

MUSTREAD

Nitish greets journalists on National Press Day

Patna: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Sunday extended his warm greetings to the journalists and media professionals on the occasion of national press day. In his message to the media share on X, Kumar said that the occasion commemorates the establishment of the Press Council of India, the apex body responsible for preserving the freedom of the press and maintaining standards in media. Highlighting the significance of the day, he said that it represents India's long-standing tradition of free, fair and responsible journalism.

Severe cold wave grips Jharkhand

Ranchi: A sharp cold wave continues to sweep across Jharkhand, with chilly north-westerly winds from the hills causing a sudden and significant drop in temperature across several districts. In Ranchi's McCluskieganj, the mercury has plunged to 6°C, marking the lowest temperature of the season so far. Gumla has also recorded a minimum of 6.2°C. Over the last 24 hours, many districts have experienced a fall of nearly 7 degrees, prompting increased concern for vulnerable groups such as the poor, elderly, and children.

Two killed, six injured in bus-truck collision in Telangana

Jangaon: Two people were killed on the spot and six others injured when a Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) bus collided with a sand-laden truck in Jangaon district on Sunday morning. The accident occurred in Nidigonda, Raghunathpalli Mandal. Police said the accident occurred while the bus was traveling from Hanamakonda to Hyderabad. The deceased have been identified as Navjeet Singh, a resident of Hanamakonda, and Om Prakash, a resident of Hyderabad. The injured were taken to a local hospital for treatment. The front portion of the bus was damaged in the collision.

Delhi's AQI stays 'very poor'

New Delhi: National capital's average air quality index (AQI) level continued to reel under the 'very poor' category today with a reading of 386, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) daily bulletin said. According to the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) forecast, the national capital's air quality is likely to be in the 'Very Poor' category up to Sunday, and may deteriorate to 'Severe' between Monday and Tuesday. "The outlook for the subsequent six days: The air quality is likely to be in the Severe to Very Poor category," IITM's air quality early warning system for Delhi said. According to the IITM, the wind speed in the city was calm on Saturday evening.

Massive fire engulfs banquet hall in Gorakhpur

Gorakhpur: One person was hospitalised after a massive fire broke out at a restaurant and banquet hall in Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur in the early hours of Sunday, a fire department official said. Fire tenders were rushed to the spot to douse the flames. Gorakhpur CFO, Santosh Kumar Rai, detailed the incident, stating that four fire tenders reached the Atharva Veda Banquet Hall to control the situation. "On 16 November, early in the morning, Fire Station Golghar received a call reporting a fire at the Atharva Veda Banquet Hall, opposite the Fauj Museum, under the jurisdiction of Thana Ramgarh Tal. I reached the spot along with four fire tenders," he said.

Winter session of Bengal Assembly likely from first week of December

Kolkata: The winter session of the West Bengal Legislative Assembly is likely to begin in the first week of December, after the state government decided to defer the sitting in view of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Earlier, the session was scheduled to start on November 14, and was later tentatively shifted to November 22 but finally it was decided that it is likely to begin in the first week of December.

After poll debacle, Lalu family splits; Rohini's allegations shake RJD

Patna (UNI)

The crushing defeat suffered by the RJD in the Bihar Assembly elections has now exposed deepening internal conflict within Lalu Prasad Yadav's family, casting a shadow over the party's future.

Lalu's daughter Rohini Acharya "quit politics, disowned her family," and returned to Singapore late on Saturday, alleging that she was abused for questioning the reasons behind the party's debacle.

Before leaving Patna, she launched a sharp attack on the RJD's de facto chief Tejashwi Yadav and his trusted aides Sanjay Yadav and Rameez Nemat Khan.

"The entire party is asking why we lost. But people like Sanjay and Rameez are avoiding the questions. If he (Sanjay Yadav) wants to be Chanakya, then it is Chanakya who will have to face the questions," she said.



Later, speaking to the media at Patna Airport, Rohini said, "I no longer have a family. Ask Sanjay Yadav, Rameez, and Tejashwi... They removed me from the family because they don't want to take responsibility for the loss. If I take the names of Sanjay and Rameez, I get thrown out

of the house, insulted, and beaten with slippers..."

Rohini's grievances were not only against Sanjay Yadav and Rameez Nemat Khan, but also against Tejashwi's silence. When she raised questions about Sanjay Yadav's alleged conspiracies, interference in the

NCP suffers setback as assembly president switches allegiance

Beed (UNI)

In a significant political development, Dr Yogesh Kshirsagar has stepped down from his position as the Nationalist Congress Party's Beed assembly constituency president and relinquished his primary membership. His resignation, sent by email to state NCP president Sunil Tatkare on Sunday has generated considerable movement within party circles ahead of the municipal elections.

Dr Kshirsagar stated that he had consistently been excluded from local decision-making processes, adding that despite repeatedly raising this concern with senior leadership, no corrective steps were taken. Having originally joined the NCP in



the presence of Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, he expressed gratitude for the trust placed in him and said he had worked sincerely to promote the party's ideology among grass-

roots workers.

Beed's political environment has undergone notable changes in recent months, with internal divisions becoming evident during candidate selection discussions for the upcoming municipal polls. Dr Kshirsagar reportedly disagreed with fellow office bearers on candidate distribution, and despite intervention from District President Rajeshwar Chavan, no consensus could be reached.

This latest resignation reflects earlier instances of intra-party turbulence, recalling the period when a group including Amar Naikwade and Farooq Patel had left the NCP before returning and expressing support for MLA Dhananjay Munde and former MLA Amar Singh Pandit.

Vijay joins anti-SIR chorus

Blames EC for keeping everyone in the dark about its purpose

Chennai (UNI)

The fledgling Tamilaga Vettir Kazhagam (TVK) of actor-turned-neta Vijay today staged a massive protest demonstration across Tamil Nadu opposing the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

The demonstration, held in front of all district headquarters in the state, saw impressive turnout of TVK cadres, with top office-bearers spearheading the stir.

Leading the agitation in Chennai, TVK General Secretary Bussy Anand and Election Campaign Management Secretary Aadhav Arjuna, carrying placards and TVK cadre holding aloft the party flags, shouted slogans denouncing the SIR exercise by



the poll panel with the Assembly elections round the corner.

They also alleged that there were several shortcomings in the ongoing exercise and demanded transparency in the verification of the electoral rolls.

Alleging that SIR process had turned into a political tool, they claimed that the BLOs were being directed by the ruling party functionaries and were working in tandem with the DMK district-level functionaries.

Charging the DMK government with orchestrating deliberate confusion over SIR, they sought to know what prevented it from raising the issue in the State Assembly and adopt a resolution against it.

Sabarimala temple opens with strict curbs

Thiruvananthapuram: The Sabarimala Ayyappa Temple, one of South India's most revered pilgrimage centres, will open on Sunday at 5 p.m. for the Mandala-Makaravilakku festival season, marking the beginning of the Kartika month.

With lakhs of devotees preparing for the annual pilgrimage, authorities have put in place strict crowd-management measures, digital booking systems, and enhanced security arrangements.

The Mandala puja season begins on November 17, during which the hill shrine will remain open for nearly 18 hours a day to accommodate the heavy influx of devotees. The Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) has said the temple may remain open even beyond the scheduled closing hours on days that witness unusual



ly large crowds.

The Mandala puja will be held on December 27, followed by the Makaravilakku festival on January 14.

Online reservation for Sabarimala

FSL team deployed in Mandi acid attack case

Mandi: The investigation into the brutal acid attack and physical assault on a woman in Sain Mohalla, Mandi, has intensified, with a forensic team deployed to examine the scene and collect critical evidence.

The victim remains in critical condition at AIIMS Bilaspur after sustaining severe acid burns and injuries from a fall.

According to a statement issued by the Mandi Police, information about a quarrel in the neighbourhood was received at Police Post City on Friday evening.

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Acting promptly, a police team reached the scene and recorded the complainant's statement.

Low Pressure Area over Bay persists

Chennai: As the Low Pressure area over the bay persisted, several parts of Tamil Nadu including Delta, Coastal and southern districts are expected to receive heavy rains with the Met office issuing Orange alert for two days, including for Chennai and its adjoining districts.

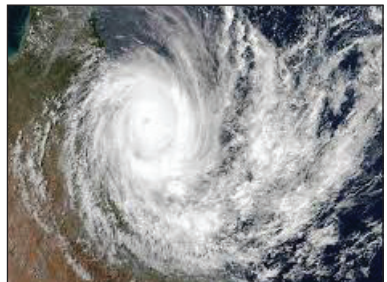
In view of the heavy rains forecast, which would intensify the Northeast monsoon rainfall activity, the Tamil Nadu Revenue and Disaster Management reviewed the situation with the respective District Collectors and directe them to take all precautionary measures including opening of relief camps to house those evacuated from river embankments and low lying areas.

The state government has also opened a round the clock control room for the benefit of the public and the officials are continuously monitoring the rain situation.

In a bulletin, the Met office said yesterday's Low Pressure area over

'darshan' began on November 1, and by December 1, more than 22 lakh devotees had booked their slots. With the online quota fully reserved, the TDB has allowed an additional 20,000 pilgrims per day through spot booking. These spot reservations can be made at designated counters in Pampa, Nilakkal, Erumeli, Vandiperiyar, Chatham, and Chennannur.

In view of the massive turnout expected this year, the Devaswom Board has imposed specific restrictions for devotees. Mobile phones are strictly prohibited at the Sannidhanam, particularly on the "Pathinettam Padi (the sacred 18 steps)" and inside the inner sanctum. Photography and videography inside the temple premises have also been banned.



Southwest Bay of Bengal off Sri Lanka coast persists over the same region today.

The associated cyclonic upper air circulation now extends upto 7.6 km above mean sea level tilting southwest with height. It is likely to move slowly west-northwestward during the next 24 hours.

Meanwhile, Yesterday's cyclonic circulation over Southeast Arabian sea off south Kerala coast at 0.9 km above mean sea level persists.

"Not just Pasi community, she made entire nation proud"

Agencies, Lucknow

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday unveiled a statue of freedom fighter Uda Devi Pasi in Lucknow.

Addressing the event in Lucknow, Rajnath Singh said that not just the Pasi community, but the whole nation is proud of Uda Devi.

Being an MP from Lucknow, Singh added that it is a matter of "great pride and honour" to have been associated with the land of Uda Devi and Baba Saheb Ambedkar as his place of work.

"Uda Devi not only made the Pasi community proud but also the entire nation. Every Indian should feel proud of her. I am truly delighted to be present among you all in Luc-

Rajnath unveils statue of Uda Devi Pasi in Lucknow



know today for this event related to Uda Devi... she, who belongs to the Dalit community and sacrificed her

life in this very region of Lucknow. Lucknow shares a special bond with the prominent Dalit figure, Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar. Bhadant Bodhanand Ji, who was like a teacher to Baba Saheb, and Bhadant Pragnanand Ji, who inspired him, resided in Lucknow.

That is why we all recognise Lucknow as the land of Baba Saheb's affection... It is a matter of great pride and honour for me to have a land associated with Uda Devi and Baba Saheb Ambedkar as my place of work," the Defence Minister added.

The Defence Minister further said that Uda Devi's sacrifice teaches us that true courage lies in standing tall and strong against injustice, dis-

crimination, and slavery.

He said that Uda Devi's life is a great example of the invaluable value of women's empowerment and equality.

"Uda Devi's sacrifice teaches us that true courage lies in standing tall and strong against injustice, discrimination, and slavery. Uda Devi's life is a great example of the invaluable value of women's empowerment and equality. India's women have never lagged behind in protecting their country and religion. Today, the doors of Sainik Schools have been opened to girls. Indian women are strengthening the nation's security circle from the heights of Siachen to the depths of the ocean... During Operation Sindoor, women pilots and soldiers played a crucial

role in counter-terrorism operations in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir... I can also say without hesitation that every daughter can become Uda Devi to protect the honour and pride of India," the Defence Minister added.

Uda Devi Pasi was a heroic Dalit woman freedom fighter who played a pivotal role in the Indian Rebellion of 1857 against the British East India Company.

She served in the women's battalion of Wajid Ali Shah and later under Begum Hazrat Mahal. Uda Devi is known for her bravery during the Battle of Sikandar Bagh in Lucknow on November 16, 1857. During the battle, disguised as a man, she fired upon British soldiers from a tree before being killed.