

MUSTREAD

Para teacher shot and seriously injured

Daltonganj (Jharkhand): A para teacher, Jamaluddin Ansari, was seriously injured in a firing incident near his residence in Naudih village under Chhatarpur police station in Palamu district last night, police said. He was initially taken to the Sub-Divisional Hospital, Chhatarpur, and later shifted to Medinirai Medical College and Hospital. Due to the severity of his injuries, he was referred to Ranchi, where he has been admitted to Apollo Hospital.

Militants arrested, brown sugar worth several crores seized

Imphal: In a series of successful counter-insurgency and anti-narcotics operations, Manipur Police and Security Forces arrested several active cadres of proscribed outfits and seized a large quantity of narcotics from different parts of the state yesterday. Acting on specific intelligence inputs, police arrested two active cadres of UNLF (P) from Haobam Marak Lourembam Leikai area under Singjamei Police Station, Imphal West district. From their possession, the police seized one 9mm pistol with magazine, two mobile phones, and a wallet containing an Aadhaar card.

Lawyer injured as bikers shoot him in northeast Delhi

New Delhi: Unidentified men on a motorcycle allegedly opened fire at a lawyer in Dayalpur, which lies in the northeast of the city, while he was heading to court, Delhi Police said today. A police officer said the victim, a 30-year-old man, identified as Shrikant, sustained injuries but remained conscious and drove himself home to the Jauhari Pur area. The lawyer's family informed the police at Karawal Nagar station around 8:30 am, while neighbours rushed him to Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital. "He was admitted to GTB Hospital for treatment. Doctors are currently attending on him, and his condition is reported to be stable," said a senior police officer.

Two arrested with heroin, cash in Shahpur

Dharamshala: The police have registered a case under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act after seizing heroin and cash from two persons in Shahpur area of Kangra district. Kangra district superintendent of police Ashok Rattan told UNI that during a routine check near the Nirankari Satsang Bhawan at Sarnu today, a vehicle (HP 53B 9810) was intercepted. Upon searching, the police recovered 50 grams of chitta (heroin) and Rs 34,000 in cash from two occupants, identified as Ramdas alias Ramu, a resident of Ward No. 10, Bajinath, and Rakesh alias Sonu, a resident of Khalet, Thakurdwara, in Palampur tehsil of Kangra district.

CM Dhama inaugurates 215-foot-high national flag in Khatima

Khatima (Uttarakhand): Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama on Thursday inaugurated the 215-foot-high national flag installed at Kanjabag Tiraha in Khatima. The flag was erected by the Minor Irrigation Department under the Chief Minister's announcement at a cost of Rs 47.42 lakh. He formally inaugurated it by performing rituals, cutting the ribbon, and hoisting the flag. The Chief Minister stated that this national flag is not just a symbol, but a representation of the nation's unity, integrity, and valour.

NGT pulls up authorities over inaction on garbage dumping in Delhi locality

New Delhi: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has pulled up the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) for failing to act on persistent garbage dumping in a vacant plot in the national capital, despite earlier directions from the Tribunal to implement remedial measures. The order was passed by the NGT's Principal Bench, comprising Justice Prakash Shrivastava (Chairperson) and Dr A. Senthil Vel (Expert Member), which noted that despite clear instructions issued in its previous order dated May 21, 2025, "appropriate preventive and remedial measures have not been taken."

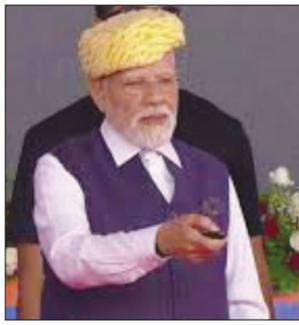
PM lays stone, dedicated to nation Rs 13,400 Cr. worth projects

Kurnool (UNI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today laid the foundation stone, inaugurated, and dedicated to the nation multiple development projects worth around Rs 13,430 crore here in Andhra Pradesh.

The Prime Minister further laid the foundation stone and dedicated to the nation several key railway projects worth over Rs 1,200 crore. The projects include the laying of the foundation stone for the Kothavalasa-Vizianagaram Fourth Railway Line and the Rail Flyover between Pendurthi and Simhachalam North.

The dedication to the nation of the doubling of the Kottavalasa-Bodavara section and the Shimiliuguda-Gorakhpur section will reduce congestion, ensure faster and safer journeys, facilitate smooth move-



ment of passengers and freight, and promote industrial, trade, and tourism growth across the region, while generating employment opportunities for local communities. In the energy sector, the Prime

Minister dedicated to the nation, Srikakulam-Angul Natural Gas Pipeline of GAIL India Limited, built at a total cost of around Rs1,730 crore, spanning around 124 km in Andhra Pradesh and 298 km in Odisha. He also inaugurated an LPG Bottling Plant in Chittoor, with a daily filling capacity of twenty thousand cylinders.

The Prime Minister also inaugurated Indian Oil's 60 TMTPA (Thousand Metric Tonnes per annum) LPG bottling plant at Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh, established at an investment of around Rs 200 crore. The plant will serve over 7.2 lakh customers through 80 distributors across four districts of Andhra Pradesh, two districts of Tamil Nadu, and one district of Karnataka. It will play a critical role in ensuring reliable LPG supply for households and

businesses in the region. To strengthen defence manufacturing, the Prime Minister dedicated the 'Advanced NightVision Products Factory' at Nimmalur, Krishna district, established by Bharat Electronics Limited at an investment of around Rs. 360 crore.

The Prime Minister announced the launch of a transmission project worth approximately Rs 3,000 crore in the power sector, which will further enhance the country's energy capacity. The facility will manufacture advanced electro-optical systems for the Indian Defence Forces, reinforcing self-reliance in defence production and promoting skilled employment in the region.

The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the Transmission System Strengthening at Kurnool-III Pooling Station.

Union Minister Chouhan vows to accelerate Rural Road Development

PMGSY Chief Pushes Northeast Focus, Plans 25-Year Celebration

New Delhi: Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Thursday chaired a high-level review of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), calling for a major push to speed up rural road construction across the nation.

Minister Chouhan emphasized that roads are key to ending extremism, stating that PMGSY has "transformed the face and future of villages." While officials reported smooth progress nationwide, special attention was drawn to the Northeast and areas affected by Left-Wing Extremism (LWE).

To overcome challenges in the



Northeast, the Minister directed officials to organize a special, high-stakes review meeting with Chief Ministers soon. This exclusive ses-

sion will cover not just PMGSY, but a comprehensive basket of rural schemes, including MGNREGA and livelihood missions, to ensure time-bound implementation.

With PMGSY set to complete its 25th anniversary in December 2025, the ministry is planning nationwide celebrations to mark the milestone. Shri Chouhan instructed officials to prepare a detailed report highlighting the scheme's transformative impact on rural India over the last quarter-century.

He concluded by stressing the critical need for high-quality, durable road construction completed strictly on schedule.

I chose jail over political gain: DK Shivakumar



Bengaluru (UNI)

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar today said he chose imprisonment over political gain to remain loyal to the Congress when the coalition government in the state

collapsed. Speaking at the launch of a book authored by KM Raghu at the Federation of Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FKCCI) Hall here, Shivakumar recalled his decision to stay with the party during a political crisis.

"I chose to remain in jail as a party loyalist when the coalition government fell," he said, narrating how he rushed from Kanakapura to Bengaluru to persuade ten MLAs who were on the verge of resigning.

The Dy CM revealed that an official had asked him whether he would prefer becoming Deputy Chief Minister or going to jail.

"I said I would go to jail if I had to. The Congress gave me my identity, my position, and my political life. I could not betray it," he said.

BJP ally TIPRA Motha threatens to withdraw support from Tripura govt

Agartala: Tripura royal scion and TIPRA Motha founder Pradyot Kishore Debbarman has warned that it would withdraw support from the BJP-led government in the state, accusing the Central government of failing to uphold promises made under the Tiprasa Accord signed ahead of the last Lok Sabha elections.

Addressing party workers at two separate events in Teliamura and Karbook, Pradyot expressed frustration over the lack of implementation of the accord and alleged rampant internal corruption within his party.

He also criticized TIPRA leaders for placing personal interests over the welfare of the tribal community.

The unexpected outburst, after nearly two years of political silence on the BJP, has triggered a flurry of reactions across political circles and social media.

Mehbooba Mufti signals conditional support for NC in Rajya Sabha polls

Srinagar: PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti has indicated that her party may support the National Conference (NC) in the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections, provided that the ruling party backs key PDP bills in the upcoming Assembly session.

Speaking to the media in Srinagar, Mufti revealed that NC president Farooq Abdullah had reached out to her for support, but she emphasized the need for the passage of important bills, including the Jammu and Kashmir Land Rights and Regularisation Bill, before any commitment.

I told him that we will talk to our senior leaders. At the same time I said that we brought some bills in the last Assembly session and in the upcoming session.

India marches toward self-reliance in Defence sector: Rajnath Singh

Pune (UNI)

India has made significant strides in reducing its dependency on defense imports and is steadily advancing towards self-reliance in the defense sector, said Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the convocation of Symbiosis Skill and Professional University.

During the ceremony, Singh also inaugurated the School of Defence and Aerospace Technology, which was attended by key dignitaries, including Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Symbiosis Chancellor Dr. S. B. Mujumdar.

Singh highlighted that after gaining independence, India remained heavily reliant on foreign nations for



defense equipment, often remaining in a "comfort zone" with imports.

"However, in recent years, India has made remarkable progress in indigenizing its defense production.

AIC opens daycare for special needs children in Madurai

Chairman cum MD of Agriculture Insurance Company of India Dr. Lavanya inaugurates

Madurai, Tamil Nadu: The Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) on 13th October 2025 inaugurated a dedicated daycare centre for children with autism and intellectual disabilities in Madurai, Tamil Nadu. Dr. Lavanya R Mundayur, CMD AIC, inaugurated the facility and reaffirmed the Company's commitment to inclusive CSR initiatives that empower Children with special needs and their families.

The event featured captivating cultural performances by the children, delighting the attendees.

A felicitation ceremony honoured distinguished guests, including Mr. Sanjay Lalla, Executive Director, AIC Mr. Nagarajan Kaliaperumal, DGM, South Zone, AIC and Mrs. D. Sudha, Regional Manager, Chennai Regional Office, AIC.

Speaking at the inauguration, CMD Dr. Lavanya R Mundayur said, "Every child deserves access to sup-

portive, enabling environments that foster growth, learning, and self-confidence.

With this daycare centre, we are taking a meaningful step in our CSR journey to empower children with autism and intellectual disabilities and to equip their families with resources, hope, and opportunity."

The AIC remains committed to inclusive development through CSR initiatives that create practical, lasting benefits for communities, especially for vulnerable groups such as children with autism and intellectual disabilities.

About Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. - AIC is a leading public sector insurer dedicated to providing risk protection to farmers. In addition to its core insurance offerings, the Company invests in CSR initiatives to support inclusive development, financial literacy, and community welfare.

ECI orders replacement of 78 electoral officers in Bengal over rule violations

Kolkata: The Election Commission of India (ECI) has ordered the immediate replacement of Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) in 78 Assembly constituencies of West Bengal after finding that their appointments violated the Commission's prescribed criteria.

In a formal communication, the ECI has directed the state government to promptly nominate eligible officers who meet the required qualifications for these posts.

As per ECI guidelines, only officers from the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) cadre, serving as Sub-Divisional Magistrates (SDMs), Sub-Divisional Officers (SDOs), or Rural Development Officers, are eligible to be appointed as EROs.

Singapore police to meet Assam SIT

In key step towards justice for Zubeen Garg

Guwahati (UNI)

In a major development in the investigation into the mysterious death of Assam's music legend Zubeen Garg, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma today announced that the Singapore Police authorities will meet the Assam Police Special Investigation Team (SIT) on October 21.

Taking to X, the Chief Minister wrote, "Another step forward towards justice for our beloved Zubeen. The Singapore Police team led by Sri Munna Gupta, ADGP and Head of SIT, on 21st October. Our collective resolve remains — Justice for Zubeen will prevail."

Following massive public outcry, the Assam government constituted a



Special Investigation Team headed by ADGP (CID) Munna Gupta to work in close coordination with the Singapore Police.

The upcoming meeting between the two sides is expected to help share crucial evidence, including forensic reports, autopsy findings, and digital data, which may shed light on what exactly led to the artist's untimely death.

Over the past few weeks, public anger has spilled onto the streets in several parts of Assam, particularly in Baksa district, where a protest seeking justice for Zubeen turned violent.

Police later said the situation had been brought under control, but emotions continue to run high.

258 Naxalites surrender in two days

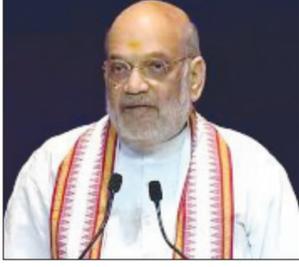
Amit Shah declares Naxalism 'breathing its last'

New Delhi: In a major breakthrough in India's fight against Left Wing Extremism (LWE) or Naxalism, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday announced that 258 Naxalites have surrendered in Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra over the past two days.

Shah described the development as a "landmark day" in the country's battle against Naxalism, asserting that the menace is now "breathing its last."

As per the Home Minister, 170 Naxalites surrendered in Chhattisgarh on Thursday, while 27 had laid down arms in the same state a day earlier. Another 61 cadres surrendered in Maharashtra on Wednesday.

Applauding their decision to return to the mainstream, Shah said the move reflects their renewed faith



in the Constitution of India. "It attests to the fact that Naxalism is breathing its last due to the relentless efforts of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government to end the menace," Shah said in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

Reiterating the Centre's two-pronged policy, Shah said, "Those who want to surrender are welcome, and those who continue to wield the gun will meet the wrath of our forces."

He once again appealed to those still active in the movement to shun violence and join the mainstream, reaffirming the government's commitment to uproot Naxalism completely by March 31, 2026.

In another post, Shah highlighted that Abujmahar and North Bastar in Chhattisgarh—once considered strongholds of Maoist activity—have now been declared free from Naxal terror.

He noted that since the formation of the new government in Chhattisgarh in January 2024, a total of 2,100 Naxalites have surrendered, 1,785 have been arrested, and 477 have been eliminated.