

BJP's way of working ahead of elections: Bhagwant Mann on CBI raids

Bharat's Traditions Key To Safety, Welfare Of Society In The World: Bhagwat

CHANDIGARH, OCT 7: A day after the CBI raided his officer-on-special duty (OSD) in a corruption case, on Wednesday, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said it was the BJP's "way of working" ahead of election and claimed that the agency found nothing incriminating.

The CBI on Tuesday registered a corruption case involving an OSD to Mann and other officers at the direction of the Punjab and Haryana High Court and raided several locations, including the chief minister's "camp office", officials said.

Directing a probe by the federal agency, the high court earlier noted that the material shared by the Enforcement Directorate prima facie indicated the officers' involvement in acts of corruption.

Speaking to reporters in Dhuri in Sangrur, Mann lashed out at the BJP, accusing it of misusing central agencies whenever elections are due.

Mann alleged that whenever an election is due, the party starts "harassing" the opposition leaders, their as-



sociates, or their family members through raids months before.

"A raid was conducted at Hemant Soren's residence in Chhattisgarh. Elections were due after two months. Similarly, close leaders of Mamata Banerjee in West Bengal were apprehended ahead of elections," he said.

Mann also cited the arrest of Arvind Kejriwal and Manish Sisodia in Delhi, and raids by the Enforcement Directorate in Haryana against Congress leaders, both times ahead of an election, as instances of BJP's power abuse.

"From yesterday's raid, it

shows they (BJP) are rattled," he said.

"They did not find anything during the raid which lasted 7-8 hours," he claimed.

"What will they get from us? We have not come here to indulge in corrupt practices," Man added.

The AAP leader said that maybe the CBI will now give his party a clean chit and will "tell (Narendra) Modi that 'nothing will be found from here and do not waste our time'."

He also accused the BJP of trying to defame him, his family and his government. "We have big gatherings

during our Lok Milni programmes. But BJP's anti-drug yatra has completely turned out to be a flop," he also said.

Referring to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's claim of ending drugs by December 2029, Mann alleged that drugs come from Gujarat via Rajasthan, two states where BJP is in power.

"You should end drugs in Delhi and Gujarat ... You have the BSF at the border, and it comes under Amit Shah," he said.

Mann asserted that the people of Punjab will not allow any "arm-twisting" by the Centre through its agencies.

"Have we come here to take money from transfers? This is the allegation they make. They did not find anything. There is no WhatsApp chat, and there is nothing," he claimed.

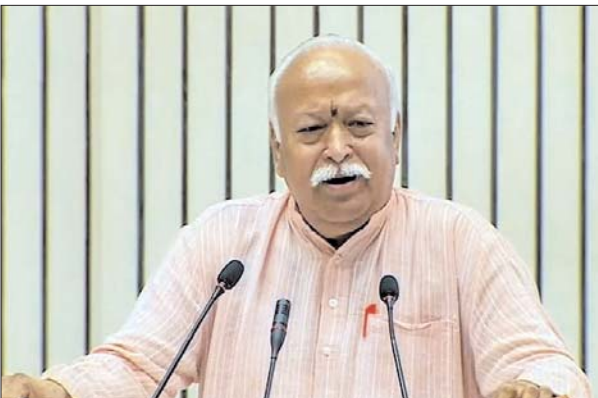
Mann said that the raids were made within 24 hours of the high court order, wondering whether the CBI works on older cases.

"We are not scared of investigation. We will face it," Mann said. (PTI)

MUMBAI, OCT 7: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat said on Wednesday that the people of Bharat should follow their traditions and work for the betterment of society and the world, stressing that everyone should contribute towards ensuring a fulfilling life for all.

Bharat's traditions are key to ensuring the safety and welfare of society and the world, he said after inaugurating various initiatives at the Gau-Vigyan Anusandhan Kendra in Deolapur, Nagpur district, to mark the birth centenary year of late VHP president Ashok Singhal.

"For the safety of our lives, society, religion and the betterment of the world, the path that is becoming unavoidable every passing day is that the people of Bharat should live as per their traditions and succeed. Everyone should have a fulfilling life,



and we all should do something," he said.

The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) chief said the number of people "engaged in good work" was not enough when compared with the size of society and called for greater participation by people in social causes.

He said there were two ways of remembering good people -- by doing good work or merely remembering

those who had done good work. Many people, he said, believed that someone else should undertake such work even when they knew what needed to be done.

"People say they have a job and a family to raise, but expect someone else to do something good for society," Bhagwat said, adding that when something good happens, it reflects the contribution of the entire society.

He said people who

demonstrate sacrifice and endurance in their personal lives can inspire others to take difficult paths and move forward.

"When you give a lot, you get a lot in return also," Bhagwat said, citing the examples of late Moropant Pinglay and VHP (Vishva Hindu Parishad) leader Ashok Singhal, who, he said, dedicated their lives to a larger cause and are widely honoured today.

Bhagwat said the two leaders did not focus on personal gains but committed themselves to social welfare, eventually becoming prominent leaders.

He said whenever something good happens in the present, the world remembers those who had initiated such work in the past, and that remembering them was a true tribute to their commitment. (Agencies)

Pregnancy complications related with higher risk of cardio-renal conditions, study finds

NEW DELHI, OCT 7: Women who experienced a complication in pregnancy could be at a higher risk of developing cardiometabolic-renal conditions in subsequent years, according to UK research.

Complications of gestational diabetes, high blood pressure, and postnatal depression were linked to a raised risk of four conditions -- cardiovascular disease, type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure or chronic kidney disease, findings published in the British Medical Journal (BMJ) Medicine suggest.

Researchers, including those from King's College London, also found that pre-term birth, miscarriage, stillbirth, placental abruption --

where the placenta separates from the inner wall of the womb before delivery -- and babies born either small or large for their gestational age, were associated with a raised risk of at least one cardiometabolic-renal condition.

"Gestational hypertension and pre-eclampsia more than tripled the rate of hypertension and approximately doubled the rate of chronic kidney disease, with smaller increases for cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes mellitus," they wrote.

They added, "Gestational diabetes mellitus was associated with a sevenfold higher rate of type 2 diabetes mellitus and increased rates for

hypertension and cardiovascular disease."

"Postnatal depression increased the rate of all four outcomes by 35-56% for the latest pregnancy," the authors wrote.

They searched a primary care database to find women who had been pregnant and were registered with a GP (general practitioner) in the UK during 2000-2022. The information was linked to hospital data to identify pregnancy complications.

The team identified more than 1.4 million women who had been pregnant, with or without pregnancy complications, and were followed for an average of four years.

The authors said more research is needed to better un-

derstand the underlying mechanism behind these associations and to see whether adding a woman's pregnancy history to existing risk models makes it easier to predict her future heart, kidney and metabolic health.

They added that while the study does not imply that the pregnancy complication causes a subsequent disease, the complication functions as a clinical marker of underlying risk. "These findings support obtaining a full reproductive history and using the postpartum period as an opportune time for risk assessment and preventative cardioprotective strategies in women with a history of adverse pregnancy outcomes," the team wrote. (PTI)

"Golden And Epoch-Making Day In Indian Democracy": Shah Hails PM Modi's 25-Year Journey As Head Of Govt

GURUGRAM (HARYANA), OCT 7: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 25-year journey as Chief Minister and Prime Minister marked a significant chapter in the history of Indian democracy.

He said the 'Seva Jyoti Yatra' had been organised in every district across the country to commemorate PM Modi's 25-year journey in public service.

Addressing the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Sabha'-Seva Jyoti Yatra' in Gurugram, Shah said, "7 October marks a golden and epoch-making day in the history of Indian democracy. Today, an indi-

vidual born into a family of very humble means, by virtue of his qualities and capabilities, and with the support of crores of people, has set a record of serving continuously for twenty-five years as Chief Minister and Prime Minister; that individual is our PM, Narendra Modi."

"To commemorate this journey, the 'Seva Jyoti Yatra' has been organised in every district across the country... A group of youths will arrive at the intersection 800 meters from here carrying the 'Seva Jyoti Yatra' torch and will install it there... I urge all of you to join this 'Seva Jyoti Yatra' in the largest possible numbers," he further said.

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini and many other leaders also attended the programme.

Earlier, Prime Minister Modi paid tribute to grass-roots workers and swayamsevaks across the nation, stating that they are guided by the enduring motto: "We are sevaks. We are servants of humanity."

Addressing the 'Seva Jyoti' program at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in the national capital to mark the completion of his 25 continuous years as the head of government, the Prime Minister acknowledged the selfless dedication of party workers in safeguarding the nation's cultural ethos.

"I have never felt that I am alone. There are countless swayamsevaks who are guardians of India's cultural soul, with one sole purpose: to serve Bharat. They live by this spirit and remind themselves every moment: 'We are sevaks. We are servants of humanity.' I respectfully salute every Swayamsevak and Karyakarta who continues to serve the nation with commitment and devotion," PM Modi said.

Prime Minister completed 25 years at the helm of government on Wednesday, beginning his tenure as Gujarat Chief Minister on October 7, 2001, and serving three consecutive terms as Prime Minister since 2014.

Satellite photos show how Israeli forces have erased Gaza towns

DEIR-AL-BALAH (GAZA), OCT 7: It's perhaps the most dramatic wound inflicted on the Gaza Strip by Israel's military campaign over the past three years: The city of Rafah, once home to a quarter million people, has been erased.

Satellite imagery shows the Israeli military has systematically razed the southern city and other towns and districts to the ground and in some places plowed away the rubble. Demolition, using bulldozers and explosives, has continued unabated since the Israel-Hamas ceasefire deal reached a year ago, as the military solidifies its hold over the around 60 per cent of the territory that it still controls.

Gaza's mangled landscape is just one of the wounds on top of wounds that the enclave's 2 million Palestinians have endured since Israel launched its campaign to destroy Hamas after the militants' October 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel.

More than one out of every 10 people from Gaza's pre-war population has been killed or wounded by Israeli fire. While nearly every family mourns dead or cares for wounded, most also had to move multiple times to escape fighting and Israeli evacuation orders. With almost the entire population homeless, the coastal territory is now effectively one of the world's most populated

tent cities. Ramshackle canvas and nylon shelters blanket beaches and former agricultural lands and fill empty lots.

Little is likely to change for the foreseeable future. While the ceasefire deal stopped the offensives and heaviest bombardment, Israel hits tents, cars and buildings almost daily in strikes that it says target Hamas members -- but that regularly kill women, children and other family members.

People no longer have to flee from place to place, but few can rebuild homes because Israel bars most construction material from entering Gaza. The ceasefire agreement's plan for the large-scale reconstruction of Gaza has never gotten off the ground because Israel and Hamas have failed to reach a deal on disarming the militant group.

Abu Eita lost her 7-year-old daughter when Israeli forces struck her home in the central refugee camp of Nuseirat in September 2024, and her three other children were injured in the attack. Abu Eita lost an eye, her face remains heavily damaged and scarred, and she has trouble breathing.

A hairdresser before the war, she now has no work, living in a tent by the ruins of her home. Worst of all, she says, her children are frightened by her face and avoid looking at her.

"My 4-year-old son tells me, Momma, I'll give you one of my eyes. And inside, I'm weeping," she said.

Gaza's population is squeezed into about 40% of the tiny territory, and Israel's military controls the rest. Satellite imagery by Planet Labs PBC shows that the vast majority of buildings in the Israel-held part have been bulldozed or exploded down to piles of rubble, much of it after major fighting ended a year ago.

The Israeli military says it demolishes buildings to prevent their use by Hamas militants or to destroy the group's tunnel networks.

But a UN-appointed expert said in a February report that the scale of destruction of civilian housing and infrastructure in Gaza "is unprecedented even by the terrible standards of modern warfare since the 20th century."

The report warned that it could constitute a crime against humanity or reach the level of genocide, which under international law includes "deliberately inflicting conditions of life calculated to bring about physical destruction."

Israel rejects accusations of genocide, saying it targets Hamas militants and their infrastructure that are interwoven with civilian areas.

The Planet Labs imagery shows at least 50 Israeli military outposts built through-

out the Israeli-held part of Gaza, at least 18 of them constructed since the ceasefire began. Many have been put on top of former neighbourhoods where the rubble of demolished buildings nearby has been cleared away.

Most of Rafah was razed before the ceasefire, but images show that troops continue to demolish the few remaining buildings. Several abandoned UN buildings have been spared, as well as a municipal sports field that now appears to contain a military base.

A new base also stands on what was once the main intersection of the southern town of Beni Suhaila. Levelled over the past year, the town is now a wasteland intersected by a spiderweb of dirt paths that were once streets.

In Jabaliya in the north, most of the al-Awda Hospital Complex was reduced to rubble in recent months, as were a number of UN-run school buildings, satellite images show. Jabaliya was once home to the Gaza Strip's biggest refugee camp, home to some 120,000 refugees and tens of thousands of other residents in a densely built urban district.

Now one of the few buildings still standing is the octagonal-shaped Indonesian Hospital, empty since troops shut it down in June 2025. The Israeli military built a new base nearby.