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Narendra Modi Urges Dialogue on West Asia After Talks with Mark Carney



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

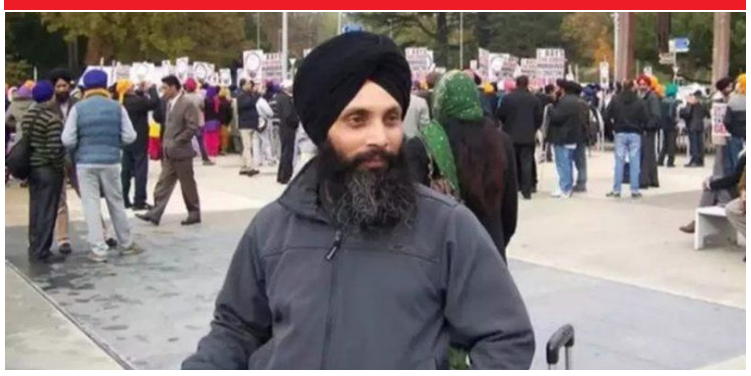
New Delhi : Prime Minister Narendra Modi today reiterated that India's position on ongoing global tensions remains clear, emphasising that New Delhi has consistently called for peace and stability.

Addressing the media after talks with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney at Hyderabad House in the national capital, Modi said the current situation in West Asia is a matter of deep concern. "India supports the resolution of all disputes through dialogue and diplomacy," he said, adding that when two democracies stand together, their collective voice for peace becomes stronger.

The Prime Minister affirmed that India will continue working closely with all countries to ensure the safety and security of Indian citizens living in the region.

His remarks come amid escalating tensions after US President Donald Trump announced the start of major combat operations against Iran on Saturday. The developments have reportedly resulted in hundreds of deaths, with several countries facing attacks as the situation intensifies.

RAW Allegedly Tied to 2023 Nijjar Killing During Modi-Carney Talks



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Delhi : On the day Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney visited New Delhi to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi, The Globe and Mail published claims linking an Indian intelligence officer to the 2023 killing of Sikh activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Surrey, British Columbia.

Citing national-security and law-enforcement sources, the report alleges that consular staff in Vancouver provided information that facilitated Nijjar's assassination. One officer, reportedly a visa official, is said to have acted as an undercover operative for India's Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), gathering intelligence on Nijjar through engagement with the local Indian diaspora. The officer allegedly collaborated with a career diplomat identified only as Manish, who served as Consul-General in Vancouver at the time.

The article comes amid efforts to reset Indo-Canada relations, which were strained after former Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused the Indian government of involvement in Nijjar's death in 2023. The timing coincides with Carney and Modi's talks at Hyderabad House, which focused on trade, energy, critical technologies, and broader cooperation, targeting $50 billion in bilateral trade.

Nijjar, a pro-Khalistan activist, was shot outside the Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara in June 2023. Four Indian nationals have been charged in connection with the murder, and Canadian authorities have investigated possible foreign involvement. Diplomatic expulsions, including in 2024, were linked to this ongoing probe.

India has not officially responded to the latest claims. Updates are expected as more information becomes available.

17 Killed in Nagpur Explosives Factory Blast: PM, CM Announce Aid



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Nagpur : At least 17 people were killed and 18 injured in a blast at SBL Energy Limited's explosives factory in Raulgaon, Nagpur district, on Sunday morning. The explosion reportedly occurred at the detonator packing unit between 7 am and 7:15 am, with thick smoke seen rising from the site.

Rescue teams, including the NDRF, rushed to the spot, and the injured were shifted to nearby hospitals.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Rs 2 lakh ex-gratia for the families of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis declared Rs 5 lakh compensation for victims' families and ordered a probe into the incident.

Matua Belt Voter Roll Deletions Spark Alarm. BJP on Edge



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kolkata : Large-scale deletions under the Election Commission's Special Intensive Revision (SIR) have sparked anxiety in West Bengal's Matua heartland, putting the BJP on the defensive while the TMC eyes a political opportunity.

Around 63.66 lakh names—8.3% of the state's electorate—have been deleted since November, with another 60 lakh under adjudication. The deletions disproportionately affect the Matua community, a key Scheduled Caste refugee vote bank across over 50 assembly seats in North 24 Parganas, Nadia, and parts of north Bengal.

Union Minister and Bongaon MP Shantanu Thakur reassured voters of CAA protections, while TMC leaders, including MP Mamatabala Thakur, criticised the deletions as unfair to post-2002 migrants. Analysts say the Matua belt has become a critical electoral faultline ahead of the assembly elections.



Amarjit Singh 075890-90001 093161-30691

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Moon Race Heats Up: China and US Compete for Lunar South Pole Dominance

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



The Moon has become the focal point of an intense international space race, as 2026 sees both China and the United States ramping up efforts to establish a permanent lunar presence. While the US pioneered lunar exploration decades ago, China's methodical progress is catching global attention.

Beijing aims for its first crewed Moon landing by 2030. Its Long March-10 rocket recently cleared static fire tests, and the Mengzhou spacecraft successfully completed a Max Q abort test, ensuring crew safety during high-pressure launch phases.

Meanwhile, Nasa has revised its Artemis schedule. Artemis II, a crewed loop around the Moon, is planned for April 2026, but the actual lunar landing under Artemis IV is now set for 2028. The adjusted timeline allows Nasa to conduct a 2027 rehearsal in low-Earth orbit, practicing docking with SpaceX and Blue Origin landers to prioritize safety and sustainability.

Both nations are targeting the lunar South Pole, rich in water ice—a key resource for oxygen and rocket fuel—and Helium-3, a potential clean energy source. The region's strategic value means the Moon race is about more than prestige; it is about establishing a long-term foothold.

While China plans a busy 2026, including year-long missions on the Tiangong Space Station and invitations to international partners like Pakistan, Nasa is building the Lunar Gateway to orbit the Moon and support sustainable operations.

Whether China reaches the lunar surface first in 2030 or the US lands in 2028, the renewed focus on the Moon marks a historic milestone: humanity is returning to the Moon—and this time, the goal is to stay.



Atul Sharma



Astro Speak by: Rajesh Kumar

Birth Date
03rd Mar

Born on 03rd March : They can read the motives of others and are good judges of character. These ambitious, career-oriented people have a pragmatic nature yet dream large. They possess a generous soul and the desire to be part of the crowd but may be unwilling to show these aspects of their personality.

They are consistent, dependable, and loyal. They often have more than their share of emotional ups and downs in romantic love. Finding the right person can be a chore, but when they do, they want that person with them for a lifetime.

This could relate to a difficult childhood or feeling left out of the family. They are sometimes unsure in their parenting role. They believe in strict discipline but don't want to restrict their children the way they themselves may have been.

The people born on this date are worriers and often suffer from worrier's ailments: headaches, backaches, upset stomach, and sleeping disorders.

WISHING YOU A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY.



Aries

March 03rd 2026 : A beneficial day to work on things that will improve your health. Involving yourself in large group will be highly entertaining- but your expenses will take an up-trend. Give proper time to your family. Let them feel that you care for them.

Taurus

March 03rd 2026 : You will be happy as people around you extend support. If you want to become financially strong in the future, then you have to start saving money from today. Spend some relaxed moments with family members. Somebody may come between.

Gemini

March 03rd 2026 : Your personality will act like a perfume today. Your dedication and hard work will get noticed and will bring some financial rewards for you today. Visiting your relatives would be much better than you thought. Today you will feel the fragrance.

Cancer

March 03rd 2026 : Take care of your well being otherwise things might take a turn for the worse. Expenditure rises but rise in income takes care of your bills. Friends and near ones would extend their helping hand upon you. Emotional disturbances could trouble you.

Leo

March 03rd 2026 : Meditation and yoga will prove to be beneficial for spiritual as well as physical gains. The money you had saved up from a long time can come to use today. However, the expenditure can lower your spirit. You are going to learn some lessons.

Virgo

March 03rd 2026 : Bring positive thoughts in your mind. Today, businessmen of this zodiac sign should stay away from the members of their household who ask for your financial help and do not return it later. Auspicious day for giving and receiving gifts.

Libra

March 03rd 2026 : Friends supportive and will keep you happy. Today, you are likely to attain economic benefits due to your children. This will make you very happy. News of family secret may surprise you. Those undertaking a small vacation with their beloved.

Scorpio

March 03rd 2026 : Friends supportive and will keep you happy. Long pending arrears and dues will finally be recovered. Domestic life will be peaceful and adorable Chances of meeting an interesting person on card. Things seem to be in your favor at work. Even though.

Sagittarius

March 03rd 2026 : Try to improve your health and overall personality for a better life. People who had invested their money in the past are likely to benefit from that investment today. Make sure you have approval of others before you make changes.

Capricorn

March 03rd 2026 : Religious feelings will arise making you visit a religious place to seek some divine knowledge from a holy person. Those who are married may have to spend a lot of money on the education of their children today. You should spend your spare time enjoying.

Aquarius

March 03rd 2026 : A beneficial day and you may be able to find relief from a prolong illness. Improvement in finances is certain. There may be opportunities to attend social functions- which would bring you in close contact with influential people. You will have.

Pisces

March 03rd 2026 : Cheer up as good time ahead and you will have additional energy. Your efforts to save money can fail today. Although you do not have to worry about it, as the situation will soon improve. Work hard for the welfare of your family.

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Pb CM Launches 24x7 Helpline for Stranded Punjabis in Middle East

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : Amid escalating conflicts in parts of the Middle East, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann announced the launch of a dedicated 24x7 helpline to assist Punjabis stranded in the region and their families back home.



CM Mann assured that the state government is providing full support and is coordinating closely with the Government of India to ensure the safe and swift return of affected citizens. He noted that many Punjabis are facing severe difficulties due to the outbreak of conflicts in certain Arab countries.

The helpline and control room can be reached at:

Phone: 0172-22600420, 0172-2260043

WhatsApp: +91 94787 79112

The Punjab government stands shoulder-to-shoulder with families of our youth and students stuck in Gulf countries. We are committed to providing all necessary assistance," CM Mann said.

He reiterated that the state administration is in continuous touch with the Ministry of External Affairs and other central authorities to facilitate prompt and secure evacuation. CM Mann also urged the Union Government to take immediate action to ensure the safe return of Indian nationals, especially Punjabis, from war-affected areas.

The Centre must intervene swiftly. Punjab will extend full cooperation to bring our people back safely," he added, expressing hope for timely action to safeguard citizens and reunite them with their families.

GGSCW Holds Lecture on Women's Empowerment and Leadership

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : To mark International Women's Day under the theme "Give to Gain," Guru Gobind Singh College for Women (GGSCW) organized a special lecture on Women's Empowerment and Leadership on March 2, 2026. The event was held by the GGSCW Reikhi Centre of Excellence for the Science of Happiness in collaboration with the college's Equal Opportunity Cell.



The keynote speaker, Mohinder Kour Kataria, Founder of Happy Women's Club, Chandigarh, shared insights on self-empowerment, emphasizing the importance of happiness, inner growth, and confidence as the true path to women's empowerment. The lecture included engaging videos and concluded with an interactive activity involving coordinated clapping to highlight balance in life.

Principal Jatinder Kaur praised the organizing team and participating students, noting that the event successfully aimed to inspire women to take charge of their lives and strive for excellence.

NCC Cadets Lead Drug and Traffic Safety Rally

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mohali : The NCC cadets of Gian Jyoti Institute of Management and Technology, Phase 2, Mohali, in collaboration with the Mohali District Police, organized a large awareness rally aimed at combating drug abuse and promoting traffic safety.



The rally moved through major markets and prominent areas of Mohali, with cadets carrying banners and placards urging citizens to adopt a drug-free lifestyle and follow traffic rules. The cadets' discipline and enthusiasm drew widespread appreciation.

DSP Karnail Singh applauded the cadets' active participation, highlighting that youth involvement in social initiatives reflects a promising future. He praised the institute for organizing such impactful campaigns.

Director Dr. Aneet Bedi addressed the gathering, emphasizing the power of youth in driving societal change. She noted that events like these not only promote awareness but also help in building character and strengthening civic values among students.

MC Floats Rs 4 Lakh Tender for Dog Pound Drawings

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Chandigarh Municipal Corporation (MC) has issued a tender worth Rs 4 lakh for the preparation of structural drawings for a new dog pound in Sector 25 (West). The proposed facility, estimated to cost Rs 18.42 crore, is expected to be completed by September 30, 2026.



The project is being implemented in compliance with the Supreme Court's directions from a suo motu writ petition dated 7 November 2025, aimed at preventing dog bite incidents. The MC has allocated two acres for the shelter.

The dog pound will feature sterilisation facilities and Anti-Rabies Vaccination inoculation, with a capacity to accommodate approximately 1,980 dogs. The detailed project plan has been submitted to the Animal Welfare Board.

The selected firm will be responsible for preparing comprehensive structural drawings including dimensions, design specifications, materials, and detailed structural analysis to ensure stability, strength, and durability. Drawings, soft copies, and calculations must be submitted within 30 days of receiving the allotment letter.

Additionally, the agency must get the drawings vetted by a reputed institution such as Punjab Engineering College, NITTR, or IIT Ropar.

The shelter will also include boundary walls, administrative blocks, internal roads, pavements, water supply and drainage systems, an effluent treatment plant, and landscaping.

PIC OF THE DAY

Who Cares...?

Hanging Wire Cobwebs Raise Serious Safety Concerns



Atul Sharma

Mohali: Loosely hanging overhead power cables and wires across several areas of Mohali have become a growing safety hazard, posing serious risks to pedestrians and commuters alike. Residents have called on the authorities for immediate action to prevent potential accidents.

Exposed and tangled wires can be seen dangling from electricity poles and transformers throughout the city. Locals warn that during peak summer months, as power load increases, the risk of short circuits and fire-related incidents doubles due to overheating wires.

These cobwebs of wires are not just unsightly—they are life-threatening," said a resident. "A single touch could prove fatal. The danger becomes even more severe during the monsoon season when rain increases the likelihood of electrocution."

Citing past incidents where short circuits have triggered major fires, residents urged the government to prioritise revamping the city's electrical infrastructure. They demanded that trained electricians be engaged, equipped with proper tools to manage and maintain the wiring systems effectively.

Many also suggested that the Electricity Department should take steps to lay all electrical and cable wires underground. "All cable operators should be ordered to shift their wires underground or risk losing their licenses," a local resident said.

Despite repeated appeals, residents feel their concerns are being overlooked. They have called for proactive measures to ensure public safety, stressing that saving lives should be a priority—not an afterthought. **But Who Cares???**

Valmiki Committee Holds Grand Constitution Rally



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : Under the leadership of Coordinator Samdarsh Ved Joseph and Chairman Vikas Chandalia, the Valmiki Shobhayatra Committee organized a historic and grand Constitution Awareness Rally. The procession began at the Valmiki Temple in Sector-25, traversed the entire Sector-25 area, and concluded at the temple premises, drawing a large number of participants.

Samdarsh Ved Joseph stated that the rally aimed to spread the values of the Indian Constitution—equality, justice, and fraternity—among the masses. He emphasized that such events are crucial for fostering social awareness and unity. Chairman Vikas Chandalia highlighted that the rally particularly focused on promoting social harmony and educating people about constitutional rights.

According to the committee, people from all sections of the city participated in the rally, reinforcing democratic values. Joseph added that the event was not merely a procession but a symbol of respect for the Constitution and social solidarity.

Prominent attendees included former Vice Chairman Kali Adival, Omprakash Saini, General Secretary Ompal Chaver, former Mayor Harfool Chand Kalyan, Naresh Jainwal, Jyoti Hans, Deep Chandalia, Dharmaveer Rana, Babita Chandalia, Sunil Saini, Mahender Maseeh, Sandeep Kangra, Praveen Rocky, former Councillor Bharat Kumar, Shiv Kumar Bidla, Udesh Pawal, Sonu Chandalia, Prashant, Rocky, Sumit, Vikas Bidla, Lalit Parcha, Rita, and several other dignitaries.

CAT Cancels Rs 1 Lakh Recovery from Retired Police Inspector



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Chandigarh : The Chandigarh Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal(CAT)hasquashed an order directing the recovery of over Rs 1 lakh from retired Chandigarh Police Inspector Surjit Singh, terming the action illegal, arbitrary, and unsustainable.

The Tribunal directed authorities to refund Rs 1,02,468 to Singh along with interest at the General Provident Fund (GPF) rate from the date of recovery, to be completed within eight weeks of receiving the certified copy of the order.

Singh, a Mohali resident, retired voluntarily on November 1, 2019, and had been drawing his pension regularly after receiving a 'No Due Certificate' and a Pension Payment Order (PPO). During a later pension revision, the department claimed an excess payment due to a wrong date of annual increment and directed recovery from his gratuity without issuing a show-cause notice.

The Tribunal observed there was no fraud or fault on Singh's part, noting that the erroneous increment was due to administrative negligence. "The recovery from the applicant is illegal, arbitrary, unjust and unsustainable," member Suresh Kumar Batra held, setting aside the recovery order dated April 5, 2023.

Bomb Threats Trigger Panic Authorities Launch Search Operations

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Chandigarh : Panic gripped Chandigarh today after bomb threats were sent via email targeting multiple government institutions in the city. Following the threats, police and security agencies immediately went on high alert.

The emails reportedly threatened the Chandigarh Sector 17 bus stand, the Passport Seva Kendra in Sector 34, and the main Passport Office in the Industrial Area. Bomb squads, forensic teams, and local police rushed to the sites, sealing off the areas and launching thorough search operations.

Precautionary Evacuations and Checks

Authorities evacuated the surrounding areas of the bus stand and passport offices as a precaution. Dog squads and bomb disposal units conducted extensive inspections, while forensic teams began technical investigations to trace the source of the emails. So far, no explosives or suspicious materials have been found. Police said the situation is under control, but security has been tightened.

Previous Threats in the City

This is not the first time Chandigarh has faced bomb threats. Earlier, schools in the city received similar threats twice. The Punjab and Haryana High Court and Chandigarh District Court have also received bomb threats on multiple occasions, though previous investigations did not uncover any explosives.

In the current case, the Cyber Cell is assisting police in tracing the source of the emails, including the sender's ID and location. Authorities have advised calm but have increased security at all sensitive locations as a precaution.

Pb Ministers Assure Action After Meeting Families of Slain ASI, Home Guard

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Chandigarh : Punjab Cabinet Ministers Lal Chand Kataruchak and Laljit Singh Bhullar today met the family members of Assistant Sub-Inspector Gurnam Singh to express condolences over his death. Singh and Home Guard Ashok Kumar were found dead with gunshot wounds on February 22 while on duty at a checkpost in Adhian village, near the Pakistan border.

The bodies were recovered from the checkpost located about two kilometres from the international border. Police later identified three local youths — Ranjit Singh (19), Inderjit Singh (21) and Dilwar Singh (19) — for allegedly being involved in the murder. Preliminary investigations suggest the crime was carried out at the behest of ISI handlers, with the accused allegedly promised Rs 20,000 by Pakistan-based operatives.

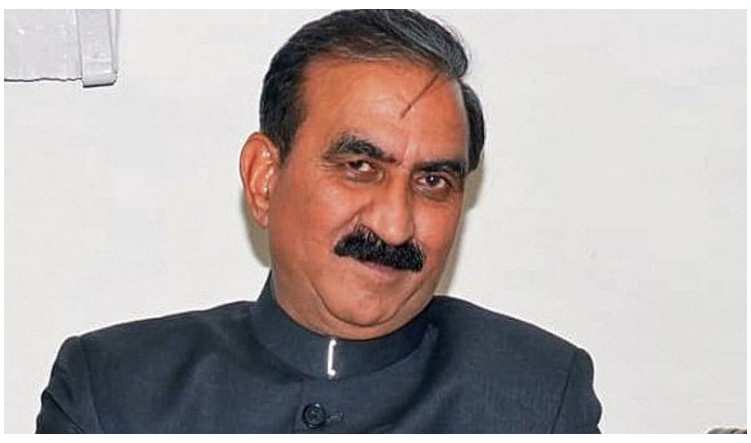
During their visit, the ministers assured the bereaved families that the Punjab government stands firmly with them and will extend all possible support. They also conveyed that Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann will soon meet the victims' families.

Kataruchak termed the killing a "cowardly act," stating that it was not merely an attack on the police force but on Punjab's peace and integrity. He asserted that the sacrifice of the personnel would not go in vain and that the guilty would face the strictest punishment under the law.

Bhullar praised the Punjab Police for tracing and arresting the accused swiftly, saying it sends a strong message that those on the wrong side of the law will face firm action. He also urged youth not to fall prey to alleged attempts by the ISI to destabilise the state.

The ministers criticised opposition parties, including the Congress, BJP and Shiromani Akali Dal, over their remarks regarding the death of one accused in a police encounter, accusing them of politicising the issue and attempting to demoralise the police force.

CM Sukhu Urges Special Central Aid to Address Revenue Deficit



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Shimla : Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today met Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi and requested a financial package under special central assistance to address the state's revenue deficit for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Sukhu highlighted that the discontinuation of the Revenue Deficit Grant (RDG) would severely impact Himachal Pradesh's financial health, noting that the state's RDG contribution of 12.7% was second highest after Nagaland. He emphasised that assessing all states using a single yardstick is neither fair nor transparent, and termed the move as "undermining the spirit of cooperative federalism," citing Article 275(1) of the Constitution.

The Chief Minister also detailed the state's fiscal efforts over the past few years, including curbing expenditure, avoiding off-budget borrowings, and mobilising nearly Rs 600 crore annually through various cesses, while noting that revenue losses post-GST implementation continue to widen the deficit despite rationalising taxes and subsidies.

Sukhu urged the Finance Minister to establish a dedicated committee to evaluate the fiscal challenges of hill states and recommend suitable measures. Sitharaman assured him that the state's demands would be given sympathetic consideration.

Son of Himachal IGP Booked for Assault on Kalka-Shimla Highway

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



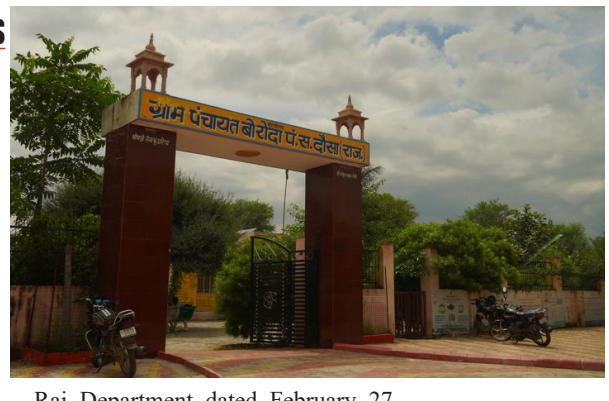
Panchkula : Panchkula Police have registered an FIR against the son of a Himachal Pradesh Inspector General of Police (IGP) following allegations of assault and misconduct on the Kalka-Shimla highway.

A woman filed a complaint stating that the accused, accompanied by security personnel and his mother, allegedly misbehaved with her family while they were travelling in an SUV. The FIR alleges that the IG's juvenile son, along with security guards, abused and vandalised the vehicle during an altercation.

The case has been registered under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita for assault, wrongful restraint, and criminal intimidation.

750 Kangra Rural Water Schemes to Be Handed Over to Gram Panchayats

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Kangra : In a move to decentralise rural water management, nearly 750 water supply schemes in Kangra district are set to be transferred from the Jal Shakti Department (JSD) to gram panchayats. The initiative aims to strengthen grassroots governance by entrusting panchayats with piped water distribution to rural households.

Dharamsala Chief Engineer of JSD, Deepak Garg, said the in-village infrastructure of all identified schemes will be handed over to panchayats, while the department will continue operation and maintenance (O&M) from the water source to storage tanks. Panchayats have already transferred funds received under the 15th Finance Commission to the department for O&M purposes.

An office order from the Panchayati Raj Department dated February 27 directs Block Development Officers to hold special gram sabha meetings on March 5-7 to approve the transfer of drinking water infrastructure and arrangements for piped water distribution.

After the transfer, panchayats will be authorised to levy user charges—Rs 100 per month for Above Poverty Line (APL) households and Rs 25 per month for Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. Panchayats will also ensure unspent tied grants from the 15th Finance Commission are transferred to the JSD to cover O&M costs.

The move aligns with the Government of India's policy to promote sustainable management of rural drinking water infrastructure by empowering local self-governments.

Anubhav Sinha Says He Over-Relied on Shah Rukh Khan During Ra.One

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Mumbai : Filmmaker Anubhav Sinha has candidly reflected on his collaboration with superstar Shah Rukh Khan during the making of the 2011 sci-fi film Ra.One, admitting that his admiration for the actor influenced several creative decisions at the time.

In a recent interview with Zoom, Sinha revealed that he was deeply "enamoured" by Shah Rukh Khan and believed the actor had a superior understanding of audience preferences. "Main Shah Rukh se bahut zyada enamoured bhi tha. Mujhe lagta tha isko humse zyada aata hai ki audience ko kya pasand hai," he said, adding that there were likely many instances where he deferred to the actor's judgment.

The director acknowledged that this unquestioned trust may have shaped key choices during the film's production. "Achha lekin hua hoga ki maine kuch aise decision liye kyunki wo bol raha tha aur mujhe laga ye isko to pata hai. Isko to 100% pata hai. Aise sochna nahi chahiye tha," Sinha admitted, suggesting that relying too heavily on stardom and experience may not always be the best creative approach.

Looking back, Sinha said time has given him perspective. He now believes that placing complete faith in anyone — even someone of Khan's stature — can limit a filmmaker's own creative instincts and input.

Released in 2011, Ra.One featured Shah Rukh Khan as a game designer and was known for its extensive visual effects work by Red Chillies VFX. Despite high expectations and cutting-edge technology, the film received mixed reviews and underperformed at the box office.

On the work front, Sinha's recent release Assi, headlined by Taapsee Pannu, hit theatres on February 20. Meanwhile, Shah Rukh Khan is gearing up for his upcoming film King, directed by Siddharth Anand. The film also stars Suhana Khan, Deepika Padukone and Abhishek Bachchan, among others.

Allu Sirish to Marry Nayanika Reddy on March 6 in Intimate Ceremony

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Mumbai : Telugu actor Allu Sirish is all set to tie the knot with his fiancée Nayanika Reddy on March 6, 2026. The actor, who is the younger brother of Allu Arjun, shared that a pre-wedding celebration will take place on March 2, while the wedding ceremony will be an intimate affair attended by close family and friends.

The couple got engaged on October 31, 2025, in a private ceremony. Sirish announced the engagement through heartfelt photos and a note that read, "I'm finally and happily engaged to the love of my life, Nayanika," bringing public attention to his bride-to-be and her background.

Who is Nayanika Reddy?

Unlike many celebrity spouses, Nayanika Reddy comes from outside the film industry. A Hyderabad-based business professional, she belongs to a well-established entrepreneurial family. Known for being grounded, academically focused and private, Nayanika had no public presence prior to her relationship with Sirish.

The engagement ceremony reflected the couple's preference for simplicity, with no elaborate décor or celebrity guest list. It became public only after Sirish chose to share the news himself, underlining their shared belief in authenticity over publicity.

How did they meet?

Sirish and Nayanika's relationship began outside the entertainment world. They first met at a wedding celebration hosted by Telugu actor Nithiin and his wife ahead of the wedding festivities of Varun Tej and Lavanya Tripathi. What began as a casual conversation gradually blossomed into friendship and later a deeper bond.

Public awareness of their relationship grew in October 2025 when Sirish posted a photograph of the couple holding hands in Paris, coinciding with the birth anniversary of his grandfather, legendary actor Allu Ramalingaiah. Soon after, he officially confirmed their engagement.

A private professional life

Professionally, Nayanika is believed to be involved in her family's business ventures and maintains a deliberately low profile. Those close to her say her discretion reflects a balanced approach to personal and public life, with even her social media presence remaining understated.

The March 6 wedding is expected to be a close-knit gathering, primarily attended by members of the extended Allu-Konidela family and close friends, marking a new chapter for the couple.

Spain vs Argentina Finalissima in Qatar at Risk After US-Israel Strikes



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

The Finalissima match between Spain and Argentina, scheduled for March 27 at Lusail Stadium in Doha, faces postponement as the Qatar Football Association has suspended all tournaments indefinitely due to rising security concerns in the Middle East. This decision comes after recent U.S. and Israeli air strikes on Iran and subsequent retaliatory missile attacks by Iran targeting parts of the Gulf region, including the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar. Security alerts have been raised across Gulf nations, directly affecting sports fixtures in the area.

INTERNATIONAL FOOTBALL: FULL COVERAGE

UEFA and CONMEBOL, the event's main organizers, have not yet confirmed whether the match will be postponed. The final call remains pending, with organisers actively monitoring the situation as the region remains on heightened alert.

The match was set to feature a major showdown between Spain's Lamine Yamal and Argentina's Lionel Messi, pitting the European Championship winners against Copa America champions. The uncertainty puts this high-profile contest at risk for players and fans alike.

The suspension in Qatar follows a series of decisions across the region. The Bahrain Football Association has postponed all matches, and the Asian Football Confederation has delayed its Champions League Elite fixtures, Asian Champions League Two quarter-finals, and Challenge League matches.

These disruptions reflect a wider impact on football across the Middle East, as organisers respond to escalating military activity and the need to ensure player and spectator safety.

Recent military actions include air strikes by the U.S. and Israel aimed at Iran's military infrastructure. In response, Iran launched missile attacks affecting the UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar. Qatar reported a fire in an industrial zone following the interception of missile debris, highlighting the volatile situation.

The outcome of the Finalissima now depends on further developments and the decisions of UEFA, CONMEBOL, and regional authorities. With uncertainty continuing, further delays or rescheduling remain possible as organizers prioritize security.

It's Story TIME

The Speaking Cave

One day a lion was searching for food. He was very old and weak and unable to catch his preys by chasing them. Suddenly the lion saw a cave on his way and upon inspecting inside he found it to be empty. That gave the lion an idea and he thought to himself,



" If I stay here, the owner of the cave is bound to return and that's when I'll jump upon it and make it my meal." He waited patiently till the night fell and the jackal who actually lived in the cave came back. Jackal saw the footprints of the lion and he got suspicious. Jackal decided to trick the lion and started asking cave why the cave was not speaking to him today. Lion thought that may be cave actually does speak to Jackal every night and decided to call him in himself today. On hearing lion's voice, Jackal got certain that lion is hiding inside and he ran away from the place to save his life.



Modi Reviews Middle East Crisis, Focuses on Indians' Safety

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



New Dehli : Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a high-level meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) to review the rapidly escalating Iran-Israel-US conflict and assess its potential impact on India, particularly the safety of nearly 9.7 million Indians living in the Middle East.

The meeting, held at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg, focused on the February 28 air strikes in Iran and subsequent escalation across Gulf nations. The CCS expressed serious concern over the safety of the large Indian diaspora and reviewed contingency plans, including possible evacuation operations if required.

The committee also examined difficulties faced by Indian travellers and students due to the crisis, along with broader risks to regional security, global oil supplies and economic stability.

The CCS directed all departments to take necessary measures to assist affected Indian nationals and reiterated the need for an immediate end to hostilities, calling for dialogue and diplomacy to resolve the conflict.

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has spoken with counterparts in Iran, Israel and Gulf countries, urging restraint and highlighting India's concerns. Indian missions in the region have issued advisories asking citizens to avoid non-essential travel and remain in contact with embassies.

India has a significant presence in West Asia, including about 3.9 million in the UAE, 2.75 million in Saudi Arabia, over 1 million in Kuwait, 830,000 in Qatar, 662,000 in Oman and around 347,000 in Bahrain.

Kejriwal Jabs PM After Clean Chit in Liquor Policy Case: "When Tyrant Is Scared



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Dehli : Days after being discharged in the Delhi excise policy case, Arvind Kejriwal launched a fresh attack on Narendra Modi, declaring that "when a tyrant is scared, it signals the end of his rule."

Addressing a public gathering at Jantar Mantar, his first since receiving court relief, the AAP national convenor termed the trial court's decision "historic" and alleged that the liquor policy probe was a political conspiracy to target him and the Aam Aadmi Party.

A Delhi trial court on Friday discharged Kejriwal, former deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia and 21 others in the now-scrapped excise policy case, criticising the CBI chargesheet for "internal contradictions" that weakened the conspiracy theory.

In his address, Kejriwal claimed the BJP's "countdown" had begun and alleged deterioration in sectors such as education, healthcare and sanitation under the Centre. Taking a swipe at the government's "Viksit Bharat" vision, he said people were demanding a "Rahne Layak Bharat" (liveable India) and urged focus on issues like exam paper leaks.

Senior leaders including Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, Atishi, Sisodia, Sanjay Singh and Saurabh Bharadwaj also addressed the rally, calling the court order a vindication of the party's stand.

Accused Killed in UP Police Encounter After Saleem Wastik Stabbing

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



New Dehli : One of the men accused of stabbing ex-Muslim YouTuber Saleem Wastik was killed in an encounter with Uttar Pradesh Police, officials confirmed.

The accused, identified as Zeeshan, a resident of Amroha, sustained two bullet injuries during an exchange of fire with police. He was taken to hospital in critical condition but later succumbed to his injuries.

The encounter comes days after Wastik was attacked at his residence in Ashok Vihar Colony under the Loni Police Station limits in Ghaziabad. morning, two men allegedly arrived on a motorcycle, entered his home wearing helmets, and repeatedly stabbed him in the neck and abdomen before fleeing the scene.

Locals alerted police after hearing the commotion. Wastik was first taken to a nearby hospital and later referred to GTB Hospital in Delhi as his condition deteriorated. Hospital sources earlier described his condition as extremely serious.

Following the incident, Yogi Adityanath directed police to take strict action and ensure the swift arrest of those responsible.

Wastik, who identifies himself as an "Ex-Muslim," runs two YouTube channels with thousands of subscribers and has appeared on multiple television programmes. While several individuals and organisations have linked the attack to his publicly expressed views critical of Islam, police have not officially confirmed the motive.

An FIR was registered based on a complaint by Wastik's son, Usman, naming seven individuals. Police formed 10 special teams to track down the accused and conducted raids at four locations — two in Delhi and two in Ghaziabad — as part of the ongoing investigation.

Dharavi Slum Tours Under Scanner as 'Poverty Tourism' Turns Profitable

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Mumbai : Slum tours in Mumbai's Dharavi are drawing renewed scrutiny as guided walks through the settlement evolve into a lucrative local business, with foreign visitors paying up to Rs 15,000 for a two-hour tour.

Local resident Omkar Dhamale was recently seen leading five foreign tourists through the narrow bylanes, earning Rs 75,000 for a single walk. Indian visitors are typically charged between Rs 1,500 and Rs 7,000.

While slum tourism has existed since the mid-2000s through organised groups, it has now expanded into a cottage industry run by residents themselves. Dhamale defended the practice, saying showcasing his locality provides a legitimate source of income.

However, concerns over consent and voyeurism persist. Some residents declined photographs, wary of being reduced to stereotypes.

Bharat Gothoskar, founder of Khaki Tours, said responsible tours must provide context about Dharavi's recycling economy and small-scale industries rather than focusing solely on poverty. He stressed the importance of seekin permission before photography.

As redevelopment plans loom, Dharavi's slum tours remain a delicate balance between livelihood, awareness and intrusion.

Indian Markets Sink 1,000+ Points Amid Middle East Tensions, Oil Price Surge

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Mumbai : Benchmark Indian indices plunged sharply today amid escalating Middle East tensions and a surge in crude oil prices, triggering widespread risk aversion across global markets.

The S&P BSE Sensex fell over 1,000 points in early trade, slipping below the 81,000 mark, while the NSE Nifty50 dropped under 24,900, marking one of the steepest opening declines in recent weeks.

The sell-off followed renewed US and Israeli strikes on Iran and Tehran's retaliation, reviving fears of a broader West Asia conflict. Investors rushed toward safer assets as global risk appetite weakened.

Global crude prices surged, with Brent crude climbing to multi-month highs amid concerns over potential disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz, a critical route that carries nearly a fifth of global oil shipments.

Dr V K Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments, said elevated crude prices are currently dominating market sentiment. He noted that a sharper spike is likely only if the Hormuz route is actually closed, which has not been confirmed so far. Given India's heavy reliance on oil imports, sustained high crude prices could widen the trade deficit and pressure the rupee. Asian currencies have already weakened, while safe-haven demand has risen globally.

Analysts, however, cautioned against panic selling, pointing out that markets have historically recovered from geopolitical shocks such as the Covid crash and the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Investors are advised to remain cautious and consider gradual accumulation of fundamentally strong stocks during periods of volatility.

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Trump Says US Combat Operations in Iran Ongoing, Will Continue Until Objectives Met

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Washington : US President Donald Trump said that American combat operations in Iran remain underway "in full force" and will continue until Washington achieves what he described as "very strong objectives," signalling no immediate pause in the escalating conflict.

The US strikes, launched on February 28 under the codename Operation Epic Fury, have reportedly dealt a severe blow to Iran's leadership and military infrastructure. Trump claimed the offensive killed Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, and dismantled the country's top military command structure.

Combat operations continue at this time in full force, and they will continue until all of our objectives are achieved. We have very strong objectives," Trump said in a video message posted on social media.

Describing the campaign as "one of the largest, most complex, and most overwhelming military offensives the world has ever seen," the US President said American forces struck hundreds of targets across Iran, including facilities linked to the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and air defence systems. He further claimed that nine Iranian naval vessels and related infrastructure were destroyed "in a matter of literally minutes."

Trump also confirmed the deaths of three US service members during the operations and vowed retaliation. "America will avenge their deaths and deliver the most punishing blow to the terrorists who have waged war against basically civilisation," he said, warning that more casualties were possible before the conflict concludes.

Nuclear Threat Narrative

Trump framed the military campaign as necessary to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons and long-range missile capabilities.

An Iranian regime armed with long-range missiles and nuclear weapons would be a dire threat to every American," he said. "We cannot allow a nation that raises terrorist armies to possess such weapons."

He called on members of Iran's Revolutionary Guard and security forces to lay down their arms, offering what he described as "full immunity" while warning of "certain death" if they continued fighting.

I call upon all Iranian patriots who yearn for freedom to seize this moment," Trump said. "Be brave, be bold, be heroic, and take back your country. America is with you."

As fighting intensifies, Trump's remarks suggest Washington is preparing for a prolonged confrontation, raising concerns over regional stability and the risk of wider escalation across the Middle East.

China Says US-Israel Strikes on Iran "Unacceptable," Calls For Ceasefire and Dialogue

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Israel : China has issued its first official response to the escalating conflict involving Iran, the United States and Israel, stating that recent American and Israeli strikes on Iranian territory violate international law and threaten regional stability.

According to Reuters, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China said it is "highly concerned" about the potential spillover of the fighting and urged all sides to immediately cease military operations.

In a statement addressing the intensifying hostilities, Beijing stressed that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of countries in the region must be respected. China reiterated its opposition to the use of force in international relations and called for urgent efforts to prevent the conflict from expanding further across West Asia.

China also expressed its willingness to work with the international community to promote dialogue and resolve disputes through diplomatic channels rather than military action.

Amid the worsening security situation, the Chinese Foreign Ministry confirmed that more than 3,000 Chinese nationals have been evacuated from Iran so far. Authorities have once again advised remaining citizens to leave the country at the earliest opportunity.

The ministry further revealed that one Chinese national was killed in Tehran during the ongoing hostilities, highlighting the growing risks posed by the escalating conflict.

Beijing's statement marks its first formal reaction to the intensifying war in the region, as global powers closely monitor developments in West Asia.

Pakistan-Afghanistan Tensions Rise After Drone Strike on Nur Khan Base

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES



Tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan escalated sharply after Afghan Taliban forces reportedly launched armed drone strikes targeting Pakistan's Command and Control Centre at the Nur Khan Air Base in Rawalpindi.

The development is particularly sensitive as Nur Khan Air Base was previously targeted during India's Operation Sindoor in May 2025, following a brief but intense four-day conflict between India and Pakistan. Reconstruction work at the base had reportedly been ongoing for months, and the fresh strikes are believed to have caused further damage.

According to a statement posted on the official X account of Afghanistan's Ministry of National Defense, Taliban forces conducted coordinated aerial operations against multiple Pakistani military installations. These reportedly included the 12th Division headquarters in Quetta, the Khwazai Camp in Mohmand Agency of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and other key military facilities.

Today, the Air Force of the Ministry of National Defense conducted precise and coordinated aerial operations against key military installations in Pakistan," the statement said, naming Nur Khan Air Base among the targets.

Earlier, Taliban officials also claimed that a Pakistani fighter jet was shot down over Jalalabad, with the pilot captured alive after ejecting from the aircraft. Local residents told AFP that the pilot was detained shortly after landing. There has been no independent confirmation of the claim from Pakistani authorities.

The reported strikes come amid large-scale cross-border hostilities. On Friday, Pakistan launched airstrikes on Kabul and Kandahar, where Taliban Supreme Leader Hibatullah Akhundzada is based. A Pakistani government spokesperson stated that 133 Taliban fighters were killed, over 200 injured, and several posts destroyed or captured.

The Pakistani operations followed what Taliban officials described as a border offensive launched in retaliation for earlier Pakistani strikes. In response, Taliban authorities claimed their cross-border attacks killed at least 55 Pakistani soldiers.

The same day, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif declared that the country was in an "open war" situation with Afghanistan, marking one of the most serious escalations between the two neighbours in recent years.

US F-15 Crashes Suspected Friendly Fire by Patriot Missile System



THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Kuwait : An American F-15 fighter jet reportedly crashed over Kuwaiti airspace today morning as the conflict between the United States and Iran entered its third day, with hostilities spreading across the Middle East. The pilot ejected safely and has been confirmed to be out of danger, with videos circulating online showing him on the ground and later being given shelter inside a vehicle.

The exact cause of the crash remains unclear. Initial reports suggested the aircraft may have been struck by friendly fire, possibly engaged by a Patriot air defence system. The Patriot is a US-designed surface-to-air missile system used to intercept incoming ballistic missiles and hostile aircraft, relying on advanced radar and identification systems to distinguish between friendly and enemy targets.

Video footage geolocated by CNN showed a fighter jet engulfed in flames before spiralling down near the Ali Al Salem Air Base, a major US military installation. Analysis indicated the twin-engine aircraft resembled either an F-15E or an F/A-18. It remains unclear which force operated the jet, as Kuwait's air force also flies F/A-18 aircraft.

The Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC) confirmed that debris from the crash fell inside the Mina Al Ahmadi refinery, injuring two workers. Emergency teams were deployed to the site. Officials from US Central Command and Kuwaiti authorities have not yet issued a formal statement on the circumstances of the crash.

Conflict Widens Across the Region

The crash occurred amid intensified military activity. Israel launched fresh air strikes targeting Tehran and expanded operations against Iran-backed Hezbollah militants in Lebanon. Explosions were reported in Beirut's southern suburbs, a known Hezbollah stronghold.

Air raid sirens sounded across Israel, including in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, following reports from Iranian state media of missile launches from central Iran toward Israeli targets. Kuwait also reported intercepting hostile drones amid ongoing retaliatory attacks across Gulf states.

Separate overnight incidents were reported at Britain's Royal Air Force base Akrotiri in Cyprus, where a suspected drone strike caused limited damage without casualties.

Military Campaign to Continue

A senior White House official said the US-Israeli military campaign against Iranian targets could continue for weeks, stating that "Operation Epic Fury continues unabated." US President Donald Trump signalled that Washington may eventually consider engagement with potential new leadership in Iran, though military operations remain ongoing.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said a temporary leadership council had assumed the duties of Supreme Leader following Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's reported death, while senior Iranian officials indicated that negotiations with Washington were unlikely at this stage.

First US Casualties and Global Disruption

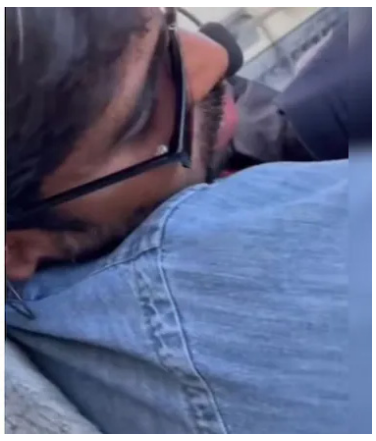
The United States confirmed its first casualties of the campaign, with three American service personnel killed at a military base in Kuwait. Iran's Revolutionary Guards claimed responsibility for targeting military bases and oil tankers in the Gulf region, leading to significant shipping disruptions near the Strait of Hormuz.

The escalating conflict has also severely impacted global aviation, with major airports across the Middle East shutting operations and international air travel facing widespread disruption. Oil prices surged amid fears of prolonged instability in the region.



Ajit Pawar's Son Shares Video of VSR Ventures Owner Sleeping in Aircraft Cockpit





THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Mumbai : Days after the fatal Learjet 45XR crash in Baramati that killed former Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and four others, his son Jay Pawar has shared a video alleging serious safety violations by charter operator VSR Ventures.

The video purportedly shows VSR owner Rohit Singh seated in the left cockpit seat and appearing to sleep during a flight, while a uniformed pilot operates the aircraft from the right seat. Calling the visuals "extremely serious and shocking," Jay Pawar demanded immediate and strict action from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), including grounding all VSR aircraft pending a full investigation and initiating legal proceedings against Singh.

This is a son's heartfelt plea… for my father and for the safety of every passenger," Jay Pawar wrote on social media.

NCP (SP) MLA Rohit Pawar also shared the video and reiterated demands for registration of a criminal FIR, alleging attempts to shield those responsible. He further called for the resignation of Union Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu, citing alleged links between the minister's party and the aviation firm.

The crash, which occurred on January 28 at Baramati during a second landing attempt under poor visibility, is being investigated by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB). A preliminary report cited low visibility and operational safety gaps at the uncontrolled airfield as contributing factors.

The probe has since been transferred to the Maharashtra CID, which is continuing its investigation into the circumstances surrounding the crash that claimed five lives.

Vijayan Slams US 'Hooliganism' Against Iran, Urges PM to Protect Indians

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Thiruvananthapuram : Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan accused the United States of displaying "hooliganism" against Iran and taking "irrational" actions that undermine the sovereignty of nations.

Speaking at the inauguration of the first phase of a government-built township for landslide survivors, Vijayan criticised both the US and Israel, alleging that Washington was leading "imperialist aggression" against countries it considers hostile. He described Israel as a "rogue nation" and a close ally of the US.



The Chief Minister claimed that attacks were being carried out against Iran without justifiable grounds and alleged that even Iran's Supreme Leader, Ali Khamenei, had been targeted. Terming the developments a "mad act of American imperialism," Vijayan said such actions amounted to interference in the internal affairs of sovereign nations.

He added that just as individuals are expected to show mutual respect, countries too must uphold basic courtesy in international relations, and no nation can demand that others adopt identical views or policies.

Vijayan also said he has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking immediate intervention to ensure the safety of Indians in the Middle East amid the escalating conflict.

Sikh Woman Asked to Remove Turban at MPPSC Exam: Apology Issued

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Bhopal : A controversy broke out in Ratlam district after an Amritdhari Sikh woman appearing for an examination conducted by the Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission (MPPSC) was allegedly asked to remove her turban during security checks at an exam centre on Sunday.

According to information, Gurleen Kaur, an initiated Sikh from Chittorgarh, was asked by a woman staff member to remove her dumala (turban) during frisking before the examination at a designated school centre.

The incident came to light after members of the local Sikh community were informed, following which several of them



gathered outside the centre and expressed strong displeasure over the alleged action.

Police and administrative officials reached the spot after being alerted about the gathering. Community members demanded an apology from the staff member concerned.

After prolonged discussions, Sub-Divisional Magistrate Prateek Sonkar and Centre Superintendent Subhash Kumawat publicly expressed regret over the incident and apologised before members of the Sikh community. Following the apology, both sides said the matter had been resolved.

Kaur had arrived in Ratlam a day earlier to stay with relatives and reached the centre in the afternoon to appear for the examination.

Train Passengers Allegedly Steal Food, WaterVideos Spark Outrage





THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

New Dehli : Viral videos circulating on social media have sparked widespread outrage after showing passengers allegedly stealing food and beverages from vendors aboard a moving train. The clips have reignited debate over civic sense, personal integrity, and accountability in public spaces.

In one video, a man seated on the upper berth of a sleeper coach is seen picking up a packet of egg biryani from a vendor's basket without paying. He is later shown eating the food. The clip was shared on X with a caption criticizing the declining civic sense among people.Another video shows a similar incident in which a passenger on an upper berth allegedly snatches multiple items — including egg biryani boxes, snacks, and water bottles — from vendors as they move through the aisle. The caption accompanying the video condemned the act, stating that the issue was not poverty but a lack of shame and responsibility.

Several users on social media have strongly criticized the accused passengers for targeting small vendors trying to earn a livelihood. Some demanded strict action and tagged railway authorities and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), urging them to identify those involved and take appropriate steps.

One user called the act "shameless" and said those responsible should be punished under applicable railway rules. Another remarked that the issue reflected a lack of personal integrity rather than civic sense. Others described the behaviour as outright theft and called for stricter enforcement to deter such incidents.

As of now, there has been no official statement from railway authorities regarding the viral videos.

Minor Girl Found Murdered in Bihar's Katihar; 13-Year-Old Boy Detained

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Sandalpur : A nine-year-old girl was found murdered in a field in Bihar's Katihar district today , triggering shock and tension in the village. The accused in the case is also a minor and has been detained by police.

The incident occurred in Sandalpur village under the Kolasi police station limits. According to officials, the girl had gone missing a day earlier, prompting a search by her family and local residents. Her body, with her throat slit, was recovered from a nearby maize field the following day.

Preliminary investigations suggest that a 13-year-old boy



from the same village allegedly attacked her with a sharp-edged weapon while she was heading towards the fields. The weapon used in the crime has been recovered, police said.

Villagers alleged that the boy was addicted to substance abuse and that the victim had recently complained about his behaviour to his guardians, after which he was reportedly reprimanded. Police are probing whether the murder was linked to this grievance.

Confirming the incident, senior police officer Ranjan Kumar Singh said the accused minor has been taken into custody and legal proceedings are being carried out under juvenile justice provisions. Further investigation is underway.

Man Killed in Ballia After Alleged Blackmail: Woman, Two Kin Arrested

THE AMAN SANDESH TIMES

Azamgarh : A man was allegedly murdered in Ballia after he reportedly blackmailed a married woman with whom he was in a relationship, police said The victim, identified as Pankaj Gupta from Azamgarh, was found dead on February 10 with his face severely disfigured. According to investigators, the woman, along with her brother and sister-in-law, allegedly strangled him and later poured acid on his face in an attempt to conceal his identity.

Police said Gupta had allegedly begun blackmailing the woman with obscene videos after she



tried to end the affair. Distressed by the threats, she reportedly confided in her family members, who then hatched a plan to eliminate him during a wedding function earlier this month.

On February 7, Gupta was allegedly lured to the village on a pretext, where he was strangled to death. His body was later dumped after attempts were made to destroy evidence.

Ballia Superintendent of Police Om Veer Singh said three of the five named accused, including the woman, have been arrested and sent to judicial custody, whil two others remain absconding. Raids are underway to nab the remaining suspects, officials added.

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