

Gaurav Gogoi, his wife into anti-India activities, alleges Himanta Biswa Sarma

The Sikh Times
Sanjay Kumar

Assam May 28: Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday stepped up his attack on



Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi, claiming that he had documents to establish that Gogoi and his wife were "deeply into anti-India activities". Sarma also claimed that he had documents to back his allegations against Gogoi, who was appointed Assam Congress president on Monday, and his British wife, Elizabeth but would only make them public on September 10 after an ongoing probe by a special investigation team (SIT) of the state

Illegal migrants challenge to our survival and national integrity: Dhankhar

New Delhi, May 28: Vice President Dhananjay Dhankhar on Wednesday said illegal migrants, numbering 20 million, have made India's national security and sovereignty vulnerable. "When the sanctity of our border is breached by unchecked illegal migrants, it is not a question of law and order but a question of our survival and national integrity," Dhankhar said. He was addressing the convocation ceremony of the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) in Mumbai. "These people make a huge demand on our national resources. They take work from our hands and make our national security and sovereignty vulnerable," he said. "Always beware of such challenges when demographic balances are manipulated, not by organic evolution but by sinister, orchestrated design," Dhankhar told the students. It is no longer a question of migration but a question of demographic invasion, he said. "Bharat has suffered it. As per official data, there are over 20 million illegal migrants in the country. Can we suffer them? We need people in this country who are committed to our civilisation," he said. Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Anupriya Patel, was present at the convocation ceremony.

Ex-SEBI chief Madhab Puri Buch gets Lokpal clean chit on Hindenburg allegations

The Sikh Times
Tejinder Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, May 28: Lokpal, the anti-corruption watchdog, has given a clean chit to former Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) chairperson Madhab Puri Buch and her husband, Dhaval Buch, in complaints that accused her of misconduct, impropriety and conflict of interest. In a 116-page order, a six-member bench led by Lokpal chairperson Justice AM Khanwilkar concluded that there was no need for a formal probe since the accusations were based on presumptions and assumptions and were not supported by any verifiable material. The three complaints were filed after US-based Hindenburg Research levelled allegations that the SEBI chief and her husband had investments in offshore funds which are linked to the Adani group of companies; SEBI was probing the complaints against the conglomerate. Among the three, one was filed by a Trinamool Congress member of parliament, Mahua Moitra. The order said the allegations were essentially based on Hindenburg

Research's allegations that sought to expose or corner the Adani group. The Lokpal said it focused on five key allegations ranging from investment in a fund linked to Adani group of companies and not disclosing the same; quid pro quo with companies such as Mahindra and Mahindra and Blackstone Inc in the garb of consultancy services by a company in which she had 99% ownership; quid pro quo from Wockhardt Limited in the garb of rental income from a company - Carol Info Services Private Limited, which was under investigation by SEBI for insider trading, gaining undue advantage by selling ESOPs from ICICI Bank over five years between 2017 and 2024 at a time when ICICI had regulatory issues with SEBI and making a pretence of recusal from matters of M&M Group and Blackstone Inc but influencing the other whole-time members and board of SEBI for a favourable outcome. "...we have concluded that the allegations in the complaint (s) are more

presumptions and assumptions and not supported by any verifiable material and do not attract the ingredients of the offences (under Prevention of Corruption Act), so as to direct an

investigation," the Lokpal said in the order. Buch, who took over as the chief of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on March 2, 2022, demitted office on February 28 this year after the completion of her tenure.

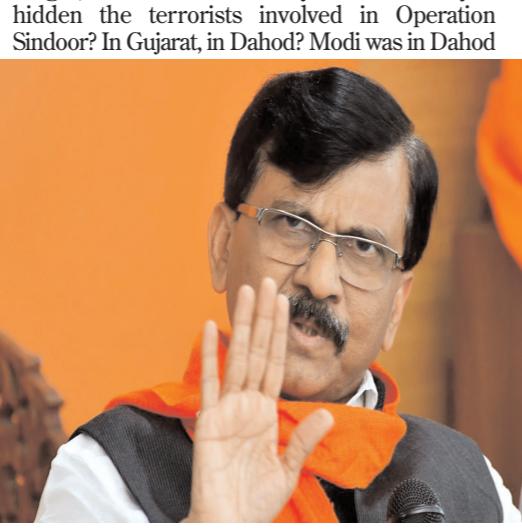


involved in the Pahalgam incident had not been caught, Raut. "Where are they? Where have you hidden the terrorists involved in Operation Sindo? In Gujarat, in Dahan? Modi was in Dahan yesterday, he was roaring from the place where (Mughal emperor) Aurangzeb was born," Raut said. Coming down heavily on the Union Home Minister, Raut said, "Shah is trying to teach us, he is travelling across Maharashtra in Nanded, he visited the home of 'Adrsh-fame' Ashok Chavan and had dinner, they had aamras-puri and dhokla, see the photos". It may be recalled that Chavan - who was the chief minister of Maharashtra from December 8, 2008 to November 9, 2010 - had resigned from his post after he faced allegations of misuse of office in the much-discussed Adarsh Society scam. Targeting both Modi and Shah, Raut said: "Today these people (BJP leaders) are saying that late Balasaheb Thackeray should have been alive. Had Balasaheb been alive, these people would have atoned for their mistakes. Because we saved both Narendra Modi and Shah, we saved one from murder, while we saved another from losing his chief ministership. "They are targeting us... the BJP broke the Shiv Sena as Uddhav Thackeray did not fall at their feet," he said. "They were in Nanded, yesterday Mumbai was sinking because of rains, who is in-charge of Mumbai's administration as there is no elected body, it is (Deputy Chief Minister) Eknath Shinde, who is the Urban Development Minister," Raut said.

Sanjay Raut demands Shah's resignation over Pahalgam attack

The Sikh Times
Naresh Malhotra

Mumbai, May 28: Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Tuesday created a sensation in the national political circles by dubbing the "Operation Sindo" launched by the Indian armed forces against Pakistan as a "failure" and demanding the resignation of Union Home Minister Amit Shah over the Pahalgam terrorist attack. Talking to media persons here, Raut - a close aide of Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray and party's chief spokesperson - said, "As I have said earlier, 'Operation Sindo' was a failure. However, in the interests of the nation, we the Opposition members are not speaking about it," holding Shah directly responsible for the Pahalgam attack. Raut said, "Why was Operation Sindo needed? terrorists removed the sindoor from the foreheads of our mothers, sisters and daughters, why did Pahalgam happen? It is solely and solely because of Shah, he should resign, in fact, Modi should have sought his resignation, he has been unsuccessful as the Home Minister". Demanding to know as to why the terrorists



yesterday, he was roaring from the place where (Mughal emperor) Aurangzeb was born," Raut said. Coming down heavily on the Union Home Minister, Raut said, "Shah is trying to teach us, he

PM Modi on four-state tour to launch development projects

The Sikh Times
Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, May 28: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day trip to four states from Thursday to launch numerous development projects, as he keeps up a busy itinerary touring different regions in the run up to the first anniversary of his third term in office. Modi will visit Sikkim, West Bengal, Bihar and Uttar Pradesh on May 29 and 30, an official statement said. He will begin the tour by attending the "Sikkim@50: Where Progress meets purpose and nature nurtures growth" programme on Thursday, and lay the foundation stone and inaugurate multiple development projects in Sikkim before addressing the gathering. In West Bengal, he will lay the foundation stone of City Gas Distribution project in Alipurduar and Cooch Behar districts before inaugurating the new terminal building of Patna Airport in Bihar in the evening. On Friday, he will inaugurate and lay the foundation stone of development projects worth over Rs 48,520 crore in Karakat, Bihar and address a public

function, the statement said. Modi has toured states like Rajasthan and Gujarat and will be visiting more states ahead of his government's anniversary on June 9, the day he took oath in his third term last year. In his speeches, he has mixed his development

message with a tough message to Pakistan following Operation Sindo. Referring to his four-state tour, the statement said the Sikkim government has planned a year-long series of activities under the theme "Sunaulo, Samridha and Samarth Sikkim", celebrating the essence of Sikkim's cultural richness, tradition, natural splendour and its history. Projects to be launched by him include a new 500-bedded district hospital worth over Rs 750 crore in Namchi, passenger ropeway at Sangcholing and statue of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee at Atal Amrit Udayan at Sangkhola in Gangtok. The City Gas Distribution project in Alipurduar and Cooch Behar will be a significant step towards expanding the CGD network in India, the statement said. The project, worth over Rs 1010 crore, aims to provide piped natural gas to more than 2.5 lakh households, over 100 commercial establishments and industries besides providing compressed natural gas (CNG) to vehicular traffic by establishing around 19 CNG stations in line with the Minimum Work Program (MWP) targets stipulated by the government.

function, the statement said. Modi has toured states like Rajasthan and Gujarat and will be visiting more states ahead of his government's anniversary on June 9, the day he took oath in his third term last year. In his speeches, he has mixed his development

his government's handling of the ethnic clashes between Meiteis and Kuki-Zos, which broke out in May 2023. The 60-member assembly at present has 59

MLAs, with one seat vacant due to the death of a legislator. In the BJP-led coalition, there are 32 Meitei MLAs, three Manipuri Muslim MLAs and nine Naga legislators, totalling 44. The Congress has five MLAs - all Meiteis. The remaining 10 MLAs are Kukis - seven of them won the last election on a BJP ticket, two belong to the Kuki Peoples' Alliance, and one is an Independent. The development comes amid massive protests in the Meitei-inhabited Imphal Valley over the hiding of the state's name written on the windshield of a government bus by security forces. Meitei groups have been demanding an apology from the governor over the incident that happened in Gwaltabi on May 20, and the resignation of the chief secretary, DGP, and security advisor.

were lost due to COVID, and in this term, another two years have been lost due to the conflict," he said. Manipur has been under President's Rule since February after BJP leader N Biren Singh resigned as the chief minister, amid criticisms about

last year, US-based Hindenburg Research accused her of a conflict of interest and favouring the Adani Group. The Buchs and the Adani Group had denied the allegations. Following a notice from the Lokpal on November 8, Buch filed a detailed 31-page affidavit before the Lokpal on December 7, 2024, terming the allegations as politically motivated. On the allegation related to Adani Group, investment in a fund linked to it and Sebi favouring the conglomerate in investigations, Lokpal said Buch's stand is "fully vindicated from the contemporaneous official records relied upon by her" in this matter and "has not been countered" by the complainant. "Concededly, in our view, neither the incorporation of two consultancy companies because of the initiative of Buch after her retirement from ICICI Bank; nor the substantial investment made by Buch and her husband in a Fund in 2015, has any relevance to bring home how it is a case of taking or obtaining undue advantage or one of quid pro quo," the Lokpal order said.

Assam Human Rights Commission to probe police encounter cases: SC

The Sikh Times
C. Chandra

New Delhi, May 28: The Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the Assam Human Rights Commission to conduct an independent probe into police encounter cases where proper procedure was allegedly not followed in the state between May 2021 and August 2022. A bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kotiswar Singh, which disposed of a plea alleging fake encounters by Assam police, said that though a few specific instances might warrant further evaluation, a blanket direction based on a mere compilation of cases was not justified. The plea sought an independent investigation



into over 171 police encounters in Assam between May 2021 and August 2022. The bench said among many cases flagged by petitioner Arif Md Yesmin Jwadder for alleged non-compliance with procedural guidelines laid down by the court in 2014 on the investigation into encounters, most appear to be factually incorrect. Barring a few of the cases, it was difficult to conclude that there were flagrant violations of guidelines, the court said. "We entrust this matter to Assam HRC for necessary enquiry, independently and expeditiously. It must be ensured that victims and family members are given a fair opportunity," the bench said and directed the Commission headed by a retired high court chief justice to issue a public notice inviting claims of the aggrieved, while ensuring confidentiality. The top court granted liberty to the AHRC to initiate further investigations into the allegations of fake encounters and asked the Assam government to extend cooperation and remove any institutional barriers in the inquiry process. It asked the AHRC to safeguard the privacy of the complainants and to approach the matter with sensitivity. It directed the Assam State Legal Services Authority to provide legal aid to the kin of victims of alleged fake encounters. On February 25, the top court had reserved its verdict on the plea alleging fake police encounters in Assam and non-adherence to the 2014 guidelines.

Resolve public issues with sensitivity and promptness: CM Yogi

The Sikh Times
Spl. Correspondent

Gorakhpur, May 28: Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, who arrived in Gorakhpur



on Monday evening, met the public during Janta Darshan on Tuesday morning after spending the night at the Gorakhpur temple. He listened to their concerns attentively and directed the officials to address these issues with sensitivity and urgency. "There should be no negligence in resolving these matters," he stated. The Chief

Minister emphasised that the resolution of public issues must be qualitative, transparent, and satisfactory. He reminded the officials that addressing the problems of the people is the Government's primary responsibility. During the Janta Darshan held in front of the Mahant Digvijaynath Smriti Bhawan in the Gorakhpur temple complex, CM Yogi personally met approximately 250 people, hearing each of their concerns. He assured them that everyone would receive justice. Referring each application to the relevant officials with clear instructions for prompt resolution, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath assured the public that the Government is fully committed to addressing the concerns of every individual in need. He firmly told the officials that no person should face injustice. "Every complainant must be treated with empathy and respect," he said. Emphasising strict enforcement, the Chief Minister directed that those involved in illegal land occupation or in displacing the vulnerable must face firm legal action without exception.

UP leads in EV adoption, surpassing Delhi and Maharashtra

Lucknow, May 28: Under the dynamic leadership of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Uttar Pradesh is spearheading India's electric vehicle (EV) revolution. With more than 4.14 lakh electric vehicles registered, the state has taken the top spot nationally, surpassing major states like Delhi (1.83 lakh) and Maharashtra (1.79 lakh). At a time when global concerns over environmental sustainability and climate change are intensifying, electric vehicles (EVs) have emerged as a critical solution. Recognizing this, the Yogi government launched the Electric Vehicle Manufacturing and Mobility Policy 2022, aimed at accelerating EV adoption, building a robust charging infrastructure, and establishing Uttar Pradesh as a global hub for EV and battery manufacturing. The policy aims to attract an investment inflow of ₹30,000 crore and create 10 lakh jobs, setting the stage for transformative growth in the state's electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem. A key driver of this momentum is the widespread popularity of e-rickshaws, which now account for 85% of electric vehicle (EV) sales in the state. These vehicles have proven highly effective for passenger and goods transport, particularly in urban areas. Uttar Pradesh has also emerged as the biggest beneficiary of the Government of India's FAME I and FAME II (Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles in India) schemes, further bolstering its e-mobility efforts. In line with its focus on infrastructure, the Yogi government has recently approved the installation of over 300 new electric vehicle (EV) charging stations across 16 municipal bodies. Ayodhya, a rapidly growing tourist destination, is expected to see the highest number of new charging points. India currently has around 33,000 EV chargers, of which 35% are fast chargers. Given the rising demand, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has prioritised the development of additional fast-charging stations and the upgrading of existing facilities. Projections suggest that India could have 102 million electric vehicles (EVs) by 2030. However, the current EV-to-public-charger ratio in India stands at 135, far above the global ideal of 6 to 20, as per a study by Alvarez & Marsal. While the dominance of two- and three-wheelers, often charged at home, partly offsets this challenge, the Uttar Pradesh government is moving swiftly to bridge the gap in public infrastructure.

Netizens slam couple's PDA in moving car in Bengaluru

BENGALURU. A video of a couple engaging in a public display of affection through the sunroof of a moving car at Trinity Circle has gone viral, drawing backlash from netizens. In the video clip shared on the X page Karnataka Portfolio on Tuesday, the couple is seen standing up through the sunroof of a moving car and kissing. Netizens slammed the act as not only "highly inappropriate" but also extremely dangerous.

Karnataka Portfolio said the act is a blatant violation of traffic norms and public decency, warning that it poses a serious risk to road users' safety. "One wrong turn, a sudden brake, or a distracted driver could result in fatal consequences."

Moreover, this kind of public display is not just disrespectful, but it sets a very poor example, especially for younger viewers and children who may witness such acts in public. Freedom and modernity must never come at the cost of safety, decency and mutual respect in a civil society," the post stated.

The page also shared the vehicle's registration number and tagged the official handle of the Bengaluru City Police, urging them to take action.

A senior police officer from East Division said they are analysing the video. "Once the exact location of the incident is verified, the police station under whose jurisdiction it falls will initiate appropriate action," the officer said.

54-year-old house help held for attempted murder, robbery of 81-year-old in Mylapore flat

CHENNAI. A 54-year-old woman was arrested for allegedly attempting to rob and murder a home-alone elderly woman, S Rajeshwari (81), in broad daylight at her flat in Mylapore on Monday.

The suspect, C Indira of Ariyalur, who was working as a house help in another flat in the same apartment complex, was caught by neighbours when she attempted to flee after snatching 10.5 sovereigns of gold jewellery from Rajeshwari.

The stolen chain, bangles and earrings were recovered from Indira, police said.

According to the Mylapore police, Rajeshwari was living alone after her husband died a few years ago. Her son was living separately nearby. On Monday evening, Indira, who was known to Rajeshwari, entered the flat seeking water. Once inside, she allegedly attacked the elderly woman and tried to strangle her to steal Rajeshwari's jewellery, police said.

The elderly woman's cry for help drew the attention of Vaishnavi, a neighbour. Though Vaishnavi initially mistook it for television sound, she eventually sensed something amiss and rushed to her neighbour's house accompanied by her brother, police sources said. Inside the flat they found Indira kneeling over Rajeshwari holding a pair of scissors, claiming that she had fainted, according to police sources. When questioned, Indira gave conflicting answers. Suspicious of her behaviour and seeing blood nearby, they confronted Indira, who attempted to escape.

NFR achieves milestone with completion of girder launching on World's Tallest Pier Bridge at Noney Manipur

Maligaon, 28th May: Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has achieved a remarkable engineering milestone with the successful completion of girder launching on the iconic Bridge No. 164, popularly known as the Noney Bridge, in Manipur. The Noney Bridge, an engineering marvel, is considered as the world's tallest Railway pier bridge of 141 meter that is an integral part of the 111 km long Jiribam - Imphal Railway line project. The final span of the bridge was successfully erected recently, completing the launch of all eight spans of this monumental infrastructure project. This achievement marks a significant milestone in the construction of the bridge, which is not only an engineering marvel but also a vital link in the region's transport network. What sets this bridge apart globally is its record-breaking piers—P3 and P4—each rising to an astounding height of 141 meters, making them the tallest bridge piers in the world. The bridge comprises a configuration comprising steel spans arranged as 1x71.5m + 5x106m +

1x71.5m + 1x30m. This strategic design ensures both structural stability and the ability

its superstructure launching reflects the dedication, innovation and engineering excellence of the teams involved, working tirelessly in one of the most challenging environments in India. The successful completion of launching work was made possible through meticulous planning, cutting-edge construction techniques and the dedication of the entire NFR team. The Jiribam - Imphal new line railway project is one of the crucial connectivity projects for the North-eastern region. The section from Jiribam to Khongsang has already been commissioned in September 2022. Spanning over 55.36 km, the Jiribam - Khongsang section currently operates regular goods train services to Khongsang carrying essential commodities. As the project further advances, the Khongsang - Noney (18.25 km) and the Noney - Imphal (37.02 km) sections are scheduled to be commissioned in the coming years. Upon completion, the Jiribam - Imphal railway line will transform connectivity in Manipur, driving economic growth and regional development.

to withstand challenging terrain and environmental conditions, reinforcing the bridge's importance in enhancing regional connectivity and development. Designed to withstand complex geological and climatic challenges of the region, the bridge spans difficult hilly terrain and deep valleys. The successful completion of

the bridge will provide traffic relief at Gachibowli Junction by creating conflict free movement of traffic from Outer Ring Road (ORR) towards Kondapur and vice-versa. Better connectivity between Hitech City and Financial District.

HYDERABAD. The six-lane bi-directional Shilpa Layout Flyover (Phase-2), connecting Gachibowli to Kondapur, is complete and ready for inauguration.

Once opened to the public, the flyover will ease traffic flow at Gachibowli Junction by facilitating conflict-free movement between the Outer Ring Road (ORR) and Kondapur, and also improves connectivity between Hitech City and the Financial District.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy is expected to inaugurate the flyover in the first week of June. The flyover, part of the Strategic Road Development Programme (SRDP), was built at a cost of ₹178 crore. It spans 1.20 km in length and 24 metres in width with six lanes. It is a third-level structure built above two existing flyovers — the Gachibowli Junction Flyover and the Shilpa Layout Phase-1 Flyover. With this, 37 out of 42 SRDP works have been completed.

GHMC Commissioner RV Karunan recently inspected the project and instructed engineers to finish the remaining work promptly.



Meanwhile, Karunan has asked SCR officials to complete the railway portions of the Falaknuma and Shastripuram ROBs in the next two to three months. The Falaknuma ROB is scheduled for

completion by the end of July and the Shastripuram ROB by the end of August. Their completion will bring the total number of completed SRDP works to 39.

Monsoon here, but GHMC's desilting works incomplete

HYDERABAD. With the monsoon arriving over two weeks early and continuous rains lashing the city, residents of Greater Hyderabad are likely to experience difficulties as desilting of stormwater drains and nallas remains incomplete. As of now, only about 68% of the work has been finished. In the Kharibabad zone, which includes five GHMC Circles — Jubilee Hills, Mehdipatnam, Goshamahal, Kharibabad and Karwan — about 54% of desilting work has been completed. This is followed by 65% in the Serilingampally zone (Chandigarh, Serilingampally, Yousufguda, RC Puram-Patancheru circles) and the Secunderabad zone (Begumpet, Malkajgiri, Musheerabad, Amberpet) at 69%.

The slow pace of work is worrisome, considering that last year's heavy rains left many areas waterlogged and several low-lying localities submerged due to blocked drains choked with silt and waste. This year, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) identified 203 desilting works across 951 km of stormwater drains at an estimated cost of ₹55.04 crore. Of this, 650 km, roughly 68%, have been completed so far.

With the pace of work lagging, stormwater drains are at risk of overflowing during the monsoon, as accumulated silt and debris may obstruct the flow. Even the recent pre-monsoon showers led to widespread road inundation and traffic jams, highlighting the inefficiency of the city's ageing drainage infrastructure. Last year, GHMC along with the Hyderabad and Cyberabad Police Commissionerates identified over 140 critical water stagnation points and 350 vulnerable road sections. Waterlogging remains a regular issue across many city areas due to undersized drains and the dumping of garbage, plastic and other waste, which blocks the smooth flow of rainwater.

Madras HC-formed panel to seek public views on Union-state ties from June 1; to circulate questionnaire

The committee will also study the history of the country after Independence and examine the steps taken to address language and other issues.

CHENNAI. The high-level committee headed by former judge of the Supreme Court, Kurian Joseph, constituted to study the Union-state relations will be eliciting views from the public and various sections of the society on issues relating to the relations between the Union and state governments. "We will circulate a comprehensive questionnaire among elected representatives, civil servants, judges, advocates, academics and other sections of the society to elicit their views on issues relating to Union-state relations," said Ashok Vardhan Shetty, former vice-chancellor of the Indian Maritime University and one of the members of the committee.

He said the questionnaire will be circulated through three modes — online, email and by post. Professor M Naganathan, former vice-chairman, State Planning Commission, is another member of the committee.

which has been requested to give its interim report to the government by the end of January 2026 and final report, both in English and Tamil, within two years from the date of its assumption. Shetty told that the committee would start functioning from June 1 at the State Guest House in Chepauk. Explaining the committee's terms of reference, Shetty said the committee will study the past reports about Union-state relations, judgments of the Supreme Court on this subject during the past 75 years, and

what all systems are being practised by other federal countries, including the US, Germany and Belgium. "Besides, the committee will also study the debates of the Constituent Assembly to know what the scholars then spoke about subjects like official language and others. We will also take into account how other countries have dealt with language issue. In a nutshell, we will take a comprehensive look at the best practices adopted in the international arena," he said.

The committee will also study the history of the country after Independence and examine the steps taken to address language and other issues.

NAME CHANGE

I. Deepak Kumar S/o Sh. Gyan Parkash, R/o 7/23 Moti Nagar, New Delhi - 110015 have changed my name Deepak Singh to Deepak Kumar for all future and both are same person.

Youth outreach: DMK's youth wing organises readers' circle discussions daily in Udhayanidhi's constituency

CHENNAI. The modest-sized Kalaignar Library, recently established by the DMK youth wing on Avvai Shanmugam road, falling under Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin's Chepauk-Tiruvallikeni

constituency, has been actively engaging the youth through its daily readers' circle discussions. The party's youth wing, as per the directions of its head Udhayanidhi, has undertaken the task of establishing one such Kalaignar Library in each of the 234 Assembly constituencies across the state. Such libraries have been so far opened in 100 constituencies, many of which were inaugurated by Udhayanidhi himself during his visits to the district, party sources said.



setting up a library, Anbagam, the headquarters of the party's youth wing, promptly sends 500 books as a gesture of

support. At the library in Triplicane, inaugurated on May 9, youth wing functionaries have been hosting one-hour readers' circle discussions every evening to engage with the youth of the constituency.

The attendees are not necessarily affiliated with the party. Rather, they are mostly college students. Area-level youth wing functionaries are assigned the task of encouraging and bringing 10-15 youngsters to each session, where the main speaker is typically one of the young orators recently selected by the youth wing through a state-level elocution competition.

DMK's Chennai West unit's youth wing organiser B Prakash said, "Our party has 14 ward-level units in the Chepauk-Tiruvallikeni constituency. . . .

THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published
Owned by Simmi Babbar
N - 31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi-110009

Printed at Qaumi Patrika Printing
Press, A-4/A-144, Tronica City
(Loni), Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)
Corporate Office:

5, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
Press Area, ITO, New Delhi
Editor-in-Chief
Gurcharan Singh Babbar

Mob : 9654077232, 9971359517
Website : www.thesikhtimes.in
Email : sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

Legal Advisors:
Advocate Mohd. Sajid
Advocate Dr. A.P.Singh
Advocate Manish Sharma
Advocate Pooja Bhaskar Sharma

36 stranded 150ft high on VGP Golden Beach ride due to mechanical failure; rescued after three hours



CHENNAI. At least 36 people, including 15 children, were stuck 150ft above the ground on one of the amusement rides at the VGP Golden Beach amusement park in Injambakkam for over three hours after an alleged mechanical failure on Monday evening. All of them were safely rescued after the fire and rescue department arrived, a police source said.

According to the source, the ride with 36 people began around 6pm and as soon as it reached the top, it got stuck. Despite several cries for help, there was no response from the operator who was on the ground, said a woman who was rescued.

The police said that the park personnel had tried to handle the situation themselves at first, utilising a crane that was present on the premises. However, as the machine could not reach the height, the fire department was notified, and a rescue unit arrived with a sky-lift vehicle designed to extend up to 150ft. One of the people who was stuck on the ride even took to social media to share his ordeal.

Speaking to a TV channel, Parthiselvam said, "The ride started around 6pm and only at 8:30pm the police and the fire department came to the scene. There was no response from the VGP management."

As the rescue operations were underway, Sangeetha, who was present at the scene, told the media, "Our group finished the same ride just before them. Even when our group was on the ride, it got stuck for nearly 20 minutes. Shouldn't the operator have checked the machine or stopped the ride entirely?" One of the girls who was rescued said it had become a bit difficult to breathe at the top. "All of them have been safely rescued," a senior police officer said. Initial probe by the police suggests that the ride was not maintained properly and there were mechanical issues that may have been ignored.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is hereby informed to the general public that my client Smt Geeta Devi @ Gita W/o Late Surender Singh and Dio Late Kishan Ram R/o A-204, Chetan Gali No-2, Majupur, Delhi-110063, will be known as Smt Geeta Devi W/o Late Surender Singh. My client Smt Geeta Devi W/o Late Surender Singh will not be responsible for Gita W/o Late Surender Singh in future. Whoever dealing with her in any manner shall be responsible at his/her own risk.
Varun Kumar (Adv)

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I AKHILESH KUMAR S/O BABU RAM R/O RZ-H-2915, Nihal Vihar, Nangoli, West Delhi, Delhi - 110041 declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as AKHILESH KUMAR and REETA DEVI in my minor son RACHIT aged 14 year in his School record. The actual name of mine and my wife are AKHILESH KUMAR and RITA DEVI respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, No-21023310H Rank-GNR Name-ROHIT KUMAR Presently residing at VILL-PALI KHERA AKAPUR TIYANA, PO-AKAPUR TIYANA, TEH-SIYANA, DIST-BULAND-SHAHR, UTTAR PRADESH-203411, in my service records my mother's (SHASHI BALA) date of birth wrongly mentioned as 05/04/1972 instead of her correct date of birth as 05/07/1972 vide Affidavit dated 28/05/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I HIRA LAL S/O BHAGWATI PRASAD R/O H.No. C-23, Gali NO-2, NEAR DURGA MANDIR, ANKUR ENCLAVE, KARAWAL NAGAR, NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110094, declare that name of my minor son has been wrongly written as YUVI SH alias YASH in my minor son namely YONIT aged 6 years is his birth certificate No- 2119-007055011. The actual name of my minor son is YONIT which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, Km. Aysha Iram w/o Mohd Anas R/o 11/413, Lalita Park, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092 have changed my name to Aysha Anas for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I hitherto known as MOHAMMAD GUFRAN alias GUFRAN S/O MOHAMMAD IBRAHIM R/O Kh. No. 27/3 And 27/81, Right Portion 1st Floor, Street No-10, Sangam vihar, Jharoda Majra, North Delhi, Delhi -110084 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MOHAMMAD GUFRAN

NAME CHANGE
I, MOUMITA PATRA wife of DURGA-PAL R/O VILL-BAURISI, PS-INDR-DIST-BANKURA, WEST BENGAL-72136, has changed my name from MOUMITA PATRA to MOUMITA RAY for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 13/05/2025 before Judicial Magistrate, Bankura, West Bengal.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Bindesh Kashyap W/o Iqbal Krishna Kashyap R/o flat No-748, Plot No-17, Sector-6, South West Delhi-110075, Declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Bindesh Kashyap in my Husband SPPO NO.0930/2009 Records. The actual name of mine is Bindesh Kashyap, respectively which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that it is proposed to register a political party in the name of "Bharat Nirman Party". The party office is situated at Khasra 30, Bhatta Colony, Bhangal Noida District Gautam Buddha Nagar.

The party has submitted an application to the Election Commission of India, New Delhi for registration as a political party under section 29K of the Representation of the People Act, 1951. The names/addresses of the office bearers of the party are given below. National President Suresh Chaurasia son of Late Ramji Prasad, Address: House No. 108, Village Dostpur Mangrol, Sector 167 Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201304. National Vice President Satishputra Harbel, House 70, sarfaab, Noida U.P. General Secretary Sudhir Chauhan pti shri khan Ram, nivasi 462 A Shaktihand 3 Bhura puram, Gaziabad u.p. Treasurer Hari Kumar putra Mhender Nivas 96 D. braul, Sector 48 Noida U.P. If anyone has any objection to the registration of "Bharat Nirman Party" they may send their objection along with reasons thereto to the Secretary (Political Parties), Election Commission of India, Nirvachan Sadan, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001 within 30 days of the publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I ABHINAV PANDEY S/O R. A. PANDEY R/O J-89, 3rd FLOOR, DILSHAD COLONY, EAST DELHI, DELHI-110095, declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as ABHINAV KUMAR and PAYAL in my minor son namely ARADHEYA PANDEY aged 15 years is his school record. The actual name of mine and my wife are ABHINAV PANDEY and PAYAL respectively which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Megha W/O Prashant Sharma / O.RZ-8-33, Gali No-1, Near Bses Office, Kalash Puri Palam Colony, Indira Park, South Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Megha Sharma for all future purposes.

Date of Birth Changed

I, TIMBAL SAMATHBHI SUNDARBHAI father of No.1543991P Rank-NKNA Name: TIMBAL KALPESH BHAI SAMATHBHI R/O LIMBODA, PO-BHADLA NANA, DIST-BHAVNAGAR, STATE-GUJARAT, PIN-364720, have changed my date of birth from 07/1960 to 11/04/1968 for all future purposes. Vide affidavit dated 27.05.2025 before Sub Divisional Magistrate Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Meenakshi Rani, wife of Smt. Meenakshi Rani, Jindal in the process of mortgaging the said floor with ICICI Bank Ltd / ICICI Home Finance Co. Ltd. Any objections or concerns regarding this transaction should be raised within a period of 14 days from the date of this public notice. Any objections submitted after the completion of this 14-day period will not be considered binding with respect to the said property or the interests of our client.

If anyone wishes to raise an objection, please do so within the stipulated 14-days period by contacting

Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) at Office No. 11, 1st Floor, Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida,

Uttar Pradesh-201301;

Landline(s): +910120-3101683,

E-mail: accounts@lnorth.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Shri Ganesh Bhagwan Shiksha Samiti through Signatory Sachev Ghanshyam is the owner of Property bearing area measuring 0.2926 hectare, out of Khata no. 28, khana no. 35 situated at Meherali Chhatta Distt. Mathura through Sale deed dated 02.12.2020 as doc. No. 15432 executed by Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in favour of Shri Ganesh Bhagwan Shiksha Samiti through Signatory Sachev Ghanshyam in respect of said property.

The above-said owner has misplaced the (1) Original Sale deed dated 11.05.2012 as doc. No. 5659 executed by Mr. Saleem & Saffi in favour of Kalpataru Uchhatar Madhyamik Vidhyalaya in respect of land area 0.203 hect. of said property. (2) Original sale deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kamdhenu industrial training institute in favour of in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.203 hect. (4) Original Sale Deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kamdhenu industrial training institute in favour of in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.0896 hect. of said property. (3) Original sale deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kalpataru Uchhatar Madhyamik Vidhyalaya in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.203 hect. (4) Original Sale Deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kamdhenu industrial training institute in favour of in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.0896 hect. vide registered at P.S. Kosikala, Jalandhar on 21.05.2025. Anyone who finds the above-mentioned documents, kindly handover the same to the Manager of Unity Small Finance Bank Limited, Ansal Bhawan, 12th Floor 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi - 110001

PUBLIC NOTICE

Shri Ganesh Bhagwan Shiksha Samiti through Signatory Sachev Ghanshyam is the owner of Property bearing area measuring 0.2926 hectare, out of Khata no. 28, khana no. 35 situated at Meherali Chhatta Distt. Mathura through Sale deed dated 02.12.2020 as doc. No. 15432 executed by Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in favour of Shri Ganesh Bhagwan Shiksha Samiti through Signatory Sachev Ghanshyam in respect of said property.

The above-said owner has misplaced the (1) Original Sale deed dated 11.05.2012 as doc. No. 5659 executed by Mr. Saleem & Saffi in favour of Kalpataru Uchhatar Madhyamik Vidhyalaya in respect of land area 0.203 hect. of said property. (2) Original sale deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kamdhenu industrial training institute in favour of in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.203 hect. (4) Original Sale Deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kamdhenu industrial training institute in favour of in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.0896 hect. of said property. (3) Original sale deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kalpataru Uchhatar Madhyamik Vidhyalaya in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.203 hect. (4) Original Sale Deed dated 20.05.2014 as doc. No. 61716 executed by Kamdhenu industrial training institute in favour of in favour of Maa Chandrawati Vidya Peeth through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.0896 hect. vide registered at P.S. Kosikala, Jalandhar on 21.05.2025. Anyone who finds the above-mentioned documents, kindly handover the same to the Manager of Unity Small Finance Bank Limited, Ansal Bhawan, 12th Floor 16, Kasturba Gandhi Marg, New Delhi - 110001

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Satrapben B (Mother of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Satrapben B to Chauhan Satrapben B through Signatory Mrs. Kishanwati in respect of land area 0.203 hect. (4) Original Sale Deed dated 26.05.2025, executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated 26.05.2025 executed before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Chauhan Bhopalsingh (Father of No.4581670A, Rank-LNK, Name Chauhan Indrajit Singh Bhopalsingh R/o Flat no. G/102, Vill. Pramukh Elysium, PO-Sargera, Teh - Gandhinagar-Gujarat-382421 have changed my name from Chauhan Bhopalsingh to Bhopalsingh Gubersingh Chauhan vide affidavit dated

NEWS BOX

Judge steps down from Diego Maradona trial over involvement in documentary on case

BUENOS AIRES. One of the three judges overseeing the trial of seven health professionals accused of negligence in the death of Diego Maradona stepped down from the proceedings Tuesday amid controversy over her participation in the making of a documentary about the case. Julieta Makintach withdrew from the case after the prosecutor showed footage of the documentary that spans the first moments after the soccer star's death in 2020 to the start of the trial more than two months ago, in which the judge appears as one of its lead characters.

Following Makintach's resignation, the other two judges will have to decide how the case will proceed. The trial was suspended for a week after prosecutor Patricio Ferrari asked the San Isidro court to review Makintach's role in allegedly allowing the documentary to be filmed during the trial.

Leopoldo Luque, Maradona's primary physician at the time of the star's death and one of the main defendants, had requested Makintach's removal from the trial. Luque's lawyer, Julio Rivas, said he had been contacted by the BBC requesting an interview because they were making a documentary about the trial. Maradona, who led Argentina to the World Cup title in 1986, died on Nov. 25, 2020 while undergoing home hospitalization on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, days after undergoing surgery for a hematoma that formed between his skull and brain. He was 60. Seven healthcare professionals are on trial for allegedly failing to provide adequate care and could face a maximum penalty of 25 years in prison.

Zelenskyy visits Berlin as he seeks more support for Ukraine in the war against Russia

BERLIN. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy will meet with new German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in Berlin on Wednesday as Ukraine seeks further military support amid a recent escalation in Russia's bombing campaign, despite U.S.-led efforts to end the war. Germany has been the second-biggest supplier of military aid to Ukraine after the United States. Merz said on Monday that Germany and other major allies are no longer imposing any range restrictions on weapons supplied to Ukraine as it fights to repel Russia's full-scale invasion, which began in February 2022. Merz has plunged into diplomatic efforts to try to secure a ceasefire and keep Western support for Ukraine intact since becoming Germany's leader three weeks ago.

Meanwhile, fighting has continued along the roughly 1,000-kilometer (620-mile) front line, and both sides have conducted deep strikes. Russia launched its biggest drone attack of the war against Ukraine on Sunday. Russian air defenses downed 296 Ukrainian drones over 13 Russian regions late Tuesday and early Wednesday, Russia's Defense Ministry said.

Moscow Mayor Sergei Sobyanin said that air defenses shot down 33 drones heading toward the capital.

Andrei Vorobiov, the governor of the Moscow region, said that 42 drones were downed. He said that drone fragments damaged three residential buildings in the village of Troitskoye, but no one was hurt.

Moscow airports delayed or diverted hundreds of flights. Overnight, Russian forces launched an attack on Ukraine using five Iskander ballistic missiles, one guided air-launched missile and 88 drones, Ukraine's Air Force said Wednesday. Air defense units shot down 34 drones, and 37 drones were jammed.

Ukraine's railway infrastructure and equipment in the Kharkiv, Donetsk and Sumy regions also came under fire overnight and Wednesday morning. Ukraine's state railway company Ukrzaliznytsia said. No casualties were reported.

In Kharkiv region, railway traffic was temporarily suspended so that police and emergency workers could clear debris from a downed drone that landed on the tracks. In Sloviansk in the Donetsk region, the attack shattered windows at the station building, and drone debris slightly damaged a train car.

UN official says 47 were wounded, mostly by gunfire, when crowd overran aid hub in Gaza

 **GENEVA.** A UN official says 47 Palestinians were wounded, mostly by gunfire, when crowd overran Gaza aid hub. Ajith Sunghay, head of the UN Human Rights Office for the Palestinian territories, told reporters in Geneva that it appeared Israeli army fire had caused most of the injuries.

On Tuesday, crowds of Palestinians overwhelmed a new aid distribution hub set up by an Israeli and U.S.-backed foundation. The crowd broke through fences and an Associated Press journalist heard Israeli tank and gun fire, and saw a military helicopter firing flares. The distribution hub outside Gaza's southernmost city of Rafah was opened the day before by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, which has been slated by Israel to take over aid operations.

The U.N. and other humanitarian organizations have rejected the new system, saying it won't be able to meet the needs of Gaza's 2.3 million people and allows Israel to use food as a weapon to control the population.

Men face prison for human smuggling after an Indian family of four died on the US-Canada border

Patel, an Indian national and Shand, a U.S. citizen from Florida, were part of a sophisticated illegal operation that brought dozens of people from India to Canada on student visas and then smuggled them across the U.S. border.

MINNEAPOLIS. More than three years after a family of four from India froze to death while trying to cross into the U.S. along a remote stretch of the Canadian border in a blizzard, two men face sentencing in Minnesota on Wednesday on human smuggling charges for their roles what prosecutors call an international conspiracy. Federal prosecutors have recommended nearly 20 years in prison for the alleged ringleader, Harshkumar Patel, and nearly 11 years for the

driver who was supposed to pick the family up, Steve Anthony Shand.

The prison terms are up to U.S. District Judge John Tunheim, who declined last month to set aside the guilty verdicts, writing, "This was not a close case." Tunheim will hand down the sentences at the federal courthouse in the northwestern Minnesota city of Fergus Falls, where the two men were tried and convicted on four counts apiece last November.

The smuggling operation

Prosecutors said during the trial that Patel, an Indian national who they say went by the alias "Dirty Harry," and Shand, a U.S. citizen from Florida, were part of a sophisticated illegal operation that brought dozens of people from India to Canada on student visas and then smuggled them across the U.S. border. They said the victims, Jagdish Patel, 39; his wife, Vaishaliben, who was in her mid-30s; their 11-year-old daughter, Vihangi; and 3-year-old son, Dharmik, froze to death. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police found their bodies just north of the border



between Manitoba and Minnesota on Jan. 19, 2022. The family was from Dingucha, a village in the western Indian state of Gujarat, as was Harshkumar Patel. The couple were schoolteachers, local news reports said. So many villagers have gone overseas in hopes of better lives — legally and otherwise — that many homes there stand vacant.

The harsh conditions

The father died while trying to shield Dharmik's face from a "blistering wind" with a frozen glove, prosecutor Michael McBride wrote. Vihangi was wearing "ill-fitting boots and gloves." Their mother

"died slumped against a chain-link fence she must have thought salvation lay behind," McBride wrote. A nearby weather station recorded the wind chill that morning at -36 Fahrenheit (-38 Celsius).

Seven other members of their group survived the foot crossing, but only two made it to Shand's van, which was stuck in the snow on the Minnesota side. One woman who survived had to be flown to a hospital with severe frostbite and hypothermia. Another survivor testified he had never seen snow before arriving in Canada. Their inadequate winter clothes were only what the smugglers provided, the survivor told the jury.

What prosecutors say

"Mr. Patel has never shown an ounce of remorse. Even today, he continues to deny he is the 'Dirty Harry' that worked with Mr. Shand on this smuggling venture — despite substantial evidence to the contrary and counsel for his co-defendant identifying him as such at trial," McBride wrote.

Melania Trump shuts down son Barron's Harvard rumour: He never applied

As US President Donald Trump sharpens his attacks on Harvard University, a viral internet rumour has reigned—but Melania Trump has put the speculation firmly to rest. Social media lit up again on Tuesday with whispers that Trump's 19-year-old son Barron was rejected by Harvard, fueling speculation that the president's fiery feud with the Ivy League school was personal. But according to the First Lady's office, it's nothing more than internet fiction.

"Barron did not apply to Harvard, and any assertion that he, or that anyone on his behalf, applied is completely false," said Melania Trump's communications director Nicholas Clemens in a statement. The denial comes as President Trump announced he was cutting the federal government's remaining \$100 million in contracts with Harvard, escalating a months-long standoff over university policy and autonomy.

The rumor mill first began churning in April, when Trump canceled a massive round of federal funding for the university after Harvard refused to comply with certain demands. That move prompted internet sleuths to theorize that personal grievances—particularly involving Barron—were at play. "Did Trump target Harvard because the



while emphasising that "really bad things would have already happened in Russia" without his intervention.

"What Vladimir Putin doesn't realise is that if it weren't for me, lots of really

bad things would have already happened to Russia, and I mean REALLY BAD. He's playing with fire!" Trump posted on Truth Social on Tuesday.

Judge steps down from Diego Maradona trial over involvement in documentary on case

The trial was suspended for a week after prosecutor Patricio Ferrari asked the San Isidro court to review Makintach's role in allegedly allowing the documentary to be filmed during the trial.

BUENOS AIRES. One of the three judges overseeing the trial of seven health professionals accused of negligence in the death of Diego Maradona stepped down from the proceedings Tuesday amid controversy over her participation in the making of a documentary about the case. Leopoldo Luque, Maradona's primary physician at the time of the star's death and one of the main



Makintach's role in allegedly allowing the documentary to be filmed during the trial. Leopoldo Luque, Maradona's primary physician at the time of the star's death and one of the main

defendants, had requested Makintach's removal from the trial. Luque's lawyer, Julio Rivas, said he had been contacted by the BBC requesting an interview because they were making a documentary about the trial. Maradona, who led Argentina to the World Cup title in 1986, died on Nov. 25, 2020 while undergoing home hospitalization on the outskirts of Buenos Aires, days after undergoing surgery for a hematoma that formed between his skull and brain. He was 60. Maximum penalty of 25 years in prison.

Five people wounded in shooting at a Connecticut mall

WATERBURY, Conn. A gunman shot and wounded five people at a Connecticut mall on Tuesday, prompting an evacuation and a massive police response, and officials say they are still searching for the suspect. Waterbury Police Chief Fernando Spagnolo said officers responded to the Brass Mill Center for reports of a disturbance at around 4:40 p.m. He said all victims were being treated at local hospitals, though he declined to elaborate on the extent of their injuries. Spagnolo said police believe the shooter is a man in his 20s who used a semiautomatic pistol. He said the suspect knows the victims and that the shooting was preceded by a dispute that quickly escalated. "We do not believe this was a random act of violence," Spagnolo said at a briefing outside the mall, adding that there is no further threat to the public.

France's National Assembly adopts long-debated bill legalizing end-of-life options

The National Assembly vote is a key step on the long-debated issue, though others remain before the bill can become law.

PARIS. France's lower house of parliament adopted a bill Tuesday to allow adults with incurable illness to take lethal medication, as public demands grow across Europe for legal end-of-life options. The National Assembly vote is a key step on the long-debated issue, though others remain before the bill can become law. "I'm thinking of all the patients and their loved ones that I've met over more than a decade. Many are no longer here, and they always told me: Keep fighting," said Olivier Falorni, the bill's general rapporteur, amid applause from fellow lawmakers.

The bill has strict conditions To benefit, patients would need to be over 18 and be French citizens or live in France. A team of medical professionals would need to confirm that the patient has a grave and incurable illness "at an advanced or terminal stage," is suffering from intolerable and untreatable pain and is seeking lethal medication of their own free will. Patients with severe psychiatric conditions and neurodegenerative disorders such as Alzheimer's disease won't be eligible. The person would initiate the request for lethal medication and confirm the request after a period of reflection. If approved, a doctor would deliver a prescription for the lethal medication, which could be taken at home or at a nursing home or a health care

facility. A 2023 report indicated that most French citizens back legalizing end-of-life options, and opinion polls show growing support over the past 20 years. Initial discussions in parliament last year were abruptly interrupted by President Emmanuel Macron's decision to dissolve the National Assembly, plunging France into a months-long political crisis. "What a long road it has been, contrary to what the public thought, contrary to what the French people believed," said Jonathan Denis, president of the Association for the Right to Die With Dignity (ADMD).

Months-long debate ahead Earlier this month, Macron suggested he could ask French voters to approve the measure via referendum if parliament discussions get off track. Macron on Tuesday called the vote an important step, adding on social media that "with respect for different sensibilities, doubts, and hopes, the path of fraternity I had hoped for is gradually beginning to open. With dignity and humanity."



NEWS BOX

Bulk booking for flats to start under Sanchari Cauvery in Bengaluru

BENGALURU. With many apartments spread across 110 villages in Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) limits, and the demand for more water leading to pressure on groundwater due to extraction by private players, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewage Board (BWSSB) has announced bulk booking for Sanchari Cauvery supply.

Under the Sanchari Cauvery scheme, BIS-certified drinking water will be supplied to housing and apartment complexes. "To reduce excessive dependence on groundwater and maintain water balance in the city, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewage Board (BWSSB) launched the Sanchari Cauvery project. It has been decided to start bulk booking system for apartments under this project," said BWSSB Chief Ram Prasat Manohar. He said most of the apartments on the outskirts of the city are highly dependent on groundwater and people buy tanker water to meet drinking water needs. Tankers also supply borewell water which is increasing pressure on groundwater. BWSSB has decided to reduce this and provide BIS-certified clean drinking water. From now on, apartments will be able to book BIS-certified drinking water through tankers for their year-round water needs, he said.

BWSSB informed that water will be supplied based on first come, first-served basis through its website or dedicated contact details. Apartment societies will have to pay a minimum of one month's advance payment. For uninterrupted supply of water throughout the year, bulk booking options have been provided. The Sanchari Cauvery project is India's first technologically advanced tanker project, to provide water to the city through GPS tracking, supply stratification and supply control centres, Manohar said.

Principal protests, HYDRAA clears way

HYDERABAD. An enforcement team of the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) on Tuesday demolished an illegally constructed wall blocking the entrance to Doodbavdi government primary school at Chikalgudla in Secunderabad. HYDRAA swung into action following a silent protest staged by school principal Mallikarjun Reddy. The principal held a placard and stood in front of the GHMC Zonal Office urging Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to provide a path to the school. His peaceful demonstration highlighted the difficulties faced by students and staff due to the blocking of access.

Alerted to the protest, HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath ordered inspector Aditya to conduct an inspection at the ground level. It was found that locals had raised an unauthorised wall effectively cutting off the school's main entrance. GHMC Town Planning authorities supervised the demolition of the obstruction wall. Secunderabad Zonal Commissioner Ravikiran said that a gate would be installed immediately.

Andhra lost 468 hectares of primary forest in 2024, CO2 emissions hit 1.75 million tonnes: GFW report

VISAKHAPATNAM. Andhra Pradesh lost 468 hectares of primary forest in 2024, marking a slight increase from the 424 hectares lost in 2023, according to data released by Global Forest Watch (GFW), a coalition of over 100 organisations.

The data reveals a fluctuating yet steady trend in forest degradation over recent years, with losses recorded at 193 hectares in 2022, 143 hectares in 2021, 225 hectares in 2020, and 363 hectares in 2019.

In 2020, the state had approximately 2.46m hectares of forest, covering nearly 15% of its total land area. However, in 2024 alone, AP lost about 5.73 thousand hectares of natural forest, resulting in an estimated 1.75 million tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions.

From 2001 to 2024, the state lost 42.4 thousand hectares of tree cover, representing a 3.8 percent decrease since 2000 and accounting for 23.1 million tonnes of CO2 equivalent emissions. Annual tree cover loss figures for recent years include 2.87 thousand hectares in 2024, 2.96 thousand hectares in 2023, 1.24 thousand hectares in 2022, 854 hectares in 2021, 1.40 thousand hectares in 2020, and 1.90 thousand hectares in 2019.

AP 2nd in gaining tree cover during 2000-20

Between 2001 and 2024, 66 per cent of the tree cover loss in AP occurred in areas where deforestation was the dominant driver. Key causes of deforestation include conversion to permanent agriculture (26.8 thousand hectares), expansion of settlements and infrastructure (214 hectares), and hard commodities cover (23 hectares).

Temporary disturbances contributing to tree cover loss were logging (1.43 thousand hectares), shifting cultivation (12.7 thousand hectares), wildfires (95 hectares), and other natural disturbances (42 hectares). Two regions in AP accounted for 76 per cent of all tree cover loss between 2001 and 2024, with East Godavari experiencing the highest loss at 16.4 thousand hectares, significantly higher than the average of 3.26 thousand hectares in other areas.

Encroachment of Channapatna lakes gets Upa Lokayukta's goat

BENGALURU. UPA Lokayukta has directed the Lokayukta police to conduct a preliminary inquiry into the severe pollution of lakes in and around Channapatna town. Taking suo motu cognisance of the report titled 'Channapatna Lakes Choked By Sewage, Lack UGD System' published by on May 15, Justice KN Phaneendra directed the Superintendent of Police of Lokayukta, Ramanagara district, to submit the report within two weeks. Registering the case treating Mahendra, Commissioner of City Municipal Council, Channapatna, as respondent, Justice Phaneendra said that it is necessary that a preliminary inquiry be conducted, as contemplated under Section 9 of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984.

Justice Phaneendra directed the Superintendent of Police, Karnataka Lokayukta, Ramanagar, to conduct the preliminary inquiry of Kudlur, Shettahalli and other lakes dying from the pollution and encroachment in and around Channapatna town along with the Assistant Director of Land Records, Channapatna, Technical Officer (engineer) and Environment Officer, KSPCB, Ramanagar and submit a report including the officers responsible for the



apathy of lakes, steps taken for development, etc., along with photographs and videographs.

Justice Phaneendra, who also visited a few lakes of the taluk to take stock, stated that it is the right of every person to live in a healthy and clean environment, and it is also the right of every person to have access to potable drinking water. The Supreme Court time and again has held that such rights are fundamental and citizens cannot be deprived of the same, he added.

He also observed that the lakes play a vital role in providing sources of water for various purposes, like drinking, farming and other chores. If what is stated in the news item is true,

then the same would violate the right under the Constitution of India. The news indicates that various lakes in and around Channapatna town are polluted.

As per Section 87 of the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1964, obligatory functions are cast on the municipal councils to look after the water bodies, sewage, drainage work, supply of water etc. Such being the case, it is obligatory that the City Municipal Council maintain, and make sure that the lakes are not polluted to ensure that the citizens get a clean and healthy environment, he noted.

Justice Phaneendra has also stated that the Karnataka Lokayukta Act casts an obligation on Lokayukta or Upa Lokayukta under Section 12(1) for redressal of the grievance of the public and Section 2(1) casts an obligation to prevent the maladministration by the public authorities. In light of this, "I am of the firm opinion that the news item published in TNIE can be treated as source material for me to exercise my suo motu power under Sections 7(2) and 9(3)(a) of the Act. Accordingly, I exercise my power and initiate suo motu proceedings", he said.

Nilgiri tahr haven, Eravikulam, sees surge in tourist footfall

Over 80k visited park so far in May; total monthly turnout expected to cross 1.03L this season

IDUKKI. Being the first national park in Kerala, Eravikulam stands as the backbone of the tourism industry in Munnar. An official at the park told that more than 80,000 tourists have arrived at the park till Friday (May 23) this month. With just a week left for the month to end, the total monthly tourist turnout is expected to cross 1.03 lakh this season. "Although the incessant rain lashing the hill town has slightly dampened the tourist arrival, we expect that the monthly turnout will surely exceed the count in May last year," the official said. When the park closes for the annual calving season of Nilgiri Tahrs for two months (February and March), Munnar falls into an off peak season. Considering the low tourist arrival in the hill town, resorts and hotels conduct maintenance works during the time.

He further explained that May is the peak tourist month in Munnar as the holiday season coupled with the reopening of the national park after the



breeding of the Nilgiri Tahrs draws tourists in large numbers.

"Though the maximum carrying capacity of the park is 2,880, nearly 6,000 tourists arrive at the park during peak season on a daily basis," he said, adding that a total of 10,000 tourists had visited the park within the first three days of May.

Authorities pointed out that the cashless system for ticket booking and other park purchases implemented in April last year has increased efficiency, safety and security at the park.

"Card or mobile payments are faster than cash transactions, reducing the time spent queuing at the entrance station and allowing visitors more time to enjoy at the park. Since the Eravikulam national park went cashless, it has become the norm for many other parks throughout the country," he said.

Moreover, the revenue received by the park through eco-tourism programmes has helped them increase the Forest Development Agency (FDA) fund from Rs 11 crore in 2018 to Rs 23.5 crore in 2025. "The FDA helps the government for arranging funds, including paying compensation to victims during wild animal attacks, and community development programmes in other national parks and wildlife sanctuaries under the Munnar wildlife division," the official said.

Kerala invites bids for heli-tourism services to boost high-end travel

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. In a major move to boost high-end tourism and enhance connectivity across destinations, the state government has invited Expression of Interest to operate heli-tourism services in the state. The plan is to enlist certified helicopter service operators and aggregators to provide regular, safe and convenient aerial transport linking key tourist destinations such as Kochi, Thekkady, Munnar, Kumarakom, Vagamon and Bekal.

Kerala Tourism came up with this initiative as part of its broader strategy to position the state as a premium tourist destination offering diverse travel experiences, from serene beaches to misty hill stations, all accessible within a single day. A top official with the tourism department told that the move will not only ease travel times for tourists but also serve emergency, medical, and disaster management needs in the state.

"Connectivity is a major concern for people visiting the state. People coming for brief vacations are unable to cover more destinations because of travel time. Scores of

tourists are arriving in Kochi, but if they want to visit Munnar, it takes a minimum of four to six hours by road. Helicopter services are going to be a game changer and tourists will be able to reach the destination in an hour by spending 5,000 or so per person," the official said.

Helicopter services will also benefit pilgrimage tourism by reducing travel time for devotees visiting Sabarimala from distant locations like Andhra Pradesh. "This will allow pilgrims to spend more time at the temple or visit other places of interest," the official said.

The heli-tourism initiative, launched by the tourism department in December 2023, failed to gain traction initially due to forest department's restrictions and the absence of a clear policy. Additionally, the state had very few service providers. To address these issues, Kerala Tourism formulated a comprehensive heli-tourism policy, which received cabinet approval in December 2024.

The department will shortlist the applicants and the presentation of the technical proposals will be held on June 23.

Fire guts 20 huts in MKB Nagar; homeless families seek aid, housing

While officials said that the land had been encroached by families, residents had requested Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board houses.

CHENNAI. Kanaga B, 48, is homeless and burdened with debt, as she has lost not only her house, but also Rs 50,000 in cash that she had borrowed at a steep 15% interest. She is one among the many families whose lives and livelihoods have been affected by the fire that swept through Sathiyamurthy Nagar Main Road in MKB Nagar on Monday evening. Kanaga, who lives alone in a makeshift house and earns a living by selling appalam, pickles, and semiya (vermicelli) on city streets, had returned from work at a wedding hall to find her home engulfed in flames. The fire, reportedly triggered by an electrical short circuit in one of the huts, rapidly spread through the densely packed settlement, gutting at least 20 huts.

"All I had is gone - clothes, appliances, vessels, and the money



I borrowed just a few days ago. I don't know how to repay the debt now," said Kanaga, speaking from a government school in Udhayasuriyan Nagar where she has taken temporary shelter along with other victims.

Every day, Kanaga would walk to the wholesale markets in Parrys Corner near Broadway, purchase a jute bag of appalam, or semiya, and sell them on foot in the streets.

A single bag of ragi semiya costs her around Rs 1,600, for which she

needed loans. "The money burnt along with the appalam I had bought for selling," she told.

The hutment stood on a private piece of land that was occupied 18 years ago. While officials said that the land had been encroached by families, residents had requested Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board houses.

Sandhana Mary A, 48, a tailor by profession, had saved money from stitching blouses. "My daughter just completed her Class 12. She wants to study at Dr BR Ambedkar Government Arts College. I had saved the money for her admission," said Mary.

"My husband earns Rs 300-Rs 500 per day as a daily wage worker. My tailoring brought in more income, and that's how we managed our children's education."

"All of it was lost in minutes - the cash savings, her two sewing machines.

Bengaluru bypass, is nearing completion. Built at a cost of Rs 427 crore, it is expected to be inaugurated by August or September. Once operational, TNSTC and SETC buses serving destinations such as Vellore, Krishnagiri, Walajah, Hosur, Tirupattur, and Bengaluru will be shifted from CMBT to the Kuthambakkam facility. This will leave CMBT with only a limited number of services to Puducherry, Cuddalore, Nagapattinam, and a few other locations. These remaining buses are also slated for relocation, with the Anna Nagar West depot being a key option under consideration, said an official.

Buses operating from CMBT to Tirupati (AP) and Chittoor (AP) will be shifted to Madhavaram terminus. However, officials stated that the final decision on relocating East Coast Road



detailed preparations will be required before relocating buses to Kuthambakkam and Anna Nagar West depot as the general election is scheduled next year. Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) has finalised plans to improve transport links to Kuthambakkam. All 150 buses currently stationed at Poonamallee depot will be relocated to the new terminus, along with the introduction of 20 additional buses.

The Poonamallee depot currently handles around 1,000 daily arrivals and departures, serving key routes such as Avadi, Broadway, Tambaram, Redhills, and CMBT. An MTC official stated, "Along with the 150 relocated buses, 10 new buses will be deployed between CMBT and Kuthambakkam, and another 10 will operate from KCBT to Kuthambakkam and other areas," said an official.

Two hurt as part of Fatehnagar flyover staircase collapses

HYDERABAD. Two people sustained minor injuries after a portion of the over-three-decade-old pedestrian staircase attached to the Fatehnagar flyover collapsed in Sanathnagar on Monday. The injured were rushed to a nearby hospital. According to local authorities, the staircase, already in a bad condition, suddenly collapsed, causing panic among passersby. The two pedestrians on the staircase at the time sustained injuries.

Upon learning of the incident, Sanathnagar police rushed to the spot. They suspect that absorption of rainwater may have weakened the structure, leading to the collapse. HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath inspected the site on Tuesday morning.

Locals informed the commissioner that a fair is held in Sanathnagar every Sunday, drawing hundreds of visitors who use the stairs.

Ranganath noted that it was unsafe to continue using such a dilapidated structure and ordered its immediate removal. Following this, HYDRAA personnel used a JCB to demolish the stairs. The commissioner also directed HYDRAA officials to get all such structures across the city assessed by experts from the Civil Engineering department and remove any deemed unsafe.

Remittance tax by US may hit real estate in India

Anyone who has gone house-hunting in India's metros would have come across the ubiquitous NRI (non-resident Indian) home owner, especially in the newer condominiums. The broker gets the house keys from a caretaker, who tags along, to show you the apartment. At times, the broker might offer to show you a couple of other flats close by, owned by the same NRI. Of course, NRI is a loosely used term in everyday parlance; it covers anyone who lives abroad. In fact, NRIs buying up homes has been one of the key reasons for the boom in the premium real estate sector in India's big cities over the past couple of years. A large amount of the remittances from abroad — money sent home by Indian-origin people working abroad — gets parked in real estate. And, a big chunk of that comes from the US. RBI data shows that Indian-origin people working in the US sent back \$32 billion to India in 2023-24. That was roughly Rs 2.70 lakh crore back then, at the prevailing exchange rate. How big that number is can be gauged from the fact that the total income tax collections that year stood at Rs 10 lakh crore. Estimates suggest that about 6-7 per cent of all remittances go into the property market. If that is true, then Indians living in the US would have invested roughly Rs 18,000 crore in real estate in India in 2023-24. Some of it — especially the money entering Punjab — would have gone into buying agricultural land or plots in villages. But, a significant chunk, in terms of value, would have entered the urban housing market. Now, US President Donald Trump is threatening to throttle this flow of money by levying a tax on all outward remittances from the US. The initial proposal was to impose a remittance tax of 5 per cent, but that has been brought down to 3.5 per cent. Despite the small relief, experts say this will have a disproportionate impact on the money flows into real estate and equities. Most NRIs investments in real estate are for capital gains. Many buy flats when a new project is announced, hold it for a few years, and then cash out. They then move that money to another upcoming project. In each case, the aim is to make the most of the rise in property value when the secondary market opens up.

Real estate investments, therefore, are a way to diversify one's investment portfolio in India, along with equities. Most non-resident home owners put their flats out on rent while they wait for significant capital gains on their property. But that is just a holding operation since rental yields are very low in India. Even the most sought-after 'builder' flats fetch just 2-2.5 per cent in annual rent on the price of that flat. After adjusting for repairs, maintenance and property taxes, very little is left. Now, imagine that you are an NRI who wants to buy a premium apartment in Gurugram for Rs 6 crore. After Trump's remittance tax, the same flat would cost you Rs 6.21 crore. In the past one year, real estate prices have gone up by an average 13 per cent in Gurugram. Earlier, that would have fetched you a return of Rs 72 lakh; now it would get you Rs 51 lakh. So, your net return would drop to roughly 9 per cent. What is true for real estate is true for all other kinds of investment. Take the share market. In the past three years, Nifty has given an average return of 15 per cent per year. If an NRI were to invest Rs 20 lakh of his/her savings in a Nifty-indexed fund and get the same average return, his/her investment would rise to Rs 23 lakh the next year. With Trump's new remittance tax, one would have to invest Rs 20.70 lakh to get the same return. In other words, his net gain would drop to 11 per cent. This is a significantly lower return from investments than what the NRIs have been used to till now. In fact, after adjusting for currency costs, it might not even be worth their while to invest in India. Let me explain this using a simple example. If an NRI were to bring in \$1,00,000 to India, he would get about Rs 85 lakh for it.

AFTER the recent Indo-Pak armed conflict, a crackdown on the networks of agents and human assets of Pakistan intelligence agencies in India was inevitable. More than a dozen individuals, including YouTubers, travellers, academicians, petty criminals and small businessmen, have been arrested over the past couple of weeks for their suspected links with the secret services of the enemy state. Some of them appear to have fallen into the trap of foreign agents for money, visa and other favours, including sponsored foreign trips, etc. The scope and nature of spying has undergone changes with time and its horizons have expanded to become vast and complex, involving various techniques, methodologies and areas of focus. In the ancient era, the kings' spies used to roam around incognito in public to gather information; the kings also deployed secret agents to unearth palace intrigues and conspiracies by subordinate principalities. In the medieval ages, military-related intelligence-gathering occupied centre stage as the era was dominated by imperialistic and expansionist outfits. The stakes in intelligence-gathering in the modern times have transformed. They include the identification of potential threats to national security from cyber attacks and terrorism; exposing of military capabilities and tracking down of troop movements; economic espionage on matters related to trade secrets; market trends and competitors' information; surveillance over political and social institutions and geopolitics. After the Industrial Revolution, the concept of the modern state evolved, resulting in the emergence of a complex world order which required a different set of information for strategic-posturing and diplomacy.

For that purpose, the conventional human-centric mechanism of collecting intelligence is of very little use and needs to be supplemented by other methods based on technology and intangible assets, including signal intelligence, wire interceptions, photography, satellite imagery, cyber surveillance, etc. Artificial intelligence and cyber tools are being used for accuracy and efficiency in collecting soft intelligence and disrupting enemy systems. Cyber-snooping and surveillance by hacking hardware and planting malware in software to compromise electronic gadgets of the adversaries have become a common practice. Signal intelligence is becoming popular for intercepting and analysing electronic communications, such as phone calls, emails and messages. Employing imagery intelligence techniques — by using satellite and drone aerial reconnaissance and digital photography — is no more a secret.

However, traditional unobtrusive surveillance to monitor individuals, organisations and enemy activities is still used by intelligence agencies for spying. Infiltration within the targeted institution by placing agents and subverting insiders is also done. Counter-espionage to disrupt, douse and deceive information-gathering tools of the enemy and keep the nefarious designs of the deep state under watch is essential for guarding the strategic interests of the

than ever before, resulting in the passing of the existing Official Secrets Act, 1923 (OS Act). It covered all aspects of secrecy and confidentiality required for the nation's governance. The OS Act criminalises spying, which is defined as an act of entering any prohibited place or making a sketch and a note, etc, or obtaining and passing of a document or information to undesirable elements, which may be useful to an enemy or which is likely to affect the sovereignty and integrity of India and friendly relations with other countries. Mere communication with a foreign agent is punishable under Section 4 of the Act. Secrecy is inbuilt in the functioning of governments. Wilful communication of any secret information or sharing of an official document in possession of a public servant to an unauthorised person is a crime under the OS Act, entailing imprisonment of up to three years. It was being felt for some time that the OS Act was sufficient to nail down the indiscrete conduct of public servants and individuals roaming in the vicinity of military and security installations. It was not considered stringent enough to deal with serious threats from enemy agents. Accordingly, Section 152 was added in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (BNS), whereby inciting armed rebellion or exciting secession and subverting activities by whatever way, including financial means or otherwise, or endangering the sovereignty, unity and integrity of India was made punishable with life imprisonment. Additionally, making and publishing misleading information and false imputations and assertions, jeopardising the security of India, entail imprisonment up to three years under the newly added Section 197(1)(d) of the BNS. The assertions by academician Ali Khan Mahmudabad of Ashoka University need to be examined in the context of this provision. The Supreme Court has granted interim bail to Mahmudabad and constituted an SIT to investigate the matter in its entirety. There can be no disagreement that national security concerns, unity and integrity of India, public peace and societal harmony are of paramount importance and, hence, non-negotiable. At the same time, fair investigations and strict legal scrutiny of all spying-related cases are essential to guard against any misuse of legal powers by the law enforcers and prevent any resultant public outrage.



state. Stakeholders nurture and employ deep state actors comprising experts and intellectuals from different domains to compromise the systems of the adversary and manipulate the opinion of the subjects. The recent arrests of some YouTubers, academicians and travellers should be seen through this microscopic vision. The modern state apparatus, across nations, has evolved a legal framework to counter the threats of espionage and propaganda of the deep state. During the British rule, the Indian Official Secrets Act of 1890 (IOS Act) was enacted by the Governor General in Council to prevent the disclosure of official documents and information detrimental to the government or national security. The law was strengthened under Lord Curzon's rule, leading to the amendment of the IOS Act in 1904. After World War I, the British felt the need to guard military secrets and installations more

Anti-Maoist success welcome, but heed economic issues raised

Joining the mainstream is in the Maoists' and the country's larger interests. The Centre would be well advised to welcome them back into society. It would also be prudent not to dismiss the economic issues raised by the Maoists.

Maoism has been a thorn in the flesh of the Indian state for over five decades. From the struggle against feudalism at Naxalbari in West Bengal to the present, the armed movement recruited many disillusioned youngsters and oppressed tribal communities — all the while unleashing violence in the name of a class struggle. It splintered into groups, carried out high-profile assassinations and an attempt on the life of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, and spilled the blood of innocent people as well as security personnel. The Maoists, too, lost several leaders in clashes with the security forces and is now confined to a few districts in Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Maharashtra. In this backdrop, the death of CPI (Maoist) general secretary Nambala Keshava Rao alias Basavaraju in an encounter with the District Reserve Guard at Abujhmad in Chhattisgarh is a massive victory for the state and an inflection point for the Maoists. As outlined by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the Centre is determined to eradicate Naxalism by March next year.



The death of a high-ranking Maoist such as Basavaraju is a step in that direction. We must, however, contemplate whether an all-out assault is the only way forward. It is tragic that while both sides claim to fight for the well-being of the people, many innocent members of

backward communities have been killed by both sides over the years of conflict. Thanks to the welfare measures taken alongside building an elite anti-Naxal force, the Maoists have lost the plot and perhaps ideals too, not to speak of support among the middle classes. Very few, if any, get inspired by the Maoists' cultural tropes nowadays. Nestled in forests, hiding behind locals, and with violence their only option, they and their sympathisers need to question their ideology. Democracy, despite its flaws, has shown that it works in our country and that people want prosperity. Joining the mainstream is in the Maoists' and the country's larger interests. The Centre would be well advised to welcome them back into society. It would also be prudent not to dismiss the economic issues raised by the Maoists. The feudal practices that are now seen as morphing into a political-corporate nexus have the devastating potential of igniting a spark that can start another fire.

Vital to build on Operation Sindoos gains

The aftermath of Pahalgam/Op Sindoos has created complex challenges for India's internal security and societal harmony.

A preliminary review suggests that Operation Sindoos was largely successful in realising the objectives laid down for the Indian armed forces. India's resolute military action, which targeted terror sites in Pakistan in response to the dastardly Pahalgam terror attack, was launched on May 7; a cessation of hostilities was announced on May 10. The defence forces are to be commended for carrying out this operation effectively despite constraints and uncertainties, particularly those related to the strategic threshold, given that India and Pakistan are both nuclear-armed nations. Operation Sindoos, a display of political acumen, resolve and restraint by PM Narendra Modi, sent a strong message of deterrence to the perpetrators and handlers of terrorism across the border. But challenges in the foreign and domestic domains need to be addressed. The Indian narrative about Op Sindoos is one of righteous triumphalism prevailing in the face of state-sponsored terrorism nurtured by a devious Pakistan. Indian parliamentary delegations are conveying this message abroad to cynical audiences that remain ambivalent about the Indian narrative. China and some other nations have been more than sympathetic to the adversary, as testified by the grant of an IMF loan to Islamabad during Op Sindoos. The next challenge will be in June when the Financial Action Task Force meets. New Delhi will seek to have Pakistan placed on the grey list for abetting terrorism. The outcome of the meeting will be a bellwether about the degree to which the global community is on the same page as India regarding state-sponsored terrorism in South Asia. In the domestic context, a disturbing sociopolitical trend is discernible. Are the very voices that vociferously

supported the government and who were nurtured through dog whistles to target the minorities now bucking the leash? How else does one explain the deafening silence from the government and its band of cheerleaders (who are usually quick to applaud or denounce, depending on the signal from the top) over unsavoury controversies in recent weeks? The aftermath of Pahalgam/Op Sindoos has created complex challenges for India's internal security, societal harmony and restoration of normalcy in Kashmir. The mood in the country has become virulently polarised, with shrill nationalist rhetoric inundating the discourse. Coarse outbursts on social media and TV channels are illustrative. Deeply embedded resentment against Kashmiri Muslims in particular has come to the fore. Targeting the 'other' has become staple fare in the electoral dynamics of most democracies in recent years. The spread of social media has served to amplify this trend in a dangerous manner. The immigrant worker in the US and Europe and the minorities in India have been at the receiving end. Stoking majoritarian sentiment by projecting the 'other' or 'outsider' as a threat to national security may result in tactical victories and short-term electoral gains. But this collective frenzy that abjures human values such as empathy can acquire its own ugly autonomy — as recent events have demonstrated. Days after the Pahalgam massacre, Himanshi Narwal, the young widow of a naval officer, was hounded by trolls after she pleaded for justice and calm. Vile personal insinuations were made against her. No institution or senior government functionary stood by her. The mob had

prevailed. Indian Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, the senior-most Indian diplomat, announced the ceasefire, he was vilified and aspersions were cast on his daughter's patriotism. This was absurd as Misri was only speaking on behalf of the government, yet nobody in South Block stood by the civil servant for fear of angering the irate mob that wanted the hostilities to continue. Col Sofiya Qureshi, who briefed the media



on Op Sindoos, was referred to as a "sister of terrorists" by a minister in BJP-ruled Madhya Pradesh. Little or no censure followed, and it has been explained away as a "linguistic mistake". Virtually the same stand is being adopted over a BJP MP who has questioned the bravery of the Pahalgam widows. History reminds us that the mob has been cynically harnessed through the millennia to

consolidate elite power, but this has progressively corroded the entrails of the empire and the state. Edward Gibbon, in his magisterial work *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*, examines the role of the mob in Rome in relation to the political and social dynamics of the republic and the empire. Gibbon avers that the Roman mob (plebs urbana), when enraged, could be volatile and unpredictable. It was capable of both uncritical loyalty to the Emperor and destructive unrest, if not engaged or entertained. Normative civic virtues were abandoned by the collective onslaught of the masses — which could no longer be controlled — and the spirit of the republic steadily weakened, resulting in the decline of the Roman empire. The brazen use of abusive language by an Indian TV panelist against the Iranian Foreign Minister is a case in point. The Indian mob has donned the mantle of shrill majoritarian nationalism and casts terrorism in emotive binaries, wherein Indian Muslims are presumed to be harbouring jihadi inclinations. Are we allowing this mob to become a force unto itself to spread hatred and poison in the societal fabric? This would advance the long-held objective of the adversary to undermine India's socio-religious harmony. Op Sindoos is in pause mode. As its impact on the mentors of cross-border terrorism in Rawalpindi is awaited, Delhi has to convince the international community about the integrity of its anti-terrorism narrative and concurrently ensure that the domestic discourse stays within the constitutional framework.

Pros and cons of Working abroad

Working in a foreign country is a unique experience filled with new learnings, four professionals from diverse fields, who took up stints abroad before moving back to India, share their experience of working overseas

Aasit Shah

I don't consider any of my experiences in the US particularly appalling. In fact, the US proved to be a great training ground for me. I was working in the Silicon Valley and that favoured me in terms of weather since we had a good number of sunshine days.

Dignity of labour is extremely high in the US. Even though there is hierarchy in terms of designations, I loved the personal connect one can have with their seniors. You can walk in and out of your senior's cabin any time. Work-life balance is excellent so much so that sending professional emails on a weekend is frowned upon. Organisations are extremely flexible. There were days when I could work from home. Since the US is considered to be the melting-pot of the world, I got the opportunity to work with people from different migrant communities there. And that was a great learning experience. I didn't miss India much because there are too many Indians around in the valley. So, for me, it was a home away from home!

Pan kaj Khot

Working in the UAE had its own upside and downside. The biggest benefit for me was to receive a tax-free salary, which is very rare. Companies in Dubai ensure that their employees have a perfect work-life balance. A major benefit of working in Dubai is that a number of international organisations have their offices there. So apart from helping you mingle with professionals from different cultures, it also enables you to understand the working styles of different countries.

The city is strategically located and has great infrastructure. Restaurants in Dubai offer cuisines from all over the world making the place a gastronomic delight.

On the flip side, house rents are too steep. Furthermore, if you don't have any family or friends, it can get boring and

difficult.

Kavita Gupta

When I think about my working stint in the UK, I am filled with mixed feelings. First, I worked for Nokia. The environment there was professional, yet friendly. Flexibility was granted, when required. What I particularly liked was the blurring of hierarchy in terms of accessibility. One could approach one's bosses anytime. Being able to interact with people from different countries was a great advantage too. Work-life balance was perfect and working beyond clocking hours was not appreciated. However, when I moved to another company and got pregnant six months into the job, it didn't go well down with my boss. My profile was changed and I didn't find that fair.

Guatam Parekh

The first thing that really impressed me about Singapore was the minimalistic bureaucracy. Be it taxes of work permit or anything, government authorities are very cooperative.

Every job or labour is treated with respect and this takes professionalism in the country to another level. Singapore being a first world country, infrastructure and connectivity are highly developed; both railways and roadways are well connected making travel hassle-free. I was part of the event industry there and the best thing was that clients treated me as their associate and not merely a vendor. It was a ritual for us to take our clients out for dinners post events. Professionally, it was a great bonding exercise.

Technology is highly evolved in Singapore, so during events, each department knew their job to the T and that made our work easy. Since the country had professionals from all over the world, I got to learn a lot from people from varied cultures. Finally, Singapore is a welcoming country and doesn't let you feel homesick. My stint there was amazing.



The struggles of a single mother

Mirror writer and single mom Anjana Vaswani chats with three others of her tribe on raising kids alone with one eye on blood pressure.

Two months ago, just days before the final round of admissions to kindergarten and Grade 1 under the Right to Education quota, panicking single mothers flocked to BMC help centres. Their applications had been rejected because the fathers' income certificates were missing. The mothers' certificates weren't acceptable as substitutes.

It made newspaper copy, but ask a single mother, and she'll tell you niggles like these are a regular part of her life. Official paperwork that can be a nightmare in our patriarchal system is just the garnish on a gateaux of stress, guilt, feelings of isolation, stigma and self-doubt. Is her health likely to be impacted negatively in the long run?

The answer though obvious is now confirmed by a study published in the Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health which assessed over 25,000 women across 15 countries. It focused on women who had children before the age of 18 and also examined, "whether doing it alone is worse in countries with relatively weak social and safety nets."

Vital point, because our social structure may just be our redeemer. Not only does it alleviate the guilt when you leave your child with a grandparent, it allows us time for a fitness routine which, together, may render studies such as these altogether inapposite. This means you don't get to write us off yet.

As I see friends, many, a lot younger than me, negotiating around the rose garden of marriage with aching backs and knees, and thyroid problems (frequently also treating the headaches of family politics), I feel confident that we have at least as good a shot at health and longevity as any of them.

'Suddenly, health became top priority'

Anita Khaira, stay-at-home mum

My daughters are now 14 and 11, but when I separated, they were nine and six. Since we had lived abroad for a while, moving to Mumbai postdivorce made it more challenging. We were grappling with a whole different culture, for one. I didn't even realise my health was headed downward. At the time, it appeared like a bout of illness. In the first three months, I lost enough weight to drop to an unhealthy size zero. It was only when I ended up fracturing my arm that I



realised my health was crying out for attention.

The consistent aches and pains, I realised, arose partly due to the stress that accompanies moving home, and of course, separating from someone you've been with for 12 years; 14 in my case if I count the courtship. No matter what anyone says, it's scary to be on your own after all those years. You wonder, will I be able to provide for us? Will my children be all right? Seeing my father cry, I remember, was very hard for me - the hurt that the divorce had caused him.

That I returned to a city where my siblings lived meant I could blend easily into their social circle. I found comfort in pouring my heart out to old friends. I sought out self-help literature. Carolyn Myss' 'Why People Don't Heal and How They Can Helped me'. There's a comprehensive table in the book that connects ailments to emotional issues.

Interestingly, after the split, since I was aware that I was the only one around for my kids, I began taking my health very seriously. I never missed an annual check-up and exercised regularly. That's a habit that has stayed with me.

'I made a career out of the split'

Nivedita Rawal, behavioural psychotherapist Twenty six and pregnant with my second child when my husband sought divorce in 1991, I had hoped then for a reconciliation. It wasn't until 2004 that I finally gathered the courage to confide in extended

family and friends about my single status. Single parenting is the toughest thing I have known, more so in the absence of family support. It was tough being mum and dad. The children's education, wellbeing, happiness. These became priority. Although I had worked in corporate jobs in Singapore, I was uncomfortable with the idea of leaving the kids in the care of a maid. I was petrified of child molestation and other possibilities. So, I decided to pursue psychology and set up a private practice after acquiring a Master's degree and then a Doctorate while the children were still in senior school.

I'd be driving them back and forth from tuitions, I'd supervise their homework, and put up with the occasional last minute requests: 'Mommy, I need 20 buttons for art work. Now.' I remember running to JW Marriott at 9 pm once to ask if I could buy the needle-and-thread home-kits they offer in guestrooms. I got 10 packets. The rest of the buttons the kids needed came off my shirts.

At one point, I supplemented my income by offering therapy to call centre employees during the graveyard shift. Social life was naturally sacrificed. In the last 23 years, I'd estimate that I must have attended about 10 social events. I did get into a relationship but ended it when I realised that he was not father material. Diwali, Christmas and Easter holidays were spent alone since the kids holidayed with their father.

But, having worked with single mothers who tend to develop acute depression, insomnia, even cancers and metabolic syndrome illnesses linked to diabetes, high blood pressure and heart conditions, I recognised my loneliness. I knew that I had to make a concerted effort to stay fit. I pursued Mallakhamb, yoga and swimming with dedication. It set the tone for the challenges that every day would bring.

Yes, I still continue to combat insomnia and some food intolerances. Today, I'm a step-parent too, blessed with four children and two puppies, and have a successful practice that boasts celebrity clientele.

'It's tough to stay fit as a sandwich generation member' Ragashree Porecha, sales professional I kicked off my career with a monthly pay cheque of Rs 3,500 when I got divorced in 1995. It was a huge support to know that my family was there for my daughter. Still, there were heartbreaking moments when she'd complain that, unlike her, other kids always had mommy around. But by the time she got to the third

grade, she began to feel pride in the fact that her mother was a successful professional.

Working had other advantages too. My first boss, with whom I worked for 15 years, was a bit of a health nut. She'd insist that I walk to work and back. Having been a juvenile diabetic, this helped me because otherwise, health would not have been priority. I know that, back then, I avoided visiting the doctor as far as possible. Health check-ups were erratic, but the walking kept my blood pressure and cholesterol levels in check.

Over the last two years, however, after the demise of my mother, I'm now responsible not just for my daughter but my father too. And with that, my fitness has taken a beating. My blood pressure shot up over the last nine months, and sugar levels were erratic. I've developed hypothyroidism and my shoulders freeze up sometimes. But I know this is temporary. With years of work experience at luxury brands, I hope to have a job waiting for me when I'm able to take it, and I am working on rebuilding my immunity.

Is loneliness making your pets depressed?

Owners of two-and-a-half-year-old Browny, whose habit of chasing her tail turned into a 24X7 obsession, panicked and took her to a veterinarian. The vet directed them to an animal behaviourist who diagnosed Browny with boredom and separation anxiety. After months of treatment Browny's behaviour has turned normal.

Leaving your pets alone at home for long periods, ignoring them or spending insufficient time with them can take a toll on them and cause

serious health issues. In recent times many pets have been facing issues of separation anxiety, obsessive compulsive disorders and in extreme cases even self-destructive behaviour, say city based pet psychologists and pet behaviourists.

Priti Chauhan, a pet behaviourist and therapist for the last 10 years, said, "Every week I get two to three similar cases. Along with treating the pets, we also counsel the owners so that they do not repeat the same mistakes. In most of these cases the pets get affected due to suffering caused by their owners leaving them alone at home for long durations.

Some people even tie them up, confining them to one place and don't keep sufficient drinking water among other things." Anagha Mali, another pet behaviourist informed, "There are various ways to know if a pet is suffering from these issues. Separation anxiety includes pets refusing to stay indoors, barking

continuously, being destructive including chewing on furniture, soiling the house. In extreme cases pets start hurting themselves by either licking and creating a wound, shadow chasing or tail chasing etc."

At times pets can also suffer due to other reasons, explained Priti. "Ensure that the pet is well fed, is done with his daily ablutions and pet behaviourists.

Leisure activities like walking, playing with toys, and interactive games can help. "It's important to provide

to smell flowers, leaves, roads etc. That will stimulate his brain," she said.

Housewife Aarti Pednekar's case is an example of pets suffering due to other reasons. Aarti, who owns a six-year-old Labrador, Honey, narrated, "Though we are a family of four, Honey is most attached to me and becomes restless if I go out anywhere.

Recently when I had gone out of town for a fortnight, she almost injured her front paw by licking it continuously. On consulting a behaviourist we realised she was suffering from separation anxiety. The behaviourist explained how important it is to engage other members of the family in taking care of the pet so that it feels attached to all."

Veterinary surgeon and behaviour counsellor Dr Shivshankar Chikodi, said, "It is good to train your pet if you are going to leave him alone for long hours. The training can ideally start at two years of age. Initially one should start keeping the pet alone for a period of 15 minutes which can gradually be increased to two hours and longer."



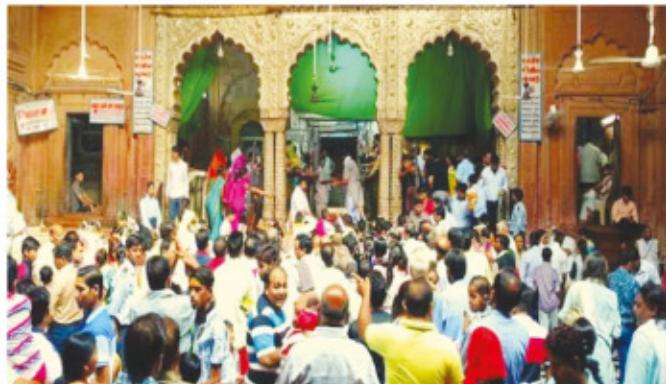
Banke Bihari Temple case: Supreme Court raps UP for hijacking parties' litigation

The Supreme Court came down heavily on the Uttar Pradesh government for "hijacking" a litigation between two private parties while hearing a plea questioning an earlier order allowing the use of funds for the Shri Banke Bihari Temple in Vrindavan.

New Delhi. A curious situation unfolded in the Supreme Court on Tuesday during the hearing of a plea questioning an earlier order permitting the Uttar Pradesh government to utilise funds for the Shri Banke Bihari Temple in Vrindavan. The order, which was authored by Justice SC Sharma, was also a part of the present bench on Tuesday. The case took an interesting turn as Justice BV Nagarathna, sitting alongside Justice SC Sharma, raised strong questions about the state's involvement in what she described as a private dispute. Justice Nagarathna, who was heading the bench, questioned why the state decided to "hijack" a litigation between two private parties.

Justice SC Sharma, the author of the order and now a part of the bench examining it, clearly questioned how the applicant was seeking a review of the earlier judgment through an application, adding that the same cannot be permitted.

"The application was filed by a sevak (priest) of the temple, seeking modification of the



Supreme Court's earlier direction. I'm pleased in the case as the party will question how a temple's money could be handed over to the state without even making them a party," the bench said. Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, representing the applicant, pointed out that the order regarding Banke Bihari Temple was passed in a case which was filed regarding Giriraj temple. "How can you, by an order in another petition, direct that a private temple's earnings be handed over to the government?" Sibal asked. Justice Nagarathna appeared

visibly concerned at the UP government's interference. "In what capacity has the state entered into this dispute? If states start interfering in private disputes between parties, it will be a breakdown of the rule of law," Justice Nagarathna said.

While the state government claimed it was not a private dispute and a newly-issued ordinance now placed the temple funds under a trust's control, Justice Nagarathna remained firm. "We're not coming in the way of development. But hijacking private litigation by the state is not permissible," she said. Justice SC Sharma, whose prior judgment was being questioned, told the applicant during the hearing, "By filing this application, you want that judgment to be reviewed." In response, Sibal said he was only seeking to be impleaded in the matter, not to reopen the judgment. As Justice SC Sharma said the applicant should file a review first, Sibal responded by saying, he had to be impleaded first and the court cannot pass an order taking away the property of a private temple without pleading with them.

No surprise if like-minded parties join: AIADMK hints at tie-up with Vijay's party

NEW DELHI. All India Anna Dravida Kazhagam (AIADMK) MLA and senior leader Kadambur Raju indicated that actor-turned-politician Vijay's Tamilaga Vettai Kazhagam (TVK) may join the party's alliance in the future. Speaking on the political scenario, Raju said both AIADMK and Vijay share the goal of removing the ruling DMK from power in Tamil Nadu. "This is an anti-people government. They came to power by giving false poll promises. We are facing elections with the aim to send them home," Kadambur Raju said.

He added that Vijay also holds the same opinion, and there is nothing wrong with that. "In future, depending on the situation, when the alliance is confirmed next January, there is nothing to be surprised about like-minded parties joining the alliance," Raju remarked.

Raju's statement comes months after Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced on April 11, that the AIADMK and the BJP will fight the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections together and under the leadership of E Palaniswami (EPS). Shah's announcement, at a press conference with EPS by his side, capped weeks of speculation of the two former NDA allies tying up again in the southern state after their bitter break-up in September 2023.

Reacting to the alliance, Vijay said, "Not surprised that old partners AIADMK and BJP have joined hands again," he said, dubbing the alliance one of "compulsion."

According to him, the real fight is between DMK and TVK, and he warned that "people will teach them a lesson."

Meet the Indian Army men who designed the viral Operation Sindoos logo

NEW DELHI. A simple yet powerful symbol has become the face of India's decisive military response to terror. The iconic logo of Operation Sindoos, now etched in the national consciousness, was designed not by advertising professionals or branding firms, but by two men in uniform — Lt Col Harsh Gupta and Havildar Surinder Singh. The logo, unveiled shortly after India's precision strikes on May 7 against nine terror camps in Pakistan and Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir, uses symbolism that has deeply resonated with millions. The second "O" in Sindoos is designed with a traditional vermillion bowl — a sacred symbol of married Hindu women — its bold red hue speaks volumes about sacrifice, justice and national pride.

According to the Indian Army's special edition of Baatheet magazine, this now-iconic image was created in-house by the Social Media Section of the Additional Directorate General of Strategic Communication.

"Operation Sindoos was not just a military mission, but the face of a changing India," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said during his Mann Ki Baat radio address. "It reflects the country's resolve, courage, and growing strength on the global stage." The logo was first posted at 1.51 am on X on May 7, just minutes after the conclusion of the 25-minute air operation. It was accompanied by a crisp, thunderous message: "#PahalgamTerrorAttack Justice is Served. Jai Hind!"

The page-turning opening of Baatheet carries the poster in full glory, underscored by the Indian Army emblem. The second page recounts the trigger — the April 22 Pahalgam massacre, where five terrorists slaughtered 26 civilians in the Baisaran Valley.

"This incident fortified the resolve of our country to fight terror with punitive action," reads a caption titled Pahalgam.

The magazine shares emotional imagery from the aftermath, including rows of coffins and tearful farewells. It also includes a timestamped photograph of Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi monitoring the strike operation from a control room.

Justice Varma may face impeachment in cash row as Centre weighs options

New Delhi. The Centre is currently exploring options to move an impeachment motion against Allahabad High Court judge Yashwant Varma, weeks after a Supreme Court-appointed in-house committee found him guilty of possessing unaccounted cash at his official residence in Delhi. The impeachment motion is being considered for the upcoming Monsoon Session of Parliament, which begins in mid-July, reported news agency PTI. The Supreme Court has already asked Justice Varma to resign following the in-house committee's probe report. However, after Justice Varma refused to resign, the then Chief Justice of India, Sanjiv Khanna, sent



the report to the President, recommending his impeachment. Following the Supreme Court-appointed committee's probe report, Varma maintained his innocence, stating that the burnt cash recovered from his Delhi residence during a fire on Holi did not belong to him. However, no official process has been initiated to move an

impeachment motion against Justice Varma in the upcoming Monsoon Session, reported PTI, citing official sources. "A final decision on the matter will be taken soon. It is difficult to ignore such a visible scandal," the source was quoted as telling PTI. An impeachment motion against a judge can be tabled in either the Lok Sabha or the Rajya Sabha following the approval of the Speaker or the Chairman. Furthermore, the motion has to be backed by at least 100 members in the Lok Sabha before it is sent to the Speaker or by at least 50 members in the Rajya Sabha before it is sent to the Chairman for approval. The Centre is also in touch with Opposition parties and will only take them into confidence before moving ahead with any parliamentary action against Justice Varma.

DRDO inaugurates research centre in Delhi to boost indigenous quantum capabilities

New Delhi. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on Tuesday inaugurated the Quantum Technology Research Centre (QTRC) in Delhi, with the aim of further strengthening indigenous quantum capabilities for strategic and defence applications. The facility, inaugurated by Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and DRDO chairman, Samir V Kamat, is equipped with state-of-the-art experimental set-ups designed to propel research and development in critical quantum domains. The key capabilities of this centre include the characterisation of vertical-cavity surface-emitting lasers and distributed feedback lasers, test-beds for evaluating single-photon sources, set-up for characterisation of micro-fabricated alkali vapour cell, and experimental platforms for



developing and validating quantum key distribution techniques to enable ultra-secure communication and safeguard national security in the post-quantum era, spearheaded by Scientific Analysis Group (SAG), DRDO. Spearheaded by the Solid State Physics Laboratory (SSPL), QTRC also focusses on foundational technologies, including an ultra-small atomic clock based on coherent population trapping

for highly-precise timekeeping in the Global Navigation Satellite System-denied environments, an atomic magnetometer using optically pumped magnetometry for ultra-sensitive magnetic field detection, and cutting-edge solid-state quantum devices and materials. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Director General (Micro Electronic Devices, Computational Systems and Cyber Systems) Suma Varughese, whose vision and leadership were instrumental in conceptualising this cutting-edge facility. DG (Resource and Management) Dr Manu Korulla and directors of SSPL and SAG, senior scientists and other dignitaries attended the function. As a key stakeholder in the national quantum mission, DRDO is committed to fostering indigenous innovation and developing sovereign.

Satellite pics show how India targeted underground complex at Pak's Murid base

New Delhi. India's May 10 airstrike on Pakistan's Murid air base during Operation Sindoos may have targeted a suspected underground facility, newly released high-resolution satellite images show. Satellite imagery captured by Maxar Technologies shows a nearly 3-metre-wide crater just 30 metres from the entrance of a heavily fortified sub-complex within the Murid air base. The crater's proximity to what is believed to be an underground structure has raised speculation that India aimed to strike deep-buried assets, possibly linked to command-and-control functions or drone operations.

"The strike targets a highly secure sub-complex within the air base that has multiple protection layers, including its own double fencing and watchtowers, making it most likely a high-value target," Damien Symon, geo-intelligence researcher at the Intel Lab, told.

The strike appears to have breached the perimeter defences of this high-value

zone, hinting at the use of precision-guided munitions and deep-penetration targeting. If confirmed, this would be the first known instance of India attempting to disable subterranean military infrastructure in Pakistan. Elsewhere on the base, damage is visible to the roof of what appears to be a command-and-control building adjacent to a UAV complex and hangar. Satellite images supplied by Maxar Technologies to India Today, dated April 16, show the building intact. The post-strike image from May 10 reveals visible damage to the structure.

"Adjacent to the UAV complex and hangar at Murid, a likely command and control facility appears to have been struck, its roof shows signs of damage that suggest there might be impact internally within the building as well,"

Symon said.

Located 150 kilometres from the Line of Control, Murid base plays a pivotal role in maintaining the combat readiness of



Pakistan's air assets, including fighter jets and drones. It supports both the Sargodha air base and the Nur Khan air base in Rawalpindi.

On the other hand, Nur Khan air base, also

hit during Operation Sindoos, may have sustained more damage than initially estimated. Satellite imagery from April 25 — nearly two weeks before the strikes — shows the facility intact. In contrast, imagery from May 10 reveals that two trailer trucks, believed to be command and control units, were destroyed in a pinpoint-accurate Indian strike.

A follow-up image from May 17 shows the area around the strike site cleared by Pakistani authorities and the presence of some earth-moving vehicles. Notably, Nur Khan base is home to C-130 Hercules, Saab 2000, and IL-78 refuelling aircraft, making it a crucial logistics and command node for the Pakistan Air Force. It serves as the premier hub for strategic airlift and VIP transport.



Female pet owners may be less likely to die of stroke

Can pets be good for your health? Possibly yes, a study suggests.

U.S. women over age 50 and generally healthy were less likely to die of

cardiovascular events like stroke if they had a cat or dog, the researchers found.

After accounting for the increase in physical activity required of dog owners, owning a cat

instead of a dog was still tied to a lower risk of death from stroke.

The researchers studied almost 4,000 adults age 50 and older without major illnesses who

participated in the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) in 1988 to 1994 and who reported their pet ownership.

Participants also answered questions about physical activity, weight and height, cigarette smoking and other health risk factors. More than half were overweight or obese. About 35 percent of people owned a pet, most often a dog. Pet owners tended to be younger, more often were married, and more often were white.

According to the National Death Index, as of 2006, 11 of every 1,000 non-pet owners had died of cardiovascular disease, compared to about 7 of every 1,000 pet owners.

Specifically for stroke, male pet owners were just as likely to have died, but female pet owners were about 40 percent less likely to



blood pressure as well," said senior author Jian Zhang of the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health at Georgia Southern University in the U.S.

"I strongly believe that putative benefits of keeping a dog have not yet fully translated into reality, and we found that pet owners did not walk pets, certainly, dogs, more often than others," Zhang said. "This explains why owning a dog did not reduce CVD mortality among dog owners."

Cat owners may have a personality that protects their hearts, rather than cats actually having a concrete effect on heart health, he said.

"We are short of overall assessment of the associations of companion animals with human health, and our study should not be interpreted to encourage more people to own pets, either dog or cat," Zhang said. "Pets are good, but have to be kept responsibly."

"In my study, there was a tendency for pet owners to have a higher risk of dying," said Dr. Richard F. Gillum of Howard University College of Medicine in Washington D.C., who was not part of the new study but did study the same NHANES surveys.

Most findings show no association between pets and survival, he said.

"Data from NHANES are really inadequate to settle the question, since one can only determine there was a pet in the household, but not the number of pets or whether the study participant was the owner, cared for it or interacted with it," Gillum said. "So we need to wait for better studies before making any firm conclusions about pets and survival among their owners."

"Even if there were a reduction of death from stroke among women with cats, of what importance is that in public health terms if they are just as likely to die as other women, just from another cause," he said.

Pamper your pets with these pro tips

Our pets are an integral part of our families and deserve all the special care that we can provide. And that is the primary reason why we need to take our pets for regular check-ups at veterinary clinics that are qualified and equipped to give them all that they need. We spoke to pet-care professionals in the city, to list out some special pro tips that can help your four-legged friends...

Ensure they stay well-hydrated

Pratapsinh Gaekwad, who is extremely passionate about animals and also owns a specialty pet-care clinic, says, "Ensure that your dog stays hydrated by adding extra water to some meals, in order to increase the

Be consistent with feeding regime

It is important to try and be consistent with your feeding regime — two meals a day, at the same time every day, with no snacks, should be sufficient.

Use palatable probiotics

Avoid curd as many patients can be slightly lactose intolerant and this can actually irritate the gut when had in large quantities, suggests Hannah. She adds, "A couple of teaspoons a day can be used as a probiotic but actually goat's yogurt or kefir are better and more palatable."

Get a dental check-up done

Opt for a full dental scale and polish to make gnashers sparkle. Gaekwad adds, "This is not just a cosmetic procedure, a full examination of all the teeth is undertaken, assessing all the gum margins. Removing plaque which is basically bacteria and sugar will help reduce systemic disease."

Give them supplements

"Supplements such as coconut oil are fantastic for your pet's coat and joints. They have a good ratio of omegas so really help nourish the skin, heart muscle and joints as well," says Hannah.

Dealing with heat stroke

Exercise is very important for pets but it is essential to not overdo it in the summer months. Heat strokes can be serious. Keep walks early in the morning before 8 am and late in the evening after 7 pm. Signs of heat stroke include lethargy, vomiting, disorientation and in extreme cases, collapse. The first thing to do is cool down with towels soaked in room temperature water. Immediately after, pay a visit to the vet.

Keep in mind

Take personal grooming seriously. Get a mani-pedi for your pets — get their nails clipped. Get a de-worming done prior to a vacation. Vaccinating against infectious diseases such as rabies, leptospirosis and canine distemper not only protects yourself but also your fellow canine companions."



water content. Flavouring their water with some chicken broth may encourage them to drink more as well.

Give them ice-cubes to snack on

Ice cubes make tasty zero calorie snacks for dogs, and you can always jazz them up by making flavoured ones by freezing some chicken broth in an ice cube rack, suggests Gaekwad.

Deal with osteoarthritis

Hannah Victoria Myburgh, head nurse at a South Mumbai veterinary hospital says, "For the older patients who suffer from osteoarthritis and creaky joints, green lipp mussel extract is a fantastic natural analgesic. Adding glucosamine chondroitin supplements into the diet really helps with the maintenance of healthy joints and bones."

A typical Indian wedding has day-long ceremonies and even longer guestlists running into hundreds.

Mind you, they are people who are close to the family and cannot be ignored. However, things are changing now as couples are choosing to have intimate celebrations with only a chosen few present on their special day. These millennials prefer to curb the unnecessary costs to avoid burdening their families. Instead, the money saved is spent on more constructive investments like a house or travelling together to their dream destination. If you are one of those planning to have a wedding celebration that is private, here are a few things to keep in mind...

BOOK A SMALL VENUE

When you have a small venue and people come to know about it, they will understand that you want to avoid a crowd. It is a subtle hint to those who expect to be invited for it, that you are not ready to host a big wedding.

KEEP THE RITUALS SIMPLE

Most Indian weddings have elaborate rituals - sangeet, mehendi, haldi among other thing. It is better to keep things simple by focusing only on the main wedding rituals or else design them as per the size of the venue as you don't want to make your guests feel uncomfortable.

HOME IS THE BEST

The most comfortable option is to get married in a cosy home.

If your house is not big enough, you can always ask a friend who has a bigger house to help you out. An attached terrace always works best. This also makes sure that you're not in a situation where you have to

explain about restricting the celebration to immediate family and close friends. After the wedding rituals, make sure to take everyone out for an elaborate lunch or dinner to avoid unnecessary speculation.

HAVE MULTIPLE CELEBRATIONS

Everyone expects a huge reception after the wedding, but if you don't want to have that either, opt for small multiple celebrations. You and your spouse can have separate office parties, while you can also plan one each with extended families from both the sides.

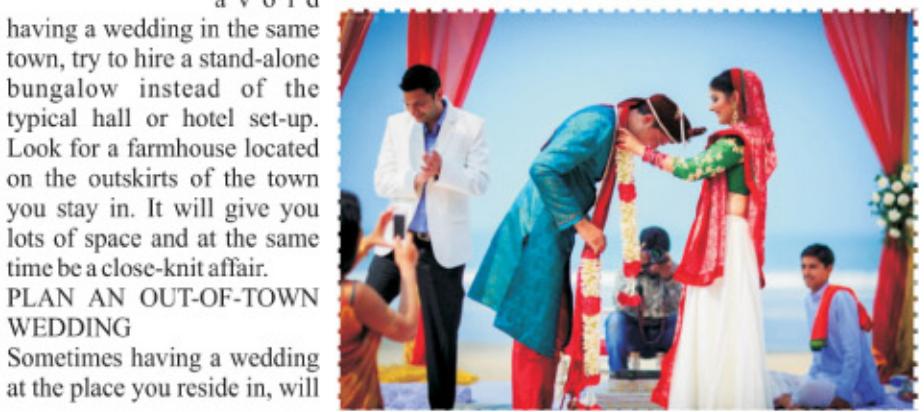


Friends can be combined or given separate parties depending on how you both want it. However, ensure that both of you attend all these parties. G O UNCONVENTIONAL However, if you cannot a v o i d

having a wedding in the same town, try to hire a stand-alone bungalow instead of the typical hall or hotel set-up. Look for a farmhouse located on the outskirts of the town you stay in. It will give you lots of space and at the same time be a close-knit affair.

PLAN AN OUT-OF-TOWN WEDDING

Sometimes having a wedding at the place you reside in, will



see a large number attending it. Avoid that and half the crowd goes out of the list. Go for a destination wedding, which invariably means that the celebration is a small, intimate affair; it also limits the number of guests you want to invite. This kind of wedding allows you to give personal attention to all your guests, as well as provide you with enough me-time.

IT and business services are moving toward autonomous operations: Tata chief

BENGALURU. IT and business services are moving toward autonomous operations and software development is being redefined by AI-led modernisation, says Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) Chairman N Chandrasekaran, who is also the Chairman of Tata Sons, in his letter to shareholders. In the company's FY2025 Annual Report, he said Agentic AI is being embedded deeply into enterprise systems and that Tata Consultancy Services has infused AI across its offerings and built intelligent agent solutions throughout the value chain. Talking about Generative AI he said the single most transformative force in 2024 was Gen AI. "The rise of autonomous robots and AI agents promises a future of 'dark factories' and AI-assisted enterprise functions," he said, adding every industry stands to benefit from Gen AI and that the IT industry is no exception. TCS is planning four progressions- to establish a large pool of AI agents working alongside human workforce; delivering solutions through a human+ AI model; to consciously invest in AI data centres and cloud infrastructure; and forge industry-best partnerships with hardware providers, solution innovators and start-ups. CEO K Krishivasan earned over Rs 26 cr in FY25. TCS CEO and MD K Krishivasan's salary package was up 4.6% to Rs 26.52 crore in FY25. This includes salary (Rs 1.4 cr), benefits, perquisites and allowances (Rs 2.13 cr) and commission (Rs 23 cr). Krishivasan, who took charge as the CEO and MD of TCS on June 1, 2023, took home about Rs 25.36 crore salary in Fy24. According to the company's annual report, the ratio of the pay of CEO to the median remuneration of employees stood at 329.8. The company said the average annual wage increase for employees was in the range of 4.5-7%, with top performers receiving double digit increments in India. Employees outside India received a wage increase varying from 1.5-6%.

Volvo Cars cutting 3,000 jobs to reduce costs

FRANKFURT, Germany. Sweden-based Volvo Cars is eliminating 3,000 positions as part of a cost-cutting program as the automotive industry faces challenges from trade tensions and resulting economic uncertainty. The company said Monday that around 1,200 of the job reductions would come among workers in Sweden, with another 1,000 positions currently filled by consultants, mostly in Sweden, also slated for elimination.

The rest of the job losses would be in other global markets. Most of the jobs being cut are office positions. "The actions announced today have been difficult decisions, but they are important steps as we build a stronger and even more resilient Volvo Cars," said Håkan Samuelsson, Volvo Cars president and CEO. "The automotive industry is in the middle of a challenging period. To address this, we must improve our cash flow generation and structurally lower our costs." The company, owned by China's Geely, has 42,600 full-time employees. Carmakers around the world are facing several headwinds, among them higher costs for raw materials, a diminished European car market, and U.S. President Donald Trump's imposition of 25% tariffs on imported cars and steel. Volvo Cars has its main headquarters and product development offices in Gothenburg, Sweden, and makes cars and SUVs in Belgium, South Carolina and China.

Soon, every Indian address may get a unique Digital ID

New Delhi. After introducing Aadhaar for identity and UPI for digital payments, the Indian government is now planning a new step - a digital ID for every address. This will help locate homes and places more accurately and quickly, especially while delivering government services or packages.

WHAT'S THE IDEA? The Centre wants to bring addresses under India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) matrix. Right now, there is no proper system or rule to manage address details in the country. Many companies collect people's address data and may even pass it on without asking. To stop this, the government wants to make sure people's address information is shared only after their clear consent. WHY NOW?

With online shopping, courier services, and food deliveries booming, correct address details have become very important. But many Indian addresses are written in unclear or incomplete ways - often using nearby landmarks or non-standard formats. This causes confusion and delays. Studies show such poor address systems cost the country nearly \$10-14 billion every year, that's about 0.5% of India's GDP. WHAT WILL CHANGE? A new framework called the 'Digital Address' system is being prepared. It will have clear standards for writing and sharing addresses safely. It will also allow digital platforms to access addresses in a secure way but only with the person's permission. The system is being developed by the Department of Posts and watched closely by the Prime Minister's Office. A draft version of the plan will be shared for public suggestions soon, and a final version is expected by the end of this year. A special law could be passed in the Parliament's winter session to set up a new authority to look after this digital address system. ENTER DIGIPIN

ADVERTISEMENT

A key part of this new system is the DIGIPIN, i.e., Digital Postal Index Number. Unlike regular postal codes, DIGIPIN will be based on the exact location of a place using map coordinates. It will be a 10-character alphanumeric code that gives the precise position of a house, shop, or building. This is very useful in areas where regular addresses don't work well - like villages, slums, forests, or hilly regions. With DIGIPIN, even a home in a remote area can have a unique digital address.

IndiGo to launch 18 daily flights from Navi Mumbai Airport, target 140 by Nov 2026

IndiGo will be the inaugural airline to operate from NMIA

NEW DELHI. India's largest airline - IndiGo - and Adani Airport Holdings Ltd. (AAHL), the largest operator of PPP airports in India have joined hands to smoothen commercial flight services from the soon-to-be operational Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA). IndiGo will operate 18 daily departures (36 Air Traffic Movements (ATMs) from NMIA to over 15 cities from day one, making it the first airline to commit to operating from NMIA at the start of commercial operations. This will be increased to 79 daily departures (158 ATMs), including 14 international departures by November



'25, and further scaled up to over 100 daily departures (200 ATMs) by March '26. By November '26, the operations will be further built up to 140 daily departures (280 ATMs) including 30 international departures. Pieter Elbers, Chief Executive Officer,

IndiGo said that IndiGo will be the inaugural airline to operate from NMIA and the alliance signals towards achievement of complete operational readiness on both sides to take next steps. Fullscreen Arun Bansal, CEO of AAHL said that this partnership marks a major

step towards confirming NMIA's position as a transfer hub for domestic and international travellers. Together, we are poised to transform travel experience for millions of passengers, providing them both convenience and enhanced travel options, stated Bansal.

In its initial phase, NMIA is set to handle 20 million passengers and 0.5 MMT of cargo per annum, with the capacity to serve 90 million passengers and 3.2 MMT of cargo per annum, once complete. The launch of the much-awaited NMIA was recently postponed once again. The airport, which was initially expected to begin operations by 15 May 2025, will now remain non-functional at least until 6 August 2025. The launch of NMIA will create a dual-airport system for the financial capital of the country, enabling the de-congestion of Mumbai airport and enhancing the overall passenger experience.

Tesla's monthly sales in Europe plunge by half, signaling backlash against Musk runs deep

LONDON. Tesla sales across Europe plunged by half last month even as growth in the electric car market picked up pace, according to data released Tuesday. The numbers are the latest indication of how much the Tesla brand is suffering because of the backlash against billionaire CEO Elon Musk over his far-right views. Sales of Tesla vehicles in 32 European countries tumbled 49% to 7,261 in April from 14,228 in the same month the previous year, according to the figures released by the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association, or ACEA. At the same time, sales of battery-electric vehicles by all manufacturers rose about 28%. Meanwhile, sales of gasoline and diesel powered cars slumped. The figures, which cover the European Union's 27 member countries and five other nations outside the bloc, back up early data from Sweden, the Netherlands and Denmark released at



the start of this month that had pointed to a sales collapse. Tesla has been reeling from protests and boycotts over Musk wading into politics, but it also faces other factors including an aging model lineup and intensifying competition from rival electric vehicle brands, particularly from China. U.S. President Donald Trump's trade war has also turned Europeans off buying American brands. In recent days, Trump threatened to impose a 50% tariff on EU goods, accusing the bloc of being "very difficult to deal with,"

before agreeing to delay the duties until July. In one sign that Tesla appears to be losing ground to cut-price Chinese brands, sales at China's SAIC zoomed up 54% in April, according to the ACEA figures. SAIC owns a slew of auto brands including U.K.-based MG, known for its low-cost EV models. Tesla is also suffering because it had to shut down factories for several weeks this year while upgrading its best selling Model Y sport utility vehicle, pinching supply. For the first four months of the year, Tesla's European sales fell roughly 39% to 61,320 while the continent's auto market as a whole showed little change during the same period, according to the data. For April, car sales in the EU edged up 1.3% from the previous year, "showing signs of recovery despite the ongoing unpredictable global economic environment," the group said in a press release.

ITR deadline extension: Why it happened and what you need to do now

New Delhi. Here's a relief for taxpayers - the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has extended the last date for filing income tax returns (ITRs) for the assessment year 2025-26. The earlier deadline of July 31, 2025 has now been pushed to September 15, 2025.

WHY DID THE CBDT EXTEND THE ITR DEADLINE? The main reason for this extension is the recent changes in the ITR forms. These forms have been updated with new layouts and extra details to make the process more transparent and accurate for taxpayers. But with these changes, the income tax department also needs more time to update its systems and make sure everything works smoothly. According to CA (Dr) Suresh Surana, "The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) has vide Press

release dated May 27, 2025 extended the due date for filing Income Tax



Returns (ITRs) for Assessment Year 2025-26 from July 31, 2025 to September 15, 2025. This decision has been taken in view of significant structural and content changes in the ITR forms, which require additional time for system development and utility integration." Further, Dr Surana explained that the TDS (Tax Deducted

at Source) credits, which are important while filing your ITR, will only start appearing from early June. This left taxpayers with very little time to file returns before the earlier July-end deadline. He said "With TDS credits expected to reflect only in early June, the effective return filing window was limited. The extension aims to ensure a smooth and accurate filing process while addressing stakeholder concerns. It is expected that a formal notification would follow."

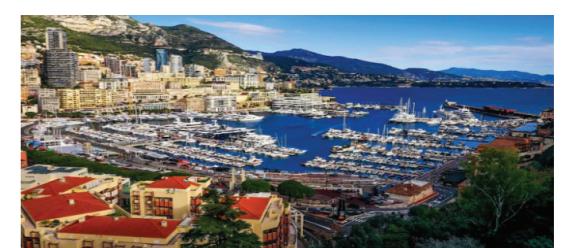
STEP TOWARDS EASIER FILING This move also fits into the government's long-term plan to modernise the income tax system. With new tech upgrades, automated tools, and smarter systems, filing taxes is expected to become quicker and easier for everyone.

Why the world's ultra-rich are looking for a Monaco address

NEW DELHI. Monaco's name comes from the ancient Greek word Monokos, meaning "the Unique." Fitting, isn't it? With more millionaires per square metre than anywhere else on Earth, and a coastline that looks like a scene from a Bond movie, Monaco has truly lived up to its ancient title. More and more of the world's richest people are looking to move to Monaco or at least have an address there. But why is this tiny country, smaller than many cities, drawing so much interest from the ultra-rich?

With its location on the French Riviera, its luxury lifestyle, and some very relaxed tax rules, Monaco has become a top choice for millionaires and billionaires from around the world.

MILLIONAIRES IN EVERY CORNER



Monaco's sun-drenched harbour is lined with luxury yachts that look more like floating mansions, while Lamborghinis, Rolls-Royces, and other supercars roam the streets. It may be the second-smallest country in the world, just after Vatican City, but it holds a very big place in the world of wealth. According to the World Bank, Monaco has a GDP per capita of \$256,580.5 and a total GDP of just under \$10 billion. This is far more than countries with much larger populations. For comparison, the United States has a GDP per capita of \$82,769.4, and is the world's largest economy. This shows how rich Monaco's residents are. In fact, it is said that one out of every three people living in Monaco is a millionaire. TAX-FRIENDLY LAWS ATTRACT THE WEALTHY

A big reason why so many wealthy people want to move to Monaco is because of its tax system.

CA (Dr) Suresh Surana explained that Monaco offers a very attractive setup for people with a high net worth. "Monaco does not charge personal income tax for residents, except for French citizens due to a special agreement," he said. He added that there is no wealth tax and no capital gains tax either.

Asian shares are mostly higher after S&P 500 rallies 2 percent

New Delhi. Asian shares were mostly higher on Wednesday after President Donald Trump's decision to delay a 50% tariff on goods coming from the European Union sparked a rally on Wall Street.

US futures were little changed and oil prices rose. Japan's Nikkei 225 gained 0.5% to 37,918.86 and traders were awaiting the outcome of an auction of 40-year Japanese government bonds. Government debt and bonds have become an increasingly important issue for markets in recent weeks as yields have climbed around the world.

The 40-year JGB's yield is at a record 3.5% and a recent auction found relatively few buyers. But analysts said worries eased a bit after Japan's finance ministry sent a questionnaire to bond investors that they took as a signal of efforts to calm the market. The dollar slipped against the Japanese yen, trading at 144.33 yen down from 144.36 yen. The euro fell to \$1.1312 from \$1.1329. Elsewhere in the region, Hong Kong's Hang Seng index lost 0.3% to 23,304.51, while the Shanghai Composite index edged 0.1% higher to 3,422.36. Australia's S&P/ASX 200 gained 0.2% to 8,425.10. The S&P/NZX 50 in New Zealand fell 1.8% after the central bank cut its benchmark interest

rate. In South Korea, the Kospi jumped 1.8% to 2,685.44, helped by a global rally in technology shares. Samsung Electronics' shares climbed 3.3% while SK Hynix was up 3%.

In Taiwan, the Taiex added 0.4%. Oil prices rose after the US authorisation to Chevron to export crude from Venezuela expired Tuesday. The Trump Administration has been trying to wind down U.S. reliance on Venezuelan energy. US benchmark crude oil gained 3 cents to \$61.22 per barrel. Brent crude, the international standard, was up 31 cents at \$63.88 per barrel. On Tuesday, Wall Street's roller-coaster ride created by Trump's trade policies resumed following the delay for his tariffs on the European Union. US markets had been closed for Memorial Day on Monday, and the S&P 500 leaped 2.1% in its first trading since Trump's announcement.

It closed at 5,921.54. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 1.8% to 42,343.65, and the Nasdaq composite gained 2.5% to 19,199.16. Wall Street's roller coaster had dropped Friday after Trump announced the tariffs on France, Germany and the other 25 countries represented by the European Union. Talks with the EU have raised hope the

United States can reach a deal with one of its largest trading partners, helping to keep global commerce moving and avoiding a possible recession. Trump declared a similar pause on his stiff tariffs for products coming from China earlier



this month, which launched an even bigger rally on Wall Street at the time. The uncertainty caused by on-again-off-again tariffs are leaving households and businesses wary about spending and investments. Surveys have already shown U.S. consumers are feeling worse about the economy's prospects and where inflation may be heading because of tariffs. However, a report Tuesday by the Conference Board said confidence among U.S. consumers has improved more in May than economists expected.

It was the first increase in six months, and consumers' expectations for income, business and the job market in the short term jumped sharply, though they remain below the level that typically signals a recession ahead. About half the survey

results came after Trump paused some of his tariffs on China. On Wall Street, Nvidia rallied 3.2% and was the strongest single force driving the S&P 500 higher ahead of its profit report coming on Wednesday. It's the last to report this quarter among the "Magnificent Seven" Big Tech companies. Nvidia has been riding a tidal wave of growth created by the frenzy around artificial-intelligence technology, but it's facing criticism that its stock price has shot too high.

Informatica climbed 6% after Salesforce said it would buy the AI-powered cloud data management company in an all-stock deal valuing it at about \$8 billion. Salesforce rose 1.5%. Treasury yields eased to take some of the pressure off the stock market. The yield on the 10-year Treasury fell to 4.44% from 4.51% late Friday. It had been rising last week, in part because of worries about the U.S. government's rapidly increasing debt.

NEWS BOX

IPL playoffs: Iyer's tact up against RCB's flair in battle of equals

CHANDIGARH: Shreyas Iyer's inspiring leadership will face its toughest test yet when Punjab Kings host an equally upbeat Royal Challengers Bengaluru in Qualifier 1 of the Indian Premier League here on Thursday.

Having earned the cushion of a top-two finish, one can expect both teams to have a no holds barred approach knowing they will get another shot at reaching the final even if they come up short on the opening night of the play-offs. Punjab Kings find themselves in unfamiliar territory having made the playoffs for the first time since 2014 but they are not carrying the baggage of the past in the Iyer-Ricky Ponting (head coach) era.

RCB, on the other hand, are way too familiar with heartbreaks of the knock-out stages and like every season, are hoping to end the title drought. In their own words, the job is only half done for both title contenders. The Iyer-Ponting partnership has resulted in a stellar



turnaround for Punjab Kings, who have finally cracked the consistency code after more than a decade of under-performance.

The combination has managed to get the best out of the players making them a well-oiled unit. The opening duo of Prabhhsimran Singh and rookie Priyansh Arya has laid the platform for the likes of Iyer and Josh Inglis to build. Finisher Shashank Singh continues to improve his game with each passing season and more recently, Australian import Marcus Stoinis finding his range with the bat makes the batting look more formidable.

The concerns lie in the bowling department, especially after the departure of South African Marco Jansen, who has returned home for national duty. Jansen bowled the crucial overs both in the powerplay and death and the team will certainly miss him on Thursday night. Kyle Jamieson showed promise in his debut for the franchise but will need to bowl better upfront to make an impact.

Pant's calibre and ability was never in doubt: LSG mentor Zaheer

LUCKNOW. Lucknow Super Giants mentor Zaheer Khan has asserted that skipper Rishabh Pant's calibre and ability were never in doubt despite his underwhelming performances for most of the IPL season and the charismatic stumper will emerge stronger after this learning curve. Bought for a whopping Rs 27 crore at the mega auction, Pant endured a lean patch, managing just 269 runs from 13 innings. He found his trademark big-hitting touch only in the last game of the season with a 61-ball 118 but that too ended up in a losing cause against Royal Challengers Bengaluru here on Tuesday.

"He's been good as a leader. That was a positive for us throughout the season. The form with the bat was definitely a learning experience for him, having this kind of season. But the ability and calibre -- no one had any doubt about it," Zaheer said in the post-match press conference on Tuesday. The former India pace spearhead said it was good to see the swashbuckling keeper-batter, end the season on a high. "We're happy he finished on a



really strong note - that's the calibre he has, and the impact he can have on the game," Zaheer added. It was an disappointing season for LSG, who finished seventh with six wins and eight losses. A spate of injuries to key bowlers disrupted their rhythm and consistency. "When you start off the IPL season, your first goal is to think of the playoffs, how you are going to get there. We obviously made the conscious effort of (trying to handle) the challenges which we are facing in the beginning of the season, which is losing a few of our main bowlers to injuries," he explained. "We made an effort to not pay too much attention to that and finding ways of winning the match," Zaheer said.

"That is the process which everyone was aligned to and looking at that, we have had a decent season but yes, we fell short and putting the game together was a challenge which was evident right through the season," he added.

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty marked a winning return at the Singapore Open Super 750, even as Lakshya Sen's campaign ended in heartbreak after an injury forced him to retire mid-match.

Singapore. India's top men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty made a winning return, while there was heartbreak for Lakshya Sen, who was forced to retire midway through his opening round clash at the Singapore Open Super 750 badminton tournament here on Wednesday. Back on court for the first time since their withdrawal from the All England



Open in March due to Chirag's back injury, the former world No.1 displayed no signs of rust as they beat Malaysia's Choong Hon Jian and Muhammad Haikal 21-16, 21-13 in just under 40 minutes in the round of 32.

It was Satwik and Chirag's second win over

the 41st-ranked Malaysian pair. The Indians are currently ranked 27th in the world. The pair had also missed the Sudirman Cup earlier this month, with Satwik battling health concerns. Prior to that, they had made semifinal appearances at both the Malaysia

Opponents of French players at the French Open deal with insults and whistling and, yes, even gum

So much for the supposed silence usually found in a tennis arena - it all raises questions about where the line between support and incivility lies.

PARIS. In all sports, there are advantages to being at home. At the French Open tennis tournament, being a visitor playing against a French player can feel as though the whole world is against you. The crowds don't just cheer. They oo, they whistle, they make noise between serves, they hurl insults — and, at least once, even gum — at the locals' opponents. That sort of behavior is why the tournament organizers banned alcohol from the stands last year, a policy still in place. Some of the non-French athletes who deal with that sort of negativity in Paris, such as 19-year-old Jakub Mensik of the Czech Republic, who eliminated Alexandre Müller in front of a rowdy crowd at Court 14 on Tuesday, compare the high-intensity atmosphere to that of a soccer game.

Others choose stronger terms. One player says

French Open fans can be 'disgusting' "Disgusting. Worst experience of my life," was Nicolás Jarry of Chile said this week when asked to think back to



last year's rowdy loss at Court Simonne-Mathieu to France's Corentin Moutet, whose coach had implored the spectators to make life "hell" for Jarry after the two had a contentious meeting in Santiago earlier in the season. Jarry blamed that on Moutet, saying that everything was calmer during his loss Monday to another Frenchman, Arthur Fils, whom the Chilean called a "good guy" and a "gentleman." "It's a battle out there, you know. Sometimes, it's not just a battle with the player," said Novak Djokovic, who is scheduled to face the irrepressible Moutet in the second round Thursday. Expect an antagonistic atmosphere. Djokovic sure does. Roland-Garros spectators can be

"louder and more passionate." "They're going to have the crowd on their side. It's nothing strange about it. It's expected," the 24-time Grand Slam champion said. "But it is true that here in France and in Paris, comparing to other Slams, the people are louder and more passionate and just give more support, louder support, more energy to their player, which for some (opponents) can be annoying. It's not the kind of ideal environment you want to be playing in, but you have to be ready for it." "So much for the supposed silence usually found in a tennis arena."

It all raises questions about where the line between support and incivility lies. "We've stepped up security," tournament director Amélie Mauressmo, a former No. 1 player, said before this year's event, "and given chair umpires greater power to intervene and report unacceptable behavior in the stands." For Mensik on Tuesday, the jeers began every time he hit the ball during the warmup ahead of his 7-5, 6-7 (5), 7-5, 6-3 win over France's Müller. More arrived once play began, accompanying each of his 20 aces or just when he simply walked to check a ball mark — a routine part of clay-court tennis. After taking the third set, Mensik gave the boo birds a little bit back, waving his right index finger as if it were a baton conducting an orchestra, a move he learned from Djokovic.

PARIS. For Novak Djokovic, this is a relatively easy call: He, like many players, thinks the French Open is making a mistake by eschewing the electronic line-calling used at most big tennis tournaments and instead remaining old school by letting line judges decide whether serves or other shots land in or out. Plenty of sports, from soccer and baseball to the NFL, are replacing, or at least helping, officials with some form of high-tech replays or other technology. Tennis, too, is following that trend, except at Roland-Garros, where competition continues through June 8. Even the longest-running and most tradition-bound of the majors, Wimbledon, is — gasp! — abandoning line judges and moving to an automatic system this year. The WTA and ATP added machine-generated rulings this season for tour events on red clay, the surface at the French Open. But Grand Slam hosts can do what they want,



and the French tennis federation is keeping the human element.

The French Open is pushing back against modern technology. Djokovic, the 24-time major champion scheduled to play his first-round match in Paris on Tuesday, understands why folks might prefer the way to keep things the way they were for more than a century in his sport. He gets why there could be an inclination to shy away from too much change in a world now drowning in cell phones and streaming and social media. "You don't want to give everything away to the technology, right? But if I have to choose between the two, I'm more of a proponent of technology. It's just more accurate, saves time, and ... (means) less people on the court," said Djokovic, 38, who was disqualified from the 2020 U.S. Open for inadvertently hitting an official with a ball hit out of frustration between games.



was playing his best tennis or his highest level. But if I pushed him to a different point, he would bring it up." One example: When McDonald earned his first break points, getting to love-40 at 3-2 in the second set, Djokovic came up with three big serves, a 120 mph (193 kph) ace, a 123 mph (199 kph)

ace and a 122 mph (197 kph) service winner. Djokovic compiled 32 winners — 18 more than McDonald — and just 20 unforced errors in a match that eventually was played with the lights on and the retractable roof closed. "I'm a competitor, and losing stings," McDonald said, "but playing Novak on that court is something I'll remember." Before Djokovic, who just turned 38 and won his 100th career title last weekend, walked onto the playing surface, he was identified by the stadium announcer by his total number of Slam trophies, the three he's won at the French Open, and the Summer Games gold he won "here in Paris." "I still remember last year. The emotion is very strong."

Erigaisi hands world champion Gukesh second defeat in two days in Norway Chess

Erigaisi, playing here for the first time, forced Gukesh to resign after giving him a check with his knight.

NORWAY. World champion D Gukesh finds himself in deep trouble as compatriot Arjun Erigaisi broke through his defences in the second round to move into joint lead, while Hikaru Nakamura stunned Magnus Carlsen in the Armageddon tie-break on an eventful day in Norway Chess here. Labelled as the favourite in the six-player double round-robin 'Open' category, Gukesh is scraping the bottom of the points table having lost the opening two rounds. World No.4 Indian Erigaisi has emerged the joint leader with American Grandmaster Nakamura on 4.5 points. In an all-Indian tension-filled clash, Erigaisi, playing with white pieces, seized

the early initiative but Gukesh's resilient defence created a somewhat equal endgame. As the clock became a decisive factor, the position erupted into chaos before Erigaisi finally broke through to secure victory in a slugfest that lasted over four hours.

Erigaisi, who had also spoilt Gukesh's party at the Tata Steel Chess earlier this year by taking a game away from him just when he looked set to win the title, again dealt a huge body blow to the teenage world champion -- who turns 19 on Thursday, beating him in 62 moves. Erigaisi, playing here for the first time, forced Gukesh to resign after giving him a check with his knight. The victory for the 21-year-old, who achieved his peak rating of 2801 making him the 15th highest-rated player in history and only the second Indian after Viswanathan Anand to ever to cross the 2800 threshold in December, had on Monday overcome Chinese GM Wei Yi in

Armageddon to secure 1.5 points. Erigaisi, who enjoys a stunning 6-0 record in Classical wins against Gukesh, was "surprised" why Gukesh took so much time in the initial



moves to find himself under time pressure. Just before the 17th move, Gukesh found himself behind his opponent on the clock by more than one hour. "I'm a bit

surprised Gukesh is thinking this early on. The way he played this c3 move quite early on, I think it's not known at the highest level or it is not popular," said Erigaisi. He will play American GM Fabiano Caruana in Round 3, while Gukesh will hope for a revival against Nakamura, one of the best in rapid and blitz chess.

Carlsen vs Nakamura
The much-anticipated clash between world No.1 Carlsen and No.2 Nakamura began with a deceptively quiet classical game. The Norwegian defending champion emerged satisfied from the opening. However, after a series of precise moves on both sides, the game dissolved into a draw. In the Armageddon, Carlsen got a dangerous attack out of the opening and seemed to have everything under control. However, Armageddon can be unpredictable, and after a mistake in the endgame Nakamura found a brilliant move, winning the game.

Nora Fatehi

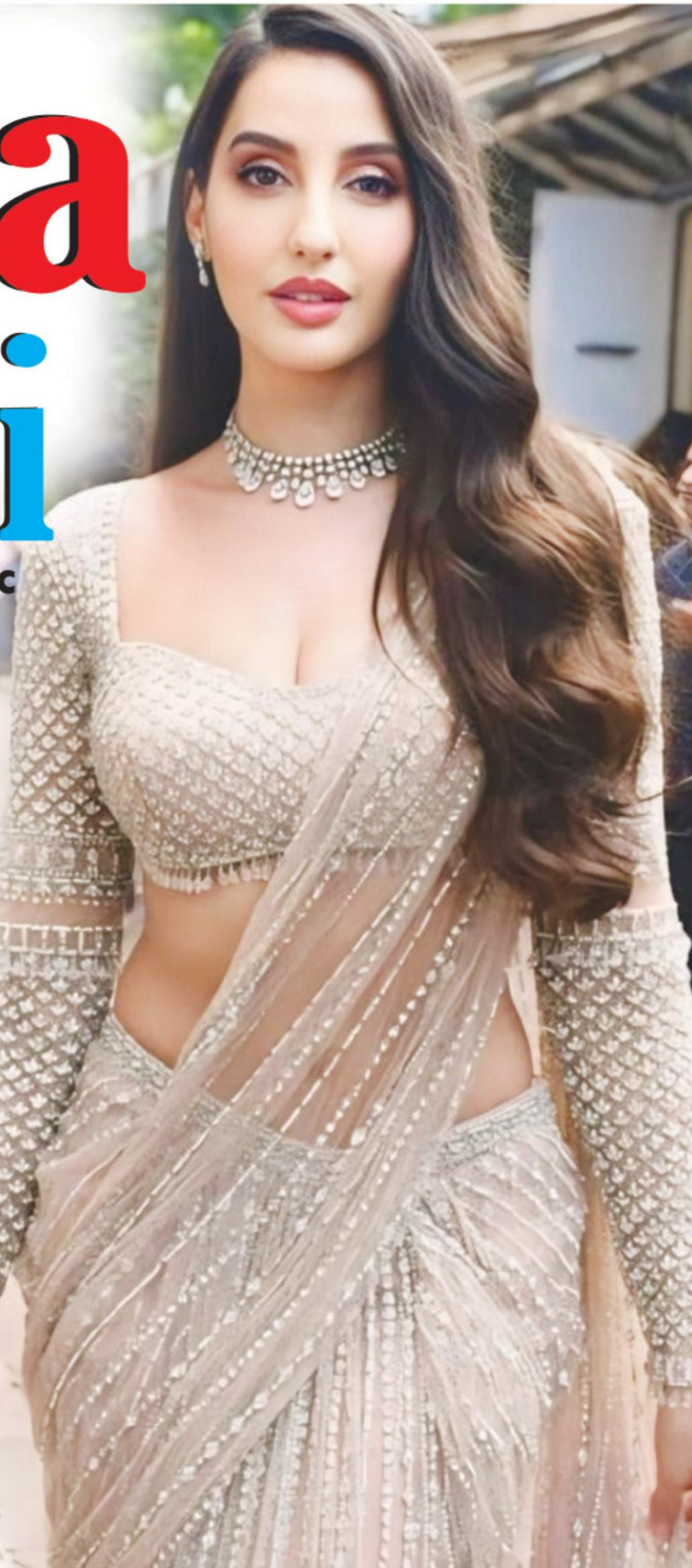
Attends American Music Awards 2025 In Style



Nora Fatehi attended this year's American Music Awards, hosted by Jennifer Lopez. This comes after the success of her latest single, Snake, with Jason Derulo, which topped the BBC Asian Music charts. The award ceremony took place on May 27 at the recently opened Fontainebleau in Las Vegas, United States. Videos from Nora's appearance at the event have gone viral, and her fans could not get over how stunning she looked. Nora was seen in a sassy black dress with silver sequins all over it. The dress featured a halter neckline and a bold cutout below the bust. She kept her makeup and hairstyle simple and let her outfit take centre stage.

Reportedly, the 51st American Music Awards aim to highlight performers such as Gloria Estefan, Gwen Stefani, Blake Shelton and Janet Jackson, among others. Janet Jackson will be honoured with the Icon Award, and Rod Stewart will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award. Kendrick Lamar, an American rapper, garnered the most nominations (10), followed by Billie Eilish, Chappell Roan and Shaboozy. Bruno Mars, Lady Gaga, Morgan Wallen, Sabrina Carpenter, SZA and Taylor Swift are also nominated in many categories. Meanwhile, Nora is joining rapper King and Anjula Aeharia for Warner Music Group's joint venture label 5 Junction Records. The trio also featured on the Billboard magazine cover recently. According to the publication, 5 Junction Records will provide a platform for South Asian performers to reach North American listeners, similar to modern indie hits but with significantly more established talent and infrastructure.

Speaking about joining the venture, Nora told the publication, "It's hard to take a vision and sell it to someone else, because most people don't have an attention span to listen to you for more than five minutes. But when [Anjula] opens her mouth and starts her pitch, you somehow have FOMO — you feel like you're going to miss out if you're not paying attention." Nora Fatehi was recently seen in Netflix's The Royals, directed by Priyanka Ghose and Nupur Asthana. It featured Ishaan Khatter, Bhumi Pednekar, Dino Morea, Zeenat Aman, Chunky Panday, Milind Soman, Sakshi Tanwar, Vihaan Samat and Kavya Trehan in prominent roles.



Urvashi Rautela

SLAMS Comparisons With Aishwarya Rai Bachchan: 'I'm The Blueprint'

Urvashi Rautela has hit back at articles comparing her to Aishwarya Rai Bachchan after her Day 1 appearance at Cannes Film Festival 2025. A few articles on the Internet claimed Urvashi was trying to imitate Aishwarya, and called her 'Aishwarya Rai with 0 charisma'. Now, the 'Daaku Maharaaj' actress has slammed the articles, stating that she wasn't at Cannes to blend in — she was there to stand out. She also said that she is nobody's 'duplicate'. On Tuesday, Urvashi Rautela took



to her Instagram account to share a post that read, "So apparently I'm 'trying to be Aishwarya Rai with 0 charisma'?" Darling... Aishwarya is iconic. But I'm not here to be anyone's duplicate. I'm the blueprint. Cannes didn't invite me to blend in- I came to stand out. If my look, my style, or my confidence makes you uncomfortable... maybe take a deep breath (or two). I'm not everyone's cup of tea — I'm more like champagne with fireworks. And charisma? Sweetheart, if you could measure it, I'd break the scale."

She further added, "To all the keyboard critics — keep talking. To all the queens owning their space — keep

slaying. To myself — keep shining, because no one does it like you. #ToMuchCharismaToHandle #UrvashiRautela #CannesWithConfidence #NotYourCopyPaste #QueenEnergy #Cannes2025." She also shared screenshots of the articles. She has turned off comments on the post.

Urvashi Rautela Slams Claims That She 'Blocked' Staircase At Cannes

A little while ago, Urvashi shared another post on Instagram, in which she reacted to reports claiming she 'blocked' a staircase at the Cannes Film Festival for her photoshoot, which disrupted others. She issued a statement and slammed 'cowardly lies' being spread against her. The actress claimed that she had permission for a photoshoot at the designated staircase and bashed those "thriving only on venomous attacks against hardworking outsiders who dare to shine".

"My team secured full permission for a photoshoot on a designated staircase, as did others, in strict adherence to every rule of the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, which I honour with unwavering respect," a part of Urvashi's statement read.

Meanwhile, on the work front, Urvashi Rautela was recently seen in Daaku Maharaaj starring Nandamuri Balakrishna. The cast also includes Bobby Deol, Pragya Jaiswal, Shraddha Srinath, Rishi, Chandini Chowdary, Urvashi Rautela, and Pradeep Rawat in key roles.



Janhvi Kapoor, Khushi's Airport Looks Are A Masterclass In Casual Glam



Just days after returning from the Cannes Film Festival, Janhvi Kapoor was spotted arriving in Jamnagar with sister Khushi Kapoor on Tuesday. The stylish siblings turned heads at the airport, effortlessly blending comfort with chic in their travel looks. Janhvi flashed a warm smile as she made her way to the car, while Khushi entered the luxe ride from the other side.

Janhvi Kapoor recently turned heads at Cannes 2025 with her breathtaking red carpet appearance. She was at the prestigious film festival for the premiere of Homebound, which screened under the Un Certain Regard section. Directed by Neeraj Ghaywan and backed by Karan Johar, Homebound received a remarkable 9-minute standing ovation following its screening, marking yet another milestone in Janhvi's evolving career. The poignant drama also stars Ishaan Khatter and Vishal Jethwa in pivotal roles.

Set in rural North India, the film explores themes of ambition and friendship through the journey of two childhood friends, played by Ishaan and Vishal, who dream of becoming police officers. Earlier, following the announcement of Homebound being selected as India's official entry to the Cannes Film Festival this year, Janhvi Kapoor shared a heartfelt note on Instagram. It read, "A moment where Indian cinema takes over the world. We are honoured to announce that Homebound makes its way to the official selection at the 78th edition of the Festival De Cannes in the 'Un Certain Regard' category. Our hearts are full and we can't wait to show you all this journey on the big screens!"

Janhvi Kapoor is also making headlines for her upcoming release, Param Sundari, with Sidharth Malhotra. As for Khushi Kapoor, the actress was last seen in the Netflix film, Nadaaniyan. The romance drama marked the acting debut of Ibrahim Ali Khan, son of Saif Ali Khan and Amrita Singh. It is directed by Shauna Gautam. Before this, Khushi was seen in her big-screen debut film, Loveyapa, which was released on February 7 this year. Featuring her with Junaid Khan, the film is now available for streaming on JioHotstar.

Priyanka Chopra Celebrates 75 Years Of Sajid Nadiadwala's Production House



Ahead of their upcoming release Housefull 5, production house Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment (NGE) celebrated 75 years in Indian cinema on May 26. Founded in 1950, the studio marked the milestone with a special 75-year logo, which sparked a wave of congratulatory posts from viewers and celebrities. Priyanka Chopra, the global icon, also extended her heartfelt wishes to producer Sajid Nadiadwala via a post on Instagram stories. Sharing the announcement video by the production house, Priyanka Chopra wrote, "Congratulations Nadiadwala Grandson. Here's to many more milestones."

Akshay Kumar, who has been a long-time collaborator with the production house, shared a heartfelt post, reflecting on his friendship with producer Sajid Nadiadwala. He wrote, "75 years of cinematic legacy, passion, and pure magic! Congratulations to my school friend and neighbour, Sajid Nadiadwala, and the entire Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment family on this incredible milestone."

Over the years, Nadiadwala Grandson Entertainment has delivered some notable blockbusters like Judwaa, Mujhe Shaadi Karogi, Highway, Tamasha, Super 30 and the national-award-winning film Chhichhore, bringing stories to life which are both entertaining and impactful.

In a statement to mark the milestone, Sajid Nadiadwala shared, "At Nadiadwala Grandson, we remain committed to creating quality cinema that entertains, inspires, and stays with you. This new chapter is not just about celebrating 75 years, but also about honouring the roots that shaped us and the stories we continue to tell. We are excited for what lies ahead, with Housefull 5, Baaghi 4, the untitled Shahid-Tripti project, and many more currently in development." Coming to Priyanka Chopra's professional front, the actress has an intriguing lineup of projects in her kitty. She has finished filming for The Bluff, co-starring Ercell, Karl Urban, Ismael Cruz Córdova, Temuera Morrison and Safia Oakley-Green in pivotal roles. She also has the second season of the series Citadel in her kitty.