

Army officer 'torture': Odisha police revoke suspension order

Suspension orders of a Sub-Inspector, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors and a constable have been withdrawn while Bharatpur police station Inspector-in-charge continue to remain suspended

Press Trust of India
BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha police has revoked the suspension order of four out of five personnel, who faced disciplinary action in September last year in connection with the alleged torture of an Army officer and "sexual assault" of his fiancée, an official notification said.

The alleged incident had taken place on September 15, 2024 when the Army officer and his fiancée went to Bharatpur police station here to lodge a complaint of road rage.



Activists and kin of suspended police officers protest demanding withdrawal of their suspension in Bhubaneswar. FILE PHOTO

on Monday night said. The suspension orders of a Sub-Inspector, two Assistant Sub-Inspectors and a constable have been withdrawn, it stated.

Judicial inquiry
The Odisha government had earlier ordered a judicial inquiry and a crime branch investigation into the allegations.

The judicial commission headed by retired Orissa High Court judge Justice Chittaranjan Dash had submitted a 282-page probe report to the State's Home Department in March.

Bharatpur police station Inspector-in-charge Dinakrushna Mishra, however, will continue to remain suspended, the order issued by DGP Y.B. Khurania

DPS Dwarka fee hike row: more parents join protest against students' expulsion

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Parents of several students studying in various branches of Delhi Public Schools (DPS) held a protest outside the Directorate of Education (DoE) on Tuesday, over the "arbitrary" fee hike and the expulsion of their wards.

According to the parents, DPS Dwarka allegedly expelled 32 students earlier this month due to non-payment of increased fees.

Vivek Jain, parent of a DPS Rohini student, called on authorities to intervene at once. "We are willing to pay the fee approved by the government, but not the increased amount imposed by the school without proper explanation."

He also urged the government to share the draft



Parents protesting outside the Delhi Directorate of Education in New Delhi. FILE PHOTO

of the proposed school fee regulation bill with parents. "We want to understand whether it genuinely safeguards the interests of parents and students," he said.

Aswani Makul, whose child also studies at DPS Rohini, said they had even approached the High Court regarding the issue, but no concrete step was taken by

Transporters in W.B. to go on 3-day strike

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

Several transport operators' associations across West Bengal have called for a 72-hour strike starting May 22, alleging the government's "unsatisfactory" response to their grievances against "police oppression" and stringent government directives.

Representatives of the associations met transport secretary Saumitra Mohan on Tuesday, before calling the strike their "last resort".

the DoE. "The school continues. We need clear and decisive action from the authorities," he said. Sangeeta, a parent of a DPS Dwarka student, said, "We are ready to pay the fee set by the directorate, but the school keeps raising it on its own. There is a lack of transparency, and parents are being unfairly burdened."

A group of parents wrote a letter to the Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, listing eight demands and seeking urgent government intervention.

In their letter, the parents urged the government to roll back any unapproved fee hikes and take strict action against schools coercing students.

3 nabbed over illegal abortion; doctors' licences cancelled

Press Trust of India
CHANDIGARH

Haryana authorities have

suspended licences of two medics in connection with illegal abortions and arrested three allegedly fake

doctors for illegally dispensing Medical Termination of Pregnancy Kits, officials on Tuesday said.

The suspension was announced during a weekly meeting of the State Task Force.

ENTERPRISE CONNECT

Avlokan 2025 at Manav Rachna Showcases Powerful Films, Sparks Dialogue on Acting

The 11th edition of Avlokan, the annual student film festival hosted by the Department of Media and Communication Studies at Manav Rachna International Institute of Research and Studies (MIRRS), Centre around the theme "Unseen, Unheard, Unsung," the film festival drew over 100 entries across Short Fiction, Documentaries, and Reels from students and young filmmakers across India. The films delved on subjects ranging from social justice and marginalized voices to personal journeys and cultural heritage. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Amit Bhalta, Vice President, Manav Rachna Educational Institutions, remarked, Avlokan is a space for experimentation and bold expression. It offers students a platform to stage to showcase their talent while engaging with narratives that often go unheard. Dr. Sanjay Srivastava, Vice Chancellor, MIRRS, shared how the university's various platforms like Avlokan as extensions of academic learning. "Creative arts and communication have never been more important. Through festivals like these, we aim to inspire socially aware storytellers."



development initiatives. In partnership with artists, networks, and NGOs, Hindustan Zinc has established a block printing unit in Amjer, employing 18 women who have been trained by skilled experts in traditional techniques. The company has also launched an Ajrak printing initiative to further promote heritage textile art. Both these efforts contribute to Hindustan Zinc's clothing brand, Upjays, which celebrates traditional craftsmanship while enabling sustainable livelihoods, reflecting on our commitment to preserving India's cultural heritage and empowering rural women with skills, income, and pride in their craft.

Safe and Hassle-Free: Uttarakhand's Chardham Yatra 2025 Sets New Standards



The sacred Uttarakhand Chardham Yatra, encompassing Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath, and Badrinath, commenced on April 30, 2025, with the Uttarakhand government implementing comprehensive measures to ensure a safe and seamless pilgrim experience for devotees. The first few weeks of the Yatra have seen a tremendous surge of pilgrims to the Dhams, with the number of pilgrims visiting the Char Dham 10,25,2025 was 6,05,193, with the 2,48,548 at Kedarnath, 1,30,205 at Badrinath, 1,04,300 at Gangotri and 1,22,130 at Yamunotri. Sh. Sachin Kumar, Secretary Tourism, Govt. of Uttarakhand, again reviewed the preparations for the Yatra and issued instructions for the Yatra officers to ensure all measures for a hassle-free Yatra for pilgrims. He also gave instructions to establish proper communication with all stakeholders like accommodation owners, transporters and the local community to create a memorable experience for the visitors.

Uttar Pradesh's First Footwear Park to be Established in Kanpur, MSME Policy to Boost Industries



Under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath Ji, the Uttar Pradesh State Industrial Development Authority (UPSIDA) is actively working towards strengthening and modernizing the state's industrial infrastructure, thereby accelerating the goal of transforming Uttar Pradesh into a \$1 trillion economy. In this direction, UPSIDA is taking yet another significant step by establishing Uttar Pradesh's first Footwear Park in Kanpur, spread across 131.69 acres. This project will offer attractive opportunities for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs). The Footwear Park will offer vast potential for manufacturing uniform shoes, casual shoes, sports shoes, textile and athletic footwear, moans, sandals, ballerinas, rubber and plastic/PVC shoes, and finished leather products. UPSIDA's Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Mayur Maheshwari, said, "Under the guidance of the state government, UPSIDA has been committed to providing world-class infrastructure and a conducive industrial environment to investors. The proposed Footwear Park in Kanpur will not only accelerate regional industrial development but will also generate thousands of employment opportunities. Through the incentives offered under the MSME Policy 2022, we aim to empower small and medium entrepreneurs and make substantial progress towards making Uttar Pradesh a \$1 trillion economy."

Reviving Roots, Empowering People: Hindustan Zinc's Artistic Movement

The company has been steadfast in reviving India's rich artistic legacy while empowering communities through inclusive and sustainable

NBCC successfully conducted e-auction for bulk sale of residential units at Aspire Silicon City, Noida, Uttar Pradesh

A Business Initiative

NBCC (India) Limited successfully conducted the e-auction of 446 residential units with 13.84 lakh sq. ft. saleable area at Aspire Silicon City, Noida, achieving a total sale price of Rs. 1467.93crores. The high-stakes auction received an overwhelming response with bids well above the reserve price. The funds will go towards repayment of bank loans as well as reducing the funding requirement of ongoing projects. A project monitored by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, Aspire Silicon City project has state-of-the-art facilities and strategic location making it a popular investment opportunity. This sale will prove to be a milestone in completing the stalled Amrapali projects and will fulfil the dream of many homebuyers to own a home. Till date, e-auctions have been completed for 5 new FAR projects of Amrapali (Aspire G+R Homes, Aspire Grandeur, PM Surya Ghar HUF Village, Aspire Leisure Park and Aspire Silicon City) comprising a total of 4470 residential units (saleable area of 11,274 million sq. ft.) with a total sale value of Rs. 8555.85 crore.

PNB Launches "Monthly Retail Outreach Programme": Empowering Every Customer

Punjab National Bank (PNB), the nation's largest public sector bank, introduces its comprehensive Monthly Retail Outreach Programme – a nationwide strategic initiative being organized on 15/05/2025 to reach out to Pan India customers for offering tailored financial solutions in various retail lending segments. PNB Monthly Retail Outreach Programme brings a wide range of lending solutions under one platform, providing accessibility to essential financial products with competitive interest rates and minimal TAT & documentation required for offering tailored offers on-the-spot consultations, instant eligibility checks and in-principal sanction to eligible customers. Customers can also avail Home Loan, Loan Under PM Surya Ghar HUF, Biji Yojana, Vehicle Loan and Education Loan through our digital channel i.e., PNB ONE App.

GAIL (India) Limited Reports its Highest ever EBITDA, PBT & PAT



Shri Sandeep Kumar Gupta, Chairman & Managing Director, GAIL (India) Limited said that, the robust performance during FY25 is primarily driven by better physical & financial performance across all major segments. Despite challenges in global economy, our company had a landmark year, reaching unprecedented financial milestones and achieving the highest-ever EBITDA, PBT and PAT in GAIL's history. The Board of Directors has recommended a final dividend of ₹ 1 per equity share (face value of ₹10 per equity share) for the financial year 2024-25, subject to shareholder approval at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM). This is in addition to the interim dividend of ₹5.00 per equity share. Consequently, the dividend payout ratio for the Financial year stands at 43.59 %. He further stated that the Company has incurred a Capex of Rs. 10,512 Crores during the FY25.

Mamata disburses tranche of Banglar Bari to beneficiaries

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

Emphasising her track record of fulfilling promises, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday announced that 12 lakh beneficiaries have received the second instalment of Banglar Bari - a scheme aimed at providing houses to the rural poor.

"We had given 50% of the funds earlier promising that the remaining will be disbursed in May. Today, we have completed it. If we make promises, we keep them too," the Chief Minister said.

Ms. Banerjee had announced the Banglar Bari scheme in December 2024 after the disbursement of funds under the PM Awas Yojana to the State was halted.

"The remaining 16 lakh beneficiaries from the list will get (the instalment) of the first phase in December whereas the second phase will commence in May 2026. In total, 28 lakh beneficiaries will be getting benefits of the scheme," she said.

Speaking at a public event in North Bengal, the Chief Minister said her government stood firmly with tea garden workers. "A lot of people claim they will give a lot of things but they didn't do so all these years? They are



Mamata Banerjee

nowhere to be seen during any leopard attacks yet make tall claims," she remarked.

Ms. Banerjee accused the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) of reneging on its promise to reopen tea gardens. "Ahead of elections, I remember a BJP leader saying that they would reopen all tea gardens. But they couldn't even reopen one. I want to thank Mulo Ghatak, Gautam, Prakash Chik Barak, Ganga Prasad Sharma, and others for reopening eight tea gardens in Alipurdur and seven tea gardens in Jalpaiguri. Before this, 59 tea gardens were reopened by us," the Trinamool Congress chairperson added.

Ms. Banerjee noted that under her government, the wages of tea garden workers have risen to ₹250.

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