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Indian woman among 51 dead in Nepal unrest; Sushila Karki likely interim PM

After days of violent anti-corruption protests led by Nepalese youth that have left over 34 dead, an uneasy calm prevailed in Nepal on Friday. Today, all eyes will be on a key meeting on the formation of an interim government.

Kathmandu. (Agency)

An uneasy calm prevailed in Nepal on Friday after days of violent anti-corruption protests led by Nepalese youth that have left 51 dead and hundreds injured. One Indian woman from Ghaziabad and three police personnel were among the deceased, cops said.

Meanwhile, amid a political vacuum in Nepal following the fall of the KP Sharma Oli government, sources said Nepal's former Chief Justice, Sushila Karki, is likely to be appointed as interim prime minister. Her appointment has been held up amid factionalism within the de facto leaders of the protest movement, with a second group proposing the name of former Nepal Electricity Authority chief Kulman Ghising for the top post.

The protests, which initially began over a social media ban, soon snowballed into an anti-corruption protest, which eventually led to the resignation of Oli. Such was the level of anger that not only were houses of almost all ministers ransacked and set on fire, but even the Parliament was gutted.

NEPAL GEN Z PROTEST: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

Sources told India Today that talks to make Sushila Karki the head of the interim government were in the final stage. Karki

was part of a marathon meeting between the Army and a Gen Z delegation that went well past midnight. She also has the backing of Kathmandu Mayor Balendra Shah.

On Thursday, the delegation failed to reach



a consensus on the interim prime minister after a faction proposed the name of 54-year-old Kulman Ghising, credited for ending Nepal's longstanding electricity crisis. Today, all eyes will be on round 2 of the meeting between the Army and the Gen Z delegation. It will focus on the formation of an interim government and the dissolution of Parliament.

Signs of normalcy returned to the streets of key cities in Nepal. Even as the Army patrolled the capital and checked every vehicle entering the city, shops reopened and citizens' groups were seen clearing the debris.

Meanwhile, India has started airlifting stranded citizens via special flights. Over 140 people from Andhra Pradesh were safely airlifted from Kathmandu. Several Indians also returned via the land border in Sonauli, Uttar Pradesh, and at Panitanki, Darjeeling.

A bus operated by the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) that runs between the national capital and Kathmandu has been stuck in Nepal since Wednesday. Moreover, eight Kailash

Mansarovar pilgrims from Ayodhya are stranded at Hilsa in Nepal on the China border.

An Indian volleyball team stranded in Nepal has been rescued by the Indian Embassy and brought to a safe house. It came after a video appeal by a team member, Upasana Gill, went viral.

Amit Shah launches fast-track immigration at five airports

Agency NEW DELHI.

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday inaugurated the Fast Track Immigration- Trusted Traveller Programme (FTI-TTP), which fast-tracks immigration for pre-verified Indian nationals and Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holders, at five more airports across the country. The facility was launched at Lucknow, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy, Kozhikode, and Amritsar airports.

Speaking at the launch through video conferencing, Shah said the programme will not only enhance the convenience of travellers but also give them a glimpse of the changes taking place in the country. "The next stage of enhancing travellers' convenience, aligning with PM Narendra Modi's vision of speed, scale and scope, starts today with this programme," he said.

Shah added that the Prime Minister has always emphasised that technological tools must also act as a "trust multiplier," and termed the initiative a significant step in that direction. "With the FTI-TTP, seamless immigration facilities will now be available at the airports.

Merely providing convenience is not enough, we must ensure that the maximum number of travellers benefit from it. To achieve this, efforts should be made to enable registration at the time of issuing passports and OCI cards," Shah said. He further said that once implemented, travellers would not need to return for fingerprinting or documentation and could travel using their passports whenever they wish.



Siddaramaiah announces fresh caste census in Karnataka, rejects previous report

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has announced a new Socio-Economic and Educational Survey across Karnataka from September 22 to October 7, stating that the 2015 caste census report was not accepted by the government.

Agency Karnataka.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday announced that Karnataka will conduct a fresh Socio-Economic and Educational Survey between September 22 and October 7, stating that the caste census carried out in 2015 had not been accepted by the government.

He said that as a decade had passed since the last exercise, a new survey had become essential to capture the present realities of society.

"Many religions and castes exist in society. There is diversity and inequality too. The Constitution says everyone should be equal and social justice needs to be done," the Chief Minister said while addressing a press

conference.

He stressed that the survey was a crucial step towards eliminating disparities and creating stronger foundations for democracy.

The survey, which will be conducted by the Karnataka State Commission for Backward Classes, is expected to cover the state's entire population of nearly 7 crore across two crore households.

Each household will be given a Unique Household ID sticker, with 1.55 crore stickers already affixed so far. A questionnaire with 60 questions will be administered to capture details of the social, economic, political, and educational status

of families. To carry out the survey, 1.85 lakh government teachers will be deployed during the Dasara vacation. Each will receive an honorarium of up to Rs 20,000,



bringing the total allocation for teachers' remuneration to Rs 325 crores. The state has earmarked Rs 420 crores for the entire exercise, a sharp rise from the Rs 165 crores spent during

the 2015 caste census.

Technological safeguards are being used to improve accuracy. Every household will be geo-tagged with electricity meter numbers, and ration cards and Aadhaar details will be linked to mobile numbers. For those unwilling to disclose caste details to enumerators, options have been created to provide information either through a call to a dedicated helpline (8050770004) or online submissions. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

urged citizens to extend full cooperation. "My humble request to every citizen of the state is to please participate in this survey.

"Take It Seriously": BJP To Congress On Rahul Gandhi's 'Security Lapses'

CRPF alleged that Rahul Gandhi was not taking his security cover "seriously" as he was mostly travelling abroad "without informing anyone".

Agency Bhubaneswar.

A day after the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) wrote a letter to Congress MP Rahul Gandhi for allegedly violating security protocols during his foreign visits, BJP MP Anurag Thakur said the party's president should "take it very seriously". According to the BJP leader, Mr Gandhi is a "senior leader and should avoid breaching security protocols". "This is a very serious matter. Congress national president Mallikarjun Kharge should take this very seriously. God forbid, if something happens, someone will breach security, and someone else will suffer for it. Rahul Gandhi is a senior leader of India... He should avoid breaching (security) like this. Security forces that are working on this should not be given a chance to complain like this," Mr Thakur said.

He reiterated that he believes Mr Kharge would take it seriously and "direct his leader".

CRPF VVIP Security Chief Sunil June, in his letter, also addressed to Mr Kharge, alleged that Mr Gandhi was not taking his security cover "seriously" as he was mostly travelling abroad "without informing anyone". He referred to the

Congress leader's foreign visits to countries such as Italy (December 30 to January 9), Vietnam (March 12 to 17), Dubai (April 17 to 23), Qatar (June 11 to 18), London (June 25 to July 6), and Malaysia (September 4 to 8).

"The Rae Bareilly MP is violating the protocols mentioned in the Yellow Book of the CRPF,"



the letter said. Mr Gandhi currently has a Z+ category security with Advanced Security Liaison (ASL) - the highest level of protection provided to people facing threat perception. Under this, security personnel conduct early reconnaissance of a place that will be visited by a VIP.

Ally's 'Little Liquor' Advice To Nitish Kumar On Prohibition Ahead Of Polls

Jitan Ram Manjhi's public remarks against prohibition would put Nitish Kumar in a tricky spot before the Bihar election

Patna. (Agency)

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's prohibition policy, which has reaped political dividends for him over the years, is under attack, not just from the Opposition but from his allies in the NDA. Jitan Ram Manjhi, once Nitish Kumar's lieutenant whom he trusted with the Chief Minister post, has said the sale of liquor in moderate amounts must be allowed and cases registered against such people must be removed before the polls. Mr Manjhi has said the prohibition enforcement officials are ignoring the liquor mafia and targeting poor people who consume limited quantities. "Police nabs people who are drinking in small quantities. There should be a campaign against those making thousands of litres of liquor and smuggling them. During a review of the policy, Nitish Kumar had said those carrying liquor in small amounts should not be arrested," he told the media.

Mr Kumar and Mr Manjhi have an interesting history. Following JDU's drubbing in the 2014 Lok Sabha election, Mr Kumar resigned as Chief Minister and put Mr Manjhi, then in JDU, in the top post. Less than a year later, Mr Kumar wanted to return as Chief Minister, but Mr Manjhi refused to step down. He was expelled from the party, after which he formed the Hindustan Awam Morcha (Secular). Later, he and Mr Kumar became allies in the NDA.

The ally's public remarks against prohibition would put Mr Kumar in a tricky spot before the election, especially because rivals have earlier questioned this policy. RJD's Tejashwi Yadav, the Leader of the Opposition in Bihar Assembly, has said the prohibition law in Bihar has become a "tool" for the police to "mentally and economically exploit" the poor.



"Because Of 'Me And Mine', You Are Afraid": RSS Chief On US Tariffs

New Delhi. (Agency)

Asserting that there will be no sense of insecurity if everyone realises that they are children of one god, RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat has indicated that tariffs were imposed on India because some were worried about the country growing too fast.

Addressing a Brahmakumari event in Nagpur on Friday, Mr Bhagwat, who had earlier said trade should be conducted free of pressure, addressed the 50% tariffs imposed by the US on India, without naming any country.

"If there is no enmity within us, then no one is our enemy. Earlier, we used to fear snakes. Then, when we gained knowledge, we realised that not all

snakes are poisonous. So we started leaving the snakes alone. Due to knowledge, fear and discrimination were destroyed," Mr Bhagwat said in Hindi.

"What will happen if India grows? So impose tariffs. Why do this? You are across seven seas. But because of the 'me and mine' thing, you are afraid... The world needs a solution today. They tried to find a solution on the basis of an incomplete vision, and the solution was not found," he said.

At an event to mark the organisation's centenary celebrations earlier this month, the RSS chief had said countries should not try to exert



pressure on each other when it comes to trade, and had also made a push for 'swadeshi' or made-in-India goods.

"International trade will continue, but it should be free from pressure and conducted voluntarily... That is why

we must promote the use of swadeshi. The country's trade policy should be based on voluntary cooperation, not compulsion... Being 'aatmanirbhar' (self-reliant) does not mean stopping imports. The world moves because it is interdependent. So export-import will continue. However, there should be no pressure in it," he had said.

Conciliation?

US President Donald Trump had announced 25% tariffs on India and followed it up with another 25% as "penalty" for buying Russian oil, bringing the total levy to 50%.

"Wishing Him A Successful Tenure": PM Modi Congratulates CP Radhakrishnan

New Delhi. (Agency)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated CP Radhakrishnan on taking oath as the 15th Vice President of India, praising his lifelong commitment to public service and democratic values.

Taking to social media platform X, the Prime Minister posted: "Attended the oath-taking ceremony of Thiru CP Radhakrishnan Ji. A dedicated public servant, he has devoted his life to nation-building, social service, and strengthening democratic values. Wishing him a successful Vice Presidential tenure, dedicated to the service of the people." The oath-taking ceremony was held at Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday morning, where President Droupadi Murmu administered



the oath of office.

The event witnessed the presence of key political figures across party lines, including Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, and other senior ministers and parliamentarians. Former Vice President

Jagdeep Dhankhar was also present to witness the transition of leadership.

Radhakrishnan's elevation to the post follows his decisive win in the Vice-Presidential election, where he secured 452 first-preference votes, defeating opposition-backed candidate B. Sudershan Reddy, who received 300 votes. His election was widely seen as a unifying choice due to his measured political persona and non-confrontational style. Prior to assuming office as Vice President, Radhakrishnan served as the Governor of Maharashtra, a position he stepped down from following his election. His long-standing association with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and BJP, along with his clean image,

News box

3 waste-to-energy plants to come up in Gurgaon, Faridabad in 2 years, says CM Saini

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini on Thursday announced that the city and Faridabad will get three new waste-to-energy (WTE) plants within the next two years. The decision was taken during a high-level review meeting held under the state's cleanliness campaign programme in Chandigarh. The meeting, chaired by the CM, focused on strengthening the waste management system in urban areas, with particular attention to Gurgaon and Faridabad, two of the state's largest and fastest-growing cities that have been struggling with mounting solid waste. Stressing that modern technology and scientific methods should be used to improve sanitation and waste disposal, the CM directed the administration to prepare a comprehensive action plan for both the cities, ensuring effective execution of the WTE projects.

"These energy projects will not only provide relief to both districts in terms of cleanliness but also give new momentum and strength to the Haryana Shehar Swachhata Abhiyan-2025. I have directed officials to ensure transparency and timeliness in the implementation of the projects and that local bodies should play an active role in this direction," he said.

Electricity will be produced directly from waste through these plants, which will reduce dependence on traditional energy sources such as coal and petroleum. The electricity generated here, officials said, will be added to the grid to meet the energy needs of both cities. This will increase Haryana's clean energy production capacity. However, environmentalists have opposed the setting up of the plants. "We have seen what a failure the Okhla WTE plant has been. The implications of the toxic emissions are known. I fail to understand why nobody is talking about the basics of waste management, which is segregation, door-to-door waste collection, and implementing decentralised waste collection. It was in 2015 that we filed the case in NGT for Bandhwari. Why cannot the bureaucracy focus on decentralised waste processing?" said Vaishali Rana, a Gurgaon-based environmental activist.

Court rejects bail pleas of Nikki's husband & in-laws

Noida. (Agency)

A chief judicial magistrate's court on Thursday rejected bail pleas filed by the husband and in-laws of Nikki Bhati, who died of severe burns last month after an alleged attack over dowry harassment. Nikki's husband Vipin Bhati, his brother Rohit and parents — Daya and Satveer — were arrested after being accused by Nikki's sister Kanchan of setting the 28-year-old on fire at the family's Kasma home on Aug 21. Nikki succumbed to injuries while she was being shifted to Delhi's Safdarjung Hospital later in the day.

Advocate Amit Bhati Bodaki, who filed the bail pleas on behalf of the four accused, submitted CCTV footage, purportedly showing Vipin outside the family's house at the time of the incident. He argued that Nikki died after catching fire from a cylinder blast.

Udham Singh, the counsel for Kanchan, countered this argument, saying that police had not found any evidence of a cylinder blast. Singh said the defence was trying to mislead the court. "The court agreed there was no ground for bail and rejected their application," Singh said on Thursday. Chief judicial magistrate RK Sagar noted the gravity of the allegations and said there were no grounds for relief for the accused at this stage. "The allegation against the accused is of murdering the sister of the plaintiff by pouring inflammable substance on her along with the co-accused. The case is session triable, non-bailable and of serious nature. There are no sufficient grounds for bail in the facts and circumstances of the case. Therefore, the bail application is rejected," the order read.

Flu infections more severe, lasting longer says doctors; Noida shopitals face shortage of beds

Noida. (Agency)

Noida: Hospitals are witnessing a sharp rise in fever and flu cases, with doctors noting longer durations and increased severity compared to previous years.

Several facilities reported a higher number of patients than last year, leading to long waits in emergency wards and even a shortage of beds. Physicians flagged rising cases of dengue, typhoid, hepatitis A, and influenza-like illnesses, warning of co-infections and prolonged symptoms. According to doctors, the trend shows fevers are lasting up to a week or more, often accompanied by severe complications. A senior doctor at Noida District Hospital said, "On average, 400-500 patients are coming with flu-like symptoms, compared to 300-350 patients last year, every day over the past week. However, most patients are given medicines and not admitted. A few patients are showing severe conditions, who are given saline and medicines and are admitted."

Dr Ajay Agarwal, senior director & HOD (internal medicine) at Fortis, said that they have been observing a shift in fever patterns over the past year. "We're witnessing a marked increase in patients with acute febrile illness, particularly during the extended monsoon season of 2024-2025.

Unlike previous years, where cases were sporadic, we're seeing family-based transmission linked to contaminated water sources during the pre-monsoon period. What concerns us most is the changing symptomatology and severity patterns. Patients are presenting with prolonged fever duration—often 7-10 days before seeking care—and more severe complications. The co-infection rates have also increased, with patients harbouring dengue and bacterial infections. The doctor further added that typhoid fever remains a persistent challenge. "Urban areas are particularly affected, reflecting ongoing sanitation challenges and with the emergence of antimicrobial-resistant strains, it has become a matter of concern," he said.

New service lane, carriageway widening to help clear gridlock at Bilaspur Chowk on Delhi-Jaipur highway

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Bringing relief to thousands of commuters who face persistent congestion at Bilaspur Chowk on Delhi-Jaipur highway, NHAI has stepped up efforts to end the gridlock. In coordination with the district administration, it has removed existing structures and streamlined traffic at the busy junction — more carriageway space, a new service lane and new signboards to name a few. In a statement on X on Thursday, NHAI said a police check post at the chowk was dismantled to create more carriageway space for vehicles. The move aimed to further widen the bottleneck that often traps traffic in long queues. A separate service lane was also created on the Jaipur-Delhi side to allow buses to halt for passengers travelling towards and from Pataudi, without adding to the traffic snarl.

To reduce conflict points, NHAI has put up new signboards to guide motorists and ensure that traffic on the service road and

the main carriageway does not merge directly at the diversion, which earlier added to the gridlock. Traffic police, meanwhile, stepped up enforcement against wrong-side driving and illegal parking by trucks and buses. Both are identified as major contributors to the traffic chaos. Road repairs are also being expedited. According to NHAI, bituminous works at the diversion are scheduled for completion by Sept 14. Once done, the highways authority said, traffic flow is expected to improve considerably. An NHAI official said, "We are taking measures to improve the situation and make the stretch motorable for highway users. Repair work on the diversion is underway. Once the flyover construction is complete, it will improve the commuting between Manesar and Bilaspur." Last Thursday, NHAI sought the district administration's intervention at Bilaspur Chowk, asking it to crack down on wrong-side driving and illegal

parking by trucks and cars. The request came a day after Gurgaon traffic police flagged concerns over worsening snarls at the junction on NH8, linking them to



the extremely poor condition of the carriageway. Earlier, NHAI said that the long-delayed Bilaspur flyover would be taken up immediately after the monsoon. The traffic woes at Bilaspur Chowk have been aggravated by NHAI's ongoing flyover construction. The project was

announced in 2015 to decongest traffic along the Delhi-Jaipur highway. The work instead created more chaos, with poor management of diversions, said the cops. The foundation stone for the work was laid in March 2022 and completion was expected in Oct last year. Initially overseen by NHAI's project implementing unit (PIU) Jaipur as part of a wider highway upgrade, the project was later handed over to PIU Rewari. Construction at Bilaspur Chowk started in May 2023. However, it stalled when underground utility lines were found in the alignment. A revision in estimates and financial constraints of the contracted

firm brought the project to a standstill. In Oct 2024, NHAI descope the stalled work and floated a fresh tender in Dec.

In May, the agency was appointed with a fresh deadline of May 2027 for the completion of the 1.8km-long and six-lane flyover.

2.8k tonnes of garbage cleared from roads in 1-day mega sweeping drive in Gurgaon

Gurgaon. (Agency)

Around 2,800 tonnes of waste was swept up and collected as a lakh-plus volunteers and sanitation staff got together on Thursday to participate in a citywide cleanliness drive organised by MCG and the district administration. Chief minister Nayab Singh Saini was among the volunteers to participate in the drive at Sohna Chowk and in Sector 52. Addressing a gathering in Sohna, Saini said Gurgaon must secure the top position in Swachh Sarvekshan rankings through effective administration and active citizen participation. "Every city will be ranked on cleanliness and Gurgaon will certainly secure a prominent position," he said, assuring full govt support for realising a clean and green city. The chief minister spoke of his govt's 11-week Haryana City Swachhata campaign and said the focus was on beautification, urban area upgradation and sanitation

improvements. He also announced that pending development projects would be expedited in the city after monsoon retreats. On Thursday, the campaign was organised at 46 spots across the city, among them IFFCO Chowk, Rajiv Chowk, Rezag La Chowk, Hero Honda Chowk, Ardee City, Vatika Chowk, Umang Bhardwaj Chowk, and Millennium City Centre metro station. Volunteers from Dera Sacha Sauda, Sant Nirankari Mission, Radha Soami Satsang Beas, councillors and residents also participated. MCG officials said 2,800 tonnes of waste was picked up and transported through 160 tractor-trolleys. "We have a target of clearing the secondary waste collection points where this waste was transported to within 24 hours," MCG commissioner Pradeep Dahiya told TOI. The initiative comes at a time when residents and opposition parties have increasingly criticised the

govt over uncollected garbage, poor waste segregation and overflowing drains in Gurgaon. Every year, monsoon rain lays bare the city's infrastructure, which fails to cope with bouts of showers, resulting in flooded roads and chaos in residential areas. Thursday's campaign was seen by many as an attempt by the govt to address these concerns and rebuild public confidence. "This indiscriminate dumping on roads and public places is the direct result of the city's broken waste collection and disposal system," said Gauri Sarin, founder of citizens' group Making Model Gurugram. "Instead of staging cleanliness drives, MCG should focus on creating awareness about waste segregation, in-situ composting and reducing single-use plastic use. It is not the responsibility of residents to clean the streets. What the city needs is sustained efforts to educate people on segregation at source and promote composting within

Fast-track grievance disposal, tighten monitoring of developers, Haryana tells Rera

Gurgaon. (Agency)

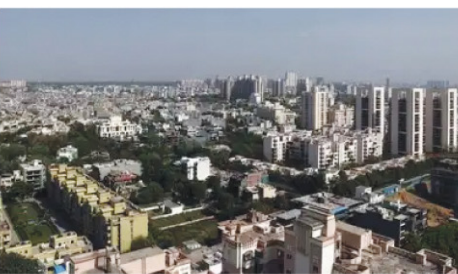
Haryana govt has directed Rera authorities in Gurgaon and Panchkula to fast-track grievance disposal and tighten monitoring of developers, following a review chaired by chief secretary Anurag Rastogi.

Officials said Haryana accounts for nearly 10% of pending Rera complaints nationwide, despite lower project registrations than other states. Officials attributed this to the larger size of projects in Gurgaon — spanning 5 to 100 acres — in comparison to smaller, often one-acre projects registered in other states. To address the pending complaints, Rera Gurgaon has set up a help desk.

Moreover, Rera authorities were told to publish tutorials online to guide homebuyers and form mediation cells to settle disputes faster and the state govt has asked deputy commissioners to assist in executing recovery certificates. To ensure compliance to the rules, the town and

country planning (DTCP) department will now have to share copies of all licences of all projects with Rera.

The issue of corruption in Rera was also



discussed at the review. Rastogi said the administration had zero tolerance for it and immediate action will be taken against errant officials. Rera's inability to enforce recovery orders against defaulters after Punjab and Haryana High Court took away the authority's powers in April 2025 and

gave it to the DC was also discussed. The case is now before the Supreme Court. Until a resolution is reached, Rera was told to assist DCs in execution of recovery certificates. Developers, also present at the review, put forth their issues as well. CREDAI and NAREDCO objected to the rule regarding attachment of multiple bank accounts of a developer group, even when unrelated to a particular project. They also pushed back against what they called "excessive" registration fees, demanding parity with UP and Rajasthan. Meanwhile, RERA Gurgaon argued that costs in the city are higher, justifying the existing fee structure. However, DTCP agreed to review the issue. Infrastructure bottlenecks were also flagged. CREDAI highlighted that 24m internal sector roads in Gurgaon remained incomplete, causing inconvenience to residents.

20 STPs built, but sewer links missing: What chokes Hindon River

Ghaziabad. (Agency)

Noida: UP has 20 sewage treatment plants (STPs) with a total installed capacity almost equal to the sewage pumped into the Hindon basin, but still large volumes continue to remain untreated because much of this capacity goes unutilised.

In a 200-page affidavit, UP chief secretary in-charge Deepak Kumar informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that 943.63 million litres per day (MLD) of sewage enters the Hindon basin against an installed treatment capacity of 953.5 MLD through 20 STPs. While on paper, this suggests a surplus, however, due to missing sewer networks, only 658.2 MLD is actually treated, leaving a gap of 285.43 MLD that continues to flow untreated into the Hindon. One of the main reasons for the underutilisation of the installed capacity of STPs is the lack of sewer lines and connections at the domestic level, the affidavit states. To address this, the state has proposed seven new STPs with a combined capacity of 283 MLD in areas where sewer connectivity is being laid — two in Saharanpur, four in Shamli, and one in Ghaziabad. Districts like Meerut and Baghpat remain excluded despite having no treatment facilities. The affidavit further shows disparity across districts:



Ghaziabad has 10 STPs, GB Nagar five, Muzaffarnagar four and Saharanpur one. But Baghpat, Shamli, and Meerut have none, meaning all sewage here drains directly into the river. Even in GB Nagar, where capacity (287 MLD) far exceeds generation (171 MLD), only 149 MLD is treated because sewer lines are incomplete. The chief secretary had attached communication with the district

magistrates of the seven districts through which the river flows, with the affidavit. When the case was heard on Jan 24, the tribunal had noted that the state government's earlier affidavit was inadequate as it failed to clarify whether the STPs were meeting prescribed norms. In response, the latest affidavit stated that all but one plant were compliant — the exception being a 56 MLD facility in

Ghaziabad, maintained by the Ghaziabad Development Authority, which is not meeting standards. Petitioner Abhisht Kusum Gupta told the tribunal that industrial effluents continue to mix with treated water and flow into the Hindon.

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Post-floods, Yamuna Bazaar residents left to fend for themselves

The Sikh Times

New Delhi: For residents of Yamuna Bazaar, survival has meant moving from one crisis to another. Just weeks ago, they were navigating floodwaters; and today, they remain knee-deep in thick, unrelenting silt. With no electricity and no official cleanup drive, people living in this riverside locality are left grappling with the aftermath on their own. When The Tribune visited the area, the lanes leading to Yamuna Bazaar resembled stretches of dried riverbed — caked with mud that had seeped into homes and temples. In several places, residents had placed wooden planks and takhtas (wooden beds) across the sludge to reach their doors. The task of recovery has been left to residents themselves. "We have been working for three days just to make our homes accessible again. There was knee-high mud after the water receded. We've cleared it ourselves. The government hasn't stepped in to help," said Sanjay Kumar, who has lived in the area for 35 years. Even the cleanup efforts are uneven. "Our lane has cleared most of the silt, but those living in the next lane haven't touched it. If they start cleaning, the muck will flow into our homes because we are at a lower level. That's why we've avoided the entrance and instead put planks across it," explained Rajkumar Mishra, pointing to the fragile wooden walkway outside his house. The bigger crisis,

however, is the absence of electricity. Power has not been restored since the Yamuna's water level rose, plunging households into

darkness. With snakes and insects emerging after dusk, families say it is unsafe to return home at night. "Snakes are common near the river. Without light, it is too dangerous to locate reptiles. That's why we sleep at relief camps and return during the day to clean," said Shiva Devi, filling water from a nearby

hand pump. For many, disruption has seeped into daily routines and livelihoods. Shweta, who has lived in the area for 17 decades," she said. Temples also lie buried in silt. On Ghat No. 24, Ganesh, a local boat operator, pointed to his mud-caked feet. "This happens every year. Water rises, then recedes and leaves this behind. Sometimes it only reaches the ankles. This time, it was much worse. People promise help, but never deliver. Look around — there is no electricity, mosquitoes everywhere, and risk of infection. This is a place of worship, but people turn back when they see the filth," he said.

While some residents sweep tirelessly, others sit on the steps, watching their surroundings with helpless expressions. "Cooking is impossible. Mud is still inside the houses. We've been eating food from outside for days," said Anchal, sitting on a table. For Yamuna Bazaar, the floods may have passed, but the crisis continues — buried under mounds of silt, compounded by darkness and worsened by silence from the very agencies tasked with their care.



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hand pump. For many, disruption has seeped into daily routines and livelihoods. Shweta, who has lived in the area for 17 years, worries about her daughter's Class 10 exams. "We cannot skip school. My daughter travels every day from the camp. The fare is adding to our financial strain. During the day, we use hand fans to put the younger one to sleep when we are home to clean. It feels like we've gone backwards by

Delhi woman wanted to crush lemon with new Thar, SUV lurches out of showroom's 1st floor

Chandigarh: A 29-year-old woman in Delhi accidentally drove her brand-new Mahindra Thar off the first floor of a car showroom during a customary ritual 'totka', moments after taking delivery of the vehicle. The incident took place on Monday evening at the Mahindra showroom in Nirman Vihar. Maani Pawar, a resident of Indrapuram in Ghaziabad, had arrived at the showroom to collect the Thar. Before taking it onto the road, she chose to perform a traditional ritual, which involved placing a lemon under the front wheel and gently driving over it, a symbolic gesture believed to bring good luck. However, instead of easing the vehicle forward, Pawar accidentally pressed the accelerator, causing the SUV to move ahead at high speed. The vehicle crashed through the glass wall of the first-floor showroom and plunged onto the pavement below. A showroom employee, identified as Vikas, was seated in the car with Pawar at the time of the crash. Security footage and bystander videos captured the shocking aftermath, showing the overturned vehicle on the road. Delhi Police bust drugs racket; 3 arrested, cocaine worth Rs 2.25 crore seized ' Both occupants escaped serious injuries. The Thar's airbags opened and the two were quickly rushed to Malik Hospital nearby, where they were treated and discharged after receiving first aid. Deputy Commissioner of Police (East) Abhishek Dhanai confirmed that a medico-legal case (MLC) was filed following the incident. "It was found that Maani and her husband Pradeep had purchased a Thar Rox variant from the showroom," he said.

Proclaimed offender involved in drug trafficking cases arrested

New Delhi: Delhi Police's Crime Branch has arrested Amit Kumar Jha, also known as Hari Kant Jha, a proclaimed offender wanted in two drug-related cases, while he was attempting to flee the city near Khajuri Chowk. The accused, allegedly involved in narcotics trafficking, had been evading arrest for several years, the police said on Sunday. The court had declared him a proclaimed offender in a case registered by the Crime Branch in 2018 under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS). In a separate case at Kashmere Gate police station, a non-bailable warrant was issued against him earlier this year under the same Act. The arrest followed a tip-off received by a head constable of the Crime Branch, who informed officers that the accused would be near Khajuri Chowk at around 4 pm. Acting on this information, the police laid a trap near parked vehicles. The accused was intercepted while heading towards Shastri Park Road. On questioning, he confirmed his identity as Amit Kumar Jha of Riwaspur, Faridabad, Haryana. The police verified that he had been declared a proclaimed offender by the court in August 2024 and that a non-bailable warrant had been issued earlier this year. The police described him as a habitual offender engaged in drug trafficking. He was arrested in accordance with due legal process and is being held for further investigation. The Crime Branch is continuing inquiries to uncover more details of his activities.

Villagers call mahapanchayat on Sept 13 against UER-2 toll

New Delhi: Anger over the Urban Extension Road (UER-2) toll tax is mounting in Delhi's rural areas, with villagers vowing to step up their protest. A panchayat of 360 villages was held in Bindapur on Sunday under the chairmanship of Palam 360 Khap head Chaudhary Surendra Solanki, where it was unanimously decided to convene a large mahapanchayat on September 13 at the Bakkarwala-Mundka toll plaza. Solanki told the gathering that the protest was not just about toll tax, but part of a wider struggle for the rights of rural communities. "No one can suppress the voice of 360 villages. The problems of the people will be firmly conveyed to the government," he said. The panchayat resolved that the upcoming mahapanchayat would be a "do-or-die battle" against the levy, with thousands of villagers and youth expected to participate. Villagers allege that the toll tax has been "forcibly imposed" on farmers and the general public and demanded its immediate abolition. Leaders at the meeting warned that if their demands were ignored, the agitation would intensify. "The unity of 360 villages will no longer accept the toll tax at any cost," the speakers declared. It was also announced that the September 13 he said. The panchayat resolved that the upcoming mahapanchayat would be a "do-or-die battle" against the levy, with thousands of villagers and youth expected to participate. Villagers allege that the toll tax has been "forcibly imposed" on farmers and mahapanchayat would not only serve as a platform for protest but also for announcing a broader strategy to challenge the toll. Villagers were urged to attend in large numbers to strengthen the movement. Those present at the Bindapur panchayat included Chaudhary Dhara Singh Pradhan (Bawana 52), Chaudhary Naresh Pradhan (Lado Sarai 96), Chaudhary Samundar Pradhan (Karala 17), Ranbir Pradhan (Narela 17), along with Naresh, Surendra Dabas, Suresh Shokeen, Dharmendra Bakkarwala, Rajendra Pradhan and Jassa Numberdar Pradhan (Tihar 28).

Man arrested in UP for making 'objectionable' remarks against BJP MLA

Ballia: Station Officer Kaushal Pathak said Yadav was arrested on Sunday for making objectionable comments against Ketakee Singh. Representative Image/iStock Police here have arrested a man for making objectionable comments against BJP MLA from Bansdih Ketakee Singh, officials said on Monday. The accused has been identified as Pintu Yadav of Sangapur village under the Maniyar police station area, the police officials said. Station Officer (SO) Kaushal Pathak said Yadav was arrested on Sunday for making objectionable comments against Ketakee Singh. Police said Yadav was arrested on charges of disturbing peace in the area. Local BJP leaders Sitanshu Gupta and Rajesh Singh alleged that Yadav shared a video on social media and made indecent comments against Ketakee Singh by using double-meaning songs.



A New Dawn Of Connectivity And Development For North-East India



Inauguration of

New Rail Line between Bairabi and Sairang (51.38 km)
(Mizoram's first ever Rail Line)

Residential School, Kawrthah, Mamit district
Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) -Tlangnuam

Laying of foundation stones for

Aizawl Bypass Road on the Western Side
30 TMTA LPG Bottling Plant by IOCL at Mualkhang, Mizoram
Bridge over Chhimtuipei River on Lawngtlai to Siaha Road via Tuipui Ferry
Roads from Thenzawl-Sialsuk (via Sathlur and Lau River) and from Khankawn to Rongura Hmun in Serchhip District
Khelo India Multipurpose Indoor Hall at Tuikual

Flagging off of

Rajdhani Express train between Aizawl (Sairang) and Delhi (ANVT)
Express train between Sairang and Guwahati
Express train between Sairang and Kolkata

BENEFITS

- New train services connect Mizoram with Delhi, Kolkata, Guwahati that will integrate Mizoram with National Rail network
- Affordable rail travel now possible, making long journeys easy for citizens of Mizoram and Northeastern Region
- Farmers can now send ginger, bamboo, and other local produce to bigger markets
- With new trains, ecological and cultural tourism in Mizoram will flourish
- Students, patients, and youth can now reach schools, hospitals, and jobs faster
- Rail projects driving connectivity and strategic edge in the Northeast
- Diversion of heavy vehicles and more safety on local road
- Better Job Opportunities and provision of fuel for homes in the Northeastern region by LPG Bottling Plant

by

Narendra Modi

Prime Minister



Saturday, 13th September, 2025



10:00 A.M.



Aizawl, Mizoram

In the august presence of

General (Dr.)(Retd.) Vijay Kumar Singh
Governor, Mizoram

Lalduhoma
Chief Minister, Mizoram

Ashwini Vaishnaw
Union Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting & Electronics and Information Technology

Dr. Vanlalthiana
Minister, Govt. of Mizoram

K. Vanlalvena
Member of Parliament

Richard Vanlalhmangaiha
Member of Parliament

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NEWS BOX

Indian-origin motel manager beheaded in Dallas after argument over washng machine; co-worker arrested

World. (Agency)

A 50-year-old Indian-origin motel manager was brutally beheaded in front of his wife and son in a attack at a Dallas motel on Wednesday morning. Chandramouli Nagamallaiiah, originally from Karnataka, was killed following an argument over a broken washing machine with co-worker Yordanis Cobos-Martinez, 37, who has since been arrested and charged with capital murder.According to Dallas Police, the confrontation escalated when Nagamallaiiah asked a third party to translate instructions to Cobos-Martinez, reportedly angering the suspect.Surveillance footage shows Cobos-Martinez retrieving a machete and attacking Nagamallaiiah, who fled toward the motel office where his wife and 18-year-old son witnessed the fatal assault and tried to intervene.Cobos-Martinez, who has a prior criminal history including arrests for auto theft and assault in Houston, is being held without bond. If convicted, he could face life in prison without parole or the death penalty.

Israel PM vows 'there will be no Palestinian state, this place belongs to us'

JERUSALEM.(Agency)

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed on Thursday that there would be no Palestinian state, speaking at a signing ceremony for a major settlement project in the occupied West Bank. "We are going to fulfil our promise that there will be no Palestinian state, this place belongs to us," Netanyahu said at the event in Maale Adumim, an Israeli settlement just east of Jerusalem."We will safeguard our heritage, our land and our security... We are going to double the city's population." The event was streamed live by his office. Israel has long had ambitions to build on the roughly 12 square kilometre (five square mile) tract of land known as E1, but the plan had been stalled for years in the face of international opposition.The site sits between Jerusalem and the Israeli settlement of Maale Adumim, near routes connecting the north and south of the Palestinian territory.Last month, Israel's far-right Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich backed plans to build around 3,400 homes on the ultra-sensitive parcel of land.His announcement drew condemnation, with UN chief Antonio Guterres saying the settlement would effectively cleave the West Bank in two and pose an "existential threat" to a contiguous Palestinian state. All of Israel's settlements in the West Bank, occupied since 1967, are considered illegal under international law, regardless of whether they have Israeli planning permission.Several Western governments, including Britain and France, have announced they intend to recognise the State of Palestine at the United Nations later this month.Britain has said it will take the step if Israel fails to agree to a ceasefire in the devastating Gaza war, triggered by Palestinian militant group Hamas's October 2023 attack.Far-right Israeli ministers have in recent months openly called for Israel's annexation of the territory.Israeli NGO Peace Now, which monitors settlement activity in the West Bank, said last week that infrastructure work in E1 could begin within a few months, and housing construction within about a year.It said the E1 plan was "deadly for the future of Israel and for any chance of achieving a peaceful two-state solution.

US Threatens Visa Revocations Over Online Posts Of Charlie Kirk Killing

world. (Agency)

The US State Department on Thursday threatened to strip visas over online support for the killing of right-wing influencer Charlie Kirk, encouraging internet users to flag foreigners' posts. "In light of yesterday's horrific assassination of a leading political figure, I want to underscore that foreigners who glorify violence and hatred are not welcome visitors to our country," Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau wrote on X. "I have been disgusted to see some on social media praising, rationalizing, or making light of the event, and have directed our consular officials to undertake appropriate action," he wrote, without naming specific posts. Landau quickly received replies that pointed to specific online comments and which encouraged him to revoke visas purported to belong to foreign residents in the United States.Landau responded in turn, asking X users to keep sharing by replying to him online. He promised to ask the State Department to look into the posts.irk, a 31-year-old ally of President Donald Trump who has helped galvanize conservative support among young people, was shot dead during a speaking engagement Wednesday at a university in Utah.The Trump administration has moved aggressively to revoke or deny visas as part of a broader crackdown on immigration. As of mid-August, the State Department said it has rescinded 6,000 student visas, mostly over legal violations including overstays or police encounters including drunk driving.Secretary of State Marco Rubio has also said he is prioritizing the revocation of visas of "lunatics" who led campus protests against Israel's offensive in Gaza, using a law that allows him to remove people for going against US foreign policy interests.Under Rubio's orders, the State Department now asks all visa applicants to keep their social media profiles open for vetting.The approach comes despite outspoken criticism by the Trump administration over restrictions on online speech in European allies, including over alleged incitement by far-right groups. Add NDTV As A Trusted Source (Except for the headline, this story has not been edited by NDTV staff and is published from a syndicated feed.)

Nepal talks stuck on new government head

The determination of Gen Z to establish the Interim Government with Sushila Karki as PM is growing stronger by the day. However, army reportedly favours Durga Prasai, a pro-monarchy figure.

LILONGWE . (Agency)

Mcurfew remains in effect across much of Nepal, particularly in the Kathmandu Valley, as the Gen Z protests enters the fourth day. Life is becoming increasingly difficult for ordinary citizens, especially those who depend on daily wages to sustain themselves. "We are leaderless at the moment, but we are not without a country. As long as we have our Constitution, we are secure," Tanuja Pandey, a Gen Z protester, told this reporter. She explained that multiple reasons had been presented against their choice of Sushila Karki as prime minister of the Interim Government.

However, Gen Z had united in support of Karki because of her corruption-free reputation.Pandey added that Gen Z had repeatedly requested the Army to facilitate a meeting with President Ram Chandra Poudyal, though so far, all meetings have been conducted only with the Chief of Army Ashok Raj Sigdel.The determination of Gen Z to establish the Interim Government with Sushila Karki as PM is growing stronger by the day. Karki agreed and received widespread support from the public. However, some backlash has emerged. Opposition seems to be coming primarily from the Army, which reportedly favours Durga Prasai, a pro-monarchy figure.The President also appears to prefer another candidate from among the current parliamentarians rather than Sushila Karki. This push to nominate someone from the existing parliament, rather than Karki, is causing friction with Gen Z.A press release signed by the President stated that he is seeking a solution based on constitutional provisions and urged citizens to remain calm and patient, emphasising respect for the current Constitution. Meanwhile, under repeated pressure from Army Chief to propose a new



candidate, Gen Z may now hold another virtual discussion.One potential alternative being considered is Santosh Pariyar, Chief Whip of the Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) and a proportional representative from the Dalit category elected in 2022. An excellent choice, nonetheless, the majority of Gen Z remains united in supporting Sushila Karki, preferring a leader outside of existing political parties to guide the Interim Government and oversee elections under the current constitution. Constitution of Nepal must remain intact' Regarding the legality of appointing Karki as prime minister, senior Supreme Court

lawyer Dinesh Tripathi noted: "More than legality, it is legitimacy that needs to be considered at this unprecedented time." Tripathi emphasised that Gen Z has chosen a senior, responsible leader with an unblemished record, and if the President agrees, she can be appointed to lead the Interim Government."Nepal is undergoing extraordinary times. With no caretaker government in place, it is imperative to form an Interim Government as soon as possible. Since Sushila Karki is the first choice of the protesters, she should assume leadership so the country can move forward," he said.On September 9, the Chief of Army convened the first dialogue with Gen Z, including 12 participants: Rakshya Bam, Tanuja Pandey, Samaya Khadka, Purusottam Yadav, Amit Khanal (Urja), Dheeraj Joshi, Yonjan Rajbhandari, Shiva Yadav, and Barsha Budhathoki. The meeting was facilitated by Asim Man Singh Basnet, CEO of Pathao, along with filmmaker Nischal Basnet, Pradeep Khatiwada, Sanjog Koirala, and Niraj Kafle.

Former Chief Justice Karki likely to become Nepal's caretaker Prime Minister

World.(Agency)

Former Chief Justice Sushila Karki is likely to be appointed as the head of a caretaker government in Nepal, according to sources.The proposal comes amid intensified negotiations between President Ramchandra Paudel, senior political leaders, the Army chief, and representatives of the youth-led Gen Z movement, which has been at the forefront of recent mass protests.The group has strongly recommended Karki, a respected figure in Nepal's judiciary and a known anti-corruption crusader, to head the interim administration. If appointed, Karki would become Nepal's first female prime minister. The caretaker government is expected to steer the country toward fresh elections.Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli stepped down after protesters stormed his office, demanding



accountability for the deaths of demonstrators during violent clashes with police. The Ministry of Health has confirmed the death toll from Monday and Tuesday's protests has climbed to 34, up from an earlier figure of 19. The demonstrations erupted over corruption allegations and a controversial social media ban, which was rescinded late Monday.President

Israeli soldiers, their mothers, increasingly reject calls to return to Gaza

TEL AVIV.(Agency)

As Israel calls up tens of thousands of reservists for its invasion of Gaza City, a growing number of soldiers — and their mothers — are saying no. There are no official figures, but newly formed groups are broadcasting their refusal to serve despite the risk of imprisonment. It's a new phenomenon in the nearly two-year war sparked by Hamas' Oct. 7, 2023, attack, though so far it has had no apparent effect on military operations.The defiance is emerging as Israelis have joined mass protests accusing Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of prolonging the war for political purposes instead of reaching a deal with Hamas to bring back the remaining 48 hostages, 20 of whom are believed to be alive.Many opponents, including former senior security officials, fear that the latest offensive will achieve little and put the hostages at risk. Israel also faces heavy international criticism over the humanitarian catastrophe unleashed by the war and its blockade. One group calling on soldiers to refuse to serve is comprised of mothers who fear

their sons will die in vain. "I couldn't stop thinking of how to break his leg, break his arm, wound him in some way that he won't be able to go back," Noorit Felsenthal-Berger said



as she wiped tears from her cheeks, terrified her youngest son will be forced to return. Fatigue and dwindling morale Avshalom Zohar Sal, a 28-year-old soldier and medic who served multiple tours in Gaza, said soldiers are exhausted, demoralized and no longer know what they are fighting for. His doubts first surfaced last year, when he was serving in an area near where six hostages were later killed by their captors as Israeli troops closed in. "I

felt this was my fault," he said. His skepticism deepened during his most recent tour, in June, when he saw troops returning to the same areas where they had fought earlier in the war. He said some soldiers seemed less focused, leaving them vulnerable to attacks from a vastly diminished but still lethal Hamas."Don't put me in the position that I need to decide if I'm going to risk again my life," he said, addressing the military.A group known as Soldiers for Hostages says it represents more than 360 soldiers who refuse to serve. While the number remains small, it is a contrast from the early days of the war, when reservists rushed for duty in the wake of the Oct. 7 attack. Such refusal is punishable by imprisonment, but that has only happened in a handful of cases."Netanyahu's ongoing war of aggression needlessly puts our own hostages in danger and has wreaked havoc on the fabric of Israeli society, while at the same time killing, maiming and starving an entire population" of civilians in Gaza, Max Kresch, a member of the group, said at a Sept. 2 news conference.

India's IT Sector Nervous As US Proposes 25% Outsourcing Tax

world. (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 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.Last week, US Republican Senator Bernie Moreno introduced the HIRE Act, which proposes taxing companies that hire foreign workers over Americans, with the tax revenue used for U.S. workforce development. The bill also seeks to bar firms from claiming outsourcing payments as tax-deductible expenses. The bill could not have come at a worse time for India's IT sector, which is struggling with weak revenue growth in its mainstay US market as clients defer non-essential tech spending amid inflationary pressure and tariff uncertainty."The HIRE Act proposes sweeping changes that could alter the economics of outsourcing and significantly increase the tax liability associated with international service contracts," EY India's compliance head Jignesh Thakkar said. In some cases, combined federal, state and local taxes could push the levy on outsourced payments as high as 60%, Thakkar said."While its partisan proposal may seem initially attractive, it's ultimately an artificial cost which makes organisations less competitive and profitable globally," said Arun Prabhu, partner at Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas.Even so, the idea is gaining traction. This month, White House trade adviser Peter Navarro reposted a call from far-right activist Jack Posobiec for tariffs on srvies, not just goods. "When political noise turns into regulatory risk, clients quickly insert contingencies, reopen pricing and demand delivery flexibility," said HFS Research President Saurabh Gupta."Clients will simply take longer to sign, longer to renew, and longer to commit transformation dollars," Gupta said.Last week, US Republican Senator Bernie Moreno introduced the HIRE Act, which proposes taxing companies that hire foreign workers over Americans, with the tax revenue used for U.S. workforce development. The bill also seeks to bar firms from claiming outsourcing payments as tax-deductibleexpenses. The bill could not have come at a worse time for India's IT sector, which is struggling with weak revenue growth in its mainstay US market as clients defer non-essential tech spending amid inflationary pressure and tariff uncertainty.

Australia approves world-first vaccine to save koalas from chlamydia

MELBOURNE. (Agency)

A regulator has approved a world-first vaccine to protect koalas from chlamydia infections, which are causing infertility and death in the iconic native species that is listed as endangered in parts of Australia.The single-dose vaccine was developed by the University of the Sunshine Coast in Queensland state after more than a decade of research led by professor of microbiology Peter Timms. The research showed the vaccine reduced the likelihood of koalas developing symptoms of chlamydia during breeding age and decreased mortality from the disease in wild populations by at least 65%.The recent approval by Australia's veterinary medicine regulator means the vaccine can now be used in wildlife hospitals, veterinary clinics and in the field to protect the nation's most at-risk koalas, Timms said on Wednesday."We knew a single-dose vaccine, with no need for a booster was the answer to reducing the rapid, devastating spread of this disease, which accounts for as much as half of koala deaths

across all wild populations in Australia," Timms said in a statement."Some individual colonies are edging closer to local extinction every day, particularly in southeast Queensland and New South Wales, where infection rates within populations are often around 50% and in some cases can reach as high as 70%," Timms added.Deborah Tabart, chair of the conservation charity Australian Koala Foundation, said resources being spent on vaccinating koalas should be redirected at saving koala habitat. "At the risk of sounding flippant, how can anyone be so delusional as to think that you can vaccinate 100,000 animals? It's just ridiculous," Tabart said on Friday. Tabart's foundation estimates there are fewer than 100,000 koalas in the wild. The government-backed National Koala Monitoring Program estimated last year there were between 224,000 and 524,000 koalas."I accept that chlamydia is an issue for koalas, but I also want people to understand that they're sick because they haven't got any habitat," Tabart said.



The Queensland Conservation Council, an umbrella organization for more than 50 environmental groups across the state, welcomed the vaccine. But the council's director, Dave Copeman, echoed Tabart's focus on preserving koala habitat. "It's really good news. Chlamydia is one of the key stresses that has been putting pressure on koala populations," Copeman said."Koalas were at risk before chlamydia outbreaks, and they will remain at risk even if we manage chlamydia perfectly, because we keep on destroying their habitat," he

added.Koalas are listed as endangered species in the states of Queensland and New South Wales and in the Australian Capital Territory, with habitat loss due to wildfires and urban expansion as the major threats. Chlamydia can cause urinary tract infections, infertility, blindness and death. Treatment with antibiotics can disrupt an infected koala's ability to digest eucalyptus leaves — its sole food source — leading to starvation, the university said in a statement.The research has been supported by the federal, New South Wales and Queensland governments.Federal Environment Minister Murray Watt said his government had contributed to the vaccine's development through a 76 million Australian dollar (\$50 million) Saving Koalas Fund."We know that koalas need help to fight diseases like chlamydia. It's a widespread threat impacting their reproductive health and causing infertility," Watt said in a statement.

Rail traffic noise in slums far over WHO norms, reveals study

The Sikh Times

New Delhi: Residents of slum clusters along Delhi's railway tracks are living amid dangerously high noise levels that surpass global safety limits, a new scientific study has revealed. The research, jointly conducted by the Delhi Technological University (DTU) and the CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), monitored more than 1,000 train pass bys across 14 locations in the National Capital Territory. The findings, published in the journal Environmental Monitoring and Assessment, point to a public health emergency unfolding in some of the city's most vulnerable communities. According to the study, average sound levels in these settlements routinely exceeded the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)'s permissible limit of 55 decibels for residential areas. At Patel Nagar, one of the noisiest locations surveyed, levels touched 120 decibels — equivalent to standing next to a chainsaw. Even the "quietest" site, Shahdara, recorded 69 decibels, still 26 per cent above the safety threshold. The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends community noise levels remain below 55 decibels during the day and 40 decibels at night to prevent health risks such as sleep disruption, anxiety, cardiovascular disease and impaired cognitive functioning. In Delhi's rail-side slums, however, noise was consistently two to three times higher than

those standards. The study highlights that Delhi has 775 slum clusters, of which nearly 10% are located on or adjacent to the

Scientist at CRRI, emphasised that absence of sound barriers made these communities vulnerable. The study strongly recommends



Railways' land. This translates to more than three lakh households exposed daily to hazardous noise without effective protection. Lead researcher Mishra, along with co-author Ravi Pratap Singh Jadon, under the leadership of Geeta Singh from the DTU and in collaboration with Nasim Akhtar, Chief

urgent policy interventions to protect residents from escalating noise exposure. Researchers suggest accelerating the shift from diesel to electric locomotives, as electric trains consistently emit lower sound levels across categories. They also call for the construction of sound barriers along rail-

side settlements, rerouting of freight traffic away from densely populated areas, and restricting diesel train operations in residential zones. Besides, regular noise audits and targeted monitoring of identified hotspots are advised to ensure accountability and long-term reduction of noise pollution. If

implemented effectively, these could significantly improve the living conditions of thousand. Now, global cities such as London and New York have successfully reduced community noise through strict scheduling and installation of acoustic barriers.

Dismissal from service, imprisonment too harsh a punishment for overstaying leave, rules AFT

New Delhi: The Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT) has ruled that dismissal from service and imprisonment is too harsh and excessive a punishment for overstaying leave, even though the soldier had reported for duty after almost three years. Setting aside the sentence of dismissal awarded by a court martial, the Tribunal has held that the punishment imposed upon the soldier was not commensurate with the gravity of the charges levelled against him and the same deserves to be reviewed. While confirming the one-month imprisonment that the soldier had to undergo, the Tribunal's Bench comprising Justice Suresh Kumar Gupta and Maj Gen Sanjay Singh set aside the dismissal does not mean that the soldier will, as a logical consequence, be entitled to reinstatement in service. Observing that reinstatement is a matter of discretion, the Bench, in their order of September 3, said that if the dismissal is being set aside without reinstatement, the soldier would be treated as discharged from service and entitled to certain benefits as admissible in accordance with the length of his service. The soldier had proceeded on 10 days' casual leave in September 2017 but did not join duty after expiry of the leave period. He reported for duty in June 2020 and requested for continuation of his service. He had averred that due to a paralysis attack suffered by his father and his mother suffering from various diseases, he could not join duty. He was tried by District Court Martial, which convicted him in May 2021. While holding that the soldier was guilty of having committed the offence of overstaying leave by 1,031 days, the Bench also ruled that he would not be entitled to any back wages for the period he was absent.

Ministers assure flood-hit farmers of compensation

New Delhi: The Delhi Government on Wednesday said it was committed to standing with farmers and residents impacted by floods in the Yamuna belt. Acting on the instructions of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Development Minister Kapil Mishra and Social Welfare Minister Ravindra Indraj Singh carried out a joint inspection of the flood-affected areas, marking the first time two Cabinet Ministers visiting such locations together. The inspection, conducted from Palla Chowk to Hiranki, aimed to assess the losses suffered by farmers and ensure timely compensation. The ministers, accompanied by senior officials from the Agriculture and Flood Control Departments as well as the local district administration, met farmers directly, listened to their grievances and reviewed the administrative response on the ground.

19-yr-old arrested for co-worker's murder

Gurugram: The Gurugram police, on Thursday, arrested a 19-year-old man for the murder of his co-worker. The accused had pushed him from the third floor following a brawl over spilled food. According to the police, the incident took place on the night of August 14 at an under-construction building in Gandhi Nagar Colony where the deceased, Pappu Kumar (35), a native of district Ambedkar Nagar in Uttar Pradesh, along with Umesh and Rajesh used to work and live. According to the complaint filed by the deceased's younger brother, the accused, Umesh Kumar (19), a native of Ambedkar Nagar in UP, had a fight with his brother Pappu over spilled food. His friend Rajesh intervened and separated them but after some time, when Pappu went to the third floor, Umesh followed and pushed him to death. "During interrogation, the accused revealed that after committing the crime, he fled and would hide at various places in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar," a police spokesperson said.

Rohit Godara gang's shooter nabbed after encounter

New Delhi: A sharpshooter associated with the Rohit Godara gang was arrested following an encounter with the police in the Rohini area, they said on Thursday. The accused has been identified as Ankit, a resident of Bhiwani in Haryana. Several criminal cases were registered against him in the state. According to police sources, he came to Delhi with an intention of opening fire on the premises of a businessman. Based on the tip-off, the Special Cell tracked him. Ankit was arrested after an exchange of fire. He sustained a bullet injury on his leg during the exchange of fire and has been admitted to a hospital. According to police sources, Godara is currently based abroad and is orchestrating criminal activities in India through his network of associates.

N K KUPPAMMA Mother of No-2612198A Rank-CHM Name- K DEVARAJ Presently residing at VILL-PAIPALYA, PO-VASANADU, TEHSIL-KUPPAM, DIST-CHITTOOR, ANDHRA PRADESH-517425, have changed my name from K KUPPAMMA to KUPPAMMA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 12/09/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

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NSUI stirs DUSU poll pot, fields woman candidate for top post after 5 yrs

New Delhi: NSUI candidates (from left) Joslyn Nandita Choudhary (president), Rahul Jhansla (vice-president), Kavir (secretary) and Lavkush Bhadana (joint secretary) in New Delhi on Thursday. The high-stakes students' union elections at Delhi University are set to witness a notable development this year. After a gap of five years, a woman candidate has entered the race for the president's post from a mainstream student outfit. The National Students' Union of India (NSUI), student wing of the Congress, has nominated Joslyn Nandita Choudhary as its contender for the top post in the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) elections for the 2025-26 academic session. This marks the return of female representation at the very top, a rarity in campus politics. Last time the NSUI fieldled a woman candidate for the post of president was in the 2019-20 DUSU polls, when Chetna Tyagi

contested but lost to ABVP's Akshit Dahiya. Before her, NSUI's Sonia Sapra contested in 2008, but was defeated by ABVP's Nupur Sharma. Meanwhile, the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), RSS-BJP backed student wing, last fielded a woman candidate for president in 2011. For over a decade, the NSUI and ABVP have dominated DUSU politics, claiming most of the central posts. However, the top position of the president has largely remained male dominated despite Delhi University having a significant female student base. Choudhary's nomination signals NSUI's attempt to project a more inclusive image while also appealing to first-time voters who value representa-

tion and diversity. It also ensures that this year's contest will not only be about traditional rivalries between the NSUI and ABVP but also about the broader debate on women's leadership in student politics. DUSU elections are among the most influential student polls in the country, often seen as a stepping stone to larger political roles. Whether Joslyn notable development this year. After a gap of five years, a woman candidate has entered the race for the president's post from a mainstream student outfit. The National Students' Union of India (NSUI), student wing of the Congress, has nominat-

ed Joslyn Nandita Choudhary as its contender for the top post in the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) elections for the 2025-26 academic session. This marks the return of female representation Nandita Choudhary secures victory remains to be seen, but her presence has already added a new dimension to

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client (SMFG India Credit Co. Ltd.) that Smt. Jashon Khatoon is claiming to be the owner of Property bearing No. 1-16/271, area measuring 50 sq. yds. situated at Pyare Lal Road Bapa Nagar, Karol Bagh New Delhi, vide Regd. GPA, ATS and will dated 25.10.2011 executed by Mr. Sunit Singh. All persons are hereby informed that above owner wants to mortgage the said property and intends to obtain a loan from our client (SMFG India Credit Co. Ltd.) against the said property, if anybody has any objection/s over the said property its mortgage/igation, and any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

For Kumar & Associates Advocates & Consultants
200, Second Floor, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, New Delhi-15
legal@knaegal.com, 011-41112527-28

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Tohid S/o Shri Nanhe Shah, R/O-249 Gali No.4, Near Shamshan Ghat, Sangam Vihar, Deoli, South Delhi, Delhi-110062, declare that my name has been wrongly written as Tashid Shah instead of Tohid in School records of my minor daughter Ajra Parveen. My correct name is Tohid.

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NAME CHANGE
I, TERASA YADAV Mother of No-17040081M Rank-SEP Name-UPEN-DRA YADAV Residing at MAR-WATIYA WARD NO.3, VPO-BANS-GAON, TEHSIL-BANS-GAON, DISTT-GORAKHPUR, UTTAR PRADESH-273403, have changed my name from TERASA YADAV to TERSA DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 12/09/2025 before Executive Magistrate, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Shivam Ojha S/o Ved Prakash, R/O H.No.—P-20, Welcome Seelampur III, Delhi-110053, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Ved Prakash Ojha in my 10th, 12th and Graduation Marksheet and Certificate. The actual name of my father is Ved Prakash, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, BAPU is legally father of JC No-462948N Rank-NB/SUB Name-SURESH HEDDURE, R/O Near Ganesh Temple, Yadur, Yadur, Belagavi, Karnataka, Pin - 591213, have changed my name from BAPU to BAPU HEDDURE for future purposes. And in my son service record my date of birth wrongly mentioned is 07/11/1955 instead of 01/01/1948 vide affidavit dated 12/09/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
It is for general information that I, NEERAJ AASHITA S/O RAVINDER AASHITA residing at H NO-B-16, KOTLA FEROZ SHAH, VIKRAM NAGAR, DARYA GANJ, DELHI-110002, declare that name of mine and my wife have been wrongly written as NEERAJ AASHITA and MONIKA AASHITA in my minor Daughter KASHISH AASHITA, aged 15 years in her School Record. The actual name of mine and my wife are NEERAJ AASHITA and MONIKA AASHITA, which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in the connection

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the 2025-26 elections, highlighting the long-standing gap in gender representation at Delhi University's highest student office.

NAME CHANGE
I, Kumari Priyanka W/o Anil Kumar, R/O RZF-1068 Flat no-302, Guru Nanak Marg Near Sunit dairy Raj Nagar Part-2 Palam Colony Delhi 110077, declare that Manas Choudhary (DOB 1902/2011) is my Son, in his birth certificate & hospital records, my name (Child's Mother Name) is erroneously mentioned as Priyanka whereas my correct name is Kumari Priyanka Kumari Priyanka and Priyanka is one and same person.

NAME CHANGE
I, Dinesh, S/O, Om Parkash R/O 5462, New Chandrawal, Jawahar Nagar North Delhi-110007, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as Dinesh payla in my minor Son namely Harsh Payla, aged 16 years in his School record. The actual name of mine is Dinesh respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as BIRENDRA SHARMA S/O BHOLA SHARMA R/O E-77 349/B Sangam Vihar, Maherauli South Delhi, Delhi-110062 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as BIRENDRA KUMAR.

NAME CHANGE
I, hitherto known as Prashant Sharma S/o Jagmohan Sharma R/O H.No-289, Gali No-4, Prem Vihar Karawal Nagar, North East Delhi-110094 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rahul Sharma.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for General Information that I, SEEMA RANI MEENA W/O LATE. GIRRAJ KUMAR MEENA R/O T-572/A8A, Gali No. 2, Bajeet Nagar, Patel Nagar, Central Delhi, Delhi-110008 declared that name of mine and my husband has been Wrongly written as SEEMA and GIRRAJ in my minor daughter ANSHIKA aged 12 years in her Birth certificate No-72829. The actual name of mine and my husband are SEEMA RANI MEENA AND LATE. GIRRAJ KUMAR MEENA respectively which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for General Information that I, SEEMA RANI MEENA W/O LATE. GIRRAJ KUMAR MEENA R/O T-572/A8A, Gali No. 2, Bajeet Nagar, Patel Nagar, Central Delhi, Delhi-110008 declared that name of mine and my husband has been Wrongly written as SEEMA and GIRRAJ in my minor daughter ANSHIKA aged 12 years in her Birth certificate No-72829. The actual name of mine and my husband are SEEMA RANI MEENA AND LATE. GIRRAJ KUMAR MEENA respectively which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Rakesh Kumar Singh S/o Kameshwar Prasad Singh R/O RZ-33A Ground Floor, Kh. No-153/14, C-BLOCK, Shiv Enclave, Sai Hercules Gym, Najafgarh, South West Delhi, Delhi-110043 declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Rakesh Prasad Singh and Sonya in my minor daughter Anushka aged 14 years in her Birth Certificate No. MCDOLIR-0111-004924581. The actual name of mine and my wife are Rakesh Kumar Singh and Sonya.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Rakesh Kumar Singh S/o Kameshwar Prasad Singh R/O RZ-33A Ground Floor, Kh. No-153/14, C-BLOCK, Shiv Enclave, Sai Hercules Gym, Najafgarh, South West Delhi, Delhi-110043 declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as Rakesh Prasad Singh and Sonya in my minor daughter Anushka aged 16 years in her 10th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of mine is Rakesh Kumar Singh.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is for general information that I, Azharuddin S/o Babu Khan R/O F-240, Vijay Vihar Phase-1, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi-110085 declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Kamalludin in my Ali Educational Documents. The actual name of my father is Babu Khan.

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

India-US ties | A gulf that was bridged on a golf course

Behind a seeming thaw in the atmospheric between India and the US from last week is Washington’s biggest secret of the moment—a meeting between President Donald Trump and a private Indian citizen. The venue of the meeting? Where else, but a golf course! How long did the meeting last? Just over 10 minutes, which is about the duration of the septuagenarian president’s normal attention span. The two men did not discuss trade tariffs. It was not a diplomacy pow-wow. They talked about Trump’s daughter Ivanka’s 2017 visit to Hyderabad. The Indian citizen was very much there. They recalled Trump’s visit to Ahmedabad 27 months later. The Indian was present there too, and told Trump that seeing him in person was the greatest moment in the lives of a quarter million people in Gujarat. “A quarter million Indians!” Trump exclaimed. “Explain that to me.” There were 1,32,000 people inside the Narendra Modi Stadium, which was filled to capacity, was the explanation. There were an equal number of people who lined up on the route of Trump’s cavalcade wherever he went in Ahmedabad. Trump knows that he cannot get that kind of a crowd in his own country. Or for that matter, anywhere else in the world. Exaggerating the importance of the ‘Namaste Trump’ events five years ago, the Indian said it was one of the high points in his life as well. The hype was meant solely to hit its target—Trump’s huge ego. The two men briefly talked about real estate projects promoted by the Trump Organization, which entered commercial property development in Pune five months ago for the first time in India. Praise was showered on the vision of Trump’s son Eric, who is in charge of the India projects, and whom the Indian has met many times in connection with this real estate business. India is set to have the most number of Trump Towers anywhere in the world outside the US. As someone who followed Trump extensively during his successful 2016 presidential election and reported on his first term in the White House, this author has little doubt that this golf course conversation with the Indian prompted the president’s recollection last week of his “special relationship” with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. “I’ll always be friends with Modi, he is a great prime minister,” Trump said. The prime minister promptly and “deeply” appreciated Trump’s remarks and “fully” reciprocated those sentiments. It was only the first time that Modi has mentioned Trump’s name since the tariff crisis engulfed the Indian public domain. On Tuesday, Trump remained positive, describing India and the US as “great countries”. Modi again responded, saying he looked forward to speaking with the president. I am not naming the private Indian citizen because he has not reported his meeting with the president to the Indian government. “Why should I tell the Indian government?” he asked me. His was an act of goodwill in statecraft. I am not calling him an interlocutor because he was not one. He was not even a back channel. He was merely leveraging his many years of engaging with the president and members of his family. His aim was to contribute whatever he could to repair India-US relations, in which he has invested more than three decades and continues to do so. Probing this meeting in Washington, I discovered that no one in the official structure of the Trump administration knows about it either. Except one person whom the president trusts the most in Washington: his sole gatekeeper in the White House. In his second administration, Trump has filled this gatekeeper’s post with extreme care, avoiding the pitfalls in his first term when aides played musical chairs. When the gatekeeper wanted to create an official record of the conversation, Trump said it was not necessary. It was a golf turf chat, he said. No official business was discussed. What was there to record, except emotions and sentiments?

Mohan Bhagwat Ji embodies clear vision, decisive action in abundance’

Today is the birthday of a personality who, inspired by the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, has dedicated his entire life to societal transformation and strengthening the spirit of harmony and fraternity.

Today is September 11th. This day evokes two contrasting remembrances. The first dates back to 1893, when Swami Vivekananda delivered his iconic Chicago address. With the few words, “Sisters and Brothers of America,” he won the hearts of thousands present in the hall. He introduced the timeless spiritual heritage of India and the emphasis on universal brotherhood to the world stage. The second is the gruesome 9/11 attacks, when this very principle came under attack thanks to the menace of terrorism and radicalism. There is something else about this day which is noteworthy. Today is the birthday of a personality who, inspired by the principle of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, has dedicated his entire life to societal transformation and strengthening the spirit of harmony and fraternity. For lakhs of people associated with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, he is respectfully referred to as Param Pujya Sarsanghchalak. Yes, I am referring to Shri Mohan Bhagwat Ji, whose 75th birthday is, incidentally, falling in the same year when the RSS marks its centenary. I would like to convey my best wishes to him and pray for his long and healthy life. My association with Mohan Ji’s family has been very deep. I have had the good fortune of working closely with Mohan Ji’s father, the late Madhukarrao Bhagwat Ji. I have written extensively about him in my book, Jyotipunj. Along with his association with the legal world, he devoted himself to nation-building. He played a pivotal role in strengthening the RSS across Gujarat. Such was Madhukarrao Ji’s passion towards nation-building that it groomed his son, Mohanrao, to work towards India’s regeneration. It is as if Parasmani Madhukarrao prepared another Parasmani in Mohanrao.

Mohan Ji became a Pracharak in the mid-1970s. Upon hearing the word ‘Pracharak’, one may mistakenly think it refers to someone who is simply doing Prachar or campaigning, propagating ideas. But, those familiar with the working of the RSS understand that the Pracharak tradition is at the core of the organisation’s work. Over the last hundred years, thousands of young people, inspired by a patriotic zeal, have left their homes and families to dedicate their lives to realising the mission of India First. His early years in the RSS coincided with a very dark period of Indian history. This was the time the draconian Emergency was imposed by the then Congress government. For every person who cherished democratic principles and wanted India to prosper, it was natural to strengthen the anti-Emergency movement. This is exactly what Mohan Ji and countless RSS Swayamsevaks did. He worked extensively in rural and



backward areas of Maharashtra, especially Vidarbha. This shaped his understanding of the challenges faced by the poor and downtrodden. Over the years, Bhagwat Ji held various positions in the RSS. He performed each and every one of those duties with great dexterity. Mohan Ji’s years as the head of the Akhil Bharatiya Sharirik Pramukh during the 1990s are still fondly remembered by many Swayamsevaks. During this period, he spent considerable time working in the villages of Bihar. These experiences further deepened his connect with grassroots issues. In 2000, he became the Sarkaryawah and here too, he brought his unique way of working, handling the most complex of situations with ease and precision. In 2009, he

became the Sarsanghchalak and continues to work with great vibrancy. Being Sarsanghchalak is more than an organisational responsibility. Extraordinary individuals have defined this role through personal sacrifice, clarity of purpose and unshakable commitment to Maa Bharti. Mohan Ji, in addition to doing full justice to the enormity of the responsibility, has also brought to it his own strength, intellectual depth and empathetic leadership, all of which is inspired by the principle of Nation First.

If I can think of two attributes Mohan Ji has held close to his heart and imbibed in his work style, they are continuity and adaptation. He has always steered the Organisation through very complex currents, never compromising on the core ideology we are all proud of and at the same time addressing the evolving needs of society. He has a natural connect with the youth and thus, has always focussed on

Task cut out for new V-P to protect democratic space

Managing a polarised Rajya Sabha as its chairman dispassionately, while giving equal space and dignity to the opposition and the treasury, is a big challenge

As contests go, the vice presidential poll was decided the day it began. NDA’s candidate C P Radhakrishnan had over 100 votes more than the united opposition’s pick, Justice B Sudershan Reddy, a former Supreme Court judge. The only point of interest was the margin of victory. The NDA expected 439 votes, which included commitments of support from other smaller entities. But it got 13 more, giving a jolt to the opposition INDIA bloc. All 315 opposition MPs had turned up to vote, with senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh calling it an “unprecedented 100 percent turnout”. Yet, Justice Reddy got just 300 votes, implying cross-voting. The finger of suspicion on the betrayal was levelled at the Aam Aadmi Party, which is out of the INDIA bloc but promised its votes. On the plus side, the opposition polled 40 percent of the votes this time around, as against 26 percent in the vice-presidential election in 2022 that had elected Jagdeep Dhankhar, whose resignation necessitated the fresh poll. Justice Reddy was dignified in defeat, saying democracy is strengthened not just by



victory, but by the spirit of dialogue, dissent and participation.

If the opposition made it an all-South linguistic contest by pitting a Telugu speaker against a Tamilian, it did not fetch electoral rewards. The entire Andhra Pradesh went for

integrating more youngsters with the Sangh Parivar. He is often seen engaging in public discourse and interacting with people, which has been very beneficial in today’s dynamic and digital world.

Broadly speaking, Bhagwat Ji’s enure will be considered the most transformative period in the 100-year journey of the RSS. From the change in uniform to the modifications in the Shiksha Vargs (training camps), several significant changes occurred under his leadership.

Mohan Ji’s efforts during the COVID period, when humanity battled a once in a lifetime pandemic. In those times, continuing the traditional RSS activities became challenging. Mohan Ji suggested increased usage of

technology. In the context of the global challenges, he remained connected with global perspectives while developing institutional frameworks. At that time, all Swayamsevaks made every possible effort to reach out to those in need, while ensuring the safety of themselves and others. Medical camps were organised in several places. We also lost many of our hardworking Swayamsevaks, but such was the inspiration of Mohan Ji that their determination never wavered. Earlier this year, during the inauguration of the Madhav Netra Chikitsalaya in Nagpur, I had remarked that the RSS is like an Akshayavat, an eternal banyan tree that energises the national culture and collective consciousness of our nation. The roots of this Akshayavat are deep and strong because they are anchored in values. The dedication with which Mohan Bhagwat Ji has committed himself to nurturing and advancing these values is truly inspirational.

Another admirable quality of Mohan Ji’s personality is his soft-spoken nature. He is blessed with an exceptional ability to listen. This trait ensures a deeper perspective and also brings a sense of sensitivity and dignity to his persona and leadership. Here, I also want to write about the keen interest he has always shown towards various mass movements. From Swachh Bharat Mission to Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, he always urges the entire RSS family to add vigour through these movements. In order to further social well-being, Mohan Ji has given the ‘Panch Parivartan’, which includes social harmony, family values, environmental awareness, national selfhood and civic duties. These can inspire Indians from all walks of life. Every Swayamsevak dreams of seeing a strong and prosperous nation. To realise this dream, what is required is both clear vision and decisive action. Mohan Ji embodies both these qualities in abundance.

CPR, while the BRS in Telangana abstained. As for CPR, what value his elevation would bring to the BJP and NDA in Tamil Nadu—except for some bragging rights—is uncertain. He hails from the agrarian Gounder community in west Tamil Nadu, which is the pocket borough of the AIADMK. CPR is affable, has RSS roots and the right OBC credentials. He gained legislative knowledge on the go with two stints as a Lok Sabha member, and had administrative exposure as governor in multiple states including Maharashtra.

But managing a polarised Rajya Sabha as its chairman dispassionately, while giving equal space and dignity to the opposition and the treasury, is a big challenge. His predecessor Dhankhar was often seen as preachy and partisan.

The office of the Vice-President is the second highest in the order of precedence in the constitutional scheme. The independence and fairness CPR brings to the table in upholding democratic values will be closely watched. Here’s wishing him the best.

Putting states at the centre of reforms

States hold several keys to business growth. Comprehensive reforms in states’ land, labour and energy sectors can yield significant benefits in the form of national growth. The GST model for Centre-state coordination could be effective for this purpose

India’s journey towards becoming a globally competitive, inclusive, and sustainable economy will be shaped by the strength and dynamism of its states. By embracing coordinated, data-driven, and outcome-focused reforms, states can unlock unprecedented growth opportunities.

States hold unique influence over business regulation, land management, labour markets, energy, education, healthcare, agriculture, and sustainability. These are vital for industrial expansion, job creation, productivity enhancement, and inclusive development. Aligning national strategies with robust state-led initiatives is, therefore, essential. A template already exists. The successful rollout and recent reforms of GST demonstrated how Centre-state coordination through the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers and the GST Council can create effective, carefully-crafted, consensus-based reforms that benefit the entire nation. The model should be extended to build consensus on land, labour, power, agriculture, education, and fiscal sustainability. Creating an enabling business environment is a fundamental step for encouraging private investment. States should streamline all approvals through the national single-window system, with time-bound clearances and legally recognised digital certificates to reduce delays. Fast-tracking dispute resolution through dedicated courts and alternative mechanisms will further ease business. Decriminalising business-facing state laws would strengthen trust between government

and industry. Addressing land issues remains a priority. States could establish online, integrated land authorities to digitise and integrate land data across departments. These could serve as single points for allotment, provide clarity on disputed parcels, and help transition to government-guaranteed land titles. Simplifying forest land diversion for projects under 50 hectares, especially in mining, by delegating authority to states, can also accelerate development without compromising safeguards.

Labour reforms are another area for swift action. Prompt implementation of the four Labour Codes, with clear transition plans and advisory support from the Centre, will encourage industry and employment generation, especially in labour-intensive sectors. Compliance should be centralised via an enhanced Shram Suvidha portal offering single-window filings, annual returns, and time-bound approvals. Energy is an important factor input, and its costs and availability are key determinants of competitiveness. Fostering private sector participation in distribution and transmission can dramatically improve efficiency. States adopting reforms such as tariff-based competitive bidding and discom privatisation should be rewarded with incentives like enhanced borrowing limits or long-term, interest-free capital loans. Rationalising and eventually phasing out open access charges will also be critical in making the electricity sector more competitive and affordable. Another area that the states need to

address is instituting more sustainable mechanisms for providing free or cheaper power to certain user segments. This should be done through direct benefit transfers by the states to targeted end users, helping improve discoms’ financial health immensely. Fiscal stability remains a cornerstone for sustainable growth. States can enhance their financial resilience by adopting long-term fiscal risk reporting, drawing inspiration from



international best practices such as Brazil’s decade-long forecasts and the UK’s 50-year projections. They should also work towards prioritising expenditure to bring down overall fiscal deficits and debt levels. Unlocking the value of state assets presents another opportunity. On the lines of the National Monetisation Plan, states could draw up their own plans. The central government could support the intervention through a dedicated asset monetisation cell within the finance ministry or

Niti Aayog to provide technical support. This will open a new resource stream for states to undertake infrastructure and developmental projects. Agriculture, the backbone of rural livelihoods, must also be revitalised. States with lower irrigation levels can replicate successful models from Telangana and Madhya Pradesh. Extending concessional loans for climate-resilient irrigation systems will bolster productivity and counter erratic monsoons.

To reap the demographic dividend, the Centre and states must work together to provide quality education, healthcare, and jobs for the youth. For job creation, integrating state and national employment databases under a National Career Service platform, enhanced with AI-driven matching, can bridge the skills-opportunity gap.

Healthcare access can be significantly improved by adopting hub-and-spoke models for service delivery in small towns, complemented by digital command hubs and e-ICUs to ensure quality care in remote areas. States also have a vital role in promoting sustainable development. Green procurement policies prioritising crop residue-based products can drive a circular economy, reduce pollution and support rural entrepreneurship. These state efforts should be supported under the Centre’s Green Procurement Scheme. It is the proactive engagement of states across key sectors that will ultimately define the pace and breadth of India’s growth story.

PM to lay the foundation stone and inaugurate multiple development projects worth over Rs 9,000 crore at Aizawl, Mizoram

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 12th September: The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, will visit Aizawl, Mizoram, on 13th September 2025 to inaugurate/dedicate/lay foundation stones of multiple projects worth over Rs. 9000 crore. These include the Bairabi-Sairang New Railway Line, 45 km Aizawl Bypass Road on the Western side, Thenzawl-Sialsuk Road, Khankawn-Rongura Road, a 30 TMTPA LPG Bottling Plant by IOCL at Mualkhang and various other development projects. These projects will improve connectivity to Lunglei, Siaha, Lawngtlai, Lengpui Airport and Sairang Railway Station among others. It will reduce the travel time from southern districts to Aizawl significantly benefitting the people in the region. The Prime Minister will also lay the foundation stone of Chhimitpuipui River Bridge on the Lawngtlai-Siaha Road that will provide all-weather connectivity and reduce travel time. The bridge will also support cross-border commerce under the Kaladan Multimodal Transit framework. He will lay the foundation stone of Khelo India Multipurpose Indoor

Hall to promote sports development. The Prime Minister will dedicate to the nation the newly constructed Bairabi-Sairang railway line to the region. The project will deliver a significant milestone



toward the "Act East Policy" of the Govt of India. The event will also witness the flagging off of three important long-distance train services. They are the Rajdhani Express between Aizawl (Sairang) and Delhi (Anand Vihar Terminal), an Express train connecting Aizawl (Sairang) with Guwahati, and another Express train linking Aizawl (Sairang) with Kolkata. The 51.38 km long broad-gauge Bairabi

- Sairang railway line has been constructed at an estimated cost of about Rs 8,070 crore. Built in challenging terrain, the alignment includes 45 tunnels, 55 major bridges, 88 minor bridges and 10

the route. The new line extends railway connectivity from Bairabi, located on the Assam-Mizoram border, to Sairang near Aizawl, directly linking the state capital with the national railway network for the first time. With this achievement, Aizawl becomes the fourth capital city in the North East to be connected by railways, following Guwahati, Agartala and Itanagar. The development is expected to transform travel and logistics in the region by ensuring faster, safer and more reliable movement of both passengers and goods. The Bairabi - Sairang project represents a transformative step under the Government of India's vision of enhanced connectivity and inclusive development for the North East. It will facilitate economic growth by reducing logistic costs, improving market access for farmers and entrepreneurs and creating new opportunities and development in medical fields, education, trade, tourism and industry etc. The inauguration of the new line and the launch of direct trains to Delhi, Guwahati and Kolkata mark a historic step towards integrating Mizoram more closely with the rest of the nation, hence advancing rapidly towards regional prosperity.

ROB/RUBs. Almost 54% of the newly constructed line traverses through tunnels and bridges only. Among these, Bridge No. 144 is a remarkable engineering feat. With pier height of 114 metres it is taller than the Qutub Minar by 42 meters. The project has also added four new stations at Hortoki, Kawnpui, Mualkhang and Sairang, connecting communities of the Aizawl and Kolasib districts along

UP Congress chief Ajay Rai alleges 'house arrest' after PM protest announcement, police deny claim

Varanasi. (Agency)

Uttar Pradesh Congress president Ajay Rai alleged on Thursday that he was put under "house arrest" by police at his Lucknow residence after he announced to stage a protest against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his visit to Varanasi where he was to hold a bilateral dialogue with his Mauritian counterpart Navinchandra Ramgoolam.

The police, however, denied Rai's claim of house arrest. The Congress leader had announced to stage a protest against the PM after state minister Dinesh Singh tried to stop the cavalcade of Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi during his visit to his parliamentary constituency Raebareilly on Wednesday. Rai said he was put under house arrest before he was scheduled to leave for Varanasi early Thursday morning along with other party colleagues.

"Yesterday, there was a visit of Rahul ji in his parliamentary constituency, and on the direction of Modi ji, his minister tried to unnecessarily block his cavalcade, and stop him from moving in his own parliamentary constituency," Rai told The. In a statement released in the afternoon, the state Congress media cell said the police

even stopped Rai from going to the party office in Lucknow, and meeting the media at his residence under the PGI police station area. The cell also claimed that Rai was under house arrest, and under police watch. When contacted, R Vasanth Kumar, Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (Lucknow South), denied that Rai is under house arrest. He refused to comment further.

DCP (South) Nipun Aggrawal also did not



respond to calls. So did other senior officials. Congress' Varanasi (city) president Rasghavendra Chaubey said they had planned to protest against the PM near Police Lines but were detained on their way. Their party leaders and workers protested with placards at Patel Dharamshala, where they were kept under detention he said.

Man dies as car rams into bike, BBA student held



Police said the accident took place on the Noida-Greater Noida expressway when a Kia Carens, allegedly being driven rashly, hit a Honda City from the side. The impact caused the Kia to lose control and ram into a motorcycle ahead.

Lucknow. (Agency)

A 39-year-old man died and another was injured after two cars collided with each other, resulting in one of them hitting a motorcycle and catching fire near the Sector 145 Metro station in Noida.

Police said the accident took place on the Noida-Greater Noida expressway when a Kia Carens, allegedly being driven rashly, hit a Honda City from the side. The impact caused the Kia to lose control and ram into a motorcycle ahead.

A police official said, "The Kia spun out of control and hit a motorcycle.... The car then veered off the road and plunged into a roadside drain. Within minutes, it caught fire."

While the injured biker, Gaurav Singh (43), was admitted to hospital, pillion rider Vijay Bahadur Singh was declared dead on arrival, said police. A student pursuing BBA at a university in Greater Noida was allegedly driving the Kia, police said. "The driver was detained. He and his friend were going to college when the incident occurred," they said.

Just a month old, but condition of Tambaram's new hospital critical

Chennai. (Agency)

Only a month has passed since its inauguration, but the new Government District Headquarters Hospital in Tambaram has started showing symptoms of neglect, with lack of essential amenities and staff shortage putting strain on most services. When the officials say the hospital, built at a cost of '110 crore and inaugurated by Chief Minister MK Stalin on August 9, now records a daily footfall of over 2,500 outpatients and inpatients, including more than 100 pregnant women, the patients rue that they are struggling with inadequate and unhygienic toilet facilities on almost all six floors.

On the ground floor, which houses the Outpatient Department and the pharmacy, toilets for both men and women remain in poor condition. "I have admitted my son here. Of the three bathrooms on the ground floor, only one is usable. Most of the time, there is no water.

There is no mug either," said Rajeshwari, an attendant, to. Long queues were found outside the pharmacy with only two staff tasked with issuing medicines. A 59-year-old Muniyammal from Mudichur said that the average wait time outside the pharmacy was half an hour when the consultation itself lasted only ten minutes.

With a few functional women's toilets and long queues, some women said they are often left with no option but to use the men's toilets, "which at least have water and mugs", also witnessed the struggle of a patient, who vomited in the basin, with no means to clean up.

On the second floor, which houses the operation theatre, labour ward and antenatal ward, patients said there is no drinking water facility. This forces many daily-wage workers to buy water from outside.

"I work as a construction labourer and earn '800 a day. I came here for my wife's delivery, but there is no drinking water on the floor. I spend over '180 a day for buying water from outside," said Ponnaian, an attendant. Food served in the labour ward is also reportedly delayed - breakfast came only by 11 am and lunch by 2 pm, the patients said.

Indian Railways to introduce Three Pairs of New Train Services Connecting Aizawl with the National Capital, Guwahati and Kolkata

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 11th September: Indian Railways (IR) is pleased to announce the introduction of three new pairs of train services from Sairang station in Aizawl. These trains will greatly enhance rail connectivity for the state capital of Mizoram with important destinations across the country. The inaugural runs of all three pairs of trains will take place on 13th September, 2025, followed by commencement of regular services on notified dates. The details of the inaugural run and regular train services of all the three pairs of trains are as follows:

Inaugural Run/Regular Services of New Trains

- Train no. 02507 (Sairang - Anand Vihar Terminal) Inaugural Rajdhani Express will run from Sairang station at 10:00 hrs, on 13-09-2025 (Saturday) to reach Anand Vihar Terminal at 7:30 hrs on 15-09-2025 (Monday). Thereafter, w.e.f. 19.09.2025, the regular services of Train No. 20507 (Sairang - Anand Vihar Terminal)

Rajdhani Express, will depart from Sairang every Friday at 16:30 hrs and reach Anand Vihar Terminal at 10:50 hrs on Sunday.

Similarly, Train No. 20508 (Anand Vihar Terminal - Sairang) Rajdhani Express will depart from Anand Vihar Terminal every Sunday at 19:50 hrs, w.e.f. 21.09.2025 and will arrive at Sairang at 15:15 hrs on Tuesday. The trains will run via Badarpur Jn., Guwahati, New Jalpaiguri, Malda Town, Bhagalpur during its journeys.

- Train no. 05609 (Bairabi-Sairang) Special will run from Bairabi on 13-09-2025 at 10:00 hrs to reach Sairang at 11:15 hrs. After that, it will start its inaugural run as Train no. 05610 (Sairang-Guwahati) Special at 12:30 hrs, from Sairang to reach Guwahati at 2:30 hrs, next day. Thereafter, w.e.f. 13.09.2025, the regular services of Train No. 15609 (Guwahati -

Sairang) Express will depart from Guwahati at 19:00 hrs daily to reach Sairang at 08:30 hrs the next day. Similarly, Train No. 15610

no. 03126, will start at 10:00 hrs, on 13-09-2025 to reach Kolkata at 17:00 hrs next day. Thereafter, w.e.f. 16.09.2025, regular services of Train No. 13125 (Kolkata - Sairang) Tri-Weekly Express will start from Kolkata every Saturday, Tuesday and Wednesday at 12:25 hrs, to arrive Sairang at 19:45 hrs the next day. Similarly, w.e.f. 18.09.2025, Train No. 13126 (Sairang - Kolkata) Tri-Weekly Express will depart from Sairang every Monday, Thursday and Friday at 07:15 hrs, to arrive at Kolkata, at 14:30 hrs the next day. The trains will run via Badarpur Jn., Guwahati, Goalpara Town, Golakganj, New Jalpaiguri, Malda Town to reach its destinations. The details of stoppages and timings of

these trains are available at IRCTC website and are also being notified in social media platforms of N.F. Railway. Passengers are requested to verify the details before undertaking their journey.



Heavy rainfall uproots trees, floods roads and homes across Bengaluru

Bengaluru. (Agency).

The 52.8-mm rainfall on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday in the city brought down 16 trees and hit traffic at several places in the early morning.

As per the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) control room, of the 52

complaints registered with the forest cell, 36 were of tree branch fall incidents. A huge gulmohar tree uprooted at Rajajinagar 4th Block, damaging five cars, a Tata Ace and three two-wheelers parked by the road side. It also damaged a house compound wall and gate, trapping the residents inside in the early morning. A municipal team rushed with cutters and axes and cleared the tree. A tree fell on the road



near Kamakshipalya bus stand, causing traffic disruption towards Sumanahalli. In several areas such as Kasturinagar, Hebbal, ACS Centre near Domlur, Varthur-Gunjur Road, Horamavu and Hebbal, there was slow-moving traffic due to waterlogging on roads.

Water flooded underpasses and increased traffic congestion. Water entered some houses in the low-lying areas.

To ensure that there is no water logging at the flood-prone Sai Layout at Horamavu,

Bengaluru East City Corporation Commissioner D S Ramesh inspected ongoing vent work costing Rs 13.36 crore, which involves placing two box-type casting measuring 6 metre wide and 5 metre in length.

5 killed, 18 injured as roadways bus falls into ditch in Lucknow's Kakori

Lucknow. (Agency)

Five persons were killed and 18 others were injured after an Uttar Pradesh Roadways bus overturned and fell into a 40-foot-deep ditch in Lucknow district's Kakori area on Thursday evening.

The accident took place when the driver bus, which was coming from Hardoi district, tried to avoid hitting some motorcycles parked on the roadside near Kakori's Tikatganj locality, police said.

Four of the deceased were identified as Baby Ram, a resident of Pilibhit, Nardev of Mathura, Sanjeev of Badaun and Dilshad of Lucknow. The identity of the fifth deceased is yet to be ascertained.

After receiving information about the accident, a police team

rushed to the spot and, with the help of locals, rescued the passengers trapped inside the vehicle. The injured were taken to the hospital where five of



them were declared dead. The condition of those undergoing treatment, including a 40-year-old woman and bus driver Anil Kumar, 45, was stated to be stable.

Children were also among the passengers, officials said. Lucknow Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP)

Vishwajeet Srivastava said, "Preliminary inquiry suggests that the driver lost control over the vehicle while trying to avoid motorcycles parked on the road."

The families of the deceased have been informed about the accident. Officials said they were trying to establish the identity of the fifth deceased.

3 of family killed as car, bike collide

A woman, her son and grandson were killed on Thursday after a car collided with their motorcycle here, police said. The deceased were identified as Sushila (55), Praveen (35) and his son Yash (9) of Takeli in Shahjahanpur. The accident occurred near Varsinghpur village when the three were on way to Guladia village in Deoria Kala, police said.

-AAP MLA from Sanaur Chetan Singh Jauramajra had met protesters on September 9 and assured them that he would raise the issue in the Punjab Assembly.

Patiala. (Agency)

The Haryana government's Hansi-Butana canal project, to draw water from Bhakra main line (BML), has once again triggered a farmers' protest in Punjab, with villagers of Samana and Sanaur constituencies alleging that the canal obstructs the natural flow of Ghaggar river, causing widespread flooding every year.

Since September 9, farmers from several villages have been sitting on a permanent protest at Dharamaheri village in Samana constituency. "The canal, which currently flows above the Ghaggar river, has many siphons choked with silt. Unless these are cleaned and the flow increased, more than 150 villages face flooding every monsoon," said Jatinder Singh, a farmer.

The agitation has, meanwhile, drawn attention from both ruling and opposition leaders. On Thursday, former Patiala MP and BJP leader Preneet Kaur visited the dharna site and later led a delegation of farmers to meet Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini. "We want either the siphons' capacity to be increased or the canal be

rerouted below the Ghaggar," said Harbhajan Singh Chatha, Sanaur block president of the Krantikari Kisan Union, who was part of the delegation. Farmers recalled that they had opposed the project since its clearance in 2006, during the tenure of then Punjab CM Captain Amarinder Singh. "Despite protests, the canal



was constructed between 2007 and 2010. Preneet Kaur admitted that it was the Congress governments at the Centre, Punjab, and Haryana that had cleared it, and she was the local MP at the time. Now that she is in BJP, we told her to ensure

our issue is resolved," said Jatinder Singh.

AAP MLA from Sanaur Chetan Singh Jauramajra had met protesters on September 9 and assured them that he would raise the issue in the Punjab Assembly.

Officials, too, acknowledge the problem. Samana SDM Harjeet Kaur said that the canal, constructed by Haryana along the state border boundary without mandatory clearances, obstructs the natural flow of the Ghaggar and its tributaries, posing "a high risk of submergence in Punjab's border areas."

During the 2023 floods, the Hansi-Butana siphon had worsened the situation in Samana and adjoining villages, damaging crops, property, and infrastructure, Patiala district administration officials said. This year too, waterlogging has left several Patiala villages submerged. On Monday, Patiala SDM Harjeet Kaur and Executive Engineer (Drainage) Pratham Gambhir visited flood-hit areas including Sassi Brahman, Sassi Gujran, Dharamaheri, Hashampur, Bhawganpur, and Sassi Teh, and acknowledged that the canal's obstruction had aggravated flooding.

Delhi, Bombay High Courts get bomb threats; judges, lawyers vacate premises

►The Delhi and Bombay High Courts were evacuated on Friday after receiving a bomb threat email, which prompted a high-alert response.

Agency New Delhi.
The Delhi and Bombay High Courts received bomb threats on Friday, triggering high-alert measures, suspension of hearings, and the evacuation of judges, lawyers, litigants, and staff from the premises as a precaution.According to Delhi Police sources, the threat email to Delhi High Court claimed that three bombs had been

planted in the court premises and demanding evacuation by 2 pm. The message, however, did not specify the exact locations of the explosives.Bomb Detection and Disposal Squads were immediately deployed at Delhi and Bombay and the premises were cordoned off for a thorough search. The email, purportedly sent from an account under the name Kanimozhi Thevidiya, contained incoherent political references and alleged that an individual had contacted Pakistan’s ISI to conspire in replicating the 1998 Patna blasts.It said, "The basic funda is secular parties depend on allowing family dynasty politics and corruption to thrive in-order to fight BJP/RSS. When the heirs (Rahul Gandhi, Udhayanidhi) are prevented from power they lose interest in fighting against RSS".The email claimed that “Thus, to create a new evolution of Secular leader, the bottlenecks of the

equation the heir apparent will be eliminated, so that the pseudo-secularists will leave and only dedicated secularists will come to party power."The message further proposed that "Dr. Ezhilan Naganathan take over the DMK", and threatened that "Inbanidhi Udhayanidhi, son of Tamil Nadu minister Udhayanidhi Stalin", would be attacked with acid this week. The email ominously said, "The assets within

the Police have been sown since 2017, for this Holy Friday. As a sample, today's blast in your Delhi High Court will clear the doubt of previous bluffs. Judge Chamber will detonate shortly after Mid-day Islamic Prayers". It also claimed that “a smart and dynamic young Shia Muslim, Dr. Shah Faesal, has successfully made links with Pakistan’s ISI cells in Coimbatore to recreate the 1998 blasts today in Patna.” The mail even provided a contact name and phone number purportedly for accessing IED device locations and defusing codes. Details of the threat to the Bombay High Court remain unclear, though unconfirmed reports suggest it received the same email that was sent to the Delhi High Court.The incident comes amid a spate of similar hoax threats targeting institutions across the National Capital Region as well as in Mumbai in recent months.



Can't be just for Delhi's elite: Chief Justice seeks all-India firecracker ban

Agency New Delhi.
The Supreme Court on Friday questioned why firecracker bans should apply only to Delhi-NCR and not to other cities facing severe pollution.Chief Justice BR Gavai observed that if citizens in NCR are entitled to clean air, “why not people of other cities?” and stressed that any firecracker policy “has to be on a pan-India basis.” “We can’t have a policy just for Delhi because they’re



elite citizens of the country. I was in Amritsar last winter and the pollution was worse than Delhi. If firecrackers are to be banned, they should be banned throughout the country,” the CJI added.Amicus curiae Senior Advocate Aparajita Singh supported the argument, remarking that “elites take care of themselves. They go out of Delhi when there’s pollution.”The bench has issued notice to the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on a plea seeking a nationwide ban on firecrackers.

French connection to Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum in Central Vista redo plan



Agency New Delhi.
France Muséums Développement (FMD), the French consultancy that helped transform the Louvre Palace into the world’s largest and most visited museum, will take on a bigger role in the Yuge Yugeen Bharat Museum (YYBM).The culture ministry, developing the latter as part of the Central Vista Redevelopment Plan, is set to sign a new agreement appointing FMD as an advisor to provide expertise, strategic guidance, and support throughout the project. Sources said that the French consultancy firm, as advisor, would provide support to enhance visitors’ experience, business model, display of artefacts, and training and capacity- building plans.The ministry signed an MoU with FMD last December to conduct a feasibility study and preliminary master planning for adaptive reuse of the iconic buildings— North and South Blocks—where the museum will come up. The French agency is renowned for its expertise in transforming old buildings into iconic cultural spaces, exemplified by the Louvre, Grand Palais, and Hôtel de la Marine. The ministry, meanwhile, has planned to finalise consultants for design and content development. “We are hopeful to open a part or gallery of the museum by mid-2026 to the public. The entire project will be completed within two years after getting full possession of South Block,” said sources. The ministry has prepared an indicative gallery concept titled ‘Time and Timelessness’.The gallery is proposed on the ground floor with 100 artefacts, including a suggestive collection of 13 artefacts such as the Indus Valley Terracotta Hourglass (2500–1750 BCE), Konark Sun Wheel (13th Century CE), Maurya Edict Pillar Fragment.

Pak-linked arms smuggling bid foiled in Punjab, 2 arrested with pistols and ammo

Agency New Delhi.
The Border Security Force (BSF) and the Crime Investigation Agency (CIA) seized a large cache of weapons and ammunition in a late-night operation in Punjab Fazilka district, foiling what officials described as a Pakistan-backed terror smuggling attempt. Two suspected smugglers were arrested during the raid. According to officials, the joint operation was carried out in Theh Kalandar village following specific intelligence developed by the BSF in coordination with CIA Fazilka. The teams recovered 16 pistols, 38 magazines, 1,847 live rounds and a motorcycle. The arrested men have been identified as residents of Jhok Dipulana and Mahatam Nagar villages in Fazilka.ce India's Asia Cup win in 2023. The BSF said the intelligence input had pointed to a smuggling attempt across the border, prompting the



meticulously planned raid. Officials called the seizure a major success, saying it dealt a blow to a larger narco-terror plot linked to Pakistan and averted a potential threat to national security. "The operation was set in motion following intelligence input received

by the BSF intelligence wing, indicating a potential smuggling attempt on the border area of Fazilka. This significant operation decimated Pakistan's larger narco-terror plot, thus effectively dismantling a potential threat to national security," an official statement by the BSF read.

Supreme Court Bans Clicking Photos, Making Reels In Its High Security Zone

Agency New Delhi.
The Supreme Court has banned clicking photos, creating social media reels and videography within its main premises, declared as a high security zone. In a circular issued on September 10, the top court asked the media personnel to conduct interviews and live broadcast of news at the designated lawn area, which is a low security zone. "Use of mobile phone for photography and videography is prohibited in the lawn of High Security Zone. Equipment such as camera, tripod, selfie-stick etc. used for videography, creating reels and

clicking photographs shall be restricted in the High Security Zone, except for official use," the communication said. The circular added, "In case of violation of above guidelines by an Advocate, Litigant, Intern or a Law Clerk, concerned Bar Association or concerned State Bar Council shall take appropriate action against the violator as per their rules & regulations." In case of violation of the guidelines by a media personnel, their access to the high security zone of the Supreme Court could be restricted for a period of one month, it said. Saying any violation by the staff or the registry would be viewed “seriously”, the circular said, "In case of other stakeholders, their head of department concerned shall be requested to take disciplinary action against the violator as per their rules and regulations."



India joins global Coast Guard Summit in Rome, eyes 2027 presidency bid

The summit fosters dialogue on pressing issues such as emergency response to natural disasters, major pollution incidents, and transnational maritime crimes, while also highlighting the importance of technological advancements and capacity building across Coast Guards worldwide.

Agency New Delhi.
A two-member Indian Coast Guard (ICG) delegation, led by Director General Paramesh Sivamani, is participating in the 4th Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS) in Rome, Italy, from September 11–12. The summit has drawn participation from 115 countries and international organisations, reinforcing its position as a leading platform for maritime cooperation. Hosted under the co-chairmanship of Italy and Japan, this edition of the CGGS focuses on

strengthening multilateral efforts in maritime safety, marine environmental protection, and maritime law enforcement. The event fosters dialogue on pressing

issues such as emergency response to natural disasters, major pollution incidents, and transnational maritime crimes, while also highlighting the importance of technological advancements and capacity building across Coast Guards worldwide. Inaugural statements were delivered by Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni and Japanese Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba (virtually), both of whom emphasised the urgent need for coordinated global action in areas like Maritime Search and Rescue (M-SAR), Marine Pollution Response (MPR), and enforcement of maritime law. India made a notable contribution with an expert lecture titled ‘Guardians Against



After Delhi, Bombay High Court Receives Bomb Threat Email

Agency New Delhi.
Minutes after the Delhi High Court, the Bombay High Court too received a bomb threat email on Friday, with the Bombay Bar Association requesting all the members and staff to vacate the court premises.According to Mumbai Police sources, bomb detection squads are conducting searches inside the court. However, preliminary reports suggest it is a hoax threat. Earlier in the day, the Delhi High Court received a bomb threat via email, forcing all benches to stop the hearings and evacuate the court premises. A bomb detection and disposal team was deployed immediately, and the area was cordoned off. After multiple searches, officials did not find anything suspicious, officials said. The threat, sent by an email under the name 'Kanimozhi Thevidiya', mentioned that the Delhi High Court's judge chamber would be "detonated shortly". It also claimed to "recreate" the 1998 Coimbatore blasts in Patna later today and threatened an acid attack on Udhayanidhi Stalin's son, Inbanidhi. See, the basic funda is, secular parties depend on allowing family dynasty politics and corruption to thrive in order to fight BJP/RSS. When the heirs (Rahul Gandhi, Udhayanidhi) are prevented from power, they lose interest in fighting against RSS," the email read.It further stated that in order to "create a new evolution of secular leader", some people will be "eliminated". "We propose Dr. Ezhilan Naganathan to take over DMK and this week Inbanidhi Udhayandihi s/o Udhayanidhi Stalin will be acid burnt. The intelligence agencies won't have a clue that this is an inside job. The assets within the Police have been sown since 2017, for this Holy Friday.

Haryana help sought to pump out floodwater from southwest villages

Agency New Delhi.
The Delhi government has sought help from Haryana to drain out the floodwater from Jharoda Kalan and some areas of Najafgarh that were inundated after a 50-foot embankment of Mungeshpur drain was breached. The breach occurred on Tuesday evening, leading to nearly five feet of water entering Geetanjali Enclave and adjoining pockets of Jharoda Kalan village near Baba Haridas Nagar in Dwarka. Nearly 2,000 people were evacuated following the breach.“The drain breach has been repaired in coordination with the Haryana government. But the flooding is still there. We are pumping out the water using submersible pumps but it is taking time,” an official said.He added that they have sought help from the Haryana government to deploy manpower and pumps to aid the operation. “Waiting for the sun to dry the water will take a considerable amount of time. We have asked them to help us in the operation,” the official said. The evacuated people have been housed in temporary shelters at Baba Haridas Temple and an MCD school in Jharoda. Officials said the Chief Minister’s Office (CMO) has set in motion the process for providing compensation to affected people. The CMO has sought a report from the district magistrates of the 11 revenue districts on the losses incurred by farmers due to flooding. “The CMO has sought a report from the district magistrates of the 11 revenue districts on the losses incurred by farmers. While six districts -- North, Central, East, Northeast, Southeast and Shahdara -- have been majorly hit, there is a possibility that crops may have been affected in other districts too,” a senior official said. The official said all the district magistrates have been asked to compile a report and submit it to the divisional commissioner’s office. The report will then be forwarded to the CMO.

NEWS BOX

Cristiano Ronaldo to play in India in October? Al Nasr register star for FC Goa clash

New Delhi. (Agency)

Legendary Portugal star Cristiano Ronaldo might visit India in the month of October to play the team's AFC Champions League 2 clash against FC Goa. Al Nasr have registered Ronaldo for their ACL2 campaign, along with multiple other big stars of world football.According to the Times of India, the Saudi Pro League club has registered 12 foreign players including the likes of Sadio Mane, Kingsley Coman and Joao Felix. Amongst those 12, Spain's Aymeric Laporte would not be participating in the competition after securing a transfer to Athletic Club in Laliga.FC Goa have been drawn into the same group as Ronaldo's Al Nasr, alongside Al Zawraa (Iraq) and FC Istiklol (Tajikistan). The Indian team will host Al Zawraa at the Nehru Stadium in Fatorda on Wednesday, September 17. They will play Istiklol on October 1, while Ronaldo's Al Nasr will play in India on October 22.While it is too early to tell if Ronaldo will be travelling to India in October, history suggests that despite being registered, the legendary footballer does not take on a lot of ACL2 games. Last year, Ronaldo played just one away game in the



tournament. Cristiano Ronaldo Extends Contract The record goalscorer in international tournament history, Ronaldo, recently extended his contract with the Saudi club. Ronaldo put pen to paper on June 26, amidst heavy speculation that he would be leaving the Al Nasr outfit. Back then, reports had suggested that he would make a move to Major League Soccer, a competition where Lionel Messi plays.However, he laid the rumours to rest by extending his contract for two more years, till 2027. FC Goa Return to ACL2 On August 13, India's FC Goa sealed their spot in the AFC Champions League Two 2025–26 group stage with a 2-1 victory over reigning Omani champions Al Seeb Club. The win marked a return to the continental stage for the Gaurs, who last featured in the AFC Champions League group stage in 2021, becoming the first Indian club to do so.FC Goa earned the right to play the preliminary qualifier after winning the Kalinga Super Cup last season

Gukesh suffers hat-trick of defeats at Grand Swiss; Nihal Sarin grabs lead

SAMARKAND (Uzbekistan). (Agency) World champion D Gukesh's struggles continued as he slumped to a third successive defeat, losing to 16-year-old Turkish Grandmaster Ediz Gurel in the seventh round of the FIDE Grand Swiss here on Thursday.Coming off reverses to USA's Abhimanyu Mishra and Nikolas Theodorou of Greece, the rest day did little to arrest Gukesh's slide as he blundered a bishop in the end game to extend his losing streak.He now has three points from seven outings and needs to win all of his matches to stay in contention.Meanwhile, Indian GM Nihal Sarin grabbed a share of the lead after a thrilling victory over overnight leader Parham Maghsoodloo of Iran.He is joined at the top by German GM Matthias Bluebaum, who defeated Arjun Erigaisi. Both have 5.5 points.Seven players, including Vidit



Gujrathi, Iranian-French star Alireza Firouzja, Uzbek GM Nodirbek Abdusattorov, and Americans Hans Niemann and Abhimanyu Mishra, are in joint second place with five points each. They all won their respective matches in the seventh round to move within half a point of the lead.R Praggnanandhaa defeated Israeli GM Maxim Rodshtein to move to 4.5 points, joining 10 others that also includes Erigaisi and Pranav Venkatesh.In the women's section, defending champion Vaishali Rameshbabu regained the sole lead after defeating Chinese IM Guo Qi to register her fifth win of the competition. GM Divya Deshmukh also picked up a win. The top two from each section will make it to the Candidates tournament of 2026 that will determine the challenger for the next World Championship match in both men and women section.

Why are India using Bronco Test A deep dive into cutting-edge fitness drills

Adrian Le Roux, Indian men's cricket team's strength and conditioning coach reportedly proposed to BCCI that they should move on from the Yo-Yo Test. Le Roux in the latest BCCI video, speaks in details about the team's fitness and how it is achieved.

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Indian cricket team introduced the Bronco Test as the new benchmark in fitness ahead of the Asia Cup 2025. The team scrapped the Yo-Yo Test, which was used till now to measure the fitness standards of the Indian team.In the latest video from the Indian Cricket Board (BCCI), the team's strength and conditioning coach Adrian Le Roux took a deep dive into the test and how it helps the Indian cricket team build their strength,

which in turn helps them to avoid injuries.According to media reports, Le Roux was instrumental in bringing about the change in the team's fitness drills. Le Roux reportedly proposed the Bronco Test in response to growing concerns that Indian players, particularly fast bowlers, were spending too much time in the gym and not enough on running-based endurance training.Speaking in the video, Le Roux explained that the Bronco Test was not anything new in the fitness world and has been used for several years in different sporting cultures. WHAT IS THE BRONCO TEST? The Bronco Test is a high-intensity aerobic drill used to assess a player's endurance, speed, and overall cardiovascular fitness. It consists of shuttle runs over 20, 40, and 60 meters. One complete set includes all three distances, and players must complete five sets in succession—covering a total of 1,200 meters — without any rest. The benchmark time to complete the test is under six



minutes.Several Indian players recently took the test at the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru, and again after arriving in Dubai for the Asia Cup 2025.The fitness drill was introduced to the Indian setup on the recommendation of Adrian Le Roux, who returned as the team's strength and conditioning coach in June 2025. Le Roux previously served in the same role from January 2002 to May 2003 and has also worked with Cricket South Africa and IPL teams such as Kolkata Knight Riders and Punjab Kings.

WHY BRONCO TEST?

According to Adrian Le Roux, the Bronco Test helps the coaches better understand the status of the player in terms of aerobic fitness. Another reason behind using it is that the Bronco Test can be executed in any outdoor condition.“There are two main reasons we use it. First, it serves as a training mechanism. Second, it's a good measurement tool — it helps us track where the players are in terms of aerobic fitness and whether we're moving in the right direction,” Le Roux said in the BCCI video.“It's a versatile test. You can do it anywhere, on any ground, even while travelling. That makes it practical. Players can also use it to assess themselves — it's very functional and portable,” he added.Passionate about making people the best versions of themselves, Le Roux has a long-standing relationship with the Indian team. He was a part of the Indian coaching set-up way back in 2002-03 when the team was under the coaching of John Wright.

Asia Cup: Mike Hesson's honest assessment of Babar Azam, Rizwan's strike rate

Asia Cup 2025: Pakistan head coach Mike Hesson stressed the need for honest, objective assessments of players like Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan, focusing on adapting to modern T20 strike-rate demands rather than individual weaknesses.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Pakistan head coach Mike Hesson has openly addressed concerns over Babar Azam and Mohammad Rizwan's strike rates, stressing the importance of honest assessments in modern T20 cricket. Both players missed out on the Asia Cup squad, having not featured for Pakistan in the format this year. Hesson noted that the required strike rate in the powerplay has evolved, particularly in favourable conditions, and players must adapt to these changes. He emphasised that his feedback was objective, aimed at aligning with the demands of contemporary cricket rather than highlighting individual

weaknesses.Stay updated on Asia Cup 2025 with India Today! Get match schedules, team squads, live score, and the latest Asia Cup points table. 'Honesty, clear feedback'



Having also served as Director of Cricket Operations for Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the IPL, Hesson added that players looking to improve and contribute must have clear role definitions and take responsibility for developing the skills needed to fulfill them. “I think being honest in your assessment of players is very important. Coming from a place with no agenda is also crucial. If you

can approach things objectively, that's invaluable. I haven't spoken about anyone's frailties; what I've highlighted is how the modern game is played and how the strike rate required in the powerplay is very different from the past, especially in good conditions,” Hesson told the reporters on Thursday.As coaches or selectors, all players ask for honesty—clear feedback on what they need to work on. If they address those areas, there's always a way back into any team. You can't let personal relationships with players prevent you from being honest.“Players who want to improve and contribute need clear role definitions, and it's their responsibility to work on them. That's what I expect from everyone—current players and those striving to fight their way back into the team,” Hesson added.

Away from Pakistan's T20I setup, Mohammad Rizwan recently featured for the St Kitts and Nevis Patriots in the 2025 Caribbean Premier League (CPL), while Babar Azam is set to make his Big Bash League (BBL) debut for the Sydney Sixers later this year.Pakistan will begin their Asia Cup campaign on September 12, facing Jatinder Singh's Oman at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Asia Cup: Abhishek Sharma's father reacts to son's batting ahead of India vs Pakistan

OSLO. (Agency)

Young India opener Abhishek Sharma began his Asia Cup campaign in style. Batting against UAE, the left-hander slammed 3 sixes and 2 fours to hit 30 off just 16 balls. Ahead of India's much-anticipated clash against Pakistan, Abhishek's father has hoped that his son continues to give his best for the country.Abhishek Sharma secured his place in the T20I team ahead of the Asia Cup campaign. His sensational performances against England earlier this year meant that he became undroppable in the highly competitive environment of the Indian T20I team.

Speaking to India Today ahead of the Pakistan match, Abhishek's father, Rajkumar, said that he wanted his son to guide India to the Asia Cup 2025 win.India

performed well in the first match of the Asia Cup. I want them to win the trophy. India is in good form, I think that they will win the



Asia Cup," Rajkumar Sharma told India Today in an interview. Stay updated on Asia Cup 2025 with India Today! Get match schedules, team squads, live score, and the latest Asia Cup points

table."India and Pakistan is one of the most anticipated matches in the world. I am glad that the BCCI gave Abhishek chances. I want him to perform his best. I want him to help India win the match against Pakistan and then win the Asia Cup," he added. Abhishek Sharma has played 18 matches so far for the Indian T20I team. He has scored 565 runs at a ridiculous strike rate of 193.49. Abhishek's biggest attribute is his hitting ability against spin. In the international circuit, as well as in the Indian Premier League, Abhishek has mercilessly hit spinners out of the park. The Asia Cup 2025 is Abhishek's first big tournament. The batter is hoping to push his case for the T20 World Cup 2026 squad, a tournament that will be held in India in the months of February and March.

Manchester derby offers chance to salve wounds, Isak prepares for Liverpool bow

The Manchester derby at the Etihad Stadium pits two troubled sides against each other, both of whom have just one win from three matches.

LONDON. (Agency)

Manchester City will be desperate to avoid a third successive defeat when they face neighbours Manchester United as the Premier League returns this weekend, with Alexander Isak set for his Liverpool debut.City boss Pep Guardiola and United manager Ruben Amorim are both under intense pressure just

three games into the season while champions Liverpool boast the top division's only 100 percent record.Elsewhere, following the international break, Ange Postecoglou is back in management with Nottingham Forest, just three months after he was sacked by Tottenham.AFP Sport looks at three key talking points ahead of the weekend's action: Manchester derby can heal wounds The Manchester derby at the Etihad Stadium pits two troubled sides against each other, both of whom have just one win from three matches.Manchester City's consecutive defeats against Tottenham and Brighton have raised questions about Guardiola's expensive overhaul of his side after last season's third-place finish.Guardiola's problems have hardly eased in the two weeks since City blew the lead at Brighton, with Egypt forward Omar Marmoush ruled out of Sunday's derby with a knee injury.Rayan Cherki and Mateo Kovacic



remain sidelined and there are also questions over the fitness of John Stones, Rayan Ait-Nouri, Rico Lewis, Nico O'Reilly and Abdulkodir Khusanov, who all withdrew from international duty this week.Manchester United needed a last-gasp penalty from Bruno Fernandes after another error-strewn display against Burnley as they finally clinched their

first win of the season.That dramatic victory came after Amorim's team were beaten by Arsenal, drew with Fulham and suffered a humiliating League Cup exit at fourth-tier Grimsby.

Liverpool on hot streak

Isak says not everyone has the "whole picture" of the circumstances behind his record-breaking move to Liverpool, but Arne Slot's vision for the former Newcastle striker will start to become clear against Burnley on Sunday.Liverpool paid a British-record £125 million (\$169 million) to finally lure Isak to Anfield on transfer deadline day after a prolonged pursuit of the Sweden star, whose determination to push through the move antagonised Newcastle fans.Having boldly declared his intention to create "history" at Liverpool, the 25-year-old trained with his new teammates for the first time this week and is expected to make his debut at Turf Moor.



point margin after the first deuce.Satwik and Chirag's road to the semi-final has not been easy. On September 11, the duo battled back from a game down to defeat Thailand's Peeratchai Sukphun and Pakkapon Teeratsakul 18-21, 21-15, 21-11 in an hour and three minutes.

The Thai pair, ranked world No. 42, had shocked the Indians by snatching the opening game 21-18 with sharp net play and stubborn defence. However, the World Championships bronze medallists 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.

Hong Kong Open: Satwik-Chirag reach semis after another gruelling 3-set battle

New Delhi. (Agency)

India's top-ranked men's doubles pair, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, fought off Malaysia's Junaidi Arif and Roy King Yap to reach the semi-final of the Hong Kong Open. The Indian duo, seeded 8th in the tournament, beat Arif and Yap in a three-game battle that lasted slightly over one hour. Satwik and Chirag displayed some aggressive front court play to seal the match 21-14, 20-22, 21-16 on Friday, September 12. The Malaysian pair tried to stretch the Indian duo with their solid attack in the front court but were far off Satwik and Chirag's level. Between the two, Satwik had the better game. Chirag occasionally fumbled the serve and also misjudged the flight in the backcourt, giving away points in tight junctures of the match. The one-hour and four-minute contest saw Satwik and Chirag dominate the first and third games. They nearly pulled off a late heist in the second game as well, levelling the score at 20-20 by winning four points in a row. But a short service from Chirag shifted the momentum, and the Malaysian side sealed off that game with a two-

NEWS BOX

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FC Goa Return to ACL2

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Having also served as Director of Cricket Operations for Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the IPL, Hesson added that players looking to improve and contribute must have clear role definitions and take responsibility for developing the skills needed to fulfill them.

"I think being honest in your assessment of players is very important. Coming from a place with no agenda is also crucial. If you

can approach things objectively, that's invaluable. I haven't spoken about anyone's frailties; what I've highlighted is how the modern game is played and how the strike rate required in the powerplay is very different from the past, especially in good conditions," Hesson told the reporters on Thursday. As coaches or selectors, all players ask for honesty — clear feedback on what they need to work on. If they address those areas, there's always a way back into any team. You can't let personal relationships with players prevent you from being honest. "Players who want to improve and contribute need clear role definitions, and it's their responsibility to work on them. That's what I expect from everyone — current players and those striving to fight their way back into the team," Hesson added.

Away from Pakistan's T20I setup, Mohammad Rizwan recently featured for the St Kitts and Nevis Patriots in the 2025 Caribbean Premier League (CPL), while Babar Azam is set to make his Big Bash League (BBL) debut for the Sydney Sixers later this year. Pakistan will begin their Asia Cup campaign on September 12, facing Jatinder Singh's Oman at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

Asia Cup: Abhishek Sharma's father reacts to son's batting ahead of India vs Pakistan

OSLO. (Agency)

Young India opener Abhishek Sharma began his Asia Cup campaign in style. Batting against UAE, the left-hander slammed 3 sixes and 2 fours to hit 30 off just 16 balls. Ahead of India's much-anticipated clash against Pakistan, Abhishek's father has hoped that his son continues to give his best for the country. Abhishek Sharma secured his place in the T20I team ahead of the Asia Cup campaign. His sensational performances against England earlier this year meant that he became undroppable in the highly competitive environment of the Indian T20I team.

Speaking to India Today ahead of the Pakistan match, Abhishek's father, Rajkumar, said that he wanted his son to guide India to the Asia Cup 2025 win. India

performed well in the first match of the Asia Cup. I want them to win the trophy. India is in good form, I think that they will win the



Asia Cup," Rajkumar Sharma told India Today in an interview.

Stay updated on Asia Cup 2025 with India Today! Get match schedules, team squads, live score, and the latest Asia Cup points

table. "India and Pakistan is one of the most anticipated matches in the world. I am glad that the BCCI gave Abhishek chances. I want him to perform his best. I want him to help India win the match against Pakistan and then win the Asia Cup," he added. Abhishek Sharma has played 18 matches so far for the Indian T20I team. He has scored 565 runs at a ridiculous strike rate of 193.49. Abhishek's biggest attribute is his hitting ability against spin. In the international circuit, as well as in the Indian Premier League, Abhishek has mercilessly hit spinners out of the park.

The Asia Cup 2025 is Abhishek's first big tournament. The batter is hoping to push his case for the T20 World Cup 2026 squad, a tournament that will be held in India in the months of February and March.



point margin after the first deuce. Satwik and Chirag's road to the semi-final has not been easy. On September 11, the duo battled back from a game down to defeat Thailand's Peeratchai Sukphun and Pakkapon Teeraratsakul 18-21, 21-15, 21-11 in an hour and three minutes.

The Thai pair, ranked world No. 42, had shocked the Indians by snatching the opening game 21-18 with sharp net play and stubborn defence. However, the World Championships bronze medallists 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.

Manchester derby offers chance to salve wounds, Isak prepares for Liverpool bow

The Manchester derby at the Etihad Stadium pits two troubled sides against each other, both of whom have just one win from three matches.

LONDON. (Agency)

Manchester City will be desperate to avoid a third successive defeat when they face neighbours Manchester United as the Premier League returns this weekend, with Alexander Isak set for his Liverpool debut. City boss Pep Guardiola and United manager Ruben Amorim are both under intense pressure just

three games into the season while champions Liverpool boast the top division's only 100 percent record. Elsewhere, following the international break, Ange Postecoglou is back in management with Nottingham Forest, just three months after he was sacked by Tottenham. AFP Sport looks at three key talking points ahead of the weekend's action:

Manchester derby can heal wounds

The Manchester derby at the Etihad Stadium pits two troubled sides against each other, both of whom have just one win from three matches. Manchester City's consecutive defeats against Tottenham and Brighton have raised questions about Guardiola's expensive overhaul of his side after last season's third-place finish. Guardiola's problems have hardly eased in the two weeks since City blew the lead at Brighton, with Egypt forward Omar Marmoush ruled out of Sunday's derby with a knee injury. Rayan Cherki and Mateo Kovacic



remain sidelined and there are also questions over the fitness of John Stones, Rayan Ait-Nouri, Rico Lewis, Nico O'Reilly and Abdoukodie Khusanov, who all withdrew from international duty this week. Manchester United needed a last-gasp penalty from Bruno Fernandes after another error-strewn display against Burnley as they finally clinched their

first win of the season. That dramatic victory came after Amorim's team were beaten by Arsenal, drew with Fulham and suffered a humiliating League Cup exit at fourth-tier Grimsby.

Liverpool on hot streak

Isak says not everyone has the "whole picture" of the circumstances behind his record-breaking move to Liverpool, but Arne Slot's vision for the former Newcastle striker will start to become clear against Burnley on Sunday. Liverpool paid a British-record £125 million (\$169 million) to finally lure Isak to Anfield on transfer deadline day after a prolonged pursuit of the Sweden star, whose determination to push through the move antagonised Newcastle fans. Having boldly declared his intention to create "history" at Liverpool, the 25-year-old trained with his new teammates for the first time this week and is expected to make his debut at Turf Moor.



Janhvi Kapoor

Vishal Jethwa’s Epic Food Moment Steal Limelight At Homebound Premiere



Ishaan Khatter, Janhvi Kapoor and Vishal Jethwa are bringing the house down at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF), where they arrived for the premiere of their upcoming film Homebound. Just like us, food remains the priority of these Bollywood stars and one particular video that emerged online is proof. It shows both Janhvi and Vishal, dressed in their stylish fits for the festival, enjoying a food item with childlike joy on their faces and we are in awe. Janhvi, true to her foodie reputation, was the first to grab a bite while Vishal stood by like a perfect gentleman, patiently waiting for his turn. The two of them seemed completely lost in the moment, with their eyes fixed only on the delicious meal in front of them, totally unaware of everything else around. TBH, we think it is one of the cutest videos on the internet today.

Decoding Janhvi Kapoor, Vishal Jethwa’s Outfits

At the event, Janhvi Kapoor was the picture of elegance in a resham saree with the intricate motifs. The was elevated by a vintage men’s jamavar jacket from the 1980 and a jamavar shawl adorned with delicate resham tassels. Sounds straight out of a dream, right? On the other hand, Vishal kept it formal in a classy black suit paired with a white shirt and a black bow tie. After receiving a 9-minute standing ovation at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, Dharma Movies’ Homebound made its way to TIFF, adding another feather to the film’s name.

Homebound: Plot, Cast And Crew

Homebound follows the story of two friends, both from different backgrounds and religions. Hailing from a North Indian village, they decide to join the police force to lead a dignified life but life takes a turn when there is no news of the exam’s result even after a year, testing their bond and character. The poignant drama also delves into the complexities of rural life and the socio-political struggles faced by its protagonists.



Samantha Ruth Prabhu

Says Actors Have A 'Short Shelf Life, Stardom Can Be Heady'

Samantha Ruth Prabhu recently attended the National Leadership Conclave at AIMA. She reflected on how actors have a short shelf life and delved into her entrepreneurial journey. She also took to Instagram to share clips from her speech. She wrote in her caption, “What I know for certain is that progress comes when we step forward, take risks, and trust in our own strength. To every woman with a vision... your voice matters, your ideas matter, and the world needs you to lead.” Samantha Ruth Prabhu said in a clip, “I think that as an actor, you have a short shelf life. Something about stardom, fame and recognition can be so heady, and you can, for a brief moment, think that it is all you. But it is not true.” Have a look at her post here:

he actress added, “There is a lot of destiny and grace that comes to you when you are a star. It is not completely your own efforts. So I think that for me it was very important to understand that I wanted to create an impact larger than my shelf life as an actor.”

In another clip, she said, “It is not some personal ego trip where I decide based on my intuition. I have a very able team around me who does all of the foundational work. I would be lost without them, and now they do guide me to whether my intuition is absolute crap or makes sense.”

Samantha Ruth Prabhu is set to make a strong comeback with big projects

lined up, including the fantasy-action Netflix series Rakt Brahmand: The Bloody Kingdom and her first



production venture Bangaram under Tralala Moving Pictures. On the personal front, Samantha is rumoured to be dating Raj Nidimoru of Raj & DK duo.

Sushmita Sen’s Niece Ziana Is Ready For Navratri Festivities. Too Cute, Did We Hear?



After parting ways with Rajeev Sen, actress Sushmita Sen’s brother, and Charu Asopa relocated from Mumbai to her hometown Bikaner with their daughter Ziana Sen. She has shared that it was her conscious decision to take a break from daily soaps to focus on raising Ziana. After embracing a new chapter in her life, Charu continues to juggle several roles. She runs her ethnic clothing label, consistently uploads vlogs on her YouTube channel, and remains committed to her fitness regime. Charu is also very active on Instagram, where she often shares glimpses of her single motherhood journey and special moments with Ziana. Now, the actress has shared some adorable pictures featuring the mother-daughter duo in festive ensembles.

Charu Asopa and Her Daughter In Festive Outfits

With Navratri festivities in full swing, actress Charu Asopa treated fans to a glimpse of her little daughter Ziana’s festive style, and it’s nothing short of delightful.

Ziana looked adorable in a vibrant ethnic ensemble from FirstCry India, perfectly capturing the festive cheer of Navratri. She wore a cream-hued tiered lehenga skirt paired with a multi-coloured embroidered blouse featuring playful tassel detailing. Her radiant smile and neatly styled hair with floral accents made the little one look like a true festive star. Charu complemented her daughter beautifully in a teal green kurta set adorned with intricate threadwork and mirror embellishments. With her hair tied back and statement earrings completing the look, the mother-daughter duo radiated festive joy. Sharing the pictures on Instagram, Charu expressed the significance of Navratri, reminding followers that the festival is more than just celebrations, it’s a symbol of the triumph of good over evil.

In the caption she wrote, “Navratri is more than just a festival—it’s a beautiful reminder of the victory of good over evil. For nine nights, we come together to celebrate the courage of Goddess Durga, who defeated the mighty demon Mahishasura, symbolizing strength, hope, and positivity.”

Kartik Aaryan Is Feeling Grateful After Meeting Specially Abled Fan, Calls It ‘Good Karmas’



Kartik Aaryan is a very popular actor and enjoys a huge fan following. Well, this time he was feeling very grateful as he met a specially abled fan. He has travelled from Varanasi to meet his favourite actor. The heartwarming meeting has gone viral online. Kartik also shared his thoughts about the meeting, calling the moment a reminder of “good karmas.” Taking to his Instagram handle, Kartik Aaryan shared a video in which he is seen meeting a specially-abled fan. “You couldn’t speak, but I could hear all your feelings through your priceless expressions. You couldn’t hear, but I’m sure you could feel all my love towards you. I must have done a lot of good karmas to receive such pure love and affection. Thank you for traveling all the way from Varanasi just to make my day and make me feel so special. Always grateful.” Fans also reacted and dropped heart emojis.

Kartik Aaryan And Ananya Panday Groove To Jumma Chumma De De Atop Bar Counter

Kartik Aaryan and Ananya Panday have finished shooting for their upcoming romantic comedy Tu Meri Main Tera, Main Tera Tu Meri. After a 57-day shoot, the wrap party was as lively as fans would expect. Now, a video shows the lead pair bringing the house down at the wrap party. In the now-viral clip, Ananya and Kartik are seen standing on a bar top and grooving to Amitabh Bachchan’s iconic hit song, Jumma Chumma De De. Dressed in matching blue outfits, Kartik and Ananya shared a fun moment that had everyone cheering.

Tu Meri Main Tera, Main Tera Tu Meri’s Storyline and Cast

Directed by Satyaprem Ki Katha fame Sameer Vidwans, Tu Meri Main Tera, Main Tera Tu Meri promises a heartwarming mix of romance, laughter and heartwarming moments. The film stars Kartik Aaryan as Ray and Ananya Panday as Rumi. Jointly produced by Karan Johar, Adar Poonawalla, Apoorva Mehta, Shareen Mantri Kedia and Kishor Arora under the banners of Dharma Productions and Namah Pictures, the film is slated for a theatrical release on February 13, 2026, just in time for Valentine’s Day. Besides Ananya and Kartik, the film is backed by a vibrant cast that includes veterans like Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta.

Fit enough to Cycle?

You must cycle to stay fit and be fit enough to keep cycling. Your route to a healthy ride... Step out of your homes early morning and you'll be pleasantly surprised by the number of cyclists on the roads. Clad in funky cycling gear, this is a mix of fitness enthusiasts, sportspersons preparing for a cycling expedition or just laymen cycling to work daily. They all have different reasons for resorting to the pedal - from challenging the smoking habit and fighting bad cholesterol to tackling diabetes, and of course, getting in shape. It's an excellent way to strengthen the body and calm the mind.

However, since cycling is strenuous, it can make you weak. Eating the right foods before, during and after your ride, helps to replace the fuel your body demands. If you are active for longer periods, it is important to consume carbohydrates, proteins and other nutrients that can be rapidly absorbed by hungry muscles.

Kills Insomnia
Cycling is a complete exercise for the body, especially the legs. Just like any other sport or fitness regimen, it helps to improve muscle strength, decrease stress, build better posture and focus. It is a great fat killer and sleep propeller! Yes, cycling induces sleep like very few other workouts can, and is therefore highly recommended for insomniacs.

It keeps your body responsive irrespective of age or gender too. Cycling isn't just meant for youngsters, it helps you in every age to keep the bones strong and the body in shape.

Doctor's Permission
A cyclist should be flexible, have good stamina, leg strength and should have done good cardio before getting into this sport. Legs and back are the biggest assets on a bike, so people with problems in these areas should secure a doctor's permission and a preparedness to take to the wheels. A strong core, active involvement in other forms of fitness like yoga, running, sprints, lifting heavy weights should help a person in getting actively involved in cycling. Once into the habit, the level of fitness can be



easily attained if one gradually starts with 15 to 20 minutes and then moves to a longer duration and distance.

Ideal Diet
Carbohydrate is the high grade fuel for your muscles. Having lots of carbs is what lets you ride fast and far. The body is only able to store a relatively small amount of carbohydrate, which

is why keeping it topped up is important. So hoard on whole meal breads, bananas and high-fibre cereals. Good fat is another important part of the diet including Omega3. Protein-rich meats and vegetables combined with whole grains will help to restore your muscles while keeping fat levels down. If you face a lengthy drive home following a long bike ride, be sure to have some protein bars and a recovery drink

on hand to start the recovery process within the optimal time period.

Raise The Game
Following a disciplined lifestyle is a must for a daily cyclist. Alternating workouts help in building energy and stamina. Skipping is a great way to warm up. Crunches are a great workout for the core and can be performed indoors. One could alternate between picking weights and

other cardio-based sports, like running and dancing, including two days of stretches - yoga and meditation (instilling mindfulness). A good sleep and a well-rested body will ensure the body is energised and calm enough to raise the **fitness levels**. Water burns fat while cycling, it helps in getting toxins out of the body and absorbs nutrients easily. This helps cyclists to optimise this sport and do long distances.

10-minute exercises for busy corporate employees

We all need to work out every single day. While health experts prescribe 30 minutes of cardio, four times a week, if you have a crazy schedule and are hard-pressed for time, there's no need to lose out. Short burst fitness moves have been hailed every bit as effective. Here are ways to sneak exercise into your day and get recharged...

Skipping: All it takes is 10 minutes to get ship-shape with a jump rope, or skipping. It works on the core, arms and legs and experts say it can burn over 100 calories in a single 10-minute session, daily. Try this before your breakfast or cart a rope along to the office and do a short single-leg or double-leg session there. Use a rope that's your size and remember, this can place some stress on the ankles and knees so do a few ankle rotations before starting out. If you suffer from chronic knee pain, consult a doctor first. Benefit:

Reduces belly fat, builds endurance
Stairwell walk/run: Got no time for the gym? No sweat! Ditch the elevator and take the stairs. This is a great cardio workout and a calorie torcher too! Any aerobic activity lessens bad cholesterol, raises good cholesterol levels and boosts circulation, among things. And as the body uses effort to lift upwards, it helps engage more muscles, even tiny ones, in the leg. Did you know walking up 200 steps twice a day increases aerobic fitness levels by 17%? Try it today. Benefit: Increases circulation, cuts risk of heart attack by 25%
Stability ball: Several studies have been suggesting that you swap the office chair with a stability ball. It can repair bad posture because when you try and balance, the body is forced to automatically get into the correct one. This also engages the core and since you have to change your position often it does away with the damage

caused by a chair when you tend to sit long hours in the same slouched position. Remember to keep the back straight when you try this one. Benefit: Alleviates back pain, builds the core
TRX: The resistance band regimen is one of the best workouts to reduce aches and muscular tightness in the neck, shoulder and upper back that arises out of long hours of sitting. The band is a portable tool and can be set up anywhere. Place it under your feet and holding each handle, lift the arms up to shoulder level and slowly release them back to the start. Or do a lunge with the band under the feet, while you hold each handle. What happens is the stretching that ensues increases blood flow and oxygen to your muscles and lessens pain, which in turn also reduces headaches. Benefit: Headache and stress reliever
In-office cycling: More corporates in the West are

opening up to the idea of a 'cycle-in office' where you pedal push your way around the premises a la the movie, The Intern. As per a report, London is set to open such an office. Though it needs space, we hope it happens back home, too! If not, you can always cycle to work. The low-impact exercise can help ward off obesity, stroke and arthritis and builds muscle tone.



Home remedies to deal with acidity

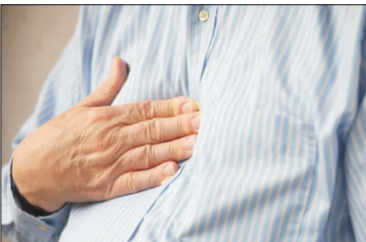
- Eat an overripe banana to beat an especially bad bout of acidity.
- Have cold milk without any additives like sugar.

-If you frequently suffer from acidity, drink a glass of lukewarm water every day before going to sleep and immediately after waking up in the morning.

-Eat an overripe banana to beat an especially bad bout of acidity, as they tend to contain more potassium which makes it the perfect antidote.

-Have cold milk without any additives like sugar. You could mix it with a spoon of ghee to make the remedy even more effective.

-Boil one cup of water and add 1 tsp of aniseed (saunf). Cover and leave overnight. Strain the water in the morning and add 1 tsp of honey. Take this thrice a day to prevent acidity.



5 golden benefits of waking up early



"The early morning has gold in its mouth," said Benjamin Franklin. The analogy by Franklin is by no means long drawn because getting up before the sun has many perks. Following is a list of reasons which will convince you to set your alarm for 6 a.m. tomorrow.

More productivity
Getting up early gives you a kick start for the day ahead. Besides allowing you more hours for your work, it also boosts your speed. Studies have suggested that when a person gets up early, he is more energetic and takes lesser time to do a task that would take more time otherwise. He is also more adept in taking better decisions, planning and

achieving goals.

Mental fitness
One very significant benefit of waking up early is reduced stress level. When you rise early, it eliminates the need to rush in the morning. You can then start your day on an optimistic note and such positivity often stays with you throughout the day.

Better sleep quality
Early risers often go to bed early. Getting up early is not something that should be followed irregularly but it needs to be established as a routine in your life. This translates into better sleep quality as your body's internal clock adapts to your new sleep routine.

Bigger scores
A research conducted by Texas University has identified that students who were early risers scored better grades than those who were late to rise. Their GPAs were higher than the latter. One can link it to an enhanced productivity and quality of sleep.

Brighter world
Getting up early instils you with positivity. A research has suggested that people who got up early were happier, not just for a short duration but overall in life.