

**MUSTREAD**

**3 depose in Zubeen Garg death probe**

**Guwahati:** Three of the Assamese residents of Singapore who were with Zubeen Garg on the yacht in Singapore deposed before the Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the CID probing the death of singer Zubeen Garg today. SIT chief MP Gupta also told media that the rest of the Assamese residents in Singapore are also likely to depose before the SIT soon. "Siddhartha Bora, Parikshit Sharma and Jiolongsat Narzary have deposed before the SIT today," Gupta said. He said that while three have come and deposed, another one is likely to depose before the CID today itself.

**6 killed in separate road accidents in Banda, Shahjahanpur**

**Banda/Shahjahanpur:** Six people lost their lives in two separate road accidents in Banda and Shahjahanpur respectively, officials confirmed today. In Banda district, a high-speed tractor-trolley loaded with sand collided head-on with a motorcycle, killing all three riders on the spot. The horrific accident occurred last night near Pachhauwan village approximately 67 kilometers from the district headquarters. The victims, Ram Pratap Yadav (55), his nephew Ramjas Yadav (21), and another relative Suresh Yadav (22), were returning home after attending a feast in a nearby village. All three were riding on a single motorcycle without helmets when the tractor-trolley, coming from the opposite direction, crashed into them.

**3 killed in SUV-motorcycle crash**

**Shahjahanpur (UP):** Three youths were killed after an SUV hit their motorcycle in the Puwaiyan area of the district in Uttar Pradesh, a senior police officer said today. Superintendent of Police (SP) Rajesh Dwivedi said that Ajit, a resident of Chaudhera village had gone to attend a relative's funeral in Rahua village of Banda last night with two others. "While they were returning after the funeral, the SUV hit the motorcycle at the Puwaiyan intersection," he said. He further said that police immediately reached the spot on receiving information and the three injured were taken to the government hospital, where doctors declared Dalpat (56) dead, while the other two were referred to the Government Medical College.

**AIIMS Bhubaneswar lab assistant shot dead**

**Bhubaneswar:** A laboratory assistant posted at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Bhubaneswar was shot dead by unidentified assailants in the early hours today on the outskirts of the city, highlighting the rising crime rate in the state capital. Sudhanshu Khuntia, a laboratory assistant hired on an outsourcing basis by AIIMS Bhubaneswar, was shot at close range by unidentified assailants. One of the bullets pierced his chest and he succumbed to injuries at the spot. He was later declared dead at AIIMS.

**AP: Three members of a family commit suicide**

**Kadapa:** Three members of a family committed suicide by jumping before a running train at Krishnapuram village early today, police said. The deceased went to the railway track. After sometime, they jumped before a running goods train on the railway track number three and they were crushed to death instantly, police added. The police identified the deceased as Sriramulu (35), his wife Shirisha (30) and his son Ritwik (2). The deceased Sriramulu had reportedly borrowed money from private money lenders for business purpose but incurred losses.

**Rohit Patil likely to lead NCP youth wing**

**Mumbai:** A major organizational reshuffle is expected soon in the Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar faction), sources said, indicating that Rohit Patil, son of former Deputy Chief Minister late RR Patil, is likely to be given a key responsibility within the party. The final decision on these changes will be made in the upcoming organizational meeting. According to reports, Rohit Patil may be appointed as the state president of the NCP (Sharad Pawar) Youth Wing.

**Amit Shah inaugurates Rs 4 lakh cr projects in Jaipur**

Jaipur (UNI)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah today attended the ground-breaking ceremony for projects worth around Rs 4 lakh crore. He also inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for projects involving investments of over Rs 9,300 crore.

The Home Minister inaugurated a six-day mega state-level exhibition on various aspects of the newly promulgated three criminal laws and their applications in the prosecution and justice delivery process.

Shah landed at the Sangner International Airport by a special BSF plane around 11:30 am. Soon after, he drove to the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Center (JECC) to inaugurate the exhibition and launch various projects and programmes. Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma,



Acting Chief Justice Sanjeev Prakash Sharma, Deputy Chief Ministers Diya Kumari and Dr. Prem Chand Bairwa, and union Home Secretary Govind Pant were present at the event.

At JECC, he flagged off new vehicles for use by Forensic Science Laboratory teams, as well as scooters

and motorcycles for patrolling under the women's security programme.

He then proceeded to inaugurate the exhibition and was briefed on the various activities and themes on display.

Shah also remotely inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for projects worth Rs 4 lakh crore, based on MoUs signed during the Rising Rajasthan Global Investors Summit held last December.

The Home Minister further disbursed Rs 260 crore through direct bank transfers to beneficiaries of the free school uniform scheme and Rs 364 crore to beneficiaries of the milk subsidy scheme.

He also launched an initiative to provide 150 units of free electricity per month to beneficiaries under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana.

**SC transfers Karur stampede probe to CBI, set up supervisory committee**

New Delhi (UNI)

In a significant order, the Supreme Court today transferred the probe into the tragic Karur stampede during actor Vijay's political party Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) rally on September 27 that claimed 41 lives, to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), citing the need for a "fair and impartial investigation."

"The issues have a bearing on the fundamental rights of citizens, and the incident which has shaken the national conscience deserves a fair investigation. There cannot be any doubt that a fair probe is the citizens' right," observed a Bench comprising Justice J.K. Maheshwari and Justice N.V. Anjaria, while issuing the interim order.

To ensure transparency, the Court constituted a three-member Supervisory Committee headed by former Supreme Court Judge, Justice Ajay Rastogi, to monitor the CBI probe. Justice Rastogi has been directed



to nominate two senior IPS officers (not below the rank of Inspector General) preferably from the Tamil Nadu cadre but not natives of the State to assist in the process.

The apex court came down heavily on the Madras High Court (Chennai Bench) for constituting a Special Investigation Team (SIT) comprising Tamil Nadu Police officers in a petition that merely sought a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for political rallies.

**Barabanki man attempts self-immolation near UP CM House**

**Lucknow:** A 30-year-old youth from Barabanki district attempted to set himself on fire near the Chief Minister's residence in Lucknow today, reportedly to protest against what he claimed was police inaction in a legal case he had filed.

The man, identified as Shivam Kumar Verma, a resident of Ujrawara Purwa village in Barabanki, reached the Vikramaditya Marg trisection, around 150 meters from the CM residence. There, he allegedly poured a flammable liquid on himself and set himself on fire.

Police personnel stationed nearby, including Sub-Inspector Aditya Singh from Bandariyabagh outpost, acted quickly to extinguish the flames and called for medical assistance. Shivam was rushed to Civil Hospital in Lucknow, where doctors stated that he sustained about 35% burns.

**Statue of former HP CM Virbhadr Singh unveiled by Sonia Gandhi in Shimla**

Shimla (UNI)

Amid chants of "Raja Virbhadr Singh Amar Rahe", senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi unveiled the statue of former Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Virbhadr Singh at Daulat Singh Park on Shimla's historic Ridge today. Accompanying her was daughter Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, All India Congress Committee general secretary.

The event drew a massive crowd from across the state, filling the Ridge and reflecting the lasting legacy of the six-time chief minister. The late leader, a scion of the Rampur Bushahr royal family, served in public life for nearly four decades, first assuming office on April 8, 1983. He passed away in 2021 after a prolonged illness.

Also present were Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Deputy



CM Mukesh Agnihotri, Himachal Pradesh Congress president and Virbhadr Singh's wife, Pratibha Singh, along with senior Congress leaders including Sachin Pilot, Deepender Hooda, Rajni Patil, Rajiv Shukla, and Vikramaditya Singh. All state cabinet ministers and several top leaders attended the ceremony.

Addressing the gathering, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra praised Virbhadr Singh's simplicity, accessibility, and unwavering service to the people.

She recalled a conversation during the assembly elections when a local tea vendor described Singh as someone who never let his position make others feel small.

**BJP not in a position to win even one RS seat: Omar**



Srinagar (UNI)

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) cannot win even a single Rajya Sabha seat from Jammu and Kashmir without indulging in "horse trading."

The election for the four Rajya Sabha in Jammu and Kashmir is

scheduled to be held on October 24.

"BJP cannot win three Rajya Sabha seats without doing horse trading. In fact, they cannot even win one seat without it. They need 30 votes to win the fourth seat but have only 28. Not a single MLA apart from those 28 has supported them in the past year," Omar told reporters in Srinagar.

He alleged that if the BJP manages to secure additional votes, it would be through "money power, muscle power, and the power of the agencies."

"Let's see if they try to win by threatening or buying votes — that will prove what people are saying in Bihar is right. Otherwise, as the numbers stand today, BJP is not in a position to win even one seat," he said.

**Youth must connect with India's rich heritage, culture, and history: CM Majhi**

Bhubaneswar (UNI)

Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi today emphasized that India's youth must acquaint themselves with the nation's rich heritage of knowledge, culture, and glorious history.

Majhi said India, despite enduring centuries of foreign invasions, has successfully preserved its ancient wisdom and traditions.

"It is everyone's responsibility to protect and sustain this heritage," he said, adding that safeguarding a nation's ancient wisdom is a shared duty of every civilization.

The Chief Minister was addressing a roundtable discussion on Indian Knowledge Traditions in the Context of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, organized at the Central



Sanskrit University, Puri.

Describing NEP 2020 as the first education policy of the 21st century, Majhi said it has been designed to meet the developmental needs of the nation. The policy, he added, would

play a vital role in instilling constitutional values and patriotism among the students.

"As our ancient sages envisioned education for the greater good, the present system must uphold that ideal," Majhi said.

He urged that the invaluable contributions of Indian thought and research in art, literature, science, law, philosophy, yoga, astronomy, mathematics, medicine, and agriculture should be presented to the younger generation.

The Chief Minister noted that the NEP 2020 proposes comprehensive reforms in governance, administration, and the structure of education to align with Sustainable Development Goal 4 and the aspirational goals of 21st-century learning.

**NCP workers demonstrate against BJP silence on Taliban press-conference incident**

Mumbai (UNI)

The Nationalist Congress Party (Sharad Chandra Pawar) staged a strong protest after women journalists were reportedly denied entry to a press conference in New Delhi held by ministers of the Taliban government, party leaders said.

The demonstration, led by NCP MLA from Mumbra-Kalwa constituency Dr Jitendra Ahwad and District President Manoj Pradhan, saw workers raise slogans and demand a clear response from the ruling party over what they described as an affront to women journalists.

Speaking at the protest, Thane City Women's Wing President Sujata Ghag accused the ruling BJP of remaining silent on the issue and alleged that failure to condemn the in-



cident amounted to encouraging "Taliban tendencies" in India.

Ms Ghag questioned how the party could claim to support women's rights while allowing female reporters—whom she described as "among India's most capable

women"—to be insulted, noting that in Afghanistan, girls are barred from schools and women are not allowed to work.

It may be recalled that the incident generated significant political backlash.

Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra strongly criticized the government, while the Editors Guild of India and the Indian Women Press Corps condemned the exclusion as discriminatory and contrary to the principles of press freedom and gender equality.

The Ministry of External Affairs clarified that India had no involvement in organizing the press conference, stating that invitations were sent by Afghanistan's Consul General in Mumbai to select journalists.

**Voter Roll revision in Jharkhand to begin noon, 2003 list as baseline**

Ranchi (UNI)

After Bihar, Jharkhand is set to begin an intensive voter revision drive aimed at cleansing and updating the state's electoral rolls.

Acting on the Election Commission of India's (ECI) directive, the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) has completed preliminary preparations for the campaign, which will freshly identify all eligible voters across the state.

Chief Electoral Officer K. Ravi Kumar said the pre-revision activity has been completed in accordance with the ECI's June 2024 guidelines.

"Polling booths have been rationalised so that each covers about 1,200 voters within a two-kilometre radius. Mapping work has also been completed using cadastral refer-



ences," he said.

The next phase will involve voter identification and verification, for which the state is awaiting further instructions from the Commission.

The 2003 electoral roll will serve as the baseline for this revision. Officials clarified that anyone whose name appeared in the 2003 list will not be required to re-establish eligibility.

**Massive disaster in North Bengal due to Bhutan's water**

Kolkata (UNI)

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today blamed water released from Bhutan for the recent massive disaster in North Bengal and said Bhutan should compensate for the damage.

Speaking to the media at Nagrakata in Jalpaiguri district, the chief minister said, "This disaster happened because of Bhutan's water. They must compensate for the damage."

During her visit, Banerjee walked through the flood-affected areas, personally surveyed the damage, distributed relief materials, and handed out job appointment letters to one family member of each deceased victim.

After returning to Kolkata last

**Says Mamata Banerjee - demands compensation**



Wednesday following an initial assessment of the situation, the chief minister returned to North Bengal

yesterday.

She toured several affected areas in Alipurduar and then proceeded to Nagrakata today morning. Her first stop was Bamnbari, where she handed out appointment letters for government jobs to seven individuals.

Assuring full support, Banerjee said the state government would compensate all local losses incurred due to the disaster.

Speaking at Bamnbari, the CM reiterated her long-standing demand, "we've been asking for the formation of an Indo-Bhutan River Commission that includes Bengal as a member. This entire incident happened because of the water released

from Bhutan."

She then criticised the central government, saying, "We have to do everything ourselves. Delhi doesn't give a single rupee."

She also revealed that, following pressure from the state, the Centre has scheduled a meeting on October 16 to discuss the issue.

A state official will represent Bengal in the meeting, although the exact agenda remains unclear.

"We've given Rs 5 lakh each to the families of those who died. We also promised a job to one family member, and today, those appointment letters are being handed over," the chief minister said after handing over job letters to one of the family members of the deceased.

**Health Ministry launches CPR awareness week**

**New Delhi:** The Health Ministry today launched Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) awareness week with a mission to train one individual in every household with this life-saving technique.

Underlining the importance of CPR as an emergency procedure to prevent the sudden cardiac arrest cases, Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava said, "the simple act of performing hands-only CPR can sustain blood flow and oxygen to vital organs until professional help arrives increasing survival chances manifold."

She urged mass public participation for the ongoing nationwide awareness drive until October 17 stating that nearly 70 per cent of deaths due to heart failure.