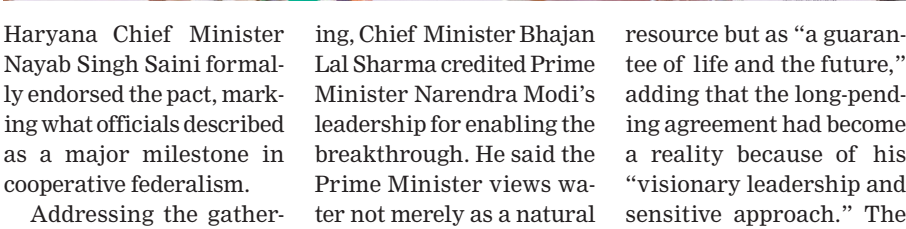


**FAIR REPORT**  
**HEMRAJ TIKAMCHAND**

**NEW DELHI:** In a significant breakthrough for inter-state water sharing, Rajasthan and Haryana on Monday signed a long-awaited Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) on the Yamuna Water Project, bringing to fruition a decades-old negotiation aimed at strengthening water security in the region.

## Buried Alive for 106 Hours: The Miraculous Resurrection of a 21-Year-Old from Venezuela's Rubble!



ing, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma credited Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership for enabling the breakthrough. He said the Prime Minister views water not merely as a natural

agreement is expected to pave the way for improved water management, enhance irrigation potential, and strengthen drinking water availability in water-stressed regions of Rajasthan while reinforcing coordination between the two neighbouring states.

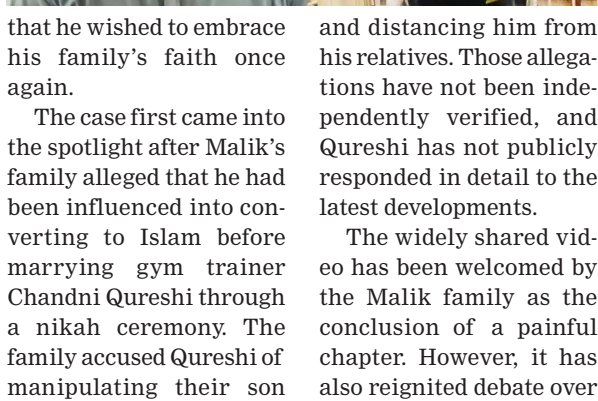
**FAIR REPORT**

**NEW DELHI/MUMBAI:** The artificial intelligence boom that propelled global technology stocks to record highs is showing its first major cracks. Microsoft Corp., long regarded as the biggest beneficiary of the AI revolution, is heading towards its worst monthly performance since the height of the dot-com collapse, with nearly \$570 billion erased from its market value during June.



**FAIR REPORT**  the increasingly public na-

**SHAMLI:** Months after an interfaith marriage and an alleged religious conversion triggered a storm in western Uttar Pradesh, the son of a prominent businessman has publicly returned to Hinduism, bringing a fresh twist to a controversy that has remained under public scrutiny.



and distancing him from his relatives. Those allegations have not been independently verified, and Qureshi has not publicly responded in detail to the latest developments.

the increasingly public nature of interfaith relationship disputes, where deeply personal decisions often become subjects of political and social contestation. While Malik's return to Hinduism has been presented as a voluntary decision, the circumstances surrounding both his earlier conversion and his subsequent return remain contested. Beyond the symbolism of the temple ceremony lies a complex story involving family conflict, personal choice, and competing narratives—questions that a single video, however widely viewed, cannot conclusively answer.

**FAIR REPORT** ment. Speaking from her

**AIPUR/LUCKNOW:** A routine police operation to clear a route for the Chief Minister's convoy has snowballed into a major controversy after a Rajasthan Police constable has accused of throwing boiling water on a 21-year-old street vendor, leaving her with serious burn injuries and igniting outrage across two states.

ent. Speaking from her hospital bed, she rejected the Rajasthan government's offers of medical assistance, financial compensation and allotment of a dairy booth, insisting that disciplinary action alone could not deliver justice. Sending the constable to his duty is not justice for me," she said, demanding strict criminal action against the accused. The incident has drawn sharp reactions from social and leaders' organisations in Uttar Pradesh, which have sought the intervention of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and the National Commission for Women.

**FAIR REPORT** Rajasthan's jail administration, Police said Currier was still inside the cell. Aimer, after a long criminal career spanning more than 100

**AJMER / JAIPUR:** In a serious breach of prison security, Jagan Gurjar, one of Chambal's most feared dacoits, was found murdered inside Ajmer High Security Jail on Tuesday, exposing glaring lapses in

spection, while Vishnu was still inside the cell. Ajmer SP Harshvardhan Agrawala confirmed the incident and said an investigation was underway to determine how the assault went unnoticed in a high-security facility. Gurjar had surrendered in February 2022

After a long criminal career spanning more than 100 cases across Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, his record included murder, extortion and violent crimes, and his name had long evoked fear in the ravine belt of the Dang region.

**FAIR REPORT**  Parliament, leading the

**NEW DELHI:** Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Monday took oath as a Member of the Rajya Sabha once again, marking the continuation of his parliamentary journey and reaffirming his position as one of the party's most influential voices in the Upper House.

experience and unwavering commitment to constitutional values. "It is a matter of immense pride that you will once again represent our state in the Rajya Sabha. Your vast experience, wisdom and

and continued service to the country. Kharge, a seasoned parliamentarian with decades of experience in both the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, has emerged as the principal face of the Congress in

His return to the Upper House comes at a politically significant time, with Parliament expected to witness intense debates on economic policy, governance, national security and legislative reforms. Congress leaders believe Kharge's experience and consensus-building skills will play a crucial role in shaping the Opposition's strategy inside Parliament and ensuring that key national issues receive robust legislative scrutiny.

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IN FOCUS



Devotees throng to offer prayers during the Snana Purnima festival, in Puri on Monday (PTI)

DU offers 1,370 ECA quota seats in 14 categories for UG admissions

FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

The University of Delhi has announced 1,370 seats under the extra-curricular activities (ECA) quota across 14 categories for undergraduate admissions in the 2026-27 academic session, even as registrations under the Common Seat Allocation System (CSAS-UG) are already underway.

According to the university's ECA seat matrix, theatre has emerged as one of the largest categories with 123 seats, along with Indian classical dance with 125 seats and Indian vocal music with 109 seats.

The university has also earmarked 72 seats for Indian Folk Dance, 71 seats for Hindi debate, 69 seats for English debate, 65 seats for sketching and painting, 63 seats for western dance, 56



seats for National Cadet Corps (NCC) (girls), 54 seats for western vocal music and 53 seats for the National Service Scheme (NSS).

Among other categories, the university has offered 44 seats in photography, 42 in yoga, 37 in instrumental Indian music (tabla), 35 in choreography, 33 in English creative writing and 30 in Hindi creative writing. Filmmaking has 28 seats,

harmonium 26, quiz 25 and western drums 24 seats.

Several specialised ECA disciplines have a limited number of seats. Guitar (lead) has 13 seats, sculpture 10, animation eight, violin (Indian) five, bass guitar 13, sarod two and western flute one seat.

The seat matrix shows participation from colleges across the university, with institutions such as Kirori

Mal College, Hindu College, Hansraj College, Miranda House, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, Sri Venkateswara College, Gargi College, Ramjas College, Shivaji College and Zakir Husain Delhi College offering seats in multiple ECA disciplines.

The university has already opened registrations for undergraduate admissions through the CSAS-UG portal.

According to the university, candidates desirous of taking admission to the undergraduate programme under the sports quota must have appeared in CUET (UG)-2026.

"For admissions to ECA and sports supernumerary seats, a weightage of 25% will be given to CUET(UG)-2026 score and 75% to certificates/trials/ performances," according to the UG bulletin of information.

Man jumps into Yamuna from DND flyway, search operation underway



FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

A 30-year-old man allegedly jumped into the Yamuna river from the DND Flyway in the early hours of Monday, with police probing the possible role of matrimonial discord, even as a multi-agency search operation continued through the day.

The missing man has been identified as Ankit Sharma alias Ashu, a resident of Chitra Vihar in east Delhi.

According to police, CCTV footage showed Sharma's fall into the river at around 1.35 am after he allegedly left behind his scooter, two mobile phones and slippers on the DND Flyway.

Police said information about the incident was received at around 2.25 am, following which rescue teams were rushed to the spot.

The Delhi Fire Service said it received a call early Monday regarding a person allegedly jumping into the Yamuna from the flyway.

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) officials said they were alerted around 2.30 am, and they immediately deployed a team equipped with boats

and rescue gear to launch a search operation.

The operation is being carried out jointly by the NDRF, Delhi Disaster Management Authority and Delhi Fire Services.

Police said the NDRF has doubled its deployment from 35 to 70 personnel to intensify the search. Sharma's family also informed them that he had jumped into the river, prompting an extensive search in coordination with multiple agencies, a senior police officer said.

During inspection of the spot, police recovered Sharma's scooter, two mobile phones and slippers from the bridge. No suicide note has been found so far, police said.

During preliminary inquiry, police found that Sharma was reportedly facing matrimonial disputes and court cases linked to them. Investigators suspect that ongoing domestic issues may have driven him to take the extreme step, though the exact circumstances are yet to be established. The search operation was continuing till the filing of this report, with teams combing stretches of the river to trace him. Further investigation is underway.

Centre to lift temporary curbs on fuel sale amid West Asia conflict

FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

The Centre has decided to lift temporary restrictions on the sale of petrol and diesel from July 1. This ends emergency measures introduced earlier this month to safeguard domestic fuel supplies amid disruptions led by the US-Israeli war on Iran and the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

The move will also end the cap on the diesel quantity that can be sold to a single vehicle in a day at retail fuel stations, reflecting an improvement in the country's fuel supply situation.

In an order issued on



Monday, the government said it had reviewed the prevailing supply situation of petroleum products and concluded that the restrictions were "no longer necessary in the public interest." It consequently withdrew the June 12

notification with effect from July 1, 2026.

The curbs, imposed as a precaution against potential supply shortages, had barred commercial consumers from buying petrol and diesel at retail fuel stations. Authorities had also placed a daily limit on diesel purchases to ensure adequate availability for the general public. The curbs were imposed amid fears that the US-Israeli war on the Gulf could disrupt global energy supply chains and affect fuel availability.

The order stated that the temporary measures, introduced on June 12 under the Motor Spirit and High Speed Diesel (Temporary Regulation

of Supply through Retail Outlets) Order, 2026, had been imposed to regulate the sale and distribution of petrol and diesel through retail outlets operated by Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL).

According to the government, the restrictions were considered "necessary and expedient in the public interest to maintain supplies of Motor Spirit (MS) and High Speed Diesel (HSD) and secure their equitable distribution and availability at fair prices."

However, following a

review of the domestic fuel supply situation, the order said the Centre was "satisfied that it is no longer necessary in the public interest to continue with the directions contained in the said Order."

The June 12 order had barred industrial, commercial and institutional consumers from purchasing petrol and diesel from retail fuel stations, directing them instead to source fuel from authorised bulk suppliers. Oil marketing companies and fuel retailers were also instructed to restrict bulk purchases from retail outlets for a period of up to 90 days.

The government had said the decision was taken in

response to "the current prevailing geopolitical situation affecting certain regions of the world", which had disrupted international petroleum supply chains, shipping logistics and the availability of petroleum products.

It also cited "extraordinary demand growth", particularly for diesel, after bulk consumers shifted their purchases to retail fuel stations because of significant price differences. While retail prices remained lower, bulk consumers, including industries, telecom tower operators and firms using diesel for power generation, continued to pay market-linked rates.

Gujarat CM Patel holds meetings with Ukraine's envoy, Russian trade representatives

FAIR REPORT  
■ Vadodara

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel met Ukraine's Ambassador to India, Oleksandr Polishchuk, here on Monday and invited industries from his country to collaborate with the state as a reliable Indian partner.

The meeting took place on the sidelines of the 4th Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conference (VGRC), which was inaugurated by the CM.

On the opening day of the two-day conference, Patel also met Ireland's Consul General in Mumbai, Patrick Duffy, and the Head of Government Relations and Financial Sector at the Trade Representation of Russian Federation, Zlata Antusheva.

The regional conference is the fourth edition of the series being organised in run-up to the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2027.

In the meeting with Polishchuk, the CM discussed strategic partnerships with Ukraine in pharmaceuticals,



agriculture, renewable energy and green hydrogen sectors, and expressed gratitude to the Eastern European country for being a partner in all four editions of the VGRC held so far.

Patel held a one-to-one meeting with Polishchuk with their discussions focused on strategic partnerships in pharmaceuticals, agriculture, renewable energy and green hydrogen sectors, stated an official release.

Patel and Ireland's Mumbai-based Consul General Duffy also held one-to-one meeting which was focused on strengthening economic partnership

between Gujarat and the North-western European nation, it said.

"Referring to the new opportunities expected to emerge from the upcoming India-European Union (India-EU) Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the Chief Minister invited Irish industries and investors to take advantage of the vast investment and trade opportunities available in Gujarat," said the release.

The Chief Minister and the Consul General discussed ways to further strengthen cooperation, particularly in the fields of skill development, technology, and sports.

Ireland's Consul General expressed his eagerness to participate in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2027 and conveyed his interest in organising a country seminar to explore areas of mutual collaboration.

Patel also held a meeting with a delegation from the Trade Representation of Russian Federation in India. At the meeting, detailed discussions were held on

strengthening mutual collaboration in sectors such as transportation, smart city development, payment systems, Indian MSMEs, rupee-based financial transactions, as well as with Russian firms Archem (specialty chemicals) and EuroChem (fertilizers), stated the release.

Speaking at a seminar on "Sports Goods Manufacturing Hub in Chhota Udepur: From Traditional Skills to Industrial Development", the CM said his state has prepared a robust roadmap for 'Viksit Gujarat' to realise Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of 'Viksit Bharat by 2047'. Referring to the success of the Vibrant Gujarat initiative launched in 2003, Patel noted the platform has evolved into a globally recognised investment summit.

He maintained that Gujarat has recorded an implementation rate of 70 per cent-90 per cent for Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) signed during Vibrant Gujarat events.

Punjab CM Mann announces 7,000 km of pipeline to take canal water to every farm

FAIR REPORT

■ Moga (Punjab)

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Monday said his government will lay 7,000 kilometres of pipelines by the end of this year to bring canal water to every farm in the state.

Addressing a Lok Milni programme at Bhallur village in Moga district, Mann said the state government has already laid 14,000 km of pipelines and watercourses over the last four years to improve irrigation.

Around 80 per cent of the state's farms are getting 21,000 cusecs of canal water through these pipelines, he said. The government is creating water recharge points along canals and rivers to improve the groundwater level, which has risen by two to four metres in several areas, he added.

Mann alleged that canal water under earlier regimes was meant only for influential people, and said that his government is steadfast in taking it to every farmer.

On the row that has beset him for days, the chief minister attacked opposition parties, saying they had joined hands against him after their defeat in the 2022 Assembly elections because they could not match his government's performance.



He alleged that the previous governments encouraged corruption, mafia, and the drug trade.

Under his government, Mann said, over 90 per cent of households are getting free electricity, and more than 68,000 people have got government jobs without paying a bribe or using leverage.

He said his government has constructed 3,100 sports stadiums to encourage youth to stay away

from drugs. The government's Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojna provides cashless medical treatment of up to Rs 10 lakh for every resident family in Punjab, adding that people have already availed treatment worth over ₹650 crore under the scheme, he said.

The Aam Aadmi Party leader announced financial assistance to all adult females from July 1 under Maavan Dheeyan Satkar Yojna.

Farmer Missing After Going to Field, Search Operation Continued in Two Wells for 6 Hours

**Bike and mobile found near the well, family suspected he may have fallen; police started investigation**

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** A farmer from Gardikheda village under Ghosunda Gram Panchayat went missing under suspicious circumstances after he left for his field. When he did not return home, his family started searching and found his bike and mobile near the field. Suspecting that he may have fallen into a well, the family informed Chanderiya Police and Civil Defence team. A search operation was carried out in two wells for about 6 hours, but

no clue of the farmer was found. The missing farmer, 45-year-old Ratanlal, son of Gadi, had left home for the field at around 7.30 pm on Sunday, according to his son Shankar. When he did not return for a long time, family members searched in the village and nearby areas. They found his bike and mobile near the field, but Ratanlal was missing. After receiving information, Chanderiya Police reached the spot. On Monday morning, the Civil Defence team started a rescue operation in a nearly 70-feet-deep well. Since the well was filled with water, the team first removed the water with a motor and then searched inside the

well. However, no success was found. Later, the team also searched another nearby well, which was around 45 feet deep and had about 25 feet of water. After several hours of searching, no clue was found and the rescue operation was stopped in the afternoon. The rescue team included Civil Defence members Rajkumar Bhoi, Mukesh Bhoi, Rekha Bhoi, Ratan Bhoi, Kailash Chandra Vaishnav, Rohit Bhoi, Mangni Ram, Chain Ram, Dhar-amraj and Yashwant. Police have registered a missing person report and started investigation. The family has also expressed suspicion regarding a land dispute.

Mysterious Toxic Smell Spread in 6 Villages, Panic for 3 Hours; Two Villagers Fell Sick, Cause Still Unknown

**Bansi-Vijaypur Area's Shadi Gram Panchayat Affected, Rain Reduced the Impact**

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** A mysterious toxic smell spread in six villages of Shadi Gram Panchayat in Bansi-Vijaypur Ghat area on Monday, creating panic among villagers. People complained of breathing problems, eye irritation and uneasiness. For about three hours, many people stayed inside their houses. Villagers said that the smell started suddenly after around 10 am and slowly spread to nearby villages. The smell was so strong that people found it difficult to stay outside. Villagers informed the admin-

istration about the situation. After receiving the information, the administration and related department teams reached the spot. The affected areas included Shadi, Golpura, Manakpura and nearby villages. Officials inspected the area and collected information. According to villagers, many people faced problems due to the smell. Two villagers also reportedly fell ill and were given primary treatment. The Pollution Control Board team also reached the spot and started investigation, but the exact reason behind the smell could not be found. The effect reduced after rainfall. The administration has appealed to villagers to remain alert.

**Thieves targeted only valuable items in the 14-room school, broke locks of selected rooms**

FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** Before the start of the new session after the summer vacation, thieves broke into the Government Senior Secondary School located in Dagla Ka Kheda. Late Sunday night, the thieves entered the school and stole electronic items worth around Rs 2.5 to 3 lakh. The incident came to light when the school opened on Monday morning. Principal Leela Chawla said that

the thieves stole items kept in the office and classrooms. The stolen items include two LED TVs, an inverter, battery, sound box, microphone and tablets kept in a cupboard. The thieves also took the remote of the LED TV kept in the office. The school has 14 rooms, but the thieves broke locks of only three rooms where valuable items were kept. The principal said that a police camp was held in the school on Sunday and everything was normal till evening. When the school was opened at around 7 am on Monday, broken locks were found.

Police were informed and a case has been registered. The stolen equipment was used for students' studies.

Meanwhile, suspicious activity was also reported at Sona Auto Mobile on Railway Station Road. Owner Monil Nebhnani said the showroom was closed on Sunday. CCTV footage showed two suspicious youths, who tried to break the camera and cut its wire. Earlier on Friday, thieves had also stolen scrap and iron pipes from the scrap area by breaking a window. A theft had also taken place in the store room in November.

## States Focus



### INDIA, MALDIVES BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR FTA

India and the Maldives on Monday began negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA), the commerce department said. The discussions are being conducted in virtual mode and are scheduled from June 29 to July 7, it said. "The Government of India has officially commenced the first round of negotiations for a bilateral FTA with the Republic of Maldives," the department said in a social media post. In a trade agreement, two countries either significantly reduce or eliminate import duties on the maximum number of goods traded between them. "Every vote is crucial in shaping the future of West Bengal and strengthening democracy and the rule of law," the Governor said. (PTI)



### PRASOON JOSHI-LED PANEL SET UP TO STRENGTHEN FILM INDUSTRY

The Centre on Monday announced the setting up of a study group under Prasas Bharati chairperson Prasoon Joshi to recommend measures for strengthening the Indian film industry. It also circulated draft regulations among states, saying their adoption could increase the number of cinema halls across the country, as different states currently follow different rules for permissions required for setting up theatres. He also highlighted that the IIA is a unique institution with a rich legacy and global standing in astronomy research, tracing its three centuries journey, beginning from the historic Madras Observatory. (PTI)

## LG performs *Pratham Puja* to mark start of Amarnath Yatra

FAIR REPORT  
■ Jammu

Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday performed the *Pratham Puja* at the Holy Cave of Shri Amarnath Ji, marking the ceremonial start of the annual pilgrimage. The Lieutenant Governor sought the divine blessings of Baba Barfani and prayed for the peace, prosperity, health and well-being of all. The Lieutenant Governor extended a heartfelt invitation to all devotees of Baba Barfani, encouraging them to join the holy pilgrimage in great numbers and experience the spiritual journey. "As the Yatra commences on July 3rd, the Administration, Shri



Amarnath Ji Shrine Board, Army, Police, Security Forces, Local Community, Service Providers, and volunteers are

working in complete synergy. Every stakeholder is devoted to ensuring a safe, hassle-free and memorable pilgrimage

for all pilgrims. With significantly upgraded infrastructure, enhanced facilities, and invaluable support of people of Jammu Kashmir, we are fully prepared to welcome devotees for a spiritually fulfilling journey," the Lieutenant Governor said. Shri Amarnath Ji Shrine Board (SASB) organizes the Pratham Puja annually at the Holy Cave on Jyeshtha Purnima. This year's 57-day pilgrimage will formally commence on July 3rd, 2026, simultaneously via both traditional routes – the Pahalgam axis in Anantnag district and the Baltal in Ganderbal district. The Yatra will culminate on August 28th, 2026, on Raksha Bandhan.

## Congress dividing India with foreign mindset: BJP

FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

The BJP on Monday backed party president Nitin Nabin's remarks targeting the Congress, alleging that the opposition party's leadership has a "foreign mindset" and it works at the behest of foreign powers to "divide and undermine India". The remarks came after Nabin, addressing a public meeting in Hyderabad on Sunday, alleged that the Congress family's mindset is "Italian rather than Indian", and that a government driven by such a mindset will get no opportunity in India. Backing Nabin's statement, BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla alleged that the INC no longer stands for 'Indian National Congress',

but for anti-India 'Italian National Congress' or 'Islamabad National Congress'. "Nitin Nabin ji is absolutely right. The Congress family's bodies are here but their mindset is abroad. With that foreign mindset, they constantly divide and undermine India at the behest of foreign powers," Poonawalla alleged in a video statement. Targeting Rahul Gandhi, Poonawalla claimed that the Congress leader criticises India's economy, democracy and sovereignty during his foreign visits. "Isn't it true that Rahul Gandhi is abroad even now, perhaps planning some conspiracy against In He goes to foreign soil and abuses India's economy, democracy and sovereignty.

## DGHS scam probe gains momentum as ED, ACB team up

FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Delhi's Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) are now working together to track down suspect firms and money trails in the large-scale scam involving the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS). After the ACB arrested former DGHS chief Dr Vatsala Agarwal on Saturday, the ED also requested detailed records from the DGHS under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Officials said the agency is now reviewing financial transactions related to the Central Procurement Agency (CPA) to find out who benefited and to trace the flow of suspected illegal funds. Dr Agarwal was removed from her position on May 21

and later suspended by order of Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu. She was arrested for allegedly being involved in major financial irregularities in the purchase of medicines, surgical supplies, and medical equipment worth about ₹350 crore. With her arrest, the ACB has now taken three people into custody in this case. Earlier, the ACB arrested Dr Vijay Kumar Ranga, who was in charge of the CPA, and he was remanded to four days of police custody by a Delhi court. Reports also say that Deputy Controller of Accounts Neeraj Chopra has been arrested in the same case. The ACB says the investigation focuses on claims that CPA officials altered technical specifications and tender conditions to benefit certain private suppliers. Investigators believe that



items such as portable X-ray machines, C-arm radiological equipment, anaesthesia workstations, oral rehydration solution (ORS), bed sheets, linen, and surgical consumables such as dressings, sutures, cannulas, gloves, and medicines were bought at higher prices, resulting in losses for the public. Earlier, the Directorate of

Vigilance, GNCTD, reported major irregularities in the CPA's operations. This led the ACB to file a case under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The agency is now reviewing procurement files, financial transactions, and potential collusion between government officials and private vendors. With the ED joining the

investigation, the focus has expanded from just corruption to possible money laundering as well. On Friday, the agency asked the current DGHS for full records of tenders, technical and financial evaluations, contract awards, supplies, inspections, payments, and dealings with manufacturers, authorised distributors, and other groups involved in the flagged procurements. Officials said the ED is mainly looking for 'suspect firms' that may have benefited from the manipulated processes and is tracing where the money went. By working together, the agencies hope to investigate not just the arrested officials but also private suppliers and anyone else who may have received improper benefits. The case has also put a spotlight on how the CPA, which

handles the purchase of medicines and equipment for Delhi government hospitals, operates. Dr Agarwal had already been removed and suspended before her arrest, after complaints about irregularities. The Government follows a "zero-tolerance" policy towards corruption, and every effort will be made to ensure a fair, transparent and time-bound investigation. The ACB is continuing its investigation in the role of other officials, while the ED is expected to register a parallel case under PMLA if evidence of money laundering emerges. Both agencies are working together to identify everyone who benefited and recover any funds from the alleged scam. As the investigation continues, more arrests or legal actions may happen.

## Act without political interference: Vijay tells officials

FAIR REPORT  
■ Chennai

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Monday directed district collectors and superintendents of police to effectively tackle crimes by identifying the root cause and maximise public safety. Stressing the need to crack down on drug trafficking and protect natural resources from plunder, he said no wrongdoer, regardless of their standing, should escape swift and impartial punishment. Addressing the first two-day joint conference of collectors, SPs and senior police officials since his TVK government assumed office in May, Vijay said the officials "could act without political interference."



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Joseph Vijay during a conference of District Collectors and Police Department officials at the Secretariat

"District collectors and Superintendents of Police should actively monitor and take action against drug trafficking and smuggling of mineral resources," Vijay said at the Secretariat here.

"Collectors and SPs should take steps to prevent criminal incidents by identifying the root cause. A change should be brought about in the behaviour of those who disturb law and order," he

said in his opening remarks. Women's safety should be ensured without any compromise and special arrangements should be made for their protection. Special attention should also be given to the safety of students and children, Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay said. "Shops near schools should be continuously monitored. Periodic checks should be conducted if necessary. Those involved in drug-related crimes should be immediately arrested and punished," the CM said. He emphasised that the people elected the TVK government for social justice and for an administration that is transparent, honest and corruption-free.

## Trainer aircraft crash-lands in UP; pilot safe

FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

A trainer aircraft crash-landed in a field in Kasganj, Uttar Pradesh, and the 28-year-old lady trainee pilot who operated the plane is safe, according to aviation watchdog Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The DGCA is investigating the incident. "Chetak Aviation Cessna 152 aircraft VT-AFB engaged in solo flying at Aligarh has crash landed in a field in Kasganj. She (trainee pilot) is reported to be safe," the regulator said in a statement. According to DGCA, Chetak Aviation has informed that the aircraft landed on the side of the e-way and the pilot is



safe and unharmed. Cessna 152 is a single-engine, two-seater aircraft that is mainly used for training activities. Further details could not be immediately ascertained. The occurrence on Monday is at least the second incident involving a trainer aircraft that has happened in Uttar Pradesh in the last four days. On June 26, a

trainee pilot sustained injuries after being hit by a running propeller of a trainer aircraft at the Kanpur airport. The incident occurred after the trainee pilot deboarded the twin-engine Tecnam P2006T aircraft VT-NBV, and the instructor concerned has been derostered from flying training duties pending investigation, DGCA

said on Sunday. The regulator is investigating the incident. The aircraft, belonging to Garg Aviation, a flying training organisation, was engaged in night instructional flying at the Kanpur (Chakeri) airport. "A flight instructor and a cadet were on board the aircraft. After landing, the trainee pilot deboarded the aircraft with the engine running. The cadet received injuries in her back due (to being) hit by the running propeller. She is admitted to a hospital in Kanpur," DGCA had said in a statement. Following the incident, the watchdog also issued directions that the aircraft concerned should not be utilised pending investigation.

## Rahul Gandhi assured political representation, says Prajapati Forum



FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

A forum representing the Prajapati caste on Monday said Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has met its delegations three times since last September and assured them of addressing the community's political marginalisation, while its outreach to the BJP and the Samajwadi Party (SP) has drawn no response so far. The statement by the Prajapati Community Service Foundation, a group advocating the community's rights, assumes significance ahead of the Uttar Pradesh Assembly elections, due in early 2027, as Opposition parties seek to counter the BJP's sustained outreach to non-Yadav OBCs (Other Backward Castes).

Addressing a Press conference, Prajapati Community Service Foundation president Raajesh Prajapati said the outfit would urge all political parties to field candidates from the community and ensure it receives its due representation. "The first two meetings with Rahul Gandhi were held in Rae Bareilly, while the latest one took place at 10 Janpath. We have also written to BJP president Nitin Nabin and SP chief Akhilesh Yadav, but have not yet received a response," he said. In its letter to Yadav, the foundation, formed in April 2024, urged him to "identify and empower" politicians from the Prajapati Community at the district, block, state and national levels.

## BJP backs Uniform Civil Code in West Bengal

FAIR REPORT  
■ New Delhi

The BJP on Monday backed the implementation of the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), describing it as part of the party's commitment to women's empowerment, while accusing the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and the Congress of putting vote-bank politics above women's rights. The remarks came amid the West Bengal government's decision to introduce the UCC Bill in the State Assembly. Less than two months after



BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla

ending the TMC's 15-year rule in the State, the BJP Government is expected to table in the West Bengal Assembly one of its most

ambitious and politically sensitive promises, setting the stage for what could become the first major ideological confrontation of the post-

election period. BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla said the UCC is part of the Constitution and asserted that wherever the BJP-NDA comes to power, it moves forward with its implementation. "The UCC has been a commitment of the BJP and the (Narendra) Modi Government towards women's empowerment. Therefore, wherever the BJP-NDA Government is coming to power, it is going forward with the implementation of the UCC," he said in a video statement. "Whether it is the steps

taken in Bengal, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh or the implementation of the UCC in Uttarakhand or the advanced stage it has reached in Assam, this shows that the BJP and the Modi Government are committed towards gender empowerment and women's empowerment," he said. Accusing the Congress of putting vote-bank politics above women's empowerment, Poonawalla said the opposition party had consistently sacrificed women's rights for political considerations.

## Virus, cockroach people are gang that wants to divide country, says Nitin Nabin

FAIR REPORT  
■ Hyderabad

In a sharp attack on Cockroach Janata Party, BJP president Nitin Nabin on Monday alleged that the "virus and cockroach people" are a gang that wants to divide the country. Nabin, who addressed meetings of BJP's booth presidents, tribal leaders in Warangal and a gathering of students near here as part of his three-day visit to Telangana, also took a dig at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, describing him as a "part-time politician". "Parties like virus and cockroach are coming into the country. These are people who want to make the country hollow. There is a need to pay attention to these virus and cockroach people. The gang wants to divide the country," he said, addressing the booth presidents. Only BJP workers can teach a lesson to such people that want to divide the country, he said, also crediting the activists for the emergence of BJP as the world's largest political party. Congress leader "Rahul baba is a part-time politician", while BJP activists engage themselves in full time politics, he said.

## Satheesan writes to Suvendu over ex-Telegraph editor's passport issue

FAIR REPORT  
■ Thiruvananthapuram

Kerala Chief Minister VD Satheesan on Monday wrote to his West Bengal counterpart Suvendu Adhikari, seeking his intervention in the passport renewal application of senior journalist Rajagopal, former editor of The Telegraph. Rajagopal's passport renewal application was allegedly held up due to an adverse police verification report, prompting criticism from journalists and political leaders across the country. "I understand that the adverse report is based on



the deletion of his name from the electoral roll during the Special Intensive Revision. While the electoral issue is being

addressed through the appropriate appeal process, I am informed that the police report has resulted in a delay in the renewal of his

passport," Satheesan said in the letter. The CM said Rajagopal, a Malayali, is a renowned journalist who has been based in Kolkata for the past three decades. He also noted that the veteran journalist is the son of Professor V Ramadas, who served as the state secretary of the Gandhi Smarak Nidhi in Kerala and was widely respected for his public service. "In these circumstances, I would like to request your good self to kindly look into the matter urgently," he said. Leader of the Opposition Pinarayi Vijayan described

the denial of passport renewal as "shocking" and alleged that it was an act of political vendetta. In a statement, Vijayan said the authorities had rejected Ramadas' passport renewal application on the grounds that his name was not included in the electoral roll. He said Rajagopal was among around 27 lakh people whose names were deleted during the SIR of the electoral roll conducted in March in the Ballygunge Assembly constituency in Kolkata. According to Vijayan, Rajagopal has challenged the deletion before the tribunal.

# India Slams Pakistan Over Deadly Airstrikes In Afghanistan That Killed 36 Civilians, Including Women And Children

## FAIR REPORT

**NEW DELHI:** India on Monday delivered a sharp rebuke to Pakistan over a fresh round of airstrikes on Afghan soil, calling the attacks a brazen violation of Afghanistan's sovereignty after Taliban officials said at least 36 civilians — including women and children — were killed and 163 others injured.

In a strongly worded statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) described the strikes as an act of aggression that posed a direct threat to regional peace and stability. The ministry went further, framing the attacks as part of what it called Islamabad's recurring pattern of reckless conduct — and a desperate bid to deflect from troubles at home by lashing out beyond its own borders.

India also extended con-



dolences to the families of those killed and wished a speedy recovery to the injured, while reaffirming its backing for Afghanistan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The scale of the devastation was laid out by Taliban Deputy Spokesman

Hamdullah Fitrat, who said Pakistani fighter jets struck residential areas across three provinces — Paktia, Paktika and Kunar — overnight on Sunday. According to Fitrat, the bombing began with a strike on a civilian home in Mandokhail village in

Tsamkani district that killed an elderly man and a child. As locals rushed in to begin rescue efforts, the same area was hit a second time, killing 28 villagers and wounding 158 more in what amounted to a devastating follow-up strike.

Fitrat said a separate strike on a home in Walust village in Gayan district killed six people, mostly women and children, while another attack on a residence in Barolo village in Manogai district caused extensive property damage.

Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid had earlier in the day branded the strikes a cowardly act of aggression, adding to the chorus of condemnation from Kabul.

The latest strikes mark another flashpoint in the increasingly volatile relationship between Islamabad and Kabul, with India's pointed criticism underscoring New Delhi's deepening diplomatic alignment with Afghanistan even as tensions along the Pakistan-Afghanistan border show no signs of easing.

# Yen in Freefall: Japan's \$72 Billion Defence Crumbles as Currency Hits 40-Year Low

## FAIR REPORT

**TOKYO / NEW DELHI:** Japan's battle to defend its battered currency has suffered a dramatic setback, with the yen plunging to its weakest level in nearly four decades despite one of the largest foreign-exchange interventions in recent history. The Japanese currency slipped to 161.96 against the US dollar on Monday, marking its lowest level since December 1986 and underscoring the relentless pressure created by widening interest-rate differences between Japan and the United States. Earlier this year, Tokyo deployed an estimated \$72.5 billion to stabilize the currency, but the intervention has failed to reverse the downward spiral. Markets continue to be dominated by expectations that the US Federal Reserve will maintain ele-



vated interest rates, while the Bank of Japan remains cautious about tightening monetary policy aggressively. A weaker yen has offered a windfall to Japan's export-oriented corporations, making their products more competitive overseas. However, the benefits have come at a steep domestic cost. Rising prices of imported fuel, food and raw materials are squeezing households, intensifying inflationary pres-

ures and eroding consumer purchasing power. With the yen breaching another psychological threshold, investors are increasingly questioning whether Japanese authorities will launch fresh intervention or consider a more decisive policy shift. The currency's historic slide has become more than a market story—it is now a critical test of Japan's economic strategy and financial credibility.

# 60 Million Stars In One Frame! ESA's Euclid Telescope Captures Most Detailed Portrait Ever Of Milky Way's "Crowded Heart"

## FAIR REPORT

**NEW DELHI:** Somewhere in the depths of space, a telescope the size of a small car just did something no instrument has ever managed before — it photographed 60 million stars in a single, staggeringly detailed image, peering straight into the blazing, overcrowded core of our own galaxy.

The European Space Agency's Euclid space telescope has released what scientists are calling the largest and sharpest visible-light image ever taken of the Milky Way's central bulge—the dense, glowing region at the heart of our galaxy where stars are packed so tightly that earlier telescopes simply couldn't tell them apart.

The mind-bending image was captured over a single 26-hour stretch on March 23, 2025, stitched together from nine separate snapshots, each one wider than the full Moon in the sky. Despite the breakneck speed, the level of detail is so fine that ground-based observatories like Keck would have needed roughly 2,000 hours of staring at the same patch of sky to match it. Euclid wasn't



built for this kind of close-up portrait — its real job is mapping billions of distant galaxies to hunt for clues about dark matter and dark energy. But astronomers pointed it at the galaxy's blazing core anyway, betting that its razor-sharp vision could pick individual stars out of an impossibly crowded field without getting overwhelmed. The gamble paid off spectacularly.

Buried inside the image is something even more tantalizing for planet hunters: 51 known planetary systems, plus the seeds of a hunt for many more, made possible through a phenomenon called microlensing, where one star drifts in front of another and briefly acts as a natural magnifying glass, bending and brightening its light. If a

planet happens to be orbiting that closer star, its gravity leaves a telltale flicker in the light — a flicker scientists can now hunt for using Euclid's data as a benchmark.

Scientists say the image will also serve as a crucial time capsule for NASA's upcoming Roman Space Telescope, which is expected to stare at this same crowded region for years in search of new worlds — meaning Euclid has effectively given Roman a head start before it has even launched.

For now, the photograph stands as one of the most jaw-dropping snapshots of our cosmic neighbourhood ever produced — a glittering reminder of just how much remains hidden in the blazing heart of the galaxy we call home.

# From ₹12,000 Salary To ₹25 Lakh Mansion: Inside The Ayodhya Ram Temple Donation Theft That's Shocked A Nation

## FAIR REPORT

**AYODHYA:** A modest cash-counting clerk earning barely 20,000 a month. A 25 lakh house under construction. A separate plot worth nearly 9 lakh. And 12 lakh in cash allegedly found stuffed under a heap of cow dung — hidden in plain sight at his own ancestral home.

This is the trail investigators say they've uncovered in the alleged 7 crore donation theft case rocking the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust in Ayodhya, where

eight men — including temple and bank staff entrusted with counting crores in devotee donations — stand accused of quietly skimming cash from the very donation boxes they were meant to safeguard.

At the centre of the alleged racket is Lavkush Mishra, 27, who worked on the temple's cash-counting team through a bank's outsourcing agency. Investigators say his brother-in-law, Anukalp Mishra, 20 — already part of the counting team — helped him land the job. Accord-

ing to police, the duo's lifestyle transformed dramatically soon after.

Lavkush is alleged to have purchased a plot worth 8.8 lakh near the Ayodhya-Lucknow Highway and begun building a two-storey house there valued at around 25 lakh — an extraordinary leap for someone on a modest monthly wage. Raids at his ancestral home in Ayodhya's Milkipur area allegedly turned up roughly 12 lakh in cash, with several bundles of currency reportedly found concealed beneath a pile of

cow dung.

Anukalp, meanwhile, is said to have built a farmhouse on the outskirts of his native Basava village and bought a house in Ayodhya now estimated at nearly 65 lakh — on top of already owning a vehicle and reportedly eyeing a Mahindra Scorpio SUV.

The alleged scam first came to light after CCTV footage reportedly showed temple and bank employees siphoning cash from donation boxes, prompting the temple trust to file a formal complaint following a preliminary probe

by a Special Investigation Team. All eight accused have since been arrested and remanded to 14 days of judicial custody by an Ayodhya court, facing charges including theft by a servant, criminal breach of trust and offences under the Prevention of Corruption Act.

Of the alleged 7 crore siphoned off, investigators say they have so far recovered just under 80 lakh. The probe into the remaining money — and how far up the alleged conspiracy goes — is still ongoing.

# Cannabis Crop Found in Field, Police Arrested Farm Owner with 233 Plants

## FAIR REPORT

**Chittorgarh:** As part of the campaign against illegal drugs, Bhado police have taken major action and exposed illegal cannabis cultivation in a field at Chakuda village. Police seized 233 green and dry cannabis plants and 530 grams of illegal cannabis. The farm owner was arrested. District Superintendent of Police Dhar-mendra Singh said that un-

der Operation 'Trinetra', being run in Udaipur Range under the direction of Inspector General of Police Gaurav Shrivastava, instructions have been given to take strict action against people involved in storing and transporting illegal drugs. The action was carried out under the direction of ASP Mukul Sharma and supervision of DSP Bhadesar Vinod Kumar:

# Wall Collapse at Construction Site in Jaipur's Amer Kills 3 Workers, Several Feared Trapped Under Debris

## FAIR REPORT

**JAIPUR:** Tragedy struck the Amer area of Jaipur on Monday after a wall of an under-construction building collapsed without warning, killing three labourers — including two women — and leaving several others feared trapped beneath the rubble.

The structure came crashing down in the middle of the day, burying workers under tonnes of broken concrete, bricks and twisted scaffolding. More than 10 labourers



are reported to have sustained injuries in the collapse, several of them severely, and have been

rushed to nearby hospitals for treatment.

Visuals from the site showed rescuers and fel-

low workers clawing through the debris with their bare hands in the desperate early moments after the collapse, before police and administrative teams arrived to take charge of the operation.

Officials reached the spot soon after receiving information about the incident, and a rescue operation involving local police and administration was launched immediately. As of the latest reports, the search for workers still believed to be trapped under the rubble was underway,

with authorities racing against time to pull out survivors.

The exact cause of the collapse has not yet been officially determined. Such incidents at construction sites have repeatedly raised questions over safety compliance and oversight at under-construction properties in the city.

This is a developing story. Further details on the death toll, the injured, and the cause of the collapse are awaited as rescue operations continue.

## FAIR REPORT

**JAIPUR:** A major examination fraud racket has been unearthed in Rajasthan, exposing an alleged nexus between college officials, faculty members and examination centre operators who turned academic assessments into a pay-for-passage enterprise.

Jaipur Police on Monday arrested four accused for allegedly orchestrating a 5.5 lakh deal to ensure that 45 first-year paramedical students with academic backlogs cleared their examinations through systematic cheating.

According to DCP (West) Prashant Kiran, those arrested include Krishna Kumar, Head of Department at S. Karan College in Jhunjhunu, lecturer Shankar Lal Jat, and Ramkrishna Mandi-



wal, operator of the Prabha Devi Memorial PG College examination centre. Investigators said the conspiracy was uncovered after a tip-off received through the police control room on June 27.

Police alleged that all 45 students were deliberately seated in a single examination hall, where invigilators were bribed to provide answers during the test. Investigators recovered WhatsApp conversations, digital documents and PDF copies of

admit cards that allegedly detail the planning of the operation. Officials also claimed that 3.27 lakh had already been paid in advance to secure the cooperation of examination staff. The arrests have once again raised troubling questions about the integrity of professional education and the vulnerability of examination systems to organised corruption. Police said further arrests are likely as the investigation continues.