



Indian and Russian navy personnel during the 14th edition of the Indian-Russia bilateral naval exercise INDRA, in Chennai, Tamil Nadu



Women police personnel stop Bihar Pradesh Mahila Congress Committee supporters marching towards Raj Bhavan during their protest, in Patna



President Droupadi Murmu speaks during the inauguration of a two-day National Conference on Environment 2025, in New Delhi



Models present creations by designer Salim Azzam at the Lakme Fashion Week x FDCI, in Mumbai

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Jammu and Kashmir Deputy Chief Minister Surinder Kumar pays tribute to J&K Police personnel Jagbir Singh who lost his life during Kathua encounter, in Jammu

Man held for murder at construction site in Navi Mumbai

THANE: A 25-year-old person has been arrested for allegedly shooting dead a man at a construction site in Navi Mumbai, an official said on Saturday. Accused Prabhakar Janardhan Waghe, alias Chilla, was hiding in an Adivasi hamlet in Khalapur area, said senior inspector Nitin Thackeray of the Panvel police station. He said one Baburao Waghmare (45) was killed at a construction site on March 26. Police launched a probe and found that Chilla was involved in the murder, he said. Waghmare had intervened during a quarrel between Chilla and another person. This angered Chilla, who then opened fire on Waghmare, killing him, said the official.

Three arrested for extorting money in Jharkhand's Garhwa

RANCHI: Three persons were arrested in Jharkhand's Garhwa district for allegedly extorting money from mine and crusher owners, police said on Saturday. The accused, identified as Shahid Ansari, Ashok Singh, and Makdas Ansari, used to demand levies by claiming to be 'area commanders' of the Tiritiya Sammelan Prastuti Committee (TSPC), a splinter group of the CPI (Maoist), they said. The three accused were arrested from the forest area under the Ranka police station limits, Garhwa Superintendent of Police, Deepak Kumar Pandey said. Pandey said a mine operator Mohan Murari Dev had lodged a complaint with Ranka police station on March 18, stating that on the night of March 16, three unknown criminals entered the mine, demanded levy, and threatened the employees. The SP said a country-made pistol, looted mobile phones, and motorcycle used in the crime were recovered from the possession of the three arrested persons.

UP: Meerut doctor booked as cotton left inside woman's abdomen during C-section

MEERUT(UP): A doctor has been booked for medical negligence for allegedly leaving a bundle of cotton inside a woman's abdomen following a C-section delivery, police here said on Saturday. The case was registered at TP Nagar police station against Dr. Shikha Jain on Friday following a court order by Assistant Chief Magistrate Prachi Aggarwal on a complaint by Rajni Sharma, they said. Sharma alleged that she gave birth to a daughter at Sirohi Nursing Home on June 30, 2018, where the surgery was performed by Dr. Shikha Jain, a police officer said citing the complaint. She later experienced persistent stomach pain, but despite multiple consultations, the doctor diagnosed her with stomach ulcers, he said.

Heat wave: Kerala CM asks departments to be vigilant

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has instructed various departments to take coordinated action in view of the possible heat wave in the state as temperatures continue to rise every day. He was addressing a meeting convened here to discuss matters related to the ongoing heat wave situation, pre-monsoon cleaning, health alertness and epidemic prevention measures, an official release said here on Saturday. He said there should not be lack of vigilance on the part of departments, though temperatures come down in the evenings with frequent summer rains. Instructions and warning messages regarding the heat wave should be given at the local self-government level as a precautionary measure.

UP: Pilibhit jail inmate serving sentence in POCSO case dies, probe ordered

PILIBHIT(UP): A 47-year-old man serving a sentence of raping a minor at Uttar Pradesh's Pilibhit district jail, died during treatment at the district hospital, police said on Saturday. Raju alias Abdullah, convicted of raping a minor, was sentenced to 10 years in prison in March 2023 and fined Rs 67,000 under charges of rape and the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. The case was registered at Bilsanda police station in 2014, they said. Jail Superintendent Rajesh Pandey said Raju complained of chest pain and breathing difficulties around 10.30 am on March 28. He was given first aid at the jail hospital and later shifted to the district hospital, where he died during treatment in the evening, Pandey said.

Boy run over by speeding BBMP garbage truck; driver arrested

BENGALURU: A 10-year-old boy died after he was allegedly hit and subsequently run over by an overspeeding Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) garbage truck near Thanisandra on Saturday, police said. The deceased was identified as Iman, they added. According to the police, Iman and his father were riding a two-wheeler when their vehicle was hit from behind by the allegedly speeding BBMP garbage truck near Thanisandra at around 12.30 pm.

18 Naxals killed, 4 Jawans injured in Chhattisgarh encounters

PTI, SUKMA BIJAPUR: Security forces gunned down 18 Naxals, including 11 women, in twin encounters in Chhattisgarh's Sukma and Bijapur districts in the Bastar region on Saturday, recording a major success in the mission to eradicate Naxalism before March 31, 2026.

The encounters occurred on the eve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to Chhattisgarh.

Four jawans were injured as security teams inflicted major damage on Naxals, killing 17 cadres, including a high-ranking Maoist, identified as Kuldami Jagdish, carrying a reward of Rs 25 lakh on his head, in Sukma, police said.

He was wanted in more than a dozen deadly Naxal incidents, including the 2013 Jhiram Valley attack that left several Congress leaders dead.

Another encounter was reported from the neighbouring Bijapur district



Bodies of Naxalites and recovered weapons after an encounter at the Dantewada-Bijapur border, in Bijapur, Chhattisgarh

where one Naxal was killed, a police officer said.

Among the four injured security personnel, three belong to the District Reserve Guard (DRG), a unit of the state police, while the fourth is from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), they said.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah hailed the Sukma encounter, saying those carrying weapons and re-

sorting to violence cannot bring change but peace and development can.

"Another strike on Naxalism! Our security agencies have neutralised 16 Naxalites and recovered a massive cache of automatic weapons in an operation in Sukma," he wrote on 'X'.

The home minister said under the leadership of Prime Minister, the government is resolved to eradicate Naxal-

ism before March 31, 2026.

Ten days ago, security forces had gunned down 30 members of the banned CPI (Maoist) in two separate encounters in the Bijapur and Kanker districts in the Bastar region, which also includes Sukma.

The gunfight broke out around 8 am in the forest under the Kerlapal police station area in Sukma district, where a joint team of security personnel was out on an anti-Naxalite operation, Inspector General of Police of Bastar Range Sundarraj P told PTI.

The IG said personnel from the DRG and CRPF's 159th battalion were involved in the operation launched on Friday night based on inputs about the presence of Maoists in the forests of Gogunda, Nendum and Upampalli villages in the Kerlapal police station area, he said.

Bengaluru engineer's organ donation saves lives after tragic death

PTI, BENGALURU: A grieving single mother's decision to donate the organs of her son, who tragically lost his life following a road accident on March 15, helped save six lives.

Rekha Rao, a resident of Rajaji Nagar, said her 33-year-old son, Rakesh Kumar S, wanted to meet his friend on that fateful day, but his two-wheeler skidded and fell, the severity of head and facial injuries rendering him unconscious immediately. Passersby took him to a local hospital, she added.

Rao, who had lost her husband 25 years ago, said despite her numbing grief, she wanted to do the right thing by Rakesh. I find some comfort knowing that the decision to donate his organs will give others a chance to live, Rao told PTI.

She said after being denied a bed in ICU in Nimbans, where she was ad-

vised to take her son, she had finally got him shifted to Apollo Hospital in Ses-hadripuram.

But I was told that his brain eventually gave up on him, she added.

His attending neurosurgeons from Apollo -- Dr B Ravi Mohan Rao and Dr Karthikeyan Y R -- said the severe head and face injuries increased pressure on his brain, causing significant complications, including a shift in part of his brain, and resulting in an extremely low level of consciousness, indicating a critical condition.

Despite prompt medical intervention and the dedicated efforts of the hospital's medical team, his condition deteriorated.

After confirming the patient's brain death through multiple apnea tests, Rao was given the option of organ donation, said the doctors.

UP class 9 student dies by suicide over unpaid exam fees

PTI, PRATAPGARH: A Class 9 student was found hanging in her room in Uttar Pradesh's Pratapgarh district after she was allegedly denied permission to appear for her annual exam and humiliated over unpaid fees by her college administration, police said on Saturday.

According to a complaint filed by her mother Poonam Devi, Riya Prajapati (17), a student at Kamala Sharan Yadav Inter College, was not given her admit card due to outstanding fees of Rs 800, they said.

She alleged that her daughter was humiliated by college manager Santosh Kumar Yadav, principal Rajkumar Yadav, staff member Deepak Saroj, peon Dhaniram, and a

teacher, who is yet to be identified, when she went to appear for the exam on Saturday, a police officer said.

The girl was not allowed to sit for the exam and was asked to return home, Additional Superintendent of Police (East) Durgesh Kumar Singh said, citing the complaint.

Hurt by the humiliation, Riya returned home and died by hanging herself in a room, police said.

The complainant also alleged that the college staff threatened to ruin her daughter's future, leading her to commit suicide, they added.

A case has been registered, and an investigation is underway. The body has been sent for post-mortem, police said.

Senior Army officer reviews security situation in J-K's Udhampur

PTI, JAMMU: A senior Army officer visited Jammu and Kashmir's Udhampur district to review the security situation, amid an ongoing operation against infiltrating terrorists in nearby Kathua district, officials said.

General Officer Commanding (GOC) of Jammu-based White Knight Corps, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, visited the district's Basantgarh area, which falls on the route used by terrorists earlier to move from Kathua to Chenab valley after infiltrating the border, officials said.

Lieutenant General Sachdeva was accompanied by Major General APS Bal, the GOC of Counter Insurgency Force-Delta (CIF-D), they said.



Security personnel during an encounter with terrorists, in Kathua district of Jammu and Kashmir

GOC White Knight Corps and GOC CIF-D visited Basantgarh to assess the ongoing security situation in the region. The GOC appreciated the troops for their unwavering commitment and dedication in the ongoing counter-terrorism operations, White Knight Corps

posted on microblogging site X.

The visit comes at a time when security forces are engaged in a massive search operation in Kathua district, where four policemen and two Pakistani terrorists were killed in a fierce gunfight on Thursday.

100 shanties gutted after fire in Gurugram

PTI, GURUGRAM: Around 100 shanties were gutted in a fire triggered by gas cylinder explosion in a slum here on Friday morning, a fire official said.

Over 15 fire engines were pressed into service and it took around 2 hours to bring the fire under control near the Basai Chowk area. The people trapped in the fire were evacuated safely and no casualties were reported in the incident, the official said.

The incident occurred around 5.30 am when a fire broke out in a shanty. It soon spread to other shanties in the area. Many cylinders exploded in the fire, he said.

Calm returns to Bengal's Mothabari after clashes; 50 arrested

PTI, MALDA: The situation in clash-hit Mothabari in West Bengal's Malda district was returning to normal, even as 16 more people were arrested in connection with violence in the area, a senior police officer said on Saturday.

A total of 50 people have so far been arrested in connection with Thursday's clashes between two groups of people in Mothabari, Inspector General (IG), North Bengal, Rajesh Yadav said.

Senior officials of the administration and the police held a meeting to restore peace in the area, he said.

Yadav told PTI that "normalcy was returning" in

Mothabari, where some shops and other establishments have reopened.

Trouble began on Thursday after a religious procession passed by a place of worship in Mothabari on Wednesday evening, according to locals. The violence led to arson, vandalism and physical attacks on people.

Yadav said that in addition to four companies of state armed police and a large number of Rapid Action Force (RAF) personnel, another company of SAP has been deployed in the affected area.

Internet services have been suspended in Mothabari and adjoining places as a precautionary measure since Friday, officials said.

ISRO achieves breakthrough in Semicryogenic engine development for LVM3

PTI, BENGALURU: ISRO has announced significant progress in the design and development of a Semicryogenic engine or Liquid Oxygen / Kerosene engine with a high thrust of 2,000 kN (kilonewton) that will power the Semicryogenic booster stage of the Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3).

The first major breakthrough in the semicryogenic engine development programme was achieved on March 28, when the first successful hot test of Engine Power Head Test Article (PHTA), was carried out at ISRO Propulsion Com-

plex, Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu, it said.

Highlighting that the Friday's test demonstrated the smooth ignition and boost strap mode operation of the engine for a test duration of 2.5 seconds, the space agency said the objective of the test was to validate the integrated performance of the critical subsystems such as the pre-burner, turbo pumps, start system and control components by carrying out a hot-firing for a short-duration of 2.5 seconds.

"The test proceeded as predicted and all the engine

parameters were as expected. With this breakthrough, ISRO is further planning a series of tests on the PHTA to further validate and fine-tune the performance before the realization of the fully integrated engine," it said.

Noting that the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre (LPSC) of ISRO is developing the Semi cryogenic propulsion Engine and Stage, ISRO said the stage (SC120) powered by the 2,000kN semi-cryogenic engine (SE2000) will replace the present core liquid stage (L110) of LVM3 for payload

enhancement and power the booster stages of future launch vehicles.

Non toxic and non hazardous propellants (Liquid Oxygen and Kerosene) are employed in Semi cryogenic propulsion and this will deliver higher performance compared to existing L110 stage.

Induction of the Semi cryogenic propulsion system along with an uprated cryogenic stage in the LVM3 vehicle enhances its payload capability from 4 tonne to 5 tonne in Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO), it added.