

MUSTREAD

Two killed in separate attacks within hours

Nagpur: Two murders within city limits late last night have jolted Nagpur days ahead of Diwali festival. In one incident, two minors allegedly bludgeoned a man to death over a monetary dispute in the Imambada area, while in another, a 27-year-old man was fatally stabbed in New Kamptee over a longstanding rivalry. According to police, the first incident took place around 11 pm. The deceased, identified as Nilesh alias Bala Ambadare, reportedly had a history of criminal activity, with at least 12 cases registered against him.

Police nab three long-evading absconders in Sopore

Srinagar: J&K Police apprehended three individuals in Sopore sub district of north Kashmir who had been allegedly evading arrest for several years, including two wanted in a 1999 criminal case. A police team from Police Post Bus Stand Sopore apprehended Hilal Ahmad Siraj, and Abdul Rasheed Siraj both residents of Sidiq Colony Sopore who were involved in 1999 FIR registered at Police Station Sopore under section 376, 109 IPC. "The duo had been evading arrest since 2011 and were finally traced and arrested after sustained efforts," police said. In a separate operation, Nazir Ahmad Beigh, of Botingoo Sopore, was apprehended by Police Post Warpora.

SW Monsoon withdraws from India

Chennai: The Northeast Monsoon has set in over Tamil Nadu and in Southern peninsular India today. Met office sources said Southwest monsoon has withdrawn from the entire country today. Simultaneously, the Northeast Monsoon rainfall activity has commenced over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal, Coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, South Interior Karnataka and Kerala-Maharashtra today, in association with an upper air cyclonic circulation over Comorin area and neighbourhood extending upto mid tropospheric levels.

Naveen celebrates 79th birthday with children at SOS village

Bhubaneswar: Former Odisha Chief Minister and BJD President Naveen Patnaik, who turned 79 today, celebrated his birthday at SOS Village in Bhubaneswar by spending time with the children there. Patnaik was warmly welcomed by the children upon his arrival in the morning. He cut a cake prepared by them, personally fed them, and distributed gifts. Blessing the children, Patnaik said he was delighted to celebrate his birthday in their company. The BJD supreme thanked the children for being part of the celebration and wished them to grow into good human beings in the future.

Vijayendra slams Cong govt over ban on seer

Bengaluru: BJP Karnataka president Vijayendra Yediyurappa today condemned the Congress-led state government for what he described as an "authoritarian act" of banning the entry of Adrushya Kadasiddeshwara Swamiji of Kaneri Kadasiddeshwara Mutt into Vijayapura district. In a sharp statement, Vijayendra said the Siddaramaiah government is following a divisive and anti-Hindu policy by targeting saints and mutts under the guise of maintaining law and order. "By branding revered sadhus and seers as peace disruptors, the Congress government is displaying a dictatorial mindset," he alleged.

Odisha CM announces 3 pc DA hike for employees

Bhubaneswar: Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi today announced a 3 percent increase in Dearness Allowance (DA) for state government employees ahead of the Diwali festival. With this revision, the DA will rise from 55 percent to 58 percent, effective retrospectively from July 1, 2025. The enhanced DA will be disbursed with the October salary, according to Chief Minister's Office (CMO) sources.

'Change or Risk irrelevance'

New Delhi (UNI)

In a powerful call for global institutional reform, India's External Affairs Minister, Dr. S Jaishankar, warned that if international organisations don't change, they run the risk of becoming irrelevant and losing their legitimacy. He called upon the United Nations to change into a more democratic, inclusive, participatory, and fully representative organisation that represents the realities of the twenty-first century rather than the old power structures.

The EAM was addressing the gathering on the concluding day of the ongoing United Nations Troop Contributing Countries' (UNTCC) Chiefs Conclave 2025, being organised by the Indian Army, here today.

Coming down harshly on the United Nations, the EAM said that it still reflects the realities of 1945, not of 2025. "Eighty years is a long time by any standards, and during this period the UN membership has actually quadrupled. It must amplify the

Dr. S Jaishankar's strong message to UN



voices of the developing world and reflect the aspirations of a rising Global South. The UN's legitimacy, and I would say the UN's credibility depends on it doing so," he said in his address to the delegates. Adding that there is a strong de-

sire amongst members of the UN for a reformed United Nations, including expansion of the permanent and non-permanent categories of the membership of the Security Council Jaishankar said that the process of reform itself is being used to derail that agenda.

"As a result, historical injustices still continue. India affirms its commitment to assume greater responsibilities in a reformed United Nations and in a reformed multilateralism."

Calling UN Peacekeepers the "true torchbearers of multilateralism," the EAM emphasized that the evolving geopolitical landscape, the increasing complexity of global affairs, and the changing nature of conflicts have all influenced the demands placed on peacekeeping efforts.

He underlined the key issues that the United Nations must take into account while planning peacekeep-

ing operations.

Stressing the importance of consulting both troop-contributing countries and host nations when drafting mission mandates, Jaishankar said, "Peacekeeping can only be effective when the mandates are matched with the resources available. These mandates must be both realistic and clearly defined. The primary responsibility for the protection of civilians continues to rest with the host state."

Highlighting the critical role of innovation, Jaishankar noted that "technology and peacekeeping go hand in hand," describing technology as a "force multiplier" for such missions.

He affirmed India's readiness to serve as a technology demonstrator to boost the operational effectiveness of peacekeeping forces. Addressing the importance of strategic communication, he called for stronger efforts to combat misinformation and disinformation.

Sitharaman assures farmers of support to boost agriculture income in Karnataka

Raichur (UNI)

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman assured the farmers of Karnataka of all assistance to improve their income from agriculture.

While speaking at the inauguration of the Farmers Training and Common Facility Centre at Jawalgera village of Raichur district in Karnataka, Finance Minister said, "Farmers have been provided with soil health cards, fertilizers, and financial assistance through various central government schemes aimed at supporting their livelihoods."

She further highlighted that the government has increased the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for various food grains and pulses.

Earlier, the Finance Minister interacted with interns of the Prime



Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS) at Hampi. The session brought together over 60 interns from across the state, along with representatives

from leading partner companies, including Infosys, MSPL, IBM, TCS, Tata Consumer Products, Bharat Electronics Limited, Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals, HAL, NMDC, and Honeywell Technology Solutions.

She also commended the interns for their dedication and emphasized the importance of adaptability in today's evolving workplace.

"It is pleasing to know the different ways in which this internship is contributing to personality development. Interns are learning core aspects of work and also sharpening other skills such as overcoming barriers to communication," she added.

Sitharaman also visited the historic Virupaksha temple at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hampi.

Mayawati holds major strategy meet in Lucknow



Lucknow (UNI)

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati today responded to allegations from rivals about the use of government machinery and buses to mobilise crowds.

She lashed out at the Samajwadi

Party (SP) and the Congress, calling them "frustrated losers" behaving like "a cat scratching the post."

Mayawati was addressing a crucial meeting in Lucknow today, signalling the start of an aggressive campaign for the 2027 Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections. The meeting, which lasted nearly two hours, was attended by approximately 500 key party office-bearers from across the state. Her nephew and party national coordinator Akash Anand could not attend the meeting due to illness.

She dismissed the SP claims as baseless and politically motivated.

She further defended her recent praise of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on certain administrative issues, calling it an example of the BSP's "political honesty".

Mumbai Court convicts retired cop, wife in 15-yr-old caste abuse case

Mumbai: A special court set up in Mumbai to look after the cases registered under the Atrocity Act convicted a retired police officer and his wife for intentionally insulting the then chairman of the housing society over his caste 15 years ago.

The court accorded a jail term of six months and levied a fine of Rs 5000 on Gajendra Kadam (58) and his wife, Shradha Kadam (54).

After its judgement, the court granted them bail to file an appeal in the higher courts.

The complainant was the chairman of the housing society in 2010, while the accused and his wife were its members.

On February 14, 2010, during a society meeting, the accused persons had allegedly abused the complainant and passed derogatory remarks against his caste.

TMC plans mega rally in Kolkata to oppose special voter list revision

Kolkata (UNI)

With the Election Commission of India expected to soon issue a notification for the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in West Bengal, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) is preparing a strong response.

The party plans to launch a major protest rally in Kolkata following the conclusion of the festive season, which includes Kali Puja, Diwali, and Bhai Phonta (Bhai Dooj).

According to party sources, the rally is likely to be held in the first week of November.

It will be headlined by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and TMC general secretary and Lok Sabha MP Abhishek Banerjee.

TMC leaders have already raised concerns over statements made by senior BJP figures—such

Patnaik reaffirms his commitment to serve Odisha

Bhubaneswar: Biju Janata Dal (BJD) President and Opposition Leader Naveen Patnaik today reaffirmed his commitment to serve Odisha.

Patnaik participated in the Jansampark Padyatra programme, a public outreach walk, organized by the party, at Ganganagar Biju Adarsh Colony under the Bhubaneswar East Assembly segment.

Accompanied by BJD leaders and workers, he walked along several stretches and addressed the gathering, expressing gratitude to the public and party members for their birthday wishes.

Speaking on the occasion, Patnaik said that the BJD has always stood with the people of Odisha and will continue to do so.

Emphasizing that service is the party's guiding principle, he urged the party workers to keep serving people. This year's BJD Jansampark Yatra was launched on October 9 and will continue until November 9.



as Suwendu Adhikari, Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly, and union Minister of State Santanu Thakur—who have speculated about the number of voters likely to be removed from the rolls even before the SIR notification has been issued.

Karnataka HC upholds ED probe against Cong MLA

Bengaluru (UNI)

The Karnataka High Court dismissed a plea challenging the arrest of Congress MLA KC Veerendra Puppy by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), allowing the investigation into illegal online betting and money laundering to continue.

The court ruled that even though six of the seven FIRs cited by the ED have been closed or resulted in acquittals, the survival of a single pending case registered in 2022 is sufficient to sustain the money laundering probe.

Justice M I Arun also cited preliminary findings from the ED that linked Veerendra to large-scale illegal betting operations.

Veerendra Puppy, arrested on

August 23 in Gangtok during a business trip, is accused of running online and offline betting apps through companies linked to him.

The ED has seized assets worth over Rs 150 crore, including gold, luxury cars, and cash, and estimates the turnover of these apps to exceed Rs 2,000 crore.

The court noted that the ED's powers stem from the existence of a predicate offence and emphasized that proceeds of crime can exceed amounts mentioned in FIRs. Evidence such as a Mercedes-Benz worth Rs 75 lakh registered to a firm of the family of a payment gateway director involved in the betting payments further strengthened the agency's case.

Woman loses Rs 7 lakh from bank account without receiving OTP

Lucknow: In a shocking case of cyber fraud, a woman from Indira Nagar, Lucknow, allegedly lost Rs 7 lakh from her bank account without ever receiving an OTP, using an ATM card, or accessing internet banking, police said today.

The victim, Kiran Agarwal, holds an account at union Bank of India's Gomti Nagar branch.

According to her husband, Manoj Agarwal, the incident came to light when Kiran's mobile phone suddenly lost network connectivity on August 22.

Initially, the couple assumed it to be a temporary technical issue. However, when they inserted the SIM into a new phone on August 29, they discovered a series of transaction messages showing large sums being withdrawn from the account.

Ramdass Athawale offers surrendered Naxalites to join his party and contest elections

Nagpur (UNI)

Union Minister of Social Justice, Ramdass Athawale has extended an offer to surrendered Naxalites in Gadchiroli to join his party, the Republican Party of India (A), and contest elections. At a press conference held in Nagpur, Athawale expressed sympathy for the Naxalites' decision to lay down their arms, describing their movement as one that sought justice for ordinary people.

When asked about his message to those who had surrendered, Athawale praised the large-scale surrender of Naxalites, calling it a "praiseworthy step." He welcomed the individuals who had renounced violence and embraced the Indian Constitution, saying, "Naxalites who have laid down arms and embraced the constitution.. We welcome them.



They should come into the mainstream. Now they should enter politics and contest elections. Beginning of a new life should be good."

He further appealed that the remaining Naxalites should also surrender and come into the mainstream.

"All of them should come into the

mainstream, that there is no objection if they join our party (Republican Party of India (A)) and may also contest elections from his party", Athawale said.

Referring to RPI, although there are many factions of the Republican Party, Athawale said only his party is active nationwide. He currently has two MLAs in Nagaland. If he gets MLAs in two more states, his party would receive "national party" status.

The minister said the RPI-A will hold a national convention in Nagpur on March 8 next year.

Regarding the ongoing seat-sharing disagreements within the opposition alliance, Mahagathbandhan, Athawale suggested that the rift could work in favor of the NDA (National Democratic Alliance).

Amal Babu's heart beats in another person

Four organs donated

Thiruvananthapuram (UNI) In a remarkable act of humanity, the family of 25-year-old Amal Babu from Thachottukavu, Malayinkeezhu, who was declared brain-dead after a road accident, donated his heart, liver, and kidneys, saving multiple lives.

Amal's heart was transplanted into a 33-year-old man from Ponnani, Malappuram, who had been undergoing treatment at Lisie Hospital, Ernakulam.

One kidney was donated to a patient at the Government Medical College Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram, while the other kidney and liver were given to patients at KIMS Hospital, Thiruvananthapuram.

Health Minister Veena George expressed her heartfelt gratitude to



Amal's family for their remarkable decision to donate his organs despite their immense grief.

"Their compassion has given the gift of life to others," the minister said, offering condolences to the be-

reaved family.

She also appreciated the swift coordination by the Kerala State Organ and Tissue Transplant Organisation (K-SOTTO), along with the police, district administration, medical teams, ambulance staff, and members of the public.

Following the minister's instructions, K-SOTTO facilitated the speedy transfer of organs to the respective hospitals.

On the Chief Minister's directive, the Home Department's helicopter was used to airlift Amal's heart to Ernakulam, while police ensured seamless road transport for the remaining organs.

Amal, who worked at a private firm in Eenchakkal, was returning home on the night of October 12 when his motorcycle collided with a car near Kundaman Kadavu.

Execution stayed, 'nothing adverse happening'



New Delhi (UNI)

The Supreme Court was today informed that the execution of Indian nurse Nimisha Priya, who is on death row in Yemen for murder, has been stayed, with "nothing adverse happening" at present.

Appearing for the Centre, Attorney General R. Venkataramani told a Bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta that a new mediator has stepped into the matter, indicating progress in ongoing diplomatic efforts.

"What has happened to the exe-

SC was told in Nimisha Priya case

cution?" the Bench inquired. Responding, counsel for the petitioner organisation — Save Nimisha Priya International Action Council — confirmed that the execution remains stayed.

"The only good thing is nothing adverse is happening," remarked the Attorney General, suggesting cautious optimism in the sensitive case.

Granting time for further developments, the Court said, "List in January 2026. It will be open for the parties to apply for early listing if the situation so demands."