

PM Modi remembers Dandi March, invokes 'Satyameva Jayate' on its anniversary

New Delhi (UNI) Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday paid tribute to the participants of the historic Dandi March, marking the anniversary of the movement that became a defining moment in India's struggle for independence.

In a message posted on X, the prime minister remembered the leaders and volunteers who took part in the march in 1930, led by Mahatma Gandhi as part of the broader civil disobedience movement against British rule.

"San 1930 mein aaj hi ke din Dandi March ki shruuati hui thi. Ismein shaamil sabhi vibhutiyaon ka shraddhapoorvak smaran," Modi wrote, recalling the courage and sacrifice of those who joined the protest against colonial salt laws.

He also invoked a Sanskrit verse associated with the idea of truth and moral righteousness, writing, "Satyameva jayate naanritam satyena pantha vita-to devayanah, yena akramanty rishayo hyaptakama yatra tat satyasya paramam nidhanam."



The phrase "Satyameva Jayate," meaning "Truth Alone Triumphs," is drawn from the ancient Hindu scripture Mundaka Upanishad and later became India's national motto. The Dandi March began on March 12, 1930,

when Mahatma Gandhi and a group of followers set out on a 24-day, nearly 390-kilometre march from Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad to the coastal village of Dandi in Gujarat. The march aimed to challenge the British monopoly on salt production and taxation, which had become a powerful symbol of colonial economic control.

On April 6, 1930, Gandhi symbolically broke the salt law by making salt from seawater at Dandi, an act that sparked widespread civil disobedience across the country and drew global attention to India's independence movement.

Historians regard the march as one of the most influential acts of non-violent protest in the freedom struggle, inspiring thousands of Indians to join the movement and strengthening the campaign against British rule.

By recalling the event and its ideals, Modi's message highlighted the enduring relevance of truth and non-violence in India's national consciousness.

VHP demands probe into interfaith marriage of viral Kumbh girl Monalisa

Thiruvananthapuram (UNI)

The Kerala unit of the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) has filed a complaint with the Kerala state Director General of Police demanding an investigation into the recent interfaith marriage of viral Kumbh Mela sensation Monalisa Bhosle and Mohammed Farman, alleging that the bride could be under 18 years of age.

In a petition submitted on Thursday, VHP Kerala State General Secretary Adv. Anil Vilayil urged the police to register a case and conduct a thorough inquiry into the marriage held at the Sree Narayana Guru Temple, Arumannoor, on March 11.

The marriage had drawn public attention as Monalisa Bhosle, originally from Indore, had earlier gone viral on social media after videos of her selling garlands and bangles during the Maha Kumbh Mela circulated widely online, making her an internet sensation.

According to the complaint, Monalisa married Mohammed Farman, a native of Maharashtra, in the presence of several political leaders. Media reports had stated that Kerala Education Minister V. Sivankutty, CPI(M) State Secretary and MLA M. V. Govindan, and Rajya Sabha MP A. A. Rahim attended the ceremony.

The VHP alleged that information gathered by the organisation suggests Monalisa was born on January 21, 2009. If accurate, the claim would mean she is still a minor. The complaint also cited earlier reports stating that she celebrated her 16th birthday in January 2025 and that related visuals had been widely shared on social media.

The organisation further said members of its youth wing, Bajrang



Dal, contacted the girl's mother by phone, during which the mother stated that her daughter had not yet completed 18 years of age.

Based on these claims, the VHP contended that the marriage may constitute an offence under the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act and could also attract provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO).

The organisation requested the DGP to direct the jurisdictional police to register an FIR, verify the girl's age by examining her school admission records, and take appropriate legal action against those who allegedly facilitated the marriage, including temple authorities and others who knowingly assisted in conducting the ceremony.

The complaint also alleged the possibility of a criminal conspiracy and the fabrication of documents to enable the marriage. The VHP said it is prepared to provide the investigating authorities with the evidence and records in its possession.

Monalisa and Farman reportedly became acquainted through Facebook about a year and a half ago, and their friendship gradually developed into a romantic relationship. However, the couple faced strong opposition from Monalisa's family due to the interfaith nature of their relationship.

Veteran CPI(M) leader G Sudhakaran quits party, to contest as Independent

Alappuzha (UNI)

In a move that could trigger significant political repercussions in Kerala, veteran Communist leader and former minister G. Sudhakaran on Thursday announced that he is leaving the Communist Party of India (Marxist) and will contest the next Assembly election from Ambalappuzha as an independent candidate.

The announcement was made at a press conference convened at his residence in Punnappra-Paravoor, where Sudhakaran said he would enter the electoral fray without seeking the backing of any political party. The decision marks a dramatic



break for the senior leader who had spent decades within the CPI(M) and played a key role in strengthening the party in Alappuzha district.

Sudhakaran clarified that although he has resigned from the party's primary membership, he has not renounced the ideals of Communism.

"I have formally ended my organisational relationship with the party, but I continue to believe in and uphold Communist principles," he said.

He also cautioned that attempts to personally attack him could ultimately harm the party itself.

The former minister alleged that his contributions during his tenure as Public Works Minister were deliberately ignored in party publications and media coverage.

Arunachal Govt bringing major reform in staffing pattern, says CM Khandu

Itanagar: Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu on Thursday informed the Assembly that the state government is undertaking a major reform in the staffing pattern of government departments through the Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC).

The Chief Minister said the Commission has already submitted its interim report and is expected to submit the final report shortly.

Based on the ARC's recommendations, the state civil secretariat has written to deputy commissioners seeking reports on the existing staff position in their respective districts.

"Once the reports are received, we will sit together with all departments and carry out manpower rationalisation."

Bomb Threat to Maha Vidhan Bhavan Prompts Evacuation, Massive Security Sweep in Mumbai

Mumbai (UNI)

A bomb threat targeting Maharashtra's legislative complex sparked a major security scare in Mumbai on Thursday morning after an anonymous email warned of explosions at several prominent locations, including the Vidhan Bhavan, during the ongoing Budget 2026 session.

The alarming message prompted the evacuation of staff from the legislature complex, deployment of bomb disposal teams and sniffer dogs, and the launch of a citywide security operation as police rushed to verify the threat and secure key landmarks in South Mumbai.

According to official sources, the threatening email was received at about 6:57 am, shortly before the day's proceedings of the state legislature were scheduled to begin. The message reportedly mentioned four locations as targets — the Maharashtra Vidhan Bhavan at Nariman Point, the Bombay Stock Exchange, the Mumbai High Court and the Mumbai Metro system. Legislative

Council Chairman Ram Shinde confirmed that the email specifically warned of explosions at these sites.

Following the alert, Mumbai Police and other security agencies immediately initiated a large-scale search operation at the Vidhan Bhavan complex. Entry to the premises was temporarily restricted and staff members, officials and media personnel present inside the building were evacuated as a precautionary measure. Teams from the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad, assisted by sniffer dogs, conducted detailed inspections of the building and surrounding areas while security personnel checked the entire complex.

Security agencies simultaneously began precautionary checks at the other locations mentioned in the email, including the Bombay Stock Exchange and the Mumbai High Court. Police also tightened security across several important locations in South Mumbai, deploying additional personnel and increasing patrols in the area to ensure public safety.

Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar sworn in as 27th Guv of TN

Chennai: Mr Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar was sworn in today as the 27th Governor of Tamil Nadu. Mr Arlekar replaces R N Ravi, who was posted as West Bengal Governor.

Chief Justice of Madras High Court Justice Sushrut Arvind Dhar-madhikari, administered the oath of office to Mr Arlekar at a simple function held at Bharathiar Mandapam in Lok Bhavan.

The swearing-in ceremony was graced by Chief Minister M.K.Stalin. Ms Anagha Arlekar, First Lady of Tamil Nadu was also present on the dais.

The swearing-in ceremony was attended by several distinguished dignitaries, including the union Minister of State for Information Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs L Murugan, TN Assembly Speaker M Appavu, Deputy Speaker K Pichandi, Ministers, Judges of the Madras High Court; Members of the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, and the Mayor and Deputy Mayor of the Greater Chennai Corporation.

Kerala HC removes Vellappally Natesan as SNDP Yogam general secretary

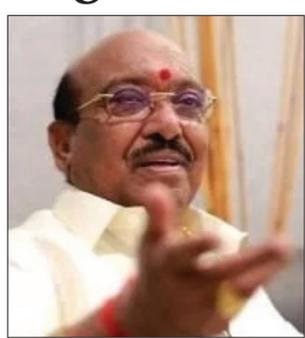
Kochi (UNI)

In a significant ruling, the Kerala High Court on Thursday ordered the removal of Vellappally Natesan from the post of general secretary of the Aruvippuram Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam (SNDP Yogam), citing statutory violations related to financial disclosures.

The order was delivered by Justice T. R. Ravi while considering a set of writ petitions that questioned the legality of the continuation of the Yogam's current office-bearers. The Court observed that the Aruvippuram Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana Yogam, which is registered as a non-trading company, had failed to submit its audited financial statements for three consecutive years.

Such non-compliance, the Court held, attracts the disqualification of directors under the provisions of the Companies Act, 2013.

In view of this lapse, the Court



ruled that Natesan and other office-bearers functioning as directors of the organisation cannot continue in their respective positions.

The petitions were filed seeking judicial intervention to ensure proper administration of the Yogam. Among other reliefs, the petitioners requested the Court to appoint an

administrator or receiver to manage the organisation's affairs and to restrain Natesan from making appointments in educational institutions run by the Yogam or initiating disciplinary action against office-bearers of its unions and branches.

The case was registered as WP(C) No. 8095 of 2024 and connected matters, titled Professor M. K. Sanoo v. State of Kerala. The petitions were moved by noted writer and social critic M. K. Sanoo and others, who argued that the organisation had repeatedly failed to comply with statutory requirements relating to financial transparency.

According to the petitioners, the Companies Act mandates that directors of a company become disqualified if financial statements or annual returns are not filed for a continuous period of three years. On this basis, they contended that Natesan and other office-bearers had lost their eligibility to hold office.

Ravindra Narayan Ravi sworn in as West Bengal Governor



Kolkata (UNI)

Ravindra Narayan Ravi was sworn in as the newly appointed Governor of West Bengal at Lok Bhavan (formerly Raj Bhavan) in Kolkata on Thursday morning.

The oath of office was administered by Sujay Paul, Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, at a ceremony that began at the scheduled time of 11:30 am.

Several prominent leaders and officials were present at the event, including Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Chief Secretary Nandini Chakraborty, Assembly Speaker Biman Banerjee and Biman Bose, chairman of the Left Front.

Before and after the oath-taking ceremony, the national song Vande Mataram and the national anthem Jana Gana Mana were played.

After taking the oath, the new Governor exchanged greetings and interacted with the Chief Minister and other guests present at the ceremony.

Ravi has been appointed

the permanent Governor of West Bengal following the sudden resignation of C. V. Ananda Bose from the post.

Until recently, Ravi had been serving as the Governor of Tamil Nadu and arrived in Kolkata on Wednesday to assume his new responsibilities. During his tenure in Tamil Nadu, Ravi was frequently involved in confrontations with the state's ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) government led by Chief Minister M. K. Stalin.

Over the past few years, disagreements between the Governor and the state government had surfaced repeatedly, particularly over the approval of various bills passed by the Assembly.

At one point, the DMK government had even approached President Droupadi Murmu seeking his removal from the gubernatorial post.

With Bose stepping down unexpectedly, Ravi has now taken charge as the constitutional head of West Bengal.

Table with 5 columns: Sl. No., Particulars, Estimated Expenditure, Estimated Income, and Net Expenditure. Includes details for various projects and departments.

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