

Central Chronicle

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Suspend EC and order probe into poll irregularities: Uddhav Thackeray

Think tanks convene discussion in US ahead of February's AI Summit in India



Our Dignity is respected

This scheme values our labour, strengthens our villages, and gives us confidence in a better future.

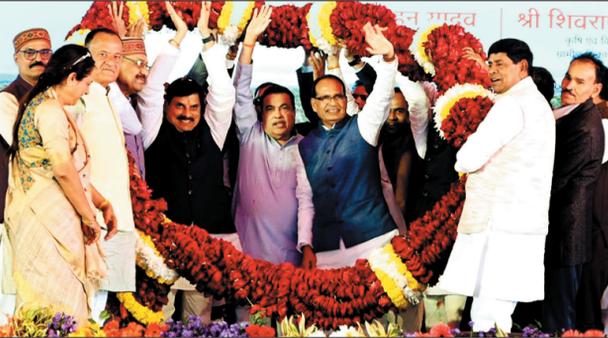


Viksit Bharat - Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin): VB - G RAM G
(विकसित भारत - जी राम जी) Act, 2025



Foundation stone laid for 8 NH projects worth Rs 4,400 crore

Launch of development initiatives valued at Rs 450 crore Rs 400 crore sanctioned exclusively for Vidisha Region



Vidisha/Bhopal/New Delhi: 17 January. Through the special efforts of Union Minister for Agriculture, Farmers Welfare, and Rural Development, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, the Vidisha parliamentary constituency and surrounding districts received a historic gift for road development today.

mately 4,400 crore rupees in Vidisha, alongside launching development works worth about 450 crore rupees. Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav was also present at the event.

National Highway passing through the Ratapani Sanctuary, was also inaugurated, which will provide new momentum to the connectivity of the entire region.

All demands of Shivraj fulfilled: Nitin Gadkari announced from the stage that the Vidisha-Sagar-Kota Greenfield Expressway has been approved at a cost of approximately 16,000 crore rupees, which will reduce the distance by about 75 kilometers and act as a new economic

corridor by connecting with major expressways like Delhi-Mumbai and Bhopal-Kanpur. At Shivraj Singh Chouhan's request, the approval was granted to develop the Nasrullaganj-Rehti-Budhni road and Gopalpur-Bherunda road into four-lane cement concrete roads, providing significant benefits to transport and trade in the Vidisha parliamentary constituency and Narmadapuram-Sehore belt.

Additionally, an amount of 400 crore rupees was sanctioned specifically for the eight assemblies of Shivraj Singh Chouhan's parliamentary constituency, at 50 crore rupees per assembly.

Development worth Rs 4,000 crore will take place

CM On this occasion, Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav stated that he witnessed the work of the requested Southern Bypass for Vidisha from the helicopter and will personally come for its inauguration. Simultaneously, he announced that the foundation stone for the Northern Bypass will also be laid at that time, and it will be developed for Vidisha at a cost of about 4,000 crore rupees, connecting the city with a strong ring road network from all sides.

Road show held before the event

Prior to the ceremony, in the afternoon, a road show of Union Ministers Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Nitin Gadkari, and Chief Minister Mohan Yadav took place from Bada Bazaar to Jaiprakash Manch, which transformed into a historic celebration. Amidst a shower of flowers and slogans, the public gave a warm welcome to the guests.

MUSTREAD

30 Tableaux to roll down Kartavya Path during Republic Day Parade in Delhi

New Delhi: At least 30 tableaux will roll down Kartavya Path during the Republic Day Parade on January 26, providing a vivid display of India's rich cultural heritage and developmental achievements. The tableaux will be presented under the themes "Svatantrata Ka Mantr - Vande Maataram" and "Samrddhi Ka Mantr - Aatmanirbhar Bharat" ("The mantra of freedom - Vande Maataram" and "The mantra of prosperity - Aatmanirbhar Bharat"). Of the total, 17 tableaux will be from States and Union Territories, while 13 will be from various Ministries, Departments and Services. Several states will highlight their unique cultural identities and development narratives.

Kharge chairs meeting with Tamil Nadu leaders

New Delhi: Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday said the party is confident that the people of Tamil Nadu will choose equality, social justice, empowerment, and good governance, following a key meeting of Congress leaders from the state held at Indira Bhawan in the national capital. Kharge chaired the meeting, which was attended by Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Congress General Secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal, and senior leader and former Finance Minister P. Chidambaram. The meeting focused on organisational matters and the political situation in Tamil Nadu.

Sensex
BSE..... 83,570.35 (+187.64)
NSE..... 25,694.35 (+28.75)

Bullion
Gold..... 1,43,780 (24 carat 10gm)
Silver..... 2,95,000 (1kg)
USD(\$)/INR(Rs)..... 90.71

Weather

Sunrise	Sunset	Day	Night
7.04	5.57	27.7	7.4

"People are dying from Toxic Water"

Rahul Gandhi slams Govt's Urban Model in Indore

Indore: Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi arrived in Indore on Saturday to meet the grieving families of those who lost their lives due to contaminated water consumption in Bhagirathpura. Visiting victims at Bombay Hospital and meeting bereaved relatives at Sanskar Garden, Gandhi launched a scathing attack on the state's infrastructure, questioning the accountability of the current administration.

A failed urban model Addressing the media, Gandhi expressed shock over the recurring water crisis in a city often touted as a model of urban development. "People are dying after drinking dirty water; is this the government's 'Urban Model'?" he asked. He pointed out that residents are suffering not just



in Indore, but across multiple cities where clean drinking water remains a luxury. He noted that even the water tanks presented as "solutions" by the administration have become hollow symbols, as toxic water continues to be supplied intermittently despite temporary bans.

gress President Jitu Patwari and Umang Singhar, in Gandhi's presence, handed over relief checks of Rs 1 lakh and Rs 50,000 to the affected families.

Demand for accountability

Highlighting the gravity of the situation, Gandhi demanded that the government take full responsibility for the negligence. "There must be someone accountable for these deaths. The government must ensure permanent solutions and provide adequate compensation to those hospitalized and the families of the deceased," he insisted. He concluded by asserting that as the Leader of the Opposition, it is his responsibility to be the voice of those being denied basic necessities like safe drinking water.

IndiGo slammed with Rs 22.2 crore fine over winter chaos

New Delhi: In a landmark crackdown, the DGCA has slapped IndiGo with a Rs 22.20 crore penalty following the massive flight disruptions that paralyzed air travel in December 2025. The regulator cited "serious planning and operational lapses" that left over three lakh passengers stranded.

Heads roll in management

- The DGCA didn't just stop at fines; it took unprecedented action against top brass:
- CEO & COO: Issued formal cautions and warnings for failed crisis management
- SVP (Operations): Directed to be relieved of his current responsibilities
- Flight Ops Team: Multiple warnings issued for workforce planning failures

The December meltdown

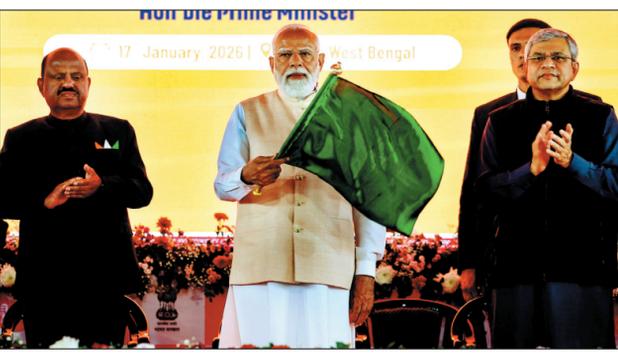
Between December 3 and 5, the airline cancelled 2,507 flights and delayed another 1,852. A high-level



inquiry revealed that IndiGo pursued "over-optimization," stretching its crew and fleet to the breaking point without adequate buffers. The probe found that the airline failed to implement revised Flight Duty Time Limitation (FDTL) norms, compromising operational resilience to maximize profits.

The penalty & reform pact

The total fine includes Rs 1.80 crore for safety violations and a recurring penalty of Rs 30 lakh per day



TMC looting WB, time for good governance: PM Modi

India's first Vande Bharat Sleeper launched

Malda: Launching a scathing attack on the Trinamool Congress (TMC), Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday accused the state government of "mercilessly looting" central funds meant for development. Speaking at a massive public rally, he asserted that progress in West Bengal can only be restored under a BJP-led "Good Governance" (Su-shasan) model.

The Prime Minister marked a historic milestone by flagging off India's first Vande Bharat Sleeper train, running between Howrah and Guwahati. He also unveiled rail and road infrastructure projects worth over ₹3,250 crore. Highlighting India's rising global stature, PM Modi noted that Indian-made locomotives and metro coaches are now being exported worldwide, outperforming many European and American counter-

parts. "Our mission is to bridge distances and connect India," he stated.

Attack on "Syndicate Raj"

Targeting Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's administration, the PM alleged that a "Syndicate Raj" is prioritizing infiltrators over legitimate citizens for vote-bank politics. "The money sent by the Centre for Bengal's poor is being siphoned off by TMC cadres," he claimed, pointing to BJP-ruled neighbors like Odisha and Assam as examples of stability. Concluding his speech with the slogan "Palta No Dorkar, BJP Sarkar" (Change is needed, BJP government), PM Modi emphasized that the youth of Bengal deserve the employment opportunities generated by a modern, self-reliant economy—something he vowed to deliver once "Su-shasan" reaches the state.

Commercial flights bring Indians home from Iran amid unrest

Agencies, New Delhi Two commercial flights carrying Indian nationals from Iran landed in Delhi late last night amid recent violent protests against the Iranian leadership. Officials clarified that the flights were regular commercial operations and not part of any formal evacuation exercise.



The Indian government, however, said it remains prepared for any eventuality and continues to closely monitor the situation. Earlier, New Delhi had advised its citizens to avoid non-essential travel to Iran as tensions escalated.

Air traffic between India and Iran had briefly been disrupted on January 15 following a temporary closure of Iranian airspace due to rising regional tensions. With flights resuming and the situation showing signs of stabilisation, several Indians chose to return home.

Those returning described worsening conditions on the ground, marked by protests, movement restrictions and communication blackouts.

"The conditions are bad there. The Government of India is cooperating a lot, and the Embassy provided us with information on leaving Iran as early as possible 'Modi ji hai toh har cheez mumkin hai'," one Indian national said after landing in Delhi.

Two Hindus murdered within 24 hours in Bangladesh

Minorities under fire

Dhaka: A fresh wave of violence against the Hindu community in Bangladesh has sparked widespread outrage following two brutal killings within a span of 24 hours. On Saturday morning, 60-year-old hotelier Litton Chandra Ghosh, popularly known as Kali, was beaten to death in the Kaliganj area of Gazipur district. Witnesses state that Ghosh, who operated the 'Boishakhi Sweet and Hotel', succumbed to his injuries on the spot after being violently assaulted.

This tragedy follows the suspicious death of 30-year-old Ripon Saha in Rajbari district on Friday. Reports suggest Saha was intentionally crushed by a speeding vehicle in what local activists are calling a targeted attack. These back-to-back incidents have sent shockwaves through the minority community, heightening fears over safety and the lack of protection. Local authorities are under immense pressure to investigate the motives behind these killings as communal tensions continue to simmer across the region.