

'Grew up in family where women were bosses': Rahul

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Gauri Khan Calls Anil Kapoor And Radhika Mandan's Subedaar A 'Thrilling Film'

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Committed to ensure women's safety: Omar



Chief Minister Omar Abdullah today said his government was committed to ensure empowerment of women, their safety & dignity, and provide equal opportunities to them across all spheres of life.

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Schools to reopen in Kashmir

Director School Education, Kashmir, Naseer Ahmad Wani today said that all schools across the division would reopen tomorrow as per the already notified schedule, dismissing rumours circulating on social media regarding any delay in this connection.

He urged parents and the general public not to pay heed to unverified information being shared online, stating that no change had been made to

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Man booked for sharing 'provocative' videos on social media

A man was today booked by police in Kashmir's Budgam district for allegedly circulating provocative videos on social media.

He was identified as Suhail Ahmad Bhat of Kuthipora, Chadoora. He was alleged to have uploaded videos on his Instagram account titled "Master Electrician" related to a recent protest concerning the ongoing situation in Middle East. According to officials, police had registered an FIR against him under relevant sections of law. The videos were all

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Cong slams Centre on rising pollution

NEW DELHI, MAR 08: Expressing concern over rising pollution levels, the Congress on Sunday demanded an urgent review and upgradation of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, 2009, and asserted that they must be enforced as well as monitored more effectively everywhere.

Taking a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said, "PM 56-inch has been exposed, PM2.5 is for real."

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Ranji triumph has energised J&K youth: Jitendra



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 08

Union minister Jitendra Singh today said that the historic Ranji Trophy victory of the Jammu and Kashmir cricket team had energised youngsters and reflected the democratisation

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Post-Budget webinar

Modi to lead discussion on inclusive growth, policy implementation

NEW DELHI, MAR 08: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will address a post-Budget webinar on Monday on the theme "Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas - Fulfilling Aspirations of People", as the government begins the process of translating the announcements made in the Union Budget into actionable strategies across key sectors of the economy.

"The PM will address the webinar via video conferencing. The event will bring together policymakers, industry leaders, domain experts and other stakeholders to deliberate on ways to implement the priorities outlined in the budget and ensure that policy initiatives move quickly from announcement to execution," says an official handout.

The webinar is part of a broader series of post-budget consultations that the government has been organising in recent years to strengthen engagement with industry and experts. These interactions are aimed at building consensus around policy goals while also identifying practical pathways for implementing the government's development agenda.

Under the overarching theme of inclusive growth, the programme will feature multiple breakout sessions



covering sectors such as education and skilling, health and AYUSH, tourism and hospitality.

Officials said the discussions will focus on strengthening the link between education and employment, expanding skill development initiatives and creating opportunities in emerging industries that are expected to shape the future workforce.

Among the initiatives expected to be discussed is the development of Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) content creator labs, which are being promoted as part of India's push to build a globally competitive digital creative ecosystem. The move is aimed at encouraging innovation, supporting young creators and positioning India as a significant hub in the fast-growing global creative technology industry.

Healthcare will also be a major focus of the deliberations. Sessions are expected to explore expanding the pool of allied health professionals and caregiver training programmes, along with proposals to create regional medical hubs that could strengthen healthcare infrastructure and improve access to specialised services across different parts of the country. Expansion of institutions under the traditional medicine system, particularly within the framework of the Ministry of AYUSH, will also form part of the discussions.

Tourism and hospitality have been identified as another key growth area in the policy dialogue. Officials said the webinar will examine strategies for hospitality skill development, the creation of sustainable tourism trails and the promotion of heritage tourism across regions. Plans to strengthen the Buddhist tourism circuit in the North-Eastern region are also expected to be discussed, reflecting the government's focus on leveraging cultural and spiritual heritage to boost tourism and regional development.

Government officials said the Post-Budget Webinar is designed to provide a platform for collaborative engagement between the government,

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Budget Session

No-trust resolution against Birla, West Asia crisis to dominate

NEW DELHI, MAR 08: The second half of the Budget session of Parliament is set for a stormy start on Monday, with the Lok Sabha scheduled to take up the opposition-sponsored resolution seeking the removal of Speaker Om Birla.

The ongoing conflict in West Asia is also likely to figure prominently as the opposition is already attacking the government over its stance towards Iran, the US "waiver" on India's Russian oil purchase, among other issues. Besides, the outcome of

the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in poll-bound West Bengal, which led to the deletion of nearly 60 lakh votes, is also expected to cast its shadow on parliamentary proceedings.

The no-confidence resolution against Birla was given by several opposition leaders who alleged that he had acted in a "blatantly partisan" manner in the House.

They had also accused the speaker of making certain false claims against the Congress members when he spoke of some

"unexpected action" in the Lok Sabha and had asked Prime Minister Narendra Modi not to come to the House to reply to the debate in the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address.

Birla had recused himself from the proceedings of the House from the date of submission of the notice, with the Lok Sabha secretariat saying he would return only after the disposal of the agenda.

On Saturday, Prime Minister Modi backed Birla, saying he had taken

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Women key to nation's progress: Prez



NEW DELHI, MAR 08: President Droupadi Murmu today said that women are not only the foundation of society but also the builders of the nation's future, emphasising that educated, self-reliant, and empowered women are central to a country's development.

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EAM to speak in LS on West Asia conflict



NEW DELHI, MAR 08: Amid rising hostilities in the Iran-Israel war, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar is scheduled to speak on the prevailing situation in West Asia.

According to a government release, Lok Sabha listed a statement by Jaishankar for Monday.

The United States and is

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Iran picks next Supreme Leader after Khamenei's death

DUBAI, MAR 08: Iran's Assembly of Experts has reached a decision on the country's next supreme leader following the death of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, although the name of the chosen candidate had not yet been announced, members of the body said on Sunday.

"The most suitable candidate, approved by the majority of the Assembly of Experts, has been determined," Mohsen Heydari, a member of the selection body representing Khuzestan province, said.

Another member of the body, Mohammad Mehdi

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Must cultivate work culture that eliminates delays in delivering justice: LG



Himalayan Mail News JAMMU, MAR 08

Stating that 'there is the need for a work culture that eliminates delays in delivering justice', LG Manoj Sinha today called upon ACB officers to conduct self-audit of their work to further strengthen their credibility.

"We must cultivate a work culture that eliminates all delays in delivering justice," he said in his address after inaugurating the Anti-Corruption Bu-

reau headquarters building at Sidhra on the city outskirts here and ACB APKS branch, Awantipora.

The LG asked ACB officers to conduct a daily self-audit of their work to strengthen their hard-earned credibility.

He also asked ACB to ensure that each decision, investigation and prosecution stands firm under scrutiny of the courts and must harness the authority granted by the nation's Constitution to expose injustice, eradicate corruption entirely, and earn the

trust of the people.

"Jammu & Kashmir no longer settles for mediocrity or ordinary. It now dares to dream big. Among our people, a firm belief has taken roots that a golden future lies ahead. Fulfilling this vision is also the responsibility of ACB officers and staff," Sinha said.

He emphasised that the two buildings inaugurated today were not merely structures of steel, glass, and concrete but 'they stand as a bold declaration of transparency in public

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Ruthless India hammer New Zealand by 96 runs

Defend T20 WC crown

AHMEDABAD, MAR 08: In the T20 World Cup final, India today hammered New Zealand in a one-sided final, posting 255 and then defending it by 96 runs in Ahmedabad.

Sanju Samson's sensational 89 and Jasprit Bumrah's magical four-wicket haul ensured India became the first team to lift three men's T20 World Cup titles.

With this win, the curse at the Narendra Modi Stadium was finally lifted. Under the ring of fire, and in front of nearly 90,000



roaring fans in Ahmedabad, the ghosts of November 19, 2023 were pushed aside. The noise was deafening, the sea of blue relentless, and this time In-

dia refused to let history haunt them again.

Suryakumar Yadav's men defended the T20 World Cup crown in em

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Consider female lawyers of SC for judgeship: CJI to HC collegiums

NEW DELHI, MAR 08: Chief Justice of India Surya Kant on Sunday batted for greater institutional reforms in the judiciary to bring more women into the legal field and said that high court collegiums should consider meritorious women members of the Bar for judgeship as a norm and not as an exception.

Addressing an event, the Chief Justice of India (CJI) underlined that members of the bar must acknowledge and accept a simple reality: women members are not seeking concessions.



"They are seeking fair and appropriate representation, which has long been due. Only when the profession itself internalises this truth, will the pathway to the Bench become clearer," he said to applause from women lawyers and members of the judiciary at the first national conference of

Indian Women in Law on the topic "Half the Nation - Half the Bench Bridge the gap - Balance the Bench."

The CJI requested the high court collegiums to widen the zone of their consideration and include women advocates from their states who are practising in the Supreme Court for elevation.

CJI Kant said if progress is to be meaningful, it must be institutionalised. The story should not be that one individual secured greater representation, but it should be that the

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India taps alternative crude supplies as Iran conflict drags on

NEW DELHI, MAR 08: Indian refiners have begun negotiating for additional crude cargoes from Russia, the US and West Africa to ensure supplies remain adequate in the event of the Middle East conflict drags on for a longer period.

Refineries, which convert crude oil into fuels like petrol and diesel, have deferred planned maintenance shutdowns and are maintaining normal processing rates to create buffers that could meet the country's requirement in the near term, officials & analysts said.

India imports about 88 per cent of its crude oil requirement, with roughly half of those supplies in February passing through the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow sea lane between Iran and Oman that serves as a key energy transit route for global markets.

The recent military strikes by the United States and Israel on Iran, and Tehran's retaliatory attacks on US bases in neighbouring countries as well as Israel, have sharply escalated tensions in the region, leading to a near halt in tanker movements through the strategic

waterway. "Non-strait sources are fully operational and we are sourcing more and more supplies from non-conflict zones," a top oil ministry source said. "Non-strait sources accounted for 60 per cent of supplies in 2025 which after the Middle East conflict climbed to 70 per cent."

Indian refiners are tapping crude from West Africa, Latin America and the US, he said adding the US Treasury Department issuing a 30-day waiver to allow the sale and delivery of

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