

## PM Modi's Name On List Of Speakers At UN General Assembly Session: Report

► The 80th session of the UNGA will open on September 9.

**United Nations. (Agency)**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address the annual high-level session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in September, according to a provisional list of speakers issued by the UN here.

► Prime Minister Narendra Modi is likely to address the UNGA high-level session on 26 September

► The 80th UNGA session opens on 9 September, with the General Debate from 23 to 29 September

► US President Donald Trump will speak first on 23 September in his second term at the

The 80th session of the UNGA will open on September 9. The high-level General Debate will run from September 23-29, with Brazil as the traditional first speaker

## Tricolour Will Forever Symbolise India's Courage, Unity, and Dreams: CM Rekha Gupta

The Sikh Times  
Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi. 13 August 2025

The Chief Minister of Delhi, Mrs Rekha Gupta, delivered an inspiring address at the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' musical concert held at Bharat Mandapam, celebrating the indomitable spirit of patriotism and national unity. The event witnessed an overwhelming turnout, with hundreds of Delhi residents joining in the celebration of the nation's pride.

"If I were to sum up my feelings for freedom in a few words, I would say, Body dedicated, mind dedicated, and this life dedicated," said the Chief Minister, urging every citizen to contribute selflessly to the nation's progress. She called upon all Indians to not only speak of their rights but also fulfil their duties, emphasising

that loyalty, sacrifice, and service to the nation are the highest honours one can achieve. Mrs Rekha Gupta led the gathering in pledging that the honour of the Tricolour will never bow, and that its saffron courage, white peace, and green prosperity will forever inspire the hearts of all Indians. Reflecting on the historic moment of 15 August 1947, she described the Tricolour as both a witness to the sacrifices of the freedom fighters and a promise for India's future. Quoting the immortal line, "The desire for martyrdom still resides in our hearts", she affirmed that the same spirit lives on today through the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign and the Bharat



heart in attendance. She remarked that the true strength of the Tricolour lies not in its threads, but in the spirit it represents one that unites the nation and instils the courage to

Mandapam concert. Welcoming renowned singer Shaan to the stage, the Chief Minister said his patriotic performances would unite every

overcome every challenge. From the freedom struggle to securing our borders, from achievements in science to triumphs in sport, Mrs Rekha Gupta said the Tricolour has remained a constant symbol of India's courage and unity. Saluting the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, she credited his unwavering resolve and visionary approach for inspiring unprecedented enthusiasm and unity during this year's Independence Day celebrations.

"The Prime Minister has risen above politics to unite the nation in one spirit, while firmly positioning India on the world stage as an economic powerhouse with unmatched cultural pride," she concluded.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Tuesday described the United States' recent 50 per cent tariff on India as a "hegemonic conspiracy" and called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi to register a strong response. Speaking at an event commemorating late Cuban leader Fidel Castro, whom he described as a "protector of his country and its people," Stalin said such conspiracies do not always involve war.

"The 50 per cent tax imposed by the US on India is one such conspiracy. The BJP ruling at the Centre should strongly oppose this. The Central BJP government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi should provide a transparent response. Stalin questioned why President Donald Trump unilaterally imposed the tariff just before the sixth round of Indo-US trade talks, after five rounds had already taken place. "Capitalist conspiracy does not rise from war alone. The US imposing a 50 per cent tariff on India is also the same," he said. He also criticised Modi's silence over

## MK Stalin calls Trump's 50% tariff 'hegemonic conspiracy', urges PM Modi to oppose

Agency New Delhi.

Trump's repeated claim that he prevented an India-Pakistan war during Operation Sindoor. "While the opposition raises the matter in both Houses of Parliament, PM Modi has not given any answer. This is his weakness," Stalin charged. The US had last week imposed an additional 25 per cent tariff on Indian goods as



a penalty for New Delhi's continued purchase of Russian oil. With this, along with the earlier 25 per cent levy effective from August 7, the total tariff on most Indian goods has reached 50 per cent, barring a small exemption list. He said.

## Kerala Governor orders Partition Horror Day in universities, Pinarayi Vijayan objects

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan called Governor Rajendra Arlekar's order to observe "Partition Horror Day" unconstitutional, accusing it of promoting the Sangh Parivar agenda. Opposition and state ministers echoed concerns, while BJP defended the directive.

**Kerala. (Agency)**

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Tuesday criticised Governor Rajendra Arlekar, saying universities cannot be used as platforms to implement the agenda of the Sangh Parivar. The controversy comes after the Governor, who is also the chancellor of universities in Kerala, issued an order directing universities to observe August 14 as "Partition Horror Day" and prepare dramas to highlight the tragedies of the Partition. Raj Bhavan said the directive came from the Centre. Pinarayi Vijayan said the Governor's action was "in accordance with the divisive political agendas of that Sangh Parivar" and called it unconstitutional. "August 15 is a reminder of India's anti-imperialist struggle and the brutalities unleashed by the British. The Sangh Parivar, which had no role in the freedom movement and served the British Raj, now seeks to undermine India's Independence Day by promoting divisive agendas. Kerala will

never allow its campuses to be turned into stages for their divisive agenda," he added.

Opposition leader VD Satheesan also called the Governor's directive unconstitutional, questioning his authority to issue circulars. "Mamata Banerjee will be the face of Trinamool's campaign with 90% visibility on materials. Abhishek Banerjee leads parliamentary party and manages district MLA nominations and surveys. Trinamool aims to counter BJP's anti-West Bengal campaign through national and local strategies.

## 'What We Eat Is Freedom': Huge Row Over Independence Day Meat Ban

New Delhi. (Agency)

A huge political row has erupted after several civic bodies in the country ordered that meat shops and slaughterhouses must remain shut this Independence Day. Several politicians, cutting across party lines, have described the ban as a crackdown on people's food habits and said freedom was being violated as the country celebrates its independence.

Hyderabad MP and AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi has slammed an order by the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation to keep slaughterhouses and meat shops closed on August 15 and 16 -- Independence Day and Janmashtami. "Many municipal corporations across India

seemed to have ordered that slaughterhouses and meat shops should be closed on 15th August. Unfortunately, @GHMCOnline has also made a similar order. This is callous and unconstitutional.

"What's the connection between eating meat and celebrating Independence Day? 99% of Telangana's people eat meat. These meat bans violate people's right to liberty, privacy, livelihood, culture, nutrition and religion," Mr Owaisi said.

A similar meat ban order in Maharashtra's Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar has drawn an objection from Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar. "It is wrong to impose such a

ban. In major cities, people of different castes and religions reside. If it is an emotional issue, then people accept it



(ban) for a day. But if you clamp such orders on Maharashtra Day, Independence Day

and Republic Day, then it is difficult," Mr Pawar said.

The Kalyan Dombivali Municipal Corporation in Thane near Mumbai issued a similar direction. Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Aaditya Thackeray said the municipal commissioner should be suspended and that it is not his job to decide who eats what.

"What we eat on Independence Day is our right, our freedom. They cannot tell us whether to eat. In our house, even during Navratri, our prasad has prawns and fish because this is our tradition. This is our Hindutva. Why are you entering our homes? The municipal corporation should focus on issues such as potholes on roads," he said.

## Decoded: Mamata-Abhishek Banerjee's Joint Strategy For Bengal Polls 2026

Kolkata. (Agency)

The West Bengal Assembly election is expected around April-May next year, after Bihar votes for a new government at the end of this year. Ahead of the high-stakes election, an action plan has been readied by Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her nephew Abhishek Banerjee, General Secretary of Trinamool Congress. The Banerjees have met several times recently and discussed these strategies. Before diving into their action plan, it must be noted that Ms Banerjee and her nephew have a strong working relationship. The popular perception is that the two have some serious differences of opinion. But generational differences in approach are very common. Even then, there is no difference in their ideology. The emotional bond also remains very



strong. Their managers might also differ, but both are jointly strategising before the election. Mamata Banerjee will be the face of the Trinamool campaign. Her face will appear on all banners, hoardings, and posters; about 90% of the shares will be of Ms Banerjee, and 10% will be of Abhishek Banerjee. Abhishek supports this strategy, which was their first deliberate choice. This is because, although there are several BJP

leaders in West Bengal, including party president Samik Bhattacharya, Opposition leader Suvenu Adhikari, former party president Dilip Ghosh, and Union minister and former state chief Sukanta Majumder, Narendra Modi is still the face of Bengal. So why not have the same for the Trinamool? In India, Ms Banerjee is already a well-known figure. With no accusations of corruption or ED-CBI cases against her, she is the most popular figure in West Bengal. Not Abhishek, but Ms Banerjee's portrait was all over the banners and crowds at the recent protest on July 21. Abhishek Banerjee also believes that the leadership won't be diluted if his aunt's face is highlighted. According to some Trinamool sources, Abhishek Banerjee should remain in an unspent balance role for the future.

## News box

## Company hired, work on Gurgaon metro Phase 1 may

## Gurgaon.(Agency)

Gurugram Metro Rail Limited (GMRL) has finalised an agency for phase 1 of the metro project, with work set to be awarded soon. The agency has been instructed to mobilise machinery and resources at the site to start construction by the end of the month. Phase 1 of the project, estimated at Rs 1,277 crore, will include a 15.3 km elevated corridor from Millennium City Centre to Sector 9 with 14 stations, a 1.8 km spur to the Dwarka Expressway, and a ramp to connect the Sector 33 depot. Also, the agency will construct viaducts, stations, entry and exit structures, utility shifting, drainage works, track laying and integration with existing transport systems. According to officials, the project allotted to Dilip Buildcon Ltd and Ranjit Buildcon Ltd (DBL-RBL) will put in place a traffic management plan before starting the work, which will require approvals from the concerned departments, including the police and GMRL. Once approved, barricading will begin at the construction zones. "We have finalised the agency, and the work will be awarded soon after following the due process. The groundbreaking ceremony is expected to be held within this month. We have asked the agency to get ready and expedite preparatory work so that civil construction can start on time. Traffic management will be implemented in a way that minimises inconvenience to commuters," a GMRL official said. The traffic management plan will involve creating temporary diversions and alternative routes, setting up barricades and warning signage, and deploying traffic marshals in coordination with police to manage traffic. The plan also includes working during off-peak and night hours to reduce congestion, as well as ensuring pedestrian safety through designated walkways.

Also, the metro authority is planning to widen roads so that at least two lanes remain open in each direction even after an 8-metre-wide section is occupied for metro

## Thrashed over torn currency note, auto driver battles for life in Gurgaon

## Gurgaon. (Agency)

A 19-year-old autorickshaw driver was left with critical injuries as two passengers and some associates thrashed him with sticks after he objected to the duo paying for a ride with a torn currency note in Sector 10 on Sunday. The driver, Vipin, was taken to the Civil Hospital in the city and later referred to Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi. His family eventually shifted him to a private hospital in the city. Police said an FIR for attempt to murder was registered at the Sector 9A station and they have arrested the two passengers — Ram Vishal Dubey (19), who belongs to UP's Prayagraj but lives in a rented accommodation in Gurgaon, and Lakshman (24) of Krishna Colony in the city. According to cops, Vipin was dropping



Dubey and Lakshman in Sector 9, when they handed him a torn currency note as payment. When the autorickshaw driver asked the two to give another note, they allegedly started arguing with him.

An aunt, who lives in the city, told police she received a call from Vipin, who told her he had an argument with two passengers near Ravi Nagar petrol pump. The family rushed to the site and allegedly saw a group of five to six men beating up Vipin with sticks.

## 'Open-book exam fine, but with analytical questions'

## NOIDA. (Agency)

Noida: Schools have welcomed CBSE's decision to implement an open-book exam for Class 9 from the academic year 2026-27. Principals believe that students will gain a deeper understanding of subjects, provided schools maintain integrity and questions are analytical, conceptual, and application-based. CBSE's decision came following the results of a pilot study conducted to evaluate the feasibility and acceptance of such a model.

A framework and guidelines on how to conduct open-book exams effectively will be suggested to the schools. However, the implementation will not be mandatory.

Seema Jerath, principal of DLF School, Ghaziabad, and one of CBSE's master trainers in the pilot project, said, "Students have to extract the right information from the textbooks, and to do that, higher-order thinking skills have to be there. For an open-book exam, the question patterns need to be aligned with the policy first. Though this is a very good step, we're only 50% ready in terms of competency. Implementing it in the next academic year is risky. Teachers need time to understand the framework, plan the execution, and evaluate fairly."

She stressed that the new format must go beyond surface-level questioning. "The right kind of research and planning is needed. Questions must test analytical skills and evaluation—not simply allow students to lift answers from textbooks," she added. Aditi Basu Roy, principal of Grad International School, Noida, underscored the need for ethical implementation. "The exam process must be handled with integrity. While open-book exams do exist in law, they must not become shortcuts," she told TOI. Some teachers also called the decision "progressive and much-needed". The initiative aligns with the vision of the NEP 2020 and the NCFSE 2023, as it moves the focus from rote memorisation to deep conceptual understanding, problem-solving, and real-world application of knowledge.

## Money trap: 40% cyber fraud cases this year came as investment bait

## Gurgaon.(Agency)

The city appears to have become a fertile ground for cybercriminals preying on people's hunger to earn more and the risk appetite they have. Investment fraud has emerged as the most common cybercrime, accounting for nearly 40% of all online fraud cases reported in the city. It has ensnared thousands, from tech professionals to homemakers and retirees, luring them into fake investment schemes with promises of quick, high returns. The result is often devastation, leaving those who have been targeted chasing shadows and grappling with the loss of their hard-earned money. The city's cyber police cell has registered over 16,000 complaints in the first half of 2025, with 40% cases linked to investment fraud. ACP (cybercrime) Priyanshu Diwan said 1,300 fraudsters were arrested in the first half of this year, up from around 700 in the same period in 2024. "Increased public awareness has helped reduce total financial fraud losses from Rs 155 crore in

2024 to Rs 80 crore in the current year," he said. The modus operandi of these fraudsters is simple yet effective, according to police. Often operating through networks that are run from foreign shores, they bait targets with fraudulent stock trading apps, fake cryptocurrency platforms, or get-rich-quick schemes disseminated through Telegram and WhatsApp groups. Initially, victims are shown small, fabricated profits to build trust by cyber cons. Once convinced, they are encouraged to invest large sums, only to find the websites vanish, contacts go silent and their money gone without a trace. A case in point is a 57-year-old private employee from Sector 23, who was added to a WhatsApp group in Sept 2024. The group, comprising 56 members, was formed to give lessons on stock market investment. By Oct, he had downloaded an app and deposited Rs 1.3 crore into various bank accounts provided by the fraudsters. When he attempted to withdraw the

money, he was asked to transfer an additional Rs 20 lakh as "investor tax". The moment he stopped transferring money, the fraudsters stopped attending calls. In another instance, a chartered accountant's daughter from Faridabad was conned of Rs 7.6 crore via a Facebook link promising lucrative stock market returns. Despite police efforts, which led to the arrest of 16 people across multiple cities, the financial losses continue to mount. Central to these scams is use of mule accounts — legitimate bank accounts rented or sold for a fee — which help funnel defrauded money and park it. Over 40% of those arrested in cyber fraud cases this year, according to cyber police, were found to have provided their bank accounts to criminals in exchange for cash or commissions. "The network of mule accounts is the lifeline of these fraud networks, enabling fraudsters to move money and hide their tracks," said ACP Diwan. The complexity of dismantling these networks lies in the rapid transfer of

money through multiple accounts, conversion to cryptocurrency, and movement abroad, a police officer said. "Some of the mule account holders have even travelled to countries like Dubai and Cambodia to sell information on dozens of their accounts for hefty sums," he added. Police investigations have revealed that fraudsters contact potential mule account providers via messaging apps, offering money in exchange for account details, making money recovery and tracking exceedingly difficult. Police investigations have found that fraudsters pay commissions ranging from Rs 30,000 to Rs 2 lakh in exchange for handing over access to their bank accounts. Many mule account holders, according to police, claim ignorance about larger fraud operations. "Some said they were told their accounts would be used for business purposes or foreign remittances, while others look the other way, tempted by the promise of quick money," said the police officer.

## Haryana to use mobile data to track foeticide networks

## Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana will now utilise phone records and location data of arrested suspects to dismantle the network of illegal abortions and sex determination practices across the state. The strategy was discussed during a meeting of the state task force for improving sex ratio — chaired by additional chief secretary (health) Sudhir Rajpal — in Chandigarh on Tuesday. Rajpal stressed on the need for police and health officials to collaborate on raids on illegal abortion clinics and extend investigations beyond immediate offenders. The state has implemented the reverse tracking of all medical termination of pregnancy (MTP) and abortion cases beyond 12 weeks, particularly where couples already have one or more daughters.

Rajpal highlighted the importance of punitive measures, warning that the licences of doctors would be revoked if they were found guilty.

This year alone, Haryana has registered over 120 FIRs related to illegal abortion practices, including the sale of MTP kits. While challans have been filed in 39 cases, 47 are under investigation. At the meeting, Rajpal instructed all stakeholders to ensure that chief medical officers (CMOs) in every district receive legal support and work closely with police to ensure convictions. To maintain the integrity of the PNND (Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques) law, Rajpal mandated that no nodal officer for PNND in any district should be transferred without the approval of the director-general of health services (DGHS). The meeting — part of the 'Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao' campaign — also focused on deploying ANM and ASHA workers more effectively in urban areas and enhancing awareness through video clips in cinema theatres and a new IEC activity dashboard set to launch next month.

## Waste pickup superficial in Gurgaon, says HC panel

## Gurgaon. (Agency)

MCG officials appear to be in "denial" of the sanitation crisis facing the city and "use garbage-removal exercise as an image-building exercise," a report, submitted recently by 19 local commissioners appointed by Punjab and Haryana high court, has said. The denial comes amid a plethora of issues — such as "vacant plots being used for waste dumping; absence of colour-coded bins; and no fixed schedule of the waste collection vehicles" — plaguing MCG, according to the report. The report, accessed by TOI, highlights the "urgent need" to address the sanitation crisis directly rather than outsourcing it to private contractors. The report recommended that MCG should conduct an audit of its waste management operations and submit a report to the committee. It also points to a lack of willingness by MCG officials to monitor the operations of private contractors.

The commissioners were tasked by the HC to inspect various parts of Gurgaon and compile comprehensive reports on waste collection and disposal within their assigned territories. They were appointed



during the hearing of a petition filed by city resident and advocate Pankaj Yadav. Yadav, who is a resident of Sector 22 and practising lawyer in the HC, says, "I was constrained to file this writ petition as a petitioner in person since I am a resident of Gurgaon and aggrieved by the situation on the ground. The MCG and the state machinery failed to improve the situation in the city. The court is the only rescue. There is no improvement in the city's sanitation. The need of the hour is that the citizens unite on resolving the sanitation

crisis of the city." The local commissioners conducted inspections of their respective areas on Jan 2 and 3 this year, after which each individually submitted their findings. The HC formed a committee, led by district and sessions judge (retired) Inderjeet Mehta and advocate Jigyasa Tanwar, to compile and file a concise report on Gurgaon's sanitation condition.

MCG commissioner Pradeep Dahiya said, "We will take all corrective measures recommended after we are provided with this report. We are committed to improving the city's sanitation system." Insufficient staff The report notes an insufficient number of sanitation staff to manage garbage collection and that there is only one waste processing plant located at Bandhwari. The roads leading to the plant are littered with garbage, posing environmental and health hazards. The report also highlights that vacant plots are used for waste dumping across the city. The HC team also found that the absence of colour-coded bins for different streams of waste discourages residents from segregating waste, which is why mixed waste is transported to the landfill.

## JCBs deployed for pre-plantation work in Gurgaon, locals say will do more harm than good

## Ghaziabad. (Agency)

Less than two weeks after it was launched with much fanfare, Matri Van, the planned 750-acre urban forest in Gurgaon was invaded by a dozen earthmovers that tore through bushes near Suncity on Tuesday morning. Residents said the earthmovers didn't just destroy vegetation, but also disturbed wildlife — white cranes, peacocks and reptiles, among them. Forest department officials, when asked about the presence of JCB machines, said the reforestation work has been allotted to companies, who are supposed to revive this patch of southern Ridge forest land with plantation drives. "We have sent a team and we have stopped work at the site. Plantation drives take place during



monsoon. If there is any issue in the way it is being carried out, we will assess and take necessary steps," a forest official said. Residents and environmentalists hit out at this concept of "revival". Anjali Bhatnagar, a Suncity resident who spotted the earthmovers while she was on her morning

walk, said she called police helpline 112 to report the intrusion. Officers arrived within minutes but told her the matter fell under the forest department. "I saw birds getting disturbed. The entire area is full of vegetation and wildlife. The presence of so many JCBs created a ruckus," she told TOI. "JCBs crush undergrowth, destroy nests and compress soil in a way that affects plant regeneration," asked Vaishali Rana, an environmentalist. Activists also pointed out that monsoon is a critical period for wildlife. "This is the season when birds nest and small mammals breed. Disturbing the habitat with earthmovers runs counter to the very idea of creating an urban forest," Rana said.

## Worry at animal welfare centres: Where do they go after recovery Sparks panic among organisations and caregivers in Delhi-NCR

## NOIDA. (Agency)

Harsha, a street dog left to die on a road in Shalimar Bagh with her stomach slashed, was rushed to an NGO-run care home for stray animals in Noida two weeks ago. Harsha is on her way to recovery in the ICU there. However, in the wake of the Supreme Court's order on holding all street canines in shelters, the care home staff is worried if the dog will be able to go back to her "territory", as animals define their space. At Dulari Animal Welfare Centre in Noida's Sector 34, there is Basanti, wagging her tail. She was brought here a week ago after she bit someone while being fed. Having monitored her and after a health and behaviour review, the centre is set to give Basanti the all-clear certification for return to her caregiver in Noida Sector 1 as mandated by the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023. However, like other care facilities, Dulari Centre too is uncertain about the next step given the Supreme Court's directive asking Delhi govt and civic bodies of Gurgaon, Noida and Ghaziabad to remove stray dogs from the streets and set up shelters to lodge them. These care centres apprehend a crisis of overcrowding if caregivers refuse to



take back the dogs for fear of municipal officials relocating them from their neighbourhoods. With no govt-run shelters for permanently lodging dogs in the city, there is panic among animal rights activists, dog lovers and caregivers who feed stray animals about the municipal corporation rounding up dogs and ferrying them to unknown destinations. "We were awake the entire night keeping a vigil on our locality dogs," said Arushi Chibber in east Delhi. Since Monday, residents like Chibber have been making frantic calls to NGOs to take the strays into their safekeeping. However, as Gauri

Dar, one of the founders of Dulari Animal Welfare Centre, pointed out, "Placing dogs in a shelter permanently is not at all a good idea." Established by the Vasundhara Animal Welfare Trust in collaboration with People for Animals, the Dulari facility can host 100 dogs at a time, concentrating mainly on animals from Noida but sometimes from Delhi and other parts of NCR. On a visit to Dulari on Tuesday, TOI saw Dr Rahul Malik tending to Nawaaz brought from Greater Noida for a stab injury in the stomach in a room designated as ICU. Brownie was being monitored for aggressive behaviour in another

kennel after biting someone in Noida Sector 12. The centre caters to around 300 dogs every month. "Now, imagine if dogs keep adding up in this limited space. There will be no room left for the animals in need," said Dar. "Also you need doctors, attendants, nutritious food, clean water and enough space for dogs to play to prevent fights and infections. Can MCD create quality shelters with trained manpower within a few weeks?" Geeta Seshamani of Friendcoes-SECA, which has rescued, rehabilitated and cared for street animals for nearly 45 years, said that the Supreme Court order was impossible to implement at so many

## THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published  
Owned by Simmi Babbar  
N-31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar  
Delhi-110009  
Printed at Qaumi Patrika Printing  
Press, A4/A144, Tronica City  
(Loni), Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)  
Corporate Office:  
5, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,  
Press Area, ITO, New Delhi  
Editor-in-Chief  
Gurcharan Singh Babbar  
Mob : 9654077232, 997135917  
Website : www.thesikhstimes.in  
Email : sikhstimesindia@gmail.com  
RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

# Plea on stray dogs mentioned in SC

New Delhi: When a plea relating to stray dogs was mentioned for urgent hearing in the Supreme Court on Wednesday, Chief Justice of India BR Gayav assured that he would look into it. The plea by the Conference for Human Rights (India) was mentioned before a bench of the chief justice and Justice K Vinod Chandran by a lawyer. Another bench has already passed an order in relation to stray dogs, the CJI pointed out. On August 11, a bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan observed that instances of dog bites had given rise to an "extremely grim" situation and ordered the permanent relocation of all strays in Delhi-NCR "at the earliest". On Wednesday, the lawyer referred to a May 2024 order passed by a bench led by Justice JK Maheshwari relating to the stray dog issue to respective high courts. The plea by Conference for Human Rights (India) claims that the Animal Birth Control (Dog) Rules, 2001, mandating regular sterilisation and immunisation programmes for stray dogs to curtail their growing population are not being complied with. In its August 11 ruling, the apex court also said dog shelters would have to be augmented over time and directed the Delhi authorities to start with creating shelters of around 5,000 canines within six to eight weeks. Besides, the bench warned of strict action against an individual or organisation in case of any kind of obstruction in the relocation drive that might also prompt the court to initiate contempt proceedings.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I Kanika Sharma D/O PARMOD KUMAR SHARMA, R/O A-1/373A, ROHINI SECTOR 6, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi - 110085, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Promod Kumar Sharma in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my father is PARMOD KUMAR SHARMA, which may be amended accordingly.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I Deepak Sharma S/O PARMOD KUMAR SHARMA, R/O A-1/373, ROHINI SECTOR 6, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi - 110085, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Promod Kumar Sharma in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my father is PARMOD KUMAR SHARMA, which may be amended accordingly.

## NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my client Mr. Raj Kumar Bansal is the owner of Property bearing municipal old no. 14 and New no. 15, area measuring 85.97 Sq. mtrs., Colony known as Malpura, in the municipal limits, Khurja, Pargana and Tehsil Khurja, Distt. Bulandshahar, U.P. vide Sale Deed dated 03.01.2015 executed by Mr. Sanjay Kumar and Mrs. Sadhna in favour of Mr. Raj Kumar Bansal in respect of the said property, as Doc. no. 168, That Original GDA dated 08.10.2013 executed by Mr. Manish Kumar, Mr. Ramakant and Mrs. Rekha in favour of Mr. Sanjay Kumar all Ltrs of Late Mrs. Satyavati in respect of the said property. As doc no. 12987 was lost on 10/11/2009 duly reported to Police as per Police complaint dated 13/08/2025, LR No. 3110518/2025 in the P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi. If anyone found the same may return to undersigned and if the same is misused shall be at his/her own risk. That my client intends to mortgage the said immovable property for her bonafide requirements to Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Ltd. Whosoever is having any objection to the said mortgage or anyone has claim or right or interest in the property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections.

NEW DELHI

DATE: 13/8/2025

PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE  
Enr. No. D/72/02  
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48  
Mob.: 9968006418

## NAME CHANGE

I, ALKA/D/O ROBERT SAMUEL R/O FLAT NO-2/THF, PLOT NO-A-67, K/H NO-3/22/23, A-BLK SAINK NAGAR, UTTAM NAGAR, D K MOHAN GARDEN, WEST DELHI-110059 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHD AHSAAN FOR ALL PURPOSES

## NAME CHANGE

I, ALKA/D/O ROBERT SAMUEL R/O FLAT NO-2/THF, PLOT NO-A-67, K/H NO-3/22/23, A-BLK SAINK NAGAR, UTTAM NAGAR, D K MOHAN GARDEN, WEST DELHI-110059 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHD AHSAAN FOR ALL PURPOSES

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Diksha D/O Ashok Kumar Saini, R/O P. Khetri, NAGAR, TEHSIL Khetri, MANOTA, KHURD, P/O: Khetri, Nagar, DIST: Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan - 335054. Present address SF Otr no 48/4 old chitral line Sadar Bazar Delhi Cantt -110100, declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written as Kiran Saini in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my mother is KIRAN DAHIA which may be amended accordingly.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Kiran Dahia W/O Ashok Kumar Saini, R/O P. O. Khetri NAGAR, TEHSIL Khetri, MANOTA, KHURD, P/O: Khetri, Nagar, DIST: Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan - 335054. Present address SF Otr no 48/4 old chitral line Sadar Bazar Delhi Cantt -110100, declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written as Kiran Saini in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my mother is KIRAN DAHIA which may be amended accordingly.

## FABRICATION ASSEMBLY IN-SITU G-3/L TYPE GLUED INSULATED JOINTS

E-Tender Notice No.: TSK/Engg/46 of 2025 Dated: 12-08-2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Item No.1. Brief Description of Item: Fabrication assembly in-situ G-3/L type glued insulated joints under the jurisdiction of DENI/Tinsukia. Tender Value: ₹53,38,030/- . Earnest Money: ₹1,06,800/- . Date & Time of closing of tender: 15:00 hrs. of 02-09-2025. Date & Time of opening of tender: 16:00 hrs. of 02-09-2025. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. of 02-09-2025 in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

DRM (W), Tinsukia  
Northeast Frontier Railway  
Serving Customers With A Smile

## COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Tender Notice No.: DBWS-NIET-29-2025-26. Dated: 12-08-2025. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Name of Work: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract of 2 Nos Electromagnetic Crack Detectors for Coil Spring of ICF and LHB Coaches Make: K-Electronics for 2 years at Dibrugarh Workshop. Approximate Cost of the work: ₹9,20,400/- . Earnest Money: ₹18,400/- . Date & time of closing of tender: 15:00 hrs. and opening at 15:30 hrs. on 03-09-2025. For complete information above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. of 03-09-2025 in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in)

CWM, Dibrugarh  
Northeast Frontier Railway  
Serving Customers With A Smile

## PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that my client **Shankar Kumar Singh** is purchasing the Plot no. 304, area measuring 100 Sq. yards, out of Khasra no. 531, situated in the revenue estate of village Nawada Mazra Hatal, Delhi abadi Known as Mohan Garden, in Block-B, Ultan Nagar, New Delhi-110059 from Mrs. Seema Tayal who is the owner of the abovementioned property vide GDA, Agreement to Sale & Will, dated 31.03.2004 and intend to mortgage the said property with **AAVAS FINANCIERS LIMITED**. If any person(s) has/has any objection(s) or claim(s) or respect to the right, title or interest in the said property may please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the number & address mentioned herein below, failing which my client(s) shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever.

Khatian & Khatian

A-38 Kalash Colony, New Delhi-110048, Ph. No: 011-49774545

## NAME CHANGE

I, KANAPATHYAMMAL mother of No.15719548Y, Rank-UNK, Name-KANAGARAJ M residing at 153, ORIVAYAL, KADALADI, MARANDAI, DISTT-RAMANATHAPURAM, TAMIL NADU-623703, have changed my name from KANAPATHYAMMAL to M GANAPATHYAMMAL for all future purposes, in my husband's service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01 January 1970 instead of my correct date of birth as 15 February 1970. Vide Affidavit dated 13/08/2025 before Notary Public Delhi.

## NAME CHANGE

I, BHUTU NATH DAS is legally father of No. 14931786L Rank-HAV Name-UTPAL KUMAR DAS, Unit-4 Mech Inf (1st Sikh) (HQ-COY) C/O 56 APO PRESENTLY RESIDENT VILL-BEGUN-ABERIA, PO-GOLAPCHAK, TEH-HALDIA, DIST-PURBA MEDINIPUR (WB)-721658/ have changed my name from BHUTU NATH DAS to BHUTU NATH DAS for future purposes. And in my son service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned is 26/09/1950 instead of 01/01/1959. Vide affidavit dated 12/08/2025 before Notary Public New Delhi.

## NAME CHANGE

I, AJIT KUMAR JAIN S/O SUMER CHAND JAIN residing at C-362/GALI NO-13/A, BHAIJANPUR, DELHI-110053, have changed my name to AJIT JAIN for all future purposes.

## ENGINEERING WORKS UNDER KATHIAR DIVISION

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. KIR/Engg./50 of 2025, dated: 11-08-2025. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No.1. Brief Description of Work: New Rail Alpajuri-Malda Town (UP & DN)-TSR(P)-53,700 TKM. Tender Value: ₹14,94,25,546.58, Bid Security: ₹8,97,100.00. Tender No.2. Brief Description of Work: (A) Ekali Jh.-Balurghat (SL)-TSR(P)-12,708 TKM (B) Ekali Jh.-Balurghat (SL) TSR(P)-55,100 TKM. Tender Value: ₹14,62,82,986.07, Bid Security: ₹8,81,400.00. Tender No.3. Brief Description of Work: Ekali Jh.-Balurghat (SL)-TBR-87,300 Tkm. Tender Value: ₹8,96,09,713.16, Bid Security: ₹5,98,100.00. Tender No.4. Brief Description of Work: Hatwar-Malda Town (UP & DN)-TBR-49,900 Tkm. Tender Value: ₹8,23,42,226.02, Bid Security: ₹5,61,700.00. Tender No.5. Brief Description of Work: Ekali Jh.-Balurghat (SL)-Lifting and Manual Deep Screening of Turnout-20 sets. Tender Value: ₹79,16,355.40, Bid Security: ₹1,58,300.00. E-tenders will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 08-09-2025 and opened at 15:30 hrs. on 08-09-2025. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs. on 08-09-2025 in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>

DRM (Works), Kathiar

Northeast Frontier Railway  
Serving Customers with a smile

# DELHI

# THE SIKH TIMES

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I

SATISH KUMAR DHINGRA S/O SANT LAL DHINGRA R/O H.NO-B-95/2, B-BLOCK DERAWAL NAGAR, ADARSH NAGAR, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110009 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as SK DHINGRA in my wife PPO No. 1119811131251. The actual name of mine is SATISH KUMAR DHINGRA which may be amended accordingly.

## NAME CHANGE

I, SAD AHMED S/O MOHD SALIM

R/O H.NO-A-652, GALI NO-13, NEAR CHOTI MASJID, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI, NORTH EAST DELHI-110009 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME SAD AHMED FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

## NAME CHANGE

I SIMRAN KAUR W/O RAM SINGH R/O B-66c Tilak Vihar Tilak Nagar Rajouri Garden, Delhi-110018 have changed the name of my minor daughter GURLEEN KAUR aged 7 years and he shall hereafter be known as JASMEET KAUR.

## NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my clients Smt. Rinku, Smt. Reena and Sh. Uttam Kumar are the owners of Property No. B-207, area of 260 sq. yds., Khasra No. 535, Nawada, Delhi, Mohan Garden, in Block-B, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi. That, original owner Sh. Rattan Singh, Sh. Subi Singh, Sh. Suba Chand, Sh. Ram Chander in favour of Sh. Balwan Singh, later, who executed Sale Deed dated 25.09.2003 in favour of Sh. Krishan Kumar Gahlot, as Doc. No. 14670, later, who executed Sale Deed dated 10.11.2003 in favour of Smt. Rinku, Sh. Sanjeev Kumar and Sh. Uttam Kumar as Doc. No. 16530, later, Sh. Sanjeev Kumar died on 30.10.2011 leaving behind legal heirs Smt. Reena, Nancy Gahlot and Sh. Prateek Gahlot, finally, Relinquishment Deed 01.02.2019 executed by Miss Nancy Gahlot and Sh. Prateek Gahlot in favour of Smt. Reena, as Doc. No. 2803, (as per this Document the said colony falls under the Unauthorized Colony vide Order dated 24.07.2013 and provisionally regularised colony), that (1) Original and Copy of GPA, ATS, Will and sale receipt dated 18.06.1984 executed by Sh. Rattan Singh & Sh. Subi Singh in favour of Sh. Balwan Singh, later, who executed Sale Deed dated 02.04.2019, and same property sold to Mrs. Smt. Reena W/O Mr. Rajender Kumar our client is declaring that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, which is to be financed by Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd. Branch: Sector-2 Noida Uttar Pradesh. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]

Advocate  
F-211,sector-3 Vaishali Ghazab

Uttar Pradesh-2010, Contact at 0995881432

## NAME CHANGE

I, SAD AHMED S/O MOHD SALIM R/O H.NO-A-652, GALI NO-13, NEAR CHOTI MASJID, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI, NORTH EAST DELHI-110009 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME SAD AHMED FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

## PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE

Enr. No. D/72/02  
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48  
Mob.: 9968006418

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is given to general public

at large that our client Mrs. Smt. Reena W/O Mr. Rajender Kumar purchasing Freehold Residential Built up First Floor Portion without roof rights area measuring 23 Sq. Yds. out of Khasra no. 815, bearing property No. C-102 and New No. C-170, Situated in Village Manki, Pataliputra, in the State of Bihar. Mr. Kuldeep Singh is the owner of Freehold Residential Built up First Floor Portion without roof rights area measuring 88 Sq. Yds. Out of Khasra no. 125 M. Situated at Village Sehbiwara, Pargana Jalalabad Tehsil Modinagar Distt. Ghazipur, Uttar Pradesh, India. Sale Deed dated 21.08.2018 as Doc. no. 9940 in Book no. 1 Vol no. 10314 on Page no. 309-362, SRI-MODINAGAR, till date and has lost/Misplace his Original Sale Deed dated 23.02.2015 executed by Mrs. Jannat Begum in favour of Mr. Krishanpal as Doc no. 2387 in Book no. 1 Vol no. 7638 on Page no. 361-384 SRI-MODINAGAR, now our client is declaring that any other Person does not have any right over the said property, which is to be financed by Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd. Branch: Sector-2 Noida Uttar Pradesh. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA]

Advocate  
F-211,sector-3 Vaishali Ghazab

Uttar Pradesh-2010, Contact at 0995881432

## NAME CHANGE

[MOHD ASLAM S/O NASRUDIN residing at H.NO-C-17-STREET NO-10 OLD MUSTAFABAD DAYALPUR, DELHI-110094, have changed my name to ASLAM MALIK for all future purposes

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as SHRUTI BANSAL D/O RAKESH BANSAL W/O TUSHAR SINGHAL R/O B-22/24-A, YAMUNA VIHAR, PO-BHARAT PURA, DELHI-110053 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHRUTI SINGHAL.

## DATE OF BIRTH CHANGE

I, BIPUL BISWAS Father of No-14841576 Rank-LNK Name-BIPUL BISWAS Presently residing at VILL-KHALSI, PO-LASKARHAT, TEH-BALURGHAT, DIST-DAKSHIN DINAJUPUR, POLICE STATION-TAPAN, WEST BENGAL-733127, in my son's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 16/07/1956 instead of my correct date of birth as 01/01/1958 vide Affidavit dated 13/08/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

## &lt;h2

## NEWS BOX

**US Treasury Secretary says India 'recalcitrant' in trade talks amid Trump's tariff push**

**KALISPELL, Mont. (Agency)**

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent on Tuesday claimed that India has been headstrong in their trade negotiations with the US, noting that New Delhi has been "a bit recalcitrant", days after US President Donald Trump announced an additional 25 percent tariff, citing the country's oil purchase from Russia. Speaking to Fox Business' 'Kudlow', Bessent said there were still some "big trade deals" yet to be done or agreed upon, including Switzerland and India, acknowledging the possibility of concluding tariff negotiations by October. "There are big trade deals that aren't done and aren't agreed. Switzerland is still around; India has been a bit recalcitrant. I think we have agreed on substantial terms with all the substantial countries," the US Treasury Secretary stated. "That's aspirational. I think we're in a good position," he added when asked about the possibility of concluding tariff negotiations by October.

On August 6, Trump signed an Executive Order imposing an additional 25 percent tariff on imports from India in response to New Delhi's purchase of Russian oil, taking the total tariff on India to 50 percent. According to the order issued by the White House, Trump cited matters of national security and foreign policy concerns, as well as other relevant trade laws, for the increase, claiming that India's imports of Russian oil, directly or indirectly, pose an "unusual and extraordinary threat" to the United States. The additional tariffs will take effect on August 27. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has slammed the US's move to impose additional tariffs, calling it "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable", and further noted that New Delhi will take "all actions necessary to protect its national interests." The announcement came days after he announced the 25 percent reciprocal tariff on India, which came into effect on August 7.

Meanwhile, Trump had earlier stated that there would be no trade negotiations with India until a dispute over tariffs is resolved.

When pressed by ANI at the Oval Office on whether he expected talks to resume in light of the new 50 percent tariff, he stated, "No, not until we get it resolved."

## Sikh Man, 70, Assaulted With Golf Club In North Hollywood, In Coma

**WASHINGTON.(Agency)**

In a possible incident of hate crime, a 70-year-old Sikh man was brutally assaulted in North Hollywood while he was out for an afternoon walk near his gurdwara. The incident took place on August 4, when an unknown person attacked Harpal Singh with a golf club in the Lankershim Boulevard area of Los Angeles. The victim survived the attack but remains in critical condition, unable to communicate, with internal bleeding to the brain, according to a report by ABC7. Singh's brother, Dr Gurdial Singh Randhawa, said the victim has undergone three surgeries in the past week for broken facial bones and bleeding on the brain. He is reportedly in medically induced coma.

A disturbing video of the attack went viral on social media, showing a disoriented Singh sitting on the sidewalk in a pool of his own blood. The weapon used to attack can be seen lying at his feet. Brutally attacked. I don't know how God saved him. He was almost dead," Randhawa was quoted as saying by ABC7.

Witnesses reported seeing a well-built man on a bicycle approaching the victim and attacking him with a golf club for no reason. The surveillance footage showed that the suspect was a strongly built middle-aged man.

A suspect has been arrested for bludgeoning the old man with a golf club in North Hollywood earlier this month, authorities said. However, the Los Angeles police department said it was not investigating the assault as a hate crime. "An assault on any one member of our community is an assault on all of us," said Monica Rodriguez, District 7 LA City Councilmember, on the incident.

## Apple Rejects Elon Musk Claim Of Favoritism Towards ChatGPT On App Store

**world . (Agency)**

Tech giant Apple has denied any wrong doing, insisting its platform is "fair and free of bias" after Tesla and SpaceX owner Elon Musk accused the iPhone maker of favouritism in App Store rankings.

Musk had claimed that OpenAI's ChatGPT ranks first because of Apple's favouritism, while his apps, X and xAI's Grok, are being sidelined.

Apple denied allegations that its App Store algorithms or curated lists favour ChatGPT over Musk's offerings. "The App Store is designed to be fair and free of bias," the company insisted, adding that recommendations are based on charts, algorithms, and expert editorial curation using objective criteria, according to multiple media reports.

"Our goal is to offer safe discovery for users and valuable opportunities for developers, collaborating with many to increase app visibility in rapidly evolving categories," the company's statement continued. Musk on X criticised Apple for allegedly making it impossible for any AI company besides OpenAI to reach #1. He claimed that although X led the News chart and Grok received major updates, including making Grok 4 free for all users, his chatbot only reached fifth overall and second in the Productivity category. Meanwhile, ChatGPT has held a firm grip on the top spot on the App Store. Musk had alleged that Apple's support for ChatGPT is not driven by organic popularity. Apple has highlighted ChatGPT in App Store editorial content and incorporated OpenAI's technology into its Apple Intelligence rollout, integrating it directly into Siri and writing tools.

**The Army said there were no specifics on the locations they will be patrolling, according to an official who spoke on condition of anonymity for the same reason.**

**WASHINGTON.(Agency)**

The new picture of law enforcement in the nation's capital began taking shape Tuesday as some of the 800 National Guard members deployed by the Trump administration began arriving. The city's police and federal officials, projecting cooperation, took the first steps in an uneasy partnership to reduce crime in what US President Donald Trump called — without substantiation — a lawless city. The influx came the morning after the Republican president announced he would be activating the guard members and taking over the District's police department,

something the law allows him to do temporarily. He cited a crime emergency — but referred to the same crime that city officials stress is already falling noticeably.

By evening, the administration was saying that National Guard members were expected to be on the streets starting Tuesday night, according to a White House official who was not authorized to speak publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. The Army said there were no specifics on the locations they will be patrolling, according to an official who spoke on condition of anonymity for the same reason. Mayor Muriel Bowser pledged to work alongside the federal officials Trump has tasked with overseeing the city's law enforcement, while insisting the police chief remained in charge of the department and its officers. "How we got here or what we think about the circumstances; right now we have more police, and we want to make sure we use them," she told reporters. The tone was a shift from the day before, when Bowser said Trump's plan to

take over the Metropolitan Police Department and call in the National Guard was not a productive step and argued his perceived state of emergency simply



posted on social media that the meeting was productive. The law allows Trump to take over the D.C. police for up to 30 days, though White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt suggested it could last longer as authorities later "reevaluate and reassess." Extending federal control past that time would require Congressional approval, something likely tough to achieve in the face of Democratic resistance. About 850 officers and agents fanned out across Washington on Monday and arrested 23 people overnight, Leavitt said. The charges, she said, included homicide, drunk driving, gun and drug crimes and subway fare evasion. She didn't immediately provide further information on the arrests. The US Park Police has also removed 70 homeless encampments over the last five months, she said. People who were living in them can leave, go to a homeless shelter or go into drug addiction treatment, Leavitt said. Those who refuse could face fines or jail time.

## Elderly Sikh man brutally assaulted in Los Angeles, suspect in custody

**NEW YORK . (Agency)**

An elderly Sikh man was assaulted in Los Angeles and suffered a skull fracture and potential brain trauma, as authorities announced a suspect has been arrested for the attack. Harpal Singh, 70, was assaulted by "unhoused" man Bo Richard Vitagliano while he was taking his daily walk near the Sikh Gurdwara of Los Angeles on August 4. The Los Angeles Police Department said in a statement Tuesday that Vitagliano, 44, was arrested on Monday for the brutal attack. Singh, 70, was arrested on Monday for the brutal attack against Singh. Vitagliano has been booked for assault with a deadly weapon, and his bail was set for USD 1.1 million. Advocacy group The Sikh Coalition said that while the suspect is in custody for the brutal assault on Singh, the police are not investigating the case as a hate crime. It said Singh has sustained very serious injuries during the assault and remains in critical condition. The police said that on August 4, law enforcement officials

responded to a radio call of an assault with a deadly weapon investigation.

Preliminary investigation revealed there was a physical altercation between Singh and Vitagliano, who is an "unhoused" individual. Witnesses said while they did not see how the altercation began, they heard a loud commotion, then witnessed two men swinging metal objects at each other, the LAPD said. Both individuals were struck and Vitagliano further assaulted Singh while he was reportedly on the ground. When witnesses intervened by yelling at Vitagliano, he rode away on his bicycle. Los Angeles Fire Department paramedics responded and transported Singh to a nearby hospital where he was admitted for a skull fracture and potential brain trauma. Singh continues to be under the care of a physician due to injuries suffered in the altercation. Vitagliano has an extensive criminal record for narcotics, assault with a deadly weapon, and various weapons

charges. Based upon the evidence in this matter, police believe the assault was not a hate crime, but instead motivated by dispute over property belonging to the victim. LAPD said local officers will be conducting extra patrols in the area following this incident and will continue engaging the community to discuss public safety and address any further concerns of the Sikh community.

The Sikh Coalition noted that it is impossible to completely rule out that this is a hate crime at this stage.

"The suspect has been in custody for less than 24 hours, and Harpal ji himself remains unconscious and has thus been unable to sit for a full police interview, with professional translation services, separate from a conversation immediately after the attack."

"After such an interview happens, if the LAPD still believes this was not a hate crime, they must publicly clarify how they determined hate was not a factor in this assault," it said.

## "Go To Shelter Or Face Jail": White House Warns Washington DC Homeless People

**Donald Trump described the homeless as one of several groups who have "overtaken" Washington that include "violent gangs and bloodthirsty criminals, roving mobs of wild youth, drugged-out maniacs."**

**Washington . (Agency)**

Homeless people in Washington, D.C., could face jail time if they do not comply with President Donald Trump's efforts to crack down on crime and rid the U.S. capital of homeless encampments, the White House said on Tuesday. "Homeless individuals will be given the option to leave their encampment, to be taken to a homeless shelter, to be offered addiction or mental-health services, and if they refuse, they will be susceptible to fines or to jail time," White House

spokeswoman Karoline Leavitt told reporters. Leavitt said the administration was exploring strategies to relocate homeless individuals "far from the capital." She

 said U.S. Park Police have removed 70 homeless encampments from federal parks since March and are set to clear the remaining two encampments in the city later this week. Andy Wassenich, director of policy at Miriam's Kitchen — an organization offering services to the homeless — said his team was out trying

to warn people. He said there was still a lot of confusion about what the crackdown may bring. Their best advice, he said, was: "Go to shelter if you can, if you can stand it. If you have

anybody you can stay with, get off the street, and seek safety and let us know what we can do for you." Trump said on social media that he wanted the homeless out of Washington even before he announced the extraordinary step of temporarily taking over the District of Columbia's police department and deploying 800 National Guard troops as part of a crackdown on crime there — an effort that also includes another 500 federal law enforcement agents. A billionaire real estate developer, Trump described the homeless as one of several groups who have "overtaken" Washington that include "violent gangs and bloodthirsty criminals, roving mobs of wild youth, drugged-out maniacs."

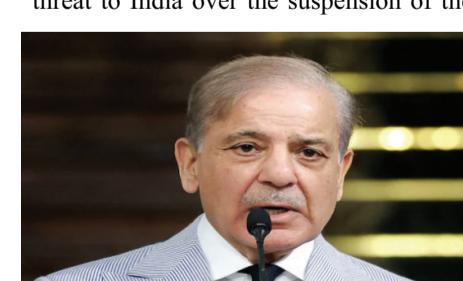
**Terming the Indus waters as the lifeblood of Pakistan, Sharif asserted there would be "no compromise" on Pakistan's rights under international accords.**

**Islamabad . (Agency)**

Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has joined his country's senior leaders in warmongering against India and claimed Islamabad would not allow New Delhi to take "even one drop" of water belonging to his country. His remarks came after Pakistan urged India to resume the normal

functioning of the Indus Waters Treaty, which New Delhi has held in abeyance since May. "I want to tell the enemy today that if you threaten to hold our water, then keep this in mind that you cannot snatch even one drop from Pakistan," Sharif said, according to a report by The Express Tribune. "You threaten to stop our water. If you attempt such a move, Pakistan will teach you a lesson you will never forget," he added, while speaking at a ceremony in Islamabad on the occasion of International Youth Day. Terming the Indus waters as the lifeblood of Pakistan, Sharif asserted there would be "no compromise" on Pakistan's rights under international accords. The remarks came after Pakistan's Foreign Office on Monday requested India to immediately resume the normal functioning of the Indus Waters Treaty, and fulfil its treaty obligations, wholly and faithfully, the Foreign Office said in a post on X. Pak's

War Threats The Pakistani premier's statement came a day after Pakistani politician Bilawal Bhutto issued a war threat to India over the suspension of the



decades-old Indus Water Treaty, saying New Delhi's actions caused "great damage" to Pakistan and urged all Pakistanis to "unite" against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Before that, Pakistan's Army Chief Asim Munir, during his recent visit to the US, warned of a nuclear war and threatened to take down "half the world" if Islamabad faced an existential threat in a future war

## Our relationship with both India and Pakistan is 'good': US State Department

**WASHINGTON.(Agency)**

America's relationship with both India and Pakistan is "good", the US State Department has said, asserting that the diplomats are "committed to both nations."

Speaking at a briefing on Tuesday, State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce said that the US working with both nations is good news for the region and the world, and will promote a beneficial future.

"I would say that our relationship with both nations is as it has been, which is good. And that is the benefit of having a President who knows everyone, talks to everyone, and that is how we can bring differences together in this case. So it's clear that the diplomats here are committed to both nations," Bruce said.

She was responding to a question on the possibility of increased US assistance to Islamabad in terms of arms sales following Pakistan Army Chief Field Marshal Asim Munir's meeting with Trump, and whether this



was coming at the cost of Trump's relationship with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Referring to the May conflict between India and Pakistan, Bruce added, "Obviously, we had an experience with Pakistan and India when there was a conflict, one that could have developed into something quite horrible." She said that there was "immediate concern and immediate movement" with Vice President J D Vance, President Trump and Secretary of State Marco Rubio in "addressing the nature of what was happening." ... We described the nature of the phone calls, the work that we did to stop the attacks and to then bring the parties together so we could have something that was enduring," Bruce said. She also claimed that top leaders in the US were involved in "stopping that potential catastrophe." New Delhi has been maintaining that India and Pakistan halted their military actions following direct talks between their militaries without any mediation by the US. Bruce added that the recent peace agreement between Armenia and Azerbaijan follows negotiated peace arrangements between Cambodia and Thailand, Israel and Iran, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India and Pakistan, Egypt and Ethiopia and Serbia and Kosovo.

## After Asim Munir, Pak PM Shehbaz Sharif Threatens India Over Indus Waters

with India. New Delhi was forced to take a series of punitive measures against Pakistan that included putting the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960 in "abeyance" after the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22. India has accused Pakistan of supporting terrorists behind the killings. Under the treaty brokered by the World Bank in 1960, India has absolute rights over the water of the Beas, Sutlej and Ravi rivers. Pakistan has rights over the water of the Indus, Jhelum, and Chenab rivers. New Delhi is also set to build its biggest hydroelectric power project on the Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir. It's a massive 1856 megawatt hydroelectric project that will be constructed without seeking a no-objection from Pakistan, otherwise mandated under the treaty. India has also formally condemned Munir's threat of nuclear war. In a statement, the Foreign Ministry noted that Nuclear sabre-rattling is Pakistan's stock-in-trade, and expressed regret that such remarks were made from the soil of a friendly third country.

AI-based cameras mounted on patrolling vehicles: Pune police's pilot project to detect traffic violations

**Mumbai. (Agency)**

The Pune city police on Tuesday launched a pilot project featuring an artificial intelligence-based camera-mounted traffic enforcement system. According to officials, the performance of this pilot will be closely evaluated, and based on its effectiveness, multiple patrol vehicles equipped with AI-powered cameras will be deployed across the city to automatically detect and issue challans for traffic violations.

Commissioner of Pune Police Amitesh Kumar flagged the camera-mounted vehicle on Tuesday. The project comes months after the Pune city police launched a stationary AI-based camera for traffic violation detection on the arterial Ferguson College Road. Using this stationary system, the police have issued a total of 3,949 challans without any human intervention over the last two months. These cases included 1,335 'no parking' violation, 1,886 'double parking' violations, 719 'wrong side driving', 42 'triple seat riding' and nine for using cell phones while driving.

According to Pune police, Commissioner Amitesh Kumar and the Joint Commissioner of Police Ranjankumar Sharma have emphasised the use of mobile-based applications and artificial intelligence assisted tools to enhance the efficiency of traffic regulation. Accordingly, Additional Commissioner of Police Manoj Patil and Deputy Commissioner of Police (traffic crime) Himmat Jadhav, was tasked to undertake a project of AI-based smart cameras which can be mounted on cars or can be portable. "Today, we have launched AI-based cameras mounted on patrolling car that will help detect unauthorised parking, obstruction of traffic flow, and traffic rule violation in real time. As a result, it will become easier to take prompt action against erring motorists. The performance of this pilot will be closely evaluated, and based on its effectiveness, multiple patrol vehicles equipped with AI-powered cameras will be deployed across the city to automatically detect and issue challans for traffic violations.

## IMD predicts heavy rain in Gujarat from Aug 15

**Ahmedabad. (Agency)**

AFTER a break, the Southwest monsoon is expected to become active, bringing heavy rainfall in several parts of Gujarat from August 15 onwards, according to the IMD.

Owing to the upper air cyclonic circulation over central parts of Bay of Bengal, a low pressure area is likely to form over westcentral and adjoining northwest Bay of Bengal on August 13 and become more marked during subsequent 48 hours, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said in its bulletin on Tuesday.

According to the IMD, while light thunderstorm with lightning and surface wind 30-40 kmph accompanied with light to moderate rain is

very likely a cross Gujarat on August 15 and 16, heavy rain is expected in the districts of Panchmahal, Dahod, Vadodara, Chhota Udepur, Narmada, Bharuch, Surat, Dang, Tapi, Navsari, Valsad on August 16.

On August 17, heavy rainfall is expected in the districts of Anand, Panchmahal, Dahod, Mahisagar, Vadodara, Chhota Udepur, Narmada, Bharuch, Surat, Dang, Tapi, Navsari and Valsad, the IMD said.

"Heavy rain is very likely in the districts of Panchmahal, Dahod, Vadodara, Chhota Udepur, Narmada, Bharuch, Surat, Dang, Tapi, Navsari and Valsad on August 18 and in the Saurashtra districts of Amreli, Bhavnagar and Gir Somnath," the IMD said.



# Several Surat dog owners' refused pet licences as 'neighbours object'

**With the Residents Welfare Association (RWA) not objecting to his pet, Rao is likely to get a pet licence soon.**

**Surat.** Chinmay Rao, a resident of an apartment in Vesu, a posh neighbourhood of Surat, has written a letter to the president and secretary of his residential society recently seeking a no-objection letter for keeping a pet dog in his flat, which is mandatory as per the new policy of the Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) for getting a licence to keep a pet. Rao has a nine-year-old Labrador and was among the 1000-odd pet owners issued notices by the SMC for getting a pet licence.

With the Residents Welfare Association (RWA) not objecting to his pet, Rao is likely to get a pet licence soon.

"I have prepared all the documents including the photos, vaccination card, address proof, etc. and attached the letter to the SMC, and finally, my application is in process. Officials in the market department of the

# Ex-Navy officer threatened with 'money laundering case', duped of Rs. 14.5 lakh by cyber fraudster in Mumbai

**Mumbai. (Agency)**

An 87-year-old former lieutenant commander with the Indian Navy was duped of Rs. 14.5 lakh after a cyber fraudster claiming to be a Mumbai police Crime Branch officer threatened to book him in a money laundering case.

According to the police, the fraudsters told the senior citizen that he was working on a commission basis, and was supposed to get 10 per cent commission on a transaction of Rs 2 crore. They made him transfer Rs. 14 lakh of his entire savings to avoid arrest in the case.

The police said the complainant, a resident of Jogeshwari (East), received a WhatsApp call on July 24, and the caller introduced himself as Sub-Inspector Malhotra from the Telecom Department in Delhi.

The caller told the complainant that his SIM card would be deactivated because illegal activities were being carried out through the number, and the Mumbai Crime Branch has registered a case of money laundering

against him based on the complaint registered by 24 people.

The caller added that an investigating officer, Vikram Goswami, would interrogate him. The complainant received another call after some time. The victim was forced to make a video call from an isolated place, and the fraudsters threatened him that if he discussed the issue with anyone, he would be arrested.

The caller even sent an arrest warrant on the complainant's phone, asking him to provide information about his whereabouts. The person called again, saying that the CBI director would question him.

This time, the caller's profile photo had the logo of the Mumbai police, and started

threatening the victim that a warrant had been issued against him and he would be arrested at any time.



As the victim got scared, the caller forced him to transfer his entire savings to a bank account. He told the victim the money would be kept as a deposit, and after

verification, if he were found innocent, his money would be transferred again to his bank account.

The complainant agreed to send the money and transferred it to the given bank accounts by fraud. However, he realised that he had been duped when he started calling the same number on August 6 to request them to send his money back, as he was innocent, but found the number was out of service. He then discussed it with his family, and approached the cyber police and registered a case.

The police said a case has been registered under several sections of the BNS, and they are checking the bank account to find out the accused.

## Mumbai police registers first FIR in A Ward for feeding pigeons at historic Kabutarkhana near GPO

**Situated at Mint Toad near the GPO building, the Fort pigeon feeding spot is the oldest Kabutarkhana of Mumbai. In 1923, Jain merchant Devidas Kothari established the kabutarkhana at the site, which also houses a pyau.**

**Mumbai. (Agency)**

The Mumbai police on Tuesday registered an FIR against a person for feeding pigeons at the century-old Kabutarkhana (feeding spot) near the General Post Office (GPO) building at Fort — the first case in the city's A ward.

According to the records, the incident was reported around 11.30 am last Friday when a 57-year-old arrived at the Kabutarkhana with a bag of grains to feed the pigeons.

Situated at Mint Toad near the GPO building, the Fort pigeon feeding spot is the oldest Kabutarkhana of Mumbai. In 1923, Jain merchant Devidas Kothari established the kabutarkhana at the site, which also houses a pyau. A senior



official of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) confirmed that this is the first case registered against pigeon feeding in

the upscale A ward. Until Monday, the civic body had registered at least three First Information Reports in connection with feeding pigeons, in violation of a ban. Of these, two cases were lodged in the G/North ward, which encompasses the Dadar Kabutarkhana, and the other FIR was filed in the D ward.

The ongoing civic drive comes against the backdrop of the Bombay High Court directives on July 30, directing BMC to lodge FIRs against those who "illegally" and in a "defiant" manner feed pigeons across Mumbai's feeding areas, despite the policy prohibiting it.

## BJP office-bearer among seven booked for gambling after police raid

**Pune City police said on Monday evening they conducted a raid on a gambling den being operated from a tin shed nea Ashtdwar Society in Dhankawadi. The people present there were placing bets on 'teen patti' card game.**

**Pune. (Agency)**

PUNE CITY police's Crime Branch has booked seven persons, including a local office-bearer of the BJP, following a raid at a gambling den being operated from a tin shed in Dhankawadi area on Monday. The BJP functionary identified as Audumber Kamble, who was recently appointed to his position in Parvati constituency unit, was removed from the post after the incident was reported, BJP has said.

Pune City police said on Monday evening they conducted a raid on a gambling den being operated from a tin shed nea Ashtdwar Society in Dhankawadi. The people present there were placing bets on 'teen patti' card game.

Police booked seven persons including Kamble (42) and six others Sangram Dilip Bhosale (48), Mangesh Maruti Shelar (39),



(59), Rohan Shekhar Londhe (32). Cash and mobile phones, collectively worth over Rs 2.20 lakh, were also seized during the raid, a crime

branch officer said. A case was subsequently registered against all the seven persons under provisions of the Maharashtra Prevention of Gambling Act. "Acting on specific input, a team from the Crime Branch conducted a raid and apprehended seven people involved in gambling. The accused have been issued notices and instructed to cooperate with the investigation," said a Crime Branch officer, adding that the offence does not carry provisions for arrest.

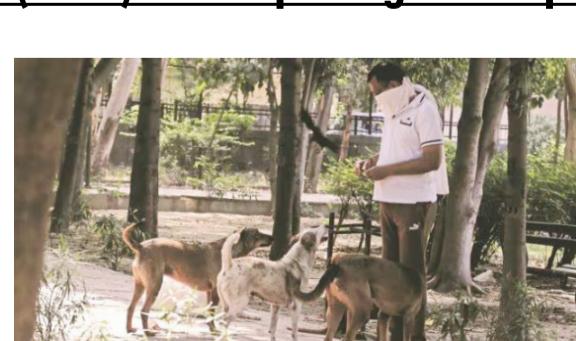
When contacted, BJP's Pune city unit president Dheeraj Ghate said, "Kamble was appointed to a position in a particular circle in Parvati constituency unit of the party. The appointment was made less than a week ago. After the reports came in, we confirmed his involvement and he was immediately removed from his position."

The police have served him a notice under section 35 (3) of the BNS to appear before them, said a senior inspector Vilas Bhosle of the Malabar Hill police station.

An FIR was registered against Surve at the Malabar Hill police under sections 106 (1) (causing death by negligence), 282 (rash driving or riding on a public way) of the BNS along with 184 (drives a motor vehicle at a speed or in a manner which is dangerous to the public) and 122 (leaving vehicle in dangerous position) of the Motor Vehicle Act.

The bus is managed by EV Trans under a wet lease arrangement from Mumbai Central Depot.

The BEST undertaking said that it will fully cooperate with the police probe and will prevent such accidents in the future.



keeping a pet at home, such as not letting it run free without a leash in the society and will ensure no complaint is received from neighbours regarding any nuisance caused by the pet. In July, the SMC received 436 applications from dog owners for getting their pet registered, out of which licences were issued to 291 applicants.

As per the rules, only one dog is permitted in a flat. Sunil Patel, who works in a diamond factory in Katargam, was not as lucky as Rao. He has a German Shepherd and a Pug, and his application for a pet licence was rejected as his neighbours have complained against his pets.

"These dogs were given to us by my friends who had shifted abroad three years ago. We keep the dogs inside our home. A few days ago, we received a notice from the Katargam zone of the SMC, stating that the neighbours had complained about the dog. My neighbours have objected that the dog barks loudly at night. It is the tendency of the dogs – if they see some unknown persons, they will bark. We have submitted all the documents and applied for registration and licence. But we

could not get signatures from our neighbours so our application was rejected".

Talking to the Indian Express, Surat Municipal Corporation market department Superintendent Digvijay Ram said, "Everyday, we are getting the documents from dog owners with the necessary documents to get the pet dog registered. Six applications were rejected, and 136 are under process." Dog Owners and Welfare Committee president Geetanjali Italia said, "A few days ago, we made a representation to SMC Commissioner Shalini Agrawal and urged her to drop the clause on obtaining clearance from 10 neighbours and consent of the president and secretary of an apartment for getting the registration of dogs. There is no resolution yet, so we will meet her again".

## Overpraise: When good isn't good enough

What in tarnation is this? If praise is the positive, overpraise is a negative—too much of something that destroys the original. I would define overpraise to be just that. We seem to live in a society that thrives on doing this again and again. Listen carefully to the words we use. Without sounding oblique and pedantic, I will dip into a piece of research that we just concluded among a chain of kindergarten schools (if you can call them that today) located across India's top 8 cities.

The idea is to elicit what is being done in early-learning schools across India. How have things changed? And most certainly, what's working and what's not. Without dipping into the macros elicited, let me just focus on the singular issue of overpraise. Within our schools, teachers are taught to be kind and nice. Gone are the days of the strict teacher and the stern voice. Every good teacher is trained to be kind, sweet and firm when needed. The definition of this very firmness is different though. Teachers in early-learning schools are encouraged to use the positive word, the kind and understanding tone, the encouraging tenor and a low decibel voice. The idea is to get our kids moving ahead the way the whole world moves, with a positive vibe. The philosophy revolves around a positive mental attitude that we need to develop in our tiny-tots. Our observational piece of research brings up one big point to note though. Older teachers are on the back foot and have adapted themselves to the new regime of praise and overpraise. Every child is appreciated much more than scolded. Gone are the days of the strict teacher. In fact teachers are called teachers no more even. Gone is the stentorian voice. The word NO is replaced by gentler goad words.

The spirit of experimentation is not curtailed at all. And gone of course are the punishments and the reproaches that all of us have grown up with in early life. The idea is to immerse yourself into a learning environment that is kind and committed. Till here, all is good. What does not seem to be such a good thing is the theoretical number of 88, which is the percentage of teachers who do believe that praise is the best thing to heap on a child. Every child is praised. Every action is viewed from the prism of praise. In the bargain, overpraise is a disease that has entered even our early-schooling formats for tiny tots. Now let's move quickly into our homes. How do we bring up our little children? Praise again is the dominant format adopted. A child used to praise in school wants it at home as well. What better people to get it from than your very own dear parents. Our parents in the big cities with kids schooled in the best of schools heap praise in abundance on their kids. Every action has words associated to it. You are a "good boy" is a common one. When good loses power as a positive word, in comes the "great" word, "wonderful", "brilliant" and "wow" are cousin words that have made an entry into the modern Indian household. Gone again are the harsh taunts, the sarcastic remarks, the punishments (again), the time-outs in the corner, the finger-on-the-lips routine, and most certainly the occasional beatings. Anyone remember any of this, or am I imagining it all as a manner in which a whole generation of us Indians have been brought up in the past? And many of us have gone on to head corporations, academic institutions, governments and have equally become scientists and presidents and more. The times in modern India in its big cities and its big schools and its big homes have changed. Our kids are being brought up in an environment of abundant praise. Too much praise even. The word is overpraise. Let me jump quickly to our work environments then. The same seems to prevail by and large. The corporate workplace which is my consulting playground is rife with it.

## The futility of banning books

J&K's ban of 25 books while a govt-backed literary festival was on sent contradictory messages. The history of book bans show they are ineffective and heighten interest in the works. This ban also raises questions of the timing, after the books had been available for years

On August 5, as the Chinar Book Festival backed by the central culture ministry unfolded in Srinagar, the Jammu and Kashmir administration under Lieutenant-Governor Manoj Sinha banned 25 books, branding them as promoters of "false narratives" and "secessionism". Works by A G Noorani, Sumantra Bose, Arundhati Roy, and Victoria Schofield—texts on Kashmir's history and human rights—were targeted under Section 98 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, with penalties for possession or distribution ranging from three years to life. How ingenious is it for a government to run a grand festival and simultaneously cancel books? The J&K home department justified the ban as a necessary purge of "secessionist literature". The order claims these books—such as Noorani's The Kashmir Dispute 1947-2012 and Roy's Azadi—radicalise youth by "distorting historical facts, glorifying terrorists, vilifying security forces, and fostering grievance, victimhood, and terrorist heroism". Police raids on Srinagar bookstores followed, although no confirmed seizures have been reported. The books, many of which were published years ago by the likes of Penguin and Routledge, raise a question: why now, when their presence has long been acknowledged? Since 2019, the central government has funded literary festivals in Kashmir. These events profess to celebrate ideas, yet the ban and measures like this set back the progress that the Indian State claims it is making in Kashmir. Since the 2019 revocation of Article 370, J&K, as a Union territory, grants the L-G sweeping powers under the J&K Reorganisation Act 2019.

Amendments to the Transaction of Business Rules in July 2024 further entrenched the L-G's control over police, public order, the Anti-Corruption Bureau, and prosecution sanctions, sidelining Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, whose National Conference won the November 2024 elections. Abdullah has opposed the current ban. He has gone on record that he has never banned a book and never will. Not that what he thinks makes much difference. Surely, he must wonder the point of running an elected government when the real

power rests with the Raj Bhawan. The ban's timing—on the sixth anniversary of Article 370's revocation—suggests a calculated move to reassert central control. The state home department cites "systemic dissemination" of secessionist literature, but the abrupt order naturally lacks transparency or judicial review.

Book bans are a tired tool of power. In 35 CE, Roman emperor Caligula banned The Odyssey for its themes of freedom, fearing rebellion. Assassinated in 41 CE by the Praetorian Guards for his tyrannical rule, Caligula's censorship failed to suppress Homer's work; a couple of millennia later, he would have been furious to know about the sell-out of Christopher Nolan's movie version

Nabakov's Lolita, James Joyce's Ulysses, and Mark Twain's Adventures of Tom Sawyer among them. Each country finds its suitable books to burn. But none of them stayed ashes forever. You can defeat a good writer, but you cannot destroy his/her book. Still, the boycott and mania have continued to grow. Social media-driven boycotts, from films to jewellery, echo this impulse to control narratives and are learned from rulers past and present. India seems to be growing more intolerant. "Where they burn books, they will, in the end, burn human beings too," said German poet Heinrich Heine. In 2025, banning books is about as medieval as you can get in a digital world. The targeted texts are available as ebooks or PDFs on Amazon, Google Books, or pirated sites like LibGen. Anuradha Bhasin, whose A Dismantled State was banned, notes their online ubiquity.

The latest ban signals heightened control in a region scarred by conflict, with hundreds killed since 1989. By targeting scholars like Sumantra Bose, whose Kashmir at the Crossroads seeks pathways to peace, the administration alienates Kashmiris further. The L-G's unilateral action, bypassing the elected government and the central government's contradictory cultural initiatives undermine reconciliation. The ban exposes a timeless trait of power: distrust of the people it claims to serve. Terms like 'false narratives' and 'secessionism'

are highly misinterpretable depending on who is using them, when. Banning books means not much these days on the ground, as they can be accessed freely from either, as it were. On the other hand, if the government is correct and somehow some books have been found threatening the integrity of the country, why have they been in circulation for so long? Equally, will there be more old books to be discovered and damned as time goes by? As of now, all the government seems to have done is to ensure that these books have found a fresh lease of life.



of The Odyssey a year ahead of its release.

In 1497-98, the Florentine friar Girolamo Savonarola's "bonfires of the vanities" put to the torch "immoral" texts; yet, he was eventually executed by the pope and immoral literature continued to flourish. The Nazis' 1933 book burnings included works by Einstein and Kafka, whose works endure. In India, Rama Retold (1954) and The Da Vinci Code (2006) faced bans for offending religious sentiments, yet remain accessible online. There have been other banned books, like D H Lawrence's Lady Chatterley's Lover, Vladimir

## Punishing man's best friend for govt failure inhumane, impractical

### If the population of dogs has exploded to the point of man's best friend being seen as a 'menace', the fault and failure is not of the ABC policy—or the dogs—but its implementation

The Supreme Court's directions to the National Capital Region's authorities to round up all stray dogs and put them in shelters within eight weeks fly in the face of the Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023. India relies on sterilisation and immunisation to control the population of stray dogs and prevent the spread of diseases like rabies. The responsibility belongs to local bodies to implement the policy. If they had done so as mandated, the difference would be noticeable on our streets. However, this has rarely been the case, more so during the Covid years when the local bodies were occupied in managing the pandemic. There have been increasing reports of stray dogs attacking residents, including children and the elderly. According to the government's Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme, there were 37,15,713 dog bite cases (25,210 in Delhi) in India in 2024, compared to 30,52,521 (17,874 in Delhi) in 2023. There were 54 rabies deaths in 2024, against 50 in 2023 (zero in Delhi for both years). Therefore, the issue is extremely important. However, the top court's response



appears to be a case of impractical

The government of India, from when the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act was enacted in 1960, has adopted a humane approach that balances the rights and needs of humans against those of animals, including dogs. Dogs are

a unique species that co-evolved with humans to become companions. If their population has exploded to the point of man's best friend being seen as a 'menace', the fault and failure is not of the ABC policy—or the dogs—but its implementation. Beyond being cruel and inhumane in the name of protecting humans, the SC's directions cannot possibly be implemented. Delhi reportedly has a stray dog population of 10 lakh: consider the number of shelters to be set up, land to be acquired, and staff to be trained and recruited to undertake the care of these animals for the rest of their natural lives. Most existing dog shelters run by local authorities are frequently flagged for being poorly staffed and maintained, with animals often left to suffer and die. The safety of humans is undoubtedly important; but what does it say of our humanity if we are so willing to blithely vanish an entire species of animals from a region when more humane solutions are available?

## India has a stake in the Alaska summit

### The US will find India to be much less of a spoiler for President Trump's peace efforts than many of his European allies.

INDIA has welcomed with alacrity and good timing the upcoming Trump-Putin summit in Alaska. It has done better by offering help for the success of the August 15 meeting. Usually, such high-stakes, high-risk meetings are planned meticulously. They are prepared for success. This will be the first meeting between leaders of the US and Russia after the 2021 Geneva summit between Presidents Joe Biden and Vladimir Putin. That summit was meant to size each other up, particularly on Ukraine, and explore if a modus vivendi on this issue and the overall relationship could be found. Something, however, went horribly wrong. The summit failed, and Russia did the unthinkable by launching a military campaign against Ukraine a few months later in February 2022.

Since then, East-West relations have collapsed to their lowest ever since the 1950s. The world has been transfixed, like a deer caught in the headlights of an approaching truck, unable to sidestep the impending disaster. It has been witness to and the victim of an ugly and brutal war - a war whose battlefield has straddled the vast plains of the Donbass and Kursk and the digital world of international banking and financial flows. All instruments of warfare have been deployed, and countries have been asked to make clear-cut choices. The world, in effect, stumbled from the Covid crisis to the Ukraine crisis, in what is now a five-year cycle of global upheaval starting from 2020.

All countries have a stake in the success of the Alaska meeting. This is self-evident for the parties and regions directly concerned, but is equally true for a non-party like India. India has had to walk a thin line between two opposing sides with whom it managed to build significant relations through painstaking effort, straining every sinew in the bone.

After the conflict began, India jumpstarted its relations

with the US and Europe, and fought a rearguard battle to keep its Russia ties alive. India has been under the scanner for what were normal ties with Russia for decades. It has paid a heavy price due to crippling Western sanctions against Moscow, and is now itself the target of these sanctions. It is in India's interest that the Ukraine war ends and tensions ease. India is at a stage of development where it needs relationships with all major powers — the US, EU, Russia and China, besides key partners such as Japan, Australia, South Korea and the Global South. One example of how India's domestic and external needs fuse and affect policy is the energy sector. The issue of contention is India's oil imports from Russia. In an atmosphere of sensationalism, it is important to keep facts straight.

India is not a traditional importer of Russian oil. It is Europe that helped Russia monetise its oil and gas wealth for the past many decades. Prior to 2022, India's trade with Russia hovered around \$15 billion or even less, of which oil imports was an insignificant fraction. Russian oil was not a sanctioned item after the war broke out, but only subject to a price cap. India entered the Russian oil market to protect its economy from high energy prices when there was a surge in European demand from non-Russian sources. Indian companies bought Russian oil at discounted prices offered to them amidst the many other headwinds facing the economy. Some of this was for domestic consumption and the rest was refined and exported, including to Europe. This prevented overheating of the global energy market. The decision

of Indian companies was commercial, not political. As markets stabilise and price differentials reduce, Indian oil and gas imports will begin to diversify and find

its economy. Any Indian government will have to think long term to ensure it maintains access to these resources. The first step in ensuring such access is to maintain good political relations with Moscow.

India's relations with Russia are not aimed at hurting its ties with other friendly countries. Among other things, they prevent Russia from retreating and being sucked completely into the Chinese embrace. There is a geopolitical logic behind India's Russia relationship, just as there is a compelling logic for Moscow to keep its channels open with New Delhi because it too wants to maintain its strategic independence.

The imposition of 25 per cent penalty tariff on India by the US for buying Russian oil is a stiff punishment for an activity that has been the subject of intense discussion with the US and Europe over the past three years, and at a time when the US is itself in discussion with Russia to normalise relations.

There will not be many bright spots left in the global economy if even the Indian economy were to be hit. India has, of course, been doing its part to counsel Russia to pursue diplomacy. The US will find India to be much less of a spoiler for President Trump's peace efforts than many of his European allies.

It is significant that President Putin called PM Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping in the run-up to the Alaska summit, and it is in the backdrop of this most promising peace effort since 2022 that an India-Russia summit is expected later this year in India — for the



other options, including the US. India's imports are going to grow and it will always be in search of affordable and reliable sources of energy.

Apart from energy, Russia possesses other resources and raw materials which India needs for its development. These are just as critical for India's growth and economic security as are export markets for its goods and services and sources for technology. China has already secured a lot of its needs from Russia that fuel

# NFR Celebrates Patriotism through “Har Ghar Tiranga” Campaign

**The Sikh Times**

Maligaon: In a heartfelt tribute to India's journey to freedom, the Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) proudly leads the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign 2025, celebrating the nation's independence and inspiring patriotism among its staff. The enthusiasm was evident at the General Manager/NFR (Construction) office, where Shri Arun Kr. Chaudhary, General Manager/NFR (Construction) led a gathering of officers and employees united in their dedication to the nation's values. The event was a true celebration of collective pride and commitment. As part of the 4th edition of the Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign, the Personnel Department/Construction Organization organized a Tiranga Yatra. More than 200 officers, staff and representatives from NFR, NFRMLU along with senior officials, marched with great patriotism waving the Indian National Flag, raising slogans and inspiring communities to bring the Tiranga into every home and heart. To further encourage participation, a selfie booth was set up at the GM/Con/NFR office premises, motivating personnel to capture and share their pride on the national platform harghar-tiranga.com, turning individual enthusiasm into a collective celebration. Alongside these activities, a short film highlighting the

importance of the Tiranga and India's freedom struggle was screened in the conference hall, inspiring a renewed sense of duty



and pride among officers and staff. Shri Arun Kr. Chaudhary encouraged everyone to uphold honesty and integrity values that truly define patriotism and public service. In a meaningful gesture, NFR distributed

National Flags to all officers and staff to hoist at their homes from 13th to 15th August 2025, ensuring that the tricolor flies not only

## Probe ordered after BJP MLC's son argues with traffic cop over parking

**Lucknow. (Agency)**

AN INQUIRY has been ordered into an altercation between a traffic police head constable and the son of BJP MLC Chaudhary Rishipal Singh in Hathras on Monday. The incident occurred in the Sasnai area, where Head Constable S P Singh allegedly asked the MLC's son, later identified as Aligarh resident 28-year-old Tapesh Singh, to move his vehicle, claiming it was obstructing the road. This request reportedly sparked a heated exchange between the two.

A video of the purported incident has since surfaced on social media, drawing public attention and prompting authorities to look into the matter.

The footage shows the traffic constable, apparently unaware of the identity of the person in the vehicle, recording the entire exchange on his phone, while another police officer at the scene is seen trying to defuse the situation. The head constable is also heard saying that he would upload the video on social media. In the video, S P Singh is purportedly heard alleging that when he asked Tapesh (the MLC's son) to move his SUV parked on the road, he was told, "Bhaag yahan se" ("Get lost"). Singh is also purportedly heard saying in the video that he is 55 years old and "more educated" than Tapesh. He further remarks that Tapesh's actions are "tarnishing" his father's reputation. He is also purportedly heard telling him (MLC's son) that he was

"misusing" the government's authority. In response to Singh, the MLC's son is heard saying that he was showing respect because he (Singh) is 55 years old. He is also purportedly heard telling Singh that he (Singh) was "damaging" the government's reputation, while claiming that he himself had been speaking politely.

Shortly afterward, the MLC's son left the spot in his vehicle. The constable later told another person, who was also recording a video, that the vehicle had been parked on the road and, when he asked that it be moved, he (MLC's son) replied, "Bhaag yahan se" ("Get lost").

The constable added that he did not know the man's identity, as he had not introduced himself, but the vehicle had "Vidhayak" (legislator) written on it.

Head Constable S P Singh could not be reached for comment, but when contacted, BJP MLC Chaudhary Rishipal Singh claimed that there was "no issue". He claimed that the vehicle was parked on the roadside while they were waiting for the driver, who had gone to get water. According to him, the video shows that there was "no traffic jam and vehicles were moving smoothly".

He, however, alleged that S P Singh "deliberately provoked" his son in a planned manner and recorded the video with the intention of tarnishing both the government's image and his personal reputation.

## 2 held for raping woman with hearing and speech impairment in UP's Balrampur

**Lucknow. (Agency)**

Two men were arrested in Uttar Pradesh's Balrampur on Tuesday night for allegedly raping a 22-year-old woman with hearing and speech impairment while she was returning home on Monday, the police said. The men were arrested following a shootout with the police, during which both were injured.

The police identified the accused, who are in their 20s, as Ankur Verma and Harshit Pandey and said they were arrested under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita sections related to gang rape. "Their identities were confirmed through CCTV footage, and they have confessed to the crime," Vikas Kumar, Superintendent of Police, Balrampur, said.

According to police, on Monday evening, they received information that a woman, who had left her maternal uncle's house, had not reached home, leading her family to look for her. When her family found her, she was allegedly crying, with her clothes in disarray.

At home, the woman used sign language and conveyed to her mother that she had been raped, the police said. She conveyed that two men on a motorcycle offered her a ride on the pretext of dropping her at her house. Instead, they took her to a spot and raped her, she allegedly revealed to her mother. The family reported the incident to the police, who registered a case and sent the woman for a medical examination. "The medical report confirms sexual assault. The victim's condition is stable, and she has been discharged from the hospital," a police officer said.

During the investigation, and with the woman's assistance, the police identified the crime scene and collected CCTV footage from the area, using which the accused were identified. Ankur, who runs a shop near the woman's maternal uncle's house, knew her, the station house officer (SHO) of the jurisdictional police station said.

## Dharmasthala mass burial case: BJP seeks interim report on SIT probe

**BENGALURU. (Agency)**

BJP on Tuesday demanded that the state government release an interim report on SIT's investigation into the alleged Dharmasthala crimes. Raising the issue during Zero Hour, Karkala MLA and former minister V Sunil Kumar said BJP welcomes SIT probe.

But in the name of the probe, some news channels and social media platforms have been spreading misinformation and hurting the religious sentiments of the people. Initially, the person, who claimed to have buried some bodies at Dharmasthala, identified 13 spots. But now, the number has increased.

Sunil Kumar demanded that Home Minister G Parameshwara release the interim report. "How long will the exhumation continue? People want to know where the probe has reached," he said.

He sought to know whether SIT will continue the exhumation operation if more people come forward, claiming that they know places where bodies have been buried at Dharmasthala. He said BJP will not tolerate if misinformation and allegations against Dharmasthala temple management are spread. Rajajinagar MLA S Suresh Kumar said minister in-charge of Dakshina Kannada Dinesh Gundu Rao had initially stated that local police were capable of handling this case. But the government constituted the SIT, yielding to pressure by some organisations.

But Parameshwara said the government cannot give interim report till the probe is completed. BJP demanded the government reveal the identity of the masked complainant.

**CHENNAI. (Agency)**

After negotiations between the Greater Chennai Corporation and the protesting conservancy workers stopped on Sunday evening, the civic body in a detailed statement on Tuesday urged the protesters to "resume work" through the private company that has now bagged the contract for solid waste management in Zone 5 (Royapuram) and Zone 6 (Tondiarpet).

It asked the workers to do so forthwith, keeping "public health" in mind while looking forward to the outcomes from the Madras High Court and the Industrial Tribunal, where matters related to the workers' concerns about privatisation of solid waste management are pending.

Meanwhile, members of AICCTU-LTUC-Uzhaippor Urimai Iyakkam (UII),

representing the workers, petitioned GCC Commissioner J Kumaragurubaran, urging him to convene a meeting in the presence of Labour Minister CV Ganesan and Labour Commissioner SA Raman to resolve the issues.

Highlighting that it has made it clear that job security of all the temporary workers working in these two zones directly under GCC would ensure "100%", GCC in its statement said around 300 such temporary workers have now joined CESPL (of the Ramky Group) that has taken the contract.

However, UUI president K Bharathi said only 38 workers had joined CESPL, allegedly under pressure from councillors.

While the protesting workers' concerns over

reduction in salaries if they joined CESPL is yet to be addressed clearly, GCC's release

under existing labour laws, including PF, ESI, bonuses and paid leaves.

Bharathi, meanwhile, said despite the benefits listed by GCC, the reality was that the overall salaries of the workers would come down. Moreover, he questioned the need for the then opposition leader and present CM MK Stalin's condemnation of privatisation in 2020, when the government is now saying that it is merely following the same.

Meanwhile, Minister for Municipal Administration KN Nehru, while talking to media in Tiruchy, said he held talks with union representatives on four occasions and that CM was taking all steps to end the protest amicably.

## Bengaluru techie held for converting international calls into local ones

**BENGALURU. (Agency)**

A 35-year-old software engineer was arrested by the Central Crime Branch (CCB) for allegedly converting international calls into local ones using a SIM box and facilitating cyber financial fraud. The racket was being operated from a data centre in Whitefield.

The police have seized six SIM boxes, 133 SIM cards, 12 data storage servers, an Internet Protocol Private Branch Exchange, a network router, and other equipment worth Rs 10 lakh. "There is information that similar operations are being carried out at 2-3 other places," the police added. Ahmed was taken into custody for seven days.



He confessed to running the operation with two accomplices who are currently abroad. According to police, Vodafone received an alert from the Department of Telecommunications regarding an illegal SIM box operation

that converted international calls into local ones. The activity was traced to an IT park in ITP, Whitefield, where around 107 SIM cards of the service provider were misused in SIM box devices to route unauthorised or fraudulent calls.

The accused, who was running a data centre as a front office, was allegedly running the racket in the back end. Even those working in the data centre did not know about this.

running a data centre as a front office, was allegedly running the racket in the back end. Even those working in the data centre did not know about this.

It is for general information that I, RAMA S. DEV, S/o BASU DEV R/o 32/20, Block #32, Galli No. 8, Bhikam Singh Colony, Vishwas Nagar, Shahdara, East Delhi, Delhi - 110032 declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as KALU and B DEV in my Driving License No. DL1RQ 2466. The actual name of mine and my Father are KALU RAM and BASU DEV which may be amended accordingly.

It is for general information that I, MAMTA DEV, W/o MONTO, R/o House No. 227, Galli No. 14, Agra Vihar, Mandi Marg, New Delhi, Delhi - 110048 declare that name of mine and my Husband has been wrongly written as MAMTA and MONTO in my minor Daughter namely KRITIKA, aged 15 year in her School Record. The actual name of mine and my Husband are MAMTA DEVI and MONTO respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

It is for general information that I, MAMTA S/o YADAV, Residing at E-15/44-45, Sector-8, Rohini, PC Rohini Sector - 8, Dist: North West Delhi, Delhi-110085, declare that name of my Mother has been wrongly written as KIRAN in my 10th and 12th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of my Mother is DINA YADAV, which may be amended accordingly.

Sr. DEE, Ranganya

### PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to public at large on behalf of my client Smt. Geetanjali Jindal in respect to Freehold Built-up Property bearing no. 185, with its Terrace, area measuring 36 Sq. Meter stating that Smt. Geetanjali Jindal has undisputed ownership vide Sale Deed dated 04.04.2025 executed by Me. Sandhya Alias Sandhya Mehra, Doc. No. 2025/15/5695. Now my client has

changed my name and shall hereafter be known as JYOTI GULATI, for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SHIVAM S/o RAM JAT, RESIDENCE NO. 104, Sector 10, Noida, UP, 201301, declare that name of mine and my Father has been wrongly written as SHIVAM and RAM respectively.</

# "I Will Look Into This": Chief Justice On Supreme Court Order On Stray Dogs

**►Chief Justice BR Gavai assured a review of the ban on stray dogs in Delhi-NCR**  
**The top court ordered shifting stray dogs from residential areas to shelters**  
**The order responded to rising dog bites and rabies cases in the region**

**Agency New Delhi.**

Chief Justice of India BR Gavai has assured a relook at the ban on stray dogs on the streets of Delhi-NCR amid an uproar from several quarters of society. The top court had Monday ordered shifting all stray dogs from residential localities to shelters in view of rising dog bites and rabies cases, drawing mixed reactions. Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) welcomed

the order, but animal activists argued that civic bodies lacked funds for such a shifting exercise.

The issue was raised before the Chief Justice this morning. He was also apprised of a previous court order that barred the relocation and killing of stray dogs and mandated the following of existing laws.

"I will look into this," replied the Chief Justice, adding to the hopes of thousands of animal lovers who differed with the top court on the need to relocate dogs from the streets of Delhi-NCR. The instance that the counsel pointed out is a May 2024 order by a bench of Justice JK Maheshwari, which had sent similar petitions to High Courts and observed, "Exhibiting compassion to all living beings is a Constitutional value."

Monday's order was passed by a bench of Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan, taking note of news reports on the rising

dog bite cases. "We need to pick up round up with whatever means to ensure dog-free locality, and that's how children and the aged will feel safe," the bench had said, making it clear that no petitions by dog lovers or any other party would be heard.



"We are not doing this for us. It is for the

including politicians and celebrities. An urgent appeal was sent to the CJI by actor John Abraham seeking a review of Monday's order.

Former Union minister Maneka Gandhi, also an animal activist, called the top court directive "impractical", "financially unviable," and "potentially harmful" to the region's ecological balance.

PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals), the foremost voice for animal rights in the country, also weighed in. Such large-scale displacement is both unscientific and ineffective, warned a senior PETA doctor. "Communities think of neighbourhood dogs as family, and the displacement and jailing of dogs is not scientific and has NEVER worked... It will also ultimately do nothing to curb the dog population, reduce rabies or prevent dog bite incidents," said a statement by Dr Mini Aravindan, PETA India's Senior Director of Veterinary Affairs.

## Amit Shah Hoists Tricolour Flag, Calls 'Har Ghar Tiranga' A Unifying Thread

**Agency New Delhi.**

As part of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday hoisted the national flag at his residence in New Delhi, describing the movement as one that binds the nation in unity and reinforces the spirit of patriotism. Over the past three years, the campaign has transformed into a mass movement, with citizens from diverse walks of life participating enthusiastically in both online and offline activities across the country.

In a post on X, Home Minister Shah wrote, "Today, under the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign, I hoisted the Tricolour at my residence. The 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, initiated under the leadership of Modi ji, has today become a people's movement that binds the nation in the thread of unity and strengthens the spirit of patriotism."

"This campaign demonstrates that the 140 crore citizens of the country are determined to develop and make the best of the free India that countless freedom fighters realised through their sacrifice, penance, and dedication," he added.

The initiative invites every Indian to proudly bring the Tricolour home and hoist it in celebration of the nation's independence. It aims to kindle a deep sense of patriotism in every citizen and encourage a greater understanding of the significance of the national flag.

Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat on Monday urged people to join the fourth edition of the campaign with full enthusiasm, stressing the need to always uphold the "respect and sanctity" of the national flag.

For this year's edition, more than five lakh young people have registered as volunteers to inspire citizens to participate in the nationwide celebration.

## Sonia Gandhi's name added to voter roll before she was citizen: BJP's big charge



**Agency New Delhi.**

The BJP alleged that Congress MP Sonia Gandhi's name appeared on the electoral rolls three years before she became an Indian citizen as it clapped back at the opposition's claims of voter fraud in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

Former Union Minister and BJP MP Anurag Thakur, addressing a press conference, claimed Sonia Gandhi, who was born in Italy, was added to the voter list in 1980, three years before she became an Indian citizen.

Thakur echoed the claims of BJP IT Cell chief Amit Malviya, who, in a post on X, shared a photocopy of the electoral roll of a polling station from the New Delhi constituency in 1980.

The electoral roll of polling station 145 in Safdarjung Road had the names of Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Sanjay Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi and Maneka Gandhi. Malviya claimed that Sonia still held Italian citizenship at that time. "Sonia Gandhi's tryst with India's voters' list is riddled with glaring violations of electoral law. This perhaps explains Rahul Gandhi's fondness for regularising ineligible and illegal voters, and his opposition to SIR," Malviya tweeted.

## Top Court's 'Voter-Friendly' Point On Bihar Revision, And An IAS-IPS Remark

**Senior Advocate Abhishek Singhvi argued against SIR before the bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi**

**Agency New Delhi.**

Hearing petitions linked to the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter lists in Bihar, the Supreme Court disagreed with the argument that the Election Commission's document check exercise is an "anti-voter" and exclusionary move.



Senior Advocate Abhishek Singhvi was arguing before the bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi this morning when the bench noted that the number of eligible documents during the summary revision of voter lists was seven, but this was raised to 11 for the Special Intensive Revision. Justice Bagchi said, "We get your exclusionary argument from Aadhaar. But the point on the number of documents is, in fact, voter-friendly and not against it. Look at the number of documents by which you can prove citizenship." Echoing his brother judge's view, Justice Kant said, "If they ask for all 11 documents,

it is anti-voter. But if any one document is asked for, then..." Mr Singhvi stressed that the requirement is "exclusionary". "I will show how. An exclusionary test is sought here. See what is asked for... if you don't have land... options 5,6,7 are out. Option 1 and 2 do not exist. Residence certificates are not there. Passport is illusory," he said. Justice Kant intervened and said, "Let us not project Bihar this way". "In terms of All India services, maximum representation is from this state. The maximum IAS,

IPS, IFS (officers) are from there. This cannot happen if the younger population is not motivated," he said. Mr Singhvi responded, "We have very talented scientists etc, from there, but this is limited to a section of people. Bihar has rural, flood-prone areas. There are poverty-stricken areas. What is the point of making a list of 11 documents for them? The issue is that most people in Bihar will not have these documents. We are talking about real, authentic scrutiny." Citing the example of passports, Mr Singhvi said only 1-2 per cent of Bihar's population have passports and put the number at 36 lakh. The bench replied that 36 lakh passport coverage is "good". "You have given 11 documents and three of these 11 documents, the three boxes are empty without notice. The other two are doubtful. So this impressive list of 11 is nothing but a house of cards. It is not overlapping but supplantation," he said.

## Out-Of-Court Mechanism Proposed In Bankruptcy Law Amendment Bill

**Agency New Delhi.**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has proposed an "out-of-court initiation mechanism" for genuine business failures in the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill, 2025. The main objective behind introducing this Bill is to amend the law to improve its operation, enhance its effectiveness, clarify its original intent, and incorporate novel concepts. To incorporate these changes, new provisions have been inserted in the proposed law for the effective implementation of the Code. The Bill categorically states that, "The proposed amendments aim to reduce delays, maximise value for all stakeholders, and improve governance of all processes under the Code. They



seek to modify existing provisions to better align with the overall objectives of the Code and to introduce new provisions that follow global best practices for resolving insolvency."

For the first time, "the proposed legislation introduces a new 'creditor-initiated insolvency resolution process' with an out-of-court initiation mechanism for genuine business

failures to facilitate faster and more cost-effective insolvency resolution, with minimal business disruption". It is expected to ease the burden on the judicial systems, promote ease of doing business, and improve access to credit. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (Amendment) Bill also has a provision for two new frameworks - "group insolvency" and "cross-border insolvency". According to the text of the proposed legislation, the group insolvency framework seeks to efficiently resolve insolvencies involving complex corporate group structures, minimising value destruction caused by fragmented proceedings and maximising value for creditors through coordinated decision-making.

## Rajiv Pratap Rudy Retains Constitution Club Post After High-Voltage BJP vs BJP Battle

**Rajiv Pratap Rudy secured 354 in-person votes and 38 postal ballots. Multiple reports put the victory margin between 64 and 100 votes.**

**Agency New Delhi.**

Incumbent Rajiv Pratap Rudy has clinched yet another term as secretary (administration) of the Constitution Club of India, defeating fellow BJP leader Sanjeev Balyan in one of the most fiercely fought elections in the club's history. The August 12 contest, which is just the fourth such election ever held, turned what is normally a low-key affair into a high-stakes political drama, complete with factional tussles, contrasting campaign styles, and heavyweight voters from across party lines. Mr Rudy, a six-time MP and a former Union minister who handled portfolios ranging from Civil Aviation to Skill Development, is also a licensed commercial pilot and is credited with transforming the Constitution Club's infrastructure during his 25-year tenure. His challenger, Sanjeev Balyan, is a former MP from Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh and a former minister of State for Agriculture and Water Resources, known

for his Jat community base and his earthy, grassroots political style.

Mr Rudy secured 354 in-person votes and 38 postal ballots. Multiple reports put the victory margin between 64 and 100 votes. Mr Balyan mounted a spirited challenge, drawing open backing from BJP colleagues like Nishikant Dubey, while Mr Rudy enjoyed the support of several Opposition MPs. Caste became a factor as community biases were also openly played out.

Tuesday witnessed interesting scenes as former MPs mobilised by both contenders reached the club from different parts of the country. Most BJP ministers, and allies Shiv Sena and TDP, mobilised their support for Mr Balyan, while Mr Rudy relied on his trusted base. A keen watcher of the elections explained that it had become an anti-Rudy election, with his opposing faction challenging the way the club was being run. He explained that the entry of bureaucrats into the club has



taken away the exclusivity of MPs over it, with many, particularly women, staying away from club facilities. But Mr Rudy's supporters had an answer to that. "For years, he has helmed the club, even when the BJP wasn't in power, accommodating Sangh events, party and the Opposition here. He knows how to run a Delhi MPs' club." The Constitution Club, founded in 1947 as a space for members of the Constituent Assembly

and formally inaugurated in 1965, has grown into one of Lutyens' Delhi's most exclusive addresses - part social club, part political salon. Its governing council is headed by the Lok Sabha Speaker, with posts like Secretary (Administration) exercising significant influence over events, facilities, and member engagement. Mr Rudy's long tenure has seen the club transformed from a rundown relic into a plush hub with a spa, swimming pool, restaurants, and modern event spaces. The poll drew 707 of 1,295 eligible voters, one of the highest turnouts in the club's history. The voter list read like the who's who of Indian politics: Amit Shah, JP Nadda, Sonia Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge turned up. Twenty-six rounds of counting were held, and the campaign in the run-up was marked by intense lobbying, late-night calls, and careful caste coalition-building - Mr Rudy drew strong Rajput support and Mr Balyan consolidated Jat and rural MPs.

## NEWS BOX

Brevis' record-breaking century for South Africa ends Australia's 9-match winning streak in T20s

**DARWIN. (Agency)**

Dewald Brevis smacked a record T20 century to help South Africa end the nine-match winning streak of Australia's cricketers as a 53-run victory on Tuesday levelled the three-match series at 1-1. The 22-year-old Brevis bludgeoned eight sixes and 12 fours in his breath-taking 125 not out off 56 balls to surpass Faf du Plessis' South Africa record of 119, made against the West Indies in 2015. Brevis displayed an extraordinary range of shots all around the wicket to propel South Africa to 218-7, after Australia captain Mitchell Marsh had won the toss and elected to field on the same wicket where his team had successfully defended 178 two days before. Australia's top-order batters briefly had a crack at the steep target with Tim David scoring a robust 50 off 24 balls. But once he perished in the 10th over, the wheels came off as the home team was bowled out for 165 in 17.4 overs. "I have not really thought about it (the record), but extremely grateful," Brevis said after receiving his player of the match award. "Just happy we won today, great to be out here on the winning side." Another South



African youngster, Kwena Maphaka (3-57), followed his four-wicket haul in the first game by removing big-hitters Cameron Green (9), Glenn Maxwell (16) and Mitchell Owen (8). South Africa also shrugged off the dew at the venue and held onto some brilliant catches with Ngabayomzi Peter, one of the two changes the visitors made from the first game, holding onto a spectacular low catch at mid-wicket to dismiss Green in Maphaka's first over. In sharp contrast, Australia was scrappy in the field. Substitute fielder Matthew Kuhne dropped Brevis soon after the power-hitter had completed his half century off 25 balls. The ball burst through his hands on the long-on boundary, much to the disappointment of bowler Maxwell.

Maxwell, who finished with 2-44, had earlier seen Adam Zampa drop a skier off Lhuan-dre Pretorius in the powerplay.

## Indian Olympic Association approves bid to host Commonwealth Games 2030

**New Delhi. (Agency)**

The Indian Olympic Association formally approved the country's 2030 Commonwealth Games bid during its Special General Meeting on Wednesday, August 13. News agency PTI reported the development, stating that the SGM decided to make things official much before the deadline day, which is August 31.

The bid for the Commonwealth Games is being seen as India's rising ambition to host international events. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said on multiple platforms that the country wants to host the Olympic Games in 2036, for which India will need a verified history of hosting major events. The Athletics Federation of India (AFI) recently hosted the Continental Tour in Bhubaneswar, a bronze-level competition. World Athletics vice-president Adille Sumariwalla, who was previously at the helm of the AFI, stated that the country will be pushing for bigger events in the near future. Sumariwalla told India Today that India also wants to host the 2029 and 2031 World Athletics Championships — the crown jewel of the track and field world — in Bhubaneswar and Ahmedabad respectively. Earlier in March this year, the IOA had submitted a letter expressing their interest in hosting the 2030 edition of the



Commonwealth Games. India last hosted a major sporting event back in 2010, in Delhi. Sources told India Today that the sports ministry has finalised Ahmedabad as the venue for the event, which is also expected to be the central city if and when the Summer Olympics happen in India. India also wanted to host all those disciplines which were axed from the 2026 Commonwealth Games to ensure that its medal tally is not affected when the event is held in Glasgow. However, that proposal was rejected by CGF.

# Pakistan skittled for 92 as West Indies wins third ODI by 202 runs for historic 2-1 series win

**Pace bowler Jayden Seales destroyed Pakistan's chase with six wickets in the third and final one-day cricket international.**

**TAROUBA. (Agency)**

Shai Hope helped deliver some long overdue good news for the West Indies with a century to inspire the Caribbean cricketers to a series-clinching, 202-run win Tuesday over Pakistan. It was the first bilateral ODI series won by West Indies against Pakistan since 1991 and ended a run of home series defeats across the test and Twenty20 formats to Australia and Pakistan. Hope stroked an unbeaten 120 before pace bowler Jayden Seales destroyed Pakistan's chase with six wickets in the third and final one-day cricket international. The West Indies captain said he was extremely proud of his team. Hope added



there'd been a lot of stress on negatives in the game but now there was "positives to shout about" for West Indies cricket. The big win came in the wake of a two-day emergency summit for Caribbean cricket. Hope attended part of the summit, along with greats including Brian Lara and Clive Lloyd, to help create strategies to lift West Indies back toward the top of the international game. The summit was called after a West Indian lineup

scored just 27 runs in its second innings — one run short of the all-time test record for low totals — while losing the third of three tests to Australia. After losing eight straight matches to Australia and then losing a Twenty20 series 2-1 to Pakistan in Florida, West Indies lost the ODI series-opener to Pakistan last week by five wickets. West Indies leveled the series with a five-wicket victory in the second ODI to stoke hope of a

## Tottenham midfielder Bissouma will miss the UEFA Super Cup for turning up late too many times

**PARIS. (Agency)**

UDINE: Tottenham midfielder Yves Bissouma has been left out of the squad for the UEFA Super Cup against Paris Saint-Germain on Wednesday for disciplinary reasons, an unhelpful distraction to manager Thomas Frank in his attempt to mark his debut with silverware. Bissouma didn't travel to the Italian city of Udine after being late "several times" this offseason, Frank said at a news conference on Tuesday. "The latest time was one too many," he said. "With everything, you need to give your players a lot of love but also have demands and there also need to be consequences and this time there was a consequence for that." The Mali international, who started the Europa League final won by Spurs in May, is into the final 12 months of his contract at the club. Frank said striker Dominic Solanke will be available after injury but will be without attacking midfielders James Maddison and Dejan Kulusevski, who are



long-term absentees, and left back Destiny Udogie. The Danish coach called the Super Cup "a great challenge and an even bigger opportunity." "That's how my brain works — I see opportunities instead of pressure or whatever. So for me, massive opportunity and we will definitely embrace it," Frank

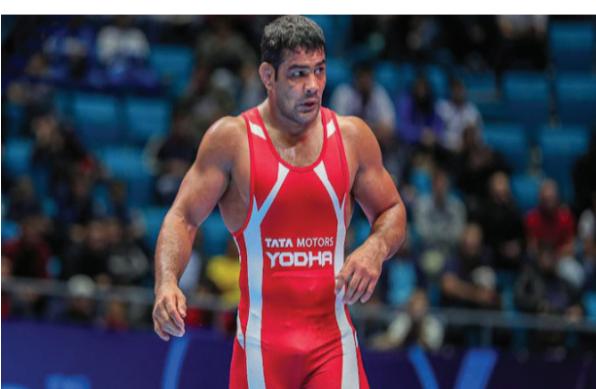
said. "My players, our players, they just won a big trophy six or seven weeks ago, so they had a fantastic experience of doing that and they want to win more." The annual Super Cup match pits the winners of last season's Champions League and Europa League competitions.

## SC cancels Sushil Kumar's bail in murder case, ordered to surrender within a week

**The Supreme Court of India has cancelled Sushil Kumar's bail in the Sagar Dhankar murder case and has ordered him to surrender within a week. Sushil was granted bail by the Delhi High Court in March earlier this year.**

**New Delhi. (Agency)**

The Supreme Court has cancelled wrestler Sushil Kumar's bail in the Sagar Dhankar murder case and has ordered him to surrender within a week. The Olympic medallist had been booked in the murder of the wrestler and was granted bail by the Delhi High Court in March earlier this year. Kumar has been charged with murder, along with rioting, unlawful assembly and criminal conspiracy. He, along with his associates, attacked Sagar Dhankar, his friend Sonu and three others in a parking lot



of Delhi's Chhatrasal Stadium on the intervening night of May 4, 2021, over a property dispute. Dhankar succumbed to his injuries and Kumar was arrested from Mundka in western Delhi after being on the run for over two weeks. Delhi Police named Kumar the main accused in a 170-page chargesheet, citing tensions over Dhankar's reluctance to vacate the flat and rumours that Kumar feared him. He has been in judicial custody since June 2,

2021. According to the police, the conflict began over a flat in Model Town, owned by Kumar, where Dhankar had previously lived. A dispute over rent escalated when Dhankar allegedly abused Kumar, leading to the fatal brawl outside of Chhatrasal Stadium. Dhankar later died from cerebral damage caused by blunt force trauma.

Sushil Kumar, the prime accused in the Sagar Dhankar murder case, has been granted interim bail multiple times. In March 2023, Rohini Court granted him four days of bail on humanitarian grounds to perform his father's last rites. The court allowed his release from March 6-9, 2023 on a Rs 1 lakh bond with two sureties. Later, he was out on bail again from July 23-30, 2023, during which he underwent a knee operation. After these releases, Kumar surrendered in Delhi's Tihar Jail again in August 2023.

## Jayden Seales breaks Dale Steyn's 12-year-old record with menacing spell vs Pakistan

**Jayden Seales registered his best ODI bowling figures He picked up 6/18 in 7.2 overs in 3rd ODI vs Pakistan West Indies beat Pakistan by 202 runs to win series 2-1**

**New Delhi. (Agency)**

Bengaluru's M Chinnaswamy Stadium will not host any matches of the Women's World Cup 2025 after the Karnataka government refused to grant permission, citing serious safety concerns flagged in a judicial commission report on the June 4 stampede.

Sources in the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) confirmed that fixtures originally planned in the city, including the opening ceremony, will now be shifted to other venues. The decision follows the cabinet's approval of Justice John Michael D'Cunha Commission's findings, which deemed the stadium "fundamentally unsafe" for large-scale events. KSCA expressed disappointment, pointing out the stadium's record of successfully hosting over 750 matches and



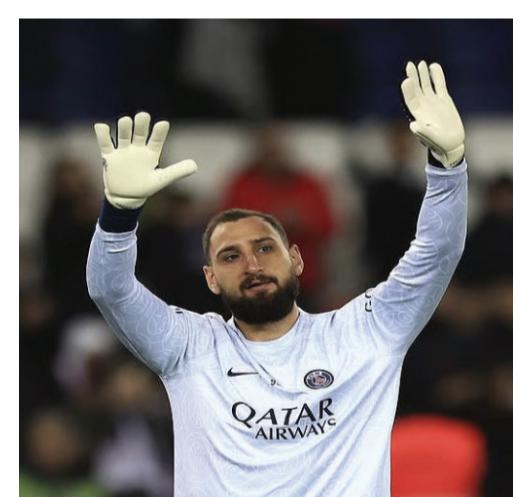
nearly 15 IPL seasons without incident. "Even our request to host matches without spectators was turned down," a KSCA official said, noting that the June 4 event was privately organised, not a cricket match. The commission was set up to probe the IPL victory celebration stampede

outside the stadium that killed 11 people and injured over 50. It concluded that the stadium's "design and structure" are unsuitable for big crowds, citing inadequate entry and exit points, poor connectivity to public transport, lack of queuing areas, insufficient emergency evacuation plans, and minimal parking space. The report warned that hosting large events here posed "unacceptable risks" to public safety. Officials have also alleged lapses in crowd management during the June 4 celebrations, holding RCB, KSCA, event organiser DNA Entertainment, and senior police officers partly responsible. Investigators found that only 79 police personnel were deployed inside the venue, none outside, and no ambulances were present.

**Goalkeeper Donnarumma announces he is leaving PSG after being left out of UEFA Super Cup match**

**PARIS. (Agency)**

Just hours after being left out of Paris Saint-Germain's squad for Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup final against Tottenham, star goalkeeper Gianluigi Donnarumma posted a message saying he is leaving the club. When PSG named its squad for the match earlier on Tuesday, goalkeeper Lucas Chevalier, who recently joined from Lille for just over 40 million euros (\$46 million), was included along with backup goalies Matvei Safonov and Renato Marin. Chevalier's arrival was expected to signal Donnarumma's departure, with the 26-year-old Italy international unlikely to accept being No. 2 if coach Luis Enrique decided so. Donnarumma then posted a message in Italian, English and French on his Instagram account saying he had effectively been forced out. "Unfortunately, someone has decided that I can no longer be part of the group and contribute to the team's success," he wrote. "I am disappointed and disheartened." He bade farewell to fans ahead of the new



season. "I hope to have the opportunity to look the fans at the Parc des Princes in the eyes one more time and say goodbye as it should be done," Donnarumma said. "I will always carry with me the memory of all the emotions, the magical nights and of you, who made me feel at home." Donnarumma did not name the person who no longer wants him in the squad, but in a pre-match news conference PSG coach Luis Enrique explained why he had signed Chevalier. "These are always difficult decisions to make, I know. I can only say good things about Gigi (Gianluigi). He's one of the best players in his position, without a doubt, and he's even better as a person," Luis Enrique said. "We were looking for a different type of goalkeeper."

## Fresh I-T Bill brings clarity on taxation of rental income

**New Delhi.(Agency)**

NEW DELHI: After the Income Tax Bill was tabled in February, concerns mounted among homeowners regarding the computation of rental income from housing property after deducting municipal taxes, and the deduction of pre-construction interest for let-out properties. The newly passed Income Tax Bill 2025 confirms there will be no change in the taxation of rental income nor in deductions claimed on home loans, for both self-occupied and rented properties.

"After February, there was a confusion on whether the tax on the rental income be imposed on the gross annual pay or on the net annual pay received from let-out properties," said CA Gaurav Makhijani, Associate Partner and Head of Tax (North India & Gujarat) at Rödl & Partner India. Under the Income Tax Act 1961, homeowners are taxed on the net annual value of rental income (gross rental income minus municipal tax) and can claim the standard deduction on home loans, whether the property is self-occupied or let out.

The February bill created uncertainty over whether the deduction applied only to self-occupied properties. It also left unclear whether pre-construction interest could be deducted for let-out properties when computing income under 'House Property'.

As per CA Ashish Niraj, Partner, A S N & Company Chartered Accountants, "The Bill has given a clear and crystal view on both the matters. Now it has been explicitly provided that standard deduction of 30% will be calculated on Net Annual Value after deduction of Municipal Taxes. The February bill was giving the opinion that Pre-construction interest will be allowed on self occupied properties only, now it is clarified that pre-construction interest deduction will be allowed for let out properties also." Niraj explained that for pre-construction properties, deductions can be claimed in instalments after possession. For instance, if a homeowner takes a loan for an under-construction property in 2025 and takes possession in 2028, the total deduction for three years (2025-28) will be divided by five and added to deductions in subsequent years. Parliament on Tuesday passed the new Income Tax Bill 2025 to replace the six-decade-old Income Tax Act, 1961, that will be effective from April 1, 2026.

## SpiceJet inks damp-lease agreement for five Boeing 737s planes ahead of winter schedule

**MUMBAI.(Agency)**

Domestic carrier SpiceJet on Wednesday said it has finalised a damp-lease agreement for five Boeing 737s planes ahead of the winter schedule.

The airline currently has 13 Boeing 737s and six regional jets in operation, out of a total of 53 aircraft in its fleet, according to aircraft fleet tracking website Planespotters.com. The remaining 34 remain on the ground. On July 25, the airline also made a similar announcement for five leased aircraft.

"SpiceJet has finalised a lease agreement for another five Boeing 737 aircraft, further strengthening its fleet ahead of the upcoming winter schedule," the airline said in a statement on Wednesday. While most of these aircraft are scheduled to join the fleet in October, a few are expected to arrive a couple of



weeks earlier, the airline said. These additions will cater to the peak winter season and extend into the early summer season of 2026, remaining with the airline until May 2026, the airline said, adding the aircraft will be inducted under damp-lease arrangements. In a damp-lease arrangement, the operational crew is shared between the operator and the airline. SpiceJet said the airline is in advanced discussions to lease more aircraft ahead of the winter 2025 schedule, which starts from October every year.

## TPG, Apax-backed AI company Fractal Analytics files for Rs 4900-crore IPO

**MUMBAI.(Agency)**

Leading private equity firms TPG, Apax and Gaja-backed AI solutions player Fractal Analytics has filed the papers for a Rs 4,900 crore primary share sale with the regulator Sebi. The IPO comprises a fresh issue of Rs 1,279 crore and an offer for sale worth Rs 3,620 crore, the company said Wednesday in the draft papers. The OFS comprises selling of shares (having a face value of Rs 1 each) worth up to Rs 1,362.5 crore by Quinag Bideco; up to Rs 1,999.6 crore by TPG Fett Holdings; up to Rs 29.5 crore by Satya Kumari Remala and Rao Venkateswara Remala; and up to Rs 1,29 crore by the GLM Family Trust. The company also said it may consider a pre-IPO placement of up to Rs 255.8 crore.

Fractal Analytics proposes to utilise the net proceeds from the offer towards investment in one of the subsidiaries, Fractal US, for pre-payment of some of the debt, setting up new office premises; investment in research and development; and sales and marketing under Fractal Alpha. Fractal was co-founded by Srikanth Velamakanni and Pranay Agrawal in 2000. Fractal supports large global enterprises across multiple industry verticals and business functions with data-driven insights and assists in decision-making through end-to-end AI solutions.

# Sebi paper proposes standardised code for smooth transfer of securities to legal heirs

**Sebi said RTAs (Registrar and Transfer Agent), listed issuers, depositories and depository participants will be required to make necessary system changes to adopt the 'TLH' code within three months of the issuance of this circular.**

**New Delhi.(Agency)**

Capital markets regulator Sebi on Tuesday proposed the introduction of a standard reason code to streamline the transfer of securities from nominees to legal heirs and ensure appropriate tax treatment for

such transactions. In a consultation paper, Sebi suggested introducing a specific reason code 'TLH' (Transmission to Legal Heirs) to be used by registrars, depositories and other reporting entities while intimating the Central Board of Direct Taxes about such transmissions. The move seeks to enable proper application of the provisions of the Income Tax Act, 1961. Currently, transmission of securities from nominee to legal heir of the original holder, some transactions are being treated as normal sale of securities. This has resulted in capital gains tax being levied on nominees, even though

clause (iii) of Section 47 of the Act does not consider such transmissions as "transfers" for tax purposes, Sebi said. The regulator noted that the nominee merely acts as a trustee for the benefit of

legal heirs of the original security holder and ultimately the securities which belong to the legal heir(s) are transmitted by the

stakeholders. Based on the working group's recommendations, the markets watchdog has sought to make the reporting process more consistent and transparent. The procedural requirements for transmission of securities will continue governed under the Sebi's LODR (Listing Obligations and Disclosures Requirements) Rules, 2015, and the Master Circular for RTAs dated June 23, 2025, as updated from time to time. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has invited public comments on the draft circular till September 2. Sebi said RTAs, listed issuers, depositories and depository participants will be required to make necessary system changes to adopt the 'TLH' code within three months of the issuance of this circular.



## NSDL rally hits roadblock after Q1 results, shares tumble nearly 5%. What next

**After a strong IPO and initial rally, investors are reassessing NSDL's near-term growth prospects in light of mixed operational performance.**

**New Delhi.(Agency)**

The recent enthusiasm surrounding National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) appears to have paused following the release of its Q1 FY26 results, which saw the company's shares dip nearly 5% during Wednesday's trading session. After a strong IPO and initial rally, investors are reassessing the firm's near-term growth prospects in light of mixed operational performance. NSDL's revenue from operations declined 23% year-on-year to Rs 312 crore in the quarter ended June 30, 2025, down from Rs 337 crore in Q1 FY25, and 14% lower sequentially compared to Rs 364 crore

in the preceding quarter. Despite the dip in top-line performance, the company posted a consolidated net profit of Rs 90 crore, marking a 15% increase from Rs 78 crore a year earlier, while profit after tax grew nearly 8% sequentially from Rs 83 crore in Q4 FY25.



EBITDA surged 27% year-on-year to Rs 115 crore, driven by operating efficiencies that helped offset the impact of a 15% increase in operating expenses, which rose to Rs 81 crore from Rs 70 crore in the previous year. On the business front, NSDL continues to

solidify its market leadership. Its demat account market share improved substantially to 15.5% from 9.4% in Q1 FY25, aided by crossing the significant milestone of 4 crore demat accounts as of June 30, 2025. In the unlisted securities space, NSDL saw growth as well, with 10,392 companies admitted in Q1 FY26. The company's equity market share rose to 73.2% from 70.8% a year ago, underscoring its dominant presence across key market segments. The quarterly performance comes on the heels of NSDL's landmark initial public offering (IPO) in early August 2025, which raised Rs 4,011.6 crore through an offer-for-sale of 5.01 crore equity shares priced between Rs 760 and Rs 800 per share.

The IPO was oversubscribed by over 41 times overall, with institutional investors particularly enthusiastic, signaling strong market confidence in NSDL's role as India's largest securities depository.

## Markets open higher on easing inflation; mixed global cues keep investors cautious

**New Delhi.(Agency)**

Benchmark indices on Dalal Street opened the day on a positive note on August 13, buoyed by encouraging global cues following moderation in US retail inflation for July. India's retail inflation easing to an eight-year low further lifted investor sentiment, helping the S&P BSE Sensex rise over 150 points in early trade. The NSE Nifty50 mirrored this optimism, gaining 71.60 points to trade near 24,559 by 9:25 am. Broader markets also enjoyed mild gains as volatility calmed, though market participants remained wary amid persistent uncertainties. Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Investments Limited, pointed out a puzzling trend: "Despite massive buying from domestic institutional investors (DIIs) and healthy inflows into mutual funds, the Nifty has been

sliding, setting new lows for six consecutive weeks. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) have sold equities worth Rs 18,620 crore in August so far, but DIIs have more than offset this with purchases of Rs 46,272 crore." He explained the drag: "Trump's tariffs and worsening US-India relations have dented market sentiment, encouraging short selling. Combined with tepid earnings growth projections of 8-10% for FY26 and elevated valuations, bears have strengthened their positions. However, any positive geopolitical developments, like the upcoming Trump-Putin talks, could spark a sharp market rebound." Vijayakumar advises investors with a longer-term horizon (3 years and above) to consider accumulating fairly valued largecaps in sectors such as banking, telecom, capital goods, aviation, and select

midcap IT stocks, noting a favorable risk-reward outlook. Meanwhile, technical analyst Amruta Shinde from Choice Broking described the market's cautious mood: "Indian indices are expected to open positive, supported by the GIFT Nifty's indication of a 110-point upturn in the Nifty 50. However, recent price action shows selling pressure at higher levels and failure to break short- and medium-term moving averages, signaling underlying weakness." She flagged key support at 24,400 and 24,300 levels for the Nifty, warning that a break below could extend the correction to 24,000. Resistance levels lie at 24,600 and between 24,700-24,800. Bank Nifty's volatile session ended with a 0.84% drop, forming a pattern suggestive of consolidation amid buyer-seller indecision. Immediate support for Bank Nifty is seen at 55,000.

The benefits have been dramatic. "The same data that was represented inconsistently across three exchanges, for instance, was unified to be consistent in a single format, across numerous data structures," he noted. He also pointed out that such behind-the-scenes reforms often matter more than flashy features investors see on trading apps. "These boring, invisible, background updates are often far more meaningful, impactful, and directly beneficial to retail clients than most shiny frontend features," he said. For retail investors, the result is simple, faster, more reliable trading platforms with lower chances of errors, all thanks to a reform they might never have heard about.

## ChrysCapital takes over Theobroma bakery chain for Rs 2000 crores

**ChrysCapital acquires majority control of Theobroma in a Rs 2,000 crore deal, with the founders retaining only a 10% minority stake.**

**New Delhi. (Agency)**

ChrysCapital has completed a major acquisition of Theobroma, the popular bakery chain, in a deal valued at over Rs 2,000 crores, reported The Economic Times. The private equity firm has acquired approximately 85% of the business from the founding family and ICICI Venture, which has fully exited. Theobroma founders will remain closely associated with the company and retain a minority stake.

### CHRYSCAPITAL'S ACQUISITION DETAILS

ChrysCapital's purchase of an 85% stake marks one of the largest transactions in the food services sector this year.

ET sources report that the value of the deal



exceeds Rs 2,000 crores. ICICI Venture has exited entirely, and the founding family retains around 15% equity and continues to be involved in operations. The Competition Commission of India has given its approval to the deal, confirming that ChrysCapital affiliates - Aqua Investments, Infinity Partners, and Atreides Investments BV are the buyers. The acquisition is structured as a secondary sale of existing shares, with no fresh capital injected into Theobroma at this stage.

### FROM HOMEMADE BAKERY TO

### PAN INDIA BRAND

Theobroma started in 2004 as a single caf in Colaba, Mumbai, founded by sisters Kainaz Messman Harchandrai and Tina Messman Wykes. It has since expanded to over 250 outlets across nearly 45 cities in India, offering brownies, cakes, desserts, chocolates, breads, and snacks. In fiscal year 2024, it posted revenue of approximately Rs 400 crores and an adjusted EBITDA of approximately Rs 60 crores. In fiscal year 2025, revenue is projected to be between Rs 525 and 550 crores, with

EBITDA expected to be between Rs 80 and 100 crores. ChrysCapital views Theobroma as a strong brand with healthy economics and room to grow. Rajiv Batra, Director and Consumer Sector Lead at ChrysCapital, told ET that the company has grown at a rate of 25-30% annually over the past five years. He noted that 60% of its revenue currently comes from food delivery platforms.

**EXPANSION AND FUTURE PLANS**  
ChrysCapital intends to scale Theobroma further. The priority is to expand into eastern India, which remains under-penetrated, and open three to five new cities each year. Expansion will follow demand feedback and maintain product quality. New store formats may be tested, but changes will be gradual and aligned with the brand ethos.

The acquisition is ChrysCapital's first full consumer sector buyout. The firm sees Western desserts and caf culture as a high-growth opportunity in India. It also plans to explore mergers and acquisitions to build a broader Western dessert platform over time.

# Shivangi Joshi

Harshad Chopda's Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4 To Go Off Air? What We Know



Shivangi Joshi and Harshad Chopda have been winning hearts with their performances as Bhagyashree and Rishabh in the romantic drama show, Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4. There were reports that the show is going off air soon, leaving fans to think that they might have to say goodbye to their favourite characters. However, there's finally some good news for the viewers, as it has now been confirmed that Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4 is not going off air.

#### Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4 Going Off Air

According to a report by India-Forums, the producers are preparing for a leap rather than ending the show. This implies fans should expect unexpected twists and turns in the storyline. The leap will bring new plot twists, emotional highs and dramatic moments, keeping fans engaged as before.

While details about the leap remain unknown, it is expected to bring about a change in the programme, possibly introducing fresh challenges for the lead pair. For fans, this means getting to see their favourite performers explore different aspects of their roles. Fans can also expect some new faces joining the show. As per the report, the makers of Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4 are working hard to ensure that the leap feels fresh and adds excitement to the show's ongoing narrative.

#### Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4: Plot

Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4 narrates the story of Rishabh (played by Harshad Chopda), a man caught between his desire for revenge and the power of love. In the current plot, Bhagyashree (played by Shivangi Joshi) has gone to great lengths to help Rishabh's family, taking out a gold loan to cover his father's medical expenses. Rishabh's father is in the hospital, and this gesture of selflessness touches Rishabh deeply. While Bhagyashree's unwavering trust moves him, Rishabh is emotionally conflicted. His past bothers him, especially since Bhagyashree is linked to the person who previously injured his father, his first love. This internal fight makes him wonder if he can expose his heart to someone whose presence reminds him of his darkest wound.

#### Bade Achhe Lagte Hain 4: Star Cast

The show features Yash Pandit, Divyangan Jain, Shivani Sopori, Deepika Khanna, Jyoti Negi, Nitin Bhatia, Nikhil Sharma, Anuj Ahluwalia, Pankaj Bhatia, Avirat Parekh, Krishna Shetty, Rohit Choudhary, Khushbu Thakkar, Anchal Sabharwal, Arushi Handa in significant roles.



# Mrunal Thakur

Shares First Post Amid Backlash Over 'Insulting' Bipasha Basu: 'Stop Staring'

Mrunal Thakur has found herself in the spotlight for both her professional and personal life. While her latest film Son of Sardaar 2 is struggling at the box office, she is also facing social media backlash after an old video resurfaced where she appeared to throw shade at Bipasha Basu. Adding to the chatter are rumours linking her to South superstar Dhanush. On Monday, the actress seemed unfazed by the criticism as she took to Instagram with a series of striking photos in a black outfit and sunglasses, captioned, "Stop staring!" While her fans showered her with praise, detractors continued to reference the controversy. One user commented, "You're lucky people know you now after you used Bipasha's name," while another wrote, "Bipasha is iconic!" "She insulted Bipasha," a third user said.

#### What Mrunal Thakur Said About Bipasha Basu

The clip at the centre of the storm dates back to her Kumkum Bhagya days, where she was seen chatting about fitness with co-star Arjit Taneja. When asked about physical preferences, she remarked, "Go marry Bipasha. Listen, I am far better than Bipasha." The comment has sparked criticism, with many calling it an unnecessary dig at another actress. Netizens were quick to react, with an old Reddit thread resurfacing as well. One user alleged, "She has always been a typical mean girl... she was mean towards her ex on Nach Baliye and has a very

crass way of talking." The clip has now gone viral across social media platforms, fuelling debate about her attitude.

#### Mrunal Thakur and Dhanush Dating Rumours

While her alleged "Bipasha comment" stirred one controversy, her personal life made headlines too. Rumours of a romance with Dhanush began circulating after he attended the Son of Sardaar 2 screening. In a recent interview cited by Only Kollywood, Mrunal clarified, "Dhanush is just a good friend to me." She further explained his



presence at the event, saying, "Dhanush attended the Son of Sardaar 2 event. No one should misunderstand that. It was Ajay Devgn who invited him."

Despite the ongoing chatter, Mrunal seems determined to maintain her focus, letting her work and confident social media presence do the talking.

## Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai: Niyati Joshi Quits Show, Says 'Nothing Lasts Forever'



Television actress Niyati Joshi has quit the popular show, Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai. Recently, the actress took to her Instagram stories and penned down a long note confirming her exit from Rajan Shahi's show. Niyati, who used to play the role of Swarna, did not reveal her reason for leaving YRKKH but shared that she will always cherish the memories she made during her 6-year-long association with the show. "They say that nothing lasts forever. It's time to bid an emotional farewell to my character Swarna in Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai, after six glorious years, but the countless memories. Beautiful friendships and the respect and adulation it brought me will last a lifetime. DKP will always remain my second home. Not easy to say goodbye to something that was close to my heart. YRKKH I will miss you," Niyati wrote.

She further expressed gratitude towards Rajan Shahi and the entire team of Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai and added, "I shall remain eternally grateful to all of you for the wonderful times. A big thank you to all the fans and well-wishers who showed immense love towards my character."

Niyati also made it clear that she is now looking for more opportunities and urged the casting directors to approach her with work. "As I begin a new chapter of my life, I once again feel like a fresher, eager to learn and explore," she concluded. Airing since 2009, Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai holds the title of India's longest-running TV serial. Over the years, it has featured stars like Karan Mehra, Hina Khan, Pranali Rathod, Shivangi Joshi, Mohsin Khan, and Harshad Chopra. Currently, Samriddhi Shukla and Rohit Purohit lead the cast.

The show recently took an exciting leap forward with new characters and a seven-year time jump. Starring Samriddhi Shukla and Rohit Purohit in lead roles, the show continues to captivate audiences. Rahul Sharma has also joined the cast as Anshuman, Abhira's business partner, sparking rumours of romance following Abhira's separation from Armaan.

## Ektaa Kapoor, Rupali Ganguly Lead Celeb Roll Call At Special Janmashtami Utsav



Ahead of Janmashtami 2025, many celebrities from the television space graced the launch event of Kanha Universe by Kaushik Thakkar, Jahnvi Doshi. Among others, Ektaa Kapoor also attended the event. The famous producer was seen entering the venue with the organiser and team members. Dressed in ethnic wear for the event, Ektaa was seen in a sea green suit and minimal jewellery.

Apart from Ektaa, celebrities like Divya Agarwal, Sreejita De, Deepika Singh, Deepshikha Nagpal, Urvashi Dholakia and Tannaz Irani were also present at the celebration. They also were seen dancing on the stage with some other performers.

#### Ektaa Kapoor's Recent Endeavours

Ektaa Kapoor has been in news recently for bringing back the cult show Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahut Thi back on television. Ahead of the premiere of the second season, Ektaa Kapoor and Smriti Irani will visit the famed Nathdwara Temple near Udaipur, Rajasthan, to seek blessings before the show's official launch on July 29. The temple visit, known for its religious significance and cultural history, is seen as a symbol of gratitude for the success of the new season.

#### Ektaa Kapoor Bring Back Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi

Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi has been an important part in Indian television history. The show, which premiered in 2000, became a cultural phenomenon thanks to its complex storytelling, fascinating characters and emotional depth. Returning with a new narrative but remaining loyal to its roots, fans have been captivated by the new story, but also emotionally invested in seeing their beloved Tulsi back on screen. Before release, Ektaa Kapoor spoke about her intentions behind bringing back the iconic show.

She told Brut, "We are coming in for our purpose. To tell our story. These unfair comparisons between lead characters and lead shows is so unnecessary and pitting women against each other, pitting content against each other is so uncalled for." The new chapter also features Hiten Tejwani, Gauri Pradhan, Shakti Anand, Kamalika Guha Thakurta, Shagun Sharma, Rohit Suchanti, Aman Gandhi, Ankit Bhatia and Tanisha Mehta.



## 5 signs you are working in a happy Workplace

### Communication's the word:

In a happy workplace, communication is free flowing. You don't feel that the atmosphere is prison/war room like. There's a sense of openness and willingness to share information. And most importantly everybody knows (from top to the bottom) what's happening on the work front.

**A** happy and healthy marital trust each other is the first and foremost condition - to trust each other. People want to feel safe and confident with the elements which it maintains. The belief that someone is always with you and his behavior will not hurt you. Is believed to be the most important long-term relationships.

### A - The second focus

People who spend long experience of married life that now is being given too much emphasis on autonomy and independence. Live with each other - talk is about to get up, but this dependence should not be negative polarity. In such cases they do not understand is no harm in joining them. He felt that the balance of power among themselves - dependent and - other than taking care of the remains.

### Living with each

Maintaining long term relationships, couples - would feel all the pleasures of being with each other. His Abhirucian and activities are slightly different than usual and had a - to strengthen ties with other partners felt. Even when they live together, one - has considerable interest in the other.

### vein of experience Sey

The texture is the most important part of the history of the partnership relationships. Couples sharing the same experiences also refers to the future. have increased. To face the future with confidence power. - Second confidence grows and builds strong relationships.

### Consider yourself lucky

Many couples said their relationships remain major roles such luck. She also felt themselves lucky that they found such a partner with which they can move forward. The journey of life they themselves fortunate to be relatively easy experience.

### Ability wife welcome

Some men came to the position that his wife suddenly started

# Garden are occupied Life..



Are you working in a happy space? Do you look forward to go back to work on a Monday? There are five simple ways to know that you are working in a happy space

### Involved professionals:

Everybody feels that he/she is a part of the team. And that every single member of the team counts in the larger picture and they are not just cog in the wheels. When people feel involved in their work place, they are naturally happy and ultimately this makes it a happy work zone.

### Opportunities to grow:

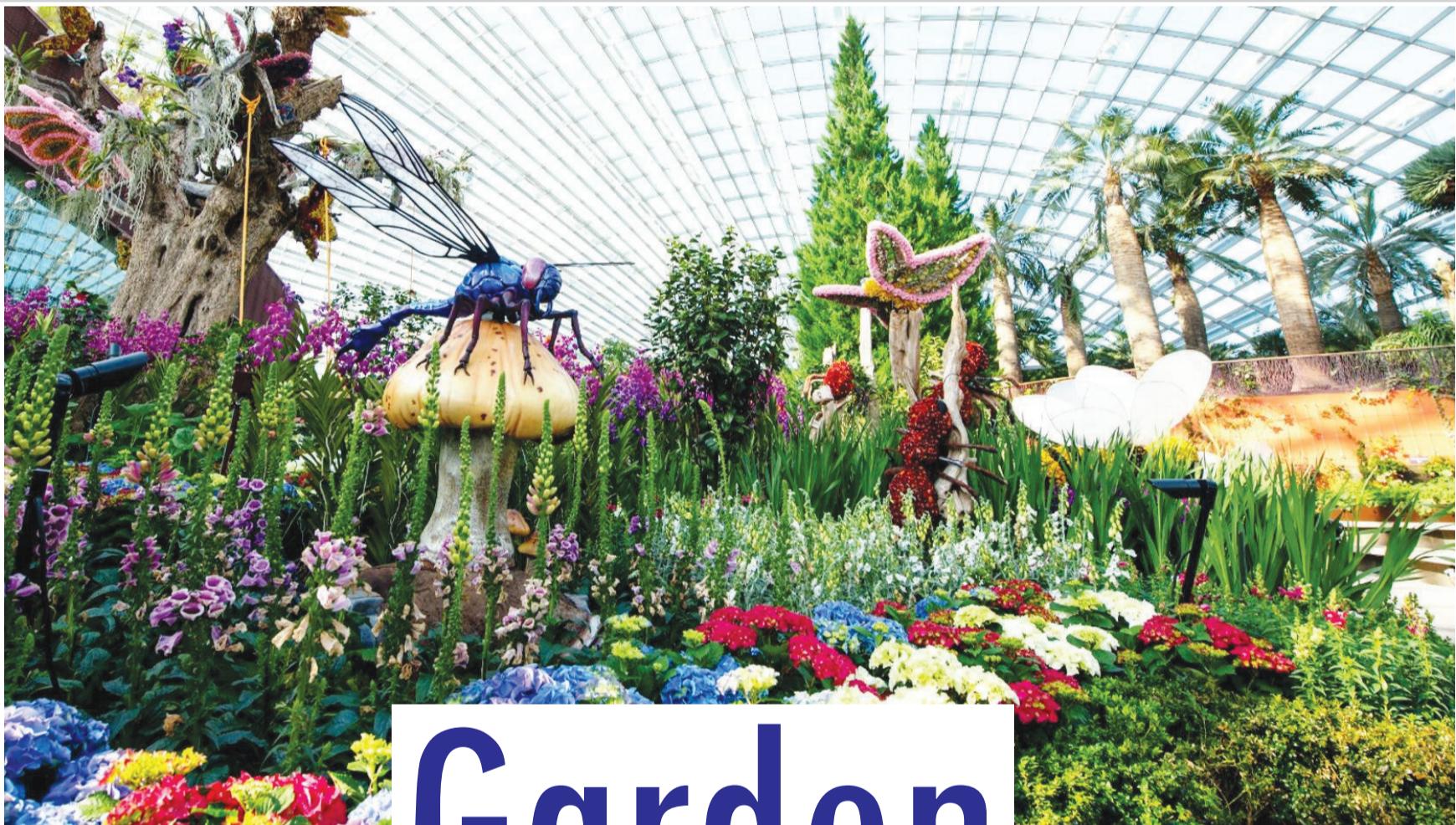
In a happy workplace, team leaders and top bosses provide everyone with the opportunity to advance and grow. They believe in the art of delegation rather than the concentration of power, authority and responsibility. The employees are encouraged to push their creative boundaries and regular opportunities are given for growth.

### Upbeat mood:

If you are looking forward to come to work on Mondays then you are definitely working in a happy space. A happy work place exudes positive energy and instead of grumpy faces, you will notice happy people working, chatting and laughing. It's difficult to miss this kind of warmth.

### Embracing change:

One of the most important factors of a happy workplace is the ability to welcome change. The team should have faith in their ability to be in sync with the changes of their industry or sector. And the top authorities are also equipped to understand the dynamics of change and encourage the team to think differently.



going to work, because the wife felt the need to raise revenue. Leigh was a great event that some of these people, because they were accustomed to seeing the family as the axis. Yet while admitting he needs a creative twist positions and wife welcomed the move. People happy married life has spent so long that he felt the need to change it, he felt no fear. They change as the end of the relationship, not just seen as a situation that was overcome, the strength of the relationship was the most important for them.

### Live with differences

You are a supporter of the party and supporters of the other spouse. He can not change his political views, you must learn to live with these differences. According to psychologists, "such a little - little things are wrangling Do not burn bridges with your sweat and time. Entangled in the same things you can win jointly. This does not mean that you ignore the important issues. The intent is simply to accept the differences as essential truth of life, the habit of living with them. Do not marry the person with whom one can not live without you, but the person with whom you can live with."

### The notion of stability

They know that the household is the same as driving, sitting silently on the other is not. He is trying his behalf.