



**Yogi Adityanath sets 10% contribution to national economy target by 2026**

# Central Chronicle

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**End Ukraine war or face 100 pc tariffs: Trump tells Russia**

## Shubhanshu returns to earth after Axiom-4 mission

San Diego/Bengaluru (UNI)  
Indian astronaut Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla and three other crew members of the Axiom-4 commercial mission safely returned to Earth with a splashdown in the Pacific Ocean off the coast of San Diego, California today.

The return marked the successful completion of India's second human spaceflight and Shukla's pioneering role as the first Indian astronaut to visit the International Space Station (ISS).

The Dragon (Grace) capsule, developed by SpaceX, began its de-orbit burn approximately at 2:07 PM IST over the Pacific Ocean. The critical manoeuvre, lasting just under 18 minutes, allowed the spacecraft to re-enter the Earth's atmosphere. During this time, communication with the capsule was temporarily lost for seven minutes due to the high heat and plasma formation around the vehicle.

At approximately 2:26 PM IST, the capsule's trunk was detached, and the heat shield was oriented to face the re-entry path. The spacecraft endured temperatures nearing 1,600 degrees Celsius as it blazed through the atmosphere.

Parachutes were deployed in two stages to ensure a safe descent — stabilising parachutes were released at 5.7 km altitude approximately at 2:57 PM IST, followed by the main chutes around



2 km above the ocean surface, leading to a gentle splashdown just four minutes later.

Earlier, Shukla and his fellow astronauts had undocked from the ISS to begin their 22.5-hour return journey after completing a highly productive 18-day stay aboard the orbiting lab. During the mission, Shukla completed over 310 orbits around the Earth, covering more than 1.3 crore kilometres, a distance equivalent to 33 times the Earth-Moon journey. The crew also witnessed over 300 sunrises and sunsets, a surreal reminder of the orbital velocity of

the ISS and the wonders of life in low-Earth orbit.

The Axiom-4 mission, operated by US-based Axiom Space in partnership with NASA and SpaceX, is a significant milestone in commercial spaceflight. It also highlights India's growing footprint in global human space exploration as it prepares for its own Gaganyaan mission.

As celebrations begin back home, Shukla's safe return has been hailed as a moment of national pride, marking yet another historic chapter in India's space odyssey.

### PM welcomes Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla after historic ISS mission

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today extended a warm welcome to Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla on his return to Earth following a landmark mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS), hailing it as a defining moment in India's space exploration journey. Group Captain Shukla, an Indian Air Force officer, became the first Indian astronaut to visit the ISS, a milestone that has drawn national pride and international recognition. In a post on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), the Prime Minister wrote: "I join the nation in welcoming Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla as he returns to Earth from his historic mission to Space."

### Shukla's safe return marks key step toward Gaganyaan: Ex-ISRO scientist

Bengaluru: The successful return of Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla from space is more than just a personal triumph, it is a critical step toward India's human spaceflight ambitions, particularly the Gaganyaan mission. Ex-ISRO scientist BR Guruprasad today said that Shukla's role in conducting around 60 scientific experiments, including seven from India, will yield valuable inputs for the country's future in space. "Shukla's mission has been very fruitful, no doubt about it," the expert remarked, adding that the astronaut gained first-hand experience in orbit — travelling to space, living aboard the International Space Station (ISS), conducting scientific work, and returning safely. "Such experience is not only rare but immensely useful."



## CM calls 'Bharat Mart' a Gateway to Global Trade

**Major Step towards Making state a Hub for Logistics and Exports**

Bhopal: On the third day of his visit to Dubai, CM Mohan Yadav held a significant meeting with senior officials of DP World and Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA), where detailed discussions were held regarding the "Bharat Mart" project and its associated logistics possibilities. This meeting is being regarded as a historic initiative to connect India's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) with the global market.

CM Mohan Yadav described Bharat Mart as a "gateway to global trade" and said that this modern trade center will provide direct access for Indian products especially those in food processing, agriculture, and handicrafts to major markets in the Middle East, Africa, and Europe. Bharat Mart is set to become operational in 2026 and will give new direction to the 'Local to Global' policy.

### A Symbol of India-UAE Trade Relations

Bharat Mart is a multi-dimensional international trade center being developed in Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA), Dubai, spread over approximately 2.7 million square feet. The foundation stone for the project was jointly laid by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and the Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, in February 2024. The center is being developed by DP World and will include over 1,500 showrooms, state-of-the-art warehouses, and office facilities.

The project is being built to provide a global platform for Indian

MSMEs, enabling them to export their high-quality products with ease. Bharat Mart will become a strong pillar in enhancing India's share in global trade.

### Uninterrupted Logistics Connectivity

During the meeting, the proposed DP World rail terminal in Madhya Pradesh and the Ujjain-Nagda route were discussed as crucial enablers for seamless supply to Bharat Mart. This logistics connectivity will ensure fast, cost-effective, and smooth transport of goods from India to Dubai, directly benefiting exporters from the state.

### Presence in India

In India, DP World operates six terminals across major ports such as Mumbai, Mundra, Cochin, Chennai, and Visakhapatnam. It also manages cold chain logistics, container freight stations, and export-import services.

### Interest in Developing Dry Ports in Madhya Pradesh

DP World has expressed strong interest in developing Inland Container Depots (ICD), Multimodal Logistics Parks (MMLP), agri-logistics hubs, and dry ports in Madhya Pradesh. This aligns with the state's logistics and export policy and represents a significant step toward long-term infrastructure development through public-private partnership (PPP) models.

(Related News on Page 12)

### MUSTREAD



### Five killed, 11 injured as tempo plunged into gorge in Doda

Jammu: Five people were killed and at least 11 injured when a tempo they were travelling in skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge today in Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir. Police officials said that a tempo ferrying several passengers met with an accident near Ponda area on Doda-Barath road and skidded off the road and fell into a deep gorge. Police, Army along with locals immediately launched a rescue operation and shifted the injured to the hospital.

### 114-yr-old athlete Fauja Singh dies in road accident in Jalandhar



Jalandhar: Well known marathon runner, Fauja Singh, died in a fatal road accident after being struck by an unidentified vehicle here today. The tragedy occurred at Fauja's home village of Beas Pind near Jalandhar in the afternoon. He was aged 114. As per reports, Singh was struck by an unidentified vehicle while crossing the road at around 3:30 pm. He later succumbed to injuries while being treated at a private hospital.

### Maoists kill two village educators in Chhattisgarh



Raipur: Maoist insurgents in Chhattisgarh killed two education volunteers (Shiksha Doots) in separate incidents across Bijapur district and destroyed a telecommunications tower in Narayanpur district, officials confirmed today. The attacks mark a concerning tactical shift as security forces intensify counterinsurgency operations in the region.

### Sensex

BSE..... 82,570.91 (+317.45)  
NSE..... 25,195.80 (+113.50)

### Bullion

Gold..... 99,820 (24 carat 10gm)  
Silver..... 1,15,000 (1kg)  
USD(\$)/INR(Rs)..... 85.99



### Weather

Sunrise	Sunset	Day	Night
5:44	7:09	28.4	23.2

## Rahul appears in defamation case in Lucknow, gets bail

Lucknow (UNI)

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi appeared in a special MP-MLA court in a defamation case here this afternoon. The court granted bail to the Congress MP on two bonds of Rs 20,000 each. After Rahul's surrender, his lawyer moved an application seeking bail for the Congress leader. The court immediately accepted it.

Rahul Gandhi reached the Special MP-MLA court of Special Judicial Magistrate Alok Verma directly at Kaiserbagh from Chaudhury Charan Singh (Amausi) Airport. The court had directed him to appear for his remarks on the Indian Army. Rahul did not appear in the last five hearings after which the court had issued summons for his appearance.



ance. Rahul Gandhi's lawyer Pranshu Agarwal had sought exemption from Rahul's appearance today but the court refused to oblige. As soon as the convoy of vehicles of Rahul Gandhi reached the court gate, the police stopped the car of UP Congress Incharge, Avinash Pandey, Rajya Sabha MP Pramod Tiwari and

MLA Aradhana Mishra. They also had heated arguments with the police. They later walked down to the courtroom. Rahul is also likely to visit the house of astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla. However, there is no official information about this. Earlier, Rahul Gandhi's lawyer Pranshu Agarwal had argued in the court that a special leave petition (SLP) has been filed in the Supreme Court against the summons.

Therefore, exemption should be given from appearance on July 15. At the same time, plaintiff Uday Shankar's lawyer Vivek Tiwari insisted that the trial court proceedings do not stop just by filing SLP. After hearing both the parties, the court had given clear instructions that now Rahul Gandhi will have to appear in court personally on July 15.

## Delhi's St Thomas School, St Stephen's College, Mumbai's BSE get bomb threats

New Delhi: At least two educational institutions in Delhi received bomb threats on Tuesday morning, prompting the police to rush bomb and dog squads and a fire brigade team to the spots. The national capital's St Thomas School and Delhi University's St Stephen's College received the bomb threats through email, the police said.

"Delhi Police Bomb Squad, Dog Squad, Delhi Fire Brigade team, and Special Staff team are on the spot," the police said, adding St Thomas School and St Stephen's College had been evacuated.

"So far, the police have not found anything suspicious at either place. The threat was given through mail," it added.

Meanwhile, in Mumbai, the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) received an email threatening to blow it up. The police were immediately informed. The bomb squad team and police reached the spot, but nothing



suspicious was found. "The email threatened that 4 RDX IED bombs have been placed in the tower building of the Bombay Stock Exchange and would explode at 3 pm," reported ANI.

A case has been registered against an unknown person in Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Marg Police Station under sections 351(1)(b), 353(2), 351(3), 351(4) of BNS, and further investigation has been initiated.

On Monday, three Delhi schools received bomb threats via mail. The schools are located in Chanakyapuri, Rohini, and Dwarka.

## Kerala nurse Nimisha Priya's execution in Yemen postponed

New Delhi (UNI)

The execution of Nimisha Priya, the Kerala nurse who is on a death row in Yemen, has been postponed following efforts by Government of India, official sources said here today.

Nimisha, 37, was to be executed in Yemen tomorrow on charges of murdering her business partner—a Yemeni national—in 2017. Three years later her appeal against the conviction was rejected by the Yemeni Supreme Court.

"In the case of Ms. Nimisha Priya, it has been learnt that the local authorities in Yemen have postponed the execution scheduled for July 16," the sources said.

They said Government of India, which has since the beginning of the case, been rendering all possible assistance in the matter, has made concerted efforts in recent days to seek more time for the family of Nimisha Priya to reach a mutually agreeable solution with the other



party.

"Despite the sensitivities involved, Indian officials have been in regular touch with the local jail authorities and the prosecutor's office, leading to securing this postponement," the sources added.

As part of efforts to save her, her legal counsel is reported to have offered nearly Rs 8.5 crore (1 million US Dollars) as blood money to the

Yemeni national's family for sparing her life, reports said. However, the family had rejected the offer.

Nimisha Priya, from Kerala's Palakkad district, had moved to Yemen in 2011 after completing her nursing training programme. She was arrested for allegedly murdering her business partner, Talal Abdo Mahdi, in 2017. Nimisha who was working as a nurse in Yemen, was allegedly subjected to torture and assault by the Yemeni man she murdered.

The Yemeni national had taken her passport and was not returning it. To retrieve her passport, she allegedly attempted to sedate him. However, an overdose of the sedative reportedly caused his death.

A group 'Save Nimisha Priya International Action Council' had filed a PIL in Supreme Court in India seeking directions to the Central government to take urgent diplomatic steps to secure her release and save her from execution.

## Jaishankar meets Xi, apprises him of recent development in bilateral ties

Beijing/New Delhi (UNI)

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar called on Chinese President Xi Jinping today and apprised him of the recent development of bilateral ties between the two countries, emphasising the importance of the guidance provided by the leadership of both countries in navigating the relationship.

"Called on President Xi Jinping this morning in Beijing along with my fellow SCO foreign ministers," Jaishankar said in his post on X.

"Conveyed the greetings of President Droupa-



di Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Appraised President Xi of the recent development of our bilateral ties. Value the guidance of our leaders in that regard," Jaishankar said.

A meeting will be held today in the format of the SCO whose primary mandate is to combat terrorism, separatism and extremism.

"This is a shared concern and India hopes that

zero tolerance for terrorism will be strongly upheld," Dr Jaishankar said yesterday.

Dr Jaishankar who is in China for participating in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Foreign Ministers' meeting today, wished the Chinese side a successful SCO presidency.

Yesterday, Jaishankar said India and China had made good progress in the past nine months for normalization of bilateral relations because of resolution of the friction along the border and the ability to maintain peace and tranquility there.

## Massive operations launched in Manipur, 86 weapons recovered

Imphal (UNI)

In a major breakthrough in the ongoing efforts to restore peace and public order in Manipur, joint security forces carried out a series of intelligence-based operations in the early hours of Tuesday, resulting in the recovery of a significant cache of arms, ammunition, and warlike materials from multiple districts in the state.

K. Kabib, IGP Intelligence, Manipur Police, briefing the media here today, said that altogether 86 weapons and 974 rounds were recovered.

Kabib added that the meticulously coordinated operations were conducted in the valley districts of Imphal East, Imphal West, Thoubal, Kakching, and Bishnupur, following specific intelligence inputs regarding the concealment of illegal weapons in various locations. Teams comprising the Manipur Police, Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), and the Indian



Army/Assam Rifles executed simultaneous raids across several peripheral and high-risk zones.

The operations led to the recovery of a total of 86 weapons, which included 5 AK series rifles, 3 INSAS rifles, 16 SLRs, 5 .303 rifles, 19 pistols, 2 carbines, 9 other rifles, 16 SBBL/bore action guns, 2 anti-riot guns, 1 JVP, 1 DBBL, 6 bolt-action guns, and 1 two-inch mortar.