

Zero tolerance against social media bravado, cybercrime: DGP

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VARANASI: Uttar Pradesh director general of police (DGP) Rajeev Krishna, during a visit to Varanasi on Sunday, reinforced the state's commitment to strict law enforcement, specifically targeting digital intimidation and organised crime. Addressing a press conference at the Police Lines auditorium, the DGP emphasised that the Uttar Pradesh Police operates under a zero-tolerance policy against crime and criminals.

He claimed that major crimes in the state have decreased and the sense of security among women, traders, and ordinary citizens has strengthened.

During his visit to Varanasi, the DGP mentioned that officials, public representatives, and police headquarters staff conducted a detailed review regarding law and order, policing, and district-specific issues.

The DGP stated that initiatives undertaken under 'Mission



DGP Rajeev Krishna during the press meet in Varanasi

Shakti' for women's safety and empowerment have yielded positive results.

He informed that the 60,244 newly recruited police personnel have reached their respective districts and are currently undergoing training. Once their training is complete, they will be deployed for regular police duties, which will further strengthen law and order and traffic management.

Describing cybercrime as a

major challenge, the DGP noted that incidents of cyber fraud have risen alongside the increase in digital transactions. The Uttar Pradesh Police is addressing this as a significant challenge. He stated that, alongside taking action against cybercriminals, a system is being developed to halt the transfer of victims' funds at the banking level, preventing the money from reaching foreign destinations.

He added that action would

also be taken against criminals operating from abroad, based on agreements established with various countries.

He added that the law and order situation across most districts of the state, including Varanasi, is satisfactory. However, instructions have been issued to police officials to provide training and operational methods in areas requiring enhancement.

The police are maintaining constant surveillance on miscreants at the state, zonal, district, and even neighborhood levels. Strict action is also being taken against those displaying bravado or acts of intimidation on social media, said the DGP.

He said that the mafia will not be allowed to flourish in Uttar Pradesh at any cost. Extensive action has been taken against the mafia over the past eight to ten years, and this campaign will continue. He stated that under the chief minister's guidance, the priorities of the Uttar Pradesh Police are absolutely clear. Key priorities include ensuring the

safety of women, citizens, and traders; maintaining robust law and order; reducing road accidents; improving traffic management; and effectively controlling cybercrimes. Continuous efforts are being made in all these areas, yielding positive results.

Highlighting modernisation efforts, the DGP detailed a "Reducing Traffic Congestion" scheme launched approximately two and a half months ago across 20 districts. Using technology to analyse traffic patterns, police are leveraging data to assess conditions on major routes. In Varanasi alone, 11 critical traffic corridors have been identified, with approximately 230 such routes marked for improvement across the state. By analysing metrics such as vehicle speed and average travel times, the police aim to make traffic management more effective and provide public relief.

Police Commissioner Mohit Agarwal and ADG (Zone) Piyush Mordia were also present on this occasion.

MOTORCYCLIST TRAPPED IN DUMPER BONNET FOR 40 MINUTES

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PRAYAGRAJ: A 30-year-old motorcyclist was critically injured after being trapped inside the bonnet of a dumper truck following an accident near Kamalpur on the Deviganj Bypass on Sunday morning. The incident occurred within the jurisdiction of the Kadamah police station.

The victim, identified as Balu Kumar of Dal Sahiya village, was returning from Deviganj market with his uncle, Arjun, when their motorcyclist lost control while attempting to overtake a dumper. In the collision, Balu and his motorcyclist were lodged into the dumper's bonnet. Arjun sustained only minor injuries. The dumper driver was at the scene, leaving the vehicle behind.

Upon receiving the information, Kadamah police reached the spot and initiated a rescue operation. Police personnel used a jack to lift the dumper's bonnet, and after nearly 40 minutes of effort, managed to extricate the severely injured Balu. He was initially rushed to the Community Health Center in Kada and later referred to the district hospital due to his critical condition. Police have sealed the vehicle and are investigating the incident while efforts are underway to trace the absconding driver.

THE VICTIM, IDENTIFIED AS BALU KUMAR OF DAL SAHIYA VILLAGE, WAS RETURNING FROM DEVIGANJ MARKET

{ 7TH NATIONAL CONVENTION OF VIJNANA BHARATI }

India must focus on scientific innovation: Prof Karandikar

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VARANASI: Prof Abhay Karandikar, member, NITI Aayog, said that the world is changing rapidly, with technological advancements now unfolding within months rather than years. He noted that while India possesses a large workforce, the country must also focus on scientific innovation.

Addressing the gathering at the concluding session of 7th National Convention of Vijnana Bharati at BHU on Sunday as guest of honour, while emphasising the need for 'Swadeshi' innovation, Prof Karandikar clarified that it does not imply isolation from the world.

He emphasised that science is a property of the entire global community and thus, we must work on ancient Indian science with western scientific approach.

Highlighting the role of Vijnana Bharati, he said its extensive grassroots network can play a crucial role in translating the outcomes of such deliberations into action. Prof Gobardhan Das of NITI Aayog, spoke about the idea of India and emphasised the importance of drawing inspiration from the nation's civilisation and heritage while shaping its future. Recalling episodes of courage, leadership, and resilience from Indian history, he noted that the country's past offers valuable lessons for building a stronger and more prosperous future.

Speaking on the occasion, BHU vice-chancellor Prof Ajit Kumar Chaturvedi said that while India's ancient knowledge traditions and cultural heritage are a matter of pride, it is

equally important to present tangible achievements in science, technology, innovation, and industry to inspire the younger generation.

Addressing the valedictory session, Shiv Kumar Sharma, National Organising Secretary, Vijnana Bharati, said that the convention's nine sessions had witnessed extensive deliberations on critical issues such as health, energy, and the environment. He urged volunteers and members to move forward over the next two years with concrete action plans in their respective regions and to ensure broader participation of society in these initiatives.

Delivering the concluding remarks, Dr Shekhar C Mande, national president, Vijnana Bharati, reflected on the wide-ranging deliberations held during the convention and said that the discussions had helped crystallise a clear direction for the future course of scientific research.

On the occasion, Vijnana Bharati unanimously adopted a resolution, calling for the formulation of a new India-centric Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy to advance the nation toward the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'. Dr Ranjana Agrawal, national secretary, Vijnana Bharati, presented the resolution to the convention, which highlighted India's achievements in science, technology, innovation, especially in space, energy, and defence sectors, while emphasising the need to further strengthen research quality, industry-academia collaboration, and the societal application of scientific innovations. More than 1,200 participants from India and abroad graced the event as well.

Experts advocate for ethical, India-Centric AI framework

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VARANASI: Prof Ashutosh Sharma, president of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), asserted that "man is not equal to machine," highlighting the critical need for an "AI for India that knows what it does not know."

He was speaking on the second day of the 7th National Convention of Vijnana Bharati, which featured a curated panel discussion on "AI and Ethics." Led by Prof Sharma, the session was moderated by Dr Vivek Kumar Singh, senior advisor at NITI Aayog. The panel featured experts, including Prof Mayank Vatsa of IIT Jodhpur, Deepak Maheshwari, senior policy advisor at CSEP, and Dr Maneesh Singh, VP of Machine Learning at Bharat Gen. IIT Bombay.

Prof Sharma observed that while technological advancements are accelerating, societal and human adaptation continues to lag. He advocated for ethical AI characterised by human oversight, transparency, accountability, fairness and privacy. He emphasised the necessity for an AI framework tailored to the Indian context, one that is inclusive, multilingual and socially beneficial, particularly for communities currently underserved by conventional systems. Ultimately, he called for a deeper understanding of human consciousness alongside AI, guided by both ethical principles and societal responsibility.

Dr Maneesh Singh argued against simply adopting global AI models. Instead, he proposed developing a transparent, sustainable and citizen-centric ecosystem that respects data rights and recognises the limitations of machine intelligence. He stressed that the objective should be to cultivate "AI for India" rather than relying on importing foreign solutions.

Prof Mayank Vatsa discussed the growing role of AI in healthcare and medical science. He cautioned, however, that AI should serve as a supportive tool rather than a replacement for professional medical advice.

Dr Madan Mohan Tripathi, director general of the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT), noted the rapid proliferation of AI and the inevitable need for regulation. Comparing AI to technologies like GPS, he suggested that risk-based frameworks ranging from outright restriction to controlled usage are essential. He added that since most global models, including GPT, are trained on non-Indian datasets, domestic efforts to develop localised models are critical.

whispering corridors

A WEEKLY SCROLL OF GOSSIPY NUGGETS, POWER GAMES, AND PHOTO OPS THAT DIDN'T MAKE THE HEADLINES — BUT SHOULD'VE.

LIMELIGHT OF DISCOMFORT

One of the state's most powerful bureaucrats has been in the limelight lately but mostly for the wrong reasons. Known for having a strong grip over the system, the officer has for years been considered among the most influential faces in government.

But of late, things have not gone entirely right for him. Back-to-back hard-hitting court comments not only on the working of the department he heads but also on him personally, administrative controversies, open allegations by a ruling party MLC, and criticism for personally paying

obseance with a bouquet to the national president of a political party have all ensured that the officer stay in the discussion for reasons that are not entirely comfortable.

BATUK BATLE

The saffron camp appears to have discovered a new political battleground—not a constituency, but the Batuk Pujan stage.

Party insiders are amused by what they describe as a friendly rivalry between two leaders to emerge as the most visible Brahmin face in the party. The interesting twist: both leaders are arrivals from other political parties rather than products of the party's traditional cadre system.

One of the contenders recently landed a ministerial berth and seems determined to make up for lost time. He till recently was the Brahmin face of the bicycle movement. The other already enjoys a powerful position and is equally unwilling to concede any ground. He once was the

LETTER RAISES HEAT

The corridors of the power department in Uttar Pradesh are unusually charged with high-tension current these days and this time the summer demand is not the reason.

The latest buzz is not about loadshedding but a sharply worded letter from energy minister AK Sharma to the UPPLC boss. The letter is trending on social media platforms. Officials who usually scan load curves in the summer are now reportedly scrutinising every line of the June 2 communication.

The minister's letter reads less like routine correspondence and more like a charge sheet on the official's way of functioning. From decisions allegedly being taken without keeping the minister informed to concerns over administrative handling, accountability and consumer-sensitive proposals reaching public domain first, the note suggests frustration over what appears to be an increasingly autonomous bureaucratic style of functioning.

There is also discussion that the note is less about the issues it has raised and more about an old question as to who controls the switchboard in the power sector: the minister or bureaucrats?

Now, with the strong contents of the letter electrifying political, bureaucratic and journalistic circles alike, many are reading between the lines and anxiously waiting for the fallout that may follow the explosive letter.



Brahmin face of the elephant party

The result? Wherever there is a Batuk Pujan, chances are high that one of them will be present—and party workers joke that if one attends today, the other may not be far behind tomorrow.

Political observers say the competition is less about rituals and more about visibility. In a party packed with heavyweight leaders, every photograph, every garland and every blessing counts.

As an insider quipped, "Earlier leaders counted rallies and roadshows. Now some people are counting Batuks."

RARE LOOK BECOMES TALK OF THE TOWN

Delhi airport buzzed with whispers recently as Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav was spotted in a fresh new avatar. The usually cap-clad leader

stepped out confidently without his trademark red 'topi', sporting a crisp white casual t-shirt paired with relaxed jeans. Eyewitnesses called it his "most chilled-out look yet", sparking instant buzz on social media. Is this a stylish reboot ahead of key political moves, or simply a vacation vibe? Netizens are divided: some praise the "youthful refresh", while others wonder if the new look was inspired by Congress MP Rahul Gandhi who is often seen sporting a white t-shirt. Yadav, however, remained composed, flashing his trademark smile before vanishing into the crowd.



'Corruption-free, development-oriented India becoming a reality'

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PRAYAGRAJ: Uttar Pradesh Jal Shakti Minister and Prayagraj district in-charge minister Swatantra Dev Singh on Sunday said that the vision of a corruption-free, development-oriented and welfare-oriented India, endorsed by the people in 2014, is steadily becoming a reality under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Addressing media persons on the completion of 12 years of the Modi government at the Centre, Singh said the Prime Minister has ushered in a new era of good governance, transparency and public service through his consistent leadership over the past decade.

Listing the government's achievements, the minister said scores of poor families have been provided pucca houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, while the Jal Jeevan Mission has ensured tap water connections to rural households. He also highlighted the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana for providing LPG connections to women, the Swachh Bharat Mission for improving sanitation through toilet construction, and the Ayushman Bharat scheme for extending healthcare coverage to economically weaker sections.

Referring to initiatives aimed at women empowerment, Singh said self-help groups, the Mudra Yojana, Jan Dhan accounts and the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam have strengthened the position of women in the country.

The minister said farmers have benefited from the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi, crop insurance schemes and irrigation projects, while continuous efforts are being made to enhance agricultural productivity and increase farm incomes.

He added that Startup India, skill development programmes and Mudra loans have expanded employment and self-employment opportunities for youth.

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ENSURE ZERO DROPOUT, 100% ENROLMENT IN ITIS: MINISTER

VARANASI: Minister of state for higher education (charge) Prashant Kumar Singh on Sunday said that the government is committed to ensuring zero dropout and 100% enrolment in ITIs.

He issued instructions during a departmental review meeting at the Circuit House, Varanasi which was attended by Joint Secretary (training/apprenticeship) of the Varanasi Division, principals of Government Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), and MIS managers and DPMU officials from the Uttar Pradesh Skill Development Mission.

During the meeting, a detailed presentation regarding progress of various training programmes, skill development schemes, and institutes run by the department was given. The minister issued necessary directives concerning the quality of training, the operation of institutes, and increasing the number of trainees.

Over half of BA LLB seats vacant at RPNU after CLAT counselling

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PRAYAGRAJ: More than half the seats in the BA LLB (Hons) programme at Dr Rajendra Prasad National Law University (RPNU) have remained vacant even after the completion of all five rounds of the centralised Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) counselling process for the 2026-27 academic session.

According to university officials, only 26 of the 60 available seats have been filled, leaving 34 seats vacant. In an effort to fill the vacancies, the university has launched a spot admission process. As per a recent notification issued by the university, only candidates who appeared in CLAT-2026 will be eligible to participate in the spot admission round. Interested applicants must complete online registration through a Google Form released by the university by 5 pm on June 15. Only registered candidates will be allowed to take part in the admission process.



RPNU in Prayagraj

Demolition drive continues



Police personnel and others gather during a demolition drive at Dal Mandi area in Varanasi on Sunday

RADIOLOGY STUDENT ASSAULTED WITH SHARP-EDGED WEAPON

PRAYAGRAJ: A radiology student at Swaroop Rani Nehru (SRN) Hospital has alleged that he was brutally assaulted by two fellow students on the hospital premises. The victim, Vinay Kumar, a native of Banda district's Kamasin area, lodged a complaint at the Kotwali police station. He stated that the incident occurred on the morning of June 12 while he was on duty in the X-ray

department of the hospital's old building. According to the complaint, two students, identified as Varun Tiwari and Sahil Saraf, arrived at the department and began abusing him. When Vinay objected to their behavior, the confrontation escalated, and the two allegedly assaulted him. Police have taken cognizance of the complaint and are investigating the matter.

UCO BANK

Rule 8(6) Sale Notice For Sale of Immovable Property

E-Auction (Through BaanNet Portal) Sale Notice of Immovable Assets under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/Guarantors that below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the UCO Bank (Secured Creditor) the symbolic possession which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of UCO Bank (Secured Creditor) is "Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever There is" basis on 15.07.2026 for recovery of below mentioned dues from the borrowers mentioned below.

Date & Time of E-Auction - 18.07.2026, 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM

Sl. No.	Name of Branch (Borrower/s) (Guarantor/s)	Detail of Immovable Property	Possession Date/ Status of Possession (Physical / Symbolic)	Demand Notice Date & Outstanding Amount	Reserve Price / EMD / Bid Increase Amt.	Detail of Officer concerned
1.	VARANASI MAIN BRANCH Borrower: M/s Raj Traders Prop.- Smt. Raj Rani Mehrotra W/o Sri Gopi Nath Mehrotra Add- Vanshikhandi Shanti Complex, Banphatark, Varanasi Pin- 221001 Guarantor(s): 1. Smt. Raj Rani Mehrotra W/o Sri Gopi Nath Mehrotra, 2. Sri Gopi Nath Mehrotra, 3. Shri Aditya Mehrotra, 4. Ms. Chhavi Mehrotra, Add- : all R/o 81/51/31, 3rd Floor, Block No. B-15, H.No. 13, 13/3-8-15/31, Sanjay Apartment, Old Cotton Mill, Chauka Ghat, Ward/Pargana - Jaitpura, Tehsil and District Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	All that part & parcel of the property consisting of flat having proportionate land area 19.05 sq. m. and total built-up area of 40 sq.m. in the name of Smt. Rajrani Mehrotra W/o Sri Gopinath Mehrotra registered at Sub-Registrar Varanasi as per Book No. 1, Jld No. 2072, Page No. 123 to 148 on S.No. 236 Registered on 20/01/2009 situated at Flat No. 31, Third Floor, Block No. B-15, H.No. 13/3-8-15/31, Sanjay Apartment, Old Cotton Mill, Chauka Ghat, Ward/Pargana - Jaitpura, Tehsil and District Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh	18.06.2025 Rs 17,69,412.02 as on 17.08.2025 (inclusive of interest upto 31.08.2024) + unapplied interest Charges cost and expenses etc.	Rs. 21 Lakh Rs 2.10 Lakh Rs 0.10 Lakh	Mr. Amit Chawla M: 9147404461 Email: varanasi@uco.bank.in	

Terms and Conditions:- 1. The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions as prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Detailed terms and conditions of the sale is available/published in the following websites/web portal: <https://baannet.com> & <https://www.uco.bank.in>. 2. The property is being sold on "As is Where is" & "As is What is" & "Whatever There is" basis. 3. The particulars of Secured Assets credited in the "Description of the Property/ies" hereinabove have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorized Officer, but the Authorized Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. 4. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website with the URL: <https://baannet.com> and start at 10:00 AM on 18/07/2026. 5. It is upon the Bank to appoint a representative for placing self-bid in order to participate in the auction. 6. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to accept any or reject all bids, if not found acceptable or vary the terms of the auction or postpone/ cancel/ adjourn/ discontinue the auction at any time without assigning any reason and without any cost or compensation whatsoever there and the decision of the Authorized Officer in this regard shall be final and conclusive.

Date: 10.06.2026.

PLACE: Varanasi

Authorized Officer: UCO Bank