

MUSTREAD

12 BJP leaders in touch with Shiv Sena (UBT), claims party leader

**Mumbai:** Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Anand Dubey claimed on Tuesday that some BJP leaders are in touch with the party leaders and they will join his party soon. He said, "More than 12 leaders of Maharashtra BJP are in touch with us due to dissatisfaction with the Mahayuti government. But currently our doors are closed for them." Dubey indicated that people will soon see a rout in BJP and a rebellion in the Mahayuti, he added.

Meghalaya: VPP opts out of all-party panel on railways

**Shillong:** The opposition Voice of the People Party (VPP) has refused to be a part of the all-party committee constituted to examine the issue of railway connectivity in Khasi-Jaintia Hills region of Meghalaya. In a letter addressed to Chief Secretary Donald Philips Wahlang, VPP spokesperson Batskhem Myrboh, acknowledged the government's efforts in forming the committee but emphasised that addressing concerns about unchecked influx must take precedence over railway discussions. "The VPP is of the opinion that before any discussion on the introduction of railway lines in Khasi and Jaintia Hills can take place, it is imperative to first address the genuine concerns of the people regarding unchecked influx into the state," Myrboh said. "In our view, the formation of a committee to discuss and implement effective mechanisms to prevent or check influx, such as the Inner Line Permit, must take precedence over deliberations on railway connectivity," the VPP spokesperson noted.

Shettar rips Ktk Minister Zameer over Waqf remark, says move to Pakistan

**Bengaluru:** In a sharp retort, BJP MP Jagadish Shettar on Tuesday said Karnataka Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan is "talking as if he is in Pakistan" following the latter's remark that the state would not implement the Waqf Act. "Zameer Ahmed seems to be under the illusion that he is in Pakistan. He is a cabinet minister in the Siddaramaiah government and must remember his constitutional responsibilities," Shettar told reporters here. The BJP veteran reminded the Congress Minister that the Waqf Act was passed by the Indian Parliament — with the participation of leaders like Rahul Gandhi — and had also received assent from President Droupadi Murmu.

Arunachal Raj Bhavan celebrates Himachal Diwas

**Itanagar:** In a vibrant celebration reflecting the essence of 'Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat', Himachal Diwas was commemorated at Arunachal Pradesh Raj Bhavan, Itanagar on Tuesday, with State Governor Lt General (Retd) KT Parnaik hosting members of the Himachali community serving in various fields across the State. Extending warm greetings on the occasion, the Governor appreciated the contributions of Himachali people including professionals, officials, and businessmen to the progress of both Arunachal Pradesh and the nation at large. He emphasized the cultural and geographical affinities between the two Himalayan States—such as their proximity to Tibet, rich tribal cultures, artistic heritage, and natural beauty—highlighting the potential for deeper bonds and mutual respect.

Odisha CM approves 2,500 New Home Guard posts

**Bhubaneswar:** Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi on Tuesday approved the creation of 2,500 new Home Guard posts for the state. With the addition of these posts, the total number of Home Guards in the state has increased from 17,675 to 20,175, according to sources from the Chief Minister's Office (CMO). Earlier, the Chief Minister had announced plans to increase the number of posts in the state police force to strengthen law and order across Odisha. He had stated that approximately 12,000 new posts would be created in various branches of the state police department.

False narrative being spread that Centre is against Muslims: Rijiju

Agencies, Kochi

Union Minister Kiren Rijiju on Tuesday said that the Waqf Amendment Act is not targeted towards Muslims and a false narrative has been spread that the Union Government is against the community.

Addressing a press briefing on the Waqf legislation, Rijiju said that land in India is a very "precious" thing and if we lose it then everything is lost and in India there should not be any provision for anyone to "forcefully and unilaterally take away someone's land."

"I have come here for an important and sensitive issue; Land is the most precious thing for us. If you lose your land, you lose everything. That is why we have considered that in India, there should not be any provision for anybody to forcefully and unilaterally take away someone's land. We must make laws to



protect every inch of land for their rightful owner. We brought amendments to this law as earlier, there were unprecedented powers given to Waqf. This is not targeted towards Muslims. There is a narrative that the Central govt is against Muslims. But it's not true. We are here to correct

the mistakes committed in the past and provide justice to people", Rijiju said.

The Union Minister said that India has the largest number of Waqf properties in the world. He said that 600 fishermen living Munambam area in Kerala started paying taxes

Group assaults woman outside mosque in Karnataka, six arrested

**Davangere (Karnataka):** In a shocking case of group violence, a woman was brutally assaulted in full public view outside a mosque in Davangere district — an incident that came to light after a disturbing video of the attack went viral on social media, prompting swift police action and the arrest of six accused.

This was confirmed by the police in a statement issued to media on Tuesday.

The victim, 38-year-old Shabina-banu Kom Jamil Ahmed alias Shamir, was beaten with iron pipes and hammers on April 9 near the Jamia Masjid in Tavarekere village of Channagiri taluk.

The chilling footage showed her being attacked by a group of men while onlookers failed to intervene.

for the land and suddenly Kerala Waqf Board declared the 404 acres of variable land in Munambam as Waqf property.

"India has the largest Waqf properties in the world. In India, Waqf has the largest number of properties...The Munambam case came before us some time ago. I was deeply upset when I learn about this case. The 600 fishermen living there who started paying taxes for the land, and suddenly Kerala Waqf Board declared the 404 acres of variable land in Munambam as Waqf property. This is how the tragedy came before us and people learnt about the injustice done to people. Looking at such pains of people, the Modi Govt decided to bring amendments to Waqf Act. Now, there will not be an arbitrary declaration of any land as Waqf land", Rijiju said.

No confusion on CM face, Nitish will continue as CM: Nishant

**Patna:** Nishant Kumar, son of Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, asserted that Nitish Kumar will be the next CM of Bihar and there was no confusion on the CM face. While battling for his father, Nishant told news persons here on Tuesday that his father will be the next CM of Bihar.

Nishant, the 48-year-old engineer son of Nitish and nonactive in politics, stepping out of the shadows, said that the Union Home Minister Amit Shah has also confirmed that Nitish Kumar will be the CM face of NDA for the upcoming assembly elections this year.

Regarding his father's suspected health conditions, Nishant categorically ruled out, saying that Nitish Kumar was fit and fine, and maintained that Bihar progressed exponentially ever since his father became the Chief Minister in 2005.

Regarding the claims of NDA winning 225 seats, Nishanth hoped for a major victory for the alliance and said that it would win even more than 225 seats.

SC grants bail to ex-IAS officer Anil Tuteja



New Delhi (UNI)

The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted bail to former IAS officer Anil Tuteja in a money laundering case linked to the alleged Chhattisgarh liquor scam, noting the absence

of prior sanction under Section 197 CrPC (now Section 218 BNS) before the cognizance order was passed.

A bench comprising Justice Abhay S. Oka and Justice Ujjal Bhuyan observed that the Chhattisgarh High Court, in an order dated April 2, 2025, had already set aside the Special Court's cognizance order on this very ground, and no challenge to that order had been filed so far. "As of today, there is no order taking cognizance," the Court noted.

The bench highlighted that Tuteja was arrested on April 21, 2024, and had been in custody for nearly a year.

Over 20 accused have been named in the case, with 30+ prosecution witnesses cited.

Joint Indo-US amphibious drill Tiger Triumph 25 concludes

**Visakhapatnam:** The Indo-US bilateral amphibious exercise Tiger Triumph 2025 culminated on a high note on Tuesday, marking a significant stride in joint military interoperability, humanitarian assistance, and regional maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.

Held along the eastern seaboard, the exercise featured a series of complex drills ranging from joint beach landings and mechanised assaults to heliborne operations and inland missions. The Amphibious Brigade of the Indian Army and the United States Marine Corps (USMC) executed seamless landings from the Indian Navy's INS Jalashwa and the US Navy's USS Comstock, symbolising the growing strategic trust and coordination between the two forces.

Lingayat Mahasabha rejects caste survey report

Bengaluru (UNI)

The All India Veerashaiva Lingayat Mahasabha has outrightly rejected the leaked Karnataka caste survey report, claiming that Lingayats constitute nearly 35 per cent of the state's population, three times higher than the reported 11 per cent, and demanded an immediate fresh survey, escalating tensions within the ruling Congress and setting the stage for a volatile cabinet discussion later this week.

The frontal assault was led by former DGP Shankar Bidari, who now heads the Mahasabha. "The numbers are a fabrication. In over 15 districts, Lingayats number more

than 10 lakh each. These figures do not reflect ground realities," Bidari said on Tuesday, calling the current report a "gross misrepresentation" of Karnataka's social structure.

The leaked report, submitted to the Cabinet on April 10 but yet to be released officially, has triggered political shockwaves. It places Lingayat population at 66.3 lakh (11%) with a proposed 8% reservation, while Vokkaligas are pegged at 61.6 lakh (10.3%) with 7% reservation. The Muslim population, reportedly the largest group, is estimated at 75.2 lakh (12.6%), with a controversial proposal to double their reservation from 4% to 8%.

Punjab: Set your house in order or resign: Badal to Mann



Chandigarh (UNI)

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) President Sukhbir Singh Badal on Tuesday said either Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann should set his house in order or he should resign immediately.

Badal, in a social media post, alleged that instead of controlling the law and order situation, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government and Mann were "threatening" opposition.

"We condemn attempts to suppress the opposition's voice by registering false cases against them or subjecting them to repeated police questioning," he wrote.

Badal also cited attack on SAD's Ajnala in-charge Jodh Singh Samra, where one of his petrol pump employees was shot dead and another was injured.

He alleged that these incidents made it clear that the democracy was in danger in Punjab and the CM either should set his house in order or resign immediately.

Investigation begins into threatening email received by Ram Mandir Trust

**Ayodhya (UP):** A case was lodged by the police on Tuesday after a suspicious mail allegedly threatening to attack the Ram temple was received by Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, police sources said here.

Police sources said that the investigation has been intensified after the matter was reported by the Janmabhoomi Trust. "Apart from the security agencies, the ID team of Ram Mandir Trust are also engaged in investigating the mail," they said.

The Trust sources said that a suspicious mail allegedly blew up the Ram Temple was received on the email ID of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Trust on Monday night.

Omar hopes for early J&K Statehood

Srinagar (UNI)

J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday expressed optimism about the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, following his recent meeting with Union Home Minister Amit Shah in Srinagar.

"We feel that the right time for restoration of Statehood has arrived as six months have now passed after the Assembly elections.. Last week Union Home sahiv visited both Srinagar and Jammu. I had a separate meeting with him. It was a good meeting... I am still hoping that Jammu and Kashmir will get the status of a state again very soon," Omar told reporters in told reporters in Pulwama district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Amid criticism over the not allowing a debate on the Waqf Act during the recently concluded Assembly session, Omar attributed it to procedural constraints

After meeting Union Home Minister Amit Shah last week



dural constraints

There has been long of anger at J&K Speaker and ruling National Conference for not allowing a debate on the Waqf (Amendment) Act.

The Chief Minister said that legislators had attempted to raise the is-

Budgam Court issues proclamation against Hizbul Chief Salahuddin in 2002 Murder Case

Srinagar (UNI)

A court in Jammu and Kashmir's Budgam district has issued a proclamation notice against banned Hizbul Mujahideen chief Mohamad Yousuf Shah alias Syed Salahuddin, directing him to appear before it in connection with a 2002 murder case.

The order issued on April 10 directed Salahuddin—who is currently believed to be residing in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK)—to appear before the court within one month from the date of publication of the notice.

Salahuddin, who fled to Pakistan in early nineties, was declared a designated terrorist by the Indian government in October 2020 under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.



Salahuddin, also heads the United Jihad Council, a conglomerate of around 13 Pakistan-based Kashmir centric militant outfits.

According to the order issued by Principal Sessions Judge Budgam, the accused Salahuddin has been evading arrest since 2002, when he

was booked in an FIR registered under Sections 302 (murder) and 120-B (criminal conspiracy) of the Ranbir Penal Code, and the Arms Act, at Police Station Budgam. The court noted that despite repeated attempts by the Jammu and Kashmir Police to trace and arrest Salahuddin, there has been no success.

From the information laid down and statement of the SHO (Station House Officer) Police Station Budgam and Tameeli concerned I am satisfied that above named accused is putting up in Pakistan Occupied Kashmir and there is no chance of his appearance in the Court as he is evading the process of this Court. It is difficult and impossible for the police to arrest him in execution of warrants issued by the Court.

2023 batch IAS officers meet President Murmu

Agencies, New Delhi

A group of IAS officers from the 2023 batch, currently serving as Assistant Secretaries in various Union Ministries and Departments, called on the President of India, Droupadi Murmu, at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre on Tuesday, a release from President's Secretariat said.

Addressing the IAS officers, the President said that they had become IAS officers through extraordinary determination and hard work. This has brought about a transformative change in their personal lives. Now, with even more determination and dedication, they have the opportunity to bring about transformative changes in the lives of countless people.

Their area of service and authority are so vast that they can improve the lives of many fellow citizens in their first posting. She advised them



to make special efforts to uplift the underprivileged. She also advised them to visit the places of posting during their career journey after

some time and see the far-reaching results of their work.

President Murmu said that officers should remember the rights and

duties of civil servants. Public servants' duties are their responsibilities, and their rights are the means to fulfill those duties.

