



### Kharge hints at KPCC shakeup amid power struggle

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### BJP has no intention of fulfilling poll promises: Atishi

## India, US announce COMPACT to boost cooperation during PM Modi, Trump talks

Washington/New Delhi (UNI)

India and the US announced a new initiative - the US-India COMPACT - Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology for the 21st Century - to drive transformative change across key pillars of cooperation - defence, investment and trade, energy security, technology and innovation, multilateral cooperation, people to people connection.

According to the joint statement, following talks between PM Narendra Modi and US President Donald Trump, the two sides firm up a new 10-year Framework for the U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership in the 21st Century, which will be signed this year. The US would expand defense sales and co-production with India to strengthen interoperability and defense industrial cooperation.



significant integration of US-origin defense items into India's inventory to date, including C-130J Super Hercules, C-17 Globemaster III, P-8I Poseidon

aircraft; CH-47F Chinooks, MH-60R Seahawks, and AH-64E Apaches; Harpoon anti-ship missiles; M777 howitzers; and MQ-9Bs.

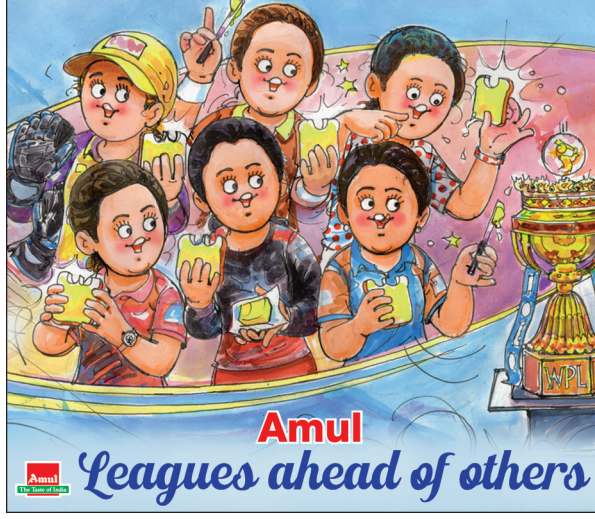
### Trump clears extradition of 26/11 accused Tahawwur Rana to India

US President Donald Trump announced that his administration has approved the extradition to India of 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks plotter Tahawwur Rana even as he said that the relationship with India and with Prime Minister Narendra Modi "has never been better". Addressing a press conference at the White House after talks with PM Modi, the US President said: "Today I am pleased to announce that my administration has approved the extradition of one of the plotters, and one of the very evil people of the world, having to do with the horrific 26/11/2008 Mumbai terrorist attacks, to face justice in India. So, he's going back to India to face justice."

### PM Modi is a great friend of mine, he is a fantastic leader: President Donald Trump

US President Donald Trump described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a "great friend" and added that the two leaders have kept the relationship going during the four years Trump was out of office. Answering questions during a media interaction ahead of their talks in the White House, President Trump said: "Prime Minister Modi is a great friend of mine; we've had a wonderful relationship, and we've kept the relationship during the four-year period (when he was out of office). And that was a very interesting period indeed. We've started off again, and we have some very big things to talk about."

## Lady! Steady! Go!



Amul Leagues ahead of others

### MUSTREAD

#### Maha Kumbh on track to set world record in cleanliness

Prayagraj: Even as Prayagraj is not only hosting the grand Maha Kumbh but is also making history with record-breaking achievements, over 300 sanitation workers undertook a massive river-cleaning drive, simultaneously purifying the Ganga at multiple ghats on Friday. This remarkable feat was meticulously organised under the guidelines of the Mela Authority, adhering to all required procedures for official recognition. Representatives from the Guinness World Records will now verify the process. Upon certification, this initiative will stand as an extraordinary milestone, marking the largest-ever synchronised river-cleaning campaign. In addition to the unprecedented gathering of 50 crore devotees taking a holy dip at the Sangam, the city has now set a unique world record in cleanliness.

#### Paras hints to join hands with Lalu

Patna: RLJP President Pashupati Kumar Paras on Thursday gave enough hints to join hands with RJD chief Lalu Prasad to become part of Grand Alliance before the next Bihar assembly elections. Paras said here that he was deeply frustrated with BJP leadership for his party being ignored in NDA during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Despite being ignored, he had fully supported Prime Minister Narendra Modi and exhorted the people to extend their support to him for the next term as PM during 2024 Lok Sabha elections, he added.

#### Air Chief Marshal flies Yashas at Aero India

Bengaluru: Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) on Friday showcased its newly upgraded HJT-36 'Yashas' jet trainer at the Aero India show, with Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AP Singh personally undertaking a sortie to assess its capabilities. The Air Chief Marshal flew the jet trainer for 35 minutes, during which he was demonstrated its advanced systems and enhanced departure resistance characteristics. HAL officials also provided him with a comprehensive presentation on the platform's viability, current development status, and future certification plans. In addition to the HJT-36, the Air Chief Marshal also flew the Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) at the event.

#### Sensex

BSE..... 75,939.21 (-199.76)  
NSE..... 22,929.25 (-102.15)

#### Bullion

Gold..... 87,160 (24 carat 10gm)  
Silver..... 1,00,500 (1kg)  
USD(\$)/INR(Rs)..... 86.78

#### Weather

Sunrise | Sunset | Day | Night  
6:54 | 6:16 | 28.4 | 8.4

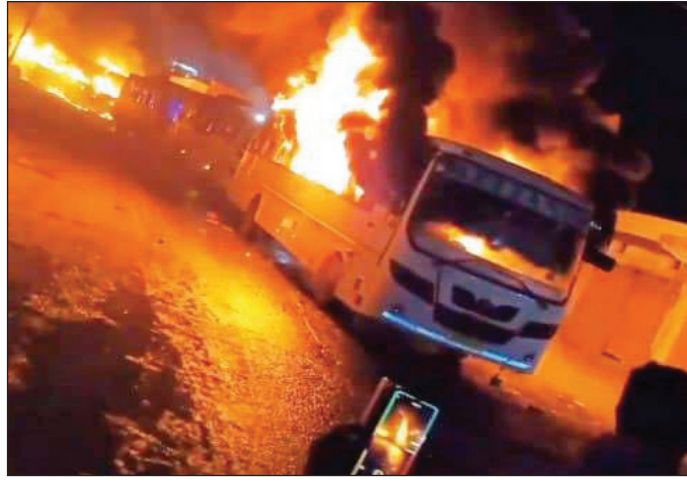
## Coal transport tragedy sparks violence in Singrauli

### Angry villagers torch buses; Authorities rush to the scene

Singrauli

Tensions flared in the Mada police station area, about 35 km from the district headquarters, after two people lost their lives in a coal transport accident near Amiliya Valley. Enraged by the tragedy, villagers set fire to shift buses belonging to Adani Company, escalating the unrest in the region.

The incident occurred around 3 PM on Friday when a coal-laden vehicle fatally struck two motorcyclists. By 5 PM, angry locals had blocked the Gadhakhar intersection, bringing traffic to a standstill. Meanwhile, buses transporting Adani Power employees from Beohari Township reached the protest site, where furious villagers forcibly shut the doors



and began setting the vehicles ablaze. Workers inside managed to escape just in time before multiple buses were engulfed in flames. Reports indicate that vil-

lagers also attacked company employees and clashed with police officers who arrived to control the situation. Several officers sustained injuries as the mob turned violent. With tensions running high, senior district officials rushed to the spot to restore order.

DIG and acting IG Saket Pandey confirmed the deaths and acknowledged the volatile situation. "A large crowd has gathered, and tensions remain high. The SP has been dispatched to the site to handle the situation," he stated.

As law enforcement officials work to defuse the crisis, the region remains on edge, with authorities urging calm and promising action to address local grievances.

## US to deport more illegal Indian immigrants



Agencies, United States

The United States is set to deport another group of undocumented Indian immigrants, with two flights scheduled to bring them back to India this week. The deportation process has been completed. It comes at a time when the Opposition in India is raising concerns over the issue.

It is learnt that the first flight, carrying 119 illegal Indian immigrants, is set to depart today and will arrive in Amritsar tomorrow (Saturday). The second flight is scheduled to land in India at 10 pm on February 16, although the exact number of passengers on this flight remains un-

clear. This comes after a previous US deportation flight carrying 104 undocumented Indians landed in Amritsar. Most of the deportees were reportedly from Punjab, Haryana, and Gujarat.

The issue of deportation has sparked political debate in India, with the opposition accusing the government of inhumane treatment of deportees, including allegations of them being handcuffed and shackled. In response, External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar clarified in Parliament that the US has been deporting undocumented immigrants for years and presented year-wise data to support his statement.

During his recent US visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi also made his stance clear, stating that India would accept its citizens deported from the US if their Indian citizenship is confirmed. He said the issue of undocumented immigrants was not exclusive to India but a global concern.

## 3 Israeli hostages, 369 Palestinian prisoners to be released today

Jerusalem/Gaza: Israel confirmed Friday that it has received a list of three hostages set to be released on Saturday from Hamas captivity in the Gaza Strip.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's office initially stated that the list was "acceptable by Israel," but a spokesman for Netanyahu later backtracked, clarifying that Israel had only received the list. "This is a purely factual description and does not reflect any Israeli position on the matter," the spokesman said.

According to a statement from Al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of Hamas, the hostages are Alexander (Sasha) Troufanov, a 29-year-old Israeli-Russian civilian; Sagui Dekel-Chen, a 36-year-old Israeli-American civilian; and Yair Horn, a 46-year-old Israeli.

Meanwhile, Israeli army radio reported that 369 Palestinian prisoners will be released on Saturday. Among them, 333 will be returned to Gaza, with 10 others sent back to their homes in the West Bank and one released in East Jerusalem.

## ED seizes ranger's properties in illegal assets case

### Two luxury homes confiscated; Money laundering probe intensifies

Bhopal: The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has seized two luxury homes worth crores in Bhopal's upscale Minal Residency, linked to Forest Ranger Harishankar Gurjar and his wife. The couple, along with their son, is under investigation for money laundering.

According to ED officials, action was initiated under the Prevention of Corruption Act (1988) and IPC (1860) following a Lokayukta raid in 2009, which uncovered disproportionate assets. Subsequent investigations confirmed that Gurjar and his wife possessed wealth far beyond their legitimate income, prompting the ED to track the money trail.

As per the ED's press release, Gurjar was stationed in Khandwa when the probe began. The investigation found large-scale irregularities, including properties acquired illegally. Based on these findings, a special court convicted Gurjar on April 29, 2023, sentencing him to three years



of rigorous imprisonment. The court also ordered the immediate confiscation of his assets—a decision upheld by higher courts.

The 2009 Lokayukta raid uncovered properties worth Rs 1.28 crore, including a duplex in Gurjar Colony (Harda), high-value homes in Old Minal, and plots in Rajharsh Colony (Kolar). Additionally, cash, insurance policies, and gold were recovered.

Following legal approval, the ED executed the seizure on January 15, 2025, reinforcing its crackdown on corruption and money laundering.

## Manipur: 5 militants who displayed arms during soccer match arrested

Imphal (UNI)

Manipur Police have arrested ten persons including five militants who took part in a football match at Kangpokpi district by carrying sophisticated weapons, an official said on Friday. A person involved in selling SIM cards using fake documents was also nabbed.

The Manipur Police official said a video emerged on social media in which around 15 miscreants in camouflage attire and some people in football kits were seen holding sophisticated arms at K. Gammomphai Village Ground during a football match.

Five of these 15 persons were apprehended on Wednesday and identified as Mangtinlen Kipgen,



Mangtinlen Kipgen, Seithenmang Kipgen, Lunminsei Kipgen and Lunkhogin Kipgen.

Police on Thursday launched operations at Kangpokpi and seized one

.303 Sniper Rifle (modified), Pistol with magazine, SBBL Gun, Long Range Projectile Launcher (Pumpi), Long Range Projectile Launcher (Bomb), Hand Grenade and Wireless Set.

## Selection Committee to appoint new CEC ahead of Rajiv Kumar's retirement

Agencies, New Delhi

With Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar set to retire on February 18, the selection committee for appointing his successor is expected to meet next week, possibly on Sunday or Monday, as the notification for the fixed meeting date is yet to be issued. The committee, composed of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal, and Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, will deliberate on the appointment of the new CEC.

Following Rajiv Kumar's depar-



ture, Gyanesh Kumar will become the senior-most Election Commissioner, with his tenure extending until January 26, 2029.

To streamline the selection process, the central government has recently established a search committee under the leadership of Union Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal. This committee is responsible for short-listing potential candidates for the position of the next Chief Election Commissioner, ensuring that the most qualified and capable individual is appointed to this critical role.