

News box

Tractor on wrong side rams bike, 2 teens die in Gurgaon

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Two teenagers died on Monday after their motorcycle was hit by a tractor near Rozka village. Police said both boys, 18-year-old Sher Khan and 15-year-old Aamir, were residents of Kanwarsika village. They were heading towards Sohna when a tractor coming from the wrong side rammed into their bike.

The impact threw both riders onto the road, causing them fatal injuries. Bystanders caught the tractor driver before he could flee and handed him over to the police. "The driver has been arrested for rash and negligent driving under sections 281 and 106 of the BNS. The vehicle has been seized, and further investigation is in progress," said an officer from Sohna City police station.

In another incident late on Monday night, a 25-year-old man, Rahul from UP's Aligarh, died after his car crashed into a truck on the Mumbai Expressway near Kharka village. Police said Rahul, who was to get married on Nov 22, had come to Delhi with his friends, Mahesh and Sachin, to shop for wedding clothes and was returning home when the accident occurred. Both his friends sustained serious injuries and were referred to a hospital in Delhi. Police said the truck driver applied the brakes suddenly, causing the car to crash into the truck's rear.

"Rahul's body was handed over to the family after the postmortem. The truck has been seized and a case has been registered against the absconding driver," said the officer.

Minimum temp dips to season's lowest at 7.4 degrees Celsius

Noida.(Agency)

The city woke up to a chilly morning on Tuesday as the minimum temperature dropped to 7.4 degrees Celsius, the lowest recorded this season so far. Early morning fog and cold winds kept most people indoors, but the day turned pleasant once the sun broke through the smog. The maximum temperature was recorded at 27.8 degrees Celsius. According to IMD, dry weather is likely to



persist over the region for the next seven days. The department also stated that for the next three days, there will be no significant change in minimum temperatures, which are expected to remain below normal by 2-4 degrees Celsius. IMD's extended forecast indicates that cold wave conditions are likely to develop over parts of the state, including the city, between Nov 11 and 15.

While residents enjoyed a sunny afternoon on Tuesday, the sharp dip in morning temperatures marks the beginning of a more pronounced winter phase for the region, typical of mid-Nov weather patterns in NCR.

Where did it go wrong? Right at the beginning

Noida.(Agency)

The first hint of the horrors that Nithari village, near Noida Sector 31, was hiding appeared on the police's radar months before the grisly discoveries in the autumn of 2006 that would mire it in infamy. TOI spoke to one of the first investigators, then a sub-inspector who retired as a DSP and is now settled in Ghaziabad, whose account laid bare a case that rested on a confession during custodial interrogation, and not much else.

It began with a complaint about a missing woman. In May 2006, GB Nagar SSP RKS Rathore called the SI and said two persons had come to the police station. "One of them was Nand Lal, whose daughter Payal had gone missing on May 7. The second was a reporter from a local news channel. Nand Lal said Payal had visited Nithari's D5 bungalow to meet Moninder Singh Pandher and did not return," he said. Initially, a constable was sent to the bungalow. "He returned saying that Pandher was not there but his domestic help, Surinder Koli, was. The next day, we sent a team to Pandher's office in Faridabad. Pandher came to the police station and informed us that he was in Chandigarh the day that Nand Lal said his daughter went missing. He also produced tickets and a toll payment receipt to corroborate his claims," the former SI told TOI. The police, he said, summoned Koli for questioning, who denied all involvement with Payal's disappearance. Cops examined her cellphone records and found that she had frequent interactions with a man called Rahul Sahni in Mumbai, according to the investigator. "A police team was sent there to speak to him, but it was a dead end." In all this time, however, there had been no FIR. As pressure started mounting on Noida police, SSP directed local cops to register one. A missing complaint was filed on June 29, 2006, but there was still no FIR as the SHO was not available. On Aug 24, 2006, Nand Lal moved an application in Gautam Budh Nagar district court under CrPC Section 156(3). On Sept 9, the chief judicial magistrate's court ordered an FIR in the case. On Oct 7, 2006 — five months after Payal went missing — an FIR was registered at Sector 20 police station. The investigator said he and an inspector were given charge of the case. "We probed whether there was a gang of beggars or sex workers active in the area. We deployed teams in crowded places, bus stands and railway stations to keep watch on women and children. We also visited Delhi, Rajasthan and other places," he said. He said while in Rajasthan, the police team received information that Payal's mobile phone was recovered with Koli's SIM card in it. "Koli had used his photo and ration card to get this SIM from a local shop," he said. The first two days, he added, Koli did not reveal anything.

Run by trust, Faridabad's Al-Falah university started as engineering college in 1997

Noida.(Agency)

Al-Falah University, which started as an engineering college in 1997 in Faridabad's Dhauj, is run by Al-Falah Charitable Trust registered in Delhi's Okhla. It became a university in 2014 after UGC recognition. The trust is headed by Jawahar Ahmed Siddiqui, who is also chancellor of the varsity. The first medicine batch began in 2019, and it now has 200 MBBS seats and 50 MD seats. Over the years, the varsity has expanded its campus from 30 acres to over 70 acres through land acquisition from local villagers. In Jan 2025, former Haryana governor Bandaru Dattatreya inaugurated a newly constructed hospital building on the campus. The institution has come under scrutiny following the alleged involvement of three of its MBBS course professors in a terror module. The varsity's engineering department graduated its last batch in 2021, although some students are still clearing backlog.

The medical college, which began in 2016, admitted its first batch of MBBS students in 2019. Many of these graduates now serve as resident doctors at the university's hospital. Admissions are conducted through department of medical education and research (DMER), Haryana. University staffers, speaking anonymously, claimed the institution receives donations from Arab countries. "Foreign fundraisers from Arab nations visit the campus once a year. Though the college is run by a charitable trust, it has donors outside the country," a staff member said. The varsity charges Rs 16 lakh annually for MBBS courses, while fees for MD programmes range from Rs 2.5 lakh for anatomy to around Rs 30 lakh per year for pediatrics. Another employee told TOI that the university organises short-term free medical check-up camps, usually lasting two to three months. According to a varsity official, recruitment across



departments is managed by the Okhla head office under the supervision of chancellor Siddiqui's associates Irfan and Razi. "They are key figures in the recruitment process," the official said. The university attracts students particularly from the Mewat region, Kashmir and Bihar. A staffer said the university was set up with an aim to provide educational opportunities to students from minority and underprivileged backgrounds. "Al-Falah University was envisioned to uplift students from Mewat belt by providing

access to quality technical and medical education," the official said. Al-Falah Hospital, which began as a small dispensary in 1997, has now expanded into an 800-plus bed super-specialty facility offering emergency and specialised care in medicine, pediatrics, radiology, orthopedics, dentistry and respiratory diseases, among others. The website of Al Falah University, the institution that has come under scrutiny following the alleged involvement of three of its MBBS course professors in a terror module, was hacked by a group identifying itself as 'Indian Cyber Alliance' on Tuesday evening. The website was restored later. A note warned the university against engaging in what the group called anti-national activities, saying such institutions were "not allowed" in India. The hackers advised anyone wishing to pursue radical ideologies to leave the country, framing their message as a warning and claiming to monitor the

If it wasn't Koli, who killed our children, ask parents of Nithari victim

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Supreme Court's decision has left the families of Nithari victims devastated. One of them questioned, "If not Koli, then who killed our children?" While most families have moved away from Nithari, two remain, expressing their belief that divine justice will prevail someday. Among them are 63-year-old Jhabhu Lal and his wife Sunita (60) who have spent nearly two decades seeking justice for their daughter Jyoti — one of the children who went missing in 2006 and was later found to be one of the Nithari victims.

Originally from Unnao district in Uttar Pradesh, the couple had migrated to Nithari village in the city four decades ago in search of work. Lal earned his livelihood ironing clothes for residents of the locality that would later be remembered for one of the country's most horrifying crimes. "I had six children, and the fifth was Jyoti. She went missing in 2006," Lal recalled, his voice shaking. "Her body was later found in the drain outside house number D5 (Moninder Pandher's bungalow where Koli worked)."

The drain next to the bungalow, from which skeletal remains of several children were recovered, became a site of endless grief for dozens of families like his. Lal fought tirelessly in courts, appearing multiple times as a prosecution witness. "In the last two decades, I have fought this case from the local court to the high court. I spent a lot of money and even sold my valuables and a house in Sangam Vihar, Delhi, to fund the case," he said.

The Supreme Court's acquittal in the 13th, and final, case against Koli has left the family devastated. "If he didn't commit the crime, then who did? If he is freed, that means someone else killed our children. Why was Koli kept behind bars for so many years?" Lal asked. "We have faith in God. He will punish the real culprits." For Jyoti's mother Sunita, the passing years have done little to heal the wound. "Even after all these years, the pain hasn't faded. Every time I pass that bungalow, it feels like I'm standing at the same place where my world ended."

Composting unit inaugurated in Gurgaon's Suncity Avenue

Gurgaon.(Agency)

MCG's Bulk Waste Generator (BWG) monitoring cell on Tuesday inaugurated a composting unit to process wet waste in Suncity Avenue in Sector 102, which has been set up on the society's premises. According to MCG officials, the society, built on five acres, has installed a modern composting plant capable of converting organic waste into manure. BWG cell inspector K S Rana, who attended the inauguration, said the facility places the society among a small group of residential complexes in the city that segregate waste at source and compost it internally. Officials said the initiative is expected to reduce the volume of municipal solid waste transported out of the colony and provide residents with organic manure for landscaping. The BWG monitoring cell was formed in Oct



last year to inspect bulk waste generators and ensure compliance with Solid Waste Management rules. In July last year, MCG revised the criteria for identifying BWGs per the union ministry of housing and urban affairs guidelines. According to the revised guidelines, waste generators that produce 100 kg or more waste daily

are classified as BWGs, against the previous limits of 50 kg or more. The civic body also recently announced stringent measures against illegal dumping of waste. It has invoked Section 15 of the environment (protection) act, 1986, to warn violators that they could be fined up to Rs 1 lakh and may land in jail for up to 5 years. The cell also imposes penalties on the BWGs which don't adhere to the SWM 2016 norms of waste management.

However, recovery of these penalties has been a major issue. It was recently that the MCG ordered the withholding of salaries for 4 clerk-cum-BWG inspectors and their teams for failing to recover penalties from violators of the solid waste management rules, 2016 and the BWG guidelines.

Wind speed low, Gurgaon's air quality turns very poor after 8 poor days

Gurgaon.(Agency)

The city's air quality index (AQI) was recorded at 378 (very poor) on Tuesday, while it reported poor air with an AQI of 261 on the previous day. Experts attributed this to poor dispersion of pollutants due to lower wind speeds. The last time Gurgaon grappled with 'very poor' air was a week back on Nov 2 with an AQI of 357. Meanwhile, Gwalpahari and Sector 51 were in the severe category as they recorded 417 and 415 respectively. Vikas Sadan recorded an AQI of 342 (very poor) air, while data from Teri Gram station was unavailable. The commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) on Tuesday, imposed stage-III restrictions under Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in Delhi-NCR after pollution levels rose to the 'severe' category in the capital. Stage-III measures include a comprehensive nine-point action plan to curb pollution. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) bulletin revealed that Delhi recorded an AQI of 428 (severe) at 4pm on Tuesday — it was 362 (very poor) on Monday. The GRAP sub-committee of CAQM convened an emergency meeting

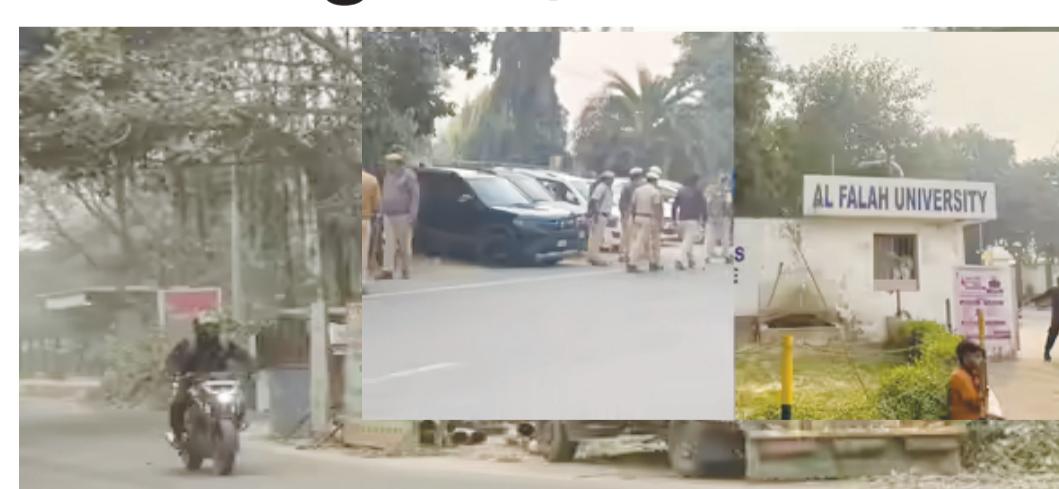
and invoked GRAP-III, noting the spike in AQI due to variable wind directions, smog and low ventilation for pollutants. This is in addition to the measures enforced already under stages-I and II of GRAP. Stage-III steps include strict restrictions on construction, piling, demolition and other dust-generating activities across the NCR. Only essential projects such as railways, metro services, airports, national security, hospitals and sanitation projects can continue, subject to strict compliance with dust control norms. The use of BS-III petrol and BS-IV diesel cars is restricted under this stage. The CAQM order mandates hybrid classes — both physical and online mode (wherever feasible) — for children up to Class V in Delhi, Gurgaon, Faridabad, Ghaziabad and Gautam Budh Nagar. HSPCB (Gurgaon) regional officer Krishan Kumar said, "We have been notifying civic bodies to carry out measures to mitigate pollutants." On Tuesday, deputy commissioner Ajay Kumar said the implementation of stage-III of GRAP aims to improve air quality and reduce the harmful effects of

pollution. The DC said, "The increasing air pollution is a matter of concern for everyone, as it has a serious impact on our health."

Therefore, strict adherence to the GRAP norms is essential. Delhi's air quality remained in the very poor category with an AQI of 362 at 4pm on Nov 10. Temperatures showed little change — maximum between 25-27°C and minimum around 10-11°C, both below normal by 2-4°C. Shallow fog reduced visibility to 600-700m at Safdarjung and Palam airports on the morning of Nov 11, according to DSS.

The city experienced mainly clear skies with light northwesterly winds (up to 8kmph), strengthening to 15-20kmph in the afternoons and easing at night. Mist or haze is likely during early mornings through Nov 14, with temperatures staying below normal (max 25-28°C, min 9-12°C). Mixing depth is expected to remain moderate (1,230-1,320 m), while the ventilation index — ranging from 8,800 to 9,800 m/s — will dip to 6,000 m/s on Nov 14, which may worsen pollution dispersion conditions.

Submit info on tree felling, plantation in Gurgaon, NGT tells Haryana govt



Gurgaon.(Agency)

National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed Haryana govt to file an affidavit detailing the scale of tree felling in the city over the past year. This includes the number of permissions granted, trees cut, saplings planted as compensatory measures and their survival rate. The state's forest department has been directed to submit the affidavit within eight weeks. The tribunal was hearing a plea — filed by environmentalist Vaishali Rana — on Nov 6 that said felling

approvals were being granted "mechanically" and that even basic conditions attached to permissions were not being complied with. Rana alleged large-scale and illegal tree cutting in Gurgaon's urban areas. The order follows a series of citizen complaints and petitions over the years highlighting unchecked tree cutting across the city, often linked to infrastructure projects. "Haryana has failed to verify on-ground compliance with felling conditions and neglecting

follow-up monitoring of compensatory plantations," said Rana.

Counsel for the petitioner urged the bench to impose a temporary ban on tree cutting in the city till a proper regulatory mechanism is in place. The tribunal allowed the petitioner to move a separate plea seeking interim relief on that point. The tribunal, led by Justice Prakash Srivastava (chairperson) and Afroz Ahmad (expert member), wanted to know how permissions were

being issued and monitored by the authorities.

On behalf of the state, counsel Rahul Khurana submitted that the larger regulatory issue around tree felling permissions is already being examined in another case where the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has submitted its recommendations. That matter is listed for hearing on Jan 27, 2026. The present case has also been listed for the same date. Gurgaon has repeatedly cleared mature trees for road and metro infrastructure. In 2017, around 5,000 trees were felled for flyovers and underpasses along NH8. A year later, permission was granted to chop down 10,000 trees to widen Sohna Road. Recently, 344 trees were approved for removal between sectors 27 and 43 and many more have been cleared along highway stretches in the Gurgaon and Rewari forest divisions. An RTI also showed authorities approved the felling of over 500 trees across projects, but only 124 were transplanted, while compensatory plantation for nearly 3,800 trees remained

THE SIKH TIMES

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

Delhi-11009

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

Corporate Office:

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

Editor-in-Chief

Gurcharan Singh Babbar
Mob: 965407232, 9971359517

Website : www.thesikhtimes.in

Email : sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

NEWS BOX

'You don't have certain talents here': Trump makes rare defence of the H-1B visa program

WASHINGTON . (Agency)

In a shift from his earlier stance, US President Donald Trump on Tuesday defended the H-1B visa program, saying the country must attract skilled talent from around the world to fill specialized roles. During an interview with Fox News host Laura Ingraham, Trump said that while his administration prioritized American jobs, certain sectors, particularly manufacturing and defense, require expertise that cannot easily be sourced domestically. He said that the US workforce lacks some of the specialized skills needed for complex, high-tech roles. When asked if America doesn't have plenty of talent, Trump responded, "No, you don't. No, you don't. No, you don't have. You don't have certain talents. People have to learn. You can't take people off an unemployment line and say, 'I'm going to put you into a factory where we're going to make missiles,'" he added. The comments mark a notable softening in tone following his administration's previous crackdown on the H-1B program, widely used by technology companies to hire foreign professionals, many of whom are Indian engineers and doctors.

Trump's comments also come less than two months after his administration announced a steep hike in H-1B visa fees to USD 100,000 per application. The move drew criticism from U.S. employers and foreign workers alike, who said the measure would deter innovation and limit access to global talent.

The U.S. State Department later clarified that the new fee applies only to new H-1B petitions or lottery entries filed after September 21, and that current visa holders and petitions submitted before that date would remain unaffected. Under the updated rule, every new petition, including those for the 2026 H-1B lottery, must include the \$100,000 payment.

Colombia to suspend intelligence cooperation with US over strikes on alleged drug vessels

BOGOTA.(Agency)

Colombian President Gustavo Petro ordered his nation's security forces Tuesday to stop sharing intelligence with the United States, until the Trump administration stops its strikes on suspected drug traffickers in the Caribbean, as relations deteriorate between the nations that were once close partners in the fight against drug trafficking. In a message on X, Petro wrote that Colombia's military must immediately end "communications and other agreements with U.S. security agencies" until the U.S. ceases its attacks on speedboats suspected of carrying drugs, that critics have likened to extrajudicial executions. Petro wrote that "the fight against drugs must be subordinated to the human rights of the Caribbean people." It wasn't immediately clear what kind of information Colombia will stop sharing with the United States. At least 75 people have been killed by the U.S. military in strikes in international waters since August, according to figures supplied by the Trump administration. The strikes began in the southern Caribbean but have shifted recently to the eastern Pacific, where the U.S. has targeted boats off Mexico. Petro has called for U.S. President Donald Trump to be investigated for war crimes over the strikes, which have affected citizens of Venezuela, Ecuador, Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago. In October, the Trump administration placed financial sanctions on Petro and members of his family, over accusations of involvement in the global drug trade.

No Changes': Google Denies Removing Western Sahara Border For Morocco Users

United States . (Agency)

The dotted lines illustrating the border between Western Sahara and Morocco, indicating the former's disputed territory status, have never been visible to people using Google Maps in the latter, the company told AFP on Tuesday. After media reports last week highlighted the discrepancy, tying it to the UN Security Council endorsing the Moroccan autonomy plan for Western Sahara, the tech giant has released a statement saying the different border displays have always been the case. "We have not made changes to Morocco or Western Sahara on



Google Maps," a Google spokesperson said in a statement to AFP. "These labels follow our longstanding policies for disputed regions. People using Maps outside of Morocco see Western Sahara and a dotted line to represent its disputed border; people using Maps in Morocco do not see Western Sahara. "Western Sahara is a vast mineral-rich former Spanish colony that is largely controlled by Morocco but has been claimed for decades by the pro-independence Polisario Front, which is supported by Algeria. The United Nations Security Council had previously urged Morocco, the Polisario Front, Algeria and Mauritania to resume talks to reach a broad agreement. But, at the initiative of US President Donald Trump's administration, the council's resolution supported a plan, initially presented by Rabat in 2007, in which Western Sahara would enjoy autonomy under Morocco's sole sovereignty.

Top diplomats from G7 countries meet in Canada as trade tensions rise with Trump

Canada's G7 hosting duties this year have been marked by strained relations with its North American neighbor, predominantly over Trump's imposition of tariffs on Canadian imports.

ONTARIO . (Agency)

Top diplomats from the Group of Seven industrialized democracies are converging on southern Ontario as tensions rise between the U.S. and traditional allies like Canada over defense spending, trade and uncertainty over President Donald Trump's ceasefire plan in Gaza and efforts to end the Russia-Ukraine war. Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand said in an interview with The Associated Press that "the relationship has to continue across a range of issues" despite trade pressures as she prepared to host U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio and their counterparts from

Britain, France, Germany, Italy and Japan on Tuesday and Wednesday.

"We're tackling a range of critical issues with one main focus: putting the safety and security of Americans FIRST," Rubio said in a social media post. Anand also invited the foreign ministers of Australia, Brazil, India, Saudi Arabia, Mexico, South Korea, South Africa and Ukraine. Anand said critical priorities for discussion Tuesday night include talks on advancing long-term peace and stability in the Middle East. "The peace plan must be upheld," Anand said. The diplomats will meet with Ukraine's foreign minister early Wednesday. Britain says it will send 13 million pounds (\$17 million) to help patch up Ukraine's energy infrastructure as winter approaches and Russian attacks intensify. The money will go toward repairs to power, heating and water supplies and humanitarian support for Ukrainians.

U.K. Foreign Secretary Yvette Cooper, who made the announcement before the meeting, said Russian President Vladimir Putin "is trying to plunge Ukraine into darkness and the cold as winter



approaches," but the British support will help keep the lights and heating on. Canada recently made a similar announcement. Canada's G7 hosting duties this year have been marked by strained relations with its North American neighbor, predominantly over Trump's imposition of tariffs on Canadian imports. But the entire bloc of allies is confronting major turbulence over the Republican president's demands on trade and various proposals to halt worldwide conflicts. One main point of contention has been defense spending. All G7 members except for Japan are members of NATO, and Trump has demanded that

UN chief Guterres condoles car explosion in Delhi, suicide bombing in Pakistan

UNITED NATIONS. (Agency)

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres has condoled the loss of lives and injuries in the car explosion near Red Fort in New Delhi and stressed on a full investigation into the incident, his spokesperson said. "We also, of course, send our condolences to the government and people of India for what has happened there, and that also needs to be fully investigated," the Secretary General's Deputy Spokesperson Farhan Haq said at the daily briefing on Tuesday when asked about the explosion in Delhi that killed 12 people and injured many more. Haq was asked about the suicide bombing in Islamabad as well as the car explosion in New Delhi. In a more lengthy response to the suicide attack in the Pakistan capital, Haq said, "What I can say is the secretary general

is deeply saddened by the reported suicide attack, and he extends his condolences to the families of the

victims and wishes a full recovery to those injured. The secretary general condemns acts of violence and terrorism at the strongest terms. He reiterates that all perpetrators of terrorism must be held accountable, and he calls for a full

investigation," he added. A suicide bomber on Tuesday detonated his explosives near a police vehicle outside a court in Islamabad, killing at least 12 people and wounding 36 others, officials said. Hours after the suicide attack, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif accused groups "active with Indian support" of being involved in the strike. India unequivocally rejected as baseless Sharif's allegations linking the terror attack in Islamabad to New Delhi, and said it is a predictable tactic by "delirious" leadership of that country to "concoct" false narratives.

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said the international community is well aware of the reality and will not be misled by Pakistan's "desperate" ploys.

All 20 personnel onboard Turkish military cargo plane that crashed in Georgia died



ANKARA . (Agency)

All 20 personnel on board a military cargo plane that crashed in Georgia were killed, Turkey's defense minister announced on Wednesday. The C-130 plane had taken off from Azerbaijan and was on its way back to Turkey when it crashed Tuesday in Georgia's Sighnaghi municipality, close to the Azerbaijani border. "Our heroic comrades-in-arms were martyred on November 11, 2025, when our C-130 military cargo plane, which had taken off from Azerbaijan en route to our country, crashed near the Georgia-

Azerbaijan border," Defense Minister Yasar Guler said in a message posted on X, together with photographs of the military personnel that were killed. The cause of the crash is being investigated.

A Turkish accident investigation team reached the crash site early on Wednesday and was inspecting the wreckage of the plane that had spread over a very large area, Turkish broadcaster Haberturk reported. On Tuesday, Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency quoted the Georgian aviation authority as saying that contact with the plane was lost a few minutes after it

had entered Georgia's airspace. The plane had not issued a distress signal, it said. C-130 military cargo planes are widely used by Turkey's armed forces for transporting personnel and handling logistical operations. Turkey and Azerbaijan maintain close military cooperation. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and other Turkish officials had attended Azerbaijan's Victory Day celebrations in Baku on Nov. 8, marking Azerbaijan's military success over Armenia in the 2020 control of Karabakh region, known internationally as Nagorno-Karabakh, a conflict that had lasted nearly four decades. Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev and Georgian Foreign Minister Maka Botchorishvili extended their condolences to their Turkish counterparts over Tuesday's crash. "We are deeply shocked by the news of the loss of life of our soldiers in the accident that occurred on Georgian soil," Aliyev said in a message, according to the Anadolu Agency.

joint drills in eastern Java months after the 2024 accord was signed. The new agreement will commit Australia and Indonesia to "consult at a leader and ministerial level, on a regular basis on matters of security", Albanese said. It will also facilitate "mutually beneficial security activities, and if either or both countries' security is threatened, to consult and consider what measures may be taken, either individually or jointly, to deal with those threats", he said. Prabowo said the deal committed the two countries to "close cooperation in the defence and security field". "We cannot choose our neighbours... especially countries like us," he said. "Good neighbours will help each other in times of difficulties," Prabowo added. Australia hopes to cement closer ties with Indonesia as the region is rattled by rivalry between China and the United States. Indonesia and Australia, separated by less than 300 kilometres (185 miles) at their closest point, have charted different courses while navigating that geopolitical upheaval.

House expected to vote Wednesday on ending the US government shutdown

WASHINGTON . (Agency)

WASHINGTON: The effort to end the longest-ever US government shutdown heads Wednesday toward a final vote, as President Donald Trump declared victory in the political face-off and rival Democrats tore themselves apart over the deal. The House of Representatives appeared likely to vote Wednesday on a spending bill to solve the six-week standoff, after eight Democrats broke ranks in the Senate on Monday to side with Trump's Republicans. During a Veterans Day speech at Arlington National Cemetery, Trump broke off to praise Republican House Speaker Mike Johnson and Senate Majority Leader John Thune. "Congratulations to you and to John and to everybody on a very big victory," Trump said as he spotted Johnson in the audience. "We're opening up our country -- it should have never been closed," added Trump, bucking US presidential tradition by using a ceremonial event to score political points. Trump said later he expected the Republican-controlled House to approve the bill to fund

the government through January. "Only people that hate our country want to see it not open," he told ESPN.

Top Democrats have vowed to oppose the government-funding bill, in large part because it does not directly address the extension of health insurance subsidies, which are set to expire at the end of this year. But it is likely to pass the House as it only needs a simple majority, which Republicans narrowly have.

From the start, Trump had piled pressure on Democrats by letting the shutdown be as punishing as possible and refusing to negotiate on their demands on health insurance. A million federal workers went unpaid, food benefits for low-income Americans came under threat and air travelers faced thousands of cancellations and delays ahead of the Thanksgiving holiday. Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy warned Tuesday that the chaos could get worse by the weekend if the shutdown persists, with air traffic controllers unable to be paid and authorities ordering further slowdowns in flight traffic. "You're going



to have airlines that make serious calculations about whether they continue to fly, full stop," Duffy told reporters at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport. Polls have shown that voters increasingly blamed Trump's party as the shutdown dragged on past its 40th day. But it was the Democrats who caved and gave Republicans the extra votes they needed Monday under Senate rules, without securing the key concessions they wanted. "Health care of people all across this country is on the brink of becoming unaffordable," top House Democrat

Hakeem Jeffries told reporters Tuesday as he vowed to maintain the fight for lower costs.

Democratic rift

The deal has split Democrats, with many senior figures saying they should have held out for the extension of health insurance subsidies at the heart of the shutdown battle. "Pathetic," California Governor Gavin Newsom, widely seen as a 2028 Democratic presidential frontrunner, posted on X.

Despite opposing the bill vocally and voting against it, Democratic Senate Minority leader Chuck Schumer has faced calls from some lawmakers in his party to step down for failing to corral his senators. For Democrats, the wavering was especially galling as it came just days after election wins that put Trump on the back foot for the first time since his White House return. Democratic wins in New York City, New Jersey and Virginia in particular highlighted the issue of affordability, a weak spot for billionaire Trump and the Republicans ahead of the 2026 midterm elections.

NEWS BOX

Chennai got 342 hoax bomb threat emails since April

CHENNAI. (Agency)

Hoax bomb threats have become a nagging issue for the police personnel as Greater Chennai Police (GCP) Commissioner A Arun said the city has received a total of 342 such emails since April this year.

Speaking in a media interaction, the commissioner said every threat mail was registered either under a Community Service Register (CSR) entry or an FIR. "As of now, the cases have been handed over to the Anti Terror Squad (ATS), and they are probing the cases," he said.

The commissioner said the department suspects only a handful of people are involved behind the threats, as preliminary inquiries revealed recurring language patterns and phrasing. The senders are suspected to be local miscreants as they are aware of the daily happenings in Chennai, and have been using VPNs and dark web browsers to conceal their digital footprint, he said.

Talking about the standard protocol for checks regarding these threats, he said the personnel have identified patterns in these emails. "If the new threat falls within the existing patterns, suggest hoax threats, the police and the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) go to the place concerned and inform the people there. If they agree for a check, the personnel proceed with it, and if they do not want the checks, the teams will return back. However, if the new email is outside the pattern, the police insist on an intense check," he added.

Drug probe widens; two more held in Tiruvallur, 75g meth seized

**CHENNAI. (Agency)**

The Tiruvallur district police have arrested two more persons — Prathap (27) of Tirupattur and Mohammad Afrath (23) of Kanyakumari — near the Chennai-Bengaluru highway on Sunday and seized 75 grams of methamphetamine from them as part of their ongoing investigation into the drug trafficking.

These arrests follow the November 8 arrest of Bende, a 43-year-old Senegal national suspected to be the kingpin of an interstate drug trafficking network. He was tracked for 10 days and picked up from a Delhi apartment, where several mobile phones containing details of drug routes across multiple States were recovered.

The probe was triggered after the Manavala Nagar police seized methamphetamine and arrested an Indian along with two foreign nationals, eventually leading to the arrest of Chennai-based influencer Sibraj (22). With the latest arrests, a total of ten people are now in custody.

UoH deploys drones for large-scale seed dispersal

HYDERABAD. (Agency)

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) has taken a step towards ecological restoration and sustainability through its initiative, Mission Green – Seed for Future. Organised by the Centre for Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences (CEOAS) in collaboration with Rotary International District 3150, the project marks the first-ever use of drone technology for large-scale seed dispersal within the university campus.

Drones flew across select green zones, scattering native fruit and flowering seeds encased in nutrient-rich organic compost.

Prof Chakravarthi, Head of the Department of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, who conceptualised and led the initiative, told the TNIE: "The idea was born from a desire to strengthen the campus's rich biodiversity. The university is home to hundreds of bird species and diverse flora and fauna. The initiative is aimed at enhancing the floral component of this ecosystem, especially to provide native fruit-bearing plants that support bird and insect populations."

He said that only native horticultural fruit seeds — such as berries, cherries and flowering plants — were used to maintain ecological balance. "We consciously avoided foreign or invasive species. Grasslands were left untouched as they already play a vital role in maintaining the carbon balance," he added.

Around 15,000 seed balls were dispersed across 150 acres of the campus. Each seed ball, coated with compost and nutrients, was prepared a week in advance to ensure better germination. Some seeds had already started sprouting, aided by favourable weather conditions, Prof Chakravarthi said.

The drones, developed and operated by a Chennai-based company, helped reach areas inaccessible by foot. "Each drone can carry around 3.5 kg of seeds and cover terrain that is otherwise difficult to reach manually. This is the first time such technology has been used for a green initiative at the university," he noted.

Plastic ban to be strictly enforced at Basavanagudi Kadalekai Parishe, says minister Ramalinga Reddy

GBA to ensure hygiene, sanitation, drinking water supply, and additional public toilets.

BENGALURU. (Agency)

Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy said that any stall found using plastic during the historical Kadalekai Parishe in Basavanagudi will be asked to vacate immediately.

He attended a review meeting on Tuesday to oversee preparations for the five-day groundnut fair 'Kadalekai Parishe 2025', where special arrangements are being made for devotees and visitors. For the first time, the fair will be held for five days instead of two, from November 17-21, at Basavanagudi's Sri Dodda Basavanna Temple, and will be inaugurated by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on November 17.

The traditional fair attracts lakhs of visitors every year, making it one of Bengaluru's largest cultural events, the minister added.

Reddy announced key decisions after the review meeting, including a complete ban on plastic plastic bags, along with a public awareness campaign using the slogan, "Bring your own bag to the Parishe."

For public convenience and safety, the GBA will ensure hygiene, sanitation, and drinking water supply, including temporary water



tankers. Marshals will be deployed to manage crowds and maintain cleanliness, while additional public toilets will be installed and cleaned regularly throughout the fair.

The police will set up CCTV cameras, watchtowers, barricades, and a temporary outpost near the temple. BMTC buses will be

rerouted temporarily, and dedicated entry and exit lanes will be created using barricades to prevent overcrowding. Parking for two-wheelers and heavy vehicles will be restricted near the temple.

Fire trucks, ambulances, and first-aid teams will be stationed at key locations for emergency response.

Stray dog attacks morning walkers on museum premises in Thiruvananthapuram

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. (Agency)

The stray dog menace in the capital city has assumed alarming proportions as about five morning walkers were bitten by a dog inside the museum premises on Tuesday.

"I was walking when the dog suddenly lunged at me from behind and bit my legs. One of the wounds is quite deep. It was scary and the security guards let the stray dogs roam freely inside the compound and I have seen them chasing two-wheelers many times. It's dangerous," said 62-year-old Thampy Bal, one

among the five victims.

A peaceful morning walk at Museum — which draws hundreds of regular walkers and tourists each day — turned tragic for many on Tuesday when the dog started attacking and scaring everybody present at the time. "The incident occurred at 7.30am and I went to the General Hospital for treatment. It's a closed premises and the authorities could ensure that dogs don't roam freely and attack people," added Thampy.

Following the incident, the Museum and Zoo authorities

have decided to ban outside food on campus. Director of the

ban outside food inside the campus.

"The dogs enter the premises because of food waste thrown around by people coming here. We remove around 100kg of food waste daily. We have decided to ban outside food on the campus and the security guards have been asked to enforce it. There is a freedom food truck parked right outside the museum, and people buy and have food sitting in the lawn. They just throw the waste around attracting dogs.

Department of Museums and Zoo P S Manjula Devi told that an emergency meeting was convened following the incident and a decision has been taken to

Ravenshaw computer science students protest over poor lab facilities; call off stir after assurance

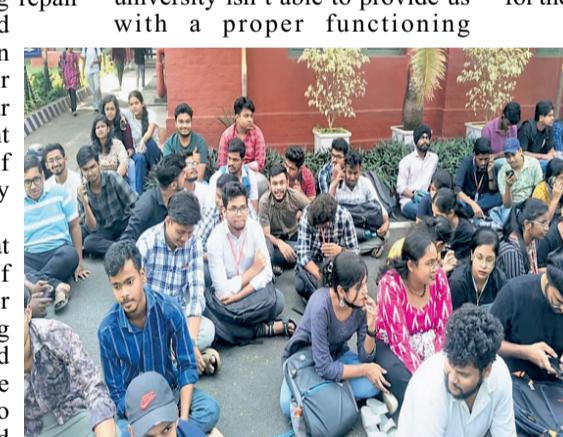
CUTTACK. (Agency)

Days after Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department at Ravenshaw University staged dharna in front of the vice-chancellor's office seeking repair of their dilapidated classrooms, their peers in the self-financing computer science course in a similar protest on Monday sought immediate upgradation of the laboratory infrastructure.

The students complained that there was acute shortage of computers in their laboratories and the existing ones were outdated and did not function properly. "We had reported this matter to the vice-chancellor and department officials multiple times but they kept turning a deaf ear to our pleas," they rued.

"We have seven batches of students — three of BSc, two of MSc and as many of MCA. With 40 students in each

batch, the total number comes to around 280. Each student pays nearly ₹40,000 towards course fee which comes to around ₹11 crore from all 280 students. If the university isn't able to provide us with a proper functioning



computer and basic infrastructure, what is the collected money being used for?" questioned Dibya Prakash Patra, a protesting student. Another student Debasmita Sahu

said they had also given written complaints to the V-C in this regard but to no avail. Having their pleas unheard for long, the students resorted to a sit-in protest to press for their demands.

The agitation was, however, called off after the university authorities assured them that a tender had already been floated for purchasing computers and their demands would be fulfilled within a month.

On November 6, Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department had held their classes in the open in front of the V-C's office seeking immediate repair of their dilapidated classrooms.

The protest had been called off after the university officials assured them of completing the repair work within 10 days.

Boitas tear up Mahanadi river waters, paying tribute to Odia Sadhaba legacy

CUTTACK. (Agency)

The Mahanadi Boita race is not just a competition, it's a tribute to the courage and enterprise of our ancestors who navigated the sea and built Odisha's maritime legacy, said deputy chief minister



cum-Tourism minister Pravati Parida on Tuesday.

Flagging off the two-day boat race on the day, Parida further said it connects our glorious past with the aspirations of a vibrant and youthful Odisha. The boat race was held for the first time in Mahanadi river to mark Balijatra and celebrate the glorious maritime heritage of the state.

Organised by the Tourism department and Cuttack administration, the event was hosted along the river stretch between Gadagia Ghat and Silver City boat club with 15 teams from across the country participating in it. The race was held for 1,000 metre, 500 metre and 200 metre categories, and the participating teams included five women's teams. A spectacular fly boat show was also held, captivating the audience with stunning formations and speed displays.

Among others, commissioner-cum-secretary, Tourism Balwant Singh, DIG, Home Guards and Fire Services Umashankar Das, director, Tourism Deepankar Mohapatra, collector Dattatraya Bhausaheb Shinde, DCP Khilari Rishikesh Dnyandeo and CMC commissioner Kirandeep Kaur Sahota were present on this occasion.

Karnataka on high alert after Delhi blast; security tightened across public places, key installations

Authorities said heightened security checks may take additional time, and passengers are advised to plan accordingly and stay in contact with their respective airlines for updates.

BENGALURU. (Agency)

Following the Delhi blast, a statewide high alert has been sounded since Monday night. Police across Karnataka have conducted inspections with bomb detection and dog squads in high-footfall areas such as bus stands, railway stations, airports, Metro stations, hotels and lodges, malls, religious places, commercial hubs and other public spaces. Checkpoints have been set up, and vehicles are being thoroughly inspected.

Bengaluru City Police Commissioner Seemant Kumar Singh told reporters that all DCPs and their staff carried out inspections on Monday night, and these will continue on Tuesday as well. "All preventive and precautionary measures have been taken," he said. Meanwhile, Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) issued a travel advisory, urging passengers to arrive well in

time. Authorities said that heightened security checks may take additional time, and passengers are advised to plan accordingly and stay in contact with their respective airlines for updates.

Uttara Kannada, which has several vital installations such as Seabird Naval Base and Kaiga Nuclear Power Station, has been on high alert. Ports, temple towns like Gokarna and Murudeshwar, visited by devotees from every nook and corner of the country, are under watch.

Security arrangements at railway stations under South Western Railway (SWR) have also been intensified. Security authorities have issued strict instructions to ensure safety through

enhanced checks at all railway stations and on board trains.



Passengers and their belongings are being carefully screened at entry points, while surveillance across station premises has

Telangana HC allows Budvel land e-auction, with rider

**HYDERABAD. (Agency)**

In a relief to the state government, a bench of the Telangana High Court on Tuesday suspended a single-judge order that had cancelled the proposed e-auction of 4.19 acres of land at Budvel in Rajendranagar. However, the court directed that the highest bidder must not be declared until further orders.

With the interim order, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) can proceed with the e-auction.

The bench of justices Moushumi Bhattacharya and Gadi Praveen Kumar passed the directions while hearing an appeal filed by the state government against a May 2025 single-judge ruling that favoured private parties claiming ownership of the land.

While granting relief to the HMDA, the bench directed the Rangareddy district collector to decide on the private claimants' representations by December 12, and to provide copies of the order to all parties by December 15. A final decision on the e-auction is to be taken only after December 31. "HMDA shall not take any steps pursuant to the e-auction in relation to the subject property until two weeks after the district collector decides on the representations of the respondents," the bench said.

The case will be heard again in January 2026.

During the hearing, Advocate General A Sudharshan Reddy submitted that the disputed parcel is part of a larger 281.61-acre land bank in a high-value zone, worth hundreds of crores, and that continuing the stay would compel the government to refund deposits made by bidders, burdening the state exchequer. Counsel for the private parties argued that although the authorities issued notices after the single-judge order and they attended a hearing in June, no further action followed, leading to their complaint of official inaction.

The agitation was, however, called off after the university authorities assured them that a tender had already been floated for purchasing computers and their demands would be fulfilled within a month.

On November 6, Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department had held their classes in the open in front of the V-C's office seeking immediate repair of their dilapidated classrooms.

The protest had been called off after the university officials assured them of completing the repair work within 10 days.

The agitation was, however, called off after the university authorities assured them that a tender had already been floated for purchasing computers and their demands would be fulfilled within a month.

On November 6, Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department had held their classes in the open in front of the V-C's office seeking immediate repair of their dilapidated classrooms.

The protest had been called off after the university officials assured them of completing the repair work within 10 days.

The agitation was, however, called off after the university authorities assured them that a tender had already been floated for purchasing computers and their demands would be fulfilled within a month.

On November 6, Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department had held their classes in the open in front of the V-C's office seeking immediate repair of their dilapidated classrooms.

The protest had been called off after the university officials assured them of completing the repair work within 10 days.

The agitation was, however, called off after the university authorities assured them that a tender had already been floated for purchasing computers and their demands would be fulfilled within a month.

On November 6, Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department had held their classes in the open in front of the V-C's office seeking immediate repair of their dilapidated classrooms.

The protest had been called off after the university officials assured them of completing the repair work within 10 days.

The agitation was, however, called off after the university authorities assured them that a tender had already been floated for purchasing computers and their demands would be fulfilled within a month.

On November 6, Plus III Arts second-year students of the Odia department had held their classes in the open in front of the V-C's office seeking immediate repair of their dilapidated classrooms.

R&D: A public & private challenge

Investments in science and technology are vital for building India's capabilities to address developmental challenges and for securing its strategic future. They will determine the nation's capacity to compete in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing—especially amid shifting trade policies. This calls for greater investment in cutting-edge research and a stronger culture of innovation across universities, research institutions, and industry. The key question, however, is whether India is investing enough to strengthen its science and technology ecosystem. Successive governments have repeatedly pledged to raise the gross expenditure on R&D (GERD) from the long-stagnant level of 0.7 percent to at least 2 percent of GDP. Yet, India's GERD-to-GDP ratio has barely moved up for three decades. The country remains far below the OECD average of 2.7 percent, and behind South Korea (4.9 percent), Japan (3.4 percent), and China (2.8 percent).

About 58-60 percent of India's GERD is concentrated in strategic sectors such as atomic energy, space, and defence, leaving only 40 percent for civilian agencies. The university sector—with over 1,100 universities and 48,000 colleges—receives just 7 percent of GERD despite producing more than half of all science and technology publications, while public companies contribute a mere 4 percent. How can India overcome this persistently low level of R&D funding? S&T Minister Jitendra Singh attributed India's low R&D intensity to "relatively less investment by the private sector". While partly valid, this does not absolve the government of responsibility. Experience from OECD countries, Japan, South Korea, the UK, and China shows a clear pattern: public R&D spending has consistently exceeded 1-1.5 percent of GDP over the past two decades. India, therefore, has a strong case to raise public investment to at least 1 percent of GDP. Market failure theory underscores that large-scale public investment is essential to strengthen basic research and build critical infrastructure.

The government ultimately recognised chronic underinvestment as a structural barrier to *atmanirbhar S&T* policies. It has launched a series of schemes, including the Anusandhan National Research Foundation, Research and Development Innovation Scheme, and Vigyan Dhara, to the tune of about Rs 4.0 lakh crore for five years. Most of these programmes are not entirely funded through public expenditure—they leverage government support as a catalyst for attracting private investment. For instance, over 70 percent of the ANRF's Rs 1.0 lakh crore budget depends on private industry participation. Since 2020, the government launched nearly a dozen national missions in critical and emerging technologies such as AI, green hydrogen, semiconductors, electric mobility, quantum, geospatial, biopharma and ocean research. Their success will hinge on the depth and scale of private sector engagement, both in terms of investment and innovation capacity, raising a key question: what if private funding does not materialise?

Private funding for GERD remains a persistent challenge. Industry contributions account for only about 0.3 percent of GDP, whereas in most advanced economies, the private sector invests 1.5-3 percent. A 2024 study by the principal scientific advisor found that, among 1,000 listed firms, only 20 could be classified as genuinely R&D-intensive, underscoring the limited scale and concentration of private research investment.

EVEN as the ink is still drying on the Major Defence Framework Agreement between the United States and India, the choice of the venue for signing this compact, on the sidelines of the 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) recently, itself speaks volumes. It very poignantly underscores the current strain in the India-US relationship. The signing was a ceremony of convenience, a ritual reaffirmation conducted on neutral ground, for neither India's Defence Minister Rajnath Singh nor US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth found it politically expedient to travel to the other country's capital. This geographical nuance is the first clue to the complex and convoluted, though profoundly pragmatic, foxtrot that this agreement represents. It is not a grand alliance forged in the fires of shared ideology, but a tactical entente negotiated in the portentous shadow of shared apprehensions.

This framework had its genesis in 2005, when the US was playing to a different rhythm in the aftermath of the deadliest attack on American soil after the Pearl Harbour incident (December 7, 1941). The attack that took place on September 11, 2001, colloquially called 9/11, shook the spectre of US unipolarity to its very roots, given that a non-state actor, al-Qaeda, had carried out an unprecedented assault on American sovereignty.

In retribution for the attack, the George W Bush administration launched an all-out assault on Afghanistan in 2001 and Iraq in 2003, christening it a war on terror. This led to a fundamental restructuring of the US force posture globally, compelling it to seek partners beyond its traditional Atlantic and Asia-Pacific treaty allies. The Congress-led UPA government in New Delhi, under the leadership of Dr Manmohan Singh, saw an opening to end India's technological isolation and the nuclear apartheid it had been subjected to since 1974, when it carried out its first nuclear test. It used defence cooperation with the US as the key to open the doors for lifting global sanctions on India's civil nuclear programme and inviting private participation to augment it. Even Russia did not substantially oppose India's overtures to the West. Though China was rising, its assertiveness was measured, its "wolf warrior" diplomacy yet unborn, and its network of military bases in the Indo-Pacific a spectre of the future. The Indo-Pacific was a novel and nascent concept, being nurtured by the likes of former Japanese Prime Minister late Shinzo Abe. The US and its allies, ranging from Japan to Australia, saw India as a probable counterweight to a resurgent but then non-belligerent China.

Today, the context is inverted. Beijing's global outreach and its sprawling network of military bases have made the "China threat" one of the organising principles of American defence strategy. The Quad is yet to be properly institutionalised despite its tenuous existence since 2007. Russia, now a Union State with Belarus and an antagonist of the West, has been India's primary source of discounted crude oil since 2022. These purchases have recently, perhaps temporarily, been moderated by Indian refiners under the threat of secondary sanctions. This

sovereignty and its continued preference for Russian energy, notwithstanding the current hiatus, are clear signals that its commitment to the US-led system is now conditional. The agreement seems to be an instrumentality for Delhi to keep the Americans engaged while trying to resolve the contentious imposition of exorbitant and unwarranted tariffs, humiliating deportations and the H-1B visa issue.

From Washington's perspective, the renewal is at best an act of strategic retentio

n. The Trump administration, for all its disdain for traditional alliances and its cosy overtures to Islamabad, cannot afford to let the linchpin of its Indo-Pacific strategy simply unravel. A complete estrangement from India would be a geopolitical gift to Beijing and Moscow of incalculable value. Thus, the framework serves as a placeholder, a mechanism to keep India within the gravitational pull of American influence, even as the two nations publicly disagree on Russia and privately distrust each other's ultimate intentions. It is an acknowledgment that, for all its frustrations with India's independent streak, the US has no viable alternative partner in the Indian Ocean Region capable of acting as a counterweight to Chinese expansionism. The public hyphenation of India and Pakistan by Trump may satiate some alleged business interests, but the quiet renewal of a 10-year defence pact seems to reveal a more profound and enduring calculation within the Pentagon

and the wider US strategic community. To ask, therefore, if this renewal is a sign of strategy or weakness, of wisdom or folly is an avoidable binary. It is a continuum born out of shared strategic imperatives. It is a policy commitment in its recognition of a shared, overarching challenge, yet it is an act of symbolism because the substantive policy underpinnings required to give it true meaning—a convergence on Russia, a common approach on state-sponsored terrorism emanating from Pakistan and a congruence on the contours of a future global order—are glaringly absent.

For now, the renewed defence agreement stands at best as a wager that the strategic imperative of balancing, if not containing, China continues to dictate. This outweighs even the acute divergences of the present for both the US and India. Whether this wager is a stroke of genius or a grand delusion is a question that only the unforgiving tribunal of the future would provide an answer to. For the present, the continuity in defence cooperation with the US should be welcomed.



creates a fundamental schism in the geo-economic postures of Washington and Delhi.

The US, under the second Trump administration, has metamorphosed from exceptionalism to transactionalism, buoyed by the Make America Great Again (MAGA) brigade. The US is again contemplating a G2 world order with China. It was first mooted in 2009 during Barack Obama's Democratic presidency. The G2 implicitly subverts the multipolarity that India sees as its manifest destiny. In this maelstrom, the renewal of the framework is a gambit shrouded in profound ambiguity.

For India it seems to be a necessary hedge, a symbol of continuity deliberately initiated in a moment of discontinuity.

This, unfortunately, is a marriage of convenience, not a shared vision. Delhi's political silence in the face of President Trump's repeated assertions of US mediation, singularly misplaced as they are, to end India's kinetic action against Pakistan in May continues to be deafening. India's pragmatic alignment with the Taliban on Afghan

A bypoll to redefine shape of Telangana politics

If the Congress wins the Jubilee Hills byelection in Hyderabad, Revanth Reddy earns stripes. A BRS triumph would revive the pink camp's confidence

The Jubilee Hills byelection in Hyderabad has turned into a litmus test for all the political parties in Telangana—the ruling Congress, the main opposition BRS, and the ambitious BJP. The outcome of the November 11 vote will do more than deciding one urban seat—it could reset the power equations that shape the state's political landscape.

The contest pits the Congress bid to prove its staying power against the BRS's attempt at resurrection and the BJP's hunger for urban entrenchment. For the Congress, the stakes could not be higher. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has made it a prestige issue. A win would burnish his image and silence critics who claim his administration is wobbling under factional pulls. A loss, however, would deepen the cracks, leaving him gasping for breath amid cabinet indiscipline and a restless cadre. The Congress machinery is in overdrive—rolling out welfare testimonials, aggressive booth management, and door-to-door persuasion. A victory would give the party swagger. It would show that Hyderabad's urban, aspirational voters

reward the Congress, too, and blow the myth of BRS invincibility in the capital. After all, the Congress has not



made a dent in Hyderabad in a decade.

For the BRS, the bypoll is a battle for revival. Having lost ground in 2023 and then all 17 Lok Sabha seats a few

months later, it is desperate for a comeback. By fielding the late MLA Maganti Gopinath's widow, it is banking on sympathy and legacy. A victory would signal that the pink flag still flies high in the city. The BJP, meanwhile, is likely to play the spoiler. It is pitching itself as the Hindu voice of the urban middle class, hoping to slice into both Congress and BRS votes. A strong showing would underline its expanding footprint and could nudge the BRS toward tactical cooperation in future contests. For the saffron party, Jubilee Hills is less about today's seat and more about tomorrow's momentum.

But urban byelections have a mind of their own. Turnout swings, candidate sympathy, and micro-level booth work often upset grand strategies. If the Congress wins, Revanth Reddy earns stripes. A BRS triumph would revive the pink camp's confidence. A strong BJP performance could rewrite the script altogether.

When the dust settles, the result will echo far beyond Hyderabad's skyline—shaping alliances, ambitions, and agendas in Telangana's next big political battle.

Women hold up more than half of Bihar's earth

Around her, a Bihar colony hugs a highway to Patna, wide, new, mostly empty roads like tarmacs, waiting for traffic or planes to take off.

Sarita Devi could well be Bihar. A one-woman personification could not be more apt. She's yet to get her pucca makan. In the matchbox-sized piece of the earth that's in her name, the floor is still cool mud. The roofing is pre-modern too, except for patches of tarpaulin and polythene. But her optimism pierces that ceiling. Her family is among the last 10 or 12 in this Dalit tola waiting for a concrete roof over their heads. She's confident it's on the way—whichever wins this Friday.

Around her is a colony that hugs a highway rushing back to Patna. The highways of Bihar today all seem scripted by Pirandello—a play in search of characters. Wide strips of shining new tar, all very 21st century, but mostly empty. Not counting the occasional big SUV, they look like tarmacs poised for takeoff. Only waiting for a plane. If a local Rip Van Winkle were to wake up in the Bihar countryside, he wouldn't be lost. Nothing much has changed in 20 years. The breeze of the highways has not swept in much, but has left behind slipstreams of ambition. There's not much to slake that thirst. Only horizontal mobility—rickety shared vans going to town, trains ribboning out filled with gig workers.

In Patna, Rip Van Winkle may have woken up with a new face—well, a facelift of sorts, patchy yet tangible. India's growth story bursts through the shabbiness of Bihar's capital city. New five-star hotels, new malls, a BMW showroom, signs of new money colliding on the streets with familiar forms of life. Cheek by jowl with fancy buildings are wet markets, tin-roofed shanties, acres of teeming humanity. All contemplating flight, but pulled

down by gravity.

Sarita's hamlet, not too far from Patna, is a microcosm of that. For drinking water, there's still only a hand pump. But most of the old mud-and-brick huts, with moss creeping out of cracks, have given way to compact, brightly painted homes. Fluorescent green, pink, blue, yellow—with a touch of pride in the form of chandramala motifs along the terraces. Sarita's own attire, a synthetic sari of orange and blue with a glinting silver border, mirrors the change. It's the kind of sari a young Dhirubhai might have once pedalled across small-town Gujarat to sell, long before he turned a textile dream into an industrial empire. Bihar, the 'B' of the degrading collective noun 'Bimaru', gives off the sense of being ready for a similar transformation. Sarita, and millions like her across the state, are not sitting by passively. Women, famously, have walked out on their old role in politics. They are no longer silent spectators, they have a voice. Nitish Kumar was among the first to hear it. He knew this was one constituency that does not migrate, that stays back to vote. By now, it's a decisive bloc of over 3.5 crore voters.

In the first phase of voting, that voice was a crescendo. The bumper 69 percent turnout was essentially a female chorus. Women outvoted men in nearly all of those 18 districts. The female turnout percentages notched unbelievable figures—77.42 in Samastipur, 77.04 in Madhepura, 76.57 in Muzaffarpur, 76 in Gopalganj. The men were 17-15-10 per cent behind. For all the change brought by new actors, the political landscape of Bihar is almost entirely

masculine. From the avuncular Nitish and the bristling Tejashwi Yadav, both very homespun, to the two prodigals who have returned with the stamp of outside prosperity, Chirag Paswan and Prashant Kishor. The men are the ones kicking up all the



dust, shooting off their mouths, often their guns. The women are deciding between them. Today, they are putting in their casting vote. By evening, after Seemanchal votes, Bihar may well have moved into post-caste politics. Not wholly or in full measure, but substantially. The female vote, as proved in Muslim voting patterns after the triple talaq ban, can be community-agnostic. It can emancipate itself from natal loyalties.

Another bloc has that impulse. Young voters between 18 and 29, at about two crore, form a major axis of this election. Bihar's Gen Z has no lived memory of Lalu's 'jungle raj', of the agitations, the flashpoints of the 1970s, '80s and '90s. They have grown up instead with the smartphone, the coaching centre, the dream of a government job. For them, caste

identity matters, but not as much as opportunity. They are impatient with old formulas. Their gaze is outward, towards Bengaluru, Delhi, Dubai, anywhere that offers a chance. Between the competing suitors, the safe and conservative reading is that Nitish has the first claim on the women's vote. Past loyalties have durability, but slogans are not entirely teflon-coated against the everyday data of lived experience. Leave aside jobs. Even prohibition has turned out to be a bit of an Achilles' heel. Sarita and her sisterhood chorus that illegal liquor stretches their household budgets even more! The folly may be in treating voters as separate blocs, moved by different imperatives. In reality, most needs overlap. Only physical distance separates the women from their migrant husbands, toiling away at skyscrapers in the big city. They are joined by fate. Sarita cannot be unmoved by the bleak future of her son either. The youth are idling at home, waiting for jobs that rarely come, government or private.

Education is an expensive and uncertain investment. "Our sons study, but where will they go?" they ask. There are many who promise to break the stasis. Tejashwi's basic promise is around jobs. Dole for dole, he has promised '30,000 in one shot to women to outmatch Nitish's 'Dus hazaari' scheme. In his attempt to move beyond caste, he has also given tickets to 23 women. There's also the personable Rahul Gandhi behind him—even if pollsters don't count it, that factor did help Akhilesh Yadav break the 'MY' trap in 2024.

NEWS BOX

Mohali municipal limits: 42 objections filed, only one in favour

Chandigarh .(Agency)

As the Punjab Local Government Department moves ahead with the redrawing of Mohali Municipal Corporation boundaries, the proposal which excludes Balongi, Bad Majra, and TDI City from the corporation limits has triggered a wave of objections from residents. A total of 42 objections have been received so far, with only one supporting the new demarcation and the rest opposing it. According to official sources, nearly 20 objections were filed by residents of TDI City, four from Balongi, and one from Bad Majra. Residents of MR and Ansal Housing Societies also urged that their areas be included within the corporation limits.

The objections were accepted at the Mohali Municipal Corporation office until November 8, after the original deadline of November 6 was extended by two days. A compiled report of all 42 objections has now been submitted to Mohali Municipal Commissioner Parminder Pal Singh.

The commissioner will now prepare his recommendations based on these objections and forward them to the Secretary, Department of Local Government, for a final decision. Sources indicate that the final notification may be issued by the end of this month.

TDI residents withdraw High Court petition
If the final notification remains unchanged, TDI City and Balongi will continue to remain outside the Municipal Corporation's jurisdiction. In protest, TDI residents had approached the Punjab and Haryana High Court, but later withdrew their petition, which was subsequently dismissed as withdrawn.

Violence erupts during demolition of dargah, 13 arrested: Police**Ahmedabad .(Agency)**

At least 13 people have been arrested and more are likely to be apprehended a day after violence broke out between a mob and the police in the Prabhans Patan area of Veraval town, Gir-Somnath SP Jaydeepsinh Jadeja said, adding that further investigation is underway. The location of the incident is barely 1 km from Somnath Temple.

Stone pelting from a mob – an attempt at averting the demolition of a dargah by officials of the Collectorate – led to the police carrying out a lathicharge and firing three teargas shells to disperse the crowd. In total, 11 structures – including residences and a religious building – were eventually torn down on Monday.

SP Jadeja told The Indian Express, "There were a total of 12 properties that needed to be demolished because they were illegally constructed on government land. While the 11 residences and shops were demolished peacefully, locals came forward and claimed that some previous officer had promised that the dargah would not be demolished."

Bengaluru civic chief inspects Chokkasandra Lake; reviews sanitation, street dog control measures**BENGALURU .(Agency)**

Bengaluru West City Corporation Commissioner KV Rajendra on Tuesday inspected Chokkasandra Lake near Dasarahalli and the surrounding areas, and directed officials to take steps to address the issues. On Tuesday, he visited the lake, the adjoining park, and Indira Canteen and interacted with people and heard their grievances.

On complaints about the lake and park, Rajendra directed officials to solve them through effective inter-departmental coordination. The commissioner visited the pourakarmika mustering point and reviewed the attendance of auto tipplers and pourakarmikas. He advised pourakarmikas to maintain their health and hygiene, and instructed officials to ensure immediate distribution of high-quality uniforms, footwear and safety equipment to them. He also visited the Indira Canteen, interacted with the public, and inspected the quality of food being served. He tasted the food and gathered feedback from citizens regarding its quality. At TVS Cross, he inspected the ongoing white-topping roadwork and instructed officials and contractors to ensure high-quality work and complete the project efficiently within the stipulated time.

Rajendra, who also held a review meeting on programmes of the animal husbandry department and Supreme Court directive regarding street dog management, instructed officials to improve progress of sterilisation surgeries for street dogs within BWCC limits. There are 63,340 community dogs within BWCC limits. Two ABC-ARV (Animal Birth Control and Anti-Rabies Vaccination) centres – one per zone – have a combined capacity of 171 kennels. These centres, operated by two service providers, have so far conducted 4,068 sterilisation surgeries and administered 27,581 ARV and CV vaccinations, according to the chief veterinary officer, he said.

HC issues notice to Punjab govt, Centre over removal of nearly 7,000 SC/ST beneficiaries from PM Awaas Yojana

The PIL, filed by a woman labourer from Muktsar, said thousands were struck off the permanent waiting list months before last year's Assembly bypoll in Punjab's Gidderbaha.

Chandigarh .(Agency)

The Punjab and Haryana High Court Tuesday issued notice to the Punjab Government and central authorities directing to explain why thousands of Scheduled Caste (SC) and Scheduled Tribe (ST) residents were dropped from the list of beneficiaries for the Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana Gramin (PMAY-G) without any warning or inspection.

The bench of Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Justice Vikram Berry, hearing the matter, took on record a key central document outlining the rules for the housing scheme and flagged procedural lapses in the state's handling.

Struck off waiting list ahead of Gidderbaha bypoll The Public Interest Litigation (PIL) by Sukhjeet Kaur, 48, a daily wage labourer from Chak Giljwala village in Muktsar district, spotlights what she describes as "blatant misuse of power" driven by local electoral politics. Kaur, who lives in a flimsy makeshift home with her husband Raj Singh, alleged that she and scores of others like

her – all initially cleared for homes under the Centre's PMAY-G – were struck off the permanent waiting list just months before last year's bypoll in the Gidderbaha Assembly segment.

Kaur's plea, argued by her counsel Nikhil Ghai,

launched by the Centre in 2015 to provide pucca homes to the poorest.

They even received Awaas Plus IDs, unique identifiers that locked their spot on the permanent waiting list (PWL), promising a dignified roof over their heads. But in July 2024, a sudden "verification drive" by the Punjab government upended everything. Letters dated July 9, 2024, and February 6, 2025, both annexed to the petition, informed Kaur that her name had been removed from the list after a re-check.

'Politically motivated exercise'
Advocate Ghai urged the court to quash what he said was an "arbitrary and politically motivated exercise" undertaken by the state of Punjab, through which 6,952 eligible SC/ST beneficiaries, including the petitioner, were excluded from the PWL under the PMAY-G scheme. He submitted that these beneficiaries had already been verified, but were removed without any notice or stated reason.

As links emerge between Red Fort blast suspect and terror module busted by JK police, officials say bigger attack averted**Chandigarh .(Agency)**

The probe into the Red Fort blast so far suggests it was the handiwork of the same "transnational and interstate" terror module that was busted by the Jammu and Kashmir police days earlier, with roots in the Valley's Pulwama district, it is learnt. According to highly placed sources in the police forces of three states, the man who was driving the Hyundai i20 that exploded is suspected to be Dr Umar Nabi, a resident of Pulwama and an employee of Faridabad's Al-Falah School of Medical Sciences & Research Centre.

Investigators say two other members of this module – Dr Muzammil Ahmad Ganai, who hails from Pulwama and was also working at Al Falah, and Dr Adeel Majeed Rather from Qazigund, who was working at a private hospital in Saharanpur – were arrested in the last week of October.

Police had at the time seized 358 kg of explosives, suspected to be ammonium nitrate, from Ganai's rented home in Faridabad's Dhauj village.



Police sources said they believe that Dr Umar went missing around the time of these arrests. They said he is suspected to be the man caught on footage from several CCTVs driving the i20 before the blast, which killed 13 people

and left many more injured. Top sources in security agencies said they believe members of the module were planning something much bigger than the Red Fort blast, but their plans began to unravel late last month. "It was a probe initiated by an alert police officer in Kashmir's Nowgam that blew this thing wide open. The officer saw a few Jaish posters in his jurisdiction and decided to probe further after filing an FIR on October 19," said a source.

As the officer did some digging, Dr Ganai's role emerged, and he led the police to Dr Rather. "Since Dr Umar was in Faridabad, he perhaps got an inkling and went missing," said a source. According to officials, the recoveries from Dr Ganai's rented accommodation – over 350 kg of suspected ammonium nitrate, 20 remotes, four timers, an AK rifle and ammunition – also indicate a larger attack was being planned.

In Surat & Vadodara, police ramp up surveillance, track accused in earlier 'terror cases'**Surat .(Agency)**

THE POLICE in Surat and Vadodara are drawing up lists of suspects, history-sheets and those booked earlier in terror cases or associated with banned organisations such as the Students Islamic Movement of India (SIMI), as part of intensifying surveillance following the blasts outside Red Fort in Delhi.



Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, and such other crimes.

For instance, in the case of the 2008 bomb seizures, the Surat police had arrested two youths, Tanveer Pathan and Mohammed Zahir Patel, along with others arrested from across the country. A court pronounced Pathan guilty in 2022, while Patel was acquitted. Similarly, in 2001, the Surat police carried out checks at Rajeshree Hall where SIMI was allegedly holding a meeting and detained 127 persons. Some among those arrested were from Surat, while others hailed from various parts of the country. In July 2008, several bombs went off in Ahmedabad and the following day, several bombs were seized from Surat.

Deputy Commissioner of Police, Special Operations Group, Rajdeep Nakum, said, "We are tracking Mohammed Zahir Patel and nine other SIMI activists who are currently at large and will monitor their activities. Around 19 drone cameras have been deployed in different parts of Surat city, including coastal areas, to maintain vigilance. Our teams are also inspecting warehouses and godowns in Surat."

Surat Police Commissioner Anupam Singh Gahlaut has prepared a list of 15 persons who were previously involved with SIMI, and those arrested in the recovery of 29 live bombs in 2008.

The police are tracking terror accused who were released on bail, those arrested under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic

substances (NDPS) Act, 1985, and such other crimes.

'Up's got talent': Ahead of 2027 Assembly polls, Congress scouts for for spokespersons, panelists

November 15 last date for submission of forms; exercise being undertaken ahead of 2027 Assembly polls

Lucknow .(Agency)

The Uttar Pradesh Congress unit will soon start a "talent hunt" in all 75 districts of the state to select spokespersons, panelists and researchers for its district-level teams ahead of the 2027 Assembly elections, it is learnt.

The exercise will be held on the lines of a similar search by the party for spokespersons and panelists at the national level. To hit the ground for the Assembly elections, the party is planning to have a team of four communication and publicity experts in every district, a party leader said.

"We have started this exercise across the state. At present, we are collecting forms. November 15 is the last date for submission of forms. As we will undertake a large talent hunt for spokespersons and panelists for the national team in the next few months, we have decided to do the same to form our teams of spokespersons at the district level in Uttar Pradesh," said a senior party leader.

"Our plan is to have a team of four in every district. They would include an experienced spokesperson, who understands political developments and can write press notes on the party's line. Then, there would be a panelist who would respond to the electronic media

queries from the district. There will be a researcher who would prepare background data for both the district and the state unit. Fourth, there will be a publicity volunteer who will take care of social media updates and publicity from the respective district," said a party leader familiar with the development.



"Even if we are not able to fill all the four posts at this time, we are targeting to appoint at least two spokespersons in every district," he added. Party leaders said the forms are being collected zone-wise with the state having been divided into six zones. Each applicant is being asked to upload a two-minute video of their views on any ongoing development, they said.

Chhattisgarh CM at investors' meet: Naxalism nearing its end

Addressing the issue, CM Sai said the threat had presented many challenges to the state but the Centre's strategy would see it eliminated before the set target date.

Ahmedabad .(Agency)

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Tuesday attempted to clear the air over people's notions regarding Naxalism in the state. "There is this mindset about the state that there is Naxalism and as soon as someone lands at Raipur airport, they expect to hear gunshots. I want to address this issue and say that this is not the situation today," said CM Sai at the Investors Connect Meet held in Ahmedabad.

Addressing the issue, CM Sai said the threat had presented many challenges to the state but the Centre's strategy would see it

eliminated before the set target date. He said, "Our government has completed 22 months. In January 2024, Union Home Minister Amit Shah conducted a review meeting on Naxalism. We realised that 77% of Naxalism is centred in Chhattisgarh and the other 33% is in 6-7 surrounding states. It was a major challenge for our state as progress had stagnated in Chhattisgarh due to Naxalism but the Prime Minister and Home Minister – both from Gujarat – pledged to end Naxalism, so we made a strategy. Major Maoists are being neutralised. The aim of eliminating Naxalism is March 31, 2026, but we see it



happening well before that." When asked about rehabilitation of Naxalites, CM Sai said, "Our home minister has brought in a new rehabilitation policy after studying the models in other

Jawan from Bihar dismissed from service, awarded 9 months' rigorous imprisonment for desertion

Chandigarh .(Agency)

An Army jawan has been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment of nine months and dismissal from service after a court martial found him guilty of having been living in his village in Bihar for more than three years while he was supposed to be under treatment in military hospitals.

Lance Havildar Abhay Kumar Singh of 9th Battalion, Bihar Regiment (9 Bihar) was tried by the District Court Martial (DCM) in Ambala. The trial was presided over by Colonel Prakash Raj, with five officers as members of the court martial, and the verdict was issued on November 4.

Singh retired from the Army in January this year, even as the disciplinary proceedings against him were in progress, and was attached to an Army Unit post-retirement under Section 123 of the Army Act.

Charges levelled
Three charges were levelled against the jawan, and he was found guilty of two of them. The first charge related to deserting the service under Section 38(1) of the Army Act. As per this, it was alleged that on July 9, 2019, Singh left without leave from the Command Hospital (Central Command) in Lucknow until he reported to the Military Hospital in Namkum, Ranchi, on December 16, 2022. The second charge against him was under Section 69 of the Army Act pertaining to the use of a forged document at the Namkum hospital on December 16, 2022. The third charge was under Section 63 of the Army Act (act prejudicial to good order and military discipline), in which he was accused of falsely telling a superior officer that all his medical documents were taken away by the Board of officers.

Major General Bharat Mehta, General Officer Commanding, 9 Infantry Division, had ordered Singh to be tried by the DCM in June this year.

states. When they surrender, they get money as well as skills for jobs, and that is why more than 2,000 people have surrendered. From Bastar and Dantewada, we see the locals and surrendered Naxals coming into policing."

To put a pause on any possible return to criminal behaviour by the Naxalites, CM Sai said, "To stop recidivism, we have a policy in the local language, which translates to 'Aapka sundar gaon' (your beautiful village). Through this, 327 villages have been freed and are being provided security."

Red Fort blast trail leads to Al-Falah University, which employed doctors of doom

Delhi blast: Since links emerged between the Red Fort blast primary suspect, Dr Umar Nabi, and Al-Falah University, the institution in Faridabad, as well as its recruitment policies, have come under scrutiny.

New Delhi.(Agency) A dusty, narrow road with vast expanses of agricultural land on both sides leads to Haryana's Al-Falah University, spread over 70 acres of lush greenery around the foothills of Aravali. It is inside this university, located just 30 km from the capital, that a "white-collar" terror network — a group of radicalised medical professionals — was plotting a major carnage. While meticulous police work likely saved Delhi from a major massacre, one of the doctors managed to detonate a car near the Red Fort, killing 10 people. Since links emerged between the Red Fort blast primary suspect, Dr Umar Nabi, and Al-Falah University, the institution in Faridabad's Dhauj village has been under the constant gaze of TV cameras. An unusual silence hangs over the campus as police teams and investigators make visits to the university to conduct inquiries. So far, over 50 employees and doctors have been questioned.

Apart from Dr Umar, two of his associates, Dr Muzammil Shakeel and Dr Shaheen Shahid,

believed to be part of a terror module involving the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind, were also employed at the university. In fact, it is believed that the arrest of Dr Shakeel, from whose premises 2,900 kilograms of IED-making material was recovered, prompted a panicked Dr Umar to carry out the blast in haste.

The role of Dr Shaheen has drawn scrutiny. Sources said she was tasked with setting up the women's wing of Jaish-e-Mohammed in India. Moreover, rifles and ammunition were also recovered from her car. Altogether, around six people from the university have been detained.

AL-FALAH UNIVERSITY UNDER LENS

Now, the university, which started as an engineering college in 1997, has emerged as a key focus of the investigation.

In 2013, the Al-Falah Engineering College received 'A' category accreditation from the National Assessment and Accreditation



Council (NAAC), an autonomous body under the Union Education Ministry. However, a report said the accreditation had expired years ago.

A year later, the Haryana government granted it university status under the Haryana Private Universities Act. It received UGC recognition a year later in 2015. The Al-Falah Medical College is also affiliated with the university, which is operated by Al-Falah Charitable

Trust, registered in Delhi's Okhla. Professor Jawad Ahmad Siddiqui is the chairman of the trust and also the chancellor of the university since 2014. He is also the managing director of Al-Falah Investments Limited since 1996. A report in The Milli Gazette in 2000 claimed that Siddiqui was arrested on charges of collecting billions of rupees by fraudulent means in Delhi. Nothing much is known about him.

The current vice chancellor is Dr Bhupinder Kaur Anand, who is also the principal of the medical college. Even though the institution is run by a charitable trust, a report in TOI said donations also come from Arab countries. The Al-Falah University was set up with an aim to provide educational opportunities to students from minority and underprivileged backgrounds. In fact, initially, the university positioned itself as an alternative to the famous Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) and Jamia Millia Islamia.

All About IPS Vijay Sakhare, Anti-Terror Officer Leading Delhi Blast Probe

New Delhi.(Agency)

Vijay Sakhare, the Director General of National Investigation Agency (NIA), will be leading a special 10-member team to probe the blast near Delhi's Red Fort Metro Station in which nine people died. The team comprises of Inspector General of Police (IG), two Deputy General of Police (DIG), three Superintendent of Police (SP), and the remaining are DSP-level officers. The agency will take possession of all case diaries of the Jaish module from the Jammu and Kashmir Police, Delhi Police, and Haryana Police to uncover its operational capabilities and financial support. More than 1,000 CCTV footages are being scanned by investigative agencies. They are also monitoring social media activity and collecting mobile phone data from several locations across Delhi.

Who is Vijay Sakhare?

Vijay Sakhare is a 1996 batch Kerala cadre officer. He has previously served as the Inspector General in the NIA. Sakhare was appointed as the NIA DG in September this year. He held a meeting with the Intelligence Bureau (IB) chief today, sources said.

The Delhi blast case was handed over to the NIA on Tuesday after Union Home Minister Amit Shah took stock of the investigation. The incident occurred on Monday at 6:52 pm - on a day when massive 2,900 kg of explosives, including ammonium nitrate, were found in Haryana's Faridabad. Sources said that the suspected suicide bomber, identified as Umar Mohammad, may have panicked and triggered the blast after investigators arrested two key members of the module - Dr Muzammil Shakeel and Dr Adil Rather - and seized the explosives.

Parachute Jumps, Drones, Robots: Army's "Exercise Maru Jwala" Near Pak Border

New Delhi.(Agency)

Soldiers jumping from aircraft, tanks roaring in the desert, and drones and robots showing their prowess: the Indian Army's Southern Command on Tuesday conducted the "Exercise Maru Jwala" (roughly translated to desert flame) in Rajasthan's Jaisalmer, close to the border with Pakistan. The exercise is a part of the ongoing tri-services "Trishul" drill, showcasing the preparedness and coordination of elite units. The exercise demonstrated the synergised capabilities of the armed forces in planning and executing complex airborne operations.

Multiple videos shared on social media showed the seamless coordination between the army's mechanised forces, artillery, aviation, and infantry, reaffirming the force's capability to operate effectively in diverse terrains.

'A Crucial Phase Of Trishul Drill'

Top officials, including Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Southern Command, took a review of Tuesday's exercise.

Speaking to reporters, Lieutenant General Seth said the exercise was a crucial phase of the Trishul drill. "This Maru Jwala exercise was actually the final phase of the operations over the last two months. This means that for two months, the Sudarshan Chakra Corps of the Southern Command, which is a strike corps, has been training diligently here," Seth said.

"Its main unit is the Shahbaz Division, which is a rapid unit. It is also included in this exercise. In addition, the Southern Command's Aviation Brigade, EW Brigade, and Para-SF (Special Forces) Battalion. The success achieved by all of them together over the last two months, the fruits of which you all saw this morning under Maru Jwala... The pathfinders are from the 7th Para Battalion and the Airborne Battalion, and they are the final-stage strategic force..." he added. Seth also praised the dedication and preparedness of the troops, noting the integration of modern equipment into future operations.

The Nithari killings: One man's quest for justice

New Delhi.(Agency)

Meerut Jail, September 7, 2014. The noose was ready. The jallad had been summoned, the noose had been checked thrice. Surinder Koli, once a domestic helper in a quiet Noida bungalow, sat cross-legged in his cell, eyes hollow from years in solitary confinement. It was midnight. The hanging was to take place before sunrise. It had been eight years since the Nithari killings had first shocked India when bones, skulls and children's clothes and slippers were dug up behind bungalow number D-5, Sector 31, Noida, labelled as The House of Horrors. It was five years since the Ghaziabad CBI court pronounced the first of its 13 death sentences against Koli, condemned as the Nithari killer.

But as Koli prepared for his final walk, somewhere in New Delhi, a clerk fed a last-minute petition into a fax



machine. The message raced through telephone lines, past sleeping judges to the residence of Justice HL Dattu, then senior judge of the Supreme Court. Acting on lawyer Indira Jaisingh's plea, Justice Dattu, the future Chief Justice of India, convened an emergency hearing. Justice Anil Dave sat with him on the bench. Court staff were summoned from their homes in the middle of the night.

Around 2 AM, the Court stayed the execution. When it reached Meerut

Jail, guards sprinted through the dim corridors. The black hood that was to cover Koli's face was discarded, the noose was loosened, and the hangman was sent home.

Eleven years later, on November 10, 2025, the Supreme Court set Koli free, overturning his conviction in a murder case—the only sentence he was serving. He had already been acquitted in all other cases. This is the story of Surinder Koli, the man portrayed as a "rapist, pedophile, and a killer who ate the flesh of the dead—a veritable satan." This is how he defied death, and walked free—his freedom restored by the highest court of justice.

DECEMBER 2006, THE MISSING CHILDREN

For nearly two years, a chilling epidemic of disappearance had swept through the poor, semi-rural settlement of Nithari in Noida.

Surinder Koli's confession to cops forced: Supreme Court on freeing Nithari convict



New Delhi.(Agency)

The Supreme Court sharply criticised the police investigation into the Nithari killings on, noting that circumstantial evidence against Surinder Koli was not supported by forensic proof and that key investigative avenues, including leads related to organ trade, were neglected. The court also said that Koli's alleged confession is unreliable, as he had remained in custody for over 60 days without access to legal aid or a medical examination.

The court, in its verdict, observed that the trial magistrate who recorded the confession indicated possible tutoring and torture in custody. The bench of Chief Justice BR Gavai, Justice Surya Kant and Justice Vikram Nath on Tuesday ordered Koli's immediate release, who has been in jail since 2006. The court highlighted multiple lapses, including delays in securing the crime scene, contradictory remand and recovery papers, absence of timely medical examinations and incomplete forensic documentation.

The court also highlighted the discrepancies in the police investigation and said that that evidence do not explain how a "semi-educated domestic help with no medical training could have carried out precise dismemberment of bodies", adding that knives, axes and human remains found outside the house had no admissible link to Koli.

The court also noted that investigators also failed to question key household and neighbourhood witnesses or pursue material leads. Forensic analysis showed no human bloodstains or remains in House D-5 consistent with the alleged crimes.

The Supreme Court agreed with the Allahabad High Court's previous acquittal, noting that conviction cannot be based on suspicion alone, especially when Koli had been acquitted in other related cases. The bench also expressed regret over the suffering of victims' families but said that criminal law requires proof beyond reasonable doubt.

Behind Delhi Terror Car's 3-Hour Wait In Parking Lot, A Big Calendar Error

New Delhi.(Agency)

Entry at 3:19 pm, exit at 6:28 pm, and then a blast. Umar Muhammad, the doctor believed to have triggered the deadly car explosion near Delhi's Red Fort, was at a parking lot nearby for over three hours. Investigation has revealed that during this time, he did not step out of his car at all and did not leave the vehicle unattended. Was he waiting for a go-ahead? Or having second thoughts? Fresh revelations in the probe have added an entirely new angle. Sources among the investigators say that Umar's original plan was to detonate the bomb, kept in the car's back seat, near the Red Fort parking, which has a significant crowd on winter days.

But in his desperation after the arrest of his associates and the massive explosives recovery, Umar missed an



important detail: Red Fort is closed on Mondays. He reached the parking lot, but there was no crowd. This must have frustrated Umar, who wondered what to do next.

setting off alarm bells across the nation. Nine people were killed and over 20 were injured in the car blast.

Faridabad To Red Fort: Chasing Terror Car

About 600 cops have tracked footage from over 1,000 CCTVs to trace the movement of the white Hyundai i20 car since it left the Al Falah University in Faridabad on Monday morning.

The car is seen crossing the toll plaza on the Haryana-Delhi border at Badarpur at 8:13 am. It then drives through Mayur Vihar and Connaught Place before reaching the parking near the Red Fort.

During this drive, he stopped on the Asaf Ali Road near Old Delhi for about half an hour. CCTV footage showed him seated in the car alone. After a short break, he resumed the drive and went to the parking lot.

Supreme Court pulls up Punjab, Haryana on farm fires as Delhi continues to choke

During the hearing today, the Amicus Curiae raised concerns about the accuracy and transparency of air quality data being reported. He told the court that the data from the AQI monitoring stations was not being uploaded and instead, false data were being circulated.

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Supreme Court on Wednesday directed Punjab and Haryana to submit detailed data on the steps taken to curb stubble burning, as air quality in Delhi continued to deteriorate, with residents

waking up to a thick blanket of smog for a second consecutive day. Counsel representing the two states have been instructed to gather and present relevant data within one week.

The Chief Justice of India-led bench the need for concrete evidence of enforcement and policy action, holding these state administrations accountable for the continued air quality decline in the region.

He told the court that the data from the AQI monitoring stations was not being uploaded and instead, false data were being circulated. As the AQI in Delhi plunged to the severe category for the first time this season, the Amicus Curiae urged the court to prioritise the matter.

In response, Chief Justice of India BR

Gavai said the matter will be taken up on November 17. On Tuesday, the national capital's AQI slipped to the 'severe'



category for the first time this year with a reading of 428. The deterioration in the air quality prompted authorities to impose Stage III of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) in the city and the National Capital Region (NCR). According to the Central Pollution Control

Board, this is the first time since December 2024 that Delhi's air quality has entered the 'severe' range, a level that poses health risks even to healthy individuals and can cause serious respiratory issues among vulnerable groups.

On Wednesday as well, a thick blanket of smog hovered over the city, with the temperatures also dipping as winter is setting in. During a hearing on November 3, the court directed the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) to file an affidavit detailing the steps it has taken so far to prevent air pollution in Delhi-NCR from peaking further. At the time, the bench had said that the authorities must act proactively and not wait for pollution levels to reach a "severe" stage.

NEWS BOX

IPL 2026 Retentions: Will MI consider releasing Trent Boult Matthew Hayden responds

New Delhi. (Agency)

Matthew Hayden feels that Mumbai Indians may release Trent Boult from their squad during the IPL 2026 retentions. Boult played a crucial role in MI's run to the playoffs of the IPL 2025 season as he formed a potent combination with Jasprit Bumrah while using the new ball. This was Boult's second stint with MI, and he picked up 22 wickets in 16 matches, with an average of 23.5 and an economy rate of 8.97. Speaking to Star Sports, Hayden felt that MI will have to make some tough calls during retentions as they have some areas to sort out. Boult was bought for 12.5 crore rupees and Hayden feels that he maybe released so that they can buy him for a cheaper price. "Mumbai Indians have a very balanced playing eleven, but they face some tough decisions. Trent Boult has been exceptional, taking 22 wickets last season and making a strong impact in the



powerplay. However, with his 12.5 crore price tag, the management might consider releasing him to potentially buy him back at a lower price. This move could free up funds to strengthen other areas of their squad while maintaining their core balance," said Hayden.

'GT NEEDS NEW MIDDLE ORDER'

Hayden commented on the Gujarat Titans and their weaknesses ahead of the retentions. An issue with the batting for GT was that while the top three fired, the middle-order failed to make a mark. Sai Sudharsan, Shubman Gill and Jos Buttler scored a total of 1947 runs combined during IPL 2025, but the rest of the batters struggled to make an impact.

Spain manager shocked by Lamine Yamal's surprise surgery and national team withdrawal

New Delhi. (Agency)

Spain head coach Luis de la Fuente expressed both surprise and frustration after discovering that Lamine Yamal had undergone a surprise on his groin without prior knowledge or involvement from the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF).

The 18-year-old Barcelona winger's procedure occurred without notification to Spain's medical staff, prompting criticism from the RFEF. The federation stated that they only received a medical report late at night (10:40 p.m.), which detailed Yamal's treatment and recommended a rest period of 7-10 days for the player. This development led the RFEF to make a swift decision as Yamal has been released from the Spain squad for the upcoming World Cup qualifiers against Georgia and Turkey. The



federation emphasised that the player's health, safety, and well-being remain the top priority in their decision-making process. The thing is, these things happen outside the federation, that's how it is, that's how it happens, you have to accept it..." De la Fuente told Radio Nacional de España (RNE). "I don't think it's very normal." Of course (surprised), like everyone else, you don't know, you haven't heard anything, you don't know any details, and then they tell you, I insist, and on top of that, there's the health issue, so you're surprised."

Yamal has been dealing with a persistent groin issue, which has already caused him to miss five matches for Barcelona this season. The recurrence of this injury and the recent medical intervention have added to concerns regarding his readiness for international duty. Despite his injury setbacks, Yamal has maintained impressive form for Barcelona, tallying six goals and six assists in just 11 appearances across all competitions this season.

Jadeja-Samson trade stalls as RR hit overseas quota, fund crunch: Report

The high-profile Ravindra

Jadeja-Sanju Samson trade has reportedly stalled, with Rajasthan Royals facing overseas quota and budget constraints. The deal, which could also involve Sam Curran, may only proceed after the IPL retention deadline on November 15.

New Delhi. (Agency)

The much-anticipated Ravindra Jadeja-Sanju Samson trade between Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Rajasthan Royals (RR) has hit a snag, with the deal yet to be formally submitted to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for approval. According to a Cricbuzz report, procedural and financial complications have delayed the move, despite both franchises having already expressed interest. The main reason for the holdup is the involvement of Sam



Curran, the England all-rounder, as part of the trade discussions. The Royals' overseas quota is already full, which prevents them from adding Curran unless they release one of their current foreign players. As things stand, Rajasthan's squad includes eight overseas cricketers — Jofra Archer, Shimron Hetmyer, Wanindu Hasaranga, Maheesh



Theekshana, Fazalhaq Farooqi, Kwena Maphaka, Nandre Burger, and Lhuan-dre Pretorius — along with 14 Indian players. This gives them space for three more signings within the 25-player limit, but they also need to remain within their budget cap. Financially, the franchise is stretched thin. RR have only Rs 30 lakh left in their

purse, whereas Curran's value stands at Rs 2.4 crore.

To complete the deal, the team would have to release at least one overseas player with a higher price tag. According to the report, the Royals are likely to offload their Sri Lankan duo, Wanindu Hasaranga (Rs 5.25 crore) and Maheesh Theekshana (Rs 4.40 crore), which would free up both funds and an overseas slot. However, such moves are expected to be finalised only after the November 15 retention deadline, when IPL teams officially declare their list of retained and released players. A source cited by Cricbuzz said the deal is still alive but acknowledged that there remains a small risk of it falling through. "Possible but unlikely," the source said. "It's hard to imagine either franchise backing out now, given how far discussions have progressed." With the retention deadline approaching, the onus is now on Rajasthan Royals to make the required adjustments if they are serious about bringing Jadeja on board. Once their overseas and financial hurdles are cleared, the long-awaited Jadeja-Samson trade could finally move forward.

Matheus Cunha considers Manchester United resurgence as Brazil call-ups reason

New Delhi. (Agency)

Matheus Cunha is crediting Manchester United's recent resurgence for his constant call-ups to the Brazilian national team ahead of next year's World Cup. Cunha has been a regular in Ruben Amorim's side since making the move in the summer and has played a role in United's recent good form. This has seen the 26-year-old make it to the Brazilian national team four times since Carlo Ancelotti took charge. Speaking to the reporters, as quoted by Reuters, Cunha said that showing his worth at club level has helped him get a spot in Brazil. The forward also said the direction under Ancelotti is clear and players know about their roles. Manchester United is a club that should always be at the top," he said. "I'm grateful to be playing in a side that's delivering and competing well. To earn a spot in the national team, you have to consistently show your worth at club



level." "This new cycle feels different, even with many players rotating in and out. The direction is clear, and everyone understands what we aim to achieve." Cunha also feels that his versatility has been a major factor in his Brazil selection with him being able to play as a forward and in the attacking midfield role. "Knowing that the manager

trusts me to play in multiple positions is important," said Cunha. "It gives me the responsibility to be decisive and to always work hard no matter where he places me. You need to deliver and prove that you're ready."

CUNHA ON QATAR SNUB

Cunha wasn't selected for the squad that went to Qatar for the World Cup in 2022, with a video going viral showing him breaking down in tears seeing the news. The forward said that experience taught him on how he needs to deal with setbacks and said the snub is working as his drive at the moment. "Every moment in life is an opportunity to grow," Cunha said. "Not being selected for Qatar was painful, but it taught me to deal with setbacks differently. I've matured. The frustration then has driven me to where I am now." Brazil will play Senegal and Tunisia on November 15 and 19 in a set of international friendlies.

Can South Africa's spinners do a New Zealand to take down India in Kolkata

New Delhi. (Agency)

Just over a year ago, New Zealand pulled off what many thought was impossible — and then some. The Kiwis not only became the first team in 12 years to conquer India in their own fortress, but did so in ruthless fashion, sealing a 3-0 whitewash that sent shockwaves through world cricket. For India, who were then within arm's reach of a World Test Championship final berth at Lord's, those series marked the start of a steep decline — one that ultimately led to their early exit from the race. Now, as 2025 dawns, South Africa stands at a similar crossroads. Captain Temba Bavuma, inspired by New Zealand's fearless blueprint, has hinted that the Proteas will take a leaf out of the Kiwis' playbook. But doing so on Indian soil — where spin rules, the crowds roar, and redemption is on India's mind — is no simple mission. For the hosts, this is more than just another home series; it's a chance to right the wrongs of a painful past.

THE SPIN TRIO

For New Zealand, it was the spin trio of Mitchell Santner, Glenn Phillips, and Ajaz Patel who turned executioners, spinning a web that left India's batting order gasping

for breath. South Africa, hence, will head into the Kolkata Test on November 14 with more than a glimmer of hope. In Keshav



Maharaj, Simon Harmer, and Senuran Muthusamy, the Proteas possess a trio capable of making even the most assured Indian batter twitch — or, as the saying goes, jump like a cat on a hot tin roof.

The Eden Gardens surface has historically offered plenty to the spinners, though curator Sujan Mukherjee has promised a sporting wicket this time — one with something in it for everyone. Yet, this is India, and it's almost a given that by the third day, if not sooner, the pitch will begin

to grip and turn, bringing the slow bowlers firmly into the equation.

South Africa's fortunes could hinge on how effectively their spinners rise to the occasion. If the Indian batters manage to neutralise that threat, the hosts will likely take control. But India would be wise not to underestimate the South African pace unit either — one that has the firepower to make inroads even in spin-friendly conditions.

THE CONFIDENCE BOOSTER

When South Africa takes the field in India, they won't exactly be stepping into unfamiliar terrain. Their recent tour of Pakistan served as the perfect dress rehearsal for the subcontinent's testing conditions — long spells, slow turners, and relentless grind. Simon Harmer led the charge there, bagging 13 wickets, including a sensational six-for that underlined his mastery of control and drift. Senuran Muthusamy wasn't far behind, collecting 11 wickets in two matches, also with a six-wicket haul to his name. Keshav Maharaj, despite featuring in just one Test, left his mark with a seven-wicket haul that spoke volumes of his experience and craft.

by the anti-doping body in recent times, underscoring the agency's growing intolerance toward doping violations in Indian sport. The ruling means Bala will be barred from competition, selection, or participation in any event sanctioned by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) or other affiliated organisations during her suspension period. She will also lose eligibility for official rankings and national team consideration. The ADDP's latest decisions extend beyond athletics. Mohan Saini, another athlete, has been banned for four years starting October 14, 2025. In bodybuilding, three athletes — Gopala Krishnan, Amit Kumar, and Rajvardhan Sanjay Waskar — received six-year bans each, while Shubham Mahara was suspended for four years. In other cases, boxer Sumit was banned for two years, while canoeist Nitin Verma and basketball player Shivendra Pandey received four- and six-year suspensions, respectively. Meanwhile, the Anti-Doping Appeal Panel (ADAP) upheld the ADDP's earlier decision to ban sprinter Himani Chandel for four years, reaffirming the consistency of NADA's disciplinary actions.

Rohit Sharma informs Mumbai of Vijay Hazare availability, no clarity on Kohli: Report

Rohit Sharma has reportedly informed the Mumbai Cricket Association that he is ready to play the Vijay Hazare Trophy. However, Virat Kohli's plans remain uncertain at this point in time about being a part of the tournament.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Rohit Sharma has informed Mumbai that he is available to play in the Vijay Hazare Trophy for his state team while there is no clarity on Virat Kohli's participation for Delhi during the tournament. According to a latest report from the Indian Express, the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has informed both Rohit and Kohli they will need to go through the domestic grind to remain in contention for ODI selection. Both men have retired from T20Is

and Tests, meaning that the only domestic route for them to remain in contention will be the Vijay Hazare Trophy. It was earlier reported that the BCCI expects Kohli and Rohit to feature in at least three, if not four, VHT games between the conclusion of the South Africa series and the start of the one against New Zealand. India are scheduled to host South Africa for a three-match ODI series from November 30 to December 6. Following that, the Vijay Hazare Trophy will begin on December 24, before India take on New Zealand in another three-match ODI series from January 11 to 18. The board and team management have conveyed to both of them that they will have to play domestic cricket if they want to play for India. As they both



have retired from two formats, they have to play domestic cricket to be match-fit," sources in the board told The Indian

Express. The report also states that Rohit told the Mumbai Cricket Association that he will be ready for the VHT campaign and even offered his services for the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, which will start on November 26, despite retiring from T20Is. BCCI would like to bring back on the domestic circuit in a bid to keep himself ready for the ODI assignments.

Rohit and Kohli were back in India colours during the ODI series against Australia. Rohit was the Player Of The Series as he scored a hundred and fifty. Kohli had two ducks but bounced back in the final game, where he scored an unbeaten 87 and put on a 168-run stand to help India win the third ODI.

BSE generating robust profits: Check target price set by Nuvama

Kolkata.(Agency)

BSE is not only the oldest stock exchange of Asia and one of the largest according to market cap in the world, it is also the only listed exchange and will remain so till NSE is in a position to float its IPO. Data show that the BSE stock has appreciated by about 55%. The rise is stupendous, especially when judged against Nifty 50 that appreciated 9%. No wonder brokerages are bullish on BSE.

BSE has reported robust Q2FY26 results on Nov 11, following which the stock was trading at Rs 2,790.40 up 5.55% a little after midday on Nov 12. On Nov 11, it jumped 7% high and went up to Rs 2,818. Prominent brokerage Nuvama has assigned an aggressive target price on BSE shares. In the past one year, the BSE stock jumped about 80%. The 52-week high of Rs 3,030 was recorded on June 10. The 52-week low of Rs 1,227.33 was recorded on March 11 this year.

Target price of BSE, valuation

Nuvama has upped the earnings estimates between FY26 and FY28 by 10% to 14%. It also revised its earlier target price of Rs 2,820 to Rs 3,130. It has valued the stock at 45x P/E along with a 15% stake in CDSL. Nuvama also mentioned that weak other income kept APAT (adjusted profit after tax) at Rs 5.4 billion and that despite swap expires in September 2025, BSE lost only 221 basis points of market share on a monthly basis. The brokerage also noted that average daily premium turnover value jumped by 30.2% on a monthly basis in October this year. Nuvama thinks the average daily premium turnover value will continue to rise between FY26 and FY28.

Sensex up over 600 points; midday markets remain in constructive phase

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Indian equities extended their early gains on Wednesday, supported by strong global cues, optimism over a potential US-India trade deal, and upbeat corporate earnings. At 12:30 PM, both benchmark indices were trading firmly in positive territory, led by gains in IT, auto, and mid-cap stocks. The BSE Sensex was up over 600 points, or nearly 0.8 percent while the Nifty 50 hovered around 25,890, rising about 0.75 percent. Broader market indices outperformed, with the Nifty Midcap 150 hitting a new intra-day high, underscoring robust participation beyond large-cap counters.

Among sectors, IT, auto, and metal stocks led the advance, while banking and FMCG shares saw mixed trends. Exchange operator BSE Ltd surged more than 6 percent after reporting a 61 percent year-on-year rise in Q2 net profit to Rs 558 crore, boosting sentiment within the financial services space.

Global and Macro Cues

Investor confidence improved on renewed hopes of progress in U.S.-India trade discussions and easing fears over a U.S. government shutdown. Expectations of a possible Federal Reserve rate cut in December also lent support to global risk assets. Crude oil prices were steady to slightly lower, reducing inflationary concerns, while the rupee traded flat against the U.S. dollar, reflecting balanced import and foreign inflow pressures.

The following factors were key in driving the market and the strong trends: Broad-based rally: Gains across sectors and strong mid-cap momentum indicate a healthier market structure, not limited to a few index heavyweights. Earnings optimism: Recent quarterly results from key companies continue to bolster investor confidence in the domestic growth story. Global tailwinds: Improving global sentiment and stable commodity prices are driving foreign and institutional buying interest. Despite the positive tone, analysts caution that valuations are becoming stretched, especially in select mid-cap names that have rallied sharply. The market's dependence on global cues also leaves it vulnerable to sudden reversals if trade or policy expectations change. Sustained foreign investor inflows will be critical to maintaining the current uptrend. Market direction in the second half is likely to hinge on institutional flows, movement in US futures, and domestic inflation data expected later this week. Traders are watching whether the rally broadens further or starts to consolidate near recent highs.

TRAI seeks views on interconnection framework for satellite-based telecom networks

New Delhi.(Agency)

As satellite broadband services are set to be launched in India, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has invited stakeholder feedback on what the interconnection framework for satellite-based telecommunications networks with other telecom networks should look like.

The regulatory body has released a consultation paper seeking views on the regulation of interconnection matters. Interconnection refers to the arrangement between two or more telecom networks that enables users of one network to communicate with users of another. In the paper, TRAI noted that the need for a dedicated interconnection framework for satellite-based telecom services arises amid the growing importance of satellite technologies in extending telecom coverage to remote and underserved regions. India's telecom sector is witnessing new entrants in the satellite broadband segment, such as OneWeb, Starlink, and Bharti-backed ventures.

Satellite-based networks provide vital connectivity in areas where terrestrial infrastructure such as Public Land Mobile Networks (PLMN) and Public Switched Telephone Networks (PSTN) may not be feasible or cost-effective. TRAI said the integration of satellite services within the broader telecom ecosystem — including seamless interconnection with existing PLMN and PSTN networks and interoperability of voice and SMS traffic across mobile and landline networks — would be an important aspect of the review.

When income rises but wealth doesn't: Inside India's lifestyle inflation problem

New Delhi.(Agency)

Life is indeed a tapestry of paradoxes; that we witness it in almost all areas of life. The current lives of the Gen Z and millennials are no exception to this fact. While India happens to be the brightest spot in the growth landscape of the world economy, prosperity in terms of wealth seems to elude its youth even when their lifestyle is nothing short of that of the wealthy. True to the demographic dividend — the Gen Z and the millennials, numbering about 600 million, are spending nearly half of the country's consumer spending. So, and obviously, they are at the forefront of India's consumption boom, yet their financial behaviours reveal deeper tensions between the immediate gratification and foresight of their security. This, in modern parlance, is called "lifestyle creep." The roots of this creep intertwine cyclical and structural factors. Like in the entire world — post-COVID spending surge unleashed pent-up demand or something like that. As spending alluded more with revenge, spending has been a major cyclical factor.

POST COVID SPENDING BOOM

The COVID-19 pandemic profoundly disrupted the Indian economy, with lockdowns enforcing frugality and thereby boosting Indian household savings to a record 22.8% in the financial year 2021. As restrictions eased, this catapulted into a spending boom that was often dubbed as 'revenge consumption', leading to the private consumption growing at 7.8% above pre-pandemic levels by late 2022. Urban youth fuelled

categories of consumption related to e-commerce and premium goods. The social isolation and the anxiety among them triggered deferred desires to travel,



gadgets and other experiences. For instance, Gen Z and the millennials embraced YOLO spending on international concerts, some outside this country as well. Most of this spending was often financed through easy monthly instalments. A 2024 study notes that above 60% of this population prioritised experiences over material possessions, with solo trips surging to 84% in 2024. All

of this alone culminated in a 10% of the total spending in the economy for the year 2024. This post-COVID dynamic transitioned from temporary relief to a habitual creep, where income hikes find lifestyle upgrades rather than assets or investment in social security for rainy day.

NEOLIBERAL CONSUMERISM

The globalisation, liberalisation, and privatisation of the post 1991 — propelled GDP growth but fostered dynamics that entrench lifestyle creep at a seed level. New financialisation and the rise of wage suppression have pushed young people to rely on credit for aspirational living. In 2025, with the top 10% controlling close to 58% of income, neoliberalism manifests as stagnant real wages for youth in gig economies, where informal jobs dominate. Youths aspiring to global standards of living are falling into ostentatious consumption traps, splurging on gadgets and travel and living — such that these cohorts' discretionary spending is touted to double by 2030.

Groww shares list 12% higher on debut: Hold or book profit now

New Delhi. (Agency)

Shares of Groww, the digital investment platform, made a strong market debut on Wednesday, listing at Rs 112, around 12% higher than its issue price of Rs 100. The listing reflects robust investor interest in India's fast-expanding fintech and online investing ecosystem. Analysts say the debut was broadly in line with expectations, with Groww's strong brand, user base, and technology-driven model supporting its premium valuation. According to Shivani Nyati, Head of Wealth at Swastika Investmart, Groww's listing highlights solid investor confidence built on its rapid user growth and strong recall among young investors. "Groww made a good debut on the stock market, listing at approximately Rs 112, about 12% above its issue price, reflecting healthy investor confidence driven by strong brand recall and rapid user growth," Nyati said. She noted that Groww's key strengths include a mobile-first platform, low customer acquisition cost, high conversion from mutual fund to equity users, and steadily growing assets under management (AUM). However, Nyati also flagged valuation and margin risks as potential headwinds.

"Despite strong growth, concerns around high valuation multiples, margin pressures, and regulatory risks in the fintech and brokerage space are weighing on cautious investors," she said. Nyati advised investors to book partial profits but hold the remaining position for the medium to long term with a stop-loss at Rs 80.

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research) at Mehta Equities, said Groww's debut valuation appears justified considering its market leadership and scalable business model. "Groww's listing was slightly above our expectations, and the implied valuation looks fair given rapid customer growth, strong brand recall, rising market share in F&O and mutual fund distribution, and a scalable digital business model with low incremental cost," he said. Tapse believes Groww remains a long-term structural story that mirrors India's growing participation in capital markets. "We recommend allotted investors to hold for the long term, given the company's structural strengths and growth potential, while acknowledging short-term risks. Our medium-term target is Rs 125-130," he said. For non-allotted investors, Tapse suggests monitoring the stock and accumulating on dips, as Groww offers a reasonable entry point in a high-growth sector. The IPO, priced between Rs 95-100 per share, saw strong institutional demand. Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) subscribed 22 times, while Non-Institutional Investors (NIIs).

India's direct tax collection up 7%, but refunds down 17.7%. What does it mean

New Delhi.(Agency)

India's direct tax collection has gone up by 7%, crossing Rs 12.9 trillion so far in the 2025-26 financial year, shows data released by the Income Tax Department on November 11, 2025. The numbers are for taxes collected up to November 10, 2025.

COLLECTIONS RISE, GROWTH STEADY

Net direct tax stood at over Rs 12.92 trillion, up from Rs 12.07 trillion in the same period last year. Direct tax includes money paid straight to the government, such as income tax, property tax, and tax on assets owned by individuals. Gross tax collection — the amount before refunds — also rose slightly by 2.15%. It touched Rs 15.35 trillion, compared to Rs 15.02 trillion last year. WHAT ABOUT REFUNDS?



While tax collection increased, refunds dipped sharply. The government has returned Rs 2.42 trillion to taxpayers so far — 17.72% lower than Rs 2.94 trillion refunded last year. This fall may suggest two things: fewer people are claiming refunds, or a portion of taxpayers who earlier paid in cash may not be in the system any more. Some also believe the government might be processing refunds more cautiously

this year. A POSITIVE SIGNAL FOR INCOMES

The data shows that personal income tax, especially from non-corporate taxpayers, is holding strong even though tax rates were cut last year.

This points to healthier earnings among salaried people and small business owners.

MARKET-LINKED TAX STAYS FLAT

Securities Transaction Tax (STT), which is collected on share market trades, remained almost the same as last year — Rs 35,682 crore compared to Rs 35,923 crore. This suggests the stock market has largely been moving sideways, though the ongoing IPO wave could boost numbers in the months ahead.

'Nano GCCs' will bring next wave of capability centres in India

CHENNAI.(Agency)

The next decade of growth in global capability centres (GCCs) will be defined by "Nano GCCs" — small, agile, compliance-intensive hubs that specialise in niche domains and employing between 50 and 150 highly-skilled professionals and prioritising innovation over scale, says latest report. According to the report -- GCCs in India: Cultivating Capability, Ensuring Compliance by Teamlease Digital and Teamlease RegTech, five domains are driving the rise of Nano GCCs in India, which include semiconductors and chip design, AI and ML, biotech and pharma R&D, telecom and 5G services, and EV systems & automotive. It also mentions that the adoption of modern technologies such as AI/ML (95%), cloud computing (87%), cybersecurity (92%), and blockchain (61%) has seen a projected growth in 2025 compared to 2019. Moreover, 55 percent of global GCCs are located in India and expected to employ over 2.8 million by 2030. GCCs generated \$64.6 billion in export revenue in FY24, up 40 percent from

\$46 billion in FY23. Their contribution to India's GDP is expected to double from less than 1 percent in FY24 to 2 percent by 2030. With India aiming for a USD10 trillion GDP by 2030, GCC-



led services exports play a vital role in driving growth and providing a stable source of foreign exchange. The GCC growth in India would be 11 percent to 12 percent CAGR in the next five years, expanding from 1,800 GCCs in 2025 to 2,400 in 2030. The report also mentioned that by 2030, more than 70 percent of GCCs globally are expected to integrate AI governance and compliance automation into their global operations. It is also pointed out that nearly 20 to 22 percent of

recruitments are freshers for the role of engineers, analysts, and support roles. At mid-level, the hiring is 75 to 77 percent for the role of specialists, product developers, and project managers.

The salary ranges Rs 8-12 lakh per annum to for freshers, and for mid-level it is between Rs 13 and 40 LPA. For leadership roles, the salary bracket goes up to Rs 60 LPA. The surge in AI, cybersecurity, and cloud adoption has triggered an intense battle for niche expertise and regulatory complexities are increasing, says the report. In the first half of 2024, 1.52 lakh professionals were hired, a 14% rise over the previous half-year. Out of these, 75 percent were replacements, highlighting persistent attrition pressures. It also says 9 in 10 GCC leaders anticipate talent demand will outstrip supply by 2030. Neeti Sharma, Teamlease Digital CEO, says, "We don't have all talent in Tier 2 cities, because working professionals, lateral hires, are already in Tier 1 cities. So we have to migrate them from Tier 1 to Tier 2 cities."

The great IPO gamble: Why so many retail investors end up losing money

This is Part 1 of a three-part series examining how India's IPO boom is entering risky territory for retail investors amid sky-high valuations and growing market hype.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Every time a big-name company announces an initial public offering (IPO), excitement ripples through the market. Retail investors rush to apply, convinced they're getting in on the next big success story. But as recent listings have shown, not every IPO turns out to be a jackpot. Some deliver strong returns, while others leave investors disappointed and wondering where they went wrong. The truth, according to market experts, is that IPO investing has increasingly turned into a risky game, especially for small investors. While institutions and large funds have the deep pockets and patience to absorb

losses, retail participants often end up bearing the brunt of overpricing and unrealistic expectations. "IPOs fundamentally are not designed with retail investors as the primary beneficiaries. While the Indian market remains dynamic and vibrant, a discernible pattern of aggressive pricing — particularly evident in technology and startup IPOs — has emerged, often to the detriment of smaller investors," Tarun Singh, Founder and MD, Highbrow Securities, told IndiaToday.in.

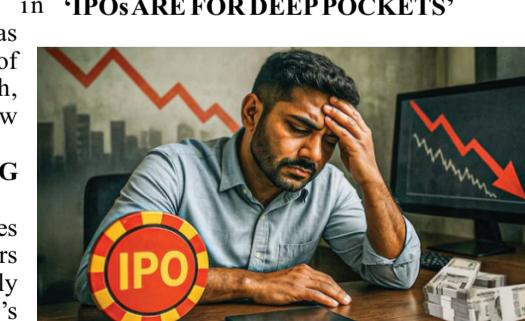
WHY ARE IPOs GETTING RISKIER?

He pointed out that the main problem lies in how companies and their bankers approach valuation. "An IPO is merely the commencement of a company's journey in the capital markets," he explained. "Unfortunately, due to aggressive pricing, many companies struggle to recover from the inevitable post-listing corrections. Paytm exemplifies this phenomenon." According to him, many promoters and bankers get caught up in market buoyancy. They believe that when the market is upbeat, it's the right time to

squeeze out the highest possible valuation, even if it's not sustainable.

"The strategy of pursuing peak valuation at the time of IPO is fundamentally flawed," he elaborated. "While the monetary gains sought through the IPO are certainly important, an unsound valuation can lead to a precipitous decline thereafter."

IPOs ARE FOR DEEP POCKETS



He also warned that retail investors often underestimate the difference between themselves and institutional buyers. Large investors can afford to take losses or hold a position for years before seeing returns. "Ultimately, it is those with substantial financial resources who prevail in this race," he remarked.

"Retail investors, investing their life savings with hopes of quick gains, bear the harshest impact of overvaluation." Recent IPOs such as Lenskart have shown how chasing hype can backfire. Despite strong demand, Lenskart listed at a discount. Over the years, several hyped companies have failed to live up to expectations, both at listing and in the long run.

While many newly listed companies have also delivered solid gains, the broader IPO landscape has changed significantly over the last couple of years and remains unpredictable in 2025. Singh, therefore, noted that a big brand name or an impressive subscription number doesn't always mean an IPO is worth investing in. It only shows demand, not value. He added that the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) had even considered reducing the retail investor quota in IPOs because of these risks.

"The retail allocation in India, currently at about 35%, is high by global standards and likely needs to be scaled back," he observed. "IPOs, regrettably, tend to favour those with deep financial reserves."

Sherlyn Chopra

Reveals She's Getting Breast Implants Removed: 'To Bring Back Stamina Into My Life'

Sherlyn Chopra has never been one to follow the script. The actor-model, who's often made headlines for her bold choices and outspoken views, has now taken a deeply personal decision.

Sherlyn Chopra removes breast implants after years of pain

Sherlyn recently revealed that she is undergoing surgery to remove her breast implants after suffering from years of "chronic pain" in her back, chest, neck, and shoulders. The actor shared a video from the hospital, explaining her decision and calling it the beginning of a "brand new life."

In the clip, Sherlyn said, "Hey guys. Since the last couple of months, I have been enduring chronic back pain, chest pain, neck pain, shoulder pain, and also chronic pressure in my chest area. After a series of medical investigations and back and forth consultations with medical experts, I have realized that the cause of my chronic pain has been my heavy breast implants." She added, "To bring back agility, vitality, and stamina into my life, I have decided to have my breast implants removed once and for all. Am I nervous? A little. Excited? Immensely. I cannot wait to start a brand new life with no excess baggage. I pray that the Almighty bless me and the hands of the surgeons who are going to be performing my breast implant removal surgery today. God bless us all."

Sherlyn Chopra's fight with kidney failure and lupus

Back in 2024, she had shared that she has an autoimmune disorder called Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE), which resulted in her kidney failure in 2021. In an interview with Bollywood Bubble, Sherlyn shared that her doctor told her to keep this health disorder under control and she needs medication for the rest of her life. Following this, she added, "I take it three times a day, morning, afternoon and evening. They also advised that I should never contemplate getting pregnant because it could be life-threatening for both the baby and the mother".



Sobhita Dhulipala

Praises Vetrimaaran And Anurag Kashyap's Bad Girl Amid Controversy: 'This One's For Us'

After winning hearts in theatres and receiving recognition on the international stage, the Tamil coming-of-age drama *Bad Girl* is now streaming online. Actor Sobhita Dhulipala has showered praise on Varsha Bharath's debut Tamil film *Bad Girl*, starring Anjali Sivaraman. Taking to Instagram, the *Made in Heaven* star shared that the movie moved her deeply and left her feeling "seen". Sharing the film's poster on her Instagram Story, Sobhita wrote, "Bad Girl had me smirking AND tearing up. I feel seen. Beheld. A film that ripens by the minute. Heavily recommend to everyone especially the girls. This one's for us y'all. Shout out to @varsha.bharath3 and @anjalisivaraman you guys are simply beyond. Watch it on JioHotstar."

Sobhita's Reaction Wins Over Cast And Crew

Following her post, both Varsha Bharath and Anjali Sivaraman reshared Sobhita's heartfelt review on their social media pages. Her words have brought fresh attention to the film, which has already sparked conversation for its bold themes and emotional storytelling.

The Controversy Around *Bad Girl*

Earlier this year, *Bad Girl* stirred controversy after its trailer release. Director G. Mohan accused producers Vetrimaaran and Anurag Kashyap of

portraying Brahmins negatively. He wrote on X, "Portraying a brahmin girl personal life is always a bold and refreshing film for this clan. What more can be expected from Vetrimaaran, Anurag Kashyap & Co... Bashing Brahmin father and mother is old and not trendy." His comments came in response to praise for the film by filmmaker Pa Ranjith.

About *Bad Girl*

Written and directed by Varsha Bharath, *Bad Girl* is a



coming-of-age drama starring Anjali Sivaraman as Ramya, alongside Shanthipriya and Hridhu Haroon. The film premiered at the International Film Festival Rotterdam in February before its theatrical release in September.

Bad Girl Screening In The International Circuit

Bad Girl had its world premiere at the 54th International Film Festival Rotterdam on February 7, 2025, where it won the prestigious NETPAC Award. The film continued its successful festival journey, earning the Audience Award in the Focus category at the 2025 Vancouver International Film Festival.

Vicky Kaushal Says Good Sex Is More Important Than Good Conversations: 'Baaten Toh...'



When Vicky Kaushal and Kriti Sanon share a couch, it's bound to be chaos — the fun kind. The two stars, who've never worked together on screen before, brought sparkling energy, humour, and a hint of mischief to the latest episode of *Two Much With Kajol & Twinkle*. From playful digs to cheeky confessions, the promo clip has already gone viral for all the right reasons.

Vicky and Kriti's hilarious banter steals the show
The episode's teaser opens with Vicky greeting everyone with folded hands, to which Twinkle quips that he's being overly formal and asks how he greets "young girls." Without missing a beat, Vicky jokes, "Young girls ke toh paer chho leta hun main" — leaving the hosts in splits. Kriti quickly shoots back, "Paer chhoega toh maar khaaega," setting off a round of laughter.

The two then join Kajol and Twinkle in trying out Vicky's viral *Tauba Tauba* hook step, adding to the laughter before the chat shifts gears to Kriti's love life. When asked about her boyfriend, Kriti shyly admits, "He's not from the industry." Twinkle teases her further, saying, "I already know his name but I just can't say it because she's not saying it." Kriti, who's rumoured to be dating UK-based businessman Kabir Bahia, smiles it off.

Vicky's cheeky reply on 'good sex vs good conversation' goes viral
During a rapid-fire game, Kajol throws a tricky one and asks if good sex more important than good conversation. Vicky confidently walks toward "Yes" and says, "Dekho baatein toh hoti rahengi," earning loud cheers from everyone on set. Kriti, clearly amused, scolds him as the hosts burst into laughter. The promo wraps with Vicky and Kriti walking off arm-in-arm, joking, "Bohot pitay hui," after all the teasing. Fans are already calling this one of the most entertaining episodes of the show yet.

Aamir Khan Mourns Lives Lost In Delhi Blast, Calls It A Tragic Loss



At least eight people were killed and several others injured on Monday evening after a Hyundai i20 car exploded near Gate No. 1 of Delhi's Red Fort Metro Station. The blast, which occurred around 6:55 pm, is currently under investigation, with authorities probing a possible terror link. Through his production banner, Aamir Khan Studios, the actor issued a statement expressing solidarity with the victims, saying, "Our deepest condolences to the families grieving the tragic loss of loved ones in the Delhi blast. Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone during this difficult time. — Team AKP."

Allu Arjun also prayed that 'peace would prevail' after the blast, writing on X (formerly Twitter), "Deeply saddened by the tragic incident near Delhi's Red Fort. My heartfelt prayers are with the victims and their families, and I wish for peace to prevail once again." Nagarjuna called the incident 'barbaric' and prayed for the victims' families, "Stunned by the barbaric incident near the Red Fort. My heart goes out to the victims and their loved ones during this painful time."

Ishaan Khatter said, "Please stay safe and stay informed, Delhi. Disturbed to hear about the blast." Vaani Kapoor also uploaded a post on her Instagram story, "Prayers for the families, the first responders, and every heart shaken today," she wrote.

Sidharth Malhotra said, "My heart goes out to everyone affected by the Red Fort blast. Delhi, stay strong and stay safe." A deadly blast shook Delhi on Monday evening when a Haryana-registered car parked near Gate No. 1 of the Red Fort Metro Station exploded, killing at least eight people and injuring several others.

In response to the incident, the Union Ministry of Home Affairs has ordered heightened security measures across major cities in India. The investigation has since uncovered possible terror links to Jammu and Kashmir.

Three doctors — Dr. Adeel Ahmad Rather from Qazigund, Dr. Muzammil Ahmad Ganai from Pulwama, and Dr. Shaheen Saeed — have been arrested in connection with the Kashmir-Faridabad-Delhi terror network. Additionally, two others, Tariq Ahmed Dar from Samboora (Pulwama) and a man identified as Umar alias Amir, have been detained in Kashmir. Tariq reportedly told investigators that he had handed over the car to Amir. Officials have traced the car's ownership history to Pulwama, indicating a possible terror connection. According to CNN-News18 sources, the vehicle was originally registered in Gurugram under the number HR26 and was first owned by Mohammad Salman. It subsequently changed hands multiple times — from Salman to Devendra, then to Sonu, and finally to Tariq from Shambhura village in Pulwama.

5 Hobby ideas for a Smarter kid



Is your child showing sluggish behaviour and lacks concentration when studying? If that is the case, you will have to look at the type of hobbies he/she might be pursuing. Along with reducing the gadget time for children, the overall development of the child's mind is necessary to make them alert, sharp and creative. Just like studying and playing, a structured approach to introducing hobbies will help you in making your child smarter. Try these to get their developing minds into action.

1. Buy them educative games

Kids need mental exercise too and what best than getting them to do puzzles, crosswords and word games. Get them into the habit of solving the same in activity books right from a young age. When they are little older, they will turn to

solving sudoku or learn to play chess. These brainteasers help challenge your child when it comes to problem solving.

2. Get them to learn a new language

Studies have maintained that learning a second language after the age of 10 improves cognitive functions, making kids smarter. Children who are adept in multiple language, can focus better when under pressure and can source relevant information.

3. Make a collection of coins and postal stamps

A child's mind is ever-inquisitive and when they start collecting coins and postal stamps from the world over, they get to know about different countries and places. Their curiosity makes them learn more about these places like areas of interest, currencies and geographical attributes.

4. Learn music

You may not enjoy it much when your child has just started his lessons to play any musical instrument, but it is beneficial to them in the long run since it can help prevent the decline in the ability to recognize words and comprehend speech in later years. Music lessons have shown to benefit children's IQ and academic performance.

5. Encourage fitness and sports activities

While free play helps kids grow up into happy, healthy adults, participation in organized sports builds their confidence, teaches teamwork and leadership skills. So encourage your child to pick up a ball or take them with you for a jog even as you talk to them about getting into school sports.



Your dog remembers more than you think

Just like humans, dogs have the remarkable ability to remember and recall events from the past even when the canines do not expect to be rewarded, a new study has found. "The results of our study can be considered as a further step to break down artificially erected barriers between non-human animals and humans," said Claudia Fugazza of MTA-ELTE Comparative Ethology Research Group in Hungary.

"Dogs are among the few species that people consider 'clever,' and yet we are still surprised whenever a study reveals that dogs and their owners may share some mental abilities despite our distant evolutionary relationship," Fugazza said.



In the new study, the researchers took advantage of a trick called 'Do as I Do'. Dogs trained to 'Do as I Do' can watch a person perform an action and then do the action themselves. For example, if their owner jumps in the air and then gives the "Do it!" command, the dog would jump in the air too.

The fact that dogs can be trained in this way alone was not enough to prove episodic memory. That is because it needed to be shown that dogs remember what they just saw a person do even when they were not expecting to be asked or rewarded.

To get around this problem, the researchers first trained 17 dogs to imitate human actions with the 'Do as I Do' training method. Next, they did another round of training in which dogs were trained to lie down after watching the human action, no matter what it was. After the dogs had learned to lie down reliably, the researchers surprised them by saying "Do It" and the dogs did.

The dogs recalled what they had seen the person do even though they had no particular reason to think they would need to remember. They showed episodic-like memory.

Don't give away all to your children Doctor advises parents



Make a will to protect your children but keep enough for yourself so you don't have to depend on them in your old age. Take an active part in their day-to-day routine but never interfere in your children's issues unless asked for. These are some of the solutions in geriatric expert Dr VS Natarajan's new book 'Generation Gap' that was released on Wednesday.

The two-part English book, by Natarajan and Hema Narasimhan, delves deep into the issue of elder abuse and its various forms rampant in Indian society. The senior geriatrician, who says he drew inspiration from his many of his patients opening up to him about their children, includes several real stories. One of them is about a rich elderly woman in Purasaiwalkam, Natarajan's patient for many years. She sought his advice after her only son threatened to poison her if she did not transfer properties to

his name. "The reasons could be that children look at their personal happiness above the welfare of their parents. With real estate boom, children want to sell off their parents' properties and make money. These are only my hypothesis," he said.

Dr Natarajan, the author of 30 medical books, had penned a book with the same title in 2015, analysing the abuse of elderly at home.

Natarajan advises senior citizens to lead independent lives and be aware of laws protecting them from mistreatment, while urging at the same time children to spend quality time with their parents. "It not just food and shelter that old people need. They need love and care too," he said.

"They have to remember that what they do to their parents will be repeated in their old age," he added.