

## MUSTREAD

### Mumbai police uses AI during Ganesh Immersion

**Mumbai:** For the first time, Mumbai Police today used AI technology during Ganpati Visarjan to manage crowds and monitor processions. An AI-based control room is in operation at the police commissioner's office to track real-time movement of prominent Ganpati idols using QR codes, and to detect crowd sizes, route changes or potential disruptions. Drones are being used for surveillance lighting, and making public announcements. Alongside this, around 10,000 CCTV cameras and additional cameras installed along procession routes are helping enhance monitoring.

### Beautification drive in Manipur to welcome PM Modi

**Imphal:** The Manipur government is clearing debris, painting walls anew and repairing roads in Imphal and Churachandpur as Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expected to visit the state on September 13. The historic Kangla, the ancient seat of Manipur power, will be the venue for the visit and the government is making arrangements for about 15,000 visitors. The Manung Kangeibung (polo ground) inside the Kangla has hosted previous visits of prime ministers. The Peace Ground at Churachandpur, where the Prime Minister is expected to land first, will have a smaller sitting capacity of about 9,000 and the visit is significant as the Manipur crisis on May 3, 2024.

### 9-year-old dies in accidental air gun firing

**Bengaluru:** A nine-year-old boy died in Karnataka's Uttara Kan-nada district after his younger brother accidentally fired an air gun kept by a farm caretaker. The tragedy occurred at a farm in Somanahalli Chipagi village near Sirsi, and has led police to book the caretaker, Nitish Gouda, 40, and the farm owner, Raghav Hegade, 62, on charges including murder and violations of the Arms Act. According to police, Kariyappa Basappa Undi, the son of a daily wage earner, was hit at close range by a pellet while playing with his seven-year-old sibling. CCTV footage from the farm reportedly shows Kariyappa falling after the trigger was accidentally pressed.

### Kerala infant mortality lower than US level

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Kerala has scripted history by bringing down its infant mortality rate (IMR) to levels lower than that of the United States, achieving developed-nation standards in child health. According to the latest Sample Registration System (SRS) Statistical Report, the state's IMR has dropped to 5 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2023, compared to India's national average of 25. In contrast, the current IMR in the United States stands at 5.6. With this, Kerala has become the first state in India to record an IMR lower than that of a developed country.

### Son of murder accused shot dead in Pune

**Pune:** Govind Komkar, the son of Ganesh Komkar the prime accused in the murder of Vanraj Andekar, was shot dead in broad daylight today in Pune's Nana Peth area, police said. According to police, unidentified assailants opened fire at Govind, shooting him twice, causing his immediate death. The attack is believed to be a retaliatory strike, linked to the murder of Vanraj Andekar, which took place a year ago. Ganesh Komkar's involvement in that case had been widely reported, and the death of his son is being seen as part of an escalating cycle of violence.

### Two Nigerians detained in Tripura

**Agartala:** Two Nigerian nationals were temporarily detained by locals at Shantir Bazar railway station in South Tripura last night, before being rescued by the police. According to reports, an auto-rickshaw driver from Belonia arrived at Shantir Bazar railway station to transport the two Nigerians to Belonia. This reportedly raised suspicions among residents and nearby auto drivers, who subsequently detained the foreigners. Upon receiving the information, Tripura Police of Shantir Bazar police station officials, including OC Raju Dutta and SI Sameer Biswas, rushed to the scene.

# 10 day ultimatum to re-induct ousted AIADMK leaders

## EPS removes Sengottaiyan from Party posts



Edappadi K Palaniswami  
Chennai (UNI)

All is not well with the NDA in Tamil Nadu as the turmoil in the AIADMK, which is heading the alliance, has deepened. Cracking the whip, AIADMK general secretary and for-



K A Sengottaiyan

mer Chief Minister Edappadi K Palaniswami (EPS), today axed veteran leader and ex-minister KA Sengottaiyan from key party posts a day after he issued an ultimatum to initiate talks for the homecoming of ex-

pelled leaders.

Considering the 10-day ultimatum as a gauntlet thrown at him, challenging his authority and leadership, EPS relieved Sengottaiyan from the posts of AIADMK Organising Secretary and District Secretary Erode (Rural).

A host of party functionaries in Erode district, who are Sengottaiyan loyalists, have also been removed from their posts, apparently to clip his wings for raising the banner of rebellion within the party.

With this the crisis in the AIADMK, has taken a turn for the worse. Reacting to the development, Sengottaiyan said, "This decision has been taken without offering an opportunity to explain my position. Yet, I am happy that I can now continue the efforts at unification of all those who have gone astray and strengthen the AIADMK.

# Op Sindoor shining testimony to unparalleled progress of Indian Armed Forces: IAF Chief

## Chennai (UNI)

Operation Sindoor launched to avenge the Pahalgam terror attack stands as a shining testimony to the unparalleled progress of the Indian Armed Forces, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Amar Preet Singh said today.

Speaking after reviewing the Passing Out Parade at India's premier defence training establishment Officers Training Academy (OTA) here in which 130 Men Officer Cadets and 25 Women Officer Cadets were inducted into the Indian Army, he hailed the coordination of the Indian armed forces in the Op Sindoor.

He said the three defence services, IAF, Indian Navy and the Indian Army, displayed exceptional coordination that resulted in destroying of Pakistan terror camps.



The operation launched in Pakistan and PoK, in the wake of killing of 26 innocent tourists by terrorists at Pahalgam on April 22, showcased the Indian military prowess and

# Mob lynches couple after boy's body found in pond



## Kolkata (UNI)

A couple was today lynched by a mob after a body of a boy was found in a village pond in West Bengal's border district of Nadia, police said.

The mass beating of the couple took place at Nischintapur village early this morning when the body of Class III student Swarnav Biswas (9), who was missing since noon yesterday, was discovered in a pond in the locality. His body wrapped in a plastic cover was found floating.

Angry over the mysterious death,

the local people started gathering near the pond and a group of them started attacking a house of the neighbouring couple.

The irate mob caught Utpal Mondal (45), his wife Soma Mondal (38) and another man and started beating them mercilessly. The beatings reportedly continued until the couple fell unconscious.

Police took the unconscious couple to a local hospital where the doctors declared them dead.

The mob also set fire to a shop of a relative of the couple in the locality. The local people alleged that the couple was involved in human trafficking.

Tension gripped the area as the news spread. Many senior police officers have rushed to the area at Nischintapur village and set up a police picket to restore sanity.

The bodies were sent for post-mortem and an investigation started, police said.

## Kerala BJP chief slams FIR over 'Operation Sindoor' floral carpet

**Thiruvananthapuram:** Kerala BJP President Rajeev Chandrasekhar has strongly condemned the registration of an FIR against youngsters who created a Pookkalam (floral carpet) featuring the words "Operation Sindoor" in front of the Parthasarathy temple at Sasthamkotta, Muthupillakkad in Kollam district.

In a statement, Chandrasekhar described the police action as 'absolutely unacceptable' and demanded the immediate withdrawal of what he termed a 'shameful and seditious FIR.'

Operation Sindoor is our pride. It symbolises the valour and courage of India's armed forces. It was the operation that avenged the killing of 26 innocent tourists who were murdered after being asked their religion," he said.

# One more dies of amoebic meningitis; death toll rises to 4

## Kozhikode (UNI)

A 45-year-old man, Ratheesh from Sulthan Bathyery in Wayanad district, who had been undergoing treatment at Kozhikode Medical College Hospital (KMCH), succumbed to amoebic meningitis.

Total death cases rose to four within a month at KMCH, and 11 more patients have been undergoing treatment for the same disease. Of them, two were in a critical condition as of this morning.

A 10-year-old boy from Malappuram was the most recent person diagnosed with amoebic meningoencephalitis — also known as amoebic meningitis — a rare and often fatal brain infection, on September 4.

Earlier, three others had died of the disease. These included a three-month-old boy, Muhammed Sahil from Omassery, who died on August 30; Anaya, a 9-year-old girl from



Thamarassery, who passed away on August 16; and Ramla, a 52-year-old woman from Cheroor near Kunnammangalam in Malappuram district, who died on August 30.

The first confirmed case was reported on August 14, when microbiology tests conducted at KMCH identified the disease in Anaya, who was brought in with fever and vomiting from Thamarassery Taluk Hospital.

## Ex-BSP MP issues public apology to Mayawati, seeks reinstatement

**Farrukhabad:** Ashok Siddharth, former Member of Parliament of Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), has issued a public apology to BSP chief Mayawati, saying he deeply regrets for any mistake he might have made during his tenure with the party and blamed "misleading influences" for some of his actions.

"I respectfully bow before our respected leader, Mayawati, who has dedicated her entire life to the uplift of Dalits and other marginalized communities in the country," Siddharth said.

"I sincerely apologize for any wrongdoings and humbly request her forgiveness," he added.

Siddharth pledged full allegiance to the party's discipline and leadership, vowing not to misuse any personal or political relationships for undue advantage.

# Injustice, atrocities are at peak in BJP govt: Akhilesh Yadav

## Kannauj (UP) (UNI)

Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav today said that injustice and atrocities are at their peak in the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government.

He said, "The BJP government is insensitive. No one is getting justice in this government. People sitting in the government are doing injustice."

After reaching the house of the late Brijesh Rathore, a contract electricity worker in Punagra village in Kannauj, and paying tribute and condolences, the SP chief said that injustice was done to Brijesh Rathore.

He said, "Brijesh Rathore lost his life due to negligence. This family should get justice. If action was taken against those who are negligent and guilty, the family members would have been satisfied but injustice has been done to this family. Our demand is that action should be taken against the person due to whose negligence Brijesh Rathore lost his life.

The false cases filed against this family should be withdrawn. Cases have been filed against many people in the name of unknown persons to create pressure and for recovery, those should also be withdrawn."

# Rescue operation conclude in Bharmour

## Shimla/Chamba (UNI)

With improved weather conditions, the Chamba district administration has successfully concluded the massive rescue operation for devotees stranded in Bharmour during the Manimahesh Yatra.

Today, 64 individuals were airlifted to Chamba in four sorties by the Indian Air Force's MI-17 helicopter, bringing the total number of rescued pilgrims to 588 over the past two days. Two mortal remains were also shifted to Chamba.

All rescued devotees were provided free transportation via HRTC buses to their respective destinations, with en-route facilities including food and water to ensure their comfort. Earlier, over 1,100 pilgrims had been evacuated through combined air and road operations within 24 hours.

Chief Minister Thakur Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu praised the coordinated efforts of the district administration,



NDRE, SDRF Chamba Police, Home Guards, NGOs, and volunteers who worked tirelessly to accomplish the rescue operation. He also lauded the people of Chamba for embodying the true spirit of "Atithi Devo Bhava" by organizing langars for the stranded pilgrims.

ed pilgrims.

The CM especially commended Revenue Minister Jagat Singh Negi, who camped at Bharmour and reached on foot to oversee the operations, ensuring the safety of every stranded individual.

# Every year more lives are lost in road accidents than Corona in UP

## Lucknow (UNI)

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said that road safety is a serious challenge for the state as more people die in road accidents every year than the number of lives lost in the three years of the COVID period. "Most deaths involve the youth. This is a matter of concern for both the society and the government," he said.

The CM today launched and laid the foundation stone for various services of the Transport Department. He said safety of every person walking on the road is the responsibility of the Transport Department. "If a passenger's life is saved, it creates a positive image of the department, but if a life is lost due to negligence, not only the department gets defamed, but it also causes financial loss," he said.

The Chief Minister directed that regular medical and physical fitness tests of bus drivers should be done

## This is a big challenge says UP CM



compulsorily every three months. Eye examination is especially necessary so that accidents do not occur due to vision defects.

Congratulating the transport department, he said it has to become the charioteer of the vision of developed India.

# GST rate cut on medicines sparks financial stress for pharmacies

## New Delhi (UNI)

The recent decision by the Government to reduce the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on medicines from 12% to 5%, effective from September 22, 2025, has triggered significant financial concerns among pharmacies selling medicines across Delhi.

The Retail Distribution Chemist Alliance, Delhi, representing small and neighbourhood pharmacies, has expressed alarm over the immediate impact of the GST rate revision. Pharmacies claim they are grappling with the burden of accumulated GST input credits and unsold stock procured at the previous higher tax rate, resulting in considerable financial strain.

In a memorandum submitted to

Delhi Chief Minister and Finance Minister Rekha Gupta, the RDCA, Delhi appealed for a transitional arrangement to mitigate the adverse effects on pharmacy businesses. There are over 22,000 pharmacies across the city.

They have requested a grace period of three months to deplete existing inventory purchased at the erstwhile GST rate.

Moreover, the Alliance urged authorities to establish a clear and time-bound mechanism to adjust input tax credits within six months, thereby protecting small-scale pharmacy operators from incurring heavy losses.

"Such relief measures are imperative to ensure uninterrupted medi-

cine supply and safeguard patient care across the city," the memorandum stated.

Sandeep Nangia, President of the RDCA, Delhi elaborated on the key concerns that pharmacists have raised. He pointed out that the reduction in GST rate has led to a large accumulation of unutilised Input Tax Credit (ITC) on medicines stocked earlier, which pharmacies are currently unable to reconcile.

"Small pharmacies, which serve thousands of patients daily, lack the financial resilience to absorb these sudden mismatches, resulting in direct monetary losses," Nangia said.

The financial stress risks may disrupt medicine availability at retail outlets at the cost of the patients.