

**DIA, DEOGHAR IAS ACADEMY**

# **Daily News Feed**

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**D.N.F**

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# CJI says SC will not sit idle if constitutional authority fails to discharge its duties

**Krishnadas Rajagopal**  
NEW DELHI

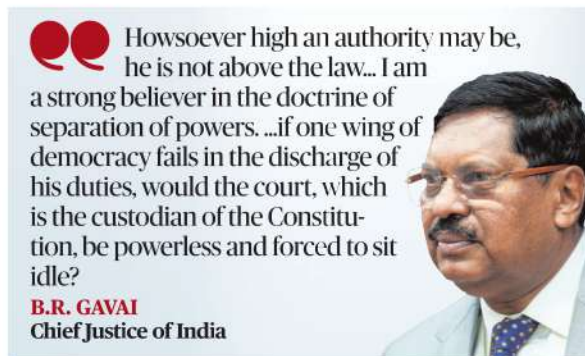
The Supreme Court will not “sit idle” and powerless if a constitutional authority fails to discharge his duties, no matter how high he may be, Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai has said. The CJI voiced the court’s firm resolve on the final day of a Presidential Reference hearing, which has brought into sharp focus the schism between Opposition-ruled States and their Governors over delay in clearing laws.

“Howsoever high an authority may be, he is not above the law... I am a strong believer in the doctrine of separation of powers. I believe that judicial activism must not turn into judicial terrorism. But at the same time, if one wing of democracy fails in the discharge of his duties, would the court, which is the custodian of the Constitution, be powerless and forced to sit idle?” the CJI asked the Union government on Thursday.

The Union government has used the hearing to criticise the apex court for encroaching into the domains of Governors and the President.

The bone of contention which led to the Presidential Reference is an April 8 judgment of the Supreme Court which imposed a three-month deadline on Governors and the President to deal with Bills placed before them for assent or consideration, respectively.

The court had, in the judgment, held that whims and fancies of Governors cannot hold up govern-



nance by endlessly sitting on important legislation passed by State legislatures for the welfare of their people.

Representing the Union government, Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said the court’s attempt to compel a “one-size-fits-all” solution by “imposing” a uniform time frame for all Bills would prove “self-destructive”.

“Every Bill has its own context-based issues. Some may require the Governor to have further deliberations and consultations. There are times when a State, while knowing that a Bill may eventually harm the State, is forced to bow to public pressure to pass it. In such cases, the State may tell the Governor to hold the Bills. Thus, imposing straitjacket time limits may become self-destructive. Each case turns on its own peculiar facts,” the Solicitor General argued.

Mr. Mehta said the apex court cannot issue a mandamus to Governors to assent to Bills. Gubernatorial assent was part of legislative process. Courts cannot interfere in law-making.

“Yes, we cannot ask a Governor to take a decision in a particular man-

ner, but the court can very well ask the Governor to take a decision. A mandamus can be issued to the Governor to decide,” Justice Kant replied pithily.

Mr. Mehta challenged the narrative that Governors were consistently delaying Bills. He said a majority of Bills, in the last 50 years, were given assent by Governors in a month’s time.

“Even in the case of Tamil Nadu, except for 10 disputed Bills, assent was usually given in a month. The Governor does not sit over Bills endlessly,” Mr. Mehta submitted.

Chief Justice Gavai said the Constitution’s framers had envisaged an atmosphere of mutual accord while envisaging the role of the Governors in States.

Mr. Mehta reacted that State-Governor relationships had seen decades of harmony before the Delhi government, during the Aam Aadmi Party regime, started filing writ petitions under Article 32 of the Constitution against the Lieutenant-Governor.

Attorney-General R. Venkataramani said the Governor should be given the discretion to either assent or withhold a Bill after testing its constitutionality.



CJI warns: SC will not remain idle if constitutional authorities fail

English Summary:

Chief Justice of India B.R. Gavai stated that the Supreme Court cannot remain powerless if Governors or the President delay action on Bills. The Union government opposed the April 8 SC ruling mandating a 3-month time frame for assent. The issue highlights Centre-State tensions and the doctrine of separation of powers.

हिंदी सारांश:

भारत के मुख्य न्यायाधीश बी.आर. गवई ने कहा कि अगर राज्यपाल या राष्ट्रपति विधेयकों पर कार्रवाई में देरी करते हैं तो सुप्रीम कोर्ट चुप नहीं बैठ सकता। केंद्र सरकार ने राज्यपालों पर समय सीमा तय करने के फैसले का विरोध किया। यह मामला संघीय ढांचे और शक्तियों के पृथक्करण के सिद्धांत से जुड़ा है।

# Release Indians from Russian Army, stop recruitment: MEA tells Moscow

**Vijaita Singh**

NEW DELHI

A day after *The Hindu* reported that at least 15 Indians are stuck on the battlefield in Ukraine, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Thursday that it had taken up the matter with Russian authorities, in Delhi and Moscow, asking that “this practice be ended and that our nationals be released”.

“We have seen reports about Indian nationals having been recruited recently into the Russian Army,” MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. “The government has on several occasions over the past one year underlined the risks and dangers inherent in this course of action and cautioned Indian citizens accordingly... We once again strongly urge all Indian nationals to stay away from any offers to join the Russian Army as this is a course fraught with dan-



ger.” Russia and Ukraine have been at war since 2022.

## Stuck on the battlefield

Two Indian nationals told *The Hindu* that they are caught in the battlefield in Ukraine, where they are being forced to serve on the Russian side. The two recruits claimed there were at least 13 more Indians with them.

These are Indians who went to Russia on student or visitor visas, and were then recruited into the Russian Army, despite the Russian Embassy in Delhi

stating on August 10, 2024 that it no longer recruits Indians.

The embassy’s assurance came after Prime Minister Narendra Modi raised the issue with Russian President Vladimir Putin during his visit to Moscow in July 2024. The MEA had issued several warnings and advisories cautioning Indians not to fall prey to recruiters for the Russian Army.

The recent recruitment seems to have been done after a lull of over a year, during which such hiring was stopped.

On Thursday, Sumit Sharma, who hails from Jammu and Kashmir, said that another Indian who was with them has been sent to the frontline.

## Pushed to the frontlines

“Out of 15 who arrived here, only four of us are here now. The Russians are saying that we will have to go ahead [to the frontline] and we do not have an option. I request the Indian government to rescue us,” said Mr. Sharma, who is presently at Selydove in Ukraine.

Russia claimed Selydove, a key town in the Donetsk region, in November 2024.

*The Hindu* had reported first on February 20, 2024 that Indians who travelled to Russia on tourist visas were initially offered jobs as security helpers but were then forced to fight alongside the Russian military on the Russia-Ukraine border.

**MEA urges Moscow: Release Indians recruited into Russian Army**

English Summary:

The Ministry of External Affairs raised the issue with Russia after reports that at least 15 Indians were forced to fight in Ukraine despite earlier assurances. India has repeatedly warned citizens against joining the Russian Army.

हिंदी सारांश:

विदेश मंत्रालय ने रूस से कहा है कि जबरन भर्ती किए गए भारतीयों को छोड़ा जाए। रिपोर्ट्स में बताया गया कि कम से कम 15



भारतीयों को यूक्रेन युद्ध में लड़ने के लिए भेजा गया। भारत ने पहले ही अपने नागरिकों को चेताया था कि रूसी सेना में भर्ती न हों।

# Top Maoist among 10 killed in Chhattisgarh encounter

Manoj, alias Modem Balakrishna, carried ₹1-crore bounty; operation carried out by State Police and CRPF's elite CoBRA unit; 6 central committee members gunned down since start of the year

**Shubhomoy Sikdar**  
**Devesh K. Pandey**  
RAIPUR

**T**en Maoists, including Manoj, alias Modem Balakrishna, a central committee member of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist), were killed by security forces during an encounter in Gariaband district of Chhattisgarh on Thursday.

Manoj carried a bounty of ₹1 crore, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said in a post on X, while terming the latest operation a major success.

Confirming Manoj's death, Gariaband Superintendent of Police Nikhil Rakhecha said an anti-Maoist operation was launched. Till 7.20 p.m. on Thursday, 10 bodies were recovered and search operations were under way.

The police said that security personnel from the Special Task Force (STF, a unit of the State police),



**Lethal hit:** Ten bodies were recovered and search operations were under way in Gariaband district of Chhattisgarh. FILE PHOTO

E-30 (a unit of the Gariaband Police) and CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action, an elite unit of the Central Reserve Police Force) were involved in the operation.

While Mr. Rakhecha did not divulge further details on Manoj, information received earlier this year suggested he had joined the Maoist movement in 1983 and was around 65 years old when he was gunned down on Thursday. He went by other aliases such as Balanna, Ramachander and Bhaskar and was a

central committee member as well as the in-charge of the CPI (Maoist)'s western bureau of the Odisha State Committee (OSC).

## Arrested twice

Security sources further said that Manoj joined the Maoist movement after discontinuing an Intermediate course in Hyderabad and went to the Bhadrachalam forests in 1983. He was arrested at least twice in undivided Andhra Pradesh in the late 1980s.

"In 1987, the Mahaboobnagar Police raided his

room and arrested him. He was housed in Musheerabam Jail till January 1990, when he was released in exchange for kidnapped Telugu Desam Party MLA Venkateswara Rao. He worked in the Hyderabad city area," the source added.

As an active Maoist in the south Telangana region, he was arrested again in March 1993 in Kurnool district, and lodged in the Chanchalguda Central Jail. He was released on conditional bail on August 18, 1999 and went underground.

The central committee is the highest decision-making body of the CPI (Maoist) and the latest development is another major blow to the banned outfit. Since the start of the year, six central committee members have been killed by the security forces in separate operations in Chhattisgarh (four), Jharkhand and Andhra Pradesh (one each).

## Top Maoist leader killed in Chhattisgarh encounter

### English Summary:

Ten Maoists, including Central Committee member Modem Balakrishna (alias Manoj), were killed in Gariaband. Manoj carried a ₹1 crore bounty. This marks the sixth senior Maoist leader eliminated in 2025, a major success in counterinsurgency.

### हिंदी सारांश:

छत्तीसगढ़ के गरियाबंद जिले में हुए एनकाउंटर में 10 नक्सली मारे गए, जिनमें केंद्रीय समिति सदस्य मोडेम बालकृष्ण (उर्फ मनोज) शामिल हैं। उस पर ₹1 करोड़ का इनाम था। यह इस वर्ष मारे गए छठे वरिष्ठ नक्सली नेता हैं, जिसे बड़ी सफलता माना जा रहा है।

# United Naga Council suspends its 'trade embargo' in Manipur

**The Hindu Bureau**

GUWAHATI

The United Naga Council (UNC) suspended its indefinite "trade embargo" on Thursday, a day after a plea from the Manipur government.

The UNC, an apex Naga body of Manipur, enforced the "trade embargo" from the midnight of September 8 in protest against the Centre's decision to fence the 1,643-km India-Myanmar border and scrap the Free Movement Regime (FMR), which allows document-free travel for border residents in each other's country up to 10 km from the boundary line dividing the two countries.

H. James Hau, the publicity and information secretary of the UNC, said in a statement that the organisation's emergency presidential council decided to suspend the trade embargo across the Naga-majority areas after receiving a letter from Manipur's Chief Secretary Puneet Kumar Goel on September 10 for the resumption of tripar-

## Structures to greet PM pulled down in Manipur

GUWAHATI

Miscreants on Thursday pulled down decorative structures erected along the road to welcome Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Manipur's Kuki-majority Churachandpur district on September 13. Groups of men, armed with sticks, went on the rampage around 7.45 p.m. at two places near the helipad where the PM is scheduled to land during his first visit to the State since ethnic clashes broke out in 2023. District officials could not be reached for comment.

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tite talks on the twin issues of border fencing and the FMR.

Hundreds of trucks and other non-passenger commercial vehicles were stranded on roads, especially the arterial National Highway 2, that pass through Naga-majority areas before touching Manipur's Imphal Valley.



## United Naga Council suspends Manipur trade embargo

### English Summary:

The UNC had blocked trade routes in protest against fencing of the India–Myanmar border and scrapping of the Free Movement Regime (FMR). It suspended the embargo after Manipur government's request for tripartite talks.

### हिंदी सारांश:

यूनाइटेड नागा काउंसिल (UNC) ने भारत-म्यांमार सीमा पर बाड़ लगाने और FMR व्यवस्था खत्म करने के विरोध में लगाया गया व्यापार प्रतिबंध हटाया। मणिपुर सरकार के अनुरोध पर इसे निलंबित किया गया है।

# Govt. contemplates raising civil border guards along China border

**Vijaita Singh**

NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is contemplating raising the Border Wing Home Guards (BWHG) along the China border, on the lines of the force patrolling the India-Pakistan border, officials told *The Hindu*.

The BWHGs drawn from the civilian population which lives in the border areas act as an ancillary to border guarding forces and the Indian Army during emergencies. There are seven States authorised to have BWHGs – Meghalaya, Tripura, Assam, West Bengal, Punjab, Rajasthan and Gujarat.

They are now operational only in Rajasthan and their utility was realised during the recent Operation Sindoor when their services were required to collect or disseminate information among the border population.



**Ancillary support:** Indian Army soldiers stand guard on a road near Zoji La connecting Srinagar to Ladakh, bordering China. FILE PHOTO

As many as 2,279 BWHGs are presently active in Rajasthan. "It is a voluntary force and Rajasthan is the only State which has BWHGs in the present times. They perform the responsibilities of a constable and are usually enlisted for three or four years; 25% cost of training and financial support is borne by the Government of India. The usual pay compares to ₹800-900 per day equivalent to that of a constable's salary," said the

official. The Ministry held a meeting recently on raising the strength of BWHGs for its active engagement with border guarding forces, including the Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), which is deployed along the 3,488-km border with China.

Since 2020, more than 50,000 Army and ITBP personnel have been deployed in eastern Ladakh and the raising of BWHGs will help in augmenting the presence and collection of

## Border Wing Home Guards are now operational in Rajasthan only

intelligence, a senior government official said.

Twenty Indian personnel, including a Colonel, were killed in violent clashes with Chinese troops on June 20, 2020 along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, in what is possibly the worst incident between the two countries in decades.

After several rounds of talks, there are 26 patrolling points, out of 65 PPs in eastern Ladakh that are not being patrolled by Indian troops since April-May 2020. The areas being patrolled earlier have been turned into "buffer zones" with the Chinese also not sending troops. PPs are often used to assert territorial claims along the undefined border.

## Govt may raise Border Wing Home Guards along China border

### English Summary:

The Home Ministry is considering expanding Border Wing Home Guards (BWHGs) to assist the Army and ITBP along the LAC. Currently active in Rajasthan, their role is intelligence-sharing and support during crises.

### हिंदी सारांश:

गृह मंत्रालय चीन सीमा पर बॉर्डर विंग होम गार्ड्स (BWHGs) बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रहा है। अभी ये केवल राजस्थान में सक्रिय हैं। इनका काम सेना व ITBP की सहायता और खुफिया जानकारी जुटाना है।



# PM announces ₹1,200 cr. for flood-hit Uttarakhand

**The Hindu Bureau**

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday announced financial assistance of ₹1,200 crore for flood-affected Uttarakhand during his visit to the State. He also announced ex gratia of ₹2 lakh for the families of the deceased and ₹50,000 for those injured in rain-related incidents.

The Prime Minister, who could not conduct an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas due to bad weather, announced comprehensive support for children who lost their parents in the floods or rain-related incidents under the PM CARES Fund.

Mr. Modi met the families affected by the recent floods and expressed condolences to the kin of those who lost their lives. He appreciated the efforts of the personnel of the National Disaster Response Force, State Disaster Response



Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacting with residents of flood-affected areas of Uttarakhand on Thursday. PTI

Force, Army, and State administration in providing immediate relief.

Emphasising the need for a multi-dimensional approach to help the region and aid the recovery of people impacted by the floods, the Prime Minister said the Centre would help the State rebuild homes under the PM Awas Yojana.

The Centre will also provide assistance in restoring national highways, reconstructing schools, distributing mini kits for lives-

tock, and providing relief through the PM National Relief Fund.

Mr. Modi said the assistance announced by him was under the purview of the Disaster Management Act and Rules, which includes advance disbursements to States. He said the Centre would further review the assessment based on the memorandum submitted by the State as well as the report of the Central teams, which had been sent to assess the damage.

**PM announces ₹1,200 crore aid for flood-hit Uttarakhand**

**English Summary:**

During his visit, PM Modi announced ₹1,200 crore for relief, ₹2 lakh ex gratia for the deceased, and support for rebuilding homes, highways, and schools. Children who lost parents will be supported through PM CARES.

**हिंदी सारांश:**

प्रधानमंत्री मोदी ने उत्तराखंड में बाढ़ राहत के लिए ₹1,200 करोड़ की सहायता और मृतकों के परिजनों को ₹2 लाख की अनुग्रह राशि की घोषणा की। प्रभावित परिवारों को पीएम केयर्स फंड से भी सहायता दी जाएगी।



# Ties with India one of the top U.S. has today, says Marco Rubio

**Press Trust of India**

NEW YORK/WASHINGTON

India is one of the top relationships the U.S. has in the world today, and Washington is in a period of “extraordinary transition” in that relationship with New Delhi, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Thursday.

Introducing U.S. Ambassador-designate to India Sergio Gor at his confirmation hearing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Rubio said he has known Mr. Gor for a very long time and “who is the nominee to India, which is, I would say, one of the top relationships the U.S. has in the world today, in terms of the future, what the world is going to look like”.

Last month, President Donald Trump said that he is promoting Mr. Gor, Director of Presidential Personnel, to be the next U.S.



Marco Rubio

Ambassador to India and Special Envoy for South and Central Asian Affairs.

“... We’ve got some really important issues coming up that we need to work with them on,” Mr. Rubio further said in the hearing.

“It is important that the United States be represented at that post with someone who has the direct ear and confidence of the President of the United States,” Mr. Rubio said, adding that he knows of no one “who has had a better or closer working relationship” than Mr. Gor.

U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio told the Senate that India is one of the top relationships for Washington. Sergio Gor has been nominated as Ambassador to India, signaling stronger Indo-U.S. ties.

**हिंदी सारांश:**

अमेरिकी विदेश मंत्री मार्को रुबियो ने कहा कि भारत-अमेरिका संबंध विश्व के सबसे महत्वपूर्ण रिश्तों में से एक हैं। सर्जियो गोर को भारत में राजदूत नियुक्त किया गया है। यह दोनों देशों के बीच रणनीतिक संबंधों की मजबूती को दर्शाता है।



# Petitioners flock to Bombay High Court challenging GR on Kunbi certificate to Marathas

**The Hindu Bureau**

MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court has received a bunch of Public Interest Litigations (PIL) challenging the Maharashtra government's September 2 government resolution (GR) that enables members of the Maratha community to obtain Kunbi caste certificates and avail reservation under the Other Backward Classes (OBC) category.

The petitions term the move "arbitrary" and "unconstitutional", calling it "political appeasement" and noting that successive governments have contradicted themselves on granting the Maratha community Kunbi caste certificates since 2004.

A Division Bench of Chief Justice Shree Chandrashekhar and Justice Gautam Ankhad on Wed-

**The pleas term the government's decision 'arbitrary', 'unconstitutional' and 'politically appeasing'**

nesday directed Mangesh Sasane, chairperson of the OBC Welfare Foundation, an NGO, to move an interim application if he wished to amend his pending PIL on the matter. The petition is likely to be heard next week. Mr. Sasane had earlier opposed Marathas' inclusion in the OBC list.

In another PIL, advocate Vinit Vinod Dhotre, through counsel Rajesh P. Khobragade, contended that the GR "arbitrarily extends OBC status to Marathas, a politically dominant and socially advanced community, without sufficient data" and thus violates Article 14 of the Constitution.

The petition also alleged that the measure amounts to a "colourable exercise of power" after the Supreme Court in 2021 struck down the Maratha quota under the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) Act, 2018. The plea stated that only President Droupadi Murmu has the authority to notify backward classes, and that the State "lacks legislative competence" to alter the OBC list through an executive order.

**'Distinct communities'**

Another PIL, filed by the Shiva Akhil Bhartiya Veer-shaiva Yuvak Sanghatana, a public trust, on September 8, through advocate Satish B. Talekar, said that "Marathas and Kunbis are distinct communities and cannot be equated." The PIL described the GR as an act of "political expediency".

**PILs challenge Maharashtra's Kunbi certificate order for Marathas**

**English Summary:**

Multiple PILs were filed in Bombay HC against the state's move to allow Marathas to obtain Kunbi caste certificates and avail OBC quota. Petitioners termed it "arbitrary, unconstitutional and political appeasement."

**हिंदी सारांश:**

बॉम्बे हाई कोर्ट में याचिकाएं दायर की गई हैं जिसमें महाराष्ट्र सरकार द्वारा मराठाओं को कुर्मी प्रमाणपत्र देने और ओबीसी आरक्षण का लाभ

दिलाने के फैसले को “मनमाना, असंवैधानिक और राजनीतिक तुष्टिकरण” बताया गया है।

# Shutdown in Assam's Dhubri district after police action on people demanding ST status

**The Hindu Bureau**  
GUWAHATI

Police action on people who took out a rally demanding Scheduled Tribe (ST) status for the Koch-Rajbongshi community led to a 12-hour shutdown in western Assam's Dhubri district on Thursday.

The shutdown was called by the All Koch-Rajbongshi Students' Union (AKRSU), representing the community, one of six in Assam seeking the ST status.

## **Normal life affected**

Normal life was affected in parts of the district bordering Bangladesh, specifically in the Golakganj area, where the police lathi-charged people who took out a rally in support of the demand on Wednesday night. Locals claimed more than 100 people, including women, were injured.

## **Minister rushed to the district to assuage members of All Koch-Rajbongshi Students' Union**

The resulting tension prompted Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma to rush Public Health Engineering Minister Jayanta Malla Baruah to the affected area and assuage the protesters.

“The Chief Minister sent me to find out what exactly happened. I met the injured in the hospital. They are all stable. The incident occurred due to a misunderstanding,” he told journalists after assessing the ground situation.

Mr. Baruah said the police officer in charge of Golakganj was suspended.

“We received complaints against three other officers – the district's Senior Super-

intendent of Police and two Deputy Superintendents of Police. We have directed the DIG (Deputy Inspector General) concerned to conduct a probe and submit a report within five days,” he said.

According to reports, police and paramilitary personnel stopped the demonstrators after they took out a torch rally from Chilarai College towards Golakganj Bazaar. This led to a scuffle, followed by a lathi charge.

## **Gogoi slams State govt.**

Meanwhile, Congress leader Gaurav Gogoi on Thursday slammed the State government for “brutally assaulting” the protesting students. “Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma's indifference towards indigenous people and youth stands exposed,” he said in a post on X.

*(With PTI inputs)*

## **Assam shutdown over demand for ST status**

### **English Summary:**

Police action against Koch-Rajbongshi protesters demanding Scheduled Tribe status triggered a 12-hour bandh in Dhubri district. Over 100 injured in clashes. Opposition accused govt. of suppressing indigenous rights.



**हिंदी सारांश:**

कोच-राजवंशी समुदाय को अनुसूचित जनजाति (ST) का दर्जा देने की मांग पर असम के धुबरी जिले में प्रदर्शन हुआ। पुलिस कार्रवाई के बाद 12 घंटे का बंद बुलाया गया। विपक्ष ने सरकार पर आदिवासी अधिकार दबाने का आरोप लगाया।

# Nitish govt. will retain power in Bihar: Goyal

**Amit Bhelari**

PATNA

Union Minister and BJP leader Piyush Goyal on Thursday said the Nitish Kumar government will retain power once again to serve the people of Bihar. Addressing a press conference in Patna, he said the INDIA bloc might declare anyone as the CM candidate, but no one could stand in front of Mr. Kumar.

Attacking the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and the Congress, Mr. Goyal alleged that there was a time when corruption in Bihar made the headlines but today, infrastructure schemes and industrial development are visible. "The people of Bihar are intelligent and they want development and good governance. Once again an NDA (National Democratic Alliance) government under the leadership of Nitish Kumar will be formed in Bihar," he said.

The Minister pointed out



Union Minister Piyush Goyal in Patna on Thursday. ANI

that the Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved two new projects for Bihar, including the Mokama-Munger four-lane highway costing ₹4,500 crore and a second railway track to be built on the Bhagalpur-Dumka-Rampurhat line.

Accompanied by BJP's national media co-in-charge and MLC Sanjay Mayukh, State general secretary Rajesh Verma and Bihar media in-charge Danish Iqbal, Mr. Goyal said that the metro service in Patna is likely to start before the Assembly election scheduled for later this year.

**Bihar politics: Piyush Goyal says Nitish govt. will return**  
**English Summary:**

Union Minister Piyush Goyal claimed Nitish Kumar's NDA government will retain power in Bihar. He cited new



infrastructure projects worth ₹4,500 crore and development works, dismissing opposition INDIA bloc's challenge.

**हिंदी सारांश:**

केंद्रीय मंत्री पीयूष गोयल ने कहा कि नीतीश कुमार की सरकार बिहार में फिर से सत्ता में लौटेगी। उन्होंने ₹4,500 करोड़ की सड़क परियोजनाओं सहित विकास योजनाओं का हवाला दिया और विपक्षी INDIA गठबंधन को खारिज किया।