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Will cooperate with ED in gold smuggling case: Parameshwara

The Sikh Times
Sanjay Kumar

Bengaluru, May 22: Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara on Thursday assured full cooperation



with the Enforcement Directorate (ED) in its ongoing raids at the educational institutions linked to him, as part of a money laundering investigation related to an alleged gold smuggling racket. The ED is probing alleged financial irregularities and has searched 16 locations in the state under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), targeting hawala operators and accommodation entry operators who allegedly made 'fake' financial

transactions into accounts linked to gold smuggling accused and Kannada actress Ranya Rao. According to Parameshwara, ED officials visited three institutions and a university, including Siddhartha Institute of Technology and Siddhartha Medical College, seeking financial records from the past five years. He said he has instructed his staff to cooperate and provide all necessary information to the ED. "As a person who believes in the law of the land, I am prepared to cooperate with whatever comes out of their verifications or searches," he said. To a query on allegations that Rs 40 lakh from his institution's account was used to pay Ranya Rao's credit card bill, Parameshwara declined to comment, saying he would respond after the investigation is complete. He also refrained from commenting on speculation that he was targeted due to his Dalit background, and said he would address it if necessary in the future.

Haryana court extends YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra's police remand by four days in espionage case

Hisar, May 22: A court here on Thursday extended the police remand of content creator and social media influencer Jyoti Malhotra by four days, a police spokesperson said. The 33-year-old YouTuber - arrested on suspicion of espionage - was produced before the court at the end of her five-day police remand. Malhotra was among the 12 people arrested from Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh over the past two weeks on suspicion of espionage, with investigators suspecting the presence of a Pakistan-linked spy network operating in north India. The Hisar native ran a YouTube channel "Travel with JO". She was arrested at the New Aggarsain Extension last week and booked under provisions of the Official Secrets Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. Hisar police said on Wednesday that no evidence had emerged to indicate Malhotra had access to any military- or defence-related information. But she was definitely in contact with some people, knowing that they were Pakistani intelligence operatives, they had said. Police sources had said she was in touch with Ehsan-ur-Rahim alias Danish, a staffer at the Pakistani High Commission, since November 2023.

Youth should pledge to follow the path of service, dedication, and self-respect: Chief Minister

The Sikh Times
Sanjay Arora

Chandigarh, May 22: Haryana Chief Minister Sh Nayab Singh Saini stated that under the leadership of Prime Minister Sh Narendra Modi, the brave soldiers of the nation successfully carried out Operation Sindoor. This mission, he said, has sent a strong message to the world about India's courage and has elevated the country's global standing. He emphasized that Operation Sindoor reflects the Prime Minister's unwavering commitment to the safety and protection of Indian citizens. "While we have witnessed many military operations in the past, Operation Sindoor stands out as an extraordinary example of human resolve, technological prowess, and strategic precision," he added. The Chief Minister was addressing the gathering just before the Operation Sindoor Tiranga Yatra held

today in Ladwa city, Kurukshetra district. A large number of youth, women, and senior citizens participated in the Yatra, which was led by the Chief



Minister. They contributed enthusiastically to this campaign, organized in honor of the brave soldiers of the nation and those martyred in Operation Sindoor. Chief Minister Sh Nayab Singh Saini paid flower tribute to the martyrs of

Pahalgam attack at the auditorium of Ramkundi Dharamshala. Sh Nayab Singh Saini stated that our brave soldiers struck deep into Pakistani territory and eliminated the terrorists, sending a strong message that any threat to India's sovereignty will have serious consequences. He emphasized that our brave soldiers successfully identified and destroyed terrorist bases across the border, including 11 Pakistani airbases. He further said that the missile strikes carried out by Indian forces not only impacted Pakistan but also resonated globally, with their echoes reaching as far as China and the United States. When the matter was discussed at the international level, the ceasefire demonstrated that while India is not in favor of war, it will not remain silent if peace is mistaken for weakness. "This blend of valor and restraint is what makes our nation truly great,"

Huge effort is underway to build modern infrastructure for developed India: PM Modi

The Sikh Times
Simmi Kaur Babbar

Bikaner, May 22: Emphasizing the nation's commitment to modernization, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said that a huge effort is underway to build modern infrastructure for a developed India. He said that unprecedented work has been done in the last 11 years to modernise the railway stations and airports in the country. The prime minister said the nation is spending multiple times more money than before on development projects. "India is modernising its train network and infrastructure. This reflects the new speed and progress of the country," he said at a programme in Bikaner in which he virtually inaugurated 103 Amrit Stations in different parts of the country. Modi said the Vande Bharat train is running on nearly 70 routes in the country. "This has brought trains to far-flung areas. Hundreds of road over-bridges and underbridges have been constructed in the last 11 years. New tracks have been laid. Work is underway on the country's first bullet train project," he added. The prime minister said the government is also

modernising railway stations. "These modernised railway stations have been named as Amrit Bharat Stations. Out of these, more than 100 Amrit Bharat



Stations have been completed. People are seeing on social media what was the situation earlier and how the picture has changed now," said Modi. "The mantra of development and heritage is clearly visible at these Amrit Bharat stations. They are also symbols of local

art and culture. At every Amrit Bharat station, you will also get to see India's thousands of years old heritage," he added. Modi said these stations will be the means of promoting tourism and will provide new employment opportunities. The prime minister said the money that the government spends to build infrastructure also creates employment and business. "This money is going into the pockets of labourers, it is being given to shopkeepers. It is being given to factory workers. The people, who transport stones, gravel, cement etc. And those who drive trucks and tempos also benefit from it," he added. Modi said there are many benefits when the infrastructure is ready. "The farmer's agriculture produce reaches the market at a low price and wastage is reduced. New industries are set up, tourism increases," he added. Highlighting the substantial benefits Rajasthan is gaining from ongoing infrastructure development, the prime minister noted that high-quality roads are being constructed across villages and even in border areas. "Over the past 11 years, approximately Rs 70,000 crore has been invested in Rajasthan's road infrastructure alone," he said.

Punjab CM Mann opposes Centre's move to deploy CISF personnel at Nangal dam

The Sikh Times
ST Correspondent

Chandigarh, May 22: Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Thursday condemned the Centre's move to deploy a contingent of 296 CISF personnel to secure the Nangal dam. Questioning the Union government's move, Mann asked what was the need to deploy CISF personnel when Punjab Police was already providing security to the dam. The chief minister also said that he will raise the issue with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Niti Aayog meeting scheduled for Saturday. The Centre has sanctioned a contingent of 296 CISF personnel to provide a counter-terrorist security cover to the Nangal dam amid



the standoff between Punjab and Haryana over sharing of water from the dam. The Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) has been asked to make a security deposit of Rs 8,58,69,600 in favour of the CISF for the 296 personnel. Addressing the media in Sangrur on Thursday, Mann said the deployment of CISF personnel will cost Rs 8.58 crore per annum, showing a copy of the Centre's letter in this regard. "They say either the BBMB or Punjab will pay this money. What was the need for this when Punjab Police was already providing security to the dam for free? Why should we give money," Mann asked. "I will strongly oppose this move. We will neither allow money to be given through the BBMB nor from the state exchequer of the Punjab government," he added. Questioning the intention of the Centre for deploying security cover, Mann asked whether it wanted to "steal" Punjab's share of water. "We will not allow this," he asserted. Mann also asked BJP leaders, including Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar, if the Centre's latest move came with their approval. "The Centre must withdraw this decision. The dam falls in Punjab's jurisdiction. If Punjab can protect the international border, why can't it protect the dam," the chief minister asked. Replying to a question, Mann said he will raise the issue with the prime minister at the Niti Aayog meeting on Saturday, and ask Modi if he thought Punjab Police was incapable (of providing security to the dam).

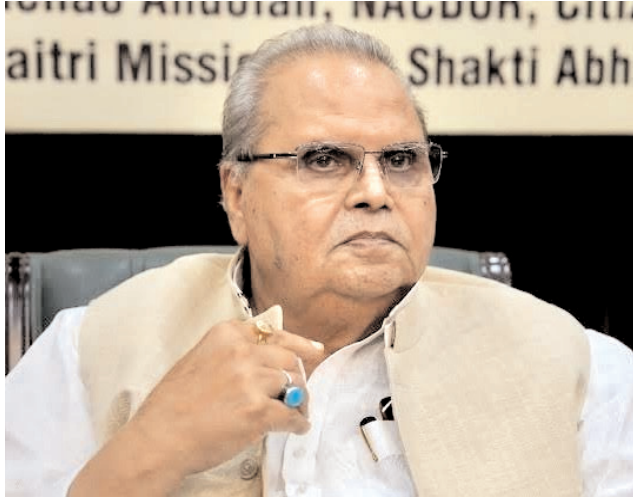
CBI files chargesheet against former J-K gov Satyapal Malik

The Sikh Times
Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, May 22: The CBI has filed a chargesheet against former Jammu and Kashmir governor Satyapal Malik and seven others in connection with alleged corruption in the award of Rs 2,200-crore civil works for Kiru hydropower project, officials said Thursday. The agency has filed its chargesheet after three years of probe before a special court naming Malik and his two aides Virender Rana and Kanwar Singh Rana, they said. The other persons named in the chargesheet included the then Chenab Valley Power Projects Pvt Ltd (CVPPPL) managing director M S Babu, its directors Arun Kumar Mishra and M K Mittal, managing director of construction firm Patel Engineering Ltd Rupen Patel and private person Kanwaljeet Singh Duggal, the officials said. In a message on 'X' on Thursday, Malik said he was admitted in

the hospital and not in a condition to talk to anyone. The former governor said he was getting calls from many well-wishers which he was unable to take. The CBI had conducted searches at the premises of Malik and others in connection with the case in February last year. The case pertains to the alleged malpractices in the award of the contract worth about Rs 2,200 crore of civil works of the Kiru Hydro Electric Power (HEP) Project to a private company in 2019, the CBI had said after the registration of the FIR in 2022. Malik, who was the governor of Jammu and Kashmir from August 23, 2018 to October 30, 2019, had claimed that he was offered a Rs 300-crore bribe for clearing two files, including the one

pertaining to the project. He denied allegations of corruption against him after



the agency conducted search operation last year. Malik said his residence was raided by the CBI instead of investigating

the people he had complained about and who were involved in corruption. "They will not get anything except four-five kurtas and pyjamas. The dictator is trying to scare me by misusing government agencies. I am a farmer's son, I will neither be afraid nor bow down," he had posted online. The central agency had filed the FIR against Navin Kumar Choudhary, the then chairman of the CVPPPL, and other officials including Babu, Mittal and Mishra, besides construction firm Patel Engineering. "Though a decision was taken in the 47th board meeting of CVPPPL for re-tender through e-tendering with a reverse auction after the cancellation of the ongoing tendering process, the same was not implemented (according to the decision taken in the 48th board meeting) and the tender was finally awarded to Patel Engineering Limited," the FIR has alleged.

Existing cowsheds to be expanded: Delhi CM

The Sikh Times
Naresh Malhotra

New Delhi, May 22: Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta met dairy owners on Wednesday and assured them that the existing cowsheds ('gaushalas') will be expanded and new ones will be established. She held a high-level meeting at the Delhi Secretariat with representatives of all authorised dairies, gaushala representatives and senior officials of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the Animal Husbandry Department, an official statement said. The meeting focused on reviewing the current state of gaushalas operating in the capital, the growing issue of stray cattle, and the dire condition of authorised dairy colonies, with an aim to ensure quick and effective solutions, it added. Expressing concern over the rising presence of stray cows on Delhi's roads, she alleged that this is the result of years of negligence and false promises by the previous government. "We are focusing on both citizen safety and animal welfare by ensuring proper management, shelter, and care. It is

also our moral responsibility to ensure that animals shifted from the streets to gaushalas receive the care they deserve," she added. The statement said comprehensive steps are being



taken to ensure proper sanitation, fodder, medical care and shelter for animals. She said a budget of Rs 40 crore has been allocated for the establishment of a state-of-the-art 'Model Gaushala' in Delhi. This gaushala will be

equipped with modern facilities for cow protection, dairy production and veterinary care. Gupta announced that considering the current situation, the government will now work on a concrete action plan to find a permanent solution. She stated that Wednesday's meeting concluded with the decision to equip all authorised dairies with basic infrastructure such as drinking water, drainage, sanitation and sewage systems. It will also be ensured that no cow or animal roams the streets and that all animals are kept in a safe, clean and conducive environment, the statement said. In addition, the existing gaushalas will be expanded and new ones will be established, the statement added. She explained that these dairies do not even have access to drinking water or any other water source. There are no 'gobar' (cowdung) gas plants, drains, sewage systems or sanitation facilities, she claimed. After the meeting, minister Kapil Mishra said now dairies will receive basic amenities, gaushalas will be expanded and the government will ensure that not a single cow is seen abandoned on the streets.

With Operation Sindoor, PM has given message that terrorism will be punished

The Sikh Times
Navdeep Singh Sahni

Panaji, May 22: Hailing Operation Sindoor, Vice President Jagdeep



Dhankhar on Thursday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given a message to "our difficult neighbours" and the global community that terrorism will be punished and terrorists will be hunted down. The four-day operation between May 7 and 10 saw Indian forces eliminate terror infrastructure in Pakistan and

Pakistan-occupied Kashmir as retaliation for the horrific April 22 Pahalgam attack in which 26 persons, mostly tourists, were killed. "Bharat is very different now. Bharat is confident and bold. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sent a message, not only to our difficult neighbours but to the entire global community, that terrorism will not just not be tolerated but going beyond it terrorists will be punished," the Vice President said. "Wherever they (terrorists) are located, they will be hunted down. Operation Sindoor was needed and it continues. We must salute the vision of our Prime Minister for having accomplished it," he said. The world has acknowledged the might of the Indian armed forces because during Operation Sindoor as the targeting was precise, calculated and calibrated. There was no dissent on the impact of the operation, he asserted. "No one asked for proof because when coffins were taken, the (Pakistani) Army was present, terrorists were present, (Pak) government was present.

NEWS BOX

Don't hold local body polls without delimitation: Madras HC

MADURAI. The vacation bench of the Madurai Bench on Wednesday directed the government and state election commission not to conduct local body elections in nine districts without completing delimitation and the process required for announcing reservation. A bench of justices S Srimathy and R Vijayakumar gave the interim direction on a PIL petition filed by K Shunmuganathan of Tirunelveli.

The petitioner said that on May 5, the state election commission had published electoral rolls for nine districts where elections would be held. The previous local body elections in TN was conducted based on the 2011 census.

When it was pointed out by the Madras High Court in a similar case last year that the state had undergone drastic changes in population and other factors, the government had given an undertaking that it would not conduct elections without completing the delimitation and the process required for finalising ward reservations.

However, authorities have now initiated the election process without fulfilling the undertaking, the petitioner said adding, the poll rolls for several wards did not even have photographs of voters, which could pave way for impersonation. Also, some of the vacancies have not been included for the election, he added, suspecting ulterior motive behind it. Considering the submissions, the judges gave the interim direction, issued notice to authorities concerned and adjourned the case for a month.

Elderly woman killed in elephant attack in Thrissur; death toll hits 27 this year



THRISSUR. A wild elephant attack in Malakkapara, in the Athirapilly panchayat of Thrissur, claimed another life on Thursday, as an elderly woman became the latest victim of the ongoing wild animal attacks in Kerala. With this, the total number of deaths in wild animal attack in Kerala this year has risen to 27 in the state. Mary, 67, was found dead near her house. As per the local sources, Mary and her daughter were living in a house near the left canal of Sholayar dam in Malakkapara, Valparai region. At around 1 am on Thursday, Mary came out of her house hearing noises. The wild jumbo was moving so close to her house that she was attacked when ventured out of the house.

The region has been reporting the presence of wild elephants frequently with some even attacking at forest vehicles as well.

Two IITH professors elected as Fellows of Royal Society



HYDERABAD. Two professors from the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad (IITH) — Chennupati Jagadish and Dr Mallikarjun Tatipamula — have been elected as Fellows of the Royal Society (FRS), one of the most prestigious scientific honours globally. The FRS is a prestigious title awarded to individuals who have made a substantial contribution to the improvement of natural knowledge, including mathematics, engineering science and medical science.

Both the honorees trace their roots to India and maintain close academic ties with IITH. A Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the Australian National University, Prof Jagadish is renowned for his pioneering work in semiconductor nanotechnology, photonics, and optoelectronics.

He was born in a small village, Vallurupalem, in AP and grew up in a smaller village, Arekayalpadu, Telangana and obtained his BSc Physics from ANU-Guntur, MSc (Tech) Appl Physics from AU and MPhil and PhD in Physics from Delhi University. He is currently serving as Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Physics and Electronic Materials Engineering at the Australian National University.

A global technology leader and CTO at Ericsson, Dr Mallikarjun Tatipamula has played a transformative role in the development of 5G and next-generation networks. Born in Warangal, Telangana, Dr Mallik is a globally respected leader in telecommunications. He holds a BTech from NIT Warangal, an MTech from IIT Madras, and a PhD from the University of Tokyo.

Prof Jagadish said: "First and foremost, it is a real pleasure for me to be associated with IIT Hyderabad. I am humbled to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, among giants like Newton, Einstein, and Sir CV Raman".

Dr Mallikarjun Tatipamula said: "It is a great honour. But for me, this moment is not just about recognition - it is a reminder of what is possible when passion meets purpose."

Siruvani Dam leakage yet to be plugged even as monsoon nears

COIMBATORE. With the southwest monsoon just days away, concerns are mounting over the delay in initiating critical repair works at the Siruvani Dam - one of the primary sources of drinking water for Coimbatore city.

The Coimbatore City Municipal Corporation (CCMC) has been waiting for the Kerala Water Resources and Irrigation Department to finalise cost estimates for essential repairs, based on a recent report by dam safety experts. To address increasing seepage from the dam, a joint inspection was conducted on January 8 by five teams comprising officials from the Pune-based Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage (TWAD) Board, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M), CCMC, and the Kerala State Government's Water Resources Department. The teams carried out a detailed assessment of the dam's condition and highlighted urgent structural interventions.

The CWPRS team has since submitted a comprehensive report to CCMC Commissioner M Sivaguru Prabakaran,

outlining the extent of the damage and suggesting remedial measures to arrest the leakage and improve overall dam safety.

The Pune team has suggested two methods - grouting and geo membrane for fixing the issues in the dam. Due to water seepage, around 10 MLD of water is being wasted every single

Water Resources and Irrigation Department is in the process of preparing a detailed estimate for the repair works. "Once the estimation is submitted, the Tamil Nadu government will allocate the necessary funds, and the work will be executed by the Kerala government," he said.



However, with time running short and the monsoon imminent, public voices and environmentalists are urging both state governments to act swiftly. Any further delay could result in a significant loss of rainwater from the reservoir, compounding water scarcity concerns in Coimbatore.

Siruvani Dam, located in Kerala, is a lifeline for lakhs of residents in Coimbatore. The increasing rate of water wastage due to unchecked seepage has alarmed civic authorities and residents alike, making timely repairs not just necessary but urgent.

As of Wednesday, the water level in the Siruvani Dam stands at 18.24 feet against its full storage capacity of 50 ft. Around 60.26 MLD of water is supplied from the dam to the Coimbatore district through the TWAD Board for drinking water purposes.

CM Siddaramaiah, DCM Shivakumar go on Bengaluru rounds; flood-hit residents gherao them

BENGALURU. Citizens gheraoed Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, KR Puram MLA Byrathi Basavaraj and others on Wednesday when they visited Sai Layout, which is flooded every time it rains heavily in Bengaluru. The angry residents demanded a permanent solution to flooding and adequate compensation for rain damage. Siddaramaiah listened to the residents calmly and assured them that projects will be taken to prevent flooding. On Wednesday afternoon, the CM, DCM along with a team of top brass from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB), Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) and others went on city rounds to inspect areas that were worst hit by the rain. It was also to look at ongoing



developmental works and to arrive at action needed to prevent future flooding.

Manyata Tech Park

The chief minister's convoy, which left Vidhana Soudha, first stopped before Manyata Tech Park. BBMP officials told him that a stretch of stormwater drain (SWD) is encroached here, which is causing flooding in the area. Siddaramaiah lost his cool and berated the

officials, saying what they were doing all this while allowing the encroachments. He directed them to demolish the encroachments under the Disaster Management Act to ensure a smooth flow of water.

Sai Layout residents seek answers from CM, DCM

Residents at HBR Layout 5th Block complained to the CM and Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh that there has been no progress in the railway vent work that was approved in March 2023 and that is the major reason for flooding in the area. Siddaramaiah told officials to widen the vent. While the width of SWD in Geddalahalli is nearly 30 metre, the railway vent is only 8 metre which causes a bottleneck for rainwater, leading to floods in Sai Layout, officials explained. Siddaramaiah told them to widen the railway vent.

KPSC graft: Karnataka government could proceed to seek sanction to prosecute officials

BENGALURU. The cabinet is expected to discuss the long-pending issue of irregularities in the KPSC at its meeting on Thursday. Charges relate to allegations of large-scale malpractice in recruitments in 2011, which triggered widespread protests at that time. Sources said the cabinet will review the findings of a CID probe that established the involvement of then KPSC chairman and members in the alleged irregularities. The CID named former KPSC chairman Gopal Bheemappa and member Mangala Sreedhar, along with others who were part of the commission during the controversial recruitments.

The CID's report is said to have provided evidence of procedural violations and possible manipulation in the selection process. But as KPSC functionaries hold constitutional positions, any legal proceedings against them will require prior sanction from constitutional authorities -- the governor and, in some cases, the President of India. Sources said

the cabinet will on Thursday look at CID's recommendations and observations. If the cabinet approves further action in the case, the state government could formally seek permission from constitutional authorities to proceed with the prosecution of officials. Officials familiar with the case said irregularities in 2011 recruitments came to light in 2013 and over 382 appointments were under a cloud. The revelations put a halt to recruitments and the unofficial freeze continued till 2019, when the BJP government cleared the appointments in 2022.

Many selected candidates have since started working in various departments. If the cabinet decides to reopen the case that has remained dormant for over a decade, it would have significant legal and political implications. While the government is expected to proceed cautiously, because of the sensitivity of the issue, Thursday's cabinet meeting is likely to set the course for further action in the long-running controversy.

Medical interns raise alarm over NMC guidelines dropping stipend, faculty ratio from rankings

VIJAYAWADA. The recent draft guidelines issued by the Medical Assessment and Rating Board (MARB) under the National Medical Commission (NMC) have sparked widespread concern among medical faculty and students across the State. The exclusion of the faculty-student ratio and intern stipend as criteria for ranking medical colleges has triggered criticism, with many alleging that the new framework compromises both educational standards and student welfare. Students' Unions and faculty associations are now calling for the rollback of the new draft and demanding wider consultations across the country.

Doctors and faculty members argue that an adequate faculty ratio is fundamental to maintaining quality in medical education. Without a sufficient number of trained teachers, medical students are likely to receive subpar clinical training, which can ultimately impact patient care.

"Faculty-student ratio is not just a metric, it's the backbone of medical education. Ignoring it in assessment is a disservice to the future of

healthcare," Dr M Rajesh, a paediatrician from Nellore, told.

Medical interns, who are already overburdened with work, fear that the removal of stipends from the evaluation criteria could further strain their training experience. "Many of us depend on the stipend for basic needs while we work long hours. Removing it from the ranking criteria will give colleges a free pass to ignore our needs," said S Harsha, a final-year MBBS intern at a private medical college in Guntur district.

Dr Ambati Naga Radhakrishna Yadav, Chairman of the YSRCP NTR District Doctors Wing, has formally raised the issue with the judiciary.

"I have written to the Chief Justice of India, requesting his urgent intervention in the matter, as this is benefiting private medical colleges. The NMC's decision undermines both the quality of education and the well-being of students. We cannot allow medical education to be dictated by commercial interests," he said.

Cracks and landslips on NH spark protests in Kerala; Gadkari urged to act

Residents of Kuppam alleged landslips have been occurring in the area intermittently since Tuesday, and they fear the situation could worsen at night when visibility is poor.

KOZHIKODE. As several sections of roads constructed under the NH 66 widening project continued to cave in and develop cracks in various parts of northern Kerala, people's representatives have sought the urgent intervention of Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari.

On Wednesday, multiple landslips at the NH construction site at Kuppam in Kannur triggered protests by residents who blocked the road. The landslips were reported twice in a single day on the stretch.

In Kasaragod, a crack measuring 72 feet in length appeared on the NH near Mavungal, near the location where a crack had developed on Tuesday. The service road near Kooliyangal, near Kanhangad, also collapsed, heightening concerns about the quality of road work in the area. IUMLPME



T Muhammed Basheer, who met Gadkari in Delhi and raised the issue, said the minister has promised to take action against the contractor. "We have also called for the setting up of a panel comprising experts from IIT Delhi," he said. Meanwhile, Kozhikode MP M K Raghavan, in a letter, asked Gadkari to take immediate steps to address the issue before the onset of

monsoon. "There are many places in Kozhikode where hills were razed unscientifically for the construction of the road," he said. Residents of Kuppam alleged landslips have been occurring in the area intermittently since Tuesday, and they fear the situation could worsen at night when visibility is poor. They claimed that neither the district collector nor officials from the National Highways Authority visited the site.

Residents stage protest at Kuppam

"The landslide took place at a site where a hill had been excavated for ongoing NH construction. The absence of a proper drainage system caused the mud and debris to enter nearby homes," said Biju, Kuppam resident. After the protest halted vehicular movement, police personnel reached the spot to manage traffic

Visakhapatnam Central Jail faces severe overcrowding amid surge in ganja smuggling cases

VISAKHAPATNAM. Visakhapatnam Central Jail has the largest number of overcrowded prisoners in Andhra Pradesh and is facing overcrowding challenges. A large number of blocks in the prison have been occupied by smugglers who were caught while trying to transport ganja from various parts of North AP. Speaking to TNIE, Superintendent of Visakhapatnam Central Prison (SCP) M Mahesh Babu emphasised that the Visakhapatnam Central Jail facility was designed to accommodate 900 inmates, including 80 female prisoners. The jail has around 1,830 prisoners, far exceeding its capacity. Among the inmates, 1,548 are on remand, and the number of female prisoners has slightly increased to 82.

At present, there are 185 male lifers and no female lifers in the jail. Around 1,000 prisoners have been booked under the NDPS Act, specifically for ganja-related cases, Mahesh Babu added. He stated that over the past few months, as many as 200 first-time offenders have been in the jail, highlighting an increase in crime reporting and legal actions.

As a temporary relief measure, 175 prisoners have been transferred to Rajahmundry Central Prison, he added. He said, "Around 60% of prisoners are below the age of 32, raising concerns about the growing involvement of young individuals in criminal activities."

He mentioned that around 300 prisoners from other states were also present, in the past few years, bail for ganja-related cases was typically granted after one month, but currently, with the full implementation of the relevant Acts, the process now takes between one to six months, depending on the severity of the crime. Strict measures have been enforced to minimize the illegal transportation of ganja. Mahesh emphasised that strict security measures and thorough checks have been implemented within the jail premises, with regular inspections being conducted to ensure safety.

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Advocate Pooja Bhaskar Sharma

Empowering Every Elector: Accessible, Accurate & Accountable Voting

New Delhi, May, 22: Under the visionary leadership of the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Sh. Gyanesh Kumar, the Election Commission of India has undertaken transformative initiatives that will significantly strengthened the electoral framework of the country. The Commission's tireless efforts have driven reforms aimed at enhancing efficiency and inclusivity across all facets of election management. The Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India Shri Gyanesh Kumar, in the presence of Election Commissioners Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu and Dr. Vivek Joshi, had laid down the roadmap for these initiatives during the Conference of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs) held in March this year. From empowering electors and engaging political parties to streamlining procedures, reinforcing legal clarity, and bolstering institutional capacities, the Commission has embraced a holistic approach to electoral reform. These initiatives reflect a steadfast commitment to uphold the integrity of the electoral process and deepening democratic participation, embodying the Commission's role as a guardian of India's vibrant democracy. To make the voting process more accessible and streamlined for citizens, the maximum number of electors assigned to a single polling station has been restricted from 1500 to 1200. This is expected to significantly reduce overcrowding and waiting time at booths. Recognizing the growth of urban settlements, high-rise buildings and residential colonies, the Commission has also vision for the setting up of additional polling booths within such societies to make voting more convenient and locally accessible to the voter. Furthermore, voter information slips are being redesigned to become more user-friendly, with serial numbers and part numbers now displayed more prominently for easy identification of polling details. In a move to enhance the accuracy of the electoral rolls, the Commission will now The officials earlier identified the district where the operation is underway as Sukma. An IAF helicopter has been pressed into service to evacuate the injured, officials said. The Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) is a special jungle warfare unit of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), which is the lead force for operations in the Left Wing Extremism-affected states. The security forces are undertaking continuous

Chhattisgarh: CoBRA commando, Naxalite killed in encounter
Raipur, May 22: A CoBRA commando of the CRPF and a Naxalite were killed during an anti-Maoist operation in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district on Thursday, officials said. The operation is ongoing in the Tumrel area under the Usoor police station limits of the district, led by the 210th Battalion of CRPF's CoBRA unit and troops from the Chhattisgarh Police DRG and STF, the officials said. A CoBRA commando has been killed in action while another has been injured, they said. A Naxalite has also been neutralised in the exchange of fire and a weapon has been recovered, they added.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as MANOJ KUMAR son of RAMESH CHAND, R/o 304, Prem Nagar-2, Tripati Enclave, Block-V, Kirti Suleman Nagar, North West Delhi, Delhi-110085, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as AVDESH.

NAME CHANGE
I, ROSHAN KUMAR SHARMA S/O RAM VILASH SHARMA R/O H NO G-198, SHIV DURGHA VIHAR, LAKHAPUR, FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121009, I have changed my name from ROSHAN KUMAR TO ROSHAN KUMAR SHARMA for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE
I, Amrit Rajbongshi Father of No.4581597M, Rank-Hav Chandan Rajbongshi R/o, Vill. Bhebari, PO - Gumow, Teh-Rangia, District. Kamrup, Assam-781366 have changed my name from Amrit Rajbongshi to Amrit Das vide affidavit dated 20.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, Jayan Rajbongshi Mother of No.4581597M, Rank-Hav Chandan Rajbongshi R/o, Vill. Bhebari, PO - Gumow, Teh-Rangia, District. Kamrup, Assam-781366 have changed my name from Jayan Rajbongshi to Jayan Das vide affidavit dated 20.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, Lakh Raji is Mother of No.4581584P, Rank-L/NK Name: Jagdish Yadav residing at Vill.Dulharpur, Baburpur, PO-Paliyagolpur, Distt: Sultanpur, Uttar Pradesh-228137 have changed my name from Lakh Raji to Laksharaj vide affidavit dated 17.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, MD AMJAD son of Shri MD SAMMI, residing at S-17, Nafees Road, Joga Bal Extn., Jamia Nagar Okhla, South Delhi, Delhi-110025, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as MOHD AMJAD in my minor son KHALID AMJAD aged 16 years in his 10th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of mine is MD AMJAD, which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is brought to the notice of public at large that my client TEHSIL KHAN S/O LATE HAMEED KHAN, R/O H. No. 63, PADARTHUPUR, PADARTHUPUR, BAREILLY, BAREILLY UTTAR PRADESH 243123 has disowned her daughter namely TABASSUM @NISHA W/O IMRAN KHAN R/O VILLAGE SINGHAL KALA SINGHAL KALA BAREILLY UP 243503 from all her movable and immovable properties. My client & her Family members shall not be responsible for any acts/deeds (Civil / Criminal) done by her daughter namely TABASSUM @ NISHA or any of them.
DEEP KISHORE DASS
CHAMBER NO 432 SAKET COURT COMPLEX, LAWYERS BLOCK, NEW DELHI 110017

ment to upholding the integrity of the electoral process and deepening democratic participation, embodying the Commission's role as a guardian of India's vibrant democracy. To make the voting process more accessible and streamlined for citizens, the maximum number of electors assigned to a single polling station has been restricted from 1500 to 1200. This is expected to significantly reduce overcrowding and waiting time at booths. Recognizing the growth of urban settlements, high-rise buildings and residential colonies, the Commission has also vision for the setting up of additional polling booths within such societies to make voting more convenient and locally accessible to the voter. Furthermore, voter information slips are being redesigned to become more user-friendly, with serial numbers and part numbers now displayed more prominently for easy identification of polling details. In a move to enhance the accuracy of the electoral rolls, the Commission will now The officials earlier identified the district where the operation is underway as Sukma. An IAF helicopter has been pressed into service to evacuate the injured, officials said. The Commando Battalion for Resolute Action (CoBRA) is a special jungle warfare unit of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), which is the lead force for operations in the Left Wing Extremism-affected states. The security forces are undertaking continuous

NAME CHANGE
I, KAMLA RANI JOSHI S/O VASU DEV JOSHI R/O HOUSE NO-64, PLOT NO OLD PLOT NO-9, KH NO-93/3, VIJAY VIHAR PHASE-2, G/F, BLOCK-C, ROHINI, ROHINI SECTOR-7, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110085, have changed the name of my minor daughter POOJA aged 17 years and she shall hereafter be known as POOJA JOSHI.

NAME CHANGE
I, RAJENDRAN S/o Sh. MUNIYASAMY MUTHU, R/O BLOCK CA, NO. 6A, DDA FLAT, VICTIC, MUNIRKA, PO: J.N.U., DISTRICT: SOUTH DELHI, STATE: DELHI, PIN CODE-110067 hereby declare that I have changed my name from RAJENDRAN M to RAJENDRAN for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Be it known to all that my client Sh. Phool Chand Yadav S/o, late Sh. Ramadhar Yadav owner of R/o F-45/A, Madras Colony, Gali no. 5, Jaitpur Ext., Badarpur New Delhi-110044 has disowned and disinherited his two sons namely Anil Yadav his wife Saroj Yadav and their children namely Vansh Yadav and Vanshika Yadav and his other son Ashok Yadav his wife Poonam Yadav and their daughter Anshu Yadav and Kishuna Yadav from his all immovable and movable properties/assets including his above residence and Shop no. D-27 Madras Colony, Gali no. 4, Jaitpur Ext., Badarpur New Delhi-110044 and other property situated in U.P. and have severed all relations with them. My client shall not be responsible for any act and omission of said disowned son.
Akshay Sharma Advocate
741, Saket District Courts, New Delhi-110017

PUBLIC NOTICE
The general public is hereby informed my client Shri Rameshwar W/o Late Daru Ram residing of D-100 Sanjay Colony Bhatti Mines New Delhi-110074, has disowned/dismised his son Ajay Kumar S/o Late Dadru Ram and daughter in law (Reena) residing at D-100 Sanjay Colony Bhatti Mines New Delhi-110074, from all their / his movable and immovable properties due to their misbehaviour and disobedient attitude towards my client. Now my client have no relation connection with his son (Ajay Kumar) and daughter in law (Reena), in future, my client shall not be responsible for their acts, deeds, things etc. if in future anybody dealing with her shall do so at their own risk and responsibility and my client shall not be held liable for the same.
NIZAMUDDIN Advocate
Ch. No. 343, Lawyers Chamber Block, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi-110017

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed that my client Smt. Geeta Devi @ Gita Devi W/o Late Sh. Kalu Ram R/o A-2014-A, Majpur, Delhi will be known as Smt. Geeta Devi W/o Late Sh. Kalu Ram. My client Smt. Geeta Devi W/o Late Sh. Kalu Ram will not be responsible Gita Devi W/o Late Sh. Kalu Ram in future. Whomever dealing with her in any manner shall be responsible at his/her own risk.
Varun Kumar (Adv)

NAME CHANGE
I, No-15674578F Rank-HAV Name-SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH Father of VARSHA KUMARI residing at VILL-ORAP, PO-PASAHARA, TEH-BUXAR, DIST-BUXAR, BIHAR-802119, have changed my minor daughter's name from VARSHA KUMARI to BARSHA KUMARI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 22/05/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

directly obtain death registration data from the Registrar General of India



(RGI). Once verified, this data will be used to remove the names of deceased persons from the rolls, ensuring greater authenticity. The Commission has conducted an extensive outreach program to engage political parties across the country. A total of 4,719 meetings have been held at the levels of Chief Electoral Officers (CEOs), District Electoral Officers (DEOs), operations in the LW-affected states as part of the Union government's declaration to end the menace from the country by March next year.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as SAMBHA DEVI W/o AJAY KUMAR R/o HNo-731, Gali No-5/2 B-Block, Santa Vihar Mukundpur, Badli, PO Samal Pur, Dist: North West Delhi, Delhi-110042, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RANI DEVI.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, SHSHANK S/O HARJESH KUMAR R/o SK-3, First Floor, Neem Wali Gali, Shindhora Kala, Padam Nagar PO Malka Ganj, Dist North Delhi, Delhi-110007 declare that name of mine and my father have been wrongly written as SHASHANK YADAV and HARJESH KUMAR YADAV in my OBC Caste Certificate No. OBC/02/927/5790/21/3/2014/905092 7105520. The actual name of mine and my father are SHSHANK and HARJESH KUMAR respectively.

NAME CHANGE
I, No.4581336Y Rank-Hav Name-Shingne Kiran Zanakal residing at Vill-Chikhli, PO-Chikhli, Teh-Chikhli, Distt. -Buldhana, MH-443201 have changed my minor daughter's name from Pratishtha to Shingne Pratishtha Kiran vide affidavit dated 21.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that our client Mr. Vishal Jain & Mrs. Shalu Jain are the owner of Freehold Industrial Plot No. 52, Block-B, area measuring 666.66 Sq. Yds., i.e., 557.39 Sq. Mtrs., out of Kharsa No. 222, 223, Situated at Roop Nagar Industrial area Pargana & Tehsil Loni Distt. Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, by virtue of GPA, ATS & Will dated 07.06.2017 duly registered in the office of SR-IV, Ghaziabad, Vide Doc. No. 2404, Vol. No. 1197, Book No.4, On Pages 15-30, dated 07.06.2017, in the chain of documents below mentioned document not available i.e. Chain Document executed by Mr. Mohd. Saleh S/O Mohd. Usman in favour of Mr. Vipin Kumar Gupta S/O Raj Kishore Gupta in respect of said property, our client is declaring that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, and Same Property which is to be sold to Mr. Ranjeet Kumar and same has been financed by Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd Branch: Dwarka New Delhi. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained.
[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]
Advocate
F-211, sector-3 Vaishali Ghaziabad
Uttar Pradesh-201010, Contact at 0958871432

NAME CHANGE
I, No.4581336Y Rank-Hav Name-Shingne Kiran Zanakal residing at Vill-Chikhli, PO-Chikhli, Teh-Chikhli, Distt. -Buldhana, MH-443201 have changed my minor daughter's name from Pratishtha to Shingne Pratishtha Kiran vide affidavit dated 21.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi

NAME CHANGE
I, Kusum Mother of 4581336Y Rank-Hav Name- Shingne Kiran Zanakal residing at Vill-Chikhli, PO-Chikhli, Teh-Chikhli, Distt. -Buldhana, MH-443201 have changed my name from Kusum to Kusumbal Zanakal Shingni vide affidavit dated 21.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform general public at large that our client, **Amit Garg & Ruchi Garg**, who have approached **IDBI Bank Ltd.** for the purchasing of **Residential Property/Plot No. 4, Area measuring 279.55 Sq. Yds., Class-D, on Road No. 6, situated in the Residential Colony known as Punjabi Bagh (East), New Delhi - 110026**, Mrs. Shalini Arora Purchased this property through 1) Sale Deed dated 30.04.2024, Vide Regd. Document No. 2024/6/1/2937, 2) Sale Deed dated 25.01.2024, Vide Regd. Document No. 2024/6/1/557, & 3) Sale Deed dated 31.01.2024, Vide Document No. 2024/6/1/666.

It is to mention that the 1) **Sale Deed dated 03.03.1964** Vide Document No. 2122, 2) **Sale Deed dated 14.01.1970** vide Document No. 324, and 3) **Sale Deed dated 01.06.2005** Vide Document No. 2100, in respect of the said property, are lost by the Customer/Owner. And the said property is going to be mortgaged in **IDBI Bank Ltd., Faridabad, Haryana**. All persons, if any, including bank, financial institutions, or any party/ies having any claim, demand, right, interest in respect of or against the said property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, assignment, mortgage, charge, possession, lien or otherwise, are hereby required to make the same known in writing within 7 days with the documentary evidence from the date of publication, failing which the said claim of the person/s, if any will be considered waived and settled.
Ms. Rani Shilpee (Advocate)
Office Add: No. 7/181, UGF, Shukar Bazaar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059

and Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), with over 28,000 representatives of

stakeholders, including electors, political parties, and election officials. The long-standing issue of duplicate Elector Photo Identity Cards (EPICs) has also been addressed, with a new mechanism now in place to ensure that each voter receives a unique EPIC number. In terms of legal reforms, the Commission has mapped 28 distinct categories of stakeholders involved in the electoral process, including electors, candidates, political parties, and election personnel etc. This stakeholder classification has been done in accordance with the provisions of the Representation of the People Acts of 1950 and 1951, the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960, and the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, along with relevant instructions issued by the Commission. Tailored training presentations are being prepared based on the Acts, Rules and Instructions of the Commission for each of these stakeholder groups to ensure thorough understanding and compliance with electoral laws and procedures. The Commission is also focusing on strengthening the workforce involved in the election process through targeted training and identification measures. All Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will now be issued standardized photo identity cards to ensure credibility and uniform recognition. Over 3,000 Booth

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, MOHAMMAD FARUQ SAIFI S/O LATE SULTAN AHAMAD residing at Near Pipal Wali Masjid, Mohalla Mewatyan Nai Abadi, Dadri, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-203207, declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as S/K CHAUDHARY S/O SHEFI and LATE SHRI SULTAN AHMED in my Service Book. The actual name of mine and my father are MOHAMMAD FARUQ SAIFI and LATE SULTAN AHAMAD, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, Army No.10467057M Ex Hav Mahender Kumar aged 54 years S/o Sh. Lachman Ram residing at Village Jahmat P.O.Jahmat, Tehsil -Baldwara Distt. Mandi, HP -175033 declare that name and date of my wife has been wrongly written as Kamesh Devi DOB: 26.05.1971 but her correct name and date of birth is Kamla Devi DOB: 03.09.1968 vide affidavit dated 24.02.2025 executed before Notary Public, Baldwara, HP.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that our client Mr. Vishal Jain & Mrs. Shalu Jain are the owner of Freehold Industrial Plot No. 52, Block-B, area measuring 666.66 Sq. Yds., i.e., 557.39 Sq. Mtrs., out of Kharsa No. 222, 223, Situated at Roop Nagar Industrial area Pargana & Tehsil Loni Distt. Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, by virtue of GPA, ATS & Will dated 07.06.2017 duly registered in the office of SR-IV, Ghaziabad, Vide Doc. No. 2404, Vol. No. 1197, Book No.4, On Pages 15-30, dated 07.06.2017, in the chain of documents below mentioned document not available i.e. Chain Document executed by Mr. Mohd. Saleh S/O Mohd. Usman in favour of Mr. Vipin Kumar Gupta S/O Raj Kishore Gupta in respect of said property, our client is declaring that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, and Same Property which is to be sold to Mr. Ranjeet Kumar and same has been financed by Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd Branch: Dwarka New Delhi. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained.
[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]
Advocate
F-211, sector-3 Vaishali Ghaziabad
Uttar Pradesh-201010, Contact at 0958871432

NORTHERN RAILWAY
E-Auction Notice
Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager/PS, Northern Railway Delhi Division invites bids through e-Auction through IREPS (<http://ireps.gov.in>) for the allotment of Automated Teller Machine/Digital Banking Unit/Banking e-Lobby contracts at following Railway stations/locations:

E-Catalogue No.	Date & Time of bidding	Railway Stations/Locations/Sites
DLI/ATM-06-2025	06.06.2025 at 11.00 Hrs	Julana (1), Nizamuddin (1), Delhi Shahdara (3), Tilak Bridge (2), Karanin (1), Shivaji Bridge (2), Vivek Vihar (1), Kinana (1), Anand Vihar (1), Samar Gopalpur (1), Nilokhari (1)

All bidders who intend to participate in the e-auctions conducted through E-Auction Leasing module of IREPS should fulfill following mandatory requirements before they can submit their bids: • Registration on IREPS for E-Auction Leasing module - Active IREPS User Account for E-Auction Leasing Module. • Payment of One Time Registration Fee; Current Account in State Bank of India, Integration of SBI Bank Account with IREPS Account; Lien Marking of Funds; Updation of Turnover Details. • A new mechanism namely Virtual Account Number (VAN) has been introduced now for E-Auction Leasing module, which can be used by the bidders as an alternative to Lien Marking Mechanism. The bidders are free to switch between Lien Marking Mechanism (if activated) and VAN mechanism at any point of time, before entering the bidding room. VAN mechanism does not require the bidder to have a current account in State Bank of India. The users are free to transfer money from any of their existing bank accounts in any bank to their VAN account, which enables them to participate in IREPS E-Auctions. • Contractors who do not have IREPS account for any module of IREPS can submit their online request for registration by clicking on New Vendors / Contractors (E-Tender / E-Auction Leasing) link on IREPS Home page.

Railway Authority | Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Commercial to contact, in case Branch, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055. Email: publicitydelhi@delhiid@gmail.com Tel: 011-23743084
No. 3PUB/ATM/DLI-DIV/E-auction/2022
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 1497/25

Level Supervisors have already been trained at III-DEM, Delhi with plans to train more than one lakh supervisors in the coming years and thereby targeting the training of 10.50 lakh BLOs countrywide. Special orientation programs have been conducted for State and Media Nodal Officers from all 36 States and Union Territories. In addition, Police Officers from Bihar have undergone election-specific training to enhance coordination and preparedness for polling duties. Institutionally, the ECI has initiated several internal reforms to improve efficiency. Biometric attendance has been implemented for all staff to ensure punctuality and accountability. The E-Office platform has been operationalized to digitize internal documentation and processes. Regular meetings are also being held with Chief Electoral Officers across the country to monitor the implementation of these reforms and maintain uniformity in election administration. With these new initiatives, the Election Commission of India reaffirms its commitment to conduct free, fair, inclusive and accessible elections. These steps mark a significant stride in adapting the electoral system to meet the evolving needs of India's democracy, leveraging technology, legal precision, and administrative reform to deliver a robust electoral process.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, MOHAMMAD FARUQ SAIFI S/O LATE SULTAN AHAMAD residing at Near Pipal Wali Masjid, Mohalla Mewatyan Nai Abadi, Dadri, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-203207, declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as S/K CHAUDHARY S/O SHEFI and LATE SHRI SULTAN AHMED in my Service Book. The actual name of mine and my father are MOHAMMAD FARUQ SAIFI and LATE SULTAN AHAMAD, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as RADHA D/O BALRAM MANDAL W/O SWAPAN PATRA R/O A-404, GALI NO-1, COSMOS SCHOOL, MOHANABAGH, SOUTH DELHI, DELHI-110044 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RADHA PATRA.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as BHAGU S/O GAULI R/O HOUSE NO-340, BLOCK-B, J J COLONY, BAWANA, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110039 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MAGU.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Information is given to general public at large that our client Mr. Mumtaz Alam S/O Mr. Abdul Hage is the owner of Freehold Residential Property No. 52-A, area measuring 40 Sq. Yds., Built on Part of Property No. 52, out of Kharsa No. 1921, situated in the Revlon Estate of Village Razapur Khurd, Colony known as R-3/A-2 Block, Mohan Garden, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, by virtue of Notarized GPA along with ATS & Will dated 30.10.2022 now our client is declaring that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, and same Property Sold too be Md Saddam Ansari which is to be financed by SMFG India Home Finance Company Limited Branch: Moti Nagar New Delhi. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained.
[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]
Advocate
F-211, sector-3 Vaishali Ghaziabad
Uttar Pradesh-201010, Contact at 0958871432

Defunct for year, motors fixed 2 hours before minister's visit in Gurgaon

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, RIYA D/O SUKHENDRA KUMAR CHAUDHARY, R/O H No.-RZ-138A, F/F, Kh No. 24/1, Gali No. 9, Shiv Block, Raghu Nagar, PO: Dabri, Dist: South West Delhi, Delhi-110045, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as S/K CHAUDHARY in my 10th and 12th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of my father is SUKHENDRA KUMAR CHAUDHARY, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, JYOTI ARORA W/O TARUN TANEJA, resident of F-13, THIRD FLOOR, LAIPAT NAGAR-1, South Delhi, 110024 have changed my name to SIMRAN TANEJA for all future purpose.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, IANUJA SAHA S/O LATE PRABHUNATH R/O 118, Shivpur Kapoor Dwar-2, Shivpur Kapurdia, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh-277216 declare that name of mine and my minor son has been wrongly written as MUNNI LAL GOND and ANKIT GOND in my minor son namely ANKIT SAH aged 13 years in his School Records. The actual name of Mine and my minor son are MUNNI LAL SAH and ANKIT SAH respectively which may be amended accordingly.

Name correction
It is for general information that I, DEEP SAHA S/O SUBRATA SAHA, residing at C-46 East of Kailash Hills, VTC: East of Kailash, PO: Srinivaspuri, DIST: South Delhi, Delhi-110065, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as SUBRTO SAHA in my class 10th and 12th marksheet and certificate. The actual name of my father is SUBRATA SAHA, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, Varinder Kaur, D/o Late Indarjit Singh R/O B159 Chitrang Park, shall henceforth be known as Dolly Singh for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, SUMAN W/O ASHOK KUMAR R/O HOUSE NO-26A, SECTOR-17A, GURGAON, HARYANA-122001 HAVE CHANGED MY MINOR DAUGHTER NAME TANISHKA TO TANISHKA BHAMBHUI FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

NAME CHANGE
I, No-14837094X Rank-HAV/MT Name-SHYAMVIR SINGH Presently residing at VILL-JANURIYA, PO-KARA-SOURA, DIST-HATHRAS, UTTAR PRADESH-281308, have changed my wife's name from NEERAJ SINGH to NEERAJ DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 22/05/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as Nisha Sehrawat @ Satyapal Singh W/o Ajay Singh Bal R/O F-42, M.B. Road, Saurdalajab, Gadapuri, Delhi-110030 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Nisha

(BEDAKHAL)
I, SUKHVIR SINGH RATHORE son of Shri CHANDRABHAN SINGH, hereby declare that I have disinherited my wife VINITA RATHORE, son SAMBHAY RATHORE, first daughter KARTIKI RATHORE, and second daughter TEJSHWANI RATHORE from all my movable/immovable/patriotic assets/properties due to her wrongful behaviour. I will not be held responsible for any kind of money or transaction done by her in future and for any illegal/illegal and property purpose. I will not have any right on my entire property and all my money on my entire property. She has been parted from entering my business established at D-1229, BLOCK-D, SANGAM VIHAR, NEW DELHI-110080.

Gurgaon. MCG officials turned an adage — where there's a will, there's a way — on its head. Since a Haryana minister was on the way, they developed the will to fix things delayed for a year. In a telling example of administrative apathy and sudden efficiency, a year-long delay in providing electricity to rainwater-lifting motors at Gulmohar Park in Sector 15 was mysteriously resolved just two hours before Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh's scheduled visit on Wednesday. Speaking to the media during the visit, locals sarcastically remarked the minister should consider visiting the area more often. "Only when senior officials and ministers come do things actually move. The park is cleaned, water problems are addressed and the system seems to function," a Sector 15 resident said. Interestingly, besides the power connection, residents noted the park was "freshly cleaned and the surrounding area beautified" just before the minister's visit, suggesting the transformation was more for "optics" than sustainable urban management. The motors were part of a rainwater management system implemented by MCG to tackle waterlogging in the area during the monsoon. While the underground tank and pipelines to lift rainwater into the master drainage line were installed seven months ago, the motors remained non-functional due to the absence of an electricity connection — a detail conveniently overlooked by the authorities. Residents revealed the project to resolve waterlogging began three years ago after a direct appeal to the minister. Despite the infrastructure being laid down, the essential electricity connection remained pending for over a year. It wasn't until news of the minister's inspection visit that MCG officials hurriedly connected the power supply — just two hours before his arrival.

Fraudster impersonates Army officer & cheats over 100 people, held in Gurgaon

Gurgaon. A cyber con was arrested for posing as an Army officer on social media platforms and luring people on the pretense of selling old motorcycles and vehicles. The accused has reportedly conned over 100 people using, police said. Mubahid alias Wahid, a native of Lakhnau village of Palwal district, lives in Rajeev Nagar in the city. He had created multiple user IDs using fake names and posted sale advertisements of old motorcycles. He also kept track of other users posting advertisements to sell their motorcycles. Once he identified a victim, he would comment on their post or obtain their phone number. He would then contact them and claim to be the owner of the vehicle. Posing as an Army officer, he would claim that he was being transferred to another location and needed to sell his bike. He lured buyers with attractive offers and convinced them to transfer money for bike delivery. After receiving the payment, he would cut off all contact. "The accused confessed to committing over 100 such frauds across different regions, including three cases specifically in Gurgaon. A case has been registered under relevant sections at the cyber crime police station (East), Gurgaon, and the accused was arrested on Wednesday," a senior police official said. The police recovered two mobile phones used in the crime. He will be presented before a local court and taken into police custody for further interrogation. The police will continue their investigation based on the information extracted during remand. Further legal proceedings are underway.

Noida reclaims Rs 45cr govt land from squatters

Noida. During an anti-encroachment drive on Wednesday, officials cleared five hectares of land worth around Rs 45 crore in Kasna. A day prior, a five-acre plot of land was freed from encroachment in Dadri's Dhoom Manikpur area. The encroached land in Kasna belonged to the irrigation department, and had been under illegal occupation for over two decades.



An unauthorised colony had come up on the plot, with several houses constructed, officials said.

"Over the last 10 years, the irrigation department sent several notices to the residents of the colony to vacate the area as it belonged to govt. When the residents did not budge, the district administration started a survey of the area two years back, and on Wednesday, the demolition action was done," SDM Sadar Charul Yadav, who led the operation, told TOI. No FIR has been registered in the case so far, she added. Officials said that previous attempts to clear the land were stalled due to local resistance. This time, however, the administration deployed heavy police force to ensure the operation went ahead without disruption. Four excavators were used to raze illegal constructions on the land, and around 120 personnel from Kasna police station and nearby areas, along with a company of the Provincial Armed Constabulary (PAC), were deployed to maintain law and order. A day prior, officials freed five acres of notified land in Dhoom Manikpur village in Dadri. A team of revenue officials demolished boundary walls of over 30 plots using bulldozers. An FIR will be filed soon, officials added.

NEWS BOX

Israel says missile fired by Yemen's Houthis downed after sirens spark panic

Tel Aviv. The Israeli military said it intercepted a missile launched from Yemen targeting Israel early on Thursday, in the latest attack bearing the hallmarks of Yemen's Houthi militants. The missile triggered sirens in several areas of central Israel, the military said in a statement. Undeterred by Israeli strikes on Yemen, the Houthis have continued to fire missiles at Israel in what they describe as an act of solidarity with Palestinians in Gaza, although they have agreed to halt attacks on US ships. The group has not claimed responsibility for Thursday's launch. Israel has carried out retaliatory strikes, including one on May 6 that damaged Yemen's main airport in Sanaa, and another last week targeting the Red Sea ports of Hodeidah and Salaf. Since the start of the Israel-Hamas war in October 2023, the Houthis have launched dozens of missile and drone attacks targeting Israel, most of which have been intercepted or have fallen short.

China's 650-Year-Old Fengyang Drum Tower Collapses

World. A centuries-old Fengyang Drum Tower in China collapsed partially on Monday, forcing tourists to scramble for safety. Hundreds of roof tiles fell from the 650-year-old drum tower in Anhui. A video of the moment portions of the tower came crashing down has gone viral on social media. It shows a cloud of brown dust enveloping the area near the tourist site. Debris rained down near visitors exploring the area, creating chaos and compelling people to run for cover. One of the eyewitnesses told Yangcheng Evening News, "The tile falling lasted for a minute or two." Another witness told the Beijing News, "There was no one in the square and no one was injured; if it happened a little later, there would be many children playing (near the tower) after dinner." The structure was first built in 1375 during the Ming Dynasty. A part of the building was ruined in 1853 during the Qing Dynasty and was rebuilt 150 years later in 1905. In 2023, a restoration project was launched. It was wrapped up in March 2024. The roof, which suffered a partial collapse, was built a year ago. Social media users expressed shock and concern over the poor construction quality. One person commented, "Modern restoration construction compared to something built 650 years ago."

Ex-CEO Of Ocean Theme Parks Defends Record After Dolphin Deaths

World. Another dolphin has died in an aquatic park operated by The Dolphin Company, the fifth in the last year as an executive and lenders fight for control of the bankrupt company. Independent managers in the US were unable to get help investigating the cause of the death from company veterinarians in Mexico, where Chief Executive Officer Eduardo Albor maintains control of the headquarters and some of the parks. Operations in Europe, the US and the Caribbean are under the control of lender-appointed managers. The dolphin, named Robin, died at one of the attractions in Italy last month, said Robert Wagstaff, chief restructuring officer for the lender-controlled side of the business. Wagstaff was hired by a newly installed independent director in March. Wagstaff and Albor testified in federal court in Wilmington, Delaware on Wednesday as part of a fight over the company's Mexican operations. Under questioning by his lawyer, Albor insisted that his top priority was protecting about 300 dolphins and other animals that are the main attractions at the parks and also serve as collateral for the lenders.

Wish Had A Plane To Give You": South African President's 'Qatar Gift' Jab At Trump

Washington. "Turn the lights down," President Donald Trump said. It was showtime in the Oval Office. Sitting next to him was South African President Cyril Ramaphosa, who was visiting in hopes of reaching new agreements on trade. But Trump wanted to talk about baseless allegations that white farmers in his country were being systematically singled out for persecution and murder. He directed everyone's attention to a television that had been wheeled into the room, and a video began to play. Even for a president who has transformed the Oval Office from a diplomatic venue into a gladiatorial arena, it was an extraordinary scene. Trump stared at the screen while Ramaphosa looked away. For roughly four minutes, the video showed Black politicians - none part of Ramaphosa's government or political party - using anti-apartheid chants about attacking white South Africans. The politicians have said their comments aren't meant to be taken literally; conservative media use them to advance widely rejected claims that there's a genocide underway in South Africa. The video ended with footage of rows of white crosses, which Trump said represented white farmers. "It's a terrible sight. I've never seen anything like it," he said. Ramaphosa sounded skeptical. "I'd like to know where that is," he said. "Because this I've never seen." The confrontation echoed Trump's explosive meeting in the Oval Office with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy almost three months ago, but this one did not devolve into acrimony. While Zelenskyy and Trump ended up arguing in full view of the news media, what unfolded on Wednesday was a delicate dance between two leaders who had clearly prepared for the encounter. Trump had more than just the video. He also shuffled through a stack of papers that he said were printouts of reports about attacks on white farmers.

"Terror Will Not Break Us": World Reacts To Israel Embassy Staff Killings

Top US and Israeli leadership, including President Donald Trump, expressed shock and outrage over the killings.

Was. Two Israeli embassy staff were shot dead late Wednesday outside the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, DC, by a gunman who shouted "free Palestine." The two victims, a man and a woman, were leaving an event at the Museum when the suspect approached a group of four people and opened fire, authorities said. Israeli Ambassador to the US, Yechiel Leiter, informed that the two people killed were a young couple about to be engaged, saying the man had purchased a ring this week with the intent to propose next week in Jerusalem. Spokesperson at the Israeli embassy in Washington, Tal Naim Cohen,

said Israel has "full faith in law enforcement authorities on both the local and federal levels to apprehend the shooter and protect Israel's representatives and Jewish communities throughout the United States."

World Reacts

Top US and Israeli leadership, including President Donald Trump, expressed shock and outrage over the killings. Condemning the attack, Trump said, "These horrible D.C. killings, based obviously on antisemitism, must end, NOW!" "Hatred and Radicalism have no place in the USA. Condolences to the families of the victims. So sad that such things as this can happen! God Bless You ALL," he posted on his Truth Social platform. US Secretary of State Marco Rubio, meanwhile, said authorities would "track down those responsible" for the fatal shooting of two Israeli embassy staffers. "This was a brazen act of cowardly, antisemitic violence. Make no mistake: we will track down those responsible and



bring them to justice," he posted on X. US Attorney General Pam Bondi said she was at the scene with former judge Jeanine Pirro, who serves as the US attorney in Washington and whose office would prosecute the case. Israeli President Isaac Herzog said he was "devastated" by the scenes in Washington. "This is a despicable act of hatred, of antisemitism, which has claimed the lives of two young employees of the Israeli embassy. Our hearts are with the loved ones of those murdered and our immediate prayers are with the injured. I

send my full support to the Ambassador and all the embassy staff," he said. He added, "We stand with the Jewish community in DC and across the US. America and Israel will stand united in defence of our people and our shared values. Terror and hate will not break us." The shooting comes as Israel has launched a new campaign targeting Hamas in the Gaza Strip in a war that has set tensions aflame across the wider Middle East. The war began with the Palestinian group Hamas coming out of Gaza on October 7, 2023, to kill 1,200 people and take some 250 hostages back to the coastal enclave. Israel's ambassador to the United Nations also reacted to the killings, calling them a "depraved act of anti-Semitic terrorism." Harming diplomats and the Jewish community is crossing a red line. We are confident that the US authorities will take strong action against those responsible for this criminal act," Ambassador Danny Danon wrote on X.

Trump takes credit for everything: Ex-US NSA on India-Pakistan ceasefire claim

Former US NSA John Bolton dismissed Trump's claim of mediating peace between India and Pakistan, saying he "takes credit for everything." He called it typical behaviour, adding it's "nothing against India, it's just Trump being Trump".

World. Former US National Security Advisor John Bolton took a jab at his former boss, Donald Trump, saying that he has a habit of grabbing credit whether it's due or not. And, the latest example, Bolton says, is Trump's claim of brokering peace between India and Pakistan. "It's nothing personal to India. This is Donald Trump, who takes credit for everything," Bolton quipped, summing up what he called a familiar pattern of Trump rushing to the spotlight, facts notwithstanding. **TRUMP BEING TRUMP** Speaking to news agency ANI, Bolton,

known for not sugarcoating his words, said, "I think he did have a call with Prime Minister Modi, and Vice President JD Vance and Secretary of State Marco Rubio were also on the call. I'm sure other countries might also be calling to see what they can do. It's typical of Trump because he would jump in before everyone else could



take credit. It may be irritating, probably is irritating to many people, but it's nothing against India, it's just Trump being Trump," he added. Bolton dismissed Trump's assertion that American mediation led to a ceasefire between India and Pakistan in the aftermath of the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. The deadly assault, which

killed 26 civilians, prompted India's massive retaliatory offensive — dubbed Operation Sindoor — targeting nine terror camps across Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. His comments come amid Trump's repeated claims that he played a key role in stopping hostilities between nuclear neighbours India and Pakistan. "If you take a look at what we just did with Pakistan and India — we settled that whole thing," Trump declared at a joint press conference with South African President Cyril Ramaphosa. "I think I settled it through trade. We're doing a big deal with India. We're doing a big deal with Pakistan." "Somebody had to be the last one to shoot. The shooting was getting worse and worse, deeper into the countries. We spoke to them, and I think we got it settled," he added.

TRUMP CREDITS HIMSELF FOR CEASEFIRE

The US President has been asserting everywhere that it was he who not only simply 'brokered' the India-Pakistan ceasefire, but also prevented a 'nuclear war'.

Mahmoud Khalil denied chance to hold his newborn baby, family says

World. Mahmoud Khalil, a Columbia University graduate and Palestinian activist, was not allowed to hold his newborn son during a recent visit, according to his legal team. Khalil, who was detained by Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) since March, met his baby for the first time behind a glass partition.

His wife, Noor Abdalla, flew from New York to the Louisiana detention centre with their one-month-old infant, hoping for a contact visit. ICE and the private company operating the facility denied the request. Officials claimed a no-contact visit policy and imprecise "security concerns" for the denial, his lawyers say. Noor, who is a US citizen, said "After flying over a thousand miles to Louisiana with our newborn son, his very first flight, all so his father could finally hold him in his arms, ICE has denied us even this most basic human right."

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"This is not just heartless. It is deliberate violence, the calculated cruelty of a government that tears families apart without remorse," she added.

KHALIL'S EVERY REQUEST DENIED

Earlier, Khalil requested to attend the birth of his child in New York but was not allowed. Noor described that rejection as "a purposeful decision by ICE to make me,



Mahmoud, and our son suffer." Khalil had to experience the birth of his son through a phone call. Khalil is a US green card holder. He was arrested in New York on March 8. His case was one of the first in a series of ICE arrests that targeted students and academics who participated in pro-Palestine demonstrations. In a letter to his son published by The Guardian, Khalil expressed deep sorrow. "My heart aches that I could not hold you in my arms and hear your first cry, that I could not unfurl your clenched fists or change your first diaper," he wrote. "My absence is not unique," he continued. "Like other Palestinian fathers, I was separated from you by racist regimes and distant prisons. The grief your mother and I feel is but one drop in a sea of sorrow that Palestinian families have drowned in for generations."

India To Host Event At UN To Mark International Tea Day

United Nations. The aromas and flavors of popular Indian teas permeated the halls of the United Nations headquarters as India hosted a special event to commemorate International Tea Day to highlight the beverage's contribution in empowering communities and fostering inclusive economic growth. The Permanent Mission of India to the UN hosted the high-level event Wednesday on the theme 'Tea for Livelihoods, Tea for SDGs' to mark the International Tea Day, a celebration of the world's most consumed drink, after water.

The event concluded with a special curated tea tasting experience where guests enjoyed a variety of Indian teas, including the famous Darjeeling tea, Masala chai, Assam and Nilgiri teas.

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, Director of the FAO UN Liaison Office in New York Angelica Jacome, and representatives of Kenya, Sri Lanka,

and China, the other major tea-producing countries, spoke on the occasion and highlighted the challenges faced by the tea growers, especially the small tea farmers.

"The story of tea in India is not merely one of trade and taste but also one of transformation. What began in the early 19th century from the misty hills of Assam to the slopes of Darjeeling and Nilgiris, India's tea industry has grown to become a cornerstone of rural employment, women's empowerment and export-led development," Harish said at the houseful event attended by UN envoys, senior UN personnel and community members.

The UN General Assembly had in 2019 proclaimed May 21 as International Tea Day following a proposal moved by India at the Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) Intergovernmental Group (IGG) on Tea in October 2015. The UNGA resolution recognised the long history and the

cultural and economic significance of tea around the world, as well as the significant role it plays in rural development, poverty reduction and food security in developing countries. India is one of the largest producers and consumers of tea globally and the sector directly employs over 1.5 million workers, the majority of whom are women. It supports over 10 million livelihoods, including small landholder farmers and those engaged in allied industries.

"For many of these communities, tea is not merely a crop. It's a way of life, a source of dignity, opportunity and hope," Harish said. He also pointed out the complex challenges faced by the tea industry. "Climate change is disrupting growing conditions and then, there are rising input costs," Harish said, adding that market volatility and structural inequities threaten the economic viability of small producers who are responsible for over 60 per cent of global tea production.

"Criminal Act": North Korea Reports 'Serious' Accident During Warship Launch

South Korea's military said the stricken warship was lying sideways in the water after the failed launch.

Seoul. A serious accident occurred on Wednesday during the launch of a new North Korean warship while Kim Jong Un was attending the event, with the isolated state's leader calling it a "criminal act" that could not be tolerated, state media KCNA reported.

Mr Kim, who witnessed the failed launch of the 5,000-ton destroyer, excoriated the accident as caused by "carelessness" that tarnished the country's dignity, and ordered the ship to be restored before a key ruling party meeting in June, KCNA said on Thursday. The report did not mention whether there were any casualties. KCNA said the incident at the northeastern

port of Chongjin was caused by a loss of balance while the vessel was being launched and it said sections of the bottom of the warship were crushed, but it did not give more details of damage sustained.

"Kim Jong Un made stern assessment saying that it was a serious accident and criminal act caused by absolute carelessness, irresponsibility and unscientific empiricism which is out of the bounds of possibility and could not be tolerated," KCNA reported. Kim said the accident "brought the dignity and self-respect of our state to a collapse", adding an immediate restoration of the destroyer was "not merely a practical issue but a political issue directly related to the authority of the state." South Korea's military said the stricken warship was lying sideways in the water after the failed launch.

The intelligence authorities of South Korea and the United States had been monitoring

the activities in advance, Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff spokesperson Lee Sung-jun



told a briefing. The rare public disclosure of an accident follows a report of the launch of another destroyer of a similar size in April, also attended by Kim, at the west coast shipyard of Nampho.

North Korea has previously experienced accidents such as space launch vehicle

failures and civilian disasters that have subsequently been used to promote the role of the leadership and the ruling Workers' Party in correcting the problems.

The 5,000-ton destroyers launched by North Korea this year are the country's largest warships yet. In a report last week on preparations for the latest launch, U.S.-based 38 North said it appeared the ship would be side-launched from the quay, a method not previously observed in North Korea. "The use of this launch method could be one of necessity, as the quay where the ship is being built does not have an incline" to move the vessel stern first into the water, the 38 North report said.

Commercial satellite imagery of the shipyard the day before the launch showed the destroyer positioned on the quay with support vessels by its side and its missile tube magazines exposed.

NEWS BOX

Enjoy mangoes with a pinch of caution: Doctors

GUNTUR. As the mango season reaches its peak, markets across the district are filled with bright, yellow mangoes, attracting eager buyers. However, health experts are urging caution, highlighting concerns that some of these fruits may have been ripened through artificial means, compromising both quality and safety. Popular mango varieties such as Rasalu and Banganapalli are often harvested before reaching full maturity and subjected to ripening techniques that may not meet food safety standards. Though natural ripening remains the preferred method, some traders resort to chemical alternatives to meet market demand quickly. Calcium carbide, a substance known to release acetylene gas when exposed to moisture, is used in some instances for accelerating the ripening process. While the use of this chemical is restricted under food safety laws, officials acknowledge that improper ripening practices still occur in certain pockets. A renowned physician in Guntur, Dr Kavitha, explained the effects of this chemical to , saying, "Fruits treated with calcium carbide can ripen externally within a day or two, but often remain underdeveloped inside."

Allocate six hours weekly for Tamil, Bharathiar University orders colleges

COIMBATORE. Bharathiar University has directed all its affiliated colleges to hold Tamil classes six hours weekly for second-year undergraduate students in the upcoming academic year. University Registrar Rupa Gunaseelan sent a letter regarding this to all affiliated arts and science colleges located in Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Erode, and Nilgiris districts. Professors from the Tamil Department welcomed this move.

Earlier, teaching staff from the Tamil departments of private colleges had submitted a petition requesting that six hours weekly be ensured for Tamil classes.

An assistant professor of the Tamil department in a private college in Coimbatore city told TNIE that state-run universities introduced Tamil classes for second-year students in the 2023-24 academic year. "Bharathiar University introduced Tamil in undergraduate courses of B.Com and B.Sc Computer Science in the second year in its affiliated colleges. As per the higher education department's direction, six hours should be allocated for Tamil for second-year students. But the university allocated only four hours with the approval of the Board of Studies, and the remaining two hours were used for Naan Mudhalvan skill courses. Due to this, the teaching faculty were unable to complete the portions for second-year students," he recalled.

"The university has now allocated six hours for second-year Tamil classes by giving necessary instructions to the colleges," he said, citing the request of teachers. Sources say colleges have been asked to conduct skill courses during evening hours as per each college's schedule.

Miss World contestants shine in Beauty with purpose round in Telangana



HYDERABAD. While the Miss World contestants' visit to the Shilparamam was postponed owing to the cloudy weather in the city on Wednesday, their spirits remained elevated as they seized the day to showcase their presentations on 'Beauty with Purpose'. Each contestant from Asia, Europe, and Oceania gave wonderful presentations, making the session insightful and delightful. The sessions kicked off with contestants from Europe presenting their 'Beauty with Purpose' projects.

Miss Germany spoke about her project, which is breaking stereotypes and putting the unknown places on the world map. She said that she strives to navigate different cultures, places, and people in the world and highlight their importance. She quoted a Sanskrit proverb — Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam (One earth, one family, and one future) — and concluded her presentation. Miss Ukraine, who is a model and a finance student, has been working on animal rights and has been the voice of the voiceless. She talked about the need for education, basic human rights, and the conflict in her home country, which has been at war with Russia since 2018.

Similarly, Miss India also presented her 'Beauty with Purpose' project in the most confident and commendable way. Her project, Ekta, focused on the rights of PwDs. She said that she wishes to be the voice of disabled people and represent them in every aspect. Overall, the Head-to-Head round was indeed an empowering session for many. Soon after the session concluded, some of the contestants were supposed to be part of an art and craft workshop at Shilparamam, but owing to the cloudy weather conditions, the event was postponed to May 22.

Blow to Tamil Nadu government as Madras HC orders interim stay on 10 Acts

Ten amendment Acts came into force on April 11 after the Supreme Court, in its April 8 verdict, granted deemed assent to bills delayed by Tamil Nadu Governor R N Ravi.

CHENNAI. The Madras High Court on Wednesday temporarily stayed the operation of the 10 amendment Acts covering various state-run universities, which transferred the powers to appoint vice-chancellors from the governor-chancellor to the Tamil Nadu government. A vacation bench of justices G R Swaminathan and V Lakshminarayanan granted the interim stay despite strong objections raised by the state government and the higher education department against passing any interim orders without hearing them in detail as the issue is related to the constitutionality of the legislations. These 10 amendment Acts were notified and came into force on April 11, after the Supreme Court granted deemed assent to the bills in its landmark verdict on April 8 in the case filed by Tamil Nadu government against Governor R N Ravi for delaying assent to the bills. A BJP-affiliated advocate K Venkatachalapathy alias



Kutty of Tirunelveli district moved the HC praying for staying the operation of the Acts. Senior counsel Dama Seshadri Naidu, assisted by V R Shanmuganathan, represented the petitioner and argued that the Acts are repugnant to Regulation 7.3 of the UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges, 2018, regarding appointment of vice-chancellors.

'TN will move SC against interim stay'

The counsel further stated that education should not fall in the hands of people with political interest, instead, it should be in the hands of apolitical persons. Advocate General P S Raman, representing the state government, and senior counsel P Wilson, appearing for the higher education department, questioned the urgency to take up such matters, which involve constitutionality of the amendment acts that are plenary legislations adopted by the state legislature. They noted that the amendments acts have come into effect through the judicial order of the SC where the same grounds of repugnancy were raised but were brushed aside by the court. They submitted that the amended acts provide for taking the powers to appoint V-Cs away from the governor-chancellor and not removing the post of chancellor. Further, they noted the petitions have not challenged the constitution.

Karnataka hands over four kumki elephants to Andhra Pradesh

BENGALURU. Karnataka handed over four partially trained (kumki) elephants to Andhra Pradesh at a grand ceremony at the Vidhana Soudha on Wednesday. Two more elephants will be given to AP in the coming days. The elephants were handpicked, based on their behaviour and skills, by a team of officials from Karnataka and AP. The bulls, their mahouts and kawadis were sent to a special camp in Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh for further training.



The mahouts and kawadis will train their counterparts in AP. Forest, Environment and Ecology Minister Eshwar B Khandre said the elephants were sent to AP to support that state's efforts to conserve and mitigate man-elephant conflict. "I had meetings with AP Deputy Chief Minister and Forest Minister Pawan Kalyan in August and September last. As per an MoU, we decided to hand over the elephants as gifts to AP," Khandre said.

As per the MoU, AP has to give Karnataka regular reports on the elephants' health and their upkeep. A senior forest official said,

"Karnataka is sending elephants to another state after a gap of two years." From 2016, Karnataka sent over 65 elephants to Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. Maharashtra was the last state to receive three elephants.

"We have over 100 elephants in our camps. The six elephants given to AP are from Kodagu's Dubare elephant camp, which houses 35. We

capture the elephants in conflict and train them. The space to house such elephants is getting reduced. We are ready to send trained elephants to other states if they are keen on taking care of them," the official said. Kalyan said, "We did not expect Karnataka to give us elephants."

They will be used to capture the elephants in conflict in Kupam and Palakundalam regions. I promise Karnataka that we will take good care of the elephants, and if anything goes wrong, you can take action against us. "Two months ago, Karnataka organised a training camp in which around 25 mahouts from AP participated. Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said, "Karnataka has many trained elephants which can be given to other states to help mitigate man-elephant conflict."

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said conflict mitigation is not just the task of the forest department. People of Karnataka and its neighbouring states, which share reserve forests, should support it.

Andhra's Jiyyannapeta mourns death of techie-turned-Maoist leader Kesava Rao

SRIKAKULAM. A pall of gloom descended over Jiyyannapeta village in Kotabommali mandal, Srikakulam, the hometown of Maoist leader Namballa Kesava Rao, alias Basava Raju, after he died in a firefight with security forces in an encounter in the dense forests of Abhujmad on the tri-junction of Narayanpur-Bijapur-Dantewada districts, Chhattisgarh. Srikakulam SP K V Maheswara Reddy confirmed the Maoist party general secretary's demise to TNIE, citing official reports from security forces on Wednesday. Born in 1955 in Jiyyannapeta near NH-16, Kesava Rao was the second son of Vasudeva Rao, a late government teacher, and Lakshmi Narayanamma. He is survived by his elder brother, Dhilleswara Rao, a former kabaddi player and retired Port Blair sea port chairman, and younger brother, Ram Prasad, a Visakhapatnam-based real estate businessman, and one of his two sisters.

Kesava Rao, a skilled kabaddi and volleyball player, completed his B Tech at the Regional Engineering College, Warangal. While pursuing his M Tech, he joined the People's War Group (PWG) in 1976 at the age of 21, drawn to the ideologies of leaders like Kondapalli Seetharamayya and K G Satyamurthy, and influenced by Srikakulam's anti-landlord movement.

After joining the PWG, which later became the Maoist party, Kesava Rao cut ties with his village and family, and remained unmarried.

He carried Rs 1.5 cr bounty on his head

Known for expertise in IED explosions, Kesava Rao, who carried a bounty of Rs 1.5 crore, was implicated in the 2003 attack on CM N Chandrababu Naidu at Alipiri in Tirupati, as well as the 2010 Dantewada attack, which killed 76 CRPF jawans.

Farmers move Karnataka HC against Brindavan Garden makeover

Their public interest litigation alleged that the project is detrimental to the farming community.

BENGALURU. Farmers of Mandya district have moved the Karnataka High Court against the state government's decision to transform Brindavan Garden at the Krishna Raja Sagar (KRS) dam into a Disneyland-like space. Their public interest litigation alleged that the project is detrimental to the farming community.

A vacation division bench of Justices BM Shyam Prasad and KV Aravind issued notices to various authorities of the state and central governments, including the Jal Shakti ministry, National Dam Authority, state chief secretary, water resources, agriculture, forest and ecology departments, Kaveri Neeravari Nigam Ltd and other authorities of Mandya district.

This was after they heard the petition filed by K Boraiah and four others from KRS village and other surrounding villages, questioning the tenders issued to set up the amusement park in the name of Brindavan Garden Upgradation without



statutory clearance, including from the gram panchayat. The government's decision is contrary to Articles 48-A and 53A of the constitution, Karnataka Forest Act, Environmental Protection Act 1986, and Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, they said.

The petitioners stated that by establishing such non-agricultural commercial activity with estimated visitors nearing 10,000 per day along with vehicular

Monsoon onset expected in three to four days in Kerala, says IMD

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has announced that the Southwest Monsoon has progressed further, with its onset expected in the next 3-4 days. If the monsoon sets in between May 23 and 27, it will be the earliest onset in the past 15 years. The last time it arrived this early was in 2009, when the onset was recorded on May 23.

The monsoon winds, which usually reach Sri Lanka by May 26, have already entered the Comorin region, suggesting an early arrival in Kerala. The IMD had declared the monsoon's onset over the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on May 13 — 10 days ahead of schedule. "The westerly wind pattern has set in along the Kerala coast in the Arabian Sea. The state is likely to receive monsoon rain by May 23 or 24," said Rajeevan Erikulam, a meteorologist with the Kerala State Disaster Management Authority.

Even when monsoon rain starts, IMD follows a set of criteria before declaring the onset. It includes rainfall over 60% of 14 designated stations, the presence of westerly winds up to 600 hPa depth, and satellite data showing strong atmospheric convection via Outgoing Longwave Radiation.

Strong westerly and northwesterly winds are expected to persist over Kerala for the next seven days.

The Met department has forecast heavy to very heavy rainfall across the state between May 23 and 27.

IMD issues orange alert in four districts

Northern districts continue to experience heavy rain due to the influence of an upper air cyclonic circulation off the North Karnataka-Goa coasts. The IMD has also predicted the formation of a low-pressure area by Thursday, which is expected to move northward and intensify into a depression within the next 36 hours.

It stated that the rain will be more evenly distributed across the state from Friday.

Kerala CM's backing for control of wildlife numbers stirs row

-Church, farmers welcome suggestion; activists call for scientific justification and legal scrutiny

KOCHI. At a time when the state is witnessing a spike in wild animal attacks, which have claimed 26 lives this year, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's statement advocating controlled culling of wild pigs has ignited a debate on balancing human development with wildlife conservation. While the Church and farmers have welcomed the CM's suggestion on controlled culling, conservation activists are demanding a moratorium on any policy proposal involving wildlife hunting or population control unless preceded by rigorous scientific justification and full legal scrutiny. Animal rights activists are demanding steps to restore wildlife habitats by converting forest plantations into natural forest and raising barriers to stop wild animals from entering human habitations. Welcoming the CM's statement, Thalassery archbishop Joseph Pamplany said it vindicates the Church stand. "Wild pigs, peacock and monkeys are proliferating at an alarming rate, and they have



spread from forest fringes to the midlands. These animals are destroying crops and denying farmers' livelihood. So we have demanded that the government order controlled culling to limit their population. The population of elephants and tigers has increased threefold. We don't demand indiscriminate killing. But the government should control the population based

on the carrying capacity of forests. Tigers and elephants should be tranquilised and shifted to other reserve forests. Elephant walls and trenches should be made to stop wild animals from entering human habitations," he said.

"The forest department has been focusing on protection of wild animals, which has led to their proliferation.

But the rise in the wild animal population has affected the lives and livelihoods of farmers. There should be a balance and we favour culling to control the wildlife population," said Kerala Catholic Bishops' Council (KCBC) deputy secretary general Fr Thomas Tharayil.

"We have been demanding allowing hunting to control the population of wild animals. Without putting the blame on the Union government, the state government should take the initiative to protect farmers. Section 11 (2) of the Wildlife Protection Act says killing wild animals in self-defence is not a crime.

The inside story of merger of Sikkim with India

Within a few years of its creation in 1968, India's external intelligence agency — the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) — played a decisive role in two major operations that reshaped the region's map. The first was its covert support during the liberation of Bangladesh in 1971. The second, less discussed but no less consequential, was the merger of Sikkim with India in May 1975.

At the time of India's independence, 565 of the 600 princely states joined the Indian Union through bilateral Instruments of Accession. Sikkim, also a member of the Chamber of Princes and the Constituent Assembly, remained outside this process. Sardar Patel wanted Sikkim to accede, but Nehru disagreed. Ultimately, the December 1950 treaty gave Sikkim protectorate status — India would handle its external affairs, defence, communications, currency and posts. In 1947, smaller Sikkimese parties that supported merger, joined the Sikkim State Congress (SSC), led by Tashi Tshering. They wanted an end to absentee landlordism, a representative government and eventual accession to India. Tshering met Nehru twice, in 1948 and 1949. While Nehru was sympathetic to the first two demands, he rejected outright the merger, saying that Sikkim should evolve "according to its own genius." On May 1, 1949, Tshering led 5,000 people to the palace gates, demanding reform. The Maharaja fled to the Political Office. But with Indian support, the monarchy regained control, and the pro-democracy movement was sidelined. India's policy was what I called "an apparent appeasement towards the Maharaja and cautious containment of pro-accession forces." Electoral reforms introduced by the Maharaja in 1953 failed to satisfy public demands. A "parity system" was introduced to balance representation between the majority Nepalese (75 per cent) and the minority Bhutia-Lepcha (25 per cent) populations, but combined with nomination quotas, it ensured pro-monarchy outcomes. By the 1960s, new personalities were reshaping Sikkim's politics. In 1958, LD Kazi married Eliza Maria Lanford Rai, a charismatic figure who played an influential role in his party. In 1963, Rajkumar Palden Thondup Namgyal married Hope Cooke, a young American who dreamed of being queen of a Himalayan kingdom. Thondup used the marriage to draw international attention to Sikkim's cause.

Following his father's death in 1963, Thondup became the 12th Chogyal — 'Dharam Raja' — a title officially recognised by India at his coronation in 1965. He was dissatisfied with the 1950 treaty and began openly pleading for greater autonomy. In 1967, he told reporters that he wanted more political freedom. A year later, on India's Independence Day, Sikkimese students in Gangtok chanted slogans like "We are buffers, not duflers" and "Indians leave Sikkim."

In 1972, India offered Sikkim permanent association status with associate membership of UN-affiliated bodies like the WHO. The Chogyal rejected it, as his lawyers advised him that it would leave Sikkim worse off than under the 1950 treaty. At this point, diplomacy had run its course. A covert operation was the only solution. Towards the end of 1972, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi summoned R&AW chief RN Kao and her principal secretary PN Haksar. She showed them a letter from the Chogyal in which he had used the title 'His Majesty' — suggesting sovereign status. She turned to Kao and asked, "Can you do something about this?" Kao asked for two weeks. He returned in 10 days and said, "Yes." Gandhi agreed, but made one thing clear: the operation could go all the way to merger, provided it had public support.

Around June 1973, I was called by Kao. He assigned me this operation and I was told to meet my regional chief PN Banerjee in Calcutta. There, in July 1973, the mission was laid out: unite pro-democracy groups, assure them that India would no longer shield the Chogyal, support Kazi Lhendup Dorji's Sikkim National Congress (SNC) and prepare for a possible merger, while keeping the Chogyal under the illusion that negotiations were still possible, so he wouldn't actively oppose the process or mobilise against the upcoming elections.

Narlikar and Srinivasan leave behind a shining legacy in the world of science

Dr Jayant Vishnu Narlikar was director of the globally acclaimed Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), Dr MR Srinivasan was one of the towering personalities who ably guided India's nuclear programme

It is with profound grief that I share the news of the passing away on May 20 of two prominent Indian scientists — Dr Jayant Narlikar and Dr MR Srinivasan. Dr Narlikar was 86 and Dr Srinivasan 95. Nehru Science Centre, of which I was the Director, had the honour of hosting lectures of both these scientists. Dr Jayant Vishnu Narlikar was an eminent scientist in astrophysics and cosmology. He was also a great science communicator, including in Marathi. Dr MR Srinivasan was one of the founding members of the Atomic Energy Commission. He worked with Dr Homi Bhabha and also served as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE). As we mourn their loss, it is also a time to reflect on and celebrate their life of extraordinary intellect and their contributions to our nation. Dr Narlikar's contributions to theoretical astrophysics, his role in nurturing scientific talent in India and in the establishment of the Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), a globally acclaimed institution, and his efforts to make science accessible to all will continue to inspire generations. Narlikar was born in Kolhapur, Maharashtra, on July 19, 1938. He received his early education at Banaras Hindu University (BHU), where his father was Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics. Young Jayant Narlikar had a brilliant career in school and the intermediate. He obtained his BSc degree from BHU in 1957. Narlikar opted to pursue his higher studies at the Cambridge, UK. He was a Wrangler and Tyson Medallist in the Mathematical Tripos at Cambridge, from where he obtained his degrees in mathematics: BA (1960), PhD (1963), MA (1964), and ScD (1976). He also distinguished himself at Cambridge with the Smith's Prize in 1962 and the Adams Prize in 1967. He stayed back there till 1972 as a Fellow of King's College (1963-72) and Founder Staff Member of the Institute of Theoretical Astronomy (1966-72). It was during this period that Dr Narlikar laid the foundations of his research work in cosmology and astrophysics in collaboration with his internationally acclaimed mentor, guide and collaborator, Fred Hoyle. One of Dr Narlikar's most significant contributions is his development of the "Hoyle-Narlikar Theory", also known as the "Quasi-Steady State Cosmology (QSSC)". This cosmological theory proposes an alternative explanation for the origin and evolution of

the universe, challenging the widely accepted Big Bang theory of that time. Dr Narlikar returned to India in 1972 to join the Theoretical Astrophysics Group at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), where he served for 17 long years. This group, under the leadership of Dr Narlikar, expanded and acquired international standing for TIFR in the field of theoretical astrophysics, which TIFR continues to enjoy even today. In 1988, Dr Narlikar was invited by the University Grants Commission (UGC) to set up the IUCAA as its Founder-Director. He was a recipient of the Bhatnagar award as well as of the MP Birla award, the Prix Janssen of the French Astronomical Society



and the prestigious Associate of the Royal Astronomical Society of London. He was a Fellow of the three national science academies as well as of the Third World Academy of Sciences.

For his stellar contributions to science communication and popularising science, Dr Narlikar was honoured by the UNESCO in 1996 with the prestigious Kalinga Award. Dr Narlikar was conferred the Padma Bhushan award by the Government of India in 1965 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2004. In 2011, the Maharashtra Government awarded him the state's highest civilian

award, the Maharashtra Bhushan. Dr Narlikar served as the Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Nehru Science Centre, Mumbai. I have had the honour of heading the Centre for two terms.

MR Srinivasan was born on January 5, 1930 in Bangalore. He was one of the towering personalities who ably guided the Indian nuclear programme. He completed his mechanical engineering from the UVCE, Bangalore, in 1950. He did his masters in fluid mechanics, heat transfer and applied mathematics and his post-graduation in gas turbines and acquired a doctorate from McGill University, Canada. Dr Srinivasan was hand-picked by Dr Homi J Bhabha to work for the DAE. He joined the DAE as senior research officer in September 1955. He was deputed to the UK Atomic Energy Authority for an international course in reactor technology at Harwell. His first assignment with the DAE was to work with the group responsible for the construction of the first research reactor of Swimming Pool Type, later named Apsara.

In 1959, a project group was constituted for setting up the first nuclear power plant. Dr MR Srinivasan was the principal project engineer of a boiling water reactor of US design at Tarapur. In early 1967, he was appointed as the chief construction engineer of the Madras Atomic Power Project. It was the first indigenously designed pressurised heavy water reactor based on CANDU technology. The construction work at the power station involved many new and challenging techniques in civil engineering. He was made the Chairman of the Nuclear Power Board, DAE, in 1984. Dr MR Srinivasan served as Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission from 1987 until his retirement in February, 1990. He hastened the process of setting up the Nuclear Power Corporation of India, which was created in September 1987, with Dr Srinivasan as Founder-Chairman. In 1984, he was awarded the Padma Shri, the Padma Bhushan in 1990, and the Padma Vibhushan in 2015. He is the author of the book, 'From Fission to Fusion: The Story of India's Atomic Energy Programme' (Viking Penguin, 2003). Dr MR Srinivasan has also written extensively in the print media on the significance of the development of nuclear energy for India's energy mix and has appeared regularly on TV programmes to engage on nuclear issues and nuclear safety.

Stitch in time: on judiciary and Environment Ministry notifications

Making illegal units pay heavy fines might have limited deterrent effect

Last week, the Supreme Court of India finally struck down as "illegal" two notifications by the Union Environment Ministry that allowed industrial units to set up, expand operations or change their manufacturing practices without following the due process of taking government permission beforehand. Taking 'prior' approval is a sacrosanct principle at the heart of the Environment Impact Assessment (Notification) of 2006. On the surface it appeared that the Centre, or the Union Environment Ministry, had instituted a system that made a mockery of this principle, but there was a rationale, even if it was flawed to some extent. In March 2017, the body issued a notification providing a "one-time" six-month window for industries that did not have the right environmental clearances, to apply for one. In 2021, it instituted a 'standard operating procedure' that in effect allowed projects in violation of the laws, but which could not avail of the six-month window, to

apply — albeit at the cost of heavy fines — for regularisation. Moreover, all these significant changes were being issued through executive orders, rather than any attempt at amending the underlying Environment Protection Act (EIA), 2006, through Parliament. The Centre's reasoning was three-fold. First, the process for regularising projects had already been initiated by the United Progressive Alliance government in 2012 and 2013. These were, however, struck down by the Jharkhand High Court and the National Green Tribunal on procedural grounds, and not that these projects were irredeemably violative. Second, demolishing functioning plants that were contributing to the economy and employment could exacerbate pollution and be disruptive.

The Centre cited examples of various disputes involving copper mines to pharmaceutical companies where the courts had agreed that a "balanced" approach was necessary in cases involving violations.

Finally, it argued that it had put in place a system whereby the industrial units seeking to be regularised would have to pay fines for the period that they had functioned in violation.

The Court in its final verdict has rightly, as previous courts have, emphasised the principle of "prior" clearance, though its action may be a little late as it has clarified that companies that had regularised themselves under the 2017 and 2021 orders would be "unaffected" by the judgment. That thriving industrial units in violation of the laws mushroomed is a testament to the collective failure of regional environmental boards to enforce laws. So it stands to reason that making these illegal units pay, under the purported new procedure, would have been a fruitless exercise. The judgment should ideally nip any "crafty" attempts by future governments to condone violations in the name of the economy though it must also trigger on-ground enforcement.

Indo-Pak conflict: The nuclear bogey is here to stay

PM Modi explicitly saying that India would not tolerate nuclear blackmail is a new doctrinal assertion in the past 40 years

LIKE Banquo's ghost in Macbeth, the spectre of nuclear weapons has hovered over India-Pakistan conflicts in recent decades. Notwithstanding disclaimers, it does so over the Operation Sindoor strikes as well. Looking back, the risk of an actual nuclear outbreak seems to be low, almost negligible. But as the events unfolded, several pathways that could have led to that dreaded event became visible. The urgency of addressing these pathways seems to have prompted the US to shift from its arms-length posture to active diplomacy and help broker a ceasefire. The Indian proposition is that the ceasefire was reached bilaterally, but it's apparent that it was brokered by Uncle Sam, who does not tire of reminding us about it. On May 12, speaking at the White House on the eve of his visit to Qatar, US President Trump declared, "My administration helped broker a full and immediate ceasefire, I think a permanent one, between India and Pakistan, ending a dangerous conflict of two nations with lots of nuclear weapons." The previous day, he praised the Indian and Pakistani leadership for ending the "current aggression" and said "millions of good and innocent people could have died."

Even before the crisis escalated, Pakistan had hinted at a nuclear response. Following the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) by India, a statement from the Pakistan Prime Minister's office said any attempt to stop or divert the waters would be considered as an act of war "and responded to with full force across the complete spectrum of national power." This reference to "complete spectrum" clearly related to nuclear weapons. Then, as the crisis escalated, Pakistan sent more nuclear signals. On May 10, Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif called a meeting of the National Command Authority, the top body that takes decisions on the country's security as well as those related to nuclear weapons. This was later conveniently denied by Pakistan. There was a lot of misinformation swirling around developments relating to nuclear weapons. One came from the landing of a Beechcraft Super King Air



350 aircraft — purportedly of the US Department of Energy — in Sargodha shortly after an Indian strike on Kirana Hills, where some Pakistani nuclear weapons are reportedly stored. It transpired later that this aircraft, which did belong to the US agency, had been bought by Pakistan in 2010 and its presence had nothing to do with anything nuclear. India denied that it conducted a strike on Kirana Hills, a mountain range located about 15 km from the Mushaf airbase near Sargodha, which it did strike. But there is evidence of two hits near the entrance of the facilities at Kirana Hills. Let's be clear their strikes

on Nur Khan base near Rawalpindi, Malir near Karachi and on Kirana Hills was clear messaging since these facilities are host or adjacent to facilities relating to nuclear weapons.

This became explicit on May 12 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in his address to the nation, declared that "India will not tolerate nuclear blackmail. India will strike precisely and decisively at the terrorist hideouts developing under the cover of nuclear blackmail."

This is a new doctrinal assertion, since in the past 40 years in which India has suffered from cross-border terrorism,

it was the nuclear factor that had stayed the Indian hand. On May 13, in his official briefing, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal rejected Trump's account of the ceasefire and also insisted that "the military action was entirely in the conventional domain."

India has a nuclear doctrine, which says that its nuclear weapons are only for retaliation against a nuclear, chemical or biological weapon attack on India or Indian forces anywhere. Pakistan does not have an enunciated doctrine, but it has asserted at various times that India is the target of its weapons, which will be used if it suffered major territorial loss, destruction of key military assets or economic strangulation. It would be foolhardy to ignore the prospect of a nuclear war even if there is a self-conscious effort to keep it in the conventional domain. These dangers have been evident in the recent Indian strikes on Pakistani Air Force (PAF) facilities. The Op Sindoor strikes were limited — they initially struck at terrorist facilities, and hit Pakistani military facilities only after the PAF launched attacks on Indian aircraft over Indian territory. All this was limited to the 48 or so hours of the main conflict. In an actual war, even one that lasts two or three weeks, the bombing would be much more intense. This is where problems can occur. As of now, India keeps its nuclear weapons de-mated — the weapon and the fissile core separate — so as to promote nuclear safety and political oversight. But in the case of Pakistan, where the military runs the show, both the weapons and cores are mated and held by the Army.

The big danger in an all-out war, even if India intends to keep it entirely conventional, is that it may inadvertently end up hitting a large number of nuclear weapons storage sites using weapons like the SCALP (Storm Shadow), Crystal Maze and Paveway-type bombs that can penetrate fortified bunkers. Without intending to do so, it may degrade the Pakistani nuclear arsenal to the point where the country is confronted with a "use it or lose it" dilemma. In this event, it may find itself being compelled to escalate things to the use of nuclear weapons.



Check the weather conditions, pull out your trusty map and find the closest area with less intense rain. Pack your bags and drive off into the sunset—this is your chance to be a true explorer, travelling with the excitement of having no expectations. You may discover a small beach with just enough sunshine for a picnic, or a small town that's perfect for

a daytime stroll away from the rains.
A day of museum-hopping

A rainy day is actually a message from the universe, urging you to tick off all your indoor activities. A soggy and drenched message, but a message nonetheless. Head to the museums that have made your list for an afternoon of learning. In countries like Italy, many of the best art is found in churches rather than museums. These give you a fascinating insight into the local religion and culture.

Credit: ThinkStock Photos

Do as the locals do. For the locals, life almost always goes on even when things get wet. Take this opportunity to ditch the tourist traps and find

out where the city's residents hang out during rainy days.

This would set you up for lots of fun and insightful interactions in pubs and local restaurants. Even if you only have a tenuous grasp of the local language, you'll be surprised how friendly and accommodating people can be. You might just end up discovering an under-the-radar concert or a hole-in-the-wall eatery that no tourist's ever heard of.

Go to the beach anyway!

Throw caution—and raincoats—to the wind and head to the beach you were planning to go to, regardless of the rain. As long as the water is a manageable temperature and the conditions okay to swim, being on the beach in the rain is actually quite fun. Splash along with the raindrops and take a walk on wet sand—there is no reason a little bit of rain should put a damper on your beach fun.

Don't let rains ruin your Vacation

That moment is finally here. You've checked the weather forecast, carefully planned your travel stops and even packed three different pairs of swimwear. You get up in the morning, ready for another day at the beach, and it's raining. All your travel plans seem ridiculous as threatening black clouds cover the sky. Take heart, all is not lost. Here are a few tips to salvage your rain-ruined vacation.

Accept the rains

A rainy day might be a far cry from the sandy, sun-kissed vacation you were hoping for, but wet weather can be truly beautiful. Local waterfalls will be at their best, and a few things can be as exhilarating as a muddy, barefoot hike through the jungle. Find a great vantage point where you can sit back, coffee in hand, and just watch the rain come thundering down. The stormier the weather, the more spectacular it is.

Storm out impurities

A trip to the spa might be one of the only things on your to-do list that doesn't require a rain-check. A lot of countries have traditional cures and treatments that are not only soothing but also a lot cheaper than what you'll find back home. Sign up for a day-long retreat at your favourite spa and chase away your rainy day blues with a facial and a mineral scrub. If possible, book a massage in a covered outdoor cabana. You'll reach new levels of Zen during a hot stone massage while listening to the pitter-patter of rain around you. Consider unique experiences like Iceland's geothermal spas, where it's nice and toasty even if the weather is awful.

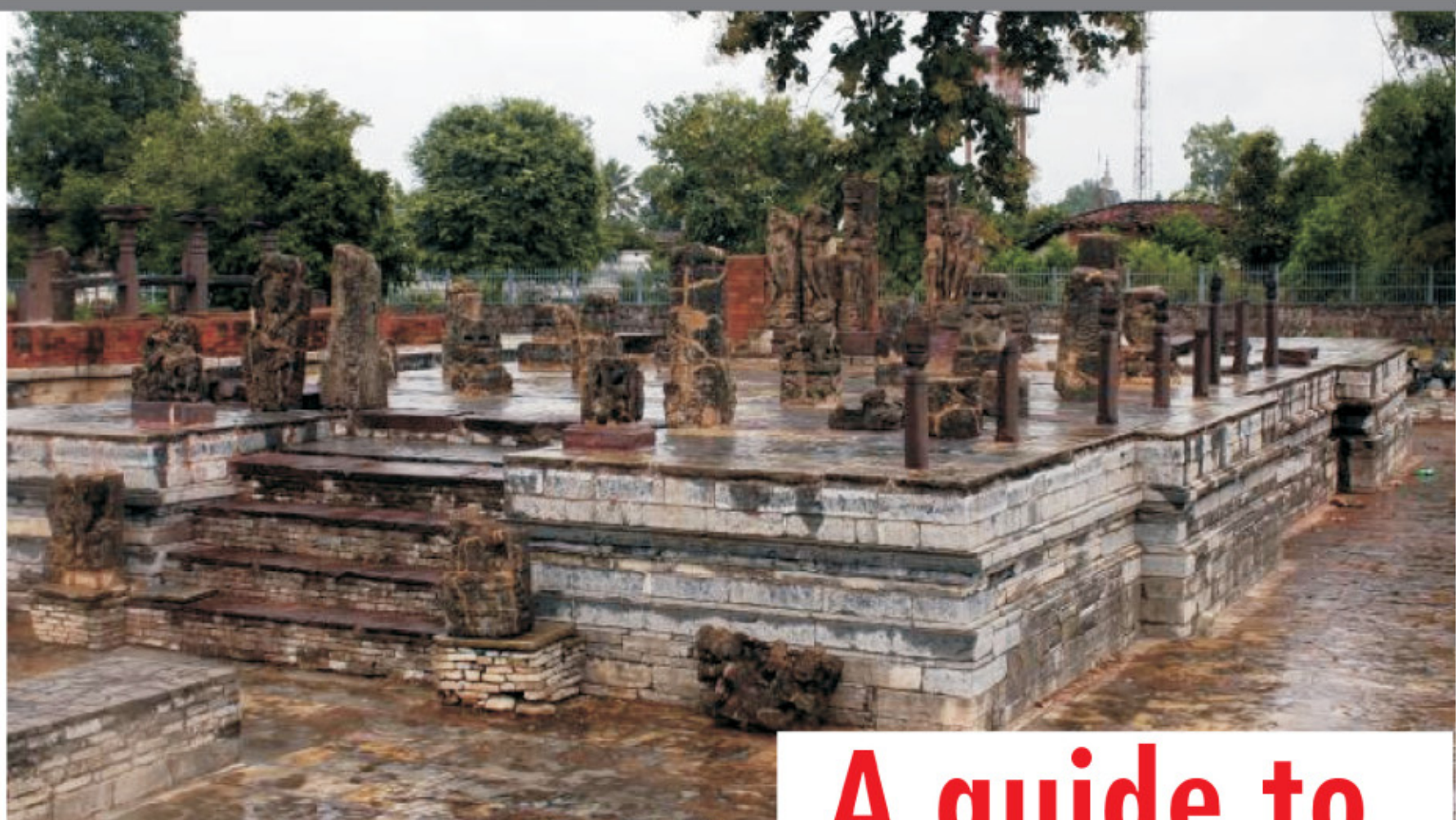
Credit: ThinkStock Photos
Chase the sun

Though it is still an offbeat destination, there are several tourist places in Chhattisgarh. The well-developed capital Raipur has some of the most advanced infrastructure, as well as the most hospitable and polite people you can meet anywhere in the country. Chhattisgarh stands apart in its practices, social rituals and its diverse tribal culture and lifestyle. Sirpur, only 84 km from Raipur, is a hidden town from the past. This fascinating town has a deep archaeological significance as well as a connection to Buddhism. Residing quietly by the Mahanadi River, Sirpur has archaeological ruins from the fifth to the eighth centuries. There is evidence of the Chinese traveller, Hiuen Tsang exploring this town, and more recently in 2013, it was graciously visited by His Holiness the Dalai Lama.

Surang Tila and other ruins

The enormous temple of Surang Tila was unearthed in 2005-06. The temple premises covers a vast area and the main temple stands tall, elevated by a flight of 37 steep limestone steps. It is believed to have been hit by a devastating earthquake around the 12th century AD, and the steps still bear the visual repercussions of this calamity.

The temple was built by Mahasivagupta Balarjun in seventh century AD and has been constructed in the panchayatana style of temple architecture, with the main temple in the centre and four temples in the corner. The main temple has five sanctums, four of which had four different types of Shiva lingas for worship, respectively coloured white, red, yellow and black. The remaining sanctum contains a Ganesh idol. The 32-pillared mandapa holds these five sanctums. The complex area has three tantric temples in a platform, dedicated to Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva. The entry gate was believed to be located near the river flowing adjacent to the temple. This was a practice that was started in the temples of Sirpur, and thereafter, spread to other parts of



the country.

Laxman Temple

Dating back to 625-650 AD, the Laxman Temple in Sirpur is one of the most famous structures in the city. It is believed to be one of the best examples of brick temples in India and is dedicated to Lord Vishnu. The intricate carvings on the exterior of the temple make it special. These designs include Lord Vishnu, Krishna Leela symbols, Vaishnava Dwarpal, and pictures bearing resemblance to the famous erotic work as in the Khajuraho Temple. The mandapa which originally bore stone pillars is now in ruins.

Budh Vihar

The Budh Vihar was unearthed in 2003 and houses a statue of Buddha, with Padmapani on either side. It is believed to have been constructed during the time of

Somanvansi king, Teevardeo and continued to stay in use until the rule of his grandson Mahashivgupta Balarjun in 7th to 8th century AD. Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this ruin is the entry gate to the temple. The beautiful carvings here depict plenty of scenes from Buddha's life, including love, matrimony, friendship and other ties. This emphasis confirms the influence of Buddhism in Sirpur. The northern and southern arms of this space were used as dwelling chambers.

Ancient marketplace

The ancient marketplace is an impressive set of ruins that are spread over an area of 250 sq m along the river Mahanadi. This place was believed to be the centre of all commercial and trading life of the era. The excavations have revealed that some shops have connecting underground channels, which may imply that the shop owners had more than one shop. There

are places which suggest that goods were kept covered in these depressions to guard against natural weathering. The main artefacts unearthed from here indicate that this market was used mainly by coppersmiths, goldsmiths, ironsmiths and potters.

Street food

Street food is busy but organised in Chhattisgarh. Even though the samosas are believed to be mouth-wateringly delicious here, the bhajiyas or the pakoras definitely deserve more of the attention. With the traditional cup of chai, the breakfast here usually comprises kachoris, mirchi bhajis, dal ka wada and onion bhajiyas. To satisfy your sweet tooth, pick a warm jalebi and you will not regret it. Sirpur is essentially dominated by a straight road with major sights located on either side. The city's main street food hub is on the junction of the road that turns towards Budh Vihar and Laxman Temple.

A guide to Sirpur

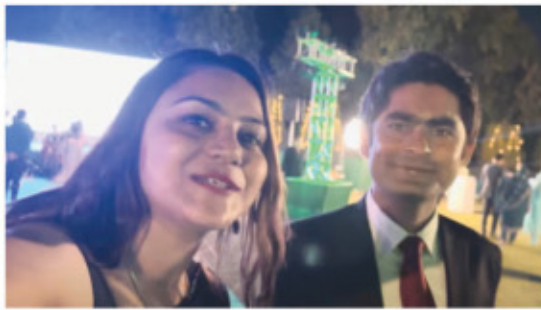
High Commission official who trapped YouTuber a Pakistani spy: Sources

Danish, alias Ehsan-ur-Rehman, who was posted to the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi, was expelled by India earlier this month amid tensions with Pakistan.

New Delhi. The Pakistan High Commission official who trapped Haryana-based YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra was an agent of Islamabad's notorious Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI), sources said. Danish, alias Ehsan-ur-Rehman, was expelled by India earlier this month amid tensions with Pakistan following the Pahalgam attack, which left 26 people dead.

Sources said Danish's passport was issued from Islamabad, and he was granted a visa for India on January 21, 2022. According to documents, exclusively accessed by India Today, Danish was born in Narowal in Pakistan's Punjab province. Security agencies are now probing whether Ehsan alias Danish was his real name or a code name given by the ISI. Sources said Danish was posted at the visa desk at the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi, but his real job was espionage and trapping people to spy for Pakistan. Danish was actively working to develop Malhotra, who was arrested last week for allegedly spying for Pakistan, as an intelligence asset.

Malhotra, a Haryana-based travel vlogger,



confessed to security agencies that she first came in contact with Danish in 2023 when she visited the High Commission in Delhi for a visa to travel to Pakistan. Since then, she was in regular contact with him. She is presently under Haryana Police custody, which was extended on Thursday by four more days.

ISI AGENTS POSTED AT PAK HIGH COMMISSION

However, this is not the first time that officials posted at the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi have been accused of spying. Sources said Pakistan's ISI deploys its agents in the High Commission in India, and their postings are

rotated.

On May 31, 2020, the Special Cell of Delhi Police and Military Intelligence (MI) exposed two such Pakistan High Commission officials who were posing as visa officers in India but were found to be ISI agents. They were identified as Abid Hussain and Tahir Khan. The officials were declared persona non grata and sent back to Pakistan. Immediately after this incident, the strength of the Pakistan High Commission was cut from 180 to 90. Over the years, security agencies have received regular input of staff posted at the Pakistan High Commission being ISI agents who prepare their passports under fake names and come to India for espionage activities. In 2021 too, the Delhi Police, along with MI, carried out a sting operation in which a Pakistani-origin visa officer, identified as Rana Mohammad Zia, was exposed. He was found to be an ISI agent working as a visa officer at the Pakistan High Commission. In this case, a military contractor named Habib, who was linked to Rana Mohammad, was arrested in Pokhran.

3,000 Agniveers braved Pak assault in Operation Sindoor, guarded key installations

New Delhi. Around 3,000 Agniveers -- most barely 20 years old and recruited under the Agnipath scheme in the past two years -- were at the forefront of Operation Sindoor, defending Indian military installations from Pakistani missile and drone attacks, sources told. From manning critical air defence systems to holding their ground across multiple installations, cities, and airbases despite repeated enemy assaults, the Agniveers' performance matched that of regular soldiers. Frontline feedback described their contribution as both decisive and commendable, sources in the defence establishment added. Sources revealed that each air defence unit had 150-200 Agniveers in its ranks, deployed primarily along the western front.

The Agniveers served across four specialised trades -- gunners, fire control operators, radio operators, and drivers of heavy-duty vehicles mounted with guns and missiles. Additionally, they helped activate and operate Akashteer -- the locally developed air defence control and reporting system -- that became the nerve centre of India's air defence response.

Agniveers were actively involved in firing shoulder-launched missiles, operating upgraded anti-aircraft guns such as the L-70 and Zu-23-2B, manning systems like Pechora, Schilka, OSA-AK, Strela, and Tunguska, and deploying and launching Akash and other surface-to-air missiles. This real combat experience is seen as a turning point for the Agnipath model, with officials stating it should "settle the debate" over the short-term recruitment policy's effectiveness. Running radars, communication networks, and Akashteer nodes, some also acted as sentries in forward zones after deploying weapon systems. Additionally, they are covered by an insurance policy worth Rs 48 lakh. The ex-gratia benefit for an Agniveer killed in the line of duty is Rs 44 lakh. Upon completing four years of service, Agniveers are entitled to a Seva Nidhi package of Rs 11.71 lakh, of which Rs 5.02 lakh is self-contributed.

Zero tolerance is India's new doctrine: Raghav Chadha hails Op Sindoor in Seoul



New Delhi. Operation Sindoor has sent a clear message that India will strike deep to dismantle terror safe havens and the world must come together for a united front against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism, AAP Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha said at the Leadership Conference (ALC) in South Korea. Chadha said that while India mourns its victims, the country has also demonstrated unprecedented resolve in responding to terror threats and "Zero tolerance is India's new doctrine". Operation Sindoor was not just a military strike, it was a message, he said. "India does not seek conflict, but will never shy away from defending its people," Chadha asserted, calling for a united global front against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism.

He hailed the operation as proof that India can strike deep and dismantle terror safe havens and emphasised the need for global solidarity in the fight against terrorism.

Addressing a packed audience of global leaders and delegates at what is often called the 'Davos of the East', Chadha said, "Operation Sindoor has sent a loud and clear message: India will strike deep and dismantle terror safe havens. We must come together to ensure that such infrastructure finds no shelter anywhere in the world."

He invoked India's dual legacy of peace and resistance, citing Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy of non-violence alongside the courage of freedom fighters Bhagat Singh and Subhash Chandra Bose.

Punjab and Haryana High Court receives bomb threat, probe launched



New Delhi. The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Thursday afternoon received a bomb threat prompting immediate security measures and the evacuation of courtrooms as a precautionary step. According to police sources, after the High Court received a bomb threat via email, Chandigarh Police's Operation Cell, rescue team, fire department and all concerned officials have reached the spot. In view of the situation, the Bar Association asked all the advocates to vacate court premises for safety.

Earlier, on Wednesday, Gurugram Mini Secretariat had received a hoax bomb threat in the afternoon which also prompted authorities to carry out temporary evacuations. Similar to today's incident, yesterday's bomb threat was also sent via mail. The mail was marked to the Deputy Commissioner.

"The bomb scare expressed in the received email has been proven to be false and baseless. It was a rumour, but we do not take any situation lightly," DC Ajay Kumar said.

32 Real-Time Water Monitoring Stations To Be Set-Up For Yamuna Clean-Up

New Delhi. In line with its commitment to clean the Yamuna river, the BJP-led Delhi government will install 32 real-time water quality monitoring stations to monitor the river water and the drains flowing into it.

A senior official said ten stations will be set up on the Yamuna River and 22 on major drains. Some of the Yamuna river sites where Monitoring Stations will be set up include Palla, ISBT Bridge, ITO Bridge, Nizamuddin Bridge, Okhla Barrage, etc. The major drains that will be included are Najafgarh, Metcalfe House, Khyber Pass, Sweeper Colony, along with some border drains that include Singhu Border (DD6, Sonapat), Bahadurgarh, Shahdara, Sahibabad and Banthia.

These Monitoring Stations will monitor the river along with drains flowing into it and record the date of the cleaning procedure.

All the monitoring stations are expected to be operational by the end of this year. The tender process has already been initiated. These stations will monitor water quality in real time and transmit the data directly to the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) server. These stations will monitor key pollutants, for instance, BOD (Biological Oxygen Demand), COD (Chemical Oxygen Demand), TSS (Total Suspended Solids), along with Levels of Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Ammonia. The Yamuna cleaning project is already underway, where the treatment of sewage has begun. Delhi LG VK Saxena, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, and Minister Parvesh Verma are monitoring the procedure.

The trio has regularly inspected major drains that also fall into the river.

Yamuna cleaning has been a significant issue in the state, where the previous government promised to clean it but failed to do so. The BJP government, led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, has also promised and plans to clean it within its first tenure. In the Delhi budget 2025-26, Delhi CM Gupta allocated 500 crore specifically for Yamuna cleaning, where funding will be designated for the construction of 40 decentralised sewage treatment plants (STPs). The aim is to treat the water before it enters the river, thereby addressing pollution at its source.

Nepali spy, sleeper cells: Pak ISI's big terror plot before Pahalgam attack

New Delhi. Intelligence agencies unearthed a plot orchestrated by Pakistan's spy agency Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) to carry out a major terrorist strike in the country, one that was in the works before the Pahalgam killings, top sources said. The breakthrough came with the arrest of a Nepali-origin ISI agent, Ansarul Mian Ansari, from a hotel in Delhi. According to intelligence sources, Ansari had entered India from Pakistan via Nepal at the behest of the ISI. He was reportedly preparing to return to Pakistan when he was nabbed. Ansari's arrest was the result of a highly classified joint operation led by central agencies and the Delhi Police Special Cell, conducted between January and March 2025. Sources said that during interrogation, Ansari disclosed critical information



about ISI's extensive espionage network and revealed that he had been tasked with procuring and sending classified military documents to Pakistan.

A forensic analysis of the documents recovered from Ansari confirmed they were sensitive materials related to the Indian Armed Forces, officials said. The agencies also seized incriminating digital evidence. Sources added that Ansari met an ISI handler while working as a

cab driver in Qatar. He was later taken to Pakistan, where he was reportedly brainwashed and trained by senior ISI operatives before being deployed to India.

Following Ansari's confession, another suspect, Akhlaq Azam, was arrested from Ranchi. Azam is accused of assisting Ansari in transmitting sensitive information to Pakistan-based ISI officials. Sources said Azam played a key role in collecting and passing on Army documents. According to sources, the dismantling of the ISI cell in Delhi likely averted a devastating attack on Indian soil.

Following the horrific Pahalgam attack, in which 26 civilians were gunned down by terrorists, security agencies have intensified their counter-terrorism efforts, targeting not only operatives in Jammu and Kashmir but also sleeper cells embedded in cities across India.

Power out, trees uprooted, banners toppled after massive storm hits Delhi

New Delhi. A powerful dust storm swept across Delhi-NCR on Wednesday evening, leading to heavy rains and hailstorms. The sudden change in weather led to widespread disruption, including power outages, traffic jams and tree felling. The storm hit suddenly around 8 pm, reducing visibility drastically as strong winds carrying loose dust blanketed the skies. Several parts of Delhi, Noida, Gurgaon, and Ghaziabad witnessed intense hailstorms and torrential rain following the dust storm. In Noida, hail battered rooftops and roads shortly after the storm passed. Many areas experienced power outages across Delhi-NCR due to the sudden weather change. Traffic snarls were reported on major stretches, including the Noida-Greater Noida Expressway, Kalindi Kunj border, and DND Flyway.



NOIDA WELCOME BOARD COLLAPSED, TREES UPROOTED

The intense wind and rain led to infrastructure damage, including fallen trees and overhead electric (OHE) line disturbances. The Noida Welcome Board also collapsed under the force of the wind, while trees and banners fell at multiple spots, leading to severe traffic jams.

Meanwhile, a large tree crashed onto a

car at Copernicus Marg, near India Gate. The driver is safe.

METRO DELAYED, SERVICES HALTED

Delhi Metro services were significantly affected, particularly on the Red, Yellow, and Pink Lines. Service was halted temporarily at several stations including Shaheed Nagar, Jahangirpuri, and Nizamuddin. At Mayur Vihar Phase 1, over 30 minutes delay was reported as commuters crowded the station.

While Pink Line services resumed by 9:18 PM, disruptions on the Red and Yellow Lines persisted late into the evening.

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) confirmed that the issues stemmed from fallen objects and damage to the OHE system, and teams were working swiftly to restore full services.

DMK's Kanimozhi-Led Delegation To Present "India's Truth On Terrorism"

DMK MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi said the primary objective of the visit is to communicate India's unified stand on terrorism and counter misinformation.

New Delhi. The All-Party delegation bound for Russia, Slovenia, Greece, Latvia and Spain arrived at the New Delhi airport to begin their visit. The delegation is led by DMK MP Kanimozhi Karunanidhi and is part of the multi-country delegation visiting key partner countries as an outreach initiative aimed at fostering international solidarity against terrorism after Operation Sindoor.

Speaking to ANI ahead of her departure, Kanimozhi, said the primary objective of the visit is to communicate India's unified stand on terrorism and counter misinformation being spread globally. "Our objective is to take the message of India to different countries, to explain what has happened here, and to make the world understand the truth. We have to resolve this problem, and the world has to stand together against terrorism," she said. Highlighting the need to present India's stance clearly, Kanimozhi added, "We lost 26 lives to terrorism, and we want to talk about what happened and what is happening in this country because of terrorism. We want to put a stop to that. There are vested interests trying to create different stories, so the truth has to be told." Kanimozhi underscored the bipartisan nature of the initiative, saying, "The most important thing is that all of us stand together when it comes to the security and sovereignty of this country. I think there is no difference



of opinion on that." She further stated that India's position has been clear and consistent: "India has already spoken about what has happened. There are no two stands. We have openly said how we were attacked, how we responded, and how we want to find a solution. We are only going to repeat what we have already said." AAP MP Dr Ashok Kumar Mittal, who is part of the all-party delegation led by Kanimozhi, said that he is confident that the World community would show solidarity with India's stand. "We want to tell the world about Pakistan's false

propaganda. India fights only for its own security, and we have never intended to cause injustice to the people of any country. We are confident that the world community will come together with us. AAP's stand is clear: we stand with the government in this matter." Dr Mittal said RJD MP Prem Chand Gupta, also part of the all-party delegation said, "The agenda is clear: We have to expose Pakistan's false propaganda." Another delegate Samajwadi Party MP Rajeev Rai, said that the aim was to isolate Pakistan as it is a supporter of terror acts against India. "It is very important to isolate the country which takes money from financial institutions and gives shelter to terrorists."

We will also raise the point that it is wrong to think that if it happens in their country, then it is terrorism, but if it happens in India, then it is a matter between India and Pakistan. We will tell the world about all the incidents from the Pahalgam terrorist attack to Operation Sindoor," Rajeev Rai said.

Tips for doing Petra right

You probably know what Petra looks like from famous photographs. Most of the tourists also know that it is one of the New7Wonders of the World, but they usually don't know the full details of what visiting involves and hence, it's always good to read up on these things ahead of time so that you can really enjoy the site rather than worry about things you were unprepared for. Petra is a true 'once in a lifetime' place to visit, so read up to learn what you need to know ahead of time!

Getting there

It takes two and half hours to get to Petra from Amman.

From Amman Queen Alia International Airport, without traffic on the main highway. Keep in mind that it's often better to take the King's Highway which is a slow, hilly, winding, scenic highway, even if it means at least an hour longer journey! There are many places to stop for photos and this area is often called the 'Grand Canyon of Jordan'.

Where to stay?

There are many guest houses in Petra but the most famous hotel is Movenpick which is right outside the entrance gate and is reasonably priced for a 5 star hotel. There is also a pool. Do keep in mind that the taxes on food here are higher, so consider exploring Petra town for dinner.

Tickets and tours

If you're on a tight time frame, you can visit Petra in just one day. However, most travellers whom we met were spending at least two days there, so if you can squeeze in an extra day for sightseeing, do so.

When you buy passes, you get discounts for

take you to and from the entrance and the Treasury. There are some places you can't visit like the Monastery unless you can ride comfortably on a donkey for about 20 minutes. You can negotiate the

prices a bit but they are mostly set. There are places to stop, take breaks, have tea and buy water en route. You can even buy souvenirs here.

Timings

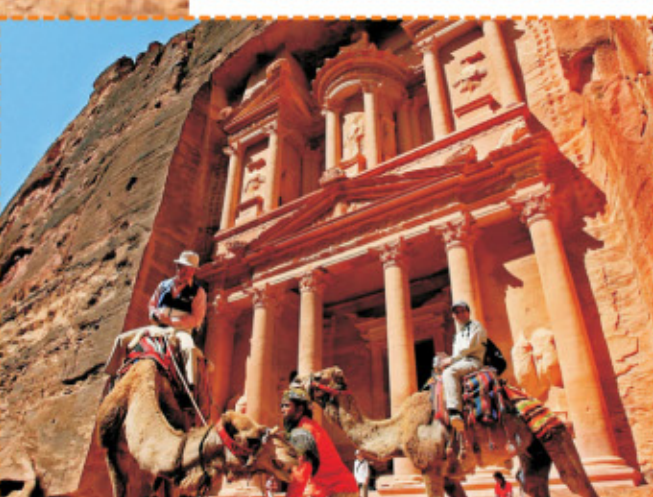
Wake up early! The early bird catches the worm here, and by that I mean, great photo opportunities with fewer people crowding around awesome shots. You will need about 7 hours to walk around comfortably and go all the way to the Monastery and back.

How much walking is it really?

Well, to see it all, as mentioned, would take about 7 hours comfortably. You can do it in 5, which we did, if you walk very fast and take a donkey ride up to the Monastery. You can also come to Petra and just walk to the Treasury (30 minutes) and then return to your hotel. There are many ways to see the sites and it's up to you to decide what you want to see. The Monastery, Petra's largest monument, is more impressive than the Treasury and I think if you've come all this way you should go ahead and see it.

What to wear?

You do have to cover up here, although many tourists were not and some even had on denim shorts. I recommend breezy trousers or leggings and a thin T-shirt. As long as your legs and shoulders are covered, you are okay. Bring a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses. Wear comfortable walking shoes, but hiking shoes are not necessary.



By the end of the Middle Ages, St Andrews boasted of Scotland's first university and was the country's undisputed ecclesiastical and intellectual capital. The medieval street plan remains virtually intact. The oldest surviving buildings are sandstone. The "Auld Grey Toon" is one of cloister garths, courtyards, "yetts" (gates of latticed wrought iron bars), "wynds" (narrow lanes), "pends" (streets leading to courtyards), Renaissance arcades, masonic porches, villas, staired turrets, balustrade parapets, slate or clay pantile, Flemish cove-stepped or corbie roofs, moulded windows, porticos, old archdeacon's mansions and walled gardens.

St Salvador's Chapel

Locals and students are all familiar with Agnes, Annie, Elizabeth, Margaret, Katherine and George. These are the church bells of the university chapel on North Street. The six bells are contained in the tower and are hung for full circle ringing. The oldest is Elizabeth, recast in 1940. Agnes is named after the sister of one of the university's chairs of Greek, George after a student, Margaret after a Scottish medieval queen and Annie after the university's first female student, Agnes Forbes Blackadder (MA, 1895). A rare example of Late Gothic architecture, the chapel was founded in 1450. The adjacent 1933 halls of residence were once described as "a rambling Gothic dormitory". The oldest hall is St Regulus (1868). The modern halls are in the "brutalist" style of architecture.

St Salvador's College

Established in 1450 by Bishop Kennedy, this is now a university residential hall. The tower, to which the present spire was added in 1550, contains the original bells—Katharine and Kate Kennedy. The butts date from the 1860s. The entrance archway originally formed part of the old cloister court. In the vestry is a 1461 college mace. In 1747, St Salvador's College became the seat of the United College. St Salvador's Quad contains lecture and exam halls, and was for many years the scene of the annual Raisin Weekend mass shaving foam fight every October. This

Top attractions in St Andrews

commemorates the tradition of giving raisins to academic parents or mentors who look after freshers, first year students or "beasants" (fledglings). Now, their services are rewarded usually by alcohol! Outside the Quad are the letters PH in the cobble marking the site where the Protestant martyr Patrick Hamilton was burned at the stake in 1528, and it is considered bad luck to walk on the letters. Students who walk across these letters will fail their degree but can remove the 'curse' by bathing in the sea at dawn on 1st May

St Andrews Castle

Once one of the most important strongholds of the kingdom, the castle was founded around 1200, reconstructed in the 14th century and repaired in the 16th century. The structure forms an irregular pentagon enclosing a courtyard with towers or blockhouses which are now long gone, along with the original square Fore Tower. What remains is the work of Archbishop Hamilton, following the siege of 1546-7. Still standing is the Kitchen tower and Sea Tower with its bottle dungeon.

St Rules Tower

The place to sightsee, St Rules Tower in St Andrews Cathedral has the best view in town. Its name derives from the town's

claim to be the final resting place of the apostle Andrew and the patron saint of Scotland, whose bones were brought under divine guidance from Patras, Greece by St Regulus (St Rule) to Kilrymont. St Andrews was also called Kilrule. The Priory of Canons Regular of the Order of St Augustine was founded in 1127. The community were for a while associated with the Church of St Regulus or St Rule, of which the 33 m Romanesque tower and choir (1080) still stands to the east of the later Cathedral. It is the oldest surviving building in St Andrews. It was the first place of worship for arriving St Augustine canons. The establishment of the present town began around 1140 by Bishop Robert. The burgh of St Andrews was first represented at the great council at Scone Palace in 1357 and granted a royal charter by King James VI, who used the area around the nearby Falkland Palace for hunting.

St Andrews Cathedral

This Cathedral was founded in 1160 by Bishop Arnold and consecrated in the presence of King Bruce in 1318. Construction started at the east end, where the detail is Romanesque but later work is Gothic. The nave consisted of 12 bays, a

crossing with a central tower, north and south transepts, a choir and shrine. At 109 m (357') it was by far the longest and largest cathedral in Scotland. The vaulted calefactory and refectory undercroft were restored at the end of the 19th century. Parts of the Great Hall remain, as well as the re-built gateway of the New Inns or royal guest house on Pends Road. The whole area is a half-a-mile in length with 13 towers and three gateways. The Cathedral was abandoned during the Reformation (1559). The lead on the roofs was used for ammunition in the Wars of Religion. The central tower collapsed and the ruins were used as a quarry. Many buildings around town are made from the Cathedral stone. Used as a place of worship since the 8th century, the cathedral became the headquarters of the medieval Scottish church and dominated religion until the Protestant Reformation in 1560. It was the seat of Scotland's leading bishops, and from 1472 of the archbishops. In 1559, John Knox preached a passionate sermon in the parish church and, as a result, the church was cleansed. In 1561, it was abandoned and left to fall into ruin. The Cathedral graveyard contains the

graves of Scottish diplomat and prelate Andrew Forman, Scottish Presbyterian and museum curator James Bell Pettigrew and famous golfing pioneers, Old Tom Morris and his son, Young Tom who won the British Open Championship four times and died at the age of 24.

There is also the grave of golfer Allan Robertson to whom Old Tom was an apprentice. He is considered to be the first professional golfer club and ball maker. Robertson was never beaten and was first to break 80 over the Old Course, the year before he died in 1859. He exported his clubs and balls worldwide. An authentic Robertson "feathery" ball is a collector's item today. Along with Morris, he also designed Carnoustie in 1842. His epitaph reads: "Allan Robertson—who died 1st Sept. 1859 aged 44 years old. He was greatly esteemed for his personal worth and for many years was esteemed as the champion golfer of Scotland."

The British Open is due to his death. The members of Prestwick Golf Club on the west coast of Scotland held the competition in 1860, to decide who would succeed him as the "Champion Golfer". The Open, continuing annually ever since except for the war years, is the longest-running golf championship, and the oldest of the four "Majors"—the US Open, US Masters and US PGA Championship.

Queen Mary's House

On South Street, which is like all the streets a processional avenue to the St Andrews Cathedral, there is the three-storey frontage of the house and its later extension, "Priorsgate". The most striking design element is the western wing's stair tower and corner oriel of brownstone. The house was begun in 1523 by merchant Hew Scrymgeour and became known as Queen Mary's House when she stayed there in 1564 on one of her many visits. The building was renovated in 1927 for use as a library by St Leonards School.



Walmart to cut 1,500 jobs in restructuring move: Report

New Delhi. Retail giant Walmart is planning to cut around 1,500 jobs as part of a major reshuffle to make its operations more efficient. This move is part of the company's larger plan to focus on long-term goals, as per an internal memo shared by Reuters.

The job cuts will affect several areas, including Walmart's global tech team, the e-commerce section in US stores, and its advertising arm, Walmart Connect. While some roles will be removed, new ones will also be added to better match the company's future plans. "To accelerate our progress delivering the experiences that will define the future of retail, we must sharpen our focus," mentioned the memo, quoted Reuters. Walmart is the largest private employer in the United States, with around 1.6 million workers. Globally, it employs about 2.1 million people. It's also the biggest US importer, bringing in nearly 60% of its goods, like clothes, electronics and toys, from China.

This round of job cuts follows several other changes in recent months. In February, Walmart closed its office in North Carolina and shifted employees to other main offices in California and Arkansas. Just last week, it said prices on some products would go up by the end of May, partly due to economic pressure from trade policies under former US President Donald Trump.

All ITR forms are out, but you still can't file. What's causing the delay

New Delhi. The Income Tax Department may have rolled out all ITR forms for the Assessment Year 2025-26. But before you rush to file your income tax return, here's something important to know – the actual e-filing process isn't open yet. It's because the e-filing utilities are not live on the portal.

WHAT'S THE DELAY ABOUT?

While all seven ITR forms (ITR-1 to ITR-7) and even the updated ITR-U form are ready, the filing process can't begin until the government activates the utility software. These utilities are essential tools that help taxpayers fill in, check, and submit their returns online or offline. Without these tools, the system won't accept your return, no matter how ready you are, say experts.

WHAT ARE THESE UTILITIES AND WHY DO THEY MATTER?

Each year, the department provides the filing utility in different formats, online, offline (Java or JSON), and Excel. These formats are designed to suit different users. Many individual taxpayers prefer the online mode for its simplicity and ease, while professionals often use the JSON or Excel versions.

But whether online or offline, these utilities are a must. They allow you to fill in the form correctly, validate the data, and upload it securely.

Without these, the system won't accept your return – no matter how ready you are.

WHEN WILL THE UTILITIES BE RELEASED?

There is no official word yet on when the utilities will be released. However, it is widely expected that the rollout will begin in phases, likely starting with the simpler forms like ITR-1 and ITR-4, sometime between late May and early June. These are commonly used by salaried individuals and small business owners. **There's no official date yet. But sources say the department may begin releasing utilities in stages, starting with simpler forms like ITR-1 and ITR-4, sometime in late May or early June.**

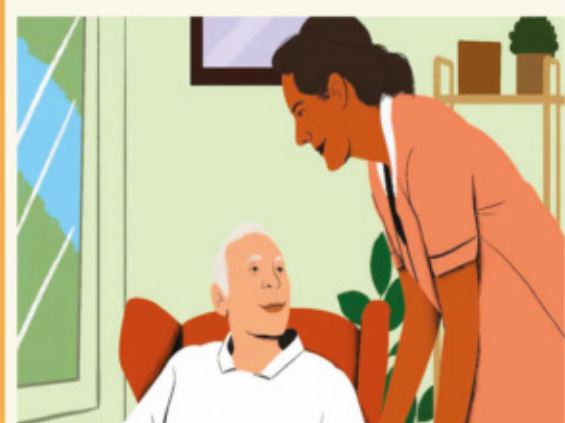
World's happiest and unhappiest careers revealed. Is your job among them

New Delhi. We often think a good job means a high salary or a fancy title. But a new study from Estonia shows that's not really true. Happiness at work comes from something deeper, like feeling you matter, having freedom, and making a difference.

Researchers at the University of Tartu in Estonia looked at 263 different jobs and asked over 59,000 people about their work and life satisfaction. They also used health data from the Estonian Biobank to get a better picture of what really makes people happy in their jobs. The findings might surprise you.

JOBS THAT BRING JOY

The happiest workers were clergy, healthcare professionals like doctors and nurses, and writers.



Ktlin Anni, the lead researcher, says jobs that let people feel they're achieving something and serving others bring deeper satisfaction than fancy titles or big paychecks.

JOBS THAT LEAVE PEOPLE UNHAPPY

On the other hand, people working in sales, as waiters, security guards, or in jobs with strict routines like factory work or driving, reported low job satisfaction. Even corporate managers, despite their high status, felt unhappy because of stress and lack of control over their work.

PRESSURE DRAINS JOB SATISFACTION

Too much pressure and little freedom can make even the most respected jobs feel empty, explained the researcher. The study also found that self-employed individuals reported greater satisfaction, largely due to the freedom and flexibility their work offers.

Covid cases surge in India: Will it trigger a stock market crash

Stock market today: The S&P BSE Sensex had dropped by over 900 points to 80,681.76, while the NSE Nifty50 was down 266 points at 24,547.45 as of 12:45 pm. The fall in the market comes after days of strong performance.

New Delhi. The market rally on Dalal Street came to a pause on Thursday against the backdrop of rising Covid-19 cases in India and other parts of Asia as both Sensex and Nifty saw a sharp fall. The S&P BSE Sensex had dropped by over

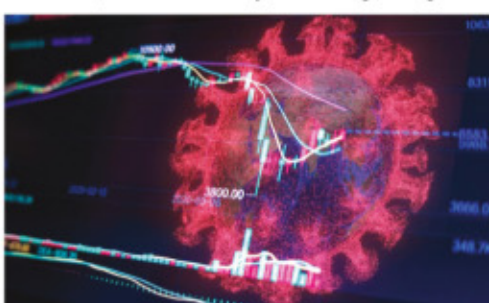
900 points to 80,681.76, while the NSE Nifty50 was down 266 points at 24,547.45 as of 12:45 pm. The fall in the market comes after days of strong performance. The recent decline in the stock market has come at a time when Covid-19 cases are slowly increasing again. Kerala has reported 182 cases in May alone, while cities like Mumbai, Chennai and Ahmedabad have seen small but noticeable spikes in infections.

Outside India, several Asian countries have also seen a rise in cases. Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand are currently reporting more infections, sparking concerns that the virus might be making a slow comeback.

IS COVID BEHIND THE MARKET DROP?

The fall in the markets has raised the question: Should investors worry about the rising Covid cases? Kranthi Bathini, Equity Strategist at WealthMills Securities Pvt Ltd, said that the early signs of rising cases could be one reason behind

the fall in some sectors. "There is a sense of worrying factor there. That is the reason we can see some kind of an uptick in healthcare, diagnostic stocks and also in pharma stocks," he said. He added, "Whether it is just the beginning



or a sign of something bigger, we will have to wait and see. Right now, it is premature to say anything definite about Covid cases because numbers are still low and mostly in single digits in many states. The next few weeks will be important to watch," Bathini also pointed out that the

overall market conditions remain stable. "The market has outperformed in the last month after touching a high of 25,500 range. What we are witnessing is some kind of profit booking because of global cues, US debt worries and also US downgrades, which is creating pressure on the market in the short to medium term." He explained that Nifty seems to be forming a base between 24,500 and 25,000. "We had a decent earnings season. There were no major negative surprises. There is stock-specific action happening now as we are at the far end of the earnings season," he said. While there is some concern, experts say there is no need to panic yet. "Investors are a bit more seasoned now when it comes to COVID news. Pharma might see some defensive interest, but overall, market fundamentals remain strong. Volatility? Maybe. Panic? Unlikely," said Trivish, COO of Tradejini.

Do You Throw Your Online Delivery Boxes After Opening Parcel Know How It Can Make Your Bank Account Zero, Tips To Stay Protected

New Delhi. Most of us order online products via e-commerce platforms. After you receive the order, you keep the product and throw away the online delivery box in which the order is delivered. You perhaps never realised that something as routine as throwing away an online delivery box could put you at risk of online fraud and may drain money from your bank.

What is online delivery box scam?

Whenever you receive an online order, the package usually comes with a label that carries your personal information like your name, address and phone number. Scammers can use this information to defraud you. You risk losing your money if you fall into their trap.

How do scammers get hold of online delivery box? The online delivery box that you throw



away after receiving your order can end up on roadside garbage heaps or outside residential buildings. These are the locations where scammers can get hold of these online delivery boxes. How do scammers trick people

with delivery boxes? Scammers use the information on the online delivery boxes to trick you. Using the basic data from the discarded package, they contact you with fake messages and scam calls. You might end up sharing OTPs, clicking on fake links, or downloading malicious apps. The fake links have hidden malware. Once you click on the fake links, the hidden malware infiltrates your device and steals your private data like your bank details. How can you stay safe from these online delivery box scam?

Taking a few easy steps will help you stay safe. Make sure to remove the shipping label before throwing away any delivery box. Tear up the label or scribble over the information to make it unreadable.

Maha Kumbh, wedding travel provide tailwind, power IndiGo to stellar Q4 results

Kolkata. The Maha Kumbh that began on January 13, 2025 and continued for 45 days, not only set a record attracting 660 million people, but also helped others set records. For one, the rush of pilgrims to Prayagraj to attend the event helped India's biggest airline IndiGo achieve a record net profit in Q4 (January-March) of FY25 as well. InterGlobe Aviation, the holding company of IndiGo, reported its highest-ever fourth quarter net profit of Rs 3,067.5 crore. The figure was a huge 62% jump from Rs 1,894.8 crore in the corresponding quarter a year ago. In the fourth quarter of FY25 IndiGo carried 31.9 million passengers which was a rise of 19.6% compared to the same quarter last year. IndiGo's holy dip in profits

"It was an exceptionally strong fourth quarter with strong demand, a good execution of our strategy and some events like the Maha Kumbh obviously helping the performance," Pieter Elbers, CEO of IndiGo, told the media. "Our

sustained performance is the result of record passenger volumes, operational efficiencies, agility and commitment demonstrated by IndiGo employees," he added. IndiGo said in end January how it stepped up efforts to help pilgrims reach



the event. It increased flights and seat capacity to and from Prayagraj airport during the period when the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 was organised. When the rush of visitors rose beyond expected levels, IndiGo added more flights taking the number to 1.65 lakh

seats to and from Prayagraj, which was more than double the normal capacity to the airport.

In fact, IndiGo connected the venue to 10 locations in India. Services from Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Jaipur were added from the ongoing services to and from New Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Raipur and Bhubaneswar. It also pressed more A321, its larger aircraft, into service. Overall, IndiGo operated around 900 flights to and from the city, while the regular number is 490.

Wedding invitations spiced up the party. The peak wedding season also contributed to increased booking. The peak wedding season usually stretches from November to March and IndiGo exploited it to the hilt. Usually for hotels and airlines, this season a large number of families, wedding guests and honeymooning couples flying in and out of the country to a huge number of destinations.

ABFRL demerger: Brokerages assign fair value to new fashion twins. Details here

Brokerages have begun breaking down the newly split entities, laying out distinct growth paths and fair value estimates for both ABFRL and ABLBL.

New Delhi. Shares of Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail Ltd (ABFRL) fell nearly 66% on Thursday, trading at Rs 91 on the BSE, as the market recalibrated its valuation following the demerger of Aditya Birla Lifestyle Brands Ltd (ABLBL). It may be noted that the sharp correction reflects the subtraction of the demerged entity's value and not a deterioration in ABFRL's business outlook. Brokerages have begun breaking down the newly split entities, laying out distinct growth paths and fair value estimates for both ABFRL and ABLBL. Bernstein, which has closely tracked ABFRL's transformation, values the demerged ABFRL at Rs 80-105 per share, while assigning ABLBL a fair value range of Rs 185-215. The brokerage firm believes the separation will allow both companies to sharpen

their brand focus and unlock value for shareholders. Jefferies echoes this view, pegging ABFRL's standalone fair value at Rs 100. The brokerage believes the re-rating is a technical adjustment and anticipates more investor clarity once ABLBL lists next month. Domestic brokerage JM Financial is even more granular in its assessment. It assigns a Rs 103 valuation to ABFRL, applying 18 times EV/EBITDA to its flagship Pantaloon brand, 3 times EV/Sales to ethnic wear, and 1 time EV/Sales to the digital-first TMRW portfolio. Meanwhile, ABLBL is projected at Rs 186 per share, based on 23 times EV/EBITDA for core lifestyle brands and 10 times for growth businesses such as Reebok and Van Heusen Innerwear. Under the demerger scheme, shareholders will receive one share of ABLBL for every ABFRL share held as of the May 22 record date. The new entity is expected to list on both the NSE and BSE by mid-June, pending regulatory clearances.

TWO NEW FASHION POWERHOUSES ABFRL will now retain businesses with a focus on ethnic wear, value fashion, and premium retail. This includes Pantaloon, the ethnic portfolio under TCNS, designer brands like Sabiyasachi, Tarun Tahliani, Masaba, and the upcoming luxury play with Galeries Lafayette. JM Financial noted that ABFRL starts with a net cash balance of Rs 140-150 crore, enough to

like Reebok, American Eagle, and Van Heusen Innerwear. According to JM, ABLBL will launch with a manageable debt of Rs 700-800 crore, which it expects to retire over the next 2-3 years. The brokerage is optimistic about the business scaling quickly, with targets to double revenue and triple cash profits between FY24 and FY30. A 300-basis point margin expansion could lift EBITDA margins above 11 per cent, taking return on capital employed (ROCE) to as high as 70 per cent by FY30 (excluding intangibles).



support near-term growth plans. Its digital venture TMRW may raise funds independently to fuel M&A-led expansion. On the other hand, ABLBL has become home to India's dominant western wear and innerwear portfolio, including Madura Fashion & Lifestyle (Louis Philippe, Van Heusen, Allen Solly, Peter England), alongside newer growth drivers

like Reebok, American Eagle, and Van Heusen Innerwear. According to JM, ABLBL will launch with a manageable debt of Rs 700-800 crore, which it expects to retire over the next 2-3 years. The brokerage is optimistic about the business scaling quickly, with targets to double revenue and triple cash profits between FY24 and FY30. A 300-basis point margin expansion could lift EBITDA margins above 11 per cent, taking return on capital employed (ROCE) to as high as 70 per cent by FY30 (excluding intangibles).

WHAT'S NEXT FOR INVESTORS?

Thursday's steep fall has brought ABFRL's stock in line with analyst projections and the upcoming listing of ABLBL will be a critical milestone for investors looking to unlock full value from the split. As of now, all futures and options (F&O) contracts on ABFRL expired on May 21. Fresh contracts began trading on May 22, with a revised lot size of 2,600 shares, the National Stock Exchange said.

EPFO adds 14.58 lakh members in March. Women and youth lead the way

New Delhi. The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) added 14.58 lakh net members in March 2025, according to the latest data shared by the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Compared to March last year, this marks a 1.15% rise in overall additions, pointing to more job opportunities and greater awareness about social security benefits. **RISE IN NEW SUBSCRIBERS** The Ministry said in the statement, "EPFO enrolled around 7.54 lakh new subscribers in March 2025, representing a 2.03% increase over February 2025 and 0.98% year-over-year growth compared to the previous year in March 2024." "This growth in new subscribers can be attributed to growing employment opportunities, increased awareness of employee benefits, and EPFO's successful outreach programs," it stated.

YOUTH DOMINATE NEW ENROLMENTS

Interestingly, most of the new members were young. 4.45 lakh people in the 18-25 age group signed up in March, making up 58.94% of all new



subscribers. This is a 4.21% rise over February and 4.73% higher than last March. Many in this age group are first-time jobseekers, which fits the trend seen in earlier months. The total net addition for this age group stood at 6.68 lakh, showing a strong year-on-year growth of 6.49%.

"Approximately 13.23 lakh members, who had exited earlier, rejoined EPFO in March 2025. This figure depicts a 0.39% increase over February 2025. It also shows a significant 12.17% year-over-year growth compared to March 2024," said EPFO. "These members switched their jobs and re-joined the establishments covered under the ambit of EPFO and opted to transfer their accumulations instead of applying for final settlement, thus safeguarding long-term financial well-being and extending their social security protection," it further mentioned.

BOOST IN FEMALE PARTICIPATION

Women's participation also saw a slight boost. Around 2.08 lakh new female members joined EPFO in March. That's a small rise of 0.18% over February, but a solid 4.18% increase compared to March 2024.

NEWS BOX

After horror show against MI, DC's Mukesh Kumar fined for code of conduct breach

New Delhi. DC pacer Mukesh Kumar has been fined for a Code of Conduct breach by the IPL after the game against MI at the Wankhede stadium on Wednesday, May 21. Mukesh was fined 10 percent of his match fees for a Level 1 offence under Article 2.2 and was handed one demerit point as well after the loss to MI. Level 1 offence under Article 2.2 deals with "abuse of cricket equipment or clothing, ground equipment or fixtures and fittings during a match." The DC pacer accepted the Match referee's sanction according to the statement from the IPL on Thursday, May 22. In such cases, the match referee's decision is considered to be final and binding.

"Mukesh Kumar admitted to the Level 1 offence under Article 2.2 and accepted the Match Referee's sanction," an IPL release stated. "For Level 1 breaches of the Code of Conduct, the Match Referee's decision is final and binding." Mukesh Kumar has a night to forget at the Wankhede stadium. It was a night to forget for Mukesh against MI as his final over proved to be the turning point in the game. The pacer had come into the side to replace T. Natarajan in the must-win game for the Capitals as play-off qualification was on



the line. Mukesh started off brilliantly at the Wankhede as he was impressive with the new ball and got the wicket of Will Jacks. Before the start of the death overs, the Bengal pacer also dismissed Tilak Verma as it seemed like DC would restrict MI to a below-par total. However, all this changed in Mukesh's final over as Suryakumar Yadav and Naman Dhir took him apart. Instead of bowling off-pace deliveries, Mukesh tried to pitch it up and was punished by the MI duo. 27 runs came off the over as he was hit for three sixes and two fours. He ended up with figures of 2 for 48 in his four overs. The IPL 2025 season hasn't been a great one for Mukesh, who was bought by DC for Rs. 8 Crore during the auction. In 11 matches, the pacer has picked up 11 wickets at an average of 32.64 and an economy rate of 10.11.

Ruben Amorim to quit United without payoff if board loses trust after Europa loss

New Delhi. Manchester United head coach Ruben Amorim has revealed he is willing to leave the club without taking a single penny in compensation if the board loses faith in him following their failure to win the Europa League final. Amorim's side failed to turn around a disastrous season after losing 1-0 to Tottenham Hotspur in the final on May 22, which has increased the pressure on the Portuguese manager. Spurs secured victory thanks to a 42nd-minute strike from Brennan Johnson, which deflected off United full-back Luke Shaw and wrong-footed goalkeeper Andr Onana. This result ended United's hopes of qualifying for next season's UEFA Champions League, compounded by their 16th-place finish in the Premier League. Despite enduring one of the club's worst seasons in recent history, Amorim insisted he wants to continue as



manager and will only step down without a payoff if the board clearly withdraws their trust. "I have nothing to show to the fans, so in this moment it is a little bit of faith... Let's see. I am always open. If the board and fans feel I am not the right guy, I will go in the next day without any conversation about compensation, but I will not quit," Amorim told reporters. "I am really confident on my job. And as you see I will not change nothing in the way I do things. I am not going to talk about the future, tonight we need to deal with the pain of losing this match... It was clear we were the better team, then we manage not to score again. The guys try everything to win the game. In the future we can assess," he added. Although United entered the Europa League final in Bilbao unbeaten, a costly defensive lapse and a lack of clinical finishing up front prevented them from making a comeback after Spurs took the lead. With hopes of a top-five Premier League finish off the table, Amorim admitted his focus shifted entirely to winning the Europa League and giving youngsters opportunities in the league.

Manchester United collapse: A nightmare season ends without glory or europe

Manchester United's Europa League final loss captured the very essence of their horror 2024-25 season. A campaign filled with missteps, a misfiring forward line and a lack of mentality has seen the Red Devils set for their worst finish in the Premier League and miss out on making it to Europe for the next season.

New Delhi. May 21 holds a significant place in the history of Manchester United. In 2008, they defeated Chelsea on penalties in Moscow to win their third UEFA Champions League title under the stewardship of one of the greatest managers of all time, Sir Alex Ferguson. That same season, they also won the Premier League, underlining their dominance as one of English football's true

giants. Fast forward to 2025, and May 21 is now a date United fans would rather forget. In a match that exposed the glaring lack of quality in the current squad, they lost the Europa League final to Tottenham Hotspur. The Red Devils registered 16 shots—six on target—while Spurs had just one, which proved decisive.

But that's been the story of United's 2024-25 campaign: a nightmare from start to finish. Set to end the season in either 16th or 17th place, and saved from relegation only because Southampton, Leicester, and Ipswich were worse, United look a shadow of their former selves—trapped in the echoes of past glory. To put things in perspective, the Europa League final loss was Manchester United's 20th defeat of the season—their most in a single campaign since 1973-74, when they were relegated. So, where did it all go wrong for the Red Devils?

Was it just a lack of quality on the field? Or were poor decisions from ownership a deeper part of the problem? Let's take a look at the key reasons behind United's worst-ever Premier League campaign and their European heartbreak—a season that ended with no silverware and only bitter disappointment. Sticking with Ten Hag after a poor 2023-24 season. The first major

misstep, in hindsight, was retaining Erik ten Hag after an underwhelming 2023-24 campaign. United had finished eighth, with the Dutchman's system and tactical shortcomings being repeatedly exposed. The



very public fallout with Jadon Sancho didn't help, and while there were fleeting high points—like the dramatic extra-time FA Cup win over Liverpool and the final triumph over Manchester City—Ten Hag always seemed to be living on borrowed time.

By then, INEOS had taken over club operations, and their first big decision was Ten Hag's future. Despite testing the waters with other options, including Thomas Tuchel, they chose to back the Dutchman. That decision proved costly.

Mitchell Santner showing his IPL worth in MI colours: Varun Aaron after DC win

Varun Aaron feels that Mitchell Santner is finally proving his worth in the IPL after his spell helped MI beat DC. Santner ended with figures of 3 for 11 as MI qualified for the play-offs with a thumping win over Delhi.



New Delhi. Varun Aaron feels that Mitchell Santner is showing his worth in the IPL while wearing the colours of MI after his stunning spell in the win over DC. Santner picked up 3 for 11 in 4 overs and got the key wickets of Vipraj Nigam and Sameer Rizvi, the highest run-getters for Delhi on the night and left the dangerous Ashutosh Sharma stumped. Santner, who joined Mumbai during the IPL 2025 auction, has often found himself on the bench during his time with CSK in the past, but is becoming a vital member of the

MI side that has sealed their qualification for the play-offs. Speaking to ESPNcricinfo, Aaron said that the moment he saw Will Jacks get a lot of spin, he realised that Santner would have the batters caught in a web. The former Indian pacer hailed Santner as a quality bowler, who never got a long run during his time with CSK.

"The moment Will Jacks bowled [in the first innings], I was thinking if Will Jacks is going to turn the ball this much, Santner is just going to run rigs around the batsman," Aaron said. "Santner is a quality bowler, just

one of those underutilised bowlers, underutilised players at CSK, never really got a long run, but he's just showing what he's worth the moment he stepped into Mumbai Indians' colours." What makes Santner lethal? Moody explains Tom Moody, who was also part of the conversation, said that the beauty of Santner on a surface like the Wankhede is not the spin he gets but his subtle variations to bamboozle the batters.

"And the beauty of Santner is that, on a surface like that, it's not so much the turn is the threat, it's the pitch being slow and his ability to change the arrival of the ball at different paces without the knowledge of the batsman. That's what makes him lethal, his subtle change of pace without any real sign or cue for the batter is his key," Moody said. "It's not like he's spun the odd one, but let's face it, Mitchell is not a big turner of the ball, he's never been a big turner of the ball, that's why he's never really grabbed hold of a Test cricket and run with it.

Tottenham Hotspurs captain Son Heung-min accepts legend tag after Europa win

New Delhi. Tottenham Hotspur captain and South Korean football icon Son Heung-min has finally embraced the 'club legend' tag after leading his side to a historic Europa League triumph—their first trophy in 17 years—with a 1-0 victory over Manchester United in the final on May 22. In what will go down as one of the greatest nights in the club's history, Spurs lifted their first-ever European trophy, thanks to a first-half strike from Brennan Johnson. The forward's effort, deflected in by United defender Luke Shaw, sealed the win in Bilbao and brought an end to Tottenham's long wait for silverware. Known for his humble and grounded nature, Son did not shy away from acknowledging his status as "legend" at the club during his post-match interview with TNT Sports.



"Let's say I'm a legend. Why not? Only today!.. Seventeen years, nobody has done it, so with such amazing players yeah today's the day. Probably today I will say I'm a legend of this club," Son said. "I feel

amazing. This is what I've always dreamed for and today is the day it happened. Dream came really, really true. I'm so so happy. I am the happiest man in the world," he added.

Both sides came into the final under intense pressure following disastrous domestic seasons. While Manchester United had remained unbeaten in Europe leading up to the final, Spurs saved their best for last. The win not only delivered silverware but also booked their place in next season's UEFA Champions League. The victory marked a fairytale moment for Son, who has spent a decade at the North London club. For United, however, the night added further misery—with no trophy and a 16th-place finish in the Premier League leaving them without European football altogether.

GT vs LSG, IPL 2025 Preview: Predicted XI, team news and Ahmedabad pitch condition

GT vs LSG, IPL 2025 Preview: Gujarat Titans aim to seal a top-two finish in IPL 2025 as they face eliminated Lucknow Super Giants in Ahmedabad, with form, depth, and Shubman Gill's captaincy driving their late-season charge.

New Delhi. With the four IPL 2025 playoff spots already sealed, Gujarat Titans—in blazing form and still gunning for a top-two finish—will test their momentum against a struggling Lucknow Super Giants side, who have little more than pride left to play for on May 22. The Narendra Modi Stadium will play host as GT eye a crucial cushion by locking in a Qualifier 1 spot, while LSG hope for a consolatory win to round off an otherwise underwhelming season. The secret to Gujarat's successful campaign this year

has been consistent performances across all departments. From captain Shubman Gill, a rock-solid Sai Sudharsan, and the experience of Jos Buttler in the top order, to their reliable pace duo in Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna, and the guile of spin twins Rashid Khan and Sai Kishore—GT have clicked as a unit. Their dominant 10-wicket win over Delhi Capitals was a perfect example, as Gill and Sudharsan made light work of a 174-run chase, leaving Delhi Capitals stunned. Gill's composed leadership, backed by the ever-animated Ashish Nehra, has been a defining trait of GT's 2025 run—strengthening the chorus for his elevation to India's red-ball captaincy. The clash against LSG could be another litmus test reinforcing that narrative. Lucknow, on the other hand, have endured a season of misfires, with their campaign falling apart



after a defeat to Sunrisers Hyderabad, sealing their exit from the playoff race. Rishabh Pant's debut season as captain—after replacing KL Rahul—has been forgettable,

United's Premier League form continued to slide, and after a loss to West Ham in October, Ten Hag was finally shown the door. But the issue wasn't just about sacking Ten Hag—it was about who they brought in.

Ruben Amorim, known for his rigid tactical methods and structured system, had worked wonders at Sporting, turning them into one of Europe's most exciting sides. However, his system didn't align well with the players at United. The result? A disjointed squad and continued defeats. Old Trafford, once a fortress, became anything but. With just one game remaining on May 25, the only thing left to play for is whether they finish 16th or 17th—with no European nights to look forward to next season.

A misfiring forward line that never clicked. United's financial constraints are no secret, and their failure to sign a proven striker has haunted them for two seasons now. The Harry Kane deal was deemed too costly, so they instead spent around 64 million on Rasmus Hjulund. While the Dane showed promise last season, the 2024-25 campaign saw him become a figure of frustration. He scored just 10 goals in 51 appearances—six in the Europa League—and endured long droughts in the Premier League.

Hardik Pandya never gives up, good to see his turnaround in IPL 2025: Ajay Jadeja

New Delhi. Hardik Pandya soaked in the roar of a rapturous Wankhede as he led Mumbai Indians' lap of honour on Wednesday, May 21. The MI captain was all smiles, celebrating a resounding 59-run win over Delhi Capitals that sealed their spot in the IPL 2025 play-offs. It was a moment of redemption and resurgence and Hardik stood proudly at the heart of it. Following a high-profile transfer from Gujarat Titans, Hardik had taken over the captaincy from Rohit Sharma—a fan favourite. When results didn't go MI's way in 2024, it was Hardik who bore the brunt of the backlash as MI finished bottom of the table. But Hardik did not throw in the towel. The pressure mounted once again this season after MI lost four of their first five matches. However, the five-time champions staged a stunning comeback, winning seven of their next eight games to storm into the play-offs in style. Throughout the season, Hardik has remained content to stay in the background, focused on getting the best out of a star-studded squad. On Wednesday, they delivered under pressure,



displaying the composure of a team accustomed to big-match scenarios. CAPTAIN COOL

Former India batter Ajay Jadeja heaped praise on Hardik's leadership, noting that the all-rounder hasn't altered his captaincy style but has simply managed his team more effectively this time around. Hardik has already proved his credentials, having led Gujarat Titans to the IPL title in 2022 and the final in 2023. Now, he'll be aiming to guide Mumbai Indians to a record sixth championship. "Hardik has been fabulous. He has got the energy. He has got a different style of captaining. Unfortunately, last season wasn't a success. He has kept his cool. He has carried on the way he captains, whether he was at GT, whether it was last year," Jadeja told JioStar.



Cannes

Jacqueline Fernandez

Dismisses Stereotypes About Women In Bollywood

Jacqueline Fernandez recently won hearts with her appearance in Cannes. At the prestigious film event, she talked about Bollywood and said that it is changing for the better. She shared that the old ideas about women in the film industry are fading, and now, actresses of all ages are getting strong lead roles. She called it a positive and much-needed change. During a panel discussion called Women in Cinema, hosted by Deadline Hollywood and the Red Sea Film Foundation at the 78th Cannes Film Festival, Jacqueline spoke about how things are changing for women in Bollywood. She said the industry is moving in a better direction, with more strong and meaningful roles now being written for women.

"In India and in Bollywood, there has been an amazing change where it's not anymore about fitting a cookie-cutter stereotype of what it means to be an actress and how you could fit in a role. And these are the roles that you can be given if you are a certain age or if you look a certain way. That's changed a lot in India," Jacqueline said.

The actress added, "Women of all age groups are getting fantastic roles. They are getting fantastic female lead protagonist roles. There are stories being made for them. So now, the variety has all of a sudden exploded. Everyone is getting an opportunity. There is no more a shelf life. There is, of course, a lot of us who go through that; it is how do we stay relevant all the time as you get older? But there are a lot of people and a lot of amazing actresses out there who are breaking that and who are working towards that." Jacqueline Fernandez said that women in cinema are now showing others that they can follow their passion and dreams without limits. She believes the best thing about cinema is that anyone, no matter their race, religion, gender, or age, can share their story. Jacqueline is happy that actors today have more freedom to tell these stories in their own way.

On the work front, Jacqueline Fernandez will next be seen in Housefull 5. Directed by Tarun Mansukhani and produced by Sajid Nadiadwala, the film has a star-studded starcast including Akshay Kumar, Abhishek Bachchan, Riteish Deshmukh, Sonam Bajwa, Nargis Fakhri, Sanjay Dutt, Jackie Shroff, Nana Patekar, Chitrangada Singh, Fardeen Khan, Chunky Pandey, Johnny Lever, Shreyas Talpade, Dino Morea, Ranjeet, Soundarya Sharma, Nikitin Dheer, and Akashdeep Sabir.



Krystle D'Souza Revisits Her Cannes Debut And We Can't Even



Krystle D'Souza has captivated viewers with her unforgettable performances in the entertainment industry over a decade. From her memorable role on TV shows to impactful web series, the actress has come a long way. Back in 2022, Krystle also made her grand Cannes debut making her mark on the global stage. In the latest, as Cannes 2025 is underway, the actress revisited her memories from the red carpet. She shared a few pictures from her debut and also spiked curiosity among fans about when she would go there again.

Krystle D'Souza surprised her followers by posting a gorgeous throwback picture from her last Cannes red carpet look. Along with the picture, she wrote "I Cannes see you in 2026," sparking curiosity about her appearance. The actress had worn a gorgeous sequined gown. The outfit was also covered with silver motifs. The sleeveless dress has a plunging neckline and a mesh detail. The dress featured a daring side cut and a floor-length trail with sequin embellishment. Light pink fringe adorned the sleeve hemlines. Her glamorous makeup with dramatic sparkly eyelashes and a subtle pink tint on the lips finished the appearance.

On the work front, the actress is preparing to play the powerful character of a police officer in the highly anticipated film, Jaageer. Krystle is poised to give a career-defining performance in this action-packed drama. In addition to Jaageer, Krystle D'Souza appears on the web show First Copy. Farhan P. Zamma will direct the film, which is produced by Salt Media and RVCJ. The actress will co-star with Bigg Boss 17 winner Munawar Faruqi. Krystle rose to prominence after portraying Jeevika Vadhera in StarPlus' Ek Hazaron Mein Meri Behna Hai. In 2018, She played the role of Roopa in Belan Wali Bahu. Krystle was seen next in Riteish Deshmukh and Fardeen Khan starrer Visfot. The horror drama was the official Hindi adaptation of the 2012 Venezuelan flick Rock, Paper and Scissors.

From 90s Icon To OTT Star, How Raveena Tandon Built Rs 166 Crore Net Worth



Raveena Tandon, the 90s diva of Bollywood, has built an impressive financial empire alongside her remarkable acting career. Tandon's journey began with her debut in Patthar Ke Phool (1991), earning her the Filmfare Award for Best Female Debut. The actress became a 90s sensation with hits like Mohra, Dilwale, and Bade Miyan Chote Miyan. Known for her dance numbers like Tip Tip Barsa Paani, Raveena won over the audience with her iconic performances.

Only a few actresses from the 90s are still relevant in the film industry; Raveena Tandon is not one of them. She has been relentlessly working in web series and movies, continuing to build her wealth and net worth. According to Times Now, as of 2024, her net worth is estimated at Rs 166 crore. Her renowned acting career and the brands she represents are the main sources of her fortune. It reflects her enduring success in the entertainment industry, spanning over 3 decades.

Reportedly, she charges Rs 2-3 crore per film, commanding Rs 50 lakh per endorsement. Her annual income is around Rs 20 crore, with monthly earnings between Rs 1.5-2 crore. Additionally, her work as a producer and television personality, including hosting shows like Simply Baatiyan with Raveena and judging reality shows, contributes to her fortune.

Tandon's wealth clearly reflects her luxurious lifestyle. According to Lifestyle Asia, she lives in a gorgeous villa in Bandra called Neelaya, which combines South Indian, European, and Moroccan design elements. She has a Mercedes-Benz 350D (Rs 1.71 crore), a Jaguar XJ (Rs 1.11 crore), and an Audi Q7 (Rs 86.92 lakh to Rs 94.45 lakh). Meanwhile, she also owns some property abroad. She won a Filmfare OTT Award for her performance in Netflix's Aranyak (2021) and a National Film Award for Best Actress for Daman (2001) for her highly appreciated performances. Her recent role in one of her highest-grossing movies, K.G.F: Chapter 2 (2022), further solidified her acting career.

Janhvi Kapoor

To Simi Garewal: Indian Actors Who Made Cannes Debut In 2025

The 78th Cannes Film Festival witnessed a new chapter for Indian cinema. This year several Bollywood celebrities made their grand debut on the global stage, turning heads and capturing the hearts of thousands of people. With Indian cinemas attaining global fame at the festival, these Bollywood actors did not only represent their films but also redefined the cultural narrative of South Asian presence at the prestigious festival.

Janhvi Kapoor
Janhvi Kapoor made her debut at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival on May 20 for the premiere of her film Homebound. The actress looked stunning in a pastel pink Tarun Tahiliani ensemble. Crafted from handwoven Banarasi tissue, the outfit featured a voluminous skirt and a corset on top with a sculpted drape flowing down from her head. The actress was seen making her red-carpet debut along with Homebound co-stars Ishaan Khatter and Vishal Jethwa.

Ishaan Khatter
Ishaan Khatter's movie Homebound premiered at the festival in the Un Certain Regard section. The actor exuded regal charm as he opted for a signature Gaurav Gupta ensemble. The 29-year-old actor was donned in a custom wine-colored velvet bandhgala, adorned with intricate black embroidery, and paired it up with same-colored wide-leg trousers, creating a monochrome look.

Nitanshi Goel
Laapataa Ladies star Nitanshi Goel became the youngest Bollywood actor to debut at the Cannes Film Festival. At the age of 17, Nitanshi walked down the red carpet in a

custom black and gold gown by Monica and Karishma to attend the screening of Dossier 137.

Vishal Jethwa
Homebound actor Vishal Jethwa left everyone speechless as he made his debut on the Cannes red carpet wearing a black pantsuit by Kaushik Valendra. The classic blazer was adorned with jeweled shoulder pads, and his striking



golden brooch took the outfit to a whole other level.

Simi Garewal
Actress Simi Garewal made her debut at the prestigious festival at the age of 77. Simi attended a special 4K screening of Satyajit Ray's Aranyer Din Ratri. She walked down the red carpet with Sharmila Tagore, wearing an all-white custom ensemble by Karleo. Her attire featured a long embroidered overcoat with a matching gown, making a dramatic statement on the red carpet.

