

KRC TIMES

STAY-ENRICHED

VOLUME:1, ISSUE 620 | SILCHAR FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2025. EAST AND NE INDIA EDITION | e-mail: krctimes@gmail.com , www.krctimes.com

Get all the latest and updated news of today in the evening. For subscribing to this e-paper contact at -8721838313

SUBSCRIBE
₹300 / year

WhatsApp payment details : 8721838313
info@krctimes.com

PERSPECTIVE

A key trend globally, and in India, is the rise of duopolies: Telecom: Jio & Airtel Airlines: IndiGo & Air India Steel: Tata & JSW Payments: PhonePe & Google Pay E-commerce: Amazon & Flipkart Colas: Coke & Pepsi In every industry, it's increasingly becoming a two-horse race.
- Harsh Goenka, Chairman, RPG Enterprises

Sixteen infiltrators, including 10 Rohingyas, pushed back from Assam

GUWAHATI

Sixteen infiltrators, among them 10 Rohingyas and six Bangladeshi nationals, were pushed back from Assam in the early hours of Friday, November 14, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said.

The operation was carried out around 12:30 am through Gate 39, the chief minister informed in a post on X. Calling it "another smooth operation," Sarma likened the precision of the pushback to a scene from Mission Impossible, asserting that the state's borders remain secure and its security apparatus fully alert. He added that "no multiverse anomaly" had been detected, extending the reference to popular Hollywood franchises.

Sarma did not specify from which district the infiltrators were intercepted before being moved to the border gate.

The Assam government has been intensifying its actions against illegal immigration from Bangladesh, frequently pushing back individuals found to have entered the state without valid documents.

WHO SAID WHAT



Now a days I find a racket in State Bank India wherein I find even my Cheques are being dishonoured when there is sufficient funds of mine in the my Account. It seems there is racket for which I will file a PIL soon to expose it.

- Subramanian Swamy, Former Cabinet Minister & MP

658-km Indo-Myanmar Border road to become new National Highway: Minister



IMPHAL

Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways Ajay Tamta said that a 658-km Indo-Myanmar border road project is under feasibility study and will soon be declared a new National Highway. Also Read - MNF's R Lalthangliana wins Dampa bypoll, retains seat with 562-vote margin Addressing a press conference here last evening, Tamta said: "The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)

is working on 11 national highways with a total length of 1,774 km in the State."

"A length of 747 km has been improved with black topping till date, converting single lane into two-lane configurations, and the balance length of 332 km will be completed in the next financial year (2026-27)," he said.

In total, 51 project packages are under way, involving an expenditure of Rs 12,000 crore over the past five years, the minister added. Inform-

ing that the MoRTH is undertaking extensive works to strengthen road connectivity across Manipur, Tamta said that these projects are being implemented through the National Highway and Infrastructure Development Corporation (NHIDCL) Limited and the Manipur PWD.

The visiting Central minister also noted that land acquisition and forest clearance issues had caused delay in implementation of 35 project packages, but the NHIDCL has renewed its focus to ensure timely completion. He added that three major highway corridors namely Imphal-Jiribam (NH-37), Yaingangpokpi-Finch Corner (NH-202), and Tamenglong-Mahur (NH-137), along with Churachandpur-Tuivai (NH-102B) and Maram-Peren (NH-129A), are targeted for completion by 2025-26. The minister also disclosed that the NHIDCL is preparing detailed project reports (DPRs) for additional highways including the 262-km Churachandpur-Tipaimukh (NH-02) and a Greenfield alignment of the 57.91-km Mao-Senapati (NH-02).

IMPHAL

The Manipur State Commission for Women (MSCW) Chairperson, Thumlip Tiningpham Monsang, on Thursday stated that sexual harassment in the workplace undermines women's dignity and safety.

She called for the strict implementation of preventive and redressal measures across all government and private institutions.

TT Monsang was speaking at a one-day orientation and capacity-building programme on the "Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013" held at the DC Conference Hall in Pherzawl district.

MSCW, in collaboration with the District Administration, Pherzawl, organised the event for the first time in the district. Pherzawl, the least developed district in Manipur, shares borders with Myanmar and Mizoram.

The event aimed to raise awareness, promote accountability and gender equality, and strengthen pre-

vention and redressal mechanisms against workplace sexual harassment. The Chairperson stated that the commission plans to reach all districts across Manipur. She urged all offices in the district to form Internal Complaints Committees (ICC) as mandated by the Act and to display awareness posters in workplaces to ensure a safe and respectful work environment for women.

She emphasised that ensuring women's safety at workplaces is not only a legal requirement but also a moral responsibility.

Earlier, SK Sophia Moyon, Member of MSCW, welcomed the participants and expressed confidence that the programme would enhance awareness and promote accountability among district officers and other stakeholders.

T Chuongsin Koireng, Member of MSCW; District Level Officers; Police Officials; Esther Sanate, representatives from the One Stop Centre; and members of the Hmar Women Association attended the programme.

Only 2% Assam Police personnel found obese in latest BMI test



GUWAHATI

Assam Police has stepped up its internal fitness reforms as the latest Annual Body Mass Index (BMI) test revealed that only 2.06% of its personnel fall under the 'obese' category.

This year's numbers, released after assessing 73,317 officers and staff, show a consistent decline in obesity levels since the fitness drive began three years ago.

The force highlighted the progress in a social media update, noting that its ranks are becoming leaner, faster, and more mission-ready with each phase of the statewide health initiative.

The BMI test, introduced in 2023, aims to raise physical readiness across all units of the police department.

The latest round of the fitness assessment began on August 16 at the 10th Assam Police Battalion headquarters in Kahilipara.

Over the next several weeks, teams conducted tests across districts, wrapping up the process in early September.

Director General of Police Harmeet Singh, who personally monitored the launch of the drive along with senior officers, said the initiative has made personnel more aware of their physical well-being.

He pointed out that policing is an extremely demanding profession, often depriving officers of proper rest and regular meals.

According to him, BMI monitoring helps personnel understand and adopt healthier habits.

Singh also stressed that a fitter force benefits not just the department but also the families of police officials.

He noted that good health reduces the risk of medical expenses and ensures that personnel appear confident and disciplined in uniform.

As Assam Police continues strengthening its operational preparedness, the BMI drive has emerged as a key tool in building a stronger, healthier frontline force.

Nagaland govt forms new commission to review reservation policy for jobs, education

GUWAHATI

The Nagaland government has formed a new Reservation Review Commission to examine how tribes are represented in public jobs and higher education.

This is the most significant effort in recent years to review rules on quotas and criteria for identifying backwardness.

A notification issued in Kohima on November 12 states that retired IAS officer R. Ramakrishnan will chair the commission.

Members will include senior officials from the Home, Law and Justice, Higher and Technical Education, and Personnel and Administrative Reforms departments.

The Home Department will provide logistical support, while the Finance Department will oversee the budget.

The commission has wide-ranging powers, including access to all government records it deems necessary.

It can summon officials or departments to provide information essential for its work.

The panel's tasks include reviewing legal and constitutional provisions on reservations in India, evaluating economic and ed-



ucational indicators used for eligibility, and assessing the impact of Nagaland's current reservation policies on employment and professional course admissions.

The commission is also expected to consult with tribal groups, student organizations, employees' associations, and other stakeholders to gather views on fair representation.

It will suggest criteria for tribes eligible for reservation, recommend the overall percentage and distribution, and

determine the duration of these benefits. Additionally, the commission will look into gaps in policy implementation and suggest technology-driven solutions to make the system efficient and error-free.

The commission has six months to submit its report. A separate notification will specify the chairperson's remuneration.

The Cabinet approved the order on October 21, 2025, replacing an earlier notification issued on September 22, 2025.

Assam's Endangered State Bird Down to Just 300 in NE Region: WTI Report

GUWAHATI

Assam's State bird - the white-winged wood duck (deo hanh) - may be on the brink of extinction. The Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) is carrying out a survey of the bird in Assam and Arunachal Pradesh, and according to preliminary estimates, only around 300 individuals may be left in Northeast India.

The survey is part of a WTI project that aims to bridge the information gap, and outline and execute a long-term recovery plan in collaboration with the forest department, local stakeholders, and experts.

According to conservationist Anwaruddin Choudhury, who pioneered studies on the white-winged wood duck, the bird's population in Assam could be less than 200. "Their numbers have noticeably declined in recent years. It is unlikely that there are more than 200 such ducks in Assam now," he said.

According to estimates in his latest book, the population of the duck has dropped from around 350 in 1990 to less than 200 by 2021 - a bulk of the population now concentrated in Upper Dihing (west



block) Reserve Forest in Tinsukia district. The only habitat - out of around 13 in the State - which saw a slight increase in the count is Nameri. Also Read - Adani Power & AGEL win Assam LoA for Rs 63,000-C energy projects Choudhury's figures are also quoted by BirdLife International in their publications. Historically, the bird had a large range that extended through much of eastern South

Asia, almost all of Southeast Asia and parts of western Indonesian archipelago. In many of these range states, the bird is now extinct. Some fragmented populations remain in Sumatra, Cambodia, northern Myanmar and western Thailand, and the global population has declined by more than 80 per cent over the past three generations. "Eastern Assam and Nameri National Park are its

strongholds. In eastern Assam, Dihing Patkai National Park and adjacent forests of Upper Dihing RF are currently the most important habitats for the species in the State. Small numbers occur elsewhere in Sonai-Rupai wildlife sanctuary, Hollongapar Gibbon Sanctuary, Nambor, Doomdooma, Dangori, Torani, Burhi-Dihing and Lumding RFs. Due to habitat change, the occurrence of the species has become doubtful in many areas where there were past records, including Barak valley region," Choudhury wrote in his book. The causes of the species decline are multifaceted - destruction, degradation, pollution and disturbance of wetland habitats in forests, outright deforestation, hunting and collection of eggs, according to BirdLife International. As per the assessment of BirdLife International in 2024, this species has been categorised as 'critically endangered' in the IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) Red List due to the small and fragmented population. In 2003, the Government of Assam declared white-winged wood duck as the 'State Bird of Assam' to encourage further conservation efforts.

Meghalaya approves amendment to raise fiscal deficit ceiling from 3 per cent to 3.5 per cent



SHILLONG

The Meghalaya Cabinet has approved an amendment to the Meghalaya Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Act, 2006, allowing the state to expand its fiscal deficit limit in accordance with central guidelines.

The amendment permits the state government to increase its fiscal deficit ceiling from 3 per cent to 3.5 per cent of the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP).

Officials said the revision aligns with the Government of India's framework for fiscal flexibility and is expected to enable additional borrowing to support developmental and infrastructural needs. The enhanced borrowing space is likely to help the state finance ongoing projects and strengthen public investment without violating national fiscal norms. The amendment will take effect once it is formally passed in the Assembly



VOLUME:1, ISSUE 620

WHEN THE SKY RAINS FIRE

In Sky Alert! What Happens When Satellites Fail (2013), Les Johnson had written about satellites being brought down by orbital debris, solar storms and war. In his 2021 novel *Out of Sight*, Martin Granger wrote about rogue orbital junk colliding with geosynchronous satellites—such as the GPS network that orbits at about 20,000 km—and sending them crashing down to Earth. Both the nonfiction and fictional prognoses were brutal: in the collision chain reaction, GPS would be disabled, resource and environmental monitoring lost, flights would crash, spysats and military recon would die, and satellite telescopes blind.

The domain of science fiction and somewhat outré intellectual maundering a quarter-century ago, no longer is a cascading satellite-collision event considered improbable. In the third week of October, a piece of smoking space junk landed in the desert on an access road to a mine in the Pilbara region of Western Australia, and reignited slow-burn concerns that the Kessler Syndrome, which all space scientists fear, had become not an ‘if’, but a ‘when’.

It is a near-mantra in catastrophology that there is a wait period of roughly half-a-century before theory becomes fact. NASA scientists Donald Kessler and Burton Cour-Palais proposed the Kessler Syndrome theory in 1978: that overcrowding in low Earth orbit—800-2,000 km in space, where most satellites are parked—could start a domino effect of collisions with cataclysmic impacts. In a sense, it is time for the theory to show its teeth. And it has.

As of 2022, there were an estimated 15,100 metric tonnes of space debris shooting round Earth—54,000 pieces 10 cm in length and longer (about 9,300 of them with active payloads), 1.2 million 1-10 cm in size, and more than 140 million from 1 mm to 1 cm. The ones less than a centimetre were considered technically impossible to track—until the Pilbara piece crashed. It was 150 cm in diameter, and should have been visible, but wasn't. The space archaeologist Alice Gorman, author of the 2019 book *Dr Space Junk vs the Universe* said, “There was no indication it was going to re-enter right now so people weren't expecting it—when I went to look for re-entry predictions I couldn't find anything, which is an indication of the suddenness of it.” According to the US Aerospace Corporation, a space object catalogue or satellite catalogue is maintained by Joint Combined Space Operations Center (CSpOC) at Vandenberg Air Force Base, part of the US Strategic Command. One of CSpOC's missions is to detect, track, and identify all objects in Earth orbit in addition to monitoring the International Space Station and other NASA satellites for collisions. Also located at Vandenberg Air Force Base is the US Air Force's 18th Space Control Squadron, which operates the Space Surveillance Network, which oversees radar and optical sensors at various sites around the world. These sensors observe and track objects that are larger than a softball in low Earth orbit (LEO) and basketball-sized objects or larger, in higher, geosynchronous orbits. The sensors can determine which orbit the objects are in, and that information is used to predict close approaches, reentries and the probability of a collision.” In the event, CSpOC missed the Pilbara spacejunk altogether, raising questions about not only the efficacy of its panoptical claims but also about whether it is possible to track space debris individually in a sky full of them like confetti. The Aerospace Corporation says that the “US military is currently tracking about 20,000 objects and has cataloged more than 40,000 objects over the years”. This means that the US military is currently tracking 0.014 percent of space debris, most but hardly all too tiny to be tracked. It's like playing catch while blindfolded. The European Space Agency's Space Environment Report 2025 says that “intact satellites or rocket bodies are now re-entering the Earth atmosphere on average more than three times a day”. Tipping Points of Space Debris in Low Earth Orbit, a paper published in the *International Journal of the Commons* in January 2024, says, “Over the past decade, the annual number of recorded re-entries has dramatically increased, averaging around 300 yearly re-entries from 2012 to 2019 and then growing to nearly 2000 yearly re-entries in 2021 to 2023.” Gorman speculated that the Pilbara spacejunk could be the end-stage from a Chinese Jielong-3 rocket launched in late September. A paper presented at the International Astronautical Congress in Sydney in early October states that 88 percent of “the 50 most concerning pieces of space junk in low Earth orbit” were rocket bodies. But while the origin of the debris remains speculation—an investigation by the Australian Space Agency could take months—the Chinese National Space Agency reached out to NASA “over a manoeuvre to prevent a possible collision between satellites”.

“Near-space” has, according to the Space Debris User Portal, about 15,860 satellites, 12,900 of them functioning as of October 21. At the current rate of rocket launches—258 in 2024 (the maximum in any year since the first launch in 1957), with the US leading with 145 launches—the end of this decade could see about 70,000 active satellites at altitudes below 2,000 km. “If space debris is not stabilised in the relative near-term,” says the IJC paper, “any deferred efforts to clean LEO or reduce active missions will only grant a few additional decades.” Imagine the sky afire with raining debris.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Laughter is not at all a bad beginning for a friendship, and it is far the best ending for one. - Oscar Wilde

THE DELHI BLAST AND THE GENERAL'S SHADOW A NATION'S CALL TO RESOLVE

MAJ GEN SANJEEV DOGRA (RETD)

The first sound was a thunderclap that tore through the familiar hum of Delhi. A roar of metal, dust, and shattered lives near the ancient walls of the Red Fort. The silence that followed on November 10th was more profound than any siren; it was a collective gasp, a prelude to a complex geopolitical reckoning. The attack, which claimed 13 lives and scarred many more, was not a random act of violence. It was the violent, desperate culmination of two parallel narratives racing towards a fatal intersection.

One was being written in the clandestine safe houses of a terror network spanning from the valleys of Kashmir to the suburbs of Haryana. The other was being debated in the shadowy corridors of power in Islamabad, where a proposed constitutional amendment, the 27th that threatens to formally anoint the Pakistani military as the nation's supreme, unaccountable authority. To view these threads as separate is to misunderstand the modern nature of conflict. The Delhi blast is a direct tremor from a state restructuring itself for perpetual hostility, and India's response must be as integrated, strategic, and resilient as the threat it faces.

The Constitutional Fortification of a Deep State

In Pakistan, a profound and alarming transformation is being advanced under the guise of legislative process. The proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment represents far more than political tinkering; it is the potential codification of a “constitutional coup,” a move to formally anoint the Army Chief as the nation's supreme military authority. This proposed role, envisioned as a Chief of Defence Forces would, analysts warn, be endowed with sweeping powers, legal immunity, and ultimate veto over security and foreign policy, effectively institutionalizing the deep state.

The implications for India are grave and direct. Should this amendment pass, it would do more than reshuffle power in Islamabad; it would legally insulate the very engine of cross-border terrorism. This is the logical culmination of a long-standing reality, formally transforming the Pakistani military from a state within a state into the state itself. The civilian government, perennially a puppet, would find its strings severed, leaving the generals as the sole architects of a policy where terrorism remains a core strategic tool. This legal shield would surgically remove the last vestiges of deniability, placing the army above the law it claims to uphold and emboldening it to pursue its adversarial agenda against India with renewed and unchecked impunity. The Delhi blast, therefore, cannot be seen in isolation, it is a potential preview of a future where such aggression is not just sponsored, but constitutionally sanctioned.

The Unraveling of a White-Collar Terror Web

The chain of events that would culminate in the Delhi blast began not with an explosion, but with the chilling discovery of an AK-47 rifle in a doctor's locker at a hospital in Anantnag. This was among the earliest leads of a terrifying new reality: a “white-collar terror ecosystem” where extremism hid behind professional credentials.

That initial clue ignited a frantic, multi-state investigation. The trail led from the Kashmir hospital to a residential building in Faridabad, where authorities uncovered a plot of staggering scale, a massive cache of 2,900 kg of ammonium nitrate and sophisticated bomb-making equipment. The architects were not traditional militants, but individuals using their social standing as a perfect cloak, operating from the very heart of our communities.

The net began to tighten. As security forces conducted coordinated raids and arrests on November 10th, the cell began to implode under the pressure. In a final, des-



perate act, a cornered operative triggered a vehicle-borne explosive in Delhi. The blast was not a precision strike, but the violent, premature finale of a network being dismantled in real-time. A spider lashing out as its web was destroyed.

The operational DNA of this network, from the doctor's weapon to the suburban bomb factory, points directly to the support of Pakistan-based terror outfits. The proposed 27th Amendment in Pakistan, which would constitutionally shield its military command, threatens to transform this terror pipeline. It would elevate the military from a sponsor that can be plausibly denied to a legally protected guardian of terror, emboldening it to cultivate more such deadly ecosystems with absolute impunity.

A History of Emboldenment: From Zia's Playbook to Munir's Potential

To understand the grave implications, one must listen to the ghosts of past wars. This playbook is not new; it is a cherished heirloom in the Pakistani military's arsenal. In the 1980s, General Zia-ul-Haq launched Operation Tupac (later known as Operation Gibraltar's ideological successor), a deliberate, long-term strategy to inflict a “thousand cuts” on India by fueling insurgency in Punjab and Kashmir. It was a cold, calculated policy of using asymmetric warfare to bleed a larger adversary, setting a precedent that has defined decades of conflict.

A decade later, General Pervez Musharraf, then Army Chief, greenlit the Kargil misadventure, a reckless gamble that saw Pakistani soldiers and militants infiltrate across the Line of Control, bringing the two nuclear-armed nations to the brink of all-out war. Like the proposed amendment, Kargil was an operation conceived and executed by the military, with the civilian leadership kept deliberately in the dark. It was a stark demonstration of how a militarized decision-making process, unconstrained by political oversight, can hurtle a region towards catastrophe.

Today, an empowered military command, potentially shielded by a constitutional amendment, would be far more emboldened. The deep state would no longer need to manipulate a civilian facade; it could act with direct, legally-sanctioned authority. The tools of hybrid warfare, the deniable proxies, the drone swarms, the cyber-attacks, and the radicalization of white-collar professionals would not be instruments of policy, but the policy itself. The abatement of terrorism would transition from a covert act to a sovereign right, protected by the nation's highest law.

The Imperative for a Unified National Response

The sophisticated, hybrid nature of the threat we face from constitutionally-emboldened adversaries to radicalized professionals in our midst demands a response that is equally integrated and resilient. India's answer cannot be confined to a single ministry or security agency; it must be a unified national endeavor, a seamless fusion of state capability and societal strength. The Delhi

blast is a grim reminder that our security architecture must evolve from a collection of independent pillars into a single, fortified fortress. This requires decisive action on three interconnected fronts, transforming policy from reactive to proactive, and citizens from bystanders to sentinels.

For the Government and Security Apparatus, the response must be both legally precise and strategically uncompromising. A swift, watertight NIA investigation is paramount, presenting irrefutable evidence that resonates in domestic courts and the court of global opinion. But evidence alone is insufficient. Our diplomacy must pivot to a sustained offensive, explicitly linking atrocities like the Delhi blast to Pakistan's constitutional power-grab, exposing its military as the true author of this tragedy. Concurrently, the doctrine of deterrence-by-punishment must be visibly reaffirmed. Any military response should be a precise, calibrated strike on terror infrastructure, a message delivered not in rhetoric, but in the rubble of jihadist camps, establishing that India holds the Pakistani military command personally and institutionally accountable for any aggression emanating from its soil.

This national strategy must be anchored locally through revolutionary civil-military fusion. District Fusion Rooms must evolve from concept to operational reality, becoming nerve centers where civilian and military leaders co-locate during crises, fusing local intelligence with national strategy in real-time. Simultaneously, we must strategically leverage our vast reservoir of veteran expertise through a formal Veteran-Citizen Corps, channeling ex-servicemen to train community watch groups, harden critical infrastructure, and build local resilience. This secures the vulnerable “last mile,” transforming society from a soft target into a participatory defense network.

Ultimately, citizens must evolve from bystanders to active sentinels. This demands Community Preparedness through security drills, Digital Vigilance against online radicalization, and above all, Social Cohesion is our ultimate armor against division. A resilient citizenry that stands united denies terrorists their primary victory, raising the cost of aggression beyond any adversary's means. This is the blueprint for an India that doesn't just respond to threats, but anticipates and neutralizes them through the collective will of its people.

A Thought for the Future: The Fortress and the Will

The path ahead is fraught with the volatility of a changing Pakistan and the persistence of ancient hatreds. The Delhi blast, viewed through the lens of the proposed 27th Amendment, marks a definitive end to ambiguity. We are no longer dealing merely with a rival state, but with a potential military junta that seeks to weaponize its very constitution. The challenge is formidable, but India's strength has always lain in its unity and democratic resilience. By fusing the capabilities of our government, the courage of our security forces, the wis-

dom of our veterans, and the vigilant will of a billion citizens, we can transform from a target into a fortress. The blueprint for security is clear; it requires not just the might of the state, but the determined, unbreakable resolve of its people, standing together as the ultimate guardians of the nation's safety, dignity, and future.

DIGITAL WAR OF WORDS

I am gravely concerned by recent reports of mass atrocities & gross human rights violations in El Fasher & worsening violence in the Kordofans in Sudan. The flow of weapons & fighters from external parties must be cut off. The flow of humanitarian aid must be able to quickly reach civilians in need. The hostilities must stop. I call on the Sudanese Armed Forces & the Rapid Support Forces to take swift, tangible steps toward a negotiated settlement. ~ Antonio Guterres, Secretary General, United Nations



Post NEP 2020 Reforms in Education

MOHAMMAD AKRAM

In India, the NEP 2020 introduces significant reforms in school and higher education, emphasising a holistic, flexible, and multidisciplinary education system rooted in the Indian ethos and adapted to the 21st century.

In schools, it replaces the 10+2 structure with a 5+3+3+4 framework across foundational, preparatory, middle, and secondary stages, emphasising early childhood care, curricular flexibility, assessment reform, and multilingual education. The reforms prioritise universal Foundational Literacy and Numeracy (FLN), integrated arts and sciences, and vocational education from Grade 6. Higher education seeks to increase access, promote multidisciplinary institutions, introduce a 50% GER by 2035, and reform regulations via the Higher Education Commission. Some of the Key Initiatives include PMSHRI, DIKSHA, VidyaPravesh, and the National Credit Framework, which supports the NEP's vision for a modern, equitable education system.

Even though the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 has triggered a shift in classroom teaching and learning, its full realisation at the ground level is a work in progress, harmonising enthusiasm for change with significant practical challenges. The policy aims to fundamentally transform the classroom experience, moving away from rote memorisation toward holistic, competency-based learning. Teachers are encouraged to adopt pedagogies that involve hands-on activities, practical application,

storytelling, and art/sports-integrated learning. This replaces the traditional focus on merely covering textbook content. For instance, teachers are observed using more creative Teaching-Learning Materials (TLMs) beyond just textbooks.

The policy also aims to focus on Foundational Skills (FLN); therefore, high priority is given to achieving Foundational Literacy and Numeracy by Grade 3. This has led to the development and implementation of play-based and activity-based learning modules, especially in the new Foundational Stage (Ages 3-8). Moreover, in higher grades, a flexible, multidisciplinary approach, combined with the removal of rigid stream boundaries (Science, Arts, and Commerce), is beginning to offer students the flexibility to combine subjects they are interested in and promote cross-disciplinary thinking.

One of the major reforms post NEP 2020 is the Assessment Reform. The focus is shifting from high-stakes summative exams to formative assessment that tests conceptual understanding, critical thinking, and application of knowledge. The goal is to move towards a Holistic Progress Card. Besides, there is an increased push to use the mother tongue/local language as the medium of instruction, at least up to Grade 5, which teachers largely understand will help children grasp non-trivial concepts more quickly. However, translating the NEP's vision into consistent, high-quality practice in the country presents several real-world hurdles. The teachers, accustomed to traditional methods, require extensive and ongoing training (CPD) to effectively

implement the new, sophisticated, and flexible pedagogies (like competency-based assessment and experiential learning). It has been observed that in many government and rural schools, the lack of digital infrastructure (functional computers, internet, smart classrooms) and basic facilities (accessible toilets, ramps) limits the adoption of technology-driven and inclusive learning practices envisioned by the NEP.

A high proportion of primary classrooms, particularly in rural areas, are multi-grade, making it challenging for teachers to deliver grade-specific, play-based learning for the foundational stage as per the NEP's structural vision (5+3+3+4). While NEP champions digital learning (e.g., through DIKSHA), students in rural and low-income areas often lack reliable internet access or personal devices, exacerbating educational inequity. Above all, there is resistance or confusion among parents, students, and sometimes administrators who are still fixated on rote learning and high grades for admission, questioning the value of new assessment methods or multi-entry/exit options. Besides, funding and resource allocation remain key constraints. Moreover, the successful translation of the new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) into revised, user-friendly textbooks and learning materials for every grade and regional context is a massive, ongoing trial.

The NEP 2020 is a major reform requiring ongoing, phased efforts by the Central and State Governments. While progress has been made

through frameworks and schemes, gaps remain, mainly in resources and capacity. Though the Ministry of Education and regulatory bodies like UGC, AICTE, and NCERT have launched initiatives such as the new curricular structure (5+3+3+4), NIPUN Bharat for foundational literacy and numeracy, the PARAKH assessment centre, the ITEP teacher training program, and the PMSHRI model schools in school education and the Academic Bank of Credit, the National Credit and Higher Education Qualification Frameworks, the National Research Foundation, and guidelines for foreign institutions in Higher education, along with expanded digital platforms like DIKSHA and SWAYAM. Yet the implementation faces gaps, such as underfunding, with public spending below the targeted 6% of GDP, infrastructure deficits, slow regulation of private fees, insufficient teacher training, societal bias against vocational education, coordination issues between the Centre and States, curriculum overload, and administrative challenges for multiple entry/exit systems.

In essence, while the philosophy of NEP 2020 has been widely accepted and is driving change in pedagogy (especially in early childhood education), the systemic challenges of infrastructure, teacher capacity, and administrative alignment mean that the implementation is phased and varies significantly between states and school types. Nevertheless, successful NEP 2020 implementation depends on political resolve, increased funding, comprehensive teacher training and empowering teachers.

Assam evictions spark fears of influx: Arunachal indigenous bodies warn of rising illegal immigrants

ITANAGAR

The Arunachal Pradesh Indigenous Youth Organisation (APIYO) has voiced serious concern over a potential rise in illegal immigrants entering the state following ongoing eviction drives in neighbouring Assam.

Addressing a press conference in Itanagar, APIYO President Taru Sonam Liyak issued a seven-day ultimatum to the state government to identify and deport illegal immigrants and dismantle unauthorised religious structures allegedly constructed without official sanction.

Liyak warned that Arunachal Pradesh, being a sensitive border state sharing international boundaries with China and Bhutan, and a long interstate boundary with Assam, faces significant demographic threats due to unchecked migration. He alleged that many illegal Bangladeshi immigrants were moving into tribal-dominated areas of Arunachal in the aftermath of eviction operations in Assam.

Condemning the recent blast in Del-



hi, Liyak urged the state government to implement the Inner Line Permit (ILP) system more strictly, as mandated under the Bengal Eastern Frontier Regulation Act of 1873, to safeguard the state's indigenous demography. "Arunachal Pradesh is a tribal-majority state with a population of less than 10 lakh. Any influx of outsiders poses a direct threat to our identity, culture, and security," he said.

The Indigenous body demanded the immediate dismantling of unauthorised constructions, including illegal

madradas and mosques in the capital region, and called for a ban on unregulated weekly markets allegedly operated by illegal migrants in Hollongi, Doimukh, and nearby areas. These markets, Liyak said, were undermining the livelihoods of local tribal traders.

Citing internal data, APIYO claimed that in the Nirjuli-Naharlagun belt alone, there are around 13,730 Muslim residents, of whom at least 20 per cent are allegedly Bangladeshi immigrants. The group also alleged that only

one out of a dozen mosques in the area has the requisite legal approval.

Clarifying his stand, Liyak emphasised that the organisation's movement was not directed against any religious community but aimed at preventing illegal activities and preserving the rights of the indigenous people of Arunachal Pradesh. "Our protest is against unlawful settlement and demographic imbalance, not faith or community," he stated, urging youths, community-based organisations, and political groups to unite in support of the cause.

APIYO has a history of activism on indigenous rights issues and had earlier organised a rally in October to demand stronger enforcement of land and migration regulations amid concerns over rapid urbanisation and rising migrant populations in the state.

The organisation has warned of statewide demonstrations if the government fails to respond within the seven-day deadline, asserting that the protection of Arunachal's tribal identity and demographic integrity must remain a top administrative priority.

Himanta predicts Assam without BJP, says 'three' Gogois are biggest Miya sympathisers



GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on November 13 launched a sharp attack on the Congress and opposition leaders, asserting that without the BJP in power, "the entire Assam — starting from Dispur — would have been taken over by the Miya community."

Speaking to reporters, Sarma said, "All must be confident of one thing — the day BJP ceases to be in power, Assam will be taken over by the Miyas. I am predicting this today itself. Those who curse the BJP will one day regret it, because we are standing as the embankment between the Miya and the indigenous people."

The Chief Minister went on to claim that around 40 per cent of the population is "ferocious" and "aggressive," adding, "They post things fearlessly on Facebook even when the BJP is in power. Imagine what they will do if Congress returns to power. They will take over everything."

In a provocative statement, Sarma linked the issue to demographic changes and alleged criminal tendencies, saying, "They can molest a woman, cut her into pieces and throw her into water — that is their history. The public must understand this and stand united, or else we won't be able to survive."

Taking a direct swipe at his political rivals, Sarma said, "The three Gogois — Lurinjyoti Gogoi, Akhil Gogoi, and Gaurav Gogoi — are the biggest supporters of the Miya community, not Gogoi supporters."

The Chief Minister's remarks are expected to ignite a fresh political storm in Assam, drawing strong reactions from opposition parties and civil society groups over his communal and polarising statements.

Arunachal restructures power dept to realise its dream of becoming India's hydropower capital

ITANAGAR

The Government of Arunachal Pradesh today implemented a major restructuring of the Department of Hydropower Development (DHPD), introducing a basin-wise administrative setup. Power Minister Chowna Mein formally handed over basin-wise charges to the newly designated Chief Engineers, marking the beginning of a new era in hydropower management.

Approved by the State Cabinet on May 13, 2025, the restructuring—termed DHPD 2.0—aims to make the department more efficient, accountable, and technically robust to meet the growing demands of the state's booming hydropower sector.

Under this initiative, 96 new technical and ministerial posts have been created to enhance manpower and field-level operations. The department has been reorganised basin-wise into Kameng, Subansiri, Siang, and Dibang-Lohit-Tirap, with each basin placed under the supervision of a Chief Engineer empowered to oversee project execution, monitoring, and coordination within their jurisdiction.

Work allocation among Chief Engineers has been streamlined to ensure timely project delivery and improved inter-departmental coordination. Circles and divisions within the department have also been renamed after major rivers, symbolizing Arunachal Pradesh's deep cultural and geographical connection to its waterways.

The transformation further focuses on strengthening technical capacities across all levels, with a renewed emphasis on providing engineers with exposure to large-scale national and international hydropower projects.

Nagaland sets up panel to review reservation policy

KOHIMA

A new Reservation Review Commission has been formed by the Nagaland government to reassess how tribes in the state are represented in public employment and higher education. The move marks the most significant push in recent years to revisit long-standing rules on quotas and criteria for determining backwardness.

According to the notification issued in Kohima on November 12, the panel will be chaired by retired IAS officer R Ramakrishnan, with senior officials from the Home, Law and Justice, Higher and Technical Education, and Personnel and Administrative Reforms departments serving as members. The Home Department will also provide logistical support, while the Finance Department will handle budget requirements.

The Commission has been granted broad authority, including access to all government records it considers relevant. It may call any official or department to brief it, a power described in the order as necessary for "the discharge of its duties".

Its mandate covers a wide set of tasks: reviewing constitutional and legal provisions on reservations across India, scrutinising economic and educational indicators used for determining eligibility, and assessing the impact of Nagaland's current policy on employment and admissions to technical and professional courses. The panel has also been asked to hold extensive consultations with tribal bodies, student groups, employees' associations and other stakeholders to gauge views on equitable representation. It will propose criteria for identifying tribes eligible for reservation, recommend the overall percentage and internal distribution, and consider the duration for which such benefits should apply. Another key responsibility is examining gaps in implementation and suggesting technology-based improvements to make the system "robust, error free and fool proof".

The Commission has been given six months to submit its report. A separate notification will outline remuneration for the chairperson.

NIA raids Tripura, Meghalaya and three other states, uncover Al-Qaeda links involving illegal Bangladeshi immigrant

GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on November 13 launched a sharp attack on the Congress and opposition leaders, asserting that without the BJP in power, "the entire Assam — starting from Dispur — would have been taken over by the Miya community."

Speaking to reporters, Sarma said, "All must be confident of one thing — the day BJP ceases to be in power, Assam will be taken over by the Miyas. I am predicting this today itself. Those who curse the BJP will one day regret it, because we are standing as the embankment between the Miya and the indigenous people."

The Chief Minister went on to claim that around 40 per



cent of the population is "ferocious" and "aggressive," adding, "They post things fearlessly on Facebook even when the

BJP is in power. Imagine what they will do if Congress returns to power. They will take over everything."

In a provocative statement, Sarma linked the issue to demographic changes and alleged criminal tendencies, saying, "They can molest a woman, cut her into pieces and throw her into water — that is their history. The public must understand this and stand united, or else we won't be able to survive."

Taking a direct swipe at his political rivals, Sarma said, "The three Gogois — Lurinjyoti Gogoi, Akhil Gogoi, and Gaurav Gogoi — are the biggest supporters of the Miya community, not Gogoi supporters."

The Chief Minister's remarks are expected to ignite a fresh political storm in Assam, drawing strong reactions from opposition parties and civil society groups over his communal and polarising statements.

Manipur reports fresh African swine fever outbreak; authorities issue containment orders

IMPHAL

A fresh outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) has been confirmed in Manipur, prompting veterinary authorities to activate rapid containment measures across affected districts.

The Directorate of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Services notified the outbreak on November 13, identifying affected locations in Kakching and Churachandpur districts. The disease was detected at properties belonging to M Barunkumar in Moirangthem Leikai Khamlangba Pareng, M. Ramananda in Kakching Turel Wangma (Ward No. 5), and Khaimuon in Kangvai Village.

African swine fever is a highly contagious viral disease affecting domestic and wild pigs, causing high mortality rates and severe eco-



nomical losses to farmers. However, Director R.K. Khogendrajit Singh emphasised that the disease is not zoonotic and "does not infect

humans and therefore poses no risk to public health".

The department has deployed 60 rapid response teams across all districts to implement control measures in accordance with the National Action Plan for Control, Containment and Eradication of African Swine Fever (2020). The operation involves collaboration with district administration, forest offices, and village and block-level authorities. Under the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Contagious Diseases in Animals Act (2009), African swine fever is classified as a notifiable disease, triggering mandatory containment protocols. A dedicated control room has been established at the State Veterinary Hospital in Sanjenthong, providing daily updates on containment measures at 5.30 pm.

Affected farmers and residents

can contact the Joint Director for Kakching and Thoubal districts on 7085545721, or the Joint Director for Churachandpur district on 9436031052. Necessary logistics for eradication efforts have been distributed to joint directors in the affected districts.

Director Singh issued strict directives prohibiting the movement of pigs, pig feed, or infected materials from designated infected and surveillance zones, which will be formally notified by district authorities. The disposal of pig carcasses or any pig remains in water bodies, roadsides, or fields is also banned.

The director urged residents to "extend full co-operation in control, containment and eradication measures" whilst reiterating that people should "not panic as the disease is not transmissible to humans".

Supreme Court panel seeks Assam govt's reply on waste plant near Kaziranga National Park

GUWAHATI

The Supreme Court's Central Empowered Committee (CEC) has asked the Assam government to submit its response within four weeks on the setting up of a controversial waste management facility near Kaziranga National Park.

The directive follows a petition challenging the construction of a Material Recovery Facility (MRF) and a Faecal Sludge Treatment Plant (FSTP) at Latabari in Bokakhat. Environmentalists fear the project could threaten Kaziranga's delicate ecosystem.

The case was filed by environmental activist Rohit Choudhury, who warned that the site—barely 60 to 70 metres from the Difaloo River—poses serious risks to both the river and the surrounding landscape. The Difaloo, which flows about 42 kilometres through Kaziranga before joining the Brahmaputra, is a key water source for the park's wildlife.

During the hearing, advocate Shibani Ghosh, representing the petitioner, urged the CEC to immediately halt any waste dumping within or near



Kaziranga's eco-sensitive zone and to relocate the Latabari site.

She noted that despite repeated appeals, the state government had failed

to act decisively to protect the park, which shelters the world's largest population of one-horned rhinos.

The Assam government's position

was presented by Special Chief Secretary (Environment & Forests) M.K. Yadava, while Advocate Abha Singh represented the Bokakhat Municipal Board.

A report submitted by the Assam Environment, Forest & Climate Change Department said the proposed site is about 2.3 km from the park and 4 km from the Panbari Animal Corridor. It cautioned that leachate or runoff from the facility could contaminate the Difaloo River.

According to the Assam Pollution Control Board, the Bokakhat Municipal Board had received environmental clearance earlier this year for both the MRF and FSTP. The plants are designed to process 10 kilolitres of faecal sludge per day, with the treated water intended for reuse within the site. The approval included strict conditions to prevent odour, leachate discharge, and water pollution.

However, an inspection conducted on October 25 found the facility non-operational, meaning its environmental performance has yet to be evaluated.

The CEC's directive gives the Assam government four weeks to either defend the project or propose an alternative location. The next hearing will decide whether the waste management facility can remain near Kaziranga or must be shifted away from its sensitive zone.

Nagaland completes scholarship payout to over 41,000 tribal students

KOHIMA

The Directorate of Higher Education in Nagaland has finished distributing scholarships to 41,793 tribal students under the Post-Matric Scholarship scheme for the 2024-25 academic year, with the final phase of payments reaching beneficiaries on 11 November 2025.

The scheme, a welfare initiative by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, supports Scheduled Tribe students from families earning less than Rs 2.5 lakh annually to pursue education from Class XI onwards.

Disbursement occurred in two phases. The first round in June 2025 transferred Rs 3,071.49 lakh to 22,412 students through a one-time full payment. After submitting utilisation certificates to the Centre, the state received approval for the remaining funds. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs sanctioned Rs 2,309.91 lakh as its share on October 28, 2025, which was combined with the state's contribution and credited to the scholarship account on 10 November.

The second phase saw Rs 2,566.57 lakh disbursed to 19,381 remaining beneficiaries the following day, completing payments

for all eligible students.

The directorate has urged students listed in the second phase who have not yet received their scholarships to verify that their Aadhaar is linked to their bank accounts and enabled for Direct Benefit Transfer payments. The complete list of beneficiaries can be accessed at highereducation.nagaland.gov.in.

Operating as a centrally sponsored scheme with a 90:10 funding ratio between the Centre and state, the programme functions entirely through the National Scholarship Portal. Students apply online, with applications verified first by Institution Nodal Officers and then by the state department. Payments are processed through the Aadhaar-Based Payment System.

"The entire process, from application to verification and payment, is seamlessly digital, ensuring transparency, efficiency, and uninterrupted workflow," the directorate stated in its press release.

The state government consistently releases its share promptly upon receiving the central contribution, with scholarships disbursed only after funds arrive from the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

@ NEIR 2026

- We are looking for volunteers across Northeastern India and West Bengal.
- Interested candidates (College students, youths)

CAN REGISTER AT

https://northeastintegrationally.in/Volunteer_Registration.aspx
or send an email: neintegrationally@gmail.com

www.northeastintegrationally.in

Quest!

That moment when you randomly feel depressed for no apparent reason may indicate that you're actually missing someone.

Chandrayaan-3 in Moon's dominant orbit: ISRO



BENGALURU

Researchers from Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on Thursday shared the latest update on the Chandrayaan-3 mission. The ISRO team said the Propulsion Module (PM) of Chandrayaan-3 has entered the Moon Sphere of Influence (MSI), the region around the moon where gravity is at the optimum, which affects all objects around it.

ISRO said the PM entered the MSI on November 4, and at 7.23 UT on November 6, the first lunar flyby event was reported.

This is outside Indian Deep Space Network's (IDSN) visibility range of 3740km from the Moon's surface. The teams added that the second subsequent flyby event was visible from the IDSN on November 11. Here, the closest distance from the Moon's surface

was noted to be 4537km at 23.18 UT. "Chandrayaan-3's PM is expected to exit the Moon's Sphere of Influence on November 14," ISRO scientists said.

The aim of the Chandrayaan-3 mission is to demonstrate safe and soft landing on the Moon's surface, besides Rover roving on the Moon and to conduct in-situ experiments. The satellite was launched on-board the LVM3 from Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, on July 14, 2023. After landing on the Moon on August 23, the PM was operated in its lunar orbit at an altitude of nearly 150km till October 2023. The PM was then relocated to a high-altitude Earth-bound orbit by executing Trans-Earth Injection (TEI) manoeuvres in October 2023.

Since then, the PM has been revolving in this orbit under

the influence of the Earth's and Moon's gravity fields. ISRO researchers explained that the satellite's orbit and inclinations have changed due to the ongoing flyby events around the Moon's orbit. The flyby event trajectory is being closely monitored by the ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC).

Special care is also being taken to monitor its trajectory and close proximities from the Beyond Earth Space Objects, the scientists said. "Overall the satellite's performance is normal during the flyby and no close approach has been experienced with other lunar orbiters. This event garners valuable insights and experience from mission planning, operations, flight dynamics perspectives and has specially enhanced the understanding of disturbance torques effects," the scientists noted.

PM Modi-Nitish good governance blitz: NDA storming Bihar on Rs 66,828 per capita surge, leak-proof welfare

NEW DELHI

As counting of votes unfolded on Friday for the 243-seat Bihar Vidhan Sabha, early trends delivered a resounding endorsement of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), propelled by the seamless implementation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's flagship good governance initiatives through his steadfast partner, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Central to this victory were transformative schemes delivered via the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) architecture, which ensured leak-proof support reached the intended beneficiaries, empowering millions and fostering tangible economic upliftment.

Over 86 lakh farmers in Bihar have received annual assistance of Rs 6,000 each under PM-KISAN Samman Nidhi, while Ayushman Bharat has provided free healthcare coverage up to Rs 5 lakh per family to crores, drastically reducing out-of-pocket medical expenses.

The Jal Jeevan Mission has brought piped water to nearly every rural household, complementing state-level efforts like prohibition and women's safety measures, and Ujjwala Yojana has delivered clean cooking fuel to lakhs of women, liberating them from smoke-filled kitchens.

These programmes, aligned with Nitish Kumar's emphasis on law and order, rural infrastructure, and women's empowerment – evident in schemes providing bicycles, scholarships, and self-help group credit – have collectively reinforced the narrative of "Sushasan", or effective administration, directly touching lives and eroding memories of past misgovernance – often referred as 'Jungle Raj' in crude terms.

This decisive outcome was underpinned by micro-economic gains that voters palpably felt.

According to the Bihar Economic Survey 2024-25, the state's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) in 2023-24 is estimated to have increased by 14.5 per cent at current prices and 9.2 per cent at constant (2011-12) prices, respectively, compared to the previous year. The per capita GSDP in Bihar at current and constant (2011-12) prices is estimated to have increased by 12.8 per cent to Rs



66,828 and by 7.6 per cent to Rs 36,333, respectively, in 2023-24 over the previous year. Similarly, the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Bihar for the year 2023-24 is estimated to be Rs 8,54,429 crore at current prices and Rs 4,64,540 crore at constant (2011-12) prices.

The contribution of the tertiary sector to the Gross State Value Added (GSVA) in Bihar at constant (2011-12) prices is estimated to be 58.6 per cent, followed by 21.5 per cent from the secondary sector and 19.9 per cent from the primary sector, reflecting sustained progress amid national schemes.

Multidimensional poverty declined from over 50 per cent in 2015-16 to around 34 per cent by recent estimates, driven by DBT-enabled welfare and infra-

structure expansion, including rural roads swelling from mere hundreds of kilometres in 2005 to over 1.17 lakh kilometres today.

Record female turnout exceeding 71 per cent highlighted how empowerment initiatives – such as credit linkage for over 2,000 self-help groups totalling Rs 46,900 crore – translated into electoral loyalty. By midday, Election Commission data showed the NDA surging ahead, comfortably exceeding the majority mark of 122 and poised for a tally approaching 200 seats, one of its most commanding mandates in decades.

The Bharatiya Janata Party, at around 2 p.m., led in 91 seats, Janata Dal (United) in 79, Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) in around 22, with smaller

allies adding further strength. In contrast, the Mahagathbandhan languished below 40, the Rashtriya Janata Dal at 27, while Congress faltered with four.

The opposition's limited focus on employment promises and caste enumeration failed to resonate against this backdrop of stability and delivery, even in erstwhile strongholds. Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj registered a negligible impact. For Nitish Kumar, this paves the way for a tenth term as chief minister, cementing his legacy, while bolstering the BJP's stature within the alliance. The verdict affirms Bihar's alignment with the national vision of inclusive growth, promising accelerated development in the pursuit of a Viksit Bharat.

INTERNATIONAL

Disruptions hit Bangladesh after former ruling party calls for lockdown to protest Hasina trial



DHAKA

Classes and transportation in Bangladesh were seriously disrupted Thursday as ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her former ruling Awami League party called for a nationwide "lockdown" in protest against her trial over last year's protests that left hundreds dead.

Hasina faces charges of crimes against humanity involving a crackdown on the student-led uprising that ended her 15-year rule in August 2024. She has been in exile in India since then and has not been seen in public or online.

A special tribunal in Bangladesh's capital, Dhaka, is expected to announce a verdict against Hasina on Monday, chief prosecutor Tajul Islam said during a news conference Thursday.

Hasina's now-banned Awami League party urged its supporters

and others to protest while the government and opposition to Hasina vowed to stop them.

Schools in Dhaka and major cities across Bangladesh switched to online classes and examinations while public transportation was severely disrupted Thursday as the government heightened security across the country.

Dhaka has suffered incidents of vandalism this week as usually clogged streets remained mostly empty Thursday.

A fire bomb was thrown at a government office in Gopalganj district, which is Hasina's ancestral home and a stronghold for her party. An office of Grameen Bank, a small loan institution founded by Bangladesh's current interim leader, Muhammad Yunus, was torched Wednesday in eastern Bangladesh, local media reported.

Yunus, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate along with Grameen Bank, said

in a televised address Thursday that his administration would hold a referendum on a national charter, which was signed last month by political parties, on the day of the next election in February. The date has not yet been announced.

The referendum, Yunus said, would propose a two-tier parliament in line with the "July National Charter" adopted by the interim government that he took over three days after Hasina's fall on Aug. 5, 2024.

Yunus also repeated his pledge to punish Hasina.

Explosions of crude bombs and torched vehicles were reported over the past three days in Dhaka and elsewhere, indicating that political chaos will continue in the country, which has a history of political violence.

Security personnel walk past a bus stop as ousted Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her former ruling Awami League party called for a nationwide "lockdown" in protest against her trial, in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025.

On Wednesday evening, arson was reported on a train and a bus in Dhaka, and crude bombs went off earlier in the day on the Dhaka University campus. On Thursday morning, soldiers along with other security agencies were deployed to guard the premises of the special tribunal, which is overseeing a case involving former Home Minister Asaduzzaman Khan and former Police Chief Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun.

Al-Mamun is an "approver" in the case, meaning he pleaded guilty and became a state witness against Hasina. Al-Mamun was brought to the tribunal with tight security Thursday while Khan is believed to be in India. Both Hasina and Khan are being tried in absentia. The prosecution has not sought any punishment for Al-Mamun.

Hasina was ousted after weeks of violence that left hundreds dead. The interim government pledged parliamentary elections would be held in February, but Hasina's Awami League has launched a campaign, mainly on social media, decrying the election if the party is not allowed to participate. The party says thousands of its supporters have been arrested across the country.

Islam, the chief prosecutor, sought the death penalty for Hasina last month, calling her the "mastermind and principal architect" behind crimes against humanity committed during the uprising.

The Awami League has called the tribunal a "kangaroo court." Hasina has not appointed a lawyer and denounced the appointment of a lawyer by the state to represent her.

Up to 1,400 people may have been killed in the violence, according to a United Nations report in February. The country's health adviser under the interim government said more than 800 people were killed and about 14,000 were injured.

Hasina disputed the figures and demanded an independent investigation. Many Indian outlets published interviews with Hasina in recent weeks, all conducted via email. The interviews apparently irked Bangladesh's current government. Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Wednesday summoned Indian Deputy High Commissioner in Dhaka Pawan Badhe to formally convey its concerns over India allowing "fugitive" Hasina to interact with mainstream Indian media.

Hasina in her interviews accused Yunus of backing Islamists and violating human and political rights, especially of supporters of her banned party. Hasina's son, Sajeeb Wazed, told The Associated Press on Wednesday that only an inclusive election could stabilize the country.

Rubio says Delhi blast 'clearly a terrorist attack,' praises India's 'measured' response



NEW DELHI

The United States has termed the deadly car explosion near Delhi's Red Fort "clearly a terrorist attack" and lauded India for its measured and professional handling of the ongoing investigation.

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio praised New Delhi's response, saying Indian authorities have acted responsibly in the face of tragedy. Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of the G7 foreign ministers' meeting in Canada, Rubio said, "The Indians need to be commended. They've been very measured, cautious, and very professional in how they're carrying out this investigation. It clearly was a terrorist attack, a car loaded with highly explosive materials that detonated and killed a lot of people."

Rubio said that the United States had offered to assist Indian authorities in their

probe but noted that India was managing the investigation effectively. "We've offered to help, but I think they're very capable in these investigations. They don't need our help, and they're doing a good job," he said. Rubio also held a meeting with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on the sidelines of the G7 summit, where both leaders discussed the explosion and reviewed broader bilateral and regional issues. "Appreciate his condolences on the loss of lives in the blast in Delhi," Jaishankar wrote on X. "We discussed our bilateral ties, focusing on trade and supply chains, and exchanged views on Ukraine, the Middle East, and the Indo-Pacific."

When asked whether the Delhi explosion could further strain India-Pakistan relations, Rubio said Washington was "aware of the potential that holds" but stressed that

India's response had been "measured and commendable."

Following a suicide bombing in Islamabad earlier this week that killed at least 12 people, Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif blamed "terrorist proxies backed by India" for the attack. New Delhi dismissed the claim as "baseless, unfounded, and a predictable tactic" by Pakistan's leadership to divert domestic attention from its internal political crisis through such "desperate diversionary ploys."

In a statement of solidarity, the US Embassy in New Delhi had also expressed condolences. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of those who were lost in the terrible explosion in New Delhi," US Ambassador Sergio Gora said on November 11. "We wish a swift recovery to those who were injured."

The Betrayal of the Healing Hand: How Radicalisation Is Rewriting India's Terror Landscape

When the people entrusted with saving lives are found conspiring to destroy them, society encounters a threat far deeper than the immediate violence of terrorism. It confronts the collapse of trust - an erosion of the moral architecture that holds communities together. The case of Dr Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed, a Hyderabad-based medical professional accused of links with the ISIS Khorasan Province (ISKP) and the Lal Kila Metro blast conspiracy, embodies this troubling shift. His story represents a new and unsettling frontier of extremism: the infiltration of terror ideology into the lives of educated, economically stable, seemingly integrated citizens.

This transformation - from healer to alleged perpetrator - is not just a law-and-order issue. It is a crisis of social confidence, symbolic of a broader change in how terror networks operate, recruit, and hide in plain sight.

A Doctor by Profession, A Radical by Allegiance?
For years, Dr Saiyed maintained the façade of a humble professional, even running a shawarma business as a cover. Beneath this veneer, investigators allege, he was deeply embedded within an ISKP-linked module. His activities reportedly ranged from encrypted communications on Telegram to the procurement of weapons through covert "dead-drop" arrangements in Gujarat. According to the charges, his operations were neither impulsive nor isolated - they were part of a structured design linked to extremist ideology behind the Lal Kila Metro blast.

The blast itself, though causing limited physical damage, carried significant symbolic weight. The Red Fort is more than a monument - it represents India's democratic heritage and plural identity. Striking at its periphery is an attempt to erode collective confidence, to destabilise the symbolic core of the nation.

That a medical professional, trained for years to uphold life and ethical integrity, is alleged to have participated in such a network reveals the shifting contours of radicalisation in India.

The Rise of the Educated Extremist
For decades, the archetype of a terrorist in popular imagination has been the disenfranchised, uneducated youth susceptible to easy manipulation. That stereotype no longer holds.

Data from India's National Investigation Agency (NIA) paints a stark picture:
Over 70 ISIS-inspired cases registered since 2014

More than 350 individuals arrested across 17 states

Many recruits drawn from middle-class, highly educated backgrounds

A significant number from professions such as medicine, engineering, IT, and biotechnology

More than 50% radicalised through online propaganda

Propaganda organs like Amaq News, Al-Hayat Media Centre, and associated jihadist digital networks have bypassed traditional physical recruitment channels. Radicalisation today is a solitary, often invisible journey - incubated in isolated digital echo chambers, framed as "intellectual resistance," and cloaked by the anonymity of the internet.

This shift marks perhaps the most dangerous evolution of terror networks: the emergence of the invisible urban extremist - integrated into professional life, familiar with technology, trained to operate without raising suspicion.

The Psychological Seduction of Radical Ideology
At the core of this transformation lies a profound psychological breakdown. How does an individual trained in the ethics of healing embrace violence?

Security experts and psychologists studying radicalisation point to several factors:

Identity crises and ideological confusion, especially among urban youth

Digital indoctrination that presents violence as a moral imperative

Manipulation by online handlers, who exploit grievances - real or perceived

Alienation from traditional community structures, replaced by virtual brotherhoods

Moral displacement, where extremist narratives position violence as "defence" of a cause

In Dr Saiyed's case, investigators suggest a meticulous grooming process - one that slowly detached him from professional ethics and lured him toward ideological extremism.

This is not a failure of intelligence agencies alone. It is a societal warning: radicalisation now operates in domains once considered secure - universities, workplaces, clinics, and digital communities hidden behind professional respectability.

India's Counterterrorism Response: Precision Without Prejudice

Despite the evolving nature of the threat, India's counterterrorism architecture has demonstrated both strength and restraint.

Coordinated efforts involving:

Multi-Agency Centre (MAC)

NATGRID

State ATS units

The National Investigation Agency (NIA)

have dismantled several ISIS-inspired modules across India. The results speak for themselves:

Terror incidents in Jammu & Kashmir have reduced by 45% since 2018

Insurgency in the Northeast has dropped by nearly 70% over the past decade

But beyond operational achievements, what distinguishes India's approach is its commitment to constitutional principles. Radical ideology is isolated and dismantled; entire communities are not demonised.

Globally too, data from the UN Office on Counter-Terrorism shows:

Over 70% of global terror attacks since 2001 are linked to Islamist-inspired groups

Over 80% of victims of

terrorism are Muslims themselves

This distinction is critical. India's counterterrorism success depends on the ability to target networks without stigmatising identities - a balance that prevents alienation and protects national unity.

Deradicalisation: Healing the Mind Before It Breaks

The arrest of professionals like Dr Saiyed underscores the necessity of a dual-pronged approach: disrupt networks and restore individuals.

States like:

Telangana

Kerala

Maharashtra

have initiated deradicalisation programmes that combine psychological counselling, vocational rehabilitation, family engagement, and community monitoring. These are not headline-grabbing operations, but they play a profound role in preventing vulnerable youth from sliding into extremism.

Such programmes recognise a fundamental truth: terrorism is not only a security issue - it is a human issue. And restoring dignity, purpose, and community can be as effective as intelligence operations in preventing radicalisation.

The Role of Media: Responsibility in the Age of Noise

Terror networks thrive on spectacle. Every sensational headline, every inflammatory debate, every generalisation in public discourse becomes a recruitment tool. In the digital era, misinformation and polarisation can do more damage than a detonated device.

Responsible journalism, therefore, becomes a frontline defence. The reporting of cases like Saiyed's - separating individual guilt from community identity, presenting facts without hysteria, avoiding linguistic shortcuts that demonise populations - is essential.

This clarity strengthens social cohesion and denies extremists the narrative victories they desperately seek.

The Digital Battlefield: Radicalisation Without Borders

The modern extremist is no longer forged in camps or militant hideouts. He is trained in the anonymity of apps, groomed by handlers continents away, convinced through manipulated videos and encrypted messages.

India's vulnerability lies in: increasingly digitalised youth populations

the ease of access to extremist propaganda

private communication channels like Telegram, WhatsApp, and Dark Web forums

gaps in digital literacy, which make individuals susceptible to misinformation and ideological manipulation

The case of Dr Saiyed exemplifies how terror networks no longer need to physically infiltrate Indian cities - they only need to infiltrate screens.

This demands a national investment in digital literacy, community awareness programmes, and psychosocial support systems that reach individuals before radical ideology does.

Terrorism as an Assault on Trust
Beyond property damage or loss of life, terrorism aims to fracture something more fundamental: trust.

Trust in public spaces

Trust in institutions

Trust in communities

Trust in one another

When a doctor - a symbol of safety, care, and compassion - is implicated in terror, the rupture is profound. It tells society that danger might arise from the most unexpected quarters, that trust can no longer be assumed but must be guarded.

Yet India's societal responses - calmness, communal harmony, refusal to generalise guilt - repeatedly thwart the psychological objectives of terrorism.

Silence, moderation, and unity become a kind of national armour.

The Moral Battlefield: Strength Rooted in Conscience

India's fight against terror has always differed from the global template in one distinct way: it blends firmness with moral clarity. It refuses to let fear dictate prejudice, or let anger compromise institutions.



these attacks are Muslims themselves

The case of Dr Saiyed, and the plot surrounding the Lal Kila Metro blast, invite deeper reflection:

How do we secure the nation without damaging its plural fabric?

How do we confront ideological violence without succumbing to ideological extremism ourselves?

How do we remain vigilant without becoming suspicious of neighbours, colleagues, or communities?

The answer lies in a uniquely Indian virtue: civilisational patience - a combination of resilience, ethical consistency, and refusal to be provoked into hatred.

Conclusion: A Nation Tested, A Nation Unshaken

Terrorism seeks to break nations not by bombs but by breeding suspicion, fear, and fragmentation. Each time India resists these impulses, it defeats terrorism's deeper purpose.

The arrest of Dr Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed is a reminder of the evolving landscape of extremism - one that hides behind degrees, digital anonymity, and professional respectability. But it is also a reminder of India's strength: a society that refuses to generalise, refuses to hate, and refuses to abandon its moral core.

The bomb makes noise. The investigation makes headlines. But the quiet resilience of Indian society - its refusal to fracture - echoes far longer.

In an era of lone-wolf attacks, cyber radicalisation, and professional complicity, India demonstrates that vigilance coupled with conscience remains its most powerful defence.

Terror may aspire to shake the foundations of the nation.

But the soul of Bharat - anchored in patience, pluralism, and moral clarity - remains unshaken.

SPACE FOR YOU ONLY

Rs. 150/- per day

PLACEMENT

Fresher, job seekers can register with KRC Placements. Send resume to - 5eforsuccess@gmail.com To source candidates, organisation can contact KRC Placements at info@krctimes.com For Details Visit: https://bit.ly/krctimesplacements Apply here: https://bit.ly/KRCPlacementForm

VOLUNTEERS REGISTERS @ NEIR 2026

We are looking for volunteers across NE & West Bengal Interested candidates (College students, youths) can register at https://northeastintegrationrally.in/Volunteer_Registration.aspx, send an email: neintegrationrally@gmail.com

BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Business establishments, educational institutions, individual service providers etc. can enlist themselves or advertise their products or services at the most reasonable cost in InfoCom Diary. Send your details to InfoCom Solutions at: info@krctimes.com Submit Here: https://bit.ly/InfoComDiaryForm

STUDENTS' INTERNSHIP

Students can apply for a three-months internship with KRC Foundation. During the internship the student can get an opportunity to work on a live project. On successful completion the student is awarded a certificate. Apply to 5E for Success: 5eforsuccess@gmail.com For Details Visit: https://bit.ly/krctimesinternship or www.krctimes.com/products-services/training-development-5e-for-success/internship

NE INDIA WRITING STAR CONTEST

Participate in NE India Writing Star Contest and get your writings published. Eligibility: From Class VI onwards. Each participant receives a digital participation certificate. Send articles at: info@krctimes.com For Details Visit: https://bit.ly/NEIndiaWritingStarContest www.krctimes.com/campaigns-csr/ne-india-writing-star-contest

CONNECT@ KRC TIMES



KRC TIMES

To engage with KRC TIMES, please use the following e-mails and WhatsApp Nos: For News: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313 For Advertisement: info@krctimes.com / WP: 9330830083 For Subscription: krctimes@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313 Editor: biswadeep.gupta@gmail.com / WP: 8721838313

Registrations OPEN

Whatsapp only +91 933 083 0083

www.northeastintegrationrally.in



One focussed year can change your entire bloodline

Globally too, data from the UN Office on Counter-Terrorism shows: Over 70% of global terror attacks since 2001 are linked to Islamist-inspired groups Over 80% of victims of terrorism are Muslims themselves

Rajarshi Ray: From Engineering Precision to Spiritual Pursuit



After more than two decades of a successful engineering career across India and North America, Rajarshi Ray has now turned his attention inward—to rediscover peace, purpose, and spiritual balance in his motherland.

A 1995 graduate in Mechanical Engineering, Rajarshi began his professional journey with Larsen & Toubro Ltd, joining as a Graduate Engineer Trainee. Over the next 9 year, he worked in various core engineering projects.

In 2004, he moved to Canada and joined Accenture Inc. After working in various IT projects in senior positions, Rajarshi decided to take voluntary early re-

tirement in 2020.

“I wanted to explore other dimensions of life—beyond machines, targets, and performance metrics,” he says.

“The spiritual journey is about balance, reflection, and discovering love and harmony within.”

Rajarshi is currently practicing Krishna consciousness and associated with ISKCON and travelling the world.

Recently, Rajarshi extended his full support to an upcoming rally aimed at fostering unity and social awareness. Calling it “a truly commendable initiative,” he noted that the event will bring together at least 200 communities for discussions on education, disaster management, employment, climate change,

and road safety. The programme will also feature cultural events and art competitions.

He commended Biswadeep Gupta for leading the initiative and urged people from all walks of life to participate.

“It’s a beautiful effort to connect people, spread awareness, and celebrate shared humanity,” Ray said, adding that such movements remind us of the deeper purpose of progress—compassion and community.

From engineering to spirituality Rajarshi Ray’s journey reflects a quiet but powerful transition—from building systems that sustain industries to nurturing the values that sustain life itself.

Art Competition to Promote NEIR 2026 at Haflong on Nov 23

North East Integration Rally
Peace | Progress | Prosperity
2026

HELP SOCIETY

Art Competition to Promote NEIR 2026 at Haflong on Nov 23 (Sun)

No Entry Fee

Limited Seat
Register your Name
with Puja Munda,
Cultural Secretary,
Help Society

Contact- 8812071842

This is part of Climate Change & Green Deeds Campaigns of NEIR 2026

CLIMATE CHANGE AND GREEN DEEDS

KRC TIMES NEWS DESK

HAFLONG:

As part of the promotional activities for the upcoming North East Integration Rally (NEIR) 2026, an art competition will be organised to engage young students in creative awareness on themes of climate change and green deeds on November 23.

The initiative, led by HELP Society in collaboration with the NEIR organising committee, aims to involve students from Classes 6 to 10 across various schools of Haflong and adjoining areas, encouraging them to express their ideas about environmental responsibility and regional harmony through art.

The North East Integration Rally 2026, conceptualised by the Knowledge Resource Centre (KRC) Foundation, is set to take place from January 4 to February 4, 2026,

covering multiple states across the North East and Bhutan. The rally will focus on promoting the region’s strengths in infrastructure, tourism, MSME, art and culture, adventure sports, and climate action under the theme “Discipline, Not Speed.”

NEIR 2026 will also feature a series of state-level events including business summits, cultural programs, film and art festivals, and youth engagement activities.

Through the art competition, organisers hope to spark young imaginations and strengthen the message of unity, sustainability, and integration across the North East. This is part of Climate Change & Green Deeds Campaigns of NEIR 2026.

Interested ones can contact Puja Munda, cultural secretary of the society, for further details at 88120 71842.



BARAK FESTIVAL

JANUARY 10-12, 2025

ACTIVITY PROGRAM





10 JAN
NE Cultural Fest
 Any Form of Art and Cultural showcase can be showcased here.
 The Top performances will be invited to perform in the Main Event.
 Schools, Colleges, University Department, Individual & Group Competition.



11 JAN
Adventure Sports
 Trekking & Canoe, Obstacle Navigation, Sport Climbing, Disaster Management Technique, Water Sports.
www.krcfoundation.org



11 JAN
Barak Valley Conclave
 Potential, Issues and Challenges of Barak Valley by different youth organizations.
 Includes: MOCA, and D-governance as a platform for development, awareness, awareness, awareness, and awareness through participation through involvement of different youths and organizations.



12 JAN
River-Climate Conclave
 Climate Change will influence on Climate Change, climate and river. The Conclave will focus on the importance, technical and protection of River Barak. Training & Geography competitive and certification. River Barak, Climate Change.



JAN'25
Online Global Fest
 All can participate online and send a video clip on Poems, Songs, and Dance. Present in Assamese, Bengali, English, Hindi & Manipuri. Last Date: 31st December 2024.



10 JAN
Media Conclave
 Media Conclave: Media Conclave, Workshops, and the Fund, Talks and Conferences are part of the 'Barak Festival 2025'. Theme: 'One for All, All for One'.
 Media Conclave: Workshops, seminars, masterclasses, corporate HR, entrepreneurs, guides, speakers, members.

Barak Festival

Adventure Sports, Art & Culture Promotion



BROADCAST PARTNER



REGISTER HERE

CONTACT:
 WP: 0721300019
info@krcfoundation.org



BARAK FESTIVAL 2025
 PAINTING CARNIVAL
 NE CULTURAL FEST
 E-SPORTS
 FILM FESTIVAL | EXHIBITION
 BOOK CLUB | WORKSHOPS | SEMINAR | MASTERCLASS | CONFERENCE

10-12 JAN
Science Studio
 Real a glimpse of Science to its new heights. Class VI-XI | Teachers | Seniors, Administrators | Parents.
Raw science out of textbooks into real-life experiences of students.

DEC'24-JAN'25
Photography
 Online Photography Contest: River Barak | NE India | Art & Culture of NE | NE Culture.
 Real-Time Photography Contest of 'Barak Festival 2025'.

Barak Festival

Band Night | 10 JAN
 Musical Night | 11 JAN



CONTACT:
 WP: 0721300019
info@krcfoundation.org

10-12 JAN
E-Sports
 Full-Blown Demos | CASH PRIZES | Trophy



11 JAN
film festival
 Award-Giving Ceremony | Film from Manipur. Short Films from Barak Valley, NE India, W's. Media Talk | Exhibitions | Meet & Greet.



5E SUCCESS
STUDENT INTERNSHIP
 Discover valuable experience and learn more about the industry.

- Outreach Executive
- Event Management
- Programme Coordinator

APPLY NOW | WP: 0721300019 | www.krcfoundation.org

10-12 JAN
Book Bank
 #NoOneLeftBehind Campaign | Book Bank | Donate | Reuse | Recycle

Book Club
 Meet Authors, Publishers, Read & Discuss, Buy and Sell Books

Painting Carnival
 Water Colour painting and Draw-Paint Campaign