

# FAIR REPORT

THE DAWN OF A FEARLESS PEN

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## A 194-Year-Old Witness to History Meets Modi

# Seychelles Visit Blends Diplomacy, Conservation and Five Decades of Friendship

FAIR REPORT

Victoria, Seychelles: Prime Minister Narendra Modi's state visit to Seychelles produced a memorable diplomatic moment on Saturday as he visited the Seychelles National Botanical Garden and hand-fed Aldabra giant tortoises, including Jonathan, widely recognised as the world's oldest known living land animal, believed to have been born in 1832.

Accompanied by Seychelles President Dr. Patrick Herminie, Modi toured the famed conservation site during his three-day visit, which



coincides with the 50th anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Seychelles. Calling the Aldabra giant tortoise one of the planet's longest-living species, Modi underscored the importance of preserving the island nation's unique biodiversity.

The two leaders also planted a Coco de Mer sapling, Seychelles' iconic endemic palm known for producing the world's largest seed. Describing the ceremony as a symbol of the two countries' shared commitment to environmental stewardship, Modi said protect-

ing biodiversity would remain central to bilateral co-operation. Beyond the symbolism, the visit reinforced India's longstanding strategic engagement with the Indian Ocean island nation. From maritime security and development partnerships to climate resilience and conservation, New Delhi and Victoria have steadily expanded cooperation over the past five decades. As India seeks to deepen its footprint in the Indian Ocean Region, Seychelles continues to occupy a pivotal place in its regional outreach and strategic diplomacy.

## India's Secret Coup Changed Indian Ocean Forever

New Delhi: Forget Bollywood thrillers—India's real-life 1986 covert operation in the Seychelles reads like a spy script too audacious to invent, yet it actually happened, twice, within the same year: When intelligence reached New Delhi that Seychelles' Defence Minister Ogilvy Berlois was plotting to overthrow President France-Albert René in a scheme code-named Operation Distant Lash, Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi personally rang the Navy chief with a deceptively simple instruction: fake a breakdown. Conveniently, INS Vindhyagiri had already docked at Port Victoria. On orders from Delhi, the frigate suddenly developed a mysterious "engineering defect"—buying time for an Indian commodore, flown in on a commercial flight under cover of "repairs," to take quiet command. For 12 tense days, the warship lingered, its Sea King helicopter staging conspicuous commando drills, its 45-inch gun ominously swivelling—a not-so-subtle message to the plotters. The coup collapsed.

## 'I Will Fight Till My Last Breath': Mahua Moitra Rejects BJP Switch Buzz, Doubles Down on Anti-BJP Stand

FAIR REPORT

New Delhi: Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra has firmly dismissed speculation about a possible switch to the BJP, declaring that she would continue opposing what she described as the party's "communal politics" for the rest of her life.

In a recent interview, Moitra categorically ruled out joining the BJP, asserting that her political commitment remains focused on challenging the ruling party's ideology. "I will fight till my last breath," she said, adding that her objective is to continue the political battle against the BJP as long as she remains in public life. Her remarks come amid weeks of speculation following comments in which she spoke positively about her long-time



acquaintance and BJP leader Suwendu Adhikari. Moitra recalled their friendship from their earlier political years but clarified that they now belong to opposing political camps and are no longer in touch. She later accused sections of the media of taking her remarks out of context, insisting that they did not signal any political realignment. The statement marks Moitra's strongest rejection yet of rumours surrounding her political future.

## Earth Moves Beneath the Capital:

# Afghanistan Quake Shakes Delhi, Kashmir, Pakistan

FAIR REPORT

New Delhi: The ground beneath North India trembled on Saturday evening as a powerful 6.2-magnitude earthquake struck Afghanistan's seismically restless Hindu Kush region, sending strong tremors rippling across Delhi-NCR, Jammu & Kashmir, Pakistan, and several other

northern states — jolting residents out of their homes and into the streets in a wave of nervous uncertainty. According to the National Centre for Seismology (NCS), the quake struck at precisely 7:04 pm, its epicentre buried a staggering 215 kilometres beneath the earth's surface—a depth that, geologists say, blunted the destructive

force at ground zero but allowed the seismic energy to travel vast distances, rattling buildings hundreds of kilometres away. The US Geological Survey pinpointed the quake's origin to a location just 43 km south of Jurm, in Afghanistan's remote northeastern reaches—a region no stranger to tectonic fury. Residents of Delhi, Noi-

da, Gurugram, and across the NCR sprawl described moments of mild-to-moderate shaking lasting several unnerving seconds, prompting many to abandon high-rises mid-evening, phones in hand, hearts racing. Similar scenes played out in Srinagar and across the Kashmir valley, where visuals of swaying structures circulated rap-

idly online. While no casualties or structural damage have been reported so far, the tremor serves as a stark reminder of the subcontinent's fragile geological footing—officials note that nearly 59% of India's landmass lies in earthquake-vulnerable zones, leaving millions perpetually one tremor away from disaster.

## 'My Silence Is Not My Absence': Sheikh Hasina Vows Political Comeback as Bangladesh's Crisis Deepens

FAIR REPORT

Dhaka/New Delhi: Former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has issued one of her strongest political messages since leaving the country, declaring that exile will not end her political struggle and accusing Bangladesh's interim administration of dismantling democratic institutions.

In a statement marking the 77th foundation day of the Awami League, Hasina alleged that the country's political and judicial institutions were being used to suppress her party. She claimed the Awami League had been prevented from participating in the electoral process and alleged that party leaders and workers had faced arrests, intimidation and custodial abuse since her ouster in August 2024. Pledging to continue the



fight, Hasina said democracy would ultimately prevail.

The interim authorities and their political allies reject those allegations, maintaining that legal proceedings against Awami League leaders are part of an accountability process linked to the violent crackdown on anti-government protests before Hasina's departure. Hasina and her party deny wrongdoing and describe the cases as politically motivated. Beyond Bangla-

desh's domestic political contest, Hasina's remarks carry regional significance. With India hosting the former prime minister while Dhaka recalibrates its foreign policy amid growing engagement with multiple regional powers, the country's prolonged political uncertainty is increasingly being viewed through a broader South Asian geopolitical lens, where stability, democratic legitimacy and strategic alignment remain closely intertwined.

# Ram Temple Donation Row Deepens: Trust Breaks Silence, Confirms Top Resignations as Probe Intensifies

FAIR REPORT

Ayodhya: The Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust on Saturday issued its first detailed response to the ongoing donation controversy, expressing shock over the alleged financial irregularities, confirming the resignations of General Secretary

Champat Rai and trustee Anil Mishra, and assuring devotees that a fair and transparent investigation would be carried out. The Trust said it was "deeply saddened" by the developments and pledged strict action against those found guilty, while maintaining that donations and valuables entrusted directly to the

Trust remain secure. The controversy has escalated rapidly after an FIR was registered and eight people connected with the handling of temple donations were arrested. Investigators are probing allegations of theft and serious procedural lapses in the management of devotees' offerings, with nearly 80 lakh

reportedly recovered during the investigation. The developments have triggered a political storm, with opposition parties demanding a wider probe and raising questions over financial oversight, while the Trust has insisted that accountability will be fixed through due process. For millions of devotees, the

controversy has shifted the focus from allegations alone to a larger question of transparency and institutional accountability. As investigators continue to examine the handling of donations, the outcome of the probe is expected to be closely watched by both the public and the country's political establishment.

## 'Cooperatives vs Big Tech': Amit Shah Launches Bharat Taxi, Targets Ola-Uber's Dominance with 500-City Expansion Plan

FAIR REPORT

Gandhinagar: Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday launched the cooperative-based ride-hailing platform Bharat Taxi in Gujarat, positioning it as an alternative to app-based aggregators and accusing private players of exploiting driver-partners through high commissions, delayed payments and arbitrary account suspensions.

Addressing a gathering at Mahatma Mandir, Shah said Bharat Taxi would operate on a cooperative model where drivers, whom he described as "Saarthis", would become stakeholders rather than



gig workers dependent on private platforms. He announced an ambitious roadmap to expand the service to over 500 cities within two years, with Nagpur, Pune, Mumbai, Lucknow, Chandigarh, Jaipur and Kolkata expected to join the network by July-end. Backed by institutions including IFF-

CO, KRIBHCO, NDDB, NABARD and NCDC, the platform has onboarded over seven lakh Saarthis and 40 lakh customers within five months, according to figures cited by Shah. Gujarat alone accounts for over 1.5 lakh Saarthis and six lakh users. Responding to criticism over fares, Shah alleged that rival platforms had resorted to aggressive price cuts in markets where Bharat Taxi was entering. Whether the cooperative model can disrupt the dominance of established ride-hailing firms will ultimately depend on pricing, service quality, and commuter confidence as the nationwide rollout gathers pace.

FAIR REPORT HEMRAJ TIKAMCHAND

India is confronting one of its gravest yet least discussed public health crises. Every year, more than 1.7 lakh Indians lose their lives to suicide, making the country home to one of the world's highest absolute suicide burdens. Behind every number lies a family shattered, a future erased and a system that failed to intervene in time.

The crisis is concentrated among India's youth and working-age population—the very demographic expected to



drive the nation's economic aspirations. Students battling relentless academic pressure, daily

wage earners facing financial insecurity, farmers burdened by debt and young professionals

struggling with isolation represent a growing pattern that can no longer be dismissed as individual misfortune.

Despite the existence of mental health programmes, access to affordable psychological care remains uneven, particularly outside major cities. Stigma continues to discourage people from seeking help, while schools, workplaces and communities often lack effective support systems.

Suicide is not merely a medical issue; it is a governance challenge. Eco-

nom growth cannot be India's only development indicator if emotional well-being continues to deteriorate. A comprehensive national strategy—integrating mental healthcare, education, employment support and early intervention—is no longer optional.

A nation aspiring to become a global power must also ensure that its citizens do not lose hope in silence. Saving lives requires treating mental health with the same urgency as economic development and national security.

# INDIA'S SILENT EPIDEMIC: A Nation That Counts Economic Growth but Not Emotional Collapse

## States Focus



### CM SUVENDU MEETS FAMILY OF MURDERED BJP WORKER

West Bengal Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari on Saturday visited the residence of murdered BJP worker Prashanta Dey in Howrah's Bagnan, paid floral tributes to him and assured the bereaved family that police were working to solve the case at the earliest. Adhikari, who did not speak to the media during the visit, met Dey's family members and conveyed his condolences. The chief minister also assured the family that one of its members would be provided a Government job, according to Dey's relatives. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Dey's son said the family had demanded capital punishment for those responsible for his father's murder. "He assured us that police are investigating the case and those involved will be brought to justice," he said. Adhikari had earlier asserted that his Government follows a 'zero tolerance' policy against political violence and had assured strict action in the case. (PTI)



### UDDHAV'S EGO DESTROYING SHIV SENA (UBT): MINISTER SHIRSAT

Maharashtra Minister Sanjay Shirsat on Saturday slammed Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray's visit to the constituencies of rebel MPs from his party, terming it a mere "touch and go" tour aimed at gaining news coverage. Talking to reporters, the Shiv Sena leader alleged that Thackeray's ego is destroying his party, dismissing the former chief minister's claim that the rebel lawmakers had previously won elections solely because of him. Thackeray has embarked on a tour of the constituencies represented by the six party MPs who crossed over to the rival Shiv Sena faction led by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde earlier this week. "This tour is meant only to show that he has visited constituencies where the MPs have left him. This is being done simply so that people learn through the news that he has visited their constituencies," Shirsat said. (PTI)

## Ayodhya temple row: Congress demands probe under SC judge

FAIR REPORT  
New Delhi/Ayodhya

Congress on Saturday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram temple in Ayodhya and demanded the immediate arrest of those behind the "scam".

Addressing a Press conference, Congress spokesperson Akhilesh Prasad Singh said the investigation of this entire matter should be conducted under the supervision of a sitting Supreme Court judge because the corruption is "deep-rooted".

He also demanded the immediate arrest of those responsible in the trust against whom serious allegations have been made, and that the trust be dissolved as it has lost the "people's trust".

Singh also alleged that the incident reveals that BJP leaders are not "true Ram bhakts" because they did not maintain Lord Ram's 'maryada' by not ordering an investigation themselves.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi should step forward to ensure a fair investigation of this case, so that people's faith remains intact," he said.



"All this has proved that they are not Ram bhakts. Had they been Ram bhakts, they would have maintained Lord Ram's 'maryada' and given strict instructions for an independent investigation in the supervision of the Supreme Court, as this trust was formed on SC directions," Singh said.

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh used a dialogue from the Hindi film "Upkaar" to say, "Dete hain bhawan ko FAIR REPORT 'hohodenge... (They trick God, would they spare humans...)"

"These lines from the well-known film 'Upkaar' are entirely accurate for the

"I think it is shameful and the Government needs to inquire into what has happened, how it has happened and why it has happened," she told reporters in Wayanad.

She said these are funds which have been collected from every citizen, and there was a drive to collect them. "So who's responsible? If you collected them, it's your responsibility to keep them safe," she noted.

Singh said the 'trust' of the people in the Ram Mandir Trust has been lost; this trust should be immediately dissolved.

"It is strange that no arrest has been made so far. If an Opposition leader is involved, the ED and CBI arrest all such leaders, claiming that if they remain out they can influence the trial.

"Is the ED, CBI only meant for the opposition? Are those involved in the scam in Ayodhya not influencing the probe?" he asked.

He said the Ram Mandir Trust had appointed agencies for financial investigation and scrutiny, and those agencies gave several suggestions, but the trust's people ignored them.

## Ex-Kolkata councillor arrested on cheating, forgery charges

FAIR REPORT  
Kolkata

Former Kolkata councillor Tarakeswar Chakraborty was arrested on Saturday on charges of cheating, forgery, theft and outraging the modesty of a woman, police said.

Chakraborty, a former TMC councillor of ward 104, was arrested around midnight after two FIRs were registered against him at the Survey Park police station, they said.

"A thorough investigation was carried out on the basis of the complaints received,



Tarakeswar Chakraborty

The accused was arrested after sufficient prima facie material emerged during the probe. He has been booked under relevant sections pertaining to cheating, forgery, criminal intimidation, theft

and other offences mentioned in the FIRs," a senior police officer said.

One FIR alleges that Chakraborty intimidated and threatened the complainant, while the second includes charges of forgery, theft and outraging the modesty of a woman, he said.

The investigation is at a preliminary stage, and further legal action will be taken based on the evidence collected, he added.

The officer said Chakraborty and his associates extorted money and amassed huge property by forcibly taking control of

fish farms in the area.

"We are examining all available evidence and recording statements of the complainants and witnesses. No one is above the law, and appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the legal process," the officer said.

A number of former TMC councillors of Kolkata have been arrested on various charges after the BJP formed a Government in the State last month. Among them were Sushmita Bhattacharya (ward 63), Swapan Samaddar (ward 56) and Bappadiya Dasgupta (ward 101).

## Pune realtor murder: Siya Goyal's parents, brother summoned

FAIR REPORT  
Pune

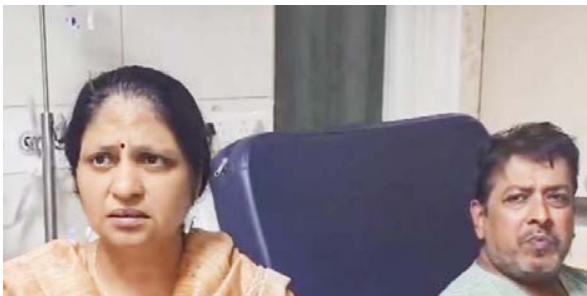
The police on Saturday summoned the parents and brother of Siya Goyal, a co-accused in the murder of 25-year-old Pune realtor Ketan Agarwal, for questioning at the Lonavala rural police station.

Siya's parents — Pravin and Puja Goyal — and brother Sahil arrived at the police station in the morning.

Earlier on Friday, Sahil was questioned by the police for more than 10 hours before he was allowed to go in the evening.

"Today, Siya's parents and brother were summoned for questioning, and their statements will be recorded," said a senior police officer.

Siya's father was briefly



Pooja Goyal, Praveen Goyal (parents of Siya Goyal)

admitted to a hospital after her arrest in the case earlier this week.

Siya (20) and her lover, Chetan Chaudhary (22), are accused of pushing Ketan off a cliff at Lohagad Fort in Maval taluka of Pune district, on June 18. According to police, Siya and Chetan were set to tie the knot in November, but she did not want to marry him,

prompting her and Chetan to hatch a conspiracy to eliminate him.

On Friday, Ketan's father, Vishal Agarwal, met Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, who accepted the family's demands to try the case in a fast-track court and appointed Ujjwal Nikam as the special public prosecutor.

## Maharashtra TET postponed amid paper leak concerns

FAIR REPORT  
Pune/Thane

The Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) 2026, scheduled for Sunday in Maharashtra, has been postponed after a raid in Bhiwandi town of Thane district found that some individuals possessed several questions purportedly similar to the actual question paper, officials said.

The Bhiwandi police have registered a case against three individuals in this connection, they said.

The Maharashtra State Council of Examination (MSCE), in a statement, said it remains firmly committed to conducting the examination with complete transparency.

"Given the gravity of the situation and the necessity for an in-depth probe, the exam scheduled for June 28, 2026, has been postponed," it stated in a release.



Representational image

According to the Thane district administration, the breach came to light in the early hours of Saturday, when the Bhiwandi police acted on confidential intelligence about individuals pos-

sessing unauthorised information about the examination papers.

"A raid was promptly conducted at the suspected location. Senior officials from the Maharashtra State Council of Examination

were immediately summoned by the police to verify the seized materials. Upon close inspection, it was confirmed that several questions in the possession of the suspects matched the actual question paper drafted for the June 2026 TET," the Thane district administration stated.

Expressing a zero-tolerance policy toward examination malpractice, the MSCE stated that the postponement was necessary to ensure absolute transparency and to allow law enforcement agencies to conduct an uncompromised, deep-dive investigation into the racket.

The council has urged candidates not to rely on rumours and announced that revised dates and updated schedules for the TET 2026 will be published soon on the council's official website.

Meanwhile, officials said that candidates will not be charged a re-registration fee for the examination.

Talking to reporters, MSCE Deputy Commissioner Priya Shinde said that at least 6 lakh candidates were scheduled to appear for the examination across 1,728 centres at 37 locations.

"The process of organising an examination of this scale typically takes around three weeks. Candidates who had already registered for the examination will not have to register again. Since the candidates are not at fault, no re-registration fee will be charged," she said.

A first information report (FIR) has been registered against three persons, and the police are conducting further investigation, she said, adding that strict action will be taken against those found responsible.

## India mastered cryogenic engine technology: ISRO chief

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE  
Bengaluru

India has mastered the cryogenic engine technology once denied to it, ISRO Chairman V Narayanan said on Saturday.

He said the country is preparing for the first uncrewed Gaganyaan mission, advancing Chandrayaan-4, a lunar sample return mission, and Chandrayaan-5, a joint long-duration mission with Japan involving a heavier rover.

Delivering the 17th Air Chief Marshal LM Katre Memorial Lecture at the HAL Management Academy under the aegis of the Air Force Association, Kamataka Branch, Narayanan outlined India's progress in space technology and its roadmap towards establishing an Indian space station by 2035 and landing an Indian astronaut on the Moon by 2040.

"We have developed a cryogenic rocket engine, the technology which



ISRO Chairman V Narayanan

was denied to India," Narayanan said.

He explained that India had transformed technology denial into technological leadership by developing three cryogenic propulsion systems and setting multiple world records in the process.

Narayanan said the first uncrewed Gaganyaan mission was the immediate focus before India proceeds with crewed spaceflight.

"We are now working on the first uncrewed mission this year. Then once we review the result, we'll come back to the

rocket in 1963 to building some of the world's most advanced launch vehicles and spacecraft.

Recalling India's cryogenic engine programme, he said technology denial had ultimately strengthened indigenous capabilities.

"Today, I thank the countries that denied the technology. Today we have developed three cryogenic propulsion systems," he said.

Referring to the country's long-term vision, Narayanan said India was working towards establishing its own space station by 2035 and sending an Indian to the Moon by 2040.

"By 2040 Indian will land on the Moon using an Indian launcher with our national flag," he said.

He said Chandrayaan-2 had placed the highest-resolution camera in lunar orbit, while Chandrayaan-3 had made India the first country to achieve a successful soft landing near the Moon's south pole.

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## Veteran filmmaker, actor Bhagyaraj dies at 73

FAIR REPORT  
Chennai

Legendary Tamil filmmaker and actor K Bhagyaraj, known for his subtle humour and witty dialogues, well-connected with the audience, died on Saturday following a cardiac arrest, a source in the hospital where he was admitted said. He was 73.

His roles, mostly drawn from middle-class lives, held a charm as his exquisite screenplay combined with his on-screen persona. In a career spanning over five decades, Bhagyaraj gave numerous hits, and some of his celebrated directorial and action works include Andha 7 Naatkal, Mundhanai Mudichu, Chinna Veedu, and Enga Chinna Rasa.

He is survived by his former actress wife, Poornima, and their children, actor Shathanu and Saranya. Apart from his film career, Bhagyaraj has been the editor of the Tamil weekly magazine Bhagya,



Tamil filmmaker and actor K Bhagyaraj

and he has authored several novels.

"He participated in the marriage of Khusboo's daughter in Goa. While we returned yesterday, he came back a bit early. He was cheerful throughout. This morning, after returning from walking, he complained of chest pain and was rushed to the hospital. His end finally came," actress Suhasingi Maniratnam told reporters.

She, along with actor Parthiban and several others, paid their last respects to the mortal remains of the

veteran director at his Nungambakkam residence.

DMK president and former Chief Minister MK Stalin too paid his last respects. He described Bhagyaraj as an incredible director who succeeded in everything, being the uncrowned king of screenplays in Indian cinema, a realistic hero who attracted everyone, and a writer who had the power to convey complex situations in short dialogues. "Only a few months ago, I attended the function held to mark the completion of 50 years of

Bhagyaraj's film career and spoke at the function not only as the chief minister but also as his fan. Those memories are still fresh," Stalin said on 'X' and described his death as a "great loss".

"Through his works, Bhagyaraj will forever live on as an inseparable part of the Tamil Nadu people," Stalin added.

Stalin and TMC (Moopanar) founder GK Vasan were among the leaders who paid homage to the mortal remains of the filmmaker.

Actress-politician Gautami said his untimely demise left a huge void in the creative world. "We all mourn the loss of an icon. A Renaissance man who has been relevant to every generation, he leaves a lasting legacy for ages to come," she said on 'X'.

"The passing away of veteran Tamil film director and writer K Bhagyaraj is a great loss to the world of cinema," Tamil Nadu Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar said.

## Interlinking rivers only solution to water disputes: VP Radhakrishnan

**FAIR REPORT**

■ Bengaluru

Vice President CP Radhakrishnan on Saturday pitched for interlinking rivers as the only lasting solution to the long-standing water-sharing disputes between Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

He underlined that the interests of farmers in both States must take precedence over politics and that no drop of water should be allowed to flow wastefully into the sea.

Addressing the 517th birth anniversary celebrations of Nada Prabhu Kempegowda, the founder of Bengaluru city, at Jnanajyoti Auditorium in Bengaluru, the Vice President said the Centre had already begun discussions on river interlinking and expressed confidence that the initiative would be imple-



VP CP Radhakrishnan addresses a gathering during the 517th birth anniversary celebrations of Nada Prabhu Kempegowda in Bengaluru PTI

mented in phases to ensure equitable distribution of water among farmers across the country.

"The interests of both State farmers should be taken into account. That is the real solution for this problem," Radhakrishnan, who hails from Tamil Nadu, said, asserting that political rhetoric would not resolve the

decades-old Cauvery dispute.

The Vice President said the only sustainable solution was to link rivers across the country so that surplus water could be shared among all States.

"The only solution to this problem is that we should take care of the concerned farmers of every state. The water going into the sea

should get stopped first. That water should be utilised by all the farmers equally, fairly," he said.

Recalling his tenure as the BJP's Tamil Nadu president, Radhakrishnan said he had advocated the interlinking of the Ganga and the Cauvery during a statewide 'Yatra'.

He said, "Farmer is always a farmer. Whether he speaks Kannada, Tamil, Telugu or Marathi, that doesn't make any difference. They are the Annadada (giver of food) for all of us."

He said recent discussions with the Union Water Resource Ministry had focused on taking forward river interlinking projects in a phased manner and pointed to the recent joint participation of southern Chief Ministers at the Tungbhadra Dam as a positive step towards greater cooperation.

## Bihar universities ordered to distribute pending degrees

**FAIR REPORT**

■ Patna

State-run universities in Bihar have been directed to distribute pending degrees to students who have successfully completed their courses on a mission-mode, according to a letter issued by the Lok Bhavan on Saturday.

In the letter to vice-chancellors of all universities, Additional Chief Secretary to the Governor Dipak Kumar Singh said the issue is a serious concern as the delay in handing over degrees adversely affects students' higher education opportunities, employment prospects, and overall career progression.



Representative image

"It has been observed that a substantial number of grievances received at Lok Bhavan pertain to the non-issuance and pendency of degrees of students who have successfully completed their courses. All universities are directed to distribute pending degrees to

students who have successfully completed their courses and to undertake a special drive to clear the backlog in a mission-mode manner," it said. All universities are directed to accord printing and distribution of degrees the highest priority, it added.

The universities were also directed to furnish detailed information regarding the status of degree printing and distribution.

"The information should be submitted in Excel format via email by 1st July 2026. The data should cover the period from 2010 to 2024 and include separate details for Undergraduate (UG) and Postgraduate (PG) courses," it said.

The letter also directed the universities to constitute a dedicated 'degree monitoring cell' to regularly supervise the progress of degree printing and distribution, identify bottlenecks, and ensure the timely clearance of all pending cases.

## Why fuel prices still high as crude falls: Kharge to Govt

**FAIR REPORT**

■ New Delhi

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday hit out at the Government on high fuel prices even when global crude oil rates had returned to the pre-West Asia war levels.

He accused the BJP of "looting" and "pickpocketing" the people, and alleged that the public has become just a means for the BJP to extract taxes and raise its collections.

Kharge asked why the public is being made to shell out more for petrol, diesel and LPG even when the global crude oil prices had plummeted to pre-war levels.

"BJP's looting and pickpocketing habit — Crude oil is tumbling, yet instead of easing up on petrol-diesel-gas... The Modi Government keeps tightening the reins on savings," he said in a post in Hindi on X.

Posing a set of three questions to the Government, the Congress chief said, when the war in West Asia was at its peak, crude oil was at \$138 per barrel. Back



then, petrol was ₹94.77 a litre and diesel ₹87.67 a litre, he said, adding that today, crude oil has fallen to \$70.71 per barrel.

"So why is the Modi Government still selling petrol at ₹102.12 a litre and diesel at ₹95.20 a litre?"

"Citing the war, the BJP Government doubled the prices of commercial LPG. Now that supply has normalised, why aren't LPG prices being rolled back? Why isn't the public getting even a penny's relief?" he asked.

Domestic cylinders, the 5-kg small cylinders useful for migrants, and CNG —

everything has been jacked up, he noted.

"Now that conditions are normal, why are the Modi Government's hands trembling when it comes to cutting the prices?" Kharge asked.

The Congress chief said that when crude oil was expensive, the public suffered.

Now that crude oil is cheap, why is it still that the public is bearing the brunt, he asked.

"It's obvious — the public has become just a means for the BJP to extract taxes and raise its collections," the Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha said.

## Support Amarnath Yatra for social harmony: J&K LG

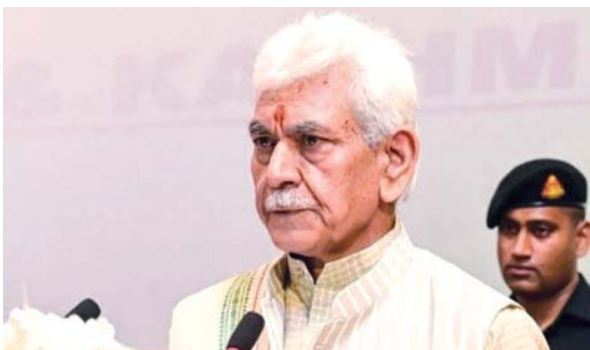
**FAIR REPORT**

■ Jammu

The Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, on Saturday, appealed to all sections of society to actively support and contribute to the annual Amarnath pilgrimage, which is a true symbol of social harmony. LG Sinha also urged the public to come forward to ensure a memorable spiritual experience for all pilgrims.

LG Manoj Sinha stated this during his meeting with civil society groups, business leaders, and religious heads to discuss the upcoming Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra.

"Every year, the world bears witness that the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is an occasion where people of all faiths, communities and walks of life unite in the spirit of serving the pilgrims. Let us make Baba Barfani's Yatra an exemplary model of devotion and service. Let us



show the world that when devotion and service go hand in hand, the impossible becomes possible. Let us ensure that every pilgrim feels our hospitality and warmth. This is an occasion when Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians and followers of all faiths in Jammu Kashmir stand together in the cause of human service. That unity is our greatest strength," he said.

The Lieutenant Governor

said that the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is an opportunity to showcase our culture of selfless service, compassion, and hospitality to the world. This sacred journey of devotion, dedication and faith will begin on 3 July and conclude on 28 August this year. The Lieutenant Governor said that the representatives of civil society, religious and business leaders, and social workers are the guardians of our

nation's moral conscience. "Everyone present here is a custodian of spiritual traditions. Generation after generation, we have ensured that Baba Amarnath's ancient spiritual heritage remains vibrant. As we prepare once again to welcome the devotees, I look to each of you for your guidance and cooperation. Your role is vital in ensuring that every pilgrim experiences respect, safety and a sense of belonging," the Lieutenant Governor said.

The Lieutenant Governor also emphasised that over the past few years, the Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board and other stakeholders have consistently worked to make the Yatra smoother and safer. Roads have been widened, communication facilities improved, and infrastructure modernised. He said the Shri Amarnath Ji Yatra is now equipped with world-class facilities.

## Amit Shah launches cooperative-based Bharat Taxi in Gujarat

**FAIR REPORT**

■ Gandhinagar

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday launched Bharat Taxi, a cooperative-based ride-hailing service, in Gujarat, describing the initiative as a landmark step for India's mobility sector.

He announced that the platform is expected to expand to around 500 cities and towns across the country over the next two years. Addressing the launch event, Shah said the new service has been designed to create a fairer transportation ecosystem by protecting both passengers and drivers from exploitation. Unlike conventional app-based taxi aggregators, Bharat Taxi follows a cooperative ownership model in which drivers, referred to as Sarathis, will also be stakeholders in the organisation.

The Union Minister stated that Bharat Taxi would initially cater to two-wheelers, four-wheelers and auto-rickshaws, broadening the scope of app-based mobility services. He added that

the platform already has more than seven lakh registered driver-members and has served over 37 lakh customers across the country.

Rejecting reports that the service is more expensive than existing alternatives, Shah maintained that Bharat Taxi offers competitive pricing. He also claimed that the entry of the cooperative platform has prompted some private operators to revise their fares. Stressing the Government's commitment, he said future plans include providing drivers with easier access to loans, insurance and business support through the cooperative network.

Calling the initiative a major transformation in the transport sector, Shah said Bharat Taxi is intended to replace a profit-driven approach with a people-centric cooperative framework.

Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, who was present at the launch, said the initiative reflects Gujarat's strong cooperative tradition and supports the vision of an Atmanirbhar Bharat.



## States Focus



### BIDADI ROW: KUMARASWAMY REJECTS CONGRESS CHARGES

Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy on Saturday rejected allegations that the proposed Bidadi township was his 'dream project' and accused the Congress Government in Karnataka of "portraying him as a criminal". Calling upon the farmers to continue their agitation, he declared his support for farmers opposing the acquisition of fertile agricultural land. The JD(S) second-in-command asserted that he had never intended to displace cultivators. Addressing a gathering of protesting farmers at Byramangala near Bidadi, Kumaraswamy defended his record as CM and sought to explain the concept of the "Red Zone" in town planning. The Union Minister had asked CM Shivakumar for a debate. A chair next to Kumaraswamy was vacated for the Chief Minister, who did not turn up. (PTI)



### POCSO CASES: ARUNACHAL GUV SLAMS LOW CONVICTION RATE

Arunachal Pradesh Governor Lt Gen KT Parnaik (Retd) on Saturday expressed concern over the low conviction rate in cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act in the State and called for strengthening the Directorate of Prosecution and a coordinated 'Whole of State' approach to ensure the safety of women and children. Chairing a high-level review meeting at Lok Bhavan, the governor said crimes against women and children, particularly POCSO cases, cause lifelong trauma to victims and their families while shaking the conscience of society. Stressing the need for urgent action, he said every case represents a child whose trust, safety and future have been compromised, an official statement said. (PTI)

## In a u-turn, Punjab Govt notifies VB-G RAM G scheme

**FAIR REPORT**

■ Chandigarh

The AAP Government in Punjab, which had been opposing the Viksit Bharat Guarantee Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission Gramin (VB-G RAM G), has notified the rural employment scheme, which will come into force from July 1 in the State.

The Bhagwant Mann Government had convened a special session of the Punjab Assembly last December, which had unanimously passed a resolution against the VB-G RAM G Act.

"In order to align the rural development framework with the national vision of Viksit Bharat 2047 by providing an enhanced statutory wage

employment guarantee of one hundred and twenty-five (125) days in each financial year to such rural households whose adult members volunteer to undertake unskilled manual work;

"And to focus on employment, growth, convergence and saturation, the government of Punjab is pleased to notify the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) [VB-G RAM G] Scheme, Punjab 2026, under the provisions of the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025," read the June 26 gazette notification.

The notification was issued by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayats.



Punjab CM Bhagwant Mann

The Opposition Congress slammed the AAP Government, asking under what "deal and compromise" with the BJP, it implemented this scheme in Punjab.

Punjab Congress chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring said the timing

of the implementation of the scheme in Punjab is as important as it is surprising.

"Whether the sudden implementation of the scheme had something to do with the ongoing controversy related to the chief minister," he asked, referring to the video row.

The AAP Government had called a one-day special session of the Punjab Assembly to oppose the VB-G RAM G Act.

On December 30, 2025, the Assembly had unanimously passed a resolution against the VB-G RAM G Act, accusing the BJP-led Central Government of "taking away" the livelihood of the poor and Dalit labourers by scrapping MGNREGA under a "deliberate conspiracy".

## Kerala: Cricket coach gets 20 years RI for assaulting minor

**FAIR REPORT**

■ Thiruvananthapuram

A court on Saturday sentenced a cricket coach to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment (RI) and imposed a fine of ₹79,000 for sexually assaulting a minor student under the pretext of coaching.

Fast Track Special Court Judge Anju Meera Birla convicted Manu M (40), a native of Sreevaraham, under various provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the Information Technology Act and the Indian Penal



Code (IPC) for sexually assaulting the student in 2018.

Though the court awarded a cumulative sentence of 48 years' rigorous imprisonment under various provisions, it directed that all the substantive sentences would run concurrently.

Accordingly, the effective sentence in the case is 20 years' rigorous imprisonment.

The court also directed that the sentence in the present case would commence only after the completion of the sentences in two other cases in which Manu has already

been convicted. Those sentences are scheduled to end on July 4, 2039. The court granted the convict a set-off of 722 days, covering the period from July 6, 2024, to June 27, 2026.

The court also found Manu guilty in another case under the IPC and the POCSO Act on Saturday.

The sentence in that case will be pronounced on June 29.

A total of six cases were registered against Manu at the Cantonment police station after the alleged sexual abuse came to light in 2024, following complaints lodged by students he coached.

## Govt slams misleading posts on Rajnath's Op Sindoor speech

**FAIR REPORT**

■ New Delhi

The Government on Saturday said some social media posts sought to "misrepresent" Defence Minister Rajnath Singh's address in Parliament in July 2025 and "selectively" quoted an isolated portion of it to "falsely imply" that he had claimed that "no Indian soldier lost his life during Operation Sindoor".

"These are deliberately misleading and factually incorrect," the defence ministry said, adding that the minister's remarks were in reference to the "specific and mischievous narrative" that India had lost its pilots during Operation Sindoor.

The statement from the ministry comes after Congress leader Pawan Khera accused the government of "concealing" the supreme sacrifice made by six bravehearts during



Operation Sindoor. In a post on X, he also shared a video of the defence minister making a statement in Parliament on Operation Sindoor, and claimed that either the minister was "unaware of the martyrdom" of the six soldiers at that time or he "chose to mislead Parliament".

Without naming anyone, the defence ministry in its statement said that "certain

sought to "construct a controversy" out of the defence minister's Parliamentary address have done so by "deliberately ignoring the full context of his remarks," the statement claimed.

It must be recalled that at the time of the defence minister's address, a "particularly persistent and dominant narrative had taken hold, both in certain sections of the media and on social media, which claimed that Indian pilots had been lost during Operation Sindoor," according to the ministry.

"This narrative was entirely false, yet it was being amplified aggressively with the clear intent of diminishing the success of the operation and demoralising public sentiment," it said.

It was in direct reference to this "specific and mischievous narrative" that the defence minister had made the statement, the ministry further said.

# VISION INDIA

# FAIR REPORT | 04

## 'Enormous Fans of PM Modi': Rubio's Praise Signals Washington's Strategic Bet on India's Rising Global Influence

FAIR REPORT

**New Delhi/Washington:** US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has offered one of the strongest public endorsements yet of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, describing himself and the US administration as "enormous fans" of the Indian leader and praising India's rapid economic transformation under his leadership.

"We're enormous fans of Prime Minister Modi and what he's done. He leads a country that's making incredible gains economically," Rubio said, remarks that come at a time when India-US ties continue to deepen across defence, technology, trade and Indo-Pacific security.

Rubio's comments are being viewed as more than diplomatic courtesy. They underscore Washington's strategic assessment of India as a critical partner in an increasingly competitive geopolitical landscape,

particularly as the United States seeks to strengthen partnerships across the Indo-Pacific amid China's expanding regional influence.

Over the past decade, India and the United States have significantly expanded cooperation in critical and emerging technologies, semiconductor manufacturing, defence production, supply-chain resilience and maritime security. The growing convergence has transformed the bilateral relationship into one of Washington's most consequential strategic partnerships.

Rubio's endorsement also reflects India's expanding economic weight and diplomatic influence on the global stage. As New Delhi positions itself as a leading voice of the Global South while strengthening ties with major powers, the India-US partnership appears set to remain a defining pillar of the evolving geopolitical order.

## Gaza vs Bangladesh: Sonia Gandhi's Question to Modi Triggers BJP Counterattack, Ignites Foreign Policy Face-Off

FAIR REPORT

**New Delhi:** A sharp political confrontation erupted on Saturday after Congress parliamentary chairperson Sonia Gandhi questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza, prompting an equally forceful response from the BJP, which accused the Congress veteran of remaining silent on the plight of Hindus in Bangladesh. The exchange has opened a fresh political battle over India's foreign policy, with both sides accusing each other of selective outrage on international human rights issues. Raising concerns over the situation in Gaza, Sonia Gandhi questioned whether India had departed from its long-held moral and diplomatic position on the conflict. The BJP responded by asking why the Congress

leadership had not displayed similar concern over reported attacks and persecution faced by minority Hindus in Bangladesh following the country's prolonged political unrest. The war of words comes at a time when New Delhi is carefully balancing its diplomatic engagement across West Asia while simultaneously monitoring developments in neighbouring Bangladesh, where political instability has emerged as a major regional concern. The latest exchange reflects how global conflicts are increasingly shaping domestic political discourse in India. As both the Congress and the BJP seek to define the country's moral and strategic narrative, foreign policy has become the newest arena for an increasingly intense political contest ahead of key electoral battles.

# BHAMASHAHS WHO SUPPORTED GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS WILL BE HONORED

### 30th District Level Bhamashah Award Ceremony on June 29; 22 Bhamashahs and 6 Motivators to be Honored, Schools Received Support of Rs 21.46 Crore

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh-** A district-level Bhamashah Award Ceremony will be organized on Monday, June 29 at 2:00 PM at District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), Chittorgarh. The ceremony will honor donors and motivators who contributed to the development of government schools and education facilities. The program is being organized by the Elementary Education Department, Chittorgarh. Bhamashahs who supported government schools and the people who encouraged them for this support will be honored. During the session 2025-26, government schools in the district received support

of about Rs 21.46 crore from donors. This support helped in improving school facilities and providing better learning opportunities to students. Bhamashahs who provided support from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 29.99 lakh will receive the "Shiksha Shri" Award. A total of 22 Bhamashahs and 6 motivators will be honored at the district-level ceremony. The motivators encouraged Bhamashahs to provide support of Rs 5 lakh to Rs 49.99 lakh to government schools. The state-level Bhamashah Award Ceremony will be held at Birla Auditorium, Jaipur. Selected Bhamashahs from the district will also be honored there. Donors giving more than Rs 1 crore

will receive the "Shiksha Vibhushan" Award, while those supporting donations between Rs 30 lakh and Rs 1 crore will receive the "Shiksha Bhushan" Award. Major Bhamashahs from the district selected for state-level honors include D.S. Rao (Nuclear Power Plant, Rawatbhata), Himanshu Samdani (CVRT Institute, Chittor-

garh), Alok Ranjan (Hindustan Zinc Limited, Chanderiya), Prabhakar Mishra (J.K. Cement Works Limited, Nimbera) and Ashok Patni (Wonder Cement, Nimbera). The contribution of Bhamashahs is helping government schools improve facilities and provide better education opportunities to students.

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## 'Facts Twisted': Defence Ministry Rebuts Operation Sindoor Claims, Says Rajnath Singh's Remarks Were Misrepresented

FAIR REPORT

**New Delhi:** The Defence Ministry has strongly rejected allegations that Defence Minister Rajnath Singh misled Parliament over casualties during Operation Sindoor, asserting that his remarks have been taken out of context and misrepresented in sections of the media and on social platforms.

Clarifying the controversy, the ministry said Singh's statement referred specifically to claims made by Pakistan and echoed by sections of the Opposition alleging that multiple In-



dian fighter aircraft had been shot down and several pilots killed during the operation. According to the ministry, the Defence Minister categorically denied those claims, and his remarks should not be interpreted as a denial of all military casualties linked

to the broader operation. The ministry also dismissed claims that fatalities in military operations are disclosed only after a year, stating that the Indian Armed Forces have consistently acknowledged the deaths of personnel through official channels

in a timely manner while balancing operational security and the sensitivities of bereaved families.

The clarification comes amid an escalating political row, with critics questioning the government's handling of information surrounding Operation Sindoor. The ministry maintained that misinformation surrounding military operations risks undermining public trust and reiterated that official statements should be read in their complete context rather than through selective excerpts circulating online.

## Stent After Patient Dies, Family Alleges Medical Negligence Angioplasty Done After Heart Attack; Doctor Says Patient Could Not Be Saved After Second Attack

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** A 55-year-old man who came to the hospital for heart attack treatment died a few hours after a stent was inserted. After the incident, family members created a scene at Shri Sanwaliya Paras Private Hospital in Pratap Nagar and alleged negligence in treatment. The family demanded action against the doctor, an FIR, and an impartial investigation by a medical board. The hospital management denied the allegations. Later, both sides reached an agreement. According to the information, Rajesh Kumar Surana, son of Bhanwarlal Surana, a resident of Chandan-

pura, was brought to the hospital on Saturday at around 8:30 am after complaining of severe chest pain. Tests confirmed a heart attack. During angiography, a 100 percent blockage was found in the main artery of the heart. On the advice of doctors and with the consent of the family, angioplasty was performed and a stent was inserted. The family alleged that around 30 to 35 minutes after the stent procedure, the doctor informed them that a vein had been damaged. After this, the patient's condition worsened and he died while being taken to the operation theatre again. The deceased's relative Sanjay Kumar Jain al-

leged negligence in treatment and demanded action. Rajesh Surana's wife Renu Surana said that other family members were coming from Bhilwara, but they were asked to take an immediate decision. She alleged that clear information about the patient's condition was not given after the operation. Heart specialist Dr. Anurag Jain said that after angioplasty, the patient was shifted to ICU in a stable condition. About one hour later, signs of another heart attack appeared. The patient was being taken to the operation theatre, but his heart stopped working on the way. Doctors tried their best to save him, but could not succeed.

## Skies Open Up Over North India: IMD Sounds Heavy Rain Alarm Across 14 States as Monsoon Tightens Its Grip, Floods Loom in MP, UP, Bihar

**New Delhi:** The monsoon has officially gone on the offensive. As the Southwest Monsoon presses deeper into India's northern frontier, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has fired off a sweeping rain alert blanketing a staggering 14 states and Union Territories, warning citizens to brace for relentless downpours, thunder, and gusty winds in the days ahead. On the radar: Jammu & Kashmir; Ladakh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Punjab, eastern Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Bihar; Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, and Jharkhand — virtually the entire northern and central swathe of the country.

## Gang involved in theft and burglary busted, five arrested

**Police arrested three thieves and two people who bought stolen goods; gold jewellery and poppy seeds recovered**

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh-** Kanera police have busted a gang involved in repeated theft and burglary incidents. Police arrested three accused involved in theft cases and also caught two persons who were buying stolen goods. Gold jewellery, poppy seeds and other stolen items were recovered based on their information. Superintendent of Police Dharmendra Singh said that after several theft incidents were reported in Kanera area, a special team was formed under the supervision of Additional SP Mukul Sharma and DSP Nimbahera Shivprakash Hargan, led by Station House Officer Mahendra Singh. The team worked with the District Special Team and local informers to trace the accused. Police detained suspects Kamlesh kanjar and Vinod kanjar and questioned them. During interrogation, they admitted that they and their associates were involved in multiple theft and burglary cases. Investigation revealed that the accused had

stolen narcotic poppy husk, gold jewellery and cash from Sarasi village. They also admitted stealing poppy seeds from a warehouse in front of a petrol pump in Kanera. The person who bought the stolen poppy seeds, Kanna alias Devkishan Teli, was also arrested. In another case, accused Bhairulal Kanjar along with his associates stole poppy seeds from two places in Kanera area and Benipuria and handed them over to Kalulal Teli of Bijaypur. Police arrested Kalulal and recovered the stolen poppy seeds. According to police, the accused formed different groups and targeted isolated houses and cattle sheds at night. They stole grains, poppy seeds and other valuable items and sold them at low prices. The arrested accused include Kamlesh (30), Vinod (31) and Bhairulal (26), residents of Dudhitlai, Bijaypur. The receivers of stolen goods, Kanna alias Devkishan Teli (30) and Kalulal Teli (48), were also arrested. Kamlesh and Vinod are currently on police remand and are being questioned for other theft cases. The operation was carried out by SHO Mahendra Singh, ASI Prakash, Deepak Patil and the District Special Team.

## Chain Snatching Case Solved in 24 Hours, Two Accused Arrested, Gold Chain Recovered

**Quick action by Kapasan Police; success through CCTV footage and informer network**

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** Kapasan Police have successfully solved a case of chain snatching from an elderly woman within 24 hours and arrested two accused. The stolen gold chain has also been recovered from their possession. The action was taken under a special campaign being run on the directions of senior police officials. The operation was carried out under the supervision of SP Chittorgarh Shri Gaurav Shrivastava, District SP Shri Dharmendra Singh Yadav, Additional SP Shri Mukul Sharma, and Circle Officer Kapasan Shri Harish Bharti. The team was led by SHO Kapasan Shri Sunil Sharma. According to the report filed on 27 June 2026 by complainant Advocate Shri Govind Singh, resident of Sirsiya Mohalla, Kapasan, the incident took place on 26 June 2026 between 6:00 PM and 6:30 PM. Two unidentified persons

came to the house, and one of them suddenly snatched a gold chain from the neck of his wife Bhagwati Devi. The accused then fled the spot on a motorcycle. The chain weighed around 2 tolas and was valued at approximately 2.5 lakh. A case was immediately registered at Kapasan Police Station, and investigation was initiated. Considering the seriousness of the case, a special team was formed by SHO Sunil Sharma. The team inspected the spot and collected CCTV footage from nearby areas and main routes. Based on CCTV analysis and technical investigation, the suspects were identified. With the help of an informer network, both accused were traced and detained. During interrogation, the stolen gold chain was recovered from their possession. The arrested accused have been identified as Mansoor Khan, resident of Fatehnagar, and Gajendra Yadav, resident of Fatehnagar. Constable Jitendra Singh played a key role in solving the case and arresting the accused.

# Gora Badal Stadium to Get a New Identity, Will Become a World-Class Sports Complex

**Redevelopment with support of Hindustan Zinc; Modern facilities for players, project to be completed in one year**

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** The redevelopment work of the historic Gora Badal Stadium started on Saturday with the foundation ceremony. The long-awaited dream of players and citizens for better sports facilities is now going to become a reality. With the joint support of Hindustan Zinc and Nagar Parishad, the stadium will be developed into a modern sports complex according



to international standards in about one year. The foundation ceremony was performed by MP C.P. Joshi, MLA Chandrabhan Singh Aakya, District Collector Dr. Manju and Hindustan Zinc CEO Amarendu Prakash. The program was attended by Vedanta Limited CSR Head Anupam

Nidhi, Hindustan Zinc COO Kishore S, Smelter CEO Leeladhar Patidar, CSR Head Sunder Raj Naidu, UIT Secretary and Nagar Parishad Administrator Kailash Gurjar, Ratan Gadri, Sushil Sharma, Suresh Jhanwar, Raghu Sharma, Harshvardhan Singh, Gaurav Tyagi, Anil

Inani, Harish Inani, Shailendra Jhanwar, Om Sharma, Naveen Patwari, Bholaram Prajapat, Rajan Mali, Sanju Laddha, Manoj Pareek, Deepak Sharma and Ashish Sharma along with public representatives, sports lovers and citizens. The new sports complex will have a mod-

ern football ground, jogging and walking track, separate changing rooms for players, parking facilities and better security arrangements. CCTV monitoring, high-mast lighting, solar energy system and rainwater harvesting facilities will also be developed. MP C.P. Joshi said that Gora Badal Stadium has always been an important center for sports activities in the city. After redevelopment, it will provide a better platform for sports talent of the district. He also suggested displaying the bravery story of Gora-Badal in the stadium. MLA Chandrabhan Singh Aakya said the

new stadium will be a big gift for players of the district. Hindustan Zinc CEO Amarendu Prakash said that being connected with the brave history of Chittorgarh is a matter of pride and this project will inspire the new generation. District Collector Dr. Manju said the aim is to provide better sports facilities to youth. The complex will be useful for sports competitions, training programs, tournaments and social events. After completion, Gora Badal Sports Complex will provide new opportunities to players of Chittorgarh and help local talent reach higher levels.