

IN BRIEF

Bhuvanagiri MP seeks immediate urea supply to farmers

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) : Bhuvanagiri MP Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy has written to Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister J P Nadda requesting immediate supply of urea to Telangana, citing severe shortages during the ongoing Kharif season.

In his letter, the MP highlighted that the Centre allocated 9.80 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of urea for Telangana for Kharif 2025, but as of July 31, the state had received only 4.36 LMT, leaving a shortfall of 2.24 LMT. He further pointed out that for August, the state requires 3.50 LMT, but only 1.70 LMT has been allocated, causing hardship to farmers and affecting cotton, maize, and paddy crops.

Kiran Kumar Reddy also referred to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's recent appeal to the Union Minister, stressing that the shortage is creating serious difficulties for farmers during the peak season. He noted that farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka are facing similar challenges.

GMR Aero Academy launches first online certification in airport, airline and cargo operations

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) GMR Aero Academy has launched its first online instructor-led Certification in Airport, Airline and Cargo Operations (CAACO) program, a three-month course aimed at providing young professionals across India with comprehensive training in aviation operations.

The program covers fundamentals of civil aviation, airside and ramp operations, cargo handling, aviation security, and customer service skills. Open to graduates under 27 years of age, it is designed to make aviation training more accessible without requiring relocation.

With accreditations from ICAO, IATA, and ACI, and a 90 per cent placement record, GMR Aero Academy aims to equip students with job-ready skills to meet the growing demand in India's rapidly expanding aviation sector, a statement said on Tuesday.



Congress MPs Sonia Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra with other parliamentarians of the INDIA bloc parties stage a protest against the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, during the Monsoon session of Parliament, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

Komatireddy secures key assurances from Gadkari on Telangana NH project

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) : Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy met Union Road Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi on Tuesday and discussed pending national highway approvals and the expansion of key road projects in the state. Several Telangana MPs were also present during the meeting.

During the meeting, Komatireddy highlighted the urgent need to widen the Hyderabad-Vijayawada National Highway (NH-65) from Malkapur to Vijayawada (Amaravati) to six lanes and construct service roads, citing frequent accidents on the stretch, which has earned the name "Death Road."

He referred to the recent death of two AP DSPs on July 27 and shared that, as a five-time MLA, MP, and Minister, it was painful to hear of accidents daily.

Gadkari assured approval for the expansion in the finance committee meeting on August 15, with tenders to be issued immediately after estimates are finalised.

On the Regional Ring Road (RRR) project, Komatireddy informed Gadkari that land acquisition for the northern part is complete and sought early commencement of work, proposing that the 4-lane design be revised to 6 lanes to meet future traffic needs.

He requested that work on both the northern and southern segments be taken up simultaneously, emphasising that delays could increase land costs, particularly as the southern stretch is planned as an industrial corridor. Gadkari responded positively, saying work could begin sooner than expected once alignment proposals are submitted.

Komatireddy also pressed for the construction of a 5.5 km elevated double-decker corridor from Chintalkunta to Hayatnagar on the LB Nagar-Malkapur stretch, similar to Nagpur's flyover model. Gadkari agreed to approve the project upon receipt of proposals, noting that this design would prevent hardships for local residents compared to the current plan with VUPS.

Other requests included converting a 62-km stretch of the Hyderabad-Srisailem highway (NH-765) passing through the tiger reserve into an elevated corridor, which Gadkari agreed to approve, reducing the travel distance to 58 km. Komatireddy also discussed the Hyderabad-Manneguda project, seeking speedy resolution of pending issues with the National Green Tribunal and contractors, to which Gadkari assured quick action. The minister further sought approvals under Setu Bandhan and CRIF (Central Road Infrastructure Fund). Gadkari assured that the proposals will be cleared by next week. Komatireddy expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the meeting, thanking Gadkari for cordially accepting all the proposals and sanctioning key projects.

He reiterated that the state is committed to expediting national highway works, is closely monitoring the Uppal flyover project, and is leveraging the HAM model to provide better road infrastructure for Telangana, an official statement said.

BRS delegation urges key electoral reforms in meeting with EC

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) A delegation of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), led by Party Working President K T Rama Rao, met the Election Commission of India (ECI) on Tuesday, seeking urgent electoral reforms to ensure fairness and transparency in upcoming polls.

The delegation, which included Rajya Sabha members K R Suresh Reddy and Vaddiraju Ravichandra, former MP B Vinod Kumar, and senior leaders Balka Suman and R.S. Praveen Kumar, submitted a detailed representation to Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar.

The BRS highlighted four major concerns: the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar, demand for a return to paper ballots, misuse of free election symbols resembling the party's Car symbol, and lack of timely action on previous Model Code of Conduct (MCC) complaints.

The party expressed apprehension that the SIR in Bihar could lead to large-scale deletion of voters, especially migrant and disadvantaged communities, and urged the ECI to withdraw the current exercise. It recommended biannual, transparent voter roll revisions with booth-level all-party verification to prevent disenfranchisement.

On EVMs, the BRS cited rising public distrust and international practices, noting that countries like the U.S., U.K., Japan, and Germany do not use EVMs for national elections. The party urged the Commission to reintroduce paper ballots, starting with the Bihar Assembly polls in November 2025, to restore voter confidence. The party also flagged eight free symbols — Camera, Chapati Roller, Dolli, Road Roller, Soap Dish, Television, Sewing Machine, and Ship — which it said closely resemble the Car symbol and confuse voters, particularly the elderly and illiterate. It demanded the immediate withdrawal of these symbols and stronger safeguards for State Recognised Parties. BRS leaders also criticised the ECI for delayed or unequal action on MCC violations during the 2023 Assembly and 2024 Lok Sabha elections, including hate speech, social media misuse, and politicization of government events.

Many feared dead, nearly 50 missing, as flash flood engulfs Dharali market in Uttarkashi

Dehradun, Aug 5 (UNI) : Many people were feared dead and more than 50 persons were missing as Uttarakhand's Dharali market area in Uttarkashi was trapped under flash floods triggered by a cloudburst on a hilltop above the market on Tuesday afternoon. Four deaths were confirmed.

Dharali market was engulfed in a thick mass of water and mud and sediment as a flash flood occurred at around 1.30 pm, sweeping away several hotels, houses and the nearby Harsil Based-army camp infrastructure.

Uttarkashi district disaster management officials informed that more than 50 persons were missing, while the death figure could not be ascertained as rescue and search operations were going on in Dharali market and the building infrastructure was impacted in the flash flood.

According to Uttarkashi district magistrate, four deaths were confirmed while information about other casualties were awaited as priority was to save as many persons as possible.

Uttarkashi district administration informed that the cloudburst had occurred on the Khirgad water stream hilltop above the Dharali market enroute Gangotri, which has inflicted heavy human and property losses in the area. Officials said the cloudburst was triggered by continuous heavy rainfall in the hill areas for more than 24 hours. It resulted in a massive flash flood.

Although the scale of losses is yet to be known, but officials said that both the death and missing figures may be much higher as many houses were uprooted and people perished in the flash flood.

Many were also buried under the thick layers of mud and sediment, as teams of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), ITBP, Indian Army, State Disaster management department, local police had launched rescue and search operation since late afternoon.

Officials informed that the extent of the disaster was such that an army infrastructure located 3-4 kilometres away near Harshil was badly hit by the flash flood and rising level of River Ganga flowing close to it. "Exact figure of the human losses is not known yet, but preliminary information received from officials on ground zero has confirmed four deaths. Exact details of the casualties will be known later as the rescue teams and local officials are engaged in the search and rescue operation," said Prashant Arya, Uttarkashi district magistrate.

"The news of cloudburst in Dharali of Uttarkashi district has caused extensive damage. It is extremely saddening and painful. Relief and rescue operations are underway on a war footing, by the teams of SDRF, NDRF, district administration and other departments concerned. I am in continuous touch with senior officials and am closely monitoring the situation. I pray for the safety and well-being of everyone in the area," said Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in his 'X' post.



ED questions Anil Ambani, videographs his statement in money laundering case

Industrialist Anil Ambani was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday at its headquarters in New Delhi in an alleged money laundering case, linked to an alleged multi-crore bank loan diversion fraud. No lawyer was present during the entire questioning session which was videographed after Anil Ambani reached the ED headquarters at 11 am on Tuesday to record his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), sources said. **(See on page 6)**

PK questions Amit Shah's silence on atrocities against ...



Jan Suraj Party leader Prashant Kishor has accused Union Home Minister Amit Shah of remaining silent on the atrocities faced by Biharis outside the state and asked him to answer during his upcoming visit to Sitamarhi, why he remained silent when Biharis were being assaulted in Maharashtra. **(See on page 2)**

No one can stop PDA Pathshala: Akhilesh Yadav



Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav has challenged the BJP government to stop the PDA pathshala started by his party after closure of several primary schools by the Uttar Pradesh government on the name of merger. **(See on page 4)**

Because of Article 370, terrorism increased, and the



Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today said that Article 370 had fueled terrorism and emboldened the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir. He asserted that the process of dismantling this ecosystem began on August 5, 2019. **(See on page 8)**

Tejashwi silent on keeping two voters ID cards, questions functioning of Election Commission

Patna, Aug 5 (UNI) : Senior RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav today remained silent on possessing two voters ID cards, but questioned the functioning of the Election Commission, claiming large-scale irregularities were committed during the Special Intensive Revision of Electoral Rolls in Bihar.

Yadav said that he had been raising the issue of irregularities being committed during SIR in Bihar, which started when the next state assembly elections were only two to three months away. Names of a large number of voters were missing in the draft electoral rolls released after the first phase of SIR in Bihar, he added."Our party RJD has received a large number complaints from the people, which would be sent to Election Commission for corrective measures," the RJD leader said, adding that there was strong possibility of a large number voters losing their rights to exercise their franchise in the next Bihar assembly elections, due to "negligence" of the Election Commission.

His party would also raise the issue of irregularities in the Supreme Court, where a petition in this connection was pending, he stated.

Bihar SIR: ADR moves SC seeking disclosure of voters omitted in draft rolls

New Delhi, Aug 5 (IANS) :The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), on Tuesday, filed an application before the Supreme Court seeking a direction to the Election Commission of India (ECI) to release details of nearly 65 lakh voters whose names were omitted in the recently published draft electoral rolls in Bihar.

In a bid to enable political parties, general public and the petitioners to cross check and verify the draft electoral rolls, the plea demanded the ECI to release constituency and booth-wise list of names and details of voters whose enumeration forms were not submitted along with reasons for non-submission (like death, permanently shifted, duplicate, untraceable, etc.) against each name.

The plea also sought Assembly constituency and booth wise list of voters on the draft electoral rolls, whose enumeration forms have been "not recommended" by the Booth Level Officer.

The application cited the ECI's press statement dated July 25, which said that nearly 65 lakh voter names are likely to be deleted from the existing electoral rolls as a result of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process.

"This shows that the ECI admittedly has details with names and other

particulars of the nearly 22 lakh voters who are deceased, nearly 35 lakh voters who have either permanently migrated or couldn't be traced, nearly seven lakh voters who are registered at multiple locations and of nearly 1.2 lakh voters whose enumeration forms were yet to be received," the application said.

It added that the poll body's failure to disclose the specific reason for deletion against each of the 65 lakh names "appears to be an attempt to prevent the general public, including the petitioners, from verifying whether the individuals listed are indeed deceased or have permanently migrated".

Meanwhile, sources in the Bihar election office said that, contrary to the opposition parties' allegations and narrative that the SIR could disenfranchise a large number of voters, the Opposition has not pointed out even a single infirmity in the exercise. Not a single claim or objection has been filed by any political party since August 1, the poll panel said.

The ECI last month concluded the enumeration phase of the SIR in Bihar, from June 24 to July 25.

More than 7.24 crore voters -- out of a total of 7.89 crore -- submitted their enumeration forms during the SIR exercise.

Cong walkout in MP House over appointment

Bhopal, Aug 5 (UNI) : The principal-opposition Congress staged a walkout in the Madhya Pradesh Assembly today after expressing dissatisfaction with the government's reply vis-a-vis rules being "bypassed" while appointing an official in Jabalpur.

Through the medium of a calling attention notice, Lakhna Ghanghoria (Cong) said that the district's Chief Medical and Health Officer ordered the contractual appointment of one Vijay Pandey as Data Assistant (Vaccination).

"I had raised a question in the Assembly in this regard and the Education Department responded by saying that no marksheet had been issued in Pandey's name in the year displayed on the marksheet attached at the time of appointment," the member alleged. Replying to the member, Public Health and Medical Education Minister Rajendra Shukla said, "Scrutiny of all the documents reveals that the appointment was made according to the rules."

Ajay Singh (Cong) said that it had been proven in the House that rules were bypassed and in such a situation the government should remove the official and institute an inquiry. The Congress members kept pressing for a probe. Leader of Opposition Umang Singhar said that the Congress member was accompanying his words with evidence but a deaf ear was being turned to him.

Municipal Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police conducted a search of the contractors of MMRDA and PWD



(By Rajesh Undi)

Bhiwandi, Aug 5 : Today, in the backdrop of Ganesh festival, the Administrator and Commissioner of Bhiwandi Nizampur City Municipal Corporation, Mr. Anmol Sagar, inspected all the important Ganesh Visarjan Ghats. Also, the Deputy Commissioner of Police also reviewed the Ganesh Visarjan route at his level. In this regard, today, under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble Commissioner, a meeting was held with the officers of the Municipal Corporation, engineers, ward officers, as well as the contractors of MMRDA and Public Works Department, along with the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Mr. Shashikant Borate."

In this meeting, it was said that even though the Ganeshotsav festival is very close, the road works of

MMRDA and Public Works Department are incomplete. The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police expressed their displeasure over this. Also, the Commissioner directed all the contractors to complete all the road works on the Ganesh Aamgaan and Visarjan Marg in the next 15 days. Also, if any accident or mishap occurs due to the poor condition of the road, then the entire responsibility will be on the contractor and the concerned engineer, Hon. Deputy Commissioner of Police Shri. Shashikant Borate gave a stern warning.

Hon. Additional Commissioner Shri. Vitthal Dake, Assistant Commissioner of Police Shri. Sachin Sangle, City Engineer Shri. Jamil Patel, Deputy Engineer of Public Works Department Shri. Gite. Engineers of MMRDA as well as the road contractor were present in the above meeting.

MLA Chitra Wagh expressed satisfaction while inspecting the NMUMPA Ghansoli Shelter Center

(Standard Post Bureau)

Navi Mumbai, Aug 5 : The homeless shelter center at Ghansoli, operated by the Social Development Department of Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation, is known as a shelter for the homeless. Maharashtra Legislative Council member MLA Mr Chitra Wagh visited this center today and inspected the functioning there and expressed satisfaction. On this occasion, Deputy Commissioner of NMMC Social Development Department Shri. Kisanrao Palande and Police Inspector of Crime Branch of Koparkhairane Police Station Shri. Unmesh Thite were present.

During this visit, Ms. Chitra Wagh interacted with the beneficiary women living in the homeless shelter center and asked about the



facilities provided at the homeless shelter center. During this time, the women were provided with breakfast , lunch and dinner.

They also gave feedback that health check-ups and medication are done on time. While talking to these women, Ms. Chitra Wagh learned

about the background of these women and the reasons for coming to the homeless shelter center. Understood.

During this time, he also inspected other arrangements at the homeless shelter. He expressed his feeling that women are safe here as there are full-time security

guards deployed here and CCTV cameras are working properly. He said that he will visit the homeless shelter soon along with other members. He expressed satisfaction that the homeless shelter center is functioning well under the guidance of Municipal Commissioner Dr. Kailash Shinde.

General Manager’s Safety Award for 3 Staff of Solapur Division of Central Railway



(Standard Post Bureau)

Solapur, Aug 5 : General Manager, Central Railway Mr Dharam Veer Meena felicitated 3 Central Railway staff from Solapur Division with Safety Award in a function held at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai on 05.08.2025.

The Safety awards were presented in recognition of the

respective employee’s alertness during duty, their contribution in averting untoward incidents and ensuring safety in train operations during the previous months.

Each award consists of a medal, commendation certificate, a citation of exemplary safety work and cash prize of Rs 2000/-

Details of the

Awardees

1. Shri Lingaraj Kande, Station Manager, Dudhani, Solapur division, on 28.06.2025, during the signal exchange with the goods train, he noticed that the handle rod was hanging from the 14th wagon from the engine.

He informed all the concerned where it was fixed at the next station. A

potential accident was averted by his vigilance.

2. Shri Lalit Kumar, Pointsman, Sawalgi, Solapur division, on 10.06.2025 during signal exchange with Train No. 11302 Up, he noticed that the axle box cover of Coach B2 was open due to 2 bolts coming out. He informed all concerned. A potential accident was averted by his vigilance.

3. Shri Shubham Bhoyar, Technician (Carriage & Wagon), Wadi, Solapur division, on 09.06.2025 during the inspection of the goods train in the yard noticed that the CBC yoke front fallover plate of one wagon was broken. He declared the said wagon to be sick. A potential accident was averted by his vigilance.

The General Manager in his address congratulated the awardees and complimented them for their alertness and dedication towards their duties.

He said that such acts of alertness and bravery will motivate others to sincerely work towards the safety of passengers and avert loss of life, freight and railway property.

Additional General Manager Shri Prateek Goswami, Principal Chief Safety Officer Shri Chandra Kishore Prasad, other Principal Heads of Departments and Senior Officers of Central Railway were present on the occasion.

PK questions Amit Shah’s silence on atrocities against Biharis outside the state

Sitamarhi, Aug 5 (UNI) : Jan Suraaj Party leader Prashant Kishor has accused Union Home Minister Amit Shah of remaining silent on the atrocities faced by Biharis outside the state and asked him to answer during his upcoming visit to Sitamarhi, why he remained silent when Biharis were being assaulted in Maharashtra.

Speaking at a program in Sitamarhi, Kishor remarked that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi never spent a night in Bihar."They only visit during elections," he added.

He questioned, "Why does the Home Minister remain silent when atrocities were committed against Biharis in Maharashtra, even when the BJP was in power there?"

Referring to the disappearance of 65 lakh voters from the electoral draft list after the Special Summary Revision, Kishor said, "The Election Commission is responsible for preparing citizens'lists and issuing identity cards, not for determining citizenship."He assured that those whose names were missing from the draft list need not worry, as Jan Suraaj will fight for their rights. On the issue of domicile policy in Bihar, Kishor alleged that the government was misleading people. He said so far, only the TRE-4 recruitment has seen changes related to domicile, whereas previously, appointments of over 3 lakh teachers were made benefitting mostly candidates from outside Bihar.

He further alleged that ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Nitish Kumar altered the domicile policy in hopes of becoming Prime Minister."Now, with the upcoming Assembly elections, he was trying to implement changes to TRE-4 regarding domicile but were not disclosing how many of those seats will be reserved for Biharis.

If domicile was being implemented, 100% of jobs should go to Bihar's youth," Kishor asserted. He added that the government, which did nothing for 20 years, has suddenly woken up as it senses losing ground and was trying to cover up its failures with tall announcements.

Adapting to disruptive tech, prioritising Tri-service synergy key to tackling security challenges: CDS

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) : Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan today emphasised the need to adapt swiftly to disruptive technologies, rethink legacy structures and prioritise synergy across the three services to tackle the challenges emanating from the constantly-evolving nature of warfare.

He was delivering the keynote address at the inaugural edition of the Annual Trident Lecture Series, organised by the Centre for Joint Warfare Studies (CENJOWS) to mark its Foundation Day, at Manekshaw Centre here, a Defence Ministry statement said. He underscored the importance of technological convergence, and integrated operations to ensure national security in today's times. The event brought together senior defence leadership, strategic thinkers and scholars to reflect on the theme 'Dominating the Future

Battlespace'. It also witnessed the formal release of the first General Bipin Rawat Paper on Manned-Unmanned Teaming, a tribute to India's first CDS and his enduring legacy in shaping joint operational philosophy and transformative defence thinking. The August 2025 issue of Synergy, CENJOWS' flagship journal, was also launched, featuring incisive articles on emerging strategic trends.

As part of the event, Chief of Integrated Defence Staff delivered a lecture on 'Urgency in Tri-Services Reforms', underlining the critical timelines needed for meaningful reform. Deputy Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (Doctrine, Organisation and Training) gave a lecture on 'Imbibing Indian Heritage Statecraft in Future Warfighting' which examined how indigenous civilisational wisdom can inform modern military thinking.

Seethakka urges Centre to enhance MGNREGS funds

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) : State Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Danasari Anasuya Seethakka met Union Minister of State for Rural Development Pemmasani Chandrasekhar in Delhi on Tuesday to discuss issues related to rural development and the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS).She was accompanied by Minister Ponnam Prabhakar, Greater Warangal Mayor Gundu Sudharani, and Mulugu District Congress President Paidakula Ashok.

Seethakka appealed to the Union Minister to increase funds under the rural employment guarantee scheme for Telangana.She pointed out that while the Centre sanctioned 12 crore work days last year, the allocation has been cut to 6.5 crore work days this year, which has hindered rural development. Seethakka emphasised that MGNREGS not only provides employment but also helps create basic infrastructure for rural communities.

The Minister submitted a memorandum to the Union Minister, requesting an increase in funds and the removal of restrictions on employment generation.

Union Minister Pemmasani Chandrasekhar responded positively and reportedly assured that appropriate action would be taken, an official statement said.

Two new Centres of Excellence for critical minerals research in Telangana

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, Aug 5 : Telangana has secured two of the seven newly announced Centres of Excellence (CoEs) for research on critical minerals, marking a major boost to the state’s role in future-orientated technologies.The CoEs will be operated by the Union Ministry of Mines at IIT Hyderabad and the Non-Ferrous Materials Technology Development Centre (NFTDC).

Union Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy’s initiative paved the way for Telangana to receive these prestigious research hubs, which will focus on minerals vital for clean energy, mobility transition, electronics, defence, and space sectors, an official statement said on Monday evening.The centres are part of the National Critical Minerals Mission, approved by the Union Cabinet in January with a budget of Rs 16,300 crore, supplemented by 718,000 crore from PSUs. The mission aims to enhance the nation’s self-reliance in critical minerals, enabling rapid technological progress.Across India, four

IITs—Hyderabad, Bombay, IISM Dhanbad, and Roorkee—and three R&D institutes—CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar, CSIR-NML Jamshedpur, and NFTDC Hyderabad—have been chosen to host the CoEs. Each will receive central funding for research, along with Rs 500 crore allocated for R&D and another 7500 crore for developing world-class human resources.

IIT Hyderabad has already been advancing high-end research through partnerships with leading institutions and industries, including its recent tie-up with Coal India to establish the Centre of Clean Coal Energy and Net Zero (CLEANZ). NFTDC, meanwhile, is pioneering innovations in electronics, including rare earth magnets for electric vehicles and next-generation magnetometry for medical imaging, navigation, and physics applications. With the addition of critical minerals research, both institutions are set to place Hyderabad at the forefront of cutting-edge innovation across clean energy, defence, electronics, and space technologies.

Bandi Sanjay to appear before SIT on Aug 8

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) : Union Minister Bandi Sanjay will appear before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) on August 8 in connection with the ongoing phone tapping case.In a letter to the police, Sanjay confirmed his presence along with his personal staff on the same day.

According to party sources, Sanjay has reportedly collected crucial information and evidence from central intelligence agencies regarding the alleged tapping of phones, including those of judges and even private conversations in homes.

He is likely to submit this evidence to the SIT during the questioning.

The BJP high command has taken a serious view of the issue, particularly the reports of tapping personal conversations, and has already directed the party’s legal cell to pursue a case in the High Court, seeking to transfer the investigation to the CBI.Meanwhile, Intelligence Bureau sources are said to be gathering evidence about the alleged role of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and his son K T Rama Rao in the scandal.

The investigation has intensified after key officials reportedly made incriminating statements. Former Task Force officer Radha Kishan Rao is said to have admitted before the SIT that tapping was carried out only on the instructions of “the elder,” referring to KCR. Another official, Prabhakar, reportedly stated that the surveillance was ordered by the then DGP.



Houses and other structures being swept away in a flash flood triggered by a cloudburst at Dharali, in Uttarkashi district, Uttarakhand on Tuesday.

Govt urges centre for immediate urea supply to safeguard crop yields

(Standard Post Bureau)

Hyderabad, Aug 5 :Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao has urged the Central government to ensure an immediate supply of urea to the state, warning that any delay could seriously affect crop yields.In a letter to Union Chemicals and Fertilizers Minister J P Nadda, the minister said that urea is essential as a top-up for crops like rice, cotton, and maize in August, and a shortage

during this peak usage period could impact farmers heavily.Currently, the state has 1.09 lakh metric tonnes of urea, but at least 3 lakh metric tonnes are required this month to meet demand.

From April 1 to July 31, Telangana was supposed to receive 6.60 lakh metric tonnes of urea but only 4.51 lakh metric tonnes were supplied. Meanwhile, farmers have already purchased 5.70 lakh metric tonnes, exhausting the state’s initial stocks.For

August, the Centre has allocated 1.70 lakh metric tonnes, with 1.31 lakh metric tonnes from domestic sources and 0.39 lakh metric tonnes from imports. However, the minister noted that shipment details for the imported stock are still awaited. He added that PPL (11,000 MT) and MCFL (7,000 MT) have expressed their inability to supply their allotted domestic quota, creating an additional shortfall of 18,000 MT.Nageswara Rao

requested that the shortfall of 2.10 lakh metric tonnes from April to July be cleared in August. He also appealed for the imported 39,600 MT of urea to reach the state before August 20 and suggested that RFCL be directed to make up the shortfall from PPL and MCFL.

He stressed that urgent intervention by the Centre is crucial to prevent any disruption in the ongoing Kharif season and to ensure sufficient urea for farmers.

CM Revanth Reddy pays tribute to Prof Jayashankar on his birth anniversary

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) : Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Tuesday paid rich tributes to Professor Kothapalli Jayashankar, the ideologue of the Telangana movement, on his birth anniversary on Wednesday, recalling his lifelong dedication to the cause of a separate state.

In a message, the Chief Minister described

Professor Jayashankar as the “father of Telangana,” who spent his entire life advocating for an independent state and inspiring crores of people to join the movement. He noted that Jayashankar never gave up the dream of Telangana, keeping the flag of statehood flying high for over six decades.

“Telangana was his breath, focus and goal. He

ignited the spirit of the movement in the hearts of people and explained, with facts and figures, how the region and its people were neglected in united Andhra Pradesh,” Revanth Reddy said.The Chief Minister reiterated that the present people’s government is committed to upholding the spirit of Jayashankar’s vision and working to fulfill his dream for Telangana.

Rajya Sabha approves six-month extension of President’s rule in Manipur

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) The Rajya Sabha today passed the statutory resolution to extend President’s Rule in Manipur for six more months. Amid heavy sloganeering by the Opposition in the Upper House, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai moved the resolution. The resolution was adopted via voice vote, with the House adjourned till August 6.

President’s Rule was imposed in Manipur on February 13, shortly after Chief Minister N. Biren

Singh resigned amid escalating violence and political instability that had gripped the state for nearly two years.

The House adopted the resolution for the continuation in force of the Proclamation dated February 13, 2025, regarding Manipur, issued under Article 356 of the Constitution by the President, for a further period of six months with effect from August 13, 2025.

Earlier, on July 30, the Lok Sabha had approved the resolution to extend President’s Rule in

Manipur.

The decision under Article 356 of the Constitution means that the President will now exercise direct control over the state’s administration through the Governor.

The proclamation, published in the Gazette of India by the Union Home Ministry, states that the powers of the Manipur Legislative Assembly have been transferred to Parliament, effectively suspending the authority of the state government.

Police arrest drug peddler

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) : The Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW), in a joint operation with Amberpet Police, have arrested a drug peddler and seized 21 kg of poppy husk along with other materials worth Rs 3.5 lakh.The accused, identified as Mangala Ram (44), a native of Rajasthan and resident of Chengicherla, was apprehended under the NDPS Act when he attempted to sell the contraband in Amberpet. Police also seized a mixer grinder, weighing machines, mobile phones, and a motorcycle during the operation.

According to a police statement on Tuesday, Mangala Ram procured poppy husk from his native village in Rajasthan at a low price and sold it in Hyderabad for profit to fund his addiction and earn easy money.

Senior BRS leader joins BJP ahead of local polls

Peddapalli, Aug 5 (UNI)

In a significant boost to the Bharatiya Janata Party in Telangana, senior BRS leader Nalla Manohar Reddy, along with 300 workers from both the BRS and Congress, joined the BJP during a party workers’ meeting held in Peddapalli district today.BJP Telangana State President N Ramchandra Rao welcomed the new entrants by draping party scarves over their shoulders. Addressing the gathering, Ramchandra Rao said the BJP is steadily gaining ground in the state, as people are disillusioned with the “corrupt governance” of the BRS and the “anti-people policies” of the Congress.He accused the Congress of failing to address key public issues and recalled how BJP, under its former state president Bandi Sanjay, consistently fought against the BRS regime.

Highlighting farmers’ concerns, he said that although the Centre supplied 12.47 lakh metric tons of urea against the state’s requirement of 9.80 lakh metric tons for the 2024-25 Rabi season, fertilisers were still being diverted to the black market

due to poor oversight and mismanagement by the state government.

He alleged that the Congress was encouraging middlemen and facilitating the illegal diversion of fertilisers.Ramchandra Rao also highlighted several key development initiatives undertaken by the Centre, including the revival of the Ramagundam fertilizer factory with an investment of Rs 6,300 crore, Rs 20,000 crore worth of infrastructure projects in the Peddapalli constituency, and the direct transfer of Rs 20,500 crore to 9.7 crore farmers under the PM-Kisan scheme.He credited the Modi government with completing the Telangana Super Thermal Power Project and expanding NTPC’s power generation capacity to 4,310 MW, including through floating solar plants.

Criticising the Congress for failing to fulfill its Rythu Bharosa promise, he said the party had pledged Rs 15,000 per farmer but only deposited Rs 6,000 in two installments ahead of local body polls. He accused Congress of focusing solely on caste and religious politics while ignoring real development.

Heavy rain likely in Telangana for next five days: Met Dept

Hyderabad, Aug 5 (UNI) :Heavy rainfall is likely to occur at isolated places across Telangana over the next five days, the Meteorological Centre said on Tuesday.In its daily weather report, the Met Centre stated that heavy rain is very likely at isolated locations in Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparth, and Jogulamba Gadwal districts during the next 24 hours.On Wednesday, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, and Kamareddy districts are expected to receive heavy rainfall.On Thursday, heavy rain is likely at isolated places in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Vikarabad, Mahabubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparth, Narayanpet, and Jogulamba Gadwal districts.On Friday, heavy rain is forecast for Khammam, Vikarabad, Mahabubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparth, Narayanpet, and Jogulamba Gadwal

districts.On Saturday, Vikarabad, Mahabubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparth, Narayanpet, and Jogulamba Gadwal districts are likely to experience heavy rainfall.

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers are expected at many places across the state during the next seven days.

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

Tender Notice No.: CAO/CN/BN/C/128/2025
Dated 21.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Request for Proposal (RFP) for Development of Vande Bharat Sleeper Trains Maintenance Depot at Thanisandra (THSA) between Channasandra and Yelahanka Stations, Karnataka on Engineering Construction and Procurement (EPC) mode. (Tender Ref. No.: VANDEBHARAT-THANISANDRA)	Rs. 227,94,75,676

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 21.11.2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/349/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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[\[E South Western Railway - SWR\]](#) [\[SWR\]](#) [\[SWR/AMQ\]](#) [\[sw_railways\]](#)

**EAST COAST RAILWAY**

(1) Notice No. eT-Central-WAT-24-2025, Dt. 31.07.2025

Name of Work : CONSTRUCTION OF 30 BEDS RUNNIG ROOM AT ARAKU (ARK) STATION UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/ ARAKU ON KLINE OF WALTAIR DIVISION.

Approx. cost of the works ₹ 2,63,98,485.08, EMD: ₹ 3,21,600/-

(2) Notice No. eT-Central-WAT-25-2025, Dt. 31.07.2025

Name of Work : CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL WATERWAY TO BR. NO. 417 BY RCC BOX OF SIZE 3.75 X 3.05M (INTERNAL DIMENSIONS) AT 126/19-198 BY BOX PUSHING METHOD BETWEEN GORAPUR-DARLIPUT UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF ASSISTANT DIVISIONAL ENGINEER/KORAPUT ON KK-I LINE OF WALTAIR DIVISION.

Approx. cost of the works ₹ 3,43,23,550.69, EMD: ₹ 3,21,600/-

Completion Period of the work: 12 months (for both tenders).

Complete information including e-tender documents of the above e-tender is available in website www.ireps.gov.in

Note : The prospective tenderers are advised to revisit the website 10 (ten) days before the date of closing of tender to note any changes/ corrigendum issued for this tender.

Divisional Railway Manager (Engg), Waltair
PR-431/Q/25-26

**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

Tender Notice No.: CAO/CN/BN/C/131/2025
Dated 24.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Construction of new broad gauge railway line between Maluguru (Chainage (-) 1906.6 (Ch: 108125 of Yelahanka-Penukonda) to Palasamudram (Chainage 17/150) including 02 new yards (Chalivedandala & Palasamudram) and Existing Maluguru Yard modification with a route length of 19.057 km including Signal & Telecommunication, Electrification & Electrical General Service works. (Tender Ref. No. MKM-MKP-ENPC-02)	Rs. 354,84,42,876

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 26.09.2025


For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/351/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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**SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY**

Tender Notice No.: CAO/CN/BN/C/130/2025
Dated 22.07.2025

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, Invites E-Tenders for the following works:

Item of work	Approx. Value
Construction of a new broad gauge railway line between Maluguru (Chainage (-) 1906.6 (Ch: 108125 of Yelahanka-Penukonda) to Palasamudram (Chainage 17/150) including 02 new yards (Chalivedandala & Palasamudram) and Existing Maluguru Yard modification with a route length of 19.057 km including Signal & Telecommunication, Electrification & Electrical General Service works. (Tender Ref. No. MLU-PALASAMUDRAM-EPC01-R1)	Rs. 296,21,09,528

Last date for submission of bids: Upto 15:00 Hrs. on 24.09.2025

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Engineer/Construction/ Works/Bengaluru Cantt.

PUB/350/AAMO/PRB/SWR/2025-26

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STANDARD POST

Amendment to boost Indian wind turbine manufacturers by promoting 'Make in India'

Centre's amendment to the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) (Wind) procedure is expected to benefit domestic wind turbine original equipment manufacturers by enhancing domestic sourcing of equipment, a report said. Indian and Chinese wind OEMs will now compete on more equal terms due to a new rule. Currently, Chinese wind OEMs operating in India import lots of lower-cost components from China, resulting in their products being 10–15 per cent cheaper than those of Indian manufacturers, according to a report by Crisil Ratings.

However, these Chinese wind OEMs will be forced to source their components from Indian manufacturers after the recent amendment, assuming Indian wind component makers are only added to the ALMM list. This will remove manufacturing cost disparities for Indian wind OEMs compared to Chinese firms and strengthen the local supply chain.

The move will also support the credit profiles of domestic wind OEMs. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) amended the procedure for including wind turbine models in the ALMM list (Wind) on July 31. This list certifies wind turbine models eligible for installation in the country.

The new amendment mandated wind OEMs to source key components — blade, tower, gearbox, generator, and special bearings, which make up 65-70 percent of the total cost of a wind turbine — only from ALMM (Wind Turbine Components) listed suppliers. It also mandates wind turbine data and control systems to remain within India, using local data centres, servers, and R&D facilities, which, in turn, should improve data security and enhance the country's cybersecurity ecosystem.

The current amendments will encourage wind OEMs to 'Make in India.' Indian wind OEMs hold a market share of approximately 40–45 percent and source most mandated components domestically. In contrast, Chinese wind OEMs operating in India import a larger share of lower-cost components from China.

Ankit Hakhu, Director, Crisil Ratings said, “Chinese players have expanded their market share from just 10 per cent in fiscal 2019 to around 45 per cent in fiscal 2025, benefiting from low-cost imported components.

Assuming largely Indian wind component makers get added to the ALMM, Chinese wind OEMs will need to source locally from them.”This could benefit India manufacturers who currently have underutilised manufacturing capacity for these components.

“However, even with this amendment, competition will remain intense as the dominant Chinese player, which commands the lion’s share of the market, is expected to stay put in India.

The capacity utilisation of Indian wind OEMs is expected to increase to 50-55 per cent in near term, up from 30-35 per cent (in fiscal 2025), supported by healthy order books,” Gauri Gupta from Crisil Ratings said.

Andaman and Nicobar Islands MP Cares for Manipur, submits Letters to Amit Shah on Mount Manipur Memorial

Imphal, Aug 5 : The Mount Manipur Memorial project is a significant initiative to honor the 23 exiled freedom fighters and martyrs of the Anglo-Manipur War. To move forward, the Manipur Government should prioritize acquiring the necessary land and preparing the required documents. A suitable design for the memorial should be developed, reflecting the bravery and sacrifices of the freedom fighters. Expedited efforts will ensure the project's timely completion, paying tribute to the martyrs and promoting national pride and unity.

This project aims to revive and expedite the construction of the Mount Manipur Memorial in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. This memorial is a tribute to the 23 exiled freedom fighters and martyrs of the Anglo-Manipur War, including Maharaja Kulachandra Dhaja Singh, who were exiled to the islands during the British colonial era.

Key Points
The project has been pending for over three

years. The Hon'ble MP, Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, has written to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah Ji, urging action for its revival and construction.

The memorial would reinforce emotional and historical ties between the Northeast and the Andaman Islands, promote national integration and unity, inspire patriotic sentiments among citizens and tourists, and boost heritage tourism and educational awareness in the region.

The project involves acquiring land from the Andaman administration, preparing proper documents, and starting layout works with a suitable design. “Importance of the Project

The Mount Manipur Memorial would be a lasting tribute to the brave Manipuri freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the country.

It would promote national integration and unity by highlighting the shared history and struggles of different regions.

The memorial would



also boost heritage tourism and educational awareness in the region, inspiring patriotic sentiments among citizens and tourists.

Next Steps“
The Manipur Government needs to acquire the necessary land from the Andaman administration and prepare proper documents for the project.

The government should start layout works and design a suitable memorial that reflects the sacrifices and bravery of the freedom fighters.

The project should be

expedited to ensure its timely completion and to pay tribute to the martyrs.

Let's hope that the project is completed soon, and the Mount Manipur Memorial becomes a symbol of national pride and unity.

The people of Manipur thank Shri Bishnu Pada Ray, Hon'ble Member of Parliament, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, for writing a letter to the Hon'ble Union Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah Ji, urging action for the revival and construction of the pending Mount Manipur

Memorial at a suitable location in South Andaman. “The MP has also endorsed copies of the letter to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor and the Chief Secretary of A&N Islands for necessary action at their end, and has sent a copy to Shri Mukeshwar Lall, Historian & Member, A&N Islands UT, Heritage Committee., for his information and follow-up on the matter.

This request refers to a decision taken during the Hon'ble Home Minister's visit to the islands on 17th October 2021, when Mount Harriet was officially renamed as Mount Manipur in tribute to the 23 brave Manipuri freedom fighters of the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891, including Maharaja Kulachandra Dhaja Singh, who were exiled to the islands during the British colonial era.

The Hon'ble MP has expressed concern over the delay in the implementation of the “Sword Monument” project — a promised tribute to the martyrs — which has seen little progress even after over three years. The letter

further recalls the sacrifice of Yuvraj Tikendrajit and Thangal General, who were publicly executed on 13th August 1891, a day now solemnly observed as “Patriots’ Day” in Manipur. “The Mount Manipur Memorial would reinforce emotional and historical ties between the Northeast and the Andaman Islands, promote national integration and unity, inspire patriotic sentiments among citizens and tourists, and boost heritage tourism and educational awareness in the region.

In fact, it wouldn't be wrong to say that the AMWJU's first tour to the Andaman and Nicobar Islands — a team of 18 members — visited the islands for the first time after more than 110 years, on 17th February 2003, to trace and rediscover the historical links of their forefathers exiled there.

The people also extend thanks to Shri Mukeshwar Lall, Historian & Member, A&N Islands UT, Heritage Committee. for writing to the Governor of Manipur and the Chief Secretary.

Since idol immersion in artificial ponds is a priority, Thane Municipal Corporation has increased the immersion system

(Standard Post Bureau)

Thane, Aug 5 : As per the order of High Court, all Ganesh idols up to six feet tall will be immersed in artificial ponds. Whereas, idols taller than six feet can be immersed in natural water bodies. Due to this, the artificial ponds and mobile immersion system have been increased. Thane Municipal Corporation has informed that one and a half times more immersion arrangements are being made by the Municipal Corporation than last year.

Let's celebrate Ganeshotsav, which has been granted the status of a state festival, with the same enthusiasm as every year. Commissioner Saurabh Rao has also appealed to the citizens to celebrate the festival smoothly with the blessings of Ganpati Bappa, taking care that there is no inconvenience to the citizens.“

On behalf of Thane Municipal Corporation, a meeting was organized on Tuesday at the Late Narendra Ballal Hall at the Municipal Headquarters to organize an environmentally friendly Ganeshotsav 2025. The meeting, chaired by Municipal Commissioner Saurabh Rao, was attended by representatives of



Ganeshotsav Mandals, vendors, Additional Commissioner of the Municipal Corporation Prashant Rode, Deputy Commissioner of Police Prashant Kadam, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Transport) Pankaj Shirsat, Deputy Commissioner of Municipal Corporation Manish Joshi, Shankar Patole, Madhukar Bodke, Dinesh Tayde, Sachin Sangle, Chief Environment Officer Manisha Pradhan, along with representatives of the Municipal Corporation, Mahavitaran, Torrent Power, and NGOs.

Additional immersion arrangements

Hon. Keeping in mind the High Court order and the increasing trend towards artificial ponds, the Municipal Corporation has made additional immersion arrangements this year. If further suggestions are received in the meetings of

the Ganeshotsav Mandals held at ward committee and police station level, they will also be included in the immersion arrangement, Commissioner Rao clarified. The enthusiasm of Ganesh devotees is increasing and at the same time, environmental awareness is also increasing. Citizens welcomed the mobile immersion arrangement made last year. Therefore, this year the number of teams has been increased to 15, Commissioner Rao also said.“

This year, immersion arrangements will be made at a total of 132 places, including 24 artificial ponds, 74 tank immersion arrangements, 15 mobile immersion arrangements, 09 ghat immersion arrangements and 10 idol acceptance centers. Last year, there were a total of 88 immersion arrangements.

Separate manpower in

two sessions

There was a demand to increase the manpower at the immersion places. Keeping that in mind, the manpower will be increased. Also, manpower arrangements will be made in two sessions. Commissioner Rao expressed confidence that this will improve efficiency. The Ganeshotsav Coordination Committee and the police have suggested that cranes and additional barges should be installed at the ghat immersion site. Commissioner Rao also assured to consider the matter.

Coordination Officer
A WhatsApp group is being created to resolve any issues that the Ganeshotsav Mandal and police need from the Municipal Corporation or if there are any errors in the system. Deputy Commissioner

(Encroachment) Shankar Patole will act as the coordination officer for the Municipal Corporation in this regard, Commissioner Rao also said in the meeting. Local police, board officials and municipal officials should jointly inspect the immersion system in their respective areas. Commissioner Rao also directed that the local assistant commissioners should take note of the issues noticed and take action.

Decentralization of immersion system

The Municipal Corporation has planned additional artificial lakes to avoid crowding at one place for immersion. Also, the boards have raised the issue of inconvenience during the Navratni festival and the municipal administration will be vigilant in this regard,

explained Additional Commissioner Prashant Rode.

The administration and the Ganesh Mandal will celebrate the festival in coordination. The activists are the ears, nose and eyes of the administration. When the local police station holds meetings of the boards, local officers of all the agencies will also be present there, explained Deputy Commissioner of Police Prashant Kadam.

At the beginning of the meeting, Chief Environment Officer Manisha Pradhan gave detailed information about the order of the Hon'ble High Court to celebrate the eco-friendly festival, and the procedure announced by the state government accordingly. Also, Thane Municipal Corporation has prepared a green immersion app that provides information about the entire immersion system. Pradhan also said that it will soon be available on all mobile platforms for the citizens.

In the meeting, various issues were raised by Thane District Ganeshotsav Coordination Committee Vice President Ravindra Palve, Ulhas Barde, Vinayak Surve, Vasudev Alguj, Vicky Chacko, Vishal Mahadik etc. regarding immersion arrangements on behalf of the mandals.

No one can stop PDA Pathshala: Akhilesh Yadav

Lucknow, Aug 5 (UNI) :Samajwadi Party President Akhilesh Yadav has challenged the BJP government to stop the PDA pathshala started by his party after closure of several primary schools by the Uttar Pradesh government on the name of merger.

"Police cannot stop PDA Pathshala. CM Yogi himself should come to the Pathshala and see the situation. The government itself has accepted that it has closed many schools while some have been merged. SP workers will continue to teach students until new teachers are recruited in those schools," he announced.

SP president was talking to media after paying his tribute to late Janeshwar Mishra on his birth anniversary at the Janeshwar Mishra Park here on Tuesday.

"The sad thing is that even the Britishers did not

register an FIR against anyone for studies. This government thinks that it will shut down our PDA school with the help of police. We socialists take a pledge that until the government sends a teacher-principal there, the PDA school will continue to run," he said.

SP President said , " CM Yogi needs to visit schools as well. At least he should visit schools and see the condition of schools. The roof of a school collapsed in his own district, in which children were injured. We opened Abhinay, Sanskriti School in this Lucknow city. Sanskriti School is the best school in the country and the world, but they against education. Those who are against education are the biggest mafia".

Akhilesh Yadav said that," who is the biggest mafia in

the state? Everyone knows this. One does not become anything by changing clothes. Today they are talking about land. You should find out, all the ponds in Lucknow have been occupied by the BJP and all the wetlands have been occupied by the BJP people."

He said that those who used to accuse others, did they not have any connection with the underworld. However, he did not name anyone.

Talking about the flood condition in UP, Akhilesh Yadav said, " More than Rs 20,000 crores were spent in Prayagraj. But what is the condition today? People are not able to leave their homes on a large scale. Necessary things are not available during the floods. Children are not going to school and there is no drinking water. If someone falls sick, there is no arrangement."

Beauty



Beauty rituals from around the world

There is wisdom in those words. Beautiful skin, hair and nails do not have to be synonymous with lighter wallets and wasting hours on end. We bring you a compilation of some amazing beauty techniques from around the world. Not only are they intriguing, but also completely natural. From soothing a flaky scalp to getting lustrous skin, there's a way to have it all.

Spanish circles

You surely must have tried cucumber slices to lighten dark circles around your eyes. And there's also a range of haemorrhoidal creams to treat under-eye circles. Weird as it sounds, it is supposed to work like a dream! Not brave enough to try it? Then follow Spanish women and use very thin potato slices over your eyes. Keep them on for ten minutes. You will notice that they actually lighten the skin reducing the blueness of the veins under your eyes.

Kiss cellulite goodbye, the Brazilian way

Cellulite is every woman's despair and there seems to be no way to shooing it away. Here's a thing to learn from Brazilian women, who rub sand on their bodies. When it comes to cellulite, dry brushing is the best,

natural and probably, the only way to getting rid of them. So, use sand to kiss cellulite goodbye.

Greek TLC for lips

Beauty regimens need not mean spending a bomb on products or devoting a lot of time to it (unless you are greatly inspired by Cleopatra). Some of the most easily available things straight off your kitchen shelves can be used for beautifying your self. Greek and Italian women use olive oil to sooth and repair chapped lips. It is the best treatment to heal dry and irritated skin. It also conditions skin and lips while making it glow beautifully.

Chinese anti-ageing

Want skin that defies age-related problems? Sip on white tea like the Chinese do. It protects your skin from free radicals and you don't need to worry about Botox, fillers, collagen and the likes.

Australian dandruff cure

Suffering from dandruff? Add a few drops of eucalyptus oil or tea tree oil to your shampoo and kiss those flakes goodbye. This is a foolproof trick from down under to getting rid of dandruff. Be careful with the essential oils though. Massage your scalp with a few drops to see the change.

Scandinavian skincare
They aren't called the world's most beautiful women for nothing. Scandinavian



Home remedies to cure dry, Flaky skin



Banana pack -

Mash one ripe or over ripe banana until it forms a paste and mix one teaspoon of honey with it. Apply a thick layer of this mixture on face and leave it on for 20-30 minutes. Wash it off with cold water and repeat the process twice a week to get moist fresh skin.

Almond pack -

Grind soaked almonds to make a paste. Add some cold milk, lemon juice and besan (gram flour) to this mix and apply a thick layer on the face and other dry areas. Scrub it off once dry and wash face with lukewarm water.

Yogurt pack -

Make a pack by mixing cold yogurt, lemon juice and honey and apply on face. Leave it on for 20 minutes and wash it off with cold water.

Aloe Vera Gel -

Apply a generous amount of Aloe Vera gel all over the face and leave it on until it dries. Wash it off with cold water. This not only provides moisture to the skin but also prevents ageing and acne.

Dry skin is a horrible problem to have. People suffer from stretchy, white looking skin that may even crack and bleed. Not only that, dry skin causes itchiness and discomfort too. Here are a few home remedies you can use to solve the problem.

Hair care becomes a difficult and time-consuming job in the monsoon season. But it is also important for healthy hair to stay away from chemicals and outside treatments as much as possible. Well, here are some easy home remedies that can answer your tress woes -

For dry, frizzy hair, apply a paste of two bananas and honey and leave it for about an hour. This will help moisturize hair and keep it soft.

Apply lemon juice on your scalp for 15 minutes and then wash it off. This will ensure an oil-free scalp. Soak fenugreek (methi) seeds in water overnight. Strain the water the next day and use this water to



wash your hair. Methi is effective for many hair

problems like hairfall, dandruff and dryness.

The rains and sweatiness due to the humid weather results in an itchy scalp. Add a spoon of vinegar to water and rinse your hair with this at the end after you shampoo it. This will help you get rid of the itchiness.

Mix two spoons of curd with an egg and apply it on

Home remedies for hair-care in Monsoon

Here are some easy home remedies for the smooth and silky hair in monsoon.

your hair for 15-20 minutes. Use this mixture as a conditioner after you shampoo your hair. It will make your hair soft and shiny.

Be scorching hot at parties this summer

With Mumbai summer refusing to bow out, we are left to deal with a rather long stint of heat and humidity. But are you letting it affect your social life, or rather, 'look'? Here are a few tips to keep in mind when stepping out for a party this summer...

Keep it simple

Beauty consultant Manasi Bhakade states, "Always begin day makeup with a sunblock (at least SPF 30), followed by a light oil-free foundation or BB/CC cream. Shadow and mascara on your eyes and a nourishing lip tint later, you are good to face the day." According to senior makeup artiste Sonic Sarwate, one should choose makeup that blends well with the skin and doesn't feel heavy.

Use concealers

Dr Geeta Oberoi, dermatologist, says, "Use mineral-based makeup and keep your base to a minimum. Rather than using heavy foundation, use concealers to get a flawless face."

Do a double cleansing

Removing makeup is a must before you hit the sack. "Do a double cleansing procedure to unclog pores — a cleanser followed by medicated face wash," says Dr Oberoi. If you have oily skin, do not work your skin too much because it will end up making your skin more oily.

Close pores

You must use an alcohol-free toner after every wash to close open pores.

If you sweat a lot...

"Use lotions containing aluminium chlorohydrate. It works as an antiperspirant. However, in some cases, it can cause skin irritation. So, ask your dermatologist first," Dr

Oberoi explains.

Use the right makeup

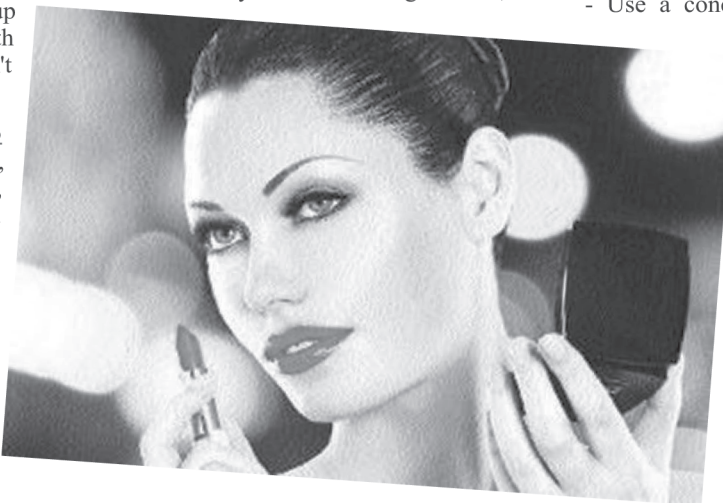
Dr Sama Rais, dermatologist and cosmetologist, advises using makeup that is 'non-comedogenic' or 'non-acnegenic' — it won't clog pores or cause pimples.

Home remedies

Dr Poonam Wadhvani, cosmetic dermatologist, suggests, "Wear dark colours that hide sweat patches. For dark circles, try home remedies like applying cool tea bags on the eyes for 15 minutes or applying cucumber juice and potato juice."

Get this look

- Use a concealer and then apply a hydrating base that matches your skin tone.
- Use a light-brown or coral-toned blush.
- Apply highlighter on your brow bone, cheeks and in the inner corner of your eyes.
- A warm eye-shadow will enlarge and brighten your peepers.
- Line your eyes with smudge-proof kohl.
- Curl your lashes; apply a coat of mascara.
- Now apply a bright lipstick.



ED questions Anil Ambani, videographs his statement in money laundering case

Mumbai, Aug 5 (UNI) : Industrialist Anil Ambani was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday at its headquarters in New Delhi in an alleged money laundering case, linked to an alleged multi-crore bank loan diversion fraud.

No lawyer was present during the entire questioning session which was videographed after Anil Ambani reached the ED headquarters at 11 am on Tuesday to record his statement under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), sources said.

Significantly, statements recorded under Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) are admissible as evidence in court. According to sources, ED officials asked Anil Ambani questions like, "Were loans diverted to shell companies?" He also faced questions like, "Was any money given to political parties?" and "Did you bribe any officer?"

Before the ED summoned Anil Ambani for

questioning on Tuesday at the ED's Delhi office, the agency had issued a lookout circular (LOC) against him in connection with the alleged Rs 3,000-crore loan fraud involving Yes Bank.

An LOC is issued to prevent individuals from leaving the country while they are under investigation. LOCs are circulated to all airports and seaports, alerting immigration officials to detain the individual under investigation, if they attempt to flee from India.

The ED is probing the alleged diversion of loans worth Rs 3,000 crore disbursed to Reliance Group companies by Yes Bank between 2017 and 2019. Investigators suspect that payments were allegedly made to Yes Bank promoters before the loans were actually sanctioned, pointing to a possible quid pro quo. It may be recalled that the ED had raided several locations connected to the case on July 24. The searches which lasted for three days were

carried out under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

Later, the ED issued a statement on Monday that it has arrested Partha Sarathi Biswal, the managing director of Biswal Tradelink Pvt Ltd (BTPL) based in Odisha, on Saturday, for allegedly providing fake bank guarantees worth Rs 68.2 crore to Reliance Power Ltd for a Solar Energy Corporation of India Ltd (SECI) tender.

The ED had stated that it plans to confront arrested Biswal face-to-face with Anil Ambani when Ambani will be questioned at the ED's Delhi headquarters in an alleged money laundering case, linked to an alleged multi-crore bank loan fraud committed by the Anil Ambani-led Reliance ADA group. "An investigation has revealed that BTPL had fraudulently arranged as well as submitted fake bank guarantees of Rs 68.2 crores along with forged SBI endorsements and fabricated confirmations for

a Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI) tender. For providing this bank guarantee, Rs 5.40 crore was received by BTPL (as commission) from Reliance Power Ltd," according to the ED statement.

Allegedly, Biswal ran a "fake" bank guarantee issuance racket for business groups and his company BTPL is suspected of providing a "fake" bank guarantee worth Rs 68.2 crores to an Anil Ambani-led Reliance ADA group company, according to the ED.

BTPL MD Biswal was arrested under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) after searches at the company's premises in Bhubaneswar, as well as an "associate" entity in Kolkata.

According to an ED investigation, BTPL allegedly arranged fraudulent bank guarantees worth about Rs 68 crores, backed by forged endorsements from the State Bank of India (SBI) using spoofed emails.

Nitish expresses deep sorrow over former Bihar Governor Satyapal Malik's demise

Patna, Aug 5 (UNI) : Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today expressed deep sorrow over the demise of Satyapal Malik, former Governor of Bihar.

In his condolence message, the Chief Minister said that Satyapal Malik served as the Governor of Bihar from October 4, 2017, to August 22, 2018. In addition to Bihar, he also served as the Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Goa, and Meghalaya.

"With the passing of Satyapal Malik, the country has lost a towering personality," the Chief Minister stated.

Mayawati expresses deep concern over cloudburst in Dharali village

Lucknow, Aug 5 (UNI) Bahuujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati expressed deep concern over the cloud burst in Uttarkashi's Dharali village, and urged both the central and state governments to act swiftly and provide all possible assistance to the affected people. In a post on social media platform X, the BSP supreme described the cloudburst and its aftermath as "extremely tragic and worrying," and emphasized the need for stronger safety measures in disaster-prone areas to reduce the risk to life and property in the future.

A massive cloudburst hit Dharali village in Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi district on Tuesday afternoon, triggering flash floods and landslides that led to the collapse of several houses and hotels. The calamity has caused widespread devastation, with several people reported missing and rescue operations currently underway.



In this image via AICC, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and LoP in the Lok Sabha and party leader Rahul Gandhi during a meeting of the floor leaders of the INDIA alliance, in New Delhi on Tuesday.

SC refers plea seeking lifetime ban on convicted MPs/MLAs to CJI

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) : The Supreme Court today took note of a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking permanent disqualification of Members of Parliament (MPs) and Members of Legislative Assemblies (MLAs) upon conviction in criminal cases, and directed that the matter be placed before the Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai for listing before an appropriate larger Bench.

The PIL, filed by Advocate Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay, challenges the constitutional validity of provisions under Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, which currently bar convicted legislators from contesting elections only for six years after completing their sentence.

Senior Advocate Vijay Hansaria mentioned the matter before a Bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi, urging for an early hearing.

"This is a matter of grave concern. Orders have been passed from time to time. The February 10 order requires that it be listed before a three-judge bench," Hansaria submitted. The Bench acknowledged the urgency and referred to paragraphs

4 and 5 of the February 10, 2025 order passed by a Bench led by Justice Dipankar Datta, directing that the matter be placed before the CJI for further directions.

The plea is now expected to be heard finally on October 20, subject to the CJI's listing.

In February 2025, the Union government opposed the plea, arguing that a lifetime disqualification of elected representatives was a matter purely within the domain of Parliament and not for the judiciary to decide.

The Centre, through the Legislative Department, maintained that while the court may declare a provision unconstitutional under its power of judicial review, it cannot rewrite legislation to substitute "lifetime" for "six years" as suggested by the petitioner.

"The relief sought effectively asks the Court to read 'lifetime' instead of 'six years' in all sub-sections of Section 8. This is unknown to judicial review and constitutional law," the Centre submitted.

The government emphasized that Parliament has the discretion to decide what duration of

disqualification is appropriate, keeping in view principles of proportionality and reasonableness. "It is one thing to say that Parliament has the power to impose a lifetime ban, and another to say that it must necessarily exercise that power in all cases," it said.

The Centre further argued that the PIL failed to distinguish between the basis for disqualification (i.e., conviction) and the effect of disqualification (i.e., its duration). It noted that Indian penal statutes often impose time-bound restrictions on rights and freedoms post-conviction, and that extending these indefinitely would be unduly harsh and disproportionate.

"At the end of the prescribed time, penalties cease to operate automatically. Deterrence is ensured, while undue harshness is avoided," the government stated.

It also reiterated that any direction to Parliament on how to draft or amend laws would be beyond the constitutional powers of the judiciary. The PIL raises a larger question regarding the criminalisation of politics, an issue repeatedly flagged by the Supreme Court in the past.

Odisha CM urges forest officials to ensure conflict-free coexistence for tribals

Bhubaneswar, Aug 5 (UNI) : Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi today called upon forest officials to ensure a conflict-free coexistence for tribal communities and safeguard their interests.

Addressing the State Forest Officers' Conference, the Chief Minister noted that nearly one-fourth of the state's population belongs to the tribal community, most of whom reside in forested and adjoining areas.

"It is the moral responsibility of the government to ensure peaceful and harmonious coexistence for tribal communities and to protect them," Majhi stated.

Highlighting the pivotal role of forest officials, he

said, "Since forest personnel regularly interact with the poor, tribals, and Dalits, it is imperative that they approach these communities with sensitivity while enforcing forest conservation laws."

In a bid to mitigate the growing human-elephant conflict, the Chief Minister advised the department to cultivate rice within forest areas as a food source for elephants.

He further recommended planting fruit-bearing and flowering trees in populated areas to encourage community care and involvement.

For roadside plantation drives, he emphasized the importance of choosing tree species that are beneficial

to the local population.

"Tree plantation alone is not enough. We must also ensure proper protection, management, and enhancement of the green cover," Majhi added.

Urging a collaborative approach, he called for widespread public awareness, the application of modern technologies, and active participation of voluntary organizations and civic safety forums to strengthen forest conservation efforts.

Reiterating his government's strong stance on transparency, Majhi emphasized a zero-tolerance policy towards corruption and warned forest officials to steer clear of any unethical practices.

Shibu Soren laid to rest with State Honours

Nemra (Ramgarh), Aug 5 (UNI) : Former Jharkhand Chief Minister and Rajya Sabha MP Shibu Soren was cremated with full state honours today at his ancestral village, Nemra, in Ramgarh district. A towering figure in Jharkhand's tribal and political history, Soren's passing marked the end of an era — one defined by resistance, reform, and regional identity.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, party president Mallikarjun Kharge, and RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav were among the key national figures who flew in to pay their last respects to the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) founder, popularly known as Dishom Guru.

Jharkhand Chief Minister Hemant Soren, visibly moved, lit the funeral pyre in the presence of thousands. The last rites were conducted with traditional tribal customs and rituals.

"I bid farewell to my father not just as a son, but as a disciple to a guiding light," the CM said, as chants of "Guruji amar rahein" echoed through the village.

Earlier, Soren's mortal remains were brought from Ranchi's Morabadi residence to Nemra, where they were kept for public viewing. A sea of mourners, cutting across party lines and social divisions, thronged the village for one final glimpse. Shops remained shut. Chulhas did not light. The entire village mourned in silence.

The funeral procession drew massive crowds. From senior political leaders to villagers from remote corners of the state, all joined in a solemn show of unity and sorrow. Slogans of gratitude and homage rose from the crowd. Many wept quietly, recalling how the man from Nemra had shaped the idea of Jharkhand.

"The land has lost its conscience. He was more than a politician—he was our pathfinder," said an elderly mourner from Chaibasa. Soren passed away on Monday at the age of 81. He is survived by his wife and children, including Hemant Soren, who currently leads the state government.

No ban on paracetamol drug, says Govt in Parliament

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has not banned the commonly used paracetamol drug in India, the Government told Rajya Sabha today.

Replying to a written query in Rajya Sabha, Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Anupriya Patel said, "the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has informed that the CDSCO is not in receipt of information about rumours" of the regulatory body banning paracetamol. Noting that "paracetamol is not banned in the country", Patel said that "various Fixed Dose Combinations, including such combinations of paracetamol with other drugs, have been banned in the country".

The Minister also informed the Upper House that the government has rolled out the free drugs service initiative under the National Health Mission (NHM) under the Union Health Ministry.

She also pointed out that this aims to ensure availability of essential drugs and reduce out-of-pocket expenditure of patients visiting the public health facilities, including government hospitals and rural primary health centres.

She elaborated that support is available for procurement of drugs and strengthening or setting up of robust systems of procurement, quality assurance, supply chain management and warehousing, prescription audit and grievance redressal among others.

Patel said the Union Health Ministry has also recommended a facility-wise essential medicines list to be made available at public healthcare facilities, including government hospitals and rural primary health centres.

This statement was noted and recorded by the Court in its final judgment.

Despite this assurance, no concrete timeline has been provided by the Centre so far, prompting fresh concerns and legal challenges. The current petition seeks to revisit the issue in the light of these developments. Notably, in recent months, political activity in the region has intensified. A coalition government comprising the National Conference, the Indian National Congress, and independent legislators currently holds sway in the newly constituted Legislative Assembly of the Union Territory.

SC to hear plea on restoration of J&K statehood on August 8

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) : The Supreme Court is scheduled to hear on August 8 a petition seeking the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, which was downgraded to a Union Territory in 2019 following the abrogation of Article 370 of the Constitution.

The matter was mentioned today before a Bench comprising Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai by Senior Advocate Gopal Sankaranarayanan, who urged the Court to retain the matter on the cause list for August 8.

"The date shows as August 8. Let it not be deleted," he submitted.

The Bench agreed to keep the matter listed. The plea has been filed by Zahoor Ahmed Bhat, a college teacher, and Khurshid Ahmad Malik, a political activist. It challenges the delay in restoring full statehood to the region, contending that the prolonged Union Territory status undermines the democratic and constitutional rights of its residents. The petitioners argue that holding elections and forming a Legislative Assembly before granting statehood would be contrary to the principle of federalism, a part of the basic structure of the Constitution, as laid down in the landmark

Kesavananda Bharati case.

They emphasise that full statehood must precede any meaningful legislative process to ensure representative governance.

The former state of Jammu and Kashmir was stripped of its special constitutional status on August 5, 2019, through the abrogation of Article 370. Subsequently, Parliament passed the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019, bifurcating the state into two Union Territories, Jammu and Kashmir (with a Legislative Assembly) and Ladakh (without one).

The Supreme Court, in its December 2023

judgment, upheld the constitutional validity of the abrogation of Article 370 and declined to strike down the reorganisation of the region. However, the Constitution Bench, headed by then CJI DY Chandrachud, did not conclusively rule on the legality of converting a full-fledged state into a Union Territory, terming it a "transitory arrangement."

During the hearings, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had assured the Court that the Union Territory status of Jammu and Kashmir was temporary and that statehood would be restored in due course.

Displaced persons given training in Manipur

Imphal, Aug 5 (UNI) : Deputy Commissioner, Jiribam, Krishna Kumar, today inaugurated a 7-day makeup training program for Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) at Jiribam Higher Secondary School, Babupara.

The training, organised by the District Administration in collaboration with

MSRLM, Jiribam District, aims to empower IDPs with skills to generate income and become self-reliant.

The programme, with the motto "Empower Yourself, Transform Lives with Skill Upgradation," is specifically designed for women inmates of IDPs and girl students.

Krishna Kumar emphasised the importance

of teamwork and encouraged trainees to ask questions without hesitation. He also highlighted that the District Administration is providing food, lodging, and healthcare facilities to IDPs free of cost.

Krishna Kumar appreciated MSRLM Jiribam for initiating such training programs and

encouraged trainees to tap the knowledge gained to secure suitable jobs. He also lauded IDPs who got jobs after attending similar training and urged the remaining IDPs to participate. The Deputy Commissioner highlighted that the Government aims to close all relief camps by December 2025 and has targeted making IDPs self-

independent and self-reliant before the closure.

Altogether 26 trainees from Jiribam Higher Secondary Relief Camp, Bidiyanagar Sports Complex Relief Camp and Children Home Harinagar Relief camp are participating in the 7-day training programme. The trainees will be trained by Master trainer Thokchom Tombimacha.



In this screenshot from @BCCI via X, India's head coach Gautam Gambhir with staff members celebrates after the team won the fifth Test cricket match against England, at The Oval, in London.

Ahmedabad to host AFC U17 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers in November

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) : India will be one of the seven hosts of the AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026 Qualifiers, scheduled to be played from November 22 to 30. The Arena in Ahmedabad will be the venue for all matches. The draw for the qualifiers will take place on August 7, 2025. The 38 Countries participating in the qualifiers will be drawn into seven groups (three groups of six teams and four groups of five teams each). The group winners will qualify for the AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026, joining nine participating AFC teams in the FIFA U17 World Cup Qatar 2025, who have already directly qualified for the tournament. AIFF President Kalyan

Chaubey said, “It is a matter of great pride for India to be among the hosts of the AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026 Qualifiers, and I am particularly pleased to see Ahmedabad take centre stage. This is an excellent opportunity for our boys to perform on home soil, and for the city of Ahmedabad to showcase its capability to host elite international competitions.” “I wish our boys the very best, and sincerely hope that they qualify for the AFC U17 Asian Cup, which serves as the gateway to the FIFA U17 World Cup, and take another important step forward in Indian football’s long-term development pathway,” he said. Harsh Sanghavi, Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs of Gujarat, said, “This is a proud

moment for Indian football and Gujarat. It’s an opportunity for the state to showcase its love for the beautiful game, its world-class hospitality, and our rising football culture. Hosting a prestigious event such as this will position Ahmedabad on the Asian football map.” The 38 teams competing in the qualifiers have been divided into six pots based on the seeding and pot allocation principle, which takes into account the team’s performance in the last three tournaments (2025, 2023, and 2018). While India are in Pot 2, they will be placed in an additional Hosts Pot for the purpose of the draw to ensure all hosts are drawn in separate groups. China PR, Vietnam, Thailand, Myanmar, Kyrgyz Republic, and Jordan are the other six hosts that cannot be drawn into India’s group. Pots for the AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026 Qualifiers Draw: Pot 1: Australia, Yemen, IR Iran, Oman, Thailand Pot 2: Afghanistan, Malaysia, Iraq, Bangladesh, Laos, Kuwait Pot 3: Singapore, Bahrain, Philippines, Turkmenistan, Palestine Pot 4: Syria, Mongolia, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Chinese Taipei, Brunei Darussalam Pot 5: Nepal, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Maldives, Timor-Leste, Lebanon Pot 6: Macau, Sri Lanka, Pakistan Hosts Pot: China PR, Vietnam, Thailand, India, Myanmar, Kyrgyz Republic, Jordan.

4th Sub-Jr Natl's in Greater Noida from Aug 7

New Delhi, Aug 5 (UNI) : The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) will host the 4th Sub-Junior (U-15) Boys and Girls National Boxing Championships from August 7 to 13, 2025, at Galgotias University in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The event will see the participation of over 700 young boxers, including 400 boys and 300 girls aged between 13 and 14, who will compete across 15 weight categories. As part of BFI’s broader vision to build a robust grassroots-to-elite pathway, the Sub-Junior Nationals serve as a crucial platform to identify young talent and prepare them for higher levels of competition. The event follows the successful conduct of the Men’s, Women’s, and Junior Nationals earlier this year competitions which have already produced international medallists and future stars. Haryana (Girls) and Chandigarh (Boys) enter this edition as the defending champions from the 3rd Sub-Junior Nationals. “The Sub-Junior Nationals are where India’s boxing journey truly begins” said Col. Arun Malik (Retd.), Executive Director, BFI and Member of the Interim

Committee “This platform helps identify talented individuals and allows them to experience real competition early in their careers. The skills, discipline, and confidence developed here are the first building blocks of international success. This is a significant grassroots step in these young boxers’ journeys, and we’re sure we’ll see many stars of the future in action.” Boxers will compete under World Boxing Technical Rules, with three rounds of 1.5 minutes each, with a minute’s rest in between rounds. A 10 points must scoring system shall be followed. Medal winners from the REC Combined Talent Hunt 2024 are also eligible, making the competition even more competitive. Indian boxing’s youth program has been making headlines globally, not only at the senior level, but also in age-group competitions. At the recent Asian U-15 and U-17 Championships, Indian boxers bagged 43 medals and finished second overall, reflecting the depth of talent and promise in the junior ranks.

Chengdu to host "best World Games in our life": IWGA president

Chengdu, Aug 5 (UNI) : With two days until the opening ceremony of the 12th World Games, International World Games Association (IWGA) President Jose Perurena Lopez declared Chengdu’s preparations have exceeded all expectations, positioning the event to make history. “My expectation two years ago was high, high, high, but I think it’s covered all my expectation,” Perurena said today. “We guarantee Chengdu will organize the best World Games in our life, because the quality of the venue, the quality of the volunteers, the quality of the organizing committee are higher professional.” The Games’ inaugural torch relay, integrating China’s ancient heritage with modern sporting spirit, left a profound impression on the IWGA leadership. The torch, named “Zhu Meng” - meaning “Bamboo Dream” and symbolizing the pursuit of dreams - was inspired by the bronze sculptures of Sanxingdui and the bamboo forests of Sichuan. The relay began at the Sanxingdui Museum, where the flame was kindled using green energy technology by former curators of the site. The 11-kilometer relay route spanned six cultural landmarks across the cities of Chengdu,

Deyang and Meishan, including the Jinsha Ruins, Chengdu Panda Base and the Three Su Shrines. “This is something we can easily bring together,” noted IWGA CEO Joachim Gossow, emphasizing the relay’s cultural resonance. Perurena added it motivated the population and showcased “different scenarios, different cities” globally, receiving “very, very positive feedback” internationally. The World Games’ role in promoting sports outside the Olympic program was underscored by both leaders. Perurena highlighted its function as a proving ground: “We represent the sports that are recognized by the

International Olympic Committee (IOC) but are not in the Olympic Games. They need our Games to show they are ready.” Gossow reinforced this, noting the growing convergence. “When you look at the IOC’s choice of sports for future Olympics, nearly all are World Games sports,” he said, further challenging perceptions. “Being Olympic or non-Olympic is not a sign of being good or worse.” Having hosted the 2023 FISU World University Games, Chengdu’s accelerated development stunned IWGA officials. Gossow, who attended the University Games in Chengdu, observed: “I’m even more impressed how much more effort they put

Karnataka tops 41st Sub-Junior National Swimming Meet

Bengaluru, Aug 5 (UNI) : Karnataka emerged overall champions at the 41st Sub-Junior National Swimming Championships held at Basavangudi Aquatic Centre here, amassing 104 points. Manipur secured the second position with 81 points. Kojiam Athoiba Singh of Manipur was adjudged Best Male Swimmer with 28 points, while Purvi Ritesh Naik from Goa was named Best Female Swimmer with 19 points. In Boys’ 100m Backstroke, A P Arya Sathar (Tamil Nadu) won gold with 1:05.53, narrowly beating Krishiv Doshi (Madhya Pradesh) who clocked 1:05.74. Hemanshu Nahakpam (Manipur) took bronze with 1:08.90.

Alfiya M (Tamil Nadu) clinched gold in Girls’ 100m Backstroke with a late push, finishing in 1:10.70. Serena Saroha (Haryana) and Annika Goplani (Maharashtra) took silver and bronze respectively. Kojiam Athoiba Singh bagged gold in Boys’ 100m Freestyle with a time of 58.59, followed by Hemanshu Nahakpam (59.75) and A P Arya Sathar (1:00.79). Goa’s Purvi Naik claimed the Girls’ 100m Freestyle gold (1:04.40), edging Karnataka’s Stuti Singh (1:04.49). Amatullah Dholkawala (Maharashtra) came third with 1:05.30. In the 400m Freestyle events, Karnataka’s N Pavan Krishnaa (Boys) clocked 4:40.83, and Nyra Bopanna Kalengada (Girls) finished in 4:53.96, securing gold for the host state.

Malaysian Armed Forces registers narrow win over Rangdajied United

Shillong, Aug 5 (UNI) : A second-half strike by forward Nasir Yasa proved to be the difference as Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM) FT edged past homeside Rangdajied United FC (RUFC) 1-0 in a tightly contested Group F match of the 134th IndianOil Durand Cup, which was played here at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium.

Despite Rangdajied United dominating both possession and attacking chances, it was the Malaysian side who made their moment count. Nasir Yasa, capitalizing on a counter-attack in the 67th minute, calmly slotted the ball into the near post with a composed left-footed finish after being set up by Muhammad Arif, sealing the victory for the visiting side. RUFC head coach Aiborlang Khongjee made wholesale changes to his XI, retaining only four players from the previous game, and fielded a youthful lineup in a 4-3-3 setup. Skipper Balamlynti and Meban Kurkalang led the defence, with Manbhakupar Lawphinaw at the tip of the attack and Dibormi Kassar orchestrating play from midfield. ATM FT coach Mohamad Khairil Hafiz Mohd. Zanggi, meanwhile, introduced Mohammad Azarulhisham Anuar in goal and Muhamad Mujahid Dzakarria on the wing in his

version of the 4-3-3. The hosts started strong and had early opportunities. In the 10th minute, Lawphinaw’s goal-bound effort was denied by ATM keeper Anuar. Moments later, a well-worked free kick from Balamlynti to Wadshwa Latoo saw the latter miss a free header. Bantiplang Rymbai and Stephanson Pale also tested the Malaysian keeper, but without success. ATM FT, though quiet in attack, showed glimpses of threat. A powerful long-range shot by Muhammad Arif Aiman in the 37th minute forced RUFC keeper Banteilang Rymbai into a crucial diving save. Rangdajied thought they had taken the lead just two minutes later when Stephanson Pale found the net, but the goal was ruled out for offside. After a goalless but action-packed first half, Malaysian Armed Forces came out more organized in the second period, sitting deep and playing on the break. In the 56th minute, Arif Aiman nearly capitalized on a keeper misjudgment, but a heroic goal line clearance by Denelson denied the Malaysian side. The pressure finally told in the 67th minute. On a textbook counterattack, Arif surged forward and rolled a perfectly weighted through-ball to Nasir Yasa, who took his chance clinically.

Punjab FC, East Bengal FC aim to build momentum

Kolkata, Aug 5 (UNI) : Indian Super League (ISL) sides Punjab FC and East Bengal FC will look to build on their opening wins as they return to action in the Durand Cup on Wednesday. Punjab FC face the Indo-Tibetan Border Police Football Team (ITBPFT) in a Group D clash at Kokrajhar’s Sports Authority of India Stadium, while East Bengal FC host Namdhari FC in a Group A encounter at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan here later that evening. The Shers kicked off their campaign with a hard-fought 2-1 win over Karbi Anglong Morning Star, but Group D remains wide open. With Bololand FC and ITBP FT also registering wins over the same opponent, Punjab FC will need another three points to stay in control of their qualification hopes. Meanwhile, East Bengal FC will have their eyes on the top spot in Group A. After a commanding 5-0 win over South United FC, they now face group leaders Namdhari FC, who have already beaten both South United FC and the Indian Air Force. A win for East Bengal FC would take them level on points with Namdhari FC and significantly boost their chances of progressing to the next round. With both matches crucial in shaping their group standings, Wednesday’s fixtures promise to be pivotal in the campaign for these ISL clubs.

Manchester United make £74m bid for RB Leipzig striker Sesko

London, Aug 5 (UNI) : Manchester United have made a bid for RB Leipzig striker Benjamin Sesko with the overall package potentially rising to 85m euros (£73.8m). The offer includes a guaranteed payment of 75m euros (£65.2m). The Red Devils are yet to get a response but believe it is an appropriate valuation for the 22-year-old Slovenia forward and that he is keen to move to Old Trafford. Newcastle United also want Sesko and have made

a bid in the region of 80m euros (£69.5m) as they continue negotiations with Leipzig. The offer from Manchester United is seen as significant as there had been suggestions they did not want to firm up their interest with Leipzig without knowing the forward was prepared to join them. Manchester United are willing to let Rasmus Hojlund leave the club in order to make space for Sesko to come in, according to a BBC news. Sesko has 39 goals in 87

appearances for Leipzig and, at 6ft 5in, he would also bring a significant physical presence to the Old Trafford club’s front line. Manchester United sources have previously outlined how it is possible for them to reach an agreement on Sesko even though Sir Jim Ratcliffe said earlier this year there was the potential for the club to go bust by Christmas without massive cost-cutting measures. Payment arrangements for the deals for Matheus Cunha and Bryan Mbeumo

from Wolves and Brentford this summer, which total £130m, have been arranged in a favourable way. In addition, the entirety of Marcus Rashford’s £325,000-a-week salary is being covered by his loan move to Barcelona and Manchester United received £5m from Chelsea after the Blues pulled out of a deal to sign Jadon Sancho. Manchester United have also received more than £15m in payments as part of sell-on clauses involving Anthony Elanga, Alvaro Carreras and Maxi Oyedele.

Ex-Portugal captain Jorge Costa dies

Lisbon, Aug 5 (UNI) : Former Portugal captain Jorge Costa has died aged 53 after having a cardiac arrest at the club’s training centre, the Portuguese side has confirmed. The defender led Portugal to Champions League glory under manager Jose Mourinho in 2004 and won 50 caps for Portugal. Costa spent a season on loan at Charlton in the Premier League in 2001-02 and retired from playing in 2006. The centre-back moved into management and held positions at 16 clubs before taking up the role of Porto’s director of professional football last season. “Throughout his life, both on and off the pitch, Jorge Costa embodied the values that define FC Porto: dedication,

leadership, passion and an unshakeable spirit of conquest,” the club said. “He left his mark on generations of fans.” It is the third unexpected death of an ex-Portugal player this summer following the tragic passing of former loanee Diogo Jota and his brother Andre Silva, who spent six years at the club, in July.

Costa graduated from Porto’s academy and went on to make 324 appearances for the club. He won 24 trophies before leaving in 2005, including the Champions League, Uefa Cup and eight Primeira Liga titles. In 2000, Costa won the Portuguese Golden Ball - an award handed out to the league’s best player.

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Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, GM, SCR Conducts Inspection of Pagidipalli – Guntur – Vijayawada Section

(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, Aug 5 : Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava, General Manager, South Central Railway undertook inspection of Pagidipalli – Guntur – Krishna Canal – Vijayawada section today i.e., 05th August, 2025. He was accompanied by Smt. Sudeshna Sen, Divisional Railway Manager, Guntur Division and Shri Mohit Sonakiya, Divisional Railway Manager, Vijayawada Division within their respective divisional jurisdictions. Other senior officials from Headquarters and Division were also present throughout the inspection.

Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava carried out a rear window inspection in Secunderabad – Pagidipalli – Guntur – Krishna Canal – Vijayawada section, during which he reviewed the safety aspects of signaling systems and maintenance of Railway tracks in the section. The General Manager conducted a detailed inspection of Nalgonda Railway station, wherein he reviewed the passenger amenities including waiting hall, Divyangjan toilets, lift, water facility etc. He also inspected the platform and circulating area. The General Manager reviewed the progress of redevelopment works undertaken at Nalgonda station as part of Amrit Bharat Station Scheme and examined the safe working practices at the construction site.

Further, Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava



conducted a detailed performance review meeting along with Divisional Railway Manager and other divisional officials at Guntur Division Headquarters. The divisional officials gave a brief presentation on the status and progress of various developmental projects undertaken by the division. The General Manager also participated in tree plantation program along with other officers at Guntur.

The General Manager inspected Mangalagiri Railway station, he reviewed the passenger amenities and other facilities at the station. He also inspected the redevelopment works undertaken as part of ABSS and advised the officials to ensure all safety guidelines and further speed up the works so as to complete the project as targeted.

Later, Mr Sanjay Kumar Srivastava held a detailed performance review meeting along with Shri Mohit Sonakiya, Divisional Railway Manager, Vijayawada Division and other divisional officials at Vijayawada. During the meeting, the General Manager reviewed the progress of infrastructure projects, station redevelopment works, provision of passenger amenities, traffic facility works etc., undertaken by the division. During the course of inspection, General Manager received representations from members of various trade unions.

Swachhta Abhiyan continues across Waltair Division : ECoR



(Standrd Post Bureau)
Visakhapatnam, Aug 5 : In accordance with the directives of the Ministry of Railways, Government of India, Waltair Division of East Coast Railway is consistently continuing the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan campaign from August 1, adhering its commitment to maintain railway premises free from plastic, garbage, and filth.

As part of its ongoing endeavors to provide a clean and hygienic environment to the

travelling public, the Waltair Division has launched an intensive series of cleanliness drives and awareness rallies. These initiatives are being conducted with the enthusiastic participation of railway employees, Swachh Sewaks, and volunteer organizations. Special attention is being directed towards rag picking and the thorough cleaning of toilets, waiting halls, retiring rooms, catering stalls, and railway offices across the Division.

The comprehensive efforts aim to ensure that every corner of the railway premises upholds the highest standards of cleanliness. In addition to direct cleanliness activities, Swachhta rallies are being organized at various stations, railway colonies, and workplaces. These rallies are designed to foster public involvement and raise awareness, reinforcing the shared responsibility of keeping railway surroundings pristine.

Extension of Weekly special trains to clear rush for Diwali Puja Festival : ECoR

(Standrd Post Bureau)
Visakhapatnam, Aug 5 : In order to clear extra rush of passengers during the festival season, Indian Railway has decided to extend the special train services as detailed below.
SPECIAL TRAIN BETWEEN UDHNA–KHURDA ROAD (09059/09060)
The train No.09059 Udhna – Khurda Road Special Express will leave Udhna at 12.20Hrs on Wednesdays from 06.08.2025 to 24.09.2025 (Total 08 trips) which will reach Vizianagaram on next day (on Thursdays) at 16.00Hrs and departure at 16.25Hrs and will reach Khurda Road at 22.30Hrs.
In return direction the train no.09060 Khurda Road – Udhna Special Express train will leave Khurda Road at 02.00Hrs on Fridays from 08.08.2025 to 26.09.2025 (Total 08 trips) which will reach Vizianagaram at 07.25Hrs and departure at

07.50Hrs and will reach Udhna on next day at 13.30Hrs.
Stoppages : Special train will be having the following stoppages at Vyara, Nandurbar, Dharangaon, Jalgaon, Bhusaval, Malkapur, Akola, Badnera, Wardha, Nagpur Jn, Tumsar Road, Gondia Jn, Durg, Raipur Jn, Mahasamund, Khariar Road, Kantabanji, Titlagarh, Kesinga, Muniguda, Rayagada, Parvatipuram, Bobbili, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam Road, Palasa, Brahmapur, Balugaon between Udhna – Khurda Road - Udhna.
Composition : These pair of trains will have 1st AC cum 2nd AC – 01, 2nd AC – 02, 3rd AC – 06, Sleeper class coaches-07, General Second Class-04, Second class cum luggage/ Divyangjan -01, Motor Car-01 in its composition.
People are requested to make use of these special train services.

IRCTC to run ‘Panch Jyotirlinga Darshan’ Bharat Gaurav Tourist train from Secunderabad

(Standard Post Bureau)
Hyderabad, Aug 5 : The Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has announced the launch of the “Panch Jyotirlinga Darshan” Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train, scheduled to depart from Secunderabad Railway Station on August 16, 2025. The nine-day pilgrimage tour will cover five prominent Jyotirlinga shrines: Mahakaleswar



and Omkareshwar in Ujjain, Triambakeswar in Nashik, Bhimashankar in

days, with boarding and deboarding facilities available at Secunderabad, Kamareddi, Nizamabad, Dharmabad, Mudkhed, Nanded, and Purna stations. The tour package includes rail and road travel, hotel accommodation, catering services (morning tea, breakfast, lunch, and dinner), travel insurance, onboard security with CCTV, public announcement facilities,

and tour managers for assistance. Fares range from Rs 14,700 per person in Sleeper Class, Rs 22,900 in 3AC, and Rs 29,900 in 2AC, with concessional rates for children. Bookings can be made online at www.irctctourism.com or via phone at 97013?60701, 92810?30740, 92810?30750, 92810?30711, a SCR statement said on Tuesday.

State Congress Secretary Dilip Bhalerao joins BJP along with hundreds of workers from the Dharashiv district

(By Rajesh Undi)
Thane, Aug 5 : Office bearers from various parties from Vasai-Virar, Amravati, Raigad also join BJP “BJP State President Ravindra Chavan welcomes everyone Congress candidate for the Umarga, Lohara assembly elections in Dharashiv district and state Congress secretary Dilip Bhalerao, former working president of the district Congress committee Prakash Ashte joined the Bharatiya Janata Party on Tuesday along with hundreds of supporters. The UBT group from Vasai-Virar, former district head, former corporators and office bearers of BVA, as well as office bearers and workers of various parties in Raigad and Amravati district also joined the Bharatiya Janata Party. BJP



state president Ravindra Chavan welcomed everyone into the party. Senior leader MLA Prakash Bharasakale, MLA Sneha Dube Pandit, State General Secretary MLC Vikrant Patil, Madhavi Naik, former minister and Latur Rural District President Basavaraj Patil, Media Department Head Navnath Ban among others, were present at this program held at the state office. “10 former members of the Zilla Parishad, 11 former president Of Zilaa Parishad Committees, six former

Presidents of Municipal Council, one chairman of market committee, 13 directors of the market committee in Dharashiv district, five former vice presidents of municipal council, five former deputy chairman, two directors of the District Central Co-Operative Bank and 15 municipal councillors also joined the BJP. Former President of Anjangaon Surji Municipal Council, in Amravati District, Devidas Nemade, also joined the BJP along with his colleagues. Many others also joined the party along with Shri

Bapusahab Songire of South Raigad. “On this occasion, State President Shri Chavan said that under the decisive leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, the country and the state are moving forward strongly. All of them have joined the BJP with faith in their leadership and inspired by the development oriented policies of the BJP. Mr. Chavan assured that everyone will be treated with respect in BJP and the party will stand firmly with them to get the work done in their

areas. On this occasion, Shri Basavaraj Patil expressed his confidence that he will ensure 100 percent success for BJP in the upcoming local body elections in Dharashiv district. Those who joined BJP from Congress in Umarga and Lohara talukas include former ZP President Rajendra Jagtap, former Speaker Kisanrao Kamble, Baburao Rathod, Taluka Congress Committee President Subhash Rajole, Youth Congress President Chandrashekhar Pawar, Mahila Sangatta Committee President Sangita Kadganche, former Speaker Panchayat Member Sachin Patil, former Deputy Speaker Dagdu More, Datta Chinchole, former Zilla Parishad member Dr Vikram Jivange, Nagar Panchayat President Premrata Toppe, among others.

Because of Article 370, terrorism increased, and the terror ecosystem was emboldened: LG

Srinagar, Aug 5 (UNI) : Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today said that Article 370 had fueled terrorism and emboldened the terror ecosystem in Jammu and Kashmir. He asserted that the process of dismantling this ecosystem began on August 5, 2019. Lieutenant Governor Sinha was addressing a function after handing over the appointment letters to 158 Next of Kins (NoKs) of Kashmiri civilians killed by Pakistan-backed terrorists. On the occasion, the Lieutenant Governor spoke on the transformative journey of new Jammu Kashmir post abrogation of Article 370. “On 5 August 2019, a new Jammu Kashmir was born. A new Jammu Kashmir that had dreams of a golden future in its eyes. A new Jammu Kashmir, which treated all its citizens as equal and removed discrimination that was prevalent for seven decades,” he said. “People ask me what is new Jammu Kashmir. I want to tell them that the new Jammu Kashmir is one where jobs are not given to terrorists but to the real martyrs of this UT. The new Jammu Kashmir is one

where tears are not shed on the death of terrorists but the tears of common Kashmiris are wiped away. “The new Jammu and Kashmir is one where the terrorist elements sitting in the government system are being cleaned out one by one and the decades-old wounds of terror victim families are being healed. The new Jammu Kashmir is one where common Kashmiris are being embraced and not the separatists. The new Jammu Kashmir is one where children have pens in their hands and not stones,” the Lieutenant Governor said. The Lieutenant Governor called upon every section of the society to rise against terrorism. He said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has drawn a new redline against terrorism and equal punishment will be given to terrorists and their sponsors. “India has made it clear that if terror is state policy, it will be met with a visible and forceful response. Peace is a prerequisite for progress. There is no place for terrorism in a civilized society. Many generations of J&K have

suffered the brunt of terrorism perpetrated by the neighbouring country. Every person has to take a pledge that they will not allow this to happen again,” the Lieutenant Governor said. Sinha also paid his heartfelt tribute to civilian martyrs and saluted the courage and perseverance of families who have suffered from terrorism in Jammu Kashmir. “Wounds that have persisted for decades are now being healed. Today’s landmark event provided a sense of closure to the families who have silently suffered trauma for years. “For more than three decades, the terror state Pakistan is shedding innocent blood through its proxy terrorist outfits. Time did not erase the pain of loss. Invisible scars on their soul can be felt and the mute eyes are witness to many unfulfilled dreams. “The long wait for justice and for healing to begin is over for the terror victim families. They have come out to reveal the role of Pakistani terrorists and terror ecosystem that was operating in J&K,” the Lieutenant Governor said.