

## "Among The Most Inspiring Moments In Our History": PM Modi Shares Swami Vivekananda's 1893 Speech

**Swami  
Vivekanand  
preached about  
religious  
tolerance and  
called for an end  
to fanaticism in  
his speech**

New Delhi. (Agency)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday shared Swami Vivekananda's Chicago speech, saying it is among the most celebrated and inspiring moments in our history. On this day in 1893, Swami Vivekananda delivered a speech at the

World's Parliament of Religions in Chicago, regarded as one of the most iconic and remarkable speeches, which described and presented India to the world. Sharing the speech, PM Modi wrote on X, "This speech by Swami Vivekananda, delivered in Chicago on this day in 1893, is widely regarded as a watershed moment."

"Emphasising harmony and universal brotherhood, he passionately spoke about the ideals of Indian culture on the world stage. It is truly among the most celebrated and inspiring moments in our history," the post further reads. Swami Vivekananda preached about religious tolerance and called for an end to fanaticism in his speech, which he started with the words hardly used in formal addresses in those times -- "Sisters and Brothers of America". This was reportedly met with a standing ovation that lasted more than two minutes and introduced India and the

Hindu faith to America. During the speech, he made a passionate plea for religious tolerance and syncretism, which remain relevant even today. His opening para reads, "It fills my heart



with joy unspeakable to rise in response to the warm and cordial welcome which you have given us. I thank you in the name of the most ancient order of monks in the world; I thank you in the name of the mother of religions; and I thank you in the name of the millions and millions of Hindu people of all classes and sects."

Swamiji introduced Hindu philosophy to

the world, and he created an awe in the assembly. "I am proud to belong to a religion which has taught the world both tolerance and universal acceptance. We believe not only in universal toleration, but we accept all religions as true.

I am proud to belong to a nation which has sheltered the persecuted and the refugees of all religions and all nations of the earth."

In his speech, he described how Hindus were tolerant and gave shelter to the persecuted. "I am proud to tell you that we have gathered in our bosom the purest remnant of the Israelites, who came to southern India and took refuge with us in the very year in which their holy temple was shattered to pieces by Roman tyranny. I am proud to belong to the religion which has sheltered and is still fostering the remnant of the grand Zoroastrian nation." The speech also reflected the deep thoughts about tolerance in Hinduism.

**Stop recruiting Indians into military, release all serving nationals: MEA to Russia**

Agency Mumbai.

India on Thursday urged Russia to immediately stop recruiting Indian nationals into its armed forces and demanded the release of all Indians currently serving in non-combat roles such as support staff within the Russian military. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) issued a stern advisory following fresh reports of Indian nationals being inducted by Russian military units.

"We have seen reports about Indian nationals recently recruited into the Russian army," said M. E. A. spokesperson Rakesh Jaiswal. "The government has on several occasions over the past year underlined the risks and dangers inherent in this course of action and cautioned Indian citizens accordingly." Jaiswal confirmed that India has raised the issue with Russian authorities both in New Delhi and Moscow. "We have asked that this practice be ended and that our nationals be released. We are also in touch with the families of the affected Indian citizens," he added. India reiterated its warning to citizens, advising them not to fall prey to offers of employment in the Russian military, highlighting the severe risks involved. "This is a course fraught with danger," the MEA spokesperson said.



## Paid campaign against me: Nitin Gadkari on E20 petrol furore online

Nitin Gadkari blamed a "paid social media campaign" against E20 blending on political motives, and urged people to stop paying attention to misinformed claims.

Agency New Delhi.

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday claimed he was a victim of a "paid political campaign" on social media amid vehement pushback against the government's ethanol-blended fuel rollout. Speaking at the 65th annual convention of the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) in Delhi, Gadkari said concerns about E20 petrol, which blends 20 per cent ethanol with conventional fuel, were being exaggerated online. He asserted that the fuel is safe and backed by both regulators and automakers. "ARAI and the Supreme Court have given

clarity on the E20 programme. There was a campaign on social media to target me politically. It was a paid campaign, so don't pay attention to it," he said.

The Minister has faced growing backlash on social media in recent weeks over ethanol blending and mandatory sale of E20 petrol. Vehicle owners claim the fuel reduces mileage and harms older vehicles not built for higher ethanol blends. Industry experts and some service garages have also reported complaints from owners of pre-2023 models. But Gadkari has consistently touted its efficacy and benefits. At the Business Today India@100 Summit last month,



he had challenged detractors to "show a single instance" of a car being damaged by E20, saying neither the Automotive

pumps, clearing a major legal hurdle for the government's clean-energy policy. Automakers and fuel suppliers have also said warranties remain valid for vehicles designed for E20. The government maintains that ethanol blending will reduce oil imports, lower emissions, and boost farmer incomes. Gadkari reiterated the claim of new income opportunities for farmers. "We took the decision to produce ethanol from maize. As a result, maize cultivation in UP, Bihar, and across the country has tripled," he said. "India's agricultural growth rate has traditionally been low.

## Desperate bid to curry favour with RSS leadership: Congress on PM's praise for Bhagwat

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Congress on Thursday took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his article on Mohan Bhagwat, saying the "over-the-top tribute" to the RSS chief on his 75th birthday was a "desperate bid" to curry favour with the Sangh leadership. Praising Bhagwat for his intellectual depth and empathetic leadership, Prime Minister Modi has said that his tenure as the head of the RSS since 2009 will be considered the most transformative period in its 100-year journey.

In a glowing piece that appeared in several newspapers on Thursday on Bhagwat's 75th birthday, Modi said he

is a living example of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' and has dedicated his entire life to societal transformation and strengthening the spirit of harmony and fraternity.

Congress general secretary in-charge of communications, Jairam Ramesh said, "The Prime Minister, in his desperate bid to curry favour with the RSS leadership, has written an over-the-top tribute to Mohan Bhagwat on his 75th birthday today."

"The PM has recalled that it was on September 11, 1893, that Swami Vivekananda gave his immortal speech

in Chicago. The PM has also recalled that the Al Qaeda terrorist attacks in the

PM has not mentioned that Mahatma Gandhi first gave the call for satyagraha on Sept 11, 1906, in Johannesburg. That was when the world first heard of this revolutionary idea," the Congress leader said on X.

Of course it is too much to expect the PM to remember the origin of satyagraha since the very word satya is alien to him, Ramesh said.

"The PM, who himself claimed to be non-biological, makes his pravachans appear as if they are God-se," he said. The opposition party's dig at the PM came on Bhagwat's 75th birthday.



US took place on Sept 11, 2001," Ramesh said. "But not surprisingly, the

## Blueprint for Pink Urinals in Old Delhi Markets to be Prepared: CM Rekha Gupta

The Sikh Times  
Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, 11 September 2025

Delhi Chief Minister Mrs Rekha Gupta yesterday chaired a comprehensive review meeting on the progress of development works and pending projects in the Chandni Chowk Lok Sabha Constituency. The meeting included in-depth discussions on fundamental issues affecting the constituency and possible solutions. Special emphasis was placed on addressing the challenges of encroachment and traffic congestion across various Assembly segments. The Chief Minister also directed officials to draw up a blueprint for the

installation of pink urinals (women's toilets) in the markets of Old Delhi. The meeting was attended by Praveen Khandelwal, Member of Parliament for Chandni Chowk, along with MLAs, councillors, and senior officials from concerned departments. Responding to requests from public representatives, Chief Minister Mrs Rekha Gupta assumed the role of Minister-in-Charge of the Chandni Chowk Lok Sabha Constituency. This appointment is aimed at ensuring regular communication with elected representatives, close monitoring of development projects, and timely redressal of public grievances. During deliberations, MLAs and councillors raised a number of urgent issues, including park redevelopment,

construction of multi-level car parks, market modernisation, utilisation of DDA land, road repairs, sewer and drain cleaning, as well as repair and installation of streetlights. The Chief Minister took note of these demands and instructed officials to act without delay. She highlighted that the problems of encroachment and

persistent traffic congestion in Old Delhi areas such as Chandni Chowk, Kashmere Gate, and Sadar Bazaar were causing serious inconvenience to residents and traders. She issued clear directives for these challenges to be resolved with immediate effect.

The Chief Minister underlined the importance of better coordination between the Municipal Corporation, Traffic Police, Delhi Jal Board, and other agencies to devise effective solutions for road management and excavation works for water pipelines. She also highlighted the shortage of urinals, particularly women-friendly pink urinals, in Old Delhi markets and instructed officials to prepare plans for their installation at the earliest.

Continued news page 2



Front continued news

## Blueprint for Pink Urinals in Old Delhi Markets to be Prepared: CM Rekha Gupta

Mrs Rekha Gupta further directed that all files relating to projects under the Chief Minister's Development Fund (CMDF) currently awaiting approval should be prioritised, sanctioned without delay, and executed within the stipulated timeframe. She called upon MLAs and councillors to prepare and submit proposals based on their constituencies' needs so that work could be sanctioned and implemented expeditiously.

Expressing concern over the rising number of stray cattle, particularly cows, on the streets of various Assembly segments, the Chief Minister noted that this posed both a safety and traffic hazard and required a humane response. She announced that the government would develop 11 cow shelters across Delhi in phases, equipped with proper facilities for food, medical care, and safe housing. This measure is intended both to reduce stray cattle on the streets and to ensure their welfare.

The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure that all projects are carried out with urgency and transparency, with daily progress updates maintained on the e-file system. She emphasised that MPs, MLAs, and councillors must work in close coordination to ensure that the benefits of development initiatives are delivered swiftly and effectively to the people of the Chandni Chowk Lok Sabha Constituency.

News box

## 20 vehicles seized in Gurgaon after crackdown against illegal loan schemes

**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

Twenty motorcycles and a car were seized from the house of a moneylender who allegedly exploited people through illegal loan schemes. In a crackdown on loan sharks, a police team from New Colony police station conducted a raid on Sep 9 at the residence of Ajinder alias Annu Khatana, a resident of Jyoti Park, after receiving a tip-off. According to police, Khatana ran a moneylending racket. He lent money at exorbitant interest rates. When borrowers failed to pay the inflated amounts, he allegedly seized their vehicles and other properties as collateral. During the raid, officers recovered 20 bikes and one car from Khatana's house.

The vehicles were immediately taken into custody, and their owners were traced. Police said the owners have been instructed to produce documents proving ownership and to record their statements so that further legal action can be taken against the accused.

A senior officer said, "The accused has been exploiting vulnerable people by trapping them in debt. The recovered vehicles are being verified, and action will follow as per law." Officials added that the commissioner of police has directed all stations to act firmly against such illegal money lending practices. They also urged residents to come forward with information about loan sharks and assured them that their identities would be kept confidential.

## After 15 years, GMDA reclaims Sector 31 green belt, razes 100 shanties

**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

The Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) on Wednesday demolished more than 100 shanties spread across nearly three acres of the Sector 31 green belt, ending an encroachment that had persisted for over 15 years. The enforcement drive was carried out along the stretch adjoining NH-48 and Jharsa Road. Officials said the land had initially seen a few makeshift structures, but their numbers steadily grew over the years. According to GMDA, the site was inspected twice in the past and a two-month notice was served to the dwellers to vacate. Despite repeated reminders, the shanties remained, prompting the authority to issue a final 48-hour ultimatum before demolition.

"GMDA is taking strict action against any form of encroachment on green belts and public land. Multiple warnings are issued first, but in case of non-compliance, enforcement action is taken. These drives will continue across Gurgaon," said R S Bath, DTP (GMDA) and



nodal officer for enforcement. Officials said the encroachment had severely worsened sanitation and environmental conditions in the area. Waste dumping into the adjoining drain created foul odour and unhygienic surroundings, causing inconvenience to residents. The authority has started clearing the debris. "Once the green area is cleared, GMDA will also install missing grills on the stretch and take up landscaping and development of the green belts to restore the environment," an official said. The drive was not limited to the green belt. GMDA, along with the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG), has also acted against illegal extensions and vendors blocking footpaths in the Sector 31 market. Officials said nearly 10 joint inspections were carried out, with two enforcement drives making the market 80% encroachment-free."

# From distress calls to social media clips: Noida cops prevent 6 suicide attempts this year

**Noida. (Agency)**

On Sept 6, a Noida police team tracked a woman in her mid-30s from her flat in Sector 28 within 20 minutes after she uploaded a distress video on her social media handle and stopped her from trying to inflict self-harm. Cops used the IP address linked to the clip and alerted its prompt response vehicles (PRVs) team to reach her. The woman was found in a fragile mental state and rushed to a nearby hospital. Between Jan 1 and Aug 31 alone, Noida police's PRVs teams have prevented at least six suicide attempts after taking cognisance of social media clips or distress calls. Officials said Noida police control room receives dozens of distress calls daily, "but suicide-related cases require extraordinary patience and tact." On Aug 21, a youth called the police control room saying he was about to end his life but did not disclose his exact location.

Using the limited information available,

PRV commander constable Ankur Kumar and pilot Manoj Kumar tracked him down to the railway tracks near Tulsi Vihar in Dadri. They pulled him to safety moments before a train could arrive. The man later told cops he was disturbed due to domestic strife. Earlier, on Aug 2 in Badarpur, a team, led by head constables Bhagwan Swaroop, Lalit Kumar and pilot Krishanveer, broke open a locked room on Girdharpur Road, Chhappraula, after a man informed them that his neighbour was attempting to hang himself.

The quick action helped rescue the victim, who also cited family disputes as the trigger. A dramatic incident was reported on June 27 near Sector 101 metro station, where a young woman was about to jump into a drain. PRV staff constable Mohit



Saini and pilot Rajesh Yadav engaged her in calm conversation before finally persuading her to step back.

On June 12, PRV members rushed a woman — in Sector 113 — who had ingested poison to a hospital in their own vehicle, saving crucial time. Doctors later said

that the quick transport made the difference between life and death.

Similar rescues were carried out in Sector 78 Mahagun Society on June 11, where a man was pulled down from a noose and given CPR while on May 19, in Surajpur, a youth was persuaded to climb down from a tree before hanging himself.

Police officials said that in all cases, bystanders and family members praised the sensitivity shown by PRV teams. Police commissioner

Laxmi Singh said, "These rescues highlight not only the efficiency of our units but also their human approach. The police are often the first responders and their ability to act swiftly is critical in saving lives."

## Dwarka-IFFCO Chowk metro route back on drawing board

**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

Nearly a decade after it was first proposed, Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) is now revisiting the plan to extend metro connectivity between Dwarka and Gurgaon.

The new plan may link Yashashoomi station in Dwarka Sector 25 on Airport Express Line with IFFCO Chowk on the Delhi-Jaipur Expressway. This, if approved, would provide seamless access for commuters from Delhi's Dwarka to key employment hubs such as Udyog Vihar, Cyber City, Hero Honda Chowk, Subhash Chowk and the industrial and IT clusters in Sector 44. Additionally, Gurgaon has a huge number of air passengers. Presently there is no public transport system which can enable the air passengers to reach the airport comfortably and in time. Sources in Haryana Mass Rapid Transport Corporation Limited (HMRTC) confirmed that the plan is under consideration. "The proposal is under discussion at the govt level. A decision is yet to be taken," a senior HMRTC official said. According to the fresh proposal prepared by DMRC, the corridor will span around 12km, beginning from Yashashoomi and passing through Bharthal, Bijnawan, Carterpuri and Tau Devi Lal Park in Sector 23 before culminating at IFFCO Chowk. The new line will have an interchange at Sector 23 station, proposed under GMRL's metro corridor between Millennium City Centre and Cyber City. The exact number of stations and the project cost will be known only after the detailed project report (DPR) is prepared. The plan to link Dwarka with IFFCO Chowk through the metro is not new. Earlier, after Haryana govt gave the work of preparation of DPR from Sector 21 Dwarka to IFFCO Chowk in June 2009, DMRC submitted it in 2011. Later, DMRC prepared a revised DPR in 2015, but the plan was shelved and remained in cold storage for years, citing the non-viability of the project.

## 11 years on, no wetland tag for Najafgarh jheel; Centre gets 2 months more to decide

**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

Najafgarh jheel's wait for a wetland tag gets longer. On Sept 4, National Green Tribunal gave the environment ministry another eight weeks to finalise a joint report on the wetland. The ministry told the bench that Wetlands International South Asia (WISA) and WWF recently conducted a ground survey after a joint meeting of the two state wetland authorities and their draft report is now being "revaluated." This latest extension comes months after a May 1 hearing, when the tribunal directed National Wetland Authority to independently ascertain the exact wetland area of Najafgarh on the Haryana side and submit its findings by the end of Aug. The order followed sharp discrepancies in submissions — while Haryana's Wetland Authority claimed only 75 acres along the Najafgarh drain on Delhi-Haryana border qualified as wetland, Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) presented satellite imagery and flood data showing water coverage

ranging from 2,000 to 5,300 acres, with an average of 3,800 acres submerged.

The case remains mired in delays 11 years after INTACH first petitioned NGT to secure wetland status for Najafgarh jheel on Delhi-Haryana border. These details were disclosed in an affidavit filed on Sept 2. The bench, led by NGT chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava, recorded the submission and adjourned the matter to Nov 26. The Sept 4 order by Justice Shrivastava and others — including A Senthil Vel, Sudhir Kumar Chaturvedi, Sujit Kumar Bajpayee — said, "Wetland division of MoEF & CC held a joint meeting of the Wetland Authorities of Haryana and Delhi and now a joint report of Wetlands International South Asia (WISA) and WWF has been obtained after a ground verification and the process of revalidating the report is underway. In this background, a further eight weeks' time is sought." The NGT bench earlier stressed that the "exact area is required to be determined by some independent competent body" and asked INTACH to

impeach National Wetland Authority.

It also pulled up the Union environment ministry for failing to appear, directing the secretary to ensure representation at subsequent hearings. INTACH has consistently argued that Haryana is attempting to shrink a natural wetland into a "tank" under pressure from real estate lobbies. Its counsel cited the state's own records showing 3,436 acres submerged in 2021 and 5,349 acres in 2022. "The wetland needs to be notified. Under the Wetland Rules, 2017, even private land can be brought under protection," INTACH said, adding that Najafgarh is prone to soil liquefaction — a seismic risk factor that makes conservation critical. Haryana irrigation officials, however, maintain that the area is not submerged year-round and have submitted their findings to the tribunal. The INTACH case, pending since 2014, has been pivotal in pushing for notification of Najafgarh jheel as a protected wetland under the 2017 Rules. Despite repeated NGT directions.

## 'A lakh helping hands': Volunteer force to drive Gurgaon's cleanup

**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

Participating in the citywide sanitation exercise planned on Thursday will be thousands of volunteers from organisations such as Dera Sacha Sauda, Radha Soami Satsang Beas, Sant Nirankari Mission, RWAs and non-profits. The volunteers, who will come not just from the city but from other districts and states, will work alongside MCG's sanitation staff, to help clean up the city, which has been struggling with sanitation problems. In all, the corporation expects a 1 lakh-strong cleaning force on the ground.

Officials said on Wednesday that deputy commissioner Ajay Kumar late last month held a meeting with representatives of organisations to ensure maximum participation in the cleanup drive. "Everyone is joining hands to make the city clean. All are participating," MCG

commissioner Pradeep Dahiya said. But the presence of members of Dera Sacha Sauda, the outfit headed by Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh, led to criticism from Congress, which said it showed BJP's association with the sect. Opposition parties have in the past criticised the BJP govt over frequent parades and furloughs granted to Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh. Special attention being given to Dera Sacha

Sauda clearly reflects BJP's nexus with the organisation. The party has consistently sought political mileage through its association with the outfit, and the repeated grant of parole to the Dera chief is yet another example of this opportunistic politics. Congress has always opposed such policies and will continue to do so," said Pankaj Dawa, Congress's Gurgaon (urban) president. Haryana's BJP media in charge Arvind Saini said Congress has a habit of making baseless allegations. "Dera Sacha Sauda is a socio-religious organisation, which has participated in such campaigns earlier also. They are now participating in a mega cleanliness campaign in Gurgaon," he said. MCG chief Dahiya said Dera Sacha Sauda was not the only organisation participating in Thursday's campaign.



## 36-hour siege by cobra: Snake slithers into Noida house; family survives on outside food

**Ghaziabad. (Agency)**

Geometric design flaws, safety issues and for nearly 36 hours, a family in Noida had to lock themselves into a small section of their sprawling three-storey home after an intruder, a five-foot-long cobra, slithered in and, after a short recess, crawled through a gap in the false ceiling to make that its home. The snake was finally rescued by a forest department team on Wednesday evening and released at Okhla Bird Sanctuary.

The house in D-Block of Sector 51 is surrounded by vacant plots and a garbage deposit. Forest officials said the recent spell of heavy rain likely drew in the cobra — a highly venomous species often spotted around thick foliage during the monsoon. VidyaSagar Pandey, a junior forest staffer who had been tracking the reptile since Tuesday, said they sprinkled a repellent powder in the ceiling shaft and waited for the cobra to come out. "We asked the family to alert us the moment they spotted movement. When they called, we rushed back and found the snake near the ground-floor kitchen chimney. It was safely caught around 6.30pm and released near the Yamuna at Okhla Bird Sanctuary," Pandey said.

As the forest department staff and snake charmers struggled to capture the snake, the Choudharys — a couple, their two

children, elderly parents and two domestic helpers — said they were forced to abandon their kitchen, retreat to upstairs rooms, and order food from outside. "We noticed the snake inside the glass-panelled ceiling of our kitchen area on Tuesday afternoon and immediately called the forest department. The RWA later called a snake charmer. But nothing worked. The snake remained put. My parents are old and need home-cooked food. But we had to rely on deliveries for meals for long," Varsha Choudhary, the homeowner, said. Earlier on Wednesday, two forest staffers had dangled a string

from a stick near the ceiling and waited to grab the reptile if it emerged. It did not. A snake charmer also spent nearly five hours in the kitchen without success. DFO Pramod Srivastava said the forest department team "worked tirelessly for over 36 hours before the cobra was rescued." In Gautam Buddh Nagar, five to six cobras are typically reported every month during this season. A bite can be fatal within 40 minutes if untreated," he said. The areas along officials said the Yamuna and Hindon rivers, particularly the Yamuna Khadar, are natural snake habitats, and sightings are common.



"During the rainy season, when water floods their burrows, snakes often disperse in search of shelter, sometimes entering residential areas," he said. The forest department has a rescue team which is pressed into action whenever snake sightings are reported from residential areas.

## 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, 9971359517

Website : [www.thesikhtimes.in](http://www.thesikhtimes.in)

Email : [sikhtimesindia@gmail.com](mailto:sikhtimesindia@gmail.com)

RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

# A 'Branding Campaign' will soon be launched to promote Delhi Tourism: Kapil Mishra

## The Sikh Times Sourabh Sharma

New Delhi, September: Delhi's Tourism Minister Kapil Mishra yesterday inaugurated BLTM (Business + Leisure Travel & MICE) 2025 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony at Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, Dwarka. The grand event witnessed the presence of several representatives from the tourism, hospitality, and MICE industries from India and abroad. Addressing the gathering, Mishra said that it is a matter of pride that Delhi has been chosen to host such a prestigious event. Seeing participants from across the world on one platform reflects the growing strength of India's tourism and business potential. The presence of new technologies, services, and avenues of collaboration highlights that our nation is rapidly advancing on the global

stage. BLTM has provided an excellent platform for

the Delhi Government is working towards trans-

sized that under the leadership of the Prime Minister,



dialogue and partnerships in the fields of tourism and business travel. I congratulate the organizers and hope that such platforms will play an important role in making India a global tourism powerhouse. Mishra further said that

forming the entire tourism landscape and will soon launch a 'Branding Campaign' this year to promote Delhi Tourism, which will position the capital as a hub of new opportunities in the global tourism sector. He empha-

Delhi has been gifted several new tourist destinations. Prominent among these are Yashobhoomi, Bharat Mandapam, Prime Ministers' Museum, National War Memorial, Kartavya Path, and Ambedkar Centre. He stat-

## No arrest so far in stolen 'kalash' case, Delhi Police trace suspect's movements

New Delhi: No arrest has been made so far in connection with the theft of a gold-and-jewel-encrusted 'kalash' (urn) worth around Rs 1 crore from a Jain religious ceremony near Red Fort, police said on Sunday. The Delhi Police have traced the movements of the suspect and obtained crucial leads about his hideout. The theft occurred on September 3 during a prayer ceremony attended by several dignitaries, including Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. The suspect, dressed in a traditional dhoti-kurta to blend in with devotees, allegedly exploited the commotion created when Birla arrived for the event and fled with the vessel. The urn, made of 760 grams of gold and embedded with 150 grams of diamonds, rubies and emeralds, holds significant religious value for the Jain community. The ongoing

## 10-yr-old missing girl reunited with kin under Op Milap

New Delhi: A 10-year-old girl, who reportedly went missing, was reunited with her family at the Subzi Mandi police station, North Delhi. The girl was located near Ghanta Ghar Chowk on Friday evening. During patrolling, the police saw a girl surrounded by people. She was not able to provide her address. The girl only revealed that her name was Munni and that she lived in Khadda Colony. The officers took her to the police station. The police began searching for her family by circulating her photographs and details through police networks and local stations, said Raja Bantia, Deputy Commissioner of Police, North District. It was found that Khadda Colony falls under the jurisdiction of the Samaypur Badli police station, but no missing report was filed there, he said. On the morning of September 6, the police team travelled to Khadda Colony with the girl. After verification, the team traced her father, Manoj Mandal of Khadda Colony, Raja Vihar, Badli, and handed over the girl to him as part of 'Operation Milap.'

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as JAMUNA SAH S/o LAXMI SAH R/o B-513 Old No-D/39, Gali No-15 B-Block, Dass Garden, Suvdha Enclave, Bapura, West, Delhi, Delhi-110043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as YAMUNA SAH.

## NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, JITENDER KUMAR SHRIVASTAV S/o GAURI SHANKAR PRASAD, R/o M-19 Budh Vihar Phase-1, Budh Vihar, North West, Delhi, Delhi-110031 have changed my mother's name from SAVITRI to SAVITRI B JADHAV for all future purposes and in my service records my mother's date of birth wrong mentioned as 01/01/1964 instead of her correct date of birth as 01/01/1966 vide Affidavit dated 11/09/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

## NAME CHANGE

I, POORAN ARORA S/o DOLAT RAM R/o HOUSE NO 1 BLOCK NO 5 GALI NO 4 GEETA COLONY GANDHI NAGAR EAST DELHI 110031 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO PURAN LAL FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

## NAME CHANGE

I, JYOTI W/o DEEPANSHU NARANG R/o X/118/ STREET NO-2 SATSANG MARG RAJGARH COLONY, GANDHI NAGAR, EAST DELHI 110031 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO JYOTI NARANG FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

## NAME CHANGE

I, No-4583602A Rank-SEP Name-KHANDOBA JADHAV Presently residing at VILL-DEGINAL, PO-DEGINAL, TEH-INDI, DIST-JAYAPURA, KARNATAKA-566117, have changed my mother's name from SAVITRI to SAVITRI B JADHAV for all future purposes and in my service records my mother's date of birth wrong mentioned as 01/01/1964 instead of her correct date of birth as 01/01/1966 vide Affidavit dated 11/09/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

## NAME CHANGE

I, MANISH KUMAR S/o S.C. Bhutani, R/o H.NO. K- 3/61, Street NO. 12, Near Pahari Dhamshala, West Ghonda, North East, Delhi 110053, have changed the name of my minor daughter Anshika aged 14 years and she shall hereafter be known as ANSHIKA BHUTANI.

## NAME CHANGE

I, MANISH KUMAR S/o S.C. Bhutani, R/o H.NO. K- 3/61, Street NO. 12, Near Pahari Dhamshala, West Ghonda, North East, Delhi 110053, have changed the name of my minor daughter Anshika aged 14 years and she shall hereafter be known as ANSHIKA BHUTANI.

the Delhi Government is working towards trans-

sized that under the leadership of the Prime Minister,

ed that a visible trans-

formation can be seen between the Delhi of today and the Delhi of the past. Mishra added that as the nation has resolved to achieve the vision of a Developed India by 2047, Delhi will serve as the medium to convey that message and image to the

## NAME CHANGE

I, ABHISHEK BADGUJAR S/o SUKHBEEB R/o HOUSE NO-132, NEAR SHIV MANDIR, VILLAGE NAGLA JOGIAN (49), POST SEEKRI, FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121004, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME ABHISHEK FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

## NAME CHANGE

I, SUKHBEEB S/o BALBIR R/o HOUSE NO-132, NEAR SHIV MANDIR, VILLAGE NAGLA JOGIAN (49), POST SEEKRI, FARIDABAD, HARYANA-121004, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME SUKHBIR FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as MOHD SAMEER S/o ASIF R/o A-10, Old Seemepuri, PO: Jhilmil Dist: East Delhi, Delhi-110095, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MOHD SAMEER CHAUDHARY. I have changed my name only, not my religion.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as SHUAJUDDIN alias SHUAJUDDIN alias SHUAJUDDIN S/o Abdul Wahab, Gali No-8X, Gali Chaman Wali, Chhatta Lal, Gangan, Darya Ganj, PO: Darya Ganj, Dist: Central Delhi, Delhi-110002, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHUAJUDDIN.

## NAME CHANGE

I, Priti Bishwokarma, alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHAYA Alias ASHIMA WO SALEM R/o HOUSE NO-2002, BUDH VIHAR, MANDOLI VILLAGE, MANDOLI PO: MANDOLI SABOLI, DIST: NORTH EAST DELHI, DELHI-110092 has changed my name and shall hereafter be known as ASHIYA BISHWOKARMA.

## NAME CHANGE

## NEWS BOX

## Child dead, 9 others injured after car crashes into daycare in Canada

### RICHMOND HILL (Agency)

A young child was killed when an SUV smashed through the window of a daycare north of Toronto shortly before pickup time on Wednesday.

York Regional Police said the boy was just 1 1/2 years old. Six other children ranging in age from 18 months to 3 years old were also injured in the crash. One was still in critical condition hours later.

Police told a news conference that three staff members were also hurt at the daycare near Yonge Street and Nottingham Drive in Richmond Hill, Ontario.

Const. Kevin Nebrija said a driver in his 70s was arrested at the scene and police do not believe it was a deliberate act. "As you can imagine, this was a very chaotic scene. I can tell you that the initial information suggests the vehicle was in the parking lot at the time, and for reasons unknown, drove through the front of the window," he said. "We can appreciate that this is a very alarming call for parents to receive and to attend at the end of their day."

He said all children had been accounted for and parents were been notified. At the scene in the early evening, small blue and green chairs could be seen past the jagged edges of a completely shattered front window. About a dozen police cruisers were in the parking lot. Nebrija said at the time of the crash, there were 96 children present in more than one room in the building.

## Medieval Jerusalem Organ Plays Again After 1,000 Years

### World (Agency)

The pipes of a medieval organ, buried for centuries and discovered near the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank, are once more filling a Jerusalem monastery with ancient melodies.

"This is a window into the past... we have the opportunity for the first time in modern history of listening to a medieval sound which is a thousand years old," said David Catalunya, a Spanish researcher who has worked for more than five years to bring the 11th-century instrument back to life.

"And it's not through a recreation or a hypothetical reconstruction, but it's really the original sound: the same vibration that the Crusaders heard at the Nativity Church," he told AFP. Dating nearly as far back as the invention of the instrument itself, it was discovered in 1906 at the Biblical birthplace of Jesus Christ. Catalunya pulls on small tabs to play the organ -- which he fondly refers to as a "miracle" -- expelling a formidable ringing from the otherwise modest wooden instrument. Currently housed in the Monastery of Saint Saviour in Jerusalem's Old City, the instrument is set to be displayed in a museum of the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land. "It's like finding a living dinosaur, because it's something we knew existed but we only know from fossils, so there's very limited evidence," said Alvaro Torrente, a musicologist who participated in the restoration project. "This is not a fossil, this is the real object and the real sound," he told AFP.

### Chance discovery

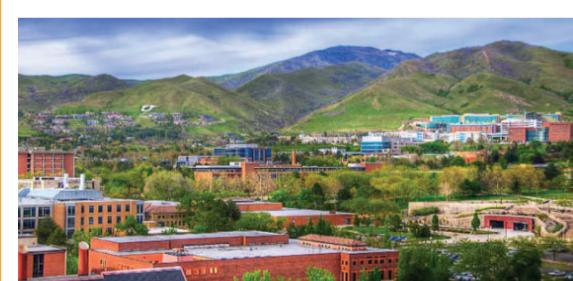
It was discovered "almost by chance," according to Father Eugenio Alliati, a Franciscan archaeologist attached to the mission in charge of several holy sites, including the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.

During construction of a pilgrim hostel, a set of 222 copper pipes and a bell carillon were unearthed near the site. It was seemingly buried with "utmost care", according to Catalunya, meaning researchers were able to reconstruct the instrument with painstaking care.

## What We Know About Utah College Where Charlie Kirk Was Fatally Shot

### World (Agency)

The Utah college where conservative activist Charlie Kirk was fatally shot Wednesday is the state's largest public university after years of rapid enrollment growth, but is lesser known than other colleges in the state. Utah Valley University was founded under a different name in 1941 as a vocational school focused on providing war production training. It didn't begin offering four-year degrees until the 1990s, a move



that fueled a fivefold increase in enrollment over the next three decades. It now has nearly 47,000 students, according to the university website.

Nearly nine out of 10 students at the school in Orem are from Utah, and 18% of students are 25 years old or older. Business and psychology are among the most popular majors. Utah Valley University's campus is right off a major highway about 40 miles (64 kilometers) south of Salt Lake City, where the state's flagship school, the University of Utah, is located. Utah Valley is also just a few miles away from Brigham Young University, which is owned by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, known widely as the Mormon church. Utah is one of 14 states that allow some level of concealed carry of firearms on public college and university campuses.

FBI Director Kash Patel initially said on social media that a "subject" had been taken into custody, only to later say that the person had been released after being questioned. A person of interest in Wednesday's shooting was in custody, officials said, but no information has been released about whether that person was legally carrying a weapon.

## Malawians head to polls in economic despair

**While the list of contenders is unusually crowded, voters have lost faith in the political class to deliver meaningful change to one of the poorest countries in the world, analysts say.**

### LILONGWE (Agency)

Malawians vote for a new president next week in an election clouded by economic hardship as incumbent Lazarus Chakwera squares off against his predecessor in a race where few voters see a real alternative. Three of the 17 candidates for the September 16 polls have already served as president of the southern African nation and another is the current vice president.

While the list of contenders is unusually crowded, voters have lost faith in the political class to deliver meaningful change to one of the poorest countries in the world, analysts say. "Whether it is Chakwera or (his predecessor Peter) Mutharika, nothing changes for us. It's like

choosing between two sides of the same coin," said Victor Shawa, a 23-year-old unemployed man in the capital Lilongwe. Optimism that accompanied Chakwera coming to power has long since been eroded by runaway inflation of around 30 per cent, chronic fuel and foreign exchange shortages and corruption scandals touching senior government figures. "People feel trapped," said Michael Jana, a Malawian national and political scientist at South Africa's Wits University. "The economy is in crisis, the politicians are the same, and many Malawians don't believe this election will change their lives," he told AFP. Chakwera, a 70-year-old evangelical preacher, wants a second term after a mixed performance during first run handed to him only after the 2019 election result was cancelled over rigging claims.

The 2020 rerun gave Chakwera, leader of the Malawi Congress Party (MCP), nearly 59 per cent of ballots, denying a second term to Mutharika, a lawyer, from the Democratic Progressive Party who had been ahead in the tarnished first round.

"I will vote for Chakwera because he has improved road infrastructure and supported youth businesses," said 20-year-old Mervis Bodole, a small trader from



central Malawi. "But the cost of living is still too high and many of us are struggling." Mutharika, 85, is banking on discontent with Chakwera to revive his political fortunes. But his own term, which ran from 2014 until 2020, was marked by economic stagnation, shortages of basic goods and allegations of cronyism.

According to a survey of 2,400 voters by the Institute of Public Opinion and Research (IPOR) released last week, Mutharika leads with 41 per cent ahead of Chakwera at 31 percent. As outright victory requires 50 per cent plus one vote, analysts say a second round is all but inevitable.

Results are due a week after voting. Joyce Banda, Malawi's only woman

president (2012-2014), and Vice President Michael Usi are also running, but their chances are seen as slim and any role of Kingmaker may go to former central bank governor, Dalitso Kabambe, who polls a distant third. For most Malawians, the choice on election day -- when hundreds of local and parliamentary seats are also up for grabs -- boils down to a single issue.

"The economy, the economy, and the economy -- in that order -- is what is driving this election," said Boniface Dulani, politics lecturer at the University of Malawi. "Inflation, fuel shortages and corruption have eroded public trust in Chakwera, whose support has nearly halved since 2020," he said. While Chakwera has been in power, the country has been hit hard by the Covid pandemic, 2023's Cyclone Freddy that killed more than 1,200 people and successive droughts.

But critics argue that these exposed, rather than excused, the administration's lack of strategy. "When people cannot afford food, when jobs are scarce, when inflation is out of control -- those factors influence the vote more than anything else," said Bertha Chikazada, president of the Economics Association of Malawi.

## Kamala Harris says leaving reelection decision to Biden was 'recklessness,' but she defends his abilities

### Washington (Agency)

Former Vice President Kamala Harris says it was "recklessness" for Democrats to leave it to President Joe Biden to decide whether to continue seeking another term last year, but she defends his ability to do the job, according to an excerpt of her new book.

Harris, in an excerpt of "107 Days" published Wednesday in The Atlantic, writes that as questions swirled about whether the then-81-year-old Biden should seek reelection, she and others left the decision to him and first lady Jill Biden. "Was it grace, or was it recklessness? In retrospect, I think it was recklessness," Harris said. The remarks are the first time Harris has been publicly critical of Biden's decision to run again — an ill-fated decision that saw him drop out in July 2024 after a disastrous debate performance, leaving her to head up the Democratic ticket and ultimately lose to Republican Donald Trump. "The stakes were simply too high," Harris writes in the book. "This wasn't a choice that should have been left to an individual's ego, an individual's ambition. It should have been more than a personal



decision." Biden's office did not immediately have a comment Wednesday. Throughout the campaign and in its wake, Harris had avoided much criticism of the president she served beside and defended him amid questions about his mental acuity. In the book excerpt, Harris continues to defend Biden's ability to do the job but describes him in 2024 and especially at the time of his "debate debacle" as "tired." "On his worst day, he was more deeply knowledgeable, more capable of exercising judgment, and far more compassionate than Donald Trump on his best. But at 81, Joe got tired. That's when his age showed in physical and verbal stumbles," Harris writes. "I don't think it's any surprise that the debate debacle happened right after two back-to-back trips to Europe and a flight to the West Coast for a Hollywood fundraiser. I don't believe it was incapacity." She adds that if she believed Biden were incapacitated, she would have said so out of loyalty to the country. Harris also blames those close to Biden for unflattering media coverage throughout the time she served as vice president and throwing her under the bus to boost Biden's public standing.

## Massive gas tanker explosion in Mexico City kills three people and injures 70 others

### MEXICO CITY (Agency)

A gas tanker truck exploded and burned multiple vehicles under a Mexico City highway overpass Wednesday, killing three people and injuring 70 others, some with their entire bodies charred and others waiting for help in the road with burns and torn clothing.

The crash of the truck carrying more than 13,000 gallons (49,500 liters) of gasoline on a major highway sent flames and smoke billowing over the south of the capital. Mayor Clara Brugada called the explosion an "emergency" that burned nearly 30 vehicles and left 19 of those injured in grave condition, including the driver of the truck. Among those injured were a baby and a 2-year-old child. Brugada said prosecutors were investigating, but it appeared that the truck exploded after it tipped over on the highway.

"This is a horrible accident," the mayor said at the site of the explosion.

The gas tanker laying on its side had the logo of the energy business Silza on its side, but in a call with The Associated

Press a company official who did not want to be identified denied it was their vehicle. The company did not immediately respond to an email requesting for comment or more details.

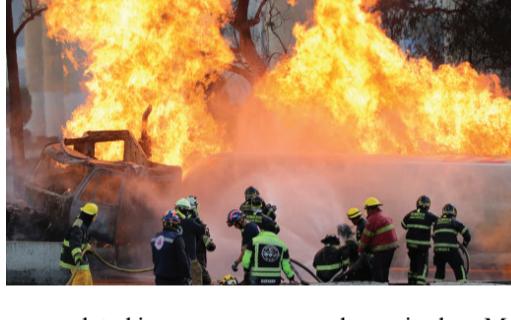
Later in the night, Mexico's environmental ministry said in a statement that Silza didn't have

updated insurance paperwork required to transport gas because its application was rejected. Images circulated online by authorities showed a mass of flames mushrooming from a truck. Others on social media show dozens of people

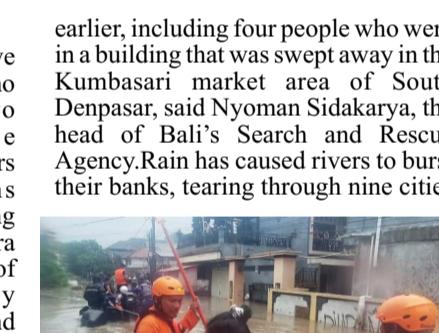
screaming and running from the explosion. People whose entire bodies appeared to have been burned, some with tattered clothing melded onto skin, emerged from the flames. Others in the images had burned-off faces.

As emergency vehicles sped by and medics attended to the wounded, groups of neighbors ran helped pull burn victims from the fire and get them to safety. Lists of those injured showed some had up to 100% of their skin burned off. Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum expressed her condolences to families of those who died in a post on X and thanked emergency teams for their work.

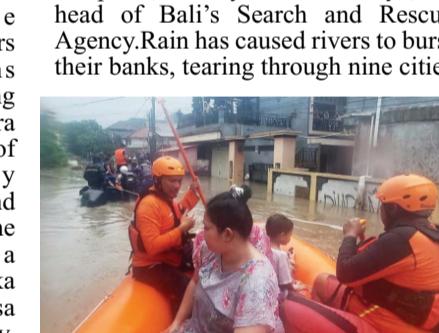
After fire teams snuffed out the flames with hoses and foam, Mexico City officials announced the flames were "completely under control." The explosion occurred on one of the most important roadways flowing out of the capital on the way to the city of Puebla. The roadway was reopened by evening.



After fire teams snuffed out the flames with hoses and foam, Mexico City officials announced the flames were "completely under control." The explosion occurred on one of the most important roadways flowing out of the capital on the way to the city of Puebla. The roadway was reopened by evening.



After fire teams snuffed out the flames with hoses and foam, Mexico City officials announced the flames were "completely under control." The explosion occurred on one of the most important roadways flowing out of the capital on the way to the city of Puebla. The roadway was reopened by evening.



After fire teams snuffed out the flames with hoses and foam, Mexico City officials announced the flames were "completely under control." The explosion occurred on one of the most important roadways flowing out of the capital on the way to the city of Puebla. The roadway was reopened by evening.



and districts in Bali. Mud, rocks and trees tumbled onto mountainside hamlets and rising rivers submerged at least 112 neighborhoods and resulted in several landslides, Bali's Disaster Mitigation Agency said in a statement. Videos released by the National Search and Rescue Agency showed cars floating in muddy waters while soldiers and rescuers in rubber boats helped children and older people who were

forced onto the roofs of flooded homes and buildings. Severe flooding inundated thousands of homes and buildings in residential areas and tourist spots. Authorities have cut electricity and water, prompting hotels, restaurants, hospitals and other public

facilities to use generators, Bali Gov. Wayan Koster said. There have been landslides in 18 neighborhoods of Karangasem, Gianyar and Badung districts and swept through at least 15 shops and houses and damaged several roads and bridges, he said. This disaster also caused material losses for traders and tourism businesses," Koster said, adding

that more than 800 people were in temporary shelters after floodwater reached up to 2.5 meters (8 feet) in places.

Local Disaster Mitigation Agency head Agustinus Pone said flash floods in Nagekeo swept away villagers and vehicles passing through devastated villages and triggered a landslide that blocked three roads, killing at least six villagers and four people were missing.



and districts in Bali. Mud, rocks and trees tumbled onto mountainside hamlets and rising rivers submerged at least 112 neighborhoods and resulted in several landslides, Bali's Disaster Mitigation Agency said in a statement. Videos released by the National Search and Rescue Agency showed cars floating in muddy waters while soldiers and rescuers in rubber boats helped children and older people who were

forced onto the roofs of flooded homes and buildings. Severe flooding inundated thousands of homes and buildings in residential areas and tourist spots. Authorities have cut electricity and water, prompting hotels, restaurants, hospitals and other public

facilities to use generators, Bali Gov. Wayan Koster said. There have been landslides in 18 neighborhoods of Karangasem, Gianyar and Badung districts and swept through at least 15 shops and houses and damaged several roads and bridges, he said. This disaster also caused material losses for traders and tourism businesses," Koster said, adding

that more than 800 people were in temporary shelters after floodwater reached up to 2.5 meters (8 feet) in places.

Local Disaster Mitigation Agency head Agustinus Pone said flash floods in Nagekeo swept away

villagers and vehicles passing through devastated villages and triggered a landslide that blocked three roads, killing at least six villagers and four people were missing.



and districts in Bali. Mud, rocks and trees tumbled onto mountainside hamlets and rising rivers submerged at least 112 neighborhoods and resulted in several landslides, Bali's Disaster Mitigation Agency said in a statement. Videos released by the National Search and Rescue Agency showed cars floating in muddy waters while soldiers and rescuers in rubber boats helped children and older people who were

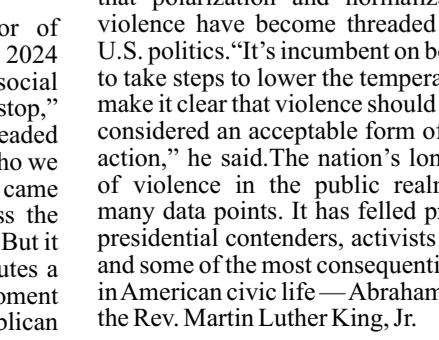
forced onto the roofs of flooded homes and buildings. Severe flooding inundated thousands of homes and buildings in residential areas and tourist spots. Authorities have cut electricity and water, prompting hotels, restaurants, hospitals and other public

facilities to use generators, Bali Gov. Wayan Koster said. There have been landslides in 18 neighborhoods of Karangasem, Gianyar and Badung districts and swept through at least 15 shops and houses and damaged several roads and bridges, he said. This disaster also caused material losses for traders and tourism businesses," Koster said, adding

that more than 800 people were in temporary shelters after floodwater reached up to 2.5 meters (8 feet) in places.

Local Disaster Mitigation Agency head Agustinus Pone said flash floods in Nagekeo swept away

villagers and vehicles passing through devastated villages and triggered a landslide that blocked three roads, killing at least six villagers and four people were missing.



and districts in Bali. Mud, rocks and trees tumbled onto mountainside hamlets and rising rivers submerged at least 112 neighborhoods and resulted in several landslides, Bali's Disaster Mitigation Agency said in a statement. Videos released by the National Search and Rescue Agency showed cars floating in muddy waters while soldiers and rescuers in rubber boats helped children and older people who were

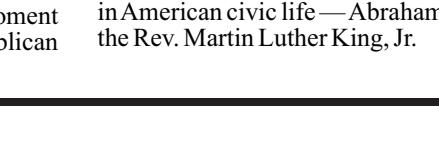
forced onto the roofs of flooded homes and buildings. Severe flooding inundated thousands of homes and buildings in residential areas and tourist spots. Authorities have cut electricity and water, prompting hotels, restaurants, hospitals and other public

facilities to use generators, Bali Gov. Wayan Koster said. There have been landslides in 18 neighborhoods of Karangasem, Gianyar and Badung districts and swept through at least 15 shops and houses and damaged several roads and bridges, he said. This disaster also caused material losses for traders and tourism businesses," Koster said, adding

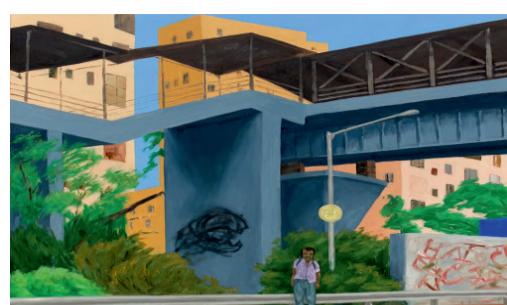
that more than 800 people were in temporary shelters after floodwater reached up to 2.5 meters (8 feet) in places.

Local Disaster Mitigation Agency head Agustinus Pone said flash floods in Nagekeo swept away

villagers and vehicles passing through devastated villages and triggered a landslide that blocked three roads, killing at least six villagers and four people were missing.



Chronicling cities, built and broken through art



**Kerala.** Sudhir Patwardhan has been one of the foremost voices of contemporary art in India. And his subject is his beloved city, Bombay, now Mumbai.

One can call him a chronicler of the city, not just the buildings, architecture or the changing times that bring progressiveness to the centre of it. But of its inhabitants and their relation with each other, the artist himself and with the structures within the city.

The radiologist turned full-time artist trains his compassionate gaze on the city dwellers, the workers, labourers and the ever-changing and growing crowd.

In the Durbar Art Gallery, his latest exhibition 'Cities: Built, Broken', curated by art historian and curator R Sivakumar, one can witness the changing perspective of the artist along with a growing city, its changing culture and politics.

"In his earlier works from the '70s, you can see the influence of Marx, in how he was interested in the city. He is witnessing and he is speaking for the people, the workers. That changes as you gradually travel to the later years, where he questions himself whether he is allowed to speak for them," says Sivakumar. And in the upstairs hall of the gallery, a portrait of Marx, small in size, large in presence, looks on to the rest of the works.

Though his expressionist style and the figures that inhabit his canvas need no introduction, the internal dilemma of the artist is also visible in his later works, which are mainly displayed downstairs. His anger, too, is prominent along with confusion.

**Man killed outside Malad bar as attackers stab him, smash beer bottles on his head**

**Mumbai. (Agency)**

A 34-year-old man was killed in Mumbai's Malad after a group of around six men allegedly attacked him with knives and smashed 12 beer bottles on his head Thursday morning.

The deceased was identified as Kalpesh Bhanushali, who lived in Malad and ran a fast food shop along with his family. The Malad police said the murder occurred between 1.30 am and 2.30 am outside Gurukrupa Bar and Restaurant, where Bhanushali had gone to collect a food parcel. The police filed a murder case at the Malad police station, arrested one of the accused and launched a manhunt to track down the others. "The accused have been identified, and some of them have previous criminal records. Police teams are being formed to trace them," said Sandip Jadhav, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Zone 11.

The police said Bhanushali had an argument with the hotel manager and was abusing him, when a group of around six people smoking at the hotel gate objected to him. The argument then turned out to be between Bhanushali and the group, according to the police.

"They abused each other, and the group left, threatening the victim to wait there and that they would come in a while and see him," said a police officer.

"The accused came back in a few minutes, along with more people, and started hitting the victim with beer bottles on his head. The accused carried knives, and they stabbed him multiple times in his abdomen and other parts of the body," said Jadhav.

When the police learned about the incident, a patrolling van and beat marshal from the Malad police station arrived at the scene.

# Rs 620.22 crore disbursed to students enrolled in higher education courses in last two years in Gujarat: Minister

**Pansheriya said that under the Mukhyamantri Yuva Swavalamban Yojana, apart from diploma engineering, assistance is also provided in medical, technical degree, Ayurveda, nursing, veterinary and agriculture courses.**

**Ahmedabad. (Agency)**

Minister of State for Higher and Technical Education Praful Pansheriya, while responding to a question asked in the Legislative Assembly pertaining to the Mukhyamantri Yuva Swavalamban Yojana (MYSY), said that in the last two years, a total of Rs 620.22 crore has been disbursed to students enrolled in higher education courses other than diploma engineering, as on August 31, 2025.

In the last two years, Rs 10 crore has been disbursed to students of diploma engineering courses, he added. In 2024-25, Rs 4.20 crore of assistance was paid to 1,847 students in diploma engineering courses and Rs 6.05 crore paid to 2,706 of them in 2025-26 as on

August 31, 2025.

Pansheriya said that under the Mukhyamantri Yuva Swavalamban Yojana, apart from diploma engineering, assistance is also provided in medical, technical degree, Ayurveda, nursing, veterinary and agriculture courses. Under this, in 2024-25, Rs 365.87 crore has been paid to 65,056 students, while in the year 2025-26, Rs 254.35 crore has been paid to 51,933 students by August 31, 2025. Following the Patidar agitation of 2015, the MYSY scheme was implemented by the state government on October 7, 2015. Under this, children with a family annual income up to Rs 6



lakh and securing 80 per cent or more percentile in Class X are eligible to get the benefit of this scheme for studying diploma

engineering. Under the scheme, the beneficiary student is eligible to get 50 per cent of the fixed annual tuition fee of the private institute for the diploma or Rs 25,000, whichever is less, every year. In addition, if the students studying outside the taluka of residence have not got a admission in a government or grant-in-aid hostel, then for 10 months, a monthly assistance of Rs 1,200 is given for three years for accommodation and food and a one-time aid of Rs 3,000 in the first year as assistance for books.

## Poor upkeep: Roof of classroom caves in at Ernakulam Maharaja's College, no casualties

**Kochi. (Agency)**

The once prestigious college in the city is falling into ruins due to the lack of proper maintenance. On Tuesday, the students of third-year BA Malayalam course of Ernakulam Maharaja's College were greeted by a sad sight. A portion of the roof of their classroom had caved in! The situation was serious enough to make the authorities move the students to another classroom.

Sources at the college stated that the building has heritage value and is over a century old. It previously housed the elementary school that evolved into the present-day college. "The building accommodates the Malayalam Department. Despite multiple complaints, there has been no action to address the deterioration affecting the structure, which reportedly began in the upstairs bathroom. Further delays in repair could potentially risk the stability of the building," said a source.

It is reported that two months ago, engineers from the PWD visited the place to assess the damage to the wooden structure. "However, no further action has been taken.

One of the large wooden pillars in the classroom near the collapsed area is in poor condition and may not remain stable for long," said a source at the college. According to sources, the building was constructed years ago using limestone and wood.

"What has happened is that water from the toilet near the office of the head of the Malayalam Department might have seeped into the wood flooring, decaying the lime fillings between the wooden beams. This might have led to rot setting in the wood, making the structure unstable," added the source. The students alleged that if the college authorities had taken steps to carry out maintenance work in the toilet when complaints were made, things would not have deteriorated to this extent. The college authorities are not bothered about the upkeep of the heritage buildings on the campus, the sources alleged.

## N Prasanth accuses chief secretary Jayathilak of procedural violations, misuse of power

**Thiruvananthapuram. (Agency)**

Suspended IAS officer Prasanth N has accused chief secretary A Jayathilak of serious procedural violations and misuse of power, further intensifying the controversy surrounding the transfer of senior IAS officer B Ashok.

The allegations come in the wake of the Central Administrative Tribunal's decision to set aside the state government's transfer order, dealing a significant blow to the state administration and putting the chief secretary's office under close scrutiny.

The transfer of B Ashok from the post of Principal Secretary of the Agriculture Department to CMD of Kerala Transport Development Finance Corporation shocked many in the state IAS cadre.

In a Facebook post, Prasanth addressed Jayathilak as 'George Sir' - the villain from the movie Thudarum, and claimed that a careful review of the transfer order reveals more than seven distinct legal violations.

"It would be evident to any IAS officer that either the order issued lacked legal knowledge or had

only superficial acquaintance with the law," he alleged. Prasanth further said, according to Secretariat staff, junior officers were warned during a meeting that criticising the chief secretary would lead to punitive action, similar to what happened to him.

He charged that a comprehensive list of Jayathilak's violations would surpass any high-profile police scandal currently making headlines and that the number of victims would shock the public.

Highlighting a troubling contradiction, Prasanth asked, "If ordinary citizens are liable to face

strict legal action for procedural violations, why should a government officer repeatedly found violating laws be awarded honours and promotions while continuing to serve?"

He further questioned whether such actions came from personal motives.

In a separate post titled 'George Sir overruled ministers', Prasanth accused the top brass of labelling whistleblowers as 'anti-government', enabling powerful bureaucrats like the chief secretary to rise unchecked.

Behind the scenes, sources say a fierce power struggle is now brewing in the IAS hierarchy, with the tide slowly turning against Jayathilak.

Though made efforts to seek a response from the chief secretary, he remained tight-lipped on the matter.



## Enforce SC's 1992 ruling, bound to implement order: Odisha HC to state

**Cuttack. (Agency)**

In a significant judgement, the Orissa High Court has directed the state government to enforce a 1992 Supreme Court order arising out of a forest lease dispute dating back to the 1970s.

The single judge bench of Justice Dixit Krishna Shripad passed the order - on September 8 - in an execution case filed by the legal representatives of Udayanath Sahoo and co-contractor RS Bhatia, seeking compliance with the Supreme Court's directions.

"Delayed justice is the most egregious form of human rights violation. As a concession to the shortness of human life, litigation longevity must be shortened," Justice Shripad noted.

The dispute dates back to the late 1970s, when Bhatia, a licensed forest contractor, defaulted on a lease in Dudhian forest area under Karanji division. It was then reallocated to another contractor, Sahoo. Bhatia challenged the reallocation in court and eventually regained the lease through a HC ruling in 1978. A protracted legal tussle followed after which the SC ruled a negotiated settlement between the

two contractors on March 27, 1992.

As per the settlement, both the contractors were to be allowed to remove timber and timber firewood from the leased forest area and divide it equally among them and make payments

failed to honour the settlement. The judgement emphasised that the apex court's order is binding and cannot be circumvented by citing statutory bars such as the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 or the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, especially after the SC had rejected such contentions in 1994.

Justice Shripad directed the state to supply the agreed quantity of logs through the Odisha Forest Development Corporation or any other agency within three months, subject to the decree holders paying any outstanding dues with simple interest at six per cent from 1997. Alternatively, the state may pay the present market value of the logs after deducting the payable amount.

Additionally, the HC imposed an exemplary cost of '2 lakh on the state for subjecting the decree holders to prolonged and unnecessary litigation to be recovered from erring officials.

Justice Shripad observed that authorities are constitutionally obligated to implement orders of the SC and restore public confidence in the judicial process.



accordingly. However, the settlement remained unimplemented, leading to further litigation, including contempt petitions and execution proceedings. While disposing of the execution petition filed by Sahoo in 1997 (later on his death, substituted by his legal representative), Justice Shripad noted that despite repeated representations and legal actions, the state

# Roads and buildings accounted for highest capital expenditure in 2023-24, education and culture the lowest: CAG report on Gujarat

**The R&B department also reported the highest number of incomplete projects resulting in "blocked funds", as per the auditor.**

**Ahmedabad. (Agency)**

In 2023-24, the highest capital expenditure in the state was incurred on roads and bridges, accounting for nearly 20% of the total expenditure of Rs 55,679 crore, while education, sports, arts and culture accounted for the least - 6.28% - in the same year, as per the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG)'s report of the State Finances for the period, tabled in the state Assembly on Wednesday.

The R&B department also reported the highest number of incomplete projects resulting in "blocked funds", as per the auditor.

As per the report, capital expenditure saw an increase from Rs 25,650 crore to Rs 55,679 crore over the five financial years till 2023-24, of which Rs 11,146 crore was spent on roads and bridges which was nearly 87% higher than what was spent in the previous year. This was followed by Rs 9,859.61 crore (17.71%) on urban development, over Rs 5,463 crore (9.81%) on water supply and

sanitation, Rs 4,810.75 crore on medium irrigation comprising 8.64%, Rs 4,325 crore on power projects (7.77%), and Rs 3,494.62 crore (6.28%) on education, sports, arts and culture.

The highest percentage outlay in a year was seen in the roads and transport sector where the expenditure rose from Rs 109.76 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 1,713.83 crore in 2023-24, marking the highest percentage increase at 1,461%. The lowest jump was seen in the education, sports, arts and culture sector which saw a rise in the outlay by around 7% in the audit year as compared to the previous year. The expenditure fell in the areas of housing by over 41%, and by over 78% in new and renewable energy sector in 2023-24. No capital expenditure was incurred in the petrochemical industry sector in the audit year as compared to 2022-23 when the government had spent Rs 2,100 crore in this field.

The second highest increase in outlay was recorded in nutrition at 1,438%, rising from

a mere Rs 12.13 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 186.65 crore in the following year.

**Incomplete works, locked capital**

The auditor also noted that there were 204 capital works, each valued at a minimum Rs 10 crore, which were due to be completed by March 31, 2024, but which were still incomplete. For these, the state government had spent Rs 16,402.67 crore. These were across two departments - the Roads and Buildings department (168 projects) with an estimated cost of over Rs 7,353 crore of which the government had spent Rs 5,194 crore, and the Narmada, Water Resources, Water Supply and Kalpsar department where the government had spent over Rs 11,208 crore against an estimated cost of Rs 10,689 crore for 36 projects.

**Total Expenditure**

While the total expenditure (revenue expenditure, capital expenditure and loans

includes expenditure on the acquisition of land, building, machinery, equipment and investment in shares.

At the same time, the revenue surplus of the state increased from Rs 19,865 crore to Rs 33,477 crore over 2022-23, while fiscal deficit increased from Rs 16,846 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 23,493 crore in 2023-24.

As per the report, the committed expenditure of the state constituted 44-51% of the total revenue expenditure in the five-year period from 2019-20 to 2023-24, reporting an increase from Rs 79,784 crore in 2022-23 to Rs 96,582 crore in 2023-24. Committed expenditure consists of interest payments, expenditure on salaries along with wages and pensions.



and advances) of the State of Gujarat increased by 14.38% in a year from Rs 2,16,508 crore in 2022-23, capital expenditure saw a 56.85% increase, which

## Rethinking Swadeshi in Trumpian era

This essay is an attempt to explore the relation between the word and the world in the domain of policy. One must confess the domain of policy has become an esoteric world—full of arcane interpretations of ordinary language.

The recent exchange of words between Donald Trump and Narendra Modi escalated a lot in the news. It has been seen as a battle between two nations on tariffs and trade. It is also a struggle for dignity. Modi has raised the word 'swadeshi' in this context. One hopes to explore the fate of this word. Modi's use of the word is strictly economic; but one has to locate this sense of swadeshi within a wider historical and philosophical context. The most fruitful way of doing this is to contrast Modi's construct of swadeshi with a Gandhian imagination. One has to, first of all, emphasise that while Modi exudes the official, Mahatma Gandhi's is a playful performance. Gandhi displayed a cultural confidence against the British. One can see the power of his attitude in two small anecdotes. Once an American journalist asked Gandhi what he thought of Western civilisation. He replied, 'It would be a good idea.' Gandhi went further. He said the task of the Indian national movement was not just to overthrow the British, but to rescue them from the travails of modernity.

To the cultural confidence that underlay swadeshi and swaraj to its playfulness, one must add a polysemic power. For Gandhi, these two words conveyed a spectrum of meanings. Swadeshi implied the indigenous, the local, and the vernacular. Each summoned a different domain of meaning. Each mapped a different angle to life. The word that immediately comes to mind is 'local'. It implied a geography, a sense of neighbourhood. Swadeshi implied that the local was primary. But Gandhi used the word local in a slightly different sense. The local was also indigenous. It implied not only geography, but also a sense of cultural time. The local was an attempt to sustain diversity and plurality, not just uniformity. The local implied not just economics, but a sense of linguistics and materials. The local implied local materials, local seeds, a local imagination. Each microcosm added to the richness of the macrocosm we call swaraj. Swaraj, in that sense, is more holistic term. Yet the two words are connected. Each connects a word and a world. Modi's sense of swadeshi is too shortsighted to capture this cultural imagination. Swadeshi in the sense implies trusteeship, a sense of caring, not just a parochial sense of security. The relation between language, culture, technology, and economics is just manifold.

Swadeshi and swaraj are not just questions of scale; they imply a relation of parts to a whole—microcosm to macrocosm. The Gandhian activist Ela Bhatt put it brilliantly. She said swadeshi and swaraj are 'home science' words. You use the metaphor of the home not just to create a local space, but a home in the world. Domesticity and international relations weave together, so in a sense a concern for a dewdrop is a sense of the ocean. Gandhi's sense of swaraj was playful and holistic. Modi's sense of swaraj is a purely official, narrow, arid idea of the nation's state. It suffers from a rigor mortis of the imagination. If Modi had a sense of swaraj today, he would have challenged Israel's actions on the Gaza Strip. Instead of letting Palestinians starve, Modi would have flooded the area with langars, turning food into a gift of peace. His silence, his international relations, has no sense of swaraj. Modi also lacks a genuine sense of swadeshi. Swadeshi as an idea doesn't try to exclude, it seeks to encompass. The local always signals the hospitable. Gandhi's sense of swadeshi and swaraj in that sense was hospitable, deeply caring, sensitive to culture—it embodied a trusteeship of diversity on every front. Modi is all for modernity. He is seeking to change the Andamans through development projects; Gandhi would have built a satyagraha around the project and would do something similar with Manipur.

THE situation in Nepal today is unprecedented, unimaginable, very serious. It is a demonstration of the anger, the revulsion and the fury of the people, which has spilled out into the streets. The lynching of senior politicians, the burning of government property, of the new Parliament built by the Chinese, of the official home of the Prime Minister, called Baluwatar, of the home of President Ram Chandra Poudel, of private homes of former and current prime ministers, is something I have not seen in my living memory anywhere in the world—not in Bangladesh, not in Sri Lanka, not in Indonesia.

This is much worse than the situation in Bangladesh just over a year ago, when the protests led to the flight of the former prime minister Sheikh Hasina. It is much worse than the situation in Sri Lanka in 2022, when the homes of several politicians were burnt down, but politicians weren't attacked. In Kathmandu on Tuesday, former prime minister Sher Bahadur Deuba and his wife, foreign minister Arzoo Rana, were beaten up. They are lucky to escape with their lives. Former PM Jhalanath Khanal also suffered the same fate; his wife has been burnt—some say she was burnt alive. The fact that the Nepal Army has taken all the top politicians in its security is good—fact is, today, they have no alternative but to seek shelter under the umbrella of the Nepal Army. It is too unsafe for them to be anywhere else. And yes, the Army must step in and control the situation. It is, potentially, the only stabilising force in Nepal today. It has a very critical role to play. The country needs to return to some law and order. What has happened in Nepal over the last two days is largely a home-grown uprising. The intensity of the violence is directly linked to the 19 people killed in the protests. If the situation had been handled better yesterday, if political steps had been taken, if Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli had announced his resignation earlier, Nepal would not find itself in the state it is right now. The disenchantment in Nepal that has manifested in this utter chaos has several causes. The younger generation, the so-called Gen Z, is in despair. They've lost hope. It was a foolhardy decision to ban social media apps; there should have been other ways of ensuring that these companies abide by Nepalese laws. The malaise is very deep in Nepal. There is huge



corruption in high places. Worse, no investigation is being carried out in these scams, which, allegedly involve top leaders of political parties. Nepalis believe that the unholy coalition between the Nepali Congress and the Communist Party of Nepal, UML, between Nepali Congress leader and former PM Sher Bahadur Deuba and UML leader and (just resigned) PM Oli exists because it was meant to stop investigations into corruption allegations between its top leaders. And that these two big parties came together to squeeze all the opposition inside Parliament. The second key reason for the despair in Nepal is unemployment. There are no jobs. Large numbers of young people are leaving the country for menial jobs in the Gulf that don't even pay well. So when the armed police on Monday tried to stop the young protesters and

even used live ammunition against them, it unleashed a fury in Nepal that was never seen before. I have seen pictures of young children in school uniform bleeding from shotgun wounds. This anger against the political parties is manifesting across the board—the Nepali Congress, CPN (UML), the Communists. It points to a deep sense of alienation that Nepal's young people feel about their political parties and the kind of governance they provided. Significantly, this is a nameless, faceless kind of agitation. Unlike the 'jan andolan' or 'people's movement' of 2006, when the political parties as well as the Maoists led the charge against the monarchy, one doesn't really know who the leaders of this 'andolan' are or what their demands are. Significantly, the young people leading this spontaneous uprising are also protesting against what they call "nepo kids" or "nepo babies", the children of rich politicians who flaunt their luxurious lifestyles on social media. That has caused a lot of resentment amongst the Nepalese. These young people travel in fancy cars, live in palatial bungalows while the poor—well, the poor have nowhere really to go. It is important to note that this agitation is taking place across Nepal, in the Kathmandu valley and in the Terai, which shows the extent of alienation in the country.

Certainly, the callous manner in which this people's agitation was handled speaks of a disconnect between the leadership and the led. It is a worrying undercurrent that the young believe that the system, the 2015 Constitution that was crafted after years of Maoist insurgency, Madhesi agitation and endless debate, is not delivering.

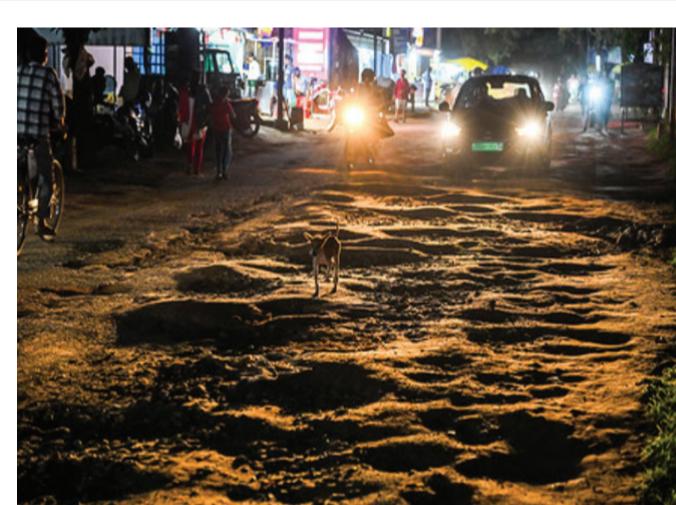
This was supposed to be a federal democratic, secular, inclusive republic of Nepal. But because the peace and prosperity dividend has not been forthcoming, people are questioning not just the people who implemented the Constitution, but the very Constitution itself.

Naturally, India is watching the situation closely. We have an open border between our two nations, more than 2000-km-long, along the states of West Bengal, Bihar and Uttarakhand, so security along the border has been tightened and travel across some districts completely shut down. India has always been on the side of the aspirations of the people of Nepal. If you look at India's role in Nepal since 1950, this has always been the case. I trust that India will continue to support the aspirations of the Nepali people.

## Monitor road safety, set maintenance rules

**The authorities need to be held strictly accountable and elected representatives need to use their offices to monitor road safety in their jurisdictions. Strict accountability, standardised contractor protocols and regular audits need to be put in place**

In a horrendous incident on Tuesday, a 44-year-old woman died when she unsuspectingly rode into a pothole, causing her to fall and get crushed under a speeding truck's wheels on National Highway 66 near Mangaluru. The ministry of road transport and highways has reported 9,109 deaths nationwide—mainly of two-wheeler riders—between 2019 and 2023 because of potholes. The Supreme Court, while hearing the S Rajasekaran (2025) case, noted that deaths due to potholes in India surpassed those from terrorist attacks, and attributed the terribly high incidence to municipal authorities failing to effectively discharge their duties. Potholes appear due to inadequate road maintenance, especially where substandard material is used. But it is negligence and apathy that prevails in compromising road maintenance, be they on national or state highways, district roads, or thoroughfares in cities, towns and villages. There is a lack of public awareness about legal recourse, too, despite the Bombay High Court's 2015 ruling that the right to safe and properly maintained roads is part of the right to life under Article 21 of the



Constitution, and that citizens have a right to seek compensation for any loss caused by the violation of this right. Even the Supreme Court recognised the liability of

the state for the acts of public servants in cases where fundamental rights are infringed upon, wherein the law of tort can be applied using Article 300 to deal with any breach of duty committed by them.

The authorities need to be held strictly accountable and elected representatives need to use their offices to monitor road safety in their jurisdictions. There's a need for a codified legal framework spelling out road maintenance duties for the authorities concerned, while equipping them with state-of-the-art pothole repair machines. Strict accountability, standardised contractor protocols and regular audits need to be put in place, alongside stricter penalties to deter them from being negligent or apathetic. An efficient redress system is a must, as is a time-bound compensation process for such accident victims. It's a long road ahead, though not one impossible to traverse. Otherwise India would undermine its commitment to the international community on road safety under the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety 2021-2030, which aims to reduce road deaths by half.

## Karnataka back to battling with ballots

**Given the loud allegations of voter roll and EVM manipulation, the Karnataka government's decision to conduct its upcoming local body polls with paper ballots is significant. Apart from the State Election Commission, the responsibility to ensure a clean process falls on the political parties too**

With the Karnataka government deciding to go for paper ballots for the upcoming local body elections, forgo electronic voting machines or EVMs, the State Election Commission (SEC) faces challenges in conducting a free and fair exercise.

The Congress-ruled state's decision is not only aligned with the party's national campaign to return to paper ballots, but also follows the allegations the party's central leadership made against the Election Commission of India (ECI) for 'manipulation' of the poll process. It is now incumbent on the SEC, an independent body, to show that it can prepare a voters' list free of manipulation and conduct paper polling free of discrepancy. Since the Lok Sabha polls last year—and more stridently after the Haryana and Maharashtra assembly elections that followed—the Congress has intensified its campaign charging the ECI of helping the BJP 'steal' elections through manipulation of electoral rolls and EVMs. Now, given the Karnataka government's decision, among the first responsibilities of the SEC would be to prepare the rolls of the state's 5.52 crore electors, as per a 2025 revision. A clean roll is vital for any democracy; it should ensure that no genuine voter is left out of the system. In this regard, while announcing the state cabinet decision to go for paper ballots, law minister H K Patil pointed out: "The cabinet has decided to authorise the SEC to prepare, revise, and, if required, redo the electoral rolls for these polls." So far, the SEC was using the electoral roll available with the ECI to conduct the local polls.

"Now, to conduct all local body elections, the state cabinet will recommend amendments for revision, correction and reconstitution of the voters' list, so that the SEC can prepare a high-quality electoral roll," Patil added. The voters' list is indeed a matter of greater concern than the EVM. The allegation of roll manipulation is levelled in almost every state and hardly any party is left untarred by such charges. It is the ECI's duty to prepare the final, error-free list because the buck stops with the constitutional body in a general election. However, the political parties need to share the blame too, because they need to carry out their duty of verifying the list properly. The ECI sends the electoral roll twice a year to the political parties to check and recommend deletions or additions. As per the current procedure and calendar of events, the parties are asked to verify the rolls once when the draft rolls are out in October, and again in January when the final list is published. The parties must question themselves whether they have carried out this task rigorously.

Why does the roll become so important? Consider the two recent allegations related to Karnataka made by Congress leaders. In a highly publicised press meet, Rahul Gandhi highlighted what he called a manipulation of the voters' list; as an example, he showed a copy of the roll containing some 80 voters residing in a single one-room tenement in the Mahadevapura assembly segment

of the Bangalore Central Lok Sabha constituency. He also said that in many other cases, the house number of the voter is given as '0' and the name of the voter's father as 'ABCDEF' or something like that.

B R Patil, MLA from Aland in Kalaburagi district, has claimed the ECI has not responded to repeated requests by the Karnataka criminal investigation



department to give details of the applications that sought the deletion of about 6,000 allegedly forged names from the voters' list in his constituency in the 2023 assembly election. He said all these were his supporters and there was a conspiracy to delete their names to ensure his defeat—something he

came to know by accident. Patil won by 10,348 votes in 2023; he had lost in 2018 by a mere 697 votes. These examples highlight the importance of the voters' list. And need for the Karnataka government and SEC to take all available measures to ensure that the local body polls are fool-proof.

As regards EVMs, over the past couple of decades, high courts and the Supreme Court have dealt with petitions that questioned the use of EVMs and requested a return to paper ballots. Every time, the courts upheld the use of EVMs, saying they cannot be hacked, and ruled out use of paper ballots.

Former Chief Election Commissioners such as Navin Chawla, S Y Qureshi (both appointed by Congress-led governments) and O P Rawat (appointed by a BJP-led government) have strongly refuted claims that EVMs can be hacked. The ECI gave more than one opportunity to political parties to come to the Election Commission headquarters to examine EVMs with their own technicians, but the parties did not accept the gauntlet.

Only Janata Party president Subramanian Swamy visited and demanded the installation of VVPATs (voter-verifiable paper audit trails) to the EVMs. The latest legal challenge on EVMs was decided in November 2024, when the Supreme Court again junked a petition seeking a return to paper ballots.

**JE arrested accepting bribe in Faridabad**

Gurugram: A team of the Faridabad Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday arrested JE Naresh Kumar of Haryana Urban Development Authority, in Faridabad, while accepting a bribe of Rs 1.5 lakh in lieu of not demolishing liquor shops of the complainant. It is alleged that the JE had demanded Rs 6 lakh for this work, but the 'deal' was finalised at Rs 5 lakh. A case has been registered against the JE under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The complainant, liquor contractor Gopal, had acquired six liquor contracts in the district along with his partners. State authorities had served him a notice asking him to remove his two shops at Shahpur Jat Chowk and Malerna village. In this regard, he met JE Naresh Kumar, who demanded a bribe of Rs 3 lakh per shop in lieu of not having those demolished. "When I did not give the bribe, the JE demolished the shops on August 19. The JE then threatened me that if I did not pay the money, he would demolish the liquor shops in Ashoka Enclave and Uncha village. He demanded Rs 6 lakh. Later, he agreed to Rs 5 lakh but I moved to the ACB," the complainant said. After receiving a complaint, the ACB team laid a trap on Friday and arrested the JE red-handed near a petrol pump in Sector 12.

# RPF of NFR sized Contraband Items (Ganja) worth above Rs 6.20 Lacs

**The Sikh Times**

Maligaon, 10th September: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of N.F. Railway has intensified its drives against smuggling of contraband items. In the past few days, RPF teams carried out several successful operations across different locations under NFR, resulting in the recovery of approximately 59 kgs of ganja worth above Rs. 6.20 lacs. The RPF teams also apprehended several individuals associated with the smuggling of these contraband items. The RPF team of Kamakhya post, on 9th September, 2025, during regular check and drive at the station, apprehended a person and seized contraband goods (Ganja). The seized item valued approximately around Rs. 60,000.00, weighing nearly around 6kgs. Later, the seized goods along with the apprehended person was handed over to GRP/Guwahati for further necessary action. On 8th September, 2025, a joint team of RPF alongwith Dog Squad and GRP of Agartala Post, recovered 27 kgs of unclaimed ganja from a coach panel stationed at Agartala yard. The seized consignment valued approximately around Rs. 2.70 lakhs. The seized item

was later handed over to GRP/Agartala for further disposal under law. Similarly, on 7th

RPF team of Dimapur recovered around 16.4 kg of unclaimed Ganja that worth approxi-

partment of T/no. 15946. Later the seized Ganja was handed over to GRP/Diphu for further course of action. On the same



September, 2025, in another major operation,



September, 2025, in another major operation, mately around Rs. 1.64 lakhs from B4 com-

(Toll-free) for immediate assistance.

**Five Bengaluru PU students, school principal, warden booked under POCSO for ragging of Class 10 boy**

**Bengaluru .(Agency)**

Five second-year PU students, along with a private school principal and a hostel warden, have been booked under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) after a Class 10 student alleged ragging, assault and sexual harassment at a private school hostel in Bannerghatta police station limits on the outskirts of Bengaluru. Police said the victim, who had recently been admitted to the hostel, was allegedly ragged for four days by a group of five second PU students staying in the same hostel between August 3 and 6. He complained to the warden and the principal, who issued only a warning to the accused students.



Irked by this, the five students allegedly targeted the boy again, this time forcing him to dance naked, sexually harassing him and assaulting him with a cloth

hanger. The boy later informed his parents, who filed a complaint with the police on Monday. The hostel warden was arrested on Wednesday for failing to prevent the ragging despite repeated complaints.

A case has been registered under the POCSO Act against the five students, the warden and the principal. Police said the students are being questioned regarding the case and investigation is under way.

**Belagavi lawyer held for murdering six-month pregnant wife, staging accident with accomplices**

**Belagavi .(Agency)**

In a shocking case of premeditated murder, the police have arrested a lawyer and his two accomplices for allegedly killing his six-month pregnant wife and staging it as an accident. The incident took place in Ugar BK village of Chikkodi taluk on Sunday night.

The victim was identified as Chaitali Pradeep Kiranagi (23). Her husband, Pradeep Annasab Kiranagi, and accomplices Saddam Akbar Imandar and Rajan Ganapathi Kamble, were arrested. Two other accused are absconding.

Superintendent of Police Dr Bhimashankar Gule said: "The case came to light when the accused called Kagwad Police Station, claiming his wife had

met with an accident and that he was taking her to the hospital. However, when the police checked the location and vehicle, no signs of an accident were found, raising suspicion. Further, hospitals in Kagwad confirmed that no such patient was admitted."

Later, Pradeep informed the police that he was at Miraj Hospital in Maharashtra and repeatedly requested the completion of legal formalities for his wife's cremation. However, as per primary investigation, the police suspected that it might be a murder conspiracy and not an accident.

The accused has confessed to hitting Chaitali fatally inside the car and fabricating the accident story. The police said that Pradeep had attempted to kill his wife twice earlier but she had survived. Pradeep, who had married Chaitali two years ago, was having an extramarital affair. He feared that the relationship would be found out and he decided to kill her.



## State Food Commission chairman directs strict monitoring of food security benefits

Referring to the recent natural disasters in the state, Katyal laid special stress on ensuring uninterrupted delivery of food security entitlements during emergencies such as heavy rainfall, cloudbursts and landslides.

**Chandigarh . (Agency)**

State Food Commission chairman Dr SP Katyal chaired a review meeting on Wednesday to assess the implementation of entitlements under the National Food Security Act (NFS), 2013, and the Himachal Pradesh Food Security Rules, 2019, emphasising the need for effective monitoring of these schemes to ensure their benefits reach all eligible beneficiaries in a timely and transparent manner.

During the meeting, Katyal reviewed the progress of key schemes, including the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the PM-POSHAN, the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) and the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). Katyal directed officers to strengthen the

grievance redressal mechanism and enhance public awareness about the role and functions of the commission. He instructed that hoardings and notice boards should be installed at fair price shops, schools and anganwadi centres, displaying details of entitlements and contact information of the commission, so that beneficiaries could directly report non-receipt of any benefits.

Referring to the recent natural disasters in the state, Katyal laid special stress on ensuring uninterrupted delivery of food security entitlements during emergencies such as heavy rainfall, cloudbursts and landslides.

He urged all departments concerned to remain vigilant and ensure rations and other benefits are distributed to the people without delay during such situations.

## Nishagandhi open-air auditorium struggles to handle crowd surge during Onam celebrations

**Thiruvananthapuram .(Agency)**

The limitations of the Nishagandhi open-air auditorium as a venue for major events, that draw huge crowds, were evident once again during the Onam week celebrations. The concert featuring playback singers, Chinmayi and Vineeth Sreenivasan, held during the past two days drew an overwhelming audience, far exceeding the carrying capacity of the facility. The police, on Tuesday evening, had a hard time managing the crowd leading to manhandling and lathicharge during the concluding event of the week-long Onam celebrations organised by the Kerala Tourism.

Nishagandhi – the popular auditorium which was the main venue of the Onam week celebrations – has a capacity to hold around 2,000- 2,500 people. As per estimates with the city corporation, approximately over 5 lakh people arrived in the capital to witness the annual Onam Pageantry – that marks the conclusion of the Onam celebrations. The turnout, much larger than anticipated, caused congestion, both inside and around the premises, raising serious concerns over safety and crowd management.

With its restricted seating and limited entry and exit points, the venue struggled to accommodate the thousands who flocked to watch the celebrity performers. An official source said that Kanakakunnu witnessed record footfall on Tuesday.

"The Onam pageantry began early and a large majority of the crowd who came to see the event visited Kanakakunnu where the musical programme was happening, causing things to go out of control," said the official. With crowd management becoming a major concern at Nishagandhi, the Museum police have given reports to the higher authorities to organise only ticketed events or programmes with entry passes.

An official of the Museum police told TNIE that Nishagandhi auditorium is ideal only for events with entry passes. "The organisers of the event should provide entry passes to control the crowd. When it's an open event, people come out in large numbers making it impossible to manage the

crowd. No matter how many police officials we deploy, it will not be enough," said the official.



However, the tourism department feels that Nishagandhi is ideal for large events. Former Fire and Rescue Services DGP A Hemachandran said that effective crowd control at popular events necessitates a proactive and rigorous approach, starting

with an independent evaluation of carrying capacity based on anticipated crowd size and popularity.

"It's a tough decision, but blocking entry once capacity is reached is crucial to prevent unmanageable situations similar to what tragically occurred at Cusat. We must also ensure clear exit points and adequate lighting so that the public can evacuate from the space safely. Segmenting the crowd is another way to manage the crowd," said A Hemachandran.

According to the organisers of the event, LED walls were erected in two locations to show the musical event live for people from outside the auditorium.

MLA V K Prasanth said that the crowd arrived in large numbers. "Next year onwards we will install more LED live streaming walls in many places within the premises to avoid such a situation," said Prasanth.

# Indian Navy commissions first 3D Air Surveillance Radar aboard warship

► The Lanza-N has been developed by Tata Advanced Systems in collaboration with Spanish defence company, Indra. This is the first time that a Lanza-N radar will be operational outside Spain.

#### Agency New Delhi.

The Indian Navy has commissioned its first 3D Air Surveillance Radar (3D-ASR) aboard a warship. The Lanza-N has been developed by Tata Advanced Systems in collaboration with Spanish defence company, Indra. The Lanza-N is a naval variant of Indra's Lanza 3D radar. This is the first time that a Lanza-N radar will be



operational outside Spain. With this collaboration, Tata Advanced Systems has become the first Indian company to demonstrate the capability to build and integrate next-generation naval surveillance radar systems.

The radar has been integrated following sea

trials, during which various naval and aerial platforms were deployed to test performance across a range of radar cross-sections. To support ongoing production, a radar assembly, integration and testing facility has already been established at Tata Advanced Systems' facility in Karnataka, which will accelerate deliveries.

Sukaran Singh, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Tata Advanced Systems said, "Our collaboration with Indra reflects a shared commitment to strengthening radar manufacturing capabilities in India. By leveraging on-ground synergies, technical expertise, and a robust local supply chain, we are building a strong ecosystem for advanced defence technologies.

Speaking on the development, Ana Buendia, head of Indra's naval business unit, said that this project "also enabled us to establish a significant collaboration with Tata Advanced Systems, with whom we have worked to establish a radar factory in Bengaluru."

#### WHAT IS LANZA-N

Indra's Lanza-N is one of the most advanced long-range, three-dimensional tactical surveillance system capable of detecting friendly and hostile air and surface targets within a particular coverage space.

## 38 Indians evacuated from Nepal amid unrest, safely reach Bihar with embassy's help

#### Agency New Delhi.

A 29-year-old woman allegedly strangled her three children and then died by suicide following a family dispute in Tikri town in Uttar Pradesh's Baghpat district, officials said on Wednesday. According to police, the woman, identified as Tej Kumari, also known as Maya, took the step after quarrels at home over her husband not speaking to her and the children not being sent to a private school.

The victims were her daughters aged 4 months, 2 years and 7 years. Vikas Kashyap, Maya's husband and a Delhi-based tourist-bus operator, was reportedly asleep outdoors under a tree when the incident occurred.

When neighbours alerted authorities, police broke open the door and found the three children's bodies on a cot and Maya hanging from the fan. The bodies have been sent for post-mortem and further investigation into the matter is underway. Amid political unrest in Nepal, 38 Indians stranded in the country were safely brought back to India through the Raxaul border in Bihar with the assistance of the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu.

According to officials, the group included 22 people from Andhra Pradesh and 16 from Karnataka. They were guided across the Birgunj-Raxaul border by the Indian Consulate General in Birgunj and handed over to local authorities in Bihar. On their return, the evacuees thanked the Indian Embassy and security agencies for ensuring their safe passage.

## Delhi to microchip one million street dogs in two years, begin census soon

#### Agency New Delhi.

Installing microchips on 1 million street dogs over the next two years, dog census, feeding guidelines and decisive action against illegal pet shops – these were some of the directions issued by Delhi Development Minister Kapil Mishra during a meeting on Wednesday. The meeting of the Animal Welfare Board was held at the Delhi Secretariat, where many important decisions were taken. Development Commissioner Shurbir Singh, along with senior officials from the Animal Husbandry Department, NDMC, MCD and other departments were present, an official statement said.

There was a discussion about the National Rabies Control Programme at the meeting. With World Rabies Day approaching, it was decided that comprehensive measures would be undertaken in Delhi for rabies control. These include microchipping of dogs, prevention of dog bite incidents, and digitisation of the vaccination process.

Special emphasis was placed on "strengthening rabies control and dog population management in Delhi through microchipping". The microchipping will be carried out in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

It was also resolved that an Animal Market Monitoring Committee will soon be formed in Delhi to oversee activities in animal markets. Mishra directed that a dog census and monitoring system be implemented at the earliest to ensure accurate data and stronger future planning.

It was also decided in the meeting that registration of pet shops in Delhi will be made mandatory, for which a special monitoring committee will be constituted. Mishra clarified that all related rules will be implemented soon, and every regional committee will be activated to ensure monitoring and action at the local level.

To promote animal welfare, it was decided to launch awareness programmes at the school level in collaboration with the Education Department. Additionally, Board members will be allowed to participate in national and international conferences and training programmes.

## Game must go on: Top court refuses urgent listing of plea to stop India-Pak match

#### Agency New Delhi.

The Supreme Court on Thursday declined an urgent hearing of a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking cancellation of the India-Pakistan cricket match scheduled for September 14 in UAE as part of the T20 Asia Cup.

The petitioners argued that playing a cricket match against Pakistan so soon after the Pulwama terror attack was "against national interest" and would "belittle the sacrifices" of soldiers and civilians who lost their lives. The April 22 attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Baisaran Valley left 26 civilians dead, and prompted India to launch Operation Sindoora to target terrorist infrastructure across the border.

During a brief mentioning, counsel for the petitioners urged the bench to list the matter on Friday, saying, "The match is on Sunday. Please list it

tomorrow." Justice J K Maheshwari, however, shot down the request, remarking, "The match must go on."

When the lawyer pressed further, even admitting "I may have a bad



case," the court maintained, "No, nothing," refusing to intervene.

The PIL, filed under Article 32, also sought directions to bring the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) under the purview of the Ministry of Sports and ensure implementation of

the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, to make cricketing decisions more accountable.

India and Pakistan have not played a bilateral series on each other's soil since 2012-13, when Pakistan toured India for a short series. Since then, political and security tensions have meant that the two sides only meet in international tournaments such as the Asia Cup, ICC World Cup, or T20 World Cup, at neutral venues. Calls to suspend cricketing ties usually intensify after major terror incidents, with public opinion often divided on whether sporting events should continue. Despite the plea, the high-profile India-Pakistan match, traditionally the most watched fixture in cricket, remains on schedule and is expected to draw record viewership as both sides clash for the first time since India's Asia Cup win in 2023.

## Chaos on SpiceJet Kathmandu flight over faulty AC, flyers disembark

#### Agency New Delhi.

Chaos erupted on a SpiceJet flight (SG 41) from Delhi to Kathmandu on Thursday after frustrated passengers created a ruckus over faulty air conditioning (AC). A video that has gone viral shows passengers visibly distressed and angry as they were made to wait inside the aircraft in the sweltering heat. The passengers later disembarked from the aircraft, in the second such incident within 12 hours. SpiceJet said the aircraft witnessed a technical snag, causing the delay. "The airline is trying to resolve the issue," it further said. Videos shared on social media showed passengers using newspapers and

magazines to fan themselves as the aircraft turned into a hotbox.

On Wednesday night, a similar incident



unfolded on a Singapore-bound Air India flight at the Delhi airport. More than 200 passengers were deboarded after being seated on the Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner aircraft for nearly two hours without any AC.

The flight (AI 2380) was scheduled to depart at around 11 pm on September 10. PTI reported that there was a fault in the aircraft's air conditioning system and the electricity supply.

Similar scenes played out in July on board a SpiceJet Delhi-Mumbai flight. Upset with the air-conditioning, two passengers tried to enter the cockpit after the aircraft had started taxiing on the runway.

The incident delayed the flight, which was scheduled to depart at 12.30 pm on July 14. It eventually took off after nearly seven hours. SpiceJet later said in a statement that the two unruly passengers were offloaded from the flight.

## Supreme Court Orders SIT With Hindu And Muslim Officers To Probe 2023 Maharashtra Clashes

The order came after a petition alleged the Maharashtra police did not probe an assault case filed by a 17-year-old petitioner, Mohd Afzal Mohd Sharif.

#### Agency New Delhi.

The Supreme Court, while observing that a person after putting on the police uniform must rise above all kinds of biases, today asked for a Special Investigation Team (SIT) with both Hindu and Muslim officers to probe the May 2023 riots in Maharashtra's Akola. One person had died and eight others, including two policemen, were injured, in the violent clash in May 2023 over a social media post in Akola. While passing this unprecedented order today, the top court pulled up the Maharashtra Police over a "biased" probe into the communal riots.

A person after donning the police uniform must rise above all kinds of biasness including on the ground of religion and caste and must discharge duty as per the

law," the bench of Justice Sanjay Kumar and Justice Alok Adarsh observed. The order came after a petition alleged the Maharashtra police did not probe an assault case filed by a 17-year-old petitioner, Mohd Afzal Mohd Sharif.

The plea filed against a Bombay High Court order sought civil and criminal actions against the erring police officers for dereliction of their duties, inaction and biased investigation of communal riots that broke out in Akola city in May 2023. According to the plea, on May 13, 2023, communal violence broke out in the old city area of Akola, resulting in the death of Vilas Mahadevrao Gaikwad and serious injuries to the petitioner, a 17-year-old.

The petitioner said he is a victim of severe assault during the communal riots. The petitioner was admitted to a hospital

petitioner, the police did not register any case or investigate although serious cognizable offences were disclosed, the plea alleged. The petitioner had approached the High Court, Bombay (Nagpur Bench) citing its constitutional jurisdiction and inherent powers, but the High Court by its order dated July 25, 2024, refused to grant any relief and dismissed the writ petition filed by the petitioner. Aggrieved, the petitioner approached the Supreme Court. The top court today directed state Home Secretary of Maharashtra to constitute a SIT comprising of senior officers from both Hindu and Muslim communities to undertake the investigation.



## HAL receives third GE404 engine for Tejas, 2 jets ready for October delivery

#### Agency New Delhi.

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) received the third GE404 engine from the US on Thursday, clearing the way for the long-delayed delivery of Tejas Mk1A fighter jets, sources said. One more engine from US-based GE Aerospace is expected by the end of September. HAL will then hand over the first two Tejas aircraft to the Indian Air Force (IAF) in October, the sources added. "Ten aircraft are already built and tested. The first delivery will take place in October, with one aircraft from Nashik already ready for handover," a top source said.

The progress comes after delays in engine deliveries, which had put the production of Tejas jets behind schedule, prompting Air Chief Marshal AP Singh to publicly berate HAL. The Rs 45,000 crore contract, signed in 2021, requires the state-run aerospace giant to supply 83 Tejas Mk1A fighters to the IAF.

After Thursday's delivery, another engine is expected soon to support production lines. HAL is banking on at least two engines per month starting October to bring schedules back on track. Alongside the F404 engines, 10 F414 engines have already arrived. The broader deal for 113 F404 engines for an additional 97 Mk1As is nearly done. "Only the signing of the contract remains, which is expected this month. The Cabinet Committee on Security has already cleared it," sources said.

Meanwhile, the Tejas Mk1A has cleared weapons integration trials, including firing Astra and ASRAAM missiles. The more advanced Tejas Mk2 is slated for rollout in 2027, while 83 Mk1As are now expected by 2029 after a four-quarter delay.

## "Stay Away From Any Offers To Join Russian Army": Centre Warns Indians

#### Agency New Delhi.

India on Thursday issued a stern advisory cautioning its nationals against joining the Russian Army, amid reports that several Indians who had travelled to Moscow were being pushed into combat roles in the Ukraine war.

"We have seen reports about Indian nationals having been recruited recently into the Russian army. Government has on several occasions over the past one year underlined the risks and dangers inherent in this course of action and cautioned Indian citizens accordingly," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said in a statement.

The Ministry confirmed that the issue has been raised with Russian authorities in both Delhi and Moscow, stressing that "this practice be ended and that our nationals be released". "We are also in touch with the families of the affected Indian citizens," it further added. The advisory followed a report in a leading newspaper, which stated that two Indian men, currently in the Donetsk region of eastern Ukraine, alleged they were lured to Russia under the pretext of construction jobs but were instead deployed on the frontline. Speaking over the phone from Selydove, a town captured by Russia in November 2024, they claimed that at least 13 more Indians were trapped in similar conditions.

The report stated that the two had travelled to Russia in the past six months on student or visitor visas. They alleged that an agent who promised them employment in the construction sector had misled them and sent them directly to the battlefield.

Reiterating its caution, the MEA urged Indian citizens to avoid such offers at all costs.

"We once again strongly urge all Indian nationals to stay away from any offers to join the Russian army as this is a course fraught with danger," the Ministry stated.

## NEWS BOX

WrestleMania may debut outside USA, Saudi Arabia tipped as 2027 hosts: Report

New Delhi. (Agency)

The unthinkable has finally become reality as WrestleMania, WWE's biggest and most iconic event, is rumoured to be heading outside the United States for the very first time. According to Saudi adviser Turki Alalshikh, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will host WrestleMania 43 in 2027. The news broke during Alalshikh's Snapchat live stream on Wednesday, instantly setting the wrestling world abuzz. In his translated statement, Alalshikh proudly announced: "WrestleMania has been announced, for the first time outside of America, WrestleMania in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 2027." Shortly after, PWInsider's Mike Johnson confirmed the story's authenticity, noting that a press release had gone out in Arabic earlier in the day before being pulled back for timing reasons. WWE itself has yet to issue a formal confirmation, but with multiple sources lining up, the announcement looks all but official.



For years, Saudi Arabia has been rumoured to be chasing WrestleMania. The Kingdom has already secured blockbuster WWE events, such as the Greatest Royal Rumble in 2018, and continues to host premium shows under its long-term partnership with WWE. However, WrestleMania is a different beast, known as the "Showcase of the Immortals," where legends are made and history is written. If all goes as planned, 2027 will mark the first time in its 40+ year history that WrestleMania leaves American soil.

This isn't just big news for wrestling fans, but it's also another step in Saudi Arabia's mission to position itself as a global sports and entertainment hub. Over the last few years, the Kingdom has thrown its weight behind high-profile events across multiple sports. From hosting Formula 1 races in Jeddah to bringing in mega fights in boxing and MMA, Saudi Arabia has turned itself into a must-stop destination on the international sports calendar. Esports, too, has found a new home there. In 2024 and 2025, Riyadh hosted the Esports World Cup (EWC), which was a groundbreaking event that drew the best players and organisations from around the world with record-setting prize pools and production values.

## Salman Agha unfit? Pakistan face injury scare before Asia Cup campaign

New Delhi. (Agency)

Pakistan were handed a brief injury concern ahead of the Asia Cup 2025, as captain Salman Agha skipped a major part of Wednesday's training session at the ICC Academy in Dubai. The all-rounder, who is set to lead Pakistan against Oman on Friday, September 12, at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi, was spotted with a bandage on his neck after experiencing a mild spasm.

As per reports on Geo News, although he travelled with the squad, Salman stayed away from warm-ups and light football drills, while the rest of the players went through a complete fitness routine. His restricted movement sparked worries in the camp, particularly with the high-voltage clash against India on Sunday approaching. The Pakistan Cricket Board



(PCB), however, played down the concerns, clarifying that the issue is minor and precautionary in nature. Salman is expected to return to full training shortly, and the team management remains confident that their skipper will be fit to lead Pakistan in the crucial Asia Cup 2025 fixtures ahead.

'Pakistan playing good cricket'

Pakistan are rebuilding under coach Mike Hesson, having moved on from former captains Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan after the 2024 South Africa series. Salman now leads the team following a turbulent 18 months. Confident of their prospects, Pakistan will face India, UAE, and Oman in the Asia Cup group stages—marking their first major tournament without the senior duo.

# Asia Cup 2025: UAE head coach admits batters were overawed by India stars

**UAE head coach Lalchand Rajput admitted his batters were overawed by India's stars after a nine-wicket defeat in the Asia Cup 2025 opener. He said the experience against world-class spinners will be a key learning step for his young side.**

New Delhi. (Agency)

India showed their strength in Dubai with a crushing nine-wicket win over hosts United Arab Emirates in their opening Asia Cup 2025 match on Wednesday. The UAE were bowled out for just 57 in 13.1 overs, before India chased down the target in only 4.3 overs. After the game, UAE head coach Lalchand Rajput admitted his players were overwhelmed by both the occasion and the star names in the Indian side. "It was not really a turning track, it was a good wicket to



bat on," Rajput said. "But the skill these bowlers have, especially the wrist-spinners, means they can turn the ball on any surface. For our batters, it was the first time playing against such quality, and they were overawed by India's big names. We should have batted 20 overs, but it's a learning process for

us." India's spinners were the difference. Kuldeep Yadav produced a brilliant spell of 4 for 10, while Shivam Dube chipped in with 3 for 4. Varun Chakravarthy, Axar Patel and Jasprit Bumrah also picked up wickets as India's bowlers made light work of the UAE batting. "World champions will always crush

teams," Rajput added. "It was fine till the powerplay, but once the spinners came on, everything changed. There wasn't much turn, but with Kuldeep and Varun, even top players find it hard." Rajput also pointed out how the presence of India's star names had an effect on his players. "This Indian team is full of stars — Shubman Gill, Jasprit Bumrah, Hardik Pandya, Suryakumar Yadav, the list goes on. These are players the whole world follows. Our boys don't often get a chance to play against them, so naturally they felt the pressure." Still, the coach stressed that matches like these are vital for his team's development. He reminded everyone that the UAE recently beat Bangladesh in a T20I series and pushed Afghanistan close. "This is all part of the journey," he said. "The more our players face these kinds of bowlers, the more confidence they will gain. Playing against India will only help them grow. We will take the lessons and move forward." For Rajput and his team, the loss was heavy, but the experience may prove priceless as the UAE continue their push to compete with bigger nations.

## WWE NXT Homecoming returns to Full Sail with iconic stars and dream matches

New Delhi. (Agency)

Next week, WWE is bringing NXT back to where it all began, which is the Full Sail University. This is for a special episode titled "NXT Homecoming." The event is shaping up to be both a reunion and a showcase, with some of the brand's most iconic names returning to step back inside the black-and-gold ring.

Fans already got a taste of what's to come during last night's NXT, where the surprises came one after another. Carmelo Hayes, Tyler Breeze, Tiffany Stratton, Stephanie Vaquer, and Rhea Ripley all made shock appearances, instantly setting the internet on fire. The best part about it? Each of them will be lacing up their boots for matches on next week's Homecoming card, giving longtime NXT fans a healthy dose of nostalgia while also connecting the past with the present. The women's division is also taking centre stage in a six-woman tag team bout that looks like absolute chaos just waiting to happen. Rhea Ripley, Tiffany Stratton, and Stephanie Vaquer will join forces in a



punished on their stats for even trying. For many stars, this adjustment feels like a sigh of relief. Take Stephen Curry, for example. The Golden State icon owns a career field-goal percentage of 43.1% (cred NBA.com, 2025). Until now, he and other sharpshooters often hesitated to throw up desperation heaves because it chip away at their efficiency numbers. By scrubbing these misses from the books, the league hopes to strike a balance which is letting

players keep their stats intact while still encouraging highlight worthy attempts. A photo shared with the announcement shows Curry mid-heave, considerably a fitting image since no one represents long-range daring quite like him. The rule didn't come out of nowhere. During the 2024 NBA Finals, Boston Celtics guard Payton Pritchard drilled a couple of deep buzzer beaters against the Dallas Mavericks, proving that even the most improbable shots can shift momentum. Those moments lit up the crowd and reminded everyone how exciting these plays can be, even if they are rare. It likely pushed the league to rethink how much weight these heaves should carry in the stat sheet.

With the 2025-26 season just around the corner, everyone will be watching to see how this plays out. Coaches might change their end-of-quarter strategies, players may feel freer to launch shots, and fans could be treated to more electrifying buzzer-beaters.

At the end of the day, the rule is a compromise because it protects player stats while keeping the thrill of the game alive.

## NBA to scrap missed half-court shots from stats in end-of-quarter heaves: Report

**The NBA has introduced a rule excluding missed half-court shots in the last three seconds of quarters from player statistics. This change aims to protect player shooting percentages while encouraging more exciting buzzer-beater attempts.**

New Delhi. (Agency)

As of September 10, 2025, the NBA officially rolled out a new rule. From now on, missed half-court shots taken in the final three seconds of the first three quarters will no longer count against a player's field goal percentage. The change, which was first tested during the 2025 Summer League, comes after years of debate. According to league data from 2024, only about 1% of these wild, end-of-quarter heaves actually go in, which meant players were getting

## Premier League: Man City's Omar Marmoush ruled out of Manchester derby

OSLO. (Agency)

Manchester City will be without striker Omar Marmoush for Sunday's Manchester derby after the Egyptian forward suffered a knee injury while on international duty, the club confirmed on Wednesday. The news adds to City's growing injury crisis ahead of one of the biggest matches of the Premier League season. Marmoush lasted only a few minutes in Egypt's 0-0 World Cup qualifying draw with Burkina Faso on Tuesday before going down from a challenge. The team doctor confirmed that the 26-year-old sustained a bruised knee ligament, forcing him to retire from the match. "Initial results on a scan performed in Egypt indicate he will not be available for the Manchester derby on Sunday, and he will now return to Manchester for further assessment and to begin his rehabilitation," the club said in an



official statement. Marmoush joined Manchester City in January last season and made an immediate impact, finishing his debut campaign with eight goals and four assists across all competitions. However, he has yet to score this season, making his absence a significant blow for Pep Guardiola as City look to regain momentum in the league.

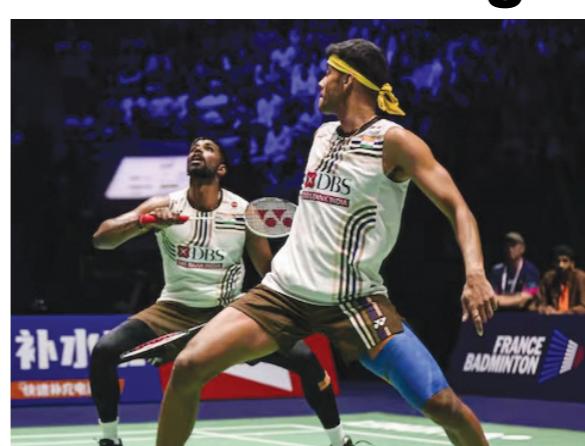
The injury comes at a difficult time for City, who are currently 13th in the Premier League standings after three rounds, with just one victory. Guardiola's squad has already been hit by long-term injuries to Rayan Cherki and Mateo Kovacic, while Phil Foden and Savinho are also doubts ahead of the high-profile derby. Marmoush's unavailability further reduces options in attack and puts more pressure on the manager to adjust his game plan. Marmoush's skill and pace had been seen as key to City's hopes of turning their season around, and losing him for such a crucial fixture will require other players to step up. Guardiola will now have to rely on his remaining forwards to provide the spark against Manchester United, a team eager to take advantage of City's current struggles.

## Satwik-Chirag survives another scare, advances to quarterfinal of Hong Kong Open

**Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty overcame a tough challenge from Thailand to enter the Hong Kong Open quarterfinals. They took an hour and three minutes to win the match 18-21, 21-15, 21-11.**

New Delhi. (Agency)

India's top men's doubles pair, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, advanced to the



quarterfinals of the Hong Kong Open, but not without a scare. On Thursday, September 11, the World No. 9 duo rallied from a game down to defeat Thailand's Peeratchai Sukphon and Pakkapon Teeraratnakul 18-21, 21-15, 21-11 in an hour and three minutes.

The Thai pair, ranked world No. 42, shocked the Indians by snatching the opening game 21-18 with sharp net play and stubborn defense. However, the reigning Asian Games gold medalists regrouped quickly, tightening their attack and dictating the pace in the second game. In the decider, Satwik's thunderous smashes and Chirag's lightning reflexes at the net left the Thais with no answers as the Indians stormed to a dominant finish. Satwik and Chirag will now face Malaysia's Junaidi Arif and Roy King Yap in the quarterfinals. The Malaysian duo booked their spot with a 21-17,

21-19 win over Choong Hon Jian and Muhammad Haikal in their Round of 16 clash. Satwik and Chirag were made to work hard in their Hong Kong Open opener. Fresh from their bronze medal at the 2024 World

Championships in Paris, they battled past Taiwan's Chiu Hsiang Chieh and Wang Chi-Lin 21-13, 18-21, 21-10 on Wednesday, September 10, in the BWF Super 500 event.

The Indians began in commanding fashion, with Chirag dominating at the net and Satwik unleashing his trademark smashes to cruise through the first game. However, the momentum swung in the second as the Taiwanese tightened their defense, engaged in longer rallies, and capitalized on unforced errors to force a decider.

In the third game, Satwik and Chirag regrouped quickly. They sharpened their shot-making, applied relentless pressure, and took charge of the net exchanges. Building an early lead, they never looked back, closing out the contest with authority to advance despite the second-game setback.

## SpiceJet secures \$89.5 million liquidity boost through Carlyle settlement

### NEW DELHI.(Agency)

Low-cost carrier SpiceJet Ltd has reached a settlement with Carlyle Aviation Partners, unlocking \$89.5 million in liquidity that will support the airline's restructuring and balance sheet strengthening efforts. As part of the agreement, the airline will gain access to \$79.6 million in cash maintenance reserves for future aircraft and engine maintenance, along with \$9.9 million in maintenance credits to offset lease obligations, SpiceJet said in a regulatory filing on Thursday. The deal also involves restructuring of certain lease obligations worth \$121.18 million, combined with the issuance of equity shares aggregating \$50 million. Additionally, if Carlyle realizes proceeds above \$50 million from the sale of these shares, a portion of the excess will be used to offset SpiceJet's future lease obligations.

Promoter Ajay Singh, or his designated assignee, will have the option to purchase these equity shares once the statutory and contractual lock-in periods expire. Ajay Singh, Chairman and Managing Director of SpiceJet, called the settlement a "significant milestone" in the airline's turnaround. "The support extended by Carlyle demonstrates their confidence in SpiceJet's long-term prospects. This transaction meaningfully reduces our liabilities, strengthens our balance sheet, and positions us well for sustainable growth," he said. The airline said the settlement underlines its focus on strategic restructuring, cost efficiency, and forging long-term partnerships with stakeholders. SpiceJet operates a fleet of Boeing 737s and Q400s and is a major participant in the government's UDAN regional connectivity scheme.

## Funskool in advance talks with Mattel Inc for contract manufacturing

### New Delhi.(Agency)

India's biggest toy manufacturer, Chennai-based Funskool, is in advanced stages of discussions with Mattel Inc.—makers of Hot Wheels, Barbie dolls, and Jurassic World toys—for producing the latter's products at its Goa plants. Speaking to TNIE, Funskool chief executive KA Shabir said that except for Mattel, all other US toy brands have halted production orders because of US tariffs. He added that orders from US customers have slowed significantly following the tariff announcement. The current tariff on toys stands at 50%. Shabir said: "The real impact (of US tariffs) will show in 2026. The tariffs are stalling the growth momentum of the toy industry just when global brands began investing in India. With the US being the world's largest toy market, such high tariffs make sourcing from India unworkable, pushing business to Southeast Asian countries." On growth plans and current operations, Shabir said the first two quarters of FY26 indicated that the company was on track to achieve its target of 30% export growth. "But the imposition of tariffs has dampened our export growth expectations. Till September, exports are expected to grow only around 20–22%," he noted. The company has set an overall growth target of 15%, mainly driven by exports. "With 40% of our business linked to the US, the tariffs are a serious setback. The US business cannot be replaced overnight—the scale is unmatched. This will delay our growth plans, not only for Funskool but for India's toy industry as a whole," Shabir said. Funskool has put on hold the expansion of its Ranipet plant due to order cancellations, though expansion at its Goa plant is progressing as scheduled. The Goa facility is expected to operate at full capacity by the third quarter of FY26. Together, the two plants generate \$50–55 million in revenue.

"For the past four to five months, we have been working on new projects slated for delivery next year. However, everything has been put on hold for now. Our customers may inform us about new orders in the next two to three weeks," Shabir said.

## Blinding glitter of Silver: Price can reach Rs 1.5 lakh/kg, says Motilal Oswal

### Kolkata. Agency

Though silver is going through one of the most remarkable bull runs in history and has climbed as much as 37% this year so far, prominent brokerage firm Motilal Oswal thinks a lot of steam is left in this precious metal, thanks to its multiple demand triggers. On Thursday (September 11) morning MCS Silver was trading at Rs 124,968, down Rs 212 or 0.17%. Motilal Oswal is extremely bullish about silver and has recommended "buy-on-dips" strategy over the next one year to 15 months. It has set long-term support levels—prices at which any decline in the price is set to stop and reverse direction of movement—between Rs 1,04,000 and Rs 1,08,000. Silver has generated annualized returns of about 20% in the past three years, which is remarkable against any other asset categories. Silver Price outlook

Motilal Oswal has maintained a positive medium to long-term view on the white metal prices. According to Motilal Oswal, the price is now expected to go past the Rs 1,35,000/kg mark. The next target to follow is Rs 1,50,000. It assumes the exchange rate of the US Dollar and Indian rupee at 88.5. Significantly, the price of both gold and silver in India are critically dependent on the exchange rate of the Indian rupee versus the US Dollar. India imports a lot of gold every year. In 2022, a record of 9,534.41 tonnes were imported, while it fell to 3,625 tonnes the next year. The imports will surpass 3,000 tonnes in the first half of this year. Thanks to the twin demands from the safe-haven investors and industrial sectors, the demand will remain high. Since the metal is imported in such volumes, the exchange rate determines the price of silver in the country significantly. If the value of the rupee goes down, the price of imported silver rises even if global silver prices remain unchanged.

## 3 IPOs in focus: Urban Company leads, but where's the bigger listing gain

### The 2025 housing market signals a clear shift. Buyers are moving beyond affordability, prioritising quality, timely delivery, and livability, even if it means paying more for premium and luxury homes.

### New Delhi.(Agency)

The initial public offering (IPO) of Urban Company has attracted strong interest from investors since it opened for bidding on September 10, 2025. Within a few hours, the issue was fully subscribed, indicating high demand from retail investors. Alongside Urban Company, two other IPOs, Dev Accelerator and Shringar House of Mangalsutra, are also open for bidding this week. All three IPOs have shown robust subscriptions so far,

but out of the three, which one may offer the best profit based on the grey market premium (GMP) trend is the important question.

URBAN COMPANY IPO SEES STRONG DEMAND Urban Company's IPO ended its first day with an overall subscription of 3.29 times. The public issue saw a strong retail category subscription of 7.39 times, while qualified institutional buyers (QIB) subscribed 1.37 times and non-institutional investors (NII) subscribed 4.37 times. Urban Company, an app-based platform for home and beauty services, has become one of the most awaited IPOs of 2025. Its last recorded GMP is Rs 39, updated on September 11 at 06:53 AM. With a price band set between Rs 98 and Rs 103 per share, the estimated listing price based on the latest GMP is Rs 142. This suggests an expected listing gain of 37.86% from the upper band price of Rs 103. While Urban Company is drawing the most attention, two other IPOs are also seeing good interest.

Dev Accelerator's IPO subscription stood at 5.34 times on its first day. The retail category was highly subscribed at 19.60 times, while QIB and NII categories saw 1.16 and 4.46 times subscriptions respectively. The last GMP recorded for Dev Accelerator is Rs 9, updated on

2.70 times. Its latest GMP is Rs 29.5 as of September 11, updated at 06:56 AM. With a price band of Rs 155 to Rs 165, the expected listing price is Rs 194.5, giving an estimated gain of 17.88%.

### HOW DOES GMP AFFECT INVESTOR DECISION?

The grey market premium (GMP) serves as a good indicator of investor sentiment towards an IPO before its official listing. It reflects how much investors are willing to pay over the IPO price in the informal market. Currently, Urban Company stands out for its high expected listing gains of 37.86%, almost double that of Dev Accelerator and significantly higher than Shringar House of Mangalsutra. This is likely driven by the strong brand presence of Urban Company and its position in the fast-growing home services sector. The subscription for all three IPOs will close on September 12, 2025. The allotment is expected to be finalised on September 15, 2025. All three IPOs are set to list on the BSE and NSE on September 17, 2025.



September 11 at 06:53 AM. With a price band of Rs 56 to Rs 61, its estimated listing price is Rs 70. This implies an expected gain of 14.75%.

Shringar House of Mangalsutra's IPO saw a total subscription of 2.01 times on its first day. The retail category was subscribed 2.84 times, QIB just 0.01 times, and NII

## Biocon opens first US manufacturing facility in New Jersey

### New Delhi.(Agency)

Biocon Limited on Wednesday announced the inauguration of its first US manufacturing facility in Cranbury, New Jersey, through its wholly owned subsidiary Biocon Generics Inc (BGI).

The oral solid dosage facility, acquired from Eywa Pharma Inc. in 2023, has been upgraded with an investment of over \$30 million and has an annual production capacity of 2 billion tablets. Some products have already been commercialized, with several more in the pipeline, the company said.

New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy was the guest of honour at the inauguration, which was attended by Biocon Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, CEO and MD Siddharth Mittal, and



industry stakeholders. Mazumdar-Shaw described the facility as a "new chapter" in Biocon's global expansion. "More than a milestone, it is a reaffirmation of our purpose to serve patients wherever they are," she said, adding that the plant strengthens supply reliability and creates

opportunities in the US healthcare ecosystem. Mittal said the US presence will bring the company closer to patients and healthcare providers. "The proximity allows us to deliver our vertically integrated, high-quality medicines more efficiently while ensuring supply chain resilience," he said. Governor Murphy welcomed the investment, calling it a boost to New Jersey's reputation as the "medicine chest to the world." Biocon, which went public in 2004, develops and markets biologics, biosimilars, and complex generics across global markets. The company said the New Jersey facility will play a critical role in expanding access to affordable therapies for patients in the US and beyond.

## Patanjali Foods shares fall 66.7% on ex-bonus; move to boost liquidity



CHENNAI.(Agency) Shares of Patanjali Foods witnessed a sharp fall of 66.7% on Thursday as the stock turned ex-bonus following the company's announcement of a 2:1 bonus issue. This steep decline was purely a technical adjustment in line with the bonus issuance, and does not reflect any fundamental change in the company's valuation or market capitalisation. With the bonus issue, shareholders now hold three shares for

every one share they previously owned. Correspondingly, the stock price was adjusted downward to reflect this increase in share count, resulting in a proportional decline in price. For investors, the overall value of their holdings remains unchanged, as the total market capitalization of Patanjali Foods stays intact. The primary objective behind the bonus issuance is to improve stock liquidity and enhance retail investor participation. By

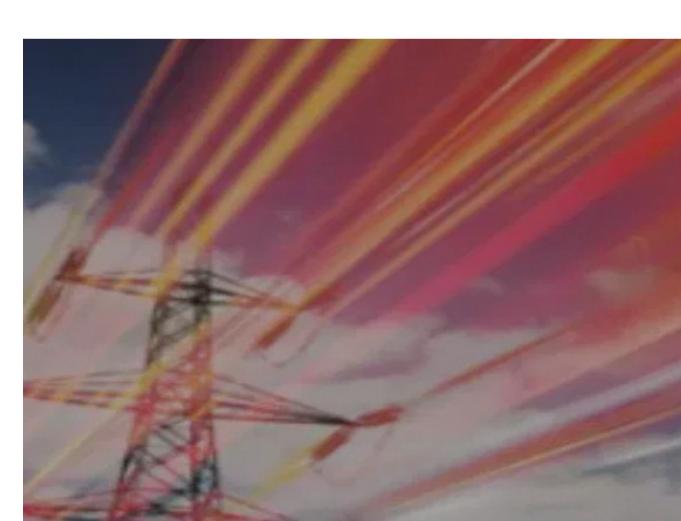
increasing the number of outstanding shares, the company aims to make its shares more accessible to a broader base of investors, potentially improving trading volumes and market activity. Market analysts view this development as a standard corporate action, designed to boost investor interest rather than signal any operational concerns. However, such large percentage movements can often trigger short-term volatility and speculative trading, especially in thinly traded stocks. Investors are advised to focus on the long-term prospects of Patanjali Foods, including its business fundamentals and market strategy, rather than reacting to mechanical price adjustments related to the bonus issue.

## Multibagger stock! How Hitachi Energy India shares turned Rs 1 lakh into Rs 12.50 crore

### Hitachi Energy India shares surged 12,500 per cent jumped since April 2020. The stock jumped from Rs 15 in April 2020 to Rs 19,923 on 11th September 2025.

### New Delhi.(Agency)

Indian Stock Market has grown significantly in the last two decades. A huge number of people have enrolled themselves in the market with a hope to make good profits from their investments. Several companies' shares have turned out to be multibagger returns in the last 4-5 years. In this article we inform you about Hitachi Energy India stock which has given exponential returns. Hitachi Energy India shares have turned out to be a multibagger in the last five years. The stock which is trading at Rs 19,922 apiece

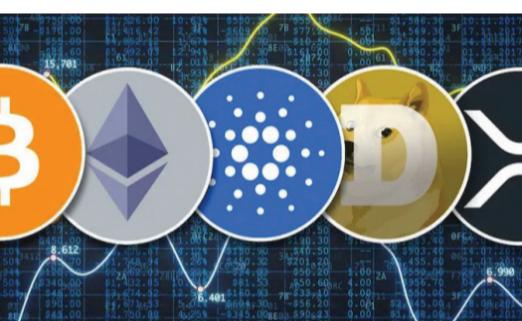


was available at Rs 923.75 on 11th September 2020. Hitachi Energy India stock surged 12,500% Notably, Hitachi Energy India shares traded at Rs 15 in April 2020, when the markets faced a rout because of the COVID-induced lockdown. If an investor had pumped in Rs 1 lakh in April 2020 to buy Hitachi Energy India shares, the investment would have



skyrocketed to more than Rs 12.60 crore today. This indicates that the stock surged 12,500% in this time period. Not only this, Hitachi Energy India stock has performed exceptionally well in 2025 as the counter has jumped 66% in the last six months. Hitachi Energy India Q1 2025-26 Results In its April-June quarterly results of 2025-26, Hitachi Energy India

registered a strong revenue performance, at Rs 1,529.8 crore, with a 15.3 percent Year-on-Year growth. "The company posted a significant YoY growth in profit before tax (PBT) and profit after tax (PAT) on a lower base," it stated in its release. PBT recorded a YoY growth of 105.3%, while PAT stood at 1163.1%, respectively.



stablecoin. Meanwhile, the U.S. has passed the GENIUS Act, which allows for wider use of stablecoins—cryptocurrencies linked to fiat currencies designed to avoid wild price swings. The document warns that stablecoins, mostly pegged to the US dollar, need scrutiny. Though they aim to provide price stability, they can still fluctuate because of market shocks or liquidity issues. The government is concerned that wide use of stablecoins might fragment the national payment system, especially the Unified Payment Interface (UPI), which is the backbone of India's digital payments. The government does not favour an outright ban on cryptocurrencies either. Such a ban would block some risks but would not stop peer-to-peer transfers or decentralised exchange trades, which are difficult to monitor. Instead, the current approach relies on making global crypto exchanges register locally and face strict checks to prevent money laundering and fraud.

Who Needs Promo When

# Divya Khosla's

**Dance Is Already The Star Of Ek Chatur Naar**

**D**ivya Khosla is all set to impress with her upcoming black comedy thriller, *Ek Chatur Naar*. Fans are already excited after the release of the trailer and title track, and now the lead actress is creating more buzz with her stunning appearance during the film's promotions. Recently, Divya was spotted at the T-Series office in an elegant and effortless look. Paparazzi captured her as she confidently walked in, carrying the charm of the film's main character.

In a light-hearted video that is being widely shared, Divya playfully invited a paparazzi to dance with her. She pulled him, told him to set aside his phone, and together they performed a few dance moves to the catchy title track. She wore a

pastel floral saree with simple makeup and minimal accessories, giving off a breezy and sophisticated vibe. Her open hair and bright smile made the moment more delightful, leaving fans in awe.

**The Movie Promises**

**Suspense and Twists**

*Ek Chatur Naar*, directed by Umesh Shukla, is shaping up to be a thrilling mix of suspense, comedy, and clever twists. The trailer gives a glimpse of an intriguing story full of deception and mind games. It runs for two minutes and thirty-six seconds, setting up an atmosphere of mystery. Divya Khosla and Neil Nitin Mukesh play the lead roles, with each character hiding secrets behind their smiles.

Neil Nitin Mukesh appears mysterious and menacing, while Divya seems innocent at first but hints at a hidden edge in her personality. The trailer leaves viewers curious about what lies beneath their facades, suggesting that the story will be full of unexpected turns.

**Star-studded Cast and Big Release**

Besides Divya and Neil, *Ek Chatur Naar* stars Chhaya Kadam, Sushant Singh, Rajniesh Duggal, Zakir Hussain, Yashpal Sharma, Heli Daruwala, Rose Sardana, and Geeta Agarwal Sharma in important roles.

The movie is produced by Umesh Shukla, Ashish Wagh and Zeehan Ahmad under Merry Go Round Studios, while T-Series presents it. The film is all set to hit the big screens on September 12, this year, and promises to be an entertaining watch for fans of dark comedy and thrillers. Divya's vibrant promotional efforts and the film's intriguing trailer suggest that *Ek Chatur Naar* could be a refreshing addition to this genre.

## Selena Gomez's Only Murders In The Building Co-Star Martin Short 'Thrilled' About Her Engagement

**M**artin Short is "thrilled" about Selena Gomez and Benny Blanco's engagement. The 75-year-old actor praised his "absolutely lovely" *Only Murders in the Building* co-star and admitted he couldn't be happier that she's found a "fabulous" partner in the 37-year-old producer.

Speaking on the *Good Hang* with Amy Poehler podcast, he said of Selena: "I just adore her. I'm so happy that she's getting married to this fabulous guy, Benny Blanco, who's just one of the great, cool guys and funny and loose, and she adores him."

"First, we're not invited. But we are going to parachute in with hand mics and do something," Martin quipped: "Absolutely. And, you know, I'm doing a medley, again, of songs that weren't nominated... but, again, haven't been asked." And Selena insisted that was something she'd love.

Asked the perfect gift from her co-stars, she said: "This is the gift, honestly." Martin joked: "I was going to ask you. Because you have a salt and pepper shaker, right?"

Steve added: "I have the perfect wedding gift, and we are going to give it to them together." The hit murder mystery comedy series is returning for a fifth season, and Selena admitted she has had a "blast" working with the iconic comedic actors.

She told E! News: "I'm so happy that it's been five years working with Steve and Marty, it's been a blast, I feel very fortunate and blessed." Meanwhile, Steve joked that he learns a lot about Selena's life by reading about her in the media. He added: "So much has happened in her life, even as an outsider, but even as an insider in the hallway – I mean backstage, offstage, in the hallway, the dressing room."

"The life off camera is, you know... we know her and we read about her. So we have to put it all together!"

Turning to Martin, he quipped: "I never read about you!" Benny and Selena confirmed their relationship in December 2023, before announcing their engagement a year later.



"I'm just thrilled for her happiness, and I'm thrilled to get to work with her." Last week, Martin and his other *Only Murders in the Building* co-star, Steve Martin, joked they weren't invited to Selena and Benny's wedding but planned to gatecrash in order to honour the pair with a unique gift. Steve, 80, told Extra:



**Kubbra Sait Cries For Food In Rise And Fall, Calls Upma 'Concrete'**



**K**nown for her unconventional choices and fearless performances on both the big screen and streaming platforms, actress Kubbra Sait has now embarked on a brand-new journey. For the first time in her career, the *Sacred Games* star has signed up for a reality television show, *Rise and Fall*. The show challenges contestants with extreme situations that reflect real-world disparities of wealth and power, pushing them to adapt in ways they never imagined.

Taking to Instagram, Kubbra shared a candid reel that gave fans a glimpse into the struggles she is facing inside the show. The video contrasted her life before *Rise and Fall*, where she could indulge in a variety of global delicacies, to her current situation where she has to make do with basic meals. One food item in particular, upma, left her visibly emotional. In the reel, Kubbra is seen saying, "It's such a dumb thing to cry about but I actually hate it." She explained that she never liked eating upma, not even as a child and now she has no option but to eat it regularly. Calling the dish "concrete," she posted the clip with the caption: "Look what made me CRY. UPMA. #RiseAndFall" along with the emotional song *Tadap Tadap*.

**From Sacred Games to Reality TV**

Kubbra Sait has established herself as a versatile performer over the years. She has worked in films like *Sultan*, *Ready* and *City of Life*, but it was her portrayal of Kukoo in Netflix's *Sacred Games* that earned her widespread acclaim and recognition. More recently, she appeared opposite Ajay Devgn in *Son of Sardaar 2*. On the OTT front, she is all set to return as Sana in the much-anticipated second season of *The Trial*.

**What Rise and Fall Is All About**

The concept of *Rise and Fall* mirrors the harsh realities of economic inequality in society. Hosted by Ashneer Grover, the show begins with contestants choosing between two suitcases – a golden one containing Rs 6 lakhs and a silver one with Rs 1 lakh. Those who picked the golden suitcase were crowned as "rulers," while the others were relegated to the basement as "workers."

## Anjum Fakih Can't Hold Back Tears As Anita Hassanandani Meets Her Son On Chhoriyan Chali Gaon's Set



**A**nita Hassanandani is currently busy shooting for *Chhoriyan Chali Gaon* in one of the remote villages of Madhya Pradesh. Her appearance on the reality show marks the first time she has been away from her four-year-old son, Aarav Reddy, for such a long period. Recently, when they reunited in one of the segments of the show, the doting mother became extremely emotional. In a video posted by the makers on the official handle of the show, we can spot Anita Hassanandani busy with the chores of her village life for the show. This is when her baby boy, Aarav, enters the frame and runs towards his loving mother. Soon after reuniting with him, the actress turned extremely emotional and teary-eyed.

**Anjum Fakih Turns Emotional At Anita Hassanandani And Her Son's Affectionate Moments**

The little boy even gifted her a piece of his drawing. But without paying much attention to it, she was initially seen hugging her son and showering him with kisses. The adorable reunion of the mother-son duo even left Anita's close friend and co-contestant, Anjum Fakih, emotional.

"Aarav aaya hai apni mom ke paas chhodkar town, aur use dekhkar Anita ji ka ho gaya hai breakdown (Aarav has come to meet his mother, leaving the town, and meeting him Anita has a breakdown)!" read the caption of the post.

Soon, social media users reacted to the adorable reunion between Anita Hassanandani and her son. A user said, "Mujhe toh rona aa gya." Another person added, "It seems clearly how much he has missed u." Echoing the same emotion, someone said, "I don't know why I'm crying here." Meanwhile, a comment read, "That's the difference between mother and child while everyone thought about the game and didn't talk to the family members but anita a mother didn't care about the game."

**Anita Hassanandani, Her Son And Her Husband Spent A Day In The Village Together**

In another post, the 44-year-old was also seen roaming around the village alongside her husband, Rohit Reddy and their son, Aarav. The post was captioned as "Anita ji ne apne parivaar ke saath gaon mein machaya khoob hungama, kya aapko bhi bahut cute laga inke chhote se family ka pyaar bhara sama (Anita roamed around the village with her family, did you also find the loving atmosphere of her small family very cute)?"



## Places to see in

# Goa for free

**The original backpacker hub, Goa is synonymous with sand-kissed beaches, affordable seaside accommodation and inexpensive-yet-delicious food. With plenty of free places to see in Goa, you can be assured of a great holiday even if you're travelling on a tight budget. From discovering Goa's cosmopolitan past through its grand churches and forts to walking under the shade of soaring trees and discovering its rich wildlife, here are a few ways to experience Goa absolutely free of cost.**

### Dudhsagar Falls

Locals say that Goa is never prettier than when it rains. Far from the beaches and tourist hotspots, the forested hinterland of the State literally comes alive during the monsoon. And amongst the most popular attractions off the beaten path are the Dudhsagar Falls. Located 60 kilometres from Panaji on NH4A, the Falls are so named for the white frothy appearance of the water here. During the monsoon, the Falls become exponentially enraged with water plummeting 1017 feet and crashing with an ear-splitting roar on the surface. Part of Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary, the Falls also attract trekkers who come here to climb through challenging terrain to the head of the falls.

### Beaches in Goa

The coastline of this state in west India boasts of innumerable beautiful beaches that offer everything from parties and adventure to solitude and sunbathing. Most beaches in Goa are lined with luxury resorts, makeshift huts and beach shacks

which stay open until the wee hours. While the easily accessible Baga Beach and Calangute Beach are the tourist hotspots, the trio of Arambol, Ashvem and Morjim towards the northern end of Goa are relatively less-crowded and dotted with some exciting bars and restaurants. Trance lovers can head to Anjuna Beach—the hub of late night revelries in north Goa. Dotted with luxury resorts, the unspoilt beaches in Goa's south—Varca, Cavelossim and Morbor to name a few—are ideal for visitors who want to splurge on a swanky accommodation and relax during their beach holiday.

### Old Goa

The former Portuguese capital of the region before Panjim, Old Goa is a UNESCO World Heritage Site that's home to several magnificent churches and cathedrals. Primarily constructed during the 16th and 17th centuries, these buildings have lofty exteriors and exquisitely decorated interiors. The most famous among them is the Basilica of Bom Jesus, which contains the remains of St Francis Xavier, who

arrived here in the 16th century as a Jesuit missionary. His three-tiered marble tomb is the highlight of the church, but it also has gilded altars and striking baroque architecture.

The imposing Se Cathedral, the largest church in Old Goa, is an excellent example of Renaissance architecture, and has 15 impressive altars. The convent and church of St Francis of Assisi is known for its intricate gilded woodwork and murals, and houses an archaeological museum within its premises.

### Fort Aguada

There are numerous remains of rugged forts scattered along Goa's coast and rivers. The most famous of them is Fort Aguada, located next to the Candolim beach. It was built in the 17th century by the Portuguese, as defense against invasions by the Marathas and the Dutch. Hike up to the fort for great views of the sea, especially at sunset. There's also an old 19th-century lighthouse located on this hilltop, which offers even better views of the coastline.

### Fontainhas

impenetrable against attacks, it has many a stories to tell. It also houses an impressive lighthouse that is open to visitors and a must-visit for photographers. Interesting frescoes adorn most of the walls here, quite a lure for the lovers of art and architecture. A perfect battle fort, it has centuries old cannons perched on its terrace. Other than an insight into the history and times of this region, a visit to Diu Fort will get you some very fascinating views of the stark blue Arabian Sea and the terrain around.

### Cave-hopping

This maze of caves is strewn outside the territory walls of Diu Fort. Quite an offbeat attraction, it sees the more ardent of explorers. A labyrinth of underground caves, their walls eroded by wind, these are perfect to lose

it has been described as India's only Latin quarter. The quiet charm of this Panjim neighbourhood's narrow streets and tile-roofed houses is best discovered on foot. Walk around to admire its well-maintained Indo-Portuguese houses and the small but pretty Chapel of St Sebastian, built in the 1880s. Don't forget to pop into the Confeitaria 31 de Janeiroiro, one of the oldest bakeries in Goa, for traditional sweets and breads. You can also take a guided tour with resident expert Luis Dias, whose neighbourhood walks are laced with local trivia and anecdotes. Alternatively, book a guided walk at Panjim Inn, a 19th-century colonial mansion converted into one of the city's best heritage hotels.

### Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church

One of the oldest chapels in Goa, Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception Church is one of the most prominent landmarks of the state's capital city Panjim. The distinctive architecture of the church includes a series of criss-crossing steps that lead you to the prayer hall

yourself in your own company. Visit the caves when the Sun is high above as it lights up the rather dark insides and puts up a very fascinating natural light show. These caves are located near the Jallandhar Beach and are just a stroll away from the town centre. Explore these for some solitary time or set your kids playing a game of hide and seek in a setting that is more than just perfect.

### Test yourself at water sports

Parasailing, surfing, banana boat rides, jet skiing, water zorbing and even hot air balloon rides over the Arabian Sea—Diu has all this for adrenaline junkies. Most of these activities are organised at one of the two main beaches here—Ghoghla and Nagoa. Kids too can have a gala time here with special activities including boat rides and beach biking. A carnival-like mood at the beaches is another lure. Early

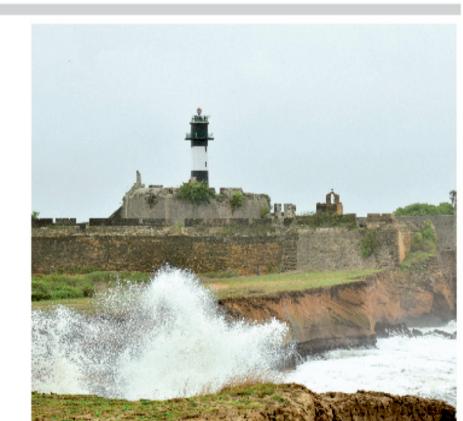
and massive bells on its rooftop. If you're visiting Goa in December, then head to the chapel on the 8th of December (celebrated as Feast of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception) for a special service and lively fair earmarked for this day of the year. The monument is best viewed at night, when it is ablaze with lights that add to its spiritual charm.

### Goa State Museum

Housing an eclectic mix of artefacts from Goa's past, the Goa State Museum is located in the capital city of Panaji. Opened in 1996, it is regarded as one of the most well-known museums of the state. The museum displays a comprehensive collection of 8,000 curios that include beautiful Hindu and Jain sculptures, Portuguese-era furniture, a few ancient coins, paintings, manuscripts and two vintage lottery machines. Home to as many as 14 galleries—furniture, geology, cultural anthropology, religious and sculpture galley among others—the museum is a must-stop for history buffs.

### Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary

Take an early morning walk on the criss-crossing pathways of the beautiful Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary and you are likely to spot a variety of flora and fauna. Climb up to the tree-top watchtower positioned above the watering hole used by the animals of the park and take in the views of the verdant landscape. Eight nature trails traverse the sanctuary, ranging from 500 m to 5 km, shadowed by soaring deciduous trees. Best visited between October and March, the sanctuary is home to the Indian pangolin, four-horned antelope, white-bellied woodpecker, mouse deer and the Malabar trogon among other birds and animals. Offering an interesting contrast to Goa's picturesque beaches, Cotigao is located in Canacona Taluka in south Goa.



evenings are the perfect time to go splashing in the blue waters.

### Go wandering at the Seashell Museum

This tiny museum in Diu is perhaps one of its most offbeat attractions. Conceptualised by Captain Devjibhai Vira Fulbaria, this museum houses his personal collection of sea shells, collected by him from over 50 years of sailing. A rather rundown place for a museum, it will surprise you with more than 3000 seashells of different varieties. This museum is a short distance away from Nagoa Beach and the airport, and makes for a perfect pitstop option. There is no entry fee for the museum, with a jolly guard showing you around the establishment.

## The most interesting things to do in

# diu

### Go birdwatching

A well-kept secret, birdwatching in Diu is home to flamingoes, western reef egrets, spoonbills and a host of migratory birds. Diu also houses a bird watching tower and a lake near the Hare Krishna Mandir, both the places are frequented by ornithologists. A number of trails near the temple lead to dense groves, an area that sees as many as 200 bird species. You will find just a few people on these trails, making it an all the more interesting experience.

### History lessons at the Diu Fort

A brilliant example of Portuguese architecture, Diu Fort stands proud by the side of Arabian Sea. It was built in 1535 to protect the territory against Mughal invasion. This fort remained the centre of Portuguese rule until 1961 when Indian government merged Diu in India. A magnificent structure that was

