

FAIR REPORT

THE DAWN OF A FEARLESS PEN



TREMOR'S TRAIL

People inspect houses damaged by an earthquake in North Lamba Leda, East Nusa Tenggara province, Indonesia, Tuesday.

Bhajan Lal Sharma Hits Back at Gehlot: ‘You Can Change the Spectacles, Not the Negative Vision’

■ FAIR REPORT
JAIPUR

Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma on Tuesday launched a sharp counterattack on former Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, accusing him of viewing the state's development through a "negative lens" and claiming that the Congress leadership was increasingly consumed by an internal race for political primacy. Speaking at the OTS Ground in Jaipur, Sharma said Gehlot may change his spectacles, but cannot change his "negative vision". "You can change the spectacles, but



you cannot change a negative vision," Sharma said, taking a direct swipe at his predecessor's criticism of the BJP government. The Chief Minister also trained his guns on the Congress leadership, saying that while

there were earlier two contenders for the number-one position before the party's Delhi leadership, the contest had now expanded to four. Sharma said voters would eventually respond to what he described as the Congress's "politics of self-interest, appeasement and corruption".

Paper leaks versus government jobs

The Chief Minister sought to draw a sharp contrast between the previous Congress government and his administration on employment and governance. He alleged that young people under the Gehlot government had been repeatedly troubled by paper leaks, while the BJP government was working to turn the aspirations of the state's youth into reality.

Sharma further claimed that more than 60-70 per cent of the announcements made during the previous government could not be implemented, asserting that his government was working to take every promise and announcement to the ground. The Chief Minister also attacked the previous government over electricity and water supply, claiming that people had struggled to receive adequate power and that no concrete initiatives were taken to address the state's long-term water requirements.

Bomb Threat Rocks Rajasthan CM's Office, Sparks 4.5-Hour Search Operation — Drunk Man Held

JAIPUR: A chilling phone call sent shockwaves through the Rajasthan Secretariat on Tuesday morning, after the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) in Jaipur received a bomb threat that triggered a massive, four-and-a-half-hour security operation involving some of the state's most elite response units. The threat was phoned in to the Police Control Room at 10:30 am on Tuesday, instantly setting off alarm bells among police and administrative officials stationed at the high-security complex. Within minutes, the Secretariat was thrown into a state of heightened alert as security personnel moved to seal off the area. No chances were taken. A full-scale search operation was launched, with the Dog Squad, the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS).

‘Not a Single Serious Injury, Not a Single Death’: Rijiju Praises Police Handling of Jantar Mantar Protest

■ FAIR REPORT
JAIPUR

Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju has strongly defended the Delhi Police's handling of the Jantar Mantar protest, asserting that the administration managed a massive mobilisation without a single fatality or serious injury. Speaking about the protest, Rijiju said "not a single person was harmed" and claimed that no protester suffered a broken bone or was admitted to hospital with a serious injury despite thousands gathering at the protest site. Rijiju alleged that several political groups and activists infiltrated the demonstration under the guise of students and attempted to provoke violence. He specifically referred to people



associated with the Aam Aadmi Party, Bhim Army and Samajwadi Party, accusing them of inciting protesters. The minister said the Delhi administration exercised considerable restraint throughout the protest and did not resort to even a single lathi-charge. According to him, police intervention became necessary only when protesters attempted to forcibly march towards Parliament.

TERROR INC: WHEN A STATE OUTSOURCES ITS OCCUPIED TERRITORY TO JIHADIS



Hemraj Tikamchand Tiwari

By Special Feature Desk

Pakistan's carefully constructed deniability over terrorism is becoming

harder to sustain. A public statement attributed to Lashkar-e-Taiba functionary Nasir Madni—claiming that Hafiz Saeed sent 10,000 fighters into Kashmir—is not merely inflammatory rhetoric. If authentic and accurately reported, it is a startling admission that directly contradicts Islamabad's longstanding claims of distance from the terror networks operating against India.



The more disturbing question is not what one militant said, but why such men continue to find public platforms and political space. In Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, the

alleged double standard is even more stark. Armed cadres associated with banned extremist organisations have repeatedly been accused of operating openly, while civilian movements demanding political rights, economic relief and accountability have faced restrictions, arrests and communications curbs. If an armed extremist can march publicly while an unarmed citizen is branded a security

threat, the distinction between counterterrorism and political repression becomes impossible to ignore. This is the central contradiction confronting Islamabad. Pakistan presents itself internationally as a victim of terrorism, yet elements of its security establishment have for decades been accused of cultivating militant proxies as instruments of strategic policy. The names may change—Lashkar-e-Taiba,

Jaish-e-Mohammed or Hizbul Mujahideen—but the underlying model remains disturbingly familiar. PoJK deserves better than becoming a laboratory for this cynical bargain. Its people should not have to choose between militarised politics and militant intimidation. Their political grievances cannot legitimately be answered with the language of terrorism, while armed organisations receive tol-

erance or protection. If Pakistan genuinely wants to demonstrate that its policy has changed, declarations will not suffice. It must dismantle militant infrastructure, prosecute those responsible for terrorism, and guarantee the political and civil rights of the people living under its administration. til then, Islamabad's denials will increasingly sound less like policy—and more like public relations.

Govt unveils indigenisation list of 405 strategically important items

FAIR REPORT
 ■ New Delhi

Stepping up its efforts to achieve self-reliance in defence production, the Government on Tuesday released the sixth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL) of 405 strategically important items with an estimated business potential of ₹3, 070 crore.

The Department of Defence Production (DDP), Ministry of Defence, has notified the sixth Positive Indigenisation List (PIL).

It contains Line Replaceable Units, sub-systems, sub-assemblies, spares, components and raw materials. These include 16 items of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and 389 items of Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs). The items cover a broad range of defence platforms and systems, including Air platforms such as Advanced Light Helicopter, Light Utility Helicopter, Su-30MKI, Light Combat Aircraft and AL-31FP engine, and Armoured platforms including T-72, T-90 and BMP-II Warships.



The other items are Missile systems such as Konkurs-M, Invar and MRSAM; defence electronics including radars, sonars, fire control systems and satellite communication systems; high-explosive anti-tank ammunition and other critical defence equipment.

The detailed list of items is available on the SRIJAN Portal (srijandefence.gov.in).

Each item has an indicative timeline for indigenisation. Upon successful indigenous development, these items will be procured from the

Indian industry. The DPSUs and ICG will undertake indigenisation through various routes, including their 'Make' procedure and in-house development, with participation from the industry, particularly MSMEs.

This sixth PIL marks another step in the government's efforts to promote self-reliance in defence manufacturing under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative. It is expected to further expand opportunities for the Indian industry, strengthen

the domestic defence manufacturing ecosystem, promote investment and innovation, and contribute to reducing dependence on imports.

The DDP launched the SRIJAN Defence Portal in August 2020 as a dedicated platform through which the DPSUs and Service Headquarters (SHQs) offer defence items to the industry, including MSMEs and start-ups, for indigenous development and production.

Since its launch, the portal has facilitated the offer of more than 33,000 defence items for indigenisation by DPSUs and SHQs up to June 2026. These include 5,012 items notified under the first five Positive Indigenisation Lists.

More than 15,700 defence items have been successfully indigenised, resulting in an estimated import substitution value of about Rs 9,000 crore over the last five years. In addition, DPSUs have placed procurement orders, including in-house production, worth approximately Rs 10,000 crore with domestic vendors up to March 2026.

8 killed, 32 injured in MP highway crash

FAIR REPORT
 ■ Bhind

Eight labourers were killed and 32 others injured when the pickup vehicle carrying them collided head-on with a dumper truck in Madhya Pradesh's Bhind district early Tuesday, police said.

The accident took place around 1 am near Chhimka village on the Bhind-Gwalior National Highway. The labourers, who were residents of Uttar Pradesh's Lakhimpur Kheri district, were returning home after completing paddy transplantation work in Gwalior.

According to preliminary findings, the pickup driver tried to avoid cattle sitting on the highway and lost control of the vehicle.

The pickup then moved onto the wrong side of the road and crashed into the oncoming dumper, said Ramnaresh Yadav, in-charge of Gohad Chauraha police station.

The collision was so severe that the pickup was badly damaged and several labourers became trapped inside. Five labourers died at the spot, while three others succumbed to their injuries while being taken to hospital.



Police teams reached the site after receiving information about the accident. With assistance from local residents, they pulled the trapped labourers out of the mangled vehicle.

All the injured were initially taken to a hospital in Gohad, where they received first aid. Those with serious injuries were later referred to Gwalior for specialised treatment.

Kheri Superintendent of Police Khyati Garg confirmed the eight deaths and expressed condolences to the families of the victims.

Six of the deceased have been identified as Updesh, Amar Singh, Sukhdev and Rajneesh, all residents of Bela Tursiya village in the Mohammadi area and aged between 30 and 45 years. The other two identi-

fied victims were Subhash, 30, from Harna Neoli village and Guddu, 45, from Kishanpur Ajit village in the Pasgawan area.

The identities of two other victims were yet to be established. Mohammadi police station SHO Umesh Chaurasiya said relatives of some of the deceased and injured had reached the accident site.

Coast Guard rescue 9 fishermen from sinking boat

FAIR REPORT
 ■ Daman

An Indian Coast Guard (ICG) team from Daman on Tuesday rescued nine fishermen, three of them injured, from a boat that was reported to be sinking in the Arabian Sea.

The team from the ICG Air Station (ICGAS) swiftly responded to a distress call and launched a rescue operation with the help of a helicopter, an official release said.

"The Indian Coast Guard Air Station Daman swiftly responded to a distress call regarding an Indian fishing boat carrying nine fishermen.

The boat was reported to be sinking, posing an imminent threat to the lives of all nine fishermen," the release stated. After receiving the call, ICGAS immediately dis-



patched a Chetak helicopter to the reported position of the boat and safely rescued nine fishermen, it said.

"During the rescue operation, it was observed that three fishermen had sustained minor injuries.

The injured fishermen were brought to the ICGAS Daman, where they received first aid.

Subsequently, they were shifted to a Government Hospital for further medical treatment," the release noted.

The swift and coordinated response by the ICG averted a potential accident and reaffirmed the maritime law enforcement agency's unwavering commitment to saving lives at sea and ensuring the safety of fishermen and mariners, it added.

IIT Bombay launches e-PG diploma in computer science, AI



FAIR REPORT
 ■ Mumbai

IIT Bombay's Educational Outreach is offering an e-Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence (CS and AI) in line with the growing role of AI in modern computing.

The programme is aimed at software developers, engineers, IT professionals and data scientists who have learnt computer science either during their undergraduate studies with basic computer science knowledge, IIT Bombay said.

Designed and delivered by IIT Bombay faculty, with Great Learning as the EdTech partner, the programme combines strong computer science foundations with contemporary developments in AI and Machine Learning.

Drugs worth over ₹10 cr seized, 7 traffickers held in Assam

FAIR REPORT
 ■ Guwahati

Drugs worth more than ₹10 crore were seized and seven suspected drug traffickers arrested from different parts of Assam.

Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma, in a social media post on Tuesday, said that 50,000 Yaba tablets worth Rs 10 crore were seized from a truck's secret chamber at Old MVI checkpoint in Digharkhal area of Cachar district.

"Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. So did this drug haul. Good job @cacharpolice and @assampolice," he said. During the operation, one suspected drug trafficker was



Assam Police seize huge drug trafficking haul in Cachar

also arrested, he added. The chief minister's office, in a post on social media, said that 234.89 kg of ganja were seized from Bhairabkunda in Udalguri district and six people apprehended.

"Legal action is underway against those apprehended in both operations," it added.

Sarma applauded Assam Police for the decisive action and stressed that the state's fight against the drug menace will continue with full force. Yaba or 'crazy medicine' in Thai is a tablet form of a mixture of methamphetamine (a powerful and addictive stimulant) and caffeine.

Drivers to get time to learn Marathi before action: Sarnaik

FAIR REPORT
 ■ Mumbai

Autorickshaw and taxi drivers will get an opportunity to learn Marathi before action is initiated against them for failing to comply with the language requirement, Maharashtra Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik said on Tuesday amid concerns among some sections over the rule enforcement.

The amended motor vehicle rules have evoked mixed reactions, with some supporting the need to know the local language, and others opposing them.

Union minister Ramdas Athawale has argued against



Transport Minister Pratap Sarnaik

immediate action, saying it could create disputes and affect the livelihoods of drivers from other

states. Indicating a softening of the stand, Sarnaik said the Government would not immediately cancel permits or licenses of drivers who do not know Marathi.

He emphasised that the aim was not to deprive them of their livelihood but to ensure those providing passenger transport services in Maharashtra possess a working knowledge of the language.

Nearly six lakh auto-rickshaw and taxi drivers operating in Maharashtra, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), will be brought under a Marathi-language learning initiative, he said at a press conference here.

"There are around 9.16 lakh auto-rickshaws and 61,657 taxis in Maharashtra. A large number of them operate in the MMR. We have decided to continue the initiative and make efforts to teach Marathi to those who do not know the language," Sarnaik said.

According to a notification issued by the state transport department, licences and permits of drivers of passenger vehicles could be suspended and eventually cancelled if they fail to acquire the required knowledge of Marathi within the stipulated period.

Under the amended rules, if a driver is found lacking the required

knowledge, the licensing authority will issue a notice granting him one month to acquire it.

If the driver fails to comply within that period, the authority may suspend the authorisation on his driving licence for three months. In case of continued non-compliance, the authority may revoke the authorisation.

A large number of passenger vehicle drivers across Maharashtra hail from other states.

Some drivers and union leaders have expressed concern that cancellation of licences and permits could adversely affect their livelihood.

Meghalaya CM announces ₹2 lakh ex gratia for kin of hotel fire victims



Conrad K Sangma

FAIR REPORT
 ■ Shillong

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma on Tuesday announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh each for the next of kin of five people from the state who died in a hotel fire in West Bengal's Birbhum district, and assured medical support to six injured survivors.

Expressing condolences to the bereaved families, the chief minister said the state Government had decided to provide the financial assistance as immediate support following the tragedy.

"Yesterday we received the tragic news of the fire that broke out at a hotel in Tarapith in Birbhum district in West Bengal where five people from our state of Meghalaya lost their lives," he said.

AIIMS Delhi, Indian Stroke Association hold CME to boost stroke care in India

FAIR REPORT
 ■ New Delhi

More than 400 healthcare professionals participated in a continuing medical education (CME) programme organised by the Department of Neurology, AIIMS Delhi, in collaboration with the Indian Stroke Association (ISA) to discuss strategies for expanding stroke care in India from prevention and early recognition to advanced treatment.

The CME, titled "Save the Brain — Stroke is Preventable and Treatable", was held on August 6, marking the centenary of cerebral angiography and paying tribute to its



pioneer, Egas Moniz.

The programme focused on strengthening stroke prevention, timely diagnosis,

referral mechanisms, acute treatment, rehabilitation and community awareness.

AIIMS, Delhi, Director Dr

Nikhil Tandon, who was the chief guest, highlighted the evolution of stroke medicine from recognising neurological deficits to preserving brain function and said stroke care was a collective responsibility.

"We should aspire to learn neurology from preserved brain function, not from the loss of brain function caused by stroke," Dr Tandon said.

Additional Secretary and Mission Director (NHM), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Aradhana Patnaik, emphasised prevention, early recognition, timely referral and coordinated care through National Health

Mission initiatives, including Ayushman Arogya Mandirs.

She highlighted the need for screening for stroke risk factors and structured training of ASHAs, ANMs, community health officers and medical officers, besides strengthening referral pathways through hub-and-spoke models. "Policy at every level should ensure good quality treatment while placing greater emphasis on prevention," Patnaik said.

NITI Aayog member Dr M Srinivas stressed the need for a holistic continuum of care covering prevention, early recognition, acute treatment, rehabilitation

and community awareness. He highlighted the brain-health initiative being undertaken in 12 aspirational districts and called for greater multidisciplinary collaboration in stroke care.

He also suggested that school students could become effective ambassadors for stroke awareness in communities.

Dr Shailesh B Gaikwad, Chief, Neurosciences Centre and Head of the Department of Neuroimaging and Interventional Neuroradiology at AIIMS, shared his expertise in neurovascular interventions and called for expansion of stroke intervention ser-

vices across the country.

He also advocated greater promotion of Make-in-India neurovascular devices to strengthen access to advanced stroke treatment.

Dr Awadh Kishor Pandit, who was associated with the CME, said the programme underlined the need to move beyond hospital-based treatment and build a comprehensive stroke-care ecosystem.

"Stroke is not only a neurological emergency, but it is also a public health challenge that requires prevention, rapid recognition, timely referral and access to advanced treatment.

Ayodhya row: SIT clears Champat Rai, Anil Mishra

Naked yoga plan sparks Almora row

Delhi Congress slams purification ritual after Kharge rally

Rajasthan Police Turns to AI, Cyber Intelligence to Build a Smarter Force