

# MP employees crumble under SIR pressure

**Madhya Pradesh:** A wave of devastating losses has swept across Madhya Pradesh's administrative ranks, with three tragic deaths reported among ground-level functionaries—including Booth Level Officers (BLOs)—who are toiling under intense pressure to complete the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists. These dedicated personnel, often working day and night against strict time limits and facing the chill of the winter season, are reportedly suffering extreme stress, allegedly worsened by delayed pay and scolding from seniors. The resulting heart attacks and suicide have put a harsh spotlight on the working conditions of government BLOs.

## amidst pay delay and SIR work load in Katni

The state was shocked by the death of Rupendra Singh (38), an Employment Assistant in Katni's

### ► Three tragedies spark outcry



Gopalpur Gram Panchayat, who died by suicide. His family has made grave allegations, claiming that Rupendra had not received his stipend for three months, which, combined with the high work pressure from the SIR process, drove

him to the extreme step. While police noted the deceased's reported struggles with alcohol addiction, the family firmly attributes the tragedy to financial and work-related distress, calling for a thorough investigation.



### Heart attack claims BLO in Shahdol

In Shahdol, Shivkumar Napit (54), a Primary Teacher and BLO, died suddenly from a suspected heart attack while actively conducting a survey. His son publicly



blamed the "continuous work pressure and deadlines" of the SIR campaign for his father's death, noting that the stress exacerbated his existing health issues.

This loss marks what is reportedly the sixth death among SIR employees in MP. Following the in-

cident, the Third Class Employees Association and the Congress party have formally demanded Rs 15 lakh compensation and an extension of the survey deadline to ease the fatal burden on staff.

## Anganwadi worker dies en route to care

The human cost of the workload was tragically evident in Balaghat, where Anita Nageshwar (50), an Anganwadi worker and BLO, passed away while being rushed for urgent medical care. Her husband alleged that the heavy workload and resulting stress from voter revision duty caused her health to deteriorate, ultimately proving fatal. Local MLA Anubha Munjare expressed deep sorrow and criticized the administration, emphasizing that such incidents arising from unreasonable burden and tension are unacceptable and called for the SIR work to be conducted with cooperation and goodwill.

## Brawl erupts outside Jabalpur Police Station: Women wield Lathis



**Jabalpur:** Chaos erupted in front of the Ometi Police Station on Tuesday afternoon when members of two rival groups clashed violently following a protest. The disturbance began

as the Kushwaha Jan Jagriti Vikas Samiti and the Samrat Ashok Kranti Sena were leaving after submitting a memorandum regarding an incident at Manas Bhavan.

### Surprise attack near High Court Crossing:

As the protesters departed, a group of men and women, armed with lathis (sticks), suddenly arrived from the High Court crossing and launched a surprise attack. The assault triggered immediate panic and a stampede. In the ensuing chaos, some protesters managed to snatch the lathis and retaliated against the attackers. Police officers, caught off guard by the sudden violence right outside the station, scrambled to separate the two sides. Several injured individuals were sent to the hospital for medical examination. Authorities confirmed that by late afternoon, neither side had filed a formal complaint, and an investigation into the incident is ongoing.

## Rs 5.13 crore in surcharge waived in first phase of 'Samadhan Yojana'

### ► Power bill relief to consumers

**Jabalpur:** The Madhya Pradesh Poorv Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Company Limited (MPPKVVCL) has reported a significant success in the first phase of Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav's "Samadhan Yojana 2025-26" for electricity bill defaulters.

The scheme, designed to offer relief through substantial rebates on delayed payment surcharges, has so far benefited 63,827 consumers.

**Massive relief and revenue boost:** In its initial run, the plan has resulted in the waiver of Rs 5.13 crore in surcharges for consumers, while simulta-

neously helping the state utility recover Rs 17.73 crore in overdue principal amounts. This consumer-friendly initiative is aimed at easing the burden on customers with over three months of outstanding bills.

The first phase, running until December 31, 2025, offers the highest discounts, ranging from 60% to 100% on the surcharge. Consumers can register and avail the benefit through online portals or at their local electricity offices, with domestic users required to deposit only 10% of the total outstanding amount for registration.

## Minister and MP inaugurate substation

**Damoh:** Rural communities in Damoh are set to experience a significant improvement in power supply following the inauguration of a new 33/11 KV Electrical Substation at Baknenik, under the Madhya Pradesh Poorv Kshetra Vidyut Vitaran Kendra, Patharia (Rural). The substation, a pivotal project under the RDDS Scheme costing ₹354.50 Lakh, was jointly inaugurated by Chief Guest Shri Lekhan Patel, State Minister (Independent Charge), and presided over by Shri Rahul Singh, Member of Parliament (Damoh). They officially commissioned the unit by pressing the panel button in the new control room.

**Enhanced voltage and connectivity for 21 villages:** The new substation houses a 5 MVA power transformer and will operate three 11 KV feeders. Officials confirmed that its construction resolves chronic low-voltage is-



sues and ensures a faster response to line faults across 21 villages, including Belkedi, Mamarkha, Bakenik, and Iwawa. This improvement is achieved through reduced feeder lengths and load segregation.

During their addresses, the Minister and MP informed villagers about key government schemes, including

the Samadhan Yojana, which offers consumers surcharges waivers to clear outstanding bills, and the PM Surya Ghar and Solar Pump Schemes. The dignitaries also honored local resident Shri Shankar Patel with a shawl and shreephal (coconut) for donating the land required for the crucial power facility.

## Girl student pursuing diploma course in Indore dies of suicide

**Indore:** A 19-year-old student living in Hiranagar died of suicide on Monday evening. When she didn't arrive at her cafe, her friends called her on her mobile phone, but when she didn't answer the call, they went to her room. The situation there appeared suspicious and the police were informed.

According to TI Sushil Patel, Priyanshi (19), daughter of Dharmendra Rao, died of suicide by hanging herself. Police have seized her mobile phone, but no suicide note was found in the room. Priyanshi ran a cafe near her home with two friends, Naveen and another. She was originally from Barotha village in Dewas district. Police say she likely took this step due to depression.

## Illegal mining scourge near Kanha

### ► Mandla Rivers Exploited



**Mandla:** Rampant illegal sand mining is devastating the natural environment near Mandla, with contractors openly flouting mining regulations. Despite a sanctioned sand mine in Baheri operating on forest

and revenue land, sand mafia are reportedly using this permit as a cover to conduct extensive illicit extraction from the nearby Kanha area, located at the confluence of the Banjar and Kanhar rivers.

### Forest land and tourist routes targeted

Sources indicate that unauthorized mining is aggressively taking place in the Kanha region, where no mine is approved. Tractors illegally transport this sand to various dumpsites before loading dumpers and heavy vehicles under the guise of the Baheri mine permit. The situation is exacerbated by the fact that the actual mining at Baheri is occurring primarily on protected forest land, not the approved revenue area.

Compounding the problem, overloaded dumpers (carrying 40-45 tons of sand) are reportedly speeding along roads used by tourists visiting the nearby Kanha National Park. Critics accuse both the Forest Department and the District Administration of negligence, allowing contractors to openly violate mining policy for days on end.



**Satna:** Madhya Pradesh inaugurated a significant new chapter in air travel with the official launch of the PM Shri Heli Tourism Service, an innovative initiative championed by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav to boost air connectivity and tourism.

## DEO issues notice over Olympiad meal mismanagement

**Satna:** The District Education Officer (DEO) has issued a show-cause notice to the in-charge Principal of Government Venkat School No. 2 following reports that students participating in the recent Olympiad competition were given packed snacks instead of the mandated meal.

### Failure to provide mandated meal

The competition, organized at the Jan Shiksha Kendra level for students in Classes 2 to 8, was held on November 15 under clear directives from the State Education Centre, Bhopal. These instructions explicitly re-

### Gang leader of marriage-fraud racket arrested

**Ujjain:** The Ujjain district police have arrested the woman gang leader involved in marriage-related fraud, who carried a reward of five thousand rupees. She was arrested on Tuesday from Jaipur (Rajasthan). According to Bhatpachlana police station sources, on August 22, 2025, Ratanlal Sen, a resident of Kharoskala, arranged the marriage of his son, Jiten Sen, through Vishnu Bai Dhakad, who showed them a girl from Nagda and finalized the marriage. In this process, Vishnu Bai, along with her husband Ramchandra, Pooja and her husband Vinod, Asha Bai, and Jassu, conspired together and fraudulently took Rs 1.5 lakh from him. Based on Ratanlal Sen's complaint, the police registered a case and began an investigation. During the raids, the police arrested accused Ramchandra, Jassu, Vishnu Bai, and Pooja alias Neha, and seized Rs 40,000 from their possession. The remaining amount was found to be with the absconding accused Asha Bai and Vinod. The police had announced a reward of Rs 5,000, who had been absconding since the incident.

## Violence erupts after dispute at SC-ST-OBC conference in Jabalpur

**Jabalpur:** The dispute that broke out during the SC-ST-OBC conference held in Jabalpur on Sunday has now intensified into violent clashes. A new video showing Bajrang Dal and Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) workers being brutally beaten and chased on the streets is rapidly circulating on social media. In the footage, police officers attempt to intervene, but their efforts appear ineffective as the mob continues its

### Historic inaugural flight

The first flight on the Jabalpur-Maihar-Chitrakoot-Maihar-Jabalpur route was warmly welcomed on Monday morning as it landed in Maihar. State Minister for Urban Development and Housing, Smt. Pratima Bagri, Satna MP Ganesh Singh, and local dignitaries gave the crew and passengers a traditional and enthusiastic reception.

### Boosting spiritual tourism and economy

Minister Bagri praised the move, noting that connecting spiritual and pilgrimage sites via air will give the tourism sector a new direction and significantly boost economic development and employment in the Satna and Maihar districts. Satna MP Ganesh Singh called it an "historic day," highlighting the service's role in making sacred sites like Maihar and Chitrakoot accessible via air. The service will operate twice a week—on Mondays and Tuesdays—with the Tourism Board planning packages that include priority darshan and local transport for passengers.

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assault. Hindu organizations have condemned the incident, calling it a clear case of "mob lynching."

### What triggered the incident?

During the conference at Manas Bhavan, some individuals were selling religious books. According to VHP and Bajrang Dal workers, these books allegedly contained offensive and derogatory remarks about Hindu deities. This accusation led to a heated confrontation between the conference organizers and the Hindu organization members.

The argument quickly escalated into a physical fight inside the venue. As tensions spilled outside, a large crowd gathered on the street and reportedly attacked the Hindu workers. Multiple videos from the scene have emerged, showing activists being beaten by the mob. Hindu organizations have termed the attack "premeditated" and demanded strict legal action against those involved. Police have detained several individuals for questioning, but the key accused are still absconding. Authorities say efforts are underway to identify and apprehend all those responsible.