



Pilot accuses BJP of misusing ED for political vendetta; BJP hits back

Central Chronicle

Sunday, 27 July 2025, Bhopal | Year 68 | No. 154 | City Edition | Pages 12 | Rs. 5/- | www.centralchronicle.com



Starmer delays Palestinian recognition despite MPs pressure

India-Maldives ties come a long way with PM's visit to Male

Male/New Delhi (UNI)

From "India Out" to India In. India-Maldives relations have come a long way with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's State visit to the Indian Ocean island nation which concluded today.

Prime Minister Modi who arrived in the Maldivian capital Male yesterday on a two-day State visit, was the Guest of Honour at Maldives 60th Independence Day marking a "milestone" in bilateral ties between the two countries, an official spokesman said. This year also marks 60 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

This is the first time that an Indian Prime Minister attended the Independence Day celebrations in Maldives. Prime Minister Modi is also the first foreign leader at the level of Head of State or Government to be



hosted by President Muizzu. Ironically, President Muizzu had won the elections mainly on "India Out" campaign. His three Ministers had criticised Prime Minister Modi

which resulted in a tailspin in relations between the two countries.

The two leaders held discussions in a restricted format yesterday which were followed by delegation-

level talks.

The two countries signed three Agreements and four Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) after the delegation-level talks including on initiating discussions on a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries.

India also extended a Rs 4850 crore Line of Credit to the Maldives which would be utilised to develop priority sectors including Defence, health and housing. Both leaders inaugurated the Maldives Defence Ministry building in male and released a postage stamp commemorating 60 years of establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

President Muizzu who hosted a State Banquet in honour of Prime Minister Modi yesterday, described him as a "wonderful person."

ED attaches Rs 106.26 cr in money laundering case

Involving former UCO Bank CMD

Kolkata: The Enforcement Directorate (ED), probing a money laundering case involving over Rs 6,000 crore against arrested former UCO Bank CMD Subodh Kumar Goel, has issued an attachment notice of Rs 106.26 crore of immovable and movable property of Goel, his family members and other allegedly involved in the fraud, the agency said in a statement.

Additionally a supplementary prosecution complaint has been filed before a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) court in Kolkata against Goel, his family members, close aides and other related companies.

The ED began investigation following an FIR filed by the other central agency -CBI's Bank Securities and Fraud Branch, against Concast Steel & Power Ltd. (CSPL) and its di-



rectors/promoters for defrauding banks/ financial institutions to the tune of Rs 6,210.72 crore (excluding interest) through various fraudulent practices.

These malpractices include diversion and siphoning of funds, submission of inflated stock statements, manipulation of balance sheet etc. and accordingly the accused persons have cheated the banks/FIs to the tune of Rs 6210.72 crore, the ED said.

Four family members die by suicide

Tihar Village gripped by grief as investigation unfolds



Khurai: A profound tragedy has rocked Tihar village in the Khurai region, as four members of a single family died by suicide after allegedly consuming a poisonous substance. The horrifying incident unfolded late at night in their farmhouse located

near the village, sending shockwaves through the community and leaving residents reeling in disbelief.

The deceased have been identified as Phulrani W/O Nirbhay Singh Lodhi (70), her son Manohar S/O Nirbhay Singh Lodhi (42), and

Manohar's children, Shivani D/O Manohar Lodhi (18) and Aniket S/O Manohar Lodhi (16).

A desperate discovery and a race against time

The alarm was raised when other family members, alerted by sounds of vomiting, discovered the four individuals in distress. They found three empty containers of "Celphos," a highly potent pesticide, lying nearby. Unable to speak, the victims were rushed to the Civil Hospital in Khurai. Tragically, Phulrani and Aniket were declared dead upon arrival.

(Contd on Page 12)

Infra, energy backbone for state's development: PM

Chennai (UNI)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi tonight said infrastructure and energy sectors are the backbone for any state's development.

Addressing the gathering after inaugurating a new terminal at Tuticorin airport and various projects and laying foundation stones for new ones to enhance road, rail and port connectivity, Mr Modi, who began his address with 'Vanakkam' in Tamil, said that why's the Centre has been focussing on these sectors during the last 11 years, especially Tamil Nadu.

Tamil Nadu is witnessing unprecedented development. This growth reflects the Centre's resolve to make the state a driving force of



Viksit Bharat, he said adding, he dedicated Rs 4,900 crore project and laid foundation stones for TN development in port, rail and road sectors today.

Stating that today is kargil diwas day, he said he had paid rich tributes

to the brave soldiers and saluted them for protecting our motherland.

He said he landed here after a successful four-day foreign visit, after signing the historic FTA between India and England.

This is symbol of World's belief on India is increasing.

Expressing his commitment to make TN a developed state, he said with the blessings of Tiruchendur Lord Muruga--second of the six abodes--a new chapter was created in development of Tuticorin and Tamil Nadu.

He also explained the salient features of the FTA with UK that would benefit India, including youth, MSMEs, Start-ups, Industry in Tamil Nadu, leading to innovation.

Op Sindoor is our resolve, a clear message, response: Army Chief

Srinagar (UNI)

On the Kargil Vijay Diwas anniversary, Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi said that Operation Sindoor was not just a military action, but a reflection of India's firm resolve, a clear message and a decisive response to Pakistan.

He warned that any attempt to destabilize India would be met with a forceful response.

Addressing the 26th Kargil Vijay Diwas celebrations at Drass, Ladakh, the Army Chief said that Operation Sindoor was a continuation of the tradition of Operation Vijay in 1999, which was fought in Kargil.

"In 1999, India achieved an unparalleled victory under Operation Vijay, driving out Pakistani soldiers and infiltrators from high-altitude posts, and hoisting the tricolour over the snowy peaks. At that time, we made it clear that no one would be allowed to harm the unity and integrity of India," the Army Chief said.

"Continuing this tradition, even during Operation Sindoor, the Indian Army, with the same courage and determination, targeted terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and achieved a decisive victory by disrupting their offensive operations," the Army Chief said.

Amritsar Police seized 6.1 kg narcotics

Chandigarh: In a major breakthrough in the fight against cross-border drug trafficking, the Commissionerate Police Amritsar has busted a well-organised heroin smuggling network with direct links to Pakistan-based smugglers.

The key accused, Sarbjit alias Joban, was arrested from a border-area village. He was found to be in direct contact with notorious Pakistani smuggler Rana. A juvenile was also apprehended alongside him, with 1 kg of heroin recovered during the operation.

Subsequent raids resulted in the seizure of over 5 kg of heroin from their possession.

On Kargil Vijay Diwas, President Murmu salutes soldiers' courage and resolve

New Delhi (UNI)

On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas today, President Droupadi Murmu paid tributes to the bravehearts of the 1999 Kargil War, describing the day as a symbol of extraordinary valour, unwavering courage and supreme sacrifice of the Indian soldiers who fought to protect the nation's sovereignty.

"On the occasion of Kargil Vijay Diwas, I pay my heartfelt tribute to the brave soldiers who sacrificed their lives for the motherland. This day symbolises the extraordinary valour, courage, and steadfast determination of our jawans.

Their dedication and supreme sacrifice for the nation will forever inspire its citizens," the President said in a post on X.



nually on July 26, marks the successful conclusion of Operation Vijay in which Indian armed forces recaptured key strategic positions in the

Kargil sector of Jammu and Kashmir from Pakistani soldiers who had infiltrated disguised as militants.

The war, which lasted over 60 days, ended in a decisive victory for India.

People from across India come together to remember and honour the valiant soldiers. The solemn day commemorates the successful culmination of Operation Vijay.

The conflict began in May 1999 when Pakistani soldiers crossed the Line of Control and occupied Indian positions with the objective of severing National Highway 1A—the vital artery connecting Srinagar to Leh. In response, India launched a meticulously planned military campaign marked by fierce high-altitude battles fought in treacherous terrain and sub-zero conditions.

If you break the law, your visa can be revoked for life: US embassy

Agencies, New Delhi

The US Embassy in India issued a stern advisory on Saturday, warning that visas can be revoked for foreign visitors who commit crimes or violate laws while in the United States.

In a post on X, the embassy stated, "The United States is a society of law and order. Crimes like assault by foreign visitors will not be tolerated. If you break the law in the United States, your U.S. visa can be revoked, and you may be ineligible to return to the United States - FOR LIFE." This follows a series of similar advisories issued by the US Embassy earlier this month.

On July 22, the embassy posted,



"If you are arrested for assault, domestic violence, or other crimes while in the United States, your U.S. visa may be revoked, and you may be ineligible for future U.S. visas. A visa is a privilege, not a right - one that can be revoked if you break the

law."

Earlier, on July 16, the Embassy had issued a statement wherein it mentioned that committing assault, theft, or burglary in the United States could lead to visa being revoked and make one ineligible for future US visas. "The United States values law and order and expects foreign visitors to follow all US laws", the post read.

Meanwhile, responding to queries during a weekly briefing on July 17, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal underscored the importance of abiding by local laws while abroad.

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