajwadi Party will continue to highlight their grievances.

**Lekhpal suicide: Family alleges SIR duty harassment**

FATEHPUR

A Lekhpal (revenue officer) named Sudhir Kumar, who resided in Khajuh town, Fatehpur, died by suicide just one day before his scheduled wedding. The tragic incident occurred after his engagement and his haldi-mehndi ceremonies were completed on Monday night.

Sudhir, who was posted in Sultan Garh and was currently assigned to SIR (voter list revision) duty in the Jahanabad constituency, locked himself in his room after the family retired for the night. He was found dead after his sister raised an alarm when he did not respond to her calls.

**Bomb threat at Vindhyavasini Temple sparks heavy police search**

MIRZAPUR

Bomb threat targeting the Vindhyavasini Temple in Mirzapur created a security alert late Monday night. Police officials reported that Dial-112 received a call claiming the temple would be blown up. Immediately after the alert, police teams, along with the bomb disposal squad, carried out inspections at the Vindhyavasini Temple, Ashtabhuj Temple, and Kalikhoh Temple.

According to the Senior Superintendent of Police, the information had been relayed from the Lucknow Control Room. Following this, teams were deployed across temple premises and nearby areas to conduct thorough checks. No suspicious item was recovered during the operation.

**Police detain caller from Prayagraj after threat received at midnight**

The individual who made the threat was traced and detained in Prayagraj. Identified as Mayank, he is reported to have a long-term mental health condition. Officials stated that further investigation is underway to

verify the intention behind the call and review communication records. Police also confirmed that city-wide checking drives were launched, focusing on vehicles, public spaces, and sensitive points. The incident came shortly after a similar threat in Lucknow, where a letter had warned of attacks on schools and government buildings. Authorities in both districts are maintaining heightened vigilance as investigations continue.

**Hamirpur soldier martyred in Kupwara firing**

HAMIRPUR

Soldier from Hamirpur district was killed in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara sector during duty on 23 November. The deceased, identified as 32-year-old Govind Yadav from Kusmara village under Kurara police station limits, was serving with the Army since his recruitment in 2013. According to officials, he sustained fatal injuries after being struck by enemy gunfire.

The news reached the family on Monday morning through an official communication from Army authorities. Following the confirmation, villagers gathered at the family home as the news spread rapidly across the area. The Army has informed the family that the mortal remains will be brought to the village on Tuesday, where the funeral

**Family informed by army, mortal remains to reach village with military honours**

will take place with full military honours.

Relatives and villagers described the atmosphere as filled with grief. Many residents stated they were awaiting the final glimpse of the soldier before the last rites. Yadav is survived by his wife, a daughter, younger siblings, and elderly parents.

**DM ousted after misconduct complaints pile up**

LUCKNOW

The UP Medical Supply Corporation has terminated the services of GM Ujjwal Kumar following multiple complaints related to procedural irregularities. According to initial information, the Managing Director issued the termination order with immediate effect after reviewing allegations involving misconduct in tender and procurement processes.

Sources stated that the GM was accused of causing deliberate delays in official files, creating confusion by using the advantage of having the same name as the MD, and influencing vendor interactions. Complaints also described instances of unnecessary obstruction and irregular behaviour in financial dealings connected to procurement.

**MD orders immediate termination after multiple vendor complaints and inquiry inputs**

Senior officials in the Health Department reportedly received repeated complaints from vendors and individuals associated with the supply chain. The matter reached higher administrative levels, prompting internal examination of documents and communication records.

**HC condemns 20 year delay in minor criminal trial**

LUCKNOW

The High Court expressed strong disapproval over a trial court's failure to conclude a case involving an offense carrying a maximum sentence of just six months, which has instead dragged on for 20 years in Prayagraj.

Hearing the petition of 73-year-old Shrish Kumar Malviya, the High Court observed that the trial court repeatedly adjourned hearings, and the prosecution failed to produce a single witness over the last 13 years. Justice Vivek Kumar Singh noted that this suggests irregularities in the trial court's functioning and is causing undue harassment to the senior citizen.

**Uttar Pradesh achieves fastest approval pace in PM-FME**

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh has achieved the fastest pace in the country in implementing the Prime Minister Micro Food Industry Upgradation (PM-FME) Scheme. Under the guidance of Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya, the Food Processing Department has been executing the scheme with high efficiency, recording an average approval time of only 100 days. The state has also secured a 98% strike rate for approved proposals, placing it at the top nationally.

According to data from the department, out of the allocated ₹311.71 crore for the financial year 2025-26, an expenditure of ₹252.89 crore has already been made. A request for the third installment has been forwarded to the Ministry of Food Processing Industries,

**With a 98% strike rate of approved proposals, Uttar Pradesh secures top position nationwide**

Government of India. Banks across the state have approved term loans exceeding ₹2,000 crore under the PM-FME Scheme. Additional Chief Secretary, Horticulture and Food Processing, B.L. Meena stated that Uttar Pradesh has registered the highest number of approved proposals this year.

**initiative****UP launches major drive against illegal foreign nationals**

LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh is set to establish detention centers across its districts following a model similar to that used in Delhi, where illegal foreign nationals are held pending verification and repatriation. The initiative follows directives from the Chief Minister, prompting district administrations to begin identifying individuals suspected of entering India unlawfully and to locate suitable facilities for their temporary detention.

Government sources indicate that vacant government build-



ings, community centers, police lines, and select police stations are being surveyed to create secure detention spaces. These centers will accommodate individuals until their nationality, legal status, and identity documents are verified. Authorities emphasized that detainees will be kept under strict security

and provided basic amenities such as food, water, and medical care. Delhi currently operates around 18 detention centers housing nearly 1,500 foreign nationals, including individuals from Bangladesh, Myanmar's Rohingya community, and several African nations. Many are undergoing verification after

**Bangladeshi, Rohingya, and African nationals under scrutiny as state initiates coordinated crackdown**

having allegedly obtained Indian identity documents. Once verification is complete, repatriation is carried out through the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO). In cases involving border crossings, return procedures are coordinated with the Border Security Force, particu-

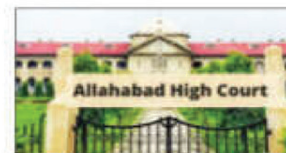
larly in West Bengal and Assam. The Union Home Ministry has also circulated standard operating procedures to all states, paving the way for Uttar Pradesh to implement its own network of detention facilities.

Senior police officials in Uttar Pradesh report that illegal entry cases have increased significantly. Bangladeshi and Rohingya nationals are present in substantial numbers in several districts, while African nationals—particularly in Noida and Ghaziabad—are suspected in activities ranging from narcotics trafficking to cybercrime.

**HC questions GST cancellation process**

PRAYAGRAJ

The Allahabad High Court has expressed concern over arbitrary cancellations of GST registrations in Uttar Pradesh, stating that such actions without proper inquiry can bring business operations to a halt. The division bench of Justice Saumitra Dayal Singh and Justice Indrajeet Shukla delivered the order while hearing petitions filed in cases related to alleged GST evasion involving Bhadohi-based firms Anil Art and Craft and Poonam Creations.



The court observed that the Assistant Commissioner had cancelled GST registrations and blocked Input Tax Credit (ITC) without examining the explanations submitted by the firms. It further noted that the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) had undertaken forced recovery without issuing a formal demand notice.



## Police achieve major success: Police arrest man carrying a reward of 25,000 rupees

He used to search mobile shops using Google Mapsm 24 mobile phones, a scooter, an illegal country-made pistol, and cartridges were also recovered from the accused's possession

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Tharwai

Tharwai police achieve major success: A notorious mobile thief has been apprehended. On November 2nd, Raj broke into a mobile shop located at Garapur intersection, under the Tharwai police station area of ??the Prayagraj Ganganagar zone, broke through the back wall and stole mobile phones. The theft was captured on CCTV. The victim, Bharat Lal, son of Aditya Prasad Gupta, a resident of Kusungar Tharwai, Prayagraj, became aware of the incident that morning. He immediately called Dial 112 and reported the incident to the local Tharwai police station. On receiving the information, ACP Tharwai Chandrapal Singh, Inspector Tharwai Santosh Kumar Pandey along with the team reached there and taking cognizance of the matter, the CCTV was also scanned and the theft was caught on camera. The cunning thief who committed the crime remained unknown. On the basis of the complaint received about the incident, a report was lodged against the unknown thief in Tharwai police station and



investigation was underway. The investigation of the case was going on at that time. On November 14, the accused Priyanshi wife of Monu Pal was arrested from her residence in village Mouddin Ka Pura, police station Khakhru, district Fatehpur and two mobile phones were also recovered from her possession and after taking further legal action, she was sent to jail. The investigation of the accused Monu Pal continued. On Monday night at around 11:30 pm, the police were on patrol and were checking suspicious persons and vehicles during night checking near the underpass highway located at Singramau Pulia. When the police signaled him to stop, he tried to escape instead of stopping. The police suspected him and chased him. When the sus-

pect found himself surrounded, he opened fire on the police force. The police fired in self-defense and during the encounter, the accused was injured by a bullet in his right leg and was sent to the hospital for treatment. When the bag was taken from the accused's possession, 24 mobile phones were found in his possession. According to information, he had taken the mobile phones with the intention of selling them. The police team that arrested the accused included Inspector Tharwai Santosh Kumar Pandey, Sub-Inspector Girish Chandra Maurya, Amardev Singh S and many other police personnel. The injured accused identified himself as Monu Pal, son of Devmuni Pal, a resident of Mouddin Ka Pura, Police Station Khakhru, Fatehpur district. ACP Tharwai Chandrapal Singh stated that necessary pre-trial legal action is being taken against the accused. Cases registered against the accused in several districts A total of 18 cases, including theft, are registered against the accused Monu Pal in Tharwai police station and other district police stations

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

To ensure better implementation of the Government of India's Official Language Policy and promote the propagation of Hindi, the "Second Three-Day Central Hindi Book Fair and GST Literature Festival 2025," which will be held for three days (November 25, 26, and 27, 2025) in the GST Bhawan complex of the Central Goods and Services Tax and Central Excise Commissionerate, Allahabad, held a grand opening today, November 25, 2025. The event was inaugurated by Rajan Dutt, Commissioner of the Central GST Department, by lighting a lamp and cutting the ribbon at the book stall. M.V. The children of Convent Inter College added to the grandeur of the event with a captivating and beautiful cultural presentation. The book fair features books and various literature from renowned Hindi publishers, notably Vani Prakashan, Bharatiya



Jnanpith, Rajkamal, Lokbharati, Radhakrishna, Hind Yugam, Diamond, Prabhat, Rajpal, and others. The Commissioner of the GST Department stated on this occasion that such events related to the

Hindi language also connect the department with the general public and urged all residents of Prayagraj to attend the book fair. Additional Commissioners of the

GST Department, Mahfoozur Rahman and Rajnikant Mishra, spoke at the inaugural ceremony. The stage was moderated by Umesh Kumar Maurya, Hindi Officer of the GST Department.

## Superintendent of Police, Bhadohi, inaugurated the Annual Sports Day at St. Mary's School

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Gopiganj, Bhadohi. The Chief Guest, Abhimanyu Manglik, Superintendent of Police, Bhadohi, inaugurated the Annual Sports Day 2025 program held at St. Mary's School, Nai Bazar, Bhadohi. The school principal welcomed Abhimanyu Manglik, Superintendent of Police, with a bouquet and a badge. On this occasion, students performed in a march past, drill demonstrations, yoga sessions, track and field events (such as the 100-meter



dash, long jump, relay race), legion, dumbbells, and colorful cultural presentations. Students performed enthusiastically in competitions held in various age groups. The Chief Guest honored the winning students with prizes, trophies, and certificates. In his address,

Chief Guest Abhimanyu Manglik encouraged students to adopt discipline, teamwork, and a healthy lifestyle through sports. Addressing the students, the Superintendent of Police explained how important sports are in life. They emphasize personality development

and fitness. By performing well in sports, one can advance in life. By pursuing a career in sports, one can bring glory to the country. Good or bad marks do not determine a student's future. Development that can occur outside of sports cannot occur in the classroom. Sports teaches how to perform as a team.

If you ever lose a game, it teaches you where you lacked, which can be improved upon and you can win again with a better performance.

The Superintendent

encouraged the students by recounting his life's outstanding achievements. He praised the school management and said that such events play an important role in the overall development of students. The chief guest of the annual sports day program was Abhimanyu Manglik, Superintendent of Police, Bhadohi, Deepak Mishra, District President, BJP, Bhadohi, Dharmendra Kumar, DSO, Bhadohi, the honorable Principal of the school, teachers, family members of the students, students of the school etc. were present.

## District Magistrate Inspects Warehouse at Mundera Mandi



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Prayagraj District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma conducted his monthly inspection of the EVM and VVPAT ware-

house in Mundera on Monday. He inquired about the functioning of CCTV cameras and the condition of the security rooms. He directed that all necessary arrangements be main-

tained in the warehouse. Joint Magistrate Animesh Verma, Assistant Election Officer Phoolchandra, and other election officials were present during the inspection.

## A young man was duped of ?7.5 lakh (approximately \$1.5 million) in the name of a High Court job



Fafamau

A young man from Gohari village in the police station area was duped of ?7.5 lakh (approximately \$1.5 million) by an online coaching operator under the false promise of a High Court job. After nearly two years of failing to secure a job, the victim filed a complaint against the accused at the Fafamau

police station on Monday. According to reports, Manoj Kumar Prajapati of Gohari village alleges that in 2023, he had a WhatsApp conversation with an online coaching operator known as Career with Arun, a resident of Amroha district.

Under the guise of securing Manoj Kumar a job as a junior assistant in

the High Court, the coaching operator, Arun Kumar Pawar, transferred 765,000 (approximately \$1.5 million) to his online account multiple times and also took his original educational documents. It is alleged that even after nearly two years, the accused youth has neither secured him a job nor returned the money.

## A General Provident Fund Workshop/Court was held under the chairmanship of the Senior Deputy Accountant General

The General Provident Fund Workshop/Court was informed of the need to timely submit all GPF cases and ensure payments within the timeframe for authorizations submitted online

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj As part of Audit Day 2025, the Accountant General (Accounts & Entitlements), Prayagraj, organized a General Provident Fund Workshop/Court on Tuesday in the Sangam Auditorium of the District Magistrate's Office, Prayagraj, under the chairmanship of Senior Deputy Accountant General Abhishek Kumar, to facilitate smooth payments to General Provident Fund account holders. Present at the meeting were Deputy



Accountant General Vijay Singh Panwar, Chief Treasury Officer Pratyush Kumar, Senior Treasury Officer Rajendra Kumar Singh, Assistant Accountants of the Accountant General, Prayagraj, Avnish Kumar, Shresh

Shukla, Jitendra Kumar Singh, Disbursing Officers and Accountants from the district departments. Senior Deputy Accountant General Abhishek Kumar advised Treasury Officers and Disbursing Officers to ensure timely process-

ing of all GPF cases, while adhering to deadlines, and to ensure payments are made within the stipulated timeframe on authorization letters submitted online. All General Provident Fund payments have been made online, which Disbursing

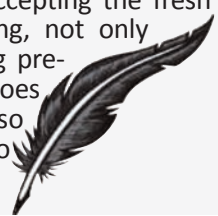
Officers can periodically check and ensure that all subscribers receive these benefits easily. During the GPF workshop/court, issues such as missing GPF accounts, pending GPF payments, pending cases related to NPS to GPF transfers, GPF-related accounts, and other related issues were discussed. Information was also provided on other problems encountered during the GPF workshop/court. Deputy Accountant General Vijay Singh Panwar concluded the meeting with a vote of thanks.



## Editorial

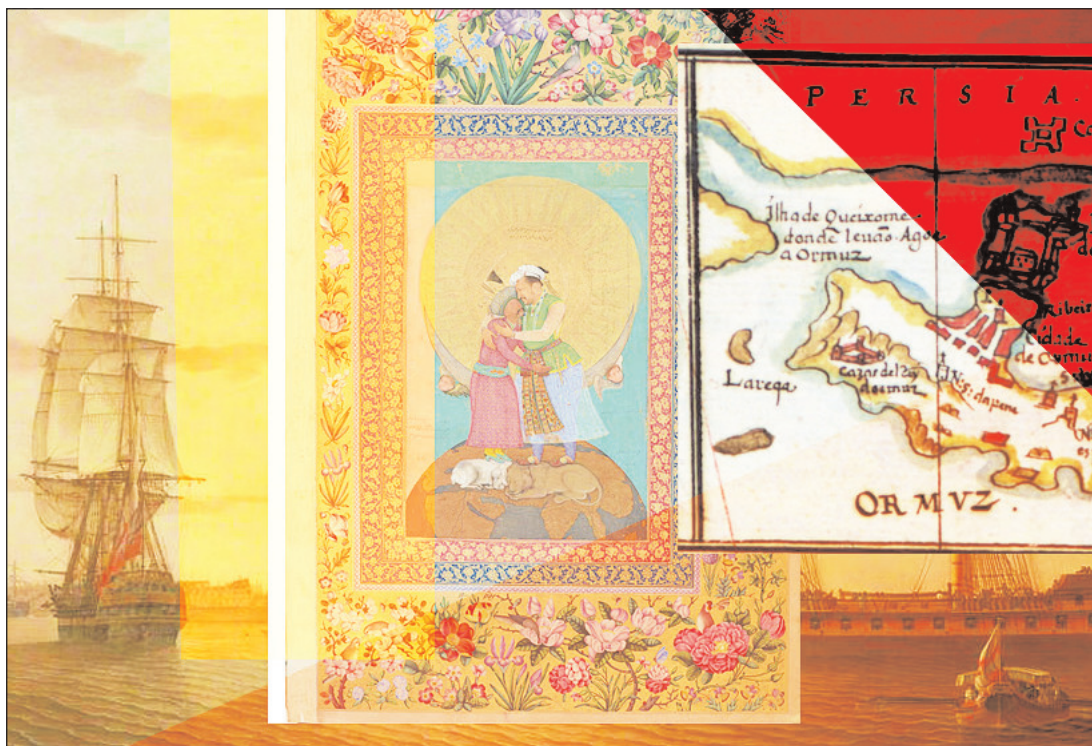
### It's curious even scientists discard spirit of science in daily life, become unscientific: Nehru

In the course of less than four months, we have put up, declared open, or are going to declare open, three national laboratories. I suppose before this year is out, some more national laboratories will also be started. This is a great venture testifying to the faith which our scientists and, I hope, our Government have in science. I suppose the putting up of fine and attractive buildings does some service to science; nevertheless, buildings do not make science as Dr. Raman has often reminded us. It is human beings who make science, not bricks and mortar. Properly equipped buildings, however, help the human being to work efficiently. It is, therefore, desirable to have these fine laboratories for trained persons to work in and for persons to be trained for future work. You, Sir, referred to the spirit of science. I wonder what exactly that spirit is and to what extent we agree or differ in our ideas of it. Is science, as is often supposed, a handmaiden to industry? It certainly wants to help industry, though not merely for the sake of helping industry but also because it wants to create work for the nation, so that people may have better living conditions and greater opportunities for growth. That I suppose will be agreed to but there is something more to it. What ultimately does science represent? You, Sir, just referred to scientists declaring war on nature. May I put it in a different way? We seek the co-operation of nature, we seek to uncover the secrets of nature, to understand them and to utilise them for the benefit of humanity. The active principle of science is discovery. Now, what is, if I may ask, the active principle of a social framework or society? Usually, it stands for conservatism, remaining where we are, not changing and carrying on, though, of course, with some improvement and further additions. Nevertheless, it is a principle of continuity rather than of change. So, we come up against a certain inherent conflict in society between the co-existing principles of continuity and of conservatism and the scientific principle of discovery which brings about change and challenges that continuity. So the scientific worker, although he is praised and patted on the back, is nevertheless, not wholly approved of, because he comes and upsets the status quo of things. Normally speaking, science seldom really has the facilities that it deserves except when some misfortune comes to a country in the shape of war. Then everything has to be set aside and science has its way, even though it is for an evil purpose. It is interesting to see this conflict between the normal conservatism of a static society and the normal revolutionary tendency of the scientist's discovery which often changes the basis of that society. It changes living conditions and the conditions that govern human life and human survival. I take it that most people who talk glibly of science, including our great industrialists, think of science merely as a kind of handmaiden to make their work easier. And so it is. Of course, it does make their work easier. It adds to the wealth of the nation and better conditions. All this science does. But surely science is something more than that. The history of science shows that it does not simply better the old. It sometimes upsets the old. It does not merely add new truths to the old ones but sometimes the new truth it discovers disintegrates some part of the old truths and thereby upsets the way of men's thinking and the way of their lives. Science, therefore, does not merely repeat the old in better ways or add to the old but creates something that is new to the world and to human consciousness. If we pursue this line of thought, what exactly does the spirit of science mean? It means many things. It means not only accepting the fresh truth that science may bring, not only improving the old but being prepared to upset the old if it goes against that spirit. It also means not being tied down to something that is old.



## Indians ruled the Gulf through Hormuz

Though an uneasy ceasefire between Israel and Iran continues, just two days ago, on 24 June, the Iranian parliament threatened the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. But this was not the first time that Hormuz, situated at the narrowest point of the Persian Gulf, has turned into a flashpoint between Iran and the West. Since at least 1300 CE, Hormuz has been the hinge of Eurasian trade, where thousands of Indians, Arabs, Iranians, Mongols, and Turks made their fortunes. Goods poured through Hormuz, to and from the Mediterranean, West and Central Asia, South and Southeast Asia, and China. But in the 16th century, the Portuguese adventurer Alfonso da Albuquerque took control of the port. The shockwave rippled through the Western Indian Ocean; the decades after saw the end of Hormuz's prominence, the development of Iran's first maritime policy, and the immigration of tens of thousands of Indian traders and investors into the Gulf and Iran. This is the story of how Hormuz shaped the history of India and the world. Just as the Gulf's geography offered opportunities throughout time, it also created challenges. Its character was utterly unique, nothing like our world of monolithic nation-states. Sam Dalrymple, historian and author of *Shattered Lands: The Five Partitions of India*, described Gulf towns to me as "trading islands/oasis towns wedged between the sand sea and the salt sea. They make less sense as states and more as oases filled with traders." Their population was never



consistent: it waxed and waned with the trading seasons, which in turn depended on the monsoon. Outside these ports, weather conditions were extreme: storms, unseasonal winds, scorching heat and humidity. The Gulf's northern edge, shielded from the Iranian Plateau by a mountain range, allowed little room for coastal states to grow. In the south, the vast Arabian desert was home to small tribes that occasionally preyed on sea traffic. Hormuz rose to prominence because it was able to offer safe ground for international trade, without the risk of piracy. This wasn't what one would expect from looking at it. Barely a few kilometres across, sweltering Hormuz was encrusted in salt, with only one freshwater source. Its rulers solved this problem by importing water on barges from the shore. Markets were kept open all night to avoid the daytime

heat. In *The Persian Gulf: A Political and Economic History of Five Port Cities*, historian Willem Floor further explains that the rulers of Hormuz imposed an embargo on timber, oars, coir, iron and steel, which prevented their rivals from building ships. They then took control of nearby ports, establishing a chokehold on the Gulf. Though Hormuz's rulers were Muslim, the island made no segregations on ethnic or religious lines. The second-largest ethnic group on the island were Indians, who conducted a roaring trade in horses in the 13th century CE. In 'India's Sea Trade with Iran in Medieval Times', historian Shireen Moosvi discusses the Somanatha-Veraval inscription, recording the construction of a mosque in Somnath in 1264 by the Hormuz merchant Nuruddin Firoz. The Sanskrit portion of the inscription describes the

mosque as a dharma-sthanam, and mentions the direct involvement of Gujarat's ruling Chalukya king and his officials in the grant. If this Hormuz merchant had such influence, writes Moosvi, "Hormuz merchants must surely have formed an elite group of some importance... in the Chaulukya kingdom of Gujarat." For the next century, Hormuz continued to flourish. According to Moosvi, Hormuz's networks extended as far as Uzbekistan and Turkey. Goods shipped from Hormuz reached, in relays, all the way to China. The Chinese admiral Zheng He brought his vast armada there multiple times in the 15th century, where he exchanged ceramics and silks for the luxuries of Western Eurasia. Strategic resources such as horses were shipped to India from Hormuz; in return, India provided necessities such as rice

to the Gulf ports, as well as cloth, metals, woods, and spices. In his edited volume *India and the Indian Ocean, 1500-1800*, MN Pearson notes that exchanges overwhelmingly favoured India. Vast quantities of silver and salt were required to balance the trade. In the early 1500s, the Portuguese erupted into the Indian Ocean. From their galleons—artillery platforms designed for deep-sea and coastal voyaging—they attempted to take control of trade gateways in the Indian Ocean, including Hormuz. They stationed a permanent garrison on the island in 1515, but immediately ran into problems. At the same time, the Mughal Empire of the Indian subcontinent consolidated its reach into Afghanistan. Conquering Kandahar, the Mughals stabilised overland routes from India to Central Asia, further weakening the appeal of Hormuz. According to Floor, the Ottoman Empire, which controlled Iraq, attempted to get rid of the Portuguese in 1552 but failed. It would be an Iranian power which finally expelled them and restored some normalcy to the Gulf trade.

But Hormuz would never again be independent. Up to this point, riven by internal strife, the Safavid dynasty of Iran had paid little attention to events in Hormuz—though they were technically its overlords. However, Shah Abbas I (r. 1587–1629), a contemporary of the Mughal emperor Jahangir, eventually consolidated power. He was alarmed by the loss of both Kandahar and Hormuz, crucial to Iran's trade with the steppe and the ocean.

### Delhi's new fuel policy is forcing people to buy new cars. It won't reduce pollution

There is an old saying in English—"missing the woods for the trees". It means getting so focused on the minor details that you overlook the bigger picture. And honestly, this is what I feel about the new 'fuel policy.' Starting 1 July, all end-of-life vehicles (EOL) in the national capital will be denied fuel and can also face deregistration, impounding or scrapping. Reportedly, many Delhi residents have been lining up at car showrooms, panic-buying new vehicles. A very close friend's mother called me up and asked, "Beta, should we buy a new car?" Let me tell you a bit about aunty—she's a retired government service officer and lives comfortably with her husband on a decent pension in one of those societies in Greater Noida. Other than the twice-a-week run to the shops and the occasional drive to meet friends in Delhi, their 11-year-old Hyundai i10 barely gets used. Yet because of the new fuel policy announced by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta—where

older vehicles will not be allowed to refuel, first in Delhi and later across the entire National Capital Region (NCR)—she is genuinely wondering what to do. Now, let me make it clear that money is not a problem in this case. This retired couple can easily afford a new car. It is just that they don't see the need for one. And they shouldn't have to. You can think of thousands of cases like this of retired folks with perfectly functional and perfectly maintained vehicles that will now have to be junked because of this new policy. This is a waste of resources. If it is pollution reduction that we are chasing, the policy doesn't consider the massive carbon cost of building a new car from the ground up. I've read a few arguments in favour of shared mobility. The governments like Karnataka are trying to ban it altogether. And honestly, with how expensive and unreliable cabs have become, I've decided I'd rather just drive to the airport and pay the usurious parking fee myself.

### UDF must look beyond Muslim votes to win 2026 polls

There is a new 'captain' in Kerala. After the Congress-led United Democratic Front wrested the Nilambur seat from the Left Democratic Front, the state media lavished praise on Leader of the Opposition VD Satheesan for helming a crucial electoral win. On 23 June, the day of the Nilambur bypoll verdict, Satheesan watched the proceedings from the District Congress Committee (DCC) office in Ernakulam. As soon as the UDF ensured its victory, Congress leaders vied among themselves to shower praises on the LoP, led by MP Hibi Eden. It was a mark of appreciation for Satheesan, who didn't bow down to former Nilambur MLA PV Anvar's diktats and ensured a win despite the latter re-entering the fray. It was PV Anvar's resignation that facilitated the by-election in the first place, even if he sought to extract his pound of flesh for extending his support to the UDF. Leaders within the Congress—such as Ramesh Chennithala and ally Indian Union Muslim League (IUML)—advocated Anvar's accommodation, with the by-poll becoming a bellwether ahead of the 2026 assembly election. Nevertheless,

Satheesan stood his ground and took ownership of the decision to keep Anvar out. It was a marked departure from the consensual ways that have defined the Congress in recent times. The consensual approach was necessitated on account of the party's weakening organisational apparatus, leaving it at the mercy of various stakeholders and its supporters frustrated. The UDF's morale-boosting win and the credit to Satheesan prompted former LoP Ramesh Chennithala to come out publicly, stating how nobody hailed him as 'captain' when he led the UDF to bypoll victories in the past. Power struggles in the Congress aside, the UDF seems to be taking the wrong lessons from the bypoll by extrapolating it to 2026. On the contrary, the ruling Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) is leveraging even the loss to build its narrative for the upcoming assembly election. The Left's route to a solitary seat in successive Lok Sabha elections in 2019 and 2024 was marked by a shift in its Hindu vote base to the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP). The Left has traditionally been the 'Hindu party'

in Kerala, whereas the UDF has been anchored by minority communities. Unlike the 2019 elections—held in the wake of the BJP-fuelled Sabarimala agitation—the 2024 loss made the switching of Hindu voters a perpetual phenomenon. If the CPI-M initially concentrated on carving out sections of UDF's minority votes to counter the loss of its Hindu base, the 2024 loss demonstrated the urgency to hold on to its Ezhava vote bank. This prompted the Left to double down on its strategy of portraying the UDF as a front backed by communal elements.

such as Jamaat-e-Islami. CPI-M deployed the same tactic in last year's Palakkad and Wayanad bypolls—alleging that the Social Democratic Party of India (SDPI) and Jamaat were responsible for UDF's victory. After the setback in Nilambur, CPI-M state secretary MV Govindan resorted to the same game plan, almost like a reflex action. The potency of this strategy has swelled on account of the polarisation between the Muslim and Christian communities in Kerala lately. The CPI-M, perhaps, believes that it can attract additional Christian votes.

## Europe's factories to African startups—how India can act as a bridge between economies

Not long ago I heard a global CEO joke that India's payment apps impress the world, yet our biggest export deals still settle in dollars. The comment stayed with me because it captured the paradox of modern India: a country with the tools and talent to bridge East and West, but not choosing to think bigger. Today's global landscape is splintering. Rising tensions between the United States and China have prompted supply-chain realignments from Vietnam to Mexico. Political blocs, tariff walls, and digital standards

are being remade in real time. In this environment, many countries must choose sides. India, by contrast, can carve a third path: a true bridge economy that unites disparate markets through aligned infrastructure, finance, and digital networks. The first piece of this bridge is production. India's Production Linked Incentive-driven factories are churning out smartphones, solar panels, and auto components on a scale unseen a decade ago. Exporters in Pune now ship precision parts as easily to Stuttgart in Germany

as they do to Lagos in Nigeria. Our manufacturing base overlaps the needs of advanced economies (where quality matters) and the rising purchasing power of the emerging economies. That dual fit is rare, and it underpins India's unique value proposition. Digital rails reinforce this bridge. UPI's transaction volumes surpassed global giants like Visa, turning wallets into gateways. Early UPI trials in the UAE and Singapore show how a rupee-linked digital corridor can settle micropayments instantly, without inter-

mediary banks. If India extends these rails to East Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Gulf, small businesses from Nairobi to Jakarta could transact with Indian partners as effortlessly as they do with local vendors. Digital payment networks are the plumbing of the 21st-century bridge. With our digital rails in place, the next step is ensuring those goods move as smoothly across ports and borders. Yet infrastructure alone is not enough. Logistics bottlenecks still cast a shadow on our ambition.



**All personnel involved in the SIR process must fulfill their responsibilities: DM**

#### Prayagraj

A meeting was held on Monday in the Sangam Auditorium under the chairmanship of District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma with representatives of all national and state-recognized political parties to ensure the successful completion of the ongoing special intensive revision program. In the meeting, the District Magistrate informed that to date, the respective BLOs have distributed the counting forms to a total of 4,625,206 (98.56 percent) voters across all the district's assembly constituencies. The BLOs are being rapidly collected and digitized through the BLO app, retrieving one copy of the counting forms from the respective voters. It was informed at the meeting that the counting forms of a total of 9,22,865 voters have been digitized so far. The District Magistrate urged representatives of all political parties to coordinate their appointed Booth Level Agents (BLOs) with the respective booths to ensure the smooth completion of the intensive revision program. The District Magistrate also asked representatives of all political parties to provide assistance to the Booth Level Agents (BLAs) at each polling station to ensure the smooth distribution of counting forms to all voters and the collection of counting forms from them. He urged the BLAs and the respective BLOs appointed by them to coordinate and ensure the distribution and collection of counting forms for all voters.

### Phulpur MP arrives for statue unveiling in Tharwai

#### Phulpur MP

Praveen Patel, the chief guest, unveiled the statue of the late Ram Kailash Mishra in Jagdishpur Pure Chanda (Chak Thakur Ram) village, located in the Tharwai/Tharwai area. On this occasion, the MP paid tribute by garlanding the statue and praised the personality and thoughts of the late Ram Kailash. According to information, the late Ram Kailash Mishra was the student president of Ishwar Sharan Degree College, Prayagraj, in 1975 and died at the young age of 32.

## Online Fraud in the Name of 'London Parcel Clearance': Two Accused Arrested 1.40 Lakh Cash

#### Auraiya

The Cyber Police of Auraiya has achieved a major breakthrough in the fight against online financial crime by arresting two cyber fraudsters involved in duping citizens under the pretext of clearing international parcels. Police recovered fake identity documents, mobile phones, and 1.40 lakh in cash from their possession. Superintendent of Police Abhishek Bharti informed on Sunday evening that on November 18, a woman lodged a complaint at the Auraiya Cyber Police Station, alleging that she was deceived via a WhatsApp call. The fraudsters reportedly lured her with claims of sending gold and



diamonds from London and extorted a large sum in the name of "parcel clearance charges." Acting promptly on the complaint, a special team- constituted under the direction of SP Abhishek Bharti and supervision of Additional SP and Circle Officer Bidhuna (Cyber)- initiated an intensive investigation. Based on technical surveillance, manual intelli-

gence and a tip-off from an informer the police arrested two accused: Satyapal Singh (22) and Durgpal Singh (27), both residents of Kumharar village under Moth Police Station in Jhansi district. The police recovered two fake Aadhaar cards, two Realme mobile phones and 1,40,000 in cash believed to be proceeds of cyber fraud. During interro-

gation, the accused confessed to using forged identity documents to mislead victims and collecting money in bank accounts by offering bogus foreign parcel schemes. Additional charges have been added to the case based on the interrogation and recovered evidence.

The police team involved in this operation included Station House Officer Vikas Singh, Inspector Akhtar Hussain, and constables Yatendra Singh and Amit. The Auraiya Police has urged citizens to remain cautious and avoid responding to unsolicited calls and messages that promise gifts or expensive parcels from abroad.

## The body of an unidentified youth was found lying on the railway tracks under the Jagatpur flyover

#### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

#### Utran

The body of an unidentified youth was found lying on the Jagatpur railway tracks in the Utran police station area. The youth is estimated to be around 25 years old. The youth died on the spot in the incident on Tuesday. According to police, the youth was hit by train number 65111, a passenger train traveling from Rambagh to Ghazipur, Varanasi. The deceased youth was wearing a blue jacket. However, his identity has not yet been established. The

Utran police have taken the body into custody and are taking further action. Efforts are underway to identify the youth. Police have appealed to the public to contact the Utran police station if they have any information about the youth. The youth's body was found in several pieces after being struck by the train. Utran police station in-charge Pritam Kumar Tiwari stated that the body of the unidentified youth was found under the Jagatpur flyover railway tracks. A Panchnama (inquest) has been conducted and the body has been sent for post-mortem.

## Brother-in-law and brother-in-law returning home from an invitation died in a road accident

#### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Phaphamau.** A brother-in-law and brother-in-law, who were returning home late at night from an invitation, were hit by an unknown vehicle on the Phaphamau Ganga Bridge. They were seriously injured. Family mem-

bers who were following them took the injured brother-in-law and brother-in-law to Swaroop Rani Hospital, where doctors declared them dead. Upon receiving the news of their deaths, the family was devastated. The deceased's father has filed a case against the unknown vehicle at the

Phaphamau police station. According to reports, 24-year-old Rahul Kumar, a resident of Jhansi Kohna, was returning home from a party in Shantipuram's Kashiram Colony around 1 a.m. on Monday night. As they reached the Phaphamau Ganga Bridge, an unknown vehicle com-

ing from the opposite direction struck them and fled. Both were seriously injured after falling to the ground. Their family members, who were following them, picked them up and took them to Swarup Rani Hospital for treatment, where doctors declared them dead.

## Demand to the CM to investigate the Executive Engineer for earning money illegall organization will also knock the doors of the court

#### Ballia

The Irrigation Department, Flood Division Ballia, reportedly submitted a memorandum to the Chief Minister of the state on behalf of the Contractor Unity Organization, demanding an investigation into serious allegations against the Executive Engineer of the Flood Division. The mem-

orandum was issued by the organization president, Narendra Singh. The organization alleges that Executive Engineer Sanjay Mishra has repeatedly received complaints of demanding illegal payments in exchange for work, which is impacting departmental operations. The memorandum also mentions that engineers and local contractors

working under the officer have also expressed dissatisfaction. According to the memorandum, the complainants claim that Executive Engineer Sanjay Mishra conducts most of his work via mobile phone while absent from the field office, which is a convenience to both the department and the public. The organization stated in the

letter that, if necessary, attendance information can be verified through the Executive Engineer mobile location. Executive Engineer Sanjay Kumar Mishra ancestors were originally residents of Pandeypur Mishra village in the Hanumanganj development block under the Phephana police station in Ballia district. The organi-

zation president, Narendra Singh also stated that Economic Engineer Sanjay Mishra exploits all contractors and employees, negotiates inappropriately and has amassed significant wealth through illegal means, which we demand the Chief Minister investigate. If the government doesn't meet our demands, we will all go to court.

## The Delhi Government and the NDMC inaugurated three new "Ayushman Arogya Mandirs"

#### Delhi

Delhi Cabinet Minister Parvesh Verma, along with NDMC Chairman Keshav Chandra, Council members Anil Valmiki and Dinesh Pratap Singh and Secretary Rakesh Kumar, inaugurated three Ayushman Arogya Mandirs in Babu Dham, Netaji Nagar and Golf Links. During the inspection at Golf Links, the Minister announced that as part of a new initiative, several Ayushman Arogya Mandir are being opened across Delhi with an addi-



tional budget of ₹25 lakh per year for lab testing, free medicines and improved services. He stated that these centers will eliminate the need for people to rely on expensive private hospitals. According to the NDMC Chairman, 12 dispensaries in the area have been rebranded as Ayushman

Arogya Mandirs. They will offer services for allopathy, homeopathy, Ayurveda, testing, vaccination and medicines. Municipal Council member Dinesh Pratap Singh said that this entire initiative is in line with the vision of Ayushman Bharat, which emphasizes timely diagnosis, treatment and vaccination. Currently, NDMC health services are running on the e-hospital system through Charak Municipal Hospital, Municipal Maternity Hospital, two polyclinics and 13 dispensaries.

## A joint awareness program was organized under Traffic Month 2025

#### Prayagraj

Under Traffic Month 2025, Cyber Crime and Mission Shakti, a comprehensive public awareness program was organized on Monday at Jagat Taran Golden Jubilee School and Colonelganj Inter College under the joint aegis of the Commissionerate of Prayagraj and the Uttar Pradesh Crime Prevention Committee, Lucknow Branch, Prayagraj. During the program, students were provided with detailed information regarding traffic rules, cyber security, and Mission Shakti. Mission Shakti Female Sub-Inspector Mozbeen Bano from George Town Police Station informed the girls about self-defense.

## 37-Members Team from Vidya Bharati Departs for the 36th National Yogasana Competition

#### Varanasi

Banaras Hindu University (BHU) one of India premier central universities, has launched an educational video to clarify common misconceptions about "percentage" and "percentile." This initiative comes at a crucial time as students prepare for admission to the Ph.D. Degree Programme, where percentiles play a pivotal role in merit list preparation. The video, available on BHU official



YouTube channel and other social media handles of the varsity, explains step by step the difference between percentage—an absolute measure of performance (e.g. marks out of total) and percentile—a relative

ranking that indicates how a candidate fares compared to others. Narrated primarily in Hindi to reach a wider audience. The content uses simple analogies and also demonstrates how percentiles are calculat-

ed. The video is particularly relevant for students and parents who often confuse these terms, leading to unrealistic expectations during admissions or competitive examinations. It highlights when percentiles are essential, their role in ensuring fair evaluation and how they help neutralize variations in exam difficulty, evaluation standards or multiple test components. For more information, visit BHU admission website at [www.bhuonline.in](http://www.bhuonline.in)

## Ashthi Kalash Yatra of Sindhi Spiritual Guru Sai Chadru Ram Sahab to Be Taken Out on November 26

#### Gonda

A meeting of the Sindhi community was held at Sakhi Baba Asudaram Ashram located in Malviya Nagar, during which several programmes were unanimously approved. Community spokesperson Kishan Rajpal informed that Sindhi spiritual leader Sai Chadru Ram Sahab attained heavenly abode on 15 October. Following his demise,



Ashthi Kalash Yatras are being organized in all Indian cities where his ashrams are established.

In the same sequence, the Ashthi Kalash Yatra will also be taken out in Gonda on

Wednesday, 26 November at 5:00 PM. The procession will commence from Anandpur Ashram on Bahraich Road and pass through Guru Nanak Chowk, Guddu Mal Chauraha,

before culminating at Jhulelal Sindhi Dharmashala. After the conclusion of the Yatra, a Shradhanjali Sabha will be organized by the Sakhi Baba Mandal at the Sakhi Baba Asudaram Ashram. The programme will begin with offering tributes to Sai Chadru Ram Sahab, followed by bhajan-kirtan, Dhuni Sahib, aarti and a bhanda. The meeting was attended by prominent members of

the Sindhi community including Rajkumar Thakur, Mathuradas Ladhani (President, Asudaram Seva Samiti), Jagdish Raytani, Sushil Raytani, Dinesh Thakur, Prem Kumar Ladhani, Gopichand Raytani, Giridhar Gopal Raytani, Jagdish Chandra Ladhani, Pooran Khatri, Sunny Lalwani, Pankaj Ladhani, Neeraj Talreja, and Harish Ahuja.

## Dozens of people beat a student, video goes viral

#### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Prayagraj.** The incident is reported to have taken place at St. Thomas School in the Handia police station area of Prayagraj. Sheikh Zia-ur-Rehman, a student from village Inayat Patti, a 10th-grade student at St. Thomas School in Handia, was stopped on his way home from school and severely beaten with



rods and sticks by dozens of people, leaving him in critical condition. He has been referred to the district hospital. The student's

father has filed a written complaint with the Handia police station, demanding action against the people who beat him.



## Google under CCI investigation over gaming firm complaint

**Delhi:** India's Google regulatory issues are growing. In 2022, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) fined the US tech giant for abuse of dominant position in its Play Store and Android mobile device ecosystem. Now, the fairplay regulator is investigating a complaint filed by gaming company WinZO. CCI directed its investigation arm to investigate and report within 60 days after finding a prima facie case. "Based on the facts and circumstances of the case, the commission believes Google is in violation and justifies further inquiry. The CCI bench, chaired by Ravneet Kaur and three members, ordered the director general to investigate. A Google spokesman declined to comment. WinZO, an online gaming company, claimed that Google's Play Store prohibits Real Money Game hosting. "Due to Google's unreasonable and



restrictive policy, all apps offering real money games of skill are only available for download from their website (a process called sideloading)," it told CCI. On Android devices, using this process to reach WinZO displays a disclaimer/warning, tarnishing its image. WinZO stated warnings are without validity and "completely illegal" and cost the company. It also claimed Google displays another "baseless warning" when users pay for skill-based games. "Such payment warnings are arbitrary as Google has not set any criteria for displaying them," WinZO complained to CCI.

### US retailers utilize Trump tariff threats to boost sales

**Delhi:** Local media stated that many US businesses are advising clients to buy now before President-elect Donald Trump's proposed tariffs hike prices. Trump threatened 60% tariffs on all Chinese goods and 10% to 20% tariffs on other goods during his campaign. He announced plans to impose 25% tariffs on Mexican and Canadian imports and 10% on Chinese imports. According to Xinhua,

## The Union government wants 100% FDI in insurance

**Delhi:** The Union Finance Ministry proposed raising the insurance sector's FDI ceiling from 74% to 100% in a consultation paper. The insurance FDI limit was raised from 49% to 74% in February 2021. The government said the proposal to alter insurance legislation will make insurance more affordable, grow the insurance industry, and streamline corporate operations.

An office memorandum dated November 26 proposed lifting the FDI ceiling in Indian insurance businesses from 74% to 100% and



allowing insurers to conduct one or more kinds of insurance business and associated or incidental operations. The suggestion also cut foreign reinsurers' Net Owned Funds from Rs 5,000 crore to Rs 1,000 crore. IRDAI can also set lesser entry capital (Rs 50 crore) for underserved or unserved regions on

a case-by-case basis. The sector regulator is trying to increase capital in this capital-intensive industry. The Chairman of IRDAI suggests that the insurance market requires 50,000 crore yearly to double penetration in the country. Insurance penetration is the ratio of annual premiums issued to GDP.

## Gold loans rise 50% in seven months

**Delhi:** Bank loans against gold jewelry rose 50.4% in the first seven months of the year. Despite single-digit growth in every other personal loan area, credit rose sharply. RBI issued sectoral deployment of bank credit Gold loans totaled Rs 1,02,562 crore in March 2024. Growth was 56% year-over-year, up from

13% in October 2023. NBFCs' move and a preference for secured loans over unsecured ones contributed to the first-seven-month gold loan surge, bankers said. Bank loans to NBFCs fell 0.7% to Rs 1.5 lakh crore in the first seven months. Bankers also said that rising gold prices allow borrowers to repay previous loans

and get higher new ones. Analysts see rising gold loan demand as an indication of financial instability. RBI ordered banks and financial companies to review and fix their gold loan rules and procedures within three months last month. After an examination, evergreening was found to hide bad loans.

## TRAI deadline may prevent Jio, Vi, and Airtel subscribers from receiving OTPs

**Delhi:** As Airtel, Vodafone-Idea, and Reliance Jio struggle to reach a crucial Telecom Regulatory Authority of India deadline, Indian mobile subscribers may experience OTP delays. The telecom watchdog extended the deadline for spam and phishing traceability requirements to December 1, 2024. Telecom companies must now track all commercial messages, including OTPs, to combat fraud. Telecom companies can block scams by identifying message sources. However, missing this deadline could delay or prohibit OTPs, harming banking, e-commerce, and social networking. The TRAI imple-



**"The TRAI implementation timeframe is phased. Operators will notify chain declaration violators daily until November 30. All non-compliant messages will be prohibited starting December 1"**

mentation timeframe is phased. Operators will notify chain declaration violators daily until November

30. All non-compliant messages will be prohibited starting December 1.

### A former employee being sued by Google India for disclosing Pixel secrets

**Delhi:** Google and its subsidiary in India filed a lawsuit in the US against former Bengaluru office employee Harshit Roy for revealing trade secrets that were considered confidential. In order to prevent Roy from further disseminating the stolen trade secrets that had irreparably harmed Google, Google hired an outside investigator to find him. Among the information that was revealed were comprehensive specifications of proprietary hardware.

## New Honda Amaze Variants and Top Features



**Delhi:** India will launch the third-generation Amaze on December 4, 2024, and unofficial bookings have begun. The car is arriving at dealer yards nationwide ahead of its much-anticipated launch. It will rival the new Maruti Suzuki Dzire, Tata Tigor, and Hyundai Aura. The 2025 Honda Amaze will come in three variants—V, VX, and ZX—with many interior and exterior changes. Since its inception in India over a decade ago, the Amaze has been a popular sedan. Several new features and technolo-

gies will be added. The top model will have a floating touchscreen infotainment system with wireless Apple CarPlay and Android Auto connectivity, automatic climate control, ADAS technology, six airbags, reversing camera, wireless smartphone charger, multi-functional steering wheel with mount-

ed controls, rear AC vents, dual cup holders, type-c charging ports, and more. However, an electric sunroof, motorized seats, and 360-degree camera will be missing. It will keep its 1.2L four-cylinder VTEC naturally aspirated petrol engine, which produces 90 PS, and no major mechanical alterations.

## French energy giant Total puts Adani Gp investments on hold

**Delhi:** Total Energies, a French oil company, has suspended investments in Adani Group entities pending the conclusion of US bribery allegations against its founder. The Paris-based company, which owns key investments in Adani Group's renewable energy and gas distribution operations, said it was unaware of the US solar power corruption inquiry. "Total Energies rejects corruption in any form," it declared. "This indictment does not target Adani Green Energy (AGEL) itself, nor any AGEL-related companies." Total Energies claimed it learned about Gautam Adani's and others' indictment from US public pronouncements. Gautam Adani, his nephew



and Adani Green Energy executive director Sagar Adani, and others are accused of a \$265m bribery scam. Total Energies bought 19.7% of Adani Green Energy in January 2021. It invested \$444 million in an equal joint venture with the Indian company to acquire three 1,150MW operational renewable assets in September. Additionally, it owns 37.4% of Adani Total Gas, which supplies CNG to cars and natural gas to homes.

### NBCC India will buy sick PSUs and redevelop land banks

**Delhi:** Two sources say NBCC India Ltd. wants to buy defunct public sector undertakings (PSUs) to redevelop and monetize their land. The state-run construction company wants to leverage its success in developing land for government-owned companies. Developer is in talks to acquire non-operational PSUs through a new entity to monetize their land banks. Details are not yet

## Cabinet's 30k cr bank guarantee relief for telcos

**Delhi:** Government sources claimed the Union Cabinet has agreed in principle to waive bank guarantee requirements for telecom companies' deferred spectrum payments, but with strict conditions. The waiver will require telcos to pay three months' instalments in addition to their annual fees. Sources said the government will give up its right to collect Rs 30,000 crore in bank guarantees upfront. The Cabinet waived the requirement for telcos to buy spectrum in six auctions between 2012 and 2022. Spectrum auction regulations from 2022 and 2024 removed the necessity. Airtel and Jio would guarantee Rs 2,300 crore and Rs 4,000 crore. Vodafone Idea (Vi) spectrum auction moratorium ends in October 2025. Current



**"Vi was accused of not paying its second bank guarantee of Rs 350 crore for spectrum purchased in a 2012 auction. November 1 was the payment deadline"**

rules required the corporation to file bank guarantees 13 months before the next payment due date. The DoT requested bank guarantees from Vi for the September 2025 spectrum payment of Rs 24,747 crore. The DoT also asked the finance ministry to exempt operators from bank guarantees for spectrum payments. The waiver should help Vi. Telco shares

increased 7.8% intraday to Rs 7.53. After opening higher, Airtel shares fell 0.1% to Rs 1,577. Vi was accused of not paying its second bank guarantee of Rs 350 crore for spectrum purchased in a 2012 auction. November 1 was the payment deadline. Vi skipped the payment of about Rs 4,600 crore in 2016 auction guarantees two months earlier.

## Tgana rejects Adani's 100-cr contribution

**Delhi:** Telangana chief minister A Revanth Reddy announced that the state government will not accept the ₹100 crore CSR donation from the Adani Group for the Young India Skills University in Ranga Reddy district, citing current circumstances and controversies. We thank you for committing 100 crore to Young India Skills University on behalf of your Foundation via letter. We have not sought donors for physical transfers of monies since the university did not acquire the IT exemption under section 80G, Ranjan wrote. The official added that he was "instructed by the chief minister not to seek the transfer of funds in view of the present circumstances and arising controversies". According to the US Department of Justice indictment, Adani executives and Azure Power executives bribed Indian government officials in five states to win solar energy supply contracts worth over \$2 billion over 20 years between 2020 and 2024. The scam purportedly started in Odisha and spread to Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, and Jammu & Kashmir. The Telangana chief minister said everyone may lawfully invest, despite accusations that the state government accepted Adani Group funding. Reddy said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has stated that the company that wins the bids according to the regulations will invest.









## Briefs

IPOH (MALAYSIA)

## India lose to Belgium 2-3 in Azlan Shah



A determined India fought bravely but lost to Belgium 2-3 in a rain-affected Sultan Azlan Shah Cup hockey match, here on Tuesday. **Abhishek** (33rd) and **Shilanand Lakra** (57th) got themselves on the scoresheet for India, while **Roman Duvekot** (17th, 57th) and **Nicolas De Kerpel** (45th) were on target for Belgium. The defeat comes after India, led by defender **Sanjay**, won the opening game in the six-team event against three-time champions South Korea 1-0 on Sunday. A determined India weathered the early pressure with **Pawan** doing a good job in the cage. Belgium had their first real opportunity from a penalty corner 10 minutes into the contest, and soon followed it up with another. But the Indian defence stood firm to ensure they stayed level at the end of the first quarter.

NEW DELHI

## Raina backs ex-teammate Gambhir



Former India batter **Suresh Raina** has backed under-fire national head coach **Gautam Gambhir**, saying the team's recent poor run in home Tests cannot be attributed to the support staff as players must shoulder responsibility for the results. "Gauti bhaiya (**Gautam Gambhir**) has worked really hard and he is not at all at fault. The players have to work really hard and play well. Under him we have been doing great in the white-ball format where we just won the ICC Champions Trophy and Asia Cup in Dubai earlier this year," Raina told 'PTI Videos'. "The players have to score, the coach can only guide, advise and give support to the players," he said.

BENGALURU

## Vedant guides India B colts to win over Afg



**Vedant Trivedi** anchored a tricky chase with a 102-ball 83 as a much-improved India B prevailed over Afghanistan by two wickets in the U-19 Tri-Series here on Tuesday. This was India B's first win of the tournament.

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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## India to begin T20 WC defence at Wankhede

Suryakumar Yadav' men will take on minnows USA in Mumbai on Feb 7, face Pakistan in Colombo on Feb 15

MUMBAI

Suryakumar Yadav-led India will take on minnows United States of America (USA) to open their defence of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup at the Wankhede Stadium when the global championship gets underway on February 7.

The opening day fixtures will begin with Pakistan locking horns with the Netherlands in Colombo while the second game will be between two-time T20 World Champions West Indies and Bangladesh at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

India's opponents in Group A are arch-rivals Pakistan, USA, Netherlands and Namibia. The defending world champions will play their second match of the group stage against Namibia in Delhi on February 12. Thereafter, the two-time winners will play their biggest and most anticipated game against old foes Pakistan on February 15th in Colombo.

India's last group match will be against the Netherlands at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on Feb 18.

Skipper Suryakumar was gung-ho going into the home World Cup after the high of the victory in the 2024 edition in Barbados.

"Everyone is really excited. I have told the team that it will be a totally different kind of emotion playing for India at the World Cup in India," he added.

When asked by the anchor **Jatin Sapru** about a hypothetical scenario about who would be his preferred opponent if India qualify for the final, SKY had an interesting answer.

"I would like to beat Australia at the Narendra Modi Stadium in the final," he



**GROUP A:** India, USA, Namibia, Netherlands, Pakistan

**GROUP B:** Australia, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Ireland, Oman

**GROUP C:** England, West Indies, Bangladesh, Italy, Nepal

**GROUP D:** South Africa, New Zealand, Afghanistan, Canada, UAE

55

Total matches

## Venues

● Delhi ● Kolkata  
● Ahmedabad  
● Chennai  
● Mumbai  
● Colombo ● Kandy.

## India's Group A Schedule

07 FEB 2026 IND v USA Mumbai

12 FEB 2026 IND v NAM Delhi

15 FEB 2026 IND v PAK Colombo

18 FEB 2026 IND v NED

Ahmedabad

## Super Eights (Post Group Stage)

04 MARCH SEMIFINAL 1: Kolkata or Colombo

05 MARCH: SEMIFINAL 2: Wankhede

08 MARCH: FINAL: Ahmedabad or Premadasa Colombo

revealed. India's Women's ODI World Cup winning captain **Harmanpreet Kaur** also gave the same answer.

**Rohit named brand ambassador of the event**  
India's 2024 T20 World Cup winning captain **Rohit Sharma**, who was appointed as brand ambassador for the forthcoming edition of the T20 WC. Rohit felt it was a big honour bestowed upon him.

"It's a huge honour to be brand ambassador for ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2026 while I'm still actively playing cricket. I've been fortunate to win two ICC events at the end of my career. I won one at the beginning of my career. Now, to watch the T20 World Cups sitting at home is a different experience but I'm enjoying

the experience," he added. The former Indian skipper was diplomatic and refused to name a team he would like to beat in the final stating the opponent was immaterial.

With 20 teams in the tenth edition of the T20 World Cup, the highlight will be the presence of debutants Italy, who have made it to the WC progressing through the Europe Qualifiers.

The mega tournament to be co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka. SL will have three venues in two cities with matches in Colombo to be played at R Premadasa Stadium and Sinhalese Sports Club (SSC) while the third venue will be in Kandy.

The five venues in India will be in Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai and Ahmedabad.

## 'We wanted India to grovel', SA coach Conrad creates a stir

Shukri was 'stealing a phrase' from old Greg interview

GUWAHATI

South Africa head coach **Shukri Conrad** wanted his men to make India "grovel" on the fourth day by setting them the mammoth 549-run target that the embattled hosts are currently chasing to save the second Test and an imminent series whitewash.

Conrad's expression could well stir tensions in what has been a fairly amicable series, but he did mention that he was "stealing a phrase" from the infamous interview by late England skipper **Tony Greig** before the 1976 home series against Clive Lloyd's West Indies which his team lost 0-3.

"We wanted India to spend as much time on their feet out in the field. We wanted them to really grovel, to steal a phrase, bat them completely out the game and then say to them well come and survive on the last day and an hour this evening," Conrad literally rubbed it in at the post-play press conference when asked why South Africa batted for nearly 80 overs when they had already acquired a size-



We obviously were looking at how best we are going to use the new ball, so that in the morning we still get a newish, hard ball

**Shukri Conrad**  
South Africa head coach

able lead. To "grovel" means to "lie or crawl abjectly on the ground with one's face downwards", something that Greig, who was of white South African heritage, had said in reference to the Caribbean

players, their painful history of slavery and the apartheid in the Rainbow Nation. Whether Cricket South Africa has a quiet word with their coloured coach making an objectionable reference at an opposition national team, that has its own history of facing racism, is not yet known.

**This series defeat won't affect us, says Jadeja**  
**Ravindra Jadeja** said the looming series defeat to South Africa will have no bearing on India's next Test assignment in Sri Lanka in August, stressing that forcing a draw in the second Test would be akin to a "win" for the young side.

"I don't think it will affect the next series. But, as a cricketer, nobody wants to lose the series, especially in India. So, hopefully, we will try our best cricket. We will try to put our best foot forward tomorrow," Jadeja said.

Hopefully, we will try and save the Test match. So that, at least, I know even if we aren't winning the series at least, we are able to draw the match, which is going to be a win-win situation for us," he added.

this time, the multi-sport event would be coming to Ahmedabad, a city that has upgraded its sports infrastructure at war footing in the last one decade.

Wednesday's General Assembly will go through the formality of putting a seal of approval on what has already been recommended by the Commonwealth Sport's Board. That recommendation followed a process overseen by the Commonwealth Sport's Evaluation Committee.

It assessed the candidate cities for "technical delivery, athlete experience, infrastructure, governance, and alignment with Commonwealth Sport values."

For the 2030 CWG bid, India was facing competition from the Nigerian city of Abuja. But Commonwealth Sport decided to instead consider the African nation for the 2034 edition after developing "a strategy for supporting and accelerating" its hosting ambitions.

2ND TEST | India stares at whitewash after another abject show

## SA close on series win

GUWAHATI

India stared down the barrel as a ruthless South Africa slowly tortured the home side by posting an improbable victory target of 549 that has all but ensured the visitors' first series triumph here in 25 years at the end of the fourth day of the second Test.

After South Africa declared their second innings at 260 for 5, India were reeling at 27 for 2 at stumps on Tuesday, having lost openers **Yashasvi Jaiswal** (13) to **Marco Jansen** and **KL Rahul** (6) to **Simon Harmer** respectively.

**Sai Sudharsan** (2 batting) and night-watchman **Kuldeep Yadav** (4 batting) were at the crease but it will take a herculean effort from the remaining batters to save the game on the final day and avoid the ignominy of a 0-2 whitewash.

The only saving grace for them could be the fact that light fades quickly in this part of the world after 3:45 pm and not more than 80 odd overs have been possible on any of the past four days.

Head coach **Gautam Gambhir** will certainly prefer a 0-1 series defeat over a 0-2 result which would be the second series debacle at home against a SENA nation in the past 12 months.

On the fourth day, the reigning World Test Champions had two targets. First was to set a target that would be virtually out of reach. Secondly, the more time Proteas spent batting on the fourth day, stronger became the chances of the red soil track crumbling on the fifth day.

**Tristan Stubbs** (94 off 180 balls), who missed out on a half-century in the first innings by a solitary run, this time fell short of a Test ton by only six runs. Once Stubbs became **Ravindra Jadeja**'s (4/62 in 28.3 overs) fourth vic-



South Africa's Tristan Stubbs plays a shot during the fourth day of the second Test against India at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium in Guwahati on Tuesday. PTI

## Scoreboard

South Africa first

innings: 489

India first innings: 201

South Africa second

innings: (O/n: 26/0 in 8

overs): R Rickelton c M

Siraj b Jadeja 35, A

Markram b Jadeja 29, T

Stubbs b Jadeja 94, T

Bavuma c N Kumar Reddy

b W Sundar 3, T de Zorzi

lbw Jadeja 49, W Mulder

(not out) 35. Extras (B-9,

NB-5, W-1) 15. Total (For

5 wkts decl, 78.3 overs)

260.

Fall of wickets: 1-59, 2-

74, 3-77, 4-178, 5-260

Bowling: J Bumrah 6-0-

22-0, M Siraj 5-1-19-0, R

Jadeja 28.3-3-62-4, K

Yadav 12-0-48-0, W

Sundar 22-2-67-1, Y

Jaiswal 1-0-9-0, N Reddy

4-0-24-0.

India second innings: Y

Jaiswal c Verreynne b

Jansen 13, KL Rahul b

Harmer 6, S Sudharsan

(not out) 2, K Yadav (not

out) 4. Extras (LB-1, NB-

1) 2. Total (For 2 wkts,

15.5 overs) 27.

Fall of wickets: 1-17, 2-21

Bowling: M Jansen 5-2-

14-1, W Mulder 4-1-6-0, S

Harmer 3.5-2-1-1, K

Maharaj 3-1-5-0

tim, skipper **Temba Bavuma** declared the second innings having knocked the stuffing out of the Indian team by making them bowl for 78.3 overs. Stubbs enjoyed a 101-run stand for the fourth wicket with **Tony de Zorzi** (49) and another 82 for the fifth wicket with **Wiaan Mulder** (35 not out). This was after a 50-plus opening stand between **Ryan Rickelton** (28) and **Aiden Markram** (35).

**Bavuma**, an experienced captain, looked tactically superior compared to India's stand-in skipper **Pant**, who looked bereft of ideas in his debut in the leadership role, albeit in a one-off game.

Bavuma could have jolly well called his men in after they their lead swelled to 450. But he perhaps wanted to ensure that the SG Test remained relatively new when his men come out to bowl in

the morning. They would try to exploit any help available from the surface before it all flattens out.

The pitch still looks solid even though the degree of turn from less than three on the first day, has now gradually increased to 4.6 on the fourth day. That was evident when **Jadeja**, who hardly gets any purchase in batting conditions, got one to turn sharply away from **Aiden Markram**.

## Jaiswal needs to shelve the cut shot: Steyn

GUWAHATI

**Yashasvi Jaiswal** may have to temporarily shelve his trademark cut shot, much like **Sachin Tendulkar** once abandoned the drive in Australia, suggested South Africa pace great **Dale Steyn** after the India opener fell to the stroke yet again in the second Test here on Tuesday.

Jaiswal was dismissed for 13 in India's second innings on day four, edging **Marco Jansen** while attempting a cut to a short-of-length delivery outside off, something that has troubled him repeatedly.

"It's his go-to shot, and breaking that instinct is tough. When you see the ball in your zone, you go for it. But maybe it's something he needs to consciously cut down on," **Jiostar** expert **Steyn** said on 'Cricket Live' programme.

"I remember **Sachin** once removed the drive from his game in Australia. **Jaiswal** may also need to say, 'Unless it's in a specific area, I won't play it. In this area, I'll trust my defence.'"

Jaiswal was caught by **Kyle Verreynne** after flashing at the rising ball.

## Hardik comeback on cards

SMAT: Last chance for local talent before IPL auction

HYDERABAD

**Hardik Pandya** will be expected to make his much-awaited comeback from injury while the promising domestic talent will be looking for impactful performances ahead of the IPL auction when the **Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 Trophy (SMAT)** begins across four venues from Wednesday.

**Hardik** has not played competitive cricket since suffering a quadriceps injury during Asia Cup in September.

Ahead of the T20 World Cup at home in February-March, **Hardik** would only play the shortest format and SMAT will be a platform where he can prove his fitness before the T20 series against South Africa beginning December 9.

The tournament will be played in Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Kolkata and Lucknow. The **Shardul Thakur** led Mumbai will enter the tournament as defending champions.

Starting from



He has not yet joined the squad but we expect him to play majority of the games. His presence always provides a big boost to the squad

**Mukund Parmar**  
Baroda head coach



Wednesday, Baroda have seven group games to play till December 8 and head coach **Mukund Parmar** is expecting the star India all-rounder to play majority of them.

"He has not yet joined the squad but we expect him to play majority of the games. His presence always provides a big boost to the squad," **Parmar** told PTI.

Also in action will be captain **Suryakumar Yadav** who too is expected to play most of Mumbai's group games.

**Shivam Dube** is also expected to feature for Mumbai in the group stage.

Mystery spinner **Varun Chakaravathy** has been named captain of the Tamil Nadu squad and should be available for the group stage. The same is the case for Kerala captain **Sanju Samson**.

**Prithvi Shaw**, once touted as the next big thing in Indian cricket, could not even find an IPL team in the auction last year.

He has now moved to Maharashtra from Mumbai in domestic cricket and a productive outing in SMAT before the auction might put him back on the IPL stage.

## India set to formally get CWG 2030 hosting rights

NEW DELHI

All but assured of the hosting rights more than a month back, India's 2030

Commonwealth Games bid is set to be formally approved on Wednesday at the Commonwealth Sport's general assembly in Glasgow, marking a major milestone in the country's ambitious plan to become a global multi-sport hub.

India last hosted the Games in 2010 in Delhi but

