MUSTREAD

Rabindra Jayanti celebrated across Bengal

Kolkata: Amid heightened tensions between India and Pakistan, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, speaking on the 164th birth anniversary of Rabindranath Tagore, urged the world to rise above narrow personal interests and remain unit-ed. Taking to her official X han-dle, the Chief Minister posted a powerful except from one of the Nobel laureate's most iconic poem: "Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high / Where knowledge is free / Where the world has not been broken up into fragments / By narrow domestic walls." "On the birth anniversary of Kabiguru Rabindranath Tagore, we offer our heartfelt respect and salutations to our beloved Thakur. Not just on the 25th of Boishakh, but every day, we remember him. In our direction, in our language, in our hopes — he is present in everything! The entire world is illuminated by the light of his creations," the Chief Minister

Kidnapped man rescued, 11 nabbed in Manipur

Imphal: A man allegedly kidnapped by suspected militants was rescued and 11 other militants were apprehended by security forces and Manipur Police in various operations in the last 24 hours. The state police said on Friday that three members of a militant outfit were nabbed from Lilong Bridge along NH-102 under Lilong-PS, Thoubal District in connection with kidnapping of an individual from RIMS complex, Lamphel for ransom. The person was also rescued. In another incident, security forces arrested four members of KCP (MFL) from Lamding Khumanthem Leikai under Thoubal-PS, Thoubal District.

Cong holds Tiranga Yatra in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: The Karnataka Congress on Friday organised a Tiranga Yatra in the state capital to express solidarity with the Indian armed forces, with Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar invoking the leadership of for-mer prime minister Indira Gandhi in handling crises. The rally, which began from KR Circle and culminated at Minsk Square near the Chinnaswamy Cricket Stadium, saw participation from a wide cross-section of society, including students, retired defence personnel, and leaders from various political backgrounds. Addressing the gathering, Shivakumar said, "we invited all sections of the society... We want to salute our armed forces and stand in solidarity with them. I'm pleased that within a short period, all sections of people, including retired armed forces, students, and all political parties, are participating here. India is stronger. Like we managed the situation under the leadership of Indira Gandhi, the same will happen now, and India will win," he said.

CM inaugurates Mumbai Metro line 3 phase connecting BKC to Worli

Mumbai: Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday inaugurated the Mumbai's first fully underground Metro corridor, the Aqua Line (Line 3), Project's Phase 2 connecting Bandra-Kurla Complex (BKC) to Acharya Atre Chowk in Worli . Fadnavis, along with Dy CM Shinde, took a ride on the newly inaugurated metro stretch. After the ride, Fadnavis said, this underground metro corridor from Cuffe Parade to Aarey Seepz is India's longest single-line underground metro

Bomb threat received at Rajiv Gandhi **International** Airport, Hyderabad

Hyderabad: A bomb threat was received at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA), Airport Shamshabad, on Friday, triggering heightened security measures. Police sources said the alert came via an email claiming that a bomb had been planted at the airport. In response, police and CISF personnel immediately launched thorough checks, deploying sniffer dogs and bomb disposal squads to ensure the safety of passengers and staff.

SC extends order of stay on defamation case proceedings against Kejriwal, Atishi

The Supreme Court on Friday extended its interim order staying the proceedings of the criminal defamation case against former Delhi Chief Ministers Atishi and Arvind Kejriwal over their remarks on the alleged deletion of voter names from the electoral roll in the national capital

As Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Rajeev Babbar, who filed a complaint, had saught four more weeks to file a reply, a bench of Jus-tices MM Sundresh and Rajesh Bindal adjourned the matter.

Earlier, the apex court had issued notice to Delhi Police and the complainant and sought their responses

In the meanwhile, proceedings before the trial court will remain stayed in the defamation case, the



apex court had said

Arvind Kejriwal and Atishi approached the apex court challenging the Delhi High Court's refusal to quash a criminal defamation case by BJP leader Rajiv Babbar filed over their remarks on the alleged deletion of voter names from the electoral roll

in the national capital in 2018.

Atishi and Kejriwal have challenged the September 2 order of the Delhi High Court.

They had made remarks on the alleged deletion of the names of 30 lakh voters belonging to some com-munities from the electoral rolls in

The High Court had said the imputations were prima facie "defamatory" with an intention of vilifying the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and gaining undue political mileage.

The High Court had dismissed the plea by Atishi, Kejriwal and others challenging the defamation proceedings pending before the trial court. The defamation complaint also named two other AAP leaders, Sushil Kumar Gupta and Manoj Ku-

It had also directed the AAP leaders to attend the trial court hearing scheduled for October 3.

Kejriwal and the other AAP leaders had challenged in the High Court the trial court's decision, which upheld the summons issued by the magistrate court following Babbar's complaint.

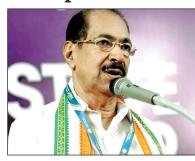
Mumbai's Tata **Memorial Hospital** receives threat email

Mumbai: Tata Memorial Hospital in Parel, Mumbai, which is one of the premier specialist cancer treatment and research centres of the country, on Friday received a threatening mail claiming that an explosive device is planted in hospital premises.

The security of the hospital was increased and a search operation was conducted, but no explosive or suspicious item was found, officials said here. According to initial reports, the threatening email was detected early Friday, triggering an immediate response from law enforcement agencies.

A large contingent of Mumbai Police, including bomb detection and disposal squads, were deployed at the hospital premises but nothing was found. Authorities are currently investigating the source of the email and are working to trace the IP address from

Rahul Gandhi welcomes new KPCC chief, praises K Sudhakaran's leadership



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi extended congratulations to Peravoor MLA Sunny Joseph and the newly appointed KPCC team, wishing them success as they lead the fight for justice and progress in Kerala.

In a message of pride, Gandhi said, "Proud of K. Sudhakaran ji — a fearless warrior whose leadership and service have been pillars of strength for the Congress party and the people of Kerala." The party thanked outgoing Kerala unit chief K. Sudhakaran for his contributions.

Ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections, the Congress high command appointed Peravoor MLA Sunny Joseph as the new president of the Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC), replacing Kannur Lok Sabha MP K. Sudhakaran. Along with the president, there has been a complete change at the top of the state unit of the Congress in the state. Adoor Prakash has been appointed UDF convener in place of M M Hassan.

SC dismisses plea for implementation of three-language formula in TN, Kerala, WB

The Supreme Court on Friday dismissed a PIL seeking implementation of the three-language formula, proposed by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and West Bengal.

A bench headed by Justice JB Pardiwala refused to entertain the plea, saying the court cannot directly compel a state to adopt a policy like the National Education Policy 2020.

The top court in its order stated, "It (court) cannot directly compel a state to adopt a policy like the National Education Policy 2020. The court may, however, intervene if a state's action or inaction related to the National Education Policy vio-



not propose to examine this issue in this writ petition. We believe that the petitioner has nothing to do with the cause he proposes to espouse. Although he may be from the state of Tamil Nadu, yet on his own admission, he is residing in New Delhi. In such circumstances, this petition stands dismissed.'

The plea was filed by BJP lawyer GS Mani, stating the refusal or failure of the state government to implement the National Educational Policv of the Central government or sign an MOU may harm the public interest or infringe on citizens' rights.

The petition sought direction to the state governments to implement the National Education Policy and sign an MOU which involves fundamental public welfare and rights of Education, constitutional rights, or government obligations that are being neglected or violated is very well

Martyr soldier Suraj Singh cremated with full state honours

Etawah (UP): Havildar Suraj Singh Yadav, a soldier from Etawah who was martyred on Tuesday when his vehicle fell into a deep gorge while going towards Titwal in the Karnah sector of Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir, was cremated with full state honours on Friday. Singh's son Vijay Pratap, alias Ajju (8) lit the pyre of his martyred father. Wife Neelam saluted and bid the martyr a final farewell. Army soldiers saluted.

A huge crowd gathered to see the martyr for the last time. Everyone holding the tricolour in their hands was shouting slogans of Bharat Mata Ki Jai and Veer Shaheed Amar Rahe. At 5 am, the body of the martyred soldier was taken for cremation in an army vehicle under the supervision of former Colonel Havat Ullah, an officer of the Army Welfare Board.

Hizb-ul-Mujahideen chief's sons seek Delhi HC directions to restore calls facility

The Delhi High Court has been approached by Syed Ahmad Shakeel and Syed Shahid Yusuf, sons of Syed Salahuddin, the self-styled commander of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, seeking the restoration of their phone call facility in prison.

The two, who were arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in connection with a terror funding case involving hawala transactions, are currently lodged in Delhi Prisons and have challenged the reported restrictions imposed by jail authorities.

They have contested Delhi Jail Rule 631, which restricts communication facilities for individuals accused in terror-related cases in the interest of public safety and order.



The rule allows the Superintendent of Jail to make exceptions on a caseby-case basis with prior approval from the Deputy Inspector General

The lawyer representing them ated that several other accused persons facing trial under terror

charges have also moved the High Court, seeking restoration of their

legedly curtailed by jail officials. The bench of Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyay and Justice Tushar Rao

Gedela noted that no one appeared on behalf of the state or respondents and listed the matter for May 22, along with other pending cases.

National Investigation Agency (NIA) arrested Syed Ahmad Shakeel, son of Syed Salahuddin, the self-styled commander of Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, in connection with a terror funding case involving hawala transactions in Jammu and Kashmir. He was apprehended on August 30, 2018, from his residence in Ram Srinagar, in a joint operation with local police and CRPF.

Congress stages Jai Hind Yatra in Manipur to back armed forces

Imphal: The Congress on Friday staged a 'Jai Hind Yatra' in solidarity with the armed forces who are fight ing Pakistan-based terrorists. State Congress president K Meghachandra said thousands of party workers took gress head office here.

All Congress workers and sup porters carried the Indian flag as phál. Former chief minister O Ibobi Singh said, "It's a fight against terror ists and we all support and encourage our armed forces", he said.

Ibobi further said the fight is not against any community or country

but purely against terrorists.

The party in Manipur had decided to stop Save Constitution campaign and other activities in view of the development in the border areas.

Tejashwi slams Nitish govt for failure to check crime

Senior RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav on Friday slammed the Nitish Kumar government for its failures to check crimes, particularly against women and girls.

After meeting family members of a 12-year-old girl who was gangraped and murdered, the RJD leader told media that the local police had tried to weeken the case and lice had tried to weaken the case and protect the culprits.

It appeared that postmortem report was also manipulated under the influence of ruling party leaders, he

"Two youths were arrested in the case, but they were released on bail as the case against them was weakened by the local police ", RJD leader said, adding that culprits were now



threatening the family members of the victim to withdraw the case.

"If ruling party leaders and police are involved in protecting the accused, how can justice be meted out to family members of the victim", he

Public representatives urged to donate one month's salary to **National Defence Fund**

Hyderabad: In light of the recent military strike on terrorist camps in Pakistan, Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has appealed to all Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and Legislative Council (MLCs) to contribute one month's salary to the National Defence Fund

(NDF) as a gesture of solidarity with the armed forces.

The Chief Minister held discus-sions with Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka regarding

the initiative. Following these consultations, Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka is expected to coordinate with Congress party legislators to formalise the contribution and make an official announcement.

Janardhana Reddy disqualified as MLA

Bengaluru (UNI)

BJP MLA from Gangavathi, Gali Janardhana Reddy, has been disquali-fied from the Karnataka Legislative

Assembly following his conviction in the Obulapuram Mining Company (OMC) illegal mining case.

On May 6, a special CBI court found Reddy and three others guilty in the decade long case involving illegal mining in the decade long case involving illegal. in the decade-long case involving illegal extraction and export of iron ore. The court sentenced them to seven years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on each.

Acting on the conviction, the Karnataka Legislative Assembly Secretariat on Friday issued a notification declaring Reddy disqualified under Article 191(1)(e) of the Constitution of India, read with Section 8 of the Representation of the People Act,

The disqualification takes effect from the date of conviction and will



remain in force for an additional six years from the date of release, unless stayed by a competent court.

Reddy, a former minister in the BS Yediyurappa-led BJP government between 2008 and 2011, had returned to the Assembly in 2023 after a political hiatus, winning from Gangavathi. His disqualification has necessitated a by-election for the con-

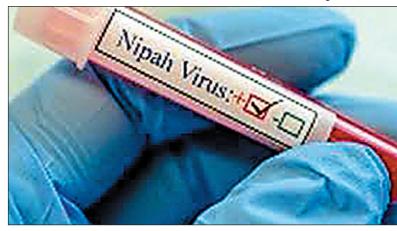
Kerala: Nipah confirmed in Valancherry, health alert issued

Malappuram (UNI) Kerala Health Minister Veena George said that one case of Nipah has been confirmed in Valanchery Municipality of Malappuram district.

A 42-year-old woman living in the second ward of the municipality has been confirmed to have contracted Nipah virus. She is currently undergoing treatment at a hospital in Perinthalmanna. She had sought treatment at a private clinic in Valanchery after suffering from fever on April 25 and later reached the hospital in Perinthalmanna on the advice of a doctor on May one.

The disease was confirmed in a test conducted at the Pune Virology Lab after Nipah was detected in a

test conducted in the state. The minister further said that 21 samples of seven people in the highrisk category, including the patient's close relatives, were tested and all were tested negative.



The minister, who arrived in the district immediately after the Nipah infection was confirmed, called a high-level meeting at the Collectorate in the evening to assess the situation and give necessary instruc-

tions to the officials. The doctor treating the patient also participated in the meeting online.

The minister informed that the State Medical Board has recommended giving the patient mono-

clonal antibody and that it will be given soon after the permission of the Hospital Admission Committee

As per the protocol, the patient has to remain in the hospital where he is being treated but on the relatives' request, the partient could be shifted to Manjeri Medical College

for further examination. A containment zone will be established within a three-kilometre radius of the area where the disease has been confirmed. The District Collector will issue a special order in this regard as per the Public Health Act and the Disaster Management

Restrictions will mainly be imposed in the areas falling under the limits of Valanchery Municipality, Marakara and Edayur Panchayat. As part of the Nipah protocol, 25 committees at various levels have been formed and started functioning.

Delhi HC directs TMC's Saket Gokhale to publish apology within a week

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Friday directed Trinamool Congress leader Saket Gokhale to publish a public apology within a week to former diplomat Lakshmi Puri, as per the court's previous judgment on July 1, 2024.

This decision comes after Lakshmi Puri filed a contempt petition against Gokhale for failing to comply with the court's orders.

Lakshmi Puri filed a defamation suit against Saket Gokhale in 2021 after he published tweets questioning her property purchase in Switzerland, raising concerns about her and her husband, Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri's, assets. The Delhi High Court deemed Gokhale's tweets defamatory, citing Shakespeare's Othello to emphasise the damage inflicted on Puri's reputation.