

Rescue teams work to clear path to reach the trapped

PTI, NAGARKURNOOL (TELANGANA): Rescue teams working to save eight people trapped for over five days in a partially collapsed SLBC tunnel in the district have started cutting parts of the tunnel boring machine and other obstacles hindering their access to the area where the victims are believed to be.

TELANGANA TUNNEL ACCIDENT

Nagarkurnool Superintendent of Police Vaibhav Gaikwad said the damaged part of the conveyor belt in the tunnel is expected to be repaired during the day to facilitate the transportation of debris. "Yes, it's already (gas cutting machines went inside) (even during) Nights they did some cutting. Yes, it has already started last night," the official told PTI to a query if the gas cutters started working.

Telangana Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy



Rescue teams at the Srisailem project site where a portion of the tunnel collapsed, in Nagarkurnool district

said the rescue and relief work is in full swing, and the operation would be completed in two days. "I can assure you two things. In two days, the rescue and relief operation will be complete and in about two or three months, we will re-start the (SLBC project) work and complete this project in record time. It is a natural accident. The debris and the machine will be removed. Whether it is one day, two days or two and half days,

the work is in full swing," he told reporters when asked about the status. He further said national and international agencies and experts in tunnels are working in a coordinated and unified manner. On Wednesday, he had said the TBM that is stuck inside will be cut into pieces using gas cutters and removed. After this, the Army, Navy, Rat Miners and NDRF teams will make another serious effort to rescue the

eight persons who are missing, without compromising their own safety.

Replying to a query, the SP said he can't answer if the trapped individuals will be located today. According to sources, some of the workers engaged in the tunnel work have started leaving the place out of fear.

A senior government official said 800 people are working on the Srisailem Left Bank Canal project, out of which 300 are locals, while the rest are from states like Jharkhand, Odisha and UP.

Responding to reports that labourers panicked following the accident and are planning to leave, the official said there will be apprehension among the workers.

"The company constructed residential camps also for the workers. The initial panic will be there. Maybe some individuals want to go back. But we have no reports of workers leaving en masse," the official said.

Manipur: Meitei group Arambai Tenggol surrenders 246 firearms

PTI, IMPHAL: Meitei group Arambai Tenggol on Thursday surrendered 246 firearms before security forces in Manipur, police said.

With these, a total of 307 firearms have been surrendered to the security forces before the end of the deadline set by Governor Ajay Bhalla in this regard on Thursday, a police statement said.

Among the 307 firearms, 246 were handed over by the Arambai Tenggol group at the 1st Manipur Rifles camp, while 61 firearms were surrendered at various locations in both Imphal Valley and hill districts by both Meitei and Kuki village volunteers.

Arambai Tenggol leader Saikhom Munindro Mangsang said, "Our decision was influenced by key assurances provided by Governor Bhalla. These assurances included the complete eradication of illegal opium poppy cultivation across the state, implementation of border fencing to enhance security, implementation of the National Register of

Citizens (NRC) with 1951 as the base year, ensuring that Kuki militants do not launch further attacks, and safeguarding the territorial integrity of Manipur."

Representatives of the outfit had called on the governor on February 25.

Munindro said Arambai Tenggol representatives had also requested for a general amnesty for its members, a request which authorities have agreed to consider. Additionally, the group secured an agreement allowing its unarmed members to move freely across the state, he said.

Officials said the voluntary surrender of illegal firearms would contribute to the restoration of peace, communal harmony, and the rule of law in the state which has been rocked by ethnic violence for around two years.

The police have urged people still in possession of looted or illegal firearms to come forward and surrender those at the nearest police station or outpost, or camps of security forces before the end of the deadline.

Jharkhand police bust gang duping people with false job promises

PTI, JAMSHEDPUR: The police in Jharkhand's East Singhbhum district on Thursday busted a gang that duped people with false promises of providing them employment in government organisations such as railways and army, an officer said.

Four people, including

the head of the racket, were arrested, Senior Superintendent of Police (East Singhbhum) Kishore Kaushal said.

Addressing a press conference here, the SSP said the accused people impersonated themselves as officers of the army and railways and duped over Rs one crore

on false promises to give jobs in the armed forces, RPF and other government agencies. A case against the accused in this regard was registered with Bistupur police station here in June last year on the statement of a victim, a resident of Seraikela-Kharswan district.

A special police team was formed and, based on military intelligence input, the district police identified the culprits, Kaushal said.

The four were arrested Bokaro and Ranchi of Jharkhand and East Champaran of Bihar, he said.

About their modus operandi, the SSP said they used to carry fake identity cards of army and railway officers and move around in vehicles with army logo to convince their soft target.

Manual scavenging: SC says it is dissatisfied with affidavits

PTI, NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has expressed displeasure on the responses of the Delhi, Kolkata and Hyderabad authorities on how they stopped manual scavenging in their respective cities.

A bench of Justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and Arvind Kumar directed the municipal commissioner of the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), director (S&DM) of the Delhi Jal Board (DJB) and managing director of the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board, Telangana, to remain present on the next hearing.

The apex court noted KMC, DJB and the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water and Sewerage Board did not explain how some

deaths occurred in their cities due to manual scavenging and manual sewer cleaning.

It also directed the commissioner of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagra Palike to also remain present saying neither an affidavit nor any representation was made in the court.

"Meanwhile, of the five affidavits, which are given before this court, two of the affidavits filed on behalf of Kolkata Municipal Corporation and Delhi Jal Board are not at all satisfactory," the bench said on February 19.

While hearing a plea against the practice of manual scavenging, the apex court said there was no clarity whether manual scavenging and man-

ual sewer cleaning were stopped in these cities.

Regarding KMC's affidavit, it recorded the claim that the practices had stopped there.

"... yet there is no explanation from them which has come forward to explain to this court as to why even after manual scavenging and manual sewer cleaning was stopped as per their claim, three deaths have occurred on February 2, 2025 due to manual scavenging as we have been informed at the Bar," the bench said.

The bench said the DJB affidavit was a "very evasive reply" to the question whether manual scavenging and manual sewer cleaning were continuing in Delhi or not.

CAG report exposes major irregularities in Delhi liquor policy, referred to PAC for probe

PTI, NEW DELHI: The CAG report on the Delhi liquor policy has been referred to the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) for examination, with the committee expected to submit its report within three months, assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta said Thursday.

The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report on the regulation and supply of liquor in Delhi has

highlighted serious irregularities in the implementation of the excise policy by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government.

Following discussions in the assembly, the report has been referred to the PAC for a detailed probe, with findings expected within three months.

Gupta made the announcement, stating that the matter required urgent

attention due to the financial losses incurred by the government.

The audit, conducted for the period between 2017 and 2021, pointed to significant lapses in the licensing process, pricing mechanisms, and regulatory oversight.

It alleged that the policy led to substantial revenue losses, benefiting private companies at the expense

of public funds. The report said that a revenue loss of Rs 2,002 crore was recorded due to various irregularities, including failure to re-tender surrendered licences, excessive discounts, and waivers in license fees.

During the assembly session, several members expressed serious concerns over the findings, demanding strict action against those responsible.

Article 370 abrogation proved to be good for JK's development: Athawale

PTI, JAMMU: The Centre's decision to revoke Article 370 of the Constitution proved to be "good" as it strengthened development and "ended" terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir, Union Minister Ramdas Athawale said on Thursday.

There was a time when tourists were afraid of visiting Jammu and Kashmir but that has changed after the revocation of Article 370, the minister of state for social justice and empowerment said at a press conference here.

On August 5, 2019, the Centre abrogated Article 370, which accorded a special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir. The government also divided Jammu and Kashmir into two union territories -- Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

"The (PM) Narendra Modi-led government has taken a lot of important decisions and the abrogation of Article 370 was a very big step which strengthened development in J&K, ended

terrorism and generated employment opportunities besides establishing peace and paving the way for unfurling the tricolour," Athawale said.

Earlier, people were afraid of visiting J&K but the situation changed after Article 370 was revoked and more than 2.5 million tourists visited the union territory last year, he said.

"The increase in tourism means more development for the region. It was a very good decision to revoke Article 370. Now the people want us to give the status of a state to J&K. When (Home Minister) Amit Shah announced the removal of Article 370, he also announced that J&K's statehood would be restored at an appropriate time. Jammu and Kashmir will get the status of a state soon and all of people's problems will be resolved," he added.

The minister lauded the highest voter turnout in Jammu and Kashmir in the assembly elections held last year.

THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY

In loving memory of **LUIS MINGUEL DA COSTA (SOFIE)**
SANGLEAM WARD, MAJORDA
Those we love don't go away, they walk beside us every day
Unseen, unheard, but always near,
Still loved, still missed and very dear.

There will be a Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved Luis (Sofie) on 01st March 2025, Saturday at 8:00 am at Mother of God Church, Majorda, followed by prayers and blessings at the grave offered by his sorrowful Wife: Leena, Daughter: Cecilia, Sister: Ivy and Family.

Relatives, friends and neighbours kindly accept this as the only intimation

MONTH'S MIND

In loving memory of **KENNEDY FERNANDES**
- VARCA -
The call was too sudden to say goodbye
But the sweet memories of you will never die
Close in our hearts you will always stay
Loved and remembered everyday
Your legacy lives on through the memories
We cherish the values you instilled in us
You are greatly missed, dear!

There will be an Eucharist Celebration for the soul of our beloved Kennedy Fernandes, on Saturday, 1st March 2025 at 7:30 a.m., at Our Lady of Gloria Church, Varca, followed by prayers and blessings at the grave. Offered by his sorrowful parents: Mariano M. Fernandes/ Clara N. Noronha, Brother/brother-in-law of Melanie/Tome & Lafisha.

Relatives, Neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

MONTH'S MIND
In everloving memory of **JOSE INACIO ROSARIO FERNANDES**
SARVODEM / AQUEM BAIXO- NAVEILIM
There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved JOSE on 01/03/2025 (Tomorrow) at 8.15 a.m. at Our Lady of Rosary Church, Navelim, followed by prayers & blessing of the grave.
Offered by his sorrowful wife Fatima Fernandes. Children Dawson/Persima, Myron/Queency. Grandchildren Keona, Kaylee and Ava & family. Relatives, neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.
Costy's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9850473904

ONE YEAR WITH THE LORD
In Everloving Memory of our Dearest MOM **ROSALINA RODRIGUES**
(Zamcotto - Dramapur)
"One year has quickly passed,
The pain of your loss will forever last,
Deep in our hearts, you will always stay."
There will be an Eucharistic celebration for the soul of our beloved Mom, Rosalina Rodrigues on Saturday, 1st March 2025, (Tomorrow) at 8.00 a.m. at St. Joseph Church, Dramapur followed by prayers and blessing of the grave offered by her sorrowful daughters and family.
Relatives, friends & neighbours kindly accept this as the only intimation.

THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY
In loving memory of **GEMA NASCIMENTO FRANCISCA PIEDADE RODRIGUES E D'COSTA**
SINQUETIM- NAVEILIM
We haven't forgotten you...
we just wanted you to know,
it's been a three years now.
But, mummy, we still miss you so.
we think of you often.
Life has gotten crazy and busy,
but memories of you we will always recall.
There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved Mother on 01/03/2025 (Tomorrow) at 7.15 a.m. at Our Lady of Rosary Church, Navelim, followed by prayers & blessing of the grave.
Offered by her sorrowful children Ellis, Edina/Jose, Elizabeth/Cajetan, Ezilda/Elvis, Benny/Rachel. Grandchildren Snizel, Aldrich, Schaffer, Adoncia, Valenster, Alaska, Valrica, Vancisca & Luvella.
RELATIVES, FRIENDS & NEIGHBOURS KINDLY ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION
Costy's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9850473904

MONTH'S MIND
In everloving memory of our beloved **SAVIO SYLVESTER PEREIRA**
(Escrivao Vaddo, Candolim)
Born: 06-04-1974 - Died: 31-01-2025
"One month has quickly passed,
The pain of your loss will forever last,
Deep in our hearts you'll always stay,
Loved and remembered every minute of the day."
There will be an Eucharistic celebration for the soul of our beloved SAVIO SYLVESTER PEREIRA on 1st March 2025 at 7:00 a.m at Our Lady of Hope Church, Candolim followed by prayers at the grave. Offered by his sorrowful Father: Tamaturogo Jose Pereira, Mother: Cecilia Maria Deniz, Wife: Svetlana Viktorovna Mayorova and family.
Relatives, neighbours and friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.

THIRD DEATH ANNIVERSARY
In everloving memory of **Evaristo Celestino Soares**
- Telaulim - Navelim -
There will be a Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved EVARISTO at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, 1st March 2025 at Mount Carmel Chapel, Telaulim, followed by prayers & blessings at the grave, offered by his sorrowful wife: Rosa Maria Dafrosa Pires; children: Nixon / Paula, Norman / Elizabeth, Noreen / Ellister; grandchildren: Nicolette, Pierson, Ezekiel and Euston.
Relatives, neighbours & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.
Costy's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9823022194

MONTH'S MIND
In ever loving memory of **SARA GOMES**
(Agalli - Margao)
There will be an Eucharistic Celebration for the soul of our beloved Sara Gomes on Saturday 1st March 2025, at 8.00 am at Holy Spirit Church, Margao.
Followed by prayers & blessing of the grave.
Offered by his sorrowful Husband Bernardo Noronha, Daughter Alia Emily Noronha, Mother Domitila Da Costa, Brother David Gomes & Family.
RELATIVES & FRIENDS ACCEPT THIS AS THE ONLY INTIMATION

RETURNED TO THE LORD
SHAKESPEARE MORAES
- Benclavaddo - Cuncoim -
18.08.1954 - 27.02.25
Son of late Isaac Moraes & Fabiana Mendes.
Husband of Judy Fernandes E Moraes.
Father of Melene Moraes and Megna Moraes E Da Costa.
Father-in-law of Suraj Alvito Da Costa.
Grandfather of Sarah, Rebekah, Nathaniel Da Costa.
Brother/ brother-in-law of Suzana Moraes E D'Silva/ late Cotty D'Silva.
Uncle to Conniff D'Silva / Sally Rodrigues & Carl D'Silva.
Granduncle of Adorah.
Funeral service will be held on Saturday, 1st March 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at Our Lady of Health Church, Cuncoim.
Relatives & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation.
A special thank you to Sr. Meggie and the Sisters also the inmates of Lar. Santa Margarida, Aged home Diwar for the love, care and support given to Shakespear all these years.
Costy's Ads, Chinchinim, Navelim, 9823022194

DEATH
MARIA C. J. FERRAO (ANTONET)
(Rebod - Benaulim)
Beloved wife of late Joao Caitan Rebelo
Loving Mother/Mother-in-law of Glen/Maggie, Anceto/Palmira, Olivia/Vicente, Alba/Clement, Joel/Lucy,
a caring Grandmother to grand children and great grandchildren.
Funeral cortege will leave her residence on Friday, 28th February 2025, (Today) at 4:00 pm to Our Lady of Patrocinio Chapel, Pulvaddo, Benaulim, for Eucharistic celebration followed by burial at St. John the Baptist Church, Benaulim.
Relatives, neighbours & friends kindly accept this as the only intimation
Rebello Publicity & Funeral Services Margao 9822383992

Lord I Am Coming Home
DIVINA FELICIANA CALDEIRA e FERNANDES
Dabal - Goa
Beloved wife of late Costancio fernandes
Most beloved mother/mother-in-law of Leslie (PETROMAR) / Julie(EX.ICHS), Effie (Tr. of ICHS) / Andrew, John/ Mariana (Ireland)
Elsie / late Rumaldo (Filsu bar cortalim), Richard (cayman island) / Lucy, Roy/Dora, James, oswald (USA) / Socorrina Loving Grandmother of joyner / Geeta(UK)Javier / Flocy (UK), Steffie /Saijan (UK), late Stenzil, Chris, Divina, Rueda, Sherene, Cavin, Drea, Racheal, Clayden Doting great Grandmother of George, Jairus, Meenora
Funeral cortege will leave her residence to Immaculate conception church, Dabal at 3:30pm on 28.02.2025 followed by Eucharistic celebration
Relatives and friends kindly accept this as the only invitation.