Better coordination ensuring full support from Union Ministries: CM

CM visits Union Ministers

Bhopal: Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav visited Union Ministers in New Delhi on Thursday and discussed matters related to the interests and development of Madhya Pradesh. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav interacted with electronic media representatives after meetings and stated that his visit to New Delhi was very successful. He said that due to better coordination with various ministries of the Union Government, Madhya Pradesh is receiving full support in obtaining approvals for several schemes.

Meaningful discussions were also held regarding the implementation of ongoing welfare programmes with the cooperation of the Central Government, as well as projects that will be beneficial in the future. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav informed that a joint meeting of Agriculture Ministers from various states will soon be held in Madhya Pradesh to discuss ways to strengthen the agriculture sector. The meeting will focus on important issues related to farmers' welfare, including the role of Krishi Vigyan Kendras and the use of agricultural technologies.

Agriculture & rural development

Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav met Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan to discuss boosting farmers' income and the "Krishak Kalyan Varsh–2026" initiative. Key talks included extending the Bhavantar Scheme to mustard farmers, establishing 55 tur dal processing units, and seeking support for the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana and rural housing.

Financial management & Simhastha–2028

During a meeting with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Dr. Yadav presented the state's financial targets and achievements for the current fiscal year. He requested dedicated financial assistance for large-scale infrastructure projects, with a specific focus on securing necessary funding and arrangements for the upcoming Simhastha–2028 in Ujjain.

Irrigation & water projects

Dr. Yadav discussed the Ken–Betwa and Parvati–Kalisindh–Chambal river-linking projects with Jal Shakti Minister C.R. Patil, noting nearly Rs 1 lakh crore in central aid for each. The meeting also addressed interstate agreements with Gujarat and Maharashtra regarding Narmada Valley schemes and expanding tap water reach through group supply initiatives.

Supply security & anti-hoarding

Addressing global tensions in the Middle East, Dr. Yadav assured citizens that the government is fully alert. He emphasized that robust measures are in place to prevent the black marketing of essential goods. Citizens were reassured that the availability of domestic cooking gas remains secure and entirely under control.

Aviation infrastructure boost for Simhastha

Multi-Helicopter facility to debut as Sadawal expands air connectivity

Ujjain: A Sky-High Welcome As the holy city of Ujjain gears up for the monumental Simhastha 2028, infrastructure development has hit high gear. In a major boost to connectivity, a modern aviation hub is taking shape in the Sadawal area. The centerpiece of this project is a massive strategic helipad designed to facilitate the simultaneous landing of four helicopters. This facility will cater to high-profile saints, international dignitaries, and emergency administrative services, ensuring seamless movement during the mega-congregation.

Connecting the faith

To manage the anticipated surge of millions of devotees, the district is undergoing a radical road transformation. Key corridors, including the stretches from Shri Ranjeet Hanuman Temple to Maujamkhedi and Kal Bhairav to Maujamkhedi, are being widened into four-lane expressways. These routes, complemented by new bridges and the Gonsa bypass, are specifically designed to bleed off traffic pressure and provide a smooth passage for the Peshwai processions of Sadhus and seers.

Beyond the Mela: A Lasting Legacy The expansion isn't limited to transport. Extensive residential quarters are being constructed to house the thousands of government employees and security personnel who will manage the month-long festival.

Speaking on the progress, Ujjain Collector Roshan Kumar Singh emphasized that these projects are a gift to the locals and future pilgrims alike. "We are monitoring every brick laid to ensure no devotee faces hardship. This blend of ancient tradition and modern infrastructure will establish Ujjain as a world-class pilgrimage destination long after the Kumbh concludes," he stated.

Now, License required for milk sellers in MP

Bhopal: In Madhya Pradesh, all milk producers and milk vendors, except those affiliated with dairy cooperatives, will now are required to obtain a license. The state government will also begin the process of registering all such milk producers and vendors.

Instructions have also been issued to inspect milk collection, transportation equipment, and storage facilities. The government believes this will help curb adulterated milk and milk products.

Milk producers and sellers in the state who are not yet registered will be identified. A monthly report will also be compiled to monitor milk-related activities.

Madhya Pradesh is one of the country's leading milk-producing states. It produces approximately 21.3 million tons of milk, accounting for approximately 9 percent of the country's total milk production.

Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav has set a goal of increasing milk production in the state from 9 percent to 20 percent.

The central government has also become active regarding milk production and sale. The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a new advisory making registration or licensing mandatory for milk producers and sellers.

The authority has clarified that all milk producers and sellers, except members of dairy cooperatives, will have to obtain registration or license under food safety standards.

According to the FSSAI, some milk producers and sellers are operating food businesses without registration or a license, which violates food safety regulations.

Therefore, all such individuals must obtain a mandatory registration or license with the FSSAI before continuing or starting their business. The Center has also requested a milk production report.

National Wheelchair Ultimate Championship begins in Gwalior

Gwalior: The city witnessed a historic moment on Thursday as India's first Wheelchair Ultimate National Championship began at the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Training Centre for Disability Sports. The landmark tournament is being organized by Umoya Sports, bringing together athletes from across the country and marking the national debut of the fast-growing adaptive sport.

According to tournament coordinator Aditya KV, a total of 10 men's teams and 4 women's teams from different states are competing in the championship. Teams in the men's category include participants from Delhi, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttarakhand, and Gujarat. In the women's category, teams from Delhi, Haryana, Gujarat, and Uttarakhand are taking part.

The tournament will feature 40 matches in total. Following the round-robin stage, the top teams will advance to two semi-finals, while the grand finale is scheduled for March 14. The opening ceremony was held at 11 a.m. in the presence of public representatives and sports personalities.

Wheelchair Ultimate is a dynamic team sport played with a flying disc and designed especially for athletes with physical disabilities.

Similar in spirit to wheelchair basketball and rugby, the game involves four players per team passing the disc across the opponent's goal line to score points.

The championship aims to promote inclusivity and encourage greater participation of differently-abled athletes in competitive sports.

Bhopal to host Tri-State Youth MLA Conclave this March

Bhopal: The capital city is set to become a hub of political innovation as it hosts a prestigious two-day convention for young lawmakers from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh on March 30 and 31. Organized at the Vidhan Parishad Bhawan, the conclave will bring together over 70 MLAs under the age of 45 to deliberate on strengthening parliamentary traditions and democratic values. Under the stewardship of Assembly Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar and Principal Secretary Arvind Sharma, preparations are in full swing to welcome the next generation of leadership from across the heartland.

The event aims to serve as a collaborative platform for young representatives to exchange insights on legislative best practices and modern governance. High-profile dignitaries, including Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, Opposition Leader Umang Singhar, and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kailash Vijayvargiya, are expected to attend. Invitations have also been extended to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and the Speakers of the Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh assemblies.

Sand tractor crushes couple, daughter serious

Angry mob torches vehicle

Datia: A speeding tractor-trolley laden with illegal sand turned a family's return journey into a nightmare near Pachokhara Mod in the Indergarh police station area. The heavy vehicle collided head-on with a motorcycle, instantly killing Bhupendra Parihar and his wife, Roshni. The couple, residents of Sadka village, were returning from a relative's house with their two young daughters when the tragedy struck.

The impact was so violent that their two-year-old daughter, Ruchi, sustained critical injuries and is currently battling for life at the Datia District Hospital. In a miraculous twist, the couple's three-month-old infant survived unscathed after being flung into roadside bushes during the collision.

The horrific scene sparked immediate outrage among locals, who alleged that the tractor was transporting sand from the Kherona mines. Fuming over the loss of lives and the menace of speeding sand vehicles, the mob intercepted the tractor and set it ablaze. Police teams rushed to the spot to control the situation and have launched a manhunt for the driver who fled the scene. A pall of gloom has descended over Sadka village as the community mourns the orphaned children and their deceased parents.

MP to form special committee for cooperative reform

Bhopal: In a strategic move to overhaul the state's rural economy, Co-operation Minister Vishvas Kailash Sarang has announced the formation of a high-level special committee dedicated to strengthening Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) and marketing cooperatives. During a comprehensive review meeting on Thursday, the Minister mandated that the committee evaluate current operational structures and submit a transformative roadmap within 15 days. With the state observing 2026 as the "Year of Agricultural Welfare," Sarang emphasized that robust cooperative institutions are vital for grassroots progress.

To realize this vision, the government will launch a massive membership drive in April, aiming to integrate 10 lakh new farmers into the cooperative fold. Minister Sarang highlighted that expanding the membership base will decentralize economic activities and ensure that institutional benefits reach the last mile. The Minister also prioritized streamlining the fertilizer distribution system, directing officials to optimize cash-based sales through PACS under "double-lock" conditions to ensure transparency and timely access for growers. By transforming PACS into multifaceted units of the rural economy, the administration seeks to empower the farming community and stabilize agricultural supply chains across Madhya Pradesh.

Five dead as mother drowns four daughters, ends own life

Heart-wrenching tragedy in Sagar

Sagar: A wave of shock and mourning has swept through Khamariya village in the Kesli police station area following a devastating incident of suspected filicide and suicide. On Thursday, 30-year-old Savita Lodhi allegedly threw her four young daughters into a well before returning home to take her own life by hanging. The victims have been identified as seven-year-old Anshika, five-year-old Raksha, three-year-old Diksha, and five-month-old Manisha.

The gruesome discovery was made when villagers spotted the lifeless bodies of the older children floating on the water's surface at a local farm. Upon receiving the alert, police teams rushed to the site and managed to recover three bodies from the well, while a massive search operation remains underway to locate the five-month-old infant. Investigating officers found Savita's body inside her residence shortly after. While the motive behind this extreme step remains unclear, police have initiated an intensive probe, questioning family members and neighbors to uncover the circumstances leading to the tragedy. A pall of gloom has descended over the village as residents struggle to process the loss of five lives from a single family. Authorities have registered a case and are awaiting post-mortem reports to proceed with further legal action.

Surbhi Khandelwal to be honored with memorial service in Betul on March 18

Betul: A series of memorial gatherings will be held to honor the memory of Surbhi Khandelwal, daughter of senior BJP leader and MLA Hemant Khandelwal, following her untimely demise. From March 13 to 17, family, party officials, and community members will gather at the Khandelwal residence in Betul to offer their final tributes and support the bereaved family. The mourning period will culminate in a formal prayer meeting and memorial service scheduled for March 18, 2026. This gathering is expected to draw senior political leaders and dignitaries from across the region to pray for the departed soul.

"Government stands with You"

Minister Silavat grants compassion appointments

Bhopal: In a move emphasizing empathy and administrative support, Water Resources Minister Tulsiram Silavat distributed compassionate appointment letters to the kin of deceased government employees on Thursday. Speaking at his residence office, the Minister acknowledged the irreplaceable loss of a family patriarch but reassured the 28 new appointees that the MP govt stands firmly by them in their time of grief. "While the void left by a loved one is profound, these appointments ensure financial security and a chance to serve with integrity," Silavat remarked, urging the recipients to balance their professional duties with the dedicated care of their families.

The Water Resources Department has been proactive in this mission, having granted appointments to 324 candidates in recent years. Today's recipients—including Satyendra Tamolia, Abhimanyu Khare, Sapna Katre, and 25 others—join the department across various roles, carrying forward the legacy of their late family members. The Minister, accompanied by Superintending Engineer Ashish Mahajan, extended his best wishes for their bright futures, highlighting that these roles are not just jobs, but a commitment from the state to honor the service of its employees by safeguarding their dependents.

Sarpanch among two die as Thar hits bike

Narsinghpur: Two people, including a sarpanch, died in a tragic road accident late Wednesday night in Narsinghpur district. Roshan Singh Mehra, the sarpanch of Mushran Pipariya village, was returning home after attending a wedding with his companion Bhagwat Singh Jharia. Near the Dhamna village bus stand around 11:30 pm, their motorcycle was hit by a speeding Thar vehicle. The collision was so severe that both men died on the spot, and the motorcycle was badly damaged.

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