



**Defence Minister Rajnath Singh at the opening of Centre for Advanced Research on Space Psychology, at the Institute of Aerospace Medicine of the IAF, in Bengaluru**



**Actor Aamir Khan and screenwriter Javed Akhtar during the announcement of film festival 'Aamir Khan: Cinema Ka Jadugar', in Mumbai**



**A patient being airlifted for treatment from the remote Pangi valley, in Chamba, Himachal Pradesh**



**Singer Palak Muchhal celebrates 25 years of her initiative 'Saving Little Hearts', which helps children with heart diseases get life-saving surgeries, in Mumbai**

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**Canadian singer Shawn Mendes performs during the Lollapalooza India 2025 music festival, in Mumbai, on Saturday**

**Bihar: 25 fowls culled after sample tests of dead birds confirm avian influenza infection**

**PATNA:** Around 25 fowls have been culled in Bihar's capital Patna after tests of samples of dead birds confirmed avian influenza infection, a senior health official said on Sunday. Patna Civil Surgeon Abinash Kumar Singh said it is being examined whether the viral infection has spread among those who work in poultry units. The authorities have started collecting samples from poultry farms located within a three-kilometre radius of the locality around Veterinary College near the airport here after at least 25 birds were found dead there a few days ago. "The samples of the dead birds were sent to a laboratory for tests, and the reports confirmed that they died of the H5N1 strain of avian influenza infection. Now, we have started collecting samples from poultry farms located within a three-kilometre radius of the locality around the Veterinary College near the airport. We are also collecting samples of those who are working at these poultry units," Singh told PTI.

**Delhi: 26-year-old female doctor kills self**

**NEW DELHI:** A 26-year-old female doctor was found hanging in her room in Delhi's Rohini on Sunday, police said. The reason behind the suicide is yet to be ascertained, according to police. A senior police officer said that she was married and was living separately in Rohini's Sector 8. The body has been taken into custody, the officer said, adding that an investigation is launched.

**MP to get its 9th tiger reserve on Monday**

**BHOPAL:** Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav will on Monday inaugurate the state's ninth tiger reserve - Madhav National Park - by releasing a tiger and tigress, officials said. Yadav will also inaugurate a 13-kilometre-long stone safety wall inside the park. In a statement on Sunday, Yadav expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for "gifting" the state its ninth tiger reserve, which will be the 58th such protected park for the striped big cats. He said that the tiger reserve, located in Shivpuri district, will promote wildlife conservation and tourism. This is a major achievement of Madhya Pradesh in the field of wildlife conservation, he said. According to officials, the reserved forest area of Madhav National Park, which will also now be known as Madhav Tiger Reserve, is 32,429.52 hectares. Its protected forest area spreads over 2,422 hectares, while the revenue area is 2,671.82 hectares.

**Woman's body found inside suitcase in UP**

**BULANDSHAHR (UP):** A woman's body was found stuffed inside a suitcase near Bhaukheda village here on Sunday, police said. Circle Officer Purnima Singh said, "The suitcase was spotted in a field by villagers who later informed the police. Upon opening the suitcase, the body of a woman was recovered. The deceased is yet to be identified, the police said. The body had been sent for a postmortem examination and further investigation is underway, they said.

# Kathua killings: J-K LG orders probe

**PTI, JAMMU:** Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday ordered a thorough probe into the killing of three civilians in Kathua district even as Union minister Jitendra Singh called it a terror act.

A team has been formed to investigate the case, a senior police officer said.

The bodies of Varun Singh (15), his paternal uncle Yogesh Singh (32) and maternal uncle Darshan Singh (40) were recovered from the Ishu nullah in the remote Malhar area on Saturday. The trio had gone missing on March 5 during a wedding function.

"I have ordered a thorough and transparent investigation, and all the necessary support to the families will be provided," the LG said in a post on X.

He said he was shocked and saddened at the brutal killing of the three persons.

"I assure the people that the perpetrators will be brought to book at the earliest. Justice will be ensured and accountability will be fixed," Sinha said.

Earlier, Union minister Jitendra

Singh, who represents Udhampur constituency that covers Kathua, said the three civilians were killed by terrorists and asserted that there is a "deep conspiracy" to spoil the atmosphere in the area.

The killings have sparked protest in the district.

"The brutal killing of 3 youth by terrorists in Bani area of district Kathua is extremely sad as well as a matter of great concern. There appears to be a deep conspiracy behind spoiling the atmosphere in this peaceful area," the minister said on X.

"We have discussed this matter with the officials concerned. The Union Home Secretary himself is reaching Jammu so that the situation can be assessed on the spot. I am confident that it will be ensured that such incidents do not happen again and the confidence of the people remains strong," he said.

Officials said Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan reviewed the security situation at a meeting here.

Chief Minister Omar Abdullah termed the killings as "barbaric".

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— Manoj Sinha, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor



"Deeply shocked and saddened by the barbaric murder of three innocent civilians, including a minor boy, in Kathua. Such heinous acts have no place in our society and must be met with the strongest condemnation. My heartfelt condolences to the grieving families," Abdullah said in a post on X.

J-K Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Choudhary also condemned the killings, and said "increasing crime is a matter of concern."

He also expressed concern over the "life-threatening" attack on Bani MLA Rameshwar Singh, who was assaulted by a group of protesters while he had gone to meet the family members of the deceased at a local hospital in Billawar late Saturday night.

The Congress also demanded a high-level investigation to clear

the apprehensions of locals.

Meanwhile, senior BJP leader Sunil Sharma said terrorism which has been buried in Kashmir will not be allowed to raise its head in Jammu.

Addressing protesters gathered to condemn the killings in Billawar area of Kathua, the Leader of Opposition in J&K Assembly said terrorists have come up with a new modus operandi where they are not using weapons to kill people only to create confusion.

Sharma, accompanied by party MLAs Satish Sharma and Rajiv Jasrotia, who visited Billawar also said he briefed Union Home Minister Amit Shah about the incident. "He (Shah) asked me to tell the people of Billawar that he is standing behind them."

"We are seeing a new modus operandi where terrorists are not using weapons to kill people...this

is an act to create confusion. Jammu region is being deliberately targeted at the behest of Pakistan which wants to put hurdles in India becoming the world power," Sharma told the gathering at Phinter Chowk in Billawar.

BJP workers held massive protests across Kathua including Billawar where a complete shutdown was observed to protest the killings.

Meanwhile, senior Congress leaders including former MP Choudhary Lal Singh were barred by police from visiting the area, drawing strong protest by the party.

Choudhary Lal Singh, who is also a former minister, told reporters that this is for the first time that such a situation had emerged in Kathua district and it reflects the alleged failure of the home ministry which is directly controlling the law and order situation in J&K.

"We demand an inquiry to identify the culprits and a compensation of Rs 10 lakh and a government job for the families of the deceased," he said.

**LUDHIANA BUILDING COLLAPSE**

## One more dies; rescue operation on

**PTI, LUDHIANA (PUNJAB):** One more worker died in the factory building collapse here while the rescue operation was still on as another worker was stated to be trapped under the debris, officials said on Sunday.

The worker's body was brought out from under the debris on Sunday, taking the death toll in the incident to two, they said.

On Saturday evening, a worker was killed after the building of a textile factory collapsed in the Focal Point area here.

Two teams of National Disaster Response Force, along with police, fire brigade and the municipal corporation, were undertaking the rescue operation, the officials said.

Sources said repair work

was being taken up in the factory when a pillar gave way. An eyewitness on Saturday said a loud sound was heard before the building caved in.

On Sunday, Deputy Commissioner Jitendra Jorwal said that two workers have died in the incident.

The rescue operations are still going on to locate one worker who is stated to be trapped beneath the debris after the incident that occurred around 5 pm Saturday, the officials said.

Due to the substantial amount of debris, rescue teams are removing it carefully using manual equipment, they said.

Deputy Commissioner Jorwal said a magisterial probe has been ordered to investigate the exact cause of the incident.

**UNEMPLOYMENT WOES**



**Police detain members of the NCP (Sharad Pawar) who were staging a protest demanding employment opportunities for local candidates in the Pune Metro and Pune Municipal Corporation, in Pune, on Sunday**

# 3 injured as leaking gas pipeline catches fire in Mumbai

**PTI, MUMBAI:** Three persons suffered burn injuries after a leaking gas pipeline caught fire on a road in Mumbai's Andheri area early on Sunday, an official said.

Two vehicles were also damaged in the incident, he said.

The Mahanagar Gas Limited (MGL) in a statement later said the pipeline was damaged due to the "JCB impact during unauthorised, uncontrolled digging".

The blaze erupted at 12.35 am in a heavily leaking supply pipeline of the MGL, passing through the middle of a road at Sher-E-Punjab society near a gurdwara at Takshila in Andheri (East) area, a fire official said earlier in the day. It was a 'level-one' fire which was confined to two moving

vehicles, he said.

A two-wheeler rider, Arvindkumar Kaithal (21), suffered 30 to 40% burns, another biker, Aman Harishankar Saroj (22), sustained 40 to 50% burn injuries, and auto-rickshaw driver Suresh Kailas Gupta (52) suffered 20% burns, he said.

A water tanker, a fire engine and other assistance were rushed to the spot and the blaze was extinguished by 1.34 am, the official said.

The three injured persons were taken to the Balasahab Thackeray Trauma Care Centre in Jogeshwari for treatment. Kaithal and Saroj, however, took discharge against medical advice, the official said.

The MGL in its statement said the gas pipeline was damaged due to

the JCB (earth-excavating machine) impact during unauthorised and uncontrolled digging last night, leading to the fire.

The fire brigade and the MGL emergency team extinguished the blaze.

The gas supply was stopped for repair work of the pipeline, it said.

"Unfortunately, three persons were injured in the incident and rushed to hospital," the statement said.

With the support of the Mumbai fire brigade, the situation was under control and the rectification work was in progress, it said.

The authorities concerned, including police, were investigating the incident to find out the persons and agencies involved, which lead to this unfortunate event, the statement said.

## Raj Thackeray raises questions about cleanliness of Ganga

**PTI, PUNE/MUMBAI:** Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray raised questions about the cleanliness of the Ganga and claimed none of the rivers in the country were clean.

Thackeray was speaking at a programme organised in Pune to mark the 19th foundation day of his party on Saturday.

The MNS chief said his party leader, Bala Nandgaonkar, had brought holy water from the Maha Kumbh, but he refused to drink it.

"I have seen several

videos on social media about the state of the Ganga. I saw some people scratching and washing their bodies in the river," he said.

"None of the rivers in India were clean. I have been hearing claims that 'Ganga will be cleaned soon' since Rajiv Gandhi was the prime minister. Now is the time to come out of this myth," Thackeray added.

Thackeray had also asked if anyone would drink the water of Godavari river if lakhs of people took a holy dip in it.

## Life affected in Kuki-dominated areas of Manipur as agitators enforce shutdown

**PTI, IMPHAL/ CHURACHANDPUR:** Normal life was affected in Kuki-dominated areas of Manipur on Sunday as agitators enforced an indefinite shutdown called by Kuki-Zo groups against a "crackdown by security forces".

**ETHNIC VIOLENCE**

The situation in Kangpokpi district, where at least one person was killed and 40 others were injured in clashes between Kuki demonstrators and security forces on the previous day, remained tense but calm on Sunday.

In other Kuki-dominated areas in Churachandpur and Tengnoupal districts as well, protesters burnt tyres and blocked roads with boulders, which the security

forces were seen clearing. However, no fresh violence has been reported so far.

Business establishments remained closed and few vehicles were seen plying the roads in Kuki-dominated areas in the state. Agitators were seen asking people to remain indoors.

Additional security forces have been deployed in Gamghipai and other parts of the district along the NH-2 (Imphal-Dimapur Road) and vehicular patrolling was being conducted to ensure law and order, a district official said.

A protester was killed while over 40 others, including women and policemen, were injured in clashes between Kuki demonstrators and security forces in different parts of Kangpokpi district on Saturday, officials said.

Clashes erupted between dem-



**Security personnel stand guard during an indefinite shutdown by the Kuki Zo Council in all the Kuki areas, in Manipur**

onstrators and security forces in the Kuki-dominated district after police fired tear gas shells to disperse them, as they opposed Union Home Minister Amit Shah's directive allowing free movement across the state.

Protesters clashed with secu-

rity forces till late on Saturday night as the agitators used catapults against the law enforcers, he said, adding windshields of at least five vehicles of the security forces were damaged.

The Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), a Kuki-Zo body,

extended support to the indefinite shutdown called by Kuki Zo Council (KZC) in all areas inhabited by the community in Manipur to protest the crackdown of security forces on demonstrators protesting free movement along all roads in the ethnic strife-torn state.

In a statement, ITLF said, "Yesterday, the Government of India's decision to allow the movement of Meiteis through Kuki-Zo areas led to agitation and protest in Kangpokpi... the security forces used excessive force on the protesters."

Endorsing the indefinite shutdown called in all Kuki-Zo areas, ITLF asked everyone to "adhere to the shutdown in solidarity".

"We respect everyone who came out to protest yesterday," the ITLF said.

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