

# AAP alleges political vendetta, accuses Centre of misusing ED, CBI

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PURNA SINGH  
NEW DELHI

THE Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Tuesday intensified its attack on the Centre, alleging that investigative agencies are being used to

target opposition leaders, party workers and even their family members as part of a broader campaign of political persecution.

Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh cited the recent action involving AAP's Goa co-

incharge Deepak Singla and his relatives as an example of what he termed political vendetta. Singh claimed the case dates back to 2014 and that investigations had already been completed, with a chargesheet filed. Despite



this, he alleged that enforcement action, including raids and arrests, was continuing even as the legal process neared completion.

According to Singh, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted searches not only at premises linked to Deepak Singla but also

at locations connected to his brother Raman Singla, other family members and individuals associated with the party.

He questioned the timing and extent of the operation, alleging it was intended to exert pressure on people linked to AAP.

The AAP leader accused the BJP-led government of repeatedly deploying agencies such as the ED and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) against political opponents. He alleged that investigative mechanisms were being used to intimidate opposition leaders and

weaken parties challenging the ruling establishment.

Singh referred to previous cases involving senior AAP leaders, including Arvind Kejriwal, Manish Sisodia and Satyendar Jain, claiming they too had faced agency action under similar circumstances. He further alleged that the government appeared more focused on confronting political rivals than addressing several national and international concerns.

Despite what he described as sustained pressure, Singh asserted that AAP would continue its political activi-

ties and would not be intimidated by investigations or enforcement measures. He said the party would keep raising public issues and politically challenge the government.

The Rajya Sabha MP also expressed concern over political defections, alleging that pressure from investigative agencies was contributing to opposition leaders switching sides and joining the BJP. Such developments, he argued, raised serious questions about democratic institutions and the role of investigative agencies in political contests.

## Road rage case

# Court convicts auto driver of attempt to kill Delhi cop

**The prosecution said the accused abused the complainant during the argument. When Mohan Lal began photographing the auto-rickshaw, the accused allegedly retaliated by driving the vehicle over him and dragging him for about 20-25 metres**

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI

A Delhi court has convicted an auto-rickshaw driver of attempted murder for allegedly running over a police officer and dragging him for 20-25 metres following a road rage altercation in south Delhi last year.

Additional Sessions Judge Purshotam Pathak was hearing the case against Prem Pal, who was accused in a case registered under IPC Section 307 (attempt to murder) and said that the CCTV footage clearly showed him deliberately driving his auto into the victim after a heated

exchange.

In an order dated June 8, the court said, "The incident which had taken place was not instantaneous and sudden but deliberate with a defined motive. Accused/Driver's intents to kill the complainant is established from his conduct of running over the victim with Auto after arguments."

According to the prosecution, the incident took place on June 10, 2024, near a school in Dakshinpuri when complainant Mohan Lal, a Delhi Police sub-inspector, objected to the accused reversing his auto-rickshaw negligently.



The prosecution said the accused abused the complainant during the argument. When Mohan Lal began photographing the auto-rickshaw, the accu-

sed allegedly retaliated by driving the vehicle towards him, running over him and dragging him for about 20-25 metres.

The complainant suffered

injuries to his leg and back and was taken to AIIMS Trauma Centre. Medical records showed abrasions and a facial fracture, with the injuries opined to be grievous.

The defence claimed the complainant was intoxicated and had blocked the auto-rickshaw's path. It argued that the victim was injured after suddenly coming in front of the vehicle and that there was no intention to kill.

Rejecting the contention, the court said the CCTV footage was the most crucial piece of evidence and corroborated the complainant's version.

# Double-decker tourist bus crosses 1,500 riders mark

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NEW DELHI

DELHI'S electric double-decker tourist bus has carried over 1,500 passengers since its launch, with the tourism department reducing ticket prices for the summer season to attract more visitors.

Within the first month of operations, the service had drawn around 800 passengers, crossing the mark of 1,200 passengers within three months of its launch.

According to the latest data, a total of 1,540 passengers had travelled on the bus till June 12, indicating growing interest among tourists, an official said.

Encouraging more visitors during the summer season, the tourism department has reduced ticket prices from Rs 500 to Rs 300 for adults and from Rs 300 to Rs 200 for children. Officials said the response to the offer has been encouraging, particularly on



weekends, which continue to account for a significant share of the ridership, he told PTI.

According to official data, passenger numbers have increased steadily since the launch. The service recorded 12 passengers in February after commencing operations on February 28, followed by 432 in March, 372 in April, 424 in May and 300 till June 12. Officials said the initiative is currently being run as a pilot project and additional routes may be explored in the future based on public re-

sponse. The official said that the department currently operates the service on two routes. Weekday tours begin from Vijay Chowk, covering key landmarks in the Central Vista area before proceeding to museums and the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya. Weekend tours start from Dilli Haat, INA, and include the Change of Guard ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan, which officials said remains one of the most popular attractions among visitors.

## LG inspects Khan Market, Satya Marg projects

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NEW DELHI

DELHI Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu on Tuesday reviewed two projects in the Lutyens' area and stressed the need for strengthened water conservation infrastructure and sustainable urban development.

The LG office in a post on X on Tuesday said the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) chairperson and engineering officials gave a briefing on the Khan Market project's progress and implementation as LG Sandhu visited the popular market to inspect the ongoing work.

"Upgrading such iconic public and commercial spaces is essential to enhancing civic amenities, improving traffic and pedestrian management, and providing a seamless experience for visitors, tourists, and local businesses alike," the post said.

The NDMC is currently upgrading the middle lane of the



Khan Market, which includes improved drainage, pavement strengthening and flooring upgrades. Estimated to cost about Rs 1.21 crore, the project is aimed at replacing worn-out interlocking tiles and improving pedestrian movement in the busy commercial street.

Departments concerned are instructed to expedite the remaining development works while ensuring strict respect for quality and safety benchmarks, the post read.

Further, the LG reviewed the implementation of the Modular rainwater harvesting system at Satya Marg and interacted with the NDMC officers overseeing on-ground execution.

## MCD to begin restoration of grade-I heritage structures

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NEW DELHI

THE Municipal Corporation of Delhi will begin a phased restoration and preservation exercise for eight Grade-I heritage structures under its jurisdiction, with conservation work expected to begin next month, officials said on Tuesday. The Grade-I category denotes monuments classified as being of the highest historical importance. The initiative follows directions from the Supreme Court to restore heritage monuments under the civic body's ownership and will be carried out in consultation with academic institutions and conservation experts, they said.

"The first phase will cover eight heritage structures, including four tombs in Zamrudpur village in south Delhi, the Mahavir Library in Greater Kailash-I, a gumti (small tomb) in Humayunpur village, a tomb in the LSR village area and Maharaja Agrasen Park on Boule-



vard Road," an MCD official told PTI.

He added that the other identified sites include the historic Town Hall building in Chandni Chowk and Company Bagh. However, officials said these two properties are presently being looked after by the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation.

Officials said a meeting was held on Monday between Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) officials and experts from the School of Planning and Architecture (SPA), Jamia Millia Islamia, Indira Gandhi

Delhi Technical University for Women (Architecture School) and the Aga Khan Foundation to discuss the restoration roadmap. "The MCD does not have an in-house conservation team. Since Grade-I monuments require specialised treatment and cannot be altered, we are taking support from institutions and conservation experts to ensure the structures are restored to their original shape," an official said. The Aga Khan Foundation has already submitted a memorandum of understanding (MoU) for participation in the project, he added.



## City records 162 dengue, 42 malaria, 9 chikungunya cases

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI

DELHI has reported 162 dengue cases, 42 malaria cases and nine chikungunya cases so far this year, according to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi's weekly vector-borne disease report for the week.

According to the data, 10 new dengue cases were recorded in a fortnight, bringing the total to 20 by June 15. Meanwhile, three malaria cases and one chikungunya case were recorded during the latest week. Dengue remained the most prevalent vector-borne disease in the city, though the cumulative tally till June 13 was lower than the 196 cases reported during the corresponding period last year.

Malaria cases also stood at

42, lower than the 70 recorded during the same period in 2025, while chikungunya cases declined from 14 to 9. Among Delhi's civic zones, the West Zone reported the highest number of dengue cases so far this year at 29, followed by the Central Zone with 21 and Civil Lines with 20. For malaria, the West Zone recorded the highest tally at 14 cases.

The report also showed that a significant number of cases were either acquired outside Delhi or involved incomplete addresses, making tracing efforts difficult. As part of anti-mosquito measures, MCD officials conducted over 8.3 lakh house visits during the week to check mosquito breeding and found 4,028 houses positive for mosquito larvae, officials said.

## Cop persuades man to abandon suicide attempt on Delhi flyover

HANS NEWS SERVICE  
NEW DELHI

A sub-inspector of the Delhi Police's PCR unit prevented a man from taking his own life on the Mahipalpur flyover, an officer said on Tuesday. Responding to an emergency call, the PCR team rushed to the spot and found the man standing dangerously close to the edge of the flyover.

Sub-Inspector Anil Sharma engaged him in conversation in an effort to calm him down and gain his trust. He also offered him water and continued speaking to him to ease his distress.

During the interaction, Sharma reassured the man while urging him to reconsider his decision, the officer said. As the conversation continued, the PCR staff distracted the man by handing him his mobile phone. Seizing the opportunity, they swiftly pulled him away from the edge and brought him to safety. Police credited Sharma's presence of mind, sensitivity and quick action for saving the young man's life.

# Delhi targets 70 lakh saplings under Mega Green Drive

PURNA SINGH  
NEW DELHI

THE Delhi government has announced an ambitious plan to plant 70 lakh saplings under the Delhi Mega Tree Plantation Campaign 2026, a citywide initiative aimed at expanding green cover, improving air quality and encouraging mass public participation through a technology-enabled platform.

Launched under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the campaign draws inspiration from

**Launched under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the campaign draws inspiration from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative and seeks to transform tree plantation into a citizen-led environmental movement**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" initiative and seeks to transform tree plantation into a citizen-led environmental movement.

Residents will be able to register online and collect saplings free of cost from designated nurseries during

the monsoon season. Reviewing preparations at the Delhi Secretariat, Gupta said the campaign would not be a routine government exercise but a people-centric mission driven by community participation.

She emphasized that the success of the programme

would depend on citizens taking ownership of environmental conservation.

A major feature of the initiative is the e-Forest Green Drive Portal, which will function as the central platform for registration and monitoring.

Citizens can register using



their mobile number, name and address, book plantation slots, obtain free saplings and

geo-tag plantation sites. Participants will also be able to upload photographs of plant-

ed trees and receive a digital "Paryavaran Rakshak" certificate signed by the Chief Minister.

The campaign has been divided into three phases. The first phase will begin on June 22 with the online launch, release of a promotional video and awareness drives involving educational institutions, religious organisations and social groups until July 4.

The second phase, scheduled for the first week of July, will focus on Delhi's ridge areas. Around 2.5 lakh saplings will be planted across

key ecological zones including PBG Ground, Central Ridge, South Central Ridge and Nanakpura Ridge to strengthen biodiversity and urban green lungs.

The flagship third phase will be held in the second half of July at Swarna Jayanti Park, Rohini, linked live with 51 locations across Delhi. Nearly 11,000 people are expected to plant saplings simultaneously across all 70 Assembly constituencies and 13 districts. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has been invited to participate.

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