

UP govt issues fresh GO warning officers of action if found lax over public representatives' correspondence

The state government, through the latest GO, reminded the officers that every government office should maintain a register listing the details of correspondence with the public representatives.

Lucknow. (Agency)

With the perception that the senior bureaucrats neither listen nor respond to the instructions of acknowledging and acting on letters received from public representatives, including MPs, MLAs and MLCs, gaining ground, the Yogi

Adityanath government reiterated its directive in this regard through a fresh government order dated September 12, 2025. The directive warned the officers that action would be taken as per rules if they were found lax in following the instructions.

The highly informed sources said that the officers had ignored at least three previous government orders (GOs) issued on April 3, 2018, January 21, 2021 and April 7, 2025, comprising the reiteration of the directives in the past seven years.

"Ensure replies to the letters of public representatives and take action on priority or else, action, as per rules, would be taken against the officers," said the September 12, 2025, order, undersigned by the principal secretary of parliamentary affairs, JP Singh-II.

The letter was sent to all the additional chief secretaries, DGP, heads of departments, divisional commissioners, district magistrates and others. The GO mentioned that despite the instructions

given through the earlier GOs, the members of the state legislature had stated that replies to the issues raised by them were not being made available.

"This is tarnishing the image of the state government," said the Principal Secretary. The state government, through



the latest GO, reminded the officers that every government office should maintain a register listing the details of correspondence with the public representatives and ensure that the letters (received from public representatives) were not only acknowledged but also replied to, informing about the action taken. The state government's fresh

instructions have come as a result of the complaints made and issues raised by the public representatives in both houses of the state legislature during last month's monsoon session.

Asked about the future course of action if the officers continued to ignore letters of public representatives, Singh said the issue would be taken up at the topmost level of governance.

This is not the first time that the state government's orders have been ignored by the senior officers. The state government has issued around a dozen GOs asking its officers to show courtesy to public representatives, take their calls and ensure a reply. There has, however, been no let-up in the complaints in this regard from the public representatives.

"The state government is serious about dealing with issues concerning protocol to be accorded to the public representatives. It is the privilege of the members of both houses of the state legislature that their letters and phone calls are replied to.

PM rally imposes burden of Rs 100 crore on Bihar: RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav

Agency Patna.

Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav on Monday alleged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming rally in Bihar's Purnea will impose a financial burden of Rs 100 crore on the state. In a post on X, Tejashwi wrote, "Honourable Prime Minister Modi Ji, before showering a deluge of empty promises in Purnea today, kindly take note of the dilapidated rural roads, schools without teachers, crumbling health centres, and the public issues troubling women and youth plagued by inflation, poverty, unemployment, and migration within a 2-3 kilometer radius of your rally venue. You must have surely noticed the deplorable condition of Purnea's medical college yesterday."

He continued, "Sir, a single rally of yours imposes a hefty financial burden of Rs 100 crore on a poor state like Bihar. You have held numerous rallies in Bihar. With thousands of crores of such a massive amount, the boundary walls of Bihar's schools, playgrounds, and separate toilets for girls in schools could have been constructed, and human resources and medicines could have been arranged for health centers."

He also pointed out that government employees including teachers and primary health care workers are forced to abandon their duties and gather crowds for the PM's events. "Prime Minister Ji, do you remember that 11.5 years ago, from this very Purnea district, you promised to grant special category status to Bihar. What happened to that promise? Are you once again coming to sell false promises and empty rhetoric to the people of Bihar before the elections?" he asked.

Rekha Govt launches historic initiative for children with disabilities

**The Sikh Times
Simmi Kaur Babbar**

New Delhi, 15 September 2025

The Delhi Government has announced a historic step for the education and rehabilitation of children with disabilities. Chief Minister Mrs Rekha Gupta declared that 10 new Resource Centres will soon be established across the capital, directly benefiting nearly 12,500 children. These centres will integrate medical, educational, and counselling services under one roof, ensuring a holistic approach to children's diverse needs. The centres will be inaugurated on 17 September, marking the 75th birthday of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, by Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah. CM Rekha Gupta said, "This initiative is not only about school admissions; it is about dignity, empowerment, and equal opportunity for every child. Our goal is to ensure that

no child is left behind because of unmet medical or social needs." Each centre will function as a comprehensive service hub offering physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, behavioural counselling, and other specialised services. A dedicated team of six experts including a speech therapist, physiotherapist, occupational therapist, and behavioural counsellor will provide personalised care to support children in their learning and daily life activities.

The Chief Minister highlighted that these services, offered free of cost, will have a direct impact on both educational achievement and mental well-being. "We are creating an ecosystem where children with disabilities can learn, grow, and live with independence. Inspired by Prime Minister Modi, these centres will give children new hope and help them build essential life skills



alongside education," she added.

In addition to rehabilitation services, the centres will serve as district-level nodal institutions for disability-related programmes, including teacher and parent training, community sensitisation, and monitoring of inclusive education initiatives. The long-term benefits of these centres will be far-reaching. Each child will undergo a multidisciplinary assessment by experts, ensuring that their specific needs are accurately identified. Detailed case

records will be maintained for proper medical and educational planning, enabling targeted support. Children will also have access to free physiotherapy, speech therapy, occupational therapy, and counselling services, while families will benefit from counselling and parental support programmes to assist them in the care and development of their children. The Chief Minister highlighted that the Delhi Government remains committed to providing children with disabilities equal opportunities, not only in education but also in their overall development and integration into mainstream society. She further mentioned that the centres are set to be established in Badli, West Vihar, Vishwas Nagar, Mangolpuri, Naraina, Dwarka, Najafgarh, Chhattarpur, Madanpur Khadar, and Pratap Nagar.

"In that era, we led the world, but did not conquer any country (by attacking) and did not suppress any country's trade. We did not convert anyone's religion. Wherever we went, we spread our civilisation and improved the lives

'United' India Proved Winston Churchill Wrong, UK Facing Division: RSS Chief

Referring to former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill, Mohan Bhagwat suggested that India proved him wrong by remaining united after British rule ended.

Agency Indore.

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Sunday said India is moving forward on the path of development by proving everyone's predictions wrong as it is driven by faith in the traditional philosophy of knowledge, action, and devotion.

His comments came at a time when the Indian economy recorded a better-than-expected growth rate of 7.80 per cent in the April-June quarter of the current fiscal, the highest in the last five quarters before the imposition of tariffs by the US.

Addressing a gathering after releasing Madhya Pradesh minister Prahlad Singh Patel's book 'Parikrama Kripa Saar' in Indore, Bhagwat said there was no global strife when India was the world leader for 3,000 years. At that time, the environment was never deteriorated, technological progress was at a high level and human life was happy and cultured, he said.

"In that era, we led the world, but did not conquer any country (by attacking) and did not suppress any country's trade. We did not convert anyone's religion. Wherever we went, we spread our civilisation and improved the lives

of people by imparting knowledge and scriptures. Then all the countries had their own identity, but there was a good dialogue between them. This (dialogue) is not there today," he said. He further stated that personal interests were responsible for conflicts in the world,



which created all the problems. Mr Bhagwat said the forefathers of the Indian people had shown several paths through different sects and traditions, teaching how to maintain the balanced stream of knowledge, action, and devotion in life.

'Over 300 Assurances Implemented': MK Stalin On DMK's Poll Promises

Chennai. (Agency)

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Sunday sought to counter criticism from opposition parties and actor-politician Vijay's Tamizhaga Vettai Kazhagam (TVK) over unfulfilled poll promises, releasing what he described as the DMK government's report card on assurances made in 2021. Speaking at a government programme in Krishnagiri, Mr Stalin listed both manifesto commitments and flagship schemes launched outside the DMK's poll promises to argue that his government had delivered more than what was assured.

364 promises implemented, 40 under consideration'



Model schemes. But some want to hide these achievements and spread lies. They don't know anything beyond that," Mr Stalin charged.

On NEET exemption

Responding to criticism on the DMK's key promise of securing exemption

from the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET), the Chief Minister admitted it remained unfulfilled.

"On NEET, we are unable to fulfill it yet. We don't deny that. We enacted a law, but it was blocked by the Governor. In 2024, we hoped there would be a supportive government at the Centre - Rahul Gandhi had assured us of exemption. But the BJP formed a minority government instead. This anti-people government won't last. I assure you that with a supportive government at the Centre, Tamil Nadu will get NEET exemption," he said.

Regulations Should Foster Innovations, Not Wipe Them Out: N Sitharaman

Nirmala Sitharaman emphasised the need for regulations that foster technology innovation in a responsible manner.

Guwahati. (Agency)
Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Monday emphasised the need for regulations that foster technology innovation in a responsible manner, particularly in artificial intelligence (AI), rather than stifling it. The government is determined to not only adopt AI technologies but also ensure their responsible application across various sectors, she said while releasing the report 'AI for Viksit Bharat: The Opportunity for Accelerated Economic Growth'. "We do not want regulation that literally wipe out technology itself. We want regulations because we want a responsible application," she said after releasing the report prepared by Niti Aayog here. "AI is



a rapidly progressing, real time, dynamic thing, and therefore all of us will have to be conscious that we don't sit back on the ethic as AI can also have its challenges," she said. The challenge not just in jobs, but also in a way in which these can be misused which can have repercussions

for the society, she added. According to the report, projections show that while AI will create many new roles, it will also displace many existing jobs, particularly in clerical, routine, and low-skill segments. For India, the challenge would be twofold - preparing a workforce with advanced digital and AI skills to capture new opportunities, while simultaneously ensuring that those displaced are gainfully employed through reskilling, redeployment, or absorption into other growth sectors of the economy. Finally, productivity gains and innovation must match market creation to translate into growth, it said, adding, India would need to simultaneously deepen.

News box

Haryana to fund education of 2.3k students from EWS families**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

In a push to support underprivileged yet academically bright students, Haryana School Education Board (HSEB) rolled out a state-wide scholarship scheme for students govt and govt-aided school students. The initiative aims to benefit 2,337 students across the state, offering financial aid from Class IX to XII. Under the scheme, students currently in Class VIII who come from financially weaker backgrounds will be eligible to apply. Those selected will receive 1,000 per month for four years, providing support to help them continue their education without financial hindrances. The selection process will include a written examination conducted under the Board's "National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship" scheme, scheduled for 30 Nov 2025. The last date to apply online is 15 Oct 2025. Dr Pawan Kumar, chairman of the board, stated that the initiative is designed to ensure that "students with merit do not drop out of school due to financial hardship." He added that the scheme reflects the state govt's commitment to inclusive education and academic excellence.

Although only 50 students will be selected from the city, the scheme has a broader scope, with 2,337 students across Haryana set to benefit from the scholarship.

To apply, students must submit their applications through the Board's official website along with the necessary documents to prove eligibility, including income and caste certificates where applicable. Officials believe the scholarship will motivate more students in govt schools to focus on academics and stay enrolled through senior secondary school.

5 held for kidnapping businessman's son after gunfight in Greater Noida**Noida. (Agency)**

Days after a 25-year-old man went missing, he was rescued after an encounter, following which five kidnappers were arrested. According to Greater Noida police, the accused have been identified as Mohit Gupta and Sumit Kumar, residents of Farrukhabad; Alok Yadav and Shyam Sundar from Kannauj; and Nimay Sharma, a resident of Exotica Dreamville in Noida Extension. During the cross-firing, two accused — Alok and Mohit — received bullet injuries. The other three accused were arrested during the combing of the area. The accused — who hid Shashank Gupta in different hotels in Gurgaon, Delhi and Kannauj in different cars — had demanded Rs 4 crore from the victim's father. On Sept 9, Gupta, son of stone trader Manish Gupta from Nehru Nagar (Ghaziabad), went missing. His Baleno car was found abandoned in front of a private university in the Dankaur area on Yamuna Expressway. A senior police officer said that a woman of the gang, who is currently absconding, met the youth through social media platforms.

The victim and the woman knew each other for some days and the victim informed her that his father is a well-known businessman in Ghaziabad. They exchanged numbers and the woman called Shashank on Sept 9 to meet. Later, the woman and other accused kidnapped the boy. Investigation revealed that a few days back, when the suspects visited Gupta's marble office for some work, they observed that he was rich. Following this, they planned a kidnapping to demand a Rs 4 crore ransom and involved a woman in their plan," said an officer, adding that on Sept 9, when Gupta met the woman in Indirapuram, she took him to Yamuna Expressway on the pretext of meeting a relative who would pick her up from there. "When Gupta and the woman reached Yamuna Expressway in Dankaur and she alighted from the car, the five men in another car overpowered and kidnapped him. Gupta was taken to one of the suspects' relatives' homes in Chhibrampur, Kannauj," said the officer.

Supply water to Wish Town flats in 2 weeks, High Court tells Noida**Noida. (Agency)**

The Allahabad high court has asked Noida Authority to provide water connections to Wish Town within two weeks, provided the developer — Jaypee Infratech Limited (JIL) — submits a renewable bank guarantee of Rs 60 crore. The order, delivered on Thursday by a division bench of Justices Shekhar B Saraf and Praveen Kumar Giri, also stayed the recovery of Rs 23 crore in disputed charges until the next hearing.

The bench was hearing a writ petition filed by JIL, which challenged the Authority's demand for external development charges related to the supply of treated Ganga water. The dispute dates back to a concession agreement signed on April 7, 2003, between JIL and the then Taj Expressway Industrial Development Authority (now Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority, or YEIDA), for the construction of the 160km Yamuna Expressway between Noida and Agra. Under this agreement, JIL was allotted 25 million sqm for development, including Wish Town spread across sectors 128, 129, 131, 133, 134, and 151 in Noida.

The controversy surrounds Clause 7.2.1(j) of the agreement, which states that external development work like water, electricity, and drainage for developed land released by the authority "shall be by TEA (now YEIDA) without any cost to the concessionaire". For undeveloped land, YEIDA's responsibility was limited to assistance "on best effort basis" without bearing any cost, while internal development was to be carried out by JIL. JIL argued that the responsibility of providing water supply rested with YEIDA, and that the developer was only liable for internal infrastructure. Noida Authority, however, insisted that JIL must bear the cost of water connections for land released after the agreement. YEIDA, in its submission, clarified that its obligation was limited to land already developed by Noida or Greater Noida and subsequently transferred. The dispute intensified when — on March 15, 2023 — Noida Authority raised a demand of Rs 140 crore from JIL for water and sewer connections.

As school buses trigger traffic gridlocks in Gurgaon, parents & schools blame poor plans, lack of parking spaces**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

Traffic is leanest in the afternoon, but on city roads, the likelihood of getting caught in snarls is almost as high between 1pm and 3pm as it would be in the morning on weekdays. Primary triggers for these traffic gridlocks are school exits, where buses line up to pick students. Without adequate parking areas that have the capacity to accommodate all their buses on campuses, most schools force them to wait on roadsides and reach the gate just before classes break for the day. What follows is predictable — congestion, honking and frayed tempers. Parents blame poor planning, limited parking, and a lack of coordination among schools, police, and residents for the problem, which is made worse by the small size of most school campuses. In Gurgaon, Faridabad and Panchkula, land norms allow primary schools on 0.5 acres and secondary schools on 1 acre, leaving most schools without playgrounds or proper bus parking. "The planning is poor, and schools aren't given parking outside their premises," says Col Pratap Singh,

chairman of HPSC and CCA schools. Most schools on small plots of 1.5 to 2 acres can't fit many buses, he says, adding, "Unlike abroad, our planners have messed it up." The impact is felt across the city. During rush hours, buses block lanes and traffic marshals are often absent. Sandeep, a parent from Sector 102, says, "In highrises, buses enter the gates for pick-up and drop, causing congestion at entry and exit points. On main roads, they occupy entire lanes and lead to massive traffic jams." Another parent, Sunil Sareen, points out that schools such as DPS in Sector 103, Prime Scholar, Heritage, and Gurugram Global lack proper parking facilities. "At dispersal time, every road close to schools gets choked. Wrong-side driving and minor accidents happen very often," he says. The crisis has also led to blame-game among schools, residents and cops.

Captain JS Yadav (retired), director at Gyan Devi Senior Secondary School, says, "Our school is surrounded by residential buildings. Residents have encroached on nearby areas and they park their cars

there, leaving no space for our buses or staff members' vehicles." In Sector 4, where several schools operate along a single stretch, the situation is similar. "Around 10,000 children travel on these roads every day. When we're asked to move the buses from one side to clear the way, residents immediately park their cars there. There are daily arguments, and it's unsafe for children to board buses amid such chaos," Col Singh says. Parents like Sareen are concerned about safety. "We are worried about safety of children. Vehicles often drive on the wrong side to avoid traffic, and there have been incidents where children were hit," Sareen says. Schools and parents have suggested solutions — from staggered timings to designated parking zones — but little has changed. Traffic police claim they respond to complaints but insist that schools need to manage their schedules better. Captain Yadav says, "In Sector 17, we're willing to pay rent if HSV or the RWA allows us to use the open space they've blocked. This could be a solution to the chaos that erupts twice everyday."

Col Singh believes schools should be permitted to use space within their boundaries for safe parking, without interference, and Sareen suggests a redesign of school campuses. "Every school should have a proper entry and exit for buses. At the moment, only a few schools follow that," Sareen says. Sarika Rahul, principal of DPS Sector 103, claims the school's buses are mostly kept inside the campus. "They only come out for pickup and drop," she says, adding even parents who come to pick and drop their kids on foot use designated entry and exit gates. "It's not safe to keep buses outside in this area," she adds. Meanwhile, DCP (traffic) Rajesh Mohan says additional personnel are deployed near schools during peak hours and promised to review the situation. However, a recent inspection of 538 school buses in Gurgaon revealed widespread violations of the Surakshit School Vahan Policy, with 31 challans issued for the same. Many of the 2,600 buses serving 500 private schools were found with missing GPS, faulty emergency exits.

Foresters dismantle roads to protected Faridabad Aravalis in crackdown against illegal mining**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

The forest department has destroyed around a dozen unauthorised roads leading into protected Aravalí forests in Anangpur and Mewla Maharaipur villages of Faridabad as part of govt's fresh crackdown on illegal mining and encroachments. The department over the weekend dug up 10-15 illegal entry points that had been gradually carved out by tractors, trucks and private vehicles to access forest tracts falling under special sections of Punjab Land Preservation Act (PLPA). These breaches often serve as conduits for illegal mining, dumping waste and encroachments. "Blocking these unauthorised routes is necessary to protect forest land and prevent further environmental damage. We will continue similar interventions across vulnerable stretches of the Aravalis," Surender Dangi, Faridabad's divisional forest officer, said on Sunday. Dangi said unchecked entries into protected forests were one of the main reasons for repeated violations in the region. The targeted areas fall under sections 4 and 5 of PLPA,

which prohibit non-forest activities without prior approval. These provisions make the notified areas legally equivalent to deemed forests.

The Aravalí belt spanning Faridabad and



Gurgaon has been exploited for years. Despite a blanket ban imposed by the Supreme Court, illegal excavation, tree felling and land-use changes continue to plague the region. Forest corridors in Anangpur, Mangar, Kot and Mewla Maharaipur — all in Faridabad — are particularly vulnerable because of their proximity to urban settlements and major roads, making them easy targets for

trespassing and mining. Earlier this year, Nuh's Basai Meo village came under scrutiny after revelations of illegal road construction and mining on forest and agricultural land, directly contravening Supreme Court directives. A Central Empowered Committee report confirmed illegal construction of a 1.5km road. In July, authorities blocked two illegal roads in the village by planting around 7,500 saplings. Environmentalists welcomed the crackdown but warned that sporadic actions would not suffice.

"Aravalis are already under tremendous pressure. Blocking access points is a good start, but unless there is continuous monitoring, violators will find new ways in. What we need is permanent fencing, patrols, and accountability of officials on the ground," said activist Vaishali Rana. Another activist S Oberoi added: "Every new approach roads are carved out, it fragments the forest even further. If the state is serious about protecting these lands, it must ensure that once blocked, these entry points remain closed and no fresh breaches are allowed."

FIR against OSB director, associate for forgery, fraudulent cancellations in Haryana**Gurgaon. (Agency)**

In fresh trouble for real estate developer Ocean Seven Buildtech Pvt Ltd, an FIR was registered against company's director Sawraj Singh and associate Sanjeev Kumar for alleged fraud, forgery and violation of licence conditions in their affordable housing project.

This is the second FIR — filed on Sept 3 — in the matter. According to the complaint lodged by the district town planner (enforcement), the developer is accused of fraudulently cancelling units of an affordable group housing project without following the provisions of the state's affordable housing policy dated Aug 19, 2013. During an enquiry conducted on Sept 1 with the developer and allottees, it was discovered that the documents submitted by the builder's representative were fabricated to mislead proceedings.

An e-paper copy of a newspaper notice presented during the meeting was found to be forged, the FIR says. The second FIR,



registered at Sector 14 police station, invokes sections 406, 420, 467, 468, 471 of BNS with police appointing SI Dalbir as the investigating officer. Officials said the repeated violations suggest a pattern of fraudulent practices, with both FIRs now under active investigation. "The developer

not only violated licence norms but also attempted to deceive the enquiry committee with forged documents," the complaint notes. The case has sparked growing concerns among homebuyers, several of whom have approached the authorities demanding strict action and a refund of their investments. Senior DTCP officials confirmed the matter has been escalated to the director general (town and country planning, Haryana) for further monitoring. Police said investigation is underway and action will be taken based on evidence collected. This comes just weeks after the first FIR against Ocean Seven Buildtech, lodged in Aug, where the developer was booked under similar charges following allegations by allottees of non-delivery of units, policy violations and irregularities in project execution.

NBCC seeks nod to demolish six more unsafe towers at Green View in Gurgaon**Noida. (Agency)**

State-run NBCC (India) Ltd is pushing for demolishing the remaining unsafe towers and structures at Green View housing project in Sector 37D.

The company — which had razed a part of the project after the complex was declared uninhabitable in 2022 — has sought fresh permission from the department of town and country planning (DTCP) for razing six more towers. Earlier this year, DTCP permitted the demolition of three towers — E, F and G — which are already at an advanced stage of dismantling. NBCC officials said timely approval is crucial to prevent any mishap as the structures are in a precarious condition. In a letter dated Sept 9, NBCC's real estate division urged the district town planner (enforcement) to grant approval for the demolition of towers A, B, C and D, along with two EWS blocks, a school, shopping complex and an underground tank. The company said in its communication, "Considering the uninhabitable status of the complex and the risk of structural collapse, urgent controlled demolition of the balance buildings is required to avoid danger to life and property." A DTCP official confirmed receipt of the letter and said the matter is under examination. "We will take a call on the request soon, considering safety concerns and the interest of allottees," he added. Green View project, launched under licence number 11 of 2009, had over 700 units, of which 255 were sold. Following a Feb 2022 order by the District Disaster Management Authority, the complex was declared unsafe, leading to the eviction of residents. Since then, NBCC has been paying monthly rentals to buyers who opted for reconstruction. According to NBCC, of the 255 buyers, 160 chose refunds, 78 opted for reconstruction, while 17 are still finalising their options. For EWS allottees, most have agreed to reconstruction. The company assured that rentals would continue until new flats are built and handed over.

In Ghaziabad, cop who used his network to operate a gang of vehicle thieves suspended**Ghaziabad. (Agency)**

A head constable attached to Loni police station was suspended after he was found to be running a gang of vehicle thieves who operated across Delhi-NCR.

Manish Kumar Chauhan, police said, is currently on the run. Originally from Muzaffarnagar, Chauhan joined the police force in 2006 and slowly built a reputation for himself as a "diligent cop". But according to police, he was not merely an accessory but a key orchestrator in the gang — using his insider knowledge and authority to direct its operations. The veil was lifted off the network on Aug 31, when a joint team from Link Road police station and the crime branch arrested two members of the Salmani gang after a gunfight. Among those caught were Farukh Salmani, who ran the gang along with Chauhan, and his associate Sehanwaz alias Golu. Their arrest led to further detentions, with four more gang members — Chand, Sufiyana, Uwesh, and Brijmohan — taken into custody. Seven stolen vehicles were recovered during the operation. During questioning, Salmani — known across NCR as the "doctor of vehicles" — named Chauhan as a crucial player in the



gang. This revelation prompted an internal investigation, which found evidence of the head constable's involvement. DCP (rural) Surendra Nath Tiwari confirmed that Chauhan had links with Salmani and his role in multiple car thefts had led to his suspension on Saturday. Police said Chauhan would use WhatsApp to specify which vehicles the gang should target. Once stolen, the cars were delivered to locations chosen by the cop, including a factory in Muradnagar and a vacant plot near Kaushambi bus stand. Salmani told police that after the

gang delivered the vehicles, Chauhan would leverage his police network to ensure their safe handover to buyers. The stolen cars were trafficked to various neighbouring states, including Delhi, Haryana, Punjab, and Rajasthan.

The Salmani gang, according to cops, was active in the region for over a decade, stealing thousands of vehicles. Chauhan allegedly joined the gang as an informer five years ago, gradually rising to a leadership position alongside Salmani. His dual role as both a law enforcer and lawbreaker allowed the gang to operate

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Govt mulls microchip for dogs, action plan for rabies control

The Sikh Times

New Delhi: The Delhi government on Wednesday announced a series of major initiatives for animal welfare, including microchip for around one million street dogs across the city in collaboration with the United Nations Development

Cops foil murder plot, arrest 2 Kala Jathedi gang associates

New Delhi: The police foiled a conspiracy to kill a rival over a dispute in Narela by arresting two associates of the Kala Jathedi gang and recovering firearms, they said on Wednesday. On September 5, the special staff received information about a conspiracy being hatched to target a man over a dispute regarding the ownership of a water treatment plant in Prem Colony, Narela. Based on the input, the police laid a trap near Saboli Border and intercepted two suspects riding a motorcycle. During checking, the police recovered a country-made pistol and live cartridges from them. The police took the accused into custody and a case under the Arms Act was registered against them at the Narela police station. During interrogation, Sahil revealed that he procured a sophisticated .30 bore pistol with cartridges through associates of jailed gangster Akshay Palada. Acting on information, the police recovered the concealed weapon from his water treatment plant in Prem Colony, Narela. Officials said raids had been carried out at several places to identify the sources of the illegal firearms and dismantle the wider supply network. Police records show that Sahil Khatri, a resident of Shahpur Garhi, has no previous criminal record, while his associate Akshat Khatri from Narela had earlier been arrested in an Arms Act case and was recently released on bail.

Delivery man takes child hostage, forces woman to undress in Noida

New Delhi: A 22-year-old delivery man has been arrested in Noida for allegedly coercing a woman to remove her clothes by holding a knife to her child's neck, recording her explicit videos and circulating them on social media, police said on Friday. The accused, identified as Gaurav from the Gulistanpuri village, used to deliver milk and groceries to the woman's home. According to the police, the accused forcibly entered the house one day while the woman's children were asleep. He allegedly held a knife to her son's neck and compelled her to undress while he filmed the incident on his mobile phone. In her complaint to the police, she alleged that the accused eventually shared the videos with her husband and uploaded some clips on social media.

During investigation, the police arrested Gaurav from the Surajpur area on Wednesday and recovered a mobile phone from him. A case under Sections 76 (assault or use of criminal force to a woman with intent to disrobe) and 351 (criminal intimidation) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), along with Section 67 of the Information Technology (IT) Act, which pertains to the publication or transmission of obscene material in electronic form, has been registered against the accused.

NAME CHANGE

I, VINEET KUMAR UPADHYAY S/o RAM PRAKASH R/o House No. 656, Street No. 8, Block - E 1st, Golden Star Modern School, Nehru Vihar, Dayalpur, Gopal Pur, North East Delhi - 110094, have changed the name of my minor son SASHANK UPADHYAY aged 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as MADHAV UPADHYAY.

NAME CHANGE

I, M. K. RATHOR S/o Sh. OM PARKASH R/o H.NO.34-A, Gali No.1, Near Anu Park, Shakar Pur, Delhi-110029, have changed my name to MANOJ KUMAR permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHARJNIT KAUR W/O GURUMUKH SINGH R/o H-1068, T-7B, FARIDABAD-121006, HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO SHARJEET KAUR FOR ALL PURPOSE

NAME CHANGE

I, GURMEET KAUR W/O GURMEJ SINGH R/o H-2593,23 MAIN BAZAR CHOWK PRAGDASS AMRITSIR PUNJAB-143001 HAVE CHANGE MY NAME TO GURJEET KAUR FOR ALL PURPOSE

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, Ruby D/O C-1243, SARITA VIHAR J J COLONY MADAN PUR KHADAR, Sarita Vihar S.O. South Delhi, Deli - 110076, declare that name of mine and my family has been wrongly written as Ruby Kumar and Raj kishore in my OBC record. The actual name of mine and my father are RUBY AND RAJ KISHOR, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, ALOK KUMAR PANDEY S/o ANIL KUMAR PANDEY, R/o C-3/322, Upper Ground Floor, Near Rath Wala Mandir, Yamuna Vihar, Delhi-110053, have changed the name of my minor daughter PRISHA PANDEY alias CHAVISHKA PANDEY, aged 9 years and she shall hereafter be known as CHAVISHKA PANDEY

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, SURINDER KUMAR S/o Sh. RAM PHAL, Residing at A-13A, 3rd Floor, Shivaji Vihar, Tagore Garden, West Delhi, Delhi-110027, have changed the name of my minor daughter namely DIVYAKSHI aged 13 years and she shall hereafter be known as DIVYAKSHI GAUTAM.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients, Smt. Sunam Devi, W/o Sh. Satya Prakash, R/o House No. F1/26D, Gali No. 7, Near Star Gold Public School, Sangam Vihar, New Delhi-110080, hereby declare that they have severed all relations with their elder son Ravi Gupta and his wife Jyoti Gupta due to their disobedience, cruel behaviour, and bad habits. They have been disowned from all movable and immovable properties and assets of my clients. Henceforth, my clients shall not be responsible or liable for any acts, deeds, or dealings carried out by the said persons.

AKASH GUPTA Advocate
Chamber No. 624, Lawyers Block
Saket Court New Delhi-110071

Programme (UNDP) over the next two years. The decisions were taken at a meeting of the Delhi Animal Welfare Board, chaired by Development Minister Kapil Mishra at the Delhi Secretariat. Senior officials from the Animal Husbandry Department, NDMC, MCD and other

departments were also present. Addressing the meeting, Mishra said, "During the previous government's tenure, the Animal Welfare Board did not meet for several years. Today, this meeting has been convened to address all pending issues of the Board. Adequate funds are being provided to ensure that animal welfare work

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NEWS BOX

"Kill Them": Fox & Friends Host On "Mentally Ill Homeless People", Apologises**World. (Agency)**

A host for the conservative Fox & Friends talk show apologised on Sunday for stating that homeless mentally ill people should be given lethal injections, saying his remark had been "extremely callous."

The comment by Brian Kilmeade triggered widespread criticism. During a Wednesday segment about the murder of a Ukrainian woman in North Carolina, Kilmeade's co-host Lawrence Jones said mentally ill homeless people should accept treatment programs or be jailed. Kilmeade added: "Or, involuntary lethal injection - or something. Just kill them."

A 34-year-old man with a long criminal record has been charged with the woman's murder. His mother told local television that she previously had him involuntarily committed and that he was diagnosed with schizophrenia. "I apologize for that extremely callous remark," Kilmeade said on air. "I am obviously aware that not all mentally ill, homeless people act as the perpetrator did in North Carolina, and that so many homeless people deserve our empathy and compassion." Fox & Friends airs on Fox News, which did not respond immediately to a request for comment.

"India Sells Everything To Us But Won't Buy Our Corn": Top US Official**New York/Washington. (Agency)**

India brags about having 1.4 billion people but won't buy even a small amount of American corn, Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick has said, asserting that New Delhi must bring down its tariffs or face a "tough time" doing business with the US.

Lutnick made the comments during an interview on Saturday when he was asked whether the US is mismanaging "very valuable relationships" with "important allies" like India, Canada and Brazil with the tariffs imposed on these countries. "The relationship is one way, they sell to us and take advantage of us. They block us from their economy, and they sell to us while we are wide open for them to come in (and) take advantage," Lutnick said. "The president says, 'fair and reciprocal trade,'" he added.

"India brags that they have 1.4 billion people. Why won't 1.4 billion people buy one bushel of US corn? Doesn't that rub you the wrong way that they sell everything to us and they won't buy our corn. They put tariffs on everything," Lutnick said. He added that President Donald Trump has said "bring down your tariffs, treat us the way we treat you". The commerce secretary further said "we've got to right years of wrong so we want a tariff going the other way until we fix this". "That's the president's model, and you either accept it or you're going to have a tough time doing business with the world's greatest consumer," Lutnick said. The Trump administration has imposed 50 per cent tariffs on India, including 25 per cent for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, among the highest imposed on any country in the world. India has described the US action as "unfair, unjustified and unreasonable". Defending its purchase of Russian crude oil, India has been maintaining that its energy procurement is driven by national interest and market dynamics.

China Deploys Military Veterans In Kindergartens And Schools In Tibet: Exclusive**World. (Agency)**

China has launched a new pilot programme deploying Chinese military veterans in state-run boarding schools to indoctrinate Tibetan children as young as four with military training and political education, according to Tibet Watch report, exclusively accessed by . The pilot programme, which began with 13 veterans stationed at seven schools in Nagchu, represents Beijing's most direct militarisation yet of Tibetan education, targeting children at their most impressionable age in a region already subjected to intense surveillance, language restrictions and forced cultural transformation. State-run TV depicted Tibetan children marching in fatigues, raising the red flag on a parade ground, and practising diving for cover under their desks with notebooks on their heads in a 'civil defence' drill. Kindergarten children are shown listening to 'red stories' that glorify the achievements of the People's Liberation Army and emphasise loyalty to Xi Jinping and the Communist Party. The new programme features school-based military instructors teaching in primary and secondary schools, as well as kindergartens in Sernye District in Nagchu (Chinese: Naqu) in the Tibet Autonomous Region, an area that has been subjected to a deepening crackdown particularly since periods of courageous Tibetan resistance in 2013 and earlier. State media coverage The programme is an outcome of the recently amended National Defense Education Law, which was passed by the National People's Congress Standing Committee, China's top legislature, and came into effect in September 2024.

In December, temperatures fall to minus 20 in Nagchu before dawn, when soldiers are depicted in state media coverage waking up children to raise the Party flag at Sernye District No. 2 (Hangjia) Middle School - a ceremony described as "the most solemn" in the school. A young boy who is part of the newly formed National Flag Guard is cited as saying that the military instructors "are very strict with us". A Tibetan mother, noticeably nervous, appears in the official documentary about the pilot programme praising the military teachers and saying that her children have shown improvement in their discipline and motivation. Pema Tashi, a Tibetan military instructor stationed at Kindergarten No. 5, said that the soldiers' emphasis on 'red' education was "taking root in young minds...like seeds sown quietly".

Qatar PM urges world to reject 'double standards' and punish Israel**Prime Minister Sheikh****Mohammed bin Abdulrahman****Al Thani warns Israel's Gaza operations will fail, as Arab and Islamic leaders prepare for Monday's high-stakes meeting****DOHA. (Agency)**

Qatar's prime minister urged the international community on Sunday to reject "double standards" and hold Israel accountable, speaking on the eve of an emergency summit called in response to an unprecedented Israeli strike on Hamas members in Doha. The deadly attack -- carried out by one US ally on the territory of another -- sparked a wave of criticism, including a rebuke from President Donald

Trump, who nonetheless dispatched Secretary of State Marco Rubio to Israel in a show of support. Monday's emergency gathering of Arab and Islamic leaders will serve as a pointed show of unity among Gulf countries and seek to pile more pressure on Israel, which is already facing mounting calls to bring an end to the war and humanitarian crisis in Gaza. "The time has come for the international community to stop using double standards and to punish Israel for all the crimes it has committed," Qatari premier Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani told a preparatory meeting on Sunday, adding Israel's "war of extermination" in Gaza would not succeed. "What is encouraging Israel to continue... is the silence, the inability of the international community to hold it accountable." Among the leaders expected at Monday's summit are Iranian President Masoud Pesheshian, Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. Palestinian president Mahmud Abbas arrived in Doha on Sunday. It remains to be seen whether Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman,

Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler, will attend the gathering. According to Qatar's foreign ministry spokesman, Majed al-Ansari, Monday's meeting will consider "a draft resolution on the Israeli attack on the State



of Qatar".

Rein in Israel'

Turkish Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan told Al Jazeera on Sunday that the question of Israel's behaviour "is no longer just a Palestine-Israel issue". "The biggest problem right now is Israeli expansionism in the region," he said. "Arab and Islamic countries must come together and find a solution based on this newly defined

problem." Elham Fakhro, a fellow of Harvard's Middle East Initiative, said she expected Gulf states to "use the summit to call on Washington to rein in Israel".

"They will also seek stronger US security guarantees, on the basis that Israel's actions expose the inadequacy of current assurances and have undermined US credibility as a security partner," she added. Middle East lecturer Karim Bitar, of Paris's Sciences Po University, called the gathering a "litmus test" for Arab and Muslim leaders, saying many of their constituents were "sick and tired of the old-style communiques". "What they are expecting today is that these countries... send a very important signal not only to Israel but also to the United States that time has come for the international community to stop giving this blank check to Israel," he said. Qatar hosts the largest US military base in the region, and plays a key mediation role in the Israel-Hamas war, alongside the United States and Egypt. Sheikh Mohammed had dinner on Friday with President Trump while visiting the United States.

No Regrets': Wounded Nepalis Protesters Proud At Change**Nepal. (Agency)**

University student Aditya Rawal was outside Nepal's parliament with hundreds of other anti-corruption protesters when gunfire crackled and 14 people slumped down in front of him. One was his university friend, and as he dashed forward to help -- with his hands up -- bullets smashed into him too. "I heard somewhere that if you raise both hands, they will not shoot you," Rawal, a 22-year-old digital marketer, told AFP as he lay on a bed in the capital Kathmandu's Civil Service Hospital.

"But I was their target."

At least 72 people were killed during chaos beginning on September 8, as youth protests under a loose "Gen Z" label rallied against a government ban on social media. "There had been so many protests in Nepal by older people, but in our 'Gen-Z' protest, they used guns", Rawal said. A day later, protests escalated, driven by economic worries and anger at government corruption.

The veteran prime minister quit and parliament and key government buildings were set on fire, before the army seized back control.

It was the country's worst unrest since the end of a decade-long civil war and



the abolition of the monarchy in 2008. On Friday, former chief justice Sushila Karki, 73, was sworn in as interim prime minister, tasked with steering Nepal to elections within six months. "Blood" Nurse Usha Khanal, 36, said her gloves were "drenched with blood" as she treated the wounded, while tear gas fired nearby seeped into the hospital itself. The Civil Service Hospital

admitted 458 injured protesters; six later died, four of them under 30 -- a stark reminder of the youth-led nature of the movement. Rawal, his leg heavily bandaged and bullet fragments lodged in his arm and stomach, said he would do it again. "If there is no change, we still have time to fight... We want a transparent government, no corruption and no dictatorship." One in five Nepalis aged 15-24 are jobless, World Bank data shows, with GDP per capita at just \$1,447 in the Himalayan nation of 30 million. Rawal's cousin, 20-year-old Puja Kunwar, has remained by his bedside. "His actions were for our nation," she said. "It really gives me courage." Changes' On the same ward, 19-year-old protester Subash Dhakal, shot in his knees, is likely to be largely bedridden for six months. The sacrifices of those who died and were injured "should not be in vain", he said. "This has toppled the government and formed a new one... we don't want the country to return to its earlier state", he said.

UK Couple, Who Lived In Tent In Extreme Cold, Jailed Over Daughter's Death**United Kingdom. (Agency)**

A British woman from an aristocratic family and her convicted rapist partner face jail Monday over the manslaughter of their newborn daughter who died while they were living off-grid in freezing temperatures. Constance Marten, 38, and Mark Gordon, 51, were arrested after a seven-week police hunt in January and February 2023 during which they spent time living in a tent. The pair were convicted in July at London's Old Bailey central criminal court, where they had faced a retrial after another jury had failed to reach a verdict on the manslaughter charge. Marten and Gordon went on the run to try and keep their daughter Victoria after authorities took their four other children into care. The couple were eventually arrested two months later, in Brighton on England's southern coast. Days afterwards, baby Victoria's badly decomposed body was found in a shopping bag on a vegetable patch. The couple also face sentencing

for perverting the course of justice, concealing the birth of a child and child cruelty. Marten had told police Victoria died when she fell asleep in the tent while she was holding her under her jacket. Speaking after the pair were



convicted, Detective Superintendent Lewis Basford of the Metropolitan Police said their "selfish actions" had resulted in the death of a "newborn baby who should have had the rest of her life ahead of her".

He said the conviction was a vindication of the authorities' decision to take Marten's four other children into care.

Born into a life of wealth and privilege, Marten grew up in a 25-room mansion on a vast estate in Dorset in southwest England. Her aristocratic family had strong links to the royal family. Her grandmother was a childhood friend of the late Queen Elizabeth II, for whom Marten's father also served as a page boy. Gordon's early life, by contrast, was far from privileged and marked by violence. In 1989, at the age of 14, he beat a woman against her will in Florida for more than four hours and raped her while armed with a "knife and hedge clippers", prosecutors told the London court. Within a month, he entered another property and carried out another offence involving aggravated battery. He was sentenced to 40 years in jail but was released after serving 22 years. In 2017, Gordon was also convicted of assaulting two female police officers at a maternity unit in Wales where Marten gave birth to their first child under a fake identity.

Trump condemns brutal beheading of Indian man by illegal immigrant, says time for being 'soft' is over**world. (Agency)**

US President Donald Trump has vowed that his administration will not be "soft" on illegal immigrant criminals following the gruesome killing of 50-year-old Indian national Chandra Nagamallaiah, who was beheaded in front of his wife and son at a motel in Dallas, Texas. In a detailed post on his Truth Social platform, Trump said:

"I am aware of the terrible reports regarding the murder of Chandra Nagamallaiah, a well-respected person in Dallas, Texas, who was brutally beheaded, in front of his wife and son, by an ILLEGAL ALIEN from Cuba who should have never been in our Country. This individual was previously arrested for terrible crimes, including child sex abuse, grand theft auto, and false imprisonment, but was released back into our Homeland under incompetent Joe Biden because Cuba did not want such an evil person in their Country. Rest assured, the time for being soft on these Illegal Immigrant Criminals is OVER under my watch! Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, Attorney General Pam Bondi, Border Czar Tom Homan, and many others in my Administration, are doing an incredible job in MAKING AMERICA SAFE AGAIN. This criminal, who we have in custody, will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the Law. He will be charged with murder in the first degree!" Trump added that the accused would face the harshest legal consequences and that his administration, led by Secretary of Homeland Security Kristi Noem, Attorney General Pam Bondi, and Border Czar Tom Homan, was committed to "making America safe again."

The attack took place on September 10 at the Downtown Suites motel in Dallas, where both Nagamallaiah and Cobos-Martinez were employed. According to the Dallas Police arrest affidavit, Nagamallaiah told Cobos-Martinez and a female colleague not to use a broken washing machine. Cobos-Martinez allegedly became angry when Nagamallaiah asked the colleague to translate his request instead of speaking directly to him. Video shows the suspect then exited the motel room and produced a machete from his person and started cutting and stabbing the complainant multiple times," the affidavit states. Disturbing footage circulating on social media shows Nagamallaiah screaming and running through the motel's parking lot before being chased down and repeatedly struck with the weapon.

Utah governor says the motive in Kirk shooting is not yet certain but the suspect was on the left**WASHINGTON. (Agency)**

Family and friends of the 22-year-old accused of fatally shooting conservative activist Charlie Kirk described his politics as veering left in recent years as he spent large amounts of time scrolling the "dark corners of the internet," Utah Gov. Spencer Cox said Sunday. Investigators were still piecing together information about the suspect, Tyler Robinson, and not yet ready to discuss a potential motive. But Cox noted that Robinson, who is not cooperating with law enforcement, disliked Kirk and may have been "radicalized" online. Kirk founded Turning Point USA to bring more young, conservative evangelical Christians into politics as effective activists, and he was a confidant of President Donald Trump, leading to a flood of tributes that included a vigil Sunday night at the Kennedy Center in Washington. Kirk, a 31-year-old father of two, became prominent in part through his speaking tours, and he was shot Wednesday while speaking at Utah Valley University.

"There clearly was a leftist ideology," Cox said on NBC's "Meet the Press," citing interviews with Robinson's relatives and acquaintances. "Friends have confirmed that there was kind of that deep, dark internet, the Reddit culture, and these other dark places of the internet where this person was going deep."

He pointed to references found engraved on the ammunition used to kill Kirk, which included anti-fascist and meme-culture language. Court records show that one bullet casing had the message, "Hey, fascist! Catch!" A Republican who has called on all partisans to tone down their rhetoric following the attack, the governor added: "I really don't have a dog in this fight. If this was a radicalized MAGA person, I'd be saying that as well."

Utah's governor says a motive still isn't pinned down. Cox stressed on several Sunday morning news shows that investigators are still trying to pin down a motive for the attack on Kirk, a Trump confidant. The governor said more information may come out once Robinson



appears in court Tuesday.

Cox said the suspect's partner was transgender, which some politicians have pointed to as a sign Robinson was targeting Kirk for his anti-transgender views. But authorities have not said whether it is relevant as they investigate Robinson's motive. "The roommate was a romantic partner, a male transitioning to female," Cox said. "I can say that he has been incredibly cooperative, this partner has been very cooperative, had no idea that this was happening." Investigators have spoken to Robinson's relatives and carried out a

search warrant at his family's home in Washington, Utah, about 240 miles (390 kilometers) southwest of Utah Valley University. State records show Robinson is registered to vote but not affiliated with a political party and is listed as inactive, meaning he did not vote in the two most recent general elections. His parents are registered Republicans.

The suspect grew up in southwestern Utah
Robinson grew up around St. George, in the southwestern corner of Utah between Las Vegas and natural landmarks including Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks. He became a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, known widely as the Mormon church, at a young age, church spokesperson Doug Andersen said. Online activity by Robinson's mother reflects an active family that traveled widely. In one photo, a young Robinson can be seen smiling as he grips the handles of a .50-caliber heavy machine gun outside a military facility. A high school honor roll student who scored in the 99th percentile nationally on standardized tests.

Two labourers electrocuted to death, six injured at Mehsana factory



Ahmedabad . (Agency)

Two labourers were electrocuted to death and six others were injured at a tank-making factory in Tundali village of Mehsana district, on Sunday, said the police.

The incident took place when the labourers were working with a crane and it touched a live electric line of a power distribution company, said a police official familiar with the matter. The police identified the two deceased as Mahato Abhimanyu, a native of Bihar and Madhya Pradesh resident Amit Arya. Both the victims are in their mid twenties, said the police.

After getting information, a team from Lagnaj police station reached the spot. According to Lagnaj police, the incident took place around 3 pm when the eight labourers were working with a crane in the factory and it touched the live power line of the distribution company, passing nearby the factory wall, electrocuting the eight labourers two of whom died.

The six others are under treatment at a private hospital in Mehsana. Providing details of the incident, Police Inspector P J Desai said that they have registered a case of accidental death in connection with the matter and further investigations are underway.

Two workers killed in fire at fertiliser plant in Mehsana

Ahmedabad . (Agency)

Two workers were killed while two others suffered burn injuries after a fire broke out at a fertiliser plant at a village in Mehsana district in the wee hours of Sunday, police said.

The blaze erupted at the private unit located near Sametra village around 3 am, a Mehsana rural police station official said. Two persons working at the plant during night shift were charred to death, according to the police. Two other workers who were injured were rushed to a nearby hospital in a critical condition for treatment, the police said.

Police Sub-Inspector Pooja Joshi, who is investigating the case, said that the exact cause of fire is not known yet. A team of the fire brigade personnel rushed to the spot after being informed about the incident. They took about an hour to control the blaze, a Mehsana fire department official said.

The bodies of two workers were recovered after the fire was brought under control. There were six workers at the plant when the incident occurred, the fire department official added. The deceased have been identified as Manish Ravidas and Fulchand Mahadev, hailing from Bihar and Maharashtra, respectively, police said. The two injured workers have been identified as Avinash and Prince, said the police.

The Mehsana police have registered a case of Accidental Death (AD) in connection with the matter. The bodies were shifted to hospital for post-mortem examination and further probe is underway into the incident, they said. Meanwhile, another fire incident was reported from a private facility in Bharuch.

A fire broke out at the Sanghvi Organics Pvt Ltd facility in GIDC Panoli, in Bharuch district, on Sunday, said the sources. According to the Bharuch district police, the fire broke out at a chemical factory and 26 labourers were workers at the time of the incident. However, they were rescued and no casualty was reported in the incident, said the police.

According to Bharuch Superintendent of Police Akshayraj Makwana, the fire took place around 4.10 am at the factory. The exact reason of the blaze is being ascertained, said police sources.

Pendency from handwriting bureau hits 6000, slows down progress on cases from terror threat to forgery; bureau claims short staffed

Senior officials in the bureau say that while the pendency is primarily on account of staff shortage, they, however, say that they do prioritise high profile cases that need urgent redressal

Mumbai . (Agency)

Investigation into a number of major crime cases ranging from terror threats to forged signatures have been stuck for months or even years on account of pending reports from the Handwriting and Photographic Bureau — a wing of the Crime Investigation Department (CID) that plays a key role in establishing documentary evidence at the trial stage.

As sources within the department blame it on staff crunch, the pendency of cases has gone over 6,000 and the bureau is currently analysing cases pertaining to 2019-2020, except for a few high profile cases that they have taken up on urgent basis.

Significant cases

Among the significant cases that are awaiting the bureau report is the bomb threat case on a flight in March this year. A handwritten note claiming a bomb in the Mumbai-New York

Technical fault halts Mumbai Monorail, 17 passengers evacuated safely

Several areas of Mumbai saw waterlogging and traffic disruptions after heavy rain.

Mumbai . (Agency)

A technical fault disrupted Mumbai Monorail services Monday morning when a train came to a halt at Wadala near Antop Hill, briefly stranding 17 passengers. Officials said the disruption, which was reported at 7.15 am between Antop Hill Bus Depot and GTBN stations, was caused by a power supply failure.

A Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) official said, "Seventeen passengers were evacuated after a technical glitch occurred in the monorail at Wadala. The evacuation was completed safely by 7.45 am. The stranded commuters were transferred to another train that arrived from Chembur, and no injuries were

reported. By 9.30 am, all the services returned to normal."

The Fire Brigade reached the spot as a precaution while the technical team began work on detaching and towing away the affected train.

Authorities confirmed the rake will undergo a detailed inspection to identify the cause of the power supply glitch.

During the disruption, services between Sant Gadge Maharaj Chowk and Wadala were operated on a single line with minor delays, while the Wadala-Chembur stretch remained unaffected. Services towards Sant Gadge Maharaj Chowk resumed shortly after, with



full operations across the line restored by 9.30 am.

The Mumbai Monorail, a 20 km corridor linking Chembur to Sant Gadge Maharaj Chowk via Wadala, has seen multiple disruptions, especially during heavy rains in the city, since it began operations in phases in 2014. Despite being the country's only monorail service, it

continues to face technical challenges that have often raised questions about its reliability.

Waterlogging and traffic snarls

Meanwhile, several areas of Mumbai experienced waterlogging Monday morning after the city recorded over 100 mm of rainfall since Sunday morning.

Traffic was moving slowly at Dadar TT Circle due to water accumulation of half a foot to one foot. Traffic was also slow at Khar Subway (Vakola), where there was about half a foot of water, and at the Panbhai School north-bound slip road, where the water level reached one foot. In the morning, traffic was

Central Railway services remain largely unaffected despite waterlogging in Mumbai's Kurla

Central Railway officials said waterlogging in Kurla, one of the busiest junctions on the suburban network, was quickly attended to by engineering teams deployed on site.

Mumbai . (Agency)

Even as Mumbai remained on red alert due to heavy rain, train operations on all four lines of Central Railway ran largely unaffected Monday, with only minor delays reported. Officials confirmed that train services are running smoothly with an average delay of five to ten minutes.

The downpour led to waterlogging at several locations, including the Kurla station. Railway authorities, however, said timely action prevented any significant disruption to suburban services.

"The trains are running smoothly on all four lines. There is waterlogging, but it didn't disrupt our service," said P D Patil, Chief Public Relations Officer, Central Railway.

Commuters travelling on the Central line experienced slight delays, particularly during



peak hours, but crowd movement at stations remained manageable.

According to officials, the waterlogging in Kurla, one of the busiest junctions on the suburban network, was quickly attended to by engineering teams deployed on site, and the water was being continuously pumped out to

ensure track safety.

Central Railway also put its disaster management teams on alert in anticipation of further showers. Maintenance staff have been stationed at vulnerable points to monitor track conditions, and control rooms are in constant coordination with the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

The red alert issued by IMD for Mumbai and its neighbouring areas has kept civic and transport authorities on high alert. Officials said that despite the heavy rain, the prompt response by Central Railway staff helped prevent major disruptions. Officials also said that continuous monitoring will be conducted throughout the day to ensure smooth train operations. Suburban railways, considered the city's lifeline, carry over 40 lakh commuters daily on the Central line alone, making uninterrupted service crucial during monsoon emergencies.

On August 25, Alfiya* in consultation with her husband, decided to medically terminate her pregnancy a couple of weeks after a prenatal genetic testing revealed their child would be born with Thalassemia and would most certainly live a life overshadowed by blood transfusion appointments and constant care. In their late 20's, the couple after receiving the test results, spoke to several friends and family. But, a conversation with a 42-year-old Thalassemia patient, who shared her life-long struggles, ultimately convinced them to take this step.

Her husband Mohsin, who works in an IT company in Ahmedabad, said, "On one hand, I was busy with my father's cancer treatment and on the other, the suspicion, that something could go wrong with the pregnancy as my wife has always had a low haemoglobin count, was bothering me. We had an inkling that my wife could be Thalassemia minor (carrier) because her sister is, but we didn't realise that we would both turn out to be carriers. With the help of genetic testing, we got to know that our child would be born with Thalassemia. While we have convinced ourselves it was the right thing to do, we have also accepted that healing will take time."

This Ahmedabad couple is among the growing number of parents opting for prenatal genetic testing to detect inherited genetic conditions in the foetus, often classified as rare diseases with limited or costly treatment options or poor prognosis.

The most common genetic disorders for which PND is routinely being used include sickle-cell anaemia, Thalassemia, Inborn Errors of Metabolism, (IEM) disorders, neurological disorders such as Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) and Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy (DMD), as well as other uncommon genetic conditions such as cystic fibrosis.

Early diagnosis has facilitated timely medical information and provided options for prevention, such as MTP in affected cases after genetic counselling. For all foetuses with a confirmed diagnosis for a genetic disorder, the clinical management involves a multidisciplinary approach.



badge approached the two and asked them to open their bags for checking.

As per the FIR, the police found Rs 31,900 in cash and a gold piece of 14 grams. The officer allegedly took the jeweller and his daughter to a room for "inquiry" about the cash, and

threatened them with a jail term.

As per the jeweller, he was forced to sign on a paper, after which the police returned the gold and Rs 1,900, but kept Rs 30,000 with them.

The three police officers, in their plea, alleged that the FIR was filed with a delay of five days, and they were falsely implicated. According to the government lawyer, the delay occurred because the jeweller had travelled back to his hometown in Rajasthan. He contacted the police afterwards, and the case was then transferred to Mumbai, as per the government lawyer.

It was also argued that the GRP officers did not follow laid-down procedures for conducting checks, including making an entry in the register and conducting the search under CCTV surveillance instead of doing it inside a room.

While rejecting the pre-arrest bail plea, Additional Sessions Judge Prashant Kale had noted that custodial interrogation of the officers was required to bring out the truth, and if they were granted relief, they would know that they were well-protected.

Senior officials in the bureau say that while the pendency is primarily on account of staff shortage, they, however, say that they do prioritise high profile cases that need urgent redressal. The Bhiwandi resident in May this year for allegedly forging the signature of Member of Parliament Suresh Mhatre to get railway ticket confirmation from Mumbai to



Nanded. As there was suspicion when the railway staff contacted Mhatre's office, it was confirmed that the letter was not issued by him and his signature was forged. Police identified the person and a writing sample and forged letter were sent to the Handwriting Bureau but the report is still

pending. Senior officials in the bureau say that while the pendency is primarily on account of staff shortage, they, however, say that they do prioritise high profile cases that need urgent redressal. One such example is the suicide case of IIT student Darshan Solanki, who had allegedly jumped from the seventh floor of the hostel, leaving behind a suicide note allegedly blaming one of his classmates to have threatened him. In that case, the bureau submitted the report within a month clarifying that the handwriting of the note belonged to the deceased.

Oversy. Over the past decade, only 24 handwriting experts out of the 40 sanctioned staff working at the four branches — Mumbai, Pune, Nagpur and Aurangabad. While 600 cases are awaiting bureau reports in Mumbai, around 2,000 cases in Nagpur and 550 in Aurangabad are also pending. The Pune bureau tops with a pendency of around 3,000 cases.

Data shows that the pendency of cases in Mumbai has jumped exponentially over the past decade. While there were only around 35 cases pending in 2012, it now stands at 600. An officer said, "The cases increased during the pandemic and at present, around 600 cases are pending. Mumbai has only six posts of handwriting experts. The officers are being transferred on deputation within four branches as per requirement to clear pendency." The maximum cases pending are in Pune as the bureau has much bigger jurisdiction comprising Konkan range, western Maharashtra, Navi Mumbai and Thane. While Aurangabad has five experts, including the head, which covers nine districts of Marathwada area, and Nagpur has four experts covering seven districts of Vidarbha region.

How do we exit the cycle of floods and deaths

The cycles of extreme climate, alternating between floods and drought, is getting worse by the year, and there are no answers. This year, more than half the country is reeling from floods. Punjab is facing its worst deluge since 1988. Haryana, Rajasthan, and the hill states of Himachal and Uttarakhand have seen cloudbursts, and entire towns being wiped out. In neighbouring Pakistan, the northwest has suffered far worse, with millions displaced and over a 1,000 lives lost. It is not a pretty picture. Across Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Punjab and Haryana, the combined death toll has reached 500 as of September 4, 2025. Himachal is the worst with 355 deaths. In the northeast, relentless rains in June have claimed 30 lives. Every year the location and toll numbers change. Otherwise, the destruction of lives, crops and human habitation continues with sickening repetition. Somehow our planners and government departments have never really digested the old adage of geographer Gilbert F. White, who noted in 1942, "Floods are 'acts of God', but flood losses are largely acts of man."

Punjab is facing its worst floods since 1988 with nearly 2,000 villages submerged, 4 lakh acres of farm lands devastated and nearly 3.9 lakh people across 9 districts having to migrate to relief spots.

Environmental platform 'Mongabay' has documented the extent and reasons for the damage. Punjab's affected villages mainly lie along the River Ravi and lower reaches of the Beas and Sutlej. The waters swelled to unmanageable proportions due to incessant rains in upstream areas in Himachal, which has received as much as 46% above-normal rainfall till 8 September. The situation worsened with the lower catchment areas in Punjab too receiving 55% excess rain.

Environmental activists point to the shoddy management of dam waters. The excess release of water at the wrong time, is one of the principal problems. While the Centre controls the Bhakra-Beas Management Board (BBMB) that manages Bhakra and Pong dams, the Punjab government manages the Ranjit Sagar dam on the River Ravi.

In the early part of August, the release of water from these dams was kept low despite heavy rainfall in the catchment areas. This was a huge mistake.

Thereafter, Himanshu Thakkar, the coordinator of South Asia Network on Dams, Rivers and People (SANDRP), said: "They had to eventually release heavy quantities of water from August 26 onwards when Punjab was already facing floods due to local rainfall." It ultimately led to the submergence of large parts of Gurdaspur and Pathankot districts. There is rightful fury at the dam management organisations. Citizens groups have filed petitions before the National Green Tribunal (NGT), while the Himachal government has filed an F.I.R. against the dam authority accusing it of releasing excess water without warning. Significantly, the floods that ravaged the Harsil region of Uttarakhand on 5 August, wiped out riverside towns Dharali and Sukhi Top, and have claimed several lives, have a different explanation. Despite reports of cloudbursts, the Indian Meteorological Department recorded minimal rainfall. Harsil recorded only 6.5 mm of rain on the day of the disaster, while Bhatwari received just 11.5 mm over 24 hours. This is far short of what is defined as a cloudburst, which implies a massive precipitation of 100 mm or more of rainfall over 24 hours over a localized area.

This has led some experts to venture a hypothesis that it was not a cloudburst, but rather a Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) or a glacier collapse in the upper reaches that triggered the flash floods. What these experts are saying is that climate change is accelerating glacial retreat, leading to the formation and expansion of glacial lakes that can break their bonds at any time. It is also time that the state government and commercial groups be made accountable for having slaughtered trees, expanded roads and highways in the ecologically sensitive Himalayan zones.

Touchstones: Nepal and Kumaon bond

The decadent lives of Nepal's rich lords and their chiffon-clad ladies go back a long, long way

In terms of political unrest, this past week has been like none other. After the turmoil in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Bangladesh, the new hotspot in our neighbourhood is Nepal. Whoever imagined that what was a students' agitation would morph into a violent near-revolution? Several commentators have tried to see a pattern in these eruptions and pointed to the Deep State's sinister ploy to keep this part of Asia boiling. Who can say? But the resignations of the Nepali and Japanese PMs, and the wave of public protest in Indonesia do lend it some credence. Further afield is the Gaza-Israel situation and the killing of suspected Hamas leaders in Qatar. God knows where that will lead. To Europe now, and the resignation of the French Prime Minister has created another frightening spectacle of street violence in several French cities, including Paris.

As a post sent by a cousin said, the recent chandragrahan (lunar eclipse) has brought more instability than any eclipse thus far. I recall my mum forbidding me (I have an exalted moon in my horoscope) to ever see a lunar eclipse. Many superstitious Hindus still shut temple doors and throw away the leftovers of any food cooked that day, to calls of "Daan karo, daan karo", like those who come on Saturdays for a shani daan. I couldn't decide whether to honour my mum's admonitions or see the Blood Moon that day. So I compromised by seeing it on the Nehru Planetarium website. There has been nothing else in our newspapers and news broadcasts but this wave of violence, so let me tell you about our relationship with Nepal as I remember it from my Kumaoni childhood. Tibet and Nepal in the 1950s (my childhood days) had an open border and a lively trade between Kumaon and these remote regions (so it seemed to us then). The Tibetan lamas would bring exotic herbs and smelly 'hing' (asafoetida), while the Nepalis came mostly to work as porters. They were hardy, strong mountain people and accustomed to carrying huge loads on their backs cheerfully. Don't forget they were the Sherpas who carried all the Himalayan mountaineers' kits (remember Tenzing and Hillary?), often without even getting their due. The Gurkhas were tough fighters, too, and anyone who has read what Field Marshal Manekshaw has written about these fearless soldiers will testify to their courage and unshakeable moral core. This is probably why the British army still has a Gurkha Regiment. However, they were also fond of drinking and were often "contole se bahar", as our old Kumaoni servants would tell us. What is now called Uttarakhand was once ruled by the feudal Ranas of Nepal. It is only in the 1830s that the British annexed this region and a plaque in Almora's Kutcherry marks the spot where the treaty between the Raja of Nepal and the British was



signed. However, for several years, this bond between the old Nepali royalty remained alive and many Kshatriya clans intermarried. Queen Ratna (King Mahendra's consort) was the daughter of the Kashipur Raja. In my Nainital school, we had many Nepali princesses (that's what we called them then). Some were later married to Indian royalty like the Maharaja of Tehri Garhwal's family. At the other end were the poor porters (called dottiya or dai), who sweated up and down the steep mountain sides, carrying huge loads (even steel cupboards) for a few coins. They would eat together and in Nainital, even when it was bitterly cold, they slept on a raised stone platform (the annual Ramlila venue), often with just sacks spread on the floor and with one big collective patchwork 'quilt' of rags. They would turn together after the Mate (their clan head) called out "Kwalte, kwalte, pharko", so that the 'quilt' covered everyone evenly.

A stately house called 'The Retreat' faced our Nainital home, where a Nepal ka Raja (so called by our staff) would come in summer with a bevy of concubines and servers. Every evening, he would be carried in a palanquin (called 'dandi' in Pahari) by liveried dottiya to

the Boat House Club to play cards and drink. We watched this procession every evening from our verandah and created stories about that interesting household. His meals were served by his pretty women attendants with loving morsels from a huge silver thaali put into his mouth. So the inequality that has incensed the Nepali students today, their anger against the entitled lives of those whose spoilt brats run over walkers and never look back (the exiled King Gyanendra's son killed an innocent walker and ran away), has a long and shameful history. The decadent lives of these rich lords and their chiffon-clad ladies go back a long, long way. Democracy and such exploitation and inequality are strange bedfellows and the public anger and violence we now witness is like what must have happened in France and Russia once.

Before I wind up, let me also add that no revolution (except perhaps the French Revolution) has ever resulted in a stable government. Look no further than our Northeast: fiery students overthrew entrenched political parties but left the states carved out in a perpetual state of turmoil. Nepal may well devolve into a farcical puppet regime (like Bangladesh), or be ruled (like Pakistan and Myanmar) by its army.

Rupee risks limited, ease finance access to unshackle exports

Analysts see a limited downside for the rupee from its current levels because the recent slide was caused by tariff uncertainty, and not any structural weakness

The Indian rupee hit a historic low of 88.45 a dollar on Thursday amid mounting external pressures. While punitive US tariffs on Indian goods is denting investor confidence, making the rupee one of the most vulnerable Asian currencies, foreign investors are dumping domestic debt and equities to take refuge in the greenback. However, the rupee rebounded Friday even as the dollar firmed up on expectations of a Federal Reserve rate cut. Analysts see a limited downside for the rupee from its current levels because the recent slide was caused by tariff uncertainty, and not any structural weakness. The real effective exchange rate, or the weighted average rupee rate for a basket of major currencies, stood at 100.07 at the end of July—well below its long-term average of 103.2—confirming that it is not structurally overvalued.

Still, forex traders are piling dollars amid concerns over a potential export slowdown. An anticipated \$20-30 billion fall in exports may erase 40-50 basis points off India's real GDP growth. To cushion the impact, the government lowered GST rates to boost domestic



consumption, while the RBI is actively selling dollars to prevent large currency swings. What's also helping is the rising optimism due to the revival of trade talks, besides

the government's strong fiscal position. All these could limit the risks to the rupee. But the real issue lies with exports. India's goods trade deficit widened sharply to \$27.35 billion in July, as exports declined to \$37.24 billion, while imports rose to \$64.59 billion. The punitive tariffs further threaten to derail India's ambitious target of \$2-trillion exports by 2030.

While the Union Budget 2025 rightly prioritised exports as the 'fourth engine of growth', much depends on rolling out strategic reforms and providing institutional finance. Exporters have little access to the traditional sources of finance, besides facing regulatory bottlenecks. Sensing the need, the government last month took measures such as setting up export hubs, but it remains silent on offering short-term liquidity or compliance reliefs to exporters. What we also need is a comprehensive export growth strategy involving policy reforms to ease trade with emerging markets, besides measures like interest subsidies on bank loans, incentives to diversify exports, and boost shipments to alternative markets like Latin America and Africa.

Sovereign right to privacy, or secrecy

It's baffling that Indian students require so many printed certificates in this digital age. The use of DigiLocker and blockchain in storing and accessing records securely should be expanded. An easier KYC is the need of the hour

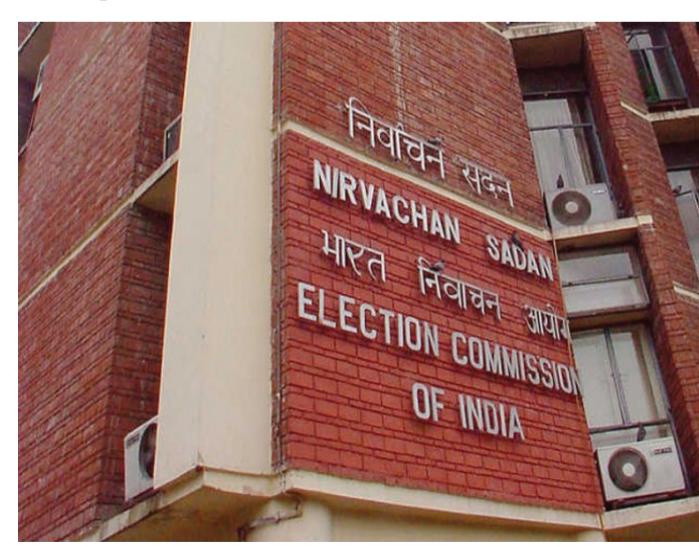
We live in strange times indeed where the rules of logic are turned on their head everyday with a new executive diktat or court ruling. The latest is this epidemic of "privacy"—one-sided, of course. On the one hand the government is doing everything to prise loose every shred of personal information from its citizens, through Aadhaar, PAN, voter registration, authorising the tax sleuths to mine even one's social media chats and emails, snooping on their phone conversations through imported malware. On the other, it refuses to share with the same citizens information they are entitled to in order to meaningfully exercise their democratic rights. In other words, the citizen has no right to privacy, but the government has a sovereign right to it! When you buy a packet of noodles, you are entitled by law to know what it contains. But when you choose your Prime Minister — a more consequential decision, you will agree — you are not entitled to know whether he has a valid educational qualification or not. Even though he has declared it in his electoral nomination form, it has been displayed in a press conference and published in papers! For, the Delhi High Court has ruled that this is private information and no public interest is served by revealing it.

There are so many threads of logical incoherence and fallacy in this ruling that it is difficult to separate them. For one, a person in public life cannot claim privacy in matters that may have a bearing on his character or functioning, such as educational qualification, income and its sources, marital status, material disposition of his family members,

or whether he has a criminal past: these details are necessary for the public to decide whether or not to repossess confidence. Second, he has already disclosed this information on oath to the government (in this case, the ECI) and it is no longer private. Third, such disclosure has to be properly verified to the satisfaction of not only the election authority, but also the voter. Fourth, by this same misconstrued logic, all other information provided by a candidate also cannot be verified or made public! Then why ask for this information in the first place, if the purpose is to put it under lock and key? In effect, the court is telling us that we have no right to any information about a candidate. Actually, this ruling is an inevitable consequence of a disturbing judicial pattern which began with the jurisprudence of the sealed cover, a hideous anomaly in any rule-based form of governance. It started with the Rafale case, was refined in the Pegasus case and has now become institutionalised with this judgment. The recent elevation of some High Court judges to the Supreme Court further establishes how entrenched the element of secrecy (under the garb of privacy) has become. It has been reported that one judge has been elevated after superseding judges senior to him, and in spite of a dissenting note of a member of the Collegium (which is not being made public). Now, in the executive, even an Upper Division clerk cannot be superseded without recording detailed reasons for doing so. It's the courts which have themselves reiterated time and again this principle of natural justice. But,

strangely, they are loath to practice what they preach, on the grounds that it would infringe on the "privacy" of the superseded judges by besmirching their reputation. Which begs the question: are only judges entitled to have a reputation?

This perverted interpretation of "privacy" has now become a weapon to deny legitimate information to the public, whether in Parliament, the Information



Commissions, statutory or constitutional bodies, the courts, the media. A Delhi court recently restrained some investigative journalists from publishing "defamatory" and "misleading" articles on a leading business group. Pardon me, but how can the court be so sure that the articles are not based on facts, or are defamatory? Has it examined

any evidence to this effect? Legitimate questions all, since more and more politicians and "celebrities" are now taking this easy route of claiming "privacy" to avoid any public scrutiny of their deeds. The dubiously constituted Election Commission of India has set new standards in opacity and secrecy, refusing to share any worthwhile or timely information, whether it be the number of votes cast, VVPAT counts, reasons that prompted a hasty SIR in Bihar, the names of the excluded voters and the reasons for their deletion, the number of "Bangladeshis" detected (a stated reason for the SIR). Whenever it has divulged some information, it has done so reluctantly and on the nudging of the courts. It has, however, reached the height of nebulosity and obtuseness with its refusal to make public the video recordings of the polling process on the grounds of "protecting" the privacy of our mothers, sisters and daughters! This is a formulation worthy of a Uriah Heep or a Goebbels, given that these same ladies are videographed every day at airports, hotels, shops, road crossings, usually without their permission or even knowledge (unlike the polling booths where it is part of publicly proclaimed SOPs). How can justice be "seen to be done" when the process is shrouded under a cloak of secrecy disguised as privacy? Justice can be served, and the law upheld, only in the full glare of the public gaze, not in the shadows of legally doubtful subterfuge.

SC clears Chandigarh doctor of negligence in 20-year-old maternal death case

The court also directed the complainant to refund 10 lakh compensation already received, in monthly instalments.

Chandigarh (Agency)

The Supreme Court has exonerated a Chandigarh doctor and her nursing home from charges of medical negligence in the death of a young mother and her newborn nearly 20 years ago, bringing closure to a protracted legal battle that had shadowed her career.

A bench of Justices Sanjay Kumar and Satish Chandra Sharma allowed the appeal of obstetrician-gynaecologist Dr. Kanwarjit Kochhar and Deep Nursing Home on September 9, overturning rulings of the State Consumer Commission and the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission (NCDRC). The court also directed complainant Manmeet Singh Mattewal to refund the ₹10 lakh compensation already received, in monthly instalments.

The tragedy dates back to December 2005, when 32-year-old Charanpreet Kaur, a Chandigarh lecturer and bank manager on deputation, was admitted to Deep Nursing

Home in the eighth month of her pregnancy. After being induced, she delivered a baby boy at 2:40 am on December 22. The newborn did not survive despite immediate resuscitation attempts. Soon after, Kaur suffered an uncontrolled postpartum haemorrhage, a life-

she was declared dead at 5:30 am. Mattewal alleged gross negligence in the management of bleeding, transfer arrangements, and record-keeping, filing a claim of nearly ₹1 crore before the Chandigarh State Consumer Commission in 2006. In 2007, the State

Commission held the doctor negligent for not verifying Kaur's blood group and for delays in transfusion, awarding compensation of ₹20.26 lakh. The NCDRC in 2012 upheld the order in part but shifted liability solely onto Dr. Kochhar, citing antenatal lapses such as failure to insist on haematological and cardiological tests.

The Supreme Court has now struck down those findings. Writing for the bench, Justice Sanjay Kumar observed: "Our sympathies aside, we are called upon to examine the validity of the finding that Dr. (Mrs.)

Kanwarjit Kochhar, the obstetrician-gynaecologist who conducted the delivery, is guilty of medical negligence. All the experts who constituted the five Medical Boards found that there was no negligence on her part or on the part of the nursing home."



threatening complication where the uterus fails to contract after delivery.

Records show that blood was urgently requisitioned, additional specialists were consulted, and she was shifted to PGI Chandigarh — the only regional centre equipped for advanced intervention — but

SHO among six cops suspended in Ghazipur over man's death, 5 shifted

Lucknow (Agency)

Six police personnel, including the station house officer (SHO) of Nonhara police station in Ghazipur, have been suspended and five others shifted to reserve lines after a 32-year-old man died following an altercation outside the station on September 9.

The deceased, Siyaram Upadhyay alias Jokhu, was admitted to hospital on September 9 after allegedly being assaulted by policemen during a protest outside the police station.

Following the incident, Ghazipur District Magistrate Avinash Kumar ordered a magisterial inquiry and a three-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) was constituted to probe the incident. The SIT is headed by Varanasi DCP Gaurav Banswal and includes Additional DCP Anshuman Mishra and ACP Nitin Taneja.

Superintendent of Police (SP) Iraj Raja said action will follow the inquiry's findings. He noted that no FIR has been registered so far because the victim's family has not filed a complaint. "We have removed the personnel from active duty to ensure the inquiry proceeds without influence," an official added.

A senior official said the postmortem report revealed congestive heart disease as the cause of death but also recorded four injuries on the body, raising questions that investigators aim to resolve.

Authorities say the protest began as a dispute between two groups over the installation of electricity poles, with one group accusing another of erecting poles on private land without consent. On September 9, villagers staged a sit-in outside the Nonhara police station seeking action; police told protesters the matter fell under another department.

Black spot to beauty spot: Experts say city needs permanent waste microplan

Bengaluru (Agency)

The trend of drawing rangolis and putting up green nets after clearing black spots in Bengaluru is back. The clean-up and beautification initiatives targeting identified black spots in the city has seen some acceleration, but do they really help in putting an end to black spots? Experts say 'nah'.

An infamous black spot at Siddapura's Tippu Point was cleared by Bengaluru Central City Corporation on Sunday. Post the clearance, pourakarmikas drew rangolis and placed tree pots. At places where citizens tend to throw their garbage, turning it into a black spot, corporations are putting up green nets with warning signs. At empty plots and stormwater drains, which have become black spots, such green nets have been put up to prevent people from dumping garbage.

Solid waste management expert and founder of Friends of Lakes, V Ram Prasad compared the act of drawing rangolis and putting up green nets with that of a doctor treating the symptoms and not administering medicine to the root cause. "No matter how many times the black spots are cleaned up and beautified with rangolis and green nets, they will still dot the city. One-time cleaning and beautifying isn't the solution. What the city needs is scientific microplanning for garbage collection. Each ward is divided into 750 households. Pushcarts, auto-tippers and pourakarmikas are dedicated to collecting garbage from these households, which is later transferred to the main garbage truck for waste processing," Prasad said.

Those who do not hand over garbage to the corporation must be listed and checked, he says, arguing that these are the ones who stuff their garbage into plastic covers and throw it, creating black spots.

'No parchi-kharchi': Haryana CM says 1.8L govt jobs given on merit

Chandigarh (Agency)

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Sunday said the incumbent BJP government provided government jobs to 1.80 lakh youths "purely on merit and without 'parchi-kharchi' (nepotism and sifarish)".

Speaking at the 75th foundation day celebration of Sami Shikshan Sansthan, the chief minister said, "Government schools have been offering free coaching to meritorious students, alongside a range of scholarship schemes. Under the Super-100 programme, 534 students have successfully cleared competitive exams such as IIT and NEET."

Saini said, "Education is a powerful tool to uplift the backwards sections of society. And, in line with that vision, the government has implemented 27 per cent reservation in educational institutions and public sector jobs." Most of these efforts

The CM said, "For children from backwards class families with an annual income up to Rs 3 lakh, the government is offering education loans of up to Rs 15 lakh for studies in India and Rs 20 lakh for studies abroad at an annual interest rate of 4 per cent. Students from families earning less than Rs 1.80 lakh annually have been exempted from school fees up to Class XII, and college and university fees for daughters from such families have also been waived."

The chief minister noted, "The government facilitated the enrolment of 2,650 underprivileged children into recognised private schools. Under the Vidyarthi Parivahan Suraksha Yojna, 35,000 students from Classes I to XII are receiving free transport, while 6,506 girl students from



classes IX to XII are benefiting from the Chhatra Parivahan Suraksha Yojna."

The CM also felicitated meritorious students and acknowledged the contributions of generous donors.

Saini further stated, "Atal Tinkering Labs have been established in all 22 districts of Haryana,

Bengaluru sees steady rise in immoral trafficking

Bengaluru (Agency)

Bengaluru has seen a steady rise in cases registered under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITPA), from 96 in 2019 to 176 in 2024, with 122 already registered till August this year. Senior police officers attribute this rise to stricter enforcement, though challenges persist on online platforms.

According to city police data, 98 cases were registered in 2019, 136 in 2020, 129 in 2021, 155 in 2022, 180 in 2023, 176 in 2024, and 122 till August this year.

A senior police officer explained that while a woman, in her individual capacity, charges money from a man to have sex is not a crime under the Act, running it an organised way, such as running a brothel, trafficking individuals for prostitution, or soliciting in public is illegal.

With evolving technology, trafficking and exploitation rackets have shifted from physical spaces to online platforms to evade detection. Escort services and sexual exploitation rackets now operate through social media channels, where traffickers and pimps connect with clients anonymously. "Earlier, such operations were carried out in massage parlours, spas, pubs, and lodges, but these have declined in the city due to police raids and increased public awareness," the officer said.

He added that most victims are from other states and are lured with promises of jobs before being pushed into prostitution. Recent raids in the city also rescued Bangladeshi victims under Hulimava police station limits, who had been trafficked into prostitution by fake job offer, who later approached the police.

Floods hit nearly 2.53 lakh animals in 713 villages: Punjab presses entire veterinary machinery in mission mode to protect flood-hit animals

Chandigarh (Agency)

In a move to safeguard the state's vital livestock population post-devastating floods, the Punjab Animal Husbandry Department has rolled out a comprehensive and time-bound action plan to mitigate risks of waterborne diseases, foot-rot, parasitic infections and other ailments to animals.

The floods have impacted nearly 2.53 lakh animals across 713 villages.

Unveiling the action plan, Punjab Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries Minister Gurmeet Singh Khudian said the department has drawn up measures to protect livestock from stagnant water-related diseases, including haemorrhagic septicæmia (HS), foot-rot, mastitis, tick-borne infections, skin infections,

gastroenteritis, secondary infections, and nutritional deficiencies. The campaign focuses on mass vaccination, disinfection, emergency care and nutritional support.

"Livestock is the backbone of our

livelihoods. We are deploying our entire veterinary machinery in a mission mode to ensure no animal or farmer is left behind."

Highlighting key components of the action plan, Khudian said intensive cleaning and disinfection of all affected shelters and feeding areas

would be undertaken through a rapid clean-up and disinfection drive. Large-scale fogging operations, in collaboration with local government departments, will be carried out to control vector-borne

diseases. Potassium Permanganate (KMnO4) crystals will be distributed free of cost among farmers for disinfecting water troughs and preparing foot-dips to prevent fatal infections such as foot-rot. These measures are slated for completion by September 21.

'Property dispute': Former MLA Simarjeet Bains's brother, nephew booked for attempt to murder

Ludhiana (Agency)

Ludhiana police booked Paramjit Singh, alias Pamma, brother of two-time former MLA and Congress leader Simarjeet Singh Bains, and his son Jagot Singh for attempt to murder and other charges late Saturday night after they allegedly opened fire at the former MLA's personal assistant (PA) reportedly over a property dispute in the Bains family.

Paramjit and his son Jagot were booked under sections 109 (attempt to murder), 324(4) (committing mischief), and 3(5) (act done with common intention) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and appropriate sections of the Arms Act at the Dehlon police station based on the complaint of the former MLA's PA Maninder Singh, who is also the director in Bains' company Sui Dhaaga Sewing Machines Private Limited (formerly named Bains Alloys).

Speaking with the media on Sunday, Simarjeet Bains said, "I tried my best to keep the family's internal matter within the four walls of the house, but as police got to know about the firing incident, an FIR had to be registered." Travelling during wee hours is



very dangerous.

Around 11 pm on Friday, Paramjit and Jagot allegedly opened fire at Maninder Singh at the former MLA's residence in Alamgir Enclave on Malerkotla road at Rania village. They allegedly also opened fire at the former MLA's SUV (Defender). A two-time former MLA from the Atam Nagar constituency in Ludhiana, Bains formed his own outfit Lok Insaaf Party (LIP) only to merge with the Congress ahead of the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Simarjeet is the youngest among the four Bains brothers. His eldest brother Balwinder Singh Bains and he are in politics,

while his two other brothers Paramjit and Karamjit used to handle family business. Since 2023, a dispute has been going on among brothers over the division of the family business. Balwinder, the eldest of the Bains brothers, is also a two-time former MLA from the Ludhiana South constituency.

In his complaint to the police, Maninder stated that around 11 pm on Friday, he reached the former MLA's residence in Alamgir Enclave to find Paramjit's black Mercedes parked alongside Bains's SUV. Maninder stated that he then spotted Paramjit and Jagot talking loudly. "Paramjit was directing his son to open fire at Bains's SUV," Maninder alleged, adding, "Soon, I heard multiple gunshots." Maninder alleged that when the father-son duo saw him present at the spot, they ran towards him. "Paramjit told Jagot to shoot me dead, stating I (Maninder) was the root cause of the entire dispute," the complainant alleged. Maninder said that he saved his life by running inside the house, while the father-son duo fled the

scene. Simarjeet Bains told reporters, "There's no family in the world where brothers don't separate their businesses. We also separated. But it doesn't mean I am dishonest. I was an MLA twice. Had I wanted, I would have filled my account with lots of money, but I never did. I never wanted to disclose all these family things to the public. I wanted the family matters to be settled within the four walls of the house." The Congress leader said even as his brother and nephew opened fire at his PA and the SUV, he had no intention to complain to the police or get an FIR registered.

"For more than 24 hours, I did not speak either with the police or to the media, despite receiving calls. The FIR has been registered after the police got to know about the incident. I hid the SUV on which my nephew fired 7-8 times. I still say Paramjit is my elder brother and Jagot is like my son," Simarjeet Bains said. The former MLA said his brothers and he had separated their business on November 2, 2023, through a "written agreement", and the Bains Alloys company was allotted to him.

PM Narendra Modi lays foundation stone, inaugurates development works worth around Rs 40,000 crore in Purnea, Bihar

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 15th September: Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone, inaugurated development works worth around Rs 40,000 crore in Purnea, Bihar on Monday. Announcing the inauguration and foundation laying of development projects, Shri Modi highlighted that these projects spanning railways, airports, electricity and water, will serve as a means to fulfill the aspirations of Seemanchal. He flagged off one Vande Bharat, two Amrit Bharat and one passenger train today. He announced the inauguration of the new Araria-Galgaria rail line and laid the foundation stone for the Vikramshila-Kataria rail line. The Governor of Bihar, Shri Arif Mohammed Khan, Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Nitish Kumar, Union Ministers, Shri Ramchandran Naidu, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Shri Jitendra Singh, and other dignitaries were present among other dignitaries at the event. Prime Minister flagged off train services in Araria - Galgaria (Thakurganj) new Rail Line section constructed at a cost over Rs 4,410 crore. This new Rail Line establishes direct rail connectivity between Araria and Kishanganj districts, significantly improving access across Northeastern Bihar. He also flagged off Vande Bharat Express Train between Jharkhand and Bihar directly benefiting districts such as Araria, Purnea, Madhepura, Saharsa, Khagaria, Begusarai, Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali and Patna. New services of Amrit Bharat Express between Saharsa and Chhota Bihari (Amritsar) and Jharkhand and Bihar were also flagged off by the Prime Minister. These trains will provide modern interiors, improved facilities and faster travel capabilities, while enhancing economic, cultural and social integration across regions.



Ram Manji, Shri Giriraj Singh, Shri Chirag Paswan, Shri Nityanand Rai, Shri Ram Nath Thakur, Dr. Raj Bhushan Choudhary, Shri Satish Chandra Dubey were present among other dignitaries at the event. Prime Minister flagged off train services in Araria - Galgaria (Thakurganj) new Rail Line section constructed at a cost over Rs 4,410 crore. This new Rail Line establishes direct rail connectivity between Araria and Kishanganj districts, significantly improving access across Northeastern Bihar. He also flagged off Vande Bharat Express Train between Jharkhand and Bihar directly benefiting districts such as Araria, Purnea, Madhepura, Saharsa, Khagaria, Begusarai, Samastipur, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali and Patna. New services of Amrit Bharat Express between Saharsa and Chhota Bihari (Amritsar) and Jharkhand and Bihar were also flagged off by the Prime Minister. These trains will provide modern interiors, improved facilities and faster travel capabilities, while enhancing economic, cultural and social integration across regions.

Nothing wrong with transfer of temple elephants: Big top court relief for Vantara

Giving Vantara a clean chit, the Supreme Court said that the transfer of temple elephants to Reliance Foundation's animal rescue and conservation center in Gujarat's Jamnagar is valid as long as due procedure is followed.

Agency New Delhi.

The Supreme Court on Monday said there was nothing wrong with the transfer of temple elephants to Reliance Foundation's Vantara initiative as long as due procedure was followed. The court was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) challenging the movement of elephants to the wildlife facility in Gujarat. A top court bench noted that the committee appointed to examine

the issue had submitted its report, which recorded satisfaction with the regulatory compliance.

"There is nothing wrong if Vantara takes over elephants from the forest department as long as the procedure is followed. The SIT constituted by us has reported that authorities have expressed satisfaction on the issues of compliance and regulatory measures," the top court said. Senior advocate Harish Salve, appearing for Anant Ambani's Vantara, told the court that objections were being raised by countries that allow animal hunting, only because India was "doing something good".

He stressed that Reliance Foundation's wildlife sanctuary had fully cooperated with the Supreme Court-formed committee and made its staff available, but cautioned that the report contained proprietary and confidential information that should not be made public. "We will look into the report and, if any action has to be taken, we will

pass orders. We have not opened the report so far deliberately the committee has done its task promptly and we appreciate it," the judges observed.

The bench also said that the report would be



taken on record and clarified that the top court had not been inclined to interfere, but ordered the inquiry after allegations surfaced. The observations came weeks after the Supreme Court appointed a four-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) headed by former judge Justice Jasti

Chelameswar to probe allegations against Vantara.

The SIT has been tasked with examining claims of unlawful acquisition of animals, particularly elephants, compliance with the

Wildlife (Protection) Act and international norms, veterinary and welfare standards, environmental suitability of the facility, and financial transparency. Earlier, the Reliance Foundation had said it welcomed the probe and would extend full cooperation, reiterating its commitment to transparency.

The SIT came after it carried out on-site inspections in Jamnagar and interacted with regulators, intervenors and independent experts associated with Vantara. Spread over thousands of acres inside Reliance's refinery complex, Vantara has emerged as one of the world's largest privately run animal care centres, housing rescued elephants, veterinary facilities, and conservation projects.

Bike-car collision sets off clashes in UP village, cops deployed amid tensions

Agency New Delhi.

Two groups clashed in Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad district after a Dalit man collided his bike into a car driven by a member of an upper caste. Due to the ensuing violence, police personnel were deployed to maintain law and order. The clashes on Sunday in Masola village took place after almost a week following the accident on September 6 when the occupants of the car slapped the Dalit man for the collision.

Later, when the man and his mother went to complain about the incident to the other group, they were allegedly taken hostage and beaten up.

At around 8 pm on Sunday, Bhim Army leaders visited the village which further escalated the situation, resulting in clashes and stone throwing between the two groups.

Locals have accused the police of inaction, resulting in escalated violence.

According to a senior police officer, personnel immediately reached the spot and brought the situation under control. Footage of CCTV cameras installed in some houses of the village is being examined. The culprit will be identified, and necessary legal action will be taken, he said, adding that six people have also been detained in connection.

Waqf Act: Supreme Court hits pause on these controversial sections

Agency New Delhi.

The Supreme Court on Saturday intervened in three contentious provisions of the Waqf (Amendment) Act 2025, staying two of them outright while placing restrictions on a third, amid a series of constitutional challenges to the sweeping changes introduced by the central government earlier this year.

A bench of Chief Justice BR Gavai and Justice AG Masih halted the enforcement of Section 3(1)®, which required a person to have practised Islam for at least five years to create a Waqf. The top court said this provision will remain suspended until state governments frame rules to determine how the condition would be applied.

The bench also stayed the provision empowering a government-designated officer to decide disputes over whether a Waqf property had encroached on state land.

Calling it a "breach of the separation of powers", the bench said an executive officer cannot adjudicate citizens' property rights. "Until Waqf Tribunals take up such disputes, no third-party rights can be created over contested properties," the Supreme Court said.

On the third disputed clause, which permits the inclusion of non-Muslim members in Waqf Boards, the top court refused to stay the provision. However, it clarified that, as far as possible, ex-officio members should be Muslims.

The directions are as follows:

Five-year practice rule stayed: Section 3(1)®, which required a person to have practised Islam for at least five years before creating a Waqf, will remain suspended until states frame rules to govern its application.

Encroachment disputes clause stayed: The provision allowing a government officer to decide if a Waqf property had encroached on state land has been halted. The bench said only judicial forums can decide such disputes. Until Waqf Tribunals take up the cases, no third-party rights can be created.

Non-Muslim members in Boards limited, not stayed: The amendment permitting non-Muslims in Waqf Boards remains in force, but with a cap of four in the Central Waqf Council and three in any State Waqf Board. The court also said ex-officio members should preferably be Muslims.

Kukis say no free movement on Imphal-Dimapur highway, warns against violation

Agency New Delhi.

Just two days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Manipur, his first to the state since the ethnic violence erupted in 2023, the Kuki community on Monday said "no free movement has been permitted" on National Highway-02 (NH-02) connecting Imphal and Dimapur. The community's clarification comes against "false claims and misinterpretations of our recent statement" on reopening of the route.

"As there is still no settlement or agreement to the conflict between the Meitei and Kuki-Zo communities, no one from either side must cross the Buffer Zone under any circumstances... Any violation will only lead to serious consequences and further deterioration of peace and

security," the Kuki-Zo Council said in a letter. The council further warned against "any attempt to twist or misrepresent our statement" and added that "such deliberate distortion

announced the opening of the key highway, the only route via which essential supplies are brought in to the landlocked Imphal Valley.

The NH-02 is one of the two buffer zones which has been operational in the state since the violence first broke out on May 3, 2023. During his visit, the Prime Minister met displaced people in Kuki-majority Churachandpur, the epicentre of the violence that left 260 people dead, and, as well as the Meitei-majority Imphal.

Besides the fatalities, the clashes between the Meitei and the Kuki-Zo people have also left hundreds injured and displaced over 60,000 others. Following the resignation of former Chief Minister N Biren Singh, the President's Rule has been imposed since February 13.



creates unnecessary confusion and mistrust at a sensitive time". Ahead of Prime Minister Modi's visit on September 13, the Union Home Ministry had on September 4

UP woman beats husband with slippers outside court, says he gave triple talaq

Agency New Delhi.

A video from Rampur, Uttar Pradesh, showing a woman thrashing a man with slippers outside a court has gone viral. When contacted, the woman explained that the incident took place after her husband, who she says had a history of abuse, assaulted her again and pronounced talaq outside the court. She said she was married in 2018 and that her husband began beating her soon after. He allegedly demanded dowry, threw her out of the house after she gave birth to two daughters, and later took the children away when she filed a case for maintenance. She said she had no option but to seek help from the court and filed a suit demanding financial support. On Friday, she appeared in

court with her maternal aunt for a hearing in the case, while her husband was present with his father. According



to her, as she stepped out of court, her husband and father-in-law followed her, hurled abuses and pressured her to withdraw the case. She alleged that her husband, at his father's instigation, pronounced talaq three

times and then both men assaulted her.

She said she retaliated in self-defence by taking off her slippers, grabbing her husband's kurta and hitting him repeatedly, even as a crowd gathered at the spot. Her husband's kurta was torn in the scuffle. Someone present recorded the incident, and the video soon spread widely on social media.

Narrating the episode, she said, "My marriage took place in 2018. My husband used to beat me and threw me out of the house with my children. When I filed a case for maintenance, my children were taken away from me. On Friday, I went to court for the hearing. My husband and father-in-law abused me and told me to take my case back.

Did what felt right: Man who took BMW crash victim, his wife to hospital 19 km away

Navjot Singh, a senior Finance Ministry official, died after a speeding BMW driven by a woman hit his motorcycle near Delhi Cantonment area on Sunday night.

Agency New Delhi.

A bystander who drove the Delhi BMW crash victim and his wife to hospital has said that "he did what felt right", even as the victim's family alleged they were taken 19 km away to a facility linked to the accused. The accident on Sunday claimed the life of Navjot Singh, Deputy Secretary in the Department of Economic Affairs, after a speeding blue BMW rammed into his motorcycle near Daula Kuan. Singh's wife Sandeep Kaur survived with multiple fractures and head injuries. "I was coming from the other side when I

saw the accident. I stopped my car, put them inside, and drove them to New Life

themselves who asked me to take them to the hospital," Mohammad Gulam Hasan said while speaking to reporters.

According to Kaur's FIR, the woman driving the BMW was speeding recklessly, lost control, and overturned after colliding with their motorcycle. She said she pleaded repeatedly to be taken to the nearest hospital, but was instead driven nearly 19 km to New Life Hospital in Azadpur. Sources said the hospital where the couple was taken has links to the accused.

Navjot Singh, a resident of Hari Nagar, was riding from Bangla Sahib Gurdwara with his wife Sandeep Kaur when their motorcycle was hit from

Hostel for visually impaired soon in Delhi

Agency New Delhi.

As scheduled, Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate 15 major projects at the Thyagaraj Stadium on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 75th birthday on September 17, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said on Sunday.

The major projects include the Atal Drishti Girls' Hostel for visually impaired students, the Atal Asha Home for intellectually disabled persons, and the Savitribai Phule Senior Citizens' Home. The chief minister said the Atal Drishti Girls' Hostel, constructed near Timarpur close to Delhi University, is a unique initiative for visually impaired girls pursuing higher education in the Capital. Built at a cost of Rs 13.42 crore, the hostel covers a plot area of 3,703.43 sq. m with a built-up area of 975 sq. m and has the capacity to house 96 students.

She said the hostel has been designed to ensure accessibility and comfort, with barrier-free infrastructure, support staff, and facilities that promote educational and personal development. It will help young women pursue their studies with dignity, independence, and confidence. She added that secure accommodation is the biggest challenge for visually impaired students, and this hostel will bridge that gap by enabling them to study with self-reliance and dignity. Gupta further announced that the Atal Asha Home, built in Narela, Outer Delhi, is a model facility for intellectually disabled individuals in the country. Constructed at a cost of Rs 40.60 crore on a 12,500 sq. m plot, the complex has a built-up area of 1,719.55 sq. m and can accommodate 220 residents.

Delhi's Sarai Kale Khan To Meerut In 1 Hour. Namo Bharat Trains Likely To Start This Week

Agency New Delhi.

The last pending station on the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor at Sarai Kale Khan is all set to begin operations. Its inauguration is likely to be held on September 17.

The new station will reduce the travel time between Sarai Kale Khan and Meerut to under one hour, with stops at each station, officials of the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) have said.

Sources said the inauguration of the corridor is likely to be held on September 17, which is also Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday. However, there is no official confirmation on it.

Sarai Kale Khan station

The Sarai Kale Khan station, one of the largest along the 82.15-km corridor, is designed to handle high passenger volumes and is expected to become a major transit hub connecting Delhi with neighbouring states, the official said.

The Sarai Kale Khan station also serves as a key multi-modal transport hub, integrating bus terminals, metro lines and railway stations, ensuring smooth interchanges for passengers, she said.

According to the official, in line with the government's "Make in India" initiative, all trainsets have been indigenously designed in Hyderabad and manufactured at the Alstom facility in Gujarat. Spanning 215 metres in length, 50 metres in width and 15 metres in height, the station will facilitate seamless interconnection between three RRTS corridors and is being positioned as a gateway to the National Capital Region (NCR), she said.

The entire project, with an estimated cost of more than Rs 30,000 crore, is expected to increase the share of public transport on the Delhi-Meerut route from the current 37 per cent to 63 per cent, she added.

Sarai Kale Khan to Modipuram rapid rail

Trial runs have already been completed, with trains covering the stretch between Sarai Kale Khan and Modipuram in under an hour, stopping at all stations en route. The 55-km operational section currently runs between New Ashok Nagar in Delhi and Meerut South, serving 11 stations.



Hospital in Azadpur. After about half an hour, I went home. At that time, I did what I felt was right. It was those people

behind. The impact threw them onto the road, leaving Singh with fatal injuries and Kaur with multiple fractures and deep cuts. Singh later succumbed to his injuries during treatment.

Police said three PCR calls were made about a traffic jam near metro pillar 67 on the Daula Kuan-Delhi Cantt stretch. When a police team arrived, they found the BMW lying sideways and the motorcycle near the divider. Eyewitnesses told police a woman was at the wheel of the BMW when it lost control and overturned after the collision.

Police confirmed the woman driving the BMW and her husband, both residents of Gurugram, also suffered injuries and are admitted to hospital. The BMW and the motorcycle have been seized, and a forensic team examined the spot.

NEWS BOX

Duleep Trophy: Rajat Patidar's Central Zone win battle of nerves, beat South in final

Bengaluru. (Agency)

Rajat Patidar's Central Zone survived some nervy moments to beat South Zone by six wickets in the final of the Duleep Trophy. Playing at the Indian Cricket Board's (BCCI) Centre of Excellence, Central Zone chased down 65 runs on the final day of the competition to lift the trophy after an 11-year hiatus. Chasing a modest target of 65, Central Zone's top-order batters probably took it lightly. Disaster struck when South Zone bowlers Gurjapneet Singh and Ankit Kumar ripped through the top order to reduce the team to 24/3. On a crumbling fifth-day track, the bowlers fought hard until the 20th over to defend the 65 runs but simply did not have enough runs on the board. Akshay Wadkar (19* off 52 balls) and first-innings centurion Yash Rathod (13* off 16 balls) were at the crease when Central eventually passed the target at 66/4 in 20.3 overs to claim their seventh Duleep Trophy title. However, South Zone will take a lot of pride from the fight they showed in the second innings (426) and with the ball in the final innings, delaying Central's march to victory.

Duleep Trophy Final: Day 5 Highlights



Left-arm spinner Ankit Sharma accounted for Danish Malewar (5) with a delivery that spun sharply and took the edge of the Central opener's bat en route to wicketkeeper Mohammed Azharuddin. He later added the wicket of Central captain Rajat Patidar, who played a hurried slog sweep to get caught at mid-on by MD Nidheesh. Pacer Gurjapneet Singh, who earned an India A call-up on Sunday, picked up the scalps of Shubham Sharma and the promoted Saransh Jain, who was later adjudged player of the series, creating some anxious moments for the Central camp. But player of the match Rathod and Wadkar steered Central home without further damage.

For Patidar, it was his second title this year after guiding Royal Challengers Bengaluru to victory in the IPL, and he was understandably delighted. "Every captain likes winning trophies. But our players showed a lot of character across the tournament and I am very happy about it."

Boycott or not, few really care about India vs Pakistan anymore

HONG KONG. (Agency)

Unless you just started following cricket yesterday, you knew there would be no thriller. The Asia Cup 2025 clash between India and Pakistan delivered exactly what it promised: a one-sided snoozefest. The gap between the two teams in T20Is was laid bare. India bundled Pakistan out for 127 and reached the target in just 15.5 overs. Pakistan turned up to an F1 race with a bullock cart. Their cricket, rooted in a bygone era, simply couldn't trouble India.

There was almost no hype before the contest. Few spoke of Shubman Gill versus Shaheen Shah Afridi, or India's spinners against Pakistan's. Instead, chatter revolved around boycott calls and the fallout from April's Pahalgam terror attack. Former cricketers, politicians, and fans weighed in, urging India to skip the match. Those who watched



expected nothing more than a routine win for India. And that's exactly what they got. One team looked fearless, ruthless, ready to dominate. The other seemed timid, hesitant, lacking clarity and conviction. The cricket barely mattered. The real story was off the bat. With calls for a boycott, it seemed the Pakistan team didn't even turn up on Sunday. Suryakumar Yadav refused to shake hands with Pakistan captain Salman Agha at the toss. At the close, India skipped the customary post-match handshake, leaving Pakistan's players waiting along the boundary. A dejected Agha did not turn up for the post-match presentation. Suryakumar defended his actions, insisting that some things in life are bigger than sportsmanship. Pakistan coach Mike Hesson admitted his players were disappointed and confirmed that Agha's absence was a 'flow-on' effect of the earlier snub. If only we could fast-forward live telecasts, many would have skipped straight from the toss to the post-match drama. Suryakumar and Hesson's press conferences were far more entertaining than the 35.

Tokyo night of triumphs: Upsets and new champions crowned

Jimmy Gressier shocked the athletics world by winning the slowest 10,000m world title in Tokyo. Meanwhile, Oblique Seville ended Jamaica's wait for a men's 100m world champion since Usain Bolt.

New Delhi. (Agency)

It was a damp humid night. Or evening. It depended on how it ended for a few. Close to 60,000 fans had packed in. On the anvil, along with the rest were the two 100m semi-finals, separated by a couple of hours before the power-packed finals. In between, if you were a fan of a slow burn, came the men's 10K. Anticipation was rife. In the moisture-laden air, you could feel there was a surprise around the corner. In the high jump qualification, reigning World Champion, Sha'Carri Richardson qualified for the final as a non-automatic qualifier, her timing, giving her a season's best of 11.00 to finish third in heat one. In 2023 Budapest, she had qualified as a non-automatic qualifier and then gone onto create history.

World Athletics Championships Day 2: Highlights

American Melissa Jefferson-Wooden ran the fastest ever 100m semifinal with 10.73. It was the 7th fastest 100m ever recorded at the World Championships. Reigning World Champion, Sha'Carri Richardson qualified for the final as a non-automatic qualifier, her timing, giving her a season's best of 11.00 to finish third in heat one. In 2023 Budapest, she had qualified as a non-automatic qualifier and then gone onto create history.

To the delight of the crowd and a full-throated roar, Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce qualified for a record-extending eighth world 100m final in 11.00. Six finalists from the 100m final in

And smack in the middle, came the 10,000m. 10K Run Turns Into Tactical Battle

There has been enough written about the humidity. Yet, this night felt like a wet blanket covered the national stadium. Sweat dripped. There was no hint of a breeze. Tactically, the 27 runners started slowly. In the pack, hunting for a top six slot, was also India's Gulveer Singh. Gulveer had set a new national record of 27:00.22 at the Ten 2025 meet in San Juan Capistrano, USA. He had broken Surendra Singh's 28:02.89, that had stood since 2008. Indian fans expected something special. Seeing the conditions, it was going to be a slow, tactical race. The pack remained close. After a few laps, the waters were tested by Selemon Barega. Uganda's Chelimo did respond but the pack closed up again, slowing the pace. For two laps, Japan's Jun Kasai and Mebuki Suzuki, broke through, leading the pack, to loud cheers from the home fans. Kenya's Edwin Kurgat took a brief lead handing it back to Norway's Awet Kibrab. With 12 laps to go, sweat pouring down the bodies, getting into the eyes, stakes go higher, so is the intensity of the action. None of the top runners want to make a clean break.



Budapest would line-up for the final, late evening in Tokyo. The men's semi-final went according to form. No big upsets. Kenny Bednarek and Kishane Thompson, clocked 9.85, the second fastest 100m semifinal in World Championships history after Justin Gatlin ran 9.77 in Beijing. Both Kenny and Kishane appeared to be coasting in the last five metres. All eight finalists broke the 10-second barrier in the semifinals. The final promised. The fans restless.

Saim Ayub, Shaheen Afridi shine vs India, but Pakistan's issues lie right here

Asia Cup 2025, IND vs PAK: Saim Ayub took three wickets, and Shaheen Shah Afridi scored an unbeaten 33, but their performances raise more concerns than provide good news for Pakistan cricket.

Dubai. (Agency)

Saim Ayub and Shaheen Shah Afridi decided to throw everyone a curveball in the Asia Cup clash against India — literally and figuratively. Even though Pakistan ended up on the losing side, these two young guns were the stars of the show. Sounds like a win for Pakistan, right? Well... sort of. Here's the kicker: Saim and Shaheen, two of Pakistan's brightest cricketing prospects, were busy rewriting the script. Saim was bowling like a man possessed — three wickets for 35 runs in four overs. Shaheen? He swapped his usual bowling prowess for the bat and hammered an unbeaten 33 off just 16 balls. Yep, you read that right. The batter turned bowler, and the bowler turned

batter. Meanwhile, the so-called 'experts' in their usual roles decided to take a day off, leaving Pakistan to face one of its most crushing defeats to India in T20Is. Talk about plot twists! If this match were a movie, it'd be called The Great Role Reversal — coming soon to a cricket ground near you.

Pakistan not capitalising on chances

After Pakistan won the toss, they swaggered in and racked up a solid 42 runs in the powerplay. Jasprit Bumrah, who hadn't conceded a six to Pakistan in his last five T20Is, suddenly found himself the victim of not one but two monstrous sixes off Sahibzada Farhan's bat — who, by the way, ended up as Pakistan's top scorer. Talk

about making a statement! Just when it looked like Pakistan had figured out the pitch, along came Indian spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Axar Patel to turn the heat down — or more like, squeeze the life out of Pakistan's innings. The next nine overs saw Pakistan score a painfully slow 36 runs. Boundaries? Nope. Singles? Might as well have been invisible. It was like the batsmen collectively decided to take a tea break.

Had it not been for Shaheen's unexpected fireworks — four sixes, including a 16-run last over off Hardik Pandya — Pakistan might have been chasing the humiliating milestone of sub-100 runs. The final score was respectable if you squint hard enough, but on a pitch so kind to spinners, it was basically a big ol' meh.

On the bowling side, it was a classic case of "Where's everybody?" Except for Saim Ayub, who bowled like he actually read the pitch report, Pakistan's bowlers struggled to get any wickets. Ayub was the lone ranger, doing his best impression of a specialist, while the others seemed more interested in giving away freebies than taking wickets.



How new rules will shake up Formula 1 in 2026, and what could still change

New Delhi. (Agency)

Next year, Formula 1 will see one of its biggest changes in a generation.

Sweeping new regulations will change how cars look, sound and run. The goal is to make them more "agile, competitive, safer and more sustainable," governing body FIA says. Some teams all but abandoned their 2025 car designs early this year in search of the biggest boost they could get in 2026. The Associated Press spoke with Nikolas Tombazis, who is overseeing the transition to the new rules as the director for single-seater racing series at the FIA, to explain how the changes will affect the action on track and what could still change.

Teams are guarding their development data, but what has become public suggests the



slowest cars could be way off the pace. Tire manufacturer Pirelli has confirmed to The AP that estimated lap times it has received from teams vary by as much as four seconds, a relative eternity in F1. Tombazis acknowledges new engine manufacturers may need extra development

time to catch up on "15 years of know-how" from the likes of Mercedes.

F1 has a rule which could in theory rule cars out if their qualifying times aren't within 107% of the fastest car. So could cars be deemed too slow to race? "I think 107% is pretty unlikely, in my view," Tombazis said. "Next year we have a wider level of uncertainty in performances, it's absolutely true. We have newcomers. We have new regulations. Two of those things combined can mean that there could be bigger gaps in some places." The difference to 2025 could be stark. Despite McLaren's dominance so far this season, six different teams have finished on the podium and less than a second has separated the entire field in some qualifying sessions.

Asia Cup 2025: UAE, Oman desperate for redemption after nightmare starts

UAE and Oman face a do-or-die Group A match in the Asia Cup 2025 after heavy losses to India and Pakistan with both teams needing a win to stay in the tournament. The Abu Dhabi pitch offers balanced conditions, promising a competitive contest as both sides seek redemption.

New Delhi. (Agency)

UAE and Oman are set to face off in a crucial Group A match of the Asia Cup 2025 on Monday, September 15, at Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi. Both teams are looking to bounce back after heavy defeats to India and Pakistan. With elimination on the line, a loss would all but end their chances of advancing to the Super Four, barring a miraculous turnaround. UAE's



campaign suffered a blow in their opening match against India, where they were bowled out for just 57 runs. Kuldeep Yadav's exceptional bowling performance, which saw him take 4 wickets for only 7 runs, dismantled the UAE's batting lineup. Shivam Dube also chipped in with 3 wickets for 4 runs, leaving the

UAE with no room for recovery. India chased down the target in a record-breaking 27 balls, marking one of the shortest-ever T20I matches. This heavy defeat not only placed the UAE at the bottom of the Group A standings but also resulted in a disastrous net run rate of -10.483, significantly hindering their chances of

progressing in the tournament. Can Oman bounce back? Oman, too, faced a heavy defeat in their opener, losing by 93 runs to Pakistan at Dubai International Cricket Stadium. Pakistan posted a competitive 160/7, with Mohammad Haris leading the charge with a fluent 66 off 43 balls. In reply, Oman was bowled out for just 67 runs in 16.4 overs. Only Hammad Mirza (27) and Aamir Kaleem (13) managed double-digit scores, while seven batters were dismissed for three or fewer runs. This crushing defeat has left Oman in third place in the group with a net run rate of -4.650. Their slim hopes of advancing to the Super Four now depend on significant improvements in both their batting and bowling departments.

UAE vs Oman: Pitch Report

The pitch in Abu Dhabi is expected to offer a good balance between bat and ball. Fast bowlers may benefit from extra bounce with the new ball, while batting conditions are likely to improve as the game progresses.

India adopts techno-legal path for AI safety: Union minister Ashwini Vaishnaw

NEW DELHI.(Agency)

India has chosen a different path on artificial intelligence (AI) safety compared to many other countries in the world, said Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw on Monday. The minister, while speaking at the launch of the AI Viksit Bharat Roadmap, also explained that while several nations see AI safety mainly as a legal challenge, India is following a techno-legal approach. "On AI safety, we have taken a very different approach. Many parts of the world treat AI safety as a legal challenge—they want to pass a law and believe that safety will follow. We have taken a techno-legal approach. Our AI Safety Institute is a virtual network of institutions, each working on a specific challenge. For example, IIT Jodhpur is working on detecting deepfakes, and its algorithms today can detect them with very high accuracy," said the minister.

He further added that India's approach prioritizes innovation over strict regulation. This is in contrast to Europe and many other parts of the world, where the focus is on laws and regulatory bodies.

"This is very different from Europe and many other parts of the world, where the tilt is towards regulation—passing laws, creating regulatory bodies. We believe technology should be allowed to innovate and evolve, and then we can build the right regulatory structures, instead of prescribing them upfront," said the minister. He also mentioned that no country can think of becoming developed unless it has good mastery, good control, and strong confidence in a few critical technologies. According to the minister, these include telecom, semiconductors, electric vehicles, biotech, advanced engines, quantum, rare earths, and more. We will have to master these technologies, adopt them, develop a strong talent pipeline, and ensure that India remains at the frontier," suggested the minister.

Tata Sons Chairman Chandrasekaran urges industry, government to join hands on AI

New Delhi.(Agency)

Tata Sons Executive Chairman N. Chandrasekaran on Monday said that India is at a key moment where it has a great opportunity to use AI to make a big difference for the country. Chandrasekaran, speaking at the release of the report on the roadmap for AI for Viksit Bharat, also mentioned that the industry and society at large have to work together in leveraging AI. "We are at an inflection point where we have an enormous opportunity to embrace AI to make a huge impact for our country," said the Tata Chairman.

Chandrasekaran also highlighted that the country needs to get AI to work for every sector—be it financial services, pharmaceuticals, advanced manufacturing, agriculture, healthcare, or any of the other sectors. According to him, in every sector, fully vertically integrated AI solutions are needed to deliver economic growth and prosperity. He also called for empowering the youth of the country with the right skills and creating opportunities for entrepreneurship. We must also enable all our small and medium enterprises to take full advantage of the power of AI to deliver value, jobs, and economic growth," said Chandrasekaran. He said he was privileged to have had the opportunity to work as part of the Expert Council that developed the insights and recommendations for the roadmap. He advocated for skilling and creating employment opportunities for all the youth in the country in the AI-driven world of this century. He also emphasized the need to solve basic issues—be it healthcare, education, or others—across every stratum of society, thereby creating opportunities, empowerment, and reducing existing inequalities. "In order to do that, the government, the industry, and society at large have to work together in the leveraging of AI," said Chandrasekaran.

Stock markets trade flat after sharp rally last week

MUMBAI.(Agency)

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty recorded marginal gains in early trade on Monday but later faced highly volatile trends and were quoting flat amid profit-taking after a sharp rally last week.

Markets are awaiting outcome of this week's US Federal Reserve policy meeting.

The 30-share BSE Sensex went up by 93.81 points to 81,998.51 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty edged higher by 24.45 points to 25,138.45.

Later, the BSE benchmark quoted 10.06 points down at 81,904.31, and the Nifty traded 12.65 points lower at 25,099.90. From the Sensex firms, Bajaj Finance, Eternal, Tata Motors, Adani Ports, Power Grid and State Bank of India were among the gainers. Infosys, Sun Pharma, Tata Consultancy Services and Tech Mahindra were among the laggards. In Asian markets, South Korea's Kospi, Shanghai's SSE Composite index and Hong Kong's Hang Seng traded in positive territory.

US markets ended on a mixed note on Friday.

On Friday, the Sensex jumped 355.97 points or 0.44 per cent to settle at 81,904.70, rallying for the fifth day in a row. The Nifty rallied 108.50 points or 0.43 per cent to 25,114, registering its 8th straight day of upturn. Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,193.94 points or 1.47 per cent, and the Nifty climbed 373 points or 1.50 per cent.

In eight trading days, the Nifty has jumped 534.4 points or 2.17 per cent. Global oil benchmark Brent crude climbed 0.60 per cent to USD 67.39 a barrel. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) bought equities worth Rs 129.58 crore on Friday, according to exchange data.

August inflation makes Repo Rate cut in Oct look difficult, says SBI Research

The August inflation rate stood at 2.07%, up from what it was in July, when it was recorded at 1.6%, which was at the lowest point in 98 months. The RBI governor has cautioned about retail inflation rising in the first quarter of the next financial year.

Kolkata. (Agency)

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India is supposed to meet in the first week of October to deliberate on the state of the economy and whether a cut in the Repo Rate is warranted. The think tank of economists of the country's largest bank, SBI, is of the

opinion that the retail inflation rate crossing the figure of 2% has adversely impacted the possibility of a rate cut. "With August inflation print a tad higher than the 2 per cent mark, a rate cut in October look onerous. Even a rate cut in December looks a little difficult if growth numbers for Q1 and Q2 (estimates) are taken into consideration," said the report. RBI slashed the Repo Rate by 100 basis points between February and June. SBI Research had hoped that a frontloading of rate cut by 25 basis points to pep up the festive markets could be possible but RBI belied that hope by holding rates steady in its August MPC meeting.

Cooling effect of GST rejig

SBI Research also mentioned how the GST rejig is likely to have a cooling effect on retail inflation by 0.40 to 0.40 percentage point, factoring in a 50% pass through. Incidentally, RBI works with a target of keeping retail inflation within the 2%-6% range. Incidentally, the July inflation rate of 1.6% was the lowest point in the past 98



months.

The rate of inflation ticking up in August was mainly attributable to higher food and beverage prices. Also core inflation (a gauge that keeps volatile food and fuel items out) also crept up to 4.16%. Both rural and urban suffered a rise. From 1.18% in July inflation in rural areas rose to 1.69%, while urban inflation went up from 2.10% in July to 2.47% in August. Of the 35 states and union territories, inflation in August stood below 4% in as many as 26. Inflation was above 6% in Kerala and Lakshadweep.

Retail inflation in FY26 Rate in May: 2.82%
Rate in June: 2.55%
Rate in July: 1.6%
Rate in August: 2.07%
Excessive rain and food prices
Economists pointed out that heavy rainfall in some states such as Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and Rajasthan and floods in some areas could adversely impact food supply and, thereby, the prices in the coming months.

Rainfall was about 9% higher between August and early September. This could raise food prices. Indian GDP is supposed to grow by 6.5% this year. Inflation is expected to rise to above 4% in the Q1 period of the next financial year (FY27). "While we see a pause by the RBI in the upcoming policy, we do see some scope for rate cuts worth 25-50 basis points opening up from December policy if downside risks to growth materialize," Upasna Bhardwaj, economist at Kotak Mahindra Bank was also quoted as saying by the media.

Passenger vehicle dispatches dip 9 pc in Aug as companies curtail supplies amid low market demand

SIAM says manufacturers recalibrated supplies amid weak demand, while two-wheeler sales rose 7% and three-wheeler logged record August dispatches

New Delhi.(Agency)

Passenger vehicle dispatches from companies to dealers declined 9 per cent year-on-year to 3,21,840 units in August, as companies recalibrated supplies to adjust to low market demand. Passenger vehicle wholesales stood at 3,52,921 units in August 2024. Sales of passenger vehicles saw a dip primarily due to recalibration of dispatches by manufacturers, the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) Director General Rajesh Menon said in a statement on Monday. Demand dipped in August, as customers postponed purchases in anticipation of the GST rate cut and the reduction in vehicle



prices. Two-wheeler dispatches, however, rose 7 per cent year-on-year to 18,33,921 units last month, as compared to 17,11,662 units in the year-ago period. Scooter sales rose 13 per cent year-on-year to 6,83,397 units in August, while motorcycle dispatches rose 4 per cent to 11,06,638 units last month. Three-wheeler dispatches saw the highest-ever dispatch for the month of August at 75,759 units, an increase of 8 per cent year-on-year, as against 69,962 units in August last year.

Menon said the government's decision to reduce GST rates on vehicles will go a long way in enabling broader access to mobility and injecting fresh momentum into the Indian automotive sector in the upcoming festive season. Effective September 22, petrol and diesel cars with engine capacities of up to 1,200 cc and 1,500 cc will attract 18 per cent GST, while those above that will attract the highest 40 per cent. Electric vehicles will accrue GST of 5 per cent.

IndiGo to launch direct flight to Athens with India's first Airbus A321XLR in early 2026

New Delhi.(Agency)

IndiGo on Monday announced Athens as the inaugural destination to be served by its first Airbus A321XLR aircraft. The airline is all set to bring home India's first A321XLR by the end of 2025 and begin six weekly direct flights to Athens by early January 2026, subject to regulatory approval.

This will also make IndiGo the only Indian carrier to offer direct flights between India and Greece. On receipt of the appropriate approvals, IndiGo intends to connect Athens to both Delhi and Mumbai, with operations of three frequencies per week on both routes.

IndiGo stated that the new connection

promises to be a great enabler of the growing leisure travel as well as MICE and wedding tourism between the two countries, while also further



strengthening IndiGo's footprint in Europe. Pieter Elbers, Chief Executive Officer, IndiGo, said, "This new aviation corridor is a strategic step in IndiGo's international expansion and aligns perfectly with India's growing

economy and tourism industry. With flight schedules ensuring convenience for travellers, we are confident that this route will further encourage demand for business and leisure travel alike.

With this, we also look to connect to more points in Greece, strengthening the connectivity between the two countries." The A321XLR is a next-generation narrow-body aircraft designed for longer ranges, allowing IndiGo to expand deeper into Europe. With a range of up to 8,700 km, the XLR opens access to destinations previously beyond reach of narrow-body operations, enabling non-stop flights from India to Southern Europe. It will feature Economy Class and also IndiGo Stretch.



How Gen-Z is changing money habits, explains financial advisor

Gen-Z is shaking up traditional money habits. From saving to investing and spending on experiences, this generation is rewriting the rules of wealth. A financial advisor explains how and why.

New Delhi.(Agency)

India's younger generation, often called Gen-Z, is changing the way people think about money. Tapas Chakraborty, Director Welfin.in and a financial advisor, shared a personal story that highlights this shift. He wrote on LinkedIn, "My son asked me for a Dubai trip, I told him 'Wait 1.5 years'." However, his son booked the trip and left the very next morning. This moment, Chakraborty explained, shows the gap in how different generations view money and life decisions.

GENERATIONAL DIFFERENCES IN MONEY ATTITUDES

According to Chakraborty, those who grew up in the 1990s preferred to save first and spend later. Millennials tried to find a balance between savings, investments, and occasional indulgence. Gen-Z, on the other hand, loves to experience life right away and explains their choices later.

He observed, "90s kids save first, spend later. Millennials balance SIPs, EMIs, and indulgence. Gen-Z: Experience first, explanation later." This marks a clear shift in priorities across generations.

GEN-Z'S FINANCIAL INFLUENCE AND HABITS

Gen-Z in India is now 377 million strong and already responsible for 43% of consumer spending, about \$860 billion, which is expected to reach \$2 trillion by 2035. Their money habits are also evolving. 93% of Gen-Z save regularly, often putting away 20-30% of their



income. 58% prefer investing in stocks over more traditional options like mutual funds, fixed deposits, or gold, Chakraborty said. He further stated that many Gen-Z individuals use multiple bank accounts, rely heavily on UPI, and show a strong preference for experiences such as travel and dining.

DISPELLING MYTHS: GEN-Z'S DISCIPLINED APPROACH

Despite appearances, Gen-Z is not careless

with money. As Chakraborty points out, "Gen-Z is not careless with money. They are disciplined savers and bold investors – but unlike 90s kids, they refuse to postpone life."

This approach may seem reckless to some, but Chakraborty clarifies, "Don't think it is recklessness. It's a new wealth model: build assets and live experiences at the same time." This way of thinking allows them to make the most of both saving for the future and enjoying the present.

Chakraborty sums up his perspective on wealth with practical advice: "Wealth is built when patience meets opportunity. Save like the 90s kids. Plan like Millennials. Dream like Gen-Z."

The question is no longer whether Gen-Z is trying to get rich faster. Instead, it may be time to ask whether they are simply changing the very way we think about building wealth.

Reem Shaikh

Channels Diva Energy in Bold Red Strapless Dress

Reem Shaikh's latest photoshoot radiates glamour with a touch of elegance. The pictures have her in a stunning, bold red strapless mini dress that perfectly highlights her curves. The dress features a corset design on the top, which later transitions into a flowy bottom. Reem completed her outfit by pairing it with contrasting silver heels, which featured a see-through design. For her hair, she left it open, cascading through her shoulders in soft, wavy curls. The side-parted hairstyle maintains a balance between sultriness and sophistication, perfectly framing her face and neckline.

For the makeup, Reem wore a flawless matte base with a little contouring that highlights her features, and for the lips, she chose a bold red colour perfectly matching her outfit and doubling the drama. Dark, well-defined brows, subtly winged eyeliner, and fluttery lashes complete the eye makeup, while a soft glow on the cheeks adds radiance. While the sweetheart neckline of the strapless dress looked absolutely gorgeous, it was her jewellery that caught our hearts. For this look, she ditched heavy accessories and just wore a pretty

stud earring that perfectly elevated her look.

The overall look channels a classic diva vibe, leaving her fans in awe of her appearance. As Reem dropped the sexy pictures and captioned it as "Cherry

on top," fans started reacting to it. One shared, "Mashallah I like you I love you my friend." "ABSOLUTE STUNNER!!! Princess Reem, you're breathtakingly beautiful," another fan wrote. A third fan shared, "What a hottie."

What's Next for Reem Shaikh?

Reem Shaikh's rise to fame came through shows like Tujhse Hai Raabta and Fanaa: Ishq Mein Marjawan. She was most recently seen in the second season of Laughter Chefs – Unlimited Entertainment, hosted by Bharti Singh and judged by Harpal Singh Sokhi. The show's second season concluded in the last week of July and saw Karan Kundrra and Elvish Yadav lifting the trophy. Aly Goni and Reem Shaikh received diamond stars as they were the runners-up. Besides them, the show also featured Krishna Abhishek, Sudesh Lehri, Nia Sharma, Rubina Dilaik, Rahul Vaidya, Vicky Jain, and Ankita Lokhande, among others.

Banita Sandhu

To Star Opposite Diljit Dosanjh In Imtiaz Ali's Partition Drama: Report

Imtiaz Ali is all set to bring another gripping tale to the big screen, and this time set against the backdrop of India's Partition. Adding to the excitement, actress Banita Sandhu has been roped in as the female lead opposite Diljit Dosanjh in the upcoming period drama. Mid-day has reported that the lead actors have also started shooting in Mumbai. The portal quoted a source saying, "The film focuses on two love stories. The first schedule kicked off in August this year. Banita, who made her

Imtiaz. Taking to Instagram, Sharvari posted a news clip of her film announcement and penned a heartfelt note to Imtiaz Ali. It read, "What an incredible surprise to see this announcement happen on my birthday! Best birthday ever! @imtiazaliofficial sir, I have manifested to be directed by you ever since I've dreamt to be an actor.. This will be the most amazing learning experience for me.. It is an honour to be a part of your vision.. Thank you for choosing me.. It feels so special to be a part of this dream team @naseeruddin49 @diljitdosanjh @vedangraina Eeepp!!! So excited for this new journey (sic)."

About the film

The untitled film is reportedly set in the 1940s, during the time of India's partition. It will delve into the emotional toll of migration and the impact of historical upheaval on personal relationships. Sources indicate that the film is set in Punjab and follows a young couple whose lives are torn apart in the wake of partition. "Set in the 1940s, the movie looks at Partition and its after-effects from the lens of two lovers. While Sharvari plays the young female lead opposite Vedang, Imtiaz is in talks with two more leading ladies for other prominent roles as the film revolves around different generations of families," a source tells Mid-Day.

film debut with the Varun Dhawan-starrer October (2018), was last seen in Ravi Chhabria's Detective Sherdil. It is where Imtiaz spotted Banita and cast her opposite Diljit. They were spotted shooting near the Asiatic Library in Mumbai.

Sharvari's Film With Imtiaz Ali Announced On Her Birthday

The announcement was made on Sharvari's birthday. The actor took to Instagram and expressed her happiness, stating that she had always manifested to be directed by



Shah Rukh Khan's Manager Pooja Dadlani's Mother Passes Away



Shah Rukh Khan's manager and close ally Pooja Dadlani's mother has passed away. While the reason behind her sudden death is unknown, the news of her demise was shared by paparazzi account Instant Bollywood on their social media. The account shared a video of Pooja stepping out of her car, looking visibly distressed. The video also featured her looking irritated by the camera's presence as the ambulance reached the residence with the mortal remains of her mother. The video showed Pooja signalling to the paparazzi, questioning what they were doing.

Who is Pooja Dadlani?

Pooja Dadlani has been a strong name in the entertainment industry. She has been managing Shah Rukh Khan for over a decade now and, apart from his personal work, also handles the business affairs of his production company, Red Chillies Entertainment. She also effectively manages SRK's IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders and is often seen in the company of the Khan family at different events.

According to Bollywood Life, she did her schooling at Bai Awabai Framji Petit Girls High School and graduated from HR College of Commerce and Economics in Mumbai. She also holds a degree in Mass Communication. In 2008, Pooja wed businessman Hitesh Gurnani, with whom she has a daughter named Rena. Hitesh is the director of a company engaged in making jewellery. Pooja is paid between Rs 7 and Rs 9 crore annually, according to a DNA report. Pooja's net worth was between Rs 40 and Rs 50 crore, as per a MensXP report published in 2021. In the last two years, it might have grown even more. Apart from this, Pooja owns a blue Mercedes car and a house in Bandra.

Pooja Dadlani was one of the biggest supports to SRK during the infamous case against his son Aryan Khan in 2021. Pooja was constantly on the move, running to police stations and courtrooms on behalf of the Shah Rukh Khan family. It was one of those instances where Pooja's association with SRK in the controversy demonstrated how close she was to the family.

Asia Cup 2025: Raveena Tandon Hopes Team India 'Wears Black Bands' And Takes Victory Against Pakistan



The India vs Pakistan match for the Asia Cup 2025 is happening today, September 14, and while everyone usually sits with popcorn in hand for every India-Pakistan match, this time it's different. In light of the Pahalgam attack in April, people have called for a boycott. With a few hours left to go, Raveena Tandon, who echoes a similar sentiment, hopes that Team India will at least pay tribute to the victims by wearing black bands.

While taking to her X account, Raveena wrote, "So ok, the match is on. I hope our team plays with black bands on and takes knee before taking victory." She mirrored the same sentiment on her Instagram stories and wrote, "Hope the team wears black bands and takes a knee. A minute's silence for the fallen. And then take a victory. @indiancricketteam #bcc1." While sharing a message on her Instagram, she re-shared a news article stating that BCCI stands by its stance and the team has no choice but to play against Pakistan.

Suniel Shetty, who is the father-in-law of KL Rahul, also spoke about the highly talked-about match and said, "It's a world sporting body. They have to abide by those rules and regulations because there are a lot of other sports and a lot of athletes involved in them. As Indians, I think that is our personal call that we have to take—whether we want to see it, whether we don't want to see it, whether we want to go or not go. That's a call India has to take."

He further defended the cricketers, emphasising that they are simply doing their job: "You cannot blame cricketers for playing because they are sportsmen, they are expected to represent the country. I think that's a call we have to take. If I'm not going to see it, I'm not going to see it. It's for you to decide what each one of you wants to do. It's not in BCCI's hands. It's a world sporting body and you can't blame anybody."

Why are people boycotting the match?

An India-Pakistan cricket clash is always a high-voltage affair, but the upcoming match in Dubai carries even greater significance given the recent tensions between the two nations. This will be their first encounter since both countries nearly went to war in May 2025, before a ceasefire was brokered by international mediators after the Pahalgam terror attack.



While most of us love bidding goodbye to the harsh and hot summer months and welcome the transition to cooler climates, at least one part of our body doesn't agree with us!

Our skin, especially in people who have dry skin, feels the extreme brunt of winter as icy winds make it scaly, itchy, irritated and dry like sand.

While you cannot control the climate, you can certainly take some measures to reduce the trauma that the cold season inflicts upon your skin. Make no mistake, as much as your body needs a transition to winter clothes, your skincare regimen also needs to change to suit the needs of the colder months. Hence, Dr Veena Rao, Dermatologist from Bangalore has come up with some tips to adopt as winter sets in.

1. Make sure your products are have moisturising ingredients

Refurbish your dressing table. Remove all skincare products that are alcoholic or astringent or water based as they zip away all oil from your skin. Replace them with products that are thicker, cream-based and moisturizing. And this means changing everything, right from face wash to cleanser to moisturizer to scrub. Each product you use should be cream based and moisturizing so that the skin's natural oil is retained and augmented. Even sunscreen should be changed from gel to lotion or cream based.

2. Get a cream based thick moisturizer with UV protection

Need we even say this? A moisturizer is the single most important skincare accessory.



It is not just a remedy for dry skin, but it is also a very important antidote for early ageing. Loss of moisture is one of the two prime reasons for skin ageing (other is exposure to UV radiation). You need to immediately get your hands on a very good moisturizer that also offers UV protection so that your skin also remains protected against harmful UV radiation.

3. Go for steam therapy and exfoliation

As we apply loads of moisturizers and cold creams on our skin, the pores tend to get blocked. The creamy skin products also tend to attract more dirt and grime, which further

blocks the skin pores. Over time, this residue covers the top most layer of the skin in the form of dead cells. This may also ignite acne. To help the skin cope better, subject it to steam therapy once every week; this helps open the pores. At the same time also use a good face scrub once a week to help remove the dead cells. These procedures make the skin more receptive to moisturizers and also prevent allergies.

Add oil to your bath. No matter how much moisturizer you apply, bathing washes it all off. It is a good idea to add a few drops of olive oil to your bath water to give your skin a healing bath.

4. Go for moisturizing medi-facials

Medi-facials are not the usual facial massages that you get in beauty salons. Medi-facials are medically designed facial treatments that treat the nutritional deficits in your skin. If you have extremely dry skin, your dermatologist will examine its needs and prepare a customized medi-facial for you complete with infusion of vitamins and moisturizing agents into your skin using micro-jets. Visit a dermatologist to have your skin examined.

5. Increase intake of omega 3 fatty acids and vitamin E

Omega 3 fatty acids and vitamin E help the skin retain moisture and provide more resilience to it. Increase intake of food rich in these inputs such as fish, olive oil, nuts and cucumbers.

6. Use hyaluronic acid based fillers

When administered into the skin, hyaluronic acid based fillers like Juvederm help increase the skin's water absorption and retention ability. This provides the skin a radiant glow and also serves to hydrate the skin. As the skin absorbs and retains more water from the atmosphere, it would better deal with the winter dryness.

Fight off dry

SKin

and keep it radiant



Paint your pout mocha this winter season



Ditch basic and boring shades, try crimson, cranberry, oxblood, chocolate, blackest berry and blueberry on your pout this winter, says an expert.

Bharti Taneja, Cosmetologist, Aesthetician and Founder-Director of ALPS Beauty Group, has suggested a few shades that could make you look more trendy and daring:

1. Dark-matte lips: You can use a lot of rich, melodramatic shades like wine, plum, oxblood, masala, chocolate, coffee and cappuccino browns to turn away the winter gloom.

Just make sure to create a smooth canvas for your colour by scrubbing and moisturising your lips beforehand to get the best out of your matte.

2. Vampire lips: As eyes are going to downplay this season, you can go a little more bold while choosing your

lip colour and round-upon for shades like venom, blackest berry, extra-dark maroon, blueberry, violet, deep wine or plums and even black.

3. Pastel and bright pink lips: Bring out all your summer favourites like salmon, fuchsia, carnation, baby, hot, rose and all other forms pink.

4. Red lips: Paint your pout in all shades of red including ruby, blood, brick, cherry, crimson, candy, cranberry reds. This will surely let you infuse some warmth to the winter chill.

5. Neutral lips: Let a no-colour pout say it all for you the season of icy-chill. Choose nude glosses or lip colours like beige, mocha, peach, taupe, honey or salmon pink to match it with your skin-tone well as the weather.

6. Shimmer lips: Some shine on your lips is sure to glamourise the gloomy mood of autumn-winter, making sparkly lips a hit this season.

Simple tips to look your best on your D-Day

Every woman wants to be the centre of attraction and look perfect on special day. Start your skin care from taking at least six to eight hours sleep and eat a lot of super foods as they help in repairing skin cells, says an expert. Monika Sood, expert and managing director of TBC by Nature, an all natural cosmetic brand, has shared some tips to make it easy for you this bridal season.

- Sleep better: Start your skin care from taking at least six to eight hours sleep everyday for avoiding dark circles or tired eyes. Good proportion of sleep helps to rejuvenate you and balance your hormones. This is the most important thing you need to look like a princess on your special day and also drink 12-15 glasses of water daily to remove toxins from your body.

- Eat super foods: A lot of vitamins and antioxidants super foods can help you fight with skin problems. It can also repair your skin cells. You need to eat Vitamin C rich citrus fruits everyday like papaya, kiwi fruit, guava and watermelon.

- Cleansing your skin: Leave your regular cleansing routine aside for winters. Swap your cleansing milk for rose water, honey, turmeric, sandalwood paste or even saffron face wash to boost your glowing skin naturally.

- Homemade herbal face packs: This is the natural way to get smooth, glowing and supple skin. There are some home-made face packs given below:-

- Tulsi face pack for removing sun tan: Tulsi is known for its antibacterial, anti-fungal properties. Due to its healing properties, tulsi helps in removing sun tan, pigmentation and dark patches.

Method: Crush a few tulsi leaves with a little rose water, add two tablespoon of fine sugar, add one tablespoon of lemon juice. Now

properly mix it and apply the mixture to your face and neck. Leave it for 10 minutes. While removing the pack gently scrub your face in circular motions especially the sun tan areas. Wash your face using cold water and pat dry.

- Rose petal face pack for bridal glow: Rose has been the main ingredient in making beauty products from many years. You can prepare a rose petal face pack with some rose petals which gives natural glowing skin.

Method: Crush the rose petals with some milk for oily skin and with milk cream for dry skin. Apply the face pack for 20 minutes and wash with lukewarm water. Apply this face pack twice a week.

- Exfoliate your elbows: Most of the times brides only focus on improving skin tone but forget about their elbows. You must get rid of the dead skin and dry patches on your elbow to get that wholesome beauty.

Mix salt and lemon to make an exfoliating scrub. Apply this scrub on a daily basis for couple of weeks. This will give you miraculous results.

