UP is moving forward with a new identity: CM Yogi

'Soul Of India Resides In UP'

▶ Continued from P 1

Now, with the clear policy, pure intent, and commitment to good governance, Uttar Pradesh succeeded in turning bottlenecks into breakthroughs for the nation's economy," the CM said.

He said UP was progressing as a revenue surplus and celebration-driven state. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the world's largest AI Impact Summit in Delhi. The summit is being attended by heads of state from more than 18 countries. At a time when the world is rapidly advancing towards emerging technologies, India too is moving forward with a strong and visionary strategy," he said.

"In line with this national vision, Uttar Pradesh, over the past 8 to 8.5 years, established itself as a foundation land of transformation. This

CM Yogi during Janata Darshan in Lucknow on Monday

widespread change in the state is being viewed as the confluence of technology, trust, and transformation," he said.

"Before 2017, the state was engulfed in an atmosphere of policy apathy, administrative lethargy, and an anti-development mindset. We made efforts to completely change this environment. As a result, UP is now moving forward with a new identity," the CM remarked.

"From effective implementation of welfare schemes to large-scale employment generation campaigns, every field saw systematic progress. Concrete steps were also taken to establish Uttar Pradesh as a premier investment destination, strengthening the environment for industrial development and investment," he said.

"Before 2017, the 'One District One Mafia' situation shook the state. Festivals turned from centres of faith into centres of fear. Police morale was broken. After 2017, the same riot-affected state became 'Utsav ka Pradesh (state of celebrations)," he said.

"Now, the rule of law has been established which is the first condition for development. Record police recruitments were conducted, special attention was given to women empowerment, and new schemes were launched for youth," he said.

The CM said over 66 crore devotees participated in the Maha Kumbh. The Magh Mela in Prayagraj was also organized successfully. This time, over 21 crore devotees took holy dip during Magh Mela.

"On Mahashivratri, over 30 lakh devotees bathed at Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj. This unprecedented participation of devotees is not only a symbol of faith but also proof of their trust in arrangements and security," he said.

"The soul of India resides in Uttar Pradesh. The dignity of Ayodhya, the eternal consciousness of Kashi, the devotion of Mathura-Vrindavan, and the harmony of Prayagraj are clearly visible in Triveni, Kumbh, and Maha Kumbh," the CM said.

Doc complains of receiving ₹15L extortion call

Times News Network

Gorakhpur: A city-based doctor lodged complaint of receiving Rs 15 lakh extortion demand along with threats to kill his family and shut down his hospital and if the money was not paid.

Dr Pankaj Kumar Dixit, who runs a private hospital in Shahpur area,

complained to Gorakhpur SSP Kaustubh on Monday afternoon, seeking action against accused and police protection for his family.

According to the complaint, the doctor, resident of Jungle Salikram in Shivpur Shahbazganj under Shahpur police station limits, received a call at 10.46 pm on Feb 12. The caller identified himself as Rahul Sharma and demanded Rs 15 lakh, threatening closure of the hospital owned by Dixit near Chhatra Sangh Chauraha and Paini Bazar and to eliminate the doctor's entire family if the amount was not paid.

Fearing for his safety, the doctor did not inform the police immediately. When he received another call from the same number at 11.32 pm on Feb 14, the caller spoke in abusive language and reiterated the threat.

The doctor approached police, stating he and his family had been living in fear since the calls.

On directions of the SSP, the crime branch and Shahpur police launched an investigation. Call detail records (CDR) were being examined to verify identity of the caller and ascertain whether he was part of an extortion gang.

SP City Abhinav Tyagi said police protection would be provided to the doctor if needed.

Utkarsh tops UP in JEE Main results

Lucknow: Utkarsh is the Uttar Pradesh state topper in JEE (Main) examination, results of which were announced by the National Testing Agency on Monday. Utkarsh scored 99.9 percentile.

As many as 12 candidates – Shreya from Delhi, Narendrababu Gari Mahesh, Pasala Mohith from Andhra Pradesh, Shubham Kumar from Bihar, Kabeer Chhillar, Chirag Falor and Arnav Gautam from Rajasthan, Bhavesh Patra from Odisha, Anay Jain from Haryana, Madhav Viradiya from Maharashtra, Purohit Nimay from Gujarat, and Vivan Sharad Maheshwari from Telangana – topped the country by securing 100 percentile.

The JEE Main was conducted by NTA between Jan 21 and 29 across 326 cities in India and abroad. A total of 13.5 lakh candidates registered for the test, of whom 13.04 lakh appeared at 652 centres.

The final ranks of the candidates will be released after the second JEE Main scheduled in April. After clearing JEE Main ranks, eligible candidates will take the JEE Advanced test slated for May. TNN

Wild jumbo tramples priest to death

Times News Network

Bahraich: A 101-year-old priest was killed by a wild elephant in Bahraich district on Sunday night, marking the second elephant-related death in the area within two days. Forest officials have now advised villagers not to venture alone into forest areas, especially at night.

The incident occurred at Kattrara Baba Kuttiam

BAHRAICH

der the Katarniaghat wildlife division. The deceased, Suresh Das (101), was a resident of Hazariganwa village in the Kardad area. He had been performing worship rituals at the Kuti for the past 15 years and was a lifelong celibate.

On Sunday around 8.30pm, Das was having dinner with his companion Ram Lakhan. After the meal, Lakhan stepped out to wash utensils, leaving the priest inside the hut. During this time, an elephant entered the hut and began damaging it.

Lakhan said that when he returned, he saw the elephant inside and went to fetch a torch. Meanwhile, the elephant started breaking the hut. The priest reportedly said to the elephant, "Will you destroy everything? Where will we live?"

Enraged, the elephant chased the priest. Unable to escape, he fell to the ground. The elephant lifted him with its tusks, slammed him to the ground, and then crushed him under its feet. The priest died on the spot.

Lakhan immediately informed the gram pradhan, Shyam Lal, who arrived at the scene along with villagers. SHO of Sujauli police station, Prakash Chandra Sharma, and forest department team also reached the spot.

Katarniaghat ranger Ashish Gond stated that elephant movement in the region has increased significantly, making it difficult for teams to reach the site at night. Forest officials have alerted forest staff and 'Gajmitra' teams. Residents of forest-adjacent villages have been advised to remain vigilant, carry torches at night and avoid entering the forest alone.

On Friday afternoon, another tragic incident occurred on the Bichhiya-Mihipurwa road under the same wildlife division. A woman riding a motorcycle with her two sons was attacked by an elephant. As the bike slowed down on the road, the elephant suddenly charged. The sons, Karan and Arjun, stated that the elephant grabbed their mother with its trunk, threw her down, and trampled her before walking back into the forest. Both sons were seriously injured in the attack.

2 leopard cubs found dead in Katarniaghat

Bahraich: Panic spread in Bahraich district after the bodies of two leopard cubs were found on Sunday in the Motipur range of the Katarniaghat wildlife division.

The carcasses were discovered in a farmer's field between Adgauiwa and Mangalhiya gram panchayats. Villagers who spotted the cubs noticed deep injury marks on their bodies and immediately informed the Motipur range office.

Upon receiving the information, ranger Surendra Nath Tiwari reached the spot along with his team. The forest department took both bodies into custody and transported them to the range office, where a postmortem examination will be conducted by the department's veterinary doctor.

Preliminary observations suggest that the cubs may have died either due to a mutual fight or an attack by a larger wild animal. Tiwari said that the cubs were approximately seven months old. He expressed suspicion that a bigger leopard might have attacked and killed them.

The exact cause of death will be confirmed only after the postmortem report is released. Forest officials have initiated further investigation into the matter.

Road block after youth shot dead in Gorakhpur

Times News Network

Gorakhpur: A 22-year-old man was shot dead allegedly by his friends in Temiya village under Chiluatal police station limits on Sunday evening, triggering protests and a brief road blockade by angry residents.

The deceased was identified as Arun Nishad, resident of the village. According to police, Nishad was called out of his house around 4pm by his friend Vishal. Investigators said Vishal, along with Devendra and five to six others, allegedly took Nishad to a nearby field following an argument and shot him.

Nishad collapsed on the spot after sustaining a bullet injury. He was rushed to BRD Medical College, where doctors declared him dead

Nishad collapsed on the spot after sustaining a bullet injury. He was rushed to BRD Medical College, where doctors declared him dead. News of his death sparked outrage among locals, who blocked the Gorakhpur-Maharajganj road near the medical college police outpost for nearly 30 minutes, demanding immediate arrest of the accused. The protest was withdrawn after police assured swift action.

Based on complaint filed by the victim's father, Bindu Nishad, police registered murder case against two named accused and six unidentified persons. Several suspects were detained late Sunday night for questioning.

SSP Dr Kaustubh visited the village and hospital to review the situation. Police said efforts were underway to trace the accused using CCTV footage and other evidence. Nishad, a paint polisher, is survived by his parents and younger brother.

AIIMS Gkp performs first complex facial surgery

Gorakhpur: For the first time, doctors at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Gorakhpur have successfully performed a complex orthognathic facial surgery, giving a new lease of life to a 22-year-old youth suffering from a severe congenital facial deformity.

The patient, a resident of Baluhi village in Kushinagar district, was discharged from the hospital this week following a successful recovery. For nearly 15 years, the youth was unable to open his mouth properly, which resulted in severe malnutrition as he could not eat normally. His family had earlier sought treatment in major cities such as Delhi and Lucknow, but without success. A surgery performed at a private hospital when he was 13 years old also failed to provide lasting relief.

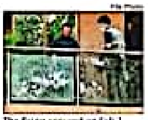
Assistant Professor and Maxillofacial Surgeon Shailesh Kumar diagnosed the complex nature of the case and designed a two-phase treatment plan. The first phase involved intra-oral distraction osteogenesis in April 2025, followed by a complete facial transformation surgery in January 2026, which ultimately corrected the deformity.

Congratulating the team, AIIMS Gorakhpur executive director Vibha Dutta said the success reflected the institute's high standards of medical care and dedication of its specialists. TNN

Joint operation: Main shooter, six others held for firing at Rohit Shetty's Juhu house

Times News Network

Lucknow: In a major inter-state operation, UP STF in a joint action with Mumbai Crime Branch arrested 7 accused, including the main shooter, on Sunday for allegedly opening fire at the Juhu residence of noted filmmaker Rohit Shetty on Feb 2.



The firing occured on Feb 1

According to officials, the incident occurred around 12 Gamal Shetty Tower in Juhu. The firing was allegedly carried out at the behest of the internationally active Shubham Lonkar gang, with the objective of spreading terror in the film industry and establishing extortion-based dominance among high-profile personalities, industrialists, and businessmen.

Following the incident, an FIR was registered in Mumbai under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, sections 37(1) and 37(2) of the Maharashtra Police Act, and provisions of the Arms Act. Mumbai Police launched an intensive probe, and based on technical surveillance and electronic evidence, sought assistance from the UP STF after the trail led to Uttar Pradesh and Haryana.

Given the gravity of the case, senior STF officials directed the Agra field unit to begin gathering intelligence. Technical analysis of call detail records, digital footprints, and movement patterns of suspects helped identify key operatives of the gang.

On February 15, coordinated raids were conducted at multiple locations. The main shooter, Deepak (24), son of Ramesh Chandra and resident of Vijoli village in Agra district, was arrested from Machhrauli in Jhajjar, Haryana. Along with him, three associates – Sunny (23), Sonu (23), and Ritik (22), all from the same village – were arrested.

Another accused, Vishnu Kushwaha (26), was arrested from Vijoli village in Agra. Jatin Bhardwaj (24), currently residing in Sector 45, Gautam Buddh Nagar, and Vishal, a resident of Etawah, were arrested from the Sahibabad area of Ghaziabad.

During joint interrogation, the accused allegedly confessed that the attack was pre-planned to create panic in the film fraternity and demonstrate the operational reach of the Lonkar gang. Police said the task of executing the firing was assigned through Vishnu Kushwaha, who reportedly had links with Golou Pandit, an associate of the Lonkar gang allegedly involved in a Rs 5 crore extortion case in Sri Ganganagar, Rajasthan. Investigators said the accused were influenced by the gang's glorified portrayal on social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram and sought to gain notoriety in the criminal underworld. "They admitted that they had conducted multiple reconnaissance visits to Mumbai prior to the attack to study the geographical layout, security arrangements, and escape routes near the filmmaker's residence," said ADG (law and order) Amitabh Yash.

On the night of February 1, the group allegedly used a semi-automatic pistol supplied by the gang to carry out indiscriminate firing at the residence before fleeing the scene.

After the incident, the accused frequently changed locations across states, monitoring news coverage and police updates through social and electronic media to evade arrest. Jatin Bhardwaj and Vishal allegedly provided logistical support, safe shelters, and other resources to help the main shooters remain absconding.

Officials said all 7 arrested accused will be handed over to Mumbai Police for further legal proceedings. Investigators continued efforts to trace additional members of the Lonkar gang and uncover the broader extortion network allegedly targeting members of the film industry and business community.

NATIONAL BOARD OF EXAMINATIONS IN MEDICAL SCIENCES
(Autonomous body of the Min. Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India)
NAMS Building, Medical Enclave, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029

DNB-PDCET 2026
NOTICE

National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) shall conduct the DNB-PDCET 2026 on 12th April 2026.

The online applications are being invited from 17th February to 08th March 2026 at NBEMS website:
https://natboard.edu.in/viewnbeexam?exam=pdcet

Candidate Care Support: +91-7996165333
• Helpline Portal on applicant login page
• Communication Web Portal on NBEMS Website

Masked men kill farmer during robbery

Times News Network

Lucknow: A 49-year-old farmer was brutally murdered by masked robbers who stormed his home in the early hours of Monday. The assailants allegedly stabbed him to death in front of his son before fleeing with gold and silver jewellery worth lakhs of rupees.

The incident took place in Bhagore Purwa village, under the jurisdiction of Hardatt Nagar Girant police station, approximately 30km from the Shravasti district headquarters.

Family members said four masked men forcibly entered the house at around 3am. The victim, identified as Nemraj Pathak (49), was sleeping when he heard suspicious sounds and woke up. Sensing danger, he reportedly raised an alarm and confronted the intruders.

Hearing the commotion, his son Sunil, who was sleeping in another room with his wife Lakshmi, rushed out to see what was happening. However, the robbers allegedly overpowered and restrained him. The attackers stabbed Nemraj multiple times in front of his son.

Lakshmi, terrified by the violence, hid under the bed in her room to save her life.

Recounting the ordeal, Lakshmi said, "When I heard my father-in-law screaming, my husband went to check. The robbers caught hold of him. I panicked and hid under the bed. From there, I saw four pairs of feet. They killed my father-in-law in front of my husband."

Once they left, Lakshmi came out of hiding and raised an alarm, alerting neighbours, who then informed the police.

Superintendent of police Rahul Bhati reached the spot along with a police team. "An FIR was registered against four unidentified robbers on charges of murder and robbery based on a complaint filed by the victim's son," said Bhati. Bhati said that CCTV cameras installed in nearby areas are being scanned.

"We are investigating all possible angles," the SP said, adding that police personnel were deployed in the village.

Man detained

Gorakhpur: A 35-year-old man was detained on Sunday night after he got into a scuffle with police personnel during security check at Gorakhnath Temple. Police personnel deployed at the gate stopped him for routine frisking. During the check, he reportedly lost temper and began arguing with the officers, which escalated into a heated exchange and near fisticuffs. Police personnel managed to overpower the man and took him to the Gorakhnath police station. The accused was identified as Radheshyam Rajbhar (35), resident of Chandrabhan Dubauli village under Nagra police station limits in Ballia district. SP (Temple Security) Santosh Kumar Singh said that during questioning, it was revealed that the man was upset as his passport had been seized earlier. TNN

UCO BANK
ZONAL OFFICE : DHANSHREE COMPLEX, 1st FLOOR, D-63/8-1M, TULSIPUR, MAHMOORGANJ, VARANASI

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD (THROUGH NEFT/RTGS) AND DOUMENTS 24/03/2026 UPTO 05:00 PM

Auction Sale of Immovable Property Mortgaged to the Bank under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFAESI Act) read with rules 5, 6, 7, 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002). Possession of the following property has been taken over by the Authorised Officer, pursuant of the Notice issued u/s 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 in the Borrower Accounts Mentioned below with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS" AND "WHAT IS WHERE IS" basis through e-auction on https://baanknet.com for realization of Banks Dues.

Sr. No.	Name of Branch Borrower (s) Guarantor(s)	Details of Immovable Properties	Possession or Date/ Status of Possession (Physical or Symbolic)	Demand Notice Date & Outstanding Amount	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increase Amount	Detail of Officer Concerned	Date & Time Of E-Auction
1	Branch : CHITAIPUR (2380) Borrower: [illegible] Guarantors: [illegible]	[illegible]	30.05.2025 (Symbolic)	11.03.2025 Rs. 18,83,812.99 [illegible]	Rs. 44.36 Lacs / Rs. 4.43 Lacs / Rs. 0.10 Lacs	Authorised Officer Mrs. Rashmi Mathur Mob.: 95408 97993	24.03.2026 10.00 AM to 05.00 PM

For detailed terms & conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in UCO Bank secured creditor's website: www.ucobank.com and portal of PSB alliance https://baanknet.com
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