

MUSTREAD

CIK rounds up 10 suspects in major anti-terror operation across Kashmir

Srinagar: The Counter Intelligence Kashmir (CIK) wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police on Saturday carried out coordinated searches at 10 locations across the Valley, detaining 10 suspects in connection with a terror-related case registered in 2023, officials said. The early morning raids were conducted across four districts — six locations in Ganderbal, two in Budgam, and one each in Srinagar and Pulwama — after obtaining search warrants from the Court of Special Judge designated under the National Investigation Agency (NIA) Act.

Punjab AAP MLA Anmol Gagan Maan resigns from Assembly

Chandigarh: Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) legislator Anmol Gagan Maan has resigned from the Punjab Assembly. The announcement was made through a post on social media platform X (formerly Twitter), where she also declared her exit from active politics. "With a heavy heart, I have decided to quit politics. I request the Speaker to accept my resignation. My best wishes remain with the party. I hope the Punjab government lives up to the people's expectations," she wrote.

Three women drown in Chandrabhaga river in Pandharpur

Pandharpur (Maharashtra): Three women from Jalna district drowned in the Chandrabhaga river in Pandharpur, said Solapur rural police today. The women, identified as residents of Dhawda village in Bhokardan taluka, had arrived in Pandharpur for the darshan of Lord Vitthal and Goddess Rukmini. According to police reports, the victim identified Sangeetabai Sanju Sapkal (42) and Sunitabai Mahadu Sapkal (38)—entered the river near the Pundalik Temple yesterday for a ritual bath. However, they underestimated the depth and flow of the water and subsequently drowned.

Chandan Mishra murder: 5 suspects arrested in Bengal

Kolkata: Five suspected assailants involved in the brazen killing of gangster Chandan Mishra inside a Patna hospital were arrested early Saturday from a posh residential complex in New Town, Kolkata, official sources said. Teams from Patna Police and Bihar's Special Task Force (STF), in coordination with the West Bengal STF, launched intensive search operations in Purulia and the New Town area yesterday. The suspects were apprehended from Shukhobrishti Abasan, a large residential complex in New Town's IT hub, Salt Lake, early this morning.

Eight passengers injured as bus turns turtle

Jammu: At least eight passengers suffered injuries today when a bus they were travelling in turned turtle near Jhajjar Kotli on the Jammu-Srinagar national highway here in the city outskirts. Police said that a bus on its way from Udhampur to Jammu met with an accident and turned turtle when the driver lost control of the vehicle near Jhajjar Kotli. The police team, along with locals, immediately swung into action on receiving information and launched the rescue operation.

Five of family consume poison; four dead in Nalanda district

Rajgir: At least four members of a family died, and another remains in critical condition after they consumed poison in an attempt to commit suicide under the Pawapuri police station area in Nalanda district. Police sources said today that on Friday night, five members of a family living in a rented house near Jal Mandir in the Pawapuri police station area consumed poison in a suicide attempt. All were admitted in critical condition to Bhagwan Mahavir Institute of Medical Sciences (VIMS), where Soni Kumari (38), wife of Dharmendra Kumar, along with their children Deepa (14), Arika (16), and Shivam Kumar (15), died during treatment.

Police foil J&K Cong protest march

Srinagar (UNI) The Congress party's planned march in Srinagar, demanding the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood, was foiled by police today.

A large police contingent barricaded the Congress headquarters on Maulana Azad Road, preventing leaders and workers from proceeding with the march, according to officials.

The march was intended to culminate at the Divisional Commissioner's office, where party leaders planned to submit a memorandum on statehood restoration to be forwarded to the government.

A heavy police deployment was visible in the area, with an armoured vehicle stationed at the entrance of the Congress headquarters, effectively blocking the party's efforts to stage the protest.

However, a large contingent of police barricaded the Congress office in Srinagar and prevented leaders and workers from proceeding

Demanding statehood restoration



and taking out the march. A heavy police deployment was made in the area, with an armoured vehicle stationed at the entrance of the Congress headquarters.

J&K Congress president Tariq Karra and AICC general secretary G.A.

Mir, along with other senior leaders, were leading the protest, which was foiled by the police. Earlier, the J&K Congress president alleged that police stopped its workers and leaders from various districts en route to Srinagar.

"They are not being allowed to reach the Congress headquarters in Srinagar, from where the march was scheduled to start," senior Congress leader Tariq Hameed Karra told reporters. "This is an undemocratic act by the administration and shows they are in a state of panic."

Congress MLA Irfan Hafeez Lone was stopped by police near Lawaypora in Srinagar. He and his workers were not allowed to proceed. "We want to ask the government under which law they stopped us," Lone said.

The Jammu and Kashmir Police, which functions under the administration of the Lieutenant Governor, did not respond to the allegations of halting the protest march.

The Congress has decided to step up the campaign for restoration of statehood in Jammu and Kashmir and they are also planning to stage a sit-in at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on July 22, a day after the Monsoon Session of Parliament begins.

Bakhru sworn in as Chief Justice of Karnataka HC

Bengaluru: Justice Vibh u Bakhru was sworn in today as the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court at a formal ceremony held at the Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru.

Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot administered the oath of office at the Glass House within the Raj Bhavan premises in the presence of dignitaries from the judiciary and state government.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, and Karnataka Legislative Council Chairman Basavaraj Horatti were among those who attended and congratulated the new Chief Justice. Justice Bakhru was also felicitated by the Governor following the ceremony.

Several sitting and former judges of the High Court, including former Acting Chief Justice V Kameshwar Rao, graced the event.

Justice Bakhru, formerly a senior judge of the Delhi High Court, brings with him a distinguished judicial career.

Priyanka accuses BJP of handing over forests to Adani, silencing Oppn in Chhattisgarh

New Delhi (UNI) Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra today hit out at the BJP-led central government, accusing it of handing over the forests of Chhattisgarh to the Adani Group in violation of environmental laws and tribal rights.

In a post on X, Priyanka alleged that the government is blatantly violating the PESA Act and the directives of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), leading to the destruction of forested land in the state.

She further claimed that former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was preparing to raise this issue in the State Assembly. However,



in an apparent attempt to silence him, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted a raid at his residence early Friday morning and arrested his son.

"The BJP government has handed over all of Chhattisgarh's forests to Adani. In blatant violation of the PESA Act and the directives of the NGT, the forests are being destroyed. Former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel was going to raise this issue in the Assembly. To stop him, the ED conducted a raid at his residence early in the morning and arrested his son."

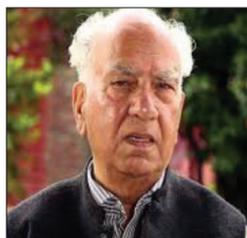
She further added, "over the past 11 years, the country has come to understand very well that these are tactics used to suppress the voice of the people and silence the opposition. But such methods can neither suppress the truth nor intimidate the opposition. Every single Congress worker stands firmly with Baghel."

Political pressure behind Himachal govt's plan to delay forest eviction: Shanta Kumar

Palampur (UNI) Former Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister and Union Minister Shanta Kumar on Saturday said the state government should refrain from moving the Supreme Court against the High Court's directive to end illegal occupation of forest land.

He pointed out that the High Court had only asked the government to remove encroachments, not to cut down apple-laden trees. "To comply with the order, the government has begun felling apple trees on forest land, which has triggered opposition from all quarters," he said.

He said that the government should refrain from be-



coming a mockery by taking this matter to the Supreme Court

Kumar suggested, "The government should fence off the occupied land, install a board declaring that it now belongs to the Forest Department, and allow the trees to stand. This would fulfil the court's order, end the encroachment, and preserve the apple crop."

He said that by taking such action, the order of the High Court will be followed besides illegal occupation will also end and apple crop will also be saved and the forest department will become the owner of the garden.

He alleged that the decision to approach the Supreme Court may be under the influence of powerful individuals who have illegally occupied the forest land, many of them are politicians. "It seems the real intent is to delay action until the current apple crop is harvested," he claimed.

'Ghosts will appear at the booth': Akhilesh hits back at Yogi



Lucknow (UNI) Criticising Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath over his recent controversial remarks on the Tazia procession during Muharram, Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav said that "some ghosts will be exercising their rights at the polling booth," hinting that Muslims would respond through their votes.

Akhilesh posted on his social media handle, "Next time, some ghosts will be exercised at the booth. Nothing more to say."

His response came after Yogi, during a public address in Varanasi, referred to protesters as "ghosts" who only understand force.

Speaking at the programme on Bhagwan Birsa Munda in UP's Varanasi, Yogi Adityanath said, "It's the month of Sawan. Before this, Muharram was observed. We had set a rule to limit the height of Tazia processions to avoid damage to electric wires and tree branches."

CM Yogi added, "No one opposed my statement on social media, yet some people are feeling uneasy about it now."

Mumbai: HC upholds divorce over wife's cruelty, dismisses her appeal

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court has upheld a family court's decision to grant divorce to a Pune-based man, ruling that the wife's repeated refusal to establish physical relations, public humiliation, and allegations of extramarital affairs amounted to cruelty.

A division bench comprising Justice Revati Mohite Dere and Justice Neeta Gokhale dismissed the wife's appeal challenging the family court's decision.

The court observed that the wife's behaviour towards her husband was undeniably cruel and justified the dissolution of the marriage.

The couple had been living separately for over a decade. Various attempts to reconcile them—including counselling, mediation, and interventions by other benches—had failed.

Nitesh Rane challenges Uddhav Thackeray over Hindi policy row

Mumbai (UNI) Amidst the ongoing debate over the imposition of Hindi in Maharashtra, BJP leader and state minister Nitesh Rane launched a sharp attack on Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray, urging him to "identify the real Shakuni Mamma sitting in Matoshree who is encouraging Urdu".

Rane also challenged Thackeray to hold a rally in Naya Nagar, Mira Road — an area where, he claimed, not a single person speaks Marathi.

This came in response to Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray's fiery speech in Mira Road, where he demanded that people living in Maharashtra must know Marathi.

We have no problem with other language speakers, but if you try to



act arrogant, Maharashtra will hit back, he warned. Rane, reacting to Raj Thackeray's remarks, said, instead of threatening to shut down schools, try shutting down madrasas where neither Marathi is taught nor formal education is provided.



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21 Arrested for violence in Goalpara eviction drive

Guwahati: Twenty-one people were arrested for allegedly engaging in violence during an eviction drive in Assam's Goalpara district.

The drive was carried out in the Paikan Reserve Forest, a stretch of land encroached upon by settlers and frequently at the heart of land disputes.

Previous eviction efforts have often met with strong resistance from local residents.

The operation which was carried out on July 17, intended as a routine clearance, escalated into chaos after a group of locals reportedly clashed with security personnel deployed at the site.

Police personnel were reportedly attacked with stones and sticks during an eviction drive in Assam's Goalpara district, prompting the administration to step up its response.

Nitish alerts administration in view of rising Ganga water level

Patna (UNI) Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar today instructed authorities to remain on high alert in view of the rising water level of river Ganga.

Amid concerns over the steadily rising water levels in the Ganga River, Kumar instructed district and disaster management officials to remain on high alert, particularly in the low-lying and vulnerable areas along the riverbanks.

After conducting an extensive on-ground inspection of riverbank areas in and around Patna, Kumar instructed the officials to remain fully prepared to deal with any emergency. He asked them to continuously monitor the situation and initiate immediate actions wherever necessary to prevent loss or damage.

Issuing a series of directives to the officials to ensure preparedness and public safety, Kumar asked the au-



thorities to follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for flood response and relief, ensuring timely assistance and rehabilitation for any affected individuals.

During inspection, the Chief Minister reviewed the situation at Kangan Ghat, JP Ganga Path, and at Nas-

riganj Ghat in Danapur. Kumar closely examined the water levels at key points including LCT Ghat, NIT Ghat, Digha Ghat, and Gandhi Ghat. The authorities informed Kumar that several of these locations have recorded a notable rise in the water level, accompanied by strong currents.

Mamata Banerjee accuses Assam govt of targeting Bengali speakers; CM Sarma hits back

Kolkata (UNI) West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her Assam counterpart Himanta Biswa Sarma today engaged in a sharp exchange of accusations on social media, over the Assam government's alleged targeting of Bengali-speaking people.

West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee accused the BJP-led Assam government of harassing Bengali-speaking residents in the name of rounding up illegal residents, terming it as "discriminatory and unconstitutional."

Her allegations came a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi slammed TMC-ruled West Bengal of promoting infiltrators thereby putting national security under threat.

In a statement shared on her official X handle, Banerjee wrote,



"Bangla, the second most spoken language in the country, is also the second most spoken in Assam. Threatening citizens who wish to live peacefully while respecting all languages and religions—simply for embracing their mother tongue—is both discriminatory and unconstitutional."

She slammed the BJP's "divisive agenda" in Assam, and said, "This divisive agenda of the BJP in Assam has crossed all limits and people of Assam will fight back. I stand with every fearless citizen who is fighting for the dignity of their language and identity, and their democratic rights."

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma responded sharply, dismissing Banerjee's accusations. He asserted that the state's actions were not directed at its own people but were aimed at curbing unchecked illegal immigration from across the border.

In Assam, we are not fighting our own people. We are resolutely opposing the continued, unchecked Muslim infiltration, which has triggered an alarming demographic shift.

Majithia custody extended; Rs 200 Cr Benami assets unearthed in raids

Mohali: The judicial custody of senior Shiromani Akali Dal leader and former Punjab minister Bikram Singh Majithia has been extended till August 2. Majithia was produced before a Mohali court today following the expiry of his earlier remand in a disproportionate assets case.

Meanwhile, a joint SIT and Vigilance team carried out raids at multiple locations linked to Majithia in Delhi and Chandigarh, including a farmhouse in Delhi's Sainik Farms, allegedly a benami property valued at Rs150-200 crore. Technical teams collected digital evidence during the search.

Officials said shell companies tied to Majithia and his family are under scrutiny for alleged laundering of drug money. The crackdown is re-



portedly based on witness statements.

In anticipation of protests by Akali Dal workers, security was tightened around the court complex. Several leaders, including Mohali district SAD chief Parvinder Singh Sohana, were detained as a precaution.