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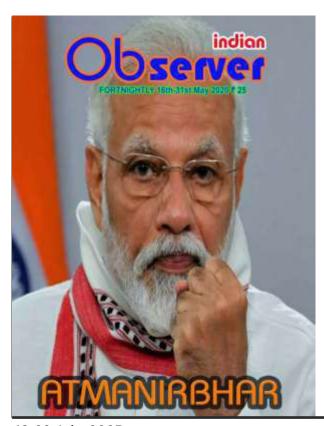








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CHIEF EDITOR DESK



Dear Readers,

On behalf of National Awareness Times (India's National Weekly), the editorial board and the team of our journal would like to wish all the readers a wonderful week ahead and Happy Guru Purnima to all.

The Axiom-04 mission has successfully concluded with the return of ISRO Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla,

marking a proud moment both for ISRO and India as he returned after a historic 18-day scientific mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS).

Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan held a review meeting with ministers and officials of the Andhra Pradesh government regarding the drought-affected districts in the southern parts of the state.

A high-level virtual meeting of State Labour Ministers and State Industry Ministers was convened under the chairpersonship of the Union Minister of Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi.

Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL), has implemented two significant women-led initiatives in Dhanbad, furthering its commitment to gender equity and institutional excellence.

Deepak Singh, Chief Editor

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ONE INDIAN A NATION PROUD

By Editor - Gaurav Singh



he Axiom-04 mission has successfully concluded with the return of ISRO Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla, marking a proud moment both for ISRO and India as he returned after a historic 18-day scientific mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS). Launched on June 25, 2025, aboard the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft, the mission was conducted in collaboration with NASA, Axiom Space, ESA, and other international partners.

During his stay aboard the ISS, Shubhanshu Shukla adapted exceptionally well to the microgravity environment. Despite the physical and psychological challenges of spaceflight, he maintained optimal health throughout the mission. He captured a wide array of photographs and videos

documenting life and work in orbit.

ISRO-Led Scientific Experiments Completed

ISRO-led scientific experiments completed by Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla onboard the International Space Station (ISS) represent a significant milestone in India's human spaceflight research. Under the coordination of the Human Space Flight Centre (HSFC), he successfully conducted seven microgravity experiments developed by leading Indian research institutions. These studies were designed to deepen our understanding of human physiology, plant biology, and microbial behavior in space, thereby contributing to future long-duration space missions.

The experiments included the Space Microalgae project by ICGEB

and BRIC-NIPGR, New Delhi, which examined the growth and radiation response of edible algae in microgravity. The Myogenesis experiment, led by BRIC-InStem, Bengaluru, explored muscle regeneration with supplement treatment to combat space-induced muscle loss. The Sprouts study by UAS and IIT Dharwad investigated the viability of methi and moong growth in space conditions. Researchers at IISc Bengaluru carried out the Tardigrade experiment, focusing on the resilience and ageing patterns of these hardy micro-animals. The Electronic Displays study, also from IISc, assessed cognitive performance and user interaction with in-flight interface displays. Another experiment, Cyanobacteria in Microgravity, conducted by ICGEB New Delhi, studied



comparative growth and proteomic responses of cyanobacteria in space. Finally, the Food Crop Seeds experiment, a collaboration between IIST and KAU Thiruvananthapuram, analyzed the impact of microgravity on the physiology of food crop seeds.

Together, these experiments showcase India's advancing capabilities in space biosciences and lay essential groundwork for the Gaganyaan mission and beyond.

All experiments were completed successfully, and samples have been returned for detailed post-flight analysis.

Shubhanshu Shukla worked in close partnership with members of Axiom-04 Crew and Expedition 73, contributing to the daily rhythm of ISS operations and supporting joint science, maintenance, and outreach efforts. He participated in integrated crew timelines, shared resources aboard the Harmony module, and coordinated multiple crossover activities, fostering international cooperation in space.

Public Engagements

Axiom-04's public outreach component was an integral part of

the mission, connecting India's space achievements with its citizens and students. These events underscored the importance of inspiring the next generation while celebrating national pride.

On June 28, 2025, Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla participated in a historic live interaction with Hon. Prime Minister Narendra Modi from aboard the International Space Station. During the conversation, the Hon. Prime Minister commended Shukla's contribution to India's space journey and spoke of the pride the nation feltin seeing its flag represented in orbit. The broadcast reached millions across India and marked a symbolic milestone in India's space diplomacy.On July 03, 2025, Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla interacted with school students from Trivandrum and Lucknow through a video link, where he answered many questions on how to become an astronaut and life onboard the International Space Station.

This was followed by two Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) sessions that enabled real-time conversations with school students. The first session was held on July 4, 2025, with students and engineers at URSC, Bengaluru, where Shukla fielded questions on life in space, daily routines aboard the ISS, and the significance of scientific research in microgravity. The second session, conducted on July 8, 2025, connected students from seven schools in Northeast India through a coordinated link with NESAC, Meghalaya, providing them with a rare opportunity to speak directly with an Indian astronaut in orbit.

On July 6, 2025, Shukla also held a teleconference with the Chairman of ISRO, updating him on the progress of the Indian science payloads and sharing preliminary observations. The exchange reinforced the strong operational link between ground teams and the astronaut, ensuring real-time alignment of mission objectives.

These engagements not only enhanced visibility of the mission but also served to bridge the gap between India's space program and its young aspirants, creating lasting inspiration across generations.



Final Mission Phase Events

The formal Farewell Ceremony for the Ax-04 crew was conducted aboard the ISS on July 13, 2025, at approximately 19:25 hrs. IST. Expedition 73 crew members and mission control teams expressed appreciation for the collaborative efforts and marked the occasion with symbolic gestures of international friendship, including commemorative mission patches and final photographs in the Harmony module.

Following the ceremony, the crew proceeded with hatch closure and vehicle ingress, and the SpaceX Dragon spacecraft undocked from the ISS later on 14 July 2025 at 16:45 hrs. IST, beginning its return journey to Earth. The undocking was carried out with nominal systems performance, monitored by NASA and Axiom Space flight controllers in coordination with SpaceX's MCC-X in California.

After an Earth-orbiting free flight lasting nearly 22 hours and 30 minutes, the splashdown of Dragon occurred successfully on July 15, 2025, at approximately 15:03 hrsIST in the Pacific Ocean, off the coast of California. The capsule was recovered promptly by SpaceX's recovery teams, and Shukla was extracted in stable condition. The mission concluded with nominal deorbit operations and vehicle performance.



Post-Flight Status

Gaganyatri Shubhanshu Shukla is now undergoing a structured postmission medical evaluation and recovery protocol under the supervision of Axiom Space and ISRO flight surgeons. This program, spanning seven days, includes cardiovascular assessments, musculoskeletal tests, and psychological debriefs aimed at ensuring full physiological recovery and data capture for future missions.

Mission operation exposure

As part of India's participation in Axiom-04, a dedicated ISRO highlevel delegation and Mission Operations Team was deployed to Kennedy Space Centre, Florida, which was led by the Chairman, ISRO and the Secretary, Department of Space, Dr. V Narayanan. The delegation participated in the launch operations. Initially, the launch was rescheduled multiple times due to technical issues including oxygen leakage in booster stage engine bay. On insistence of ISRO team, oxygen leakage issue was fully resolved leading to safe &successful launch. Later, the delegation moved to the Johnsson Space Centre, Houston, to join in the docking operations.

The Mission operations team continued to stay in Houston, gaining invaluable first-hand experience in managing human spaceflight operations. The team was embedded alongside NASA and Axiom flight controllers, participating in real-time decision-making, telemetry tracking, crew timeline management, and health monitoring of both the astronaut and the science payloads. This exposure provided critical insights into international crewed mission coordination, emergency response protocols, and the complexities of orbital operations.

This collaborative mission will serve as a vital stepping stone in building India's own crewed mission operations infrastructure, enhancing readiness for future indigenous human spaceflight programs such as Gaganyaan and the Bhartiya Antariksha Station.





PM meets the President of Namibia, Dr. Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah at the State House in Windhoek, Namibia.

The Vice President, Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar at the 19th Edition of the CII-ITC Sustainability Awards at Bharat Mandapam.





The Union Minister for Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah chairs a high level review meeting on Yamuna rejuvenation.



The Union Minister for Defence, Shri Rajnath Singh chairs the first Governing Council Meeting of National Cadet Corps Alumni Association (NCCAA).

The Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ayush and Health and Family Welfare, Shri Prataprao Jadhav addressing at the Inauguration Ceremony of "SHALYACON 2025" All India Institute of Ayurveda.





The Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri addressing at the inaugural session of the National seminar on school education in India organised by Muchkund Dubey Centre for Right to Education.

SHRI SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN HOLDS REVIEW MEETING ON DROUGHT-AFFECTED DISTRICTS



nion Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan held a review meeting with ministers and officials of the Andhra Pradesh government regarding the drought-affected districts in the southern parts of the state. Detailed discussions were also held on organic farming and the Palm Oil Mission. The meeting was held at the PGRS Hall, District Collectorate, Puttaparthi, in Sri Sathya Sai district.

Speaking to media persons after the meeting, the Union Agriculture Minister said, "Today in Puttaparthi, we had an important meeting with the Agriculture Minister of Andhra Pradesh regarding drought-affected districts. This region faces specific challenges — low rainfall and frequent droughts, which put farming and farmers in distress. Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Chandrababu Naidu, the Andhra Pradesh government has taken several significant steps — from promoting drip irrigation to boosting horticulture."

Shri Shivraj Singh further said, "The previous government diverted central funds, which was gravely unjust to the farmers. But the current government is actively working towards changing

that. With a visionary Chief Minister in place, we thought about devising both short-term and long-term plans to resolve the problems of these Rayalaseema districts, to arrive at a sustainable solution. Today's discussion concluded with a decision that both the state and central governments will work together to find solutions."

Among the various measures, first, a team from the central government,

including scientists from ICAR and officials from the agriculture department and rural development ministry, will be sent to Andhra Pradesh. The team, which will include experts from agriculture, ICAR, rural development, and land resources departments, including watershed management, will draft a plan for cultivating crops even in drought-prone conditions, the minister said.

Shri Chouhan further said, "We will also work on rainwater harvesting, afforestation, and explore with the Ministry of Jal Shakti how water from the Tungabhadra and Krishna rivers can be brought to this region. Under integrated farming, which includes fruit, flowers, vegetables, agroforestry, beekeeping, and animal husbandry, several new initiatives will be taken. Additionally, efforts will be made to develop seed varieties that yield well even in drought conditions."

In conclusion, the Union Agriculture Minister said, "We have discussed preparing an Integrated Action Plan, on which we will work together with the state government. I am confident that we will be able to help farmers in the drought-affected districts overcome these challenges."



DR. MANSUKH MANDAVIYA CHAIRS HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF STATE LABOUR AND INDUSTRY MINISTERS



high-level virtual meeting of State Labour Ministers and State Industry Ministers was convened under the chairpersonship of the Union Minister of Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs and Sports, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya in New Delhi. The objective of the meeting was to deliberate on the implementation modalities and explore collaborative strategies for the effective rollout of the Employment Linked Incentive (ELI) Scheme.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Mandaviya, underscored that the ELI Scheme represents the second step after the PLI Scheme in the direction of building an Atmanirbhar Bharat. He stated that the scheme will provide financial support to employers, enabling them to generate additional employment, particularly for the youth. He described the initiative as a win-win for both employers and job seekers.

Dr. Mandaviya cited KLEMS data published by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), highlighting that over 17 crore employment opportunities were generated during the last decade. This, he noted, is a reflection of the significant economic progress made by the country, particularly driven by robust growth in sectors such as construction, manufacturing, and services. He emphasized that this momentum must be sustained and further accelerated through schemes like ELI, which are designed to create quality jobs, deepen formalization, and support inclusive development.

"Labour and industry are two sides of the same coin," the Minister said, adding that both must work in close coordination for the greater good of the nation's workforce and economy. He assured participants that procedural formalities under the scheme have been kept simple to ensure ease of access and encourage wide participation.

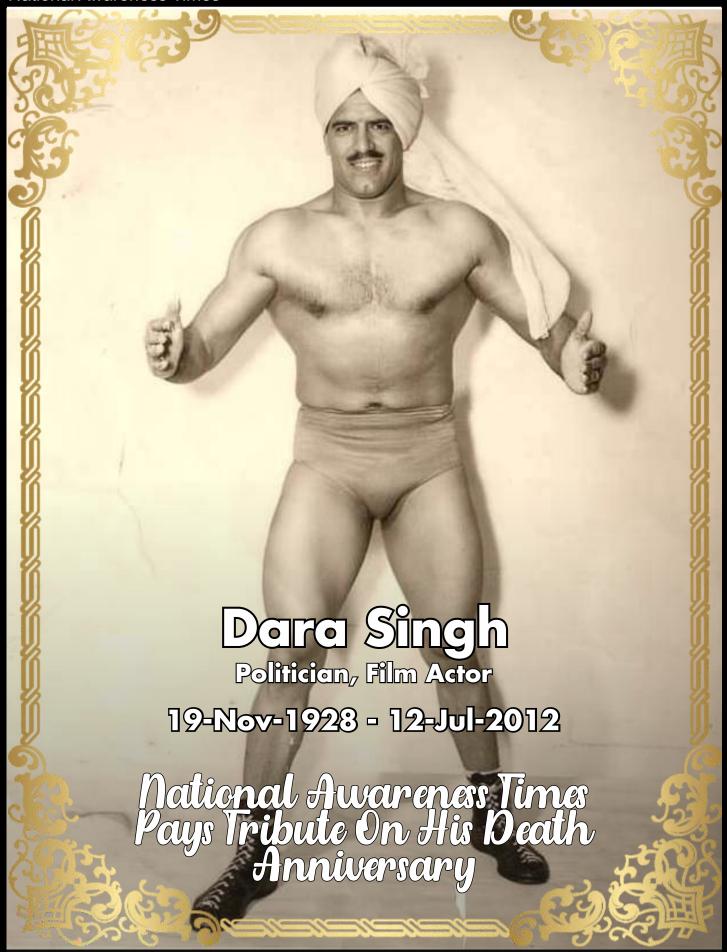
Union Minister also urged State Ministers to actively promote the scheme through media briefings, television and radio interviews, and other outreach platforms. He emphasized the importance of comprehensive planning and awareness-building at the grassroots level.

The Secretary (L&E) welcomed all participants and highlighted that the scheme is designed to support employment generation, improve employability, and extend social

s e c u r i t y a c r o s s a l l sectors—particularly focusing on the manufacturing sector. She informed that with a total outlay of Rs. 99,446 crore, the ELI Scheme aims to create over 3.5 crore jobs across the country over a two-year period. She further emphasized that sustainable employment is a key goal of the scheme, as the first instalment of incentives will be disbursed only after six months of continuous employment. Director (L&E), delivered a presentation outlining the scheme's framework.

Labour and Industry Ministers from Gujarat, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Arunachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and several other states appreciated the initiative and assured their full cooperation in ensuring its successful implementation across their respective regions. Acknowledging the scheme's potential to boost employment opportunities, the Ministers emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts between the Centre and States. They also proposed that dedicated events. awareness programmes, and conferences may be organized at the district level in collaboration with state governments for local industries industry chambers/industry associations etc. These efforts would help disseminate comprehensive information about the scheme, promote its adoption, and ensure that its benefits reach the grassroots level and last-mile beneficiaries. During the discussions, Dr. Mandaviya emphasized that States may consider linking of their respective employment-oriented schemes with the objectives of the ELI Scheme.

Joint Secretary (L&E) concluded the meeting by thanking all participants and reiterated the Ministry's commitment to ensuring the effective implementation of the ELI Scheme through focused and coordinated efforts to generate meaningful employment across the country.



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BCCL PIONEERS WOMEN EMPOWERMENT IN HEALTHCARE AND TECHNICAL DOMAIN



harat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL), a subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL), has implemented two significant women-led initiatives in Dhanbad, furthering its commitment to gender equity and institutional excellence.

BCCL's Koyla Nagar Hospital operated its first general shift fully staffed by women doctors, nurses, and support personnel. The historic step, executed under the guidance of Ministry of Coal and CIL's larger vision for inclusivity, marks a milestone in public sector healthcare services.

The shift was formally inaugurated by Shri Samiran Dutta, Chairman-cum-Managing Director, BCCL, in the presence of Directors and other senior officers.

Also present were Dr. Poonam Dubey, Chief of Medical Services, BCCL and Dr. Vandana Thakur, CMO, Central Hospital Dhanbad, both senior women officials leading BCCL's healthcare operations.

Speaking on the occasion, CMD Shri Samiran Dutta said that this initiative is a reflection of BCCL's continued efforts to promote equal opportunity and leadership for women. From healthcare to core operations, women are increasingly at the helm, shaping the future of the organisation, he said.

This development complements BCCL's continuing focus on quality in healthcare. Recently, Central Hospital Dhanbad (CHD), BCCL's flagship medical institution was awarded dual ISO certifications - ISO 9001:2015 for Quality Management and ISO 45001:2018 for Occupational Health and Safety. Awarded by UKAF CERT Limited. United Kingdom, these certifications validate CHD's unwavering commitment to delivering quality, safe, and people-centric healthcare services. This recognition places CHD among a select group of public sector hospitals in India to be certified for both quality and occupational health standards.

In a separate event held on the same day, BCCL also inaugurated its first centralised technical centre for the repair and maintenance of LED and solar energy equipment operated entirely by women technicians. The centre, based in Koyla Nagar, Dhanbad, marks a pioneering step in bringing women into core technical operations traditionally dominated by male staff.

CMD Shri Samiran Dutta, in the presence of Directors and senior officials, inaugurated the facility and interacted with the womenled repair team.

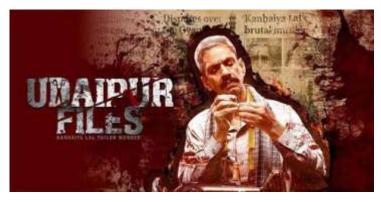
"Empowerment also means trust in capability. This centre shows how women are leading from the front, not only in caregiving roles but also in technology and engineering" CMD said.

The workshop is currently run by the seven identified female employees under E&M department. In the supervision of workshop in-charge, the female-led work station would repair all different kinds of LED Lights, Solar Lights among other electrical equipment and gadgets.

These dual initiatives demonstrate BCCL's integrated approach to inclusive growth, where gender parity and skill-based opportunity go hand-in-hand. As the company continues its role in powering the nation, it also reinforces its identity as a people-first public enterprise.



Udaipur Files release put on hold by Delhi High Court amid fair trial concerns



The Delhi High Court on Thursday put a temporary halt on the release of the film Udaipur Files, which is based on the murder of tailor Kanhaiya Lal. The film was scheduled to be released on July 11. The court's order will remain in effect until the central government takes a decision on the petitions seeking a permanent ban on the movie.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya and Justice Anish Dayal directed the petitioners to submit their grievance to the central government within two days.

The petitioners, who are accused in the Kanhaiya Lal murder case, approached the court arguing that the release of the film would compromise their right to a fair trial.

The bench noted that "admittedly, petitioners have not taken recourse to available remedy with the central government."

"Since we are relegating petitioner to invoke revisional remedy, we provide that till the application for grant of interim relief is decided by the government there shall be stay on release of the film," the bench stated.

Udaipur-based tailor Kanhaiya Lal was killed in June 2022, allegedly by Mohammad Riyaz and Mohammad Ghous. The accused later released a video claiming that the murder was carried out in retaliation for Lal's alleged social media post supporting former BJP leader Nupur Sharma, following her controversial remarks about Prophet Mohammed.

The case was investigated by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), and the accused were charged under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), along with relevant sections of the Indian Penal Code. The trial is currently underway before the special NIA court in Jaipur.

Superman interrupted twice; viewers slam certain theatres over 'double intervals'



In India, Hollywood films often face abrupt intervals in cinemas. To address this, Warner Bros inserted an official intermission in Superman, a 2-hour 9-minute film, around the 80-minute mark—after a crucial sequence—to preserve the narrative flow. Despite prior communication, many cinemas ignored the directive and added their own interval earlier, leading to a "double interval" scenario. A source told Bollywood Hungama, "Several theatres either missed or ignored the official interval point, inserting one around the halfway mark. Viewers were confused and frustrated when a second interval slate, complete with anti-smoking ads, appeared later. "Viewer Harshad Bende, who watched the film at PVR Lodha Xperia

near Mumbai, said, "Two intervals ruined the experience. When I asked the manager, he had no explanation." The next day, a different manager admitted it was a miscommunication with the projectionist. Similarly, Nayan B Rathod, who watched it in Goa, said, "We didn't know which interval was official. Everyone was confused and worried about missing parts of the movie." Warner Bros has again reminded cinemas not to add extra intervals, and the number of complaints dropped slightly by Saturday. Meanwhile, the other release of the week, Maalik, had a single interval after an hour—this time as intended.



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