

PM Modi inaugurates Delhi's 1st Namu Bharat corridor

NEW DELHI, Jan 5 (IANS)

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday inaugurated the 13-kilometer stretch of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Namu Bharat corridor between Sahibabad and New Ashok Nagar.

The project, constructed at an estimated cost of Rs 4,600 crore, marks a significant milestone in regional connectivity, providing Delhi with its first Namu Bharat connectivity. This high-speed, reliable, and comfortable train service is set to ease travel for millions, saving commuters one-third of their usual travel time between Delhi and Meerut, that is, less than 40 minutes.

PM Modi, during his ride on the Namu
(Contd on page 5)



Prime Minister Narendra Modi takes a ride on a Namu Bharat train during the inauguration of 13 km stretch of Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System corridor on Sunday.

(PTI)

B'desh scraps judicial officials' training in India

Hasina's extradition is interim govt's priority: Official

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: A day after the Bangladesh law ministry issued a notification on Supreme Court directives for the training of 50 judicial officials in India, the Muhammad Yunus-led interim govt on Sunday cancelled the programme, adding to the already strained ties between the two neighbours since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina govt in Aug last year.

The Indian govt was to bear all the expenses for the judges' training at the National Judicial Academy and the State Judicial Academy in Madhya Pradesh's Bhopal from Feb 10-20, according to the now-cancelled notification.

The Supreme Court on Sunday reissued directives on the training of judges in India and this has led to the cancellation of the earlier approval for them to attend the training

Ahsan Tasnim

Dhaka: The extradition of Sheikh Hasina is the priority of the Bangladesh interim govt and she will be tried for cases of "crimes against humanity", the chief adviser's press secretary Shafiqul Alam said Sunday, even as Dhaka waits for a response from India on its Dec 23 request to hand over the ousted PM.

"We will try our best. She must face the trial. I think pressure will build on. Our pressure will relentlessly be there," he said while addressing a

programme in Bhopal, the law, justice, and parliamentary affairs ministry said in its latest notification on Sunday.

Assistant judges, senior assistant judges, joint district

press conference. He added such pressure will be mobilised worldwide and nobody wants to give space to a "killer".

The request for Hasina's extradition, which was made through a note verbale, followed an arrest warrant issued earlier for her alleged involvement in "crimes against humanity" to suppress mass protests. The Bangladesh foreign ministry had earlier said the 2013 extradition treaty between Dhaka and Delhi does not specify a time frame for responses.

In a long Facebook post, and sessions judges, additional district and sessions judges, district and sessions judges and officers of equivalent rank have been nominated for the training programme

Alam said, "No amount of lobbying will help Hasina and her murderous associates..." On the Awami League, he said it still has some hopes to return to the political arena. "But first they have to denounce Hasina for the massacres, murders and 'gloom' (enforced disappearance) and looting," Alam said. He said that "students and millions of July uprising protesters have thrown Hasina and her 'clan' into the dustbin of history". "Now, it is ordinary Awami League supporters turn to distance themselves from one of history's most corrupt and blood-thirsty dictators."

India and Bangladesh have witnessed strained ties, with New Delhi raising concern over a series of attacks on Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh.



Manipur tribal bloc ends NH2 blockade, with an 'ultimatum'

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Guwahati: Committee on Tribal Unity (CoTU) Saturday night lifted the economic blockade that had been enforced since Dec 31 in Manipur. The blockade, which had halted vehicular movement, including that of trucks carrying essential commodities on NH-2 in Manipur, was withdrawn after CoTU announced that the total shutdown in Kangpokpi will be lifted from 2am on Sunday.

Besides lifting the blockade, CoTU also issued a 48-hour ultimatum to state govt to withdraw CAPF personnel stationed at Saibol, asserting that they were being "controlled from the valley".

Saibol, in Kangpokpi, witnessed a violent confron-



Security forces recovered 42 weapons, ammunition and warlike stores during joint operations on Sunday

tation between central security forces and Kuki women on Dec 31, resulting in more than 40 Kuki women being grievously injured. Local organisations said the women confronted the security personnel to safeguard their "community bunkers," while the security forces claimed they had dismantled "illegal bunkers".

Issuing a statement Saturday, CoTU stated that imposition of an indefinite economic blockade and recurrent extension of 24-hour total shutdown within Sadar Hills, Kangpokpi, will be withdrawn from Sunday. They said the decision was taken as per understanding with authorities concerned for deployment of 112 CRPF Battalion, particularly at Saibol, under Lhungtin subdivision.

However, while appreciating deployment of security personnel, CoTU emphasised that it will be compelled to resort to a more stringent mode of agitation, unless the remaining CAPF deployed from the valley is withdrawn from Saibol within 48 hours from the time of withdrawal of the blockade.

2047 developed nation vision a certain destination: Dhankhar

NEW DELHI, Jan 5 (PTI)

INDIA'S vision of becoming a developed nation by 2047 is no longer a dream but a "certain destination", Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar said on Sunday.

Dhankhar made the remark while addressing a ceremony at Delhi Cantonment to mark the formal inauguration of the NCC Republic Day Camp.

He praised the National Cadet Corps (NCC) cadets for being a section of the country's youth known for fostering unity and discipline with a sense of service to the nation. "Boys and girls, you represent our youth demographic dividend. This is envy of the world, our developed nation vision at 2047 is no longer a



dream. It is our certain destination," VP said. "You all are crucial to Bharat's development at 2047," he stressed.

The PM Modi-led Government has envisioned becoming 'Viksit Bharat' by 2047, when the nation completes 100 years of independence from colonial rule.

"Boys and girls, you are fortunate to be living at a time when India is no longer a nation with a potential. It is a nation rising with unmatched infrastructure

growth," Dhankhar said.

He cited various infrastructure projects, including new airports and metros, to emphasise his point. A total of 2,361 NCC cadets from around the country are taking part in the month-long Republic Day camp, which began on December 30, and will culminate with the PM Rally on January 27. The annual event is also witnessing the participation of 917 girl cadets, the largest contingent so far.

Of the 2,361 cadets, 114 are from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh and 178 from the north-east region. In addition, cadets and officers from 18 friendly countries are set to participate in the camp as part of a Youth Exchange Programme, the Defence Ministry has said.

FDI in India growing rapidly: Industry Minister

NEW DELHI, Jan 5 (PTI)

FDI inflows into the country are surging, with investors from the Middle East, Japan, European Union, and the US recognising India's status as a top investment destination, driving rapid economic growth and generating millions of new jobs, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has said.

He said that global investors are showing keen interest in India as the country offers several advantages such as strong domestic market, skilled and talented workforce and rule of law. "I can clearly see FDI (foreign direct investment) in India once again growing rapidly and creating millions of jobs. Countries in the Middle East, EFTA region, Japan, and investors from the EU and the US are all realising that India

continues to be the most preferred destination for FDI," Goyal told PTI.

He added that India's stable and predictable regulatory framework, coupled with a favourable business environment and progressive policies aimed at enhancing ease of doing business, is attracting an increasing number of investors from around the world.

"Last month I met a CEO of one of the largest funds in the US, who is also the largest investor in India, and he shared with me that his investments in India over the last 10 years have been some of the best investments his funds have ever done," he noted.

The US fund, Goyal said, informed him that they are investors in India for the last 20 years, but more than 80 per cent of their investments happened

in the last few years.

"The CEO told me that he will be coming to India to celebrate 20 years of investing in India by announcing a further tranche of investments in India," he said.

The healthy performance of the Indian stock market will also attract more and more FIIs (foreign institutional investors), the minister said.

India is averaging over USD 4.5 billion in monthly foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows since January this year despite global uncertainties and challenges. In the January-September period this year, FDI into the country rose by about 42 per cent to USD 42.13 billion. The inflow was at USD 29.73 billion in the year-ago period. The inflows during April-Sept 2024-25 grew by 45 per cent to USD 29.79 billion against USD 20.48 billion in the same

period previous fiscal. Total FDI in 2023-24 was a healthy USD 71.28 billion.

The key sectors attracting the maximum of these inflows include the services segment, computer software and hardware, telecommunications, trading, construction development, automobile, chemicals, and pharmaceuticals.

FDI is allowed through the automatic route in most of the sectors while in areas such as telecom, media, pharmaceuticals and insurance, government approval is required for foreign investors.

These inflows are important as India would require huge investments in the coming years for its infrastructure sector to boost growth. Healthy foreign inflows also help in maintaining the balance of payments and the value of the rupee.