

PM, in Bhutan, says those responsible for Delhi blast will be brought to justice

► Prime Minister Modi's warning in English today comes months after he had abruptly switched from Hindi to English during his first address to the nation following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. Just weeks later, India launched the retaliatory Operation Sindoar against Pakistan.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday issued a stern warning after nine people were killed in a suicide car bombing near the Red Fort in Delhi. Speaking in Thimphu, Bhutan, he said, "The conspirators behind this will not be spared. All those responsible will be brought to justice." The Prime Minister arrived in Thimphu earlier in the day on a two-day visit to the neighbouring

nation to join the 70th birthday celebrations of King Jigme Singye Wangchuck. Addressing a public event, PM Modi called the blast "horrific" and said that he understood the grief of the affected families.

"The entire nation stands with them today. I was in touch with all the agencies investigating this incident throughout last night. Our agencies will get to the bottom of this conspiracy," he added. The Prime Minister, who was speaking in Hindi till now, switched to English and said, "All those responsible will be brought to justice." The last time PM Modi suddenly switched from Hindi to English was during his first address to the nation following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack. In that address, he said, "India will identify, track and punish every terrorist and their backers."



Pakistan-Occupied-Kashmir. In a rare display of tri-service coordination, the Army, Navy, and Air Force jointly executed the multi-domain assault. At least 10 people were killed, and 25 others injured after a high-intensity blast ripped through a slow-moving vehicle near the Red Fort on Monday

A few weeks later, India launched the retaliatory Operation Sindoar targeting terror camps in Pakistan and

evening.

Investigators have confirmed that Ammonium Nitrate Fuel Oil was used in the explosion that occurred during the busy evening hours, at a time when the area, a popular tourist spot, was crowded with people.

As per sources, the suicide bombing was carried out by Mohammad Umar, a suspected terrorist from the Faridabad terror module, who was employed as a doctor at the Al Falah Medical College in the Haryana city.

Sources told India Today that Umar is believed to have planned the attack along with two of his associates. He, however, carried it out alone in a panic following the arrests of his other accomplices in Faridabad earlier on Monday. Umar placed a detonator in the car and executed the terror act.

"Those Responsible Won't Be Spared": Rajnath Singh's Warning After Delhi Blast

New Delhi.(Agency)

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has said that they won't "spare" the people responsible for the blast near the iconic Red Fort in Delhi, in which nine people were killed and about 20 others were injured on Monday evening. "I wish to assure my fellow citizens that the country's leading investigative agencies are conducting a swift and thorough inquiry into the incident. The findings of the investigation will soon be made public. I want to firmly assure the nation that those responsible for this tragedy will be brought to justice and will not be spared under any circumstances," he said while speaking at an event in Delhi on Tuesday. He also extended his heartfelt condolences to all those who lost their lives in the "tragic" accident.

"I pray to God to grant strength and solace to the bereaved families in this hour of deep grief," Singh said. A powerful blast ripped through a slow-moving car at a traffic signal near the Red Fort metro station at

6:52 pm, killing at least nine people and leaving many vehicles damaged.

Umar Mohammad, a resident of Jammu and Kashmir's Pulwama, owned the car, a



white Hyundai i20, and is believed to have been driving the car when the blast was triggered, sources said. Umar, who is a doctor by profession, has also been a member of a radical doctors' group that coordinated on Telegram and has links to the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), a Pakistan-based terror group, sources said.

A man named Tariq from Pulwama is said to

have given the car to Umar, sources said. Tariq is now also under police custody. Hours before the blast in Delhi, the police recovered 2,900 kg of explosives and inflammable material from two rented rooms of a Kashmiri doctor in Haryana's Faridabad. Two Kashmiri doctors -- Adeel Ahmad Rather and Muzammil Shakeel -- were among eight people arrested for allegedly being part of a "white-collar" module involving the Jaish-e-Mohammed and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind and spanning Kashmir, Haryana, and Uttar Pradesh, officials said. The 2,900 kg of explosive material recovered in Faridabad included ammonium nitrate, potassium nitrate, and sulphur.

"Operation Sindoar Is On": Government Sources

Operation Sindoar, which was launched on May 7 in response to a deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam on April 22, is currently "on", the government sources said.

No end in sight to leadership tangle, Rahul unlikely to meet Siddaramaiah, DK Shivakumar

The Congress high command has instructed its Karnataka leaders, including the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, not to visit Delhi to discuss the change in leadership issue, said a source.

BENGALURU.(Agency)

The 'mission' of both Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar to meet Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, expecting him to clear the air over the leadership issue in the state, is unlikely to succeed.

According to Congress insiders, Rahul, who has been denying an audience to Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar to discuss the change of guard issue, will be flying to Finland on a 10-day visit from November 15, a day after the results of the Bihar Assembly elections are declared. The Congress high command has instructed its Karnataka leaders, including the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister, not to visit Delhi to discuss the change in leadership issue, said a source.



Siddaramaiah, however, is planning to visit the national capital on November 15 to take part in the release of the autobiography of former union minister and Supreme Court counsel Kapil Sibal. Siddaramaiah is expected to remain in Delhi for a couple of days, during which he is likely to meet several union ministers, including Home Minister Amit Shah. He is also expected to meet All-India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun Kharge and party general secretaries KC Venugopal and Randeep Singh Surjewala. It can be recalled that Siddaramaiah could not meet Rahul over the leadership issue during his visit to Delhi in July this year. Meanwhile, Siddaramaiah is likely to break the record of the late D Devaraj Urs as the longest-serving CM of the state (7 years and 234 days on January 5, 2026), as the top brass is in no mood to replace him, said a part insider.

Karnataka CM for scientific solution to end man-animal conflict

MYSURU.(Agency)

In view of a steep rise in man-animal conflicts in Mysuru, particularly the recent tiger attacks on farmers in HD Kote and Sargur regions, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday came down heavily on forest officials and directed them to find a scientific and lasting solution to the problem.

Speaking at the Karnataka Development Programme (KDP) review meeting here, the CM questioned forest officials about the reasons behind the increase in tigers and elephants straying out of forests. "Give me a scientific reason why tigers and elephants are coming out of the

forests," he asked. When the officials failed to provide a convincing reply, the CM expressed displeasure, stressing, "There is an urgent need to find an effective solution through scientific means."

Siddaramaiah directed the officials to refill water-holes inside forests, remove invasive lantana weeds, grow sufficient forage, and ensure continuous monitoring to prevent animals from venturing into human settlements. He said a separate meeting would soon be convened exclusively to discuss steps to mitigate man-animal conflicts. The CM also

instructed forest officials to conduct research and submit a comprehensive report, outlining long-term strategies for conflict prevention.

When officials told him that a helpline had been launched, and work was

under way to establish a command centre, the CM questioned the rejection of 5,900 out of 7,000 applications under the Forest Rights Act (FRA).

Deputy Commissioner G Lakshminarayana Reddy told the CM that the applications had been rejected during 2019-20. Siddaramaiah, however, said that all applications rejected without valid reason should be reconsidered and directed forest and revenue officials to act with empathy towards farmers and forest dwellers. He also instructed them to ensure that drinking water and electricity are available to farmers.

"Not Easy To Play With Us": Mamata Banerjee Warns Poll Body Over SIR In Bengal

Kolkata.(Agency)

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday dubbed the ongoing special intensive revision of electoral rolls as "votebandi", and asserted that she would protect the rights of voters at any cost, even if it meant her "throat getting slashed" for protesting against the exercise.

Urging the Election Commission to immediately stop the SIR, she asserted that unless the exercise was executed flawlessly with every genuine voter finding a place in the final rolls, its implementation in Bengal would not be as easy as it was in Bihar. "I remember when Mr Seshan was election commissioner, he said the EC is for the people, not the government. I am sorry to see its current leaders only yapping 'yes



sir' and 'yes sir'. You could do this (SIR) in Bihar because you could get away with it, but not in Bengal, where we will question you at every step. You only want to satisfy your boss, not the public. You cannot demolish democracy," Banerjee said, in an oblique reference to Gyanesh Kumar, the Chief Election Commissioner.

She was responding to reporters at 'Uttarkanya' in Siliguri, the state secretariat in north Bengal, after holding an administrative meeting. "It is not easy to play with us. We assess the pitch before playing. We will catch them at every step and ensure every genuine voter can vote. The EC will not follow the BJP's directions. If they want to punish me for saying this, they can. What will you do? Send me to jail, send agencies after me, strip my voting rights, even slash my throat, but do not torture the people and strip them of their voting rights," the CM asserted. Blaming the Centre for "holding back state government employees in the name of conducting SIR", Banerjee accused the Union government of creating a "super emergency" like situation.

News box

8 months gone, MCG yet to elect deputy mayors, House meet tomorrow

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Eight months after the municipal elections, MCG is yet to elect its senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor, mayor Raj Rani Malhotra has said. The issue is not on the agenda for Wednesday's House meeting, even as the absence of key office-bearers delays decisions on waste management, infrastructure and civic planning. Earlier, elections of the deputies were to be conducted on Aug 11, when the MCG and MCM elected their members of the finance and contracts committee (F&CC). However, the elections were postponed till further orders since sources said that the BJP, which holds a majority in the MCG house, was unable to find consensus on the names of the councillors for the senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor posts. Councillors said the F&CC has been constituted and ward-wise work is not affected. "Among the 10 municipal corporations which went to polls in March this year, elections of the deputies to the mayor took place only in Manesar because of directions from the high court," said a councillor, requesting anonymity. A special House meeting was held on Aug 5 at which the MCM house members, including the mayor and 20 councillors, elected the senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor of the MCM, unopposed. The elections were held after Punjab and Haryana high court directed the Haryana govt to conduct elections for the two posts of the MCM house. The HC on July 1 directed the Haryana govt to conduct the elections fairly and within a specified timeframe, "preferably within a three-week period." According to the Haryana Municipal Corporation Election rules, 1994, "The commissioner shall, within a period of sixty days of the notification of the names of the members elected to the corporation, convene a meeting of the corporation at forty-eight hours' notice to be delivered at the ordinary place of residence of members. The notice shall clearly state that the election of senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor shall be held in this meeting to be presided over by the mayor in the presence of the

Rs 350-crore GST refund nexus busted in Noida

Noida.(Agency)

Two men allegedly part of a large tax-fraud syndicate that floated dozens of fictitious firms across western UP using forged documents to claim fraudulent GST refunds worth crores were arrested from Greater Noida's Patwari on Monday.

According to police, the accused—Praveen Kumar (38) of Saloni village in Hapur district and Satendra Singh (37) of Bighrahu village in Bulandshahr—were part of a structured network that specialised in fabricating documents such as Aadhaar cards, PAN cards and rent agreements to create bogus firms and register them on UDYAM and GST portals. They used the forged credentials to open current accounts in multiple branches of the Bank of India in Ghaziabad and GB Nagar. "They used fake KYC papers with their own photographs to open these accounts and operate the firms. The accounts were then used to receive fraudulent GST refunds, which were immediately diverted to other linked accounts to avoid detection," Central Noida DCP Shakti Mohan Avasthi said. Police have recovered counterfeit Aadhaar and PAN cards, rent agreements, 10 firm stamps, cheque books, bank account opening forms, and multiple mobile numbers used for OTP verifications. To mask their digital footprint, the two used nine primary mobile numbers, which were linked to 18 IMEI numbers, and through these, they handled 87 different mobile numbers, officials said. Investigators have so far identified six fake firms directly connected to the two—M/s Ridhi Sidhi Enterprises, M/s Bhawani Impex, M/s Jhalak Enterprises, M/s Gaurav Enterprises, M/s Damini India International, and M/s Radhika Enterprises. These accounts recorded suspicious transactions of nearly Rs 3.4 crore between June and Nov this year. Police said the wider network helped register 85 bogus firms, collectively claiming nearly Rs 51 crore in fraudulent input tax credit (ITC) refunds. Officials estimate the syndicate may have generated fake invoices worth up to Rs 350 crore. An FIR has been registered under various BNS sections.

Noida and Ghaziabad see 'very poor' air quality 4 days on trot

Noida.(Agency)

The city recorded 'very poor' air quality for the fourth consecutive day on Monday, leaving the sky shrouded in a grey haze as residents struggled to cope with the persistent pollution.

While the AQI bulletin was not available for Monday on the Central Pollution Control Board's portal, data from the CPCB's Sameer mobile app showed that Noida saw a marginal improvement at 318, compared to 366 the day before. Greater Noida and Ghaziabad saw a similar trend, recording AQI of 318 and 301, a minor improvement from 340 and 345 on Sunday. Station-wise data showed that three of the air monitoring stations in Noida recorded 'very poor' air quality, with Sector 116 (AQI 342) recording the worst AQI, followed by Sector 1 (AQI 322), and Sector 62 (AQI 321) data from the Sector 125 station was not available. In Greater Noida, Knowledge Park III (AQI 319) and Knowledge Park V (AQI 317) also recorded AQI in the 'very poor' range.

In neighbouring Ghaziabad, Loni (AQI 362) and Sanjay Nagar (AQI 310) both registered 'very poor' air, while Indirapuram (AQI 281) and Vasundhara (AQI 250) were slightly better-off in the 'poor' category.

On the same day last year, Noida, Greater Noida, and Ghaziabad recorded comparatively better AQI levels of 220, 249, and 232, respectively—all in the 'poor' category. Sanjeev Kumar, a resident of Sector 51, said pollution levels worsened in the last few days, affecting people, especially children and the elderly. "I normally go for a morning walk and often see dense fog and smog. I have started wearing a mask for safety. Also, anti-pollution measures like water sprinkling are not visible in our neighbourhood," he said. According to the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), surface winds on Monday blew from the northwest at speeds of up to 15 kmph in the afternoon before dropping below 10 kmph in the evening.

Traffic to take a hit for 2 months as DND undergoes surface repairs

Noida.(Agency)

Traffic on DND Flyway will face disruptions for the next two months as repair and resurfacing work is underway. Traffic police have issued an advisory as the concessionaire, Noida Toll Bridge Company Limited (NTBCL), will conduct maintenance from 11pm to 6am and noon to 4pm to minimise peak-hour disruptions. The project involves resurfacing an 8km stretch on both sides, maintaining flyway shoulders, and other works. Work has started on the Delhi-Noida side near the loop. "First, the Delhi-Noida carriageway will be repaired, followed by the Noida-Delhi side," said DCP(traffic) Pravin Ranjan Singh.

Two of the flyway's four lanes will be closed while maintenance work is underway, and traffic will be allowed on the remaining two. The restrictions are expected to cause inconvenience to commuters, especially during the evening rush hours when the DND Flyway experiences heavy traffic



pressure. This is the second major rehabilitation drive on the flyway, estimated to cost around Rs 6 crore. In the first phase, which was completed in 2023 at a cost of Rs 5 crore, around 60% of the carriageway was covered. The work had included the upgradation of electric infrastructure and lighting on the stretch. Work has already started near the

According to an NTBCL spokesperson, the ongoing phase will focus on micro-surfacing around an 8km stretch of both carriageways, along with embankment protection and other related infrastructure works to ensure safety, smooth traffic flow, and long-term durability of the corridor. Work has already started near the

Haryana CM: Artificial lake at Sirhaul to tackle monsoon flooding; gives nod to construct underpass at Millennium City Centre

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana chief minister Nayan Singh Saini on Monday approved a proposal to create an artificial lake on over 12 acres of land owned by the Haryana tourism department at Sirhaul border. Supporting the move, Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh said the lake would help store monsoon runoff and aid groundwater recharge. "The lake will not only enhance water conservation but also serve as a sustainable environmental asset for the city," Singh said. Saini also gave his nod for the construction of an underpass near Millennium City Centre and directed GMDA officials to prepare a detailed project report (DPR) at the earliest.

"Resolving congestion and civic bottlenecks remains a top priority," Saini said. While chairing the 15th meeting of GMDA—where he reviewed progress on key infrastructure and civic projects—the CM said the state govt is fully committed to transforming Gurgaon into a "traffic jam-free and smooth-transit city".

The Rs 80-crore project is aimed at decongesting the intersection where heavy vehicular movement from Millennium City Centre, Signature

Tower and Sector 29 often leads to long tailbacks during peak hours. "The underpass will reduce traffic pressure around the metro station and provide seamless movement towards the Delhi-Jaipur highway," Saini said, adding that such interventions are crucial to maintaining Gurgaon's position as the state's economic growth hub. Bandhwari landfill and a new stormwater drain also came up for discussion. Upgrading Civil Hospital to a 400-bed facility was also approved. Officials had earlier suggested reducing capacity to 300 beds instead of the initial plan of 700 beds, citing heavy traffic in the area, but Singh opposed the move. "This is a historic hospital that serves poor and middle-class families in the old city. While New Gurgaon has several private hospitals, this facility remains the only lifeline for thousands of residents," Rao said. The CM agreed and directed that tenders for the 400-bed hospital be floated soon. He also instructed officials to prepare plans for new hospitals in Sector 67 and other parts of Gurgaon. It was also decided that a high-level committee will explore operating the Shree Sheetla Mata Medical College under a public-private

partnership (PPP) model. The CM said strengthening medical infrastructure and improving healthcare access remain key govt priorities. The issue of poor waste management at the Bandhwari landfill was also flagged. "Ecogreen, the agency responsible for the same, has failed to fulfil its commitments to the public. A criminal case should be filed so that other concessionaires take such work seriously. The leachate flow from the Bandhwari was causing health issues in nearby villages," Singh said. The CM directed that strict action against the company. During the meeting, Singh raised the issue of illegal encroachments by private builders on the city's natural drainage channels. "Some developers have even been granted licences by previous govt on natural water flow paths. These cases must be investigated and strict action should be taken," he said. The CM agreed, directing officials to constitute a committee to probe such encroachments and submit a report at the earliest.

The CM also instructed officials to prepare the DPR for a new stormwater drain connecting Gurgaon to Palwal via Nuh—a project aimed at providing a long-term solution to waterlogging.

Gurgaon's AQI 'cover story': Trees, walls & missing data

Noida (Agency)

A thick smokescreen hung over the city till late Monday morning. It was much the same in Delhi, Noida and other parts of NCR. But while Delhi's AQI was 345 (very poor) and Noida's 318 (very poor), Gurgaon seemed to be breathing easier with an AQI of 221 (poor). What one saw didn't fit with what the data suggested.

It's been like this through this peak pollution season, since Diwali, with Gurgaon's average AQI mostly better than other NCR cities. Since Diwali, Gurgaon has recorded only two very poor AQI days, 16 poor days and three moderate days.

Within the same airshed, this can happen sometimes because of wind direction and hyperlocal meteorological factors. But when it sustains over a period of time, one has to look more closely at the data. In fact, place recording the data. That's what

we did on Monday. It was revealing. All five continuous air monitoring stations—at Vikas Sadan, Sector 51, Teri Gram, Gwalpahari and Manesar—are close to thick foliage or near walls, violating CPCB rules that require monitors to be installed at least 20-30 metres from trees and 50 metres from major structures, in open and well-ventilated areas. The stations have also not consistently recorded PM2.5 and sulphur dioxide (SO2) data, lowering the city's AQI averages. Gwalpahari and Teri Gram recorded incomplete indices for several days. LED display boards at all five stations have, meanwhile, been non-functional for weeks. Over the years, vegetation within govt and institutional campuses has grown tall around these stations, trapping air and absorbing a share of pollutants before they reach the sensors. The ambience of the stations, in other words, is very different from the ambience of the road that hits you as you step out. "Vegetation grew, but the monitors' locations stayed fixed," an official said. An analysis of CPCB's real-time data shows the Gwalpahari station failed to record PM2.5 levels for several hours on multiple days this month. Since AQI averages are based on available readings, missing data of PM2.

800 cops conduct search ops around Faridabad's Al-Falah University; police suspect lab used for making RDX

FARIDABAD (Agency)

A day after nearly 2,900kg of explosive and inflammable materials were seized from Faridabad's Dhauj area, police on Tuesday launched an extensive combing and search operation involving over 800 personnel across multiple locations under the jurisdiction of the Dhauj police station. Investigators are probing whether the laboratory facilities at Al-Falah University were used to synthesise RDX or other advanced explosives. The operation stems from the arrest of Dr Muzamil Shakeel, a Kashmiri medical professor teaching at the university, whose rented accommodation near the campus yielded explosives, detonators, batteries, timers, and weapons, including an AK-47 rifle and a Krinkov.

Police said the massive haul—the largest in recent years—points to preparations for potential large-scale terror plot. Faridabad Police Commissioner Satender Kumar Gupta said teams are working to trace suppliers, identify accomplices, and verify whether university



labs were misused for bomb-making. A day after 2,900 kg of explosives and inflammable material was recovered from two rented rooms of a Kashmiri doctor in Faridabad, an extensive combing and search operation was being conducted in parts of the district on Tuesday. Preliminary probe into the blast near Delhi's Red Fort on Monday evening that left 12 dead and many injured has also suggested links to the alleged terror module uncovered in Faridabad. Police on Tuesday said a team is camping at the Al-Falah University, where the Kashmiri doctor lived for the past three-and-a-half years, and

are questioning staff and doctors at the varsity, a senior police officer said. Several police personnel are conducting searches in the Dhauj police station area, he said. Investigation so far revealed that a cleric here who was detained by police revealed that he had rented out his room to an autorickshaw driver who then gave it to Dr Muzamil for keeping "luggage" in the room. Eight people, including the Kashmiri man and two fellow doctors, were arrested for allegedly being part of a white-collar terror module involving the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind

Monday, Faridabad Police said in a statement that approximately 2,900 kg of inflammables and explosive material was recovered in a joint operation by Faridabad.

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toll plaza loop, where traffic cones have been placed to restrict movement. The project is expected to be completed by Dec-end or early Jan. Traffic police have advised commuters to use alternative routes such as Kalindi Kunj and Chilla border to avoid inconvenience. Opened on Feb 6, 2001, the 9.2km, eight-lane corridor connects Noida to Delhi's Maharan Bagh and serves as a key route for daily intercity travel. On Sept 8, 2014, the Federation of Noida Resident Welfare Associations (FONRWA) filed a petition in the Allahabad High Court seeking abolition of the toll and concession agreement, claiming the company had already recovered its project cost. On Oct 26, 2016, the court barred NTBCL from collecting toll at the flyway. NTBCL retained responsibility for maintaining the flyway under constitutional provisions. The company later challenged the High Court order in the Supreme Court, and on Dec 20, 2024, the Apex Court upheld the Allahabad.

Two Beretta pistols among arms seized from sarpanch linked to Fazilpuria firing in Gurgaon

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Two days after a village sarpanch was arrested from Punjab in connection with the firing on singer Rahul Fazilpuria, police recovered three pistols—estimated to be worth Rs 20 lakh—from his possession.

Police said the pistols—two Berettas made in Italy and one pistol made in Pakistan—along with 25 live cartridges were seized from Bikramjeet Singh, who was nabbed from Bathinda under "Operation Trackdown".

An officer said that the accused—sarpanch of Katora in Ferozpur district—sourced six weapons through an associate named Gagandeep and supplied three of them to his accomplices. The remaining three pistols were recovered from his possession during the remand period. The supplied weapons were used in the firing incident, he said. On July 14, a gang in a white Tata Punch car opened fire at the White Thar car of singer Rahul Fazilpuria on SPR around 5.50pm. The bullet struck a roadside pole, narrowly missing him, after which the attackers fled. A case was registered at the Badshah police station. Police said the sarpanch's arrest is linked to an earlier breakthrough in Oct when one of the prime accused, Sunil alias Sardhania (39), was caught at Delhi airport after returning from Costa Rica. Sunil allegedly arranged the weapons used in the attack and was also wanted in multiple cases, including the murder of gangster Rohit Shokeen and a shooting at a property dealer in Sector 45. Investigators said Sunil has 24 criminal cases registered against him in various districts across Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. He was previously sentenced to life imprisonment and 10 years in two different cases but fled abroad in 2024 using a fake passport obtained under the name "Suneel Singh." Police have so far arrested 11 accused in the case including Vishal, Hitesh, Gautam alias Chhotu, Ramandeep alias Petrol, Shubham alias Kala, Shakti Panchal, Ramniwas alias Kalu, Sunil alias Sardhania, Pradeep, Gagandeep alias Judge and Bikramjeet Singh.

Class VII girl dies, grandfather hurt in hit-&-run mishap

New Delhi: A minor girl died while her grandfather suffered injuries after their scooter was hit by an unidentified vehicle while they were returning home from school in Northwest Delhi, the police said in Friday. The girl, a student of Class VII, was rushed to Fortis Hospital where she succumbed to her injuries, they added. The police got a PCR call regarding the accident at the Adarsh Nagar police station. After getting information, a police team reached the spot where it found that the injured were shifted to hospital. The police found a scooter in a damaged condition. The girl, a resident of Gali No. 4, Model Town, an official said. Preliminary enquiry revealed that the victim was returning home with her grandfather, Meen Singh, on a scooter when an unidentified vehicle hit them on Road No. 51 around 2:30 pm, the official added.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, AYESHA KHATOON D/O MOHD IDU ANSARI R/O ?? 7-17 Street No 6/2 Mustafabad Dilshad Majid Old Mustafabad Dayalpur North East Delhi-110094 declare that name of my father and my mother have been wrongly written as IDU ANSARI and RAZIYA BEGUM in my All educational documents. The actual name of my father and my mother are MOHD IDU ANSARI and RAZIYA BEGUM respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHIVAY SUNIL GUPTA S/O SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA R/O H NO.58 1ST FLOOR BLK-G KIRTI NAGAR WEST DELHI 110015 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHIVAY SUNIL GUPTA

NAME CHANGE

I, PANKAJ SINGH TOMER S/O BRIJ P. KUMAR TOMER R/O GAI NO.1, INDRA COMPLEX, NEAR SIDHARTH SCHOOL, FARIDABAD, KHERI KALAN (113), KHERI KALAN, FARIDABAD, HARYANA, 121002, I HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM PANKAJ TO PANKAJ SINGH TOMER FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

NAME CHANGE

I, RITU W/O SOMBIR MALIK R/O VTC: Patpauri (121), PO: Patpauri, Sub District: Rohtak, District: Rohtak, State: Haryana - 124411, have changed my name to Reetu Kumari for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, GORISHANKAR MEENA S/O RAMHET MEENA R/O E-221 A, 6A, NEAR PANDEY KOTHI, SANGAM VIHAR, Dehlvi, PO: Dr. Ambedkar Nagar, DIST: South Delhi, Delhi-110080 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as GORISHANKAR in my minor daughter SHIVANI aged 17 years in her 10th Class educational documents. The actual name of mine is GORISHANKAR MEENA which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby information that I, GURPREET SINGH S/o Satinder Pal Singh R/O C-190, First Floor Prashant Vihar Po. Rohini Sector-7 North West Delhi-110085 declare that name of mine, my wife and my minor son has been wrongly written as GURPREET SINGH GUGNANI (ROSELEEN KAUR GUGNANI and BISMEET SINGH GUGNANI in my minor son BISMEET SINGH aged 17 years in his 10th class educational documents the actual name of mine, my wife and my minor son are GURPREET SINGH, ROSELEEN KAUR and BISMEET SINGH respectively which may be amended accordingly

NAME CHANGE

I, Arun Rana S/O Om Parkash Rana R/O 2103/A, Gali No-15, Punjab Basti Baljeet Nagar, Patel Nagar, Dist: Central, Delhi - 110088, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kuldeep Singh

NAME CHANGE

I, M. Radha alias Radha D/O Kon Swan W/O Maya Van R/O J-467-T-Huts Behind Lakkar Shop, Jangpura B, Dist: South Delhi, Delhi-110014, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Avendra Singh

NAME CHANGE

I, Amrit Kaur S/O Mevaram Singh R/O Chet Ram House, Near Pole No. 96, Village Bagdala, Sector -8 Dwarika, Bagdala, PO: Raj Nagar-II, Dist: South West Delhi, Delhi-110077, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Pawan Singh

NAME CHANGE

I, Santa Tirkhi W/O Anthony Barwa R/O Near Mother International School, B-113, Ground floor, Savandana Enclave, Dist: South Delhi, Delhi -110017, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Kolsatia Tirkhi

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as Binu Kunju D/o Kunjunjan R/o House No-33, Hari Nagar, Ashram, South Delhi, Delhi-110014 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Binu.KK

NAME CHANGE

I, PADHIMA BAI is real mother of No. JG-252586P Rank - 304 Name - KAWADE SANTOSH NARAYAN, is presently residing at VILL-PANDHARGALA, PO-JOGWAD, TELH-JINTUR, DIST - PARBHANI, (MAHARASHTRA)-415009 have changed my name from PADHIMA BAI to PADHIMAI NARAYAN KAWADE for all future purposes. Vide Affidavit Dated 11/11/2025 before Notary Public New Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, PREMELA N mother of No. 15678968F Rank HAV Name ADARSH G A of Unit 3 INF DIV SIG REGT, C/O 56 APO presently residing AMBIKA SADHANAM, POREDM P/O, VILL-CHADAYAMANGALAM THAHSIL-KOTTAKKARA, KOL-LAM (DISTRICT) and KERALA (STATE)- 691534 have changed my name from PREMELA N to PREMELA N for all future purposes. Vide Affidavit Dated 28/10/2025 before Notary Public Kerala.

NAME CHANGE

I, Army No. 15678968F Rank HAV Name ADARSH G A of Unit 3 INF DIV SIG REGT, C/O 56 APO presently residing AMBIKA SADHANAM, POREDM P/O, VILL-CHADAYAMANGALAM THAHSIL-KOTTAKKARA, KOL-LAM (DISTRICT) and KERALA (STATE)- 691534 have changed my daughter's name from DIVA A to DIVA ADARSH for all future purposes. Vide Affidavit Dated 28/10/2025 before Notary Public Kerala.

NAME CHANGE

I, PREMELA N mother of No. 15678968F Rank HAV Name ADARSH G A of Unit 3 INF DIV SIG REGT, C/O 56 APO presently residing AMBIKA SADHANAM, POREDM P/O, VILL-CHADAYAMANGALAM THAHSIL-KOTTAKKARA, KOL-LAM (DISTRICT) and KERALA (STATE)- 691534 have changed my daughter's name from DIVA A to DIVA ADARSH for all future purposes. Vide Affidavit Dated 28/10/2025 before Notary Public Kerala.

I hitherto known as Mayank Singh S/O: Sanjay Singh, R/o Gali no. 4, Safayabad Road, Shiv Mandir Colony, Khasra no/241, Narela, Narela, North West, Delhi, Delhi - 110040, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MAHI SINGH.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, AYESHA KHATOON D/O MOHD IDU ANSARI R/O ?? 7-17 Street No 6/2 Mustafabad Dilshad Majid Old Mustafabad Dayalpur North East Delhi-110094 declare that name of my father and my mother have been wrongly written as IDU ANSARI and RAZIYA BEGUM in my All educational documents. The actual name of my father and my mother are MOHD IDU ANSARI and RAZIYA BEGUM respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHAHZAD son of Shri ABDUL RAHMAN residing at 16/248, Block-16, Kalyanpur, East Delhi, Delhi-110091, hereby solemnly affirm and declare that I have embraced HINDUISM and renounced ISLAM with effect from 10/11/2025 and also I have changed my name from SHAHZAD to SHIV KUMAR for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, VIJENDRA SINGH S/O Raghuvir, Permanent resident of Sarsa Churu, Sarsa, Rajasthan - 331029, Permanent residing at Noida, 70 D-A3, Sec 71, Noida, Noida Uttar Pradesh - 201307, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as IDU ANSARI and RAZIYA BEGUM in my All educational documents. The actual name of my father and my mother are MOHD IDU ANSARI and RAZIYA BEGUM respectively which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHIVAY SUNIL GUPTA S/O SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA R/O H NO.58 1ST FLOOR BLK-G KIRTI NAGAR WEST DELHI 110015 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHIVAY SUNIL GUPTA

NAME CHANGE

I, SAGHEER AHMAD S/O MASHA ALAH RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 452 MATIA MAHAL JAMA MASJID DELHI-110006 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM SAGHEER AHMAD TO SAGIR AHMAD FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, HAZRA AHMED W/O MOHAMMAD IOBAL RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 1441- 2ND FLOOR GALI GONDINI WALI KALAN MAHAL DARYA GANJ NEW DELHI 110024, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM HAZRA AHMED TO HAJRA KHATUN FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

NAME CHANGE

I, KIBAL AHMED S/O RASHID AHMAD RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 1441- 2ND FLOOR GALI GONDINI WALI KALAN MAHAL DARYA GANJ NEW DELHI 110024, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM IKBAL AHMED TO KIBAL AHMED FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, SATNAM SANGWAN S/o Sabir Singh R/o 2415, Gali No.2, Bagni Khera, Kishanganj, Delhi-110027, have changed my name to SATNAM permanently

NAME CHANGE

I, AAYAAN KHAN S/O SHAKIL KHAN residing at B-58, GALI NO-18, PARWANA ROAD JITAR NAGAR, KRISHNA NAGAR DELHI-110051 have changed my name to AAYAAN KHAN for all future purpose.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, HAZRA AHMED W/O MOHAMMAD IOBAL RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 1441- 2ND FLOOR GALI GONDINI WALI KALAN MAHAL DARYA GANJ NEW DELHI 110024, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM IKBAL AHMED TO KIBAL AHMED FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, SHIVAY SUNIL GUPTA S/O SUNIL KUMAR GUPTA R/O H NO.58 1ST FLOOR BLK-G KIRTI NAGAR WEST DELHI 110015 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SHIVAY SUNIL GUPTA

NAME CHANGE

I, AYAN KHAN S/O SHAKIL KHAN residing at B-58, GALI NO-18, PARWANA ROAD JITAR NAGAR, KRISHNA NAGAR DELHI-110051 have changed my name to AYAN KHAN for all future purpose.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, HAZRA AHMED W/O MOHAMMAD IOBAL RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 1441- 2ND FLOOR GALI GONDINI WALI KALAN MAHAL DARYA GANJ NEW DELHI 110024, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM IKBAL AHMED TO KIBAL AHMED FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

PUBLIC NOTICE

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NAME CHANGE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

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PUBLIC NOTICE

I, HAZRA AHMED W/O MOHAMMAD IOBAL RESIDING AT HOUSE NO 1441- 2ND FLOOR GALI GONDINI WALI KALAN MAHAL DARYA

NEWS BOX

Canada loses measles-free status as outbreaks surge and vaccination rates fall**WASHINGTON . (Agency)**

Canada is no longer measles-free because of ongoing outbreaks, international health experts said Monday, as childhood vaccination rates fall and the highly contagious virus spreads across North and South America. The loss of the country's measles elimination status comes more than a year after the highly contagious virus started spreading.

Canada has logged 5,138 measles cases this year and two deaths. Both were babies who were exposed to the measles virus in the womb and born prematurely. Measles elimination is a symbolic designation, but it represents a hard-won battle against the infectious disease. It is earned when a country shows it stopped continuous spread of the virus within local communities, though occasional cases might still pop up from travel. Measles typically begins with a high fever followed by a telltale rash that starts on the face and neck. Most people recover, but it's one of the leading causes of death among young children, according to the World Health Organisation. Serious complications, including blindness and swelling of the brain, are more common in young children and adults over age 30.

It is prevented by a vaccine administered routinely and safely to children around the world.

"It's a deeply disheartening development. It's a deeply worrisome development. And, frankly, it's an embarrassing development," said Jennifer Nuzzo, a Brown University infectious disease expert. "No country with the amount of resources of Canada—or other countries in North America even—should lose their measles elimination status."

VACCINATION CAMPAIGNS LED TO ELIMINATION

Canada eliminated measles in 1998, followed by the United States two years later. After hugely successful vaccination campaigns, the Americas became the first region in the world to be free of measles in 2016. Health officials estimate the measles vaccine prevented 6.2 million deaths in the Americas between 2000 and 2023.

David Szalay wins 2025 Booker Prize for his novel 'Flesh'**world.(Agency)**

Canadian-Hungarian-British writer David Szalay won the Booker Prize for fiction on Monday for "Flesh," the story of an ordinary man's life over several decades in which what isn't on the page is just as important as what is. Szalay, 51, beat five other finalists, including favourites Andrew Miller and Kiran Desai, to take the coveted literary award, which brings a 50,000-pound (\$66,000) payday and a big boost to the winner's sales and profile. He was chosen from 153 submitted novels by a judging panel that included Irish writer Roddy Doyle and "Sex and the City" star Sarah Jessica Parker.

Szalay said "Flesh" — a book "about living, and the strangeness of living" — emerged as the judges' unanimous choice after a five-hour meeting. Szalay's book recounts the life of taciturn Istvn, from a teenage relationship with an older woman through time as a struggling immigrant in Britain to denizen of London high society. The author has said he wanted to write about a Hungarian immigrant, and "about life as a physical experience, about what it's like to be a living body in the world." Accepting his trophy at London's Old Billingsgate — a former fish market turned glitzy events venue — Szalay thanked the judges for rewarding his "risky" novel.

US Supreme Court rejects appeal seeking to overturn same-sex marriage decision**HUNTINGTON . (Agency)**

The US Supreme Court on Monday rejected a call to overturn its landmark decision that legalized same-sex marriage nationwide. The justices, without comment, turned away an appeal from Kim Davis, the former Kentucky court clerk who refused to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples after the high court's 2015 ruling in Obergefell v. Hodges.

Davis had been trying to get the court to overturn a lower-court order for her to pay \$360,000 in damages and attorney's fees to a couple denied a marriage license. Her lawyers repeatedly invoked the words of Justice Clarence Thomas, who alone among the nine justices has called for erasing the same-sex marriage ruling. Thomas was among four dissenting justices in 2015. Chief Justice John Roberts and Justice Samuel Alito are the other dissenters who are on the court today. Roberts has been silent on the subject since he wrote a dissenting opinion in the case. Alito has continued to criticise the decision, but he said recently he was not advocating that it be overturned. Justice Amy Coney Barrett, who was not on the court in 2015, has said that there are times when the court should correct mistakes and overturn decisions, as it did in the 2022 case that ended a constitutional right to abortion. But Barrett has suggested recently that same-sex marriage might be in a different category than abortion because people have relied on the decision when they married and had children. Human Rights Campaign president Kelley Robinson praised the justices' decision not to intervene. "The Supreme Court made clear today that refusing to respect the constitutional rights of others does not come without consequences," Robinson said in a statement. Davis drew national attention to eastern Kentucky's Rowan County when she turned away same-sex couples, saying her faith prevented her from complying with the high court ruling. She defied court orders to issue the licenses until a federal judge jailed her for contempt of court in September 2015.

The K-visa supplements China's existing visa schemes, including the R-visa for foreign professionals, but with loosened requirements, such as not requiring an applicant to have a job offer before applying.**WASHINGTON . (Agency)**

HONG KONG: Vaishnavi Srinivasagopalan, a skilled Indian IT professional who has worked in both India and the US, has been looking for work in China. Beijing's new K-visa program targeting science and technology workers could turn that dream into a reality. The K-visa rolled out by Beijing last month is part of China's widening effort to catch up with the US in the race for global talent and cutting edge technology. It coincides with uncertainties over the US' H-1B program under tightened immigration policies implemented by President Donald Trump.

"(The) K-visa for China (is) an equivalent to the H-1B for the US," said Srinivasagopalan, who is intrigued by China's working environment and culture after her father worked at a Chinese university a few years back. "It is a good option for people like me to work abroad. The K-visa supplements China's existing visa schemes, including the R-visa for foreign professionals, but with loosened requirements, such as not requiring an applicant to have a job offer before applying. Stricter US policies toward foreign students and scholars under Trump, including the raising of fees for the H-1B visa for foreign skilled workers to \$100,000 for new applicants, are leading some non-American professionals and students to consider going elsewhere."

"Students studying in the US hoped for an (H-1B) visa, but currently this is an issue," said Bikash Kali Das, an Indian masters student of international relations at Sichuan University in China. China wants more foreign tech professionals. China is striking while the iron is hot. The ruling Communist Party has made global



leadership in advanced technologies a top priority, paying massive government subsidies to support research and development of areas such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors and robotics. "Beijing perceives the tightening of immigration policies in the US as an opportunity to position itself globally as welcoming foreign talent and investment more broadly," said Barbara Kelemen, associate director and head of Asia at security intelligence firm Dragonfly. Unemployment among Chinese graduates remains high, and competition is intense for jobs in scientific and technical

While Trump threatens controllers, US flight cancellations will drag on even after shutdown ends**KYIV. (Agency)**

Air travelers should expect worsening cancellations and delays this week even if the government shutdown ends, as the Federal Aviation Administration rolls out deeper cuts to flights at 40 major US airports, officials said Monday. The fourth day of the flight restrictions saw airlines scrap over 2,300 flights Monday and more than 1,000 flights set for takeoff Tuesday. Unpaid for more than a month, some air traffic controllers have begun calling out of work, citing stress and the need to take on second jobs. US President Donald Trump took to social media on Monday to pressure controllers to "get back to work, NOW!!" He called for a \$10,000 bonus for those who've stayed on the job and suggested docking pay for those who haven't. Rep. Rick Larsen, the top Democrat on the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Sen. Tammy Duckworth, ranking member of the Senate's Aviation Subcommittee, condemned the president's remarks, saying controllers deserve appreciation and support — not

attacks. The head of the controllers union says its members are being used as a "political pawn" in the shutdown fight. Meanwhile, the Senate passed legislation Monday to reopen the government, though the bill also needs to clear the House and final passage could be days away. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy made clear last week that flight cuts will remain in place until the FAA sees staffing levels stabilize at its air traffic control facilities. And because the flight disruptions are widespread and ongoing, many planes aren't where they're supposed to be, which could also slow the airlines' return to normal operations even after the FAA lifts the order, said Mike Taylor, who leads research on airports and airlines at J.D. Power. "If you think about it, there's all these aircraft that didn't fly where they were supposed to on a normal route," Taylor said, noting airlines will need to track down all their planes, figure out where each needs to be, and find pilots and cabin crew for those flights. Since Friday, airlines have canceled about 8,000 flights under orders to drop 4% of flights at 40 of the nation's

busiest airports. That will rise to 6% on Tuesday and 10% by week's end, the FAA says. One in 10 flights nationwide were scratched Sunday — the fourth worst day for cancellations in almost two years, according to aviation analytics firm Cirium. Controller shortages also led to five-hour delays Monday evening at Chicago O'Hare International Airport, where wintry weather added to the disruptions earlier in the day, and the FAA warned that staffing at over a dozen towers and control centers could cause delays in cities including Philadelphia, Nashville and Atlanta. That leaves travelers growing angry. "All of this has real negative consequences for millions of Americans, and it's 100% unnecessary and avoidable," said Todd Walker, who missed his mom's 80th birthday when his flight was canceled over the weekend. The FAA also expanded flight restrictions Monday, barring business jets and many private flights from using a dozen airports already under commercial flight limits. Airports nationwide have seen intermittent delays since the shutdown began because the FAA slows.

Canadian Judge Rules Man Accused Of Sharing Fake Nude Image Of Wife Did Not Commit Crime**world.(Agency)**

A man accused of distributing a fake nude image of his wife on social media has been acquitted after a Canadian judge ruled that it was not a crime. Ontario Court Justice Brian Puddington remarked that distributing fake nude images of a real person might be a "morally reprehensible" and "obscene" act, but it is not a crime due to the wording of the offence in the Criminal Code. The accused was initially charged with publishing, distributing and transmitting his wife's altered images without her consent to an unknown male on Snapchat. The victim was clothed in some photos, but in one she was wearing only a bra in her bathroom, while another pic had her face "digitally manipulated" and placed on top of a naked body that was not hers, according to a report in Toronto Star. As per Puddington, the photos did not meet the definition of



intimate images under the Criminal Code. The first pic did not have a sufficient level of nudity, while the manipulated image did not actually show the victim's body. "None of this is to say that creating and distributing these fake images is not morally reprehensible and, frankly, obscene. It may be that Parliament will turn its mind to criminalising this conduct in the future," the judge wrote. "While I am sympathetic to her, that sympathy cannot play any role in my judgment. I must apply the law dispassionately,

and not try to shoehorn images into a definition simply because I find the photographs deplorable." Just because it's not a crime... Reacting to the ruling, social media users said they understood the judge's point of view but demanded that the laws be changed to address the grey area. Legislation should have been passed and not fizzled out. These are seriously demeaning crimes," said one user, while another added: "I hope this incentivizes law change. I fear it'll start a rampant increase of revenge porn." A third commented: "Just because it's not a crime doesn't mean he won't be divorced and sued for damages. I would imagine it's going to be an easy win for his ex-wife." A fourth said: "To be clear, this isn't setting any new precedent. Judges cannot legislate, and parliament has inadvertently acknowledged that current legislation doesn't cover fake nudes."

US Senate approves bill to end government shutdown, sending it to House of Representatives**WASHINGTON . (Agency)**

The Senate passed legislation Monday to reopen the government, bringing the longest shutdown in history closer to an end as a small group of Democrats ratified a deal with Republicans despite searing criticism from within their party. The 41-day shutdown could last a few more days as members of the House, which has been on recess since mid-September, return to Washington to vote on the legislation. US President Donald Trump has signaled support for the bill, saying Monday that "we're going to be opening up our country very quickly." The final Senate vote, 60-40, broke a grueling stalemate that lasted more than six weeks as Democrats demanded that Republicans negotiate with them to extend health care tax credits that expire Jan. 1. The Republicans never did, and five moderate Democrats eventually switched their votes as federal food aid was delayed, airport delays worsened and hundreds of thousands of federal workers continued to go unpaid. House Speaker Mike Johnson urged lawmakers to start returning to

Washington "right now" given shutdown-related travel delays, but an official notice issued after the Senate vote said the earliest the House will vote is Wednesday afternoon. "It appears our long national nightmare is finally coming to an end," said Johnson, who has kept the House out of session since mid-September, when the House passed a bill to continue government funding.

After weeks of negotiations, a group of three former governors — New Hampshire Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, New Hampshire Sen. Maggie Hassan and Independent Sen. Angus King of Maine — agreed to vote to advance three bipartisan annual spending bills and extend the rest of government funding until late January. Republicans promised to hold a vote to extend the health care subsidies by mid-December, but there was no guarantee of success. Shaheen said Monday that "this was the option on the table" after Republicans had refused to budge. "We had reached a point where the shutdown had been very effective in



raising the concern about health care," she said, and the promise for a future vote "gives us an opportunity to continue to address that going forward." The legislation includes a reversal of the mass firings of federal workers by the Trump administration since the shutdown began on Oct. 1. It also protects federal workers against further layoffs through January and guarantees they are paid once the shutdown is over. In addition to Shaheen, King and Hassan, Democratic Sen. Tim Kaine of Virginia, home to tens of thousands of federal workers, also voted Sunday in favor of moving forward on the agreement. Illinois Sen. Dick Durbin, the No. 2

Democrat, Pennsylvania Sen. John Fetterman and Nevada Sens. Catherine Cortez Masto and Jacky Rosen also voted yes. All other Democrats, including Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer of New York, voted against it. The moderates had expected a larger number of Democrats to vote with them as 10 to 12 Democratic senators had been part of the negotiations. But in the end, only five switched their votes — the exact number that Republicans needed. King, Cortez Masto and Fetterman had already been voting to open the government since Oct. 1.

Many Democrats call the vote a "mistake" Schumer, who received blowback from his party in March when he voted to keep the government open, said he could not "in good faith" support it after meeting with his caucus for more than two hours on Sunday. "We will not give up the fight," Schumer said, adding that Democrats have now "sounded the alarm" on health care. Independent Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont, who caucuses with the Democrats, said giving up the fight was a "horrific mistake."

Asim Munir's military coup in Pakistan, without the military**Washington . (Agency)**

In Pakistan, a fourth "coup" is seemingly underway. It's the quietest one, and unlike most coups — takeovers at midnight, or with guns. This time, it's "constitutional" with the help of a puppet regime. This soft coup would hollow out Pakistan further from within. The proposed 27th Constitutional Amendment, which was passed by the Senate on Monday, legalises military supremacy, placing the chain of command, nuclear authority, and even the judiciary under Field Marshal Asim Munir's control. Munir's power grab is significant for New Delhi because it creates a dangerous asymmetry with India, where the civilian leadership has the operational control of the defence forces. Pakistan has been scarred by three military coups since its formation, by Generals Ayub Khan (1958), Zia-ul-Haq (1977) and Pervez Musharraf (1999). But a fourth "coup", being staged by Asim Munir, might be the boldest consolidation of power by any military leader in Pakistan — something which both Zia and Musharraf couldn't pull off. In this "constitutional coup d'état", Munir has an accomplice aiding him in Pakistan's "reform" — Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif. The Constitutional Amendment seeks to restructure the military hierarchy under Munir and eliminate rival positions. It reportedly also grants five-star generals like himself immunity from all kinds of legal proceedings, according to Pakistani journalist Imran Riaz Khan, Kabul-based TOLO News reported. A distinguished Pakistani lawyer, Makhdoom Ali Khan, writing for the Karachi-based daily Dawn, described the amendment as "a parallel authority insulated from the very rule of law it is sworn to defend".

WHY ASIM MUNIR'S SILENT COUP IS DANGEROUS?

While protests have taken place across Pakistan over the proposed amendments, the ruling establishment seems to be pliant. The past coups in Pakistan were straightforward. General Zia ul Haq seized power in 1977 by toppling Zulfikar Ali Bhutto's civilian regime amid street protests, imposing martial law that lasted a decade and Islamised the judiciary. General Pervez Musharraf followed suit in 1999, ousting Nawaz Sharif in a non-violent coup, only to face impeachment and exile in 2008. The coups were justified by Haq and Musharraf as moves to fight corruption or restore stability in Pakistan, but they were eventually undone, and civilian rule returned. Munir's gambit, however, is subtle, and much more dangerous. It uses the same parliamentary process that Musharraf and Zia once undermined, turning Shehbaz Sharif — whose party, the Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz), has often had a tense relationship with the army — into an accomplice.

NEWS BOX

Bengaluru man loses valuables worth Rs 7 lakh to woman he met on dating app

BENGALURU. (Agency)

A 26-year-old private firm employee lost his gold jewellery worth around Rs 7 lakh to a woman he met on a dating app two months ago. The accused has been identified as Kavipriya. The incident occurred on November 1, between 12.30 am and 7 am. Deepak (name changed), the victim, who lives in a paying guest accommodation at HMT Layout in Nagasandra, filed a police complaint on Saturday. In his complaint, Deepak stated that after meeting Kavipriya on a dating app, he was in touch with her over phone and used to exchange messages. They met in Indiranagar on October 31 and both went to a cocktail bar on 12th Main Road in the evening. Claiming that she could not go back to her paying guest accommodation as it was late, Kavipriya took him to a nearby hotel and booked a room. They had dinner around 12.30 am. Later, she gave him water laced with some sedatives to drink. He soon fell unconscious and when he woke up in the morning, he saw his gold chain, gold kada (bangle), headset, and Rs 10,000 in cash missing.

Though Deepak called Kavipriya several times, she did not respond. "We suspect that the woman is a habitual offender and must have cheated many men using different names," a police officer said. A case of theft and cheating has been registered against the accused. Further investigations are on.

Security stepped up in Chennai after Delhi blast



CHENNAI. (Agency)

Following the car blast in New Delhi, security has been stepped up at key locations across Chennai. The police personnel have launched intensive checks at railway stations, shopping malls, markets, and bus stands.

The Greater Chennai Police (GCP) have intensified night patrol and vehicle inspections across all 12 police districts. Teams of officers and constables are maintaining heightened surveillance, covering major junctions and public areas.

"As part of the drive, patrol units were stopping vehicles for inspection and questioning suspicious persons to prevent untoward incidents and ensure public safety," a police source said.

At railway stations, passengers are being subjected to thorough checks while entering and exiting. Chennai Central, Egmore, Tambaram, Chengalpattu, and other major stations are under close watch. Officers of the Government Railway Police (GRP) and Railway Protection Force (RPF) patrolled the premises, questioned passengers sleeping inside, and inspected their baggage.

A GRP officer said, "Security checks have been intensified, with metal detectors, baggage scanners, and sniffer dogs deployed as part of the enhanced security arrangements."

Crowds at renovated Adyar Poonga threaten ecosystem

CHENNAI. (Agency)

The newly renovated Tholkappia Poonga (Adyar Poonga), constructed in 2011 in order to protect the fragile ecosystem of the Adyar estuary, has witnessed nearly 1,400 visitors in the first weekend since its reopening on October 24. The number is 10 times the strict limit of 100 visitors for a guided tour, raising concerns of the delicate ecological balance taking a hit due to the crowd. Trustee of Nizhal and Chennai District Green Committee member TD Babu said the park has rapidly shifted from an ecological learning space to a recreational destination. He questioned why officials are not enforcing the visitor limit and why photography and videography are being allowed, despite earlier restrictions. The viral circulation of videos of the park as a picnic spot, more than a nature reserve on social media, has fuelled crowding and altered public perception of the restored wetland, he said. Babu said unlike now, only 25-30 visitors were permitted per day (exception for students) earlier, with food and vehicles barred even for the staff so as to not threaten the wildlife. He alleged recent renovations appear "human-centric", citing the uprooting of mangroves to widen pathways, concretisation, and even the felling of rain trees to build an entrance arch. Even cafés were established, which could attract rodents and cause litter, he said. Visitors, meanwhile, alleged poor management of the garden. When TNIE visited the park in early November, the "guided tour" promised on the booking portal was not available, with most visitors navigating the 4 km trail on their own. While 100 visitors were already in, at least 100 more were seen waiting outside the main gate demanding entry through offline tickets, despite officials insisting on online booking. They were later let in.

Hyderabad on high alert after blast in Delhi; Police step up security

CCTV surveillance has been enhanced, and patrol vehicles have been directed to stay on standby for rapid emergency response.



HYDERABAD. (Agency)

Hyderabad was placed on high alert on Monday evening after at least eight people were killed and several others injured in an explosion near the Red Fort in Delhi. City

police have stepped up security and urged citizens to remain vigilant and Dial 100 to report any suspicious activity.

Following the incident, all wings of Hyderabad police have been put on alert. Security checks

were intensified across major roads, public places and transport hubs. Police teams conducted thorough vehicle inspections and increased patrolling in crowded areas. CCTV surveillance has been enhanced, and patrol vehicles have been directed to stay on standby for rapid emergency response.

Security tightened at Secunderabad railway station. The Railway Protection Force (RPF), Government Railway Police (GRP), Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) and Dog Squad conducted intensive checks and inspections at Secunderabad Railway Station on Monday. Officials said the exercise was a precautionary measure to ensure the safety and security of passengers. They added that such coordinated operations highlight the importance of constant vigilance and inter-agency cooperation to prevent any untoward incidents. The Railways remain on high alert to maintain passenger safety across major stations.

It may be recalled that the Gujarat ATS recently arrested a man identified as Dr Ahmed Mohiuddin Syed on suspicion of involvement in a terror conspiracy.

Casteist remarks: SFI demands Kerala University Sanskrit dept head's resignation

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, (Agency)

SFI members on Monday organised a protest against CN Vijayakumari, the head of the Sanskrit department of the Kerala University (KU), over her alleged casteist remarks against a research scholar. Demanding her resignation, the students burned her in effigy and took down the professor's name board from her office. The SFI activists also raised slogans against Vice-Chancellor Mohanan Kunnummal, alleging that Vijayakumari indulges in anti-student activities with his

support. They also said that she is a key member of the Sangh Parivar. The students marched through the campus carrying banners calling for Vijayakumari's removal from her official position.

Though the police tried to prevent the protesters from entering the department, they failed. The SFI has decided to intensify its protest and the outfit's university sub-committee will organise a march on November 12, when the University Senate will meet. Meanwhile, allegations against Vijayakumari continue to pour in. Multiple students and



research scholars on the campus have stated that Vijayakumari has shown an Islamophobic attitude in several instances. "In one instance, the professor commented that a Muslim student was able to enrol in a

Sanskrit course only because of reservations," a student said.

The Muslim student's family has refused to talk about the incident even as another student alleged that Vijayakumari has shown a scornful attitude towards the students wearing a headscarf.

The row began when Vijayakumari, allegedly hurled casteist slurs at Vipin Vijayan, a Dalit research scholar at KU. The SFI leader, who filed a complaint with the Sreekaryam police, said the unfortunate incident happened when he met the professor after she refused to sign his thesis after his open defence.

Fine empty site owners for not clearing garbage: Bengaluru North Corporation chief

BENGALURU. (Agency)

Bengaluru North City Corporation Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar directed ward-level

engineers to penalise owners of vacant sites that have become

garbage blackspots.

"Clear garbage from vacant sites, and impose fines on property owners or recover the cleaning costs through property tax of these plots," Kumar suggested.

Inspecting Pulakeshinagar, Byatarayanapura and Sarvagnanagar Assembly constituencies, Kumar found many vacant plots that have not been maintained because of legal issues or untraceable

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Nuggets in the dust

I quote from The Tribune dated October 18, 2025: "Sehjaldeep Kaur, daughter of a marginal farmer from Chotala village, 30 km from Hoshiarpur, has secured the 13th rank in the National Defence Academy merit list, thereby becoming the pride of her village and a symbol of hope for countless rural girls." She studied in rural schools and trained at the Mai Bhago Armed Forces Preparatory Institute in Mohali. As I sat writing down these thoughts, news came in regarding the Indian women's cricket team lifting the World Cup. This team includes about five girls from rural Punjab, Haryana and HP. In my opinion, they are a beacon of hope not only for rural girls but also boys. These girls from the lower economic stratum, whose parents have never been near a cricket pitch, let alone played on one, have proved that single-minded devotion to excellence enables you to lift yourself out of poverty without looking for shortcuts. Again, self-motivated, mostly self-taught with lots of parental encouragement and yes, latter-day recognition and professional coaching.

These girls prove that it's possible without fancy schools, that there is no need to give up studies to chase mirages in foreign lands, no need to sell your land and borrow money (Rs 40-50 lakh) to take the 'dunki' route and rot and die on the way. The old days have gone, and the West no longer appears to need cheap foreign labour, IT and engineering professionals, or for that matter students. This can be seen in the increasingly protectionist stance being taken by the US in its trade policies, in its new visa policies for professionals and students, and its stance on illegal immigrants. Jobs are being denied or being made conditional to citizenship status.

Racism, too, is raising its ugly head, with incidents ranging from rape to physical and verbal abuse as well as killings. On the streets, in front of their shops or at their homes, immigrants are facing hatred which spouts in many forms. This trend is not just limited to the US; increasingly, right-wing ideology is coming out in the open in the UK and parts of Europe and even as far as Australia. Many factors are leading to this: (a) Their own economies are slowing with anaemic growth and are severely challenged by the rise of China and its industrial muscle; (b) The advances in technology and the advent of AI have brought in automation and computing, which are increasingly reducing the need for cheap foreign labour and techies. A new disruption is enveloping us whose full impact on employment is yet to be seen and understood. Much will change, for that is the very premise of disruption. The message from the West is clear — 'go home'. The question is: Where does India stand in the coming of this new age? India received \$135.46 billion in foreign remittances in the last fiscal year (The Times of India, June 2025), making us the largest recipient for almost 10 years running. A nation of approximately 1.5 billion people, the most populous in the world, with nearly 6 per cent living in extreme poverty and about 13 per cent of the youth unemployed, with the figure rising to 29 per cent in tertiary education graduates (World Bank), faces tremendous challenges. The past three decades have seen a sea change in our economic trajectory, with the Indian economy now becoming the fourth largest in the world. The levels of poverty have fallen remarkably and yet we have to go far to become a middle-income nation, let alone a high-income one. Do keep in mind that 6 per cent of the citizens living in extreme poverty translates loosely into 9 crore individuals; that is more than the population of Australia and Canada combined. The World Bank currently defines us as a lower middle-income country bracketed with Angola, Ghana, Myanmar, Cambodia, etc. Suffice to say that as a nation, we need a lot of jobs to ensure equitable growth.

There is absolutely no historical evidence that a man called Chanakya ever lived during Mauryan times (300 BC) or that he guided Chandragupta Maurya to kingship. What we have is a story based on later Buddhist and Jain chronicles and Sanskrit plays like Mudra-rakshasa, all imagined after 500 AD, i.e., 700 years later.

Buddhists proclaimed Chandragupta's grandson, Ashoka, as champion of Buddhism. Jains told stories of how Chandragupta embraced Jainism and even fasted to death in Karnataka. Not wanting to be left behind, Brahmins argued that Chandragupta owed his success to a Brahmin minister—Chanakya, who was even identified with Kautilya, the author of Arthashastra. Today this is viewed as fact. But the Arthashastra refers to Chinese silk and Roman gold coins, both of which came to India around 200 AD, almost 400 years after Mauryan rule.

The Chandragupta-Chanakya relationship is a common narrative trope found in legends around the world. The talented youth and his shrewd mentor, much like the British myth of King Arthur and the sorcerer Merlin. Rajput chronicles of the 10th century present Harit Rishi as the yogi who guides Bappa Rawal against Arab invaders. Jain narratives from 12th-century Gujarat tell us how Acharya Hemachandra discovered an orphan with royal signs, raised him within Jain discipline, then watched him become King Kumarapala, patron of temples and inscriptions. In 14th-century Deccan, the Shaivite sage Vidyaranya is widely believed to be the mentors of Hakka and Bukka, who found Vijayanagara: vision from the ascetic, execution by the warrior. Buddhist memory folds Greek Menander (100 BC) into the Milinda Pañha under the guidance of Nagasena and welds Kanishka (100 AD) to the poet-monk Ashvaghosha.

The pattern travels northeast to Tibet and Mongolia, where the Lama replaces the Rishi: Kublai Khan in the 13th century seeks counsel from the Phagpa Lama, later Dalai Lamas sanctify Mongol thrones. Across cultures, the partnership is constant: one consults, the other implements. The legend of Chanakya is simply this trans-civilisational script recast as Indian patriotism, with a dash of casteism—a Brahmin scholar manipulating politics to restore righteous order, overthrow corruption, and enthrone a "just" empire so that Brahmin wisdom may eternally guide royal might. When this story entered popular imagination, it installed a national mascot of cleverness and ruthless realism: Chanakya as India's Machiavelli, though separated by nearly two millennia. Television serials, airport novels, motivational posters, and management books celebrate him as the archetype of Indian strategy. But what they celebrate is not a documented historical individual; it is a convenient fiction that re-centres the Brahmin from ritual sidelines to

A fantasy called Chanakya

THE GREAT GAME: For a few tremulous hours, one half of India recognised itself in his victory



the nerve centre of power.

Why do such legends thrive? Because religion desires power and power desires sanctity. Monasteries depend on royal patronage; kings depend on priestly approval. Every copperplate grant, every prasasti, every court kavya is a receipt for this transaction, stamped with divinity. The saint's alleged detachment from wealth becomes the perfect marketing line for institutional enrichment; the king's alleged obedience to wisdom becomes the perfect alibi for territorial ambition. In this arrangement, the religious teacher is portrayed as pure and above politics, yet his counsel shapes empires; he claims no interest in land, yet the realms he blesses fatten his monastery. The transaction hides behind spiritual vocabulary. Modern India has doubled down on this fantasy. Politicians quote "Chanakya niti" as proof of timeless statecraft; business schools extract "management lessons" from aphorisms with dubious provenance; TV dramas cast him as proto-nationalist mastermind who rescued a broken land.

The cost of this romance is under-discussed. When we

elevate the priestly strategist over the messy coalition of merchants, soldiers, officials, farmers, and frontier clans who actually build states, we erase material history and replace it with clerical hagiography. When we worship "strategy" as a set of cynical tricks rather than a patient reading of institutions, resources, logistics, and geography, we teach young minds to value manipulation over understanding. And when we insist that civilisational greatness requires a single guiding Brahmin, we shrink a plural subcontinent into a single caste's flattering mirror. The refusal to ask for contemporaneous evidence is not innocent; it is political. It allows any present regime to draft a pliant sage from the past to bless its agenda. It also allows religious establishments to claim intellectual authorship of every imperial success while disclaiming every imperial atrocity. Conveniently, the sage is always right when the king triumphs, and never responsible when the king fails. The Chanakya myth is thus less about Mauryan history and more about our present hunger for a disinfected past in which power is wise, violence is necessary, and the Brahmin is indispensable.

Spirited pushback by Hasina against party disenfranchisement

While Hasina took what she called 'leadership responsibility' for the deaths, she said all actions were taken in good faith to minimise the loss of life and restore law and order

Deposed Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina came out with guns blazing against her successor Muhammad Yunus's cancel culture in an exclusive online interview with this newspaper. Fifteen months after she was forced into exile in India following a domestic uprising, during which Hasina chose to stay mum on the alleged foreign hand, she spoke her mind on the interim government led by Yunus banning her Awami League from contesting the general election that is barely three months away. Evolving some mechanism to bar individuals under investigation for their alleged crimes could be understood. However, banning an entire mainstream party goes against the grain of fundamental rights of the electorate. Hasina pushed back against the charges of rigging elections when she was in power, conceding that some of the past elections were not fully participatory because major political parties chose to boycott them. That cycle of non-participation must now be broken, she added, making her case for lifting the ban on the Awami League to make the February election inclusive. She addressed difficult questions head on while disputing the UN's estimate of



1,400 deaths during the July 2024 uprising. While Hasina took what she called 'leadership responsibility' for the deaths, she said all actions were taken in good faith to minimise the loss of life and restore law and order. As for the toll, she claimed it included members of the security

forces and of Awami League members, too, but that segregation has not been made yet by the interim government. Her combative response was read as remorseless by sections of the commentariat, but she could not be expected to self-implicate when facing trial by a tribunal for alleged crimes against humanity during her watch as PM. Hasina also brushed aside charges of syphoning out \$234 billion from Bangladesh as laughable, and indulged in whataboutery, accusing Yunus of accumulating immense wealth.

In the end, Hasina came through as a leader trying to shore up the morale of her disenfranchised party. With the students who led the uprising pulling out all stops to get their nascent Jatiya Nagorik Party to capture power, the forthcoming battle of the ballot could be anything but peaceful. That is the challenge that stares at Yunus, who is said to aspire to ascend as president. How the dice rolls in February, only time can tell.

How distance reveals what proximity conceals

Preparing to be an astronaut is not for the faint-hearted. It takes years of rigorous training, both physical and psychological, to qualify for a mission



friends; I mean doing something that inculcates a sense of wonder and awe. This shift is often achieved through a conscious retreat from our familiar routines, creating the space needed for quiet reflection and close observation.

In the mid-19th century, as America's industrial rush

rapidly changed the pace of life, the philosopher

in his book *Walden*, produced insights into self-sufficiency, the intricate beauty of nature, and the human condition, which continue to resonate nearly two centuries later.

This practice of strategic withdrawal is about gaining the perspective necessary to handle responsibility wisely. Abraham Lincoln understood this deeply. Known for his "hot letters," Lincoln would draft scathing responses when angry or frustrated, pouring his emotions onto paper and then deliberately set them aside unsent. That pause, that stepping back, transformed potentially destructive impulses into measured wisdom. The distance allowed him to see situations for what they truly were. We've all experienced how differently problems appear depending on our proximity to them. In the thick of a crisis, everything feels urgent, impossible, overwhelming. Emotions run high. Solutions seem nonexistent. We grow angry, defensive, or paralysed. But when we create some space, the same situation often appears manageable, even obvious in its solution.

Essentially, the overview effect is about zooming out to zoom in. It can, of course, help us make sense of tricky situations, but more importantly, it opens us up to new experiences. How does it do that? Simply by teaching us what to pay attention to, when, and how. Or as Wayne Dyer put it, "When you change the way you see the world, you change the world you see."

NEWS BOX

Law student claims she scored 499/500 in exam, moves petition. Here's what Allahabad HC said

Lucknow. (Agency)

The Allahabad High Court recently dismissed a writ petition by a law student who claimed she should have received 499 out of 500 marks in her first-semester LL.B. examination, and imposed a fine of Rs 20,000 on her for bringing an unsustainable challenge. The petitioner, Santosh Kumari, a student of the five-year integrated LL.B. course at Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur, had argued that she was wrongly awarded only around 181 marks. The university, however, re-examined her OMR sheet through a committee of law faculty and confirmed the lower score. The court accepted the university's reassessment.

"It is advised to the petitioner to concentrate on her study so that she may get more marks by honest preparation and she may not approach this Court again," the court said in its order.

The court noted that the petitioner had filed several matters before it in recent years and had relied on unsupported material in the current petition. "Claim of petitioner that she may get 499 marks out of 500 was based on assumption without any basis whatsoever," the order said. The court added that an affidavit filed by the petitioner, which purported to quote answers, had no verifiable source and did not identify which questions were allegedly marked correctly on the OMR but left unmarked by the university.

Prepaid transit card launched to encourage IT staffers in Bengaluru's Electronic City to use Metro, buses

BENGALURU. (Agency)

To encourage more IT employees to shift from private vehicles to public transport, the Electronics City Industries Association (ELCIA), Toyota Mobility Foundation (TMF) and World Resources Institute (WRI) India on Monday launched the Orbit Wallet RuPay prepaid card for employees of companies operating in the Electronics City industrial township. The initiative, supported by the Bengaluru Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (BMRCL) and Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), is part of the STAMP (Station Access and Mobility Program): Nudging Commuter Behaviour project, which focuses on increasing Metro ridership along the new Yellow Line using behavioural science and technology interventions.

The Orbit Wallet card, one of the winners of the STAMP Nudge Challenge, is National Common Mobility Card-compliant, allowing users to pay for Metro, BMTC buses and other services, while also functioning as a prepaid card for shopping and digital payments. However, the card can only be used in metros now as BMTC is yet to integrate NCMC with their payment systems.

'Flash flood' gives sleepless night to local residents after water tank collapses in Thammanam

KOCHI. (Agency)

Sleep was cut short in the dead of the night for those residing behind the Kerala Water Authority's Thammanam pump house as the gush of 1.15 crore litres of water knocked them awake at 2.30am on Monday.

"We heard a loud noise, and initially thought it could be a thunder strike. Soon, the compound walls collapsed with a thud. Only then did we look outside, and saw water rushing along and vehicles being carried away," said Jeevitha, 35, whose car and two-wheeler were wrecked by the current of muddy water.

For Jisha, who lives in the house first in the affected lane, the damage has been huge. "It's going to be really difficult to get our house back in order. The sad part is that none of this is our fault. All the furniture on the ground floor, appliances including fridge, washing machine and motor, and everything else have been ruined. Children couldn't go to school today as they stayed up all night after the tank collapse.

We escaped a major tragedy as we were sleeping upstairs," she said. "Water flowed through the road for around two hours until the tank had drained out," Jisha said. The local residents said they had regularly been notifying the authorities of the huge amount of water leaking through the cracks in the tank.

"The road and the compound walls nearby have all been damaged due to the dampness for a long time," said a resident. More than 10 houses were affected by the incident, besides a primary health centre nearby.

"There is a risk of leptospirosis as a few cases have been reported in the region nearby. Preventive medicines are being given to all those who took part in the cleaning process," said Dr Ann, the medical officer in charge of the primary health centre.

BJP loses power in Devgadh Baria Municipality after party leaders' rebellion

Vadodara. (Agency)

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Monday suffered a jolt in the Devgadh Baria Municipality as eight rebel party leaders, who were elected as members of the Municipality in February this year, joined with independent candidates to form a majority, just three weeks after passing a no-confidence motion against the sitting president of the local body.

On Monday, eight rebel leaders of the BJP, as well as six independent and three Congress members voted in favour of rebel BJP leader Neil Soni for the post of the president, tipping Dharmesh Kalal of the BJP, against whom the board had passed a no-confidence motion on October 17. While Kalal secured eight votes in the polls on Monday, Soni won with 16 votes.

Deputy Collector Hitesh Bhagora, who presided over the election on Monday, said, "All members were present to vote for the election to the president's post. There were two candidates – Neil Soni and Dharmesh Kalal. Soni secured 16 votes while Kalal got eight..."

The elections were held in a fair and transparent manner."

Held amid tight police deployment, the election did not occur without drama right after a majority of the 24 members had voted in favour



of the no-confidence motion against Kalal on October 17, of which, six were BJP members while one BJP leader remained absent on the day of the no-confidence motion. The BJP had bagged a majority with 13 seats in February.

Following the no-confidence motion, Kalal

approached the Gujarat High Court seeking a stay on the no-confidence motion, which was turned down, paving a way for the polls to be held. The suspended members of the BJP include Soni, Gopalsinh Zala, Nidhi Jain, Sarla Meda, Aruna Parmar and Pragnesh Mohaniya. On Monday, Soni also got support from Nidhi Jain, Mumtaz Shukla, Ayub Shukla, Madina Chanda, Mumtaz Bhikhawala, Madina Patel, Ayub Patel, Mohammad Taslim Ayub Patel, Amreen Parvez Mirza, Gaurangkumar Pandya and Sanofar Makrani.

Speaking to The Indian Express, Neil Soni said, "We were forced to pass a no-confidence motion against Kalal because he had failed to work towards the promises made to the voters... For instance, even the clock of the iconic clock tower of Devgadh Baria was not repaired for over seven months since it stopped working. We are BJP leaders, whether the party suspends us or accepts us back, we will work on the lines of the party ideology. The board formed today will continue to be a board of the BJP for us..." Senior BJP leaders remained unavailable for comment.

Enhanced security measures implemented across N.F. Railway to ensure passenger safety and protect railway assets

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 11th November: The Railway Protection Force (RPF) of the Northeast Frontier Railway (N.F. Railway) has intensified security arrangements across all railway stations and onboard trains to ensure the safety and security of passengers and railway property. In view of recent security concerns, alerts have been issued to all RPF units and additional deployment of RPF personnel has been made at sensitive and vulnerable locations throughout the zone. Dog squads have been mobilized to assist in security operations and intensive anti-sabotage checks are being carried out at stations, railway premises and onboard trains. Monitoring through CCTV surveillance systems has been strengthened, with round-the-clock observation of station premises and platforms. RPF personnel are maintaining heightened vigilance to detect and prevent any suspicious activities or unattended objects. The RPF is also closely coordinating with the Government Railway Police (GRP) and other security agencies to ensure seamless information sharing and effective joint action wherever required. Passengers are requested to cooperate with railway authorities during security checks and to report any suspicious items or

activities immediately to the nearest RPF or railway staff. The N.F. Railway is committed to



ensuring the safety and comfort of all passengers traveling across its network.

In letter to CEC, RJD MP Manoj Jha seeks release of gender-wise voter turnout data for Bihar first phase

Lucknow. (Agency)

A day before the second and final phase of polling in Bihar Assembly elections, RJD MP Manoj Kumar Jha on Monday wrote to the Election Commission regarding non-release of gender-wise voter turnout data for first phase of polling held on November 6 and demanded explanation for the delay in publishing these statistics.

In the letter to the Chief Election Commissioner, the RJD MP has said that transparent and timely dissemination of electoral data is a cornerstone of a healthy democracy.

"In recent election cycles, the Commission has repeatedly fallen short of this standard, withholding crucial information that the public, analysts, and civil society organisations rely upon to assess the inclusiveness and fairness of the electoral process. The absence of gender-disaggregated turnout figures also undermines public confidence in the integrity of the electoral system," Jha wrote in the letter.

Demanding immediate release of the gender-wise voter turnout data for the

Phase 1 polling, Jha has requested the EC to provide a clear, written explanation for the delay in publishing these statistics, outlining the steps being taken to prevent similar lapses in data regarding the next phase of polling. Jha added that prompt action on this matter will demonstrate the Commission's commitment to openness,



accountability, and the democratic principle that citizens have a right to know how they have exercised their franchise. In the first phase polling in 121 constituencies across 18 districts on November 6, Bihar witnessed the highest turnout (64.66%) since 1951. In the final phase on Tuesday, 122 Assembly seats will go to the polls.

Agra woman, lover get life term for killing husband — sons turned key witnesses

Holding the accused guilty of the charges, the court of Additional District and Sessions Judge Sanjay K Lal sentenced Kusuma, Sunil, and Sunil's associate Dharamveer to life imprisonment.

Lucknow. (Agency)

Six years after a man was killed and his body dumped in a well in Agra, a court has convicted three people — his wife, her paramour and his associate — to life imprisonment. According to the prosecution, testimonies of his two young sons proved instrumental in securing the conviction.

As per the prosecution, the victim, Ramveer Singh, was attacked with a blunt object and murdered by his wife Kusuma Devi and his friend Sunil Kumar — also Kusuma's paramour. Ramveer and Sunil were operating an auto-rickshaw together.

Holding the accused guilty of the charges, the court of Additional District and Sessions Judge Sanjay K Lal sentenced Kusuma, Sunil, and Sunil's associate Dharamveer — all in their 30s — to life imprisonment on Thursday (November 6) for their roles in the murder case, said government counsel Pradeep Kumar.

In addition to the life term, a monetary fine was imposed on each of the convicts. The three



accused have remained in judicial custody since their arrest. Counsel Kumar said Devi's two sons, who were aged 12 and 15 years at the time of the incident, provided crucial testimony before the court. In their depositions, Kumar said, the minors confirmed that Sunil frequently visited their home in the absence of their father. They said their mother would physically assault them for disclosing Sunil's visits and that quarrels often occurred between their parents over the issue.

Kumar added that 10 prosecution witnesses, including the two

children, and three defence witnesses were examined by the court. Defence counsel, Ashok Kushwaha, said they would file an appeal against the judgment.

According to the prosecution, the incident dates back to February 13, 2019, when the victim, Ramveer's maternal uncle, Teekaram, visited his home in Bisrana village to meet him.

Ricin Poison terror plot busted: Lucknow's RSS building among spots surveilled by accused: ATS

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

THE THREE accused arrested for allegedly plotting a terror attack had done a recce of the RSS office in Lucknow, the Agriculture Produce Market Committee in Azadpur, Delhi and the fruit market in Naroda, Ahmedabad, sources in the Gujarat Anti Terrorist Squad (ATS) told The Indian Express Monday.

All these sites were surveilled by Azad Suleman Sheikh, 20, a tailor from Shamli, UP; and Mohammad Suhail Mohammad Saleem Khan, a 23-year-old student and a resident of Lakhimpur Kheri, UP — who are among those arrested, ATS sources said. The third accused, Dr Ahmed Mohiyuddin Saiyed, 35, hails from Khammam in Telangana and his family stays in Hyderabad. His brother Syed Omar Farooq,

who is in Hyderabad, said, "I got a call from (Gujarat) ATS in the morning informing that my brother was arrested... We never suspected there was anything wrong with my brother. His marriage failed four years ago... we thought he was depressed." Farooq said the accused used to consult patients online and also run an eatery business in Hyderabad.

Regarding the role of Azad Suleman Sheikh (20) and Mohammad Suhail Mohammad Saleem Khan, a source in the ATS said, "The two men were radicalised, and had been in contact with a Pakistani agent for the past one-and-a-half years. On instructions of this handler, these two accused did recce of three locations — the RSS office in Lucknow, and the mandis in Azadpur and Naroda... The latter two

because they are crowded areas."

The trio was caught with nearly four litres of castor oil, three guns and 35 live cartridges which led police to suspect they would use



the chemical agent 'Ricin'. What the trio was planning to do with the ricin is "still being investigated", the investigators told The Indian Express. The castor oil was

seized from Saiyed's car, from near the toll plaza on the Ahmedabad-Mehsana road at Adalaj in Gandhinagar earlier this month.

"The accused told us they were trying to extract Ricin from castor beans. They were still processing it, so, we cannot comment on how they would have used it," the ATS said. Asked about an "workshop" where Saiyed was said to have been trying to extract Ricin as well as what other evidence the ATS had collected that they were booked under the UAPA, an official said, "We are yet to recover all the things from the workshop and can't divulge the details at this stage of the probe. However, we do have evidence in the form of what materials he procured and from where, his search history in ChatGPT and the search engine, and so on."

Jailed peddler's house in UP storehouse of drugs, money, 5 of his family arrested



Lucknow. (Agency)

Cash and contraband drugs valued at more than Rs 3 crore were recovered during a raid at the residence of an alleged 45-year-old peddler in Uttar Pradesh's Pratapgarh district, police said. Five members of the family of the alleged peddler, Rajesh Mishra, including his wife Reena Mishra, son Vinayak Mishra and daughter Komal Mishra, and relatives Yash Mishra and Ajee Kumar Mishra, were arrested, police said. Rajesh Mishra is currently lodged in jail.

The police in their initial probe found that Rajesh Mishra was allegedly running a narcotic operation from jail, with the help of his family members. During the search operation, Rs 2.01 crore in cash, 577 gm smack worth about Rs 1.15 crore and 6,075 kg ganja valued at nearly Rs 3 lakh were recovered during the day-long search, officials said.

The cash, mainly in bundles of smaller denominations, was hidden at different places in the house, they said. While Rajesh Mishra faces 14 criminal cases against him, his wife has seven pending cases, including under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act and the Uttar Pradesh Gangsters' Act.

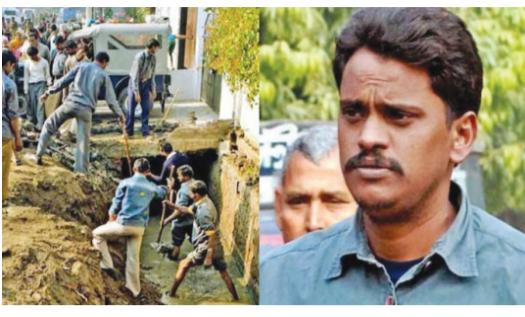
Pratapgarh Superintendent of Police (SP) Deepak Bhuker said the raid was part of an ongoing campaign to clamp down on organised crime and narcotic trafficking in the region.

Nithari killings accused to walk free as Supreme Court acquits him in last case

Nithari killings:
This was the 13th case against Nithari killings accused Surendra Koli. He has already been acquitted in 12 previous cases.

Agency New Delhi.
 The Supreme Court on Tuesday set aside the conviction of Surendra Koli in the last remaining murder case related to the infamous 2005-2006 Nithari killings in Noida, which drew widespread media attention and was the subject of the 2024 Hindi film Sector 36. "The petitioner is acquitted of the charges. The petitioner shall be released forthwith," a bench of Chief Justice BR Gavai, Justice Surya Kant and Justice Vikram Nath said.

The Supreme Court was hearing the curative petition filed by Koli against its 2011 judgment, which had confirmed his conviction in the killing of a 15-year-old girl. The top court, during a previous hearing, said Koli's conviction was merely based on a statement and the recovery of a kitchen knife. This was the 13th case against Koli. He has already been acquitted in 12 previous cases. Thus, with his latest acquittal, Koli is set to be a free man.



THE NITHARI KILLINGS IN NOIDA

The Nithari incident is among the few crimes in the country that have been marked by such inhumanity and media scrutiny. The Nithari killings came to light in December 2006, when skeletal remains of several children were found in a drain behind the house of businessman Moninder Singh Pandher in Noida's Nithari area. Both Pandher and Koli, who worked as domestic help in his household, were arrested.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI),

which took up the investigation, filed multiple cases against Koli on various charges, including murder, abduction, rape, and destruction of evidence. Pandher was charged in one case related to immoral trafficking. Between 2009 and 2017, Koli was convicted of raping and murdering various children and sentenced to death in 12 cases.

In the 13th case involving the 15-year-old girl, the Allahabad High Court initially held Koli guilty but acquitted Pandher. An appeal by Koli against this verdict was dismissed by the Supreme Court in 2011. A review plea by Koli was also later rejected in 2014. In 2015, the High Court commuted the sentence to life imprisonment due to an inordinate delay in deciding on Koli's mercy petition. In between, the High Court acquitted Koli in 12 cases and Pandher in two. This prompted the CBI and the victims' families to file 14 appeals before the Supreme Court. The top court dismissed the appeals on July 31.

What taking off Mani Kaul's glasses mean for Mita Vasisht's first film as director

Agency New Delhi.
 By design, Lapdiang Artimai Syiem is, at times, watchful and tentative, receiving and responsive in her first lead role in a Hindi film, Mani Kaul and That Thing called the Actor. Just like Mita Vasisht was, when presenting Siddheshwari Devi, the great thumri singer of Benaras in the 1991 film by Mani Kaul, one of Indian cinema's greatest auteurs and form-breakers. Common to both films is Vasisht. In Kaul's film, she was the lead actor; in this one, she is behind the camera. Mani Kaul... is her directorial debut, and it is based on the actor's craft, drawing from Vasisht's experiences of training herself not to 'become' another Siddheshwari but present her spirit in line with Kaul's vision of how Siddheshwari herself came to be.

In that journey if Vasisht drew from life, from the history of gestures of great actors like Helene Weigel, German playwright Bertolt Brecht's partner and collaborator in the Berliner Ensemble, she also drew from her own training in the Natyashastra taught to her at the National School of Drama; Syiem, also an NSD-trained actor collaborated, says Vasisht, in much the same vein. Vasisht's film, shown recently at the India International Centre, while being of the Mani Kaul school is not about Mani Kaul but a synaesthetic experience of the actor's world. And Syiem presents her director's life and processes when Vasisht was an actor for Siddheshwari, down to the loosening of limb, the act of watching, listening, thinking, halting, the touching of a swing, the opening of her mouth to sing on a ghat of Benaras as actorly exercises. In her film, what happens before the film starts, the nuts and bolts of the actor's craft, is key. Vasisht's essay film was 12 years in the making. It is a singular achievement in film – unless one thinks of Satyajit Ray's Nayak, a narrative film on a matinee idol's exhaustion with fame -- of the actor's work on her craft, her inner life, her internalisations – the heavy lifting the audience does not see – and her contribution towards the making of a film conventionally considered the director's medium.

Delhi Police receives 75 surveillance drones to boost tech-based policing

Agency New Delhi.
 The Delhi Police has received 75 surveillance drones from the Indira Gandhi Delhi Technical University for Women (IGDTUW), including one large, 15 medium, and 59 small drones, officials said on Monday.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Delhi Police and IGDTUW in the presence of Lieutenant Governor V.K. Saxena. Joint Commissioner of Police (Crime) Surender Kumar said the drones will be deployed across all 15 police districts and specialised units such as the Crime



Branch, Traffic, Railways, and Metro. They will be used for surveillance, crime scene documentation, disaster response, crowd control, and traffic monitoring, particularly during festivals and in crowded areas. "Under the 'Netra-Netravta-Naari' initiative – meaning vision, leadership, and women – 108 women police personnel have been trained by IGDTUW to operate and manage the drones, highlighting women's role in technology-driven policing," Kumar said.

Over the years, Delhi Police has been modernising its systems by adopting AI-powered facial recognition, the Safe City Project, Intelligent Traffic Management System (ITMS), and smart e-beat platforms. It has also launched women's safety apps like Tatpar and Himmat Plus, and signed MoUs with leading institutions such as IIT Delhi, IIT Delhi, NLU, RRU, and NFSU to strengthen its technological capabilities.

GRAP-3 Curbs In Delhi As Air Quality Gets 'Severe' For 1st Time This Season

New Delhi. (Agency)
 As air quality in Delhi- NCR touched 'Severe' levels for the first time this season today, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) imposed Stage 3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). The decision was taken after city's average Air Quality Index (AQI) sharply rose to 425. According to the pollution control board's data, Anand Vihar recorded an AQI of 412, Alipur reported 442, and Bawana registered the highest level at 462. Chandni Chowk recorded an AQI of 416, while RK Puram and Patparganj logged 446 and 438, respectively. Meanwhile, the average AQI (Air Quality Index) in Delhi for the period between January 1st and November 9th, 2025, has been recorded as 175, which was 189 during the corresponding period last year. PM2.5 and PM10 concentration levels are 75 ug/m³ and 170 ug/m³, respectively, during this period, as against 87 ug/m³ and 191 ug/m³, respectively, during the corresponding period last year, according to a statement from the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

A decline in farm fire Incidents has also been observed this year in Punjab and Haryana. Between 15th September and 9th November 2025, Punjab recorded 4,062 fire events as against 6,266 (i.e., 35.2% decline) during the corresponding period in 2024.

Haryana registered only 333 fire counts this year, compared to 959 (a 65.3% decline) during the corresponding period last year. The Commission for Air Quality Management in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) is actively reviewing the on-ground situation with Senior Officers of the State Governments of Punjab and Haryana and other concerned agencies. This is to ensure the strict implementation of Statutory Directions and to tackle the issue of stubble burning.

BJP, AAP & Congress candidates file nominations for Nov 30 MCD bypolls

Agency New Delhi.
 Candidates from the BJP, AAP and Congress filed their nominations for the upcoming Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) bypolls on the final day of the process, expressing confidence of victory in the November 30 elections.

Delhi BJP announced that candidates named by state party president Virendra Sachdeva submitted their papers amid enthusiasm from senior leaders and party workers. BJP spokesperson Praveen Kapoor said that campaigning would begin from Tuesday. From Chandni Chowk Ward, former councillor Suman Kumar Gupta filed his nomination, while Sunil Sharma did so from Chandni Mahal. In the presence of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, BJP candidates Anita Jain (Shalimar Bagh-B) and Veena Asija (Ashok Vihar) also filed nominations.

Other BJP candidates include Sarla Chaudhary (Vinod Nagar), Anjum Mandal (Greater Kailash), Manisha Sahrawat (Dwarka-B), Rekha Rani (Dhichkaun Kalan), Chandrakanta Shivani (Narayana), Rohini Raj (Dakshinpuri), Shubhrajit Gautam (Sangam Vihar Extension) and Jaipal Singh Daral (Mundka).

AAP candidates, led by Delhi State President Saurabh Bharadwaj, also filed their papers. Bharadwaj said the party had fielded only dedicated workers. Among AAP nominees are Babita Ahlawat (Shalimar Bagh), Muddasir Usman Qureshi (Chandni Mahal), Eeshna Gupta (Greater Kailash), Rajbala Schrawat (Dwarka-B), and Rajan Arora (Naraina). Arora and Anuj Sharma (Sangam Vihar-A) expressed gratitude to party leadership after filing their nominations. All 12 Congress candidates also filed nominations. DPCC president Devender Yadav accused both BJP and AAP of betraying Delhiites, urging voters to "show the mirror" to both parties.

3 hours, one car, and a blast: The Red Fort puzzle cops are trying to solve

Agency New Delhi.
 Dr Umar Mohammad, the suspect in the Red Fort car blast, entered the parking area adjacent to Sunehri Masjid at 3:19 pm and remained there until 6:22 pm. He left the spot shortly before the explosion that ripped through Subhash Marg near Gate No 1 of the Red Fort Metro Station. For three hours, the explosives-laden car remained parked in the heart of the national capital before the blast killed ten people and sent the entire country into panic. What Umar did in those three hours is a puzzle for cops to solve. Sources told India Today that Umar planned the attack along with two of his associates. He, however, carried it out alone in panic after his accomplices were arrested in Faridabad earlier on Monday. From entry at 3:19 pm to exit at 6:22 pm is a window now under intense scrutiny.



Those missing three hours could reveal whether the explosion was part of a larger network or an isolated act. The Delhi Police Special Cell, along with central intelligence agencies, is

analysing the route frame by frame to

identify every location where the car

stopped and to determine whether

more than one person was involved in

driving the vehicle during the day.

Delhi Police have traced the chain of

ownership of the Hyundai i20 revealing a complex trail of multiple transfers that ultimately led to the key suspect, Dr Umar Mohammad. In Pulwama, Tariq Ahmad Dar (38), son of retired patwari Ghulam Mohammad Dar and a tipper driver from Kharpora Sambura, was detained during the night. According to intelligence sources, the car was originally owned by Md Salman, who later sold it to Nadeem. Nadeem subsequently handed it over to a used car dealer named Royal Car Zone in Faridabad. After that, the vehicle was subsequently purchased by Aamir, then Pulwama-based

Tariq, who is also believed to be a

member of the Faridabad terror

module. The vehicle eventually found

its way to Dr Umar Mohammad, the

prime suspect in the Red Fort

explosion.

5 Men, 5 Families And Shattered Dreams: The Many Victims Of Delhi Blast

Agency New Delhi.
 The deadly blast near Delhi's iconic Red Fort, which shattered the national capital's peace and set off alarm bells in India's security establishment, turned the world upside down for nine families who lost their own and must now pick up the pieces. Pankaj Saini, originally from Bihar, was a cab driver who had just dropped off a passenger at Chandni Chowk. Noman from Uttar Pradesh's Shamli was in the area to pick up supplies for his cosmetic shop. And Ashok Kumar, who worked as a conductor with the Delhi Transport Corporation, was in the crowded area to meet another victim. It was just another day for them, till it wasn't. A white i20 car, probably driven by a suicide bomber, exploded, and death ripped through several other vehicles. Pankaj Saini, 22, was his family's sole

earner. "What do I say? Pankaj had just dropped off a passenger at Chandni Chowk when this happened. We demand justice from the government, we hope justice will be served," his father told the media at Delhi's Lok Nayak Hospital, where he came to collect his young son's body. Ashok, too, was the only earning member of a family of eight. Originally from Amroha, he lived in Delhi's Jagatpuri with his wife and four children. A Delhi

Transport Corporation employee, he was in the area to meet Lokesh Kumar Gupta, also from Amroha, when tragedy struck.

Hours after the blast, Ashok's cousin saw his name on the list of the victims. "I read his name in the list and said, 'He is my cousin.' I called around to confirm. He also had a bike, which is missing." His mother, Somwati, lives in the village with her elder son, Subhash. Ashok single-handedly shouldered family responsibilities because Subhash is often unwell," Pappu said. Ashok also worked as a security guard at night for some extra income, he said. A relative of Lokesh Gupta said he was supposed to meet Ashok at Chandni Chowk. "Lokesh Kumar Gupta is my relative. We left Sir Ganga Ram Hospital together.

Transport Corporation employee,

he was in the area to meet Lokesh

Kumar Gupta, also from Amroha,

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Ram Hospital together.

Two friends from UP's Amroha killed in Red Fort blast, met in Delhi to catch up

The deceased were identified as Ashok Kumar, a bus conductor working in Delhi, and Lokesh Agarwal, a fertilizer trader from Hasanpur. Both men died instantly when a Hyundai i20 car exploded near the Red Fort Metro Station.

Agency New Delhi.
 Two friends from Uttar Pradesh's Amroha district were among the victims of Monday evening's powerful car explosion near Delhi's Red Fort. The deceased were identified as Ashok Kumar, a bus conductor working in Delhi, and Lokesh Agarwal, a fertiliser trader from Hasanpur. Both men died instantly when a Hyundai i20 car exploded near the Red Fort Metro Station, according to police. Lokesh (35) had travelled to Delhi to visit a relative admitted at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, news agency ANI reported. On his way back home, he stopped to meet his friend Ashok. But their reunion ended in tragedy. Lokesh had gone to Delhi to meet his

friend Ashok. Unfortunately, both lost their lives in the explosion near Red Fort. This is an irreparable loss for their families," said local MLA Mahendra Singh Khadakvanshi while speaking to ANI. Family members of Lokesh said they learnt of his death after police traced a call from his last dialled number. Acquaintances in Hasanpur described Lokesh as "kind-hearted and always ready to help others". Local police brought the news of Ashok's death to his family when they arrived at his village for an investigation. Ashok's cousin and the village sarpanch Sompal confirmed the news, saying the family was "in disbelief".

Ashok, 38, had been working as a bus conductor for a Delhi transport company and lived in a rented accommodation in the capital with his wife and two children. His father passed away a few years ago, and his elderly mother still lives in their ancestral home. "She hasn't been told yet," said a neighbour. "We don't know how she'll take it

NEWS BOX

South Africa Tests crucial for India's World Test Championship cycle: Mohammed Siraj

New Delhi. (Agency)

Mohammed Siraj has claimed that the upcoming two-match series against South Africa will be crucial for India's World Test Championship cycle. India started the 2025-27 cycle with a 2-2 draw in England and then followed it up with a 2-0 home series win over the West Indies.

India is currently third in the WTC standings with 61.5 percent, behind Australia and Sri Lanka. The Indian team missed out on playing in their third WTC final last time around and will be eager to ensure that doesn't happen in the current cycle. India will be up against the defending WTC champions, who secured a 1-1 draw in Pakistan ahead of the India series. Siraj, while talking to Star Sports, said that the Indian team are confident about their form and have created a positive environment around the



side. "This series is crucial for the new WTC cycle, especially since South Africa is the defending champion. While they drew 1-1 with Pakistan, we're confident from our own good form, we created a positive environment, performed well in England, and won against the West Indies," said Siraj.

'EXCITED FOR A CHALLENGE'
Siraj has been in stunning form during the current cycle and has spearheaded the Indian attack, especially during the absence of Jasprit Bumrah. The pacer has picked up 33 wickets in seven matches so far in WTC 2025-27 and is leading the charts with an average of 26.54. Siraj said that he is bowling with good rhythm at the moment and is aiming to make the most of his chances. The pacer said he is excited for the challenge from South Africa.

"Personally, I'm bowling with good rhythm and looking to make the most of it. Facing strong teams helps identify areas to improve, and I'm really excited for this challenge," said Siraj.

Sunil Chhetri leads footballers' plea for ISL restart: Anger turns to desperation



New Delhi. (Agency)

Indian footballing fraternity, including the likes of Sunil Chhetri, along with other footballing stars on Tuesday appealed to football authorities to resolve the ongoing impasse surrounding the Indian Super League (ISL) season, saying players are now "desperate" to return to the field and want the league to begin "now." The national team centre-back, who also represents FC Goa at club level, posted a statement on social media, saying ISL footballers are united in their effort to get the country's top-tier competition underway without further delay. The message comes amid growing uncertainty after the All India Football Federation (AIFF) announced last week that it had not received any bid for commercial rights to the ISL, deepening concerns over the league's already-postponed season. The development has left Indian domestic football in disarray, with clubs unclear about timelines, financial mechanisms, broadcast arrangements and operational planning. The delay has already had a ripple effect across multiple clubs. Mohun Bagan Super Giant, the reigning ISL champions, suspended all football activities indefinitely, citing the lack of clarity surrounding the season's future. The Kolkata club has also stated it will review the contracts of its players and coaching staff next month if the situation does not improve. Other clubs are monitoring the situation closely as financial and training uncertainties continue to mount. The commercial partner for the ISL was expected to manage match production, ensure a minimum of 11 broadcast cameras at venues, oversee league marketing, media rights sales and grassroots investments.

England's Bazball approach evolving from reckless and entertaining: Ben Duckett

England's Ben Duckett is saying that the Bazball approach is evolving ahead of the all-important Ashes series. England have adopted an ultra-aggressive approach since Brendon McCullum took over as the coach of the Test team.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Ben Duckett has claimed that England's Bazball approach is evolving from being reckless and entertaining ahead of the Ashes series. Since Brendon McCullum has taken over as the coach of the England Test team, they have been known for their ultra-aggressive approach, which has seen the side go for wins and not settle for draws. England have won 25 Tests out of 40 under the Bazball approach, with just two draws. They have a win percentage of 62.5 percent. However, there have been critics of the approach over the years, with Geoffrey



Boycott being one of them. Speaking ahead of the Ashes, Duckett said that England will head into the series without any baggage on them. "This group we've got, I actually saw the other day I'm the fourth oldest, which was tough to see," Duckett told the Willow

Talk podcast. "So we've got quite a fresh group coming here where there's not a lot of baggage, which I think will help us." Duckett pointed out to the India series when England didn't look to attack the bowling with a few overs left in the day and were aiming to just

see through it. "I think now it's definitely about reading moments," Duckett said. "[Brendon McCullum] will come up to me and say, now you're a better player than just getting 40 off 30 and getting us off to a good start. "There's moments as an opening batsman, for example, it could be at Perth in a few weeks, where we've got five overs to see at the end of the day. And I did it against India last summer, where actually just get through it. I don't care how many runs you've got, just be there in the morning."

Duckett said that the aim right now is to get a good start and then bank on it. "I think that's where we're trying to go as a team now, it's not just being this entertaining, reckless at times, side. And it's something that I've got frustrated with myself in the past, where I might have got 80 off 60 and it looks great and stuff, but they're going to put my side in a good position. So it's realising moments and doing that and then kicking on and getting a big score. And I think that's where we're really wanting to go as a side now," said Duckett. England and Australia will start the Ashes this year with the first match in Perth starting on November 21.

India vs South Africa: Special toss coin featuring Gandhi, Mandela for Test series

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) has introduced a special gold coin for the toss in the first Test match between India and South Africa at Eden Gardens on November 14. The coin features Mahatma Gandhi on one side and Nelson Mandela on the other, symbolising the values of peace, freedom and non-violence. CAB President Sourav Ganguly revealed that the coin was made specifically for the series and will be used during the toss ceremony. The India vs South Africa Test series is once again being played for the Freedom Trophy, which was established to honour Gandhi and Mandela. The trophy celebrates their shared legacy and the message of non-violence that both leaders carried across the world.

The first Test will mark the return of Test cricket to Eden Gardens after six years and has generated tremendous interest among cricket fans. Tickets for the first three days are almost sold out, with 96,000 already gone, and a total of 1.4 crore tickets sold



overall, according to CAB Treasurer Sanjay Das. The match will take place amid heightened security in the wake of the recent blast near Red Fort, New Delhi. The CAB and Kolkata Police have taken special precautions to ensure the safety of players and spectators. On the eve of the match, the CAB will host the Jagmohan Dalmiya Memorial Lecture on November 13. Sunil Gavaskar will deliver the keynote address, with cricketers from both sides in attendance. Dalmiya, who once helmed both the BCCI and ICC, is remembered for

transforming India into a powerhouse in world cricket. Team India arrived in the city on Sunday evening with captain Shubman Gill, Jasprit Bumrah, and head coach Gautam Gambhir after completing their white-ball commitments in Australia on Saturday. Gambhir inspected the Eden surface on Monday morning in the company of batting coach Sitanshu Kotak. Ganguly also examined the wicket later in the day before ground staff covered the entire square to shield it from dew and any unexpected rain. Well, they haven't asked for it yet. So I won't be able to answer the question," Ganguly said when asked whether India had specifically sought a turning track.

"It looks a very good wicket."

South Africa are heading into the Test series as world champions after having beaten Australia in the World Test Championship final earlier this year. The Proteas played in Pakistan last month, clinching a 1-1 draw in a two-match series.

IND vs SA: No rank turner requested by India for Eden Gardens opener, says Ganguly

New Delhi. (Agency)

Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) president Sourav Ganguly has clarified that the Indian team management has not requested a rank turner for the opening Test of the two-match series against South Africa, which begins at the Eden Gardens on Friday. The statement comes amid speculation over conditions India may look to create at the venue, particularly with the visitors carrying an experienced spin unit. India head coach Gautam Gambhir, who returned from Australia along with members of the white-ball squad on Sunday evening, inspected the Eden surface on Monday morning in the company of batting coach Sitanshu Kotak. Ganguly also examined the wicket later in the day before ground staff covered the entire square to shield it from dew and any unexpected rain.

"Well, they haven't asked for it yet. So I won't be able to answer the question," Ganguly said when asked whether India had specifically sought a turning track. "It looks



against Uttarakhand before Mohammed Shami produced a decisive spell that swung the match. Though the pitch has not been watered since Saturday, CAB curator Sujan Mukherjee expressed satisfaction with its current state. He added that Gambhir appeared "happy to see the wicket" during

his inspection. Mukherjee said Gambhir enquired when the surface might begin to offer turn, and was informed that spinners could come into play from the third day.

Historically, the Eden wicket is not known for producing excessive spin from the outset. It often provides slight movement in the first hour before settling into a batting-friendly surface. However, Mukherjee noted that assistance for spinners could arrive earlier depending on weather and wear. "It's going to be a good sporting wicket with help for both batters and bowlers," he said. South Africa, the reigning World Test Champions, will arrive with a capable spin line-up led by left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj, supported by off-spinner Simon Harmer and left-arm spinner Senuram Muthusamy. The trio performed strongly during their recent drawn Test series against Pakistan. India, meanwhile, will remain mindful of last year's defeat to New Zealand in Pune, where Mitchell Santner's 13 wickets delivered the Black Caps' first Test series win on Indian soil.



have got to pick up points on a more consistent basis. Then let's see where we are after Christmas time or whatever." NO TITLE TALK YET With 18 points to their name, Liverpool find themselves in eighth in the points table and trail leaders Arsenal by eight points. However, Robertson said that it is too early to talk about the title as only games have been played.

The Scottish defender said that there is no talk about the title inside the Liverpool dressing room at the moment. "I don't think you can talk about the title this early on in the season, regardless of what position you're in," he added. "You need to then consistently start winning games again for that to even come into question." It's definitely not a question that's getting spoken about in the changing room or anything.

Ranji Trophy: Jammu & Kashmir script history, beat Delhi for first time in 65 years

Qamran Iqbal stood unbeaten on 133, while incisive spells from Augib Nabi and Vanshaj Sharma guided Jammu & Kashmir past Delhi, securing their maiden Ranji Trophy victory over the capital side.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Jammu & Kashmir rewrote the Ranji Trophy record books on Tuesday by defeating Delhi by seven wickets, their first-ever victory against the domestic giants in over six decades of encounters. The long-awaited result lifted J&K to second place in Elite Group D, just below Mumbai, and marked another high point in a season defined by consistency and intent. Chasing 179 in the fourth innings, J&K found stability in opener

Qamran Iqbal, who produced a career-best 133 not out to steer the visitors home with ease. His assured innings, marked by composure and precision, rendered Delhi's bowlers ineffective and erased any early signs of nervousness. By holding his ground from start to finish, Iqbal cemented his place as one of J&K's most reliable top-order batters.

With the ball, J&K's control of the match began early. Augib Nabi's sharp five-for (5 for 35) in the opening innings cut through Delhi's core, limiting them to 211. When Delhi sought to recover in the second dig, Vanshaj Sharma delivered a defining spell, finishing with 6 for 68 to deny any substantial resistance. Together, their efforts ensured J&K never relinquished command, supported by alert fielding and disciplined lines throughout the contest. For Delhi, Ayush Badoni continued



victory through solid first-innings batting. Captain Paras Dogra's 106 anchored the early phase, while Abdul Samad's fluent 85 injected momentum and ensured a total of 310, crucially above par on a surface that demanded application. The partnership between Dogra and Samad shifted the tone of the game, forcing Delhi to chase from behind for the remainder of the match. Dogra's captaincy played a decisive role as well. His timely bowling changes, especially the introduction of Vanshaj Sharma at a critical stage, broke key

stands. The final numbers told a story of control and confidence: J&K 310 & 179/3 beat Delhi 211 & 277 by seven wickets. Nabi's 5 for 35 and Sharma's 6 for 68 headlined the bowling effort, while Iqbal's unbeaten 133* sealed the chase with poise.

Government updates pension rules: Parents must file this document for 75% benefit

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Centre has changed its rules for parents who receive family pension after losing a son or daughter who worked for the government. From now on, both parents must submit a life certificate every year if they want to continue receiving the higher pension amount of 75%. The order, issued by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW), comes after cases where pensions continued to be paid at a higher rate even after one parent had passed away. The new rule aims to ensure that the pension reaches the right beneficiaries in the correct amount.

WHY THE RULES NEEDED A CHANGE

Under the current system, parents of a deceased government employee are eligible for pension only if their child was unmarried or left no spouse or children. When both parents are alive, they receive 75% of the employee's last drawn salary as pension. If only one parent is alive, the payout drops to 60%. The pension is paid regardless of whether the parents have other sources of income. However, the rules did not clearly state that both parents must submit life certificates. Due to this gap, pension offices had no way to confirm if both parents were alive, which led to some families receiving 75% pension even after losing one parent. Also, the life certificate must be submitted by November 30 every year. Failure to do so may lead to a temporary hold on pension starting December. The payments will resume only after the certificate is filed and verified. The government says the move is designed to bring accuracy, fairness, and smoother pension processing, while preventing avoidable mistakes in disbursal.

Mutual fund SIPs vs direct stocks: Where should young professionals bet

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Every month, Indian investors quietly reshape the country's savings DNA. Systematic Investment Plans (SIPs) in equity mutual funds now attract over Rs 22,000 crore monthly, even amid market volatility. For young professionals, the lure of direct stocks, instant control, multi-bagger dreams, and social-media bravado is understandable.

Yet four decades of global and Indian evidence reveal a sobering pattern: discipline and diversification, not adrenaline and instinct, drive enduring wealth creation. **THE DISCIPLINE PREMIUM: WHY SIPS WORK**

Academically, SIPs mirror the dollar-cost averaging (DCA) concept—investing fixed sums at regular intervals regardless of price levels. Legg and Lien (Financial Analyst Journal, 2003) found that while DCA may underperform a lump-sum strategy in pure return terms, it meaningfully reduces downside volatility and behavioural regret. For salaried Indians, SIPs institutionalise discipline. Benartzi and Thaler's (1995) theory of Myopic Loss Aversion showed that investors become too cautious when they check portfolios too often.

SIPs automate participation and lengthen the horizon, reducing emotional churn. Over ten-year windows, diversified equity SIPs have compounded at roughly 10–14% CAGR, comparable to Nifty TRI returns, but with far smoother investor experience. SIPs win not by return maximisation, but by behavioural optimisation. **THE OVERCONFIDENCE PENALTY: WHY INDIVIDUALS UNDERPERFORM**

Few findings in behavioural finance are as enduring as Barber and Odean's "Trading Is Hazardous to Your Wealth" (Journal of Portfolio Management, 2000). Studying 66,465 U.S. brokerage accounts, they found the most active traders lagged the market by about 7 percentage points per year.

Tata Motors CV arm to list on November 12: What investors should know

New Delhi.(Agency)

Tata Motors' long-awaited restructuring will finally take full effect this week, with its commercial vehicles (CV) business debuting on the stock exchanges on November 12, 2025.

The demerger splits the auto giant into two separate listed companies—one focused on passenger vehicles and the other on commercial vehicles, marking a major shift in Tata Motors' corporate structure. So, what exactly is happening, and what does it mean for shareholders? Here's a simple breakdown. The newly demerged company, Tata Motors Ltd (formerly TML Commercial Vehicles Ltd), will officially list on both the BSE and NSE on Wednesday. This company will now house all of Tata Motors' commercial vehicle operations—trucks, buses, and related businesses—and will trade under the ticker symbol TMCV. According to the company, 368 crore shares of face value Rs 2 each will be listed. For the first ten trading sessions, the new stock will remain in the trade-for-trade segment, a standard listing requirement. This means investors can buy the shares only if they intend to take delivery, as intraday trading will not be allowed initially.

This listing comes after approvals from both exchanges and a go-ahead from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) earlier this year. The demerger took effect on October 1, and shareholders were allotted one share in the new CV entity for every Tata Motors share held as of the record date, October 14, 2025. For investors, this separation means greater clarity and focus. Each business can now attract investors aligned with its specific growth prospects—the commercial arm for steady industrial growth and the passenger arm for electric and premium vehicle exposure.

In practical terms, shareholders do not need to take any action. The new shares should automatically reflect in demat accounts once trading begins on November 12.

Gold at Rs 1.25 lakh, Silver extends gains: Why are prices rising again

New Delhi.(Agency)

Gold and silver prices continued their upward march this week, climbing to their highest levels in nearly three weeks. The rally comes on the back of easing concerns about the US government shutdown and growing expectations of another interest rate cut by the US Federal Reserve in December. Gold futures for December were trading at nearly Rs 1.25 lakh per 10 grams on Tuesday afternoon, while silver crossed Rs 1.55 lakh per kilogram, reflecting strong momentum in global and domestic bullion markets.

GOLD, SILVER PRICES RISE AGAIN

The latest surge in precious metals has been driven by a mix of global and local factors. In the US, the Senate moved to end the country's longest-ever government shutdown through a temporary funding deal, which has improved investor confidence but also sparked speculation that the Federal Reserve may move to support the economy with another rate cut. Lower interest rates typically make non-yielding assets like gold and silver more attractive,

as investors look for safer alternatives during uncertain economic periods. Adding to the bullish trend, a weaker US dollar and ongoing geopolitical worries have also increased safe-haven demand for precious metals. According to Rahul Kalantri, Vice President of Commodities at Mehta Equities, gold has already achieved its short-term international target of \$4,150 (around Rs 1.25,000) and is likely to consolidate before moving higher. Similarly, silver has hit its near-term target of \$50.80 (around Rs 1.55,000) and could stabilise before attempting another upward move. Kalantri noted that gold prices have support between Rs 1.23,450 and Rs 1.22,880, while the next resistance levels are at Rs 1.24,850 and Rs 1.25,400. For silver, the support levels are around Rs 1.52,850–1.51,900, with resistance at Rs 1.54,940–1.55,880. In simple terms, if prices stay above the support range, the



uptrend is likely to continue. But if they fall below it, some short-term correction could follow.

BUY NOW OR WAIT?

Experts believe that while gold and silver may pause for a short time after their recent rally, the longer-term outlook remains positive. Global investment bank

JP Morgan recently projected that gold could cross \$5,000 an ounce next year, driven by continued central bank buying and concerns over inflation and slowing growth. For Indian investors, this means any dip could be a good opportunity to accumulate gold gradually, especially for long-term wealth preservation. However, those looking for quick profits should be cautious, as both metals are now near short-term resistance levels and may consolidate before resuming their climb.

In short, gold and silver remain strong safe-haven assets. Prices may cool off briefly, but the broader trend continues to point upward. Long-term investors can consider buying in small quantities during any pullback, while traders should watch support and resistance levels closely before making fresh entries.

Bajaj Finance share price crashes 8%: What's behind today's slide

NEW YORK. (Agency)

Shares of Bajaj Finance Ltd came under heavy selling pressure on Tuesday as investors reacted sharply to the company's latest quarterly update and management commentary. The stock extended its morning losses and was down 7.55% at Rs 1,003.40 on the BSE as of 12:23 pm.

The slump follows the company's September quarter (Q2FY26) results, which, while strong on paper, raised questions about the pace of future growth and rising credit costs. Bajaj Finance reported a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 4,875 crore, up 22% year-on-year, while net interest income (NII) rose 22% to Rs 10,785 crore. Its net total income grew 20% to Rs 13,170 crore, and pre-provision operating profit (PPOP) increased 21% to Rs 8,874 crore. Despite these healthy numbers, the management's guidance disappointed investors. Bajaj Finance revised its FY26 assets under management (AUM) growth forecast to 22–23% from the earlier 24–25%, citing rising stress in its MSME and two- and three-wheeler loan portfolios. The company also indicated that credit costs could stay at the higher end of its range through the rest of the year, signalling limited room for margin improvement. Concerns over asset quality have also grown. Gross NPA rose to 1.24% from 1.06% a year ago, while net NPA climbed to 0.60% from 0.46%. Loan losses and provisions increased 19% to Rs 2,269 crore, taking annualised credit costs to 2.05% of average assets. The steady rise in provisions, coupled with management caution, has led to fears of a near-term slowdown in key lending segments.

WHAT ANALYSTS SAID

Analysts say that while Bajaj Finance remains one of India's most efficient and profitable lenders, its valuation premium is now under pressure. The stock trades at nearly five times FY27 estimated book value and 26 times FY27 earnings, leaving little room for disappointment. Even a small cut in growth guidance has been enough to trigger a sharp correction, especially in a market already showing signs of fatigue in high-valuation financial stocks. Morgan Stanley and Jefferies continue to view the correction as a long-term buying opportunity, while Motilal Oswal and JM Financial have adopted a more cautious stance, highlighting the risk of subdued near-term performance. For now, Bajaj Finance's sharp fall reflects a change in market sentiment—from unwavering optimism to careful watchfulness. The company's next few quarters will be key in proving whether this is just a temporary stumble or the start of a slower phase for India's most celebrated NBFC.

Warren Buffett signs off: Key takeaways from his final letter to shareholders

New Delhi.(Agency)



Warren Buffett has written what he calls his final letter to Berkshire Hathaway shareholders, and it's as much about life as it is about business. The 95-year-old investor, who has led Berkshire for nearly six decades, announced he will no longer write the company's annual reports or address shareholders at the famous annual meeting. "As the British would say, I'm going quiet," Buffett wrote. His note, titled 'A Few Final Thoughts', was a rare mix of humility, reflection, and humour. He confirmed that Greg Abel will take over as CEO by the end of the year, describing him as "a great manager, a tireless worker and an honest communicator." Buffett said he will continue writing short Thanksgiving messages each year to stay connected with Berkshire's loyal investors. 'I'M GOING QUIET': THE END OF AN ERA

Buffett's announcement marks the end of one of the most iconic eras in corporate America. For over six decades, his annual letters were studied by investors worldwide, often blending financial

wisdom with moral clarity. In his final note, Buffett didn't discuss market forecasts or stock strategies, instead, he left behind reflections on humility, kindness, and living a meaningful life. "I will no longer be writing Berkshire's annual report or talking endlessly at the annual meeting. As the British would say, I'm going quiet," he said, before adding with his characteristic humour: "Sort of."

IT'S NEVER TOO LATE TO IMPROVE'

Looking back on his long career, Buffett said he feels better about the second half of his life than the first. His advice: don't let regrets weigh you down. "Don't beat yourself up over past

mistakes, learn at least a little from them and move on. It is never too late to improve," he wrote. He also reminded readers to find inspiration from the right people. "Get the right heroes and copy them."

You can start with Tom Murphy; he was the best." Buffett used his final letter to define what true greatness means, and it had little to do with wealth or fame. "Greatness does not come about through accumulating great amounts of money, great amounts of publicity or great power in government," he wrote. "When you help someone in any of thousands of ways, you help the world. Kindness is costless but also priceless.

He ended that thought with a reminder of equality and humility: "Keep in mind that the cleaning lady is as much a human being as the Chairman." Buffett also shared a story about Alfred Nobel, the founder of the Nobel Prize, who changed his life after reading his own mistaken obituary. Using that as a metaphor, Buffett advised readers to decide early what they want their legacy to be: "Don't count on a newsroom mix-up."

Want better SIP returns Follow the 10-7-10 mantra, says expert

New Delhi.(Agency)

For people investing in mutual funds through SIPs, the biggest challenge is not lack of knowledge—it's sticking to a plan. Market ups and downs can make even long-term investors nervous. To simplify the process, certified financial planner and personal finance expert Ritesh Sabharwal has shared a straightforward formula that he believes can help investors earn better returns over time.

"The point is to have discipline and expect reasonable returns," Sabharwal wrote on LinkedIn, adding that successful investing is more about behaviour than guessing market moves. **BE READY FOR A 10% FALL EACH YEAR**

The first part of the rule asks investors to make peace with volatility.

"Expect your investments to go down by 10% every year," Sabharwal said.

He explained that temporary market fall is not an exception—it is normal. In fact, Indian markets have seen at least one 10% drop in 20 of the last 23 years. His message is clear: anyone investing for long-term wealth must build tolerance for two things—time and short-term turbulence.

"You should be able to hold onto your investments during this volatility," he added.

STAY INVESTED FOR MORE THAN 7 YEARS

The second number, 7, highlights the importance of patience.

"Keep investing your SIPs for over 7 years. Past market data shows that investments held for at least 7 years have always given positive returns," he said. Sabharwal stressed that

compounding works best when investors give their money enough time to grow. Short-term investing limits growth, while long-term investing gives markets time to recover from downturns and deliver better overall returns.

INCREASE YOUR SIP BY 10% EVERY YEAR

The final 10 focusses on stepping up investments annually.

He explained this with an example: investing Rs 20,000 every month for 10 years at 12% returns could grow to roughly Rs 46 lakh. However, if the SIP amount is increased by 10 per cent every year, the same investment could grow to around Rs 67 lakh. "Of course, you can do as per your own needs. Maybe you can't step up 10%, so step up 5%," he said, making it clear that the idea is not to stretch finances.

Rs 80,000 crore lying unclaimed: Why families fail to access loved ones' savings

Families in India are losing track of their own inheritance. With Rs 80,000 crore unclaimed, financial advisers warn that the problem is not wealth creation, but the absence of clear records, nominations and open discussions at home.

New Delhi.(Agency)

In India, thousands of families lose access to hard-earned savings—not because the money isn't there, but because no one knows where to look. From abandoned bank deposits to forgotten mutual funds and insurance payouts, a huge pile of wealth is lying untouched.

Sebi-registered investment adviser and founder of Sahaj Money, Abhishek Kumar recently wrote on LinkedIn, "Rs 80,000 crores sitting unclaimed funds. Because people won't talk about the one

conversation that matters most." The issue, he points out, is not lack of wealth, but lack of communication, paperwork, and family awareness. "Does your family know what you own? Your money could be sitting in accounts no one can access. This isn't a movie plot. This happens every single day in India," he warns.

WHEN FAMILIES DISCOVER MONEY TOO LATE

Kumar shared real cases to show how common this is. "Last year, I helped a client document his entire portfolio. His wife had NO IDEA he had Rs 15 lakhs in mutual funds," he said. In another instance, a family spent nearly two years trying to unlock a bank account, simply because no nominee name was added. "Another client? His family spent 2 years trying to access his bank account because there was no nomination," he added.

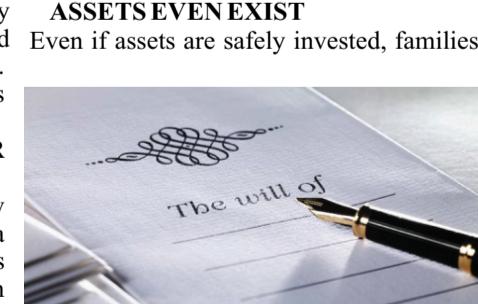
A WILL ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH

"Most people think a will is enough. It's not even close," Kumar said. He stresses that a will must be supported with proper proof and process. "A will without proper documentation is like a house without a foundation. Get a medical certificate the same day. Video record the signing.

Register it. These aren't overkill but essential steps," he advised.

FAMILIES OFTEN DON'T KNOW ASSETS EVEN EXIST

Even if assets are safely invested, families



may still be clueless about them. "Bank account. Demat account. Mutual funds. Fixed deposits. Digital locker. Each one needs a different process for your heirs to access it," Kumar explained. "Your wife might inherit Rs 50 lakhs and not even know where to start looking," he added. His solution is simple but extremely effective: maintain a single, updated record.

NOMINATION IS A GAME-CHANGER

One of the biggest myths is that a will always overrides a nomination. In reality, a nominee helps families get faster access

to funds. "With a nomination, your money goes directly. No courts. No waiting. No lawyers," Kumar stated. "I've seen families get access to their inheritance in 15 days because there was a nomination. It could take years without one," he added. His advice is direct: update nominations now, for every bank account, investment and insurance policy.

THE CONVERSATION MOST FAMILIES AVOID

Most people won't talk to their families about money. They find it uncomfortable. But you know what's more uncomfortable? Your kids figuring out what you owned after you're gone," he said. He suggests a simple step: sit down with your family, show them account details, investments, nominations, and the reasons behind decisions. "Call your spouse. Call your kids. Show them where the money is. Explain why you made certain choices. Do it this month," he emphasised.

A WILL ALSO NEEDS AN EXECUTOR

Even a perfectly drafted will needs the right person to carry it out. "A will without an executor is like a car without a driver," Kumar said. He advises choosing someone responsible, willing, and accessible.

Rakul Preet Singh

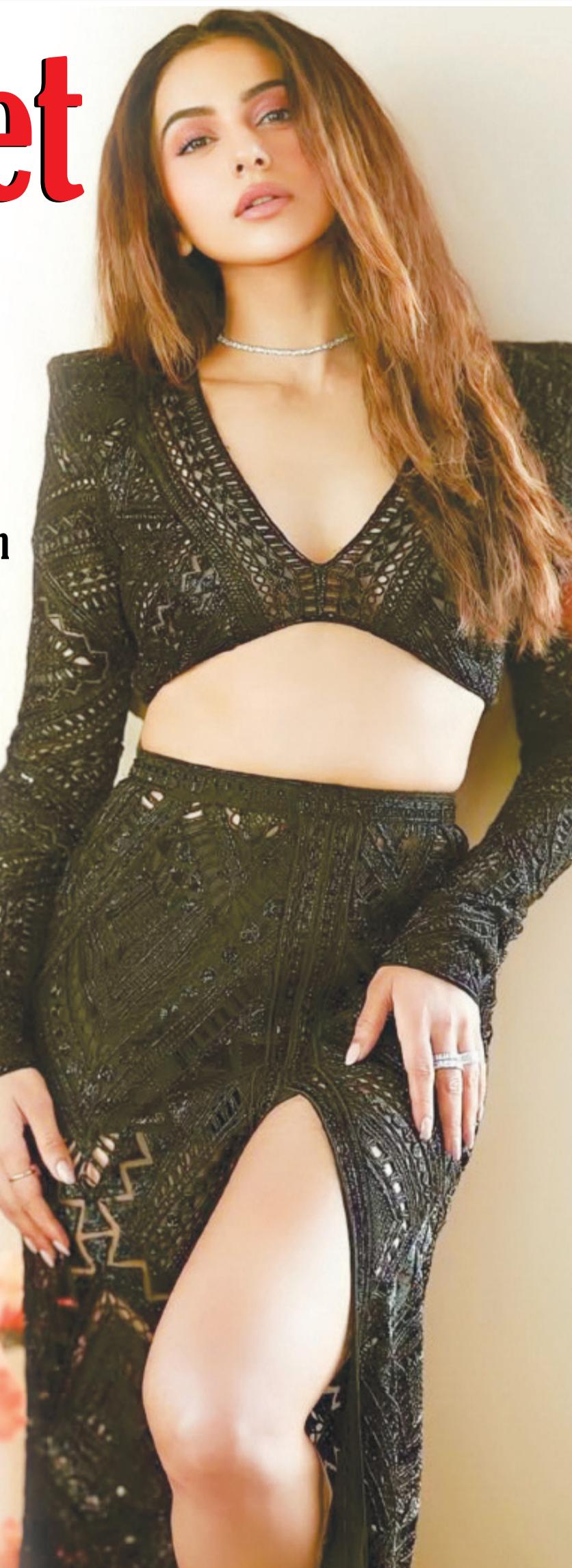
Reveals What She Learnt From R Madhavan During De De Pyaar De 2: 'His Wisdom...'

Actress Rakul Preet Singh, who is awaiting the release of her upcoming film 'De De Pyaar De 2', has shared her experience of working with R Madhavan in the film. R Madhavan will be seen playing Rakul Preet Singh's father, and the key hurdle in Ashish and Ayesha's love story. Speaking about working with him as his on-screen daughter, the actress shared, "I have always been a fan of him. It was amazing associating with him as his daughter, I think we shared so many interesting conversations on sets, and learnt so much from him. What a fantastic actor he is, and I think whenever the person next to you is a great actor, your performance also enhances, and he helped me do that."

She further mentioned, "I think learning from his wisdom of all these years and just such a lovely person he is and so grounded, so amazing as a human being that it really reinstates the fact that you have to stay grounded, no matter how many years you have been in the industry, it's been an absolute delight working with him."

The sequel picks up the story, following Ashish and Ayesha as they navigate love, laughter, and drama as Ashish meets her parents. 'De De Pyaar De 2' is the sequel to 'De De Pyaar De', and is directed by Anshul Sharma, produced by T-Series Bhushan Kumar & Krishan Kumar and Luv Films Luv Ranjan & Ankur Garg.

The film stars Ajay Devgn as Ashish Mehra and Rakul Preet Singh as Ayesha Khurana, continuing their age-gap romance from the original. The story sees Ashish trying to win over Ayesha's family, navigating awkward, funny situations spawned from the significant age difference and family dynamics. The film is set for a theatrical release on November 14, 2025.



Tamannaah Bhatia

Reacts To Ozempic Rumours; Amar Kaushik On Kiara Advani's Rumoured Exit From Aneet Padda's Shakti Shalini

Actress Tamannaah Bhatia's body transformation caught everyone's attention, and with the increased usage of Ozempic and Mounjaro by the public, many assumed that the actress had also resorted to such means. However, in a chat with Harper's Bazaar, Tamannaah clarified that she has always had a leaner physique with wider hips and waist. She said that while she did find it hard to manage her weight during COVID, she is embracing her natural body and features.

After weeks of buzz around Kiara Advani's rumoured exit from Shakti Shalini, the next film in Maddock's horror-comedy universe, director Amar Kaushik has finally addressed the speculation. The filmmaker, known for Stree and Bhediya, clarified that no casting decision was ever finalised, putting an end to the chatter about Kiara being replaced by Saiyara breakout star Aneet Padda.

Television actor Nishant Singh Malkani has come out in defence of his friend and Bigg Boss 19 contestant, Ashnoor Kaur, after a recent video of hers from an old concert went viral. The actress, in the viral video, was seen dancing her heart out with a male friend, whose

face wasn't visible. As soon as the video went viral, it sparked rumours of Ashnoor hanging out with her BB19 BFF, Abhishek Bajaj.

Rapper Ice Spice and Indianapolis Colts' cornerback



Ahmed 'Sauce' Gardner have been sparking rumours since February. As fans began speculating about a possible love connection between the two, the rapper admitted she had dated Gardner in September.

AR Rahman returned to Hyderabad with a major concert at Ramoji Film City, and a huge crowd gathered to see him perform live again. The show started calmly as Rahman moved through some of his well-known songs, keeping the audience engaged. The atmosphere changed suddenly when Ram Charan and Janhvi Kapoor walked onto the stage without any announcement.

Bigg Boss 19: Ashnoor Kaur, Abhishek Bajaj Accused Of Faking Friendship, But Nishant Malkani Clears The Air



The latest Weekend Ka Vaar episode of Bigg Boss 19 shocked the audience with an unexpected double eviction. Following Neelam Giri and Abhishek Bajaj's exit from the show, Ashnoor and Abhishek's friendship started raising eyebrows. Famously known as AbhiNoor, Ashnoor and Abhishek were shown to develop a friendship in the show and remained inseparable throughout the season. However, a throwback video started making rounds on social media, suggesting the two contestants knew each other ahead of the show and faked their bond.

Did Ashnoor Kaur and Abhishek Bajaj Know Each Other Before Bigg Boss 19?

The viral video showed Ashnoor enjoying a concert with a man whose hand was visible in the video. Eagle-eyed fans found out an old picture from Abhishek's Instagram where he was seen attending the same event wearing the same shirt as seen in the video. Fans were quick to come to the conclusion that Ashnoor and Abhishek had gone to the show together and did not develop a bond inside the show. The video rapidly prompted huge responses from fans calling them out for "faking" their story. One comment read, "So Bajaj and Noor knew each other before BB & were faking for 77 days that they met in BB. That's why I never felt connected with Bajaj. I knew he's fake & he's not brave enough to admit his marriage on NTV, coward and fake." While some fans called them out, others supported Abhishek and Ashnoor, stating, "They never said they didn't know each other."

The speculations came to an end when television star and Bigg Boss 14 contestant Nishant Malkhani took to comment sections, revealing it was him in the video and not Abhishek. "That arm with the sleeve in the beginning of this video is mine. Ashnoor is a kid, sis, and we attended that concert together. Kindly don't spread misinformation."

Natasa Stankovic's Adorable Video With Son Agastya Has Fans Screaming 'We Love You'



Actor, model and influencer Natasa Stankovic continues to win hearts on social media, not just with her style but also with her relatable foodie side. Known for her elegant fashion sense and charming personality, Natasa recently treated fans to a delightful glimpse of her day filled with desserts, warmth and love. The actress, on Instagram, shared a series of adorable pictures with her son Agastya, giving her followers a peek into their bonding time. The mother-son duo appeared to be having a joyful moment surrounded by delicious sweets, proving that Natasa truly has a sweet tooth.

Dressed in a stunning dark olive green, off-the-shoulder dress featuring draped detailing across the bust, Natasa looked effortlessly glamorous. She accessorised the look with gold statement earrings with red spherical drops and a gold-toned bracelet adorning her wrist.

"Serving Looks and Sugar," Writes Natasa

In her caption, Natasa perfectly summed up her mood of the day, writing, "Serving looks and sugar." The playful line not only captured her love for desserts but also her confidence and charisma. Fans flooded the comments section with admiration for the actress. One fan gushed, "Cutieeee," while another wrote, "Gorgeous." A third admirer couldn't hold back and simply said, "Dammnn."

Natasa and Hardik Pandya's Relationship and Co-Parenting Journey

Natasa's personal life has often been under public attention, especially following her separation from cricketer Hardik Pandya. The couple, who tied the knot in May 2020 and renewed their vows in a beautiful dual-ceremony, both Hindu and Christian traditions in February 2023, officially announced their split in July 2024. In a joint statement, they described it as a "tough decision" and emphasised their commitment to co-parenting their son, Agastya, with mutual respect and love. Despite the challenges, both continue to maintain a dignified and friendly relationship for their child's well-being.

Hardik Pandya Moves On With Model Mahieka Sharma

While Natasa's romantic life remains private post-separation, Hardik Pandya has reportedly found love again. The star cricketer is dating Indian model Mahieka Sharma, who has made a name for herself in the fashion industry. Mahieka has graced the covers of prestigious magazines like ELLE and Grazia and even won the Model of the Year title at the Indian Fashion Awards.



Treat hair loss with Ayurveda

For thousands of years, men and women of all countries and races have shared the tragedy of pre-mature hair loss. According to Ayurveda, the hair is derived either as a by-product or produced as a breakdown product of Asthi (bone tissue). Any disturbance in this tissue metabolism, which very much depends on the digestive fire, can affect the health of the hair. To a certain extent, the quality of hair depends on the body constitution.

Ayurveda and hair loss

The reason for hair loss is a subject that no

two doctors, seem to agree on and everyone seems to have their own opinion on the subject. The major causes for hairfall are hormonal, nutritional deficiencies and complications to other diseases and medications. Hormone related hair fall may also result from an increased sensitivity of hair follicles to male hormones or due to greater number of male hormone receptors attached to hair follicles. This is the component that is inherited through the genes — termed as Pitta constitution.

What leads to hair loss

According to Ayurveda, excess of Pitta dosha in the body is increased by hot climatic conditions, excessive intake of spicy, salty and sour food, hot and sharp food, tea, coffee,

alcohol, meats and excessive smoking. Eating too much fried, oily, greasy, and acidic foods also aggravates Pitta. Pitta balancing herbs (Eg: Shatavari—Asparagus) and vegetables which improves the quality of Asthi dhathu (Eg: bitter vegetables) are effective in treating hair fall.

The main reasons

There are a number of other causes for hair fall like acute illness, high stress, and thyroid imbalance, certain drugs, sudden weight loss and high fever.



The first step is to locate the root cause in your diet or lifestyle that may be increasing the Pitta dosha. Once you locate it, try to give up or at least reduce the diet, habit, or activity responsible for increasing Pitta. Internal use of Ayurvedic medicines like Thikthakam kashayam, Thikthakam ghritham as per medical advice are effective to correct the metabolism. Ayurvedic general tonics like Narasimha rasayanam, Chyavana prasam are effective for improving hair growth. In alopecia, due to systemic diseases, treatment of the same is also required.

Here are some tips

General recommendations and tips to maintain the results are some of the following:

- The person should maintain a regular bowel movement everyday. In case of constipation, a mild natural laxative can be taken. Triphala is very useful. - Regular physical exercise is very beneficial as it helps in balancing the aggravated doshas. - Rub your scalp after washing the hair. It increases the blood circulation, and

activates the sebaceous glands. - A mixture of lettuce and spinach juice is good to drink to induce hair growth. The juice of carrot, and lettuce juice is also good to take. - Applying juice of green coriander leaves on the head is also good. - Washing the hair with a paste of cooked green gram and fenugreek (methi) two to three times a week, is also good. - A paste of licorice made by grinding it in milk can be applied in the bald patches. - The seeds of fenugreek is soaked in coconut oil and kept under direct sunrays for seven days and applied to the scalp, which prevents hair loss. - Traditional therapies like Dhara, Abhyangam, Thala pothichil, Nasya shows excellent effects.

Here's what you can do

- A high protein and an iron rich diet is recommended for hair loss. An adequate intake of raw vegetables, fresh fruits, salads, green leafy vegetables should be included in the diet on a regular basis. - Use a natural shampoo to clean the hair. Amla (emblica officinalis), Shikakai (Acacia concinna) are very good for washing the hair. - Oiling and massaging of scalp is very beneficial for stopping the hair loss. Use coconut oil at least three times in a week. Certain medicated oils like Neelibringadi oil, Kunthala kanthi oil, Kanjunyadi oil are very useful. Put oil on the scalp, and massage gently in the roots of the hair.

oil on your cheeks. You can also add a little bit of pigment or broken shadow to get your sparkle on!

Fight acne

Coconut oil is known for its antibacterial properties and can help to control acne. The fatty acids kill the bacteria causing acne and even balances the sebum production.

Natural Sunscreen

Coconut oil has a natural SPF of 4-5, which can protect your skin from the sun rays. However, the SPF isn't sufficient for a long day in the sun. So, if you're sun exposure is around 30 minutes or so, coconut oil can be your perfect moisturiser and sunblock.

Anti-ageing benefits

With coconut oil, you don't have to splurge on expensive anti-ageing products. The genius oil helps to boost collagen production which keeps your skin looking youthful. The oil penetrates deep into the skin, giving your skin the healthy glow back.



6 genius ways to use coconut oil on your face

Amazing beauty benefits of coconut oil

The natural multi-tasker coconut oil is known for many benefits. This wonder oil can replace many of your beauty products. In fact, this oil is used in many beauty products courtesy its antibacterial and antifungal properties. It's an excellent moisturiser for your skin and it smells divine. Here are six ways you can use coconut oil for your face:

Skin moisturiser

This wonder oil is high in fatty acids and vitamin E, which makes it a good recipe for a moisturiser. If you have really dry skin, coconut oil can be your saviour. It speeds the

healing process of the skin, reduces water retention and boosts hydration.

Remover stubborn make-up

We know removing a waterproof mascara, long-lasting lipstick can be a pain. That's why you should turn to coconut oil for its magic. Pour some on the cotton pad and gently sweep along the lips, eyes and wherever needed. Bonus: The oil is gentle for the delicate skin around the eyes.

Natural Highlighter

Do you know a lot of highlighting products have coconut oil as a base? This oil works like magic on your skin. It glides perfectly on the skin and reflects pigment. To get that natural glow, you can sweep some coconut



- Do not wet your fringe when you're trimming it. This is because wet hair is longer than dry hair, which means you could end up cutting your fringe too short when it's wet.
- Do not cut straight across your fringe as this will give it a more severe and less natural look.



1. Get the right equipment: Don't make the mistake of using nail or kitchen scissors to trim your fringe. You'll need haircutting shears, along with a comb.
2. Style your hair first: Style your hair and your fringe as you normally would so that you trim your fringe to suit your hairstyle.
3. Separate your fringe from the rest of your hair: Do this by clipping up all your hair, except for your fringe. This way, you won't cut into the rest of your hair by accident.
4. Start the actual trim: Pull your fringe down in front of your face and make sure it's even. Insert the comb under your fringe and pull it down till where you want to cut your fringe. Then, position your scissors in such a way that they're pointing upwards, perpendicular to the line of your fringe. Cut into your fringe, starting in the centre, and working your way outwards till you reach the middle of your eyebrows. Work on the outer sides of your fringe by inserting your comb under those areas and holding your scissors at a 45-degree angle and then start to trim.
5. Check to see if your fringe is even: Move your fringe around with your fingertips to check whether it's even and is the way you want it to be.
TIPS
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