

News box
8 dead, 20
injured as bus
overturns in
Punjab's
Hoshiarpur



New Delhi. (Agency)
Eight people were killed and nearly 20 others injured in a tragic bus accident near Sagra Adda on the Dasuya-Hajipur Road in Hoshiarpur district on Sunday.

According to initial reports, the bus was travelling through the Dasuya subdivision when it overturned in the middle of the road after the driver allegedly lost control. Local authorities and rescue teams rushed to the scene and began immediate relief operations.

**Suspicious boat,
likely from Pak,
spotted off
Maharashtra
coast; state on
alert**



Mumbai. (Agency)
Security along the coastline in Maharashtra's Raigad district was stepped up after a suspicious boat was spotted near the Revdanda coast, police said on Sunday.

The boat was seen by security personnel around two nautical miles off the Korlai coast in Revdanda, an official was quoted by news agency as saying. It is suspected that the boat had Pakistani markings and some people had disembarked from the vessel, which may have drifted to the coast. Following the alert, teams from Raigad Police, Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS), Quick Response Team (QRT), the Navy and the Coast Guard rushed to the spot.

A search operation began at night and authorities were able to notice a red light coming from the boat. A blockade was done in various places at night.

Race for Power Begins: Hustle at Delhi Gurudwara Election Office as Polls Near

The Sikh Times
Sourabh Sharma

A sudden surge of activity has gripped the Delhi Gurudwara Election Office at ITO, indicating that the much-anticipated Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Management Committee (DSGMC) elections may be on the horizon. In recent days, a growing number of Sikh voters and political representatives have been seen gathering at the election office to verify names on the voter list, update records, and monitor preparations.

Sources within the office have confirmed that various Akali factions and politically backed Sikh groups are regularly visiting the office, holding discussions with election officials, and scrutinizing electoral rolls. The

**Did Army general admit India's defeat to Pakistan?
Centre's one-word clarification**

The Sikh Times New Delhi.
The Press Information Bureau (PIB) has dismissed as fake a claim being pushed by several Pakistani propaganda accounts, which alleged that India's Deputy Chief of Army Staff, Lt Gen Rahul R Singh,

Fabricated claims by Pakistani Propaganda accounts
The Daily GPS: BREAKING: Indian general said Pakistan used Chinese Technology that played a key role in defeating India.
Actual statement: Lt Gen Rahul R Singh, Deputy Chief of Army Staff, India, has denied the claim. He said that India's victory was due to its own military strategy and technology.

confessed to a 'defeat' at the hands of Pakistan's electronic warfare and Chinese C4 intelligence systems in the recent conflict between New Delhi and Islamabad. The false claim was circulated with a photograph of Lt Gen Singh, alongside quotes attributed to him such as: "Pakistan's electronic warfare and C4 intelligence capability truly surprised us, and Chinese technology played a big role in defeating India". These claims are fake! No such statement has been made by the Deputy Chief of Army Staff".

momentum points clearly toward the beginning of election groundwork, which is traditionally followed by months of intense campaigning across Delhi's Sikh community.

Notably, the staff at the Gurudwara Election Office has become increasingly vigilant and active, reportedly working extended hours to ensure the completion of the voter list. The Delhi Government, under whose jurisdiction the election office operates, is also closely supervising the process, signaling the seriousness and administrative readiness for the upcoming polls.

The Delhi Gurudwara Election Office, located at ITO, New Delhi, is the nerve center of electoral activities for the DSGMC—a

statutory body responsible for managing Sikh Gurudwaras in Delhi under the Delhi Sikh Gurudwara Act, 1971. This office is tasked with maintaining voter rolls, coordinating election logistics, and ensuring free and fair conduct of elections for 46 constituencies across Delhi.

Historically, the DSGMC elections have seen intense political rivalry, primarily between factions of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD Badal), Shiromani Akali Dal Delhi (SAD Delhi), and newly emerging Sikh political fronts. These elections are not just about Gurudwara management, but are often seen as a reflection of the broader socio-political currents within the Sikh community of Delhi.

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RACE FOR POWER BEGINS: HUSTLE AT DELHI GURUDWARA ELECTION OFFICE AS POLLS NEAR



78 dead in Himachal, landslide alert in Uttarakhand as heavy rain continues

- Torrential rains cause damage in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand
- Himachal has reported 78 deaths since the start of the season
- In Uttarakhand, 21 lives were lost in rain-related incidents



and visitors to stay away from landslide-prone zones.

In Himachal Pradesh, at least 14 cloudburst incidents and 3 flash floods have been reported in recent days. Mandi district remains the worst affected, where 14 people have died, 5 have been injured and 30 others are still missing. With these latest fatalities, the state's monsoon death toll has risen to 78 since the start of the season.

Meanwhile, in Uttarakhand, natural disasters since June 1, 2025, have claimed 21 lives, left 11 injured and 9 people (from Uttarkashi) are still missing. The most severely affected districts are Uttarkashi (8 deaths), Chamoli (4), Rudraprayag (3) and Dehradun (3).

Nitin Gadkari Flags 'World War' Threat Citing Israel-Iran, Russia-Ukraine

Nitin Gadkari emphasised the need to ascertain future policy after reviewing and deliberating on international happenings underway.



Borders' here, the Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways said these conflicts are

creating a situation where World War could break out "anytime". The technological advancements pertaining to war were also making it tougher to protect humanity, he asserted. "There is an atmosphere of conflict going on across the world amid the war between Israel and Iran as well as Russia and Ukraine. The situation is such that there is possibility of a World War taking place anytime in the backdrop of these two ongoing wars," Mr Gadkari said.

Mr Gadkari said warfare dimensions have changed due to advanced technology, with increasing use of missiles and drones, which was reducing the relevance of tanks and other kind of aircraft. "Amid all this, it has become difficult to protect humanity. Often, missiles are fired on civilian settlements. This has created a serious problem and there is need to discuss all these issues at a global level," the senior BJP leader said. "It won't be right to say so but (fact is) all this is slowly leading to destruction. Authoritarianism and dictatorship (adikarwadi-hukumshahi) of the superpowers is making coordination, harmony and love vanish," he opined.

The Sikh Times Anagpur.

Coordination, harmony and love are vanishing due to the authoritarianism and dictatorship of superpowers and there is an atmosphere of conflict across the world, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said on Sunday while citing the Russia-Ukraine and Israel-Iran wars.

Hailing India as the land of the Buddha giving the message of truth, non-violence and peace to the world, Mr Gadkari emphasised the need to ascertain future policy after reviewing and deliberating on international happenings underway.

Speaking at the launch of the book 'Beyond

Scenic charm of Kerala's Kuttanad 'captures' new horizons

When The Indian Express contacted Gadchiroli collector Avishyanta Panda, he said, "After the situation came to light, a boat was arranged for the citizens to cross the river"

ALAPPUZHA.(Agency)

The serene backwaters of Alappuzha and Kuttanad, once known only to local fishermen and farmers, are today a global tourist attraction. With its coconut groves, glittering lakes and lagoons, and waterlogged paddy fields, Kuttanad has long been a treasure trove of scenic wonders. Its pristine charm had attracted filmmakers since the 1990s, and over 200 movies in various languages have been shot here. The visual charm of Kuttanad has not been limited to the silver screen. The rise of drone technology and social media platforms offered new ways to capture and share the region's breathtaking landscapes.

The entry of Charly K C, an event photographer-turned-visual storyteller of the state's backwaters, has further enhanced the scene.

US records 85 unaccompanied Indian minors since Oct last year

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

The dangerous trend of illegal movement into the US border involving children continues. As many as 85 Indian minors aged between 12 and 17 years, including from Gujarat, were found without accompanying adults at the border during the current US financial year (Oct 1, 2024 to Sept 30, 2025), according to data from the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP). Although this number shows a marked 65% drop from the 240 in the 2024 financial year, it highlights that families from India, including from the state, continue to take risks to get into the US, often using children first as a "strategy" to get a foothold in the country.

Overall, in US FY 2025, 26,744 children from various countries were found unaccompanied at the US border against 83,020 in FY2024, a marked 68% decrease. The trend corresponds with a fall in overall illegal immigration numbers after the change in federal policy following Donald Trump's return to office.

The monthly data for FY2025 shows fluctuations: 24 children were found in Oct 2024, 18 in Nov, 13 in Dec, 17 in Jan 2025, four in Feb, two in March, one in April, and six in May.

Sources in Indian central agencies and individuals with knowledge of human smuggling operations stated that these patterns indicate a deliberate strategy. "Families are sending children first to get a foothold in the US," said one source. "Once the children are taken into custody and placed in shelters, the parents later attempt to enter the US under family or humanitarian grounds." Another source added, "In many cases, adults pretend to be guardians of the children. This method is being used to gain entry while bypassing legal scrutiny."

In a case reported in May, two Gujarati children aged 14 and 10 died while attempting to cross the US border in a boat. Their parents, who were injured in the incident, were trying to enter the country along with about a dozen others. "They were with their parents and still died — imagine the situation of children who are entering alone," said a person connected to the smuggling network.



events," he recalls. "In 2014, I began sharing my work on social media. Later, I bought a drone camera and focused on capturing the natural beauty of Alappuzha, especially the backwaters and beaches."

Since then, Charly has shot more than 500 photographs, many of which have gone viral online. From aerial views of Pathiramanal Island to the quaint village roads of Kainakari and the mesmerising sights of 'islands' created by flooded paddy fields, his lens captures the poetic beauty of Kuttanad in stunning detail. "Every village, every flooded paddy field has a story," says Charly. "I try to show how nature and life coexist in this unique landscape."

But Charly's work isn't just artistic, it's entrepreneurial. "Social media platforms like Facebook and Instagram offer revenue for popular posts," he says. "That has allowed me to invest more, expand my horizons, and even travel to other states. I've now started posting 360-degree photographs as well, and every image gets over 50,000 views on average."

Charly's success reflects a broader trend where passion, technology and social media converge to empower individual creators and promote regional tourism.

91 per cent of TN cops think 'custodial torture' sometimes necessary: Report

Status of Policing in India Report 2025 shows that state police have higher propensity to resort to extra-judicial methods than most surveyed states

New Erode-Bihar express to give guest workers respite from overcrowded trains

CHENNAI. (Agency)

In the wake of increasing complaints about guest workers occupying reserved coaches in northbound express trains, the Railway Board has approved a new daily train service from Jharkhand's Araria district on the India-Nepal border, to Erode. Jharkhand is located approximately 380 km from Kathmandu. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the new train service soon from Bihar, where the assembly elections are scheduled to take place in October or November this year.



The railways decision comes following criticism over the reallocation of an Amrit Bharat rake, originally intended for Southern Railway, to another zone. That rake was initially proposed for a long-distance train connecting Tamil Nadu with West Bengal or Bihar.

Bihar BJP Lok Sabha member Pradeep

Kumar Singh and former deputy chief minister and MLA Tarkishore Prasad shared the train's approval on their 'X' (formerly Twitter) accounts. Tarkishore Prasad said Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav conveyed the information over a phone call. According to sources, the new train is aimed at providing daily travel options for a large number of guest workers from Bihar, Jharkhand and other states, employed in textile hubs like Tirupur and surrounding areas. Due to inadequate train facilities, these workers often occupy reserved coaches of express trains heading to northern parts of the country.

The train is expected to pass through Bihar, UP, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, and TN. Southern Railway officials said they are yet to receive official communication regarding the train.

Surat, Tapi, Dang, Navsari, ,

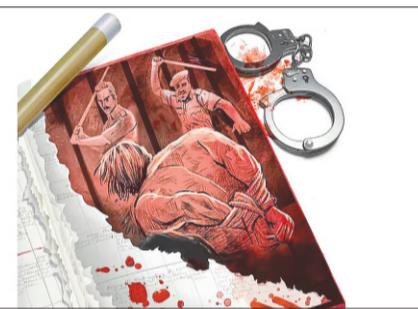
have higher propensity to resort to extra-judicial methods than most other states.

91% of cops in TN who "highly (56%) or moderately (35%)" support custodial torture sometimes were the highest, followed by Rajasthan (90%). The remaining nine per cent in TN expressed "low or very low" support. However, in terms of those who "highly" supported this view, TN ranked second (56%) after Gujarat (63%).

Kerala supports lawful policing

As per the report, Gujarat performed poorly on most parameters, while

Kerala was at the other end of the



spectrum, with interviewees there more inclined to follow legal procedures.

For instance, only 11% of cops in Kerala expressed "high or moderate" support to torture. TN cops (87%) found "special squads that can detain people indefinitely"

Orange alert issued for Navsari and Valsad; 40 people relocated to safer areas in Surat

Dolvan in Tapi received the highest amount of rain at 155 mm (6.1 inch) and Bardoli in Surat at 125 mm up to 6 pm on Sunday

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

At least 40 people were relocated to safer areas in Surat district's Bardoli taluka, bringing the total relocations in the state to 3,703 since June 1 till Sunday even as heavy rain continues to lash Gujarat. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a forecast of very heavy rainfall warning for Navsari and Valsad, for Monday, putting these two districts under an orange alert. The state is expected to receive heavy rainfall till July 11, according to IMD.

Dolvan in Tapi received the highest amount of rain at 155 mm (6.1 inch) and Bardoli in Surat at 125 mm up to 6 pm on Sunday.

Surat, Tapi, Dang, Navsari, ,

Bhavnagar, Amreli and Botad districts continued to receive heavy rain on Sunday.

"The entire Surat district has been on alert for a day. Nearly 40 people were relocated on Sunday," Surat Collector Dr Sourabh Pardi told The Indian Express.

As per the State Emergency Operations Centre (SEOC), Vyara and Dolvan in Tapi

to be "very" or "somewhat" useful as a measure to reduce crime. It was one such "special team" that allegedly tortured Ajithkumar, leading to his death. After the incident, Director General of Police/Head of Police Force Shankar Jiwal ordered for disbanding any such special teams, unless approved by the zonal IGs or the Commissioners of Police (for cities).

In TN, 45% of police felt it was more important to solve a case "by any means rather than strictly following legal procedures", while 53% felt it was always important to follow the legal procedures. (The rest two per cent did not respond to this question).

recorded 141 mm and 135 mm, respectively while Paslana in Surat received 125 mm and Kaprada in Valsad received 123 mm within the last 24 hours ending Sunday evening. In the last 24 hours till Sunday evening, Bhiloda in Aravalli received 167 mm (6.6 inch) rain even as 204 talukas of 33 districts received an average of 26.65 mm rain.

Ahmedabad city also received continuous rainfall, recording an average of 26 mm, starting Sunday afternoon till late evening. Till July 10, the IMD has also issued a warning against light thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and surface wind 30-40 kmph and, with light to moderate rain across the state.

Rooted in tradition & collective well-being, Abraham's 'Oor' promotes 'healthy ageing'

PATHANAMTHITTA.(Agency)

In the heart of Central Travancore, where the challenges posed to senior citizens by the younger generation's migration boom are becoming more evident, a middle-aged man has returned to his hometown and crafted a compassionate response to the growing concern of elderly care.

Junking the idea of old-age homes, Abraham P Kurian aka Biju, a resident of Mallappally, in Pathanamthitta, has created a lifeline for the elderly by establishing a unique support network based on his social entrepreneurship venture 'Oor'.

"Oor is not an old-age home. It's a temporary retreat that promotes healthy ageing while allowing seniors to stay in their own homes with dignity," says Abraham. "Older people don't like to leave their homes. That's why we've built a support network around them," he adds.

As a concept founded eight years ago, 'Oor' focuses on the collective well-being of the elderly. It functions out of a building in Mallappally that is truly exceptional, in that it

was accomplished without altering the lay of the land. Moreover, the entire construction employed only reused materials.

According to Abraham, who worked for an NGO in Delhi for three decades, the construction used repurposed materials from 24 old buildings, including houses, schools, hospitals, and churches. He acquired and dismantled 16 of the structures, while sourcing materials from the rest. The wood for the three-storey building, spanning an area of 12,000 sqft, was sourced from several tharavadu (heritage mansions), some dating back 900 years. The entire structure blends traditional elegance with modern functionality.

The building was designed by architect R D Padma Kumar, a close associate of the late Laurie Baker, and executed by the Kottayam unit of the Centre of Science and Technology for Rural Development (Costford). Notably, it also features remnants from the first goods shed at Kottayam railway station and Kottayam KSRTC's first building. The project also serves as a venue for community

gatherings, residential programmes, and cultural events.

Abraham and his team of 12 provide a range of



services tailored to meet the needs of senior citizens. Their offerings include food delivery from their kitchen and an ayurveda health facility. It also provides temporary accommodation for elderly parents whose families may be away for work or other commitments.

Hundreds of homes within an 8km radius receive their service. Abraham's team assists seniors in availing laboratory facilities, arranging medical services and even coordinating transportation for medical appointments. Oor also offers accommodation for NRIs and foreigners, with daily stay packages for two people ranging from ₹2,750-3,750. Meals can also be pre-ordered and delivered to homes for special events and functions. Through Oor, Abraham has created a sustainable living space and a vibrant community hub deeply rooted in tradition, care, and collective well-being.

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Frant News continue..

Smear Campaign Won't Shake Nation: Public Stands Firm with PM Modi & HM Amit Shah Amid Online Attacks

It is essential to distinguish between democratic dissent and deliberate defamation. The Indian people deserve the truth not propaganda masquerading as opinion. Despite these smear attempts, the public faith in PM Modi and HM Amit Shah remains unshaken. The people of India can differentiate between truth and political theatrics, and stand firmly with the leadership that has delivered results, not rhetoric.

Race for Power Begins: Hustle at Delhi Gurudwara Election Office as Polls Near

In past elections, the ITO election office has witnessed high drama, from legal battles over voter eligibility to aggressive protests and massive rallies by competing groups. It is a symbolic and strategic battleground for Sikh leaders eyeing control over Delhi's religious and cultural institutions.

Hundreds of Sikhs are visiting the ITO office daily to check or update their entries. Many are carrying documents to correct names or addresses. Known faces from Akali politics have been spotted frequently, engaging with officials and supporters. Political banners and silent campaign whispers are already in the air. Government Monitoring: Sources suggest Delhi Government officials are closely overseeing the process to avoid past

irregularities. Additional staff may soon be deployed. Professional Sikh Politicians Mobilizing: Our sources have confirmed that professional Sikh politicians and ex-office bearers of DSGMC are holding internal meetings and mobilizing volunteers, indicating early-stage strategizing. As the DSGMC elections draw nearer, the ITO-based Delhi Gurudwara Election Office is once again at the epicenter of Sikh electoral mobilization. The air is thick with anticipation, strategic maneuvering, and silent campaigning. With Delhi's Sikh leadership at a crossroads, and community expectations high, all eyes are now on how the Delhi Government and election authorities will ensure a transparent and democratic process.

CM expresses concern over annual fatalities due to lightning strikes in the state

The Sikh Times

Lucknow: Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Chairman and Secretary, Department of Space, Government of India, Dr V. Narayanan, met Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at latter's official residence on Monday and discussed a range of strategic issues, including the potential use of remote sensing technologies in Uttar Pradesh's development. During the interaction, the ISRO chairman briefed the Chief Minister on the progress and achievements made in the field of remote sensing. He shared that significant advancements have been made in areas such as weather forecasting, forest and green cover monitoring, groundwater profiling, mapping, and climate change analyses. Expressing serious concern over the recurring loss of lives due to lightning strikes in Uttar Pradesh, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath proposed the develop-

ment of a dedicated satellite for the state. He suggested that such a satellite could be equipped to

technology could prove to be highly effective in mitigating disaster-related fatalities.



provide timely alerts specifically related to lightning activity. The Chief Minister noted that, on average, around 300 people lose their lives each year in the state due to lightning strikes. In this context, cutting-edge satellite

Responding to the proposal, ISRO Chairman Dr Narayanan assured the Chief Minister that the matter would be taken up with due seriousness and that steps would be initiated to find a viable and timely solution.

CEO issues show cause notice to inactive parties

New Delhi: Delhi's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) has issued show cause notice to 27 inactive political parties following the Election Commission's directions, seeking an explanation for their continued registration. These notices have been issued to the political parties that have not fielded any candidates in Lok Sabha, State Assembly or by-elections during the last six years (since 2019), according to a statement by CEO. According to the CEO, although these parties are registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, they have not participated in any electoral activities in recent years, suggesting that they are no longer functioning as per the provisions of the Act. Hence, under Article 324 of the Constitution of India and Section 29A of the RP Act, 1951, the EC has initiated the process to delist such parties from the list of registered political parties. Akhil Bhartiya Samajwadi Party, Akhil Bharatiya Aalki Apni Party, All India Jan Congress Party, All India Women United Party, Azad Bharat Congress, Bhartiya Rozgar Party, Bhartiya Vikas Party, Bhartiya Janata Vikas Party, Bundelkhand Congress, Delhi Mazdoor Kisan Party, Jan Andolan Morcha are among the 27 political parties that have been issued notices by the CEO's office. The CEO has urged all concerned parties to submit their response within the stipulated time, clarifying why their names should not be removed from the list.

Health Minister Arti Singh Rao hears public grievances, directs swift action on complaints

Chandigarh: Haryana's Health and Family Welfare Minister Arti Singh Rao organized a public hearing at her official residence in Chandigarh on Monday. During this, hundreds of people from various districts of the state put forth their problems and demands before the minister. Arti Singh Rao listened to each complainant seriously and directed the concerned departments to take immediate action. Most of the complaints in the public hearing were related to health services, absence of doctors, supply of medicines, and personal medical assistance. The minister redressed many complaints on the spot and gave clear instructions to the officials that no officer or employee should be negligent in public interest works. Arti Singh Rao said listening to the problems of the public and resolving them quickly is the priority of our government. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Sh. Nayab Singh Saini, we are committed to providing a transparent, responsive, and accountable administration, she said. She also made it clear that strict action will be taken against those officers or employees who will obstruct public welfare schemes. After the public hearing, the minister also held a review meeting with senior officials of the Health Department and issued necessary guidelines to increase the quality of health services at the grassroots level.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as Shamina W/o Nasir R/o F-2, Block-F, J Colony, Madipur, Delhi-110063 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Salima Khaton.

NAME CHANGE

I, Akshay Rai Sood R/o A-12, Shivaji Vihar, Janta Colony, Tagore Nagar, Delhi-110027, have changed my minor daughter's name from Parvi to Parvi Sood permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mohd Iman S/o Abdul Sehri R/o H. No. 3991, Gali Khan Khana, Jana Masjid, Urdu Bazar, Delhi-110006, have changed my name to Mohammad Iman for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice to public in general that my client Sh. Umesh Kumar Grover s/o Late Amarnath Grover r/o 11/55, Ground Floor, Back Side, Subhash Nagar, New Delhi-110027 has severed his relations and debarred his son Mohit Grover from all his moveable/immovable property because of his bad behaviour. If any body deals with him will be at their own risk & responsibility.

Jai prakash singh Advocate
Dwarka Court Delhi-110075

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, PRATAP SINGH S/O GOPAL SINGH R/O F-107, NEAR GUMBAD, VTC KATARIA SARAI, DISTT. SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110016 declare that name of my wife has been wrongly written as LAXMI DEVI in my minor son name PRYANSHU RAWAT aged 17 years in his 10th class and name of mine and my wife have been wrongly written as PRATAP RAWAT and LAXMI RAWAT in his 12th class educational documents. The actual name of mine and my wife are PRATAP SINGH and LAXMI respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN-E-TENDER NOTICE

The Sr. Divisional Engineer-II, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-Tender for the following work.

1 NIT-GEM/ Name of work:- House Keeping facility of officer's Rest House at GZB, 2025/B, MUT, MOZ and SMQL for 365 days in the section of Sr.DEN-II/L01. 6423147

Approx cost of work:- As per NIT or GeM

Earnest Money to be deposited:- As per NIT or GeM

2 Date & time of opening of tender 29.07.2025

3 Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen

• The tenderer/s must be registered on the Government e market place (GeM) site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. • For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. • No manual offers are acceptable. • Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only. No. NIT- NIT-GEM/2025/B/6423147 Dated 07.07.2025

2039/2025

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as Gita Mandal W/o Anil Mandal R/o S-68/281, Pratap Camp, Shrinivaspuri, PO Shrinivaspuri, Dist. South Delhi, Delhi-110065 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Eti Mandal.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as AFREEN D/O TANVEER AHMED R/o House No. 3995, Jagat Cinema, Jana Masjid, Delhi G.P.O. North Delhi, Delhi-110006, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as AFREEN TANVEER.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, ABDUR RAHMAN S/O MALHU R/o B-262 Moosa Masjid Jana Masjid, Okhla, New Delhi-110027 declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as HAJI MALLOO in my passport No. H1561597 The actual name of my father is MALHU for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, MUZAHID ALI S/O SARWAR ALI residing at 32/404, TRILOK PURI, NEAR MAYUR VIHAR, DELHI-110091 have changed my name to MOHD MUJAHID for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, KRISHIV YASHESHWAR SANYAWALA S/O YASHESHWAR CHAMPAKAL SANYAWALA resident of TOWER-1, FLAT NO-201, PYRAMID URBAN HOMES, SECTOR-70A, BADSHAHPUR, GURGAON, HARYANA-122101 have changed my name to KRISHIV SANYAWALA for all future purposes.

NAME PARIVARTAN

मूलतः कल्पना है कि मेरे उपरि निम्न विवर के माना का सही नाम अंजु मिश्रा (ANJU MISHRA) है। जबकि कल्पना 12 का मानालैट (Roll no. 23694122) में अंजुका अंजु मिश्रा (ANJU MISHRA) अंकित हो गया है। अंजु मिश्रा का अवधेष्य कल्पना मिश्रा पाता - मानना न - 198/1-D सालव नाम, कल्पनालैट कल्पना

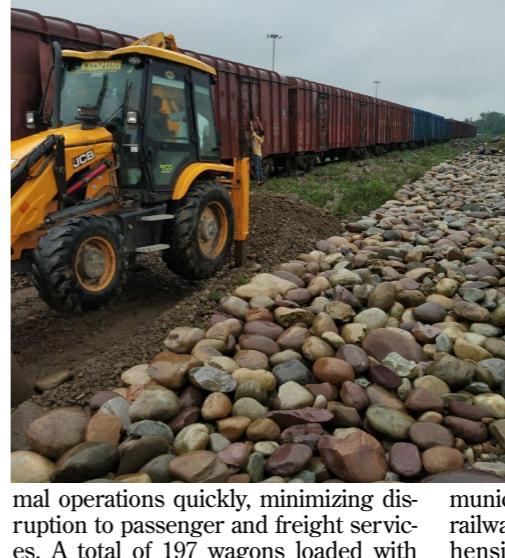
NFR Strengthens Safety Measures for Monsoon Operations

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 7th July: The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) has implemented a series of strategic preparedness measures to ensure safe and uninterrupted train operations during the monsoon season. Given the region's susceptibility to heavy rainfall, landslides and flooding, stationary watchmen have been strategically deployed at vulnerable locations to continuously monitor track conditions and raise immediate alerts if any danger is detected. Washout-prone and flood-sensitive areas have been reinforced through embankment strengthening, improved drainage systems and clearing of natural water flow channels. In addition, water level measuring gauges have been installed at critical points, particularly in hill sections, to monitor rising water levels in real time. To enable swift response during emergencies, NFR has stationed relief materials such as boulders, sandbags and wire mesh at key locations. Emergency on Wheels' trains are fully equipped and kept ready with technical staff and essential tools to respond promptly to any situation. Rapid Response Teams have also been constituted across all divisions to address incidents such as landslides, track washouts

and waterlogging with minimal delay. These teams are trained to restore nor-

strategic locations such as Jagiroad, Khatkhati, Shokhuvi, Maibong, and Badarpur. Other divisions like Tinsukia (52 wagons), Rangiya (36 wagons), Alipurdur (20 wagons) and Kathi (40 wagons) have also been supplied as per monsoon preparedness scale. In addition, various capacities of Winch Crabs, Jacks, Tifors and Tripods are available across all divisions ensuring readiness for rescue or recovery operations. Furthermore, NFR is working closely with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to receive real-time weather alerts and forecasts. This coordination helps railway control rooms, which are operational 24x7, to make proactive decisions regarding train movements and field deployment. Passengers are advised to stay updated through official communication channels and cooperate with railway authorities. With these comprehensive measures in place, NFR remains fully committed to ensuring safety, operational efficiency and passenger convenience throughout the monsoon season.



mal operations quickly, minimizing disruption to passenger and freight services. A total of 197 wagons loaded with boulders and quarry/dust/shingle have been positioned in Lumding Division alone, with 144 wagons of boulders and 53 wagons of quarry/dust/shingle at

munication channels and cooperate with railway authorities. With these comprehensive measures in place, NFR remains fully committed to ensuring safety, operational efficiency and passenger convenience throughout the monsoon season.

Five arrested for cheating man of Rs 57 lakh in Cryptocurrency scam

The Sikh Times

New Delhi: The Delhi Police have arrested five people for allegedly cheating a man of Rs. 57 lakh in the name of a cryptocurrency deal which promised a transaction involving a popular digital currency, but the accused vanished with his money without completing the transfer, police said on Thursday. As per police, with the arrest of the accused, police successfully recovered the entire Rs. 57 lakh in cash. The arrested individuals have been identified as Praveen Kumar (40), Nitin Sharma (33), and Rakesh Kumar Dutta (46), all from Punjab; Ajay

Chaudhary (32) from Noida; and Anmol (23) from Panipat in Haryana. Police also seized an SUV and two scooters used by the gang during the commission of the crime. The case came to light when the complainant approached Karol Bagh Police Station on June 30, reporting that he had been cheated of Rs. 57 lakh by a group of men who had promised to deliver him cryptocurrency, specifically a stablecoin known as Tether (USDT). According to police, the victim had met two of the accused — Ajay and Anmol — and was taken to a rented

office for the transaction. Believing everything to be genuine, the complainant handed over 57 lakh in cash to them at the venue. Once the money was handed over, another accused named Shivam, along with his associates, made excuses and quietly left the place without transferring the cryptocurrency as promised. Soon after, the entire group became unreachable. Realising he had been duped, the complainant immediately informed the police, following which a case was registered under appropriate sections of cheating and criminal conspiracy. A special investigation team was quickly formed to track down the accused.

NAME CHANGE

I, KUMUS is legally mother of No. 2802326 Rank-HAV NAME-DHURVE PURUSHOTTAM SITARAM, R/o VPO-ZATALA, POST-ZATALA, TEH-GHATANJU DIST-YAVATMAL PIN-445306, STATE-MAHARASHTRA, have changed my name to KUSUM SITARAM DHURVE and date of birth from 03/02/1962 to 01/01/1948 for all future purposes. Vide affidavit dated 04/07/2025 before Public Notary Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, PARVATI is legally mother of No. 2803000 Rank-HAV NAME NAVALE NILESH APPALI R/o VILL NAVALEVA-DI, POST- MALAWADI, TER-MAN (MALAWADI), DIST-SATARA, STATE-MAHARASHTRA, PIN-415650, have changed my name from PARVATI to PARVATI APPALI NAVALE and date of birth from 22/02/1962 to 01/01/1948 for all future purposes. Vide affidavit dated 04/07/2025 before Public Notary Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, AJAY KUMAR alias KAMAL Singh R/o house no-35 street no-6 Monga Nagar Karaval Nagar road Delhi-110094, have changed my name to AJAY Chauhan

NAME CHANGE

I, JANAK RADMOR alias Kaushal Kishore R/o E-212 Sarawati Kunj Plot No. 25 I P Extension Delhi-110092 have changed my name to JANAK RADMOR for all future purposes. Vide affidavit dated 01.07.2025 before Public Notary Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, RAKESH KUMAR KATARIA S/o AMIT LAL RESIDENT of H NO-37 STATE- BANARAS NAGAR PASCHIM VIHAR DELHI-110063 have changed my name from KATARIA to RAKESH KATARIA for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, JANAK RADMOR alias Kaushal Kishore R/o E-212 Sarawati Kunj Plot No. 25 I P Extension Delhi-110092 have changed my name to JANAK RADMOR for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, RAKESH KUMAR alias KATARIA for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

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NEWS BOX

Ukraine says four killed, more than 30 wounded in Russian strikes

KYIV. (Agency)

Russian strikes killed at least four people and wounded more than 30 others across Ukraine overnight, regional officials said on Monday. Two people died in the Sumy region in the east and one in the Odesa region in the south, Ukraine's state emergency services said in a post on Telegram. One man was killed in the southern Kherson region, according to the regional governor. More than 30 people have also been wounded, most of them in the eastern regions of Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk, officials said.

Russian drones also hit the capital Kyiv in strikes that damaged buildings but did not result in any fatalities, the city's mayor wrote on Telegram. In Russia, the defence ministry said that it had shot down 91 Ukrainian drones overnight, including eight in the Moscow region, with the majority of the rest in regions bordering Ukraine. On Friday Russia carried out its largest drone and missile barrage on Ukraine since it launched its invasion in February 2022, sending 530 drones and around a dozen missiles on Kyiv in an attack that killed at least two people.

Indonesia's Mount Lewotobi Laki Laki volcano erupts, spews 18-kilometre ash tower

JAKARTA. (Agency)

Indonesia's rumbling Mount Lewotobi Laki Laki erupted Monday, sending a column of volcanic materials as high as 18 kilometers (11 miles) into the sky and depositing ash on villages, authorities said.

This comes just weeks after it caused dozens of flight cancellations to and from the popular resort island of Bali. Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki, a 1,584-metre-high twin-peaked volcano on the tourist island of Flores, erupted at 11:05 am local time (0305 GMT), the volcanology agency said in a statement.

"An eruption of Lewotobi Laki-Laki Volcano occurred... with the observed ash column height reaching approximately 18,000 m above the summit," the agency said. It warned of the possibility of hazardous lahar floods, a type of mud or debris flow of volcanic materials, if heavy rain occurs, particularly for communities near rivers. There were no immediate reports of damages or casualties. Geology agency head Muhammad Wafid said in a statement the activity level at the volcano was "very high, marked by explosive eruptions and continuous tremors".

He also urged residents to stay at least six kilometres (3.7 miles) away from the volcano and to wear face masks to protect themselves from volcanic ash.

Last month dozens of flights to and from Bali were cancelled after the volcano erupted. Volcanic ash rained down on several communities around the volcano and forced the evacuation of at least one village. Mount Lewotobi Laki-Laki erupted multiple times in November, killing nine people and forcing thousands to evacuate, as well as the cancellation of scores of international flights to Bali.

There were no immediate reports of cancelled flights after Monday's eruption. Laki-Laki, which means man in Indonesian, is twinned with the calmer but taller 1,703-metre (5,587-foot) volcano named Perempuan, after the Indonesian word for woman. Indonesia, a vast archipelago nation, experiences frequent seismic and volcanic activity due to its position on the Pacific "Ring of Fire".

South Korea's Balloon Crackdown Hits Anti-North Korea Activists

Pocheon. (Agency)

The equipment activist Lee Min-bok uses to send balloons laden with anti-Kim Jong Un leaflets across the border from South Korea into the North has been gathering dust and cobwebs for months.

When it became clear that centre-left politician Lee Jae Myung was on track to win the June presidential election, Lee Min-bok was among several South Korea-based activists who stopped their missions, anticipating a crackdown by the new, pro-engagement administration. Lee Jae Myung, a former human rights lawyer, is pushing to ease tensions with Pyongyang and last month said activists should be "severely punished" if they continue the balloon operations that anger North Korea. "I've been doing it quietly and what's wrong with that? Provoking North Korea? No way," 67-year-old Lee Min-bok told Reuters as he stood next to a rusting truck equipped with a hydrogen tank for filling balloons.

"But realistically, look how serious it is right now. Police are out there and if I move, everything will be reported." For years, police have monitored Lee from the home next door - one plainclothes officer told Reuters they are there to protect him from potential North Korean threats - but instead of checking weather reports for ideal balloon launching conditions, Lee now spends his days writing online posts criticising the South Korean government.

The activists, many of whom are North Korean defectors like Lee, are used to being at the centre of geopolitical tensions. An attempt by a previous liberal president to ban the balloon launches was struck down as unconstitutional. And last year, North Korea began launching waves of its own balloons into the South, some carrying garbage and excrement. Lee, who took office on June 4, has promised to improve relations with the nuclear-armed North, saying tensions with Pyongyang have had a real negative economic impact. He has urged diplomacy and dialogue and his administration has also suspended anti-North Korea loudspeaker broadcasts along the border. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un, however, last year abandoned a goal of unification with the South and has shown little openness to diplomacy. After Lee ordered measures to stop leaflet launches, officials and police discussed plans including deploying police to border regions to preempt launches, and punishing the activists by using regulations such as aviation safety laws, according to the Unification Ministry that handles inter-Korea affairs.

Pakistan building collapse site cleared with 27 dead

Residents reported hearing cracking sounds shortly before the apartment block crumbled around 10:00 am on Friday in Karachi's impoverished Lyari neighbourhood.

KARACHI. (Agency)

Pakistan rescuers have concluded a three-day-long rescue operation, recovering 27 bodies from a building that collapsed in the mega port city of Karachi, officials said on Monday. Residents reported hearing cracking sounds shortly before the apartment block crumbled around 10:00 am on Friday in Karachi's impoverished Lyari neighbourhood, which was once



plagued by gang violence and considered one of the most dangerous areas in Pakistan. "All the bodies trapped under the debris have been recovered, so the search operation has been called off," the top government

official in the district, Javed Nabi Khoso, told AFP. "The total death toll stands at 27 people." Authorities said the building had been declared unsafe and eviction notices were sent to occupants between 2022 and

Australian woman found guilty of triple murder with toxic mushrooms

MORWELL. (Agency)

An Australian woman murdered her husband's parents and aunt by lacing their beef Wellington lunch with toxic mushrooms, a jury found Monday at the climax of a trial watched around the world. Keen home cook Erin Patterson hosted an intimate meal in July 2023 that started with good-natured banter and earnest prayer -- but ended with three guests dead. Throughout a trial lasting more than two months, Patterson maintained the beef-and-pastry dish was accidentally poisoned with death cap mushrooms, the world's most-lethal fungus. But a 12-person jury on Monday found the 50-year-old guilty of triple murder. She was also found guilty of attempting to murder a fourth guest who survived.

Family members of the victims declined to speak after the verdict, asking for privacy in a statement issued through police. "We will continue to support them in every way possible following

this decision," police said. A lone friend of Patterson appeared overcome with emotion as she left the courthouse through a jostling media pack. "I'm saddened. But it is what it is," she told reporters. The trial has drawn podcasters, film crews and true crime fans to the rural town of Morwell, a sedate hamlet in the state of Victoria better known for prize-winning roses. Newspapers from New York to New Delhi have followed every twist of what many now simply call the "mushroom murders". On July 29, 2023, Patterson set the table for an

intimate family meal at her tree-shaded country property. Her lunch guests that afternoon were Don and Gail Patterson, the elderly parents of her long-estranged husband Simon. Places were also set for Simon's maternal aunt Heather Wilkinson and her husband Ian, a well-known pastor at the local Baptist church. Husband Simon was urged to come but he declined because he felt "uncomfortable". In the background, Patterson's relationship with Simon was starting to turn sour. The pair, still legally married, had been fighting over Simon's child support contributions. Patterson forked out for expensive cuts of beef, which she slathered in a duxelles of minced mushrooms and wrapped in pastry to make individual parcels of beef Wellington. Guests said grace before tucking in -- and prayed once more after eating -- with Heather later gushing about the "delicious and beautiful" meal.



New details emerge on Gaza ceasefire proposal as Netanyahu heads to the White House

DEIR AL-BALAH. (Agency)

New details of the Gaza ceasefire proposal emerged on Sunday as Israel sent a negotiating team to Qatar ahead of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's White House visit for talks toward an agreement. Inside the territory, hospital officials said Israeli airstrikes killed at least 38 Palestinians.

"There are 20 hostages that are alive, 30 dead. I am determined, we are determined, to bring them all back. And we will also be determined to ensure that Gaza will no longer pose a threat to Israel," Netanyahu said before departing, emphasizing the goal of eliminating Hamas' military and governing power. A person familiar with the negotiations shared with The Associated Press a copy of the latest ceasefire proposal submitted by mediators to Hamas, and its veracity was confirmed by two other people familiar with the document. All three spoke on condition of anonymity

because they were not authorized to discuss the sensitive talks with the media. The document outlines plans for a 60-day ceasefire during which Hamas would hand over 10 living and

Crescent. It does not specify what would happen to the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, the American organization that has distributed food aid since May. Israel

wants it to replace the U.N.-coordinated system. A Trump guarantee as in previous ceasefire agreements, Palestinian prisoners held in Israeli facilities would be released in exchange for the hostages, but the number is not yet agreed upon.

The proposal stops short of guaranteeing a permanent end to the war -- a condition demanded by Hamas -- but says negotiations for a permanent ceasefire would take place during the 60 days. During that time, "President (Donald) Trump guarantees Israel's adherence" to halting military operations, the document says, adding that Trump "will personally announce the ceasefire agreement."



18 dead hostages, Israeli forces would withdraw to a buffer zone along Gaza's borders with Israel and Egypt, and significant amounts of aid would be brought in. The document says the aid would be distributed by United Nations agencies and the Palestinian Red

Death toll in central Texas flash floods rises to 82 as sheriff says 10 campers remain missing

KERRVILLE. (Agency)

Families sifted through waterlogged debris Sunday and stepped inside empty cabins at Camp Mystic, an all-girls summer camp ripped apart by flash floods that washed homes off their foundations and killed at least 82 people in central Texas. Rescuers maneuvering through challenging terrain, high waters and snakes including water moccins continued their desperate search for the missing, including 10 girls and a counselor from the camp. For the first time since the storms began pounding Texas, Gov. Greg Abbott said there were 41 people confirmed to be unaccounted for across the state and more could be missing. In Kerr County, home to Camp Mystic and other youth camps in the Texas Hill Country, searchers have found the bodies of 68 people, including 28 children. Sheriff Larry Leitha said in the afternoon. He pledged to keep searching in that Hill Country region until "everybody is found" from Friday's flash floods. Four deaths also were reported in Travis County, three in Burnet and one in Kendall. Rescuers dealt with broken trees, overturned



cars and muck-filled debris in the difficult task to find survivors. Authorities still have not said how many people were missing beyond the 11 children and a camp counselor from Camp Mystic, a Christian summer camp. Families were allowed to look around the camp Sunday morning while nearby crews operating heavy equipment pulled tree trunks and tangled branches out of the water as they searched along a riverbank. Thunder rumbled from a new storm.

A woman and a teenage girl, both wearing rubber waders, briefly went inside one of the cabins, which stood next to a pile of soaked mattresses, a storage trunk and clothes. At one point, the pair doubled over, sobbing before they embraced. With each passing hour, the outlook of finding more survivors became even more bleak. Volunteers and some families of the missing who drove to the disaster zone searched the riverbanks despite being asked not to do so. Authorities faced growing questions about whether enough warnings were issued in area long vulnerable to flooding and whether enough preparations were made. The destructive, fast-moving waters rose 26 feet (8 meters) on the river in only 45 minutes before daybreak Friday, washing away homes and vehicles.

Israel launches airstrikes targeting Yemen's Houthi rebels, and Houthis launch missile at Israel

DUBAI. (Agency)

Israel's military launched airstrikes early Monday targeting ports and facilities held by Yemen's Houthi rebels, with the rebels responding with missile fire targeting Israel. The attacks came after an attack Sunday targeting a Liberian-flagged ship in the Red Sea that caught fire and took on water, later forcing its crew to abandon the vessel. Suspicion for the attack on the Greek-owned bulk carrier Magic Seas immediately fell on the Houthis, particularly as a security firm said bomb-carrying drone boats appeared to hit the ship after it was targeted by small arms and rocket-propelled grenades. The rebels' media reported on the attack but did not claim it. It can take them hours or even days before they acknowledge an assault. A renewed Houthi campaign against shipping could again draw in U.S. and Western forces to the area, particularly after President Donald Trump targeted the rebels in a major airstrike campaign. The ship attack comes at a sensitive moment in the

Middle East, as a possible ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war hangs in the balance and as Iran weighs whether to restart negotiations over its nuclear program following American airstrikes targeting its most-sensitive atomic sites during an Israeli war against the Islamic Republic. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also was traveling to Washington to meet with Trump. Israeli strikes target Houthi-held ports.

The Israeli military said it struck Houthi-held ports at Hodeida, Ras Isa and Salif, as well as the Ras Kanatib power plant.

"These ports are used by the Houthi terrorist regime to transfer weapons from the Iranian regime, which are employed to carry out terrorist operations against the state of Israel and its allies," the Israeli military said. The Israeli military also said it struck the Galaxy Leader, a vehicle-carrying vessel that the Houthis seized back in November 2023 when they began their attacks in the Red Sea corridor over the Israel-Hamas war. "Houthi forces installed

a radar system on the ship and have been using it to track vessels in the international maritime arena to facilitate further terrorist activities," the Israeli military said. The Bahamas-flagged Galaxy Leader was



affiliated with an Israeli billionaire. It said no Israelis were on board. The ship had been operated by a Japanese firm NYK Line. The Houthis acknowledged the strikes, but offered no damage assessment from the attack. Their military spokesman, Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree, claimed its air defense forces "effectively confronted" the Israelis without offering evidence. Israel has repeatedly attacked Houthi areas in

Yemen, including a naval strike in June. Both Israel and the United States have struck ports in the area in the past -- including an American attack that killed 74 people in April -- but Israel is now acting alone in attacking the rebels as they continue to fire missiles at Israel. Israel's Defense Minister Israel Katz threatened further strikes. "What's true for Yemen is true for Yemen," Katz said in a statement. "Any who raises a hand against Israel will have it cut off. The Houthis will continue to pay a heavy price for their actions." The Houthis then responded with an apparent missile attack on Israel.

The Israeli military said it attempted to intercept the missile, but it appeared to make impact, though there were no immediate reports of injuries. Sirens sounded in the West Bank and along the Dead Sea.

Ship attack forces crew to abandon vessel
The attack on the Magic Seas, a bulk carrier heading north to Egypt's Suez Canal, happened some 100 kilometers (60 miles)

SVPI airport gets bomb threat, turns out to be a hoax

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

The Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International (SVPI) Airport in the city received a fresh bomb threat email on June 29, prompting immediate activation of security protocols, according to a complaint filed with airport police on Saturday evening. Neelmani Sharma, landside security manager with the Adani group at the airport, is the complainant in the case. According to the FIR, Sharma received the threatening email on the company's official IDs at around 10.23am. The message, sent from the I D roadkillandkyoill@atomicmail.io, stated "powerful explosive devices are hidden inside backpacks placed around the airport", and warned of potential fatalities. The senders signed off as "Roadkill" and "Kyo," claiming responsibility and instructing that the message be circulated to news outlets.

The Airport Bomb Threat Committee convened at 10.45am. By 11.15am, the committee officially declared the email as a non-specific threat after evaluation. Representatives from the Adani group, local police, CISF, IB and airport security participated in the assessment. Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) teams conducted thorough searches across the airport premises, but no suspicious items or explosive materials were found. The sender of the email remains unidentified.

This incident adds to a growing list of such threats targeting the airport. In the past two years, the facility received over 40 bomb threat complaints, including 31 in the current financial year. Most threats came via emails, calls or notes, often causing temporary shutdowns and intense security activity. On Feb 10, 2025, a note reading, "Bomb is here", was found on an Indigo flight from Jeddah. In 2024, a series of email threats were recorded in May and June, one of which claimed bombs were placed near airport washrooms.

The fresh case has surfaced just days after the arrest of Birju Salla, who gained notoriety in 2017 after planting a hijack threat note on a flight. He was the first person to be booked under the stringent Anti-Hijacking Act, 2018. While Salla was acquitted by the high court in 2023 due to lack of evidence, he is presently under scrutiny in two separate threat note cases — one involving a bomb threat on an IndiGo flight from Ahmedabad to Jeddah in Nov 2024 and another targeting the Ahmedabad airport in Jan this year.

300-cr bridge to link Coastal Rd at Haji Ali with arterial Parel path

Mumbai. (Agency)

A new elevated road is being proposed to connect Senapati Bapat Marg -- leading towards Phoenix Mills and Kamla Mills -- with the Haji Ali end of Lala Lajpatrai Road, where the coastal road has designated entry and exit points. If it goes as planned, people travelling from the crowded areas of Parel, Dadar, Matunga, and Mahim could soon reach the coastal road near Haji Ali junction within minutes. The proposed six-lane elevated corridor, currently a missing link in the city's east-west connectivity, will skirt along the edge of Mahalaxmi Racecourse and pass near the NSCI Dome. Officials from the urban development department said the project will not require any land acquisition, nor will it disrupt the existing flow of traffic during construction.

The viaduct will begin near the coastal road's entry/exit on Lala Lajpatrai Road, pass through open areas alongside the race track and stadia, and land near the E Moses Road end of Senapati Bapat Marg. From there, motorists will have seamless access to Gokhale Road, Lady Jamshed Road, Bhavani Shankar Road, NM Joshi Marg, and onward to key locations like Siddhivinayak



Temple, Shivaji Park, Lower Parel, and Mahim. Although the final project estimate is yet to be determined, the 1.5-km-long corridor is likely to cost Rs 250-300 crore. The new link is expected to offer a major reduction in travel time -- by as much as 30 minutes during peak hours -- and decongest several traffic chokepoints.

At present, traffic coming from Haji Ali (via Tardeo, Pedder Road, Bhulabhai Desai Road, or the coastal road) must take a long detour through Worli Naka (via Annie Besant Road or Pandurang Budhkar Marg), Nehru Science Centre road, or Keshavrao Khadye Marg-Dr E Moses Road, loop around the racecourse and NSCI Dome to reach Dadar. Southbound traffic from Dadar and Parel must follow the same roundabout route. Deputy

CM Eknath Shinde, whose office unveiled the proposal in coordination with the public works department (PWD), called the project a transformative move for the city's infrastructure. While implementing agencies are yet to be finalised, the plan has been received positively due to its promise to cut travel time and ease congestion without displacing people or requiring land acquisition.

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Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at the airport and is working with relevant authorities to finalise arrangements.

"In line with standard procedure, the aircraft will be moved following the arrival of UK engineers, who are carrying specialist equipment necessary for the movement and repair process," the statement added. The jet had diverted to Thiruvananthapuram due to adverse weather and low fuel, and was cleared to land by the Indian Air Force.

"A UK engineering team has deployed to Thiruvananthapuram International Airport to assess and repair the UK F-35B aircraft, which landed following an emergency diversion," a British High Commission spokesperson said in a statement.

The UK has accepted India's offer to use the

Nipah patient remains in critical care; daughter tests negative

The state's health department has strengthened its surveillance efforts across three key districts: Malappuram, Palakkad, and Kozhikode.

KOZHIKODE. (Agency)

A woman from Palakkad who recently tested positive for Nipah virus, remains in critical condition at the Kozhikode Government Medical College Hospital. She is currently receiving critical care in the hospital's specialised Nipah isolation unit. The patient was initially admitted to a private medical facility in Perinthalmanna. However, late on Saturday night, due to a significant deterioration in her health, she was transferred to the Kozhikode Medical College. Her symptoms, consistent with a severe viral infection, first appeared on July 1, prompting her to seek medical attention.

Meanwhile, the test results of the woman's 10-year-old daughter have come back negative. The Palakkad district authorities said on Sunday that three people from the patient's primary contact list are under isolation at various hospitals as a precaution. So far, 173 people have been included in the official

contact list.

The state's health department has strengthened its surveillance efforts across three key districts: Malappuram, Palakkad, and Kozhikode. These areas are under heightened scrutiny due to the recent travel and contact histories of the infected individuals. An official from the health department informed that at first glance, these two cases appear epidemiologically distinct. The timelines of symptom onset and the potential for a shared social gathering linking them are currently under rigorous investigation.

In response to the evolving situation, the health department has declared an intensified fever surveillance programme across all regions where Nipah cases have been identified. Specialised medical teams and rapid response units have been strategically deployed to actively monitor



individuals on contact lists for any emerging symptoms. Authorities are appealing to the public to maintain composure while remaining highly vigilant. Citizens are urged to promptly report any flu-like symptoms, particularly if they reside in or have visited the monitored zones. The Union health ministry is reportedly considering dispatching the National Joint Outbreak Response Team to Kerala. This team would

provide crucial support to the state government in implementing robust public health interventions.

The Central Surveillance Unit of the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, operating under the National Centre for Disease Control, is maintaining close coordination with its state counterpart, actively monitoring the unfolding scenario. Furthermore, the State Control Room has been fully activated to orchestrate and manage a wide range of containment activities.

Fever surveillance programme

In response to the evolving situation, the health department has declared an intensified fever surveillance programme across all regions where Nipah cases have been identified. Specialised medical teams and rapid response units have been strategically deployed to actively monitor individuals on contact lists.

Southern Railways to rollout optical fibre system to detect wild elephants near tracks

Under the new initiative, underground optical fibre cable (OFC) has been laid on a 120km stretch between Kottekad and Walayar (both in Palakkad district), and Walayar and Madukkarai (in Coimbatore district).



COIMBATORE. (Agency)

The Southern Railway is set to introduce an optical fibre-based Intrusion Detection System (IDS) to prevent wild elephant deaths in train collisions in the Madukkarai forest range in Tamil Nadu and adjoining areas in Kerala.

Already, subways have been constructed and railway tracks have been fenced using old rails in the Madukkarai forest to prevent elephants from getting hit by trains. Under the new initiative, underground optical fibre cable (OFC) has been laid on a 120km stretch between Kottekad and Madukkarai (both in Palakkad district), and Walayar and Madukkarai (in Coimbatore district). Once the elephant walks over or near the cable, an immediate alert will be sent to the loco pilots and station managers within the 40 km Palakkad and Madukkarai stretch.

Upon receiving it, the loco pilots have to reduce the speed of the trains to prevent wild elephants from getting hit. In the first phase, the divisional railway officials handed over 50 tablets to loco pilots on which alerts will be sent directly.

"The cables were laid one meter under the earth as well as 15-20m away on both sides of the railway track between Kottekad and Madukkarai to ensure safe access for wild elephants. The total project cost is ₹20 crore between the above-said areas where the wild elephant movements are high.



price has increased to around Rs 80. This is because the arrivals are going down, he explained.

First Skin Bank to be launched in Thiruvananthapuram MCH

Skin Banks are facilities which collect skin through donors for replacing the burnt skin of victims.

KANNIYAKUMARI. (Agency)

Mango farmers in the district are pleased as prices are starting to rise even as the season is drawing to a close. According to sources, mango trees are grown in 1158. 064 hectares in Kanniakumari district. The district deputy director of horticulture, Y Sheela John told TNIE that at the horticulture farm in Palathottam, 4480 kg of mangoes were harvested generating Rs 2.2L. Last year, only 900 kg were harvested last year season and 4200 kg in the previous year. Popular varieties such as Neelam, Bengalura, Banganapalli, Alphonse, Himahudeen, Jahangeera, Kalapad, Panchavarnam, Ruman, and local varieties such as Panikanan, Surankudi, Vettaiyan Surankudi were grown in the farm.

T Murugan (62), a mango farmer in Thittuvilai said in the yield has been high this compared to the last 6 to 7 years, which has brought down the prices. Murugan, who has taken the Neelam variety trees on lease, said he did not harvest mangoes due to poor price. "As the mango season is drawing to close, the price is

increasing. Now I am getting Rs 10 per kg whereas earlier it was much less," he said. A mango trader E Ahilan said farmers sold Neelam variety for Rs 10-Rs 8 per kg before, but the price has increased to Rs 10-Rs 12 since Friday. Similarly, Banganapalli variety was sold for Rs 20 per kg earlier, but now the



price has increased to around Rs 80. This is because the arrivals are going down, he explained.

UK team arrives in Kerala to assess F-35 jet after emergency landing; aircraft moved to hangar

Stealth jet grounded at Thiruvananthapuram since June 14; UK experts to assess recovery or possible dismantling for transport

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. (Agency)

A team of British aviation engineers landed in Thiruvananthapuram on Sunday to repair the F-35B stealth fighter jet that has been grounded at the international airport for the past 23 days. The 14-member team arrived aboard a Royal Air Force Airbus A400M Atlas military transport aircraft, carrying specialist equipment. The jet, stranded since June 14 due to a hydraulic system failure, was moved to a designated hangar space provided by Air India.

"A UK engineering team has deployed to Thiruvananthapuram International Airport to assess and repair the UK F-35B aircraft, which landed following an emergency diversion," a British High Commission spokesperson said in a statement.

The UK has accepted India's offer to use the

Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) facility at the airport and is working with relevant authorities to finalise arrangements.

"It appears the UK is hoping to carry out essential repairs and attempt a carrier landing with support from their expert maintenance team and specially assigned test pilots," said Wing Commander A Mahesh (Retd.), an aviation analyst. "For the F-35B to return to the carrier, its thrust vectoring system is crucial. And that depends entirely on the hydraulic system, which, by current indications, remains unserviceable. If the jet can't be flown out, Thiruvananthapuram may see another large RAF transport aircraft arriving to lift the F-35B out," he added.

The grounding of a fifth-generation fighter



in a non-NATO country like India has sparked questions in the British parliament. The incident has also drawn wide attention online, with even the Kerala tourism department posting light-hearted content showcasing the state's hospitality.

Since the beginning, India's ministry of defence has played a key role in facilitating the UK crew and aircraft, offering swift clearances and logistical support -- an example of India-UK defence cooperation.

"The UK remains very grateful for the continued support and collaboration of the Indian authorities and airport teams," the High Commission said. The F-35B is part of the UK's Carrier Strike Group aboard HMS Prince of Wales, currently stationed around 100 nautical miles off the Indian coast. The group, which includes HMS Richmond, recently completed a joint PASSEX maritime drill with the Indian Navy, featuring INS Tabar, a submarine, and a P-8I surveillance aircraft.

1965 war, friendships, resolve, and romance

It was the time of war, as it is today, but exactly 60 years back. It was the 1965 India-Pakistan War. The common notion is that it was fought for 22 days in September, but in actuality, the war, initiated by Pakistan, was fought in three parts, all interlinked. There was no *casus belli* for that war, as it was contrived by Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, then the Foreign Minister of Pakistan, and a few Generals of the Pakistan army, who persuaded a reluctant President Ayub Khan to approve their plans. The Pakistani plan was to commence operations in a less important area like Kutch, with a view to gauge whether India was capable of a fight, as the war with China in 1962 had badly affected the Indian Army. There was also famine in many parts of the country. The then Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri had taken over recently after the death of the colossus Pandit Nehru and in the eyes of the Pakistanis, his diminutive figure did not reflect the boldness of a fighting leader. How utterly wrong they were!

Depending on the outcome of the Kutch operation, Part II consisted of sending infiltrators inside J&K from several directions, as it was assessed that the locals will rise against India. This was to be carried out in August. Finally, an all-out offensive, code-named Operation Gibraltar, would be launched within J&K, to cut off Rajouri-Poonch. It is this part which is known as the 1965 War by the public. As far as the armed forces and the Government of India are concerned, all three parts constituted the 1965 War, the diamond jubilee of which is this year. Let me now switch to my special friend DN. We both had left behind a leg each on the battlefield, before we met at the Command Hospital, Pune. I had reached there first. I belonged to the First Battalion of the Maratha Light Infantry, while DN was a company commander in the equally famous 3 Kumaon (Rifles). We were in Pune as all limb cases were sent there; the Artificial Limb Centre was adjoining the Command Hospital.

DN, or Dhirendra Nath Singh, was a very brave officer who had been awarded the coveted Vir Chakra for leading the assault on the important feature Keri in J&K, where he had lost his left leg. He was a Kaushik Rajput but now his battle was in fighting a disability, as it was for us all.

At Pune, we were confined to our beds, but soon the time came, as our wounds healed, that we had to walk with the help of crutches, but first we had to buy slippers. That simple errand sealed our friendship, as in the Bata shop, we realised that we needed not a pair of slippers each, but only one for the time being. Glances exchanged confirmed that our foot sizes were same and since our amputated legs were different, DN's being left and mine being right, our need was for only one pair! In a soldier's career, the watershed events are when one gets shot in battle, fighting for the country. We came to the conclusion that getting the disability was that event for us. DN agreed with me. Later developments confirmed it, but surprisingly not in a negative way.

Those were the days of introspection, interspersed with exchanging notes with our comrades, and surreptitiously slipping out for a couple of drinks at the military club. We were undoubtedly quite a sight, locomoting and balancing ourselves on light-weight elbow crutches, but we learnt to juggle with a drink, a cigarette, crutches and of course the good or undamaged leg! DN was very much a part of these evenings, although he neither smoked nor drank. These were also the days of a happy-go-lucky exterior, cracking jokes about the one-legged Taimur Lang, but with an interior that was all knotted up, constantly weighing various permutations for our future.

In my case, these were also the days of the first slow moves towards a blossoming love, which added some genuineness to the happy exterior and slowly diminished the personal battles being fought internally, mostly in our minds but also slipping down to the guts at times.

When one has been writing a column for as long as I have, there is a danger of either repeating oneself or becoming slowly irrelevant. Each time I sit down to write a fresh one, I am confronted with the question of what now? Fortunately, there is always something happening in our country or the world that throws me a lifeline. This time, it is the spectacular victory of young Zohran Mamdani in the run-up to the mayoral elections to be held later this year in New York that has stirred a hornet's nest there. These are those moral and ethical questions relevant for not just the USA, but issues that all democracies will have to eventually confront. For one, this primary has introduced a radical young person into the geriatric world of established political parties and dynasts. Zohran has the infectious idealism of youth and comes with no baggage of an established party line. The battle between the Republicans and the Democrats in the US has been so poisoned by the recent performances of these two parties that they have drifted away from their middle-class voter. Again, the world over, there is a huge churn that has thrown up entrenched and right-leaning leaders, although many of them have been denied an outright victory. The two exceptions are Trump in the US and our own PM, who came back with impressive numbers.

However, most of Europe is now being torn between the Left and Right parties and are able to survive only if they make compromises or arrangements with their rivals. Naturally, all such governments find their hands tied and feel frustrated with how little they can do when faced with the Big Bully in America. Their profligate welfareism has drained their economies while their dithering stand on the war between Russia and Ukraine, to say nothing of their shameful support for Israel and indifference to the human condition of the Palestinians, is now beginning to invite contempt from not just many in the world but from their own people as well. Moreover, their unpopular governments are perpetuating these senseless wars because their own survival is under threat if they have to face an election. I am not even going to mention what the West has done to South Asia and the Middle East because they think they can get away with sheer racist arrogance. They seem trapped by their old colonial past and have never really accepted that the Empire they once ruled over had rejected them long ago. The White Man's Burden has acquired a radically different connotation and they cannot accept that their erstwhile colonies have made their own destinies since they went back many decades ago. Today, they appear as pitiful cartoons of their ancestors and are being outpaced by the very countries they once lorded over.

Lashing out at immigrants and expelling them is a measure of how deep the fear of being swamped by those who are not white goes. Whether in Europe, the UK or the US,

Touchstones: Young Mamdani & old order

I hope he has it in him to bind the world with threads of humanity & brotherhood



they cannot survive without the brown and black hands that handle their industries, their healthcare and their farms. Zohran challenges all these ostrich-like attitudes. He's proudly brown, a Muslim who is unafraid to declare his faith, a liberal anti-capitalist and actually dares to promise the New York middle class a life of dignity, equality and inclusion. His words have sent shivers down the spine of both the old Democrats and Republicans. And when they cannot match his stirring oratory, they have resorted to calling him names and stooping to levels of public rebuke and threats that would shame even our loonies in India. Wisely, Zohran has kept his cool. He speaks in fluent Hindustani, English and a language of solidarity with the excluded that reaches out to his supporters. He eats with his fingers and wears his mixed parental upbringing without offending either. He is supremely confident and handles the press like a pro and like his filmmaker mother, knows how to handle drama and emotion with restraint and effect. From his father, he gets a deep understanding of post-colonial societies and from Africa and India, a verve that is palpable. One only

hopes he does not turn out to be the Arvind Kejriwal of America. I asked myself why I was so moved by the phenomenon of the rise of Zohran Mamdani, despite many reservations about the reckless promises and overconfidence so typical of a young radical. I think it is about how our generation went through all the subsequent phases and came out more and more disillusioned and cynical after the first few decades of Independence. "Bliss was it then to be alive but to be young was very heaven," as Wordsworth said post the French Revolution. A few centuries later, the view he immortalised in 'From Westminster Bridge' that opens with "Earth has nothing more fair to show" is a vista that is poisoned by decline and fear. The church, the family, its splendid welfare state and its outstanding educational institutions have all but vanished, leaving in their wake a society sans ethics and morality, broken homes, deviant youth and a distressed countryside. I sincerely hope that young Mamdani has it in him to write a new script that is not just the old Anglo-Saxon one, but one that binds the world with threads of humanity and brotherhood.

Policy thrust to grow manufacturing futile sans enhanced skills

There is an urgent need for India to train workforces and develop the skill sets needed for high-end manufacturing. Besides, it is important to build supply chains and encourage domestic component makers for manufacturing to flourish

India's manufacturing sector received a blow with Taiwan-based Foxconn Technology Group asking hundreds of its Chinese technicians working at iPhone production units in India to return home. There is no official word from Foxconn or Apple yet; but if the development is true, it could derail India's ambitions of emerging as a global manufacturing hub. The move comes at the crucial juncture when Apple was planning to ramp up production of its flagship product here, eventually to manufacture all iPhones for the US market in India by 2026. Importantly, the move casts a shadow on the China+1 strategy, under which countries like India and Vietnam are aggressively going after global technology companies to shift production lines and reduce over-reliance on China. As Apple Chief Tim Cook noted earlier, more than the cost advantage, the skill and expertise of Chinese assembly workers is something that cannot be found elsewhere. It means, in the absence of skilled talent that is found in abundance in the services sector, India woefully falls short in manufacturing. So it can only offer a cost



advantage, which can also be found in, say, Vietnam or Indonesia. If China clamps down on the outflow of talent, technology and materials, India's manufacturing growth story will slow down. While building production lines is one aspect, the availability of talent is equally crucial.

There is an urgent need for India to train workforces and develop the skill sets needed for high-end manufacturing. Besides, it is important to build supply chains and encourage domestic component makers for manufacturing to flourish. Though the government made some humble attempts through the Make in India initiative and Production-Linked Incentive scheme, they are evidently not enough to catch up with China.

Manufacturing is integral to growth and has the potential to not only create jobs, but also boost exports beyond \$1 trillion by 2030, according to some estimates. But despite efforts such as Make in India and PLI, the manufacturing sector's share of the GDP has been stagnant at about 14-17 percent for a decade now. We need coordinated efforts by both the government and industry to raise the share closer to the government's stated target of 25 percent. That's when India can truly shift away from being an import-dependent economy to a global production hub.

July 1939, and Dhami firing incident that shook the hills

Bad working conditions', exploitation led to revolt

Famine, or even bad food, has led to mutinies and revolts. Marie Antoinette's supposed utterance just before the French Revolution, "Let them eat cake", is historically incorrect. There is no evidence that she said something of the sort to the starving people of Paris. But we still treat this as a piece of history.

The statement, however false, makes the inescapable connection between hunger and the desire to remove what seems to be in the way of getting food—and a fair wage.

The Naval Mutiny of 1946, which substantially hastened the process of giving India her freedom, stemmed from racial discrimination and bad food. Among other issues, the naval ratings aboard the HMIS Talwar, where the strike began, protested against the rations they were being given with the slogan: "No Food, No Work". Rice, supposedly, came mixed with mud and stones. This strike soon swept across other ships and shore establishments, with approximately 20,000 men involved.

In a manner of speaking, this event and numerous others give us evidence that we fought for independence against the "bad working conditions" that existed under colonial rule.

Far away from the sea, in the hills of today's Himachal, the freedom movement merged almost imperceptibly with local issues like land revenue and feudal cesses. One of these was the prevalence of 'begaar', which, at its simplest, was unpaid labour. The prevalence of this oppressive institution was substantially responsible for unrest in the hills. 'Begaar' was responsible for numerous revolts about which very little is known.

In the second half of the 19th century and in the first quarter of the 20th, some sort of disturbances occurred in almost all the hill states. These were suppressed with troops from British India and with the help of the Punjab Reserve Police.

In the princely state of Dhami, which bordered Shimla, many matters of discontent were similar to other hill states. These, apart from 'begaar', were restrictions on forest rights, on civil liberties and agrarian revenue issues. The matter was precipitated after a road had been built in 1938 between Shimla and Dhami; almost all the labour was of 'begaaris'. Repeated crop failures and the subsequent absence of food security had compelled the common farmers of Dhami to ask for a remission in revenue.

Eighty-six years ago, the month of July would have been quite as wet as this one. Four days after the event, The Tribune, then published from Lahore, reported that on July 13, 1939, despite bad weather, around 600 persons from Dhami and other hill states had gathered for a meeting in Shimla. They raised these and other issues.

The man who came to head the campaign to redress these matters was Bhag Mal Sautha. Trained as an engineer, Sautha made his living by running the Imperial Hotel in Shimla's Lower Bazaar. He was

the secretary of the Himalaya Riasi Praja Mandal, which was spearheading the freedom struggle and anti-feudal order in the hill states.

As part of a wider nationalist strategy, on July 15, 1939, with a large band of people, Sautha moved towards Dhami from Shimla.



Just short of the border, the state police showed Sautha an order that prohibited his entry. He refused to comply and was arrested. The crowd was estimated by the Dhami Durbar to have numbered between 2,000 and 3,000. As they began to move towards the thana, someone in the crowd began to shout that their leader was being taken away to jail and that this should be prevented.

Subsequently, a melee ensued and two persons were

killed and 40 injured. Those killed were a man named Durga, who was a resident of Dhami, and Rup Ram, who had been shot in the legs and abandoned once the crowd dispersed; he succumbed to his injuries at the hospital in Sunni (in the state of Bhajji), where he had been taken.

An upshot of the Dhami incident was that Sautha was evicted from the Imperial Hotel and all his belongings were thrown out. He was sentenced to three months of rigorous imprisonment and a fine. The event came to be known as the 'Dhami Firing Incident' or 'Dhami Goli Kaand' and its reverberations were felt not only in the hills, but throughout the country. Some went to the extent of drawing parallels with the Jallianwala Bagh massacre.

For all its seriousness, and the fact that this incident would accelerate and enlarge the freedom movement in the hills, the moment also had a touch of ironical humour. Among the wounded was a man named Tulsi Ram, who claimed to have been shot by the Rana of Dhami. He refused to be treated by anyone except Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. It took considerable persuasion to allow the wound to be bandaged; he was then placed in a palanquin and taken to a hospital in Shimla.

Security heightened as farmers protest land acquisition in Nuh

Nuh (Agency)

Security measures were tightened in IMT Rozka Meo area and a riot control drill was conducted at Nuh Police Lines on Sunday amid ongoing farmers' protests over land acquisition and compensation. Prohibitory orders have been clamped in anticipation of the upcoming Jalabhishik Yatra and to prevent any law-and-order disturbances. Farmers from nine villages in Rozka Meo area have been protesting since Feb 2024 over a long-pending land compensation for land acquired for industrial model township. Nuh SP Rajesh Kumar said Section 163 of BNS (BNS), 2023 was enforced in the region, prohibiting the assembly of five or more individuals and the carrying of deadly weapons. "This order will remain in force until Aug 4," the SP said.

The restrictions apply to the area acquired by Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) and surrounding zones, including Dhir Dhaunka village and the Rozka Meo police station area. Carrying weapons such as firearms, swords, sticks, spears, axes, knives, chains and other potentially harmful objects is banned — except for the kirpan worn as a religious symbol by Sikhs.

Meanwhile, the SP said on Sunday, "The restrictions are aimed at preventing disruptions to govt development projects and deterring antisocial activities. Govt officials, police personnel and HSIIDC officers are exempted from this order. Duty magistrates have been assigned monitoring responsibilities while the SP warned against any violations or attempts to incite unrest."

In 2010, around 1,600 acres of land were acquired for the IMT Rozka Meo project and the govt paid them Rs 25 lakh per acre. The govt also acquired land from the villages of Chandawali and Machiggar in Faridabad. However, the farmers from these areas filed a petition in court, alleging the govt was buying their land at unfairly low rates. They appealed to the court to direct the govt to increase the compensation amount. In response, the court ordered the govt to pay Rs 2 crore per acre to those farmers. When the farmers from the other nine villages heard about this decision, they too began staging protests, demanding an increase in compensation for their acquired land. After a long struggle, the govt agreed to pay them Rs 46 lakh per acre and got them to sign affidavits to prevent further legal action. Farmers were initially paid Rs 21 lakh each, with a promise of receiving the remaining Rs 25 lakh later. However, that additional compensation has still not been paid. As a result, the farmers of nine village have been staging an indefinite sit-in protest since Feb 2024.

'Road dug up, infra deficient': Condo developer faces fire in Gurgaon Sec 44

Gurgaon (Agency)

Tension prevailed in Sector 44 area as several residents of ROF Alante Society in Sector 108 staged a protest outside the builder's office — amid a police presence — demanding basic infrastructure and a vigilance inquiry into the approvals granted to the project on Saturday afternoon. The protesters questioned how the builder was granted a licence and occupancy certificate (OC) despite not having a proper revenue road connection to the site.

"The project was developed under the Haryana govt's affordable housing scheme but the builder has failed to provide the required infrastructure, including a permanent 24-metre access road," Shivani Thusoo, a resident, said. Bouncers at the builder's office allegedly stopped the protesters at the main gate. Soon after, police arrived on the spot and spoke to the residents to understand their concerns. "The current entry road is often dug up or blocked by nearby villagers. We later found that this stretch of land was never owned by the builder and was only taken on rent," Shivani said.

"Now, due to the ongoing dispute between the villagers and the builder, the residents are forced to suffer."

A spokesperson for the developer said "miscreants — local landowners — have illegally dug up the govt revenue road" to block society's access, aiming to pressure the company with unlawful demands. "Staffers were even threatened with violence when they tried to intervene. This is causing serious inconvenience and poses a law-and-order issue. Complaints have been filed and the company is working with police and civic authorities to restore access," he said. The spokesperson clarified that internal infrastructure is complete and OC was issued accordingly. "Most residents understand the situation and are not involved in the protest. Legal action is underway against offenders," he added.

6 applicants per seat: Surge in UG admissions at Gurugram University this year

Gurgaon (Agency)

Gurugram University (GU) is witnessing a surge in undergraduate (UG) admissions for 2024-25 session, with six students vying for each UG seat. That is double the competition compared to last year when only three applicants competed per seat. GU VC Sanjay Kaushik said the first merit list will be released on July 8. Document verification for selected students will take place on July 9 and fee submission must be completed by July 10. According to university data, the online application window closed on Saturday at midnight, with 2,996 applications received for 450 seats across 10 undergraduate courses. Last year, the university had received 1,350 applications for 410 seats.

Students have shown a marked preference for professional and integrated programmes. The most sought-after courses include Bachelor of Physiotherapy (BPT): 600 applications for 60 seats; MBA (Integrated): 365 applications for 60 seats; LLB: 492 applications for 60 seats; BA (Yoga): 165 applications for 30 seats; BCA (Computer Applications): 178 applications for 60 seats; MCom (Integrated): 295 applications for 60 seats; courses like MSc (Physics) Integrated, BSc and MA (Journalism & Mass Communication) have also seen growing interest.

Industrial units with no permits operate in Gurgaon, flouting green norms

Gurgaon (Agency)

Gurgaon: Scores of industrial units are operating in the city without environmental permits as authorities struggle to control unchecked pollution in areas already burdened by sewage overflows and encroachment.

The Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) said in a July 2 right to information (RTI) reply that 281 industrial units in Gurgaon have been granted mandatory environmental consent to operate. Activists allege there are hundreds more industrial units that have been functioning without any approvals. These illegal factories are clustered in and around Basai, Kankrola, Badshahpur and Dhanwarpur. They operate without basic pollution controls such as effluent treatment systems. "Though the official number is 281, ground reality is far more alarming. In areas like Basai and



Kankrola, there are several unauthorised industrial units. These are hotspots of unregulated pollution," said Delhi-based activist Varun Gulati. Most of these units are involved in manufacturing garment and textile, milk packaging, snacks, rubber parts, sealants and synthetic glues. Some of them handle metal scrap, or

dismantle electronic waste too. "Many of these industries are ghost operators that don't follow basic rules like effluent treatment. When complaints are filed, they can't be traced," Gulati, who tracks violations in the district, said. The unauthorised units often operate in zones not designated for industry or on the

fringes of residential areas, worsening health risks for those living nearby. "Pollution stress in these areas is no longer a hidden issue. It's visible in the water, in the air, and in the rising health risks to nearby communities," said Vivek Kamboj, an environmentalist. Despite multiple complaints, action by pollution control authorities has remained limited to show-cause notices or temporary shutdowns. There is no database to track illegal or unregistered units across the district. "The biggest failure is in enforcement. Pollution control isn't just about paperwork, it's about actually going into these industrial pockets and shutting down operations that poison the environment," said Shubhansh Tiwari, a research associate at the Centre for Science and Environment. Activists demand that district authorities need to carry out ground-level surveys.

Heavy rain & thunderstorms likely for a week, IMD warns of flooding in Haryana

Gurgaon (Agency)

Gurgaon: After a sluggish start, the southwest monsoon is set to make a strong comeback in Haryana, bringing with it widespread rain, thunderstorms, and lightning over the next five to seven days. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a significant shift in the monsoon trough beginning Friday night, which will position it over north-central India, including Haryana. This realignment is expected to trigger active monsoon conditions across the state. A cyclonic circulation currently persisting over Himachal Pradesh and Punjab is likely to intensify rainfall in the region. This system, combined with the northward-moving monsoon trough, will bring sustained moisture inflow and cloud development over Haryana, leading to frequent rain spells, particularly during the night and early morning hours. On Friday, Gurgaon recorded a maximum temperature of 33.5 degrees Celsius, down by 2.4 degrees from the previous day. The minimum temperature held steady at 26.3 degrees Celsius. As monsoon activity picks up, the IMD has warned of potential localised flooding, waterlogging, and traffic disruptions in several districts. Heavy to very heavy rainfall, accompanied by thunderstorms and lightning, is likely in the districts of Ambala, Yamunanagar, Panchkula, Kurukshetra, Kaithal, and Karnal. Scattered heavy showers are expected in Mahendragarh, Rewari, Jhajjar, Gurgaon, Mewat, Palwal, Faridabad, Rohtak, Sonipat, Panipat, Jind, and Charkhi Dadri. Meanwhile, Sirsa, Fatehabad, Hisar, and Bhiwani are likely to experience light to moderate rain with isolated thunderstorm activity. Several districts in Haryana could receive between 50 mm and 150 mm of rainfall in a single spell this week," said a senior IMD official. "By the end of next week, much of the state is expected to shift from below-normal rainfall to excess levels." Residents are advised to exercise caution, especially during the morning commute, due to slippery roads and reduced visibility.

Gurgaon (Agency)

Gurgaon: Monsoon showers have begun lashing the city, but work on cleaning the drains in Sector 5 is still not complete. The slow progress has led to residents raising concerns of waterlogging and road damage. According to residents, work to clean a 7.5km drain network was previously awarded through a Rs 16 lakh tender, but the cleaning only began in late June and is being poorly executed.

Dinesh Vashisth, former RWA president of the sector, noted that the situation is especially bad near the Sector 5 police station. "There are stormwater drains on both sides of the road. Only surface-level cleaning was done — soil was removed from pipe inlets and barely a foot of silt was cleared from inside, while the rest of the drain remains clogged," he said. Vashisth added, "Rainwater now accumulates on the roads, creating serious

trouble for residents. Vehicles struggle to pass, and roads are deteriorating due to stagnant water. The monsoon has already started, and there is no sign that the drains will be cleaned in time. The govt is wasting public money and ignoring public concerns. What's the point of development work if they aren't completed on time or don't serve their purpose?" Residents claim that the civic body failed to act before the monsoon arrived, and the work currently underway appears rushed and superficial. MG Yadav, another resident, echoed this sentiment, saying, "The drain cleaning work did start, but it wasn't done properly. The silt inside the drains hasn't been removed. Worse, the muck that was taken out was left on the roadside and footpaths, and has now washed back into the drains. Water has no place to go and ends up flooding the streets. We've raised complaints before but there's been no proper response." When contacted, an MCG official said, "The work started on June 22. We are prioritising the cleaning of drain openings and pits considering the ongoing rains. The agency has deployed tractors and is dumping the collected silt. A jetting machine will be used to clear the pipelines. While the timeline is Sept, we are aiming to finish by July-end."

Gurgaon (Agency)

Gurgaon: The water boosting station in Sector 23A, built nearly three decades ago, is struggling to keep up with the area's growing demand, with residents complaining of frequent breakdowns, poor maintenance, and unreliable supply. Despite repeated assurances and multiple estimates prepared for its overhaul by the authorities, no revamp has been undertaken, residents said, adding that critical components of the facility, including electrical panel, cables, valves, and pipeline joints, are in poor condition. In addition to this, the civic body has not installed standby motors, which means even a minor fault brings the entire system to a halt. Every time a breakdown occurs, it takes 1-2 days to fix the issue, impacting water availability in the area, residents said. Bhawani Shankar Tripathy, vice president of Sector 23A RDWA, said, "A

complete revamp of the station is required. Whenever there is a fault, it affects at least three cycles of water supply in the area. The system is outdated and fails



repeatedly. We have raised complaints but to no avail." Moreover, residents said that water supply to the area is erratic. On some days there is no supply and on others, the water pressure is too low. In many

cases, households are forced to rely on private tankers, adding to their monthly expenses. Now, residents demand that an urgent intervention be made by the civic authorities to upgrade the station and ensure uninterrupted, high-pressure water supply. Neeru Yadav, RWA president of Sector 23A (east zone), said, "The water pressure is extremely low. Water does not reach even in single-storey houses. The station also has frequent technical issues like motor failures and valve failures, due to which residents are forced to manage using private water tankers." Meanwhile, Praveen Kumar, executive engineer of MCG, said, "There have been machinery-related faults at the station, but we are attending to them regularly. Additionally, we are making provision for standby motors across all MCG areas. The work has already started, and the standby motor will be deployed here soon."

Wrong-side driving fuels rise in fatalities in Ghaziabad's Mohan Nagar



which is rampant on NH9 and nearby roads in Mohan Nagar, particularly during peak morning and evening periods. Auto-rickshaw and two-wheeler drivers — and occasionally truck drivers — seem to take delight in the risk associated with "avoiding" longer routes. During the morning and evening hours, motorists coming from GT Road Mohan Nagar travel towards Arthala, Anand Industrial Area and the Vashundhara

railway underpass because they have to take a U-turn, which is almost 600 metres away. As per traffic police data, from Jan to May, more than 1.1 lakh challans were issued for wrong-side driving. A total of 402,061 challans were issued to two-wheelers, 99,464 challans to four-wheelers and 57,166 challans to three-wheelers for various offences. A man, who was driving on the wrong side, said that he worked in Sahibabad in a

'Couldn't stand in front of a pyre for 5 mins, can't imagine my brother's plight': Kin of UPSC aspirant killed in Karol Bagh fire

Agency New Delhi.

He came to Delhi just two days before he died. He was holidaying with our parents in Coimbatore after the prelims for civil service exams," recalled Virendra Pratap Singh, whose younger brother, Kumar Dhirendra Pratap Singh (25), was one of the two victims of the huge fire that engulfed a Vishal Mega Mart outlet in Karol Bagh on Friday. Dhirendra's body was found in a lift. Shortly before he died, he had sent a WhatsApp message to his brother, pleading for help: "Bhaiya, hum lift mein fass gaye hai... aur bhaiya, saans phool raha hai, kuch karo (Bhaiya, I'm stuck in the lift... and I'm not able to breathe, please help)." Since Friday, Virendra claimed, none of the executives at Vishal Mega Mart have attempted to contact him. "I just want to know who will be held responsible for this," he said.

The family hails from Uttar Pradesh's Sonbhadra district. Dhirendra's father runs an advertising business, while his mother is a government school teacher.

Intending to crack the UPSC exam, he came to Delhi in 2019. He had enrolled at Delhi University for a Bachelor's degree in Political Science. He eventually left DU with a Master's degree in 2024 and then started his UPSC journey. "Dhirendra enrolled in Vajiram and Ravi coaching centre and was living in a paying guest accommodation in Karol Bagh. He gave his first UPSC attempt this year and cleared the prelims. It was unbelievable. Coming from our village, he was the 'chirag' (light)," shared Virendra, who works for the family business in their village, and lives there with his wife and parents.

He said that he couldn't stand in front of the burning pyre for more than five minutes. "I don't know how my brother was feeling with all that smoke inside a lift if I couldn't bear it for five minutes... can't imagine his

plight," the 29-year-old shared.

Officials suspect the fire broke out after a short circuit occurred on the second floor.



The blaze is believed to have quickly spread to the upper floors, and all occupants of the building had to be evacuated. An FIR has been registered at the Karol Bagh police station.

Delhi Fire Services (DFS) officers had said

they received a call regarding the fire at 6.45 pm. As many as 13 fire tenders and around 90 firefighters were pressed into service to bring the blaze under control.

Dhirendra's body was found inside the lift of the building. "His body was recovered around 3 am. It is suspected that he died due to suffocation," a police officer had said.

Pawan Gautam (30), who worked at Lab Testing MTS and was living in Rajendra Nagar on rent, was the other victim.

In the aftermath of the huge fire, it has become challenging for the forensic team to conduct the investigation, said officials.

"One more day would be needed for forensic teams to complete their procedure. As of now, we are awaiting the post-mortem results to take the investigation further," a senior police officer said.

Noida International Airport will now be opened for operations in November

Agency New Delhi.

The work at the Noida International Airport in Uttar Pradesh's Jawar — which has missed several deadlines since its foundation stone was laid in November 2021 — will be completed by November this year, Uttar Pradesh's Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi' said over the weekend. Addressing reporters after a review meeting with the officials of Yamuna Industrial Expressway Development Authority (YIEDA), Nandi said, "Jawar Airport, which was like a genie in the bottle, used to come out and later get inside the bottle during the SP and BSP government. The file was gathering dust. We have worked on it for eight years, and it will now be completely ready by November."

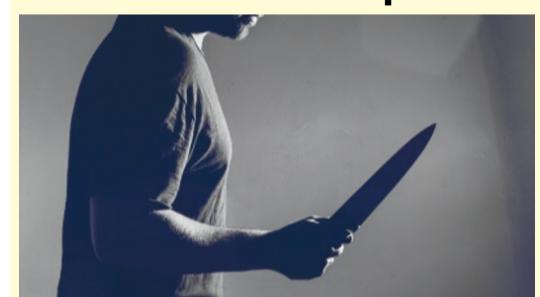
Nandi also said it will be recognised as the fourth-largest airport in the world and the largest airport in Asia.

The airport missed its first opening deadline on September 29, 2024, which was later pushed to April of this year. Following this, June 30 was announced as the new date for operations. "We have reviewed the progress of the airport and directed officials to fast-track all work," said 'Nandi', who was on a two-day visit to Noida, Greater Noida and YIEDA to review infrastructure projects.

The minister also said that under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, law and order in Uttar Pradesh is in place, which has led to a surge in MNC investment on a large scale in the state.

"This meeting was to review what facilities we can provide for their work and ensure there are no obstacles for them. Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the best destination for industrialisation. If Kashmir is the crown of India, then I can say that Noida is like the crown of Uttar Pradesh," said Gupta. The Noida International Airport in Jawar is being built in four phases with an investment of Rs. 29,650 crore. The first phase, costing Rs. 10,056 crore, is designed to cater to 12 million passengers annually, and will have one runway and one terminal building. The fourth phase, which is expected to become operational in 2040, will have the capacity to handle 70 million passengers annually making it the largest in Asia.

Teenager stabs 15-year-old kin to death after quarrel



Agency New Delhi.

A teenager has been apprehended for allegedly stabbing his 15-year-old relative to death with a piece of glass following a quarrel in east Delhi's Mandawali area, police said on Sunday. The accused, aged between 16 and 17 years, works as a rag picker.

Sharing the details, police said information regarding the medico-legal case (MLC) of a "brought dead" minor boy was received at Mandawali police station around 12.06 am on Sunday from LBS Hospital.

The body was preserved in the mortuary for post-mortem. Police said the alleged attacker had fled the scene after the incident. Initial investigation revealed that the deceased and the accused are related and belong to the same community. A dispute had broken out between them, during which the accused used a piece of broken glass to stab the victim.

"Later in the night, during routine patrolling, police detained a suspicious boy in Preet Vihar. During questioning, he confessed to having stabbed the victim during a quarrel. He was immediately taken into custody and handed over to Mandawali police station for further action," said a senior police officer. In the hospital's emergency ward, the deceased's elder sister, Shabana, told police that her brother was attacked with a sharp glass piece.

Delhi: Over 1,200 rolls of Chinese manjha seized, 3 arrested

Agency New Delhi.

Ahead of Independence Day and Raksha Bandhan, the Delhi Police has seized over 1,200 rolls of banned Chinese manjha in the past week and has arrested three men from different places in Delhi. The raids were part of an operation to curb the sale of the illegal thread, police said on Sunday.

Chinese manjha uses nylon threads which are sometimes coated with powdered glass. DCP (Crime) Sanjeev Kumar Yadav, said that this is a part of a preventive drive before Independence Day. He said Chinese manjha is dangerous to people, birds, and animals.

In the past month, two people have died in three separate incidents related to injuries caused by manjha have been reported. The first seizure was

conducted at Kamla Market on June 26; the second operation happened in Uttam Nagar on June 27. The third operation took place in Wazirabad on July 5. In total, 1,226 rolls of Chinese manjha were seized.



Police have registered three FIRs against the people involved.

In the first case, police arrested Raju Chaurasia, 51, from Uttam Nagar. He was running a godown-cum-shop and had 922 rolls of Chinese manjha.

"He previously operated a shop from the ground floor of his residence. He started selling banned Chinese manjha both offline and online due to high profit margins," DCP Yadav said.

In the second case, police arrested Areeb Khan, 22, from Daryaganj. He had 248 rolls of banned string and was caught near Kamla Market.

Earlier, Areeb worked at a clothing store but moved to kite-string selling for more profit, the police said.

In the third case, Danish Khan, 28, from Babanpuri, Uttar Pradesh, was arrested. Police caught him in Sangam Vihar, Wazirabad, with 56 rolls of manjha. He used to make kites but started selling manjha to earn more money.

All three men were booked under the Environment Protection Act and sections of the BNS. Police said that they are trying to find out the larger supply network behind this illegal trade.

Delhi belongs to all, not just one community or caste

Agency New Delhi.

Whom does Delhi belong to? It's a very difficult question to answer given the cultural, caste and community mosaic of the city ever since it was founded by the Tomar King Anang Pal almost 1500 years ago. He built the first city of Lal Kot, which was captured by the Chauhans in the mid-12th century and renamed it Qila Rai Pithora.

However the oldest archaeological relic found in the national Capital is of Mauryan period that is 1200 years further back in history. After the defeat of Prithviraj Chauhan at Battle of Tarain in 1192, came the Sultanate, then the Mughals, the British and finally independence. All through this period, irrespective of which community did the ruler belong to, Delhi's cultural life continued to be a mosaic described earlier.

Thus it is very surprising that Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta could



recommend renaming of Delhi Junction, popularly known as Old Delhi Railway station, after a Vaishya caste icon Maharaja Agrasen. According to newspaper reports she has written to Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw saying, "I am writing to respectfully request your kind consideration for renaming the Old Delhi Railway Station in honour of Maharaja Agrasen, a revered historical figure whose legacy has had a profound impact on the socio-economic development of India, particularly in Delhi." In the

chronology of kings and dynasties which ruled Delhi, Maharaja Agrasen doesn't figure. He is part of the legend and believed to belong to the lineage of Lord Ram of Ayodhya, his 34th generation descendant. He is said to have adopted the Vanika dharma (trading duties) and the Vaishya community draws its lineage from him. His descendants came with the name of the Agarwals divided into 18 gotras. Being the 'identity deity' of a prosperous and a powerful community, institutions in his name have come across the country and overseas too specially in the 20th and the 21st centuries. The only historical site of any consequence in his name is 'Agrasen Ki Baoli' on Hailey Road in Lutyens' Delhi. According to archaeological research and records, this step well was built in medieval times during either the Tughlaq or the Lodi period by a community of traders to commemorate the memory.

9-year-old Delhi boy is the talk of the chess world — after he nearly beat Magnus Carlsen

It was four years ago that Aarit Kapil's parents noticed his prodigious talent for the game. And there was no looking back. In December last year, he defeated Grandmaster Raset Ziatdinov. In February this year, he had gathered enough points to become a Candidate Master.

Agency New Delhi.

On the morning of June 24, sitting in a hotel room in Batumi, Georgia, Aarit Kapil made a decision that would have people talking for weeks to come.

The nine-year-old was in the country to compete in the prestigious FIDE World Cadets Cup, battling it out in the under-10 category. At 8 am that day, on a whim, he decided to log into chess.com and play their well-known Titled Tuesday online blitz event. Organised twice every Tuesday, this tournament is only open to players with FIDE titles (like Grandmaster (GM), International Master, Candidate Master, etc.) This particular Early Titled Tuesday had elite GMs like Hikaru Nakamura, Fabiano Caruana, former world champion Vladimir Kramnik — and Magnus Carlsen — competing in it.

Aarit's parents were on a phone call when he rushed out shouting, "Draw kar diya! (I got Magnus

to draw)".

It took his parents a few seconds to process his words before they erupted in celebration. For them, Aarit's near success against the formidable chess grandmaster was almost natural. In December last year, Aarit defeated Grandmaster Raset Ziatdinov. In February this year, he had gathered enough points to become a Candidate Master. "He doesn't get nervous when facing big players. He gets really excited," said Nisha Kapil, his mother, who often accompanies him to his tournaments.

Aarit, with his round Harry Potter-like glasses, smiled shyly beside her. "All I think about is that I need to beat them... I always keep looking out for mistakes they can make," he said softly, almost under his

breath. It was four years ago that Aarit's parents noticed his prodigious talent for the game. "I'm a casual player and used to be beating me at the game," he said. At first, his parents believed it to be a fluke and tried testing his abilities. "We would feel bad that he's beaten us," laughed Nisha, adding, "So we'd make the game tougher for him. We'd take away a few pieces, randomly reduce his points... and he still kept beating us at it. I think that's when we realised that he has a true talent for the game." Aarit was put into coaching with International Master (IM) Vishal Sareen. Within a week, his father said, Aarit had won an international tournament with a Rs 15,000 cash prize. "I was shocked. I mean, he was only five years old," Vijay said, laughing as if he still couldn't believe it. Over the years, Aarit's rise has been meteoric. His coaches, too, believe that the young boy prodigy has the makings of a future Grandmaster.

Recipe: Creamy vegetable dip

No house party is complete without serving a round of crackers and dip as the guests settle in. Here's how you can dish out the tasty, creamy vegetable dip.



4 mint leaves
1/4 cup grated cheese
Salt as per taste
How to make it:

- Tie homemade fresh curd in a soft, muslin cloth and squeeze all the water from it. - Do this routine twice so that all the water is drained out.

- Pour it in a bowl and whisk it to make a smooth paste. Add mayonnaise, grated cheese and mix well.

- Add the finely chopped bell peppers.

- Squeeze out all the water from grated cucumber and carrot before adding them to the mixture. Mix all the ingredients.

- Chop the mint leaves and add to the mixture.

- Add some salt and garnish with coriander.

- Refrigerate for an hour at least.

- Serve the dip along with cheese straws, crackers or even potato or banana chips.

Prep time: 15 minutes

What you need:

1/4 cup fresh hung curds
1 tablespoon eggless mayonnaise
Half a cup of finely chopped red bell peppers
Half a cup of finely chopped green bell peppers
Half a cup of grated cucumber
Half a cup of grated carrot



Restaurant Review: The Crown

Going up in the lift, my expectations grew by the minute, even though I knew what rooftop restaurants in Chennai look like. The name, The Crown, made me anticipate an eatery that would be regal.

Decor

Black pillars support the gold and white dome, from the middle of which hangs a beautiful chandelier. Large draped windows surround the inner section of The Crown. Its wood and marble flooring suggest high maintenance. The draped windows did not do the view much justice. We opted to sit outside and it turned out to be a good decision. The Crown's majestic alfresco setup with candles and live music had romantic appeal. We actually witnessed a marriage proposal happen at a table near us.

Food

I was at The Crown for their Punjabi food, made using recipes by chef Sweety Singh. We went the traditional way, beginning our meal with tikkas. The Patiala shahi paneer tikka was wonderful. All of it, veggies included, had a smoky feeling without the burnt taste that could happen to tikkas. I had a glass of red wine with

my Kapurthala Punjabi Chicken tikka and they went well



together. Of course, you get an enhanced buttery taste as the chicken pieces are drenched in butter, so one tikka goes a long way.

For my main course, I opted to go

with sarson da saag and makki ki roti. Somehow, the roti did not have the graininess I've grown to expect, but its smooth moist texture was good too. Pindi chana, another must have at any Punjabi restaurant, disappointed me as it was a little bland. Dessert, though, was a hit. I loved the creamy kulfis. It was not overly sweet and allowed the milky malai and nuts work on my taste buds. I left The Crown with a pleasant taste in my mouth.

Pluses and minuses:

Good food that could be great with a little more attention. Loved the live

band and the feeling of space both indoors and outdoors. If you like to stay cool, I suggest you dine inside, and be deprived of a

The Crown: 115, Rating: Sir Thyagaraya Road, T. Nagar, Chennai-600017

Meal For Two: 2,500

Timings: 6 pm-11pm

AC: Yes

Home Delivery: No

Veg/Non-Veg: Both

Parking: Yes

Credit Card: Yes

Liquor: Yes



Restaurant Review The Glass House

The Glass House is the all-day dining restaurant and coffee shop of Eastin Hotel Ahmedabad.

Decor

The Glass House is a spacious restaurant on the first floor of Eastin Hotel, with an alfresco corridor around it which offers pleasant seating for a meal or snack with a view of the lawns. The restaurant has a glassed-in kitchen alongside so guests can watch some of the cooking live while they eat. They also have a good-sized screen for those who want to watch some TV while they dine - it can be a good venue to watch late night football matches as the coffee shop is open 24 hours.

Food

The Glass House does not have a large menu but offers a good selection of Indian, Italian, East Asian and other cuisine. Start with the Thai corn and coriander soup (with or without chicken), which is full of herbs and spices, and signature starters like kadak murg tikka

(the classic chicken tikka but with a crunchy exterior) and congee baby corn and vegetables. They do an excellent paneer malai tiranga and also a good gilafi subz seekh. If you like basa fish, try the machli kali mirch or the South-East Asian style five spice chilli fish. They also offer assorted starter platter. For the main course, the harha gosht is excellent with tender mutton in mince meat (keema). The Lahori murgh korma is also pretty good. Among the vegetarian dishes, the paneer shimpla mirch and subz Jodhpuri are recommended. These go well with their breads like chilli milli paratha, til aur kalonji ki naan and masala missi. They have in-house specials from time to time, specially takes on Italian cuisine like the vegetable Siciliana which is a baked vegetarian dish using peppers in the sauce, and served with crispy garlic bread, and the chicken Milano which has the taste of fresh tomatoes, garlic and olives that are so much part of Milanese cuisine.

Plus and minus

The Glass House does fairly well in most of its dishes, covering Indian, Italian and South-East Asian cuisine. Considering this doubles as a coffee shop, they do not have many dessert options on the menu though the coffee is fairly good.

The Glass House: Eastin Hotel Ahmedabad, B-Ganesh Meridian, Opp. Gujarat High Court

Timing: 24 hours

Meal for two: 1,200

Rating:

Food: 3.50

Service: 3.50

Decor: 3.50



How to utilise citrus fruit peels



Citrus peels can be used in various ways at home. It not only saves you money, it also brings wonderful results.

Use lemon peel to bathe. It leaves your body and hair smelling fresh and clean.

Add any citrus peel to a pitcher of water and put in the refrigerator. It gives a soothing fragrance and mild flavour to water.

Add a slice of citrus peel to brown sugar to prevent it from going hard.

Use dried citrus peel to freshen up that smelly sock or underwear drawer. Place the peels inside a sachet first and it will create a beautiful scent. Place dried citron peel into closets and wardrobes to ward off the moths.

You can use orange or lemon peels to make your breath smell great. Chew the peel and you'll find it's a good substitute for mints and gum.



Recipe: Stuffed cobra rice roll

Rice rolls stuffed with corn flavored with cobra chilli in oil

Preparation time: 30 minutes

Cooking time: 25 minutes

Serves: 4

Ingredients: For stuffed cobra rice roll

1 tsp: Oil

1 nos. Naga Jholokia (Bhut Jholokia)

1 cup: Rice Flour

3/4 cup: Corn kernels

1/4 cup: Green tomatoes (finely chopped)

1 piece: Ginger (finely chopped)

1/2 tsp: Turmeric powder

1/2 tsp: Black pepper (crushed)

To taste: Salt

1 tsp: Lemon juice

For the chutney

1/2 cup: Raw papaya (julienned or thickly grated)

To taste: Salt 1/2 cup

Sugar 1 tsp

Oil 1/4 tsp

Cumin seeds 1/4 tsp

Coriander seeds 2 tsp



Coconut (grated)

For the smoothie

1 nos. Peach

4 tsp: Curd

1 tsp: Sugar

For garnish:

Melon seeds

Method:

-Heat 1 tsp oil and add Bhut Jolokia to it. When chilli splatters, remove from flame and keep aside.

-For the roll, mix rice flour with a pinch of salt and warm water to make a smooth dough. Keep aside.

-Mix corn kernels, green tomatoes, ginger,

turmeric powder, black pepper, salt, lemon juice and prepared chilli oil. Mix in 1 tsp of rice flour to help bind the mixture.

-Divide prepared dough into half. Flatten out one half into a rectangular shape, spread over with half the prepared stuffing and roll into a cylinder. Repeat procedure with remaining dough and stuffing.

-Boil water in a soup pot and add the cylinders. When cylinders start floating, remove, drain, pat dry and cut into slices.

-For the chutney, combine raw papaya with salt, 2 tsp water and sugar and cook till done. Heat oil and add in the cumin seeds and coriander seeds. When spices crackle, mix in coconut and cook till golden.

-For the smoothie, cut a peach into half and deseed carefully. Scoop out some flesh to form cups. Whip the scooped out peach with curd and sugar in a blender till smooth. Fill into prepared cups and garnish with melon seeds.

-To serve, spread chutney on a plate and arrange rice rolls on it. Serve alongside peach cups.

Lost Rs 18 lakh in 6 months: Financial advisor's warning on online betting

New Delhi. (Agency)

A financial advisor recently watched one of his clients lose Rs 18 lakh in just six months. Not to stocks, not to crypto, but to online betting. Abhishek Kumar, a Sebi-registered analyst and founder of SahajMoney, shared the story in a LinkedIn post. "One of my clients lost Rs 18 lakhs in 6 months," he wrote. "Not to stocks. Not to cryptos. To online betting." The client kept the losses hidden from his wife until the situation had already spiralled. "He had taken a personal loan, and was borrowing from friends," Kumar added. The rise of online betting apps, often disguised as harmless fantasy sports or casino-style games, has created a fast-growing but poorly understood problem in India's digital economy. Flashy interfaces, instant rewards, and near-constant notifications are all part of a design meant to keep users hooked. "Betting apps are designed like slot machines," Kumar noted. "Flashy. Addictive. Instant dopamine hits. And they're just one swipe away." According to him, the pattern is alarmingly familiar. It begins with a small, harmless-sounding amount—"Just Rs 500 for fun. You win once. You feel lucky. You chase the high." But soon, the behaviour escalates.

"These apps use casino psychology. Near wins. Fake bonuses. Constant notifications," he wrote, warning that even young professionals with comfortable salaries are getting drawn in. "I've seen it happen to young IT professionals making Rs 15 lakh a year." The financial consequences are often severe. "Loan apps, credit cards, even PF withdrawals," Kumar said. "People borrow to keep playing."

Beyond the money, the social and emotional toll is also significant. "It destroys families," he wrote. "One guy told me he started lying to his wife, skipping EMIs, and hiding transactions. The stress? Unbearable." While some Indian states have attempted to regulate online betting, national legislation is still missing. "The Supreme Court just asked the govt if it's time for a national law. I say: long overdue."

The Jane Street Saga: What it means to you

New Delhi. (Agency)

The 105-page interim order in the matter of index manipulation of Jane Street Group, a global proprietary trading firm, rocked the stock market last week. The Securities and Exchange Board of India, the stock market regulator, barred a group of four entities from trading in Indian markets and ordered the impounding of their profits. Sebi has accused the group of manipulating the prices of securities for profit. Derivatives, such as futures and options, derive their value from underlying securities, like stock indices or individual shares. Traders around the world buy in markets where prices are low and sell when prices are high. They do that within the cash or derivative market or across markets.

The purpose of trading in derivatives is to make short-term profits. With the help of technology, high-frequency traders can buy in one market and sell in another in microseconds. Now, you can do that between two different counter parties. The accusation in the case of Jane's Group concerns the use of the same entities belonging to the group, but registered in different geographic locations, for carrying out high-frequency trades. At the same time, shares in the cash market, such as those held by large banks with a high weight in the Bank Nifty, were bought and sold closer to the market close on multiple days. The allegation is that it was done to move the final settlement price in favour of Jane Group companies. While the reaction in the cash market was subdued, it was evident in a sharp decline in trading volume in the index and stock options segments on the National Stock Exchange last Friday. Those who are into day trading are likely to exercise caution. There are multiple opinions already on the issue. Some reports suggest that the Jane Group is not the only foreign trading firm in the Indian equity options market that comprises index-based options (such as Nifty and Bank Nifty) or stock options. There are other firms as well, and they may be hesitant to enter the Indian market. Brokers offering their opinions are cautious in their response to the Sebi order. Brokers generate a significant remuneration out of the day trading activity through brokerages and fees from you. They are unlikely to be happy about any decline in the trading volume in the Indian stock market.

India aims to double maize output by 2047; West Bengal, Bihar ahead in production: Minister

New Delhi. (Agency)

India can more than double its maize production to 86 million tonne by 2047 from the current 42.3 million tonne, Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said on Monday, calling for development of high-yielding seed varieties with higher starch content. Speaking at the 11th maize summit organised by industry body FICCI, Chouhan said the world's fifth-largest maize producer needs to boost productivity without using genetically modified seeds. "We don't use genetically modified seeds, but we can still raise the productivity levels," Chouhan said.

India's average maize productivity stands at 3.7 tonne per hectare, with some states like West Bengal and Bihar performing above the national average, but overall yields need to increase, he said. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) has developed 265 maize varieties, including 77 hybrids and 35 bio-fortified varieties, but more work is needed, according to the minister. "There is a need to increase starch level in maize. We need to increase it to 72 per cent from the current 65-70 per cent level so that maize can be used in better way," Chouhan said. India's maize production has grown from 10 million tonne in the 1990s to the current 42.3 million tonne. To boost production, states like Punjab and Haryana, which focus on paddy cultivation, should diversify to maize, the minister said.

BRICS Summit: Key takeaways for Indian business

India's leadership on reform, climate finance, and BRICS expansion enhances its global stature, potentially attracting further foreign investment.

Mumbai. (Agency)

CHENNAI: India emerged as a key architect of the BRICS agenda—driving local-currency trade, global governance reform, green investments, and digital regulation. These developments offer strong tailwinds for sectors spanning finance, infrastructure, technology, agriculture, and clean energy. With India set to assume BRICS Chairmanship in 2026, its businesses are well-positioned to capitalise on newfound opportunities. Following are some of the highlights from the Summit as far as such opportunities are concerned:

National Currencies

BRICS leaders, including India, endorsed increasing trade settlements in national

currencies, aiming to reduce reliance on the US dollar. While the idea of a common BRICS currency remains off the table, discussions around payment systems such as BRICS Pay and national-currency settlement frameworks are gaining momentum. A new BRICS Multilateral Guarantee (BMG) mechanism, backed by the New Development Bank (NDB), was unveiled to help mobilise private investment, particularly in infrastructure, climate-related, and sustainable projects. This is expected to lower financing costs and stimulate capital inflows into India. The NDB also reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening its regional presence, with existing projects in India and plans to expand its office in Gujarat. Indian infrastructure, climate, and manufacturing sectors are likely beneficiaries. India joined other BRICS members in renewing calls for reforming global institutions such as the IMF, World Bank, and UN Security Council to provide greater representation for emerging economies. This agenda closely aligns with India's longstanding diplomatic goals.

Climate and technology

India's green energy and agri-tech sectors

are expected to benefit from a collective push toward climate action and sustainable development. Member nations called on developed countries to finance the Global South's climate transition and expressed support for initiatives such as the Tropical Forests Forever Facility and the BRICS Grain Exchange. The summit also focused on digital regulation, including the need to address the unauthorized use of artificial intelligence and to strengthen data protection rights. These discussions are particularly relevant for India's fast-growing digital and AI industries. Enhanced frameworks for e-commerce and data privacy are likely to support continued growth in the domestic tech sector. India also advocated dismantling export restrictions among BRICS countries to promote more seamless trade and supply chains.

This complements India's broader push for deeper South-South economic collaboration. A bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping led to agreements on de-escalation along the Line of Actual Control and the resumption of border patrols. This

development may help restore investor confidence, particularly in India's electronics and manufacturing sectors, which have been affected by geopolitical tensions. The BRICS joint statement also included a firm condemnation of terrorism and a call for enhanced intelligence-sharing. India, facing persistent cross-border threats, stands to benefit from stronger security cooperation within the bloc.

Impacts

The new guarantee fund and the shift toward local-currency trade could reduce borrowing costs and mitigate currency risks for Indian exporters and infrastructure developers. Initiatives like the grain exchange, forest protection funding, and clean economy programs will likely boost India's agri-tech and clean-tech industries.

With AI governance and data protection now part of the BRICS agenda, Indian tech firms gain greater clarity on regulatory direction, which should support their expansion across software, AI, and e-commerce markets. Improved India-China ties may ease supply-chain constraints and open the door to more stable cross-border collaboration.

Sensex opens 100 points lower, Nifty below 25,500; HUL up 2%

New Delhi. (Agency)

Benchmark stock market indices opened lower on Monday, tracking global developments as investor sentiment remained cautious following the latest announcements by US President Donald Trump over trade tariffs. The S&P BSE Sensex was down by 65.28 points to 83,367.61, while the NSE Nifty50 lost 16.45 points to 25,444.55 as of 9:50 am. Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Limited, said that concerns surrounding a US-India trade deal and the fallout of Sebi's report on Jane Street will be influencing market movements today. There are reports of a possible interim trade deal between US and India before the July 9th tariff deadline. If that happens, that would be a positive," he added. Hindustan Unilever topped the gainers with a 1.69% jump, followed by Asian Paints up 0.83%. NTPC rose 0.67%, Bajaj Finserv gained 0.65%, and Reliance climbed 0.57%. Bharat Electronics fell the most at 2.20%, followed by Eicher Motors down 1.32%. Tech Mahindra dropped 1.14%.



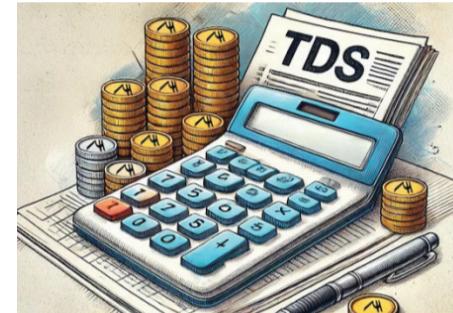
Maruti Suzuki declined 0.90%, and HCL Technologies slipped 0.87%. Nifty Midcap100 fell 0.26%, Nifty Smallcap dropped 0.28%, while India VIX surged 2.03%, showing increased market volatility. Only a few sectors posted gains at the opening. Nifty FMCG led with a 0.90% rise, followed by Nifty Oil & Gas up 0.23%, Nifty Consumer Durables gaining 0.17%, and Nifty PSU Bank climbing 0.05%. Most sectors opened in the red. Nifty Media dropped the most at 1.23%, followed by Nifty Pharma down 0.48%, Nifty Metal falling 0.47%, Nifty Healthcare declining 0.47%, Nifty IT slipping 0.38%, Nifty Private Bank down 0.25%, Nifty Auto falling 0.23%, Nifty Financial Services declining 0.11%, and Nifty Realty dropping 0.05%.

"The regulatory action on Jane Street and its implications will be closely watched by the market. The volume of derivative trading is likely to take a hit impacting stock exchanges and some brokerages. This has implications for their stock prices, too," said Vijayakumar.

House rent above Rs 50,000 Here's the TDS rule you need to know

New Delhi. (Agency)

If you're paying more than Rs 50,000 a month in rent, there's a tax compliance rule that's easy to miss, but costly to ignore. Under Section 194-IB of the Income Tax Act, even salaried individuals are required to deduct tax at source (TDS) before paying rent and deposit it with the government. This rule is often misunderstood as applicable only to businesses or those under tax audit. But it also covers individuals, including salaried tenants. Anyone paying rent above the Rs 50,000 threshold in a financial year must deduct 2% TDS and file the necessary forms. The deduction must be made once during the year—either in March or the final month of the tenancy, whichever comes earlier. The tenant is then required to file Form 26QC and provide Form 16C to the landlord. Non-compliance can trigger serious consequences. According to TaxBuddy.com, a tax compliance



platform, one salaried individual named Abhishek paid Rs 55,000 per month in rent but failed to deduct TDS. As a result, he was issued a penalty of Rs 1,00,000 by the income tax department. "Abhishek, a salaried person, was asked to pay a penalty of Rs 1,00,000 by income tax. His mistake? He paid Rs 55,000/month in rent but didn't deduct TDS. Even salaried people need to deduct TDS at times," TaxBuddy.com stated in a

LinkedIn post. Another case, also highlighted by the platform, involved Rohan, a salaried employee who had been paying Rs 60,000 in rent since April 2022. He failed to deduct and deposit TDS for two consecutive financial years. When he finally complied in April 2025, he ended up paying Rs 37,000 in late fees and interest—more than the TDS amount itself. TDS obligations are often overlooked in personal financial planning. Yet failure to comply can lead to a late fee of Rs 200 per day under Section 234E, capped at the amount of TDS due. Interest accrues at 1% per month for failure to deduct and 1.5% for failure to deposit, under Section 201(1A). Penalties between Rs 10,000 and Rs 1,00,000 can be levied under Section 271H, and prosecution is also possible under Section 276B, carrying a jail term of three months to seven years.

Borosil Renewables gains 4.3% after German subsidiary files for insolvency

CHENNAI. (Agency)

Shares of Borosil Renewables Ltd., jumped 4.30% to Rs 518.50 a unit on Monday (July 7) at 10.56 AM, following the announcement that its German subsidiary, GMB Glasmanufaktur Brandenburg GmbH, has filed for insolvency in a German court. The move follows months of operational challenges. GMB had cooled down its furnaces in January 2025 due to poor demand and deteriorating market conditions across the European Union. A key reason cited for the slump was Chinese manufacturers dumping solar panels and solar glass at cheaper prices, significantly impacting demand for German-made products. Despite efforts to seek assistance from authorities, no measures were introduced, forcing GMB to seek legal insolvency protection.

Impact on Borosil Renewables

Borosil Renewables' total exposure to its German unit and step-down subsidiaries stands at approximately 2340-350 crore. The company had been incurring a monthly cash loss of around 99 crore due to the underperforming German operations. With the insolvency proceedings now initiated, these monthly losses will cease, which is expected to offer immediate financial relief to the parent company.

Strategic refocus on Indian operations

The company is now shifting its strategic focus to its Indian operations, where demand for solar glass remains robust.

Borosil Renewables is investing heavily in its domestic manufacturing capacities, including a proposed 7675-700 crore expansion project in Bharuch, Gujarat. The company plans to scale up capacity to meet the anticipated surge in domestic solar module production, which is projected

to grow significantly in the next two years. Favorable policy measures, such as import duties on Chinese solar glass and government support for local solar manufacturing, are expected to benefit Borosil's India-centric strategy.

Stock and investor outlook

While the market may initially react cautiously to the news of insolvency, analysts view this move as a positive development in the long term. By cutting losses and reallocating resources to growth-ready segments in India, Borosil Renewables is expected to emerge financially stronger and more competitive. The company's decision to exit its struggling German unit marks a strategic pivot toward India's fast-growing solar market. This development, while operationally significant, may prove financially beneficial in the long run, as the company doubles down on markets with stronger demand.

Sebi to intensify watch on derivatives trading after Jane Street episode

India is currently the world's largest equity derivatives market. According to the Futures Industry Association, it accounted for nearly 60% of the derivatives contracts traded globally in April.

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has decided to step up its monitoring of derivatives trading after its recent action against global trading firm Jane Street, reported news agency Reuters. The move comes as part of efforts to tighten oversight and prevent manipulation in one of the fastest-growing areas of India's financial markets. Speaking on Monday, Sebi Chairman Tuhin Kanta Pandey said the

regulator is increasing its surveillance in the derivatives space. While he did not go into specific details, he hinted that cases like the one involving Jane Street may not be widespread. "There may not be many more such cases," he said as quoted by Reuters.

INDIA'S DERIVATIVES MARKET UNDER THE LENS

India is currently the world's largest equity derivatives market. According to the Futures Industry Association, it accounted for nearly 60% of the 7.3 billion equity derivatives contracts traded globally in April. This explosive growth has been fuelled not only by institutional activity but also a sharp rise in participation from retail investors. The rising interest in derivatives trading has already prompted Sebi to introduce a series of checks. The regulator has reduced the number of expiry dates available for certain contracts and increased lot sizes. These measures are aimed at making derivatives trading more expensive and reducing speculative activity. However, the recent incident involving Jane Street has raised concerns that even with these

curbs, there may still be gaps in the system that allow large players to influence market prices unfairly.

THE JANE STREET CASE

On Friday, Sebi barred Jane Street from buying or selling securities in Indian markets. The action followed a detailed investigation into alleged manipulation of stock indexes. Sebi also ordered the seizure of Rs 4,840 crore (approximately \$567 million), which it said represented illegal gains from these activities. In its 105-page order, Sebi accused Jane Street of manipulating the Bank Nifty

index. According to the regulator, the firm bought large quantities of Bank Nifty stocks in both the cash and futures markets in the morning, pushing the index higher artificially. At the same time, it had built significant short positions in index options. Later in the day, the firm reversed its trades in the cash market, leading to a drop in the index and profits from the earlier short positions. This strategy, according to Sebi, was a clear example of index manipulation aimed at benefiting from planned price movements in options trading.

BROADER INVESTIGATION PLANNED

A person familiar with the matter told Reuters that Sebi plans to widen its probe into Jane Street's trading activity. The investigation will now look at trades across different exchanges and possibly other indices beyond the Bank Nifty. The regulator's decision to expand its inquiry signals that Sebi is taking the issue seriously and may not stop at Jane Street.



Priyanka Chopra

Once Tricked Her Mom-In-Law Into Doing Her Laundry: 'I Find It Tough'

Actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas, who has been receiving a lot of positive response to her work in the recently released film 'Heads of State', has a least favorite household task just like everyone else. The actress has shared that she once tricked her mother-in-law into doing the task, reports 'People' magazine.

She said, "Laundry is a hard chore for me. I find it tough. I'll always try to get someone else to do it". She recalled how she made Denise Miller-Jonas, mother of her husband Nick Jonas do the chore.



She told 'People', "I can steam an iron, I can fold. But just getting through the process of laundry is just really tough. Too many buttons, too many choices, too many little things. ... My mother-in-law tried to teach me once, but that was just my way of getting her to do my laundry for me".

Chopra Jonas adds with a laugh that she plans to give her mother-in-law a heads-up that she disclosed that story. She added, "I'm going to call her right now and tell her I said this. 'Just want you to know'".

As per 'People', since marrying Miller-Jonas' son in 2018, the actress has been close with her mother-in-law, sharing occasional photos of family outings with 3-year-old daughter Malti Marie on social media.

The Quantico star once revealed that Nick, 32, and his family tuned into the 2000 Miss World pageant she had won. "My mother-in-law was like, 'I remember watching you when you won'", she said on 'The Jennifer Hudson Show' in 2023.

"He was 7, I was 17. And he was sitting there, and he was watching". The actress stars in Ilya Naishuller-directed 'Heads of State' with John Cena as the U.S. president and Idris Elba as the U.K. prime minister. The action-comedy is streaming now on Prime Video. Among Chopra Jonas' other upcoming screen projects are 'The Bluff' starring Karl Urban and 'Judgment Day' in which she shares the screen with Zac Efron and Will Ferrell.



Nora Fatehi

Seen Crying At The Airport, Rushes To Avoid Paps



Nora Fatehi was seen holding back tears as she made her way to the airport on Sunday. A video from Mumbai airport shows the actor-dancer wiping her eyes and quickly heading inside, avoiding a fan who tried to take a selfie with her. Nora Fatehi was dressed in all-black while entering the Mumbai airport. Usually, she stops for a quick chat with paps before boarding the flight. On Sunday evening, the Kusu Kusu dancer headed

was right behind her, held the boy by the shoulder and pushed him away, probably owing to Nora's situation.

While we aren't sure what led to Nora's breakdown, earlier today, she posted a prayer written in Urdu on her Instagram stories, usually recited when someone passes away. Here is the story:

All you need to know about Nora Fatehi

Nora Fatehi was raised in Toronto by her Moroccan parents. She made her foray in Bollywood with Roar: Tigers of the Sundarbans (2014), and became a household name thanks to her stunning dance performances in hit tracks like Dilbar, O Saki Saki, Kamariya, and Garbi across Hindi, Telugu, and Malayalam films. A self-taught dancer who learned belly dance by watching online tutorials, she's also appeared on reality shows like Bigg Boss 9 and Jhalak Dikhhla Jaa. On the work front, Nora Fatehi was last seen in Netflix's series The Royals, sharing screen space with Ishaan Khatter, Bhumi Pednekar, Sakshi Tanwar, Chunky Pandey, and Zeenat Aman. Up next, she is set to appear in the Kannada action drama KD - The Devil, directed by Prem and produced by Supriya under the KVN Productions banner. The film also features Dhruba Sarja, Reeshma Nanaiah, V. Ravichandran, Ramesh Aravind, Sanjay Dutt, Shilpa Shetty, and Jisshu Sengupta in pivotal roles. The makers are yet to announce its release date.

straight to the airport gate, avoiding a conversation. Though she was wearing sunglasses to hide her eyes, one could see her breaking down while entering the airport. Fans expressed their concern in the comments. While she was entering the airport, a fan spotted her and attempted to click a picture with her. Her bodyguard, who



Anusha Mani On Breaking Labels & Playing Herself In Hai Junoon: 'It's Never Too Late To Reinvent'



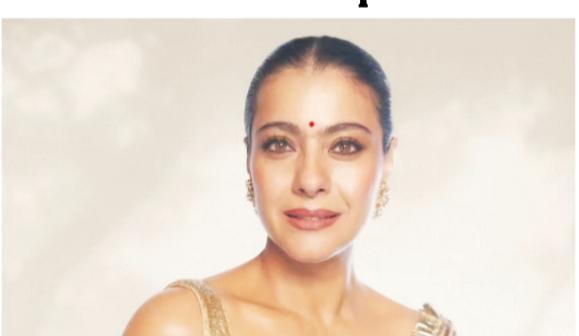
Anusha Mani is no stranger to reinvention. For over a decade, she has mesmerized audiences across Bollywood, Kollywood, and Tollywood with her unmistakable voice—a voice that can flit effortlessly between the playful rebellion of Gulaab, the raw intimacy of Dev D, and the massy exuberance of Chennai Express. But to call her just a singer would be reductive. Anusha is a storyteller, a seeker, and now—an actor who dares to embrace a whole new language of expression. Discovered by Shankar Mahadevan, her big break with Johnny Gaddar was more than just a launch—it was the beginning of a rich, multilayered artistic journey. Since then, her voice has soundtracked everything from adrenaline-fueled action to tender heartbreak, and yet, each performance has carried an emotional fingerprint uniquely her own.

Today, with Hai Junoon, Anusha steps into the world of acting—not as a celebrity cameo, but as an earnest, wide-eyed debutant. It's a brave move, especially in an industry where being "versatile" often comes with invisible boundaries. But Anusha isn't chasing labels or applause. She's chasing truth—whether it's through a perfectly modulated note or an unguarded moment on screen.

What makes her story compelling isn't just her accolades or discography—it's the grace with which she evolves. Whether she's navigating the cultural nuance of a Tamil melody, writing her own lyrics, or crying on cue in front of a camera, Anusha carries a rare mix of humility and boldness. She doesn't pretend to have all the answers. What she has, instead, is an unshakable sense of self—and an openness to growth that many artists never allow themselves.

In this candid and vulnerable conversation with News18 Showsha, Anusha reflects on her transition to acting, her early days with Shankar Mahadevan, the beauty and brutality of vulnerability, and what it means to sing—and live—with authenticity. She opens up about the emotional difference between a recording studio and a film set, the art of listening deeply, and why Savera defines her far more than any playback hit ever could.

Kajol Reacts To 30-Year Age Gap Between Male And Female Actors: 'It Has Been Acceptable...'



Kajol said that there's not a single male actor in the film industry who hasn't worked with an actress much younger than him.

Kajol recently discussed the significant age gap between male and female actors in films. She said that older male actors have often been paired with actresses almost 30 years younger than them, and this practice continues largely because it has gone unchallenged for decades. Kajol talked about the commercial nature of the industry, and said that eventually filmmaking is a business, and people only make what they think will sell.

Kajol On Age Gap Between Male And Female Actors

In an interview with The Lallatop, Kajol was asked about the huge age difference commonly seen between male and female actors in movies. She mentioned that this kind of discrimination has been accepted for a long time, and said that Rajinikanth and many other heroes have worked with actresses 30 years younger to them. "I feel this kind of discrimination has been acceptable for so long. Take Rajni sir, for example, or any of the heroes—there isn't a single actor who hasn't worked with heroines 30 years younger than them, even when they're in their 40s or older. It's just been happening for so long that no one has really questioned it. No one has asked: why is this happening? Should this still be happening? What message are we sending out?" she said.

Kajol added that filmmakers prioritize creating a setup they believe audiences will like, which means choosing actors who are considered "marketable" or likely to attract viewers. She reiterated that filmmaking is a business driven by what the makers think will work, even if it means casting older male actors opposite much younger actresses. "I don't think anybody is thinking that much. What we are thinking about is ki hum picture banana chahte hain. What will make a good setup, we need the correct, saleable people to go with it. I keep coming back to it—filmmaking is a business. Aap wahi banaoge jo aapko lagta hai bikega. (You will make only what you think will sell)."

NEWS BOX

ICC appoints Sanjog Gupta as Chief Executive Officer**New Delhi. (Agency)**

The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Monday announced the appointment of Sanjog Gupta as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Gupta will officially assume charge on July 7, 2025, becoming the seventh person to hold the post.

A veteran of India's sports and media ecosystem, Gupta currently serves as CEO of Sports & Live Experiences at JioStar. With over two decades of experience across content, strategy, and operations, he has been widely credited with shaping the modern sports broadcast landscape in India. ICC Chairman Jay Shah welcomed Gupta's appointment, calling him a visionary leader whose expertise would prove vital in the organisation's next phase of growth. "Sanjog brings extensive experience in sports strategy and commercialisation, which will be invaluable for the ICC," Shah said. "His deep understanding of global sports, media and entertainment, along with his passion for technology and the cricket fan's perspective,



will be essential as we seek to expand cricket's reach—especially with Olympic inclusion on the horizon."

Gupta was appointed following a rigorous global recruitment process that attracted more than 2,500 applicants from 25 countries. After multiple rounds of shortlisting, the ICC's Nominations Committee, comprising Imran Khwaja, Richard Thompson, Shammi Silva, and Devajit Saikia, unanimously recommended Gupta. The decision was later ratified by the full ICC Board. In his first remarks after being named CEO-designate, Gupta described his new role as a "privilege" and emphasised his commitment to taking cricket to new frontiers. "These are exciting times for the sport as marquee events grow in stature, commercial avenues widen, and opportunities such as the women's game scale in popularity," Gupta said. "Cricket's inclusion in the LA28 Olympics and rapid technological advances present game-changing possibilities. I look forward to working closely with ICC Member Boards to expand cricket's global footprint and enhance fan experience."

Akash Deep flattens England to break 'Edgbaston jinx' as India level Test series 1-1**New Delhi. (Agency)**

Indian pacer Akash Deep claimed his maiden five-wicket haul and first ten-wicket match as India thrashed England by 336 runs to level the series in the second Test at Edgbaston on Sunday. Set a daunting target of 608, England were bowled out for 271, with 28-year-old Akash taking 6 for 99 in the second innings to hand Shubman Gill his maiden win as Indian captain. If Gill, with his magnificent batting (269 and 161) set it up, Akash deserves equal credit for his lion-hearted effort on a track which was primarily a bowler's graveyard. The rain delayed the start of the day by an hour and 40 minutes, reducing the day's quota of overs to 80 with England resuming their second innings at 72 for three chasing a near impossible 608. If Mohammed Siraj (7 wickets and catches)



bowled like the leader of the attack in the first innings, Akash Deep built on his first innings gains to strike twice with new ball early on day five. Once not having enough opportunities in a non-descript town in Bihar, the journey hasn't been a bed of roses for the son of a government school teacher, who would survive on pocket money earned by playing tennis ball cricket before scouts in Bengal saw his potential and fast tracked him into the age-group system seven years back. He played his debut first-class game for Bengal during Christmas in 2019.

In less than six years, his sharp inners from length that fooled Joe Root, Ben Duckett, Ollie Pope and Harry Brook didn't let his skipper miss the peerless Bumrah. Akash came into the tour knowing that his sister is suffering from cancer and he felt that everytime, he sprinted towards the pitch, the visions of his ailing sister crossed his mind. For England, Jamie Smith (88) fought a lonely battle before being dismissed by a slow bouncer from Akash, giving the medium pacer his first five-wicket haul in Test cricket. Fittingly, Akash got the final wicket of the game to complete a match haul of 10/187.

F1: Oscar Piastri brake-checks himself out of victory in British Grand Prix

- **Lando Norris wins at Silverstone after teammate Oscar Piastri's penalty**
- **The race had heavy rain, multiple crashes, and 5 DNFs**
- **Hulkenberg scored Sauber's first podium of the season**

New Delhi. (Agency)

The 2025 British Grand Prix turned out to be one of the most unpredictable races of the season, with five retirements, changing weather, and a flurry of safety cars. It also marked the first time in 11 years that Lewis Hamilton missed the podium at Silverstone. Oscar Piastri, who looked like the top contender to win the British GP, brake-checked himself out of the top spot after receiving a 10-second penalty for trying to be too cheeky behind the safety car. Piastri was penalised on lap 21 of the race for 'erratic braking' after he nearly caused a collision with Max Verstappen, who was trailing him behind the safety car. The brake-check completely ruined Verstappen's race. He was

unable to manage his Red Bull on a simple turn and ended up spinning on the track after losing grip on his rear tyres. Verstappen dropped to 14th place but fought back to finish in 5th. The race began with stiff competition between Oscar Piastri and Max Verstappen. Piastri, who had the better car among the two, tried to overtake Verstappen in the very first lap but to no avail.

There was drama at the back as Liam Lawson collided with Esteban Ocon, resulting in the first DNF of the race and an early yellow flag.

The subsequent laps saw multiple safety cars, both on-ground and virtual, after several cars slipped off the track due to the wet conditions. Racing resumed briefly between laps 4-8, when Piastri managed to pass Verstappen for the lead. A heated on-track battle also unfolded between Kimi Anttonelli and other midfield runners, with Anttonelli left unscathed for the time being.

Rain took over the scene from lap 11, which meant that the McLarens turned out to be the superior cars of the lot, gaining a massive

time advantage over the rest of the field. The conditions became trickier as on-and-off rain made it difficult for race engineers to decide whether to run the cars on intermediates or slicks.

On lap 14, Ferrari's Charles Leclerc ran off the



track completely and slid across the grass. He was able to save the car from hitting the wall, only because there was ample runoff area on the track. Another safety car during this time allowed Oscar Piastri to dive into the pits and serve his 10-second penalty. During the

caution period, Russell called for the race to be red-flagged, but the FIA chose not to halt proceedings. The safety car ended on lap 17, with Piastri still in the lead. Lap 18 saw chaos at the restart, with Russell overtaking Hamilton, only to lose the spot moments later. Racing Bull's driver Isack Hadjar collided with Antonelli due to low visibility, forcing Hadjar to retire. Antonelli lost his rear diffuser in the collision, which eventually forced him to retire from the race. In the final stages, Russell, Hamilton, and Verstappen climbed back into the top 10. Hamilton eventually finished 4th, Verstappen settled for 5th, and Russell dropped to 9th after a late spin.

Norris moved into the lead after Piastri served his penalty. Hulkenberg overtook Stroll to claim his first-ever podium in F1, and Aston Martin finally had both their drivers score points. The race ended with McLaren celebrating another strong weekend, while Ferrari and Mercedes struggled with tyre strategy, leaving at least one driver from each team out of the points.

Magnus Carlsen wins Grand Chess Tour Zagreb: My B-game is enough**New Delhi. (Agency)**

World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen reacted to his SuperUnited Rapid and Blitz win in Croatia on Sunday, July 6. After the final standings of the tournament were made official, Carlsen said on social media that his "B-game was enough" on days when others did not do something exceptional. Magnus, who lost the Rapid title in the competition to India's D. Gukesh, came back strongly in the Blitz section of the tournament, helping him win the combined title. He took a dig at his critics with a meme before deleting the post. "When nobody else has a great performance, my B-game is usually enough. Always striving for more though!" Magnus tweeted out for the second time after his win. Carlsen had earlier complained about not enjoying his chess during the Rapid round. Even after his win in Zagreb, Magnus sounded unconvinced, stating that it did not feel like he had won. "It doesn't feel like I've won, really. It feels like I just came here, played alright, and nobody really did anything special in the end, and then I usually end up winning!" Magnus told Take Take Take app in an interview. After his poor outing in Rapid, the Blitz portion brought a complete reversal of fortunes.

**Shubman Gill 2.0: How Edgbaston Test marked the rise of a potential India great**

- **Shubman Gill won his maiden Test as captain in Birmingham**
- **The Indian captain scored 430 runs in the 2nd Test at Edgbaston**
- **Gill is currently the top run-scorer in the 5-match Test series**

New Delhi. (Agency)

After Rohit Sharma retired from Test cricket, Indian cricket faced the colossal task of selecting a new captain. Jasprit Bumrah opted out of the captaincy race, prompting India to make a bold decision by naming Shubman Gill as the new skipper. The move raised eyebrows, especially with a challenging tour of England on the horizon. Test captaincy brings a unique kind of pressure, and poor results often invite intense scrutiny. Gill was under pressure to



prove himself—particularly because his record in SENA countries (South Africa, England, New Zealand, and Australia) had been underwhelming. In 11 Tests, Gill averaged just 25.70, scoring only 514 runs with a lone half-century. Neither experience nor past performance seemed to support his case. But after the first two Tests, Gill has silenced many of his critics—at least for now. The tentative version of Gill appears to be gone, replaced by a confident and composed leader.

SHUBMAN GILL RISES ABOVE ODDS

India suffered a five-wicket loss in the Leeds Test after their bowlers—barring Jasprit

Bumrah—failed to meet expectations. Yet, despite the defeat, the match offered a glimpse of what was to come from Shubman Gill. His composed 147-run knock stood out, signaling his readiness to take responsibility. He seemed to come out of his shell, allowing his bat to do the talking. The Edgbaston Test, however, truly showcased the bright future of Indian cricket under Gill's leadership. Not only did India break the Birmingham curse with a historic 336-run win, but it also brought out the best in Gill—both as a captain and a batter. Records that once seemed untouchable were rewritten. Gill alone amassed a staggering 430 runs in the match, dismantling the English attack with ease and earning widespread praise from the cricketing fraternity. Jonathan Trott, a former England cricketer, even called him a "carbon copy of Virat Kohli," such was his dominance and flair. Looking ahead, this match will be remembered as the moment Gill's captaincy truly took flight. It was under his leadership that India became the first Asian team in 63 years to win a Test in Birmingham. And it was Gill who inspired the turnaround after the heavy Headingly defeat.

Selfish Norris, Piastri slammed for ignoring Nico Hulkenberg on British GP podium**New Delhi. (Agency)**

37-year-old Nico Hulkenberg secured his first ever podium in Formula 1 on Sunday, July 6 at the British Grand Prix. However, this feel-good story ended up having a controversial finish after the Sauber driver was ignored by McLaren duo Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri during the celebrations.

Hulkenberg finished the race in third position, beating stalwarts like Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen to clinch his first ever podium in 239 races. Hulkenberg has been driving at the top level for 15 years, and finally managed to shrug off the unwanted record of the most race starts without ever standing on the podium. While the entire F1 world celebrated Hulkenberg's achievement, McLaren drivers decided to celebrate their 1-2 finish at the British Grand Prix with their race engineers, failing to



acknowledge Hulkenberg, who was also on the podium. The duo got slammed on social media for their selfish behaviour, with fans stating that the vibe of the celebration was off. An ecstatic Hulkenberg, however, did not care as he was showered with love by the likes of Mercedes and Aston Martin, who hand-delivered special bottles of champagne to the racer.

"I don't think I can comprehend what we've just done," he said over the team radio after taking third place. Hulkenberg did it in fairytale fashion. He started last on the grid, in 19th place, with Alpine's Franco Colapinto lining up in the pitlane, for Swiss-based Sauber. Thanks to clever strategy and pitting at absolutely the right time, Hulkenberg took Sauber to their first podium in 13 years and also became the team's all-time lowest-starting top-three finisher. "It feels good. It's been a long time coming, hasn't it?" said Hulkenberg, rather stating the obvious, after tumultuous pitlane celebrations. "I always knew we have it in us. I had it in me somewhere... it's pretty surreal, to be honest. Not sure how it all happened, but obviously crazy conditions, mixed conditions. It was a survival fight for a lot of the race."

In stark contrast, Carlsen unleashed what he later called a "decisive" run, scoring 7.5/9 on the opening Blitz day to erase Gukesh's lead and seize control of the leaderboard. "I felt that I struggled most of the event. Partly because it was a very strong field this year. There weren't a lot of weaker players at all. It wasn't obvious who was going to score poorly and who was going to score well against the others. It felt like, especially in Rapid, chances were kind of hard to come by. I had one good day yesterday (the first day of the Blitz section on Saturday).

Sam Konstas is good enough: Pat Cummins backs Australia opener to bounce back

- **Pat Cummins has backed the young opener Sam Konstas in Tests**
- **Konstas scored 60 on debut but struggled in subsequent innings**
- **Australia lead West Indies 2-0 in ongoing 3-match Test series**

New Delhi. (Agency)

Australian captain Pat Cummins took time out to publicly back young opener Sam Konstas, reinforcing the leadership group's faith in the rising talent despite a modest start to his Test career. Sam Konstas made an impressive Test debut against India, scoring 60 off 65 balls in his first innings. Since then, the 19-year-old has struggled for consistency, with scores of 8, 23, 22, 3, 5, 25, and 0 in his next seven innings. In the ongoing three-match Test series in the West Indies, Konstas has scored just 33 runs in four innings, averaging 8.25. Konstas has yet to cross the 50-run mark in his first two Tests, even as Australia surged to a commanding 133-run victory in the second match to seal a 2-0 lead in the three-match series against the West Indies. The 20-year-old showed glimpses of promise during his early outings in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy but hasn't quite lit up the scoreboard in this series. However, Cummins' post-match remarks made one thing clear: the



dressing room is standing firmly behind the young batter. "Look, he's been good," Cummins said when asked about Konstas' performances. "I think for anyone who's starting out their Test career, you are kind of picked for a reason we know he's good enough."

It was a clear message from the skipper - selection for the Batty Green is no fluke, and

success in international cricket requires patience, both from the player and those around him. Cummins, who endured a rocky start to his own Test journey due to injuries, empathised with the mental challenges of trying to prove yourself at the highest level.

"For someone like a batter, it might be, where are your scoring areas, what tempo do you normally operate at your best - and don't get too caught up in every innings feeling like the biggest thing in the world," he said.

In the high-pressure environment of Test cricket - especially in the social media age - Cummins' grounded perspective serves as timely reassurance for Konstas and other newcomers still finding their feet. The Australian captain also reminded everyone that even the greats go through lean patches: "Even the best batters in the world don't hit their average three out of four times."