



Police personnel participate in Self Empowerment Nation program organized by Brahma Kumaris Rajayoga Meditation Centre, in Bikanr



Participants during the Sindhi Marathon organised on the birth anniversary of Shaheed Hemu Kalani, in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh



Muslims break their fast at the Iftaar during the holy month of Ramzan, at Barika Chuburi Maszid, Tezpur, Sonitpur district, in Assam



Miss Universe 2024 Victoria Kjaer Theilvig, right, with Miss Universe India 2024 Rhea Singha pose at the Taj Mahal, in Agra, Uttar Pradesh

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The Doddanagamangala chariot topples on its way to Huskur due to heavy rain and strong winds during the annual Sri Maduramma Devi Jatre, in Anekal Taluk. One person lost his life after being trapped under the fallen chariot, while several others sustained injuries

3 killed, 25 injured as bus overturns in MP

JABALPUR (MP): Three persons were killed and more than 25 others injured when a Nagpur-bound private bus overturned in Madhya Pradesh's Jabalpur district early on Sunday, police said. The accident took place at around 4 am in Ramanpur Ghati area under Bargi police station limits, an official said. Three persons were killed and more than 25 others injured in the incident, according to the police. The bus was on way from Ayodhya (in Uttar Pradesh) and going to Nagpur (Maharashtra), a police official said, adding the initial investigation indicated that the accident occurred as the vehicle driver dozed off. The deceased have been identified as Malmma (45), a resident of Hyderabad, Shubham Meshram (28) and Amol Khode (42), both residents of Nagpur, the official said.

Sex racket busted in Delhi's Paharganj; 23 rescued, seven arrested

NEW DELHI: The Delhi Police has busted a sex racket operating in the Paharganj area here, rescuing 23 women, including three minors and 10 Nepalese nationals, an official said on Sunday. Seven people involved in human trafficking were arrested in the joint operation carried out by teams from the Paharganj Police Station, Shardhanand Marg Police Post and Himmatgarh Police Post. "Based on inputs and surveillance, police identified key locations involved in the illegal trade. The accused were allegedly luring women from West Bengal, Nepal, and other states under false pretences and forcing them into prostitution," a senior police officer said. They were housed in a room in the Paharganj main market area, before being sent to various hotels. The officer said before the raid, teams conducted surveillance and deployed decoy customers at suspected locations.

Elderly man held for raping 4-year-old girl in Bulandshahr

BULANDSHAHR (UP): An octogenarian man was arrested for allegedly raping a four-year-old girl from his neighbourhood in Uttar Pradesh's Bulandshahr, police said on Sunday. The incident took place in a village under Narsena police station when the girl, while playing on the roof of her grandfather's house on Saturday evening, went missing, they said. Upon searching, her family heard her cries coming from the adjacent house, where the 80-year-old man lived, a police officer said. The family told police that they found the man in an "objectionable position" with the girl, who was bleeding from her private parts, the officer said. Superintendent of Police (City) Shankar Prasad said, "The minor has been sent to the district hospital for treatment and the accused has been arrested." Further investigation into the matter is underway, he added.

Illegal Bangladeshi migrant held in Delhi, sent for deportation

NEW DELHI: A Bangladeshi national who entered India illegally was apprehended from Mahipalpur area of southwest Delhi, police said on Sunday. The accused, Ashrafalam Rayhad Thalukther, was detained and later sent to a deportation center after completing legal formalities, they said. According to police, Thalukther had been residing in Mahipalpur for the last two months without valid Indian documentation. Based on a tip-off, a police team tracked and apprehended the accused. Upon questioning, Thalukther failed to produce any valid Indian documents, possessing only photocopies of Bangladeshi papers, a police officer said. During interrogation, he admitted to crossing the border illegally. Following verification, he was taken into custody and later transferred to the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) for deportation, the officer said.

UP: Elderly man hacked to death with axe in Kaushambi

KAUSHAMBI (UP): A 72-year-old man was hacked to death with an axe following an argument in Uttar Pradesh's Kaushambi district on Sunday, police said. The incident took place when Budhai, from Kodar village, had gone to Shyam Lal's house in Naughira village in in Manjhanpur area to get medicine for his grandson around 11 am, they said. He was sitting at Shyam's house and had an altercation with Prem Lal, a local, who was chopping wood nearby with an axe, Station House Officer (SHO) Sanjay Tripathi said.

Election Commission is a 'failed institution': Kapil Sibal

PTI, NEW DELHI: Termining the Election Commission "dysfunctional" and a "failed" institution, Rajya Sabha MP Kapil Sibal has claimed that a large section of people do not have faith in the poll body as it has not discharged its functions in accordance with its constitutional responsibilities.

In an interview with PTI, Sibal said the quicker the issue of lack of faith in the Election Commission is dealt with, the greater is the chance of saving democracy. "The Election Commission is a dysfunctional body. The Election Commission has not discharged its functions in accordance with its responsibilities which are expected of it under the Constitution," he said when asked about the Congress' and TMC's allegations

The Election Commission is a dysfunctional body. The Election Commission has not discharged its functions in accordance with its responsibilities which are expected of it under the Constitution

— Kapil Sibal, Rajya Sabha MP



about voters list irregularities.

The Election Commission as it stands today is a "failed institution" and there is no confidence in the Election Commission among a large section of the people of this country, the Independent Rajya Sabha MP said.

"Therefore, the quicker we deal with this issue, the greater is the chance of saving democracy," Sibal said.

"The message to the opposition is that apart from

the EVMs, there are some really serious issues which in fact suggest that the process of elections is polluted," he added.

The results that have come about may have been the result of manipulations at many levels, Sibal claimed.

"We need to address that issue together," the former Congress leader asserted.

His remarks come in the backdrop of the Congress and INDIA bloc parties repeatedly raising issues of

Drug trafficker held after exchange of fire with police in Arunachal

PTI, ITANAGAR: A drug trafficker, wanted in several cases, was arrested in Arunachal Pradesh's capital region after an exchange of fire between the criminal and police personnel, a senior officer said on Sunday.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team apprehended him from Hollongi near here on Saturday evening and seized 12 grams of narcotics substance and a US-made sophisticated firearm from his possession, Capital Superintendent of Police (SP) Rohit Rajbir Singh told reporters.

Based on intelligence inputs, a police team asked a vehicle to stop but it did not, and as the suspect attempted to flee the spot, the police personnel chased the

four-wheeler and intercepted it, the SP said.

Rohit (alias Ruhit) Basumatary, the accused drug trafficker, then started firing at the police team, and the police personnel led by SDPO Kengo Dirchi retaliated, Singh said.

The SP also said the police exhibited commendable restraint and professionalism, ensuring no harm to civilians.

The accused was taken to R K Mission Hospital here for medical treatment, and two officers were also injured in the operation, the SP said.

A search of the suspect's vehicle was conducted in the presence of magistrates and independent witnesses.

Delimitation meeting by DMK a 'big drama' to hide its 'incompetencies': AIADMK

PTI, CHENNAI: Tamil Nadu's principal opposition party, the AIADMK on Sunday lashed out at archrival DMK over its meeting on Parliamentary delimitation, calling it a "big drama" to hide the ruling party's "incompetencies." AIADMK spokesperson Kovai Sathyan said the Joint Action Committee (JAC) meeting chaired by Stalin and attended by CMs of others states including Kerala's Pinarayi Vijayan and A Revanth Reddy of Telangana, "has left an impression that it is a staged drama." The invitation letter sent out by Stalin states he was not against delimitation, but that the exercise will curtail Tamil Nadu's number of MPs, he said.

"On the other hand, inside Tamil Nadu, in every nook and corner DMK is trying



to say it loud that delimitation exercise itself is wrong. So which one is true? Stalin doesn't want delimitation, or if delimitation happens, what is the solution," he told PTI Videos.

"We from AIADMK propose that the proportion of 7.18 per cent that Tamil Nadu has right now with respect to MPs should not

bly elections by hiding all their incompetencies and failures of this government which is stinking deep in corruption," he claimed.

The law and order was in shambles.

"So, the delimitation exercise for DMK is a big drama," he said.

Stalin has been claiming that delimitation based on population would result in a decrease in Lok Sabha seats for south Indian states. The meeting on Saturday had urged to extend the freeze on Parliamentary constituencies, based on the 1971 Census population, by another 25 years.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah had earlier said the delimitation done on pro rata basis will not affect south Indian states.

Meghalaya govt acts as 'Ni-kshay Mitra', adopts all TB patients in state

PTI, SHILLONG: In an unprecedented initiative, the Meghalaya government has "adopted" about 4,500 tuberculosis patients in the state and has become a "universal Ni-kshay Mitra" for them as part of the 100-day Intensified TB-Mukt Bharat Abhiyaan.

The Centre launched the 'Ni-kshay Mitra' programme in September 2022, urging individuals, private organisations and civil society groups to "adopt" patients and provide them additional nutrition and diagnostic support.

Now, Meghalaya has gone a step further and become

the universal Ni-kshay Mitra for all tuberculosis patients in the state.

Under its unique Comprehensive TB Care Initiative launched in December last year, the northeastern state has taken extra measures not just to improve treatment success rates but also to reduce morbidity and financial burden on the patients and their families.

In addition to the Rs 1,000 monthly nutritional support that each patient is provided under the Ni-kshay Poshan Yojana by the Union government, Meghalaya possibly is the only state that provides

additional support worth Rs 2,000 per month to each patient in the form of a nutritional kit.

The kit comprises 10 kgs of rice, one tray of eggs, three kgs of moong daal, one litre of refined oil as well as seasonal fruits and vegetables to ensure a patient's faster recovery.

The aim is not just to provide nutritious food to the patient but also to take care of their family members so that their immunity is boosted and the future breakout of infection into active TB is prevented, said Ramkumar S, the mission director of the National Health Mission

(NHM).

The state government also provides free transportation for TB patients and one attendant from their homes to the health facility and back, he said.

At the health facilities, patients are provided free-of-cost diagnostics with all additional laboratory tests and investigations completely taken care of by the state.

Besides, the Meghalaya government also provides skill development and vocational training to TB survivors so that they can earn a decent livelihood and return to normal life at the earliest.

IED alert sounded as threat spikes with new camps in core areas

PTI, NEW RAIPUR: An alert has been sounded in the anti-Naxal operations theatre of Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand following a "spike" in IED blasts and recoveries, including that of a device rigged with beer bottles and a small antenna for remote control explosion, officials said.

The uptick in improvised explosive device (IED) recovery and blasts has been noticed as multiple security forces move into core Naxal areas to meet the Union government's deadline of wiping off Left Wing Extremism (LWE) from the country by March 2026, the officials said.

"To meet this target, the security forces are establishing new forward camps, especially in the remotest districts of Chhattisgarh's Bastar area. The Maoists are no more en-

gaging in one-to-one encounters as they are low on arms and ammunition and hence IEDs are being used in more numbers to kill or maim troops," a senior officer in the security establishment told PTI.

A recent analysis of IED incidents shows a "drastic" spike in numbers and hence the forces have been issued a "high alert" to guard against these attacks and their new technology in Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand as the TCOC period is nearing, the officer said.

The Tactical Counter Offensive Campaign (TCOC) is undertaken by the Maoists in summer months to launch attacks against security forces as forests go dry and trees shed leaves allowing a long range of view to pick up movement of security forces.

UNBRIDLED JOY



Boys fly kites during sunset near the Indo-Bangladesh border village, in Narayanpur, Tripura

Road crash in J&K leaves four dead

PTI, SRINAGAR: Three tourists from Maharashtra and their local driver were killed and 17 people injured when a bus and a taxi collided on the Srinagar-Sonamarg road in Ganderbal district of Jammu and Kashmir on Sunday, officials said.

Both the vehicles sustained major damages in the accident, which took place at Gund. Officials said the injured peoploe are undergoing treatment.

A police official identified the deceased as Leshia Ashish, Nikki Ashish and Hetal Ashish, all residents of Maharashtra. Faheem Ahmad, the local driver, was also killed in the ac-

cident, he said. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah expressed their sorrow over the deaths.

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