

FAIR REPORT

THE DAWN OF A FEARLESS PEN

“VOTE FOR BJP, BUILD A TRIPLE-ENGINE GOVERNMENT”: BHAJAN LAL SHARMA’S JAIPUR PITCH

■ FAIR REPORT
JAIPUR

Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhanu Lal Sharma on Wednesday turned the BJP’s Jaipur roadshow into a larger political argument ahead of the civic elections: if development is to move seamlessly from New Delhi to Jaipur and then to the municipal level, voters must give the BJP what he described as a “triple-engine government.”

Addressing a large gathering during the BJP roadshow from Hanuman Temple at Sanganeri Gate to Tripolia Gate, Sharma sought to frame the municipal election not merely as a contest for councillors and mayors, but as a vote on the direction of urban governance for the next five years.

“The civic election is not



merely about choosing a representative; it is an opportunity to decide the direction of your city’s development for the next five years,” Sharma said, urging voters to rise above caste considerations and vote on the basis of development and governance.

His pitch was straight-

forward: the BJP governments at the Centre and the state constitute the first two engines; a BJP-controlled municipal body, he argued, would provide the third.

From ‘double engine’ to ‘triple engine’ : The political vocabulary of the BJP’s “double-engine gov-

ernment” has now moved firmly into the civic arena. Sharma argued that municipalities and panchayats would be able to implement central and state schemes more effectively if the BJP also controlled the local bodies.

The slogan he offered Jaipur was equally direct:



“Developed Jaipur, developed civic bodies, developed Rajasthan.”

But beneath the development narrative was a sharper political contest with the Congress.

Taking aim at the previous Ashok Gehlot government, Sharma accused it of promoting appeasement

politics and questioned its decision to create two municipal corporations each in Jaipur, Jodhpur and Kota. The BJP government, he said, had restored the “one city, one municipal corporation” arrangement, arguing that it would make administration more effective. Sharma also in-

voked issues such as law and order, conversion and what he termed “love jihad” to draw a political contrast with the previous government. He said his government had taken steps to strengthen law enforcement and that those violating the law would face strict action.

Development as the BJP’s principal electoral argument : The Chief Minister’s broader case was that the BJP government had accelerated projects that, according to him, had remained pending for years. He cited the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project, Yamuna water, the Gang Canal, the Devass project, Som-Mahi and Brahmani among the major water initiatives being pursued by the government. Electricity was another plank of his

argument. Sharma claimed that Rajasthan had added around 12,000 MW of generation capacity in two-and-a-half years, compared with approximately 3,900 MW during the previous government’s five-year tenure. On employment, he said the government had issued 1.79 lakh appointment letters, while recruitment to 1.22 lakh posts was under process and advertisements for around 70,000 posts had been issued. He also claimed that more than 450 examinations conducted during his government’s tenure had passed without a paper leak, while action had been taken against more than 600 people in cases related to alleged paper leaks and recruitment irregularities during the previous government.

Jaipur Records 87.06% Turnout in First Phase

Jaipur Civic Polls See 87.06% Turnout as Voters Turn Out in Large Numbers

■ FAIR REPORT
JAIPUR

The first phase of Rajasthan’s 2026 municipal elections in Jaipur district recorded a final voter turnout of 87.06 per cent on Wednesday, with polling across 18 urban local bodies reported to have concluded peacefully.

The turnout rose steadily through the day. According to the district election administration, 29.47 per cent of voters had cast their ballots by 10 am. The figure increased to 58.29 per cent by 1 pm and 72.66 per cent by 3 pm, before reaching the final 87.06 per cent. Polling stations across the district

witnessed voter movement throughout the day, with young first-time voters as well as senior citizens participating in the exercise. District Election Officer Sandesh Nayak inspected polling arrangements at several centres in Shahpura, Chomu and Khejroli, reviewing the voting process, security arrangements and facilities provided for voters. He also issued directions to election personnel to ensure that polling was conducted freely and without disruption. The district administration said basic facilities, including drinking water and seating arrangements, were provided at polling centres, while security arrangements were maintained to support orderly voting.

RPSC SI Re-Exam: Fifth OMR Option Now Mandatory for September 20 Test



■ FAIR REPORT
JAIPUR

Candidates appearing for the Sub-Inspector/Platoon Commander (Re-Examination)-2021 on September 20, 2026, will have to fill the fifth option on the OMR answer sheet if they do not wish to answer a question, the Rajasthan Public Service Commission (RPSC) said on Wednesday.

The Commission has is-

sued a corrigendum, No. 15/2026-27, on its website to clarify the OMR instructions for the re-examination. The requirement was not part of the original 2021 advertisement. The SI/Platoon Commander examination was advertised on February 3, 2021, and the written examination was subsequently held from September 13 to 15 that year.

From Jaipur to Tokyo: Bartaria’s Vision and the Next Chapter of India-Japan Business Ties

■ FAIR REPORT
HEMRAJ TIKAMCHAND

JAIPUR/TOKYO: For Dr. Anoop Bartaria, the journey from Jaipur’s urban landscape to Tokyo’s boardrooms represents more than a change of geography. It reflects a broader proposition: that India’s next phase of growth will increasingly depend on how effectively its entrepreneurs connect local ambition with global capital, technology and expertise.

Bartaria, Chairman and Managing Director of World Trade Park and associated with Sincere Architects, addressed the ET Immersion Summit in Tokyo, where Indo-Japanese collaboration was among the



themes of discussion. His participation placed a Jaipur-based architect-entrepreneur in a setting shaped by one of Asia’s most sophisticated business and investment ecosystems. The significance of such an engagement extends beyond one individual. Japan has long been an important

economic partner for India, with cooperation spanning infrastructure, manufacturing, technology, urban development and investment. For Rajasthan, the opportunity is particularly relevant. The state is seeking to attract investment, strengthen infrastructure and position its cities as competitive

destinations for business and innovation. Bartaria’s professional journey offers an interesting lens through which to view that transition. World Trade Park has become one of Jaipur’s most recognisable commercial landmarks, while his work through Sincere Architects has connected architecture with large-scale urban and commercial development.

The larger question, therefore, is not simply what an Indian entrepreneur says in Tokyo. It is what happens when India’s emerging business ambitions meet Japanese capital, engineering discipline, technology and long-term investment thinking.








शहरी विकास

- 29 शहरों में **2,700 किमी सीवर लाइन**
- मुख्यमंत्री शहरी रोजगार गारंटी योजना के तहत 540 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक व्यय कर **7 लाख 46 हजार व्यक्तियों को रोजगार** उपलब्ध
- राजस्थान के लिए कुल **1,150 पीएम-ई बस स्वीकृत**, प्रथम चरण में 8 प्रमुख शहरों (जयपुर, जोधपुर, उदयपुर, बीकानेर, कोटा, भीलवाड़ा, अलवर और अजमेर) के लिए 675 इलेक्ट्रिक बसें स्वीकृत
- रोडवेज बेड़े में **798 नई सुपर एक्सप्रेस बसें** और 12 वोल्वो बसें शामिल

युवा शक्ति को अवसर

- **1.88 लाख** सरकारी पदों पर नियुक्तियाँ
- **1.22 लाख** पदों पर भर्ती प्रक्रियाधीन
- **70,031** पदों पर भर्ती की तैयारी
- **410** भर्ती परीक्षाएँ बिना किसी पेपर लीक के सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित

मजबूत आधारभूत संरचना

- **₹91,000 करोड़** की लागत से राम जल सेतु लिंक परियोजना
- **₹34,102 करोड़** की यमुना जल परियोजना से शेखावाटी क्षेत्र में भरपूर पेयजल और सिंचाई जल
- **₹79,459 करोड़** के निवेश से राजस्थान रिफाइनरी
- **₹13,037 करोड़** की लागत से 41 कि.मी. लंबा जयपुर मेट्रो फेज-2

भाजपा सरकार की नीति और नीयत से बदली राजस्थान की किस्मत

नगर निकाय चुनाव में कमल खिलाना है

विकास को आगे बढ़ाना है

समर्थ महिला - समृद्ध राजस्थान

- लाडो प्रोत्साहन योजनान्तर्गत **1.50 लाख** तक की सहायता, **8.84 लाख** बालिकाएँ लाभान्वित
- **18.21 लाख** महिलाएँ बर्नी लखपति दीदी
- **₹450** में एसोई गैस सिलेंडर, **68 लाख** परिवारों को **5.87 करोड़** लिफ्टिल पर **₹1,128 करोड़** की सब्सिडी
- **राष्ट्रीय विधवा पेंशन योजना** के तहत 4.17 लाख महिलाओं को लगभग **662 करोड़ रुपये** की पेंशन

अन्योदय के पथ पर अग्रसर राजस्थान

- राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा अधिनियम के तहत **1 करोड़ नए पात्र लाभार्थी** जोड़े गए
- मुख्यमंत्री आयुष्मान आरोग्य बीमा योजना 45.80 लाख मरीजों को **₹9,699 करोड़ का कैंथलेस उपचार**
- प्रधानमंत्री आवास योजना (शहरी) **1.01 लाख आवास पूर्ण**
- सामाजिक सुरक्षा पेंशन **₹1,000 से बढ़ाकर ₹1,450 प्रतिमाह**



निकाय चुनाव हेतु भाजपा का **संकल्प पत्र पढ़ने के लिए QR कोड स्कैन करें**

भाजपा के काम पर मोहर लगाएँ, दिनांक 11 सितंबर को वोट देने जरूर जाएँ

कमल का बटन दबाएँ, भाजपा को जितायें

भारतीय जनता पार्टी, राजस्थान

FAIR NATIONFAIR REPORT 02

2-day BRICS summit starts Saturday, focus on food, energy resilience

FAIR REPORT
■ New Delhi

The two-day BRICS summit hosted by India starting Saturday will focus on boosting collective resilience in food, energy, health, disaster reduction and critical supply chains — positioning the group as an effective anchor to navigate a fragmented geopolitical environment.

The summit in New Delhi is taking place against the backdrop of the global economy facing the adverse impacts of the Russia-Ukraine war, the West Asia crisis, especially the blockade of the Strait of Hormuz, and the Trump administration's trade and tariff policies.

Chinese President Xi Jinping, Iranian President

Masoud Pezeshkian, Russian President Vladimir Putin, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto are among the top leaders expected to attend the crucial meeting.

With just three days left for the summit, it remains unclear whether the member nations of the grouping reached consensus on a joint statement, as differences between Iran and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) over the West Asia crisis persist.

The grouping operates under a framework of consensus. BRICS, originally comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, expanded in 2024 to include Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, the United Arab Emirates and



Vehicles ply on a road near the illuminated Bharat Mandapam amid preparations ahead of the BRICS Summit in New Delhi on Wednesday

Saudi Arabia, with Indonesia joining in 2025.

Belarus, Bolivia, Kazakhstan, Cuba, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Vietnam became BRICS partner countries last year.

BRICS emerged as an influential grouping as it brings

together 11 major emerging economies of the world, representing around 49.5 per cent of the global population, around 40 per cent of the global GDP and around 26 per cent of the global trade.

India's chairship of the grouping centred on the four pillars: resilience, innovation, cooperation and sustainability.

Under the resilience pillar, India has been focusing on strengthening collective cooperation in areas such as health, agriculture, food, energy, disaster risk reduction and supply chains, officials said.

Enhancing cooperation in trade, investment, connectivity and high technology will also be high on the agenda of the summit, they said.

India's BRICS chairship is

guided by the theme: 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability', reflecting its vision of a people-centric approach rooted in the spirit of "humanity first."

In addition to these areas, the leaders will exchange views on strengthening intra-BRICS cooperation on common priorities and share perspectives on global and regional matters of mutual importance, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

Under India's Chairship this year, over 350 meetings and high-level engagements have been held in over 25 cities across the country to further strengthen the BRICS strategic partnership across three fundamental pillars: political and security, eco-

nomical and financial, and cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

India is a founding member of BRICS and has previously held its chairship in 2012, 2016 and 2021. India assumed its fourth BRICS chairship on January 1, 2026.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the summit will begin at 2.35 pm on Saturday with a closed-door session for BRICS member countries themed "Inclusive Global Governance and Strengthening Multilateralism".

Following the session, leaders will tour the "Bharat Innovates Exhibition", scheduled to open at 4.25 pm. At 5.05 pm, the leaders will assemble on the lawns of Bharat Mandapam — the

summit venue — for a family photo, followed by a joint tree-planting ceremony.

The first day's engagements will conclude with a gala dinner hosted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at 7.30 pm. On Sunday, leaders from BRICS member states, partner nations and outreach invitees will arrive starting at 9.55 am, followed by an official group photo at 10.35 am.

The open session, titled "Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability: Shaping the Future for Inclusive Global Growth", is scheduled to begin at 10.50 am, according to the schedule released by the MEA.

The summit will culminate with the release of the New Delhi Declaration.

Nibin sounds poll bugle in Uttarakhand, attacks Congress, Mallikarjun Kharge over purification

FAIR REPORT
■ Haldwani

BJP president Nitin Nabin on Wednesday rallied party workers, urging them to gear up for the upcoming Assembly polls with full strength and unity, asserting that the coming decade will belong to Uttarakhand.

Addressing the workers here, Nabin said that 'Devbhoomi' of Uttarakhand would continue to progress under the BJP leadership and exuded confidence that the party would register a massive victory in the State election in 2027.

"This decade will belong to Uttarakhand," Nabin said.

He called upon party workers to take the achievements of the central and state governments to the masses and to strengthen the organisation at the booth level. Nabin also accused Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge of engaging in divisive politics and hatching political conspiracies "even in Uttarakhand, a land known for penance and spiritual devotion."

"The State of Uttarakhand was formed under the leadership of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Today,



the central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has strengthened the road network right up to the country's borders and prioritised national security," Nabin said.

He also accused the Congress of consistently insulting Dalits during its tenure. His remarks come against the backdrop of Congress's demand for an FIR against people responsible for the

"purification" of a venue in Haldwani after Kharge, a Dalit, gave a speech there.

The local police on Tuesday filed an FIR against unknown persons under sections 196 and 299 of the BNS, as well as Section 3(1)(r) of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, based on a complaint of Congress leader and advocate Anju Arya at the Haldwani Police Station.

Congress alleges income tax evasion scam through unrecognised political parties

FAIR REPORT
■ New Delhi

The Congress on Wednesday attacked the Modi Government, alleging a ₹10,000 crore income tax evasion "scam" involving unrecognised political parties and demanded a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe into it.

There was no immediate reaction from Government to the allegations.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh asked who was the "Chanakya" behind the 3,260 "sham political parties" and who was the "true mastermind" of the alleged scam.

"The Modi Government must answer to the nation," Ramesh said in a post in Hindi on X.

"Prime Minister (Narendra Modi), you failed to bring back black money from abroad, and citizens have yet to receive the promised ₹15 lakh each; yet, it now appears that a scheme to launder black money — turning it 'white' — is underway right here in the country under the BJP's patronage," he said.

Ramesh asked why, despite cases of tax evasion and money laundering

through fake political parties coming to light, the Government had not taken action against the alleged tax evaders and such parties.

He said Congress colleague Shaktisinh Gohil had questioned the Government's failure to impose 200 per cent penalties and initiate criminal proceedings against those guilty, despite the alleged revelation of tax evasion exceeding ₹10,000 crore involving 3,260 Registered Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs).

"We recall how, just before the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Congress party — India's principal opposition — had its bank accounts frozen and was slapped with massive tax notices in a highly undemocratic move aimed at financially crippling the party," Ramesh said.

"So, why is there no investigation into these 3,260 sham political parties and the associated cases of tax evasion?" he asked.

"Is it because these fraudulent parties enjoyed the patronage of the BJP leadership and were orchestrating this entire scam with the Government's tacit approval?" he alleged.

Addressing a press conference, Gohil claimed that there were 3,260 Registered



Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh

Unrecognised Political Parties (RUPPs) in the country being used to evade income tax.

He said Section 80GGC of the Income Tax Act states that if an individual donates the amount they owe in income tax to a political party, it becomes zero, while the other section, 80GGD states that if a company donates its tax money to any registered political party, its tax also becomes zero.

"The scam now is that these 3,260 RUPPs have collected donations worth around ₹10,000 crore," he alleged. Gohil said that when an NGO report came out in 2025, it was the Government's responsibility to take action, but no action was taken. He said the Government had stated that

donations to those found guilty should be rejected and they should not be given any benefits from them.

"Whereas, according to the law, against those committing fraud, a 200 per cent penalty should be imposed on fake companies; criminal cases should be filed against them, and upon being found guilty, they should face seven years in jail. But in this case, no action has been taken against even a single person yet," Gohil said.

He alleged that chartered accountants had a major role in tax evasion scams and said income tax officers had explicitly stated that action should be taken against such CAs. "But no orders for any such action have come from 'above', because these are their own 'C team'. The

Income Tax Appellate Tribunal has said that such tax evasion is fatal for the country. This black money will weaken the country's economy and security," Gohil said. He alleged that the Modi Government was shielding its "own people" from action.

Gohil said the Election Commission had guidelines on transparency and accountability in political funding and that election officers in every state were responsible for scrutinising donations and expenditures of political parties.

He also questioned whether the Election Commission was "in collusion with the BJP", while noting that such a question had never previously been raised against the poll panel as it was an autonomous body. "Previously, the appointment of the CEC was done jointly by the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, and the Chief Justice of India," he said.

"Narendra Modi removed the Chief Justice of India from the CEC appointment process and replaced them with another central minister, who is Amit Shah.

Now, Narendra Modi and Amit Shah will jointly appoint as CEC only those who obey their word," he alleged.

NC, Congress clash over playing full Vande Mataram in J&K

FAIR REPORT
■ Jammu

A fresh war of words broke out on Wednesday between alliance partners National Conference and Congress after the full six-stanza version of Vande Mataram was played at an official State event in Srinagar, with Chief Minister Omar Abdullah and NC president Farooq Abdullah standing through the entire rendition.

The national song was first played at the inauguration of the International Film Festival of Jammu and Kashmir (IFFJK) at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre on Monday. Both Abdullahs stood at attention for the complete version. On

Wednesday, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah stood respectfully at attention for the full rendition of the national song, "Vande Mataram," during the oath ceremony of the Chief Justice of the Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court.

Congress, which extends outside support to the NC-led Government in the Union Territory and is part of the INDIA bloc with the NC nationally, objected and asked its ally to stick to the two-stanza version adopted by the party in 1937 and reaffirmed by the Congress Working Committee last month.

Hitting back, the National Conference (NC) said it was a "statutory obligation" to play the full national song at



NC chief spokesperson Tanveer Sadiq, Congress leader KC Venugopal

a State event and that no one would be forced to sing. Responding to the criticism, NC chief spokesperson Tanveer Sadiq told reporters in Srinagar that Government protocol must be separated from party ideology.

"The National Conference has a clear stance. When

Parliament has adopted it, playing Vande Mataram becomes a statutory obligation, and that is what the Government did," Sadiq said.

Chief ministers in non-BJP states like Telangana and Karnataka have also played the complete version of Vande Mataram at official

functions, he said.

"As far as the party's stand is concerned, anyone who wants to sing Vande Mataram can do so, and no one will be forced," he added. Earlier, on Tuesday, Congress general secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal posted a video of the IFFJK on X, asserting that the unabridged version of Vande Mataram "sits uneasily with the syncretic and pluralist ethos that our freedom fighters envisioned and nurtured for India".

He urged alliance partners to honour the Congress' historical 1937 working committee resolution, which adopted a truncated version of the song to respect India's religious diversity and conscience.

Several MPs raise concerns over Indian Statistical Institute Bill



FAIR REPORT
■ New Delhi

Several MPs on Wednesday questioned a Government bill that proposes to widen the remit of the Indian Statistical Institute, claiming it will reduce the premier institute's autonomy.

At a meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Finance, headed by BJP MP Bhartruhari Mahtab, members raised concerns about the Indian Statistical Institute Bill, 2026, and sought its minute examination. The committee met for the first time to discuss the Bill, with many of them questioning the Government's move as they feel that the proposed law may reduce the autonomy of the Indian Statistical Institute, sources aware of the deliberations said.

The Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha in the Monsoon session of Parliament. At the time of its introduction, many MPs raised their objections.

Subsequently, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla referred the Bill to the parliamentary committee for threadbare examination.

The committee was given three months to submit the report. However, sources on

Wednesday said the Bill will take a much longer period than the sanctioned time.

The Bill seeks the institute's incorporation as a 'body corporate' to strengthen its governance, promote academic excellence and research, and allow it to serve emerging needs in the field of statistics and allied fields.

The Bill says the President of India will be the Visitor of the institute and the provisions for a Board of Governors will be its principal policy executive body.

The board will be headed by a chairperson, who will be an eminent person from the field of academia, industry, education, public policy, and statistical sciences.

The board will be accountable to the central Government, the bill notes.

The institute will have an Academic Council, which will act as its principal academic body, and it will be headed by the institute's director.

All full-time professors and full-time faculty will be members of the Academic Council. The Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959, declared the institute to be an institution of national importance and empowered it to grant degrees and diplomas in sta-

istics. The Act was amended in 1995 to empower the Institute to grant degrees and diplomas in statistics, mathematics, quantitative economics, computer science and such other subjects related to statistics as may be determined by it from time to time. The 1959 Act, according to the proposed bill, has limited provisions in respect of the governance, administration, finance, accountability and functioning of the Institute and is not adequate to enable it to respond to the requirements of an evolving academic and research environment.

Therefore, it says, the Government decided to repeal the Indian Statistical Institute Act, 1959, to bring out comprehensive legislation providing for the incorporation of the Indian Statistical Institute, an institution of national importance, to excel as a globally recognised centre in Statistical Sciences and allied fields.

The legal reform will enable an ecosystem to train a new generation of high-quality data scientists and statisticians, bridging the massive talent gap currently facing India's tech and financial sectors, the Bill says.

Meta officials appear before NCPCR over alleged child sexual abuse materials

FAIR REPORT
■ New Delhi

Senior executives of global social media giant Meta, which runs Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, appeared before the child rights body NCPCR on Wednesday in connection with its inquiry into alleged advertisements related to child sexual exploitative and abuse material (CSEAM) on the platform.

Details about the questioning were not immediately available. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) had on July 3 taken suo motu cognisance of a media report by BBC Eye regarding alleged advertisements related to CSEAM and sought an explanation from Meta Platforms, Inc. Meta submitted its response to the commission a week later.

NCPCR subsequently decided to institute an inquiry



to determine the facts of the matter and in continuation of the same, summoned the MD and Head of Meta India to appear before it on Wednesday, officials said. The commission's move comes amid concerns over the alleged availability and promotion of child sexual exploitation material through online platforms. In July, the Government issued a stern notice to Meta on CSEAM in paid advertisements on Instagram. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) had ordered Instagram to disable all ads and content promoting and facilitating access to

CSEAM and also demanded a detailed explanation on it.

The action came after IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw directed MeitY officials to summon Meta over Instagram ads allegedly promoting child sexual abuse material. The regulatory scrutiny from the ministry came amid a BBC report that alleged Meta's recommendation algorithm had been promoting videos containing child sexual abuse material, exposing serious gaps in the safeguards.

The BBC investigation had also allegedly found advertisements of this nature appearing on Facebook and Instagram, despite Meta's advertising policies explicitly prohibiting nudity and sexually explicit content.

Instagram is alleged to have shown paid advertisements with terms like "rape video" and "child video", which directed users to Telegram channels where such content was reportedly on sale.

India sends fresh tranche of relief material to Nepal



FAIR REPORT
■ New Delhi

India on Wednesday sent a fresh tranche of humanitarian aid comprising 35 tonnes of relief material and equipment onboard a C-17 transport aircraft to flood-ravaged Nepal, officials said.

The death toll from the devastating flash floods in Nepal climbed to 1,365 on Wednesday as more bodies were recovered from the affected areas, according to authorities.

The first tranche of relief

material was sent by India hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to his Nepalese counterpart Balendra Shah on August 26, the day flash floods struck the Himalayan nation.

Since then, New Delhi has sent multiple consignments, including relief supplies and essential medicines, besides deploying an Indian tunnel rescue team, who are continuing to work alongside the Nepalese Army, and a forensic team to aid in the identification of mortal remains of the victims.

States Focus



ARUNACHAL INTEGRAL TO INDIA'S UNITY: VP RADHAKRISHNAN

Vice President CP Radhakrishnan on Wednesday said Arunachal Pradesh was integral to India's unity, with the Northeast region, aided by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Act East policy, emerging as a key driver of the country's growth. Addressing a special session of the Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly in Itanagar, he said the State stands as a "proud guardian" of India's borders, and its development is closely linked to the progress of the country. He also said Arunachal Pradesh is culturally rich with "boundless potential". Radhakrishnan said the Northeast has been given increasing priority by successive Governments, recalling that former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had created the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER).

(PTI)



EVERY FOURTH JAN DHAN ACCOUNT INACTIVE: GEHLOT

Former Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Wednesday claimed that every fourth bank account under the Jan Dhan Yojana was inactive, alleging that flawed policies of the Modi Government at the Centre have led to rising poverty in the country. In a statement, Gehlot said, "Every fourth account under the Jan Dhan Yojana is inactive, with 5.72 crore accounts not even having a single rupee. This is the real picture behind the Modi Government's claims of 'poor welfare'." Referring to an RTI reply on Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana, the Congress leader said this was a clear indication that the Modi Government's wrong policies were increasing poverty in the country, leading to empty bank accounts, while a handful of the country's wealthy continued to grow richer.

(PTI)

BJP received more than ₹1,473 crores in recent polls: ECI

FAIR REPORT

■ New Delhi

The latest expenditure statements filed with the Election Commission show a major contrast between the finances of the BJP and the Congress during the recent Assembly elections. The BJP received nearly ₹1,473 crore at its central headquarters alone during the last five State Assembly elections — Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry — more than seven times the ₹207 crore in net receipts reported by the Congress across its Central and State units.

The contrast is even more striking because the BJP figure covers receipts at its central

headquarters alone. Its expenditure reports for Kerala and West Bengal are yet to be made public, which means that its consolidated receipts are likely to be higher. The two parties also emerged from the election period in sharply different financial positions. The BJP had ₹6,722.6 crore at its central headquarters when the election period began on March 15. By May 6, its closing balance had climbed to ₹7,627.2 crore. This is an increase of ₹904.6 crore during the poll period, while the Congress moved in the opposite direction.

The Congress, whose consolidated expenditure report for Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Puducherry had come earlier, reported net



receipts of ₹207.17 crore and an expenditure of ₹248.55 crore during the March 15-May 6 election period. The BJP's ₹1,472.8-crore figure, by contrast, represents receipts at its central headquarters alone during the same period, according to its expenditure statements made public by the ECI. The party's expendi-

ture reports for Kerala and West Bengal polls are yet to be made public, meaning its consolidated receipts are likely to be higher.

On the other hand, the Congress' finances saw a dip during the polls. Across its central headquarters and five state units, it began the election period with about ₹169.06

Bihar floods affect over 40 lakh people across 14 districts

FAIR REPORT

■ Patna

More than 40 lakh people have been affected by floods across 14 districts of Bihar following torrential rains over the past five days, with several rivers flowing above the danger mark, officials said on Wednesday.

"Incessant rain in various districts caused rivers and streams to overflow. Besides, heavy rainfall in catchment areas of Nepal has also led to rivers flowing above the danger level at several places," an official said.

According to a statement by the Disaster Management Department (DMD), around 40.21 lakh people in 514 gram panchayats across 84 blocks in 14 districts have been affected by floods. The affected districts are Patna, Bhojpur, Saran, Vaishali, Bhagalpur, Begusarai, Buxar, Samastipur, Munger, Katihar, Lakhisarai, Khagaria, Purnia and Arwal. According to the meteorological service centre, the state has record-



ed 79.6 mm of rainfall in September so far, which is 31 per cent above normal.

In its latest bulletin, the DMD said, "The Ganga at Sultanganj in Bhagalpur recorded 36.78 metres at 9 am on September 9, surpassing its previous Highest Flood Level (HFL) of 36.75 metres recorded on August 17, 2021. The trend, however, remains stable."

Several rivers, including the Gandak, Kosi, Budhi Gandak, Ganga, Punpun, Bagmati and Ghaghra, are flowing above danger levels

are being operated, where arrangements for accommodation, food, medical care and other essential facilities have been made for 13,446 flood evacuees, it said.

"So far, around 1.94 lakh polythene sheets and approximately 29,400 dry ration packets have been distributed among flood-hit people. To facilitate evacuation and transportation, a total of 1,979 boats are currently being operated. So far, 5,178 quintals of animal fodder have also been distributed", the bulletin said.

As far as the discharge of water from major barrages in the State is concerned, the statement said the Gandak Barrage recorded a discharge of 86,000 cusecs at 10 am on Wednesday, with a stable trend. The highest discharge recorded so far this year was 2,24,000 cusecs on July 14. The discharge at Kosi Barrage stood at 1,48,200 cusecs, with a stable trend, at 10 am. Its highest discharge so far this year was 2,55,425 cusecs on July 20.

A total of 723 community kitchens are currently being operated in various districts for flood-affected people. In addition, 15 relief camps

MP gets ₹53,000 cr investment proposals during CM's Dubai visit

FAIR REPORT

■ Bhopal

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav's September 6-8 visit to Dubai has opened a fresh international window for Madhya Pradesh's investment strategy, with the state receiving investment proposals worth more than ₹53,000 crore and holding discussions with global companies, investors and institutions across a wide range of sectors.

At the AIM Congress-2026, Yadav presented Madhya Pradesh as not merely an investment destination but as a long-term partner for global businesses. The state sought to link investment with technology, markets, exports, employment and global supply chains. More than 25 new policies have been introduced to facilitate investment and business, while over 2,700 obsolete laws have been scrapped.

The Chief Minister held meetings with senior UAE

ministers, Tatarstan leadership, the World Bank and companies including DP World, Crescent Enterprises, GEMS Education, Sharaf Group, Choithrams, Rana Holdings, VFS Global and BEEAH. Discussions covered logistics, food processing, textiles, artificial intelligence, digital technology, green energy, e-mobility, pharmaceuticals, education, tourism, healthcare, advanced manufacturing and waste-to-energy.

DP World explored the development of Pawarkheda as a multimodal logistics hub with warehousing and cold-chain facilities to connect farmers, farmer producer organisations, MSMEs and industries with global markets. Sharaf Group is considering an investment of \$30-50 million in a rail-siding-based logistics park, with the potential to create 300-600 jobs.

The State also explored partnerships with GEMS



Education for international K-12 schools and skill centres, while Choithrams showed interest in supermarkets, modern retail, food processing, packaging and direct procurement from local farmers. Rana Holdings held discussions on smart manufacturing, data centres, green hydrogen, green energy, e-mobility and agricultural machinery.

The World Bank expressed interest in financial and technical cooperation in AI and digital governance projects. BEEAH discussed cooperation in solid waste management, waste-to-energy, the

circular economy and green mobility, including the possibility of connecting Indore's waste-management and Bio-CNG models with global technologies.

A UAE investment delegation is expected to visit Madhya Pradesh to explore opportunities in hotels, hospitality and tourism. Discussions also covered stronger air connectivity between Madhya Pradesh and the UAE, with potential benefits for tourism, cargo movement and business travel.

Tatarstan and Madhya Pradesh explored cooperation in advanced manufacturing, petrochemicals, food processing, engineering, logistics, agriculture and technology. Ethiopia and Ras Al Khaimah were also engaged on opportunities spanning agriculture, pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, logistics, renewable energy, tourism and medical devices.

VHP's call to bar Muslims from garba unconstitutional: Athawale

FAIR REPORT

■ Raipur

Union minister Ramdas Athawale on Wednesday opposed calls to bar Muslims from attending 'garba' events during the Navratri festival, and said India is governed by the Constitution, which guarantees equal rights to people of all religions.

Asked about Vishva Hindu Parishad's call to bar Muslims from Navratri events in Maharashtra, Athawale said such a stand is not appropriate as people of different faiths have the right to participate in each other's festivals.

The Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment was talking to reporters at Swami Vivekananda Airport here after arriving on a day-long visit to Chhattisgarh.

"I feel this stand is not right because India runs on the Constitution. The Constitution given by Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar



Union minister Ramdas Athawale

ensures justice to all religions. Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Jains, Buddhists, Lingayats, Parsis and people of several other faiths live in India, and the Constitution seeks to protect all religions," he said.

"It is not good to say that Muslims should not attend garba. Hindu and Muslim communities need to come together and work for the country," said Athawale, who heads the Republican Party of India (A).

He cited the example of

Ajmer Sharif Dargah in Rajasthan, saying a large number of Hindus visit the shrine. "Our country is such that people of all religions should participate in each other's festivals. We oppose those taking such a stand. Such a stand is against the Constitution," he asserted.

The VHP last week announced that Muslims would not be allowed entry to 'garba' and 'dandiya' venues across Maharashtra during the Navratri festival, which begins on October 11.

MPSC aspirant ends life in Pune on debt burden

FAIR REPORT

■ Pune

A 28-year-old man preparing for the Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC) examinations allegedly died by suicide in Pune, with a debt of around ₹2.5 lakh suspected to be the reason, an official said on Wednesday.

The deceased, identified as Prathamesh Deshmukh, was a native of Paranda and was staying in a rented house in Navi Peth while preparing for MPSC exams. Deputy Commissioner of Police Krushikesh Rawale said. He was found hanging inside a room in his house in the morning, following which some residents alerted the police, he said.

Deshmukh left behind a two-page note containing details of 18-19 persons from whom he had borrowed money and the amounts he had repaid, Rawale said.

Police were questioning his family members to ascertain why he had borrowed the



money and were investigating the matter, he said. The exact time of the suicide will be known after the post-mortem report is received, DCP said.

Notably, the Mumbai Crime Branch is investigating a question paper leak involving the MPSC Drug Inspector (Group-B) screening examination held in March. MPSC aspirants recently staged protests in parts of the State, including Pune, demanding transparency in the recruitment process and action against the alleged paper leaks and irregularities in various examinations. The State Government has separately formed a high-level committee to suggest necessary improvements in the overall examination process, an official earlier said.

BJP accuses Gujarat Congress MLA of insulting Vande Mataram

FAIR REPORT

■ Gandhinagar

The ruling BJP alleged that Congress MLA Imran Khedawala disrespected Vande Mataram by remaining seated during its rendition at the start of the Gujarat assembly's monsoon session on Wednesday and demanded an apology from him.

While the Opposition Congress denied the charge, State minister Pravin Mali alleged that Khedawala stood up when the national song began but immediately sat down. Khedawala, who represents the Jamalpur-Khadia seat in Ahmedabad, is the lone Muslim MLA in Gujarat.

The three-day monsoon session of the State Assembly began in Gandhinagar on Wednesday.

Speaking to reporters, Mali said there was a tradition of opening the session with Vande Mataram and alleged that Khedawala's conduct amounted to insulting the national song. "We demand an answer from the



Congress MLA Imran Khedawala

Congress for this insult; they should clarify whether this is Imran Khedawala's personal stance or what the party's official stand is," he said.

The minister demanded that Khedawala apologise for his conduct.

NESO condemns murder of Manipur musician in Delhi

FAIR REPORT ■ Shillong

NESO on Wednesday condemned the killing of 54-year-old Manipuri musician Chongtham Vikram Singh in Southeast Delhi and demanded a swift and impartial probe into the incident.

Singh was beaten to death by a group of delivery workers and dhaba staff when he objected to their shouting and drinking alcohol outside his Kilokari village apartment early Monday.

North Eastern Students' Organisation (NESO) chairman Samuel B Jyrwa said the incident was deeply disturbing and demanded that all those responsible be brought to justice.

"It is deeply disturbing that a person can lose his life merely for raising an objection to disturbance outside his own home. We demand a transparent and impartial investigation and exemplary punishment for every person found responsible," Jyrwa said in a statement.

He said the killing cannot be viewed in isolation from the continuing harassment, racial discrimination, stereotyping, intimidation and violence faced by people from the Northeast in different parts of mainland India.

crore (₹22.9 crore in cash and ₹146.1 crore in bank accounts) and ended with about ₹103.2 crore — a decline of ₹65.86 crore.

The BJP's expenditure statements available so far show that it spent about ₹159.7 crore in Assam, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry, of which around ₹130.4 crore went towards general party propaganda and the rest towards candidates and related expenses. Assam accounted for the largest share, with an expenditure of ₹96.27 crore.

Of this, ₹76.73 crore was spent on general party propaganda and ₹19.54 crore on candidates. Advertising and star campaigner travel dominated the general campaign bill, accounting for about ₹37 crore

and ₹27.3 crore, respectively. The party spent ₹51.56 crore in Tamil Nadu, including ₹44.51 crore on general propaganda and ₹7.05 crore on candidates. Media advertisements accounted for about ₹23.96 crore, while star campaigner travel cost about ₹10.04 crore. Publicity material accounted for another roughly ₹5.85 crore.

In Puducherry, the BJP reported an expenditure of ₹11.90 crore — ₹9.19 crore on general propaganda and ₹2.71 crore on candidates. The Congress reported spending ₹143 crore on general party propaganda and ₹105.55 crore on candidates across all five States, taking its overall election expenditure to ₹248.55 crore.

22 BRS MLAs suspended from Telangana Assembly



KTR along with other BRS MLAs meet Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla

FAIR REPORT

■ Hyderabad

All 22 BRS MLAs, including party working president KT Rama Rao, were on Wednesday suspended from the Telangana Assembly for the remainder of the monsoon session for disrupting the proceedings by entering the well of the House.

Soon after the House met, the BRS members raised slogans like 'we want justice'.

Rao gave an adjournment motion seeking debate on the alleged high-handedness of police against the party's women MLAs, who were stopped at the assembly gate,

and the alleged comments of some ruling Congress members wishing death of BRS chief K Chandrasekhar Rao. The BRS members refused to return to their seats despite repeated pleas by Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Legislative Affairs Minister D Sridhar Babu.

The Speaker said he will examine whether the BRS members submitted their demands in writing to him.

Vikramarka said he and other Congress leaders wished Chandrasekhar Rao a healthy and long life and a long career in public service.

No SIR notice issued to Prof CNR Rao, clarifies GBA

FAIR REPORT

■ Bengaluru

GBA Chief Commissioner M Maheshwar Rao on Wednesday said that no notice was issued to Bharat Ratna awardee Prof CNR Rao in connection with the ongoing SIR of the electoral roll, as appeared in a section of the media.

In a statement, the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) said there was a discrepancy in the name of Rao, but instead of issuing any notice, the Booth Level Officer recommended including his name. "No notice has been issued to the Hon'ble Bharat Ratna (awardee) Prof C N (R) Rao in connection with the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls in the Malleshwaram Assembly Constituency," the GBA said, quoting Maheshwar Rao, who is also the District Election Officer of Bengaluru Urban. The GBA said that, as part of the SIR, Enumeration Forms were respectfully delivered in person to Rao and his family members at their residence by the State SVEEP Nodal Officer, along with the Commissioner of the Bengaluru West City Corporation. The required information was also duly filled in. The GBA said Rao was enrolled as a voter in Part No-129, Serial No-431 of the 76-Malleshwaram Assembly Constituency in the electoral roll of 2002.

"At that time, his name was recorded as



Bharat Ratna awardee Prof CNR Rao

'Rama'. At present, he is registered as a voter in Part No-59, Serial No-187 of the 157-Malleshwaram Assembly Constituency, under the name 'Prof CN Rao M'. Accordingly, his name has also been included in the draft electoral roll," the statement said.

"A discrepancy was noticed in the name of the Hon'ble person in the electoral roll. In view of this, the Booth Level Officer (BLO), without issuing any notice, has recommended inclusion of his name in the final electoral roll, considering him to be a respected person. Accordingly, necessary action has been initiated to include his name in the final electoral roll," the GBA said. Prof Rao was not available for comments on the issue.

