



Two visionary surgeons, Dr. Sumita Shankar, a plastic and reconstructive surgeon and Dr Kruthi Nanduri, an oral and maxillofacial surgeon have coinvented a groundbreaking medical device that could significantly benefit patients suffering from filarial lymphedema.

Grooving to the melodies at New Orleans' iconic music venues

New Orleans beats to the rhythms of its own soul and is often called the birthplace of Jazz. Iconic venues preserve the fascinating legends and history that shaped the city's musical identity, bringing music lovers from all over the world to engage in its melodies.

Wars begin in the mind, so does peace

Looking at the situation of the world that we live in today, one factor that can be considered as the biggest cause of our downfall from an exalted stage of a divine being, is violence in all its forms. YES, it is violence that makes hell of heaven. In other words, paradise is lost when violence.

Samantha opens up about success, detachment

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu, once one of the busiest and most sought-after stars in Tollywood, has taken a step back from the constant hustle of cinema. The actress, who was once in demand with back-toback films and a packed calendar. P10

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**WINDOWS** 

### **National legislative** index to rank state legislatures

BENGALURU: Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Saturday mooted setting up a national legislative index to rank assemblies and councils on the basis of their performance. He said their performance could be assessed based on several parameters such as the number of sittings held every year, the productivity of the House, the quality of debates, the adoption of technology and the efficacy of various committees.

"We will take a view on the national legislative index at the meeting of presiding officers in Lucknow in January next year," Birla told reporters on the sidelines of the 11th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association-India Region Conference that concluded here. Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta has been tasked to prepare a proposal on the national legislative index, which will be discussed extensively at the All-India Presiding Officers Conference in Lucknow.

Addressing the valedictory session of the CPA-India Region Conference, Birla asked all legislatures to establish standards to ensure the quality of their proceedings and debates. Karnataka Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot also voiced concern over repeated disruptions in House proceedings and asserted that debate and discussion were the soul of any legislature.

Expressing concern about "planned deadlock" in the House, Birla underscored the need for comprehensive dialogue among all political parties and elected representatives. He said that rather than halting the proceedings of legislatures based on ideological or political differences lawmakers must resolve to keep the House functioning. India's democracy and its vibrant Constitution were a guiding light for the world in the current global context, Birla said.

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Revolutions don't happen I'd choose a Rajya Sabha nomination over the PM's post

# NE is India's growth engine: PM

The Prime Minister said that the Northeast was earlier called a frontier state, now the region has become a front runner

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday that the Northeast region is a growth engine of India and it progressed a lot during the past 11 years. Inaugurating the ambi-

tious 51.38-km Bairabi-Sairang railway project, flagging off three new connecting trains Aizawl with Delhi, Kolkata and Guwahati and laying the foundation stone inaugurating

multiple development projects worth over Rs 9,000 crore, the Prime Minister said that the Northeast was earlier called a frontier state, now the region has become a front runner.

He said that through the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project Mizoram and other Northeastern states of India would be connected with the Bay of Bengal.

Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project is a joint India-Myanmar initiative to create a multi-modal transport corridor connecting India's eastern ports to

India's Northeast through Myanmar, utilising waterways

and roads to bypass the Siliguri Corridor. The Prime Minister said: "After the Kaladan Multimodal Transit Transport Project becomes operational, trade and tourism would be boosted a lot in the Northeast region. All these

ected with the Bay

East Policy. He said that earlier the political parties were doing vote bank politics in Northeast and due to this attitude the entire region suffered greatly.

plans are part of India's Act

"Our attitude, plans and vision are different. We want

peace and development of the region. Rail, road, air, waterway connectivities were developed a lot in the region and these would be further developed in the coming days," the Prime Minister said.

Referring to the GST reforms, he said that taxes were lowered substantially in many products making life easier for common peo-

During 'Operation Sindoor', India's armed forces taught lessons to terrorists and the entire world witnessed the power of the country's armed forces and 'Made in India' weapons to help protect the country, the Prime Minister pointed out.

## Want to make Manipur symbol of peace & prosperity, says Modi

People have chosen the path of peace and given priority to development: PM

CHURACHANDPUR: Urging various outfits to shun violence, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday asserted that his government stood firmly with the people of Manipur and was working towards the goal of making the strife-torn state a symbol of peace and prosperity.

Addressing a public meeting in Kuki-dominated Churachandpur district during his first visit to the state after ethnic violence broke out in May 2023, Modi hailed

Manipur as the land of hope and aspiration, and said that "unfortunately, violence had cast its shadow on this beautiful region". "A short while ago, I met the affected people at a relief camp.

After meeting them, I can say with confidence that a new dawn of hope and trust is rising in Manipur," he said. "For development to take root anywhere, peace is essential. In the last 11 years, many conflicts and disputes

in the Northeast have been resolved. People have chosen the path of peace and given priority to development," he added. The PM, who faced sharp criticisms from the opposition for not visiting the state despite the prolonged ethnic violence, underlined that the Centre's efforts were already yielding results.

"We have seen that recently in the Hills and the Valley... negotiations have taken place for agreements with different groups.

### **PM interacts with IDP Kukis, Meiteis**

CHANDPUR: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday interacted with a section of the people belonging to the two warring communities, Kuki and Meitei, who were displaced due to the ethnic violence in Manipur, officials said. Modi

listened to the concerns of displaced persons (IDPs) at the historic Kangla Fort them of the Centre's commitment to restore peace and normalcy in the state,



## Over 6-cr Income Tax returns filed so far

New Delhi

MORE than six crore income tax returns for Assessment Year 2025-26 have been filed so far, the Income Tax department said on Saturday. The last date to file ITRs without penalty is September 15.

Thank you taxpayers & tax professionals for helping us reach the milestone of 6 crore Income Tax Returns (ITRs) as of now and still counting," the I-T department said in a post on X. To assist taxpayers for ITR filing, tax payment and other related services, our helpdesk is functioning on a 24x7 basis, and the department is providing support through calls, live chats, WebEx sessions & Twitter/X, it added.

It also asked taxpayers who haven't filed ITR for AY 2025-26 to file at the earliest to avoid a lastminute rush. The Income Tax department in May announced an extension of the due date for filing ITRs for Assessment Year (AY) 2025-26 (for income earned in financial year 2024-25) by individuals. HUFs and entities who do

not have to get their accounts audited from July 31 to September 15. The extension was on

ccount of "structural and

The Income

Tax dept asked taxpayers who haven't filed ITR for AY 2025-26 to file at the earliest to avoid a lastminute rush

content revisions" in the income tax return (ITR) forms, which was notified in late April and early May. The changes made in the ITR form for AY 2025-26 also need modifications to be made in ITR filing utilities and the back-end system. ITR filings have shown consistent growth over the years, reflecting rising compliance and the widening of the tax base.

For AY 2024-25, a record 7.28 crore ITRs were filed up to July 31, 2024, compared to 6.77 crore in AY 2023-24, registering a 7.5 per cent year-on-year

### 3-hour pit stop is not compassion: Cong targets Modi's Manipur visit NEW DELHI: Terming Prime Minister Narendra -- it's farce, tokenism, and grand welcome ceremony for himself and claimed

Modi's visit to Manipur a "pit stop", the Congress on Saturday alleged that the trip is "tokenism" and a "grave insult" to the people of the state.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge accused Modi of organisin that it "is a cruel prick" to the wounds of those still suffering. "In the words of your own... Where is your Rajdharma?" Kharge asked on X just before Modi's Manipur visit. "Narendra Modi ji, your 3-hour pit stop in

a grave insult to wounded people. Your so-called roadshow in Imphal and Churachandpur today, is nothing

but a cowardly escape from hearing the cries of people in relief camps!" the Congress chief said in his

IMPHAL/CHURA-

the families of internally complex in Imphal and Peace Ground in Churachandpur, and assured they said.

## UP's Shahjahanpur tense over Fb posts; 2 held

woman was arrested here on Saturday for her alleged indecent posts on Facebook about Hindu deities, while a few people have been booked for propagating those social media posts, police said here.

This came a day after police arrested a 45-year-old man for his objectionable social media posts against Prophet Muhammad and the Quran that triggered a protest in Shahjahanpur district of Uttar Pradesh on Saturday.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Rajesh Dwivedi said the woman who made indecent posts on Facebook about Hindu deities has also been arrested and sent to jail.

At the same time, the police have registered an FIR against two named and a few other unnamed people for propagating the woman's Facebook post, the SP said.

A large number of police



personnel have been deployed across the city, and a flag march was held to maintain law and order.

The Eidgah committee here demanded that the accused arrested for his objectionable social media posts against Prophet Muhammad and the Quran be booked under the stringent National Security Act, while pointing out that the comments have deeply

hurt the community. The chairman of the committee, Rahat Ali Khan, and secretary Qasim Raja handed over the memorandum addressed to the President of India to SP Dwivedi.

The memorandum stated that the person crossed all limits by posting an objectionable post on social media, making the city's Muslim community enraged.

Demanding that action against the accused be taken under the National Security Act, the committee alleged that there is a big conspiracy behind the post, and other people involved should be identified and action initiated against them

"Apart from this, those who are doing fake journalism on Facebook should be investigated, and action should be taken by running a campaign against the fake journalists," the memorandum stated.

"Our social media monitoring team spotted the post, after which the police arrested the accused," Dwivedi said and appealed to people not to post, like and share anything against any religion on social media. (PTI)

### Row over hidden cameras in Rajasthan **Assembly**

JAIPUR: Political turmoil has deepened in Rajasthan after State Congress President Govind Singh Dotasra made several allegations against Assembly Speaker Vasudev Devnani over the issue of hidden cameras in the Assembly, alleging the Speaker wants to spy on

women legislators. Dotasra alleged that two additional cameras were secretly installed in the House and claimed the Speaker was misusing them to focus particularly on women legislators.

"The Speaker wants to see what women are wearing, in what condition they are sitting, and what they are talking about.

His focus is more on women.

A person who has no shame should die by drowning himself," the State Congress President told reporters after a party

## Karki is shining example of women empowerment: Modi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday congratulated Nepal's interim PM Sushila Karki on assuming office, calling her appointment "a shining example of women empowerment". Addressing a rally in Manipur capital Imphal, Modi said India and Nepal have been close friends bound by shared history, faith and cultural ties, and New Delhi stood firmly with the people of the neighbouring country during its transitional phase. "I want to congratulate Karki on behalf of 140 crore Indians. I am confident that she will pave the way for peace, stability, and prosperity in Nepal," the

Former Chief Justice Sushila Karki on Friday night became Nepal's first woman prime minister to lead an interim government.

PM said.

"Karki occupying the top post of that country is an example of women's empowerment," Modi asserted.

Her appointment ended days of political uncertainty after the K P Sharma Oli dispensation was forced to quit in the face of a nationwide agitation triggered by a social media ban.

Karki was chosen to lead the interim government after a meeting between President Paudel, Nepal's top military brass, and the youth protesters, who spearheaded the agitation.

The PM also lauded the resilience of the Nepali people, noting how citizens,



## **UN congratulates** new Nepal PM Sushila Karki

KATHMANDU: The United Nations on Saturday sent a congratulatory message to Nepal's newly-elected prime minister Sushila Karki who has been appointed to lead an interim government following a week of violent antigovernment protests. Hanna Singer-Hamdy, UN Resident Coordinator in Nepal, said, "At this pivotal moment, the United Nations stands alongside the people of Nepal in their aspirations for peace, justice, transparency, accountability and progress." She also recognised the contributions of the president, the chief of army staff and 'Gen Z' youth leaders, noting that their efforts "helped make this transition possible". Karki was chosen to lead the interim government after a meeting between President Ram Chandra Paudel, Nepal's top military brass, and representatives of youth protesters. President Paudel administered the oath of office to former chief justice Karki, 73, on Friday three days after Oli resigned from the prime minister's post following the worst unrest that the Himalayan nation has witnessed in decades. Oli quit on Tuesday shortly after hundreds of agitators entered his office demanding his resignation for the death of at least 19 people in police action during Monday's protests.

especially young men and women, were taking part in cleaning and painting buildings in the past few days, amid political turbulence.

"I also want to congratulate the people of Nepal who, despite such turbulent times, have kept democratic values supreme," Modi said, draw-

ing applause from the gath-Emphasising India's soli-

darity, the PM said both nations were "moving forward together", and reiterated New Delhi's commitment to support Nepal's democratic journey and its aspiration for stability.

## Delhi CM restores promotion of 100 electricity dept employees

ACCUSING previous governments of neglecting Delhi for 27 years, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Saturday approved promotion and other benefits for 100 employees of the Electricity Department and reiterated her commitment to transparent administration. Addressing the electricity department employees at the Delhi Secretariat, CM Gupta said: "The government is committed to put the city back on the road to development, ending 27 years of neglect and mismanagement."

"With this commitment, we are forging new tra-



ditions of transparency, honesty, and good govern-

"This is truly a moment of joy and satisfaction that the long struggle of the employees has yielded a happy outcome today. The promotion and time-

for restoring long-pending promotions. Informing residents about the other development works in the constituency, she said, "New street lights are being installed in the area, while across the entire Delhi, more than 44,000 new lights will be installed to further strengthen lighting and se-

bound promotion benefits received by more than

100 employees are not just an administrative deci-

sion but a restoration of justice," CM Rekha Gupta

said in a message on X. During the meeting with the

Chief Minister, employees of the Electricity Depart-

ment expressed their gratitude to the government

curity." (IANS)