

Shah emphasises intelligence synergy for 'Viksit Bharat' security roadmap

RAIPUR, NOV 29

UNION Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the 60th All-India Conference of Directors General of Police (DGP-IGP) at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) campus in Chhattisgarh's Naya Raipur, hailing it as a transformative 'portal of solutions' to India's internal security challenges under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership.

In his address on Friday, Home Minister Shah underscored how the past 11 years have showcased the mettle of police forces in combating radicalisation, extremism, insurgency, and narcotics trafficking. "Under PM Modi Ji, this conference has evolved into a platform for strategising and policy-making,



laying broad principles for a secure nation," he said on X post-inauguration. Accompanied by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Ministers of State for Home Nityanand Rai and Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Intelligence Bureau Director Tapan Kumar Deka, and Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Home Minister Shah highlighted the conference's role in reviewing policing hurdles and charting a roadmap for 'Viksit Bharat'—a developed India fortified against emerging threats.

Deliberations, spread over November 28-30,

Shah reiterated the Modi gov't's 'permanent solutions' to longstanding hotspots—Naxalism, N-E insurgency, and J&K—transforming them into integrated growth engines. He called for a '360-degree attack' on narcotics, ensuring 'not even an inch of space' for traffickers, aligning with the national goal of a drug-free India.

focused on precision intelligence, clear objectives, and inter-agency synergy to counter new-age perils like cybercrime, Left-Wing Extremism (LWE), border incursions, and organised crime. Home Minister Shah reiterated the Narendra Modi government's 'permanent solutions' to longstanding hotspots—Naxalism, Northeast insurgency, and Jammu and Kashmir unrest—transforming them into integrated growth engines.

He called for a '360-degree attack' on narcotics,

CM Yogi assures financial aid for medical treatment to those in need

GORAKHPUR (UP), NOV 29

UTTAR Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday assured people seeking medical assistance at a Janta Darshan' here that they should undergo treatment without worrying about the expenses as the government will provide them full support.

The chief minister met around 200 people during the public interaction programme held at the Mahant Digvijaynath Smriti Bhavan at the Gorakhnath temple complex. Many of them, especially women, requested financial aid for treatment of serious illnesses, according to an official statement.

Adityanath told them not to worry about the cost and to get treated at higher-level hospitals,



"The govt will arrange the entire cost of treatment. No one should hesitate to seek medical care due to financial issues" the statement said.

"The government will arrange the entire cost of treatment. No one should hesitate to seek medical care due to financial issues," he said. Reassuring a young woman seeking help for her mother's treatment, the chief minister said, "Do not worry. Get the treatment done. The government will make all necessary financial arrangements."

He directed officials to immediately process medical estimates and send them to the government so that eligible people can receive timely support from the Chief Minister's Discretionary Fund.

The CM said every complaint would be addressed effectively and assured the people that they should neither panic nor feel troubled. Their applications were handed over to the concerned officials for speedy action.

Adityanath instructed officers to handle public grievances with seriousness and sensitivity. He said strict legal action should be taken in cases involving land grabbing or intimidation. In cases of family disputes, the CM advised officers to prioritise dialogue by bringing both parties together. —PTI

Nagar panchayat chief held for bid to siphon off Rs 111 cr through forged documents

PALGHAR, NOV 29

POLICE have arrested the president of a local governing body at Vikramgad in Maharashtra's Palghar district after alert officials of a leading public sector bank found his attempt to siphon off Rs 111 crore through submission of forged documents, officials said on Saturday.

The accused, Nilesh alias Pinka Ramesh Padvale, who is the president of Vikramgad Nagar Panchayat, also owns O V Construction Company. He was arrested on Friday from neighbouring Thane, they said.



The alleged embezzlement plot came to light on November 7, when a fake request letter from the Public Works Department (PWD) for issuance of a demand draft for Rs 111.63 crore in the name of the construction company was presented at the Jawhar branch of the State Bank of India (SBI), an official said. The demand letter and accompanying cheque carried the purported signatures of a PWD executive engineer and accountant. But during the scrutiny of the letter, the bank officials grew suspicious as they found several inconsistencies, including the use of word 'billion' instead of 'crore', the strikingly different style of letter writing, the signature of the bank staff first tried to verify the request via email but received no response.

A vigilant employee then personally visited the Jawhar PWD office, where officials provided mixed and contradictory answers, he said. —PTI

BJP, JD-S meeting vows to take on Congress in Belagavi Session; northern state issues to be front-loaded



BENGALURU, NOV 29

THE Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Janata Dal-Secular (JD-S) held a coordination meeting on Saturday at a city hotel to firm up a joint strategy against the ruling Congress ahead of the Belagavi winter session and to discuss coordination for the upcoming local body elections. Union Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel H.D. Kumaraswamy, Leaders of the Opposition R. Ashoka and Chhalavadi Narayanaswamy, JD(S) floor leader in the Assembly C.B. Suresh Babu, MLA H.D. Revanna and other senior leaders attended the meeting.

Speaking after the meeting, Kumaraswamy said it had been decided that, to dispel the impression that the Belagavi session is merely symbolic, issues affecting the northern Karnataka would be raised on the very first day. He named districts including Yadgir, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Bagalkote, Vijayapura, Belagavi and Raichur as areas that had recently faced floods, and charged that the government had "woken up from its sleep" only after three to four months. The parties also discussed working in coordination during the forthcoming local body polls, he added.

R. Ashoka, Leader of the Opposition in the Legislative Assembly, accused the state government of convening the Belagavi session merely for show and asserted that

it would not run for more than eight days. Speaking to the media, he said the session would lose a day owing to the death of a sitting MLA and charged the ruling party with using the sitting to push through its legislative agenda. "They are bringing up issues like Bengaluru development and the Bengaluru civic corporation," he said, adding, "If Bengaluru-related matters are to be taken up, what is the justification for holding the session in North Karnataka?"

Ashoka recalled that when Kumaraswamy and former chief minister B.S. Yediyurappa were in power, sessions were held to discuss construction of a Savarna Soudha and other issues pertinent to North Karnataka. "Even now, the government should hold a 20-day session in Belagavi and discuss the region's problems," he demanded, alleging that matters relating to North Karnataka are always taken up last.

He also criticised the government for failing to repair the Tungbhadra dam gate, which broke a year ago, saying funds of about Rs 12 crore were needed but not forthcoming. Ashoka accused the state administration of deceiving the public on promises related to industry, education and irrigation funding. Pointing to past legislative action, he said BJP and JD(S) legislators had worked effectively together on matters such as the MUDA scam, site reallocation, the Valmiki Tribal Welfare Corporation controversy that led to a ministerial resignation, and the stampede in Bengaluru that claimed 11 young lives. —IANS

MP: ED attaches properties worth Rs 2.08 crore in loan fraud case

BHOPAL, NOV 29

THE Enforcement Directorate (ED), Bhopal Zonal Office, has provisionally attached 12 immovable properties valued at approximately Rs 2.08 crore in Asha town of Sehore district in Madhya Pradesh belonging to prime accused Manoj Parmar and his associates in a major bank loan fraud case involving government self-employment schemes. The attachment has been made under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) in the case registered against Manoj Parmar, Mark Pius Karari (then Branch Manager, Punjab National Bank, Asha branch), and others. —PTI

'Cong has close connection with Naxals, anti-national people', flays MP CM Yadav

BHOPAL, NOV 29

IN a scathing attack on Congress, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Saturday accused the grand old party of having a "close connection with Naxalites and anti-national people". Chief Minister Yadav said that the "alliance between the Congress and Naxals has been a threat to national security".

In a post on the social media platform X, he said, "During the UPA government, the National Advisory Council (NAC) attempted to weaken the strict measures being taken by security forces against Naxalism."

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's guidance and Union Home Minister Amit Shah's leadership, the Centre's 'zero-tolerance' policy to eliminate Naxalism has reduced the number of Naxal-infested districts from 126 in 2014 to 11 in 2025. CM Yadav's assertion comes at a time when the 60th edition of the All India Conference of Directors/Inspectors Generals of Police has kicked off in neighbouring state Chhattisgarh on Saturday.

Accompanied by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, Ministers of State for Home Nityanand Rai and Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Intelligence Bureau Director Tapan Kumar Deka, and Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Union Home Minister Shah highlighted the conference's role in reviewing

the significance of the accuracy of intelligence, clarity of objectives, and synergy in action to shield the nation from new-age threats. Home Minister Shah reiterated the Modi government's 'permanent solutions' to longstanding issues — Naxalism, Northeast insurgency, and Jammu and Kashmir unrest—transforming them into integrated growth engines.

He called for a '360-degree attack' on narcotics, ensuring "not even an inch of space" for traffickers, aligning with the national goal of a drug-free India. The conclave concludes on Sunday, with outcomes expected to shape national policing policies amid rising geopolitical tensions. —IANS



"During the UPA gov't, the NAC attempted to weaken the strict measures being taken by security forces against Naxalism"

policing hurdles and charting a roadmap for 'Viksit Bharat' - a developed India fortified against emerging threats.

The Union Home Minister stated that the country has achieved significant progress in the last 11 years in its operations against radicalisation, extremism, insurgency and narcotics. He reiterat-

Scindia meets BJP workers to discuss organisational activities

GUNA, NOV 29

UNION Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia, on Saturday, chaired a meeting with local Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders in his Lok Sabha constituency of Madhya Pradesh's Guna and discussed on the organisational activities and future plan to strengthen the party in the state. In the meeting held at a hotel, Union Minister Scindia directed that when he would be visiting the people in a particular village or block, regional BJP leaders, especially Mandal and booth party presidents should also be present there. The meeting was attended by BJP's Guna district president, Mandal presidents and all local party workers. The Union Minister interacted with them and noted down the suggestions brought before him during the meeting.

"Today, in Guna, I had a meeting with BJP workers and top leaders of the party and discussed in detail about organisational activities, regional needs and future plans," Union Minister Scindia wrote on X after the meeting was over. He also encouraged party workers, saying that dedication and service to the people without any expectation has always been the strength of the BJP. "You all are my own dear dedication, discipline and hard work are our strength," he said, referring to the BJP workers in the state. Union Minister Scindia had been actively meeting with BJP leaders and workers from Bhopal to Gwalior and Guna after he arrived Madhya Pradesh on November 26.

Q2 GDP growth rate places India as world's fastest growing major econ, eulogises Naidu

AMARAVATI, NOV 29

ANDHRA Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said the 8.2 per cent GDP growth rate in the second quarter of FY26 is uplifting news for every citizen and a pace which places India as the world's fastest-growing major economy. The chief minister made these remarks in reaction to a social media post by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who termed the 8.2 per cent GDP growth rate as very encouraging.

"India's 8.2% GDP growth in Q2 of 2025-26 is uplifting news for every citizen, a pace that places India as the world's fastest-growing major economy," said Naidu in a post on X, late on Friday. —PTI

Naxalism alive in just some pockets, will be eliminated by Mar '26: Dy CM

RAIPUR, NOV 29

EIGHTY per cent of the menace of Naxalism has been eradicated in Chhattisgarh, with just some pockets remaining in the western regions of Abujmad as well as southern regions of Sukma and Bijapur districts, Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma said on Saturday.

The Centre has resolved to eliminate Naxalism from the country by March 2026 and it will be successfully done within the stipulated time, said Sharma, who holds the Home portfolio in the BJP government in the state.

"Naxalism has been eradicated in Chhattisgarh by 80 per cent and only 20 per cent remains. It persists in some areas in the western regions of Abujmad, in the southern regions of Sukma and Bijapur districts. Today, people in Bastar can finally breathe in the open air without fear," he said.

The situation would soon stabilise to the point where one can sit by the banks of the Indravati river (which flows through Bastar region) in the evening and enjoy a



cup of tea, he said, adding the government firmly believes Bastar's 'jal, jungle, zameen' (water, forests and land) belongs to the people of Bastar, especially its youth. A strong voice is emerging that Bastar's youth themselves will steer the future of the region. They say they will take care of Bastar. This is a matter of pride and immense satisfaction. The enthusiasm seen in 'Bastar Olympics' and 'Bastar Pandum' festival shows youth are prepared to take charge of the region," Sharma said.

All legal provisions related to empowering panchayats and gram sabhas would be implemented soon, the Deputy CM added. Asked about Union Amit Shah's statement that the Centre has given permanent solutions to three major security hotspots - Left-Wing Extremism, the North-East, and Jammu & Kashmir, Sharma said, "I have heard that after taking charge of the Union Home Ministry for the first time, he (Shah) had emphasised that separate cells for Naxalism, the Northeast, and J & K should be dissolved, as every part of the country should progress equally." —PTI

BJP stresses importance of building robust organisation ahead of '26 TN polls

CHENNAI, NOV 29

THE Tamil Nadu unit of the BJP held its State Executive Committee meeting in Kumbakonam on Saturday, bringing together the party's top national strategists and senior state leaders for an extensive review of organisational preparedness and electoral strategies. The meeting served as a platform to chart the political roadmap for the coming months, with a special focus on strengthening the BJP's presence across Tamil Nadu ahead of the 2026 Assembly polls.

BJP National General Secretary (Organisation) B. L. Santhosh, who played a



key role in steering the discussions, stressed the importance of building a robust organisational structure at the booth, mandal, and district levels. He emphasised the need for disciplined cadre-based activity, continuous outreach programmes, and streamlined coordination between various wings of the party. Tamil Nadu BJP President Nainar Nagenthran presented an overview of the ongoing initiatives across the State,

including membership drives, Jana Sampark programmes, district-level campaigns, and social media outreach.

He noted that the enthusiasm among party cadres has grown significantly in recent months, particularly in urban centres and industrial belts. BJP's Tamil Nadu Election In-Charge and National Vice President Bajajant Panda highlighted the importance of data-driven campaigning and constituency-specific political engagement.

He urged the state leadership to prioritise booth-level committees and intensify public contact programmes ahead of upcoming electoral battles. —PTI

BJP: Case against suspended Congress MLA Mamkootathil to cover up Sabarimala gold theft

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, NOV 29

KERALA BJP President Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Saturday said that filing of the sexual assault case against suspended Congress MLA Rahul Mamkootathil was a strategy of the CPI(M)-Congress alliance to "cover up" the Sabarimala gold theft," he claimed.

He said the allegations against Mamkootathil existed even before the bye-election. "Yet, the Congress imposed him on the people of Palakkad," he added.



Mean-while, former BJP State President K. Surendran demanded that the Congress leadership hand over the complaints received against Mamkootathil to the police. He questioned why the KPCC and AICC, despite receiving complaints from several victims, did not pass them on to law enforcement. The State General Secretary of the

Youth Congress himself had publicly acknowledged complaints against Mamkootathil, yet no action followed.

Surendran asked why the Leader of the Opposition V.D. Satheesan, "failed" to inform the police. "If the Congress claims to have taken a moral stand, then why is Mamkootathil not being made to resign?" asked Surendran.

He pointed out that even senior Congress leaders like Satheesan and Ramesh Chennithala had distanced themselves from Mamkootathil, but the leadership still refused to demand his resignation. "This is the double standard

adopted by the Congress," said Surendran. Surendran alleged that massive cyber attacks were launched against the victims, and even Satheesan was targeted after calling for action. He said many girls were

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R-5276