



Rahul accuses EC of 'stealing votes in Bihar in name of SIR'

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Trump pulls federal funding for California's High-Speed Rail project

Indore named cleanest city for 8th year in Swachh Survekshan 2024-25

New Delhi (UNI) President Droupadi Murmu conferred the prestigious Swachh Survekshan 2024-25 awards with Indore retaining the title of India's cleanest city for the eighth time in a row. Surat stood second and Navi Mumbai third in the Central government's annual cleanliness survey. Ahmedabad, Bhopal, and Lucknow were crowned as the leading Swachh Shehars (clean cities) in the country. At an event held here today, a total of 43 national awards were presented, including a special recognition for Mahakumbh, acknowledging exceptional urban waste management during the world's largest congregation, which drew an estimated 66 crore people. Union Minister Manohar Lal awarded Prayagraj as Best Ganga Town, and Secunderabad Cantonment was recognized as Best Cantonment Board for its exemplary sanitation work. GVMC Visakhapatnam, Jabalpur, and Gorakhpur received honors as Best 'Saifai Mitra Surakshit Shehars' for ensuring the safety and dignity of sanitation workers. In line with the 'One City, One Award' principle, 34 cities from

- Indore, Surat, Navi Mumbai have entered the premier Super Swachh League
- Ahmedabad, Bhopal, Lucknow cleanest cities under new ranking system



across states and UTs were named Promising Swachh Shehars, recognizing both large and small cities that demonstrated sanitation excellence. Commending the Ministry's focus

on the 3R approach (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle), President Murmu praised the "waste to wealth" memento presented to her and highlighted the importance of circular economy in empowering youth, generating green jobs, and encouraging self-help groups. She noted that cities under 1 lakh population have also set high standards of Swachhata, with impactful efforts like source segregation, school interventions, zero-waste colonies, and sanitation-focused startups. The ceremony also marked the launch of the Swachh City Partnership initiative, where each of the 78 top-performing cities will mentor a low-performing city from their respective states, following the "Each One Clean One" mantra. The Union Minister announced the Accelerated Dumpsite Remediation Program, a one-year initiative beginning August 15, 2025, aimed at fast-tracking legacy waste removal and enhancing scientific waste processing across urban India.

Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva sworn in as Chief Justice of MP High Court

Ceremony held at Raj Bhavan; Governor administers oath



Bhopal: In a dignified and concise ceremony, Governor Mangubhai Patel administered the oath of office to Justice Sanjeev Sachdeva as the 29th Chief Justice of the Madhya Pradesh High Court. The swearing-in ceremony took place on Thursday at the Sandipani Auditorium of the Raj Bhavan. Following the oath, Governor Patel and Deputy Chief Minister Jagdish Deora congratulated Justice Sachdeva with floral bouquets and extended their best wishes for his new role. Chief Secretary Anurag Jain conducted the proceedings and read out the official notification from the President of India appointing Justice Sachdeva as Chief Justice. Justice Sachdeva had arrived in

Bhopal on Wednesday in preparation for the ceremony. The event was attended by several prominent dignitaries, including Sports and Youth Welfare and Cooperation Minister Vishwas Kailash Sarang, Minister of State for Backward Classes and Minority Welfare (Independent Charge) Smt. Krishna Gaur, Leader of the Opposition Umang Singhar, MLA Rameshwar Sharma, former Haryana Governor Captain Singh Solanki, Bhopal Municipal Corporation Chairman Kishan Suryavanshi, Lokayukta Satyendra Kumar Singh, Chief Information Commissioner Vijay Yadav, Human Rights Commission Member Rajeev Tandon, and several senior officials from the state administration and judiciary. Also present were Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor K.C. Gupta, Additional Chief Secretary of General Administration Sanjay Shukla, Principal Secretary (Law) Narendra Pratap Singh, Director General of Police Kailash Makwana, Registrar General of the Madhya Pradesh High Court Dharaminder Singh, Advocate General Prashant Singh, High Court judges, district court and bar association members, officials from various commissions, public representatives, and top bureaucrats.

MUSTREAD Chhattisgarh: Station Master kills self

Raipur: The station master of Balod district's Gudum Railway Station has committed suicide by jumping in front of a goods train, police said today. Railway officials went into a tizzy after the incident. The Raipur Railway Division's officers rushed to Gudum. SL Thakur was on duty at 2000 hrs yesterday and took the extreme step around midnight. The motive is hitherto unclear. Post ISS mission, Shukla in good health Chennai: The health condition of decorated pilot Shubhanshu Shukla, who became the first Indian astronaut to travel to International Space Station and returned after a 18-day stay, was stable and in good health, ISRO said today. After Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla was extracted by SpaceX's recovery teams on July 15, 2025, preliminary health checks were carried out at recovery ship. Initial health assessments indicated that Gaganyatri Shukla was in stable condition with no immediate concerns reported. He was airlifted by helicopter from the recovery ship to the mainland for further medical evaluations and debriefing sessions. One killed, two injured after Goods train hits workers at Rayagada Yard Bhubaneswar: One contractual labourer was killed and two others, including a trolley man, sustained minor injuries after being hit by a goods train at the Rayagada railway yard today morning. According to East Coast Railway (ECOR) sources, the incident occurred when an umbrella attached to a push trolley got entangled with a moving goods wagon. The trolley was positioned between Line No. 4 and 5 and was not on any active track. Tragically, one contractual labourer was struck by the train and died on the spot. Bomb threat to Mumbai-Ahmedabad flight, police register FIR Mumbai: Police registered an FIR in connection with the threatening calls received about a bomb on a Mumbai-Ahmedabad flight and also to blow up Mumbai Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, officials said today.

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Sensex

BSE..... 82,259.24 (-375.24)
NSE..... 25,111.45 (-100.60)

Bullion

Gold..... 99,330 (24 carat 10gm)
Silver..... 1,14,000 (1kg)
USD(\$)/INR(Rs)..... 86.10

Weather

Sunrise

5:44

Sunset

7:09

Day

28.4

Night

23.6

Akash Prime weapon system successfully undergoes trials in Ladakh

New Delhi: India achieved a significant milestone, as Akash Prime, the upgraded variant of Akash Weapon System, successfully engaged and destroyed two aerial high-speed unmanned targets during trials at high altitude in the Ladakh sector yesterday. The weapon system is customised to operate at altitudes above 4500 meters and has latest upgrades, including an indigenously developed radio frequency seeker, a Defence Ministry statement said. Based on the operational feedback from users, various upgrades are made to improve the operational effectiveness, demonstrating the advantage of the ecosystem created for the indigenous weapon system. Army Air Defence and DRDO, in conjunction with Defence PSUs such as Bharat Dynamics Limited and Bharat Electronics Limited and other industry partners, have successfully validated the indigenously designed and developed Akash Prime Weapon System.

AI finds no issues with fuel control systems on Boeing 787 planes

New Delhi: Air India on Wednesday announced the successful completion of precautionary inspections on the locking mechanism of the Fuel Control Switch (FCS) across its fleet of Boeing 787-8 aircraft. According to a communication sent to pilots, no issues were found during the checks. "Over the weekend, our Engineering team initiated precautionary inspections on the locking mechanism of the Fuel Control Switch (FCS) on all our Boeing 787 aircraft. The in-

spections have been completed, and no issues were found," the airline informed its flight crew. The inspections were conducted in compliance with a directive issued by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Monday, July 14. Air India further confirmed that all of its Boeing 787-8 aircraft have also undergone Throttle Control Module (TCM) replacements as part of Boeing's prescribed maintenance schedule. The Fuel Control Switch is an integrated part of the TCM.

IndiGo Delhi-Goa flight diverted to Mumbai after mid-air engine snag, 191 passengers safe

Mumbai: An IndiGo flight from New Delhi to Goa made an emergency landing at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA) yesterday night after facing an engine issue mid-air, Mumbai airport officials said. An IndiGo Airbus A320neo operating flight 6E-6271 from New Delhi, safely landed at 9:53 pm IST. There were 191 people on board.

Massive sinkhole swallows road in capital's busiest area

Bhopal: Amidst heavy rainfall, a major section of road in MP Nagar, one of Bhopal's busiest areas, dramatically collapsed. A gaping sinkhole, approximately 8 feet deep and 10 feet wide and large enough to swallow a car, suddenly appeared on the main thoroughfare. The incident occurred around 1 PM on Thursday. Fortunately, no vehicles or pedestrians were passing by at the exact moment of the collapse, averting what could have been a catastrophic accident. The affected road, which leads from Board Office towards MP Nagar, is a critical artery for the city. The sinkhole immediately caused severe traffic congestion. Upon receiving the alert, MP Nagar SDM L.K. Khare promptly arrived at the scene, where barricades were swiftly erected around the hazard. Political fallout: Congress alleges corruption The sudden road collapse has ignited a political firestorm. State party spokesperson Abhinav Barolia



staged a protest at the site, declaring the sinkhole a "living example of PWD's corruption." He recounted narrowly missing the incident himself, emphasizing the danger posed to commuters. Barolia directly challenged PWD Minister Rakesh Singh, urging him to witness the extent of the corruption firsthand and demand an investiga-

tion into those responsible. SDM Khare explained that the collapse was due to soil erosion from an old drain beneath a former footpath near Jyoti Talkies. The road was handed over to the PWD in 2002 by the Capital Project Administration (CPA), with PWD Division No. 2 responsible for its maintenance ever since.

Another major crime shakes Bihar capital

Patna: In yet another shocking incident in Patna, a group of criminals stormed into Paras Hospital, a prominent private hospital located close to the state police headquarters in Patna, early on Thursday and opened fire at an inmate Chandan Mishra. The attackers, reportedly five in number, fired multiple rounds at Chandan, who was on parole for medical treatment. The assailants fled the scene immediately after the attack, causing panic and chaos in the hospital. A resident of Buxar, Chandan Mishra had several murder cases registered against him. He had been imprisoned in Beur Jail, Patna, since 2024. Following the incident, police from Shastri Nagar police station, Inspector General of Police (Patna Range) Jitendra Rana and Patna SSP Kartikey Sharma reached the scene and began an investigation. The police are examining the CCTV footage from the hospital.

ED raids 14 locations in Mumbai, UP in Chhangur Baba conversion case

Lucknow (UNI) Enforcement Directorate (ED) sleuths launched raids at 14 places across Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra today early morning in connection with Chhangur Baba alias Jalaluddin, the mastermind of religious conversions in Uttar Pradesh. Sources said the raid started from 5 am at 12 locations of Balrampur and 2 places in Mumbai. The ED has taken action in the case of illegal funding of Rs 100 crore, sources added. The searches come following ED's formal investigation against Jamaluddin alias Chhangur Baba, who faces serious allegations related to religious conversions, misuse of foreign funds, and activities that could potentially threaten national security and disturb communal harmony. Senior police officers said UP Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) had many

MP: Two labourers buried in soil

Two labourers died after being buried under debris, as a large amount of soil collapsed upon them while digging work for a sewer line was underway in the Shahdol city of Madhya Pradesh this afternoon. According to the police, the incident took place on Thursday around 1.30 pm in the ward number one of Shahdol city. As per Sohagpur police station Inspector Bhupendra Mani Pandey, a Gujarat-based company is carrying out the sewer project. Sources said the company, named 'Snehal', has been conducting the sewer line laying project in the city for the past some time. Police said that the deceased were identified as Mukesh Baiga (40) and Mahipal Baiga (33), both residents of Kotma village.



clues about the hawala network of Chhangur Baba gang, their suspected bank transactions and foreign funding. The UP ATS is understood to have handed over all documents to the ED, which has decided to raid the locations. On July 5, Chhangur Baba was arrested from Lucknow along with Neetu alias Nasreen.

MP sets sights on textile and fashion investment

CM pitches state to global giant Inditex



Bhopal: On the second day of his visit to Spain, Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav placed a strong emphasis on attracting investment from global textile and fashion leaders. During a pivotal meeting at the Inditex headquarters in Galicia, Spain, Dr. Yadav presented Madhya Pradesh as an ideal hub for green, cost-competitive, and traceable production. The discussion with senior Inditex group officials delved into extensive possibilities for business partnerships and sustainable investment. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav highlighted the Madhya Pradesh government's unwavering commitment to global partnerships in the textile sector. He stated that the presence of a prestigious brand like

Inditex would accelerate economic growth, job creation, and green production within the state. "We are ready to support this partnership at all levels," he affirmed. Madhya Pradesh: An ideal location for the textile sector Dr. Yadav elaborated on why Madhya Pradesh is perfectly positioned for textile industry growth. He noted that the state is one of India's top raw cotton producers, with an annual output of approximately 1.8 million bales, or 300,000 metric tons. The state boasts over 15 textile clusters, with key centers like Indore, Mandsaur, Burhanpur, Ujjain, and Neemuch leading in textile production. (Contd on Page 3)