

Viksit Bharat possible only when every state, village develops together: VP Radhakrishnan

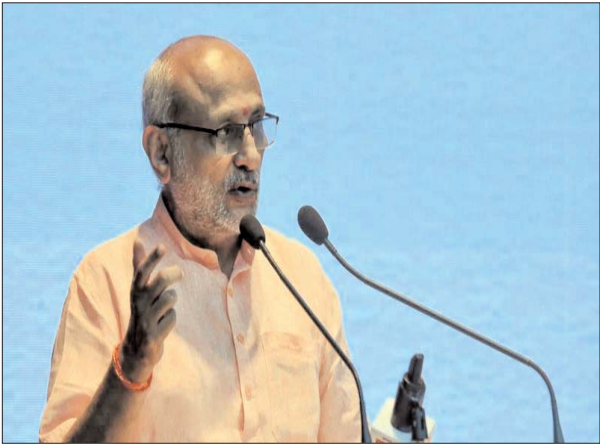
DEOGHAR (JHARKHAND), OCT 11 : Vice-President CP Radhakrishnan on Saturday said the vision of 'Viksit Bharat' can become a reality only when all states, districts and villages develop together.Track Exec Orders

He said Jharkhand could emerge as a powerful centre of inclusive and sustainable development with the right investment in education, healthcare, skills, technology and entrepreneurship.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi has a vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. It can become a reality only when every state, district and small village develops together. Access to quality healthcare and higher education for tribal communities and rural folk lies at the heart of the mission," Radhakrishnan said while addressing the second convocation of AIIMS, Deoghar.

He said it is the fundamental right of every citizen to have the best healthcare.

"Over the last decade, the country witnessed an unprecedented expansion of medical education and healthcare infrastructure. New AIIMS and medical colleges have been set up, there has been a rapid increase in MBBS and post-graduate seats, and flagship missions such as Ayushman Bharat



brought health insurance to the poorest households," he said.

Earlier, there was only one AIIMS in the country. Now, the number has increased to 12, and more will come up, the VP said.

The number of medical colleges has more than doubled from 387 in 2014, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi took charge, to 846 now," he said.Explore History

Radhakrishnan said the number of MBBS seats increased from 5,100 to 1.39 lakh, and the number of post-graduate seats from 31,000 to around 86,000 during the same period.

He urged students to carry their learnings beyond the walls of their institutions to the villages and the most distant corners of the country.

The institute conferred de-

grees upon 50 MBBS, 94 BSc, 12 MSc and eight Doctor of Medicine (MD) and Master of Surgery (MS) students on the occasion.

Later, the VP visited the Sainya Sampark Mela – Sadaiv Aapke Saath – in Deoghar, organised by the Indian Army in collaboration with the Deoghar district administration to provide welfare services and grievance redressal facilities to ex-servicemen, 'Veer Naris' and their dependents across the Santhal Pargana region, an official release said.

Addressing the gathering, Radhakrishnan paid tribute to the veterans and 'Veer Naris', for their invaluable sacrifices and contributions to the nation.

Describing veterans as an important national resource, he said their experience could guide the youth and

their leadership could contribute significantly to nation-building.Buy Maps

Radhakrishnan saluted the 'Veer Naris' and said behind every soldier serving at the border stands a family that shares the sacrifices and responsibilities of military service.

He emphasised that the nation could never forget the sacrifices made by soldiers and their families.

He paid tribute to Param Vir Chakra awardee Lance Naik Albert Ekka and recalled the contributions of tribal freedom fighters, including Bhagwan Birsa Munda, Tilka Manjhi, Sidhu and Kanhu, and Nilambar and Pitambar.

He said the spirit of patriotism and national service continued to inspire the people of Jharkhand.

The VP highlighted the fulfilment of the long-standing demand for 'One Rank, One Pension' under the leadership of Modi and referred to various welfare initiatives undertaken for veterans and 'Veer Naris', the release said.

Appreciating the single-window mechanism at the Mela, he said bringing pension-related assistance, medical facilities, documentation services and grievance redressal under one platform was a meaningful example of last-mile delivery, it added. (

Will march to SC on Monday to seek removal of CEC Gyanesh Kumar, end to 'vote chori': Rahul

NEW DELHI, OCT 11: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said Opposition parties, civil society and youth would march to the Supreme Court on Monday to submit a memorandum to the Chief Justice of India demanding an end to 'vote chori', CEC Gyanesh Kumar's resignation and halting of SIR.

In a post on X, Gandhi said the march to the Supreme Court would be as Indians, united beyond parties, gender, caste, community and state.

"Yesterday, the nation's young came out in Delhi to peacefully protest. They came with love in their hearts, not hatred or anger. They were beaten, both by cops and BJP goons. This is



not the India we want.

"Tomorrow, we will march to the Supreme Court as Indians, united beyond party, gender, caste, community and state. Youth, all opposition parties, civil society

groups, all those who believe in democracy and stand by the Constitution of India, will walk with us," he said in his post.

He said they would submit a memorandum to the Chief

Justice on behalf of the nation, demanding an end to "vote chori", halting of SIR and the resignation of Gyanesh Kumar.

Narendra Modi, Amit Shah, Ajit Doval and Mohan Bhagwat cannot silence India's voice. These cowards cannot intimidate us. They will have to step aside.

"We will march together, with love, brotherhood and patriotism. Daro mat," he also said, adding that "tomorrow all of India" will march to the Supreme Court.

On Friday, leaders of various Opposition parties of the INDIA bloc marched from Parliament to Vijay Chowk and later handed over a memorandum to President Droupadi Murmu.

'They pushed my mother and dragged me from my bedroom': Dhruv Rathee

NEW DELHI, OCT 11:

YouTuber Dhruv Rathee has alleged that he was "kidnapped" by Delhi Police after being picked up from his residence in Gurugram ahead of the Cockroach Janta Party's (CJP) proposed protest at Jantar Mantar.

Soon after his release, Rathee shared a video on social media in which he said, "I was not arrested or detained, I was KIDNAPPED."

In the video statement, Rathee showed what he said was his Indian passport and criticised reports claiming that he was a foreign citizen seeking to participate in the protest. "I am an Indian citizen, and I have the same rights as a common citizen." He alleged that on October 10, at around 7 am, while he was sleeping, his mother opened the door because several people were roaming outside. They 'pushed' my mother and barged inside the house. Claiming that they were not police officers but people in plain clothes, he said around 20 people suddenly entered the house.

"And before I could react, these people literally kidnap me. I am using the word kidnap here because this is not an arrest," he said. He said he would have been detained "if I had gone to the protest", alleging that "goons" were sent without nameplates to "kidnap" him.



"They dragged me straight away and took me away. I couldn't even wear my slippers. I mean, just imagine how a criminal is taken away. They dragged me from the bedroom. They took me down the stairs. I was badly injured here. There are such wounds all over my body," he said.

Rathee also alleged that he was denied the opportunity to meet his lawyer. He said, "Have you heard of any democratic country where a common citizen who has not broken any law, who has only raised his voice for the truth, for the benefit of the country, who has demanded a better election commission, is taken from the bedroom of his house, kidnapped, his parents are beaten, and then taken away like this?" He said the situation was an "unofficial emergency" and accused Prime

Minister Narendra Modi of "turning the country into a dictatorship".

"If this thing can happen to me, then it can happen to you, too. Think about it a little. For now, I am fine."

Rathee also thanked activist Sonam Wangchuk for threatening a hunger strike if the detained people were not released.

"And I will keep raising my voice for the country in the same way. No matter how much you try to suppress. Jai Hind."

Rathee was detained from his residence in Sector 56, Gurugram, on Saturday as police stepped up security across the national capital to prevent protesters from reaching Jantar Mantar for a demonstration demanding the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar over alleged irregularities in the Special Inten-

sive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

He was released at around 3 am on Sunday, according to officials.

A police source said Rathee could be detained again or face further legal action if he attempted to reach Jantar Mantar despite prohibitory orders.

The detention took place amid a major security operation across Delhi ahead of the proposed CJP demonstration. Police sources said thousands of protesters were detained at multiple locations as authorities sought to prevent them from gathering at the protest site.

Several Opposition leaders, including former chief ministers Arvind Kejriwal, Mamata Banerjee, Pinarayi Vijayan and Manik Sarkar, were also detained while attempting to join the protest.

CJP leaders Abhijeet Dipke, Ashutosh Ranka and Saurav Das were detained on Saturday and produced before a Special Executive Magistrate at Delhi Cantt on Sunday. They were subsequently released on a surety bond with conditions to maintain peace and good behaviour for one year.

Police are also examining incidents of alleged assaults on personnel during the protest-related developments, with multiple FIRs expected or registered in connection with the incidents, officials said.

Shivakumar slams detention of CJP protesters in Delhi, says it is an insult to democracy

BENGALURU, OCT 11:

Karnataka Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Sunday criticised the crackdown on the CJP protest and the detention of its leaders and protesters in Delhi, questioning whether democracy or an Emergency-like situation prevailed in the country.

An unprecedented security clampdown and the detention of over 7,000 protesters, including CJP leader Abhijeet Dipke, four former chief ministers and YouTuber Dhruv Rathee, helped the government thwart a planned mass mobilisation at Delhi's Jantar Mantar on Saturday to press for the resignation of Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar.

Jantar Mantar, a desig-

nated protest site, wore a deserted look throughout the day, with the deployment of over 30,000 security personnel and waves of barricades in Lutyens' Delhi to keep the protesters away from the area. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi should answer whether there was democracy or an Emergency in the country," Shivakumar said, describing the detention of protest leaders, including those picked up from the airport, as a major "embarrassment for India."

"People have the right to protest in a democracy and raise their voice.

Nobody can silence them. The authorities should allow them to meet the Election Commission and other leaders and respond to their con-

cerns," he told reporters.

The CM said people in public life must be prepared to face criticism and accept it when something goes wrong. The incident, he alleged, reflected "cowardice."

Responding to a question on the Congress not participating in Saturday's CJP-called protest, Shivakumar said the party would act independently and had not been taken into confidence by the organisers.

"We do not want to stop them (CJP). Some of our INDIA bloc partners participated, and it is their right. We will hold our own protest tomorrow," he said.

Shivakumar said Congress legislators had been asked to be in Delhi, adding that he would also travel to the na-

tional capital to fight for voters' rights.

"We want every voter in this country to be protected and retain the right to vote. You cannot delete their names," he said, alleging that large numbers of voters had been removed from electoral rolls in Karnataka as well during the SIR that is underway. Asserting that the Congress would fight to protect voters, the CM alleged that Dalits, minorities and backward classes were being targeted through the deletion of names from electoral rolls for political gains.

"This is inhuman. This is authoritarianism, not democracy. We will definitely fight against it and protect our people," he said. (Agencies)

Pakistani president imposes emergency in KPK, cites worsening security situation

ISLAMABAD, OCT 11:

Pakistan on Sunday declared an emergency in the northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province citing the deteriorating law and order situation, bringing the provincial government led by jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's party to an end.

An emergency allows Pakistan's federal government to assume key executive and legislative powers in a province during a security crisis or breakdown of constitutional governance.

President Asif Ali Zardari proclaimed Articles 232(1) and 234(1) of the Constitution, citing rising terrorist attacks and a breakdown of constitutional machinery in the northwestern province, according to the presidential declaration. Under the proclamation, Chief Minister Sohail Afridi, provincial ministers, advisers, special assistants and the advocate general will immediately vacate their offices.

Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the only province where Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) was in power.

The move comes amid an ongoing protest march led by Afridi, who is pressing for Khan's release and access to medical treatment for him, the release of his sisters and supporters arrested ahead of the protest, and a medical examination of his wife, Bushra Bibi.

The march began in Lakki Marwat on October 4 and has passed through several districts of the province.

The long march followed the failure of two rounds of talks between the PTI and the federal government. The discussions broke down over the party's demand for access to Khan before calling off the protest, while the government insisted that the demonstration be ended first.

Afridi on Saturday vowed to continue peaceful protests and rejected military operations as a solution to the province's problems.

The PTI had initially planned to take the march to Islamabad for a sit-in, but the federal government said it would not allow protesters to enter the capital.

The presidential declaration said the emergency was imposed in view of rising terrorist incidents and the grave law and order situation in the province.

"The extraordinary intensity of terrorist incidents poses serious threats to the lives and property of the public," the declaration said.

It cited an increase in attacks on government installations, infrastructure and law enforcement agencies, accusing the provincial government of failing to demonstrate the resolve and take measures needed to curb terrorism and lawlessness. The declaration said a report by Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Governor Faisal Karim Kundi had highlighted a breakdown of constitutional machinery and the provincial government's inability to function in accordance with the Constitution.

Under the proclamation, the federal



government may direct the provincial governor to assume all or some functions of the provincial government. The powers of the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Assembly will be exercised by Parliament or under its authority.

The federal cabinet on Sunday endorsed the emergency proposal at a special meeting chaired by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif to review the worsening security situation.

Hours after the proclamation, federal ministers defended the decision, saying the Centre had repeatedly tried to bring the PTI-led provincial government on board in the fight against terrorism but failed to secure its cooperation.

Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi, Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar and Infor-

mation Minister Attaullah Tarar told a press conference that the decision to impose emergency and governor's rule was taken after efforts lasting more than a month to reach an understanding with the provincial government.

Naqvi said he remained in contact with PTI leaders until late Saturday in a final attempt to avert the move.

"Today was not an easy day for us. For over one month, we continuously tried to take the KPK government on board," he said, adding that the objective was to jointly fight terrorism.

Naqvi said the security situation was particularly serious in 12 districts of the province and claimed that in some areas people were unable to leave their homes after evening.

Information Minister Tarar alleged that the PTI-led provincial government had a "nexus" with terrorist groups and claimed that intelligence and law enforcement reports indicated militants exercised influence in several districts.

Tarar said the government had exercised powers under Articles 232 and 234 of the Constitution to simultaneously impose emergency and governor's rule.

The governor will oversee the affairs of the province with the assistance of an 11-member advisory council comprising former bureaucrats, officials, politicians and experts from different sectors.

Tarar said the council members would oversee portfolios, including home affairs, finance, law, education, health, mines and minerals, industries, communications, religious affairs, energy and information.

The federal government will also establish a separate secretariat under the chief secretary for the 12 districts facing serious law and order problems, while a separate council will undertake development work in those areas.

The governor has also been authorised to deploy the army for security, according to the ministers.

The PTI has rejected the federal government's accusations that it failed to tackle militancy and has accused the Centre of not providing the province with adequate funding and equipment for counterterrorism operations.

Party chairman Barrister Gohar Khan

said, "We completely reject this action. The mandate of the people of the KP is their constitutional and legal right. Peace cannot be established nor stability brought by ignoring this mandate, weakening provincial autonomy and creating conflict between the federation and the province."

He said terrorism can only be combated through national unity and a joint strategy.

Earlier, Sharif told the cabinet that the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa government was not doing enough to tackle terrorism and called for decisive action.

"The KPK government is not saying a word against militancy... It is time to decide as we have reached a moment of now or never," he said.

Sharif said the law and order situation was deteriorating and accused the provincial government led by Khan's party of failing to address the threat. He added that the federal government had provided at least PKR 800 billion to the province over the past 10 years to fight terrorism and improve security, but the situation had not improved.

Khan, the 73-year-old former cricketer-turned-politician, has been incarcerated at Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi since 2023 and faces more than 100 cases, including corruption and charges related to inciting violence.

However, Imran Khan and his party have maintained that the cases against him are politically motivated, a charge denied by the government.