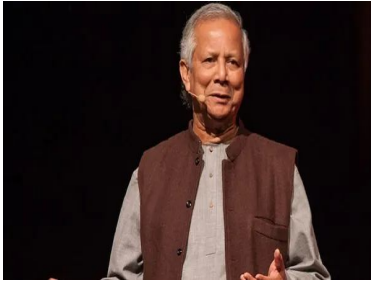


Muhammad Yunus Calls News Of Violence Against Hindus In Bangladesh 'Fake News'

Muhammad Yunus, the Chief Adviser of Bangladesh, has dismissed reports of violence against Hindus in the country as "fake news propagated by India. He made these during an interview US journalist Mehdi Hassan. Yun emphasized that such are exaggerated and do reflect the reality the ground. Yunus acknowledged that there are typical disputes between neighbours over issues like land demarcation. However, he stressed that these should not be interpreted as communal conflicts. He further criticized India for allegedly spreading misinformation about Bangladesh's internal affairs. Following the fall of Sheikh Hasina's government last



year, reports of communal incidents in Bangladesh gained international attention. Even US President Donald Trump commented on the situation, describing the treatment of Hindus under Yunus's leadership as "barbaric." In response, Yunus questioned Trump's understanding of the events in Bangladesh. In November, around 30,000 Hindus marched through Dhaka demanding protection from Yunus's government. They claimed they were facing repeated attacks and harassment. The protesters also called for the withdrawal of sedition charges against Hindu leaders like monk Chinmoy Krishna Das, whose arrest

caused outrage in both Bangladesh and India. Yunus urged Hindus in Bangladesh to identify primarily as citizens rather than focusing solely on their religious identity. He advised them to seek protection as Bangladeshi citizens entitled to state security rather than appealing for protection based on their Hindu identity alone. "My message to them when I meet them, as a community, group of community leaders, is don't go back and say, I'm a Hindu, so protect me. Always say I am a citizen of this country. I'm entitled to all the protection, the state is supposed to give it to me. So, then you've a bigger coverage," he said. The situation remains tense as various stakeholders continue to express differing views on the communal harmony in Bangladesh.

Operation Blue Star Wrong Approach, Says P Chidambaram; Indira Gandhi Sacrificed Her Life

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram described Operation Blue Star as a "mistake" and the "wrong way" to flush out terrorists from the Golden Temple in Amritsar, stating that former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi paid with her life for that decision. He made these remarks on Saturday during a discussion on *They Will Shoot You, Madam*, a book by journalist Harinder Baweja, held at the Khushwant Singh Literature Festival in Kasauli, Himachal Pradesh. The 80-year-old former Union Home Minister emphasized that while the operation was carried out on Indira Gandhi's instruction, it was a cumulative decision involving the army, police, intelligence, and civil services, and therefore she alone cannot be blamed. "There was a way to capture all the militants without causing the destruction that occurred. Operation

Blue Star was the wrong approach, and I agree that Mrs. Gandhi paid with her life for that mistake. But it was a collective decision involving the army, police, intelligence, and civil officials. You cannot blame only Mrs. Gandhi," Chidambaram said, stressing he meant no disrespect to any military personnel. He further noted that the Army should have been kept out of the operation to retrieve the Golden Temple. "No disrespect to any military officers here, but Operation Blue Star was not the correct way to retrieve the Golden Temple. A few years later, we demonstrated the right approach by keeping the Army out," he added. Chidambaram also highlighted that the real issue in



Punjab today is economic, not the separatist Khalistan movement. "My visits to Punjab have led me to believe that the political cry of Khalistan and separation has practically died down. The real problem is situation... most illegal from Punjab," he said. The Star was launched in 1984, targeting Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was involved in the Golden Temple. The operation ended on June 8, resulting in the neutralization of Bhindranwale, also causing significant damage to the Akal Takht, and widespread anger within the Sikh community. Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards months after the operation.

BJP Launches Fresh Attack on Mamata Banerjee Over Controversial Durgapur Gangrape Remarks



The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has intensified its criticism of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee following her controversial remarks regarding the Durgapur gangrape case. Banerjee had suggested that "a girl should not go out at night," comments widely perceived as victim-blaming. In response, BJP leaders accused her of being insensitive and shirking responsibility for women's safety in the state. BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia called Banerjee "a blot on womanhood," saying her statement insulted women and deflected attention from the failure of law enforcement. Union Minister Sukanta Majumdar questioned whether the Chief Minister expected women to "wear burqas and stay indoors," highlighting the tone-deaf nature of her remarks. At the state level, BJP West Bengal Secretary Priyanka Tibrewal described the statement as "shocking and insensitive," accusing Banerjee of shaming victims instead of focusing on the perpetrators. She added, "The Chief Minister's comments only divert attention from the real issue - ensuring justice for the survivor." BJP MP Shankar Lalwani also weighed in, condemning the attack on the student and pointing to what he called West Bengal's deteriorating law and order. "Incidents like this are shameful and not isolated. The state government has repeatedly failed to maintain safety for its citizens," he said. In her defense, Mamata Banerjee claimed that the media had misrepresented her words, insisting she was merely answering a question and that her statements were being twisted for political purposes. The National Commission for Women (NCW) also criticised the Chief Minister's remarks. NCW member Archana Majumdar called the statement "absurd" and emphasised that women across India are breaking barriers and achieving milestones, and restricting their movement is unacceptable. Meanwhile, the investigation into the Durgapur case continues, with three individuals arrested and presented before the court. The Trinamool Congress (TMC) accused the BJP of politicising the incident rather than prioritising justice for the survivor.

Hamas Hands Over First Batch Of Hostages To Red Cross: Israel Confirms To Media

On Monday, Hamas released seven Israeli hostages to the International Committee of the Red Cross. This marks the first group freed under the ongoing ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. The condition of these hostages remains unknown. As part of the agreement, 20 living hostages will be exchanged for over 1,900 Palestinian prisoners held by Israel. In Tel Aviv, crowds gathered at Hostages Square, waving US and Israeli flags alongside a portrait of US President Donald Trump. The release coincides with Trump's visit to the region for a peace summit. Before departing for Israel, Trump declared that the war in Gaza is "over." His visit aims to celebrate his role in brokering last week's ceasefire and hostage release deal. The next 24 hours are crucial for the fragile ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. Israel anticipates that 20 living hostages will be freed from Gaza on Monday, nearly two years after their capture. The Red Cross will oversee their transfer before they are handed over to Israeli forces at the Reim military base for medical evaluation and reunification with their families. Preparations are underway

as Red Cross ambulances stand ready to assist hostages who may need immediate medical care after more than two years in captivity. However, it is uncertain if the remains of up to 28 deceased hostages will be returned simultaneously. An international body is expected to help locate these remains if not released on Monday. As part of the ceasefire terms, Israel plans to release around 2,000 Palestinian prisoners. This includes approximately 1,700 individuals detained from Gaza during the conflict without formal charges. Among those expected to be freed are about 250 Palestinians convicted over attacks that killed or injured Israelis, along with others held on lesser charges. While Israel considers these prisoners terrorists, many Palestinians view them as freedom fighters resisting Israeli occupation. Israel has reportedly warned Palestinians in the West Bank against celebrating these releases due to potential repercussions. US President Donald Trump is scheduled to arrive in Israel on Monday morning for a brief but symbolic visit. He will meet families of hostages and address Israel's parlia-



ment, the Knesset, before traveling to Egypt for a "peace summit" with regional and global leaders. The US President is expected to return to Washington overnight Tuesday. The summit in Sharm El-Sheikh will bring together more than 20 world leaders aiming "to end the war in Gaza Strip" and enhance efforts for peace and stability in the Middle East. Neither Israel nor Hamas will attend this gathering. Iran's foreign minister Seyed Abbas Araghchi expressed gratitude for Egypt President El-Sisi's invitation to attend the Sharm El-Sheikh Summit but emphasized that neither he nor President Masoud Pezeshkian can engage with counterparts

who have attacked Iran. Araghchi reiterated Iran's commitment to regional stability and peace. The summit will be chaired by US President Donald Trump on his peace plan for Gaza and attended by various world leaders including UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres. Both Israel and Hamas will not attend. Israel President Isaac Herzog announced that US President Donald Trump would receive the country's highest civilian award for his efforts in securing hostage releases from Gaza and helping end the war. Herzog stated that Trump's actions have laid foundations for a new era in Middle East security and cooperation. "Through his tireless efforts, President Trump has not only helped bring our loved ones home but has also laid foundations for a new era built on security," Herzog said in a statement issued by his office. This historic moment marks significant progress towards peace after years of conflict between Israel and Hamas. As events unfold over coming days, hopes remain high among all parties involved that lasting peace can finally be achieved within this troubled region.

Tamil Nadu Diwali Holiday 2025: Will Govt Give Extended Break For Students & Employees?



The air is getting crisper, the scent of melting ghee and sugar from mithai shops is becoming a permanent perfume, and the faint, exciting smell of firecrackers is already teasing the breeze. Yes, Diwali 2025 is almost here, and the excitement is absolutely electric! This year, the Festival of Lights has lined up its dates perfectly for students across the country. In Tamil Nadu, the main celebrations are on Monday, October 20th, while many other states will light up their lamps on Tuesday, October 21st. For the school and college brigade, this calendar alignment is nothing short of a masterpiece. Why, you ask? Well, picture this: Diwali on a Monday means Saturday and Sunday are already holidays. That's three days off, back-to-back! And let's not forget the 3rd Saturday of the month—a potential holiday for many offices and private companies. That's a solid three-day weekend of pure, unadulterated Diwali bliss. The collective cheer from student WhatsApp groups could probably power a small city! But here's where the classic Indian family plot twist comes in. While students are busy planning their three-day victory lap, a gentle wave of panic is sweeping through their parents, teachers, and just about anyone with a hometown to visit. The great Indian migration for Diwali is a beautiful chaos, and this year's timing has created a unique puzzle. Let's say a family in Chennai celebrates Diwali on Monday the 20th. To get back to work or college in the city by Tuesday, they would have to pack up and leave on... the very night of Diwali! Can you imagine? One minute you're lighting a sparkler, the next you're sprinting for a train, still covered in glitter and the smell of sweets. This means everyone—and we mean everyone—would be hitting the roads and railways on the same day. The crowds would be legendary, and the idea of traveling on the festival day itself feels a little like having to leave your own birthday party early. With Sunday, Monday, and an added Tuesday off, students would be looking at a glorious four-day weekend. And since many offices might treat the preceding Saturday as an off day, it effectively becomes a mini-vacation. The government could even balance it out by declaring a different Saturday as a working day—a small price to pay for a stress-free homecoming, right? This isn't just a pipe dream, either. We've seen it happen before! Last year, the government granted extended holidays, understanding the need for families to celebrate and travel without the rush. This precedent has lit a lamp of hope in everyone's hearts this year too. So, as the countdown to Diwali begins, students aren't just counting the days for the sweets, new clothes, and movies. They're also crossing their fingers, hoping for that one extra day—the day that would turn a great holiday into a perfect one. The verdict is still out, but the wish for a four-day festival of lights is shining brighter than any firecracker. Here's to hoping the holidays are long, the laddoos are sweet, and the journey home is relaxed! Happy Diwali

SC Orders CBI Probe Into Karur Stampede At Vijay's TVK Rally, Slams Madras HC Over Jurisdictional Overreach



In a significant development, the Supreme Court on October 13 directed the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to take over the probe into the tragic stampede that occurred during a political rally in Karur on September 27, organized by actor Vijay's party, Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), which resulted in 41 fatalities. To ensure oversight, the apex court appointed former Supreme Court judge, Justice Ajay Rastogi, to head a monitoring committee. This panel will also include two IPS officers from Tamil Nadu cadre who are not native to the state. The CBI is required to submit monthly progress reports to this committee. "We have referred the judgment of the state of West Bengal on protecting democratic rights and looking at the situation which has raised concerns over fundamental rights 1. Handover investigation to CBI- there can't be doubt that fair and

had written to the Supreme Court registry. The bench said it would look into the matter. The State of Tamil Nadu was granted time to file its counter affidavit, with the Court clarifying that its directions were based on preliminary observations. TVK's petition, filed by General Secretary Aadhav Arjuna, challenged the Madras High Court's October 3 order forming an SIT composed solely of Tamil Nadu police officers. The party also objected to the High Court's critical remarks about TVK and its leader, Vijay, and sought an independent probe under the supervision of a retired Supreme Court judge. Other petitions contested the Madurai Bench's refusal to hand over the investigation to the CBI. The Supreme Court bench questioned the procedural propriety of the High Court's decision, especially since the original plea was about SOPs for rallies, not a criminal probe. The bench also raised eyebrows over the selective permission granted for political rallies—TVK was allowed to hold its event in a narrow passage where AIADMK had earlier been denied permission. Additionally, the Court expressed concern over the postmortem of 30-40 victims being conducted at midnight and the subsequent cremations at 4 a.m., hinting at possible procedural lapses. The rally at Veluswamyapuram in Karur district after 25,000-30,000 people turned up for the event while the organiser had expected 10,000 people to attend the event.

Who Is Justice Ajay Rastogi? Former Judge To Oversight CBI Probe Into Karur Stampede

The Supreme Court has ordered a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) inquiry into the Karur stampede tragedy, which claimed at least 41 lives and left many injured. A three-member oversight committee, headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice Ajay Rastogi, will monitor the probe. The court's directive came in response to petitions filed by Tamil actor Vijay's political outfit, Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK), which challenged earlier court orders concerning the investigation. The Supreme Court observed that an independent and transparent probe was essential to ensure justice for the victims. Justice Ajay Rastogi, born on June 18, 1958, is a former Supreme Court judge known for his fairness, administrative acumen, and impactful rulings. His father, Harish Chandra Rastogi, was a respected civil lawyer at the Rajasthan High Court, where Justice Rastogi began his own legal career in 1982, specialising in constitutional and service law. He served as Standing Counsel for the Rajasthan High Court in 1990 and was elevated as a High Court judge in 2004. Between 2013 and 2016, he served as Executive Chairman of the State Legal Services



Authority (Rajasthan), during which the authority won the National Award for Excellence three years in a row. Ramaphosa Dares to Bet Trump - 'No Genocide': Shocking LIVE Evidence Leave Him Silent in Front of All Justice Rastogi later became the Chief Justice of the Tripura High Court in 2018 before being elevated to the Supreme Court of India on November 2, 2018. Justice Rastogi's tenure in the apex court was marked by landmark judgments on constitutional, administrative, and gender equality issues. In February 2020, he was part of the bench that directed the Indian Army to grant Permanent Commission and command roles to



women officers in non-combat areas. A month later, a similar decision was extended to women officers in the Indian Navy, reinforcing gender parity in the armed forces. He also contributed to rulings on Jallikattu and triple talaq, addressing issues related to animal welfare and gender rights. In another key verdict, Justice Rastogi was involved in directing that appointments to the Election Commission of India should be made through a bipartisan committee, ensuring greater transparency. During the COVID-19 pandemic, he rejected pleas for extra UPSC attempts, stating that such policy decisions rest with the executive, not the judiciary. Even after retirement, Justice Rastogi continues to play a pivotal role in matters of national significance. His appointment to head the Karur stampede CBI probe monitoring committee highlights the judiciary's trust in his integrity and expertise. The Supreme Court's move underscores its intent to ensure a fair, impartial, and comprehensive investigation, providing closure to the victims' families and accountability for administrative failures.



