

Why are Sikh kada & kirpan being removed forcefully?

The Sikh Times
Simmi Kaur Babbar

Delhi. A shocking incident at Poornima University, Jaipur, has triggered outrage across the Sikh community nationwide. A Sikh girl student was allegedly pressured by university authorities to remove her Kirpan and Kada, both integral articles of faith in Sikhism.

The brave young girl, however, refused to surrender her faith, boldly declaring: "I will not remove my Kirpan and Kada. I choose my religion over my career." This incident has drawn disturbing parallels to historical oppression. Centuries ago, Mughal Emperor Aurangzeb infamously forced Hindus to remove their sacred 'Janeu' (holy thread). Today, in independent India, under a Hindu-majority government, Sikhs are facing similar coercion—this time over their sacred articles of faith.

The Sikh community is questioning:

► Why are Sikhs repeatedly asked to remove their Kirpan and Kada at



Remarkable speech: PM Modi praises Amit Shah's Parliament address on Op Mahadev

PM Modi praised Amit Shah's speech in Parliament and said both Operation Mahadev and Operation Sindoora played a vital role in eliminating cowardly terrorists.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday praised Home Minister Amit Shah's fiery speech in Parliament and said both Operation Sindoora and Operation Mahadev played a vital role in eliminating terrorists.

Three terrorists, including the mastermind of the Pahalgam attack, were killed in Operation Mahadev on Monday in Jammu and Kashmir.

While speaking in the Lok Sabha, Amit Shah confirmed that all the three

killed by the security forces in Operation Mahadev, avenging the killings of 26 tourists on

April 22. Shah said meticulous plans to nab the terrorists were

Praising the speech, PM Modi wrote on X that the Home Minister's address focused on Centre's efforts towards keeping the nation secure. "In this remarkable speech in the Lok Sabha, Home Minister Amit Shah Ji gives important details about Operation Sindoora and Operation Mahadev, which have played a vital role in eliminating cowardly terrorists. His address also focuses on our Government's efforts towards keeping our nation secure," he said in a post on X.

them to leave the country.

Prashant Kishor, a member of the opposition, said the speech was "a clear victory for the government".

Shah also acknowledged that the operation was a "timely and effective" response to the Pahalgam attack.

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Mumbai police seize mephedrone worth Rs 382cr after busting drug factory in Mysuru

Mumbai.(Agency)

Four men, including a mechanical engineer aged between 25 and 45, were arrested in a raid conducted by Mumbai's Saki Naka police team in coordination with Mysuru police on Saturday. The operation targeted a drug manufacturing facility on the outskirts of Mysuru city, resulting in the seizure of 188 kg of mephedrone (MD) drugs valued at Rs 382 crore, along with manufacturing machinery and chemicals. The Saki Naka police stated that the raid led to the suspension of an inspector of the Narasimharaja police station under whose limits the drugs were manufactured. The four men, whose names were withheld, were arrested and brought to Mumbai based on information received following the arrest of four people in April linked to the drug racket.

According to sources, Mysuru city police ordered the suspension of inspector Lakshmi Kant Talwar of Narasimharaja police station pending a departmental inquiry. Meanwhile, Mysuru city crime branch inspector Shabbir Hussain was assigned additional charge of Narasimharaja police station. "The raid was carried out after the police team was placed in Mysuru for almost eight days before raiding the facility that was



responsible for supplying the drugs brought from Mysuru.

Drugs worth Rs 10.07 lakh were seized from Shaikh on April 24. Based on Shaikh's information, DCP (Zone X) Datta Nalawade supervised the operation, which included ACP Sampat Patil and Pradeep Mairale, senior inspector Pramod Tawde, inspector Sanjay

Shirsagar, assistant inspector Dayanand Vanve, sub-inspector Pankaj Pardeshi, and other staff. The team nabbed the four individuals operating the facility from a garage facade. The four arrested included a school dropout, aged 45, who purchased the land to operate the garage front, with the facility operated from behind to avoid detection. Similarly, a mechanical engineer was involved in the making of the drugs, while two other graduates were assigned the role of supplying the drugs to Maharashtra. Karnataka home minister G Parameshwara expressed concern to the media in the state regarding the Mumbai police raid in Mysuru in connection with the drug case. He stated, "I think Mumbai police has caught someone, either a smuggler or a user. They have traced it to Mysuru, and obviously, the person they have caught has given a statement that it has come from Mysuru, and they came looking for it, and they have found out that one person or maybe a few people, are doing this. I have given very strict instructions to the Mysuru Commissionerate. Also, in the entire state, every SP has now been sensitised, and every commissionerate has been given very strict instructions to ensure that such things do not happen..."

Frant continue news

Freeing Delhi from waterlogging and traffic disruptions is a top priority: CM Rekha Gupta

Interacting with local residents at ITO, the Chief Minister noted that earlier, water would remain stagnant for hours, whereas now, due to the new drainage system and chambers, it was cleared within half an hour. She added that similar vigilance is being maintained at other sensitive points across the capital as well. The Chief Minister also stated that the government had issued directives before the monsoon to ensure thorough cleaning of drains and strengthening of the drainage system, the positive results of which are now visible. She reiterated, "Freeing Delhi from waterlogging, traffic congestion, and disorder is our government's top priority, and every necessary step is being taken in this direction."

Why are Sikh kada & kirpan being removed forcefully?

Our Call to the Government, we strongly demand an end to the forced removal of Sikh articles of faith in all public and private institutions. Immediate instructions from the central and state governments to respect Sikh religious freedom. Legal accountability for those violating these rights.

The Sikh Times stands firmly with the brave Sikh girl who chose her Dharam (faith) over her career. Her defiance is a wake-up call to the nation: "Stop humiliating Sikhs. Stop violating our faith." This is not Aurangzeb's era. This is India. Sikhs will not bow down.

No trafficking or conversion: Kerala BJP backs nuns arrested in Chhattisgarh

Kerala.(Agency)

The Kerala unit of the BJP has come out in support of the Malayali nuns who were arrested in Chhattisgarh, asserting that the incident was neither a case of religious conversion nor human trafficking, but a misunderstanding caused by technical lapses.

BJP state president Rajeev Chandrasekhar, addressing the media and posting on social media platform X, said he had spoken to Union Home Minister Amit Shah and received complete clarity on the case. "I have 100 per cent belief that it's a misunderstanding and a case of miscommunication," Chandrasekhar said. He added that while the case was initially treated as human trafficking, the situation appears to be a lapse in registration under the Private Placement Agencies Regulation Act.

"What I understand is that they have not registered on the required portal. But it is certainly not a case of trafficking or religious conversion," he clarified.

This statement comes shortly after Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai defended the arrests, citing the state's anti-conversion law, which is in place due to its significant tribal population. Rajeev Chandrasekhar also said the Kerala BJP has taken proactive steps, with State General Secretary Anoop Antony already in Chhattisgarh to offer legal and logistical support to the arrested nuns. "We are committed to ensuring that all necessary assistance is provided to secure justice for the nuns under arrest. The BJP will stand by the nuns until they are released and justice is delivered," he said.

BBMP's transition into GBA to face challenges of infrastructure, staff crunch

BENGALURU. (Agency)

The state government will face a big challenge in its plan to split the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) into five corporations under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA). Each corporation can have up to 150 wards with 150 councillors and will need a council hall to accommodate them along with officials, with not less than 50 office rooms and the required staff across its various departments.

Pointing out that the government will have huge infrastructure challenges to run the five corporations, former leader of opposition in BBMP and BJP leader NR Ramesh said, "If we assume that there will be around 100 wards in each corporation, there will be 100 councillors and around 10

nominated councillors. Every month, there should be a council meeting, which will be attended by councillors, MLAs, MPs, BBMP officials and representatives from BWSSB, Bescom etc. We need council halls that can accommodate over 150 people."

Except the council hall at the BBMP head office, there are no such big halls anywhere under BBMP, he said.

Each corporation will have over 15 departments, like the revenue, lakes, road infrastructure, health, etc and each needs an office room. Not less than 50 office rooms are needed. Nearly 2-acre land is needed. Finding a location in outer BBMP zones may be easy, but in core Bengaluru it is difficult. The government will need nearly three years to build it."

No shortage of urea in NTR, says Collector G Lakshmisha

VIJAYAWADA. (Agency)

NTR District Collector G Lakshmisha on Monday affirmed that there is no shortage of urea in the district, adding that sufficient urea stock is available in private, government godowns, and retail shops. The Collector, along with other officials, conducted surprise inspections of fertiliser and pesticide shops in Kanchikacherla of NTR district.

During the inspection, the Collector checked records, stock registers, and other documentation. He directed the officials concerned to conduct inspections from time to time to ensure transparency in stock and guarantee supply to farmers.

"Currently, 9,976 metric tons of urea, 2,457 metric tons of DAP, 1,157 metric tons of MOP, and 14,197 metric tons of NPK are available, making a total of about 30,332 metric tons of fertilisers,"

he added. He warned that strict action would be taken if artificial shortages of fertilisers and pesticides are created and if farmers are misled or left confused. He further said that the



licenses of such shops would be cancelled. A control room has been set up at the Collectorate with the number 91549 70454 to register complaints related to fertilisers and pesticides.



Ramesh said the BBMP is already facing a huge staff shortage across all its departments and will need more staff in its transition to GBA. He said GBA is just a tactic to delay BBMP elections. Congress leader and former corporator M Shivaraj said there are existing multiple BBMP

offices that can be converted into corporation headquarters. He, however, said identifying locations for five corporations may be challenging.

Shivaraj said, "We have big halls in the city, like IPC in Malleswaram, Mayo Hall, where we can hold meetings. Each corporation can use the council hall at the BBMP headquarters by holding meetings on different dates. If needed, we can build a council hall within a year."

BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao said, "To ensure that there is seamless transition, works are on for the downstream activity. Lot of activities are required right from the location of the GBA head office, where the five corporations will be headquartered, the number of staff needed and other downstream work."

472 acres of lake land encroached in Bengaluru, but only 17 acres reclaimed

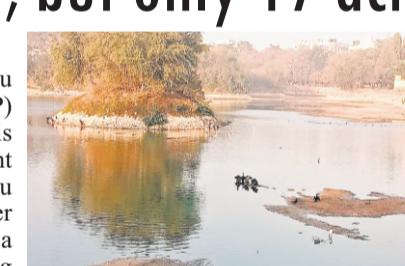
BENGALURU. (Agency)

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) lake department, which is undertaking lake development under the Brand Bengaluru initiative at various water bodies across the city, has a Herculean task of recovering encroached lake land.

According to data, 472 acres of lake land encroachment have been identified by BBMP, and the civic body has so far managed to reclaim only 17.38 acres.

Officials from the civic body's lake wing say that once the survey by the Revenue department on lake land is completed, officials will start a reclamation drive and notices have already been issued to some of the encroachers.

"BBMP has 183 live lakes under its jurisdiction, and following a Supreme Court direction on July



21, 2023, and August 1, 2023, the government has taken up lake land and rajakaluve survey for protection of water bodies, and is also sending notices and removing encroachments. Of 472 encroached acres, 17.38 acres have been reclaimed with help from the Revenue department and police. Efforts are on to launch a drive and reclaim more lake land," said a senior official, and added that among the bigger encroachers are government agencies on 288

acres, while 188 acres are encroached by private persons. When the survey and marking is completed in 33 more lakes, more encroachment details are likely to emerge.

BBMP is also awaiting completion of the lake land survey and marking of encroached areas by surveyors from the Revenue department. The Assistant Director of Land Records (ADLR) in Bengaluru South taluk and Anekal taluk of Bengaluru Urban district are yet to begin the task, said an official. "Of 183 live lakes in Bengaluru, Revenue surveyors have completed the task of surveying and marking 136 lakes. The department is yet to begin its lake buffer zone identification and encroachment marking on 33 lakes spread across Bengaluru South and Anekal taluks."

Once a refuge of peace amid war, this Colaba gallery espouses lasting legacy of universalism

MUMBAI.(Agency)

Crouched on the stucco floor of a Colaba gallery, near stacks of rattan chairs that are not meant for sitting, Kamlakar Gavankar—a retired watchman from Panvel who loves making pencil portraits—is painting a canvas for the first time. The cheerful hues in his mother-and-child portrait contrast with charcoal crows on the weathered walls of Strangers House Gallery.

The crows, recently painted on linen by a homesick Kacper Abolik—a Polish American artist and son of Jewish war émigrés—reflect ancestral memory. Invited to the gallery after spending three weeks painting a Bandra restaurant wall, Abolik created the bird series in two days. Their quiet presence harks back to the Second World War, when this very space offered refuge to strangers. From 1940 to 1962, in its former avatar as a guest house inside Clark House, the gallery was run by a Jewish man from Baghdad and a Jewish woman from Eastern Europe. Together, they hosted sailors, professionals and artists fleeing the Holocaust. Abolik's crows are also inspired by the works of Stefan Norblin, a

self-taught Polish painter who escaped Warsaw with his actor wife Lena in 1939. Their journey through Baghdad and Asia eventually led them to Bombay in 1941. "He was fleeing war and found recognition in India," says curator Sumeshwar Sharma, referring to the Pole who lived on Nepean Sea Road.

By 1942, Norblin's oil painting had won third prize in a Red Cross lottery in Bombay. A few years later, exhibition ads described him as a "Reputed Polish Artist". Royals from Jodhpur, Morvi and Ramgarh became his patrons. In Jodhpur, Maharaja Umaid Singh commissioned him to adorn Umaid Bhawan Palace. Norblin spent three years covering its walls with Art Deco interpretations of Indian mythology. "Once Sumesh showed me Norblin's work, I immediately felt a kinship—not just because of our Polish ancestry, but because I remember seeing his work as a child," says Abolik, whose own art draws on post-war expressionism. In 1944, Norblin's son Andeeb was born in India. But a health scare led the family to relocate to San Francisco where fame eluded them. Lena



became a manicurist and Norblin, suffering from glaucoma and depression, died by suicide in 1952.

In the decades that followed, Norblin's work faded from memory and the Colaba space transitioned from a guest house to a shipping office. In 1955, Ram Bahadur Thakur & Co,

Andhra's mega parent-teacher meeting sets Guinness Record

VIJAYAWADA.(Agency)

Andhra Pradesh has etched its name in the Guinness World Records by successfully organising the world's largest Parent-Teacher Meeting (Mega PTM), held simultaneously across more than 61,000 government schools in the State.

The landmark achievement was formally announced by Education and IT Minister Nara Lokesh on Monday, who credited the feat to the unwavering commitment of teachers, education officials, students, and the wider community.

According to Guinness World Records, over 53.4 lakh parents and teachers participated directly in the event. When including students, alumni, School Management Committees (SMCs), education volunteers, donors, and public representatives, total participation crossed 1.5 crore (15.2 million), making it the largest gathering of its kind ever recorded globally. The Mega PTM is part of the government's larger mission to revitalise public education by improving infrastructure, integrating digital tools, enhancing transparency, and fostering community ownership. Under the AP Model Schools initiative, the state is working toward a futuristic, inclusive education system that aligns with its broader vision of becoming a global hub for knowledge and innovation, referred to

as "Quantum Valley." To ensure credibility and scale, each school was required to submit detailed participation evidence via the LEAP App—a digital platform developed by the state government to streamline academic planning and performance monitoring.



Schools uploaded three photographs, one video, verified participant counts, and witness reports. The verification process involved over 40 Guinness-appointed auditors who rigorously reviewed data submitted from the participating schools. Minister Lokesh emphasised that the achievement goes beyond numbers. "This milestone reflects our commitment to making education a shared, community-driven effort. It is a tribute to the teachers who continue to be the backbone of this transformation," he said.

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Editor-in-Chief
Gurcharan Singh Babbar
Mob : 965407223, 997135917
Website : www.thesikhtimes.in
Email : sikhtimesindia@gmail.com
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Religious events are a Major Medium of Spiritual Awareness in Society- Cabinet Minister Ranbir Gangwa

Chandigarh: Haryana Public Health Engineering and Public Works (Building & Roads) Minister, Sh. Ranbir Gangwa on Sunday attended the Shri Ati Rudra Mahayagya organized at Shree Gau Raksha Seva Samiti Gauhala in Barwala, Hisar district. While praying for the prosperity and welfare of the state, he said that such religious events spread spiritual consciousness in society and serve as a medium for public awareness about religion, values, and cow protection. The Cabinet Minister thanked all office-bearers and associates of the Samiti dedicated to cow protection and preservation of Vedic traditions for organizing this excellent event. He also donated a tractor for service in the Gauhala. Later, he listened to the Prime Minister's 'Mann Ki Baat' programme at Booth No. 15 in Barwala.

NAME CHANGE

I, NAME-RAJNITH KUMAR residing at VILL-PAHARPUR, PO & P-S-PATNA, DIST-RAJNITH KALYA, DIST-GA, BIHAR-824232, claim that my father's name wrongly mentioned in my army record as BHUNESHWAR YADAV his correct name is BHUNESHWAR PRASAD vide affidavit dated 29/07/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, NAME-DEEN DAYAL residing at BUROLI, DAHINA (12), DAHINA, REWARI, HARYANA-123411, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as DEEN DAYAL KHOWAL in my 10th and 12th educational documents. The actual name of my father is DEEN DAYAL which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that, I, HARSH KHOWAL S/o DEEN DAYAL residing at BUROLI, DAHINA (12), DAHINA, REWARI, HARYANA-123411, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as DEEN DAYAL KHOWAL in my 10th and 12th educational documents. The actual name of my father is DEEN DAYAL which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that, I, HEENA KHOWAL D/o DEEN DAYAL residing at BUROLI, DAHINA (12), DAHINA, REWARI, HARYANA-123411, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as DEEN DAYAL KHOWAL in my 10th and 12th educational documents. The actual name of my father is DEEN DAYAL which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Rajdev Singh Shishwan Santhian, through his Manager Dr. Neeraj Prasad Singh is the owner of an agricultural land measuring 1/2 acre, i.e. 0.2805 hectare, out of the total area measuring 0.5210 hectare, comprising of plot No. 1649/1 (area: 0.4070 hectare) and Khasra No. 1655/2 (area: 0.1140 hectare). The land is situated in Village Maulakapur, Pargana Mohan, Tehsil Hasanpur, District Unnao (hereinafter referred to as the 'Said Property'). Ownership of the Said Property is based on a Sale Deed registered as No. 10682, Book No. 01, Volume No. 4098, Pages 391-418, dated 21.11.2015, at SRO-Hasanpur. Further, Rajdev Singh Shishwan Santhian has mortgaged the Said Property to Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd. situated at 102 Sky High, Park Road, Hazratganj, Lucknow, U.P. - 226001, as security for a loan/credit facility. The charge of Unity Small Finance Bank Ltd. on the Said Property continues to subsist. If any person(s) objection & regarding subject property, then kindly submit his/her objection within 07 days from the date of the Notice in writing. The said objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail, failing which, the claim as per affidavit shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.

[ASHWINI KUMAR] Advocate
Chamber No. 122,
Tehsil Compound, Ghaziabad, U.P.

NAME CHANGE

I, PMATAMI is Mother of No. J.C.463050N Rank- NB/SUB NAME-PATIL UMESSH SAMBHAIJ, R/O VILL-HAROLI, POST-DESHING, TEHKAVATHE MAHANKAL, DIST-SANGLI, STATE-MAHARASHTRA, PIN-416410 have changed my name from PMATAMI to PMATAMI SAMBHAIJ PATIL and date of birth from 17-09-1965 to 06-04-1965 for all future purposes. Vide affidavit dated 28.07.2025, before Public Notary Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

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NEWS BOX

Ukraine says at least 20 killed in overnight Russian strikes**KYIV . (Agency)**

At least 20 people were killed and more than 40 wounded in overnight Russian strikes on Ukraine, regional officials said on Tuesday. Russia carried out eight strikes on the Zaporizhzhia region, hitting a prison, according to Ivan Fedorov, the head of the military administration. "16 people were killed, 35 were wounded," he said on Telegram, adding that the premises were destroyed and that nearby houses were damaged. People were also killed and more wounded in attacks on the Dnipropetrovsk region, according to regional government officials.

A missile strike on the city of Kamianske killed two people, wounded five and damaged a hospital, Sergiy Lysak, head of the regional military administration said on Telegram. Another person was killed and several wounded in an attack on the region's Synelnykivsky district, he said. In a separate attack on Velykomykhaylivska, Monday night, a 75-year-old woman was killed. A 68-year-old man was wounded. A private house was damaged," he posted on Telegram. In southern Russia, a Ukrainian drone attack killed one person, the region's acting governor said Tuesday. "A car was damaged on Ostrovsky Street. Unfortunately, the driver who was in it died," Yuri Slyusar, acting governor of the Rostov region, said in a post on Telegram. Kyiv has been trying to repel Russia's summer offensive, which has made fresh advances into areas largely spared since the start of the offensive in 2022. Over the weekend, the Russian army said its forces had "liberated the settlement of 'Malyevka' in Dnipropetrovsk, weeks after it seized the first village in the region.

US President Donald Trump on Monday issued Moscow a deadline of "about 10 or 12 days" to end the conflict in Ukraine, or face tough sanctions.

China's New Plan: Rs 45,000 A Year Per Child To Tackle Fertility Crisis**Sofia. (Agency)**

China, once known for its strict one-child policy, is now taking a major step to address its growing population crisis. In a landmark move, the Chinese Communist Party government has announced its first national childcare subsidy. Starting January 1, 2025, families will receive 3,600 yuan (around US \$500) per year for every child under the age of three. The subsidy will continue until the child turns three, aiming to ease financial burdens and encourage higher birth rates.

Authorities look to spur a flagging birth rate with fewer young people choosing to have children. The high cost of childcare and education, as well as job uncertainty and a slowing economy, are among the concerns that have discouraged many young Chinese from getting married and starting a family. The plan is an "important national livelihood policy," and direct cash subsidies would help "reduce the cost of family childbirth and parenting," the National Health Commission said. Demographers and economists said while the move was positive, the amount was likely too small to incentivize people to have children. China's population fell for a third consecutive year in 2024, with experts warning of a worsening downturn after decades of falling birth rates following a one-child policy adopted from 1980 to 2015, coupled with rapid urbanization. In the past two years, provinces nationwide have started handing out childcare subsidies in amounts that vary considerably, from 1,000 yuan a child to up to 100,000 yuan, including housing subsidies.

The central government will fund the new national policy instead of local authorities, Xinhua said. Authorities are expected to announce more details on Wednesday. Zichun Huang, China Economist at Capital Economics, said the sums involved were too small to have a near-term impact on the birth rate or consumption. But the policy does mark a major milestone in terms of direct handouts to households and could lay the groundwork for more fiscal transfers in the future. Citi Research estimates a total lump-sum payout of 117 billion yuan in the second half of this year through the plan, saying the scheme is more meaningful as a consumption policy than as a population policy.

How Office Furniture Shielded Employees During New York Shooting**New York . (Agency)**

At least five people, including a police officer and a suspected gunman, were dead following a shooting at a skyscraper in central Manhattan in New York on Monday. The incident began around 6:00 pm (local time) when reports of gunfire alerted hundreds of police to a busy office district on the storied Park Avenue--an area popular with tourists and visiting businesspeople. The US media reported that the suspected shooter, so far identified as 27-year-old Shane Tamura from Las Vegas, first exchanged fire with a New York Police Department officer in the lobby of 345 Park Avenue at around 6:40 pm. He then went up to the 33rd floor of the building, before barricading himself inside the office tower, possibly on the 32nd floor. Terrifying photos emerged on social media showing employees working inside 345 Park Avenue barricading their office doors with furniture as the gunman was rampaging through the building. Workers in business attire can be seen piling sofas and desks up against their office door, with the towering furniture reaching the ceiling. The photos making the rounds online have not yet been independently verified by . Police said the scene, an office tower block at 345 Park Avenue home to hedge fund giant Blackstone, auditor KPMG and the National Football League, had been "contained and the lone shooter is dead," without providing details about the identity of the suspect.

Five people, including gunman, dead in shooting at New York City high-rise**A fifth victim was also in critical condition after being shot, while the gunman apparently took his own life, Mayor Eric Adams told a late-night briefing at a hospital near the scene of the shooting.****NEW YORK . (Agency)**

At least four people including a police officer were killed Monday after a gunman walked into a skyscraper in central Manhattan and opened fire in broad daylight, officials said. A fifth victim was also in critical condition after being shot, while the gunman apparently took his own life, Mayor Eric Adams told a late-night briefing at a hospital near the scene of the shooting. The gunman was caught on surveillance footage leaving a black BMW carrying an M-4 rifle before entering the

building, immediately opening fire on a police officer before "spraying the lobby" with bullets, police commissioner Jessica Tisch told a press conference.

An office tower block at 345 Park Avenue, home to hedge fund giant Blackstone, auditor KPMG and the National Football League was apparently targeted by the gunman, Tisch said. She said that the suspect was believed to have acted alone.

Tisch gave the shooter's name as Shane Tamura from Las Vegas and said a revolver, ammunition and magazines were found in his vehicle. She said Tamura had a history of mental health issues. The incident began around 6:00 pm (2200 GMT) when reports of gunfire prompted hundreds of police to swarm a busy office district on the storied Park Avenue, an area popular with tourists and visiting businesspeople. A worker from a nearby office building wept as she left the area after a local lockdown was lifted, while another described a gunman going floor to floor as staff prepared to leave for the day. "We lost four souls to another act of senseless violence," Adams said, without counting the gunman who also died.



apparently by a self-inflicted gunshot.

Adams said the fallen police officer, an immigrant from Bangladesh who was 36 years old, was among the dead.

Two other males and a female died and another man remained in a critical condition, officials said without giving any preliminary motive for the shootings.

Office worker Shad Sakib told AFP that he was packing his things to leave work when a public address announcement warned him and his colleagues to shelter in place. "Everyone was confused with like, 'wait, what's going on?' And then someone finally realized that it's online, that someone walked in with a machine gun," said the

witness who wore a grey suit jacket. "He walked right into a building right next door. We saw the photo of him walking through the same area that I walked through to get lunch here. Floor by floor

Another witness, a woman who declined to give her name as she left the vicinity of the shooting, told AFP "I was in the building. He went floor by floor," while a second woman wept as she left the scene. There have been 254 mass shootings in the United States this year including Monday's incident in New York, according to the Gun Violence Archive -- which defines a mass shooting as four or more people shot.

Police officers deployed a drone near Park Avenue at the height of the evening rush-hour as dozens of officers swarmed the area, some carrying long guns and others wearing ballistic vests. Police repeatedly pushed back journalists and members of the public who gathered to see what was happening in the normally calm but busy area of Midtown Manhattan. The area is home to several five-star business hotels, as well as a number of corporate headquarters and financial and law firms.

At least 34 killed in heavy rains and flooding in Beijing**TAISHITUN. (Agency)**

Heavy rains and flooding killed 30 people in Beijing, China's capital, the country's state media reported on Tuesday (July 29, 2025), bringing the death toll from the storms in the region to at least 34. State broadcaster CCTV said that 28 people had died in Beijing's hard-hit Miyun district and two others in Yanqing district as of midnight. Both are outlying parts of the sprawling city, far from the downtown. More heavy rain fell overnight in the area. Reports on Monday (July 28, 2025) said a landslide in neighboring Hebei province had killed four people, with eight others still missing. More than 80,000 people have been relocated in Beijing, including about 17,000 in Miyun, a CCTV online report said.

The four victims in Hebei were caught in a landslide in a rural part of Luoping county. A resident told the state-backed Beijing News that communications were down and he couldn't reach his relatives. Authorities released water

from a reservoir in Miyun district that was at its highest level since it was built in 1959. Authorities warned people to stay away from rivers downstream as their levels rose and as more heavy rain was forecast. Heavy flooding washed away cars and downed power poles in Miyun, which borders Hebei's Luoping county.

China's Premier Li Qiang said Monday that the heavy rain and flooding in Miyun caused "serious casualties" and called for rescue efforts, according to China's Xinhua News Agency. Uprooted trees lay in piles with their bare roots exposed in the town of Taishitun, about 100 kilometers (60 miles) northeast of central Beijing. Streets were covered with water, with mud left higher up on the wall. "The flood came rushing in, just like that, so fast and suddenly. In no time at all, the place was filling up," said Zhuang Zhelin, who was clearing mud with his family from their building materials shop. Next door, Zhuang's neighbor Wei Zhengming, a

traditional Chinese medicine practitioner, was shoveling mud in his clinic; his feet in slippers were covered in mud. "It was all water, front and back. I didn't want to do anything. I just ran upstairs and waited for rescue. I remember thinking, if no one came to get us, we'd be in real trouble," said Wei. Beijing authorities launched a top-level emergency response at 8 p.m. Monday, ordering people to stay inside, closing schools, suspending construction work and stopping outdoor tourism and other activities until the response is lifted. The heaviest rain in Beijing was expected early on Tuesday (July 29, 2025), with rainfall of up to 30 centimeters (12 inches) forecast for some areas. Another 10,000 people were evacuated from the nearby Jizhou district under the city of Tianjin, Xinhua reported. The central government said in a statement it had sent 50 million yuan (about \$7 million) to Hebei and dispatched a high-level team of emergency responders to help the affected cities.

US Has Likely Moved Nuclear Weapons In UK For First Time Since 2008: Report**world. (Agency)**

The US has likely stationed nuclear weapons in the UK for the first time since 2008, in a signal to Russian President Vladimir Putin that it remains committed to European security. On July 16, a US military aircraft flew with its transponder on, making its identification and location publicly visible - from a US nuclear weapons depot at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, New Mexico, to an airbase in the UK city of Lakenheath, according to defense analysts and open-source data. The C-17 flight involved the US Air Force's Prime Nuclear Airlift Force, which transports nuclear weapons, and didn't fly over any other nation's territory, according to William Alberque, a Europe-based senior fellow at the Pacific Forum. The US and UK governments have longstanding policies of not commenting on the status or location of their nuclear weapons. US Department of Defense budget documents show that millions of dollars of work on "surety" facilities

- the term the Pentagon uses to describe nuclear weapon security - has been in progress at Lakenheath for several years. The weapons the aircraft most likely delivered were the new B61-12 thermonuclear bombs, increasing the number of US tactical nuclear weapons in Europe for the first time since the Cold War. "There are strong indications" that the US has returned nuclear weapons to the UK, said Hans Kristensen, director of the Federation of American Scientists' Nuclear Information Project. Alberque said the decision to leave the flight transponders on indicates the US wants to show Russia that it is not reducing its nuclear capability in Europe. NATO officials declined to immediately comment. "This is a down payment that there's more to come on shifting NATO's deterrence posture toward strengthening," Alberque said. "Returning US nuclear weapons to the UK is no small feat." The move also signals that the US is committing more flexible nuclear capabilities to Europe, creating a wider range of options for its

forces, said Sidharth Kaushal, a senior research fellow at the Royal United Services Institute. "Capabilities such as the B61 can contribute to limiting the impact of Russia's large advantage in theater-level nonstrategic nuclear weapons," Kaushal said. US President Donald Trump has hardened his approach to Putin in recent weeks, agreeing to send Ukraine more US-made Patriot missiles through European purchases and threatening to hit Russia with secondary tariffs if it doesn't agree to a cease fire within 50 days. On Monday, Trump said that he would reduce that deadline, adding that the was "disappointed" in Putin. The UK announced last month that it would purchase at least a dozen new US-made F-35A fighter jets capable of carrying B61-12 nuclear bombs. This week, its Ministry of Defense stated in an updated policy document that "NATO's nuclear deterrence also relies on US nuclear weapons deployed in Europe and supporting capabilities and infrastructure provided by Allies."

Trump says he's shortening the 50-day deadline for Russia to end the war in Ukraine**EDINBURGH . (Agency)**

Scotland: U.S. President Donald Trump said Monday he is giving Russian President Vladimir Putin 10 to 12 days to stop the killing in Ukraine, shortening a 50-day deadline he had given the Russian leader two weeks ago. Russia fired an overnight barrage of more than 300 drones, four cruise missiles and three ballistic missiles, the Ukrainian air force said, as the Russian bombardment of Ukrainian cities continued despite Trump's pressure for it to end. U.S.-led peace efforts have also failed to gain momentum.

Trump had said on July 14 that he would implement "severe tariffs" on Russia unless a peace deal is reached by early September. On Monday, Trump said he would now give Putin 10 to 12 days, meaning he wants peace efforts to make progress by Aug. 7-9.

The plan includes possible sanctions and secondary tariffs targeting Russia's trading partners. The formal announcement would come later Monday or on Tuesday, Trump said. "No reason in waiting," Trump



said of the shorter timeline. "We just don't see any progress being made." Putin has "got to make a deal. Too many people are dying," Trump said during a visit to Scotland. There was no immediate response from Russia. Artificial Intelligence uses Artificial Intelligence to repeat his criticism of Putin for talking about ending the war but continuing to bombard Ukrainian civilians. "And I say, that's not the way to do it," Trump said. He added, "I'm disappointed in President Putin." Asked at a news conference about a potential meeting with the Russian leader, Trump said: "I'm not so interested in talking anymore."

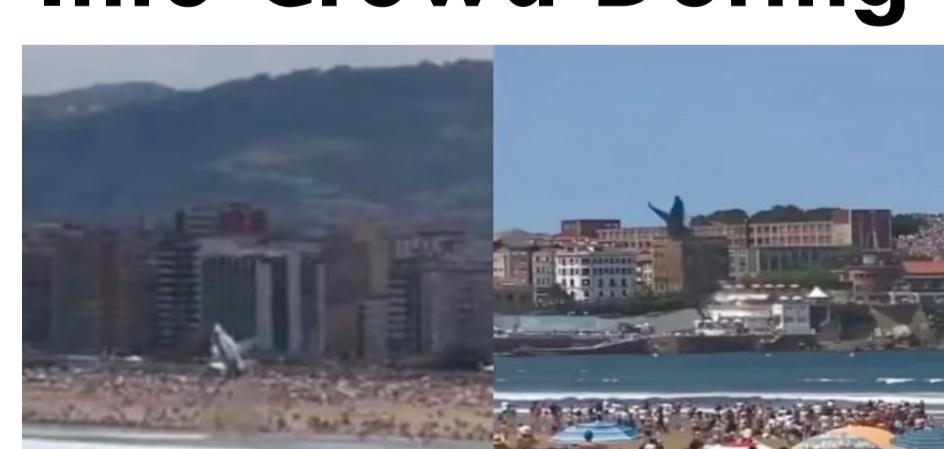
Still, he voiced some reluctance about imposing penalties on the Kremlin, saying that he loves the Russian people. "I don't want to do that to Russia," he said, but he noted how many Russians, along with Ukrainians, are dying in the war. Ukraine has urged Western countries to take a tougher line with Putin. Andrii Yermak, the head of Ukraine's presidential office, thanked Trump for shortening the deadline.

Spanish EF-18 Hornet Jet Nearly Crashes Into Crowd During Airshow

The Spanish Air Force later took to X to explain what happened at the airshow and said the pilot performed the evasive manoeuvre to avoid hitting birds in the jet's flight path.

Madrid . (Agency)

A Spanish Air Force EF-18 Hornet fighter jet had a close call after it appeared to lose control and crash during an airshow at a crowded beach in Gijon over the weekend. The incident occurred on Sunday at San Lorenzo Bay in northern Spain's Asturias. Videos of the near crash have gone viral on social media, showing Hornet flying at very low altitude towards the beach packed



with spectators, when it executed a hard right roll. The sudden manoeuvre made the jet descend lower than normal, making it seem like the jet was losing control mid-air. But the plane soon recovered stability and climbed up. The terrifying footage shows puffs of black smoke rising from the plane,

shocking the audience, many of whom had their cameras rolling. The Spanish Air Force later took to X to explain what happened at the airshow and said the pilot performed the evasive manoeuvre to avoid hitting birds in the jet's flight path. A bird strike while the Hornet was flying at such a low angle toward a crowd could have resulted in a big disaster, and the pilot's timely actions saved many lives. "Many of you have been asking us, so in this thread, we'll tell you what happened during the Gijon air festival. As you have seen, one of our F-18 fighters performed an evasive manoeuvre upon detecting a flock of birds in its path. This action is part of the standard protocol to preserve both the pilot's safety and the public's security," the post in Spanish said. "Our aviators are trained to react in milliseconds to any unforeseen event. In this case, the pilot acted with exemplary speed and professionalism, avoiding a possible collision without compromising the exhibition. Safety is, and will continue to be, our top priority at every air show. Thank you to all attendees for your enthusiasm and trust. Let's keep flying together," it added. In a similar incident last month, the canopy of a Spanish EF2000 shattered after it took a bird strike during its airshow routine.

68-year-old man mauled to death by stray dogs in Bengaluru; 15 dogs captured



BENGALURU. (Agency)

In a shocking incident, a 68-year-old man was mauled to death by a pack of stray dogs at Telecom Layout in Kodigehalli around 3 am on Monday.

Following the attack, officials from the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Animal Husbandry Department rounded up 15 stray dogs from the area. The dogs have been taken to a facility in Yelahanka for observation. According to Dr Manohar, Assistant Director of the BBMP Animal Husbandry Department (Yelahanka Zone), the victim was reportedly mentally unstable and known to venture out at odd hours.

"He was wrapped in a blanket and roaming the streets early in the morning. The dogs, likely startled or confused by his appearance, attacked him and bit him repeatedly on his hands and other parts of his body. He was taken to Yelahanka Government Hospital, where he was declared dead. Preliminary findings suggest he died of shock. His body has been sent to a private hospital in Sanjay Nagar for post-mortem. Based on the report, a compensation of ₹1 lakh will be provided to his family, as per BBMP norms," said Dr Manohar.

The incident has left residents of the area in a state of fear, with disturbing images of the victim's injuries circulating locally. Some residents have requested that the stray dogs be relocated. However, officials explained that under the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules and other regulations, stray dogs cannot be relocated, as doing so could lead to territorial aggression and potentially more attacks.

Three men with faces covered set 10 bikes on fire in Bengaluru's Halasuru market



BENGALURU. (Agency)

As many as ten two-wheelers parked outside houses were completely gutted when miscreants set them on fire on Bajaj Street near Halasuru market and Kaliyamman Temple around 3.30 am on Monday. CCTV footage in the vicinity captured three men with their faces covered with towels pouring petrol on the bikes and shutters of a few grocery and vegetable shops and setting them on fire.

"A Pulsar 150 cc bike purchased just a month ago and four bicycles were also gutted. Around 3.30 am, everybody in the locality woke up after hearing what they thought was the sound of cracker bursting. This is the first time that such an incident happened in the area. The reason remains a mystery. The fire was doused with water drawn from sumps using pump motors. All the bikes were parked outside houses on the narrow lane," a resident said. The Halasuru police have registered a case.

HC orders probe into 900+ Mhada notices for redvpt by dubbing bldgs dangerous

Mumbai. (Agency)

Bombay high court censured Mhada on Monday for the illegal and high-handed actions of its executive engineers in issuing over 900 notices for redevelopment of premises by dubbing them dangerous, trampling on the constitutional rights of owners of ceased buildings and, in many cases, also of their tenants.

The HC dubbed such notices and the redevelopment powers invoked by the executive engineers and the Mhada repair board, without any jurisdiction, a "regime of colossal arbitrariness and abuse of powers by such officials in committing bald, brazen and patent acts of illegalities". Observing that a mere stay of the notices — those that Mhada did not withdraw later — was not enough, the court ordered an enquiry by a two-member panel of former HC judge Justice J P Devadhar and retired principal district judge Vilas Dongre to examine all 935 notices issued under Section 79A of the Mhada Act.

This section enables the authority to acquire

dangerous ceased buildings and carry out redevelopment when both the owners and tenants' associations fail to do so after the building is declared dilapidated and dangerous.

The order of the high court bench of Justices Girish Kulkarni and Arif Doctor came on a batch of petitions against the notices issued by the Mumbai Building Repairs and Reconstruction Board, a statutory unit of Mhada. Section 79A has had a vexed presence. It was introduced in Dec 2022 to enable the redevelopment of a building on the premise that the structure is dangerous. "However, whether a building is dangerous or not cannot be the ipse dixit of the concerned officers...and is required to be decided as stipulated by law," the HC said. The two-member committee named by the Bombay high court will also examine subsequent actions to withdraw such notices, and the role of the officials and motives, if any, in the issuance of the notices.

Justice Kulkarni, who authored and read out



the order in court, said the "committee shall examine the purpose, basis, intention, and the authority of the vice-chairman to issue the SOP dated Dec 5 2024". The SOP creates a parallel machinery and cannot be interpreted by officials to assume power to issue notices, the HC said.

The section was introduced since Mhada said there were over 13,000 old and dilapidated ceased buildings in Mumbai constructed prior to 1940. Mhada was tasked with their repairs.

The law was also amended to enable owners with 51% consent of tenants to redevelop, but

Mhada said despite the repair board declaring buildings "dangerously dilapidated", owners do not come forward to redevelop.

The HC said executive engineers invoke Section 79A by a "visual examination" of a building to declare it dilapidated and proceed to issue notices for redevelopment.

"By issuance of these notices, ultimately what is sought to be achieved, and certainly at the behest of vested interests, is a fait accompli by exploiting the incentives on the redevelopment by such vested interests by misuse of the official machinery of Mhada and the repair board for the benefit of either the landlord or tenants." The HC stressed, "The issuance of such notices by such officials in the manner as resorted is only to enable and aid the sinister motives, to be achieved at the instance of one party against the other, in the redevelopment of a building without verifying whether it needs to go for redevelopment."

Cop's seat belt advice saves Mumbai woman in crash

Mumbai. (Agency)

It pays to follow rules. A traffic cop's gentle advice to a woman in a car to wear the seat belt paid off as the vehicle was involved in a crash minutes after she had fastened the seat belt.

Goregaon resident Gautam Rohra and his wife, both in their early forties, were headed home in their car late Saturday evening amid pouring rain. Rohra, who was at the wheel, had fastened his seat belt while his wife, seated next to him, had not. At Kalanagar, Bandra (east), a traffic cop, Pravin Kshirsagar, flagged them down. The cop politely pointed out that the woman was not wearing the seat belt, and reminded the Rohra couple that the penalty for this violation is Rs 1,000.

Going beyond his call of duty, the cop went on to add: "...but more importantly, seat belts save lives in case there is a crash..." Rohra said. The couple thanked the policeman who allowed them to leave without imposing a penalty.

Some 15 minutes later, their car crashed into a divider as it was descending a flyover at Andheri (east). The vehicle flipped twice. Bystanders rushed to help, among them another cop.

"My wife escaped without a scratch because she had fastened the seat belt... it left even doctors stunned. I sustained minor bruises," Rohra said, going on to call the first traffic cop a "guardian angel". He said he and his wife were alive thanks to the cop's "sense of duty and concern".

He posted on social media a word of advice for motorists: "Traffic Police don't stop us just to issue fines; they genuinely care about our safety. Let's not get angry when they point out our mistakes... Those who help selflessly are real angels.

I'm truly grateful to the policeman for this second chance at life. A little caution saved our home and that is the greatest blessing."

'Rain delayed finishing work' on cable-stayed bridge over Western Express Highway

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

The last stretch of the Santacruz-Chembur Link Road (SCLR) corridor, a cable-stayed bridge over the Western Express Highway, is expected to be opened to traffic by August. The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) has cited ongoing monsoon rains for the delay in completion of finishing works. The structure, which was originally expected to be ready by the July end, requires about a week of dry weather for final tasks to be completed.

"We are waiting for subsequent dry days to carry out the remaining work. Once the finishing touches are done, the bridge will be ready to open," an MMRDA official said. The bridge has already seen partial structural testing. It was opened a short while back this month but had to be closed within minutes when it was found that there was a fault in the electrical connection. "The electric fault was critical. It could have caused safety issues, so we decided to stop access at once," the official

explained. The SCLR extension project, which began in 2016, was meant to provide a straight east-west link from Kurla on the Eastern Express Highway to Santacruz just outside the airport on the Western Express Highway. Although previous phases are functioning, the last cable-stayed arm has been delayed repeatedly. Originally planned at Rs 450 crore, the project cost has now increased to Rs 650 crore because of design changes and

inflationary pressures.

The cable-stayed component features India's first orthotropic steel deck with a rigid curvature. The 215 metres long, 17.5 metres wide and 1,780 tonnes weighing deck is 22 metres above ground and 9 metres above the existing Vakola flyover.

The flyover is scheduled to decongest Hans Bhugra Marg on WEH and Vakola junctions by facilitating signal-free movement for vehicles between the Eastern and Western corridors. With the civil works completely over, the rest of the work involves pulling out temporary supports from under the curved arm, installing signage and street lights, surface painting, and detailing piers. According to officials, landing ramp work is completed, with safety walls also ready. With the opening of the structure, it will open the entire SCLR and help streamline the traffic movement between BKC, Vakola, and surrounding areas, also enhancing the accessibility to the international airport.

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Although previous phases are functioning, the last cable-stayed arm has been delayed repeatedly. Originally planned at Rs 450 crore, the project cost has now increased to Rs 650 crore because of design changes and

relocated the project to Vedadri and renamed it as the YSR Vedadri Lift Irrigation Scheme.

YSRCP chief and former chief minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy laid the foundation stone on August 28, 2020, but the project did not

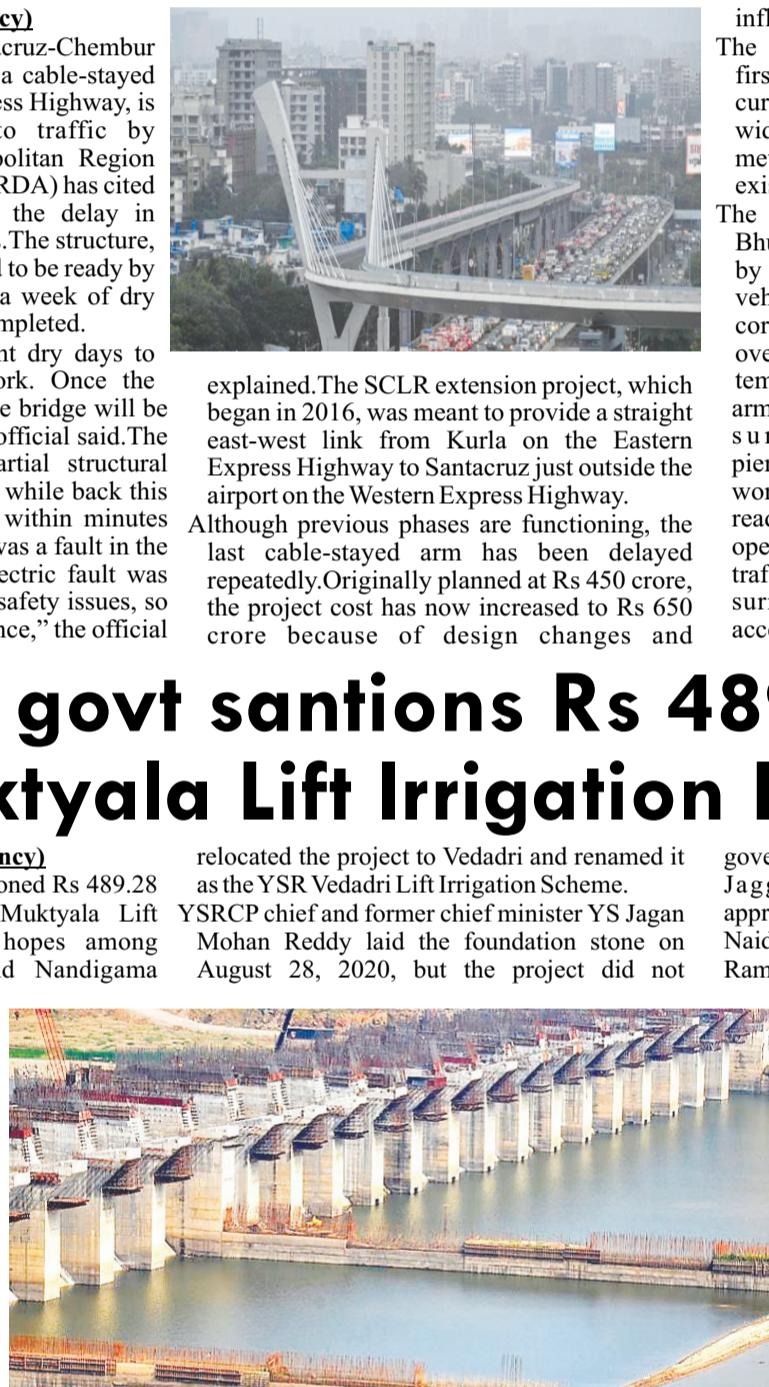
government's electoral victory, he, along with Jaggaiahpet MLA Sriram Rajagopal, approached Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Water Resources Minister Nimmala Ramanaidu to push for its revival.

Their efforts, supported by recommendations from the Water Resources Department, led to the re-sanctioning of the project. On July 18, the government approved the continuation of 71 irrigation works across the state, including the Muktyala Lift Irrigation Scheme. Of these, 38 works had seen less than 25% progress, while 33 had not commenced.

TDP government officially restored the name Muktyala Lift Irrigation Scheme in August 2024.

Nandigama mandal DC Chairman R Chandrasekhar welcomed the development, stating that the project would transform the lives of farmers in the region.

He expressed gratitude to CM Chandrababu Naidu and MP Kesineni Sivanath for their role in reviving the scheme.



During the 2024 election campaign, Vijayawada MP Kesineni Sivanath pledged to revive the original proposal. Following the alliance

In 2 years, city's 14,907 units in 1,151 buildings declared dangerous

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

As the monsoon intensifies, so does the city's growing risk of structural collapses. In yet another incident, the roof of a house in Payal Flats in the Bodakdev area collapsed on Monday, raising fresh concerns about the safety of residents living in ageing and dilapidated buildings.

Just last week, on July 21, a portion of the wash area and balconies from the ground floor up to the fourth floor collapsed in Block A of Suryasagar Apartments in Jodhpur area. No casualties were reported in either case, but residents continue to live under the shadow of

These incidents are part of a troubling annual pattern. Each year before the monsoon, the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) surveys and identifies buildings deemed unsafe. In 2024, the AMC declared 9,736 units in 786 buildings as dangerous. In 2025, the number stood at 5,643 units in 390 buildings. Over the last two years, a staggering 14,907 units in 1,151 buildings across the city have

been declared structurally unsafe.

Among the city's zones, the Northwest Zone reported the highest number of dangerous units — 4,242 in 374 buildings. The Eastern Zone followed with 4,799 units in 327 buildings, while the Central Zone accounted for 939 units in 317 buildings.

An AMC official, requesting anonymity, stated, "We identify old and structurally compromised buildings and issue notices to residents. In many cases, residents are asked to vacate, but they refuse until redevelopment is approved. In severely dangerous cases, buildings are sealed and forcibly vacated. We have also carried out demolitions before this monsoon."

Issues within AMC also highlighted legal and logistical hurdles. "In the old city, frequent collapses have claimed lives. Though strict measures are taken, tenant-owner disputes often delay evacuation. This year, before the Rath Yatra, demolitions were carried out in several areas. In western Ahmedabad, old societies are also deteriorating, and

redevelopment efforts are underway. Some Gujarat Housing Board colonies are also in poor condition, with redevelopment approved for a few and under process for others."

Despite multiple tragedies in the past, enforcement of safety regulations remains weak. Following several fatal collapses, the state govt mandated structural stability certificates for all buildings over 15 years old. However, compliance has largely been symbolic, with notices issued but little actual enforcement. Ahmedabad has witnessed several deadly building collapses in recent decades. On Feb 3, 2008, the Shakunt Hotel near Kalupur railway station collapsed, killing 16 people and injuring nine. On Jan 28, 2011, a building in Sodagar's Pol, Kalupur, collapsed, resulting in five deaths. In 2018, a housing block in Odhav collapsed, killing one person. In 2019, a house in Amraiwadi's Bungalow Chali caved in, claiming three lives. Dangerous buildings and units in Ahmedabad over the last 2 years (as of May 23) Pointers: GDCR Provision for Structural Stability

1. On Dec 30, 2014, the state govt approved Ahmedabad's GDCR, introducing a strict provision for structural stability certificates for all buildings over 15 years old. Inspections were mandated, but enforcement by AUDA and the municipal corporation have been lacking

2. Structural stability inspections and certificate submissions to AUDA or the municipal corporation are not conducted within the stipulated time, leaving the rule unimplemented

3. On July 6, 2024, a six-storied building collapsed in Sachin Pali village, Surat, claiming seven lives. The municipal corporation issued a public notice to enforce the structural stability certificate rule, but was not enforced. The 2014 GDCR and 2017 CGDCR include provisions for structural stability certificates. According to Schedule 17 of CGDCR Class 1 buildings include all types of framed structures, factory buildings, special buildings, educational buildings, schools, colleges, hostels, and other public buildings.



The poet saint who taught simple devotion

July 31 is Tulsidas Jayanti, honouring the 528th birth anniversary of the influential poet-philosopher of Varanasi. The 16th-century author of the *Ramcharitmanas* wrote his 'people's *Ramayana*' in Awadhi, the everyday dialect of his region, to simplify matters for the common person. Tulsidas, as noted by *Ramayana* scholars, also observed in his day that the public was prone to be easily impressed and misled by all kinds of fantastical ascetics and their doctrines. He disapproved of yogis who grew long nails, bound their hair in coils, wore strange, frightening ornaments, and, so to speak, dressed for the fairground. He is noted as saying in another work, the *Vinaya Patrika* in Brijbhasha, 'Bahumat muni bahu panth puranani, jahan-tahan jhagaroh soh (The seers profess many opinions, there are many old stories about many paths to salvation, and there are quarrels all over the place)'. He submitted that real religion was much less complicated, that it was a direct connection between a soul and God, whom his guru personally taught him to see as Ram.

Therefore, Tulsi's repeated spiritual advice for people living out their lives in this particular Kalyug was brief and straightforward: 'Kalyug jog na jagya na gnana / Ek aadhar Ram gun gaana (In Kalyug, neither austerity, nor sacrifice, nor deep knowledge is required / Singing in praise of Ram is the only path to salvation.)'

The public could not resist the triple impact of Tulsi's case, the heartbreakingly appeal of Valmiki's story that Tulsi retold with his own twists, such as the Lakshman rekha incident, and Tulsi's poetry, which seemed simple yet was profoundly musical and meaningful. The history of religion in North India forever changed with the advent of the *Ramcharitmanas*. However, Tulsi's Ram is a faultless figure in monochrome gold, unlike Valmiki's human-textured hero. So, it strikes me that since everything has a socio-historic context, was Tulsi's Ram the deeply internalised response of North Indian Hinduism to the monotheism of the invaders? The political attempts today to make Ram a warlike rallying point suggest such a possibility. It may be something to consider and consciously delink from our attachment to the *Ramcharitmanas*, for it is not poor Tulsi's fault in the least. Meanwhile, he lives in our very marrow, and not only in the Hindi belt. Even devotees in the South know Tulsi's Hanuman Chalisa by heart today. There is an anthology of devotees' questions to Tulsi, called the *Sankhavali*, which asks things like, 'What did they eat in the forest?', 'Which mother did they bow to first?', for Ram is abidingly real to believers.

Tulsidas was protected by fellow-poet Abdur Rahim Khan-e-Khanan, then the Mughal governor of Varanasi. He upheld Tulsi's artistic freedom against the ultraorthodox priests who foolishly opposed Tulsi's rendering of the Sanskrit epic into 'common' speech. By enabling the common folk to own the *Ramayana* actively, Tulsi effectively countered the attempts at conversion that were rampant in North India under foreign rule. Rahim was a Muslim, a celebrated poet in Akbar's court and also a trusted military commander. His mother belonged to a converted Rajput family, and thereby Krishna-love persisted in his veins, glowing like the steady flame of the puja lamp, despite his official adherence to the new, foreign religion. It came to Tulsi's attention that Rahim always looked downward when giving alms to the poor. Tulsi sent a couplet to Rahim, asking why he did so. He wrote: 'Aisi deni dain kyun, kith seekhey ho sain/Jyon jyon kar unchyo karo, tyon tyon neechey nain.' Meaning, 'O great person, where have you learnt this way of giving? As your hands rise (to give), your eyes look down.'

No room for lapses by probe agencies in terror cases

The Maharashtra ATS and the main crime branch got hold of the culprits of the 2006 Mumbai train bombings case and chargesheeted 12 of them in the six months that the law allowed.

A gruesome terrorist attack rocked Mumbai on the evening of July 11, 2006. Two hundred-odd working men and women, returning home after offices closed for the day, were killed and around 800 injured. The explosives were well camouflaged and placed strategically on seven local trains. The bombs were primed to detonate around 6:30 pm during peak traffic hours. The blasts took place within a span of a few minutes. It was obvious that a terrorist organisation was involved. A preliminary probe narrowed down the search to two terror outfits — the Students' Islamic Movement of India (SIMI) and the Indian Mujahideen (IM). Further investigation eliminated the IM. Jihadi terrorists have operated in Mumbai ever since the 1992 demolition of the Babri Masjid and the subsequent riots. Anger against the government can manifest itself in terrorism, just as it has happened in Northern Ireland, Spain, Sri Lanka and in India too — in Punjab. Weaker entities who cannot confront the might of the State on battlefields resort to this sneaky form of low-cost war to voice their discontent. Jihadi terrorists, like the Khalistani variety, sourced weapons and training from Pakistan. They have carried out sporadic attacks, but the greater the intensity of an attack, the higher the number of casualties. A humming city like Mumbai provides concentrated gatherings at known locations at known times. Mumbai cops have not been in danger of being targeted by jihadis, unlike police personnel in Punjab of the 1980s and 1990s. There, uniformed men and their families lived under the constant threat of elimination. The law and ethics expect the police to capture terrorists and arraign them in courts of justice. In Punjab, that normal process of law enforcement was almost impossible to achieve. Whenever an opportunity came their way, Khalistani terrorists would put a bullet through the head or the heart of those who tried to apprehend them. In the case of the Mumbai train blasts, investigation teams specially selected from the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) and the main Crime Branch by Anami Roy, the well-respected and highly capable Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, got into the act immediately. The 17 teams formed for this special task should be commended for their tenacity, patience and investigative skills. They got hold of the culprits and chargesheeted 12 of them in the six months that the law allowed. It was a Herculean task, but they performed it truly well. The trial court, which tries cases under the Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act (MCOCA), was totally convinced. It gave



detailed reasons for its decision in a 1,000-page judgment. The court had the advantage of seeing and judging the personalities and the character of the witnesses in person and assessing their reactions when cross-examined by the defence. The witnesses obviously passed the scrutiny of the presiding judge, who convicted the accused, handing down the death penalty to five and life imprisonment to the remaining seven. Imposing the death sentence is not an easy decision. Hence, it is rarely exercised because of the sheer length of the shadow it casts on the judge's conscience. The appellate court was swayed by some lapses that would have escaped the notice of the senior supervising officers. One lapse was to employ a Special Executive Magistrate, whose term of appointment had expired a few months earlier, to hold the identification parade of the accused.

The second lapse was to hold the identification parade in the ATS office, which is equivalent to holding it at a police station. The third mistake, which should have been noticed by supervising IPS officers, was that some wording in the confessions of the suspects were identical, though the deputy commissioners who recorded them were different.

This last lapse may have led the Bombay High Court to

suspect that the confessions were obtained under duress. But even if the court had rejected the confessions, it could have been guided by the gravity of other evidence produced, which the confessions were meant to corroborate. Perpetrators of a heinous crime were acquitted on the basis of adverse inferences brought into focus by the lapses mentioned above. An acquittal in such cases demoralises the probe agency concerned. Far worse is the effect on public morale. Commuters lost their lives for no fault of theirs in Mumbai 19 years ago. Other law-abiding men and women were left to wonder whether they would be next and if so, when?

The Supreme Court has mercifully stayed the HC order acquitting the 12 convicts, but has not demanded that they return to jail. The CJI remarked that it was not usual to stay orders passed by high courts in appeal. That remark shows that the apex court too, is worried about the impact of the acquittal on society at large. It will delve deeper into the case after studying both judgments, that of the trial court and of the appellate court, before coming to a conclusion. Keep your fingers crossed and hope that justice prevails. An innocent person should never be punished, but, at the same time, the guilty should not go unpunished. Courts that deliver justice always keep that adage in mind.

France takes stand as Gaza faces starvation

Deaths caused by hunger are rising daily. The man-made famine has forced an average of 115 Gazan kids admitted to hospitals for malnutrition every day since early 2025

Emmanuel Macron has set a pigeon among hawks by announcing his decision to formally recognise Palestine at the UN General Assembly in September. Nearly three-fourths of the UN's 193 members already recognise the state embattled and occupied by Israel. India was among the first to do so in 1988. France's move will leave the US and the UK as the only members of the Security Council's Permanent Five not to have done so. That means Palestine still cannot become a full UN member. Australia and the UK, whose foreign ministers joined their French and 27 other counterparts a week ago in calling for an end to the Gaza carnage, clarified later that they would not follow France's gesture for now. The irony is that it was France's agreement in 1916 to hand Ottoman Palestine to Britain and the British foreign secretary's action in 1917 that led to the violent waves of Zionism battering West Asia even today. Like imperial Britain then, America today wants the resourceful Zionists in its sphere of influence. So, any attempt at peace between the occupier and the occupied has remained agonisingly out of



reach. Artificial Intelligence uses Artificial Intelligence uses. The crucial difference is that the attritional land grab movement of that era has transmogrified into a state

escalating human catastrophe and armed by the US. Emboldened, Israeli ministers routinely express a wish for the Palestinians to ship out of their land or shuffle off their mortal coil. The hatred has percolated so deeply that Israeli adolescents protest against or destroy food aid meant for starving Palestinians. The man-made famine has forced an average of 115 Gazan kids admitted to hospitals for malnutrition every day since early 2025, the Unicef reported last week. Deaths caused by hunger are rising daily. Britain's promise to airdrop food packets is unsustainable, given that Israel strafed Palestinians the last time they swarmed to collect such packets.

Meanwhile, Israeli forces in Gaza and Zionist settlers in the West Bank continue to act with impunity. With neither Donald Trump nor Benjamin Netanyahu showing any inclination to rein in the dogs of war, the least the global community can do is to pressure Israel to allow food aid at once and support Palestine's freedom struggle at international forums. Anything less would mean the abdication of shared humanity.

Dhankhar's exit: A cautionary tale for political ambitions

The fact that he has not been given a farewell, and that none in the BJP visited him to inquire after his health, suggests that the government was no longer in a mood to tolerate him

Those who live by the sword, die by the sword. The journey of Jagdeep Dhankhar, former Vice President of India, in some sense, reflects the nature of contemporary politics. Dhankhar has been a temporary resident of many political parties. He initially joined the Janata Dal and was elected to the Lok Sabha from the Jhunjhunu constituency in 1989. He soon joined the Congress, contesting the 1991 general elections from Ajmer. He lost. However, he succeeded in getting elected to the Rajasthan Assembly. In 2008, he joined the BJP. Opportunism in politics provides a springboard to success. Here, he found his peace.

We call ourselves a democratic Republic, but neither democracy nor the fundamental tenets of Republicanism are reflected in today's politics. There was a fleeting semblance of that years ago, but today, it is completely effaced. Dhankhar was catapulted to the office of Governor in West Bengal. There, he acted as the spokesperson of the BJP. He left no stone unturned to tarnish the TMC's reputation, and worked at the behest of the Union government to destabilise Mamata Banerjee's regime. The BJP's initial agenda seemed to gain traction, but Mamata came up trumps. The BJP has been seeking a foothold in several states, including Tamil Nadu, Kerala, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. But for their sizeable presence in Karnataka, they found themselves forlorn in several southern states. Dhankhar, having demonstrated both his mettle and loyalty, the Modi-Shah duo found him to be a convenient accessory to their agendas. He turned out to be more loyal than many votaries of the BJP. This catapulted him to the office of Vice President. The 'kisan putra' eventually found himself chairing the

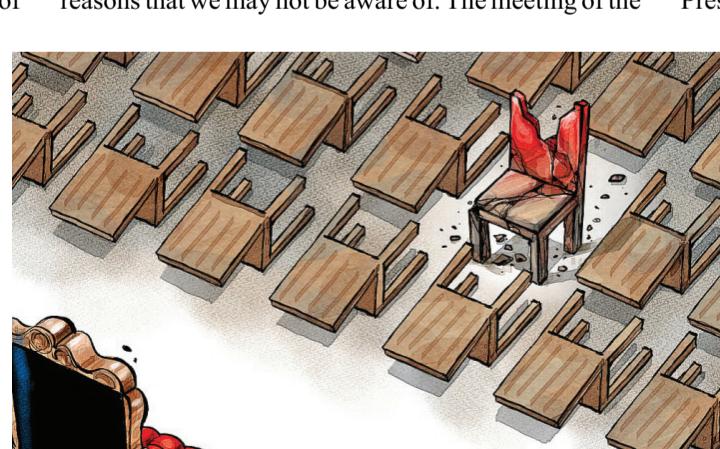
Rajya Sabha. Artificial Intelligence uses Artificial Intelligence uses. The concentration of power in the hands of the Chairman and the manner of its exercise are reflected in the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha. The suspension of opposition members, instances of switching off their microphones, and the open bias reflected in the allocation of subject matters to be raised and discussed in the House are all matters of record.

The frequent public articulations of the Vice President questioning the theory of the Constitution's 'basic structure' and that the laws made by Parliament must get primacy within the constitutional framework, and reprimanding members of the House raising objections to and questioning the constitutionality of legislation initiated, are also reflected in the proceedings of the House. The Chairman's conduct, both within and outside the House, often aligned with the BJP's agenda and ideology. He frequently commented upon the necessity of enacting and implementing a legislative framework in which the power to appoint judges to the higher judiciary was vested in the government.

Despite all this, the Vice President resigned on July 21, 2025, citing alleged health reasons that prevented him from continuing in office.

It is pretty clear from subsequent events that the reason the Vice President resigned had nothing to do with his 'precarious' health, but rather with his actions, both known and unknown to the public. What is evident is that his announcement in the Rajya Sabha regarding the motion moved against Justice Yashwant Varma riled the government because the Lok Sabha, which was also

seized of a similar motion by more than 100 Members of that House, had not dealt with it. This appears to be the trigger point for the Vice President's resignation, apart from other possible reasons that we may not be aware of. The meeting of the



Business Advisory Committee held at 4:30 pm on the day of his resignation, not being attended either by the Leader of the House, or the Minister of Law & Justice, or, for that matter, the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, was an ominous signal, a precursor to what was to follow. The fact that he has not been given a farewell, and that none in the BJP visited him to inquire after his health, along with the tepid tweet from the Prime Minister, suggested that the government was no longer in a mood to tolerate him.

Now that he has demitted office, the election to the office of the Vice President has to be held expeditiously.

Under Article 68(2) of the Constitution, there is no fixed timeline within which the election must be held to fill the vacancy in that office. It must happen as soon as possible after the vacancy occurs. According to the Presidential and Vice-Presidential Elections Act, 1952, the Election Commission of India must notify the schedule for the election, and the process must conclude within a maximum period of 32 days. The law allows 14 days for filing nominations, followed by one day for scrutiny, and a two-day window for withdrawal of candidature.

Thereafter, the poll must be held not earlier than 15 days from the date of withdrawal. Taking this into account, the election cannot be held before 32 days from the date of notification of its schedule by the Election Commission of India. It is, therefore, quite clear that the election for the next Vice President would take place only after the end of the Monsoon Session on August 21, 2025. What this tells us about the nature of our polity today is that this government will not tolerate those who act independently of its wishes. Those who do not fall in line, regardless of the office they occupy, will be dealt with in accordance with the government's political will. I wish the Vice President had the courage to stand up for the dignity of the office he held. That he was willing to sacrifice it and quietly resign, again falling in line with the dictates of his political masters, tells us as much about the man as the state of politics in our country. That he has chosen to do so will be remembered as one of the saddest days in the history of our Republic.

Illegal building to car park in protected Aravalis: NGT serves notice to Haryana

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has taken cognizance of environmental violations in the ecologically sensitive Aravali forest area near Suncity at Sector 54 and issued notices to Haryana govt, forest department and pollution department, seeking clarification. The next hearing is scheduled for Oct 29, 2025. The tribunal was hearing a petition filed by a resident, alleging that more than 10 acres of Aravali land in Sector 54 have been encroached upon. The plea claimed several violations on the forestland, including construction of an unauthorised building and a parking lot, installation of illegal borewells and light and noise pollution. It also highlighted concretisation of natural stormwater drains and operation of an unlicensed commercial cowshed, which are in violation of environmental laws and the 1992 Aravali Notification.

Health ATM offers free diagnosis, remote consultation at Civil Hospital in Gurgaon

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Gurgaon: In a quiet corner of Sector 10 Civil Hospital, a small machine — no bigger than a photo booth — is silently reshaping access to healthcare. At this health ATM, described as a "digital clinic packed with potential", patients can consult a doctor live via video, get an instant e-prescription and receive their reports directly on WhatsApp, email or SMS: all within 45 to 50 minutes. From blood pressure and blood sugar to ECG, BMI and psychological screening — this health ATM offers more than 20 medical tests free of cost. Patients have started calling the health ATM "easy and fast" even as the machine speaks multiple languages, includes voice instructions and supports both Aadhaar cards and phone numbers. Health officials are watching the experiment closely. Principal medical officer Dr Lokveer Singh said, "We have one health ATM in the city and others in Sohna, Rewari and Narnaul. The govt may set up more. These kiosks are getting a lot of attention." For Rekha Devi, a 52-year-old domestic worker from Manesar, it made a real difference. "My blood sugar was acting up and I didn't have time to wait in long queues," she said. I got tested, talked to a doctor and my report came straight to my phone. It was easy and fast." For those unfamiliar with tech, ASHA workers like Sushma step in to guide them through the process. "People who never went for regular check-ups are now using it weekly," Sushma said, adding, "And they are coming back for follow-ups because their records are easy to access." That's the real game-changer: continuity of care. In a system where medical history is often lost in paper files — or never recorded at all — the health ATM creates a digital trail. "It's not just about one test," Sushma continued, "It's about staying connected to your health."

The kiosk provides a basic yet meaningful screening package that can flag early signs of illness and track overall well-being.

Petitioner Vaishali Rana has sought demolition and removal of all illegal structures, a halt to further construction on the forestland, protection and restoration of the wildlife corridor in the area, and formation of a joint monitoring committee to oversee compliance and submit quarterly reports to the tribunal. "Remove the 1.5km unauthorised motorable road built through the forest and initiate ecological restoration. Seal illegal borewells and impose environmental compensation for groundwater misuse, sewage discharge, and waste burning. Protect and restore the wildlife corridor in the area. Relocate over 250 cattle housed in the unlicensed gaushala. Form a Joint Monitoring Committee to oversee compliance and submit quarterly reports to the tribunal," the petition filed by Rana pleaded. The petition details a series of complaints dating back to Nov 28, 2024, when locals



first contacted the principal chief conservator of forests. A site inspection by the divisional forest officer followed on Dec 14. Despite verbal instructions to trustees running the illegal building in early Jan 2025 and multiple written complaints to forest and environment authorities, violations reportedly

continued. Also, key actions were taken after the inspection. On Jan 17, 2025, a forest offence report (FOR No. 014/0519) was issued, citing construction of an illegal parking lot. On June 23, fresh representations were made to the deputy commissioner and state pollution control board, alleging ongoing violations. The petition alleged inaction and regulatory lapses, even after formal findings by forest officials. Rana, trustee of the Aravalli Bachao Citizens Movement, said, "A large new structure was built over the past two months, including concretised areas, metal sheds and a cemented parking lot, now spanning over two acres. Loudspeakers installed on the premises play amplified music throughout the day, disturbing wildlife in the surrounding eco-sensitive zone." Activists have also reported installation of high-intensity floodlights, disrupting nocturnal wildlife movement.

Gurgaon pushes for sanitation overhaul with ward-level action plan

Gurgaon. (Agency)

A ward-level cleanliness campaign will be launched to address the city's worsening sanitation crisis. The ward-wise strategy, announced as part of an elaborate action plan, includes the deployment of dedicated teams in each ward with no shortage of resources. Every ward will be treated as an independent unit, equipped with one earthmover, three tractors, four to five sanitation workers and oversight by the ward councillor, junior engineer and SDO. "A one-month intensive cleaning campaign will be undertaken in each ward. The best-performing ward will be honoured by the chief minister with a cash reward," urban local bodies (ULB) minister Vipul Goel said on Monday.

Goel, who was in the city to review the sanitation work, asked officials to treat the campaign as a mission, saying "cleanliness in the city is a top priority for the state". He asked them to make the city "beautiful and clean". The plan was discussed at a review meeting held at the

PWD rest house after the minister visited the Bandhwari waste plant. Goel — while addressing the meeting attended by deputy commissioner Ajay Kumar, MCG commissioner Pradeep Dahiya, municipal commissioner of Faridabad Dhirendra Khadgata and senior officials from GMDA and MCG — said Gurgaon is seen as a global city and the "work done here sends a message at the national and international level". Goel asked officials to submit a detailed report of the work done so far. He also said construction and demolition (C&D) waste sites must be improved without delay. Officials said tenders for C&D waste disposal will be issued before Aug 10. The minister also ordered a survey of 20-year-old sewer lines in areas prone to waterlogging. "Based on the report, it will be decided whether to repair or replace the sewer network. The task must be completed within a month," Goel said. The minister asked the officials to ensure secondary garbage collection points are

properly enclosed to ensure these are not visibly unpleasant and improve hygiene surrounding these points. He ordered that potholes formed during monsoon be identified for early repair after the rains end. Earlier in the day, Goel visited the Bandhwari landfill site and directed the officials to ensure proper disposal of leachate generated at the waste management plant. He also asked the officials to expedite the tender process for the disposal of legacy waste. MCG chief Pradeep Dahiya said that beautification works at the plant are progressing well. "Improvements are being made not only from an environmental perspective but also to enhance the site's visual appeal for the general public. The installation of a view cutter to screen the plant from the road has been completed.

A tender has been floated for additional works including plantation, fencing, tree guards, surface turfing and landscaping, with an estimated cost of Rs 96 lakh, Dahiya said.

'Baron of Westarctica' opened cos in leading Indian businessmen's names

Gurgaon. (Agency)

Ghaziabad: A city court on Monday granted police five days' remand of Harshvardhan Jain, who ran a fake embassy from a Kavi Nagar bungalow that claimed to represent unrecognised 'micronations' like Westarctica, Ladonia and Seborga till he was arrested last week by UP's special task force (STF). The 49-year-old Harshvardhan Jain also drove around in cars with fake diplomatic blue number plates that had 'Honorary Consul Baron Westarctica' and 'Honorary Consigliere Principato Di Seborga' engraved on them.

The STF believes the embassy, which was in operation for nine years, was a facade for a suspected hawala business that Jain ran using shell companies and had sought his custody to interrogate him. Chief judicial magistrate Aishwarya Pratap Singh was convinced that the matter was a complex

one and thorough interrogation of the accused was important for the recovery of forged documents and to throw light on the connections he claims to enjoy in govt ranks. Jain was arrested by STF on July 23 from the rented two-storey Kavinagar bungalow. Talking to TOI, assistant prosecution officer Uttam Tripathy said he had obtained a list of 25 companies from various diaries of Jain, which need to be verified. He cited the STF FIR to argue that Jain floated companies in the name of Dhirubhai Ambani, (Gautam) Adani and Mittal (which one was not specified), and the police recovered seals and stamps of those companies from him.

"We wanted his remand to take him to Delhi and Gujarat to verify details of the companies," he said.

STF recovered two passports and two PAN cards from Jain. Tripathy said one passport

was Indian and the other issued by 'Samoga'. "When we contacted the protocol division of ministry of external affairs, we were told that no country by the name of Samoga exists," he said, adding both passports were signed by one Pushpa Ranjan. "We found that there is a genuine person by that name in the passport division of MEA. The Indian passport is genuine, so it calls for proper investigation as to how the seal and signature of the same person were found in a passport issued by a non-existent country," Tripathy said. As for the PAN cards, one was issued in the name of Harshvardhan Jain and the other in the name of HV Jain. Tripathy told the court that to verify how two applications were placed for the issuance of a PAN card by the same person, they needed to find out links that Jain used.

When school runs from a cattle shed & locals are thankful for it

Nuh.(Agency)

We've seen classes take place under trees, on floors, in courtyards and on open corridors. Now here's a primary school that is inside a buffalo shed, operating from there not as a stopgap measure but since its inception in 2020.

The school at Daulatabas in Nagina block of Nuh has 126 children enrolled, about 60% of whom turn up on any day. Classes happen under a tin roof in a space that is shared with livestock. Its lone teacher, Giriraj Kumar, juggles everything from Hindi to maths across five classes, helped by an assistant. And yet, villagers are thankful for this — it's better than no school at all. "We were tired of watching our children walk 2km to the school in Khanpur every day through bad weather and stray dog attacks," said Zarnail, a resident who donated the shed for use as a school. "Many parents just gave up. So, we gave what we could: this shed. We thought govt would take it from there but that did not happen." Aarif, a Class III student, said buffaloes didn't bother them anymore, nor did the smell of dung or the flies hovering over. "Sometimes if they moo loudly, the teacher just takes a pause till they stop," he said. Class V student Iqbal said he liked school but pointed to the ceiling fan. "It works only for a few



hours, that too, if we are lucky. On most days, we just fan ourselves with notebooks." And yet, villagers insist they'll continue teaching their children, govt land or not, because it is easier to turn a cattle shed into a classroom than to cut through red tape. "I teach all five classes, all subjects—math, Hindi, English, EVS—under one roof, in the same space where buffaloes are tied in the evening. There's a blackboard, but the classroom has no walls, just mats spread on the floor and children trying to focus while flies buzz around. "Tell me, how can a child study like this?" asked Nazma, a mother of three. "No roof, no blackboard, no chairs, this is not

a school, it's just a name on paper. We are not against education, but is this how the govt wants us to raise our kids?" Nasir Khan, a father of two, said his son just plays around the whole day as there is no class, no teachers. "Sometimes, I tell my wife it's better our children stay home and help in the fields than sit under the sun doing nothing," he said. Education minister Mahipal Dhandha expressed surprise when told about a school running from a cattle shed. "It is shocking for me to hear this. I will ask officials to find out why a school is in such a condition," he said. Gita Arya, the block education officer for Nagina, said all schools in the block, including those in Daulatabas and Padodibaas, were caught in gridlock. "No buildings were constructed for govt primary schools in the block for the last two years, forcing schools to run out of community halls or simply in the open. Some panchayats offered land for school buildings. But the process of transferring land title to the education department has been stuck. Without a formal title, we cannot start construction. I've submitted repeated applications since I took charge two years ago. The files just move from one table to another," she said.

News box

Gurgaon woman (61) loses 1.7L to cyber cons in credit card fraud

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A 61-year-old woman lost Rs 1.69 lakh to cyber fraudsters on the pretext of getting a credit card from a private bank online. Promila Kukreja of Sector 83 saw an advertisement on social media and applied for the credit card on July 12, following which she lost the amount from her two bank accounts.

Kukreja, a retired govt employee, told police that after applying for the card online, she lost nearly Rs 1 lakh from one account and Rs 70,000 from another account on the same day. After realising that she had been cheated, she complained to the cyber police. A case was registered against an unidentified person under section 318(4) (cheating and dishonesty inducing the delivery of property) of BNS at the Cyber police station in Manesar. Police are yet to trace the accused in the case, and the investigation is ongoing. A police officer said that despite rigorous efforts to make people aware of cyber frauds, residents are falling prey.

Gurgaon shocker: Migrant labourer hung upside down, beaten with stick; 4 held

Gurgaon. (Agency)

After a shocking viral video in which a group of men were seen beating a migrant labourer with a stick while the latter was hung upside down, Gurgaon police have booked four persons in the case. The video according to the sources is of a building in sector 37-C. Gurgaon Police spokesperson Sandeep Kumar claimed that police did not receive any complaint in the case. "The victim did not contact police or neither we received any complaint but taking cognisance of the video, we have registered a case and arrested the culprits", ASI Sandeep said. In the video the victim can be heard crying, and screaming in pain while pleading for mercy, a man can be seen hitting him with a stick while others support the act standing nearby.

Light rain brings down mercury, more in store for Gurgaon

Gurgaon. (Agency)

The city experienced 8mm of rainfall on Monday, resulting in a slight drop in minimum temperature, which fell to 26.5°C, a slight decrease from Sunday's 26.7°C. However, the maximum temperature reached 34.4 degrees Celsius, compared to 34.1 degrees on Sunday. The IMD has issued a 'yellow alert' on July 29 and August 3, cautioning about potential thunderstorms, lightning and moderate rain in isolated areas in Haryana. Regions such as Ambala, Panchkula, Kalka, and Narayan Garh are expected to experience more weather changes, while light rain is anticipated in Gurgaon.

Drain network soon in sectors along Southern Peripheral Road, Dwarka away to avert flooding

Noida.(Agency)

A comprehensive stormwater drainage system is finally in the works for new sectors along Southern Peripheral Road (SPR) and Dwarka Expressway, with GMDA aiming to complete the project by 2026. The absence of a proper drainage network has long plagued these new sectors, where residents frequently complain of severe waterlogging during monsoon spells. With roads severely waterlogged, commuting becomes a challenge, and property damage, especially in low-rise housing societies, is common.

State Government delivered Development Works on Ground, says Krishan Lal Panwar

Chandigarh: Haryana Development and Panchayat Minister, Sh. Krishan Lal Panwar, inaugurated and laid the foundation stone for development works worth around Rs. 5 crore in village Kurana of Panipat district. Addressing the villagers present, Sh. Krishan Lal Panwar said that the initiative taken by the State Government to implement development works on the ground has benefitted the common man. The list of works inauguration of which and the foundation stone of which has been done by the Minister include construction of interlocking road from Kurana bus stand to the drain, construction of a banquet hall behind the Panchayat Bhawan near Baba Wale Johad a Chaupal near the bus stand, and nine roads which are to be paved. Sh. Krishan Lal Panwar said that the government has ensured that the benefits of every scheme reach the last mile citizen.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as SHABNAM AHMAD D/o MOH JAMA KHAN W/o ADNAN AHMAD, R/o Tower Oracle, Sector 104, Mahanshi Nagar O-603, Pihu Kingston royal home brham niwas hazipur, Noida, Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh - 201301, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHABNAM AHMAD

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as VAIBHAVI SOYARIA alias MISHTI D/o ARUN SINGH R/o 672, Ghatori, Mehdrai, Hauz Khas, South Delhi, Delhi - 110059, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VAIBHAVI MAURYA.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as PARI GUPTA D/o SURESH GUPTA R/o 804, Ground Floor, Sunlight Colony, VTC Jungpura, Defence Colony, South Delhi, Delhi - 110014, declare that name of my Mother has been wrongly written as RITU GUPTA in my 10th Class and as BIMALA DEVI in my 12th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of my Mother is REETU GUPTA respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, Rubena W/o Sahil R/o House No-444, Gali No-6, Manga Puri Phase-1, Dabri, Palam Village, Delhi-110045, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Rubina in my minor daughter Joya, aged 11 years in her School Record. The actual name of my father is Seesh Pal, which may be amended accordingly.

Delhi reels under heavy rain, red alert issued; flight operations disrupted

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted moderate to heavy rainfall accompanied by lightning and surface winds with speeds reaching 30 to 40 kmph.

Agency New Delhi.

A red alert was issued for Delhi on Tuesday as heavy rains lashed the city, leading to traffic snarls and waterlogging during the morning rush hour. Areas such as ITO, Daula Kuan, Naraina, Patel Nagar, Vijay Chowk, Jangpura, RK Puram, Lajpat Nagar, Talkatora road, Rafi Marg and Rohini received heavy showers.

Waterlogging was reported from multiple locations, including Panchkuan Road, Moti Bagh, ITO, Mukharjee Nagar and Pul Prahlaipur, affecting vehicular movement.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted moderate to heavy rainfall accompanied by lightning and surface winds with speeds reaching 30 to 40 kmph. A red alert has also been issued for the eastern parts of the National Capital Region, while a 'yellow alert' remains in

place for the rest of the areas. According to the regional Met Centre, the ongoing rain spell is expected to continue till August 3. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Delhi recorded 8 mm of rainfall in the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 am on Tuesday.

Delhi recorded a minimum temperature of 26.8 degrees Celsius, 0.5 notch below the season's average, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The IMD has forecast a cloudy sky with moderate rain, with the maximum temperature expected to settle around 30 degrees Celsius.

Relative humidity was recorded at 70 per cent at 8.30 am. The air quality was recorded in the satisfactory category at 9

am, with an Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 87, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data showed.

300 'poor', 301 to 400 'very poor', and 401 to 500 'severe'.

Multiple flight operations disrupted due to heavy rainfall in Delhi. Heavy rainfall and gusty winds disrupted Delhi on Tuesday morning, prompting major airlines—IndiGo, SpiceJet, and Air India—to issue travel advisories warning passengers of possible delays and disruptions to flight operations.

IndiGo, in a post on X, said, "With heavy rainfall expected over #Delhi, we're seeing a chance of delays and slower traffic to and from the airport. While we can't control the skies, we're doing everything possible to keep your journey steady on the ground. Please check your flight status and consider giving yourself a little cushion of time to reach the airport."



2 Successful Flight Tests Of 'Pralay' Missile Conducted In Odisha

Agency New Delhi.

Giving a major boost to India's defence system, the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has conducted two consecutive successful flight tests of the Pralay Missile from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha, the Office of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Tuesday.

In an official statement from the Ministry of Defence (MoD), "Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted two consecutive successful flight tests of the Pralay missile from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha on July 28 and 29, 2025."

The flight tests were carried out as a part of user evaluation trials to validate the maximum and minimum range capability of the missile system. The missiles precisely followed the intended trajectory and reached the target point with pinpoint accuracy,

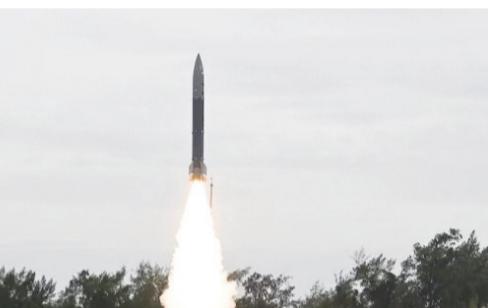
meeting all the test objectives. All subsystems performed as per expectations, which were verified using test data captured by various tracking sensors deployed by Integrated Test Range (ITR), including instruments deployed on a

ship positioned near the designated impact point, the statement said. According to MoD, Pralay is an indigenously developed solid propellant quasi-ballistic missile employing state-of-the-art guidance and navigation to ensure high precision. The missile is capable of carrying

multiple types of warheads against various targets.

The system has been developed by Research Centre Imarat in collaboration with other DRDO labs—Defence Research & Development Laboratory, Advanced Systems Laboratory, Armament Research & Development Establishment, High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory, Terminal Ballistics Research Laboratory, Research & Development Establishment (Engineers) and ITR etc; industry partners - Bharat Dynamics Limited & Bharat Electronics Limited and many other industries and MSMEs.

The flight tests, as per MoD, were witnessed by senior scientists of DRDO, representatives of the users from the Indian Air Force and the Indian Army, as well as the industry representatives.



"Pak Is Wife After Op Sindoos, Bring Her Home": Rajasthan MP's ROFL Speech

Agency New Delhi.

On a day of sharp exchanges between the opposition and treasury benches during the Operation Sindoos debate in Parliament, there were some moments of comic relief in the Lok Sabha when leaders on both sides of the political aisle laughed out loud. Hanuman Beniwal, the chief of Rashtriya Loktantrik Party and MP from Nagaur, had his fellow MPs in splits when he said Pakistan has become India's wife after Operation Sindoos and that the government should just "bring her home".

Addressing the House late last night, Mr Beniwal said that during Operation Sindoos, the government said Pakistan has been brought to its knees. "You kept the name 'sindoos'. It appeared that India is putting sindoor on Pakistan's hair parting. According to Hindu beliefs, a woman considers her

husband her sindoor. India put sindoor on Pakistan, so Pakistan has become its wife. Only vidai (bride's farewell) is left. You go and bring Pakistan home," he said, as members cutting across



party lines started laughing. Nagina MP and Azad Samaj Party chief Chandrashekhar Azad, seated next to Mr Beniwal, was having a roll as the Rajasthan MP spoke. At one point, when someone interrupted him and asked him to wind up soon, Mr Beniwal said, "You spoke for half an

hour and you are asking me to go?" When the buzzer rang, signalling that his time was over, the Nagina MP responded, "Kya ho gaya? (What is it)". Mr Azad intervened and sought some time for his neighbour. Mr Beniwal then told the Chair, "You are making me speak at 10.30 AM. My remarks won't be printed in newspapers. I will have to manage with social media," he said, evoking another round of laughter in the House. Shifting gears to question the government, Mr Beniwal said the security failure that led to the Pahalgam attack must be investigated, and the country has the right to know how this breach happened. He also claimed that the morale of the armed forces has decreased after the government brought the Agniveer recruitment scheme and demanded that this move be rolled back.

Slum demolitions ignite fierce political storm

Agency New Delhi.

A series of demolition drives targeting jhuggi-jhupdi (JJ) clusters across the national capital has triggered sharp political confrontations and widespread public concern, as hundreds of families have been displaced with little clarity on their resettlement.

Only this year, authorities have razed informal settlements in areas such as Wazirpur, Jailorwala Bagh, Shalimar Bagh, and Jangpura, citing court orders and environmental concerns. In one of the largest such operations in June, nearly 370 jhuggis were cleared at Madras Camp near the Barapullah drain. According to official data, 189 families deemed eligible were shifted to flats in Narela, while 181 were declared ineligible and left without an alternative shelter. The government has maintained that the demolitions are being carried out in line with legal mandates and only after identifying and rehabilitating eligible residents.

On Sunday, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta defended her administration's actions, stating that no demolition is taking place

without a plan for rehabilitation. She added, the government has allotted Rs 700 crore for the development of slum areas under the 'Jahan Jhuggi, Wahan Makhan' scheme. She visited several affected JJ clusters to assure residents of better housing, sanitation, and road infrastructure in the coming months.

The opposition, however, has not been convinced. AAP leaders have taken to the streets in protest, accusing the BJP-led administration of carrying out "anti-poor" demolitions without adequate safeguards. At a major demonstration at Jantar Mantar last month, former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal alleged the BJP was making good on his earlier warning that slums would be bulldozed if the party was elected to power. The AAP supremo warned if demolitions continued, the government "would not survive three years."

Congress too has joined the fray. Rahul Gandhi visited demolition sites in Ashok Vihar and Wazirpur, criticising the

government for what he termed an "inhuman approach" towards the urban poor. He pledged legal and parliamentary action to support affected families, accusing the BJP of disregarding the vulnerable population.



On Monday, Delhi Congress chief Devender Yadav hit out at the BJP and AAP governments, accusing both parties of only demolishing slums instead of ensuring rehabilitation of the displaced poor. "When 3,000 JJ clusters were bulldozed to leave 15,000 residents without roofs over their heads in scorching heat, only Rahul Gandhi

'We want water, not promises': Crisis plagues Chilla village

Agency New Delhi.

The water tankers arrive around 10 am on alternate days. Here, in Chilla village, some 15 odd kilometres from the country's political epicentre, where Parliament convenes, residents—mostly housewives, children and the elderly—continue to stand in neverending queues as they await their turn to fill their pots and vessels.

Changes in the government hardly seems to affect these lives that still rely on water tankers to fulfill their daily needs as the urban village continues to grapple with severe water crisis that has persisted for over a decade now.

The tankers, each carrying around 10,000 litres, have been a lifeline for Chilla's 50,000-strong population since the Sheila Dikshit days, when the Congress government initiated the service some 10-12 years ago.

Over the years, the sight has remained largely unchanged, with 'urban villagers' lining up along the Ghazipur Road, jerrycans, pots, and bottles, and anything that may retain certain volume of water as they wait under the sun for their share.

In an attempt to address the issue, the AAP government laid an underground pipeline network in the village three years ago. However, due to civic apathy, lack of awareness among locals, and administrative negligence, the project failed to bring relief. Protocols were reportedly not followed, and the infrastructure remains underutilised, adding to woes. Since taking office, the BJP government is yet to take concrete steps to resolve the crisis. Meanwhile, children in Chilla village are forced to miss playtime to collect water, underscoring the toll on their education and childhood.

Residents are calling for urgent government intervention and accountability. "We come every alternative day with our siblings and mother," says Rohit Kumar a resident, studying in class 8 at a local school. We need water, not promises, a unanimous drone emerges from locals. As Delhi modernises rapidly, Chilla village stands as a stark reminder that basic necessities remain a distant dream for many, right in the shadow of the nation's capital.

"Fabricated": Delhi Cops Reject Mamata Banerjee's Assault Claim On Bengalis

Agency New Delhi.

The Delhi Police on Monday called a video shared by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on social media, alleging that a Bengali-speaking woman and her child were assaulted in the national capital for speaking their language, "fabricated" and "politically motivated."

Deputy Commissioner of Police (East) Abhishek Dhania on Monday said that the police took immediate cognizance of the video shared on platform 'X' by the West Bengal Chief Minister, where she claimed that the woman and her child were brutally assaulted by Delhi Police personnel.

"Upon inquiry, we identified the woman as Sanjana Parveen. During questioning, she alleged that on the night of July 26, four men in plain clothes posing as police personnel took her and her child

to a secluded spot and demanded Rs 25,000, which she claimed to have paid," DCP Dhania said. However, the DCP said that a detailed investigation, including analysis of CCTV footage and local intelligence, revealed inconsistencies in her story.

"During sustained questioning, the woman admitted that her relative, a political worker from Malda district in West Bengal, had asked her to make the video. The video was then circulated locally in Bengal and later surfaced on social media," the officer said. Terming the video "baseless and fabricated", SCP Dhania added that the footage was deliberately created to defame the Delhi Police. "This appears to be a deliberate attempt to malign the image of Delhi Police through a politically motivated narrative. The matter is still under investigation," he said.

HC slams civic chaos, calls for centralisation

Agency New Delhi.

Slamming the "enormous confusion" and lack of accountability among civic bodies, the Delhi High Court on Monday called for urgent centralisation of flood and drainage management in the national capital. The court said the multiplicity of agencies and unclear division of responsibilities have led to mismanagement, frequent flooding, and public suffering during monsoons.

A bench of Justice Prathiba M Singh and Justice Manmeet P S Arora, while hearing two suo motu petitions on waterlogging, rainwater harvesting and traffic woes, pointed to the glaring coordination gap between agencies like the MCD and the Delhi Jal Board (DJB). It noted that stormwater drains are under the MCD and sewage lines under the DJB, but "neither are being properly maintained," with each agency blaming the other. "In most colonies, stormwater drains are either clogged by construction or blocked by residents



themselves, adding to the problem," the court observed. A fresh plea in the matter was filed by the Maharani Bagh Residents Welfare Association regarding flooding due to water entering from openings in a Ring Road wall. The PWD said the openings were pre-existing well marks that residents had earlier blocked.

The court noted that earlier, the road was under PWD but now falls under MCD jurisdiction—another example, it said, of administrative fragmentation and apathy.

"The residents' petition highlights the governance vacuum caused by overlapping jurisdictions of multiple agencies," the bench said, warning that if needed, it would summon top officials from MCD, DJB, PWD, DDA, the Irrigation and Flood Control Department to ensure coordinated action.

It further directed that its order be placed before the Chief Secretary, who is to consult relevant officials and consider centralising management of civic services, especially flood control. If necessary, the matter should be escalated to the L-G, the court added.

rushed to their support and assured them of all help," he said.

The BJP has dismissed the criticism, calling the opposition's protests "political theatrics." Delhi BJP chief Virendra Sachdeva said the AAP is shedding crocodile tears after doing little for slum rehabilitation during its own tenure.

He said the BJP government is the only one to take real steps under the 'Jahan Jhuggi, Wahan Makhan' initiative, with thousands of people already shifted to permanent homes in places like Kalkaji and Kathputli Colony. The demolitions are part of a larger trend that critics have described as "bulldozer politics," with authorities in several Indian states using demolition drives to clear alleged encroachments into public spaces—often affecting marginalised communities the hardest. Delhi had seen similar drives ahead of the 2023 G20 Summit, when thousands were displaced to clear key roads and intersections for beautification and renovation.

NEWS BOX

Distraught Shai Hope admits Windies 'never gave themselves a chance' vs Australia

New Delhi. (Agency)

West Indies skipper Shai Hope was left disappointed with the team's performance after their loss in the final T20I of the series against Australia. Windies were blanked 5-0 by the Australian side in the T20I series, as they failed to show up with both bat and ball in the majority of their games. Speaking at the post-match presentation ceremony, Hope said that the team never really gave themselves a chance to succeed in the series. The loss in the T20I series comes on the back of a terrible 0-3 loss in the red-ball format, where the hosts were blown away by Australia's pace battery. In the Test series, Windies recorded their lowest ever innings total — 27 — in the final Test match of the series. Known for their prowess in the shortest format of international cricket, the hosts did not fare much better in the T20I leg.



of the bilateral. Despite having a squad packed with big hitters and T20 specialists, they looked out of sorts throughout the series, lacking discipline with the ball and consistency with the bat. Australia, on the other hand, were clinical and exploited every weakness and showed far more intent and composure. The final T20I in St Kitts saw yet another dominating display from Australia, ending the tour on a high. West Indies captain Shai Hope admitted that the team didn't perform well with the bat, which essentially led to their downfall in all 5 games.

"Don't think we put up a good batting display. We came up against a quality opposition in Australia but as a batting group we didn't give ourselves the best chance. We were always one step behind the eight ball, but have to commend the bowling effort. Just didn't happen for us today. In the Caribbean, chasing is always better due to the dew and wind factor. But that's not something I can control. We have some clarity in the bowling unit, we executed better. We'll put this behind us and look ahead to the Pakistan series," the Windies skipper said. Hope also mentioned that conditions in the Caribbean usually favour chasing due to the dew and wind, but the hosts never really got the chance after losing every single toss in the series.

Legends Seek West Indies' Revival

The crisis in West Indies cricket has seen emergency meetings being held by the management.

Khaleel Ahmed cuts short Essex stint due to personal reasons, returns home early

New Delhi. (Agency)

India's left-arm seamer Khaleel Ahmed has cut short his stint with English county side Essex owing to personal reasons, the club confirmed on Monday. The 26-year-old, who had joined Essex in June for what was supposed to be a two-month spell covering both red and white-ball formats, returned home after featuring in just two first-class matches in the ongoing County Championship. Khaleel's contract was initially meant to see him through until late September. He was expected to play in six County Championship matches — essentially the remainder of Essex's red-ball season — and a maximum of ten List A fixtures in the Royal London One-Day Cup. However, his involvement was limited to just two red-ball games, in which he claimed four wickets at an average of 64.50. "While we are disappointed to see him leave, we fully support Khaleel's decision and are grateful



for the contributions he made during his time with us," Essex said in an official statement. The club did not disclose further details about the nature of the personal reasons prompting his early return. Khaleel had joined Essex on the back of a notable red-ball performance for India A, where he picked up figures of 4 for 70 in a first-class match against the England Lions. That spell, combined with his left-arm angle and white-ball credentials, had made him an attractive late-season addition to the Essex squad. His signing was announced in mid-June, and he linked up with the side shortly thereafter. Although he struggled to make a significant impact in his brief outing for Essex, the stint was seen as an opportunity for Khaleel to get more red-ball exposure in overseas conditions.

Dale Steyn plays Devil's advocate, but did India really stretch the draw too far

England were criticised for asking Jadeja and Sundar to skip centuries

Jadeja and Sundar refused handshake request closer to the end on Day 5

Dale Steyn plays Devil's advocate on the matter

New Delhi. (Agency)

Ben Stokes' England has received heavy criticism from fans and cricket pundits alike over their handshake saga. The English side, which has often projected themselves as the guardians of the gentleman's game, came under fire for asking Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar to skip their individual milestones (hundreds) and put curtains on the 4th Test match at Manchester. However, both India batters, who were approaching

their hard-fought hundreds, declined the request of a mutual handshake, frustrating the England side, who by that time knew that they had let the game slip out of their hands. Stokes's act saw him get criticised by former England captain Alastair Cook, who blasted him on BBC. Former India cricketer Ravichandran Ashwin was not kind as well, as he slammed the English team and their captain on his YouTube channel. While the majority of the cricketing world took India's side in the argument, former South Africa fast bowler Dale Steyn offered a contrasting view on the incident. "The only issue I see here is the one thing people aren't realising, the batters weren't playing for 100s, they were batting for a DRAW. That was the goal. Draw the game. Once that was accomplished, and a result was out of the question, a handshake was offered, that's the gentlemanly thing to do, right?" Steyn tweeted on Monday, July 28.

Why Manchester Draw Felt Like a Win



Still being the longest and the slowest amongst the three cricketing formats, Test cricket continues to harbour an incredibly passionate fanbase for the nature of the battle it offers. While T20 is quick and offers instant gratification, Test cricket demands endurance and sacrifice. In the 21st century, the whites continue to carry more pride than the coloured, sponsor-laden jerseys of the gitzier format. Ask former India captain Virat Kohli, whose passion for the Test format oozed out even after winning the

elusive IPL title, one that had teased him for 18 long years.

Kohli said in his post-final speech that the feeling of winning the IPL was great, but it was still 5 rungs below a Test match victory.

"This moment is right up there with the best moments I have had in my career, but it still marks 5 levels under Test cricket, that is how much I love Test cricket and that is how much I value Test cricket. I would just urge the youngsters coming through to treat that format with respect," said Kohli after RCB's win. "Because if you perform in Test cricket, you walk around anywhere in the world, people look you in the eye, shake your hand and say well done, you played the game really well. So if you want to earn respect in world cricket all over, take up Test cricket, give your heart and soul to it and when you walk out with wonders the other side, then you gain respect to the cricket world with legends like yourself," he added.

Premier League: Joining Liverpool was an easy decision to make, says Florian Wirtz

New Delhi. (Agency)

Florian Wirtz claimed that it was an easy decision for him to make the switch to Liverpool and become the costliest player in the history of the club. The Merseyside club paid an initial 100 million pounds for Wirtz, with the total fee potentially rising to 116 million (135 million) with add-ons. This makes him the costliest German transfer in history as well. Wirtz played a crucial role in Bayer Leverkusen's title win in 2023-24 and continued to be one of their key players last season. Speaking about his move to Liverpool, the 22-year-old midfielder said that he had been waiting a long time to complete the move to the



Section 306 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, based on a complaint lodged by Hemang Bharat Kumar Amin (44), a BCCI staff member and resident of Mahim. The alleged theft occurred on June 13 but was officially reported to the Marine Drive police on July 17. According to police, the

accused, Farooq Aslam Khan (46), who works as a security manager and resides at Gaurav Excellency in Mira Road East, allegedly entered the merchandise store without authorisation and stole 261 jerseys. These included jerseys of all ten IPL teams — Delhi Capitals, Mumbai Indians, Lucknow Super Giants, Sunrisers Hyderabad, Kolkatta Knight Riders, Punjab Kings, Gujarat Titans, Royal Challengers Bengaluru, Rajasthan Royals, and Chennai Super Kings. Police are currently examining CCTV footage and other technical evidence to trace the sequence of events and recover the stolen merchandise. The investigation is ongoing.



reigning Premier League champions. "I feel very happy and proud. It's finally done — something I have been waiting for a long time. I'm really happy," said Wirtz, while talking to JioHotstar in an exclusive interview.

"Felt it was the right moment to take next step." Wirtz said he felt it was the right moment in his career to take the next step and he wanted to join a club that was ranked amongst the best three in the world. The German said that he was convinced by the club's vision and what they had to offer.

"I felt it was the right moment in my career to take the next step. I wanted to join a club that ranks among the top three in the world, and in my opinion, Liverpool is one of them. I saw myself in the best hands at Liverpool and was truly convinced by the people here, the club's vision, and what it offers me. Ultimately, it was an easy decision to make." Wirtz also thanked the support from the Liverpool fans and said he could see on social media the love he got from them. "I would say thank you for the support. I have seen on Instagram and elsewhere how much they wanted me to join. I'm really looking forward to playing in front of them and achieving great things together. I'm very happy and sorry for the long wait."

Gautam Gambhir defiant despite trailing 1-2 vs England: Quality of cricket made India proud

India head coach Gautam Gambhir remains defiant despite India trailing 1-2 in the England Test series. Gambhir has said that the kind of cricket that both teams have played, would have made every cricket lover proud.

New Delhi. (Agency)

India head coach Gautam Gambhir remained defiant despite trailing England 1-2 after the 4th Test match of the series. Speaking at the India House in London, Gambhir claimed that the quality of cricket in the England vs India series would have made everyone proud. India escaped with a draw in the Manchester Test match despite being in a precarious position on Day 4 and Day 5. The Indian team conceded a mammoth 669 runs against England in the Test, and had to put in a heroic second innings performance to eke out a draw. Shubman Gill, Ravindra Jadeja and Washington Sundar hit hundreds as India remained alive in the Test series. "Touring this part of the world has

always been challenging because of the history between the two countries, which can never be forgotten," said Gambhir during his speech at the India House in London. "Whenever we have toured the UK, the kind of support we have got, we cherish every bit of it. We never take anything for granted," he added. Indian

criticised in the ongoing series and Gambhir's team selection has been scrutinised as well. Last five weeks have been really exciting for both countries with the kind of cricket that has been on display, which I'm sure has made every cricket lover proud," Gambhir said. The Indian cricket team received a rousing welcome from community leaders, parliamentarians and sports fans at a diaspora reception hosted by the High Commission of India in London, where the squad is set for the fifth and final Test.

He went on to highlight the importance of the fifth and final Test, which India needed to win to level the series that now stands 2-1 in favour of England. "Both the teams have thrown a lot of punches and have fought for every inch. We have got one more week to go, one final push to make and one more opportunity to make our country and people out here proud," said Gambhir. The final Test match of the series starts on Thursday, July 31. India will hope to win the final game and level the series. Sanjay Manjrekar Slams Gambhir



Team Has Made Everyone Proud

Gambhir claimed that the performances by Shubman Gill's Indian team over the last 5 weeks in England have made every cricket lover proud. Notably, the Indian team started with a loss at Headingley, won in Birmingham and then lost again at Lord's. India's fielding standards have been heavily

Australia's Caribbean cricket tour ends with a perfect 8-0 record in Tests, T20s

KITTS. (Agency)

Australia completed a flawless Caribbean tour with a three-wicket victory over West Indies in the final T20 international, securing an unprecedented 8-0 record across all formats. The win at Bridgetown on Monday night marked a 4-0 sweep in the T20 series, adding to their earlier 3-0 Test series triumph. After winning their eighth consecutive toss, Australia sent West Indies in to bat and restricted them to 170 in 19.4 overs. Shimron Hetmyer's 52 off 31 balls and Sherfane Rutherford's 35 off 17 provided the backbone of the innings, but disciplined bowling from Ben Dwarshuis (3-41) and Nathan Ellis (2-32) kept the hosts in check. Spinner Adam Zampa celebrated his 100th T20 international with economical figures of

1-20. Australia's chase began shakily as Jason Holder (2-25) and Alzarri Joseph (2-28) reduced them to 29-3 within three overs, including Glenn Maxwell's golden duck. A quickfire 30 from Tim David and a crucial 63-run partnership between Mitchell Owen (37 off 17) and Cameron Green (32 off 18) steadied the innings before Aaron Hardie's unbeaten 28 sealed victory with 18 balls remaining. West Indies spinner Akeal Hosein's late strikes (3-17) proved insufficient to prevent Australia's clean sweep. The comprehensive victory caps a dominant tour for Australia, showcasing their depth across formats ahead of their next international commitments, while West Indies will look to regroup before the T20 World Cup.



EU-sanctioned refiner Nayara turns to Rediff after Microsoft suspension: Report

New Delhi.(Agency)

Russia-backed Indian refiner Nayara Energy has enlisted domestic technology firm Rediff.com to maintain operations after US tech giant Microsoft suspended its services, three people familiar with the development told news agency Reuters.

The shift comes in the wake of fresh European Union sanctions announced on July 18 that targeted Nayara for its links to Russia. The company, which operates India's third-largest refinery, has condemned the sanctions and filed legal proceedings against Microsoft in the Delhi High Court, it said on Monday. The three sources, who declined to be named because they are not authorised to speak to the media, said Nayara began transitioning to Rediff's services shortly after Microsoft pulled out. Both Nayara and Rediff did not immediately respond to emailed requests for comment. Rediff.com, founded in 1996 and based in Mumbai, offers a range of digital services—from email and news to an e-commerce platform—according to information available on its website. Nayara, which operates the 400,000-barrel-per-day Vadinar refinery in Gujarat, is owned by a consortium of Russian entities including Rosneft. The sanctions have disrupted its export operations, leading to reduced refinery output and broader complications in accessing global services.

Nasscom expects more layoffs as IT industry faces major transition

New Delhi.(Agency)

India's top IT industry body, Nasscom, which represents India's \$268 billion IT services sector, has said that more job cuts may happen in the coming months as the sector goes through major changes, reported The Economic Times.

Nasscom called this period an "inflection point" for the industry. It said that clients around the world now expect more speed, flexibility, and innovation. As a result, many IT companies are rethinking how they deliver services, and what kind of talent they need. This comes just days after Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), the country's largest IT employer, announced it would cut 2% of its global staff. Around 12,000 mid- and senior-level employees will be let go as the company adjusts its team structure. In a statement, Nasscom explained that artificial intelligence (AI) and automation are becoming key parts of business operations. Because of this, older skillsets are being reviewed, and some employees may have to make career transitions. However, the body also shared a hopeful note. It said that tech continues to be a powerful growth driver, and with each wave of change, new jobs and opportunities are created. That's why it's important for professionals to keep learning and updating their skills. The industry has already made good progress in this direction. By the end of FY25, more than 1.5 million people had been trained in AI and GenAI-related skills. Out of these, over 95,000 employees in large listed IT companies have earned advanced certificates in areas like AI-native cloud and applied intelligence. As AI takes centre stage, hiring patterns are likely to change too. Companies will now look for deeper domain knowledge and highly specialised expertise. While job losses may happen in the short term, new roles are also on the horizon. For now, the key to staying relevant in the IT sector seems to be continuous learning and adapting to the future.

China rare earth ban to impact domestic production, exports across 5 sectors in India: SBI economists

Mumbai.(Agency)

China's ban on rare earth trade will impact domestic production and exports across five sectors in India, economists at SBI said on Monday. A report by the economists pegged the overall imports of rare earths and compounds at USD 31.9 million and magnet imports at USD 291 million in FY25.

Volumes of India's consumption of rare earths and compounds has seen a rising trend, it said, adding that import of rare earth magnets by India increased sharply in FY25. "China dominates in India's direction of trade in rare earth minerals and compounds," it said, listing out priorities India needs to adopt. "The top sectors impacted by China's ban



include transport equipment, basic metals, machinery, construction and electrical and electronics. Both domestic production and exports will be impacted," it added.

It added that Indian financial institutions, including banks, are also at risk of some impact because of this. The SBI report recommended states to take additional steps to ensure better exploration of such resources, which can reduce dependency on imports. It also cited a Rs 8,000-crore scheme by the government of Odisha as a case in point, and specified about efforts to search for minerals in the Ganjam district.

Explained: Why Mazagon Dock share price tumbled 5% after Q1 results

The Mazagon Dock

Shipbuilders stock was down 4.50% to Rs 2,664.25 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) at 10:34 am. In a month, the stock has tumbled 18%, still up almost 19% this year.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Shares of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL) fell over 5% in early trade on Tuesday after the state-owned defence shipbuilder reported its June quarter earnings. While revenue rose 11.4% year-on-year, the Street was left disappointed. The stock was down 4.50% to Rs 2,664.25 on the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) at 10:34 am. In a month, the stock has

tumbled 18%, still up almost 19% this year. The biggest concern was a 53% year-on-year drop in standalone EBITDA, which came in significantly below expectations. Analysts blamed elevated provisioning—now a recurring issue—as the main drag on margins. These provisions, typically made for liquidated damages, warranty claims, and project-related risks, weighed heavily on profits for the second straight quarter. Despite the Q1 miss, brokerages remain positive on MDL's long-term outlook. Nirmal Bang and Antique Stock Broking have both maintained their 'Buy' ratings, citing the company's strong fundamentals and a robust pipeline of upcoming defence contracts. Nirmal Bang expects the company to deliver a 21% compound annual growth rate in revenue, 22% in EBITDA, and 17% in net profit between FY25 and FY27. It has set a target price of Rs 3,540, valuing the stock at 45 times projected June 2027 earnings. Much of that optimism is tied to MDL's chances of

bagging large submarine contracts under the P75 and P75I programmes. If secured,



provisioning to normalise from the September quarter and even sees scope for some reversals. Antique believes MDL's position in submarine manufacturing is unmatched and that the company stands to gain significantly from India's naval modernisation plans. The biggest near-term trigger could be the expected award of three additional Scorpene submarines, which may be granted to MDL on a nominated basis. This alone could double its current order book. Also in the pipeline are the Rs 70,000 crore P75I submarine project and the similarly sized P17B stealth frigate programme.

Still, with the stock trading at about 33.8 times one-year forward earnings—well above its historical average—investors appear to be booking profits on any signs of a slip. Two straight quarters of margin pressure and a lack of management guidance may have pushed some to the sidelines.

Russia-backed Indian Refiner Nayara trims crude runs in wake of EU sanctions

New Delhi.(Agency)

Russia-backed Indian refiner Nayara Energy has reduced operations at its 400,000-barrel-per-day refinery in the aftermath of new European Union sanctions that targeted the firm, five sources familiar with the matter said. Privately-held Nayara, which runs India's third-biggest refinery at the port of Vadinar in the western state of Gujarat, controls nearly 8% of the country's total refining capacity of about 5.2 million bpd. The sanctions package unveiled on July 18 against Russia and its energy sector has made it tougher for Nayara to export its refined products, resulting in storage constraints, two of the sources said. Since the EU curbs on Nayara, traders have grown cautious in dealing with its fuel, trade and industry sources say.

Last week, Reuters reported that at least two tankers skipped planned loadings at Vadinar

Is tax filing deadline getting extended again? These key ITR utilities still pending

This year, the ITR forms were notified only by the end of May, much later than usual. After that, the utilities were rolled out in phases, and key tools are still missing.



CHENNAI.(Agency)

With just 48 days left until the current income tax return (ITR) filing deadline of September 15, 2025, many taxpayers are still unable to file. The reason? Key filing forms are not fully ready yet. The Income Tax Department had earlier extended the original deadline from July 31 to September 15, citing major changes in ITR forms and the need for more time to prepare systems. But now, tax experts say another extension may be on the cards.

MISSING UTILITIES, SHRINKING

TIME

So far, the Income Tax Department has not released the online (JSON) utilities for Forms 5, 6, and 7, commonly used by companies, trusts, and partnership firms. Without these utilities, thousands of taxpayers have not been able to start their filing process.

Though Excel-based utilities were introduced for some forms, they are useful to only a limited number of users. For example, ITR-3 is available in Excel format, but the more convenient online version is still

pending. Without access to these tools, lakhs of taxpayers are unable to begin their filing process.

ALATE START TO TAX SEASON

This year, the ITR forms were notified only by the end of May, much later than usual. After that, the utilities were rolled out in phases, and key tools are still missing. Because of this, taxpayers have had a shorter compliance window to complete their filings.

The central government had earlier cited system upgrades, structural revisions in forms, and technical preparations as reasons for the initial delay.

DEADLINE MAY SHIFT, BUT NO CONFIRMATION YET

Although many expect another deadline extension, there has been no official announcement from the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) so far. In past years, deadlines were extended in similar situations when technical delays made timely filing difficult.

As of now, the deadline for non-audit cases remains September 15, 2025. For audit cases, the deadline is October 31, and for those covered under transfer pricing rules, it is November 30, 2025.

TCS may pause hikes, senior hiring after mass layoffs announcement: Report

New Delhi.(Agency)

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) will freeze hiring of experienced professionals and suspend annual salary hikes globally, The Economic Times reported, citing people aware of the development. The move follows the company's announcement that it plans to lay off 12,000 employees. The Tata Group firm has also introduced a stricter internal policy for benched employees, who are not currently assigned to client projects. Such employees now have 35 days to find a

billable assignment or exit the company, the report said. Phasing out of such staff has already begun across cities including Hyderabad, Pune, Chennai and Kolkata. Onboarding delays for lateral hires have exceeded 65 days, according to ET. The measures are part of a broader operational cost-cutting drive, with an internal email to staff over the weekend citing global trade and macroeconomic uncertainties. One senior IT analyst estimated that the mid- and senior-level layoffs alone could save TCS between \$300–400

million (Rs 2,400–3,600 crore) annually, reflecting a 100–150 basis point margin lift. However, the TCS CEO has said the layoffs would be implemented gradually, reported the business daily. The announcement has caused unease across the IT sector. Brokerage firm Jefferies described the move as a "canary in the coal mine" moment, suggesting that cost-led contracts and AI productivity gains are forcing companies to do more with fewer people. TCS' move to cut 2% of its workforce may lead to execution slippages.

Lenskart takes first step towards IPO, files draft with Sebi

According to the draft papers, the IPO will include a fresh issue of shares worth up to Rs 2,150 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 13.23 crore shares by existing shareholders.

CHENNAI. (Agency)

Lenskart Solutions Ltd, one of India's largest eyewear retailers, has filed its draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi), officially starting the process for its initial public offering (IPO). The company aims to raise funds to support its expansion and business goals. According to the draft papers, the IPO will include a fresh issue of shares worth up to Rs 2,150 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 13.23 crore shares by existing shareholders.

These include the company's founders Peyush Bansal, Neha Bansal, Amit Chaudhary, and Sumeet Kapahi, along with investor shareholders such as SVF II Lightbulb (Cayman) Limited,



Schroders Capital Private Equity Asia Mauritius Limited, PI Opportunities Fund – II, Macritchie Investments Pte. Ltd., Kedaara Capital Fund II LLP, and Alpha Wave Ventures LP. Lenskart may also consider a pre-IPO placement of up to Rs 430 crore before filing the final red herring prospectus (RHP). If this happens, the size of the fresh issue will be reduced by the same amount. The company plans to use the net proceeds

from the fresh issue for several purposes. These include spending on setting up new company-owned and company-operated (CoCo) stores across India, paying lease and rental charges for these stores, investing in technology and cloud infrastructure, and funding brand marketing and business promotion to improve brand awareness. A part of the funds may also go towards future mergers or

acquisitions and general business needs. The IPO will be managed by a group of well-known financial institutions. Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Ltd, Morgan Stanley India Company Pvt Ltd, Avendus Capital Pvt Ltd, Citigroup Global Markets India Pvt Ltd, Axis Capital Ltd, and Intensive Fiscal Services Pvt Ltd are acting as the book running lead managers for the issue. The proposal to go public was approved at Lenskart's annual general meeting held on July 26. According to media reports, the overall IPO size is expected to be between USD 750 million and USD 1 billion, depending on market conditions and investor response. To prepare for the IPO, Lenskart restructured itself into a public limited company. On May 30, during an extraordinary general meeting, the company changed its name from Lenskart Solutions Private Ltd to Lenskart Solutions Ltd. Lenskart was founded in 2008 and began operations as an online platform in 2010. It opened its first physical retail store in New Delhi in 2013. Over the years, it has grown into a major player in the eyewear space with a strong mix of online and offline presence.

Tara Sutaria

Huma Qureshi, Akshay Oberoi Perform Their Own Stunts in Toxic: 'No Doubles'



The excitement surrounding Toxic, slated to be the biggest action spectacle of 2026 is only getting more intense. This high-energy action drama, led by superstar Yash, features an impressive cast including Akshay Oberoi, Tara Sutaria, Huma Qureshi, and others. The excitement has reached new heights with the news that all main actors, including the fierce female leads, are performing their own stunts.

Sources close to the production confirm that Toxic is crafted as a gritty and impactful action film, with the creators insisting on authentic, raw action scenes carried out by the actors themselves, under the strict guidance of a professional stunt and action team. Akshay Oberoi, known for his dedication to physically demanding roles, has been intensely training for months. Alongside him, Yash, who has redefined mass action cinema, is also performing his stunts, ensuring a thrilling visual experience for viewers. Tara Sutaria and Huma Qureshi are also engaging in physically challenging sequences, showcasing remarkable determination and pushing boundaries for action heroines in Indian cinema.

Discussing the film's intense action scenes, a production source said, "Akshay Oberoi and Yash are performing major action set-pieces themselves, no doubles. And it's not just the male leads. Tara Sutaria and Huma Qureshi have shocked everyone on set with their dedication to training and pulling off full-fledged stunts. The action in Toxic is brutal, slick, and grounded and every actor is giving it their all."

With its adrenaline-fueled scenes, powerful performances, and a cast committed to performing their own stunts, Toxic is set to redefine action cinema in India. Scheduled for release in 2026, it remains one of the industry's most talked-about projects. Meanwhile, Mid-Day recently reported that Yash is shooting for Toxic in Mumbai with Huma Qureshi, Tara Sutaria and Akshay Oberoi. "Last Monday, the new schedule kicked off in Film City, Goregaon. It will be largely indoors, where the actors will perform their stunts without the help of body doubles. It includes many sequences that involve hand-to-hand combat," a source cited by the news portal claimed. Besides this, a team of experts has also been hired, which is helping Yash in making his acting sequences raw and brutal.

Darshan Fans Troll Ramya As She Demands Justice In Renukaswamy Case, Actor Considers Legal Action



Actor Ramya is once again at the centre of a social media storm, facing a barrage of online abuse and death threats for speaking out in support of Renukaswamy, the victim in the high-profile murder case linked to actor Darshan. The incident follows the Supreme Court's recent strong criticism of the Karnataka High Court's decision to grant bail to Darshan, an order the apex court suggested "nearly amounted to an acquittal".

Ramya's ordeal began after she shared a screenshot of the Supreme Court's observations on Instagram, accompanied by a post demanding justice for Renukaswamy. This seemingly straightforward plea, however, ignited the fury of Darshan's fanbase. Her comments section was quickly flooded with abusive and hateful messages, while her direct messages (DMs) reportedly contained death threats and vulgar content. The actress is now contemplating legal action against those responsible.

'A glimmer of hope for ordinary people'
Speaking to News18, Ramya recounted the events that led to the onslaught of abuse. "I put a simple post on the Supreme Court's statement on July 24th with the snapshot.

I just said that the Supreme Court has kept some hope for the ordinary people, justice will be given, that's it. After that, these messages started."

The actor believes the trolling is a deliberate tactic to divert attention from the Renukaswamy case. "I think all the messages from 'D boss' fans want me to talk about the Renukaswamy case, Soujanya case," she explained, referring to another prominent case. "I have spoken about Soujanya's case, but they are using diversion tactics so I talk only about that. So they used a lot of obscenities and sent messages to me. Then I felt that Renukaswamy case messages and D boss fans messages have no difference."

Sidharth Malhotra Visits Siddhivinayak Temple With Mom After Daughter's Birth



Sidharth Malhotra was spotted at the Siddhivinayak temple recently alongside his mother.

Sidharth Malhotra was recently spotted seeking blessings from Bappa, just days after welcoming his daughter with Kiara Advani. The 40-year-old actor, who embarked on his fatherhood journey on July 15, visited the Siddhivinayak temple in Mumbai alongside his mother, Rimma Malhotra. His latest spiritual stop was hugely appreciated by his fans.

Sidharth Malhotra Greets Paps
On July 27, Sidharth Malhotra and his mother, Rimma Malhotra, visited the Siddhivinayak temple in Mumbai. In a video posted on Instagram, they were papped while taking part in the puja rituals with utmost devotion. Afterwards, the newbie daddy was also seen greeting the shutterbugs and other people stationed over there with folded hands, expressing his gratitude.

Fans React to Sidharth Malhotra's Temple Visit
Sidharth Malhotra's recent spiritual spot at the temple after embarking on the fatherhood phase in his life left his fans impressed. Soon, they began flooding the video's comment section with praise for the actor's gesture of expressing gratitude to the almighty and his humble attitude towards everyone present. While some said, Ganpati Bappa Morya, many others dropped heart and other appreciative emojis. One of the comments read, "Blessings, prayers, success."

Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani Welcomed Baby Girl

The actor duo, who got married in February 2023, announced the birth of their first child, a baby girl, on July 16.

Taking to their Instagram handle, the couple jointly shared a picture message that read, "Our hearts are full and our world has forever changed. We are blessed with a baby girl." Additionally, the post was captioned with an evil eye, a red heart and a folded hands emoji, showcasing their gratitude upon the same.

Sidharth Malhotra and Kiara Advani's Upcoming Projects

Coming to their professional fronts, Kiara Advani will be next seen in the film, War 2, headlined by Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR in the lead roles. The YRF spyverse film is scheduled to release on August 14. Sidharth Malhotra, on the other hand, is gearing up for the release of his romantic drama titled Param Sundari, alongside Janhvi Kapoor.

Sana Makbul

Gets Creative With Her Sri Lanka Photo Album; Seen Yet?

Sana Makbul, the winner of Anil Kapoor's Bigg Boss OTT 3, is currently in vacation mode. The actress recently jetted off to the dreamy destination of Sri Lanka to spend some quality time amid her Liver Cirrhosis treatment. A while ago, the diva dropped some more glimpses from her travel diaries wherein she is seen enjoying a boat ride.

Sana Makbul's Latest Post From Sri Lanka

The carousel post begins with a few glimpses of Sana enjoying a scenic boat ride in Sri Lankan waters. She wore a light pink outfit with a strapless or halter-style top and flowing pants. The adjacent picture is of a leaf with a perfectly cut heart shape in the centre, while the next one features Sana exuding her adorable smile through the heart cut out in the leaf. Not just this, Sana also shared pictures of the serene locations she saw during her outing. In one of the pics, she is enjoying an auto ride. The last post, on the other hand, is a video of a huge reptile she saw near a boat. Sharing the post, she wrote in the caption, "River days, mangrove ways and water in my veins #riversafaridiaries."

How Did Social Media React?

As soon as she dropped the post, fans and admirers were quick to share their reactions to the post. An Instagram user commented, "Sweet and stunning." Another one wrote, "So Gorgeous." One of them commented, "Pretty in Pink."



with autoimmune hepatitis for a long time, but things have recently gotten worse. My immune system began attacking my liver more aggressively, and I was eventually diagnosed with cirrhosis."

Sana Makbul's Work Front

She is known for her performance in TV shows like Ishaan: Sapno Ko Awaaz De, Kitani Mohabbat Hai 2, Is Pyaar Ko Kya Naam Doon?, Vish and others. Also, Sana took part in several reality shows, including Bigg Boss OTT 3, Khatra Khatra Khatra and Khatron Ki Khiladi 11.

Wear right Makeup during summer

Using the right makeup products during summer can be a tedious task for women, but keeping some factors in mind can help.



Makeup artist Rishab Khanna, who has styled some of the prominent Bollywood faces including Kajol, Karishma Kapoor and Neha Dhupia, suggests some quick tips:

* Wear a primer after moisturising your face and before foundation. This extra step will hold your foundation better and for a prolonged time.

* Instead of foundation, use tinted moisturiser that has SPF in it. This will make you feel light on the face while it is hot and steamy outside and protect you from the sun.

* Instead of a thick layer of lipstick, use bright and fresh colours on your lips. Use

bright coloured tinted lip balms and lip tints. These will add colour to your face.

* Try a subtle tint for your cheeks and avoid heavy cakey blush. If you love bronze, use bronzer on high points of your face to get a sun-kissed look.

* For eyes, wear a gel liner with water proof mascara so that it stays in place even if you sweat. You can dab some powder eyeshadow with an angular brush on top of the liner to make it stay intact for long.

* Use a light foundation for your neck and shoulders so that it does look different from your face. Keep it light and always use a SPF sunscreen.



Why coconut oil is good for Your Skin

Coconut oil is considered one of the best oils that is mostly used for treating any kind of hair problems — be it dandruff, itchy scalp etc.

However, coconut oil according to Ayurvedic experts is also considered to be one of the best ways to treat any skin-related disorders. Here are a few problems that can be healed using coconut oil.

Acne and acne scars

The application of coconut oil can help reduce the occurrence of acne. Mostly acne happens when the pores of your skin gets blocked. Coconut oil not only helps clear the pores but also reduce the swelling around the area. Further, acne scars can also be treated using coconut oil. Regular application of this oil

will lessen the scar and also clear your complexion.

Itchy skin

Another advantage of using coconut oil on your skin is that it helps treat itchy skin. It soothes the skin and also hydrates it so there is no way you can develop dry skin.

Cures skin rashes

Skin rashes are common during this season. Thus, the application of coconut oil will make your skin super soft and will reduce the occurrence of rashes.



How to keep skin problems away!

Avoid spicy and oily food:

To keep your skin healthy in the monsoon season, avoid spicy, oily and sour foods. The high humidity levels cause the digestive system to weaken and heavy food can lead to an upset stomach. These types of food also aggravate pitta which is responsible for a variety of skin breakouts and eruptions in this season. Eat light and easily digestible foods, cooked or steamed vegetables, zucchini, squash, pumpkin, steamed salad, fruits, moong dal, khichree, corn, chickpea flour, and oatmeal etc.

Say no to pitta aggravating beverages:

We understand that you can't begin your day without a cuppa but try to reduce your daily intake. Coffee and alcohol is a strict no because it is notoriously known for aggravating pitta and acidity. Replace them with pitta pacifying herbal teas.

Keep your skin dry:

Getting a little wet or sometimes getting drenched is not uncommon when you are outdoors during the rainy season. However, don't let your skin remain wet for a long time while enjoying the monsoon showers. It is important to keep your skin folds and feet dry and clean at all times. Damp skin is a breeding ground for fungal infections.

Wheat grass, a tonic for your skin:

Wheatgrass is a tonic for your skin. It is helpful in boosting the immune system and helping you in warding off or controlling skin

Ayurvedic tips to keep skin problems away!

disorders in monsoon. A healthy immune system is reflected in a healthy and glowing skin. Wheatgrass is rich in antioxidants and is instrumental in detoxifying the blood.

Drink a lot of fluids:

No, we are not talking about the one that gets you tipsy! Drink at least 8-10 glasses of clean water daily. Though you need to keep dry outside in this season to prevent skin problems it is important to consume adequate quantities of water to keep your skin hydrated.

Eat fresh: Eat fresh and unprocessed food to keep your body and your skin functioning at an optimum level. Don't rely on packed, refrigerated and processed food. Instead of ordering pizzas, burgers or feasting on chips, relish some fresh homemade food. Eat a lot of fruits and green vegetables.

Avoid alcohol-based skin cleansers:

You should avoid alcohol-based skin cleansers because it irritates and dries your skin. Instead use a herbal soap or cleanser regularly to get rid of excess oil, grime and dust, and of course to keep your skin free of bacterial infections.

Use cooling herbs:

It is beneficial to use the herbs that have cooling effects on the body (pitta pacifying) such as fennel, coriander seeds and Indian gooseberry (amla) for a glowing skin in monsoon. Amla helps to detoxify the liver and aids

digestion - and is also a good source of Vitamin C and other minerals. One of the benefits of taking it regularly is a flawless complexion.



Three office Makeup looks for the season

Boardroom presentation

Highlight one of your features, either the lips or eyes. For instance, colour your lips in a bright shade and let your eyes have the bare minimum of colour. If red is too bright for you, pick lip colours like plum or burgundy.

Dinner party

An office party or post-work hangout allow you to bring a little drama to your look. Do a winged cat-eye and keep the liner thick on the lower inner rims as well. Use a pink lip gloss to finish off.

Corporate lunch

A hint of peachy blush will add some freshness to a dull afternoon. Outline your lips with a lip pencil in a corresponding shade and fill it in with a creamy matte lipstick in the same shade. You can choose from colours like light pink, peach, nude or even a lighter shade of brown. Make a thin outline around your eyes. and don't make it too high.

Dos and don'ts

Stick to neutral colours for a corporate office environment

Don't overdo the colours and compact

Opt for blushers in colours like rose and apricot. Indigo blue, browns and grey are great options for eye shadows and liners.

Don't wear yellow-toned colours like coral and fuchsia, since they could make your teeth appear yellow

Keep the foundation to a minimum

For an alert look, don't forget the mascara and curl your lashes with an eyelash curler before stepping out

Air-conditioned environment dehydrates the skin. So, keep lip balm and hand lotion handy in your bag

