

Faith Amid Borders : Sikh Leaders Challenge Govt Ban on Pilgrimage to Pakistan

The Sikh Times
Simmi Kaur Babbar

New Delhi, 16th September

Amid rising tension and fervent religious sentiment, Sardar Gurcharan Singh Babbar, President of the All India Sikh Conference (Babbar), has issued a strong appeal to the Indian Government to allow Sikh devotees to visit their sacred shrines in Pakistan this year, especially on the occasion of Guru Nanak Dev Maharaj's Prakash Utsav. Babbar insists that no power in the world can prevent Sikhs from visiting Shri Nankana Sahib, Shri Kartarpur Sahib, and other places of sacred importance. He frames the issue not as a political dispute but as one of deep religious faith and community sentiment. All India Sikh Conference Babbar ke President Sardar Gurcharan Singh Babbar ne kaha hai ki duniya ki koi takat Sikho ko Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji ke Pavitra sthan Shri Nankana Sahib aur Shri Kartarpur Sahib jaane se bahut dinon tak rok nahin sakti...babbar has also warned that denying Sikhs from permission



to make such pilgrimages could ignite widespread opposition among Sikh communities in India, and provoke criticism at the international level. According to statements issued by the Union Home Ministry, the Indian Government has not granted permission for Sikh pilgrim groups

(jathas) to travel to Pakistan for the Prakash Utsav of Guru Nanak Dev Ji in November 2025. The government's official reason is security concerns arising from the current situation with Pakistan. In particular, a notice issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs on 12 September 2025 states that, owing to the

prevailing security scenario with Pakistan, it would not be possible for Sikh pilgrims to undertake cross-border travel to Pakistani sacred sites such as Gurdwara Nankana Sahib via regular pilgrimage arrangements. Sikh religious bodies (including the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee or SGPC) as well as political leaders in Punjab have sharply condemned the blockade, calling it hurtful to the religious sentiments of millions. Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has criticized the government's decision, highlighting a glaring inconsistency: that India allows sports exchanges (like the India-Pakistan cricket match) but bars pilgrimage—a matter he calls "faith, not politics." There are appeals both from Sikh organizations and diaspora groups asking the government to reconsider for the sake of preserving communal harmony and respecting religious freedoms. The Kartarpur Corridor, established in 2019, had been functioning as a visa-free route for Sikh pilgrims from India to reach Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, Pakistan. However, following increased India-

Pakistan tensions after the Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025 and other security incidents, travel across the border has been suspended and the corridor closed since May 2025. Sikh pilgrims normally begin preparations months in advance (passport collection, visa applications etc.). With the government's refusal, many devotees are left uncertain and disappointed. The refusal by the Indian Government to grant permission for Sikh yatris to visit Pakistan for Guru Nanak Dev Maharaj's Prakash Utsav reflects a delicate intersection of religion, community expectations, and national security. For many Sikhs, this is not simply a matter of travel, but of identity, faith and collective memory. As Sardar Gurcharan Singh Babbar and associated Sikh bodies continue to press their case, the government faces not only a test of security decision-making but also of balancing religious freedom with diplomatic and cross-border considerations. Unless a compromise or safe mechanism is found, the issue is likely to remain a flashpoint in Sikh-government relations in coming months.

DMK's Annadurai 'Endorses' Vijay In AI Video, DMK Says 'Cheap Tactic'

TVK's Annadurai AI video was silent on the AIADMK, fuelling speculation Vijay, aware he needs the backing of one of the two big Dravidian political parties, is keeping the door open.

Agency Chennai.

Campaigning for next year's Tamil Nadu election took a theatrical twist this week after actor-politician Vijay's Tamilaga Vettai Kazhagam released an AI-generated video of former Chief Minister CN Annadurai, the founder of the now-ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, criticising the party and endorsing him. The DMK hit back swiftly and condemned the TVK's 'cheap tactics'. Party spokesperson A Saravanan said, "This is a deepfake video and a cheap tactic for political gain. Using AI for social good is fine... but misusing it for politics? The people will see through it." He also rejected talk of an

'understanding' with the BJP, something Vijay has repeatedly claimed. The video in question showed 'Annadurai' declaring the young Tamil men and women who powered him to victory in the 1967 election, in which the Congress was defeated, would ensure Vijay's win in 2026. "The youth stood with me in 1967... today they are behind you (Vijay). Just like me, an ordinary man who rose to be Chief Minister, you too have come up through hard work. You know the hunger and needs of the working class (and) that is why I call on you to lead," the AI-generated Annadurai said.



Periyar, as a policy leader and drawing inspiration from his life. "When you identified Periyar as your 'policy leader', I understood your egalitarian politics is on the right track. Those who continued the rule

with my name and picture (referring to the current-day DMK) worked for their sons' upliftment and not for the people's development," AI-

Annadurai said. "Your exposition of their tacit understanding with the central government has removed the thorn in my heart. Let everyone say Vijay's rule is in Annadurai's way... let the TVK win." The two minute, 32-second video also referred to the Hindi imposition row, a sensitive subject in the southern state and one that has already been raked up - in the state vs centre spat over the National Education Policy - ahead of the election.

"Khada Ho, Khada Ho": Nitish Kumar Orders Standing Ovation For PM Modi

Prime Minister Modi was at Purnea in eastern Bihar yesterday to inaugurate projects worth Rs 36,000 crore, including the first airport in the politically sensitive Seemanchal region

New Delhi.(Agency)

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, once a harsh critic of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, asked a gathering in Bihar's Purnea to give him a standing ovation for the development projects the Centre is implementing in the state. The Prime Minister was at Purnea in eastern Bihar yesterday to inaugurate projects worth Rs 36,000 crore, including the first airport in the politically sensitive Seemanchal region. The BJP hopes that the announcements will reap dividends in the upcoming election.

Addressing the gathering, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar thanked the Prime Minister for the development in Bihar and the country. "I would like to say something. He has done so much for Bihar. Please stand up and greet him. Why are you all sitting?" he said, as the crowd cheered and Prime Minister Modi bowed with folded hands. "The state government has been doing it anyway, and with his support, Bihar will surge ahead," the Chief Minister said.



In an apparent swipe at rival Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), the Bihar Chief Minister contrasted the current pace of development in Bihar with the situation during the RJD regime. "Before our government was formed on November 24, 2005, there was nothing in Bihar. The previous government did nothing. After we came, continuous work was done," he said, without naming anyone. Nitish Kumar's JDU is among the key allies of the BJP at the Centre and its support was crucial in the formation of Modi 3.0 government after the BJP fell short of the magic number in the Lok Sabha polls last year. Interestingly, Nitish Kumar had walked out of NDA over the BJP's choice of Narendra Modi as its Prime Ministerial face before the 2014 polls.

Kashmir highway closure: CM Omar urges Centre to hand over NH-44 to J&K administration

SRINAGAR.(Agency)

The prolonged closure of the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway, the only road link connecting the Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country, has sparked widespread unrest among fruit growers and traders, who claim to have suffered losses exceeding Rs 1,000 crore. As the crisis escalates, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah has spoken to Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari and urged the Centre to hand over control of the highway to the Jammu and Kashmir administration. "Spoke to Union Minister @MORTHIndia @nitin_gadkari Sb regarding the

situation along NH-44 and the lack of connectivity with the rest of the country along this vital link," Omar posted on X (formerly Twitter).

Calling the frustration of fruit growers "understandable", he said, "They have been very patient for the first few days, but watching their hard work rot because @nhidcl is unable to stabilise the highway, their patience has worn thin, and that is totally understandable. Some concrete steps will be taken within the next 24 hours to address this problem, but I will wait for that to happen before saying more about the proposed plan of



action." The 270-km-long highway was closed for traffic on 25 August due to extensive damage caused by heavy rainfall. While light motor vehicles have now been allowed, the movement of trucks remains restricted.

On Monday, all fruit mandis in Kashmir, including Asia's second-largest in Sopore, remained closed for the second consecutive day in protest against the continued highway closure.

Fruit growers staged protests across the Valley, expressing deep anguish over rotting produce and halted supplies. "Apple is a perishable fruit and its timely delivery is critical. Apples are rotting in trucks, mandis and godowns, we are staring at a bleak future," said one protesting grower. The Kashmir Valley produces between 20 to 25 lakh metric tonnes of apples annually.

PM Modi's charges regarding 'foreign infiltrators' a 'diversionary tactic' similar to that used in Jharkhand: Tejaswi

The leader of the opposition in the Bihar assembly noted that similar tactics were used by the BJP in Jharkhand ahead of the Assembly elections.

New Delhi.(Agency) RJD leader Tejaswi Yadav on Tuesday called Prime Minister Narendra Modi's accusations of "aiding and defending foreign infiltrators" a "diversionary tactic" ahead of the assembly elections in Bihar. Speaking to reporters in Patna, Yadav said, "Let us, for a moment, assume that there are infiltrators in Bihar. Then the question arises, what have you (Modi) been doing all along? You have been in power for 11 years. Besides, you (BJP-led NDA) have been ruling the state for 20 years."

The leader of the opposition in the Bihar assembly noted that similar tactics were used by the BJP in Jharkhand ahead of the Assembly elections. "I must point out that it is a bogey they had similarly raised in



Jharkhand last year when assembly polls were underway there. Now they have forgotten about that," he said. He alleged that accusations regarding foreign infiltrators are used by the BJP which is an alliance partner in the ruling NDA, to hide its failure in providing good

governance in the state.

"The issue of infiltration is raised as diversionary tactics. The NDA realises its failure in providing good governance, ensuring that people had jobs, education, health care, and their grievances were quickly and effectively redressed," he said.

The former deputy chief minister also expressed hope that the INDIA alliance will defeat the NDA in the upcoming polls.

"We will form a government that ensures 'padhai', 'dawaai', 'kamaai', 'sunwaa' aur 'karwaa' (education, medicines, jobs, grievance redressal and taking measures to resolve issues). I am starting Bihar Adhikar Yatra with this very message", the RJD leader said.

News box

NGT seeks Hry's stand on construction, tree felling in Raisina Hills in Gurgaon

Gurgaon. (Agency)

NGT has directed the Haryana govt to file an affidavit through its chief secretary within four weeks in a case alleging illegal felling of trees and construction in the ecologically sensitive Raisina Hills in Gurgaon.

The petition has accused private parties of clearing forest patches, carving out plots, and carrying out road construction on gair-mumkin pahar land in Raisina village, Sohna. The plea argued that such activities are barred under a 1992 notification (amended in 1999) and also fall under the Punjab Land Preservation Act, 1900, which prohibits tree felling. Photographs submitted before the tribunal showed extensive clearing and construction in progress. In May this year, an NGT bench led by chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava ordered the Haryana chief secretary to ensure no illegal construction or tree felling took place in the area and to file an affidavit on action taken. The matter came up again on Sept 11 before a bench comprising Justice Arun Kumar Tyagi, judicial magistrate, Dr A. Senthil Vel, expert member, and Dr Afroz Ahmad, expert member. Counsels for respondents 2 (state of Haryana) and 5 (divisional commissioner, Gurgaon) have sought more time to file the affidavit. The bench has granted four weeks and listed the case for Dec 9, 2025.

"Respondents 3 and 4 have already filed their reply, while others have been asked to submit responses within the same period," the order stated, adding "Affidavit by Chief Secretary, Govt of Haryana may be filed within four weeks." The tribunal said its interim order—barring construction and tree felling—will continue until further orders. Though demolition drives have been carried out against encroachments in the protected Raisina Hills of the Aravalis, TOI's visit to the area on Dec 25 last year revealed that new boundary walls and buildings were being constructed at several sites, while at others, gates were being put.

Gurgaon civic body to launch sealing drive against property tax defaulters

Gurgaon. (Agency)

MCG has identified 65 property owners with outstanding dues of more than Rs 1 crore each. Beginning Tuesday, the civic body will launch a sealing drive against these defaulters. According to officials, most of the targeted properties are commercial establishments and industrial units. The move is part of MCG's ongoing efforts to recover long-pending property tax arrears and widen its revenue base. "We will start the sealing drive from Tuesday, as we have identified 65 properties that have outstanding property tax dues. Notices have already been sent to the property owners," said an MCG official privy to the matter. Property tax is one of the major sources of revenue, along with stamp duty for MCG, which is one of the highest revenue-earning municipal corporations of Haryana. In the current financial year (FY), the property tax revenue projection is pegged at Rs 275 crore, which is less than last FY's projection of Rs 300 crore. MCG has generated a revenue of Rs 200 crore till Aug this year, which is around 72% of its target set for the current FY.

For residential properties with a plot size of up to 300 sq yards, the property tax rate is Rs 1 per sq yard. For plot sizes measuring 301 sq yards to 500 sq yards, the property tax is Rs 4 per sq yard, while it is Rs 6 per sq yard for plots of 501 sq yards to 1,000 sq yards. Moreover, owners have to pay Rs 7 per sq yard for plots from 1,001 sq yards to two acres, and Rs 10 per sq yard for plots spread over two acres of land or more. TOI reported on Aug 6 that the civic body introduced artificial intelligence (AI) to boost revenue from property tax. Using AI, residents with outstanding dues are being identified and approached, and their queries are being resolved. AI also assists them in paying their property tax dues.

Noida starts survey to assess crop loss due to Yamuna floods

Noida. (Agency)

Noida: The district administration has started surveys to assess the extent of crop damage in flood-affected villages along Yamuna for compensation under the Chief Minister Farmer Disaster Assistance Scheme.

Additional district magistrate (finance/revenue) Atul Kumar said 170 farmers from Jawar block, the worst-hit by the floods, have been identified during the survey so far and the numbers are expected to go up. "Lekhpal (revenue officials) of each village have been instructed to carry out detailed surveys and record the extent of crop damage. Farmers whose fields suffered damage of more than 33% of the total area will be eligible for compensation under disaster assistance scheme," Kumar said. "Govt will begin releasing compensation once the survey report is submitted." Water level in the river started to rise from Aug 28, a day after Yamuna breached the danger mark of 205.33 metres in Delhi's Old Railway Bridge following intense showers in the catchment areas and release of copious volumes of water from upstream Hathnikund barrage in Haryana. The river touched the danger mark of 200.6 metres at Okhla Barrage on Sept 4, submerging extensive areas of farmland, nurseries, sports stadiums and farmhouses, and compelling more than 3,700 residents to abandon their homes and livelihoods for higher grounds. Several cattle were also rescued. The impact was predominantly observed across 18 villages lining the Yamuna, including Raipur Bangar, Wajidpur, Chak Basantpur, Nagli Behrampur, Chak Mangrola, Dostpur Mangroli Khadar, Gulavali, and Kambakshpur. Subsequently, the administration set up 18 relief centres. Officials said the maximum damage was reported from Jawar block, where large tracts of farmland with harvest-ready jowar, bajra and paddy remained under water for nearly two weeks. "Paddy, sown in mid-June, was to be harvested in Oct and Nov. We had not anticipated flooding so late in the season. All my crops were destroyed."

Three injured as two pelt stones at home after parking dispute in Gurgaon, land in police net

Gurgaon. (Agency)

Two men were arrested on Monday for allegedly pelting stones and bricks at a house in Arjun Nagar, injuring three members of a family following a parking dispute. According to witnesses, two men in a Corolla Altis car with a Faridabad registration number became agitated after they found a bike blocking their way in a narrow street in Arjun Nagar late Sunday night. As the driver repeatedly honked, residents came out of their homes to assess the situation. Occupants of the car, while hurling abuses at a resident, Gaurav, asked him to remove the bike. Gaurav clarified that the bike did not belong to him and had been parked there by a neighbour. Despite this, the accused allegedly manhandled him, though he was soon rescued by other bystanders. Shortly afterwards, the group returned to the spot with reinforcements and attacked the family, including women, by throwing stones and bricks at their house. The incident was caught on CCTV cameras.

In his complaint, Gaurav said that his wife came outside upon hearing the argument, and the two individuals in the car used abusive

language towards her. The two then left but returned shortly with 15-20 associates and attacked him with bricks and stones. When his family came out, they were also threatened. After being informed, police apprehended the two accused, Naveen alias Nandu (23) and Deepesh (21) from Gurgaon. Police said both are Gurgaon residents.

SI Manoj Kumar, in-charge of Arjun Nagar Police Post, said, "Naveen owns a meat shop in Madanpuri, and Deepesh owns a photography shop in New Colony. The police have also recovered the car involved in the incident from the accused." ASI Sandeep, a spokesperson, said, "Footage captured by residents from nearby rooftops shows men from both sides throwing stones. A video of the incident is being reviewed, and the registration number of the vehicle is being used to identify the suspects."

Pooja, the wife of the victim, said her husband received multiple stitches on his head and sustained injuries to his ears. "We never met them before, and now we want strict action against them. They pelted numerous bricks inside our house and also targeted the ladies," Pooja said.

Major revamp kicks off at Shankar Chowk in Gurgaon to combat traffic gridlocks

Gurgaon. (Agency)

Traffic police, along with local authorities, have begun revamping Shankar Chowk to alleviate congestion after conducting a detailed study—in a "step-by-step", three-phase facelift.

Severe congestion near Shankar Chowk—a vital junction connecting the city with Delhi—has become a major issue, with over four lakh vehicles crossing the Sirhaul toll plaza (Delhi-Gurgaon border) daily. The revamp started on Sunday following the detailed survey—conducted by Traffic Engineering Centre, which works in coordination with traffic police—that highlighted key traffic issues and recommended "actionable solutions". During the evening rush hour, the survey recorded over 1,000 pedestrians crossing the junction within just 15 minutes and around 4,000 vehicles passing through the area. The study noted that congestion is "not solely due to vehicular volume but is significantly worsened by high pedestrian traffic".

A step-by-step makeover of Shankar Chowk is underway to ease traffic congestion," says DCP (Traffic) Rajesh Mohan. According to the police, Shankar Chowk will be redeveloped in three phases, with the first phase commencing on Sunday. In the first phase, authorities removed sand from the side of the carriageway and cemented the uneven path to either create a pedestrian walkway or widen the road. Traffic inspector, Highway-1, Lokesh said, "We removed some blockages caused by cemented barriers on the main carriageway opposite Ambience Mall using earthmovers and also widened the roadside to provide extra space for commuters. Additional barricading has been put in place to separate traffic going towards the mall, residential societies, Shankar Chowk, or Jaipur. Over four lakh vehicles pass through this road daily, creating major traffic issues near Shankar Chowk and thus we started the revamp." In the second phase, the pedestrian subway is expected to become functional in a few



Pachgaon metro route to link growth hubs in Gurgaon and Manesar, to have 28 stations

Gurgaon. (Agency)

The planned 35.2km metro line connecting Sector 56 to Pachgaon moved a step closer to realisation, with officials confirming that the detailed project report (DPR) will be submitted to Haryana govt for approval within a week. The Haryana Mass Rapid Transport Corporation (HMRTC) is currently examining the DPR for the Rs 8,500-crore project, which will feature 28 stations along an entirely elevated corridor meant to serve both residential and industrial hubs. "The DPR has been submitted by the agency (RITES) and we are examining it. Once the review is complete, we will forward it to the state govt for approval," a senior HMRTC official said on Monday.

The financing model for the project has been the subject of changes over the past year. RITES had proposed an equity-sharing model, with 20% contributions each from the state and Centre, and 60% through soft loans. But chief minister Nayab Singh Saini decided in Nov 2024

that the state would fund the entire project. The Haryana State Industrial and Infrastructure Development Corporation (HSIIDC) subsequently committed Rs 1,500 crore as seed money to kickstart the work. A revised proposal approved by the state govt in Jan includes a 10% grant from the Centre, applicable to the total project cost, excluding private investment, land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement expenses and state taxes.

The remaining will follow a debt-equity ratio of 80:20, with the state bearing the larger share. The corridor will connect critical growth centres including Golf Course Extension Road, Southern Peripheral Road, Central Peripheral Road, Dwarka Expressway sectors, the upcoming Global City, Manesar, and Pachgaon. The station at Sector 56 will serve as an interchange with the existing Rapid Metro, while Kherki Daula and Pachgaon stations will provide connectivity with the Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), strengthening

Gurgaon's transportation links with Delhi and beyond. Once approved by the state, the proposal will be forwarded to the Union ministry of housing and urban affairs for final clearance. For residents of Gurgaon's newer sectors, which have experienced rapid growth over the past decade but lack adequate public transport, the metro line represents a crucial infrastructure upgrade. "We have been living here for nearly a decade, but there is no public transport. We have no choice but to rely on private cars. With thousands of vehicles on roads, congestion has become commonplace. A metro line is the only way commuting will become easier and more comfortable," said Dharam Veer Singh, RWA president of Mapsko Casaballa.

Separately, groundwork for the city's new metro line between Millennium City Centre and Cyber City has picked up pace. A traffic management plan is being prepared, and construction work is set to begin from Oct.

Riddled with craters after monsoon, revamp for 110km of Gurgaon roads by Oct end

Gurgaon. (Agency)

Restoration and strengthening of all roads damaged during monsoon will be completed by the end of Oct, said deputy commissioner Ajay Kumar. All departments have been instructed to work in coordination to ensure the project is completed on time, he said. Roads in the district are managed by multiple agencies—MCG, GMDA, NHAI, MCM, HSIIDC, PWD and the marketing board. MCG commissioner Pradeep Dahiya said the corporation has identified 110km of roads for restoration, which will cost around Rs 60 crore. MCG aims to fill all potholes by the end of Sept and complete the restoration and strengthening processes by Oct-end, he said. Kumar, after a review meeting chaired by chief minister Nayab Singh Saini, said, "All departments should complete tasks in a timely manner to provide better roads to citizens. The areas

where roads were damaged due to rain should be prioritised for swift action." An estimate of Rs 17 crore was prepared for the repair of 29 roads spanning 23km under the PWD department. The work will begin within the next three weeks after the tendering process. Moreover, work has already started on 46 roads, over 5.3km, in Sector 37 under HSVP at a cost of Rs 3.3 crore. This will be completed by Oct. Similarly, an estimate of Rs 9 crore has been

prepared for the repair of 72 roads, over 13km, in the Pataudi area. The DC further said that out of the 110 roads under Haryana state agricultural marketing board, 2 roads in Budhara were damaged during the monsoon and repair work on these will start soon.

"Out of the six roads under HSIIDC, work on four has been completed. In Manesar, restoration work will be undertaken at six locations, with tenders for five allocated," he said. During monsoon, 1,107km of roads under PWD have been damaged and an estimated amount of Rs 287 crore will be spent on their repair. Apart from this, tenders have been issued for 240km of roads under HUDA and the tender process is ongoing for another 208km. Work on 209 roads under Haryana state agricultural marketing board has been completed at a cost of Rs 89 crore.

On Aug 28, the DC said, "The monsoon has caused extensive damage to roads in the Pataudi area. We have started the repair work on 29 roads, which will be completed by Oct end. We are also working on 46 roads in Sector 37 under HSVP. The repair work is progressing well." The DC further said that out of the 110 roads under Haryana state agricultural marketing board, 2 roads in Budhara were damaged during the monsoon and repair work on these will start soon.

"Out of the six roads under HSIIDC, work on four has been completed. In Manesar, restoration work will be undertaken at six locations, with tenders for five allocated," he said. During monsoon, 1,107km of roads under PWD have been damaged and an estimated amount of Rs 287 crore will be spent on their repair. Apart from this, tenders have been issued for 240km of roads under HUDA and the tender process is ongoing for another 208km. Work on 209 roads under Haryana state agricultural marketing board has been completed at a cost of Rs 89 crore.

On Aug 28, the DC said, "The monsoon has caused extensive damage to roads in the Pataudi area. We have started the repair work on 29 roads, which will be completed by Oct end. We are also working on 46 roads in Sector 37 under HSVP. The repair work is progressing well." The DC further said that out of the 110 roads under Haryana state agricultural marketing board, 2 roads in Budhara were damaged during the monsoon and repair work on these will start soon.

On Aug 28, the DC said, "The monsoon has caused extensive damage to roads in the Pataudi area. We have started the repair work on 29 roads, which will be completed by Oct end. We are also working on 46 roads in Sector 37 under HSVP. The repair work is progressing well." The DC further said that out of the 110 roads under Haryana state agricultural marketing board, 2 roads in Budhara were damaged during the monsoon and repair work on these will start soon.

Haryana govt plans decentralised renewable energy solutions for villages

Ghaziabad. (Agency)

Haryana actor and filmmaker Uttar Kumar—widely known for his 2004 film Dhakad Chora—was detained early on Monday from his farmhouse in Amroha following allegations of rape and intimidation levelled by a 25-year-old colleague. The police action came after the complainant—an actor herself—attempted suicide outside the chief minister's residence in Lucknow, accusing the authorities of inaction. The actor, who first met Kumar in Aug 2020 through a music project, alleged he exploited his position in the industry to sexually harass and assault her under the pretext of landing her film roles. "He expressed interest in collaborating with me on various film and music video projects. Thus, we exchanged phone numbers. Over time, he began to show personal interest in me, and complemented me by saying I could become a big star one day," she told TOI. She alleged that Kumar began inviting her to his office in Ghaziabad and his Amroha farmhouse, initially for work-related discussions. But the harassment, she said, escalated quickly. "The initial incidents of sexual harassment occurred around Aug and Sept 2020, when Uttar Kumar invited me to his office near DLF,



outside the CM office on Sept 6. Nishim Patil, DCP (trans-Hindon), said, "On the basis of the complaint, an FIR has been registered against Uttar Kumar under sections 376 (rape) and 506 (criminal intimidation) of IPC and relevant provisions of the SC/ST Act." The Sikhi Times

THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published
Owned by Simmi Babbar
N - 31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar

Delhi-110009

Printed at Qaumi Patrika Printing
Press, A4/A-144, Tronica City
(Loni), Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)

Corporate Office:

5, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
Press Area, ITO, New Delhi

Editor-in-Chief

Gurcharan Singh Babbar

Mob : 9654077239, 9971359517

Website : www.thesikhtimes.in

Email : sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

Jagdeep Chhokar's body donated to LHMC for medical research

New Delhi: Jagdeep Singh Chhokar, co-founder of the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and former Dean of the Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, passed away on Friday morning with family donating his body including eyes to the Department of Anatomy at Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC). It was facilitated by Dr. Sunita Sharma, Director-General of Health Services (DGHs), and supported by Dr. Sarita Beri, Director of LHMC. The department issued a statement saying, "A very fortunate moment for the Department of Anatomy to receive the voluntary body donation of late Jagdeep Singh Chhokar. He was a founding member of ADR and pledged this in 2020. Today, his whole body and eye donation were facilitated by Dr. Sunita Sharma and supported by the Director, LHMC." Sarita Beri, Director of LHMC, tweeted, "The Department of Anatomy humbly acknowledges the voluntary body donation of Late Jagdeep Singh Chhokar—founding member of Association for Democratic Reforms & former Dean, IIMA. Our gratitude to Ms. Kiran Chhokar & family for their invaluable contribution to advancing medical education." His body and eyes will be used for anatomical studies and medical research. Other prominent individuals who have donated their bodies include late CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury, whose family donated his body to AIIMS, New Delhi. Other prominent individuals who are former Lok Sabha Speaker Somnath Chatterjee, whose body was donated to SSKM Hospital in Kolkata for medical education and research; and former West Bengal Chief Minister Jyoti Basu, who pledged his body to SSKM Hospital in Kolkata for medical research.

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/16/2025-26, Dtd: 11-09-2025. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following works.

SI.No.:1: Tender No. : 83/25/0004B/OT/129/2025-26;

Closing/Opening Date: 13-10-2025.

Brief Description : Thermal tickets rolls of 500 each for unreserved ticketing system (UTS) as per specification under RB's commercial circular no. 12 of 2018 dated 09.02.2018 and 55 of 2018 dated 25.09.2018 [both attached]. Special note:- (1) Top coated thermal paper shall be with image durability of minimum two years. (2) Masking tape used for joining plain white paper at the end of last ticket shall be affixed on the front side of the ticket roll in such a manner that the black mark on behind of the ticket does not get over lapped. Tape should not cover ticket more than 5 mm. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] (1) Qty - 11890.00 Rolls for Dibrugarh Town/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (2) Qty-45356.00 Rolls for Guwahati/FORMS/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (3) Qty-36156.00 Rolls for Katihar/GSD, NFR (Bihar), (4) Qty- 31510 for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal), P.L.NO- 83250050.

SI.No.:2: Tender No. : 30/24/5110C/OT/130/2025-26;

Closing/Opening Date: 03-10-2025.

Brief Description : Stiffener Plate Part of Front Support plate for Balance Draft Gear as per RDSO Drawing No-RDSO/CG/DRG/24034 (With hardware item HT Hex Head Bolt M16x45, Hexagonal Castle Nut M 16 & split Pin 4x40) and Confirming to RDSO Specification as per Drawing No-RDSO/CG/DRG/24034 and RDSO/2011/CG-03 (Rev.03) or Latest. (To be procured from RDSO source for CBC), "IS 3885: Part II, Gr. V in stress relieved condition with maximum hardness 245 BHN in place of Heat treated, hardness - 35 HRC (minimum) - Note 5 of drawing number RDSO/CG/DRG/24034. All other parameters same as per this drawing" [Warranty Period: 84 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp. : No, Stages : 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). Qty- 4678 Nos for SSE/CLS/Dibrugarh Workshop, NFR (Assam), P.L.No- 336703190012.

SI.No.:3: Tender No. : 82/24/5964A/OT/131/2025-26;

Closing/Opening Date: 08-10-2025.

Brief Description : 2D/3D Echocardiography system, Qty- 1.00 Numbers for CENTRAL/MEDICAL/STORE, NFR (Assam), P.L.No.- 821229890011.

SI.No.:4: Tender No. : ML255102A/OT/132/2025-26;

Closing/Opening Date: Old dt. 30-10-2025/Original dt. 06-10-2025.

Brief Description : SUPPLY, INSTALLATION, TESTING & COMMISSIONING OF CVRS-IP BASED VIDEO SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM as per RDSO Spec no-RDSO/SPN/TC/106/2025, Version 3.1 or latest with all accessories required for fitment. [Warranty Period: 42 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp. No, Stages : 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). Qty- 72 set for SSE/D/MECH/Malda Town, NFR (West Bengal), P.L.No. 200011510021.

SI.No.:5: Tender No. : 70/25/0891/OT/133/2025-26;

Closing/Opening Date: 08-10-2025.

Brief Description : Vinyl Coated Fabric, 127/132 cm width, Shades and patterns as per RDSO sample No. A LNAC-03 (Colour blue). Mat. Spec.-RDSO Spec. No. RDSO/2008/CG-07, Rev-01 of Sept. 2023 or latest [Warranty Period: 54 Months after date of delivery] UVAM : Item Id:- 2400069 VINYL COATED UPHOLSTERY FABRIC (ARTIFICIAL LEATHER) FOR COACHING STOCK, CONFIRMING TO En45545 HL3 AS PER RDSO/208/CG-07 REV-01. (i) Qty-157500 Metre for Dibrugarh Town WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-200 Metre for DEMU, NFR (West Bengal), (iii) Qty-400 Metre for Katihar GSD, NFR (Bihar), (iv) Qty- 89000 Metre for New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (v) Qty-300 Metre for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR (West Bengal), (vi) Qty-3000 Metre for Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.-75401708.

Note :- For full details of Tender Notice and Tender Documents, Tenderer may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

PCMM, Maligaon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Serving Customers With A Smile

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, DURGA PRASAD S/O ARJUN SINGH R/O PLOT NO-28/S, SHIV VIHAR, SEAWA PARK, UTTAM NAGAR, PO: D.K MOHAN GARDEN, DIST: WEST DELHI, DELHI-110059, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as DURGA PRASAD JANTIWAL in my 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine is DURGA PRASAD, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, TRILOK SINGH S/O ROOP SINGH R/O PLOT NO-73, BLOCK-B, PHASE-1, OUTUB VIHAR, SOUTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110071, have changed the name of my minor son KARTIKEYA BISHIT aged 13 years and she hereafter be known as KARTIKEYA SINGH.

NAME CHANGE

I, DEEPIKA wife of Shri Navdeep daughter of Shri Vijay Singh resident of A-67, Pachiyai Moflai, Kanchi Road, Near Shri Mandir, Chhattisgarh, New Delhi-110043, have changed my name from "DEEPIKA LAMBA" to "DEEPIKA KA" in future for all purposes.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, Sirajudeen S/O Rahish Ahmed R/O A-230, Aman Vihar, Kiran Sevali, North West Delhi, Delhi -110066, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as ARUN KUMAR BAISLA and DHARMENDER SINGH in my 10th and 12th Educational Documents. The actual name of mine and my father is ARUN KUMAR BAISLA and DHARMENDER SINGH BAISLA which may be amended accordingly.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, ARUN KUMAR BAISLA S/o DHARMENDER SINGH BAISLA, residing at House No. 73, Police Colony, Near I.I.T. Gate, Hauz Khas, New Delhi-110016 declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as ARUN KUMAR and DHARMENDER SINGH in my 10th and 12th Educational Documents. The actual name of mine and my father is ARUN KUMAR BAISLA and DHARMENDER SINGH BAISLA which may be amended accordingly.

Public Notice

My Client Sh.Sabir Singh, s/o Karan Singh, R/o-H. No-175, village Bakhtawarpur, north-west, Delhi -110036 have severed all his relations socially, financially with his son ankit kalan in all respect due to his disobedient and hostile behavior thus my client has debarred and disowned him from his all moveable & immovable properties. My client shall not be responsible for his any acts in future.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, Rakesh Kumar, S/o Lal Kumar, R/o D-II, 1010, J. Colony, Madanpur Khadar, Sarita Vihar, S.O., DIST: South Delhi, Delhi - 110076, Declare that name of my Minor Daughter has been Wrongly written as SHANTI YADAV in my 10th and 12th passing certificates but her correct name is Palak Kumar in my Minor Daughter. Namely Palak aged 11 years in her Schedule Cast Certificate no. 90510000652903, the actual name of my Minor Daughter is Palak

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, SUBHASH CHANDRA SHARMA S/O SURAJ MAL SHARMA R/o House No. 147, Ground Floor, Ashoka Enclave Main, Sector-34, Amravati, Faridabad Haryana-121003, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as SUBHASH CHANDRA SHARMA which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MANJEET SINGH S/O SATBIR SINGH R/O Bainsi, Khurdi (31) Rohtak Haryana-124501, declare that name of mine and my wife has been wrongly written as MANJEET and SWIN in my minor son namely ANSH aged 17 years in his 10th class educational documents. The actual name of mine and my wife are MANJEET SINGH and SWIN RANI respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MOHAMMED NADEEM S/O ABDULLAH MOHAMMED JANEEZ resident of BUILDING NO-5, GROUND FLOOR, HAZRAT NIZAMUDDIN, NEW DELHI-110013 have changed my name to NADEEM ABDULLAH SIDYOT for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, CHORGE SHAKUNTALA mother of NO-14848870M Rank-NK, Name-PRADIP RAGHUNATH CHORGE R/O PVO-KHINDWADI, TEHSIL-SATARA, DIST-SATARA, MAHA-RASHTRA415004, have changed my name from CHORGE SHAKUNTALA to SHAKUNTALA RAGHUNATH CHORGE for all future purposes and in my son's service records my date of birth wrongly mentioned as 01/07/1956 instead of my correct date of birth as 21/04/1956 vide affidavit dated 16/09/2025 before Notary Public.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, PREETI YADAV d/o BALCHAND YADAV r/o 2/149, GROUND FLOOR, SUBHASH NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110027 declare that name of my Minor Daughter has been Wrongly written as Palak Kumar in my 10th and 12th passing certificates but her correct name is Palak Kumar in my Minor Daughter.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MOHAMMED NADEEM S/O ABDULLAH MOHAMMED JANEEZ resident of BUILDING NO-5, GROUND FLOOR, HAZRAT NIZAMUDDIN, NEW DELHI-110013 have changed my name to NADEEM ABDULLAH SIDYOT for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MOHD AHMED son of Late MUKHTAR HUSSAIN residing at H-NO-4885, GALI NO-1, BLOCK-9, EAST OLD SEELAMPUR, GANDHI NAGAR, DELHI-110031 declare that my father's name is MUKHTAR HUSSAIN mentioned in his other documents and myself documents. That MUKHTAR HUSSAIN and MUKHTAR HUSSAIN both name are the same and one person.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, Bala Jalan S/o Ali Jalan R/o House No RZ-30, Block RZ, Gali No 2 Silpatan Palam Village, PO: Palam Village, Dist: South West, Delhi, Delhi -110045, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as BALAJI in my minor Son namely Mohsin Ansari aged 17 years in his 10th educational documents. The actual name of mine and my father is Mohd Azharuddin, Md Zafear Alam and Ajamati Khatton.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, DEE (TRD & GS), Kathiawar, 15.00 hrs. of 06-10-2025 & opening at 15.30 hrs. of 06-10-2025. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. of 06-10-2025 in website www.ireps.gov.in

PROVISION OF INSULATION PAINT AT KATHIAR DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No.: EL-TRD_35_25-26: Dated: 09-09-2025.

E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works:

Name of work: Provision of insulation paint in connection with removal of OHE passage of DSDC at OLS under jurisdiction of DEE/TRD/Kathiar division. (Schedule-II).

Tender Value: ₹3,98,46,195/- **Earliest Money:** ₹3,49,200/- **E-tender will be closed at:** 15.00 hrs. on 06-10-2025 and Opened at 15.30 hrs. on 06-10-2025. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. on 03-10-2025 in website www.ireps.gov.in

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, Bala Jalan S/o Ali Jalan R/o House No RZ-30, Block RZ, Gali No 2 Silpatan Palam Village, PO: Palam Village, Dist: South West, Delhi, Delhi -110045 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as BALAJI in my minor Son namely Mohsin Ansari aged 17 years in his 10th educational documents. The actual name of mine and my father is Mohd Azharuddin, Md Zafear Alam and Ajamati Khatton.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, DEE (TRD & GS), Kathiawar, 15.00 hrs. of 06-10-2025 & opening at 15.30 hrs. of 06-10-2025. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. on 06-10-2025 in website www.ireps.gov.in

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, PREETI YADAV d/o BALCHAND YADAV r/o 2/149, GROUND FLOOR, SUBHASH NAGAR, NEW DELHI-110027 declare that name of my Minor Daughter has been Wrongly written as Palak Kumar in my 10th and 12th passing certificates but her correct name is Palak Kumar in my Minor Daughter.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MOHAMMED NADEEM S/O ABDULLAH MOHAMMED JANEEZ resident of BUILDING NO-5, GROUND FLOOR, HAZRAT NIZAMUDDIN, NEW DELHI-110013 have changed my name to NADEEM ABDULLAH SIDYOT for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MOHD AHMED son of Late MUKHTAR HUSSAIN residing at H-NO-4885, GALI NO-1, BLOCK-9, EAST OLD SEELAMPUR, GANDHI NAGAR, DELHI-110031 declare that my father's name is MUKHTAR HUSSAIN mentioned in his other documents and myself documents. That MUKHTAR HUSSAIN and MUKHTAR HUSSAIN both name are the same and one person.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, Bala Jalan S/o Ali Jalan R/o House No RZ-30, Block RZ, Gali No 2 Silpatan Palam Village, PO: Palam Village, Dist: South West, Delhi, Delhi -110045, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as BALAJI in my minor Son namely Mohsin Ansari aged 17 years in his 10th educational documents. The actual name of mine and my father is Mohd Azharuddin, Md Zafear Alam and Ajamati Khatton.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, DEE (TRD & GS), Kathiawar, 15.00 hrs. of 06-10-2025 & opening at 15.30 hrs. of 06-10-2025. The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. on 03-10-2025 in website www.ireps.gov.in

PROVISION OF INSULATION PAINT

E-TENDER NOTICE NO.: EL-TRD_36_25-

NEWS BOX

Trump files \$15 billion defamation lawsuit against The New York Times**NEW YORK. (Agency)**

US President Donald Trump filed a \$15 billion defamation lawsuit against The New York Times and four of its journalists on Monday, according to court documents. The lawsuit filed in US District Court in Florida names several articles and one book written by two of the publication's journalists and published in the lead up to the 2024 election, saying they are "part of a decades-long pattern by the New York Times of intentional and malicious defamation against President Trump."

"Defendants published such statements negligently, with knowledge of the falsity of the statements, and/or with reckless disregard of their truth or falsity," the lawsuit says. The New York Times did not immediately respond to an email requesting comment early Tuesday. In a Truth Social post announcing the lawsuit, Trump accused The New York Times of lying about him and defaming him, saying it has become "a virtual 'mouthpiece' for the Radical Left Democrat Party." Trump has gone after other media outlets, including filing a \$10 billion defamation lawsuit against the The Wall Street Journal and media mogul Rupert Murdoch in July after the newspaper published a story reporting on his ties to wealthy financier Jeffrey Epstein.

Israel Sets Gaza "On Fire" As Top US Diplomat Warns "Savages Like Hamas"**Undefined. (Agency)**

Israel unleashed a massive new bombing campaign on Gaza City on Tuesday after visiting US Secretary of State Marco Rubio backed the ally's goal of eradicating Hamas and warned that only days may be left for a diplomatic solution. Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz said early Tuesday that Gaza City, the territory's main urban hub, was "on fire".

"We will not relent and we will not back down until the mission is accomplished," Katz said. Witnesses told AFP of heavy, relentless bombing on Gaza City, much of which is already in rubble after nearly two years of Israeli bombardment since the October 7, 2023 attacks by Hamas. "We can hear their screams," said 25-year-old resident Ahmed Ghazal. Rubio on Monday offered robust backing for the offensive as he met Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who has asked the Israeli military to seize Gaza City. Pointing to the fresh operations, Rubio told reporters as he left Israel: "We think we have a very short window of time in which a deal can happen. We don't have months anymore, and we probably have days and maybe a few weeks to go." Rubio said a diplomatic solution in which Hamas demilitarizes remained the US preference, although he added: "Sometimes when you're dealing with a group of savages like Hamas, that's not possible, but we hope it can happen." Rubio, who met Monday in Jerusalem with families of hostages in Gaza, acknowledged that Hamas had leverage by holding them. If there were no hostages and no civilians in the way, this war would have ended a year and a half ago," he said at Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport. A group representing hostages families said they were "terrified" for their loved ones after Netanyahu ordered the strikes.

Google To Make \$6.8 Billion AI Investment In UK Ahead Of Trump Visit**United Kingdom. (Agency)**

Google said Tuesday it was investing £5 billion (\$6.8 billion) in the UK over the next two years to help power the country's AI drive, ahead of a visit by US President Donald Trump. The funds would go towards the company's "capital expenditure, research and development ... and encompasses Google DeepMind with its pioneering AI research in science



and healthcare," Google said in a statement. Google was Tuesday to open a data centre in Waltham Cross, eastern Hertfordshire, which it announced last year with a \$1 billion investment. Tuesday's announcement would be on top of the monies already pledged, a Google spokesperson told AFP.

Trump was due to land in Britain later Tuesday for an historic second state visit that will see the UK government of Prime Minister Keir Starmer spare no effort in trying to flatter the mercurial American president. Trump will be accompanied by a "significant" number of US tech CEOs when he meets with Starmer at his country residence on Thursday, a senior US official said. They would include the heads of chip giant Nvidia and ChatGPT-maker Open AI, US media reported. "This visit will highlight a new science and technology partnership that will include billions of dollars in new investment," the US official told reporters, including AFP. The two countries are set to sign agreements worth about £10 billion, including one to speed up development of a new nuclear project as well as what British officials call "a world-leading tech partnership". Starmer on Sunday already hailed plans by US finance firms including PayPal and Citi Group to invest £1.25 billion in the UK. The nuclear partnership promises faster regulatory approval and several new private sector investment deals for nuclear projects, as the UK strives to meet net zero and energy security targets.

'Worst is over': Argentina's Milei to boost pension, health and education spending**While announcing relief for some of those worst affected by his deep spending cuts, he insisted that balancing the budget remained "non-negotiable."****BUENOS AIRES. (Agency)**

Argentine President Javier Milei on Monday announced plans to boost spending on pensions, health, education and the disabled in 2026, marking a shift after nearly two years of biting austerity following a major electoral setback. "The worst is over," Milei said in a televised speech, unveiling the draft 2026 budget eight days after his party was trounced in provincial elections in Buenos Aires. "The effort all Argentines are making is worth it," Milei assured, while adding: "We understand that many have not yet felt it in their material reality."

Appealing for more time for his libertarian

reforms to take effect, the firebrand president said: "Rome wasn't built in a day." While announcing relief for some of those worst affected by his deep spending cuts, he insisted that balancing the budget -- his paramount goal since taking power in December 2023 -- remained "non-negotiable." Failure to balance the nation's books, he said, would lead South America's second-biggest economy "back into the pit of uncontrolled inflation and the destruction of all hopes for the country."

He did not issue a growth or inflation forecast for next year. The 54-year-old self-styled "anarcho capitalist" is facing considerable political and economic headwinds as he gears up for crucial midterm elections next month. His party suffered a stinging defeat at the hands of the center-left Peronist movement in elections to the legislature of Buenos Aires province that were seen as a litmus test of Milei's popularity.

He goes into the midterms under a corruption

cloud, following allegations that his sister and right-hand woman, Karina Milei, received a cut on state medicine contracts for the disabled.

Conciliatory tone



In a sign of the anger among many Argentines over his policies, Milei and his sister were pelted with stones on the campaign trail outside Buenos Aires in late August, with skirmishes breaking out among supporters and opponents. The president's cuts to spending on the elderly and disabled

Trump administration joins Republicans' campaign to police speech in reaction to Kirk's killing**world. (Agency)**

US Vice President JD Vance on Monday jumped onto the conservative movement demanding consequences for those who have cheered Charlie Kirk's killing, calling on the public to turn in anyone who says distasteful things about the assassination of his friend and political ally. "When you see someone celebrating Charlie's murder, call them out," Vance urged listeners on the slain activist's podcast Monday. Vance's call also included a vow to target some of the biggest funders of liberal causes as conservatives stepped up their targeting of private individuals for their comments about the killing.

It marked an escalation in a campaign that some warned invoked some of the darkest chapters of American history. "The government involvement in this does inch this closer to looking like McCarthyism," said Adam Goldstein of the Foundation for Individual Rights and Expression, referring to the 1950s campaign to root out communists that led to false allegations and ruined careers. "It was not a shining moment for free expression." Campaign broadens to those who quote Kirk critically

Republican-controlled states such as Florida, Oklahoma and Texas have

launched investigations of teachers accused of inappropriate statements after last week's assassination. The US military has invited members of the public to report those who "celebrate or mock" the killing and said some troops have already been removed for



their comments. At the same time, the Trump administration has vowed to target what it contends is a "vast" liberal network that inspired the shooter, even as authorities maintain it appears he acted alone and the investigation is ongoing. The campaign has broadened to include even those whose statements were critical of Kirk without celebrating his assassination. The Washington Post fired Karen Attiah, an opinion columnist, for posts on the day of the shooting that lamented how "white America" was not ready to solve gun

violence and that quoted Kirk denigrating the intelligence of prominent Black women such as Michelle Obama. PEN America, a press freedom group, warned in a statement that firings like Attiah's "risk creating a chilling effect."

Goldstein worried there were many cases of people targeted for simply quoting Kirk or failing to mourn his passing adequately. "That's one of the key symptoms of cancel culture," he said. "Trying to paint everyone with the same brush." Conservatives coined the term cancel culture for what they claimed was persecution of those on the right for their views, especially related to the COVID-19 pandemic and Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol, leading to campaigns to get regular people fired. It was a significant cause for President Donald Trump, who pledged to end it during his campaign last year. But after the Kirk killing, he and his administration have instead leaned into it from the right. A hero to conservatives, a provocateur to many Democrats, a father of two and a Christian conservative, Kirk was a hero to many Trump Republicans for his fiery warnings about the dangers of Democrats and ability to organize young voters.

Heavy Bombing In Gaza City After US Secretary Rubio Backs Israel**Undefined. (Agency)**

Israel heavily bombed Gaza City on Tuesday, witnesses told AFP, after US Secretary of State Marco Rubio backed Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's new offensive and its stated goal of eradicating Hamas.

Rubio showed no daylight between himself and Netanyahu on a visit to Jerusalem on Monday, saying Israel could "count on our unwavering support" for its military push in the devastated Palestinian territory. Hours later, witnesses told AFP there is "heavy, relentless bombing on Gaza City" which levelled homes and left people trapped under the rubble.

"We can hear their screams," said 25-year-old resident Ahmed Ghazal. Rubio's trip to Jerusalem came

despite US President Donald Trump chiding Israel a week earlier for carrying out air strikes on Hamas leaders in US partner Qatar. But Rubio took a dim view of the Qatari-brokered negotiations for a ceasefire and called Hamas, whose unprecedented October 7, 2023 attack on Israel triggered the Gaza war, "barbaric animals". The Secretary of State travels to Qatar on Tuesday in an attempt to reassure the emirate, which is home to the largest US air base in the region and has assiduously courted Trump. Trump told reporters in Washington that Netanyahu "won't be hitting in Qatar" again. France presses Palestinian statehood

Israel has launched a major new military campaign aimed at seizing Gaza City,

the territory's largest urban centre, where the United Nations determined last month a million people were facing famine -- a finding rejected by Israel. Mahmud Bassal, a spokesman for the Gaza civil defence agency, told AFP Tuesday that "bombing is still ongoing heavily across Gaza City, and the number of deaths and injuries continues to rise." Bassal said the Israeli military also targeted the southern city of Khan Yunis, after the civil defence agency reported Israeli strikes killing 49 people on Monday. Media restrictions in Gaza and difficulties in accessing many areas mean AFP is unable to independently verify the details provided by the civil defence agency or the Israeli military.

Robinson was arrested late Thursday near where he grew up around St. George, in the southwestern corner of Utah between Las Vegas and Bryce Canyon and Zion National Parks. It's unclear whether he has an attorney who could speak on his behalf, and his family has declined to comment to the AP. Authorities also revealed Monday that a man arrested in the aftermath of the shooting was taken into custody.

Bangladesh's Challenges Ahead Of Yunus-Led Polls In February**Bangladesh. (Agency)**

Bangladesh has been in political turmoil since a student-led uprising forced former prime minister Sheikh Hasina to flee into exile last year, ending her 15-year autocratic rule. An interim government under Nobel-winning Muhammad Yunus has promised elections in February.

But scepticism is high in the Muslim-majority country of 170 million people, with politics fractured and violence rising.

Five months before polls expected in early February 2026, alliances forged during and after Hasina's fall are splintering. Who are the key parties? With Hasina's former ruling Awami League banned, the main players are the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the Islamist party Jamaat-e-Islami. The other key group is the National Citizen Party (NCP), formed by student leaders who spearheaded the uprising. Rivalries have fuelled fears of street clashes, while Yunus struggles to restore trust in the process. Where does Yunus stand? Yunus, the 85-year-old microfinance pioneer who will step down

after polls, insists there is "no alternative to election". Michael Kugelman, a US-based analyst who recently visited Bangladesh, suggests some key elements "may have an interest in elections being delayed". Yunus' personal distance from day-to-day politics, along with speculation about military involvement, has fuelled uncertainty. Recent meetings between the army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman and top officials have heightened speculation.

In a country with a long history of coups, the army retains a powerful role. Why are groups divided? The flashpoint is the July National Charter, a sweeping reform document that proposes a two-term limit for prime ministers, and the expansion of presidential powers. Parties have agreed on 84 reform proposals -- but are divided over how the charter should be put into effect. The key dispute is over its legal weight. The main point of contention now is the procedure for implementing

them," said Ali Riaz, vice-chairman of the National Consensus Commission. The BNP argues it cannot override the existing constitution until after elections due in February, when a new parliament could endorse it. Others want it endorsed before the polls. Senior Jamaat leader Syed Abdullah Mohammad Taher told AFP that "people should be given a chance to share their opinions" on the reforms, meaning

that "a referendum is essential". NCP senior leader Saleh Uddin Sifat said it would be a betrayal to those who died in the uprising if there was no "legal basis" to it before elections. "We are not going to participate in the election without our demands being fulfilled," Sifat told AFP. What are parties arguing about? Hasina's Awami League was banned by executive order. Jamaat wants 13 more groups barred for past ties to Hasina, including the Jatiya Party.

The BNP opposes such bans, insisting any case against the Awami League should go through the courts. "Banning any political party through executive order is not what we support," Salahuddin Ahmed of the BNP said, insisting the decision must have legal backing through the judicial process. Yunus has faced allegations of bias after meeting BNP leader Tarique Rahman in London, angering Jamaat and the NCP.



Dudhdhara Dairy election: BJP suspends 9 leaders for filing nomination papers against party candidates

Surat .(Agency)

The Dudhdhara Dairy (The Bharuch District Cooperative Milk Producer Ltd) election is drawing political attention, with the BJP suspending nine active members for filing nominations against party candidates.

The SUMUL Dairy election in Surat will be announced in the coming days, and an alleged cold war exists between its present Chairman, Mansinh Patel, and the Vice Chairman, Raju Pathak. Political sources said that Mansinh Patel is a strong loyalist of the state BJP president C.R. Paatil.

Earlier, in IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited) election, the former state minister and BJP MLA Jayesh Radadiya contested against party candidates and got elected. The BJP MLA from Vagra in the Bharuch assembly seat and chairman of the Bharuch District Cooperative Bank, Arunsinh Rana, has fielded his loyalists against the BJP candidates in the Dudhdhara Dairy election.

The election of Bharuch Dudhdhara dairy will be held on Friday (September 19). The last day for filing nomination forms was August 30, while the last day for withdrawing a candidature form was September 9. The election will be for 15 seats, out of which one candidate has withdrawn his candidature and one, Prakash Desai, has been elected unanimously from Narmada.

There are 296 voters spread across the milk cooperative societies in Bharuch and Narmada districts. The annual turnover of the dairy is around Rs 800 crores. BJP leader Ghanshyam Patel of Bharuch has been holding the chairman post of the dairy for the last 17 years. This year again, he also filed his candidature with 14 loyalists for the upcoming elections. Apart from this, for the first time, senior BJP leader and Vagra BJP MLA Arunsinh Rana had fielded his loyalists in the dairy elections. Rana is not contesting the election, but he has backed a team of 9 candidates under 'Vikas Sahakar Panel', which analysts say is also supported by the BJP MP of Bharuch, Mansukh Patel.

Dudhdhara Dairy election: BJP suspends 9 leaders for filing nomination papers against party candidates

Surat .(Agency)

The Dudhdhara Dairy (The Bharuch District Cooperative Milk Producer Ltd) election is drawing political attention, with the BJP suspending nine active members for filing nominations against party candidates.

The SUMUL Dairy election in Surat will be announced in the coming days, and an alleged cold war exists between its present Chairman, Mansinh Patel, and the Vice Chairman, Raju Pathak. Political sources said that Mansinh Patel is a strong loyalist of the state BJP president C.R. Paatil.

Earlier, in IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited) election, the former state minister and BJP MLA Jayesh Radadiya contested against party candidates and got elected. The BJP MLA from Vagra in the Bharuch assembly seat and chairman of the Bharuch District Cooperative Bank, Arunsinh Rana, has fielded his loyalists against the BJP candidates in the Dudhdhara Dairy election.

The election of Bharuch Dudhdhara dairy will be held on Friday (September 19). The last day for filing nomination forms was August 30, while the last day for withdrawing a candidature form was September 9. The election will be for 15 seats, out of which one candidate has withdrawn his candidature and one, Prakash Desai, has been elected unanimously from Narmada.

There are 296 voters spread across the milk cooperative societies in Bharuch and Narmada districts. The annual turnover of the dairy is around Rs 800 crores.

No trace of three swept away in nala, search intensified

Teams opened catch pits and nala along the flow routes before resealing them.

Hyderabad .(Agency)

The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) on Monday intensified search operations to trace three persons swept away in stormwater drains during Sunday's heavy rains — two in Afzalsagar, Asifnagar, and one in Vinodnagar Colony, Parsigutta.

HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath personally monitored the search. Teams opened catch pits and nala along the flow routes before resealing them. Despite day-long efforts, the victims remained untraced. District Collector Harichandana Dasari also inspected the affected areas in Afzalsagar. In Habeebnagar, Afzalsagar, two relatives — Arjun and Rama — were swept away on

Sunday evening after slipping into an overflowing nala near their house in Manguri Basti. Family members watched helplessly as the strong current carried them away.

In Parsigutta, Dinesh alias Sunny was washed away when a retaining wall collapsed as he was parking his two-wheeler.

Encroachments blamed. Speaking to the media, Ranganath said encroachments on nala and unscientific diversions of their natural flow were the main causes of such mishaps.

"Only one or two major obstructing structures will be removed. Others need not worry. Since most residents near nala are from weaker sections, the government will provide alternatives if



demolition becomes unavoidable. The government has sympathy for the poor, and HYDRAA is working in the same spirit," he said.

Locals pointed out that such incidents recur every rainy season. Stressing the need to tackle the problem at its roots, Ranganath said a detailed study involving GHMC, irrigation and revenue officials will guide

corrective measures. He cited the example of Ameerpet, where severe waterlogging was resolved by reopening clogged underground nala and removing 2,200 lorry-loads of silt at a single location. This monsoon alone, HYDRAA has cleared about 2,200 lorry-loads of silt across the city, and the desilting programme will continue.

Ranganath added that officials from neighbouring states, after observing HYDRAA's activities, have expressed interest in replicating similar systems in their own cities. Heavy rains lash Telangana, IMD issues yellow alert. Several districts in Telangana

continue to witness heavy rainfall, with the IMD issuing a yellow alert for the coming days. Narayanraopet in Siddipet district recorded the highest 24-hour rainfall at 242.4 mm, while the state's average rainfall stood at 7.6 mm against the normal 5.1 mm. Within GHMC limits, the average rainfall was 35.7 mm — much higher than the normal 4.8 mm.

Waterlogging was reported in several parts of the city following the downpour. Meanwhile, Edulagattepalli in Karimnagar recorded the highest maximum temperature at 36.3°C, while Habsiguda's JSN Colony registered 34.5°C. Since June 1, Telangana has received 837.8 mm of rainfall, a 27% surplus over the normal 660.1 mm.

Four killed on Jaipur-Mumbai train | Ex-RPF cop forced me to say 'Jai Mata Di': Burqa-clad woman passenger to court

The woman said that around 5.30 am, when she woke up, she saw a man in a police uniform carrying a rifle walk towards her. She said that he pointed the rifle towards her

Mumbai .(Agency)

IDENTIFYING DISMISSED RPF constable Chetansingh Chaudhary, who is facing trial for four murders on a passenger train in 2023, a woman passenger told the sessions court Monday that she was forced by him to say "Jai Mata Di". The woman, who deposed as a witness in the Dindoshi sessions court, said that she was wearing a burqa and hence the accused came to her to make her say "Jai Mata Di".

Chaudhary, who is currently lodged in Thane jail, was produced in court through video-conference.

Chaudhary is facing trial for the murders of his senior, Assistant Sub Inspector Tikaram Meena and three Muslim passengers — Asgar Ali Abbas, Abdul Kader Bhanpurwala and Syed Saifuddin, on the Jaipur-Mumbai train on July 31, 2023.

The 38-year-old woman told the court that on the day of the incident, she was travelling to Mumbai from Ratlam on the train with her two children. The woman said that around 5.30 am, when she woke up, she saw a man in a police uniform carrying a rifle walk towards her. She said that he pointed the rifle towards her.

"He told me iss desh mein rehna hai toh 'Jai Mata Di' bolo (Say 'Jai Mata Di' if you want to live in this country)," the woman told the court.

The woman said that she repeated it but he told her to say it louder and threatened her that he would shoot her otherwise. The woman said that she caught his rifle and raised it upward and asked him who he was. The woman said that the man then told her not to touch the gun, and again threatened to shoot her. The passenger said she was frightened and released the rifle, after which he went away.

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

Pune .(Agency)

Over the next three Sundays, a signature campaign will be conducted in various areas of Pune to demand processions that are free of DJs and Dolby sound. An initiative of Kalaawant Trust, the campaign began on September 14 at Bal Gandharv Rangmandir.

"This is a small but sincere effort to protect citizens, preserve our cultural traditions, and restore peace in public celebrations. We are not against festivals or devotional expressions, but against the misuse of high-decibel DJ, Dolby, and sound systems that cause health issues, disturb communities, and disrespect the sanctity of our traditions. With honest intentions, we seek public support to ensure that festivities remain joyous, safe, and culturally enriching," said Saurabh Gokhale, Chairman, Kalaawant Trust.

During the event on September 14, Union minister Nitin Gadkari was informed about the aims of this initiative and the need to check noise pollution. Apart from Gokhale, members

of Kalaawant Trust and a large number of Kalaawant Pathak's dhol tasha performers were present at the event. In just a day, the campaign has collected more than 3,000 signatures, online and offline.

Kalaawant Trust, which has a popular dhol tasha group, is culturally active in Pune and a part of socially important initiatives, from blood donation camps to music concerts. A well-known actor, Gokhale has called for the public to show support for the initiative by adding their signatures.

Gokhale adds that the campaign aims to raise awareness among different segments of society about the damaging effects of noise pollution, including those produced by DJs and Dolby sound systems as a part of religious festivals, public celebrations and processions.

"We will present a memorandum on this issue to the chief minister," Gokhale said. The campaign has been designed in a way that it is not limited to a group but involves all sections of people in Pune. "We would like citizens to

participate directly in the process," said Gokhale. Dr Padmakar Pandit, a retired professor from a government medical college, told The Indian Express that these days, processions on busy roads not only cause traffic jams "that eat into our precious time and expose us more to vehicle waste pollution, but also attack our eyes and ears".

"Many of these mass celebrations on the roads use frighteningly high-decibel DJ systems that injure hearing temporarily or permanently. Some at night use extremely bright lights, including lasers, that affect vision," Pandit said, adding that such processions are troublesome not only for those travelling by but also to nearby residents.

"There are several children and the elderly who are affected by these road-blocking crowds. There should be appropriate awareness about this social nuisance, and it needs to be curtailed using effective means. This is not about any particular function or festival of any specific caste, religion or party, group.

Transport department heat on traffic violators, steps initiated to cancel RCs in Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar .(Agency)

Adopting a tough stand against violations of Motor Vehicle law, the Transport department has begun the process for cancellation of registration of vehicles in at least three cases.

Two of the cases involved fatal mishaps while the third concerned unsafe behaviour on road, posing danger to safety of commuters.

On Sunday, a 14-wheeler truck rammed into a roadside shop in Bariniput under Jewpore Sadar police limits. Driven by its helper who was in an inebriated state, the heavy vehicle hit a woman, killing her on the spot, and her injured son succumbed on Monday.

The Transport department instructed the Koraput SP to book the driver on charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder and Jeypore Sadar police have registered the case under various sections including section 105 of BNS.

Transport commissioner Amitabh Thakur also directed the regional transport office (RTO) to start the process for cancellation of registration

of the truck which was transporting corn from Raigarh to Vizianagaram when the accident took place. Accordingly, owner of the truck was



booked under section 53 of MV Act as the action of the helper was seen as a threat to public safety. The helper was put to medical examination and his blood alcohol content (BAC) level stood at 240 mg/100 ml, signifying severe intoxication.

As per section 53 of the Motor Vehicles Act, a registering or other prescribed authority is allowed to suspend a vehicle's registration if they believe it is unsafe, does not meet legal requirements, or is being used for hiring without a proper permit.

Earlier, it initiated registration cancellation proceedings of an SUV involved in hit-and-run case in Patrapada area here last month. A mother-daughter duo perished in the tragic mishap.

The department has initiated similar proceedings against owner of an SUV after video of a youth standing through its sunroof while the vehicle was speeding away in Khurda district went viral recently.

Transport minister Bibhuti Bhushan Jena has asked the authorities to take strict action against violators, especially those found to be recording reels while behind the wheel and driving under the influence of alcohol. With 6,142 deaths, Odisha recorded a seven per cent rise in road fatalities during 2024.

Gujarat: 178 bridges in state shut for vehicles in last 6 months, Govt tells Assembly

Among the 178 bridges, 82 are major ones and 14 of them were completely closed for all kinds of vehicles and 68 were closed only for heavy vehicles

Ahmedabad .(Agency)

As on July 31, 2025, as many as 178 bridges in Gujarat under the roads and buildings department were closed for vehicles in the last six months. The information was tabled in the Gujarat Legislative Assembly in response to a question raised by Congress MLA Shailesh Parmar from Danilimda constituency in Ahmedabad.

Among the 178 bridges, 82 are major ones and 14 of them were completely closed for all kinds of vehicles and 68 were closed only for heavy vehicles. Of 55 minor bridges, eight were closed for all vehicles and 47 for heavy vehicles. Of 41 culverts CD (cross drainage) structures, four were closed for all types of vehicles and 37 for heavy vehicles.

In another response to Congress MLA Imran Khedawala from Jamalpur Khadia in Ahmedabad, the state government said that following the collapse of Gambhir bridge

on Mahisagar River on July 9 in which 22 people were killed, a structural stability inspection of 1,054 major bridges, 5,475 minor bridges and 239 culverts CD (cross drainage) structures under the Roads and Buildings Department was conducted till August 1, 2025.

Among those, 74 major bridges were found to be in dilapidated condition and nine were closed for all vehicles and 65 for heavy vehicles.

Out of 51 minor bridges declared 'dilapidated', five were closed for all vehicles and 46 were closed for heavy vehicles. Of 41 culverts CD (cross drainage) structures declared as dilapidated, four were closed for all vehicles and 37 for heavy vehicles across the state.

Narmada Canal bridges

The condition of bridges over the Narmada Canal is no better: 53 out of a total of 2,122



bridges on the canal are in a dilapidated condition, of which 43 are completely closed

while 10 were closed only for heavy vehicles, said Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, who has the portfolio of Roads and Buildings. The details were tabled in the House in response to a question raised by Congress MLA Anant Patel from Vansda Assembly constituency in Navsari district who had asked how many bridges over Narmada canal are in a dilapidated state as on July 31, 2025. These fall in the districts of Kheda, Gandhinagar, Patan, Surendranagar, Ahmedabad, Botad, Morbi, Mehsana and Banaskantha.

Three bridges on the Narmada canal were closed before the Gambhir bridge collapse. While the bridge in Kadi in Mehsana on the Saurashtra branch canal was closed since October 10, 2022 and Thasra in Kheda on Narmada main canal was closed for heavy vehicles on April 1, 2023 and the third in Patan's Santalpur taluka was closed on March 10, 2025.

Modi mantra: Nurturing cadres, strengthening organisation

It takes the towering devotion of its cadres to make an organisation truly bloom in all its glory. This has been the guiding mantra of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's life and his organisational vision. Modi has always considered cadres as the heart of the organisation. Nurturing them, training them, and empowering them has remained among his foremost tasks. He believes that the organisation is not just a framework, its real strength lies in the ability, discipline, and dedication of its cadres. Narendra Modi became a 'pracharak' (full-time worker) of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) in the early 1970s. After the Emergency in 1977, when he emerged as an able organiser in the role of vibhag pracharak, his working style was rooted in cadre-building. The early 1980s was a period when RSS had very limited spread in Gujarat. Even setting up a single 'shakha' (branch) in a taluka was considered a big achievement in those days. But the young Modi had a different vision: "Every village should have a shakha," he would say. He would assign responsibility for setting up of each branch to a cadre and periodically take progress reports — who the chief instructor was, what activities were conducted, who remained absent and why — every detail was monitored carefully.

In 1985, when the RSS completed 60 years, a massive camp was organised in Karnavati (Ahmedabad). Nearly 5,000 cadres attended the camp. In its run-up, Modi went from village to village, meeting youth and motivating them to purchase uniforms. As a result, hundreds of new young people not only reached the camp but also became permanently associated with the organisation. This infused fresh energy into the Gujarat unit and marked the beginning of large-scale cadre-building.

Modi taught cadres to work systematically and in an organised manner. For example, participants of the RSS training camp held at P.D. Malaviya College in Rajkot in the early 1980s still recall how he had them conduct a survey among locals to assess the organisation's image and present the results using statistical methods. This was not only an innovative learning exercise but also a message that modern techniques and systematic thinking were essential to strengthening the organisation.

He inspired cadres with practical examples of behaviour and etiquette. Small habits — such as being organised, knocking on doors before entering, and warmly enquiring after the well-being of family members — turned them into responsible and respected workers. His training moulded cadres not just as members of the organisation but as model representatives in society. Modi also extended personal moral support to cadres and their families during tough times and unfortunate incidents — something many workers still remember with gratitude.

When he became the organisation secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Gujarat in 1987, he carried forward the same practice of cadre-building in the political sphere. Through the BJP's 'Organisation Festival' during the 1980s, thousands of new cadres were drawn into the party.

Discipline and accountability formed the foundation of Modi's working style. He taught cadres that these values, along with dedication, are the cornerstones of a strong organisation. He himself never came late to meetings, not even by a minute, and if anyone else arrived late, he would make them stay outside and still participate. Modi also gave new direction to both social balance and electoral strategy within the organisation. While selecting office-bearers, he ensured social inclusivity. In the 1987 Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation elections, with his 'Win the Booth' strategy, cadres became active at the grassroots and worked with a focused approach.

Honour Indian legacy of World Wars

India should dedicate a day to remember the monumental contribution of its soldiers

THE annals of global history often overlook a profound truth. The monumental contribution and sacrifices of Indian soldiers during the two World Wars. It is forgotten not just by the Western powers that benefited from their service but tragically by even the very nation in whose name they served professionally with quiet dignity and fortitude. There needs to be recognition that these soldiers, notwithstanding whether they served in the British Indian Army, the Indian Legion or the Indian National Army, ultimately shed their blood for a civilisational continuum called India, even though it was unfortunately colonised at that time. The scale of India's contribution was staggering. During the First World War, the Indian Army expanded from about 150,000 personnel in 1914 to around 1.4 million by 1918.

By the time the Second World War culminated, this figure had swelled to an astonishing 2.5 million personnel, constituting the largest volunteer army in history.

Following the near destruction of the British Expeditionary Force in the opening months of World War I, the arrival of 28,500 Indian troops in France by September 1914 provided a critical reinforcement without which the Western Front might have collapsed. Field Marshal Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief of India, later conceded that Britain "couldn't have come through both wars if they hadn't had the Indian Army".

During the First World War, Indian Expeditionary Forces were deployed across an astonishingly broad geographical spectrum — from the Western Front to East Africa, Mesopotamia, Egypt, Gallipoli and beyond.

The pre-war Indian Army had developed considerable expertise in conducting operations across diverse terrains and climates. This versatility proved invaluable to British strategy, which required simultaneous campaigns across radically different operational environments. The Indian Army functioned as an imperial fire brigade, deployed to critical sectors where its specialised capabilities could achieve maximum effect. Nowhere was this more evident than in the Middle East, where Indian formations constituted the overwhelming majority of British imperial forces. On the Western Front in 1914, Indian soldiers played a crucial role in preventing a German breakthrough during the First Battle of Ypres, where they held approximately one-third of the entire British lines despite having recently arrived from garrison duty in India. Military historians have recognised and applauded the fact that the pre-1914 Indian Army was "a leading professional force" with "high training standards both for regular warfare and for small wars".

At the Second Battle of Ypres in 1915, Indian cavalry units conducted a critical counterattack that prevented German forces from exploiting a breach in Allied lines. In

Mesopotamia, despite the disastrous surrender at Kut al-Amara, a failure attributable to British command deficiencies, Indian units subsequently demonstrated remarkable operational effectiveness during the capture of Baghdad and further advances into Persia.

The Second World War witnessed an even more dramatic demonstration of Indian military prowess across vastly different battlefields. In North Africa, Indian formations proved pivotal in both offensive and defensive operations against Field Marshal Rommel's Afrika Korps.

The 4th Indian Infantry Division established itself as one of the most effective Allied formations in the desert campaign, contributing significantly to the victory at El Alamein. At Monte Cassino, Indian soldiers fought with



extraordinary determination under appalling conditions, with the Gurkha regiments particularly distinguishing themselves in mountain combat.

The most significant contribution occurred in the Asian theatre. Following the disastrous British defeats in Malaya and Burma in 1942, Indian formations constituted the bulk of the Commonwealth forces available to defend India itself and eventually launch counteroffensives into Southeast Asia.

Indian units provided the majority of the combat power in the victories at Imphal and Kohima in 1944, described as the 'Stalingrad of the East'. The Fourteenth Army, which contained substantial Indian components, became the largest single field army in the British imperial order of battle. The Indian contribution extended to even include specialised capabilities and encompass broader geopolitical considerations. The Royal Indian Navy expanded significantly during the Second World War, contributing to naval operations in the Indian Ocean and protecting vital sea lanes against Japanese and German threats. The availability of Indian manpower allowed Britain to maintain her global empire while simultaneously fighting major conflicts in Europe, a strategic luxury unavailable to other European colonial powers. France, for instance, lacked equivalent colonial

military resources, contributing to her rapid defeat in 1940 and subsequent dependence on Allied support for liberation. The Netherlands also could not draw upon substantial colonial military forces, limiting its ability to contribute to Allied campaigns. What makes the sacrifices of Indian soldiers particularly poignant, and what justifies our national remembrance, is that they did not fight merely as imperial mercenaries. They were also motivated by the promise of self-determination — a promise repeatedly made and cynically betrayed. In 1917, Edwin Samuel Montagu, Secretary of State for India, dangled the prospect of 'self-government' for India in exchange for wartime loyalty. Yet, after World War I, instead of freedom, India received the repressive Rowlatt Act and the

horrors of Jallianwala Bagh. The Montagu-Chelmsford reforms of 1919 offered not 'responsible government' but a diluted parody of autonomy. Similarly, during World War II, the British despatched the Cripps Mission in 1942, offering Dominion status post-war, a proposal Gandhi astutely dismissed as a "post-dated cheque drawn on a failing bank". The yearning for independence also manifested in the actions of those who opposed the British Raj through armed struggle. The 1915 Singapore Mutiny, orchestrated under the foiled Hindu-German conspiracy, was a clear manifestation of the simmering discontent.

The Indian National Army (INA), led by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, and the Indian Legion in Europe were composed of soldiers who believed that Axis support could catalyse India's liberation. They fought with the same patriotic fervour as their Allied-serving counterparts. The INA's campaigns in Burma and the Indian Legion's existence in Europe symbolised a desperate bid for sovereignty. History, always complex, is often convoluted. Oxymorically, post-Independence India has failed to adequately honour these sacrifices. While nations like Russia, France and China commemorate their war dead with grandeur, India remains curiously silent. While we decided to remain a part of the Commonwealth, we chose to forget those who had shed blood and martyred themselves for the same Commonwealth. In the narrative of the Indian freedom struggle, theirs was the inconvenient truth that was airbrushed out of history books.

As a nation that abhors her heritage and her future, India must establish a day of remembrance, not to glorify war but to honour sacrifice, not to celebrate an empire but to recognise the unwavering spirit of those who served with fidelity and honour in the global struggle against Nazism, fascism and Japanese expansionism in Asia. We owe them nothing less than everlasting remembrance.

Well begun, stay on long journey to healing in Manipur

The PM, interacting with the internally displaced on both sides, gave an indication of how the scars of the violence are yet to heal. Modi said resettling them after their homes are reconstructed is right up on his to-do list



While Prime Minister Narendra Modi issued a call for peace and reconciliation between the warring Kukis and the Meiteis in troubled Manipur, Kuki lawmakers told him the best-case scenario was living together as good neighbours but never under the same roof. It conveyed the scale of mutual distrust ever since the 2023 ethnic riots. Before the clashes, Meitei government employees posted in the hills where Kukis reside could function as comfortably as their Kuki-Zo counterparts in the Meitei-dominated valley. Access to institutional markers, such as the legislative assembly, courts, and the lone airport in the Imphal Valley, was free for all communities and races. All that changed in mid-2023 when the violence resulted in ethnic cleansing on both sides. Kuki MLAs dare not go to the legislative assembly any longer, fearing threats to their lives. Modi was aware of the wedge when he spoke about building an ethnic bridge of trust. Ten Kuki lawmakers, including seven from the BJP, shared their thoughts with the PM through a joint memorandum. As things stand, achieving what the Kuki-Zo MLAs think is doable — both sides agreeing to live as good neighbours — would in itself

be a very big deal. Modi, motoring 64 km to Churachandpur from Imphal, as his helicopter could not take off due to blinding rain, came as a positive gesture, as the Kuki-Zos lined the streets to give him a warm welcome. The size of the development

package announced for the Kuki-Zo region (over 77,300 crore) was significantly more than that for the Meiteis (?1,200 crore), which did not go unnoticed. Announcements like the establishment of Churachandpur's first ever medical college have the benevolent potential for racial intermixing when things change for the better.

The PM, interacting with the internally displaced on both sides, some of whom broke down, gave an indication of how the scars of the violence are yet to heal. Modi said resettling them after their homes are reconstructed is right up on his to-do list. Going forward, making both sides equal stakeholders in the Manipur growth engine through innovative ideas and universal participation, and addressing demographic aspirations with full transparency, will be the balm for peace and rehabilitation. As Modi said, the story of Indian culture would be incomplete without the rich Manipuri culture.

Higher learning, brighter future: Next South slogan

Southern stakeholders must jointly deliver the next phase of the peninsula's development transformation — a productive and high-income society driven by prosperity & capability

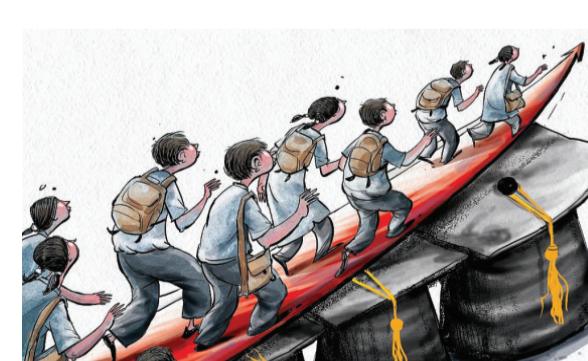
The peninsular states have achieved per capita incomes well above the national average, eliminated extreme poverty, and made laudable progress in human development. They are manufacturing and modern service hubs, with low-quality jobs increasingly outsourced to migrants from poorer parts of India. The peninsula needs a massive increase in productivity and growth in the size and employment-generating potential of the formal sector. A virtuous nexus of high wages and high productivity is the next aspiration.

This will require a significant increase in the volume and quality of higher education offered in the peninsula. Improving the quality of school education is a necessary priority; however, in the peninsula, there is every reason to simultaneously double down on higher education. This focus on higher education is both achievable and essential. The peninsular states already have a foundation in quality private higher education institutions, such as medical and engineering schools at Suratkal and Manipal, as well as the evolution of GITAM University, Vellore Christian Medical College, and the Vellore Institute of Technology, among other pioneers. These institutions, along with newer entrants such as SRM University and Azim Premji University, offer a practical starting point for scaling up the quality of higher education to boost productivity. This is a partial list of higher education institutions that have established an outstanding track record of delivering quality higher education. The success of their placement activities also demonstrates the employment "fit for purpose" delivery of these universities. These

are not babalok universities. The students I teach come from a variety of backgrounds, many of whom are from tier three towns and rural areas. They are curious, eager to learn, and aware that their generation needs to struggle far harder than mine to survive in an increasingly fractious and partitioned global market. They have, through their higher education journey, seen only stagnation in entry-level salaries and a shrinking of economic opportunities in stark contrast to every generation that came to adulthood since 1991. Even so, they have embraced three core ideas. First, that their economic future, and that of the country, is critically dependent on rapidly increasing productivity in services and manufacturing. Second, there is work to be done to reform the rotten and collapsing socio-economic ecosystem that we have bequeathed to them. Third, and most importantly, a successful career is a byproduct of a holistic and well-rounded education, and it is key to building productivity-enhancing ecosystems.

As I have taught and interacted with students, educators, founders, and leaders in private university campuses across the peninsula, I see these three core ideas both internalised and embraced. Doubling down on higher education is desirable because: 1. Public higher education institutions in the peninsula have atrophied, as have most in the rest of India. Most of them are now intellectual dead zones occupying desirable real estate, providing subsidised food and housing to those taking competitive exams. And political interference is throttling even the successful outliers. 2. Switching public money to funding

school education makes fiscal sense. This need not mean obstacles for financially or socially challenged students — Azim Premji University provides a template for addressing societal, caste, and ethnic barriers to entry. GITAM offers significant means-tested scholarships. I have also worked on a model where every student finances their education through a loan to cover the entire



cost of their education. Repayment is calibrated to the student's employment and remuneration trajectory. Thus, a lawyer who chooses to defend the poor and weak could have her loan written off eventually, while a corporate lawyer would have it paid back with interest at market rates. 3. Founders and faculty realise that a univariate focus on "job prospect" fields — engineering, law, medicine and architecture — should not be a pretext to deprive students in these fields of a rounded social science and humanities education, or to discourage students with aptitudes in the humanities and social sciences from gaining an education that gives them

the skills to navigate the job space. A high-productivity ecosystem requires thinking, cognitive, and ethical skills, as well as shared values. Especially in the age of AI, we need a thinking workforce, and that requires a first-rate 360-degree education, not an assembly line of glorified technicians. (There is a need to fix this problem at the school level also; in Chennai, Hyderabad, and Bengaluru, only a fraction of schools offer a Humanities (even with Math) higher secondary option 4. Public-private partnerships to revive public universities and higher education institutions ringfenced from low-level political meddling should be seriously considered as a cost-effective, productivity-enhancing intervention. A grand bargain — a privately run and managed affordable and holistic higher education ecosystem that delivers knowledge, productivity, and modern thinking skills, with public money then freed to quadruple per student spending on school education — is, in my view, an exceptionally good deal. However, achieving this is no trivial task. It requires jointness in thinking, across the peninsular states and between Samaj — the society that is bringing their children into adult life, Sarkar — the governments of the peninsula, and Bazaar — private founders, industrialists and leaders of the modern economy — to come together to deliver a mutually beneficial political settlement that delivers the next phase of the peninsula's development transformation — a high productivity high-income society that is driven by prosperity and capability, not rents and nepotism.

Councillors slam garbage heaps, failing sanitation system in Mohali

Dalbir Saini, a shopkeeper in Sector 71 market, said, "No sanitation worker has come to our market for the past 25 days."

Mohali .(Agency)

Sanitation in Mohali city has reached a worrying low, frustrating not only residents but also municipal councillors from the ruling party as well as the Opposition.

The councillors have expressed dissatisfaction through meetings and written complaints, and raised serious questions over the Municipal Corporation's waste management.

The lack of regular cleaning has created a filthy atmosphere and an increase in Garbage heaps on main roads, vacant plots and in market parking areas, across the city.

Shopkeepers say that sanitation workers sometimes fail to show up for an entire month. Dalbir Saini, a shopkeeper in Sector 71 market, said, "No sanitation worker has come to our market for the past 25 days."

Ish Kumar, a trader from Phase 5, added, "Earlier the cleaning was done before the market opened, but now workers arrive very late. By then vehicles are already parked, so the parking area remains dirty. We request that cleaning be done early,



as before."

Mahabir Singh Dhillon, a property consultant from Phase 3B2, complained that "garbage heaps remain unattended and continue to rot,

morning walks said, "The rotting garbage stinks," and demanded strict action against those dumping waste at public places.

Deputy Mayor demands action

Deputy Mayor Kuljit Singh Bedi has written to the Municipal Commissioner, urging immediate action. "Uncollected garbage is rotting in markets, creating a serious health hazard for citizens," the letter read.

"The overgrown weeds on footpaths are becoming a breeding ground for dangerous creatures," he wrote in the letter, adding that people out for walks are also facing difficulty.

Bedi wrote that the previous municipal meeting discussed the issue but "no improvement has been seen yet". The letter also stated that "either the contractor's payment should be cut by 25 per cent or the contract should be cancelled and a new option be explored".

The Deputy Mayor also expressed hope that the Municipal Corporation administration will act swiftly and take effective steps to improve the city's sanitation system.

12-year-old cyclist mowed down by tipper lorry in Bengaluru; Biker hits road hump, dies

Bengaluru.(Agency)

A 12-year-old boy, who was going on his bicycle to meet his friend after school, was mowed down by a mini tipper lorry on the Ganapathi Temple Road near Magadi Road in Kamakshipalya traffic police station limits at 3.30 pm on Monday.

The victim, Shashank, a Class 8 student, is said to have panicked on seeing the tipper being driven in a rash and negligent manner. He tried to manoeuvre his cycle to the side of the road but skidded and came under the rear wheels of the tipper. He died on the spot and the tipper driver abandoned the vehicle and fled. Shashank's father works in a garment factory.

The Kamakshipalya traffic police have registered a case and are on the lookout for the tipper driver. A two-wheeler rider died while five others sustained injuries and three vehicles were damaged when he crashed into them after hitting a road hump in Devanahalli around 6.15 am on Monday.

While 21-year-old S Vinay died on the spot, pillion rider, identified as 20-year-old S Sanjay, sustained severe injuries in the accident. Vinay was part of a group of friends going to Nandi Hills from JP Nagar on four two-wheelers. At Rani Cross near the Nileri Railway Gate on the Nandi Hills Road, Vinay, who was reportedly speeding, lost control over his bike after hitting a road hump and rammed into his friend's two-wheeler in the front.

How a Barawafat light board sparked tension over 'new practices' in Kanpur; FIR lodged

Lucknow.(Agency)

Nearly two weeks ago, a light board reading "I LOVE MOHAMMAD" that was installed in a Kanpur locality as part of the decorations ahead of the annual Barawafat procession to commemorate the birth of Prophet Muhammad, triggered communal tension in the area and a registration of an FIR for "promoting enmity".

According to the police, the light board installed in front of Jafar Wali Gali in Mohalla Saiyad Nagar was a "deliberate" attempt to introduce a "new tradition" by the Muslim community for the Barawafat procession.

As part of the law and order directives during religious procession, the BJP government in Uttar Pradesh has been emphasizing traditional practices and routes.

The FIR, lodged on a complaint by Sub-Inspector Pankaj Sharma, stated that on September 4, after members of the local Hindu community opposed the installation of the light board, members of the Muslim community insisted on retaining it, sparking a heated exchange and communal tension.

"It was only after intervention by senior officers that the crowd was calmed and order restored. The board was removed and relocated, and both opposing groups were dispersed to ensure normalcy," the police said.

The things, however, did not end there.

The following day, on September 5, police said that during the Barawafat procession at Rawatpur village, unidentified Muslim youths allegedly tore down religious posters belonging to the Hindu community.

"The youths, riding in two vehicles that were part of the procession, reportedly damaged the posters using sticks," the police said, adding that five days later, on September 10, when they received CCTV footage and video recordings of both incidents, an FIR was registered against 24 people — 9 named and 15 unidentified — at the Rawatpur police station.

High court strikes down IME-based promotions at Haryana power corporation

Chandigarh .(Agency)

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has struck down the promotions of several Haryana Power Generation Corporation (HPGC) employees who advanced on the basis of only qualifications from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IME).

Justice Harpreet Singh Brar, in a 40-page judgment delivered on September 9, held that IME certifications cannot override statutory requirements for three-year regular engineering diplomas. The ruling, which consolidated five connected petitions led by Sat Paul and others vs State of Haryana, restores the seniority of diploma-holding petitioners while criticising HPGC for a "belated" and "unfair" reinterpretation of a 2019 Supreme Court verdict.

The dispute

The case centred on HPGC's promotion policy of December 29, 2004, which reserved 15 per

cent of posts in Operator Grade-I and Foreman Grade-II for staff with "B.E./AMIE in Electrical/Mechanical/Electronics Engineering or three years Diploma in Engineering," provided they had three years' experience. The petitioners, who began as Plant Attendants Grade-II or Technician-II, earned their diplomas by taking leave without pay to enrol in full-time courses. "Some of the petitioners spent three years out of service as they acquired the diploma before joining," Justice Brar noted, stressing that they had pursued "a regular course which is more rigorous in nature and covers all requisite fields of technical education".

In contrast, private respondents relied on IME's distance learning programme, which "did not require attendance but allowed students to appear in examination to obtain a qualification advertised as equivalent to a degree in Mechanical Engineering". Though

IME was derecognised and later given limited recognition in 2016, HPGC promoted these candidates and reversed the petitioners' promotions in February 2024 to accommodate them.

Court's findings

Justice Brar rejected HPGC's reliance on a "selective reading" of the 2019 Supreme Court ruling in the IME case. "Truly, a judgment must be interpreted in the context of the facts of the specific case... It is neither appropriate nor permissible to isolate a word or a sentence... and treat it to be the complete law in itself," he wrote. On the validity of IME certifications, the court observed: "The respondent-IME does not claim to provide technical education through distance learning by conducting regular classes; rather, it merely conducts bi-annual examinations and issues certificates to those who pass." Recognition granted by the HRD Ministry in

2012 was limited to central government employment, the court underlined. Citing precedents such as the Supreme Court's Orissa Lift Irrigation Corporation Ltd. v. Rabi Sankar Patro (2017), the court stressed that one-time protections for IME degree holders could not be extended to claim further service benefits. It also pointed to Haryana's 2013 notification barring unrecognised distance education qualifications for promotions in technical posts, and an AICTE notice clarifying that engineering through distance mode is not recognised. Justice Brar concluded that promoting IME certificate holders "violates the spirit and purpose" of the 2019 ruling. "This court cannot allow the private respondents to steal a march over the petitioners on the basis of certificates obtained from respondent-IME, which has consistently failed the judicial scrutiny of constitutional courts," the court stated.

Haryana doctor's NGO in US helps repatriate body of Jind man shot dead in California

Bengaluru.(Agency)

A US-based NGO, Yari International, run by a doctor from Haryana, played a pivotal role in repatriating the body of a 26-year-old man from Jind district, who was shot dead in California on September 6. He was cremated in his native village Barah Kalan on Monday.

The victim, Kapil, son of small farmer Ishwar Sharma, was working as a security guard in California. He was shot dead in an ensuing argument after he reportedly stopped a man from urinating in a prohibited area.

Village sarpanch Suresh Gautam told The , "After Kapil's demise, Ranbir Lohan, a Narnaul resident, visited the family and assured them of all possible help in repatriating the body. Ranbir's brother, Jasbir Lohan, is actively engaged with an NGO in the US. The NGO helped complete all formalities for the repatriation and arranged Kapil's air transportation."

"All villagers are grateful to the NGO. Without its support, it would have been extremely difficult to bring the body back to India, especially considering the family's poor economic condition as they own less than two acres," Gautam added.

Villagers said Kapil had left for the US around two and a half years ago, allegedly via the "dunki route" after spending close to Rs 45 lakh. He was reportedly arrested shortly after entering the US by scaling the Mexico border wall, but was later released and settled there.

Ranbir, president of Yari India, a sister organisation of Yari International, said, "The US-based NGO facilitated the repatriation of 57 bodies in 2024 and 2025, including 27 who entered the country through the dunki route. Apart from Kapil, the body of a Kaithal district resident, who was killed in 2024, was also brought back to India.

Chennai One app to be a reality as TN agrees to bear 1.39% platform fee

Chennai.(Agency)

The disagreement over sharing the platform fee for the proposed unified ticketing software application for public transport in Chennai, a key issue that was delaying the roll out of the system, has been resolved.

The state government has agreed to bear the platform fee of 1.39% (on the ticket fare) charged by the unified Chennai One mobile app, which will integrate services of Chennai Metro Rail (CMRL), MTC buses, Southern Railway, Namma Yatri autos and cab aggregators, enabling commuters to access seamless end-to-end travel.

The government is expected to pay around Rs 3 crore per year as platform fee to CUMTA that will manage the application. Trials of the Chennai One app, which began in June, have been successful, and CM M K Stalin is expected to launch it for public use shortly, official sources said. Initially, CMRL, MTC and

underway. An official told , "Several technical challenges are delaying the integration of the Railways' Unreserved Ticketing System (UTS) with CUMTA's unified platform. Ticketing through the app will be included only after these issues are resolved."

CUMTA officials, however, remained optimistic that the problems will be addressed in the coming days. "The government has deposited Rs 30 lakh as rolling funds in Southern Railway's account. The railways can instantly deduct the ticket fare from the rolling deposit, which will be reimbursed from the day's fare collections at the end of the day," the official said.

CUMTA has already signed a non-disclosure agreement with Southern Railway. "An MoU will be signed either before or soon after the app's launch," the official added.

Rs 1,100 crore makeover for Bengaluru roads

DyCM DK Shivakumar added that 14 assembly segments in Bengaluru were allocated Rs 50 crore, and the remaining were given Rs 25 crore for asphalting of roads.

Bengaluru.(Agency)

Bengaluru's citizens can finally look forward to pothole-free roads. Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar, who has allocated Rs 1,100 crore to fix city roads, stated on his social media handle that "pothole-free roads are the priority".

Shivakumar added that 14 assembly segments in Bengaluru were allocated Rs 50 crore, and the remaining were given Rs 25 crore for asphalting of roads. Bad road infrastructure has remained a curse for Bengaluru, with deaths attributed to potholes and craters, and traffic impacted on a daily basis. While funds have been allocated, the official government order and agency to be tasked to execute the project, is yet to be clarified. Similarly, details of the 14 constituencies that will receive Rs 50 crore, and those which will receive Rs 25 crore, also need clarity.

"The project is most likely to be handled by Bengaluru Smart Infrastructure Limited (BSIM)," said a source in the DCM's office. The monsoon will slow down by the end of October, and asphalting will be taken up on a large scale, he said.



However, infrastructure and mobility experts have raised their concerns. Dr Ashish Verma from IISc says only contractors and corporation engineers will benefit from this allocation.

D Prasad, member of the Indian Road Congress, suggested creating an ID for executive engineers working on road infrastructure to track them even if they are transferred, in case shoddy work comes to light within the defective liability period, so their promotions could be withheld and post-retirement benefits could be cut.

"Pothole has become a 'circular economy'. The money may be used to fill potholes, and in a month or two, the people making a hue and cry will forget and move on, and again orders will be passed to fill the resurfaced potholes. They will not address the root cause, which is stagnation of water on roads. A simple thing that engineers have to do is take care of

Echoing this, Prasad said good quality bitumen should be used, and before it is laid, base correction is a must. It means the weak points have to be identified, which if ignored, will end up as potholes.

"The corporation should use polymer modified bitumen (PMB) for durability," he said. The drainage system has to be fixed, and flow of water from the road surface to the drain should be maintained. "Work should be avoided during the monsoon."

Greater Bengaluru Authority should come up with a strict defective liability period clause against executive engineers on the road project. They should be tracked by software ID, and held responsible for potholes and damage within the defective liability period," Prasad suggested.

crossroads. Rainwater that falls on the roadside should flow down the side drains. If this is done, one need not worry about roads for years, but that does not happen," rued Verma.

Footpath dwellers injured in hit-and-run accident in Delhi's Paharganj, SUV driver arrested

►The Delhi Police seized the SUV with blood stains and said the accused Gupta confessed to the crime during interrogation.

Agency New Delhi.

The Delhi Police Tuesday arrested a 40-year-old man over an alleged hit-and-run accident involving an SUV in Central Delhi's Paharganj area on Sunday, in which two footpath dwellers were grievously injured. The accused has been identified as Govind Gupta, who was allegedly driving the SUV. On September 14, around 2.20 am, the control room at the Paharganj police

station got a call regarding the accident. A police team reached the spot in front of the railway reservation centre, Chelmsford Road, where blood was found on the road. On inquiry, it was revealed that two injured people had already been shifted to the hospital, but no eyewitnesses were present at the spot.

The police then reached the hospital, and recorded the statements of the injured, Kalu Das, 50, and Anil Das, 48, both residents of Banka in Bihar, and filed a case.

"During the investigation, multiple CCTV cameras near the place of the incident were checked.

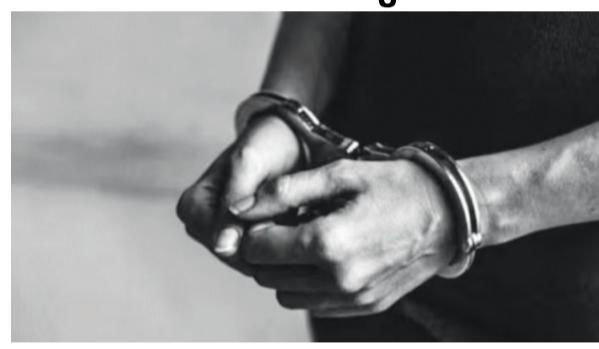
In one footage, both victims were seen lying on the side of the footpath when a vehicle resembling a red-coloured Innova car was seen running over them. Further investigation revealed that only one red-coloured Innova was regularly operating in the area, belonging to Govind Gupta," said Nidhin Valsan, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Central. "His mobile phone number



was obtained. Subsequently, the call detail record (CDR) and the location of the accused's mobile number were promptly analysed, which confirmed his presence near Munjiya Chowk, Pahar Ganj," added DCP Valsan. The police seized the

offending red Innova car, bearing blood stains. They said that during interrogation, the accused confessed to the crime. The crime team confirmed the presence of blood stains on the vehicle during inspection, they added.

India to deport 16,000 foreigners involved in narcotics trafficking: Sources



Agency New Delhi.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is set to deport nearly 16,000 foreign nationals detained across India for their alleged involvement in drug trafficking, according to official sources. Countries whose nationals are set to be deported include Bangladesh, Philippines, Myanmar, Malaysia, Ghana, and Nigeria. The action, described as one of the biggest crackdowns on narcotics in recent times, is based on a report submitted by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB). These foreign nationals have been accused of offences ranging from drug smuggling to transportation, and are currently in detention facilities across several states. The list of individuals has already been handed over to the Home Ministry and concerned agencies. The deportation will be carried out under provisions of the new immigration law.

Delhi saw dip in sex ratio, birth rate in 2024: Govt report



Agency New Delhi.

Sex ratio at birth in the national capital has continued to fall since the pandemic, with the number of females per 1,000 males falling from 922 in 2023 to 920 in 2024, according to a government report. The figure was 933 in 2020, according to the report.

The Annual Report on Registration of Births and Deaths in Delhi has been released by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics and the Office of Chief Registrar (Births & Deaths) of the Delhi government, for 2024.

Sex ratio serves as a social indicator of gender equality within a society, with a ratio of 1,000 denoting an equal number of male and female births. Ratios above 1,000 indicate more females than males, while ratios below 1,000 signify a deficit of females.

"The dip in the sex ratio is not small. One per cent fall in sex ratio at birth means a dip of almost 1,800 females," said Sabu George, a researcher and activist. "There are still clinics in Delhi carrying out sex determination and abortion," he said.

Even as birth rates continued to fall, according to the report, death rates have risen. While birth rates dropped to 14 per thousand of population during 2024 as against 14.66 in 2023, the death rate per thousand of population rose to 6.37 during 2024 from 6.16 in 2023. A falling birth rate means fewer babies are being born each year per 1,000 people, while a rising death rate means more people are dying each year per 1,000 people.

Out of the total births in the city, 2,94,464 (96.09%) were institutional and 11,995 (3.91%) domiciliary in nature. "Age-group of the mother at the time of delivery was analyzed and it was revealed that in maximum (36.98%) cases, it was 25-29 years followed by 27.11% cases in 20-24 years group and in 24.57% cases, the age of mother was 30-34 years. Further, it is observed that in 2.57% cases, the age of mother was even 19 years or less," the report notes.

Supreme Court issues notice to states on pleas challenging anti-conversion laws

Agency New Delhi.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought responses from several states on petitions challenging anti-conversion laws, granting them four weeks to respond. The petitioners have claimed that the laws were being used to harass interreligious couples and restrict religious observances. The states include Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand and Karnataka. The next hearing on the matter is scheduled to take place in six weeks.

The bench of Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandra

further indicated that, after receiving the responses from the states, it would consider whether to grant a stay on the operation of the laws. This timeline provides both the



petitioners and the respondent states with an opportunity to present comprehensive arguments.

The petitions, brought by various organisations including Jamiat

Ulema-e-Hind and Citizens for Justice and Peace, allege that the anti-conversion laws are being weaponised to target individuals from different religious backgrounds.

"These laws have become a means to harass couples belonging to different religions. Under their guise, anyone can be falsely accused of conversion," they argued.

The Supreme Court appointed advocate Srishti Agnihotri as the nodal lawyer representing the petitioners, while advocate Ruchira Goel was designated as the nodal counsel on behalf of the states. Their roles will be to coordinate submissions and communications between the parties and the Court as the case progresses through further hearings.

Odisha shocker: Teacher thrashes 31 students with stick; one suffers fracture

Agency New Delhi.

The Odisha Education Department has suspended an assistant teacher at a government school in Mayurbhanj district after she allegedly thrashed 31 students with a bamboo stick for not touching her feet, officials told PTI.

The incident occurred on Thursday, September 11, at Khandaula Upper Primary School in Baisinga village. Authorities said assistant teacher Sukanti Kar became angry when students failed to greet her after the morning prayer session. At

feet immediately after prayers. But on that day Kar reportedly arrived late and the prayers had already ended.



She allegedly assaulted students of classes 6-8, leaving many with injury marks on their hands and backs. A

school management inquiry found that one boy suffered a fractured hand and a girl collapsed and needed hospital care.

Headmaster Purnachandra Ojha, Block Education Officer (BEO) Biplab Kar, Cluster Resource Centre Coordinator Debashish Sahu and members of the school management committee conducted the probe and held Kar guilty of corporal punishment.

"The accused teacher was placed under suspension on Saturday," said BEO Biplab Kar, adding the matter was treated with utmost seriousness. Odisha has banned corporal punishment in schools since 2004.

BMW crash: Accused woman driver's alcohol test negative

Agency New Delhi.

The blood sample of Gaganpreet Kaur, accused in the BMW crash that killed a senior Finance Ministry official in Delhi, has tested negative for alcohol, police sources said on Tuesday.

Gaganpreet Kaur (38) was arrested on Monday on charges of culpable homicide not amounting to murder, nearly 24 hours after the accident in the Dhaula Kuan area left 52-year-old bureaucrat Navjot Singh dead and his wife injured.

Navjot Singh, posted in the Department of Economic Affairs, was returning home from Bangla Sahib Gurdwara with his wife when their motorcycle was hit. His wife sustained multiple injuries and a fracture and remains under treatment. According to the FIR, Gaganpreet Kaur drove the severely injured couple to a hospital more than 19 kilometres away instead of rushing them to a nearby facility. Questioned about her decision,



Gaganpreet Kaur told police she panicked and only knew that hospital because her children had been treated there during the Covid-19 pandemic. But Navjot Singh's wife and son alleged she deliberately avoided hospitals in the

vicinity. In the FIR, the wife said her husband was still alive after the accident and that she repeatedly begged Gaganpreet Kaur to take them to the nearest facility. "There was definitely something wrong,"

Malaria, Chikungunya cases recorded in Delhi till mid-September hit highest in 5 years

Agency New Delhi.

With 33 new cases added last week, Delhi's Malaria count stood at 297 till September 13 this year marking the highest in the last five years during the same period according to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD). Chikungunya cases in the Capital also hit the same record as four new cases of this Vector-Borne Disease (VBD) were reported last week, bringing the total to 46 for the year.

Between January and September 13, the total number of Dengue cases recorded in Delhi stood at 619, officials said. 62 new cases of Dengue were recorded in the Capital last week. The Central zone of Delhi reported the highest number of cases at 67, closely followed by the Delhi Cantonment area with 66 cases, officials noted. As per MCD officials, 9 Malaria patients remain untraceable, while 19 cases were recorded with incomplete or incorrect addresses. According to officials, disinfectant spraying via drones will begin in flood-affected regions within a day or two. "After the flood water recedes from areas along the river, it becomes difficult for Domestic Breeding Checker (DBC) workers to access these locations due to swampy and waterlogged conditions. To address this issue, we will deploy drones to spray disinfectants, which is a practice we have followed for the past two years," said an MCD official. The post-rainfall period typically sees a spike in VBD (Vector-Borne Diseases) transmission, officials noted.

Signature View residents vacate flats as DDA offers rent aid ahead of razing

Agency New Delhi.

Residents of Signature View Apartments in Mukherjee Nagar have begun moving out after the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) rolled out a rent assistance scheme for those vacating the unsafe housing complex. The move comes months after the Delhi High Court ordered the demolition of the apartments, calling their condition life-threatening.

Under the scheme, families from three-bedroom flats are being given Rs 50,000 per month, while those in two-bedroom units are receiving Rs 38,000, according to the Resident Welfare Association (RWA).

RWA president Amrendra Rakesh Singh said nearly 200 families had shifted out by the end of August, and another 110 are expected to leave before the October 1 deadline fixed by the court. The high-rise apartments, once considered a premium residential project of the DDA, were



declared "structurally unsafe" following an audit conducted by IIT Delhi. The inspection found that the buildings had deteriorated rapidly and posed a severe risk to occupants. Despite previous repair work, the audit concluded that the structures could not be salvaged due to poor construction quality.

Following the court's directive, the DDA floated a tender in March this year to finalise an agency for the demolition. The selected agency will be tasked with dismantling the towers and transporting debris to an MCD-approved dumping site. Standard operating procedures were also issued to aid residents and the RWA in finalising a vacating schedule.

Meanwhile, several residents have approached the Municipal Corporation of Delhi seeking an extension of the deadline, citing difficulties in finding alternate housing on short notice.

Navnoor Singh said, alleging his father could have been saved with timely treatment and claiming the chosen hospital was owned by an acquaintance of the accused.

Witnesses said the BMW, heading toward Naraina, first hit a central verge, then crashed into an iron grill and overturned after skidding about 50 metres. Navjot Singh, approaching on his bike, slammed into the overturned car and was flung into a bus.

Gaganpreet Kaur, wife of Gurugram businessman Parkshit Makkar, was driving the car carrying her husband, two children, and a maid. Her husband sustained minor injuries in the accident.

A Delhi court has remanded Gaganpreet Kaur to two days' judicial custody. She has filed a bail plea, which will be heard on September 17. Police said both vehicles involved in the crash have been seized, and a forensic examination of the accident site was conducted.

NEWS BOX

Asia Cup: Bangladesh brace for do-or-die clash as Afghanistan aim Super 4 berth**GWANGJU. (Agency)**

Bangladesh and Afghanistan are set to clash in a crucial Group B encounter of the Asia Cup 2025 on Tuesday, September 16, at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium in Abu Dhabi.

For Bangladesh, the equation is straightforward — win or go home. The Tigers began their campaign with a victory over Hong Kong but stumbled to a heavy defeat against Sri Lanka, which also dragged their net run rate down to -0.650. Even a win on Tuesday won't guarantee Bangladesh a place in the next round. If the Tigers beat Afghanistan and Afghanistan later defeat Sri Lanka on September 18, all three teams would finish with four points, and net run rate would decide the qualifiers. Stay updated on Asia Cup 2025 with India Today! Get match schedules, team squads, live score, and the latest Asia Cup points table.

Bangladesh will be keen to improve both their bowling, which lacked bite, and their top-order batting, which failed against Sri Lanka. They may also look to bring back Taskin Ahmed and give Saif Hassan an opportunity in place of Towhid Hridoy.

Can Afghanistan qualify for Super 4?

Afghanistan return to action after a seven-day



break, having started their Asia Cup 2025 campaign with a commanding 94-run win over Hong Kong in Abu Dhabi. The layoff has given them time to recharge, though it may also disrupt their momentum. The Afghans will be eager to avoid leaving their qualification fate to the final group match against Sri Lanka, who currently top the table with consecutive wins over Bangladesh and Hong Kong. A victory over Bangladesh would not only seal Afghanistan's place in the Super 4 but also take them to the top of the group standings.

Sediqullah Atal and Azmatullah Omarzai impressed with the bat against Hong Kong, while Ibrahim Zadran and Rahmanullah Gurbaz will be looking to deliver stronger performances. Their spin-heavy attack, a proven strength, is expected to play a decisive role in both this clash and the Super 4 stage ahead.

Trott calls Bangladesh Asia Cup winners in funny goof-up, googles to confirm**HONG KONG. (Agency)**

"Afghanistan head coach Jonathan Trott provided some unexpected entertainment in the pre-match press conference ahead of their Asia Cup 2025 clash with Bangladesh on Tuesday at the Sheikh Zayed Stadium. When asked if Bangladesh would be under pressure, Trott confidently replied that they would be—before adding a twist.

According to him, Bangladesh had already won the Asia Cup. "Yes, I think Bangladesh will be under pressure, but if you look at history, they've won this competition a few times, the Asia Cup," Trott said, sounding every bit the history teacher. Stay updated on Asia Cup 2025 with India Today! Get match schedules, team squads, live score, and the latest Asia Cup points table. A journalist quickly pointed out that Bangladesh have never lifted the trophy, prompting Trott to repeatedly ask, "Are you sure?" as if he'd just been told the Earth is flat.

Even Afghanistan's media manager had to



step in, though Trott initially refused to budge, insisting, "I thought they won the 50-over Asia Cup!" Eventually, after doing what every coach fears most—Googling his own press conference—Trott sheepishly admitted, "I really thought they were champions." Bangladesh reached their first Asia Cup final in 2012, where they lost to Pakistan by just two runs. In 2016, they made the final of the T20 edition but were beaten by India. Two years later, in 2018, India once again denied them the title in a last-ball thriller at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

'Bangladesh have match-winners'

Away from the slip-up, Trott praised Bangladesh for having genuine match-winners in their side. He also said that the seven-day break after Afghanistan's win over Hong Kong in the tournament opener would benefit his team.

► **Pakistan have threatened to withdraw from the Asia Cup if match referee Andy Pycroft is not removed for the remainder of the tournament. Is the abrupt exit the only way for Pakistan to avoid humiliation in the Super 4 stage?**

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Pakistan cricket team have threatened to withdraw from the Asia Cup if match referee Andy Pycroft is not taken off for the remainder of the tournament. Truth be told, withdrawal might be Pakistan's only escape from a likely humiliation. The team has simply not been up to the mark in modern-day cricket, and the comprehensive loss to India has put them at serious risk of an early exit. Pakistan's anger stems from the



controversy surrounding India's handshake snub during the group-stage match. On Sunday, September 14, India skipper Suryakumar Yadav refused to greet his counterpart Salman Agha at the toss. The refusal stood at the end of the match as well, when Suryakumar and Shivam Dube walked straight off the ground after chasing down the 128-run target. The lack of a handshake angered Salman Agha, who skipped the

post-match presentation ceremony in protest. The row soon escalated, with Pakistan lodging formal complaints against the Indian players and the referee. "Utterly disappointing to witness the lack of sportsmanship today. Dragging politics into the game goes against the very spirit of sports. Let's hope future victories are celebrated by all teams with grace," PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi wrote on X. Despite the

protests and threats of withdrawal, it is the ICC rejected the demand of the Pakistani side. The governing body expectedly backed their veteran match official, which leaves the decision with Pakistan—pull out of the tournament or carry on. Their Super 4 qualification now depends entirely on the result of their final group-stage match against UAE. But if anyone assumes that UAE is a pushover, they may want to revisit recent history. Last year, in the T20 World Cup, Pakistan failed to clear the group stage after defeats to both India and the USA. The loss to the USA was particularly damaging, highlighting just how far Pakistan have slipped. Pakistan's Potential Opponents in Super 4s have already qualified for Super 4s.

From Group B, it is a three-way battle at the moment. Sri Lanka have inched closer to qualification, while Afghanistan and Bangladesh are the other two contenders for the two spots in the group. A simple look at the stats reveals how badly Pakistan have performed against the other Asian teams in the recent past (since January 2023).

PM Modi praises Anandkumar Velkumar after Speed Skating World Championships gold**New Delhi. (Agency)**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded Anandkumar Velkumar for scripting history at the ongoing Speed Skating World Championships in Beidaihe, China. The 22-year-old clinched gold in the senior men's 1000m sprint, clocking 1:24.924, to become India's first-ever world champion in the sport.

Velkumar's triumph has firmly placed India on the global skating map, marking a breakthrough in a discipline where the country has rarely made its mark. His gold came just a day after he secured bronze in the 500m sprint with a timing of 43.072 seconds, which itself was India's first senior medal at the Worlds. The back-to-back podium finishes highlight Velkumar's emergence as one of the brightest talents in speed skating. Modi praised the young athlete's grit, speed and fighting spirit, saying these qualities had carried him to the top of the podium. He also emphasised that Velkumar's success would inspire countless youngsters



across the country to dream big and pursue sports with determination. Congratulating him, PM Modi posted on X, "Proud of Anandkumar Velkumar for winning the gold medal at the Senior Men's 1000m Sprint in the Speed Skating World Championships 2025. His grit, speed and spirit have made him India's first World Champion in skating. His accomplishment will inspire countless youngsters. Congratulations to him and best wishes for all future endeavours."

Anandkumar Velkumar keeps raising the bar. Velkumar's meteoric rise has been shaped by a series of landmark achievements that have steadily elevated India's presence on the global skating map. His breakthrough came in 2021 when he won silver in the 15 km elimination at the Junior World Championships, a performance that signalled his immense potential on the international stage.

Two years later, he added to his growing reputation by helping India clinch bronze in the 3000m team relay at the Asian Games in Hangzhou.

Neeraj vs Arshad: Will the India-Pakistan handshake row travel to Tokyo

► **As the Tokyo World Championships prepares for the Neeraj Chopra—Arshad Nadeem showdown, all eyes will be on more than just distances thrown. In the shadow of the Asia Cup handshake row, fans wonder if history will repeat itself or if mutual respect will prevail.**

Dubai. (Agency)

Even as the handshake row from the India vs Pakistan cricket match at the Asia Cup T20 in Dubai rages on, another India-Pakistan showdown is set to unfold—this time in Tokyo. World champion Neeraj Chopra will face Olympic champion Arshad Nadeem in the men's javelin at the World Athletics Championships on Wednesday and Thursday. "Don't mix sport and politics," they say. And for good reason. Sport often acts as a bridge, allowing us—if only for a fleeting moment—to forget our

differences when rivals from opposite sides go head-to-head. Even in times of war, sport has carried on. In January 1999, just months before the Kargil conflict, a visiting Pakistan Test team received a standing ovation in Chennai after one of the finest



matches ever played. Indian fans, still stung by Sachin Tendulkar's heroic century going in vain, stood to applaud Pakistan's grit and class—a moment that remains one of the most poignant in India-Pakistan sporting history. Goodwill between athletes has persisted in recent years as well. Shaheen Afridi gifting new dad Jasprit Bumrah a box of baby clothes before the 2023 World Cup, or the warm reception the Pakistan team received during their first visit to India since

2016, show that mutual respect can survive even amid cross-border tension.

Yet times have changed. The goodwill that once softened rivalries has been tested repeatedly. In April 2025, the Pahalgam terror attack, followed by a full-blown conflict in May, hardened political tensions. The recent handshake row during the Asia Cup T20 in Dubai exemplifies this new reality: India captain Suryakumar Yadav didn't greet his Pakistani counterpart Salman Ali Agha at the toss, and Indian players avoided handshakes after the win. Pakistan were irked, their captain snubbed the post-match ceremony, and the Pakistan Cricket Board has since demanded the removal of match referee Andy Pycroft, threatening to pull out of the Asia Cup if he remains. Amid this backdrop, the Neeraj-Arshad clash takes on fresh significance.

Unlike cricket, athletics rarely pits India and Pakistan against each other. The javelin fraternity is small—a handful of world-class throwers competing across a circuit that sees the same faces year after year. Rivalries here are less about animosity and more about a shared respect for craft.

India was the loser: Ricky Ponting slams fake comments amid Asia Cup controversy**New Delhi. (Agency)**

Former Australian captain Ricky Ponting has dismissed a fake quote attributed to him amid the India-Pakistan controversy at the ongoing Asia Cup. On Sunday, September 14, tensions flared after Suryakumar Yadav and the Indian team did not shake hands with the Pakistani players before the game and following India's seven-wicket win at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium. Soon after, a fabricated comment started circulating online, suggesting Ponting had criticised India and praised Pakistan for their conduct, framing India as the loser and Pakistan as the true sportsmanlike side. This match will be remembered forever with India as the big loser. The way the Pakistani team wanted to shake hands at the end has immortalised them as champions of the gentleman's game with India as the perpetual sore loser," the quote



read. Ponting, however, clarified that he had never made such remarks. He stressed that the statements doing the rounds were false and that he has not made any public comment about the Asia Cup. Giving the clarification, Ponting wrote on X, "I am aware of certain comments being

attributed to me on social media. Please know that I categorically did not make those statements and indeed have made no public comment about the Asia Cup at all." Pakistan threaten to pull out of Asia Cup

The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) had earlier threatened to boycott the tournament if match referee Andy Pycroft was not removed, accusing him of intervening at the toss to prevent the customary handshake between the two captains.

On Monday, PCB chief Mohsin Naqvi confirmed that he had written to the International Cricket Council (ICC), requesting Pycroft's removal from the remainder of the competition. However, after conducting an investigation, the ICC rejected the appeal and formally conveyed its decision to the PCB.

Life in 8 minutes: The tears, euphoria, and a final kick for the ages

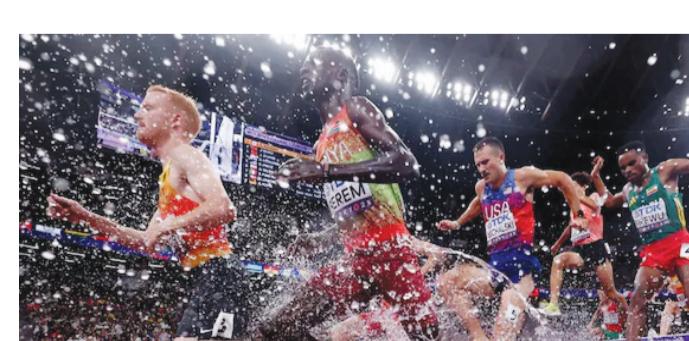
New Zealand's Geordie Beamish stunned the athletics world by winning gold in the 3000m steeplechase. The dramatic finish saw reigning champion Bakkali fall short of a historic three-peat in the world champs.

New Delhi. (Agency)

In just over eight minutes, 8:33.88, the winning mark, track fans inside Tokyo's crowded, clamorous National Stadium, experienced life itself; the spirit, rapture, anguish, and experience of seeing the dead return to life. The 3000m steeplechase is a classic track event—28 barriers or hurdles and seven

water jumps. Seven complete laps, each lap getting arduous, difficult by the minute. The last lap, usually, a punishing murderous sprint to the finish. The final picture: athletes sprawled on the track. Physically drained. Some crushed. A few euphoric. None of this seemed coming. The Tokyo night was once again a drip, the humidity in the high seventies. The moisture laden air thick with anticipation. The reigning World Champion Morocco's Soufiane El Bakkali had won the first of his two Olympic gold medals on this very track in 2021. By all accounts, it was a homecoming. It reflected on the big screens displaying Bakkali's face, which seemed carved out of stone. Two World Championship golds under his belt, he was gunning for his third. The legendary status sat on him lightly. His 6'4 frame towering above the rest. Incredibly, Bakkali, always brought up the rear. The rest took turns at the lead. Over the course of the years, this is a question often asked of the Moroccan, and he shrugs it off saying "I like running at the back." Maybe, it gives him a

view of what the rest plan. Whatever it may be, this evening, he fell back to the time-tested plan. For those who know Bakkali, familiar with his race set-ups, he was back where he controlled



the pace. Imagine someone breathing down your back, refusing to drop back or come up, to give you a clear view. You never know what Bakkali plans. Every race may seem a re-run of the past. By that logic, he is beatable. His tactics an open book. Repeatedly, like a shadow, he would glide past you on the last lap, giving you that space, like an invitation to take it from him

and yet, sprint and kill you in the last seconds. It all pointed to that.

By the first 400 metres, Bakkali had settled in at the rear. Germany's Fredrick Ruppert and the 17-year-old Kenyan Edmund Serem exchanging the lead. To make things a bit more interesting, USA's Daniel Michalski and the Canadian Jean-Simon Desgagné's moved into the top four. Japan's Ryuji Miura who had run an 8:03.43, the third best time this year in Monaco locked himself into 5th to the delight of the home crowd. If he moved into 4th, the roar in the stadium, had the pole vault guys take a breather. The first kilometer was an extremely slow 3:04.78. Faith Cherotich had run a 3:04.90 in the first heat of the women's steeplechase preliminary round earlier in the morning. To the uninitiated, it was hurdles, water jumps and the lone tall figure of a Moroccan ambling away at the back while the ones in the middle tried to stay alive. Ruppert and Serem exchanged leads at the front.

After GST overhaul, Mother Dairy slashes product prices; milk cheaper by Rs

NEW DELHI.(Agency)

In good news for consumers, Mother Dairy said it is slashing prices across its range of dairy and food products after the government's big GST 2.0 revamp. The reduced prices will be effective from September 22, the brand said. The cut comes on the back of GST reforms which lowered or scrapped taxes on many essentials. Mother Dairy said its entire portfolio now falls under either the zero-tax category or the lowest 5% slab. "As a consumer-centric organisation, we are passing on 100% of the tax benefit to our patrons," said Manish Bandalish, managing director of Mother Dairy. Prices of everyday favourites like paneer, butter, cheese, ghee, milkshakes, and ice creams are also dropping. For example, a 500-gram pack of butter will now cost Rs 285 instead of Rs 305, while a butterscotch cone ice cream falls to Rs 30 from Rs 35. But don't expect your regular pouch milk to get cheaper, as it has always been exempt from GST. "Everyday poly pack milk (Full Cream Milk, Toned Milk, Cow Milk, etc) has always been exempted from GST and continues to be so, with no implications on its MRP," the dairy major said. Dairy cooperative Amul has already clarified it won't cut rates on pouch milk, since no tax was ever charged on it.

BSNL to roll out 5G services in Delhi, Mumbai by December 2025

New Delhi.(Agency)

State-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is set to launch 5G services in Delhi and Mumbai by December 2025, according to a senior official from the Department of Telecommunications (DoT). The official stated that all equipment for the indigenously developed network has been functioning smoothly during the testing phase and will soon be ready for commercial deployment.

"All the equipment is working fine without any issues; therefore, we estimate the commercial launch of 5G services in both cities by December 2025," said the official. While private telecom service providers such as Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea have already completed their nationwide 5G rollout, covering a significant portion of the population, BSNL is still in the early stages of providing commercial 4G services in select cities. This delay has led to a large number of customers migrating from BSNL to private telecom operators. According to the government, the delay is primarily attributed to its initiative to develop homegrown 4G technology. The government has signed a deal worth over ₹25,000 crore with the TCS-Tejas-C-DoT consortium to deploy one lakh 4G sites, all of which are upgradable to 5G. The supply of 4G equipment began in September 2023. The equipment being used is also a 5G convertible. So far, BSNL has rolled out 95,000 4G towers in the entire country.

In August 2025, the DoT announced an additional ₹47,000 crore capital expenditure to further enhance BSNL's network infrastructure. As of July 2025, two public sector telecom operators -- BSNL and MTNL -- had a combined market share of just 7.79%, according to data from the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI).

In August, BSNL had already announced the soft launch of the 4G network in the national capital. As per the company's statement, the 4G services are available to users through a partner's network access arrangement. "The Delhi soft launch is delivered as a 4G-as-a-service through a partner's network access arrangement that provides last-mile radio coverage on compatible 4G devices, with BSNL SIMs. This approach complements BSNL's nationwide 4G build under its indigenous rollout programme," the company said.

Market Open Higher As India-us Trade Talks Set To Resume, Sensex Up 184 Points

MUMBAI.(Agency)

The Indian benchmark indices opened higher on Tuesday amid mixed global cues, as US Chief Negotiator Brendan Lynch arrived in India to resume trade negotiations between the two nations. As of 9.25 am, the Sensex was up 184 points or 0.23 per cent at 81,970, and the Nifty was up 47 points or 0.19 per cent at 25,117. The broadcap indices outperformed benchmark indices, as Nifty Midcap 100 inched up by 0.26 per cent, and the Nifty Small cap 100 moved up 0.70 per cent. Kotak Mahindra, Axis Bank and Hero Motocorp were the top gainers on NSE Nifty 50 index. Titan Company, SBI Life Insurance, Asian Paints and Tata Consumer Products weighed on the Nifty 50 index. Among sectoral indices, Nifty Media, the top gainer, jumped 1.08 per cent. Nifty Auto (up 0.65 per cent) and Nifty Oil and gas (up 0.57 per cent) were the other major gainers. Except Nifty FMCG and Nifty PSU Bank, which were marginally down, all other indices were in the green. Analysts said that, from a technical standpoint, a sustained move above the 25,160 level could pave the way for a rally toward 25,250 and 25,500 zones. The immediate support lies at 25,000 and 24,900 zones. "The bold reforms - both fiscal and monetary - implemented this year have started yielding results and is likely to gather momentum in near future. An India-US trade agreement without the penal tariffs can be a shot in the arm for markets," said VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Limited. Major US indices ended firmly in the green zone overnight as the Nasdaq rose 0.94 per cent, the S&P 500 gained 0.47 per cent, and the Dow advanced 0.11 per cent.

GST 2.0: Drug re-labeling not required for stocks already in market

The companies must issue a revised or supplementary price list in Form V/VI to dealers, retailers, State Drug Controllers, and the government once the new batches are out after the revised GST implementation.

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

The government has clarified that medicines already in the supply chain before September 22, 2025, will not need to be recalled or re-labeled, provided manufacturers and marketing companies ensure price compliance at the retailer level. In a new set of FAQs, the government stated that all manufacturers and marketing companies are required to revise the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of their drugs, formulations, and medical devices to reflect the revised GST rates.



They must also issue a revised or supplementary price list in Form V/VI to dealers, retailers, State Drug Controllers, and the government.

The FAQs also provided clarity on several other issues:

Hotels: Accommodation units priced at ₹7,500 or less per day must charge a mandatory GST rate of 5% without ITC. The option to pay 18% with ITC is not available for these units.

Beauty & wellness services: A uniform GST rate of 5% without ITC applies to beauty and physical well-being services. Service providers cannot opt for 18% with ITC.

Multimodal transport: The GST rate is 5% with restricted ITC when no leg of transport is by air. If at least one leg is by air, the rate is 18% with full ITC. **Car rentals:** Suppliers of rental services with an operator may charge either 5% with ITC on input services in the same line of

business or 18% with full ITC. Local delivery through e-commerce: Services provided via an e-commerce operator (ECO) attract 18% GST. If the supplier is unregistered under Section 22(1) of the CGST Act, the ECO is liable to pay GST. If the supplier is registered, the liability rests with them. Importantly, a "Goods Transport Agency" (GTA) does not include ECOs facilitating local delivery services.

GST on drones simplified

The GST Council has recommended a uniform 5% GST rate for all types of drones, replacing the earlier structure where drones attracted 28% for personal use, 18% for drones with digital or video cameras, and 5% for other categories.

Bricks: tax rates largely unchanged

The special composition scheme for bricks (excluding sand-lime bricks) continues. Under this scheme, bricks are taxed at 6% without ITC or 12% with ITC. The threshold for this scheme remains at ₹20 lakh, lower than the standard ₹40 lakh for other goods.

RBI tightens norms for payment aggregators

MUMBAI.(Agency)

The Reserve Bank has issued revised guidelines for payment aggregators (PAs) to bolster consumer protection and combat fraud. These guidelines mandate a board-approved dispute resolution policy with clear refund timelines, robust data security, and fraud prevention systems.

Under the updated framework, PAs that facilitate customer payments to merchants via various physical or virtual channels must implement a board-approved dispute resolution policy clearly defining the timelines for processing refunds, ensuring prompt and transparent redressal of payment-related grievances.

To address growing risks of digital fraud, the RBI has also mandated that PAs must put in place data security infrastructure, along with systems for



fraud detection and prevention. In terms of financial requirements, entities seeking to operate as PAs must maintain a minimum net worth of ₹5 15 crore at the time of application. This must be increased to ₹25 crore by the end of the third financial year after authorisation. The prescribed networth must be maintained on a continuous basis to ensure operational stability, the regulator said late last night. While banks are exempt from seeking authorisation to operate as PAs, non-bank entities must apply via the RBI's online portal. Entities regulated by other financial sector regulators must also submit a no objection certificate (NoC) within 45 days of obtaining it, the circular said further. The new guidelines also prohibit PAs from engaging in marketplace business and restrict them to aggregating funds only for merchants with whom they have a contractual relationship. Additionally, PAs are barred from offering ATM PIN as an authentication factor for card-not-present transactions. Further, the regulator said PAs must not impose transaction amount limits on specific payment modes. The responsibility for setting such limits lies with the card-issuing bank, based on the customer's credit profile and spending behaviour, it said.

Urban Company to debut on BSE, NSE: What investors can expect on listing day

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

New Delhi.(Agency)

Urban Company will make its stock market debut on the BSE and NSE on September 17, 2025, following the completion of its IPO allotment on September 15. The IPO received overwhelming demand from all investor categories, despite being considered expensive by some analysts and launching in a subdued market environment. Investors are now focused on potential listing gains as trading commences. The Urban Company IPO was subscribed 108.98 times overall, with Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) at 147.35 times, Non-Institutional Investors (NIIs) at 77.82 times, and the retail segment at 41.49 times. This robust

response is attributed to the company's position as the only organised player in the tech-driven online home services sector, with operations in 51 Indian cities and international markets such as

the UAE and Singapore. Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, noted Urban Company's strong brand recall and first-mover advantage in a fragmented sector.

WILL URBAN COMPANY GIVE PROFIT FOR INVESTORS? Prashanth Tapse said that given the high subscription levels and current positive market sentiment, we anticipate a strong listing gain in the range of 40-50% or higher, depending on

market trends on listing day. "However, beyond the immediate listing pop, Urban Company presents a compelling long-term structural story and can serve as a proxy for the growing demand in the home services segment. Accordingly, we recommend allotted investors to HOLD the stock from a long-term investment perspective, keeping in mind the inherent market risks. For non-allotted investors, a 'Wait and Watch' approach is advisable to assess any post-listing dip as a potential entry point," he added. Tapse said that the subscription is well-supported from a long-term investment perspective.

"Urban Company is currently the only organised player in the tech-driven online home services marketplace, enjoying a leadership position across 51 cities in India, as well as in international markets like the UAE and Singapore. Its strong brand recall and first-mover advantage position it as a preferred service provider in a largely fragmented sector," he added.

the UAE and Singapore. Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, noted Urban Company's strong brand recall and first-mover advantage in a fragmented sector.

WILL URBAN COMPANY GIVE PROFIT FOR INVESTORS? Prashanth Tapse said that given the high subscription levels and current positive market sentiment, we anticipate a strong listing gain in the range of 40-50% or higher, depending on

Gold Prices Surge To Record High Amid Safe Haven Demand

New Delhi.(Agency)

Gold prices reached record high on Tuesday, surpassing the ₹11,000 mark due to increased safe-haven demand amid global geopolitical tensions and anticipation of a US Federal Reserve rate cut this week.

In India, the price of 24-carat gold per gram was at ₹10,951 as of 10.17 am, according to data published by the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA). Earlier in the day, prices had reached as high as ₹11,065 per 10 gm, an increase from ₹10,982 on Monday. Spot gold was priced at ₹3,679 an ounce, just under Monday's record of ₹3,685, according to the World Gold Council data. Market experts linked the rally to increased geopolitical risks in global trade and expectations of a US Fed rate cut on September 17. Coupled with tailwinds

from a weakening dollar, they anticipate gold and silver to trade positively this week. Gold prices in domestic markets are as follows: ₹5

from a weakening dollar, they anticipate gold and silver to trade positively this week. Gold prices in domestic markets are as follows: ₹5

1,10,260 per 10 gm in New Delhi, ₹1,10,450 in Mumbai, ₹1,10,540 in Bengaluru, and ₹1,10,310 in Kolkata. Chennai reported the highest gold price at ₹1,10,770. Silver prices also rose, with October 5 futures on MCX trading

at ₹1,29,452 per kg. (ALSO READ: UPI Transaction Limits Increased To ₹5 Lakh, ₹10 Lakh For THESE Key Categories) Further, analysts also linked the ongoing rally to increased industrial demand for silver from EVs and solar. Market forecasts indicate a 96.4 per cent likelihood of a 25-basis-point rate cut at the upcoming US Federal Reserve meeting on September 17. India's gold exchange-traded funds (ETFs) saw net inflows of ₹233 million in August 2025, marking a 67 per cent jump from the ₹139 million reported in July, as per

World Gold Council data. In the latest August inflation print, gold remained a significant factor that kept the core inflation high, with a 40 per cent YoY price increase adding nearly 43 basis points to the CPI.

World Gold Council data. In the latest August inflation print, gold remained a significant factor that kept the core inflation high, with a 40 per cent YoY price increase adding nearly 43 basis points to the CPI.

World Gold Council data. In the latest August inflation print, gold remained a significant factor that kept the core inflation high, with a 40 per cent YoY price increase adding nearly 43 basis points to the CPI.

India-US Trade Talks Resume Amid Renewed Hopes Over Tariffs

Trump said on a Truth Social post on September 9, that talks were continuing and "I feel certain that there will be no difficulty in coming to a successful conclusion for both of our Great Countries".

New York.(Agency)

The trade talks between India and the United States resumed here on Tuesday, as US Assistant Trade Representative Brendan Lynch reached Commerce Ministry, amid the thaw in the relations between the two nations.

The India trade negotiators are led by Rajesh Agrawal, Special Secretary in the Department of Commerce. According to Commerce Ministry sources, trade discussions are going on at several levels and further course of action will be



decided after the trade talks with the US. Lynch's visit comes as expectations of a trade deal have been boosted by positive messages by US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi after days of bitter stalemate. Trump said on a Truth Social post on September 9, that

the MEA is also engaged. Lynch's visit comes as expectations of a trade deal have been boosted by positive messages by US President Donald Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi after days of bitter stalemate. Trump said on a Truth Social post on September 9, that

talks were continuing and "I feel certain that there will be no difficulty in coming to a successful conclusion for both of our Great Countries". Calling PM Modi a "great friend", he said he would be talking to him.

PM Modi responded to Trump's post, saying "I am confident that our trade negotiations will pave the way for unlocking the limitless potential of the India-US partnership". He added that he was looking forward to talking with Trump. US nominee to be ambassador to India, Sergio Gor, told a Senate panel considering his nomination last week that India's Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal was expected in Washington, DC, and he will meet with US Trade Representative Jamieon Greer. Meanwhile, India's merchandise trade deficit narrowed to \$26.4 billion in August from \$27.35 billion in July.

Despite global uncertainties and trade policy uncertainties, Indian exporters have done well. It shows that the government's policy has paid off.

Sonam Bajwa

Harshvardhan Rane's Bol Kaffara Kya Hoga Is The New Heartbreak Anthem

Another soulful track from the much-anticipated film *Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat* is finally here! Titled *Bol Kaffara Kya Hoga*, the song has been beautifully picturised on Harshvardhan Rane and Sonam Bajwa, showcasing two contrasting moods, raw heartbreak and fiery passion. The music video gives audiences a glimpse into the emotional depth of the film, making this release a big moment for fans who have been waiting for every update surrounding the film. Sonam Bajwa shared the song on Instagram with a heartfelt caption, "Deewanon ke aansoon se beh jaayega Jag Yaara, Bol Kaffara kya hoga!"

What makes *Bol Kaffara Kya Hoga* instantly memorable is its connection to the iconic *Dhadkan* title track, once picturised on Suniel Shetty, Shilpa Shetty and Akshay Kumar. The new version draws inspiration from the classic while adding a modern twist. However, the song plays it safe with its lyrics as the hookline is simply two verses repeated in active and passive voice, "Tum Jeet Gaye Hum Haare" and "Mere Dil Ki Dil Se Tauba."

Bol Kaffara Kya Hoga
The visuals of *Bol Kaffara Kya Hoga* highlight Harshvardhan's vulnerable side and Sonam's electrifying dance performance, creating a perfect balance of emotion and energy. The track is already making waves following the

popularity of the title song *Deewaniyat*. The track is composed by DJ Chetas and Lijo George whereas Neha Kakkar and Farhan Sabri have crooned the beautiful track. The lyrics have been penned by Asim Raza and Sameer Anjaan, adding a poetic charm to the song's dramatic narrative.

Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat Release Date

Directed by Milap Milan Zaveri, *Ek Deewane Ki Deewaniyat* is a musical romantic drama starring Harshvardhan Rane and Sonam Bajwa in lead roles. Produced by Anshul Garg under the banner of Desi Movies Factory and co-produced by Raghav Sharma, the film is scheduled for a Diwali release on October 21. It will clash with Ayushmann Khurrana and Rashmika Mandanna's supernatural thriller *Thama* which is a part of the Maddock Films' horror comedy universe that includes films like *Stree*, *Bhediya* and *Munjya*.

Coming back to *Bol Kaffara Kya Hoga*, it is shaping up to be one of the most talked-about tracks from the film's album and fans are loving it.

Tanushree Dutta

Reveals She Was Offered Rs 1.65 Cr To Do Bigg Boss, Says 'I'm Not So Cheap'

Tanushree Dutta has claimed that she has been approached for *Bigg Boss* for 11 years now. She revealed that she was offered Rs 1.65 crore to be a contestant on Salman Khan's show. However, she said that she will never sign the show as men and women share beds and fight in the same house. Speaking to *Bollywood Thikana*, Tanushree said, "I am refusing to participate in *Bigg Boss* for the last 11 years. They get after my life to participate in the show every year. I scold them

about my diet. How can they even think that I am the kind of a girl who will sleep with a guy on the same bed for a reality show? I am not so cheap, it doesn't matter how many crores they give me."

Who is Tanushree Dutta?

Tanushree Dutta is an Indian actress and former beauty queen who gained national recognition after winning the Femina Miss India Universe title in 2004. Representing India at the Miss Universe 2004 pageant, she made it to the top 10 finalists, earning international attention. Her success in pageantry opened the door to a career in Bollywood, where she became known for her bold screen presence and striking looks.

Dutta made her Bollywood debut in 2005 with the film *Aashiq Banaya Aapne*, co-starring Emraan Hashmi. The film's chart-topping title song and her bold performance brought her instant fame. The same year, she starred in *Chocolate: Deep Dark Secrets*, a crime thriller that further established her as a rising talent in the industry.

every year. I can't stay in a place like that. I don't even stay with my family; we all have our own space."

She said, "They have offered me Rs 1.65 crore to participate in the show because they had given the same amount to another Bollywood celebrity, she was of my level-actor also. A stylist who is part of *Bigg Boss* management even said that they can offer more money, but I refused." She added, "Even if they offer me the moon, I won't go. Men and women sleeping on the same bed, fighting in the same place, I can't do that. I am also very specific



Is Shah Rukh Khan Really On Kajol And Twinkle Khanna's Show? Hosts Reveal The Hilarious Reality



Bollywood's charm queens Kajol and Twinkle Khanna are stepping into uncharted territory as they gear up for their brand-new chat show *Two Much With Kajol And Twinkle*, a series that promises equal parts entertainment, wit, and spontaneity. The trailer for the show dropped on Monday, September 15, in Mumbai, giving a sneak peek into the playful chemistry between the hosts and the star-studded guest lineup.

The teaser unveiled a glittering guest list featuring Salman Khan, Aamir Khan, Akshay Kumar, Alia Bhatt, Varun Dhawan, Karan Johar, Kriti Sanon, Vicky Kaushal, Govinda, Chunky Panday, and Janhvi Kapoor, among others. However, one name missing in the montage immediately sparked curiosity: Shah Rukh Khan.

Kajol and Twinkle on Shah Rukh Khan's "Appearance"

When asked if King Khan will make an appearance, Kajol shut down speculation, clarifying that his presence on the show was nothing more than a "rumour." Twinkle, with her trademark wit, added a hilarious twist to the tale. "I will be honest. Shah Rukh came. We asked him questions. He didn't answer anything. Then, after some time, I think he wanted to go to the bathroom. So they took him away. And we were quite disappointed. And then we realised we couldn't get his date. So they had got a cardboard cutout of Shah Rukh Khan. We have that in our bloopers. So we have him."

Kajol Reveals Her Favourite Guest

When pressed about her favourite guest, Kajol didn't hesitate. "Govinda! I think our two most favourite guests on the show would have to be Salman and Aamir.

No, actually, to be very honest, my favourite guest on the show was Govinda. I have to say that he was so super entertaining. I mean not to say that everybody was not nice or good, but Govinda is Govinda! Hands down, nobody can argue with that! He is a trend; he is an icon; all of it. I mean, everybody has their go-to Govinda dance song, and we can instantly think about it right now!"

Govinda Greets Priest, Takes Blessings As He Visits Swaminarayan Temple In New Jersey



Bollywood star Govinda recently visited the Swaminarayan Temple in New Jersey, where he offered prayers and spent some peaceful moments in devotion. Known for his energetic performances and iconic films, Govinda took a spiritual pause during his trip to the United States to connect with faith.

At the temple, Govinda was seen with folded hands as he sought blessings and admired the divine atmosphere of the sacred place. His visit was appreciated by devotees present at the temple, many of whom were delighted to see the actor in such a humble and devotional mood.

The actor's visit to the Swaminarayan Temple has also drawn warm reactions from fans on social media, with many praising him for staying rooted in culture and spirituality despite his global recognition.

Govinda's visit to ISKCON

Govinda often visits temples. Earlier, on the occasion of Janmashtami, the actor visited the ISKCON temple. In the clip, he was seen wearing a red kurta-pajama paired with a beige shawl around his neck. The actor was snapped stepping out of his car before entering the temple in Juhu, taking darshan, and later interacting with the pandits and other members at the temple before he headed back.

Why is Govinda in news?

Govinda had been in the headlines for quite some time because of divorce rumours with wife Sunita Ahuja. But shortly after these reports started to make headlines, Sunita Ahuja addressed and dismissed the news of trouble in their marriage.

When questioned about the ongoing divorce rumours during Ganpati celebrations, Sunita quickly interrupted and said, "Aap log controversies sunne aaye ho ki Ganpati Bappa ke liye aaye ho? Koi controversy nahi hai."

Govinda and Sunita Ahuja were also seen distributing sweets to the paparazzi as they welcomed Ganpati Bappa to their Mumbai residence. Several celebrities, including *Bigg Boss* 13 fame Paras Chhabra, were also spotted arriving at Govinda and Sunita's home for Ganpati darshan. Earlier reports suggested that Sunita had filed for divorce in the Bandra Family Court on December 5, 2024, citing adultery, cruelty, and desertion under Section 13(1) (i), (ia), and (ib) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955. Govinda was reportedly summoned by the court but failed to appear until May 2025.



Beauty Rituals from around the world

There is wisdom in those words. Beautiful skin, hair and nails do not have to be synonymous with lighter wallets and wasting hours on end. We bring you a compilation of some amazing beauty techniques from around the world. Not only are they intriguing, but also completely natural. From soothing a flaky

scalp to getting lustrous skin, there's a way to have it all.

Spanish circles

You surely must have tried cucumber slices to lighten dark circles around your eyes. And there's also a range of haemorrhoidal creams to treat under-eye circles. Weird as it sounds, it is

supposed to work like a dream! Not brave enough to try it? Then follow Spanish women and use very thin potato slices over your eyes. Keep them on for ten minutes. You will notice that they actually lighten the skin reducing the blueness of the veins under your eyes.

Kiss cellulite goodbye, the Brazilian way

Cellulite is every woman's despair and there seems to be no way to shooing it away. Here's a thing to learn from Brazilian women, who rub sand on their bodies. When it comes to cellulite, dry brushing is the best, natural and probably, the only way to getting rid of them. So, use sand to kiss cellulite goodbye.

Greek TLC for lips

Beauty regimens need not mean spending a bomb on products or devoting a lot of time to it (unless you are greatly inspired by



Spending too much on expensive shampoos, but not getting the desired results that you see in TV ads? It is mostly possible and very common, because we see overly exaggerated results on TV, since these ads are designed to attract customers.

Top 20 natural ways for great

Hair

But, reality speaks a different story. Instead of spending on those branded shampoos and conditioners, Dr. Sandeep Suttar - Hair Restoration and Skin Rejuvenation surgeon at Hairrevive, Mumbai, shares some natural ways to get great hair. Follow these easy and simple steps to give that luster and shine to your hair, and flaunt your hair like the models do...

Egg treatment

Use the entire egg to condition your hair. If you have dry or brittle hair, use egg whites to moisturize your hair. Use $\frac{1}{2}$ cup of any egg mixture (egg white, entire egg) and apply to clean, damp hair. Leave it for 20 minutes and rinse with cool water.

Cleanliness is important

The most important reason for hair fall is dandruff and itchy scalp. Therefore, maintain good cleanliness for beautiful and healthy hair.

Avoid hot water

Skip hot water showers, because hot water will make your hair dry and brittle as it strips protective oils from your hair - says Dr. Suttar. Thus, prefer a temperature which is just a bit warmer than your body temperature.

Bottle gourd treatment

Extract some bottle gourd juice and apply it into your hair. Keep this solution for half an hour and wash it off thoroughly.

For that shiny soft hair

Prepare a mixture of 1 cup of your daily conditioner and 2-3 tablespoons of honey. Apply this mixture evenly on your wet hair. Leave it for 30 minutes and wash it off thoroughly. This mixture will

close down your hair's cuticle and give your hair that amazing shine.

Baking soda therapy

Make a mixture of 3 tbsp. of baking soda and some water. Rinse your hair with this solution after shampooing. Let it set in for at least 5 minutes before the final rinse. This

rap will help to remove the excess shampoo and styling product from your hair.

For bouncy hair

Apply a one to one mixture of warm water and apple cider vinegar to your hair. Rinse it thoroughly after 5 minutes to get rid of the apple cider smell.

Don't wash your hair frequently

Wash your hair every 2-3 days, for proper regulation of natural hair oils. Washing your hair less often will also help regain your hair's natural body and luster.

Make your conditioner

For a protein packed conditioner, mix eggs and yogurt and rub it into your scalp. Leave on for five or 10 minutes, and then wash it off completely.

For strong hair

Use almond oil to treat dry and damaged hair. It is a very simple procedure, pour some almond oil in a bowl and heat it for 40 seconds. Then evenly distribute on your hair. Leave it for 30 minutes and then rinse normally with shampoo and conditioner using cold water.

Say bye-bye to dull



hair with lemon juice
After the final rinse, apply 1 tsbp lemon juice to your hair. Simply towel dry your hair and style as normal to get rid of dry hair.

Use protection before you jump into the pool
Pools can do great damage to your hair as it contains harsh chemicals - says Dr Suttar. He says; prevent your hair from the pool damage by simply applying a little conditioner to your hair before you swim. This will protect your hair before it comes in contact with the pool water.

Treat sun damaged hair

Make a mixture of $\frac{1}{2}$ cup honey, 1-2 tbsp olive oil and 1-2 tbsp of egg yolk.

Apply this mixture on your hair for 20

minutes and then rinse with warm water. This treatment will help to replenish keratin protein bonds - says Dr. Suttar.

Tight is NO-NO

To prevent breakage due to brittle hair avoid using bands and do not tie your hair too tightly.

The proper brushing technique

Avoid using a comb with plastic bristles to prevent hair breakage from static electricity. The best way to brush your hair is by first brushing the ends to remove tangles and then take the long strokes from the roots of the hair to the ends. This technique will help proper spreading of natural hair oil and thus prevent breakage.

Moisturize your hair

Pour a little beer in your wet hair. Distribute evenly and massage your scalp with your fingers for 20 minutes. Then rinse thoroughly to get rid of the beer smell. Do this procedure once a week for salon smooth hair. Dr. Suttar says- it is recommended that people with sinus and cold should avoid using this treatment.

Trim your hair regularly

Get your hair trimmed at least every six weeks to eliminate dry, split ends.

Do not brush wet hair

Wet hair is three times weaker and thus more likely to break - says Dr. Suttar. He recommends

towel dry your hair first and then gently detangle your hair using a wide tooth comb.

Let your hair air-dry

Allow your hair to dry by itself instead of using a blow-dryer or hot rollers. Using this artificial mode of drying technique will make your hair more brittle and dry. If you have no time to let your hair air dry, then use blow-dryer sparingly and make sure you use a warm setting instead of a hot setting.

Good diet

Drink lots of water and eat a healthy diet of raw fruits and vegetables. The most effective home treatment for hair care is a healthy diet. You are what you eat, and what you put into your body will be reflected on the outside.

Cleopatra). Some of the most easily available things straight off your kitchen shelves can be used for beautifying your self. Greek and Italian women use olive oil to sooth and repair chapped lips. It is the best treatment to heal dry and irritated skin. It also conditions skin and lips while making it glow beautifully.

Chinese anti-ageing

Want skin that defies age-related problems? Sip on white tea like the Chinese do. It protects your skin from free radicals and you don't need to worry about Botox, fillers, collagen and the likes.

Australian dandruff care

Suffering from dandruff? Add a few drops of eucalyptus oil or tea tree oil to your shampoo and kiss those flakes goodbye. This is a foolproof trick from down under to getting rid of dandruff. Be careful with the essential oils though. Massage your scalp with a few drops to see the change.

Scandinavian skincare

They aren't called the world's most beautiful women for nothing. Scandinavian women are credited with flawless skin and aging gracefully. Water plays an essential role in their skincare regime, drinking lots of spring water along with treating their face to it. Steaming your face while in the shower helps open the pores and unclog all the impurities lodged in them. You can also use a hot towel to cover your face for a few minutes for this purpose. Then splash your face with ice cold water. Cold water closes the pores and tightens the skin. It also helps eliminate puffiness. A good 20 splashes with cold water should do the trick.

Dominican way to stronger nails

So what is the secret to the super strong nails of women from the Dominican Republic? Garlic. It is the natural way to strengthen your nails and to ward off vampires! Want sturdy nails? Chop fresh garlic pods and add them to a bottle of clear nail polish. Leave them in there for seven to eight days. Paint your nails with this concoction. Although it will smell initially, it is a small price to pay to getting rid of brittle nails.