

# Security personnel at all central govt hospitals to go up by 25%

## But New Law To Ensure Medics' Safety Unlikely

New Delhi: The Centre has decided to increase security personnel by 25% at all hospitals run by it in view of the ongoing protests by doctors demanding better safety and security for healthcare workers following the Aug 9 rape-murder of an on-duty doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar hospital.

It has also directed these hospitals to deploy marshals for immediate security-related assistance, sources in the Union health ministry said on Monday.

However, introduction of a new central law to deal with violence against healthcare workers wasn't necessary, the sources said. "Bringing a law based on the RG Kar incident won't make a huge difference as this wasn't a case of patient-doctor violence. Rapes and murders are covered under existing laws," said one of the sources. Moreover, 26 states and UTs have already passed legislations to protect medics, the source pointed out. **TNN**

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As their strike entered the 8th day on Monday, resident doctors of AIIMS set up a makeshift OPD at their protest site outside Nirman Bhawan, which houses Union health ministry | **P 2**

## Doc rapes nurse at UP hosp

A doctor was arrested on Monday for allegedly raping a 20-year-old Dalit nurse who was on night duty at a private hospital owned by him in UP's Moradabad. A ward boy and another nurse who allegedly aided him in the crime were also arrested. Police sealed the hospital. **P 13**

## CBI meets parents of Kol hosp victim, seeks accused's polygraph test

A CBI team spent over six hours at the house of the RG Kar victim and recorded her family's statements on Monday.

Later, the agency moved the court of an additional chief judicial magistrate, seeking to conduct a polygraph test on accused Sanjay Roy, who the investigators felt, was trying to misguide them by giving contradictory information. The victim's

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family has been insisting Sanjay might not be the real culprit, and even if he did commit the crime, others were involved.

CBI is likely to conduct a psychological autopsy of the deceased doctor — her father gave the investigators photos of a few torn pages of her diary — to ascertain if she was more distressed than usual prior to her rape-murder on Aug 9. **P 11**

# Hasina's minister arrested; 2 more murder cases against deposed PM

## Petition Seeks A Ban On Awami League; Mob Attacks Leading Media Group's Offices In Dhaka, Vandalises Journos' Vehicles

AKM Moinuddin

Hasina govt, education minister in the fourth Hasina cabinet (till Jan 10, 2024), and foreign minister in the second Hasina cabinet (till Nov 20, 2013).

Moni is already facing a case in Chandpur, her constituency. On Aug 15, a case in Chandpur was filed against her and her

**Dhaka:** Police arrested on Monday former social welfare minister and Awami League joint general secretary Dipu Moni, who also has been foreign minister, while two more murder cases were filed against deposed PM Sheikh Hasina and a petition moved seeking a ban on Awami League and cancellation of its registration.



Dipu Moni

Unidentified miscreants, meanwhile, attacked East West Media Group, a leading media organisation, on Monday and vandalised its offices in Dhaka and nearly two dozen parked vehicles of senior journalists.

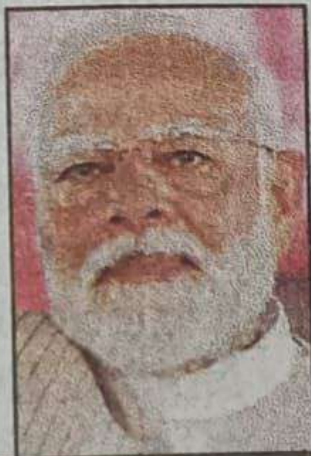
Dipu Moni had handled important responsibilities in Awami League govts. She was social welfare minister in the last

brother, JR Wadud Tipu, for attacking the residence of Sheikh Farid Ahmed Manik, BNP's district prez. The drive against Awami League bigwigs began with the arrests earlier this month of Sheikh Hasina's former private investment and industry adviser, Salman F Rahman, and her former law minister, Anisul Huq. Ex-deputy speaker Shamsul Haque Tuku and ex-state minister for ICT, Zunaid Ahmed Palak, have also been arrested.

The attack by unidentified people on East West Media Group occurred at around 2.30 pm (local time). Some of the attackers were wearing masks, said a journalist who witnessed the attack. Around 100 people with hockey sticks in their hands stormed the offices of the media group, the journalist added. They chanted slogans, forced open the main gate. Then they broke into the office of Capital FM Radio, part of the same media group, and damaged tables, computers, ACs, and other furniture. On the way out they vandalised 20-25 cars parked on the premises. Apart from this, the glass walls and doors of the building were broken. Kaler Konth, Bangladesh Pratidin, Daily Sun, BanglaNews 24, News 24 Channel, T Sports, and Capital FM Radio are housed in three buildings of the media group.

# PM Modi to visit Poland, Ukraine from Aug 21-23

Ahead of PM Modi's "landmark and historic" visit to Ukraine, govt indicated its position on the Russia-Ukraine war – that ensuring peace is possible only through dialogue & diplomacy and role of both parties – remains unchanged.



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He will travel to Poland on Aug 21. From there, he will undertake a 10-hour journey from Przemysl to arrive in Kyiv on Friday for an 8-hour visit that will see him holding talks with Zelensky & interacting with Indian students. **P 9**

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# China's Xi holds talks with top Vietnamese leader

BEIJING, Aug 19 (PTI)

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping Monday called for "better management" of differences between China and Vietnam over their maritime disputes as he met Vietnam's new top leader To Lam here, amidst increasing tensions in the disputed South China Sea.

Just two weeks ago, Lam took over as the general secretary of the ruling Vietnamese Communist Party, a powerful post similar to one held by Xi, who heads the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) - the country's top political position.

Lam succeeded Nguyen Phu



Chinese President Xi Jinping, right, and Vietnam's President To Lam shake hands after a signing ceremony at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing on Monday. (AP/PTI)

Trong, who died last month after 13 years as leader.

Hosting Lam for crucial talks,

Xi underscored that at the critical stage of national development and revitalization, China

and Vietnam should consolidate the development pattern featuring higher political mutual trust, more solid security cooperation, deeper practical cooperation, stronger public support, closer multilateral coordination and cooperation, and better management and resolution of differences.

He welcomed Lam's State Visit to China - his first foreign trip after taking over power.

Xi said Lam's gesture fully reflects the great importance the Vietnamese leader attaches to the relations between the two communist parties and the two countries, as well as the high level and strategic nature of China-Vietnam relations.

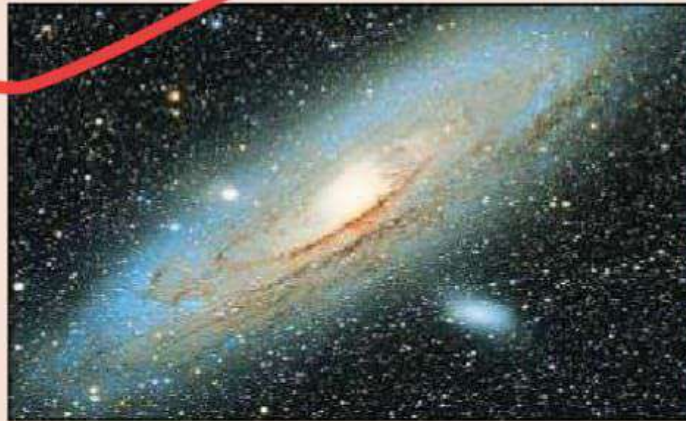
# India set to celebrate first National Space Day on Aug 23

NEW DELHI, Aug 19 (ANI)

**INDIA** is set to celebrate its first National Space Day on August 23, 2024.

In 2023, on this very day, Chandrayaan-3 accomplished the safe and soft landing of Vikram Lander on the lunar surface. India became the fourth country to land on the moon and the first to land near the southern polar region of the moon.

The Union Government has



declared August 23rd as "National Space Day" to celebrate the remarkable success of the Chandrayaan-3 Mission, which accomplished a safe and soft landing of the Vikram Lander and deployed the Pragyaan rover on the lunar surface near the South Pole. This achievement is being celebrated across the country with the goal of engaging and inspiring the younger generation in the field of Space  
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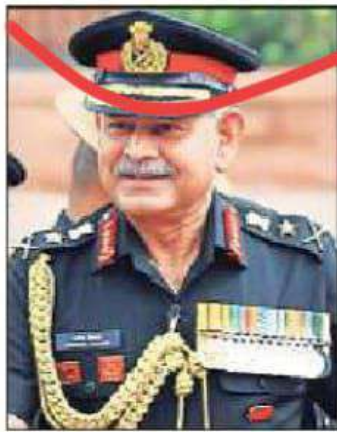
# Army leadership outlines roadmap to transform force for Government's vision of 'Viksit Bharat'

NEW DELHI, Aug 19 (PTI)

ARMY chief General Upendra Dwivedi on Monday held a key meeting with his top generals that focused on transforming the 1.2 million-strong force in line with the Government's vision to make India a developed country by 2047.

The discussions centred around modernisation of all combat and logistics arms of the Army as well as reorganisation of its headquarters, command headquarters, and other key formations to ensure optimal efficiency and operational readiness of the force.

"The forum provided an opportunity for the Indian Army's top brass to brainstorm



Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi

on strategic issues and set the direction for the Army's transformation over the next two

decades," the Army said in a statement.

The meeting in Delhi also extensively deliberated on enhancing joint operations and integration between the Army, the Navy and the Air Force to face the future challenges of warfare, it said. It was the first high-level meeting under General Dwivedi's leadership since he assumed the charge as the Army Chief on June 30.

The meeting, which will continue through August 20, is being attended by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chiefs (GOC-in-Cs) of the Army's 7 commands.

The focus of the discussion was on charting the future course of the Indian Army dur-

ing the Amrit Kaal (the period leading to centenary of India's independence) aligning with the Government's vision to make India a developed country and a significant global player by 2047, the Army said.

It said discussions were centred around ongoing transformational initiatives by the Indian Army and its contribution towards achieving the objective of 'Viksit Bharat' (developed India) by 2047.

The senior leadership engaged in interactive discussions to define the Army's role in the national vision.

In the meeting, General Dwivedi exhorted all stakeholders to promote 'Atmanirbharta' (self-reliance).