

Centre's Big Win As Top Court Draws Line On Setting Timeline For Governors

This comes in response to President Droupadi Murmu's questions to the top court following a two-judge bench's verdict in the Tamil Nadu Governor case

New Delhi.(Agency)

In a crucial clarification, the Supreme Court today held that the President and Governors of states cannot be bound by timelines when it comes to approving Bills. A five-judge Constitution bench stressed that the actions of the President or Governors are not "justiciable" and judicial review can be invoked only when a Bill becomes a law.

This comes in response to President Droupadi Murmu's questions to the top court following a two-judge bench's verdict in the Tamil Nadu Governor case that effectively set a deadline for the President and Governors to clear Bills passed by the legislature.

Seeking the court's opinion under Article 143 of the Constitution, the President had asked, "In the absence of a constitutionally prescribed time limit, and the manner of exercise of powers by the Governor, can timelines be imposed and the manner of exercise be prescribed through judicial orders for the exercise of all powers under Article 200 of the Constitution of India by the Governor?"

The President had also asked if the exercise of constitutional discretion by the President under

Article 201 of the Constitution of India is justiciable.

"Is the Governor bound by the aid and advice tendered by the Council of Ministers while exercising all the options available with him when



a Bill is presented before him under Article 200 of the Constitution of India?" the President asked.

She had cited Article 361 of the Constitution, which says the President or the Governor shall not be answerable to any court for the exercise of the powers and duties of office. A bench led by Chief

Justice of India BR Gavai today said the imposition of a timeline is "strictly contrary" to the Constitution. The other judges on the bench were Justice Surya Kant, Justice Vikram Nath, Justice PS Narasimha, and Justice AS Chandurkar. The court also struck down the arguments regarding 'deemed assent' made in the two-judge bench's judgment. It said "deemed consent of the Governor, or President, under Article 200 or 201 at the expiry of a judicially set timeline, is virtually a takeover, and substitution, of the executive functions by the Judiciary, through judicial pronouncement, which is impermissible within the contours of our written Constitution".

The Tamil Nadu Case

On April 8 this year, a bench of Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice R Mahadevan delivered a judgment in The State of Tamil Nadu vs The Governor of Tamil Nadu case, in which the DMK government had accused Governor RN Ravi of withholding bills indefinitely. The court used its special powers under Article 142 of the Constitution to declare 10 withheld Bills "as deemed to have been assented on the date when they were presented to the Governor".

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Hope new government...: What Tejashwi Yadav said in 1st remarks since Bihar loss

New Delhi.(Agency)

In his first remarks since the Bihar debacle, Tejashwi Yadav congratulated JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar on taking oath as the Chief Minister for record 10th time. The RJD leader also hoped that the new government would fulfill its promises and announcements made during election campaign. Tejashwi's post is his first public remarks since the embarrassing defeat in the recently-concluded Assembly election where the Mahagathbandhan managed to get just 35 seats while the NDA stormed back stronger with 202 of the 243 seats. He wrote on X in Hindi, "Heartfelt congratulations to the

esteemed Shri Nitish Kumar Ji on taking the oath of office as the Chief Minister of Bihar. Heartfelt best wishes to all the ministers of the Bihar government who took the oath as members of the Council of Ministers." "I hope that the new government will live up to the hopes and expectations of responsible people, fulfill its promises and declarations, and bring positive and qualitative changes in the lives of the people of Bihar," he added.

NITISH 10.0 IN BIHAR

On Thursday, Nitish Kumar, 74, was sworn in at Patna's historic Gandhi Maidan days after spearheading the NDA to a landslide victory in the

2025 Bihar Assembly elections. BJP leaders Samrat Choudhary and Vijay Kumar Sinha took oath as his deputies.

Apart from the trio, 24 ministers were administered the oath of office by Governor Arif Mohammad Khan in the presence of top BJP and NDA

leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The NDA secured a dominant mandate, winning 202 of the 243 seats, its second time crossing the 200-seat mark after its 206-seat victory in 2010. The Mahagathbandhan managed only 35 seats. The NDA tally included 89 seats for the BJP, 85 for JD(U), 19 for LJP (Ram Vilas), five for HAMS, and four for Rashtriya Lok Morcha. Among the opposition, the RJD won 25 seats, the Congress six, CPI(ML)(L) two, IIP one, and CPI(M) one. The AIMIM secured five seats, while the BSP bagged one.

Remarks against Army: SC extends stay on trial court proceedings against Rahul Gandhi

The bench was hearing Gandhi's plea challenging a May 29 order of the Allahabad High Court dismissing his plea challenging the trial court's summoning order in the case.

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Supreme Court on Thursday, in an interim order, extended till 4 December the stay on proceedings against Congress Member of Parliament and Leader of Opposition (LoP) in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, over his allegedly defamatory remarks against the Indian Army during his Bharat Jodo Yatra in 2022-23.

A two-judge Bench of the apex court, headed by Justice M.M. Sundresh and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma, said, "We extend the stay of proceedings in the case," and adjourned the matter for further hearing to 4 December 2025.

The case pertains to a defamation complaint filed by Uday Shankar Srivastava, former Director of the Border Roads Organisation (BRO), against Gandhi for his allegedly derogatory remarks



made on 16 December 2022 during the Bharat Jodo Yatra. The complaint was pending before a Lucknow court.

Earlier, in May, the Allahabad High Court had rejected Gandhi's plea challenging the summoning order issued by an MP/MLA court in

Lucknow, prompting him to approach the Supreme Court for relief. During a previous hearing, the Supreme Court had strongly criticised the senior Congress leader for his alleged comments regarding China capturing Indian territory. The Bench had questioned him, saying that if he was a "true Indian", he should not have made such remarks.

The court had also disapproved of Gandhi's allegedly irresponsible statements on China capturing Indian land. "How do you (Gandhi) get to know when 2,000 sq km was acquired by China? What is the credible material? A true Indian will not say this. When there is a conflict across the border. Can you say all this? Why can't you ask the question in Parliament?" the Bench had asked.



Delhi Deploys Real-Time Surveillance for Dust Control

The Sikh Times
Sourabh Sharma

New Delhi, November 19th 2025

Under the firm leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the Government of Delhi has intensified its air pollution control strategy through year-round, science-driven enforcement. The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) is now conducting one of the largest anti-dust compliance drives ever undertaken in the National Capital, ensuring that construction, industry, and vehicular contributors are monitored continuously—on ground and in real time.

Sirsa informed that through the DPCC Dust Pollution Control Self-Assessment Portal—integrated with the Municipal Corporations' building sanction process—the government is ensuring that every construction and demolition

(C&D) site above 500 sqm is registered, monitored, and mandated to meet strict dust mitigation standards.

Physical inspections by 35 DPCC teams commenced on 15th October 2025, targeting all major construction sites across Delhi. In the initial phase, 500 C&D projects were assessed, unregistered projects identified, and tangible actions taken—over 200 Show Cause Notices issued, 48 projects ordered shut, and 35 projects penalized under Environmental Compensation provisions for dust violations, amounting to fines of over Rs. 2.36 crore.

Delhi's commitment to real-time accountability, Hon'ble Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa stated, "We are working relentlessly to bring some systemic change in the system to effectively keep a check on harmful emissions that pollute the air of Delhi throughout the year, especially during

winter season. Every project is being remotely monitored round-the-clock for compliance. Fines, closures, and real enforcement mean dust pollution is confronted at the source, whether from construction sites, traffic, or industrial activities. The SOP is to inspect, assess, and act."

Remote monitoring infrastructure—including 360-degree video fencing and live-linked PM2.5 and PM10 sensors—ensure ongoing enforcement and transparency.

Public display boards with the DPCC Portal registration ID has been made mandatory at construction sites to keep every project's compliance status visible to citizens and stakeholders. DPCC's inspection teams are proactively conducting surveys across Delhi to track



down unregistered projects. Of 4881 localities mapped citywide, 467 have already been intensively inspected, and 33 violations have been flagged for immediate action and show cause notices issued.

Sirsa summarised, "Our fight against

pollution is a full-force action—and we invite every Delhite to join in. Adopt best practices, avoid burning garbage, opt for public transport, and actively report violations through social media, pollution helpline and the Green Delhi App. Together, we will hold polluters accountable and secure Delhi's future."

Sirsa informed that Delhi's winter action plan, dust-control protocols, construction compliance norms, road sprinkling schedules, mechanical sweeping deployment and waste-management systems have been active for several months.

What has now been strengthened, he explained, is the scale of monitoring, inter-agency coordination, frequency of field inspections and immediate accountability for lapses.

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Post Karur, TVK plans weekday-only rallies, seeks nod for Salem event on December 4

TVK has sought police permission to hold a December 4 campaign in Salem while awaiting Tamil Nadu's final SOP on political rallies. TVK will now hold rallies only on weekdays post-Karur stampede.

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Tamizhaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) has sought permission from the Salem district police to hold an election campaign in the city on December 4. The party is also awaiting the Tamil Nadu government's Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on political meetings, which the state has been asked to frame following the High Court's recent order. TVK paused its public events after the Karur stampede, which claimed 41 lives on September 29 during an election campaign by actor-politician Vijay.

The party has now indicated that future campaigns will be held only on weekdays, unlike the earlier Saturday events conducted

before the Karur incident. The tragedy prompted the Madras High Court to direct the Tamil Nadu government to formulate SOPs for political gatherings. According to the draft SOP, political parties must give at least 10 days' notice before conducting any rally or meeting. It also proposes a refundable security deposit linked to estimated crowd size, ranging from Rs 1 lakh for gatherings of 5,000 to 10,000 people, up to Rs 20 lakh for events expected to draw more than 50,000 attendees.

Organisers will be required to submit full event details, including the route of any roadshow, the specific stretch where the leader will address supporters, and the expected time of arrival of key speakers—so police can plan traffic and crowd control.

'Confident' CM Siddaramaiah says he'll present next budget

BENGALURU.(Agency)

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday pitched himself to continue as CM, exuding confidence that he will present the next state budget for 2026-27 too. "When I became finance minister the first time, a newspaper asked how Siddaramaiah, who cannot count a hundred sheep, can present a budget? I took it as a challenge and I have since presented 16 budgets. I will also present the 17th. I could do all this because I had the opportunity. Opportunity is important for the oppressed castes," he stated. He was speaking after inaugurating the golden jubilee of the LG Havanur R report, organised by the Karnataka State Backward Castes Union at Jnana Jyothi auditorium.

He regretted that backward castes and Dalits are joining BJP-RSS-ABVP even though they know BJP-RSS ideology is against their progress. "All those who are fighting in the name of God and religion are our backward castes. Those who have joined BJP-RSS for selfish reasons are the ones who talk like Hedgewar, rather than the original RSS leaders," he commented. He said former chief minister D Devaraj Urs had termed the Havanur report the Bible of backward castes and the Supreme Court had also appreciated it. He recalled that when he contested the Lok Sabha polls in 1991 and lost because of alleged election malpractice, he had filed a petition disputing the results. Havanur had then argued in favour of him.

Siddaramaiah asserted that his Congress government is ready to accept and implement the economic, social and educational survey report and also increase the reservation limit to 70-75%.

He said Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi pressed for the caste survey as he had an ideological commitment. "The other day he asked me what happened to your census," he said. As Rahul had clarity, he put pressure on the central government to conduct a caste census, he remarked.

Front continued news

Delhi Deploys Real-Time Surveillance for Dust Control

Additionally, the Hon'ble Minister Sirsa, personally reviewed dust mitigation efforts at key sites in Palam, Dwarka & Mahipalpur where dust resuspension, traffic movement and accumulated waste contribute to local pollution. He inspected stretches where road-cutting repairs, footpath reconstruction and infrastructure works were underway, directing officers to ensure proper barricading, anti-dust netting, sprinkling of treated water, lifting of debris and complete adherence to construction guidelines.

During the review, the Minister also noted that DPCC and MCD have intensified their efforts at more than 62 identified traffic-prone hotspots, where dust suppression, sweeping and waste-lifting operations have been expanded. He instructed officials to ensure that these hotspots receive timely water sprinkling, strict construction compliance, regular sweeping, and immediate corrective action based on morning and evening inspection reports. He stressed that accountability must be fixed for any delay in ground action.

"Delhi's fight against air pollution is relentless, science-led, and action-oriented. Every emission source—from vehicle tailpipes to DG sets, from industrial stacks to roadside dust—is maintained and brought within the ambit of the law. The focus is to make environmental enforcement future-ready, transparent, and committed to making clean air not just a promise, but a reality, every day and every hour," Sirsa added.

SIR: Online submissions on the rise as helplines handle over 1,000 queries a day in Ghaziabad

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

/ With over 95% enumeration forms now distributed in Ghaziabad and GB Nagar, officials said that they are shifting the focus of the the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise to collecting filled forms from residents and processing the submissions coming in through both physical and online modes. Online participation has steadily increased, with both districts recording more than 7,000 submissions each so far."People are using the online portal in good numbers, especially those who miss the BLO during house visits. The flow of submissions has been consistent since last week," said Ghaziabad ADM (finance/revenue) and SIR nodal officer Saurabh Bhatt.

In GB Nagar, DM (finance/revenue) and deputy district election officer Atul Kumar said the district crossed 7,800 online submissions. "Our teams are now concentrating on collecting filled forms and verifying them on the ground," he said. On the digitisation of the 2003 electoral rolls, a process intended to help voters struggling to locate their old details, Kumar said that final checks were being completed. "Some last-minute lags are being ironed out. The searchable Excel sheets will be ready within a day and will be shared with BLOs, BLAs, and RWAs," Kumar explained. In Ghaziabad, the helpline emerged as a major support system for residents seeking assistance in filling up the forms. Bhatt said the Voter Helpline 1950 was receiving more than 1,000 calls a day.

Man poses as RAW agent, Armyman to cheat people in Noida, held

Noida.(Agency)

The Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force's Noida Unit on Tuesday arrested a man who allegedly posed as a research and analysis wing (RAW) officer and a Major of the Indian Army to cheat people.

Sunit Kumar (37) was nabbed from Paramount Golf Forest Society in Greater Noida with a large cache of forged identity cards and counterfeit official documents.

This came after officials were tipped off about illegal activities being carried out by a resident in their society.

He was posing as an intelligence officer, they said.

Additional SP, STF, Rajkumar Mishra said Kumar holds a degree in clinical psychology and earlier worked with private firms. He had left his job and started this racket.

"He used forged documents to influence people, extract

money on the promise of securing employment opportunitie

s , " he added. Kumar frequently changed his identity to avoid detection, opened bank accounts under different names and floated fake companies like Happy Mental Health

Health

Service and Festum 24 Technologies. Kumar used these entities to lure his targets by offering them "special govt clearances", Mishra added.

During the raid, officials found five fake PAN cards with

different names but bearing Kumar's photos; three fake voter ID cards; two forged govt ID cards purportedly issued by the cabinet secretariat; several counterfeit service agreements; and multiple Aadhaar card copies.

The officers also seized fake verification letters from Delhi Police, debit/credit cards, bogus insurance papers,

stamp papers and several mobile phones and tablets used to facilitate fraud. A case has been registered against the accused under sections 319(2) (cheating by personation), 318(4)(cheating), 338, 336(3) and 340(all related to forgery) of the BNS, and section 66 of the IT Act. STF officers said.



One dead, 7 rescued, more feared trapped as roof crashes on workers in Greater Noida

Noida.(Agency)

A construction worker died and seven more were injured after the third-floor roof of an under-construction house at Nagla Hukam Singh village in Greater Noida's Rabupura area collapsed on Wednesday afternoon. Rescue operations continued late into the night, with officials fearing that more workers were trapped under the debris. It was peak working hours when the cave-in happened. At the time, over a dozen workers were present at the site. The slab fell when the workers were removing the shattering from the newly cast roof. As the supports were being taken out, the lintel beam suddenly gave way, causing the entire slab to crash down. Several workers were buried under the heavy concrete mass. Rescue teams reached the site soon after the collapse was reported. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and SDRF personnel, fire department officials, police and villagers worked together to remove debris. Among those injured were Danish

(21) of Shakarpur in Aligarh, and Fardeen (18), Shafeel (38), Kamil (20) and Nadeem (30), all residents of Rawal Patti in Jhajjar. They were taken to a nearby hospital. However, 22-year-old Zeeshan, also from Rawal Patti, was found critically injured under the rubble. Rescuers managed to pull him out after prolonged effort, but he succumbed to his injuries at the hospital.

Other workers claimed multiple workers from Madhya Pradesh were present at the site when the roof collapsed and are feared trapped. Rescue operations were ongoing at the time of filing the report.

An official involved in the rescue said around 25 NDRF and SDRF personnel worked alongside local police and fire teams to manage the operation. "As the third-floor slab had collapsed onto the second and then the first, we had to ensure that using machines wouldn't injure anyone trapped underneath. We used victim-detection devices, cutters, and chiselling tools to clear the debris and pull

out those buried," the official said. Police teams from three stations were present on-site to supervise the operation. According to police, the workers had been hired by Mahavir



Singh, the owner of the under-construction house, who fled after the incident. Additional DCP Sudhir Kumar said preliminary findings suggested the collapse may have been triggered by structural weakness or premature removal of shattering. A detailed inquiry is underway to examine whether safety norms were followed. The statements of

the contractor and building owner will be recorded. The owner is currently missing, and efforts are being made to trace him," he said. Workers alleged that the contractor had rushed to remove the shattering despite the concrete not being fully set, creating dangerous instability in the structure. Police said strict action would be taken if negligence is confirmed. Meanwhile, teams are still verifying the identities of the workers who fled after being rescued. One more dies in Gzb warehouse wall collapse. Another worker succumbed to her injuries on Wednesday, a day after the wall of a warehouse, Riddhi Enterprises, collapsed on four workers clearing debris on an adjacent vacant plot in Sahibabad. Two of the women, Jamila and Ishrat, died on the spot. Two others, Salma and Sajjo, both critically injured, were rushed to GTB Hospital for treatment. Salma succumbed to her injuries early Wednesday morning, while Sajjo's condition remains critical.

Now a dust bowl, revamp for key Dwarka Expressway link soon

Gurgaon.(Agency)

After years of stopgap maintenance and persistent complaints from commuters, GMDA is preparing to overhaul an 800-metre stretch of the Sector 99-102 master road. The road is a key link for residents travelling between Dhanbad, Dwarka Expressway and Delhi via the upper Dwarka Expressway. Despite its importance, the stretch has remained in poor condition, with drivers navigating uneven patches and potholes for several years.

According to GMDA, a detailed estimate of Rs 8.4 crore has been prepared for the special repair work and the authority aims to invite tenders by the end of this month. Officials said the plan includes full resurfacing of the road, which has not undergone a complete upgrade since GMDA took it over in 2018. The project also includes work on the footpath-cum-drain system to improve pedestrian safety and ensure better stormwater flow, a recurring concern during the monsoon. "The road handles heavy truck movement from Dhanbad towards Dwarka Expressway and onwards to Delhi. The upgraded drain and footpath will help reduce waterlogging, which has been weakening the base layer of this master road.

The estimate has been prepared and the tender will be invited this month," a GMDA official said. Residents in sectors 99 and 102 rely on this road as a primary link to Dwarka Expressway. For years, they have said that the damaged surface and loose gravel contributed to dust pollution and slowed traffic even during non-peak hours. Many also find the road unsafe at night because of the uneven surface. While residents have welcomed the plan for full resurfacing, they have also asked GMDA to address the missing connectivity that prevents direct access to the expressway. The master road currently ends abruptly before joining the expressway, forcing commuters to use the Gurgaon-Jhajjar Road instead.

Utility hurdles stall Dwarka Expressway service road work in Gurgaon

Gurgaon.(Agency)

GMDA is reworking the alignment of a service road planned along Dwarka Expressway after it identified high-tension transmission lines, a gas pipeline and other utilities obstructing the proposed stretch. The service roads, each 7.5 metres wide, have been planned to run on both sides of the expressway, along with footpaths and surface drains. The project is estimated to cost Rs 99.5 crore and has a completion deadline of Sept 2026. It was only in March 2024 that the authority succeeded in awarding the work nearly four years after the proposal.

While one side of the 15.3km service road was completed along with the drain-cum-footpath, the other side has progressed only 25%. Work slowed down after the agency found that the utilities lie exactly on the alignment approved earlier, making excavation and drain work unsafe.

A senior official said, "There are multiple utilities that we cannot disturb. Utility shifting is not possible in this case, so the alignment has to be redesigned to avoid them." The project was aimed at improving intra-city mobility for



even though NHAI has repeatedly flagged them as a significant safety risk. Despite being crucial for thousands of residents living in sectors 81-115 along the expressway, the project has been stuck in a slow administrative loop since its inception.

First proposed in 2020, it received administrative approval in June 2022. GMDA floated a tender later that year in Nov but cancelled it because of low participation. A second tender issued in Jan 2023 met a similar fate. The residents, however, said the work has been progressing slowly.

Anil Narain Malhotra, a resident of 89, said, "During the evening rush hour, the roundabout near the Elan Miracle mall becomes a choke point. The service road will ease the traffic to some extent. There are even instances of wrong-side driving because people don't want to take a long detour for a U-turn on Dwarka Expressway."

Two footbridges to avert accident risk on Golf Course Road

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Two new footbridges on Golf Course Road are currently being designed and detailed drawings of them will be sent to GMDA within a month. The proposal aims to improve pedestrian movement on this busy corridor, which has several accident-prone spots. The work is being executed by DLF Foundation under its CSR initiative. One of the proposed overbridges is likely to be located near La Lagune, while the second is being planned near Paras Downtown. The location at La Lagune was not part of the original proposal. Instead, it was supposed to be constructed near the Times Centre.

La Lagune was seen as a more suitable spot in the long run. Last year, the site became a bone of contention between the metropolitan authority and the developer after a table-top crossing was constructed

there on the recommendation of the district road safety committee. The structure, designed to slow down traffic for safer pedestrian passage, was dismantled shortly after due to objections from the developer, who argued that it could inadvertently promote jaywalking on the busy thoroughfare. The La Lagune area witnessed seven crashes, three deaths, and four serious injuries over four

years, primarily due to speeding, compounded by insufficient signage and speed control measures. Officials from GMDA said they are awaiting designs to move further with the project. "No proposal has reached us so far. Approval will be subject to technical scrutiny once the drawings are submitted," an official said.

One of the planned bridges, located at Chakkarpur, opened in Nov last year. Proposed in 2020, the metropolitan authority originally planned five overbridges on Golf Course Road, but residents of Vipul Belmonte resisted one of the proposed structures near their apartment complex. Subsequently, GMDA gave in-principle approval for four structures—Bristol Chowk, Times Centre, MPD Tower and Paras Downtown.

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5 convicted for murder of Alipur sarpanch; one gets life imprisonment

The Sikh Times

Gurugram: The court of Additional Sessions Judge Sunil Kumar Diwan on Wednesday convicted five accused persons for the murder of Alipur village's sarpanch in 2020. While one of the accused was sentenced to life imprisonment, the other four were awarded seven years of imprisonment and fine. According to the police, on July 15, 2020,

officials at Sohna station received information regarding a person being shot in front of Krishna Hospital. A police team reached the spot and rushed the injured to Medanta Hospital. The victim succumbed to his injuries while receiving treatment. He was identified as Manoj Kumar, the sarpanch of Alipur village. Following a complaint from

the brother of the deceased an FIR was registered at the

After arresting the accused, the police team investigated

Kumar Diwan on Wednesday sentenced

of Rs 1.10 lakh.

NAME CHANGE

I, RAJENDRA KUMAR S/o Hari Nath Yadav R/o H.No.167/5, Block-A, Sheetla Colony, Ashok Vihar, Gurgaon-122001, Haryana, have changed my name to RAJENDRA KUMAR YADAV permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, PARMINDER MAAKAN S/O Bhachan Singh Maakan R/o A2/34, Hastaal Road, Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name from PARMINDER MAAKAN to PRINCE MAKAN permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, Charu Rani Dixit W/O Saray Das R/O I-1206, JM Florence, Techzone -4 Greater Noida Gautam Budha Nagar UP 201306 Have changed my name to Charu Dixit for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, KHERUNA BANO wife of NO-1548662K, Rank-LD, Name-MANWAR KHAN residing at KAYAMKHANIYI KI DHANI, BHADASAR, PO-DHANKAL, DIST-NAGAUR, RAJASTHAN-341516, have changed my name from KHERUNA BANO to KHERUNA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 20/11/2025 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, GEETA RANI w/o Sh. Satyendra Kumar R/o 192 St. 1, Chanderlok Colony, Shadara, Delhi-110083 have changed my name from GEETA RANI to GEETA for all purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Shabana Parveen W/o B-251/A, Gali No.138, Subhash Vihar, Delhi-110053 have changed my name to Shabana Saif.

NAME CHANGE

I, Krishan Singh W/o Bhagat Singh R/o WZ 17, PUNJAB GARDEN, EAST PAUNJABI GARDEN, Punjab Bagh S.O, DIST: West Delhi, Delhi-110026 have changed my name to Krishan for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, MD Ansari, S/o Abdul Samad, R/o K-12/3RD FLOOR OLD GOVINDPURA EXTENSION KRISHNA NAGAR EAST DELHI-110051, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHAMMAD DAUD

NAME CHANGE

I, Babita Kumar D/o Amar Singh R/o ED-23-B, New Ashok Nagar, East Delhi, Delhi-110096 have changed my name to Babita for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Deepak Kumar S/o Presh Nath Sharma R/o House No-V-110, Tripathi Enclave, Preeti Nagar-2, Kiran Suleman Nagar, North West Delhi, Delhi-110086 have changed my name to Deepak for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Sunil Kumar Matta S/o Radhey Shyam, H.No-3/200, Subhash Nagar, Tagore Garden S.O, West Delhi, Delhi-110027 have changed my name to Sunil Kumar for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHIVANGI AGGARWAL W/O UDHAV GUPTA R/O H NO-A-50, ASHOK VIHAR PH-3, ASHOK VIHAR, PH-3, DELHI-110052 have changed my name to SHIVANGI GUPTA for all future purpose

NAME CHANGE

I, Sourabh Mishra S/o Ravindra Nath Mishra R/o Flat No.- 2303, Tower a, Ace City Sector 1, Greater Noida West Up 201318 have Changed My Name to Sourabh Mishra for All Future Purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Deepak Kumar S/o Abhimanyu Verma R/O House Number-843 Ashram Road, Maleen Basti Nand Gram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh 201001, Have changed my name to Abhimanyu Verma for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Abhimanyu S/O Dhramendar Verma R/O House Number-843 Ashram Road, Maleen Basti Nand Gram, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh 201001, Have changed my name to Abhimanyu Verma for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, SUSHILA DEVI W/o ASHOK KUMAR PAL R/o QTR NO-656, SANJAY VIHAR, DELHI CANTT-110010, have changed my name from SUSHILA DEVI to SUSHILA KUMARI PAL for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Rupali Singh R/o 275/175, 1st Floor, Gali No-1-A, Wazirabad Village, BURARI, North Delhi, Delhi-110084 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Tanu.

NAME CHANGE

I, Tilak Ram alias Mr. Tilak Raj, is the absolute owner of Residential Freehold Plot No. 43-A, area measuring 50 Sq. Yards, forming part of Property No. R-253, Gali No. 24, out of Khasra No. 437, situated near Shiv Mandir, Tughlakabad Extension, New Delhi-110019. If any person(s) has/have any objection or claim regarding the aforesaid property, they are hereby called upon to contact the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, along with all supporting documents. In the event no objections/claims are received within the stipulated period, it shall be presumed that no person has any objection and thereafter no claim shall be entertained.

NAME CHANGE

I, Pankaj Singh R/o 275/175, 1st Floor, Gali No-1-A, Wazirabad Village, BURARI, North Delhi, Delhi-110084 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Tanu.

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NEWS BOX

Turkey Set To Host COP31 Climate Summit As Deal With Australia Takes Shape

world . (Agency)

Turkey would host next year's UN climate summit while Australia would lead the conference's negotiations among governments, under a compromise deal that three sources familiar with the matter said was taking shape in talks on Thursday.

Australia and Turkey both submitted bids in 2022 to host the annual COP, or Conference of the Parties, the world's main forum for driving climate action.

The two nations have been in a protracted struggle to host, with neither willing to back down.

The compromise would give Turkey presidency of the summit and see a pre-COP event held in the Pacific, the sources said, adding that negotiations taking place at COP30 in Brazil had not yet officially concluded.

News of the compromise was first reported by Bloomberg. A spokesperson for Australia's COP30 delegation declined to comment. Neither the Australian nor the Turkish governments immediately responded to requests for comment.

Meta To Remove Social Media Accounts Of Australians Under 16 By December 10

world . (Agency)

Australians younger than 16 will be removed from Facebook and Instagram on December 4, tech giant Meta said Thursday, as Canberra prepares to enforce sweeping laws banning teens from social media.

Australia will from December 10 force social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram and TikTok to remove users under the age of 16 or face hefty fines. Meta said that it would start removing teenagers from its platforms ahead of the ban coming into force. "From today, Meta will be notifying Australian users it understands to be aged 13-15 that they will lose access to Instagram, Threads and Facebook," Meta said in a statement.

"Meta will begin blocking new under-16 accounts and revoking existing access from 4 December, expecting to remove all known under-16s by 10 December. "Teenagers will be able to access their accounts "exactly as you left it" once they turn 16, Meta said. Social media companies have previously described the laws as "vague", "problematic" and "rushed". Meta again voiced its concerns on Thursday. "We share the Australian Government's goal of creating safe, age-appropriate online experiences, but cutting teens off from their friends and communities isn't the answer."

Nvidia Reports 'Off The Charts' Demand For AI Chips



world . (Agency)

Nvidia shares climbed Wednesday after it beat quarterly earnings expectations on fierce demand for its sophisticated chips for powering artificial intelligence. The solid results come amid increasing talk among Wall Street analysts of an AI bubble, with all eyes on how Nvidia, the industry's bellwether company, will weather the doubts.

Nvidia reported profit of \$31.9 billion on record-high quarterly revenue of \$57 billion, sending shares up more than 3 percent. It also took in some 60 percent more money in the quarter than it did during the same period the prior year, according to earnings figures.

"Blackwell sales are off the charts, and cloud GPUs are sold out," Nvidia chief executive Jensen Huang said in an earnings release, referring to the latest model of its state-of-the-art hardware. "The AI ecosystem is scaling fast — with more new foundation model makers, more AI startups, across more industries, and in more countries." Revenue in the current quarter is expected to be \$65.0 billion, nearly \$3 billion more than forecast by Wall Street analysts. Most of the money brought in during the recently ended quarter came from Nvidia's unit devoted to graphics processing units (GPUs) for data centers. The company's data center business generated \$51.2 billion in revenue, up 25 percent from the previous quarter and 66 percent year-on-year. In the period, Nvidia announced strategic partnerships with OpenAI to deploy at least 10 gigawatts of systems for next-generation AI infrastructure, while Anthropic will adopt one gigawatt of compute capacity using Nvidia's latest systems. Nvidia was valued at more than \$4.5 trillion based on the number of outstanding shares. AI industry rivals have been pouring billions of dollars into Nvidia's prized GPUs to power the technology despite questions regarding how the investments will pay off. Nvidia is caught up in President Donald Trump's trade war with China, where Beijing has responded by expressing national security concerns about Nvidia chips and urging Chinese businesses to rely on local suppliers instead. Nvidia serves as a bellwether and became the first company to reach \$4 trillion in market value last July.

Israel violates ceasefire, kills at least 25 Palestinians in attacks on northern Gaza

world . (Agency)

Israel on Wednesday violated a US-brokered ceasefire and killed at least 25 Palestinians in a wave of strikes concentrated on Gaza City and Khan Younis, according to the territory's civil defence agency.

Twelve people were killed in Gaza City in the north of the Palestinian territory and 10 in the southern Khan Yunis area, reported AFP.

The attacks also wounded over 77 Palestinians as Gaza's population -- devastated after Israel's two-year-long genocidal war -- grappled with winter, rains and flooding. The Israeli military claimed the attacks were against "Hamas targets" accusing the Palestinian group of opening fire towards an area where troops were operating in Gaza. "This action constitutes a violation of the ceasefire agreement. No IDF (Israeli military) injuries were reported. In response, the IDF began striking Hamas terrorist targets across the Gaza Strip," the military said in a statement. Despite flare-ups, a fragile truce has largely been holding in Gaza since October 10.

Since then, Israel has carried out repeated strikes against what it says are Hamas targets, resulting in the death of more than



280 Palestinians, according to the health ministry in Hamas-run Gaza.

Wednesday's strikes were among the deadliest in the territory since the ceasefire entered into force. The highest daily toll was registered on October 29, when more than 100 people were killed in Israeli strikes, according to civil defence figures and data received by AFP from five Gaza hospitals. While the bodies of only three hostages remain in Gaza, the implementation of the second stage of US President Donald Trump's peace plan has

yet to be agreed, particularly as it concerns disarming Hamas, establishing a transitional authority and deploying an international stabilisation force. Israel's genocidal war on Gaza has killed at least 69,513 Palestinians, more than half of them women and children, since October 2023, according to figures from the territory's health ministry. Israel has also targeted and killed over 220 journalists and at least 1000 healthcare and aid workers in Gaza.

Lebanon strikes

Israel also conducted several strikes in

southern Lebanon on Wednesday. The Israeli military said it struck Hezbollah weapons storage facilities in several towns, and accused the Iran-backed group of trying to rebuild its capabilities.

The Israeli military has kept up frequent air strikes in Lebanon in spite of a ceasefire sealed last November that sought to end more than a year of hostilities with Hezbollah. Wednesday's Lebanon raids came a day after 13 people were killed in a strike Israel said targeted Hamas members in a Palestinian refugee camp in the south of the country -- the deadliest attack in Lebanon since the truce came into effect.

Also on Wednesday, Israel's top leaders visited Israeli troops stationed inside Syrian territory, in a buffer zone intended to separate the two countries' forces. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu told troops that their presence had "immense importance" to safeguard Israel. The visit was sharply condemned by Damascus, which called it "a serious violation of Syria's sovereignty and territorial integrity", and reiterated its "firm demand" that Israel withdraw its forces from Syrian territory.

Trump signs bill to release Jeffrey Epstein case files after fighting it for months

WASHINGTON. (Agency)

President Donald Trump signed legislation Wednesday that compels his administration to release files on convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, bowing to political pressure from his own party after initially resisting those efforts.

Trump could have chosen to release many of the files on his own months ago. "Democrats have used the 'Epstein' issue, which affects them far more than the Republican Party, in order to try and distract from our AMAZING Victories," Trump said in a social media post as he announced he had signed the bill. Now, the bill requires the Justice Department to release all files and communications related to Epstein, as well as any information about the investigation into his death in a federal prison in 2019, within 30 days. It allows for redactions about Epstein's victims for ongoing federal investigations, but DOJ cannot withhold information due to "embarrassment, reputational harm, or political sensitivity.

It was a remarkable turn of events for

what was once a farfetched effort to force the disclosure of case files from an odd congressional coalition of Democrats, one GOP antagonist of the president, and a handful of erstwhile



Trump loyalists. As recently as last week, the Trump administration even summoned one Republican proponent of releasing the files, Rep. Lauren Boebert of Colorado, to the Situation Room to discuss the matter, although she did not change her mind. But over the weekend, Trump did a sharp U-turn on the files once it became clear that congressional action was inevitable. He insisted the Epstein matter had become a distraction to the GOP

agenda and indicated he wanted to move on. "I just don't want Republicans to take their eyes off all of the Victories that we've had," Trump said in a social media post Tuesday afternoon, explaining the rationale for his abrupt about-face. The House passed the legislation on a 427-1 vote, with Rep. Clay Higgins, R-La., being the sole dissenter. He argued that the bill's language could lead to the release of information on innocent people mentioned in the federal investigation. The Senate later approved it unanimously, skipping a formal vote.

It's long been established that Trump had been friends with Epstein, the disgraced financier who was close to the world's elite. But the president has consistently said he did not know of Epstein's crimes and had cut ties with him long ago. Before Trump returned to the White House for a second term, some of his closest political allies helped fuel conspiracy theories about the government's handling of the Epstein case, asserting a cover-up of potentially incriminating information in those files.

Elon Musk's 'Thank You' Note To Trump After "You Are So Lucky" Reminder

world . (Agency)

After a bitter fallout, US President Donald Trump and Elon Musk seem to be back to being 'buddies' after the Republican leader welcomed the billionaire businessman to the White House for dinner with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman. During his business-focused speech at the event, Trump gave not one, but three shout-outs to Musk. "You are so lucky I am with you, Elon," the Republican leader said while touting new tax-bill deductions for domestic cars.

He then joked and said, "Has he ever thanked me properly?" The Tesla boss later did "thank" Trump for all he has "done for America and the world".

"I would like to thank President Trump for all he has done for America and the world," Musk wrote on X, along with pictures of him standing alongside Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, NVIDIA CEO Jensen Huang and Trump at the US-Saudi Investment Forum in Washington, DC. Musk attended the White House event months after his stint as the head of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). He



held the post from January until May 30, when Trump announced Musk would be leaving his post once his special government employee contract ended.

Days after his exit, Musk, whom Trump once called his 'first buddy', unleashed his true feelings about the president's agenda and budget plans with the "Big Beautiful Bill", a behemoth government spending plan.

Reunion Party?

According to a New York Times report, Musk's allies are planning a big party to celebrate the billionaire's time working with Trump. The report said that dozens of people who worked for Musk under the so-called Department of Government Efficiency will gather in Austin this weekend for a reunion gathering. Musk himself is also expected to attend the event, though his plans could yet change, the publication reported, quoting a source. The two-day festivities will be at a high-end hotel where Musk often holes up in a suite and are organised by DOGE leaders, it added.

US Judge Revives Contempt Proceeding Against Trump Officials

Washington . (Agency)

A US judge on Wednesday said he was resuming his long-stalled court proceeding to determine whether Trump administration officials willfully violated a court order by deporting hundreds of men to El Salvador in March. US District Judge James Boasberg said he would demand sworn testimony from administration officials to determine whether they defied his March court order to turn around aircraft that were removing the men from US territory. "It seems that a factual inquiry is in order, and the best way to proceed would appear to be bringing in witnesses and having them testify under oath," Boasberg said during the hour-long status conference. A three-judge panel of a federal appeals court halted the inquiry earlier this year. But a larger panel of appellate judges on Friday said Boasberg "remains free to require the

government to identify the decision makers who directed the potentially contemptuous actions and to carefully consider next steps." Boasberg's remarks on Wednesday breathed new life into his standoff with the Trump administration over the limits of presidential power. By conducting the criminal contempt proceedings, which can result in fines or other forms of censure, Boasberg has drawn the ire of Trump allies, who say he has overstepped. The Rich Will Get 'Fit', And Poor Will Be Lectured - That's The Woman Who Gave Indian Children In Saudi Arabia A ClassroBoasberg asked the Justice Department to submit a proposal on November 24 outlining their proposed next steps. Boasberg also requested a similar proposal from lawyers who brought the litigation before him on behalf of the deported men. The Justice Department has disagreed with

Boasberg's interpretation of the appeals court order issued last week, asserting he lacks jurisdiction to conduct contempt proceedings. The Justice Department has also argued that the Trump administration did not willfully defy any court orders. Boasberg has been hearing a lawsuit brought on behalf of alleged Venezuelan gang members removed from the US under the rarely invoked Alien Enemies Act. Boasberg in April concluded the Trump administration appeared to have acted "in bad faith" when it hurriedly assembled three deportation flights on March 15 at the same time that he was conducting emergency court proceedings to assess the legality of the effort. The Venezuelan men at the center of the litigation were released from a Salvadoran prison this summer and returned to Venezuela as part of a US-brokered prisoner swap.

US Peace Proposal To See Ukraine Ceding Land After Russian Strike Kills 26

The proposal appears to repeat Russia's maximalist terms to end the war -- demands consistently rejected by Ukraine as tantamount to capitulation.

Ukraine . (Agency)

A new US peace proposal would see Kyiv ceding land and more than halving its army, a source told AFP Wednesday, as a Russian strike in the west of Ukraine killed 26 people, including three children. The proposal appears to repeat Russia's maximalist terms to end the war -- demands consistently rejected by Ukraine as tantamount to capitulation. The surprise initiative comes as Russian missiles hit the city of Ternopil, far from the front line, in one of the deadliest attacks on western Ukraine since the invasion began in 2022. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky's

efforts to re-engage US President Donald Trump's administration in the peace process during a visit to Turkey fell flat after an American envoy thought to be joining him did not make the trip. The draft US peace proposal provides for "recognition of Crimea and other regions that the Russians have taken" and "reduction of the army to 400,000 personnel", a source familiar with it, who did not wish to be identified, told AFP. It would also see Ukraine giving up all long-range weapons. "An important nuance is that we don't understand whether this is really Trump's story" or "his entourage's", the official added. It was "unclear" what Russia was supposed to do in return, according to the source. At the same time, US Army Secretary Daniel Driscoll arrived in Kyiv, leading a high-profile Pentagon delegation to meet Ukrainian officials and find ways to settle the conflict, US broadcaster CBS News said, citing the US military. Driscoll met Ukrainian Defence Minister Denys Shmygal on Wednesday. Ukraine's top military commander Oleksandr Syrsky said he had held a "productive" meeting with the US delegation. "I once again stressed that

reinforcing the protection of Ukraine's airspace, expanding our long-range strike capabilities against enemy military targets and maintaining and stabilising the front line will undermine the offensive potential of the adversary," he said in social media posts. American media outlet Axios earlier reported Moscow and Washington had been working on a secret plan to end the almost four-year war. The Kremlin declined to comment on the report, later saying there was nothing new in the peace settlement progress. AFP has contacted the White House for comment. Russia now occupies around a fifth of Ukrainian territory, much of it ravaged by

fighting. "Too Late' In Ternopil, AFP saw dozens of rescuers searching through rubble after cruise missiles slammed into apartment blocks, using cranes to reach the destroyed building. Thick grey smoke engulfed the streets just after explosions were heard at 7:00 am (0500 GMT). City officials reported the fires had caused chlorine levels in the air to spike to six times the norm, and called on Ternopil's 200,000 residents to stay home and close their windows. Wrapped in a pink blanket, 46-year-old Oksana waited for news of her 20-year-old son, Bohdan. "I went to work, and my son stayed at home. I called him from the minibus and said 'Bohdan, get dressed and come out,' she said. "He said: 'Mum, don't worry, everything will be fine.' But it was too late," she told AFP. Her sister, Natalia Bachinska, said the family lived on the ninth floor. "Their apartment is completely gone... He still has not been found." The state emergency service said 26 people, including three children, were killed, and another 92 people, including 18 children, wounded.



NEWS BOX

Gujarat govt to boost green cover along highways, railway tracks**Gandhinagar . (Agency)**

State environment and forest minister Arjun Modhwadia said on Wednesday that the govt has chalked out plans to carry out a statewide tree-plantation drive in vacant areas along national and state highways and railway tracks, through public-private partnerships. The minister chaired a meeting of the municipal council in Gandhinagar on Wednesday. Mayors, deputy mayors and standing committee chairpersons of municipal corporations attended the meeting, alongside govt officials. Asking elected office-bearers to nurture trees being planted in various civic bodies, the minister said that the state govt plans to plant trees in vacant areas along all national highways, state highways and railway tracks through public-private partnerships in the future. He said the govt is taking concerted steps to increase the state's green cover. An official statement said the minister lauded the work by voluntary bodies like Sadhbhava, which has planted trees along highways in Somnath, Porbandar and Devbhumi Dwarka districts. He said the NGO has a 100% tree care rate.

Woman assaults daughter with machete, tries to end life in Bengaluru**BENGALURU. (Agency)**

A 55-year-old woman allegedly attacked her daughter with a machete and later tried to die by suicide inside a temple premises in Sampigehalli police limits on Wednesday. The accused Sujatha (55) and her daughter Ramya (26), a resident of Agrahara Layout, sustained serious injuries but survived. They are undergoing treatment in hospital.

According to police, Sujatha had taken her daughter to Harihareshwara Temple around 3.45am, on the pretext of a special puja. She allegedly assaulted Ramya with a machete when the latter bowed before the deity, and then slit her own throat in an attempt to end her life inside the temple premises. Hearing screams, locals rushed to the spot and found mother and daughter lying in a pool of blood. They immediately shifted them to hospital and alerted the police. A senior police officer said there is a suspicion that Sujatha may have tried to perform human sacrifice due to depression and repeated deaths in the family, but nothing is confirmed yet. "A clear picture will emerge only after the victims are discharged from hospital, and we can record detailed statements," a senior police officer said. According to a preliminary probe, there have been a series of deaths in the family over the past five to six years, which had pushed Sujatha into depression. Her husband, mother and three sisters had died. Two years ago, Ramya's son passed away, and just days ago, another of Ramya's children also died. These tragedies allegedly drove Sujatha to attempt to kill her daughter and herself.

Malayalam losing appeal among SSLC students

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, (Agency) Are school students in Kerala steadily losing interest in Malayalam as a medium of instruction? As per the data from the Pareeksha Bhawan, the number of students who wrote SSLC exams in Malayalam has seen a significant fall from 55.93% in the 2018-19 academic year to 36.56% in 2024-25. Of the 4,27,017 students who appeared this March, only 1,56,161 wrote the exam in Malayalam medium, which is 87,000 less than the 2,43,409 students who appeared in 2019.

Education experts attributed the fall to the public perception that studying in English medium will help students in future. Pareeksha Bhawan officials said the drop was due to the reduction in students studying in the Malayalam medium. A senior education department official said the ratio of English to Malayalam admission had nearly reached 70:30 in primary classes. "The key reason is the public perception that English is somehow a better medium of instruction," said K Anvar Sadath, CEO of Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE). However, choosing English as the medium may not always translate into results, he said. Malayalam medium no. expected to fall in coming years. "We have noticed that the standard of students' English in some Malayalam medium schools is excellent. So it is not the medium, but the language activities carried out in a school that would help improve communication skills," he said.

Jayaprakash RK, director of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), said the shift was an indicator of the rural-urban continuum Kerala had attained, and that the middle-class belt had widened. "So, most parents wish to get their children admitted to English medium schools."

Maharashtra offers incentives to boost rental housing development in Mumbai Metropolitan Region**Mumbai. (Agency)**

Developers are being offered a slew of incentives to create rental housing in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR). From a complete waiver of income tax on rental income for 10 years to a waiver of property tax for 5 years and a concession in GST, the Maharashtra Housing Area Development Authority (Mhada) has also proposed an additional floor space index of 0.5 in Mumbai and 0.3 in MMR free of cost. On Wednesday, Mhada vice-president Sanjeev Jaiswal made a presentation of the draft rental housing policy before builders, inviting their suggestions to further improve the policy. Mhada has been appointed as the nodal agency for the rental policy. He said Mhada has proposed a reduction in development charges by 50% and the amount collected by the local body to be returned to the housing society as a corpus for its maintenance. To ensure the operation and maintenance of rental housing, the authority has strongly pushed for full exemption of property tax for the first 5 years and only 50% property tax for the next 5 years in the policy. It has also called for a waiver of stamp duty and GST, besides limiting the interest on financial institution lending to the project to 6%. The policy has also proposed a public-private partnership or a hybrid model, as well as the

govt allowing long-term lease of land to enable rental housing. The draft policy also allows a developer to exit the rental housing project by allowing the tenements to be sold to the tenants or in the open market. Jaiswal said Mhada has drafted the Rental Act as

sections, and is a viable alternative to slums. The aim is to provide rental housing and later convert it to ownership, he said.

One of the major problems in rental housing, he said, is the time taken for dispute resolution in rental leasing, which is anywhere between 5

and 15 years, paralysing the rental market and putting both owner and tenant at significant risk. "Around 67% of cases dragged beyond 5 years and only 10% of cases resolved within 2 years," said Jaiswal. He mentioned that a rental housing portal is proposed to be set up, which will provide information on all rental housing that will be made available under the policy.

The state govt, in its housing policy, has proposed creating more rental housing across Mumbai and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region to meet the housing needs as it works to make the region an economic growth hub by 2030. The state govt has set a target of building 30 lakh homes in the region by 2030, and MHADA has been entrusted with the task of building 8 lakh homes, which includes rental housing.

On Tuesday, the state cabinet approved a cluster redevelopment policy for all Mhada layouts in the city that are above 20 acres in size, doing away with the need for consent from residents. Only consent from housing societies is mandatory for the redevelopment.

**Telangana minister Azharuddin taps contacts to comfort kin of bus accident victims****HYDERABAD.(Agency)**

Minister for Minority Welfare and Public Enterprises Mohammed Azharuddin has been stationed in Madinah to supervise all arrangements and interventions after the tragic bus accident involving Umrah pilgrims from Telangana. He reached Saudi Arabia on Monday night and has since been coordinating relief and support efforts on the ground. Accompanied by Minorities Welfare Secretary B Shafiqullah and MLA Majid Hussain, Azharuddin has been in continuous coordination with the Consul General of India in Jeddah, Fahad Ahmed Khan Suri, and senior Saudi officials. He also met Indian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Suhel Ajaz Khan in Riyadh, briefed him on the situation, and sought further facilitation. According to the

well as the rules. A presentation will be made to the CM and housing minister and then presented before the legislature, he said. Jaiswal mentioned there are 21 lakh homes across Maharashtra that are currently unoccupied, of which 44% are in the MMR. Mhada and Cidco, he said, are sitting on a huge unsold inventory. He stated that rental housing is to cater to migrants, students, labourers, working women, tourists, disaster-affected persons, project-affected persons, housing for the homeless, and the economically weaker

and logistical requirements are cleared without delay.

His active involvement has eased coordination with various agencies on the ground, it said. The minority welfare minister also met the family representative of Shoeb, the lone survivor, and assured him of full support. He personally received the family members of the deceased, who arrived in Madinah to participate in the funeral rites.

Their travel, accommodation, and other arrangements have been handled by the Minority Welfare department under Azharuddin's supervision, including assistance with the identification of bodies and DNA matching. The Minority Welfare minister remains in constant touch with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, updating him on every development, intervention, and support measure underway.

**Vellore man bitten by dog in June dies of suspected rabies after skipping vaccine doses****VELLORE. (Agency)**

A 47-year-old man from Pichanatham in Karadikudi panchayat in Anaicut died on Tuesday due to acute encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), suspected to be caused by rabies. The deceased was identified as V Saravanan, who was bitten by a stray dog four months ago.

According to health department sources, a stray dog had bitten him on June 9. He was unable to take the anti-rabies vaccine that day as he was drunk. Officials at the Anaicut GH asked him to come the next day without consuming alcohol. He took the first dose of the anti-rabies vaccine on June 10. Although GH staff told him to take the remaining three doses and avoid alcohol on the days he is supposed to take vaccines, Saravanan did not follow up. His son S Tamilarasan told TNIE that his father was an alcoholic. Officials said the postmortem will reveal the exact cause of death. Health department sources said he

began showing symptoms on November 14. He visited a private clinic the next day and the Anaicut GH on November 16. The GH referred him to Government Vellore Medical College and Hospital (GVMCH) at Adukkamparai the same day. The Veppankuppam Police have registered a case of unnatural death. Karadikudi panchayat president told TNIE that there are about 100 stray dogs in the nine villages under the panchayat. "They are creating several problems for the public. Last month too, another person was bitten by a stray dog. They are, however, taking the vaccine regularly." A senior panchayat official in Vellore said anti-rabies vaccines are being administered in the villages daily. Sterilisation, however, is progressing slowly as there is no dedicated place to carry out the operations. It is carried out yearly. "We have sterilised about 2,000 dogs in 100 rural villages in Vellore."

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) clubbed two applications regarding an alleged illegal stone quarry behind the Tata Cancer Hospital at Kharhgar and fixed a joint hearing for Dec 5, its Western Zonal Bench at Navi Mumbai said. The move gained significance after RTI responses from Cidco and the State Environment Department to NatConnect Foundation confirmed that no permissions were granted for the quarry's operations. During the initial hearing of NatConnect Foundation's plea, the bench noted serious concerns over dust emissions, quarry blasts, and vibrations affecting cancer patients, specialised medical equipment, and hospital structures. In July, the NGT's Principal Bench took suo motu cognisance of media reports by NatConnect Foundation

and the Kharhgar Hill and Wetland Forum campaign, which cited RTI replies from the Raigad district administration confirming the absence of any quarrying permission. This prompted the Principal Bench to direct the Western Zonal Bench to take up the case. NatConnect filed its application seeking the immediate cessation of quarrying and crushing activities, arguing that the dust threatened sensitive radiological and research equipment, while repeated blasting "weakened" parts of the structure. The application also cited RTI information from ACTREC, which comes under the Department of Atomic Energy. Kumar escalated the issue to the Prime Minister's Office. The Centre asked the Maharashtra govt to inquire, and the state referred the matter to the

MMCB scam: Gujarat high court sets aside chartered accountancy firm's debarment, directs ICAI to take fresh decision

Ahmedabad . (Agency)

The Gujarat high court on Wednesday rejected the recommendation to suspend the practice of a chartered accountancy firm for five years. The firm was allegedly found hiding irregularities during the audit of Mahaavpara Mercantile Cooperative Bank Ltd, which fell victim to a huge scam just a year after its audit. The HC did not accept the recommendation made in 2006 by the Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India to remove a CA firm, S N Valera & Co, from the register of the institute and debarring it from practice for five years. Since there is a lapse of two decades, it has directed the council to take a fresh decision on the role of the CA firm within three months. According to the case details, the firm was empanelled by the central registrar of MMCB. It audited the bank accounts in 1999, but the registrar of cooperative societies ordered a re-audit for the year 1999-2000. In the re-audit, it was found that S N Valera & Co had not disclosed and reported serious irregularities in the accounts of the bank, and Valera failed to disclose the material misstatements known to him in the financial statement. Thus, he showed gross negligence in performing his professional duties.

The firm faced serious charges, and the registrar filed a complaint against Valera in 2002 before the council. After an inquiry, the council in 2005 recommended the HC for removal of the firm's name from the register for five years, as the firm was found guilty of eight charges out of 16 levelled against it. Two decades later, the bench of Justice A S Suparia and Justice Pranav Trivedi stated, "In the present case, all the facets of the application of mind and consideration of all the relevant aspects are missing in the report of the council. Thus, only on this sole ground, the report and the recommendation of the council do not qualify to be accepted." It further stated.

Navi Mumbai's illegal quarrying issue hearing set for Dec 5**No drain for water pain! PWD piles on agony with blundering tile work****KOCHI. (Agency)**

For long, the narrow yet notable Kaniyampuzha Road, which links Vyttila to Eroor, has remained in a poor condition, with the stretch prone to waterlogging. The condition deteriorated to such an extent that the nearly 2km-long pothole-ridden section even saw the "downfall" of several two-wheeler riders. Residents heaved a sigh of relief when the PWD finally decided to act. It raised the ground level at the section where the issue was gravest before laying interlock tiles, replacing the mortar. The work was carried out on a war-footing and completed in a week's time. Finally, the department opened the road for traffic on Thursday.

But that did not dissipate the anger of the locals. The reason: The department "forgot" to construct a drain along the side of the road as initially promised. Now, stormwater threatens to enter shops and houses that line the stretch when it rains. "We were relieved when they took up the work. But now the issue has been compounded. They promised

to build a small drain on one side of the road, but failed to do so. The contractor has left along with machinery and equipment. With no drain, the storm water will enter my shop. This was not an issue earlier," charged an angry Muraleedharan, who runs a provision store. "The issue has been exacerbated by the fact that KWA pipeline running underground has developed a leak. The KWA

should fix the issue urgently, to prevent the newly tiled road from deteriorating," said V C Jayendran, convenor, TRURA (Tripunithura Rajanagar Union of Residents' Association), an apex council of nearly 140 residents' associations. When contacted, a senior PWD official said there is currently no provision to drain the storm water. "There is confusion over where to

drain the water as two residents' associations are objecting to the discharge of water in their locality," he said. The authorities, meanwhile, are bent on not investing much on the stretch, as there is a proposal to develop the road as part of providing connectivity to the Seaport-Airport road, a six-km-long short cut from Vyttila to Kakkad and Infopark side. Former Tripunithura MLA M Swaraj even obtained an administrative sanction of Rs 10 crore for the road development. The approval covered the entire stretch from Vyttila-Kaniyampuzha-Eroor RoB to Labour Junction and then to Iruppanam near Traco Cable Company. However, the funds proved inadequate for execution as a preliminary study found that 462 cents (about 4 acres and 62 cents) of land was required to widen the road. "The fund proved to be grossly inadequate. The critical next step, securing necessary funds, never materialised, which stalled the road-widening project," a senior PWD official said.

An idea of India to remove stain on white coats

With the recent blasts near Delhi's Red Fort, the ugly head of terrorism once again became visible. The news reminded me of what former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee had said in 2002 at a gathering in Goa, immediately after the BJP's national executive meeting. Without mincing the words, he shared that when he had discussed the menace of terrorism with his Singaporean counterpart, the latter told him to make a correction and describe it as "Islamic terrorism". Vajpayee, as reported by the media, elaborated later stating that there are two "faces" of Islam: one "pious and peaceful", and the other "fundamentalist and militant". Vajpayee was neither the first nor the only. Well-known reformer Hamid Dalwai of the Muslim Satyashodhak Samaj had elaborately reflected on fundamentalist tendencies among Muslims. In a 2011 column, historian Ramchandra Guha quoted Dalwai to have said, "Unless a Muslim liberal intellectual class emerges, Indian Muslims will continue to cling to obscurantist medievalism, communalism, and will eventually perish both socially and culturally." A deeper analysis and elaborate thinking about Dalwai's observations has become relevant today as we see the emergence of 'white-coat terrorism'. Highly-educated persons falling for obscurantist ideas and religious fundamentalism, and ending up becoming extremists in their thinking and actions, is appalling to say the least. However, it is fairly established now that education cannot be looked at as an antidote to terrorist tendencies. What is required, in fact, is a structured academic programme aimed at enhancing the understanding of the idea of India, so as to ensure an enduring mindset change. The moot question then is how to re-present the idea of India before youngsters and try to inculcate a truly modern, forward-looking approach in the thinking of all youths—including Muslims—in India? There are at least five important points that need to be explained to next-gen India. The first is seeing the global community as one family. During the G20 presidency, India very thoughtfully selected its motto: 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'. The message is that all living beings are one family with a common future because it is intertwined with our collective responsible conduct. Our message of 'Vasudhaiva kutumbakam' or global community as one family, therefore, is not just theoretical. It is an undeniable truth, a fact of life. The second and the supremely important one is our spiritual democracy. This country never was and never could be a theocratic state. Our approach of 'Ekam sat, vipra bahuda vadanti' (Truth is one, the wise express it in different ways) absolutely rejects any monopolistic approach when it comes to ways of worship. This principle of 'ekam sat' is echoed even in the social context in the writings and speeches of great thinkers like Sarvepali Radhakrishnan. Almost a century ago, while delivering an Upton lecture at Harris Manchester College in Oxford, he said: "The world is now full of racial, cultural and religious misunderstandings... We are groping in a timid and tentative way for some device which would save us from our suicidal conflicts. Perhaps the Hindu (read: Indian) way of approaching the problem of religious conflicts may not be without its lessons for us." Importantly, spiritual or cultural democracy abhors any claim of supremacy over others. It nips a 'my way or highway' approach right in the bud. The third point stands on the shoulders of the second. It is about the fact that our apparent diversity is only the manifestation of our innate unity in myriad ways. The unity inherent to our diversity has enabled us not just to accommodate but also to celebrate our all-pervasive diversity. With diversity, naturally, comes the question of simultaneously aligning oneself with different identities—regional, linguistic and spiritual. The idea of India provides for frictionless coexistence of multiple identities in one individual. Also, the Hitopadesha tells us through a well-known shloka, 'Gramam janapadasya the svatmarthe prthivim tyajet'—abandon smaller identities to become part of a larger identity.

ONCE in a while, the trial of government files reveals more about the state of a republic than any constitutional argument. This is exemplified by the Uttar Pradesh government's bid to withdraw from prosecution in the Mohammed Akhlaq lynching case. It shows how political power tries to enter the courtroom, and how the law expects prosecutors and judges to hold the line. The 2015 killing of Akhlaq still lingers in public memory. A mob entered a house, dragged a man out and killed him on the basis of a rumour. The brutality shocked the conscience of the country and exposed the fragility of communal peace. The trial that followed was not just a legal process. It was a measure of whether the system could remain steady amid social tensions. In such a case, justice is not only about identifying the offenders. It is also about reaffirming the equal worth of every citizen. When the State itself attempts to end prosecution, the effect on the victim's family and public confidence is impossible to ignore. Section 321 of the now-repealed Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, allowed withdrawal from prosecution only after the public prosecutor independently assessed the facts and found that withdrawal was in public interest. The Supreme Court, in various judgments (for instance, Sheonandan Paswan), has said that the government may recommend, but it cannot command. The criminal procedure framework has been recast through the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). Section 321 is now Section 360 of the BNSS. The structure remains similar, but Parliament has added a significant safeguard through the following proviso:

"Provided further that no Court shall allow such withdrawal without giving an opportunity of being heard to the victim in the case." This express requirement shifts the balance in an important way. It recognises that the victim's voice is central to decisions that might close the doors of justice. It also ensures that the attempt to withdraw from prosecution cannot take place quietly or as a mere administrative formality. In a case like Akhlaq's, the safeguard is not a technicality. It is an essential check. A direction from a powerful government in a politically tense case rarely seems voluntary. It places a heavy duty on the prosecutor who must weigh the evidence carefully and refuse to become a vehicle for political convenience. If he examines the record with honesty, it is difficult to see how public interest supports withdrawal. A man was lynched in his own neighbourhood. The case exposed the deep unease felt by minorities in moments of communal fear. It is not a concocted case. It is not a case suited for private settlement. Ending prosecution would imply that the State can treat a lynching case as dispensable when the political mood changes. If the

prosecutor files an application under Section 360, the judge must look at it with great care. The proviso now requires the court to hear the victim's family before reaching any conclusion. This is not a mere courtesy. It is a substantive right. The judge must demand all supporting material. He/she must ask why withdrawal is sought at this stage. The judge must consider the broader public impact. Courts have rejected similar applications in the past when the motives were doubtful. A lynching case requires even stricter scrutiny. A firm refusal would not be an act of resistance. It would simply be an affirmation of judicial duty. The attempt to withdraw from prosecution in the Akhlaq case comes after efforts by the state

years. It puts them in the uncomfortable position of asking the State to pursue those who may live close by, which can carry social and personal risks. Accepting the withdrawal would be no less difficult. It would mean letting go of their search for justice and carrying the lifelong burden that the State treated their loss as negotiable. It would also send a troubling message to other victims of communal violence: that the system might not stand by them if political considerations pull the case in another direction. The new law acknowledges this hardship by giving victims a hearing. But the emotional, social and moral cost remains theirs to bear. The Indian system, by design, gives governments a formal channel to request withdrawal from prosecution.

The safety mechanism lies in the independence of prosecutors, the oversight of courts and now the statutory right of victims to be heard. In the US, State-level prosecution is led by independently elected district attorneys. Federal prosecution is led by attorneys who, though appointed by the President, function within a system that expects professional independence. Internal Justice Department rules, the possibility of congressional oversight and public scrutiny make direct political instructions in individual cases far harder to implement. A President cannot order a local prosecutor to drop a murder case. If the case is federal, any attempt to influence the process triggers a debate within the department, resistance from career officials and rapid media attention. Misuse is still possible, but it must work through informal pressure rather than a direct statutory route like Section 360. The Indian model, with a formal withdrawal mechanism, places much heavier responsibility on prosecutors, judges and now victims to resist attempts to steer justice. In the Akhlaq case, the path ahead is clear. The court must demand full disclosure of the reasons for withdrawal. It must give his family a fair chance to speak. It must assess whether the application is grounded in public interest or driven by political pressure. If the court finds no genuine basis for withdrawal, it must refuse consent. Such an order would reassure the public that justice is not a seasonal exercise. It would help the family members in their search for closure. It would also remind the State that prosecution cannot be switched on and off depending on the mood of the moment. A republic remains steady only when its institutions resist pressure with calm strength. Prosecutors must remember whom they serve. Judges must remember the promise they guard. Victims must be treated with dignity, not as obstacles to political comfort. If the Akhlaq prosecution continues on its proper path, it will show that the justice system still has the fortitude to stand firm when it matters most.



government to use withdrawal powers to cleanse the record of senior political leaders. Shortly after assuming office, the government sought to withdraw several cases against the chief minister and his colleagues. Some of those matters involved serious accusations. They were said to be politically motivated. Even if that were true in part, the sweeping nature of the attempt gave the impression that the State was using withdrawal powers not as a safety valve but as a political tool. It set a precedent that now casts a shadow on other cases. It suggested that the law could be managed to ease the burden of those who command political strength. The proviso to Section 360 gives Akhlaq's family members a voice, but it also places a heavy responsibility on them. They must either oppose the withdrawal and continue to fight for justice, or accept it and surrender hope of a full trial. Both paths are painful.

Opposing the withdrawal requires the family to stand before the court and argue that the prosecution of their own neighbours, people they once knew, must continue. It forces them to reopen wounds they have carried for

Bangladesh democracy can't be rebuilt with vendetta politics

New Delhi must brace for a difficult phase, especially as political uncertainty in Dhaka intensifies ahead of an election that may not see the participation of Awami League

The death sentence handed to former Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina may carry the weight of legal procedure, but it also carries the unmistakable smell of political vendetta. The interim government led by Mohammed Yunus termed the verdict "historic" and "profound", while urging calm. Yet the very insistence on restraint amid an uneasy political climate reveals the depth of the fault lines running through Bangladesh. Hasina was found guilty on three counts—incitement, ordering killings, and failing to prevent atrocities during last year's student-led uprising. The tribunal delivered the stark punishment of the death sentence on two counts and imprisonment until natural death on the third. For a country traumatised by 2024's turmoil, such choices are incendiary. After the uprising and subsequent crackdown, UN human-rights investigators estimated about 1,400 deaths, documenting several cases of point-blank shootings, deliberate maiming, and arbitrary arrest. Audio recordings verified independently also painted a grim picture of the state's excesses. Yet the ruling comes with a troubling context. Bangladesh today is governed by an



interim arrangement whose legitimacy derives from crisis, not from the people's mandate. The country has not stabilised under Yunus's stewardship. Dhaka's streets—filled with protesters and burning buses in the days before the verdict—testify to a nation drifting further from a much-needed equilibrium. But the rule of law and political stability cannot be rebuilt atop a foundation of retribution.

Make no mistake: Hasina, for her part, must own her mistakes—the failure to stop excessive force, the erosion of democratic institutions, and intolerance of dissent under her watch. But it is extreme to equate political accountability with execution. Justice should illuminate a path forward, not deepen the descent into instability.

For India, the moment demands sobriety. New Delhi must brace for a difficult phase in bilateral ties, especially as political uncertainty in Dhaka intensifies ahead of an election that may not see the participation of Hasina's Awami League. But it must also heed the larger reality that Bangladesh is not merely its government—it is also its people, its shared culture, its intertwined economic future, and its security concerns. To lose sight of that would be to imperil one of the subcontinent's most vital relationships.

For itself, Bangladesh has to decide whether this verdict marks the beginning of a reckoning or the continuation of vengeful politics. That choice will shape the region for years to come.

A ruling that turns man's best friends into enemies

The Supreme Court order to remove stray dogs from institutions and keep them at new shelters is unimplementable, unscientific, and inhumane. It goes against the birth control rules that have worked well in Jaipur, Chennai and Bengaluru, and raises the prospect of canine Auschwitzes coming up

Three things have survived in India through the ages: poverty, gold, and dogs. Through the ravages and miseries that this country specialises in and perpetuates, the triad has stood its ground. Poverty remains reassuringly present from the Vedic age to now. The value of gold endures as well. And without dogs, even the Mahabharata is incomplete. From this list of Indian eternals, dogs will soon be removed—for ill-thought-out reasons. The Supreme Court's order on November 7 directing the removal and indefinite sequestration of stray dogs from institutional areas—schools, hospitals, stations, and government buildings—is a counterproductive attempt to prioritise human safety. Indefinite, for example, means what? A lifetime? For all time to come if their offspring are taken into account? The order will not deliver what it aims for. By commanding that dogs not be released back to their original territories after sterilisation and vaccination, the ruling overrides the scientifically validated principle of territorial return mandated by the Animal Birth Control (ABC) Rules, 2023. Street dogs are integral to India's urban ecosystem. They act as essential, unbudgeted pest controllers, scavenging organic waste and managing rodent populations—a service that mitigates the risk of diseases like leptospirosis. They provide security and companionship. To forcibly uproot them is to betray the evolutionary trust of these sentient beings.

The true cruelty of the order lies in the long-term effects of sequestration. Relocating dogs to overcrowded, underfunded shelters disrupts their territorial stability, inducing extreme stress and behavioural changes. Experts warn that isolation in such facilities, often characterised by excessive noise and limited exercise, elevates cortisol levels and fosters aggression.

Critically, if dogs breed in these confined environments—which is inevitable given the scale of the operation—the resulting generation will grow up learning fear, rather than familiarity, toward humans.



The adoption of the new policy will create a new generation of feral underclass dogs. This defeats the purpose of the SC order, which is to resolve the human-dog conflict. The World Health Organization and the World Organisation for Animal Health advocate the catch-neuter-return model precisely because releasing stable, vaccinated dogs back into their territories is the most effective way to stabilise populations, eliminate rabies, and prevent aggressive, unsterilised packs from migrating. The order's quixotic nature is exposed by the sheer numbers of India's stray population, estimated at 5-6 crore. Even if the target is limited to institutional areas, it means displacing hundreds of thousands of animals in major cities. Delhi alone has an estimated 8 lakh strays. Housing these animals would require massive new construction. The estimated cost for

establishing the requisite infrastructure across India reaches as high as ₹15,000 crore, coupled with an unsustainable recurring operational cost annually for feeding and care. Typically for India, what this means is that the money or food will never reach the dogs. They will end up eating each other. New York and London operate highly centralised, mechanised, and enclosed waste systems—using sealed containers, strict collection schedules, and penalties for improper disposal. This infrastructure effectively cuts off dogs' primary food source, ensuring that the stray population remains naturally minimal. Without this level of sanitation reform in India, the opposite of what the SC order intended is guaranteed. The second critical difference is the infrastructure of ownership and enforcement. NYC and London primarily deal with lost

pets, not a large, co-existing stray population. The UK mandates microchipping for all dogs, and NYC enforces strict licensing and penalties. This means almost every captured animal can be returned to its owner or quickly rehomed through a well-funded animal welfare network.

In India, pet ownership registration is weak, and the vast majority of street dogs have no single owner. Therefore, every captured animal instantly becomes a permanent, costly liability for the state—a burden that Delhi's or Lucknow's municipal corporations simply cannot absorb. The Western model of impoundment is only feasible when the population is low, traceable, and primarily lost pets; applying it to India's crores of community dogs without the underlying civic foundation is a dangerous fantasy.

India has proven alternative models—relatively successful ABC programmes. Jaipur is a globally-recognised success story. A sustained effort between 1994 and 2002 saw the city achieve a sterilisation and vaccination rate of 65 percent of female dogs in the targeted areas. This resulted in a documented 28 percent reduction in dog population. Similarly, Chennai and Bengaluru have seen successes when their ABC programmes were implemented with commitment.

The SC order, while attempting to address a public health emergency, fundamentally ignores scientific consensus and the lessons of both failed culling policies in India's past and the functioning models of the West.

India must invest heavily in fully funding the humane ABC rules, drawing lessons from Jaipur, and undertaking the essential task of modernising its municipal waste infrastructure. Only then can human safety and animal welfare be sustainably reconciled, honouring the constitutional duty of compassion that coexistence demands. Failing which, prepare for a future where we will see canine Auschwitzes. This SC order turns friends into enemies on an industrial scale.

NEWS BOX

Special intensive revision in Gujarat: Distribution of single enumeration form instead of 2 sparks confusion among voters

Gandhinagar. (Agency)

As Gujarat undergoes a special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, voters in both urban and rural pockets are reporting a basic discrepancy: they have received only one enumeration form instead of the mandatory two. While the office of the chief electoral officer (CEO) insists no complaints have reached them so far, residents in Ahmedabad as well as several rural areas say otherwise. BLOs in some areas admit the one-form approach is deliberate. Officials say the intention is to prevent repeated mistakes, not bypass procedure. While the office of the chief electoral officer (CEO), Gujarat, maintains it has not received any complaints so far, booth-level officers (BLOs) and local officials admit that in certain cases only one form was handed out to "ensure that the voters do not duplicate errors in both EFs".

In Maninagar East, some residents said that while their neighbours received two forms per registered voter, they were given just one. "My BLO told me that I could just take a picture of the form signed by him," said a resident of the society. BLO Jaimin Makwana said the decision was intentional in select cases, as voters often repeated the same mistakes on both forms when filling them simultaneously. "Issuing only one form helps ensure that accurate details are captured in the second form," he said. A similar pattern was reported from Malia town in Morbi district. Ramesh Parmar, a resident, said that he and others received just one form and they made a representation to the authorities regarding this.

368 wards under five Greater Bengaluru Authority corporations

BENGALURU. (Agency)

The Karnataka government on Wednesday published the final notification on ward delimitation, formally recognising 368 wards for Bengaluru's city administration under the Greater Bengaluru Authority, to be governed by five city corporations.

A draft notification issued on September 29 had proposed the same number of wards across the five corporations, 63 in Bengaluru Central, 72 in Bengaluru North, 50 in Bengaluru East, 111 in Bengaluru West, and 72 in Bengaluru South, and invited objections and suggestions.

The Urban Development Department received 4,892 objections and suggestions, all of which were examined by the Wards Delimitation Commission. The final notification states that ward numbering within each Assembly constituency follows the 'serpentine' or 'boustrophedon' system, which will be continued in subsequent constituencies as well. Several ward names have been changed, and certain boundary lines have been revised to mark roads as ward limits clearly. The government has now cleared a major hurdle for conducting the long-pending municipal elections, overdue since September 10, 2020. Officials noted that with Bengaluru's population expanding rapidly from 84 lakh in 2011 to an estimated 144 lakh in 2025, the delimitation exercise was essential for effective administration. Following the final notification, the government has also completed the ward-wise reservation list as of November 30.

14-year-old TN girl dies by suicide after accusing her teachers of harassment

COIMBATORE. (Agency)

A 14-year-old Class IX student of a government school in Valparai, who attempted suicide a few days ago, succumbed to her injuries at Coimbatore Medical College Hospital on Wednesday night. Her death has triggered a bitter dispute between the family and the police, with the grieving relatives alleging persistent harassment by school teachers as the reason behind the extreme step.

The deceased, M. Sanjana, was a Class IX student at Rottikadai Government High School and resided in Valparai with her parents and younger sister.

According to authorities, the incident unfolded on October 10 when Sanjana was admitted to Valparai Government Hospital with severe burn injuries. She reportedly stated that she had attempted to take her own life while alone at home. As her condition deteriorated, she was transferred to hospitals in Pollachi and then to CMCH, where she succumbed to her injuries.

Following her death, her family released a video statement recorded by Sanjana. In the video, the girl levelled serious allegations against three of her teachers. She claimed that her English teacher had mocked her appearance in front of the entire class for nearly a week. She also alleged that she was wrongly grouped with "slow learners" despite good academic performance and cited harassment by her Tamil and Science teachers as the reason for her extreme step. Acting on these allegations, Sanjana's father, Sakthivel Kumaran, filed a formal complaint with the district police on Thursday morning, demanding legal action against the teachers.

BMC blasts MMRDA over damage to Mumbai roads, sewer lines due to Metro and bridge constructions

Chandigarh. (Agency)

As infrastructure works take a toll on civic utilities, BMC commissioner Bhushan Gagrani, in an unusually sharp communication, wrote to the MMRDA chief Tuesday pointing out multiple road cavities and sewer network damage allegedly caused during Metro and bridge constructions. He said Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority is responsible for fixing potholes/defects on roads that are part of its ongoing projects. The letter, a copy of which is with TOI, cites the Andheri West Metro station cave-in of Oct 31, which remains unrepairs even 20 days later, as a key trigger. When TOI reached out to MMRDA authorities, they said they are yet to receive any such letter from BMC. The BMC commissioner also asked MMRDA chief to instruct the staff to safeguard utilities such as sewer lines, water lines, and roads during various project works.

TOI had reported how a cave-in on the southbound arm of the road below the Andheri West Metro station disrupted traffic during peak hours, forcing authorities to convert the northbound lane into a two-way stretch. Vehicles have been piling up till Fun Republic junction, especially in the evenings, complained local residents and motorists. According to the BMC's inspection mentioned in Tuesday's letter, Metro Line 2A pillars were built adjacent to old sewer lines from Andheri (W) to Dahisar (W). Heavy vibrations during piling reportedly collapsed sewer pipes and damaged manholes, leading to prolonged



seepage that weakened soil and caused the road cavity, stated the letter. It also mentioned poor road reinstatement — including excessive grit and no concrete slab reinforcement — further worsening the damage. The letter also flags a similar cavity reported at Kandivli on Aug 18 and lists several instances of sewer lines being hit during Metro Lines 2B, 3, 6, 7A, and 9 work. The letter has additionally accused MMRDA of carrying out utility diversions without mandatory BMC approvals, alleging that many such works are defective and fall short of civic standard norms. "Henceforth, if

such cavity formation incidents occur/are observed in the areas where MMRDA has carried out the works in the past, then rectification should be on the part of MMRDA. In view of the above, it is requested to instruct the staff concerned to safeguard the existing utilities such as sewer lines, water lines, and roads in coordination with BMC staff during the various projects undertaken by MMRDA and get the damaged utilities rectified and also resolve the pending issues as mentioned without further delay to avoid any mishap at the site," concluded the letter, dated November 17.

NFR General Manager Inspects Redeveloped Kamakhayguri Station Reviews Passenger Amenities and Safety Assets

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 20th November: Shri Chetan Kumar Shrivastava, General Manager of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) conducted an inspection of Kamakhayguri & New Coochbehar Railway Stations in West Bengal on 19th November, 2025. He was accompanied by Sri Devendra Singh, Divisional Railway Manager, Alipurduar Division along with senior officials from NFR Headquarters and Alipurduar Division. At Kamakhayguri, the General Manager inspected all the three platforms, the 12-metre wide Foot Over Bridge, lifts, both-side circulating areas, waiting halls, lounge, passenger amenities, parking area, Station Master's Room and ticket counters. The

inspection focused on improvements in passenger amenities, organisations and public interest



passenger safety, cleanliness and overall asset upkeep. A meeting was also held with representatives of the local MP, MLA, business

ties, including the Station Superintendent and Station Master's panel, combined crew lobby, crew running room, waiting halls, retiring room and dormitory alongwith the circulating area of the station. The inspection focused on assessing the quality of amenities and ensuring that passenger centric infrastructure is maintained efficiently and in line with operational requirements. The inspection across both stations aimed at strengthening service delivery, improving operational efficiency and further enhancing the overall travel experience for passengers of NFR. The redevelopment of Kamakhayguri station under ABSS reflects Indian Railways' commitment towards enhanced travel experience and modern infrastructure facilities.

Nine-month stay confirms tiger's comeback in Gujarat: State govt

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

For the first time in 24 years, a tiger has taken up residence in Gujarat, and stayed long enough for the state to officially acknowledge it on Wednesday. The big cat has been living in Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary since Feb, captured repeatedly on forest cameras. After months of quiet tracking, the forest department is now confident the tiger is not just passing through. The govt has sought guidance from the National Tiger Conservation Authority as it prepares for the next phase. Forest and environment minister Arjun Modhwadia said the development marks a historic moment for Gujarat, which now hosts three big cats — lion, leopard and tiger — making it the only state in the country with such a combination. He noted that tigers, once abundant in Gujarat, vanished over time, leaving the state without the species since 2001. The return, he said, validates years of conservation work and the ecological potential of Ratanmahal. TOI published the report 'Extinct in Guj since '01, tiger reclaims turf with 9-month Ratanmahal stay' on Sunday. Modhwadia said, "Tigers were once found in large numbers in Gujarat; however, they eventually disappeared with the passage of time. Now, forest officials have confirmed that a

tiger that wandered into Gujarat nearly nine months ago has made Ratanmahal Wildlife Sanctuary in Dahod district its new home."

He said the big cat was first captured on the CCTV cameras placed inside the forests of Ratanmahal in Feb this year. "Since then, forest staff have been keeping a close watch on the tiger's movement. During the last nine months, this tiger was captured at regular intervals on our cameras placed inside the forest, which has established that the big cat has settled here," the minister said, adding that the tiger appears to be healthy. The minister stated that some herbivores have been relocated in the forest to ensure that the tiger gets enough prey base for its survival. The National Tiger Conservation Authority has been informed about the tiger's presence in Gujarat, and its guidance has been sought for further action. Officials emphasised that the animal appears healthy, keeps itself to forest areas, shows no unwarranted aggression, and has caused no human or livestock damage in the nine months of its stay. "When a top predator like this enters any area, the cooperation of the local people is expected to help it adapt to the new environment, and hence the forest department kept a low profile," said the official.

The Kerala High Court on Wednesday directed the Travancore Devaswom Board to constitute a Sabarimala Infrastructure & Crowd Management Expert Committee, comprising specialists in transport engineering, urban and regional planning, civil engineering, disaster and crowd management, environmental science, public health, IT systems and data analytics. The experts shall analyse data, undertake field studies, and devise a comprehensive management plan in coordination with the TDB, police, forest



KOCHI. (Agency)

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13-year-old's death after 100 sit-ups: Teacher held, 'knew of health issues'

Vasai. (Agency)

The teacher who made a 13-year-old Vasai girl do 100 sit-ups with her bag on her back for being late to school by 10 mins, which is suspected to have led to her death, was arrested on Wednesday on the charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

Waliv police lodged an FIR against the teacher, Mamtay Yadav, late on Tuesday. Police's probe shows that Yadav, along with other authorities of Shree Hanumat Vidya Mandir, was aware that the Class 6 student, Kajal Gaud, suffered from weakness and other ailments but still decided to punish her in such manner. Dilip Ghuge, senior inspector, Waliv police, said the postmortem examination showed swelling in Gaud's lungs. He said the FIR was filed based on the findings of the postmortem examination as well as statements of eyewitnesses and school authorities. "The investigation is at a preliminary stage and charges will be invoked against whoever is at fault."

Police sources said that the education department and Vasai-Virar City Municipal Corporation (VVCMC) have launched parallel inquiries. "If they approach us, we will take their complaint as well against school authorities," said a source. Yadav had punished Gaud, along with a few other students who arrived late, on Nov 8. After reaching home, the child's health deteriorated. She was admitted to a hospital in Vasai and later shifted to the state govt-run JJ Hospital in Byculla, where she died a week later. The death prompted a scrutiny of the Vasai school, which revealed that it had been enrolling and teaching students for Classes 9 and 10 even though it had permission for intake only till Class 8. The education department had said an investigation would be carried out. Accordingly, a team visited the school on Tuesday. It was also found that the school doesn't have the adequate infrastructure and operates out of a chawl-like structure. VVCMC had earlier placed a warning display board at the entrance stating that the structure was illegal, but school authorities allegedly masked it. His tH Amethi.

TN, Railways plan to turn Tambaram into metro, local & long-distance train hub

CHENNAI. (Agency)

Southern Railway and Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) along with the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA) are preparing for high-level discussions on an ambitious plan to convert Tambaram into a fully-integrated mobility hub, as multiple rapid-transit corridors — including the proposed Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) — converge on one of the state's busiest suburban nodes. CUMTA special officer I Jayakumar said that a joint meeting with Southern Railway, CUMTA and the Rail Land Development Authority (RLDA) will be held to finalise the concept design of an 'integrated station' at Tambaram, aligning metro, suburban rail and future high-speed regional services. It is learnt that Southern Railway has

scheduled the meeting at November end at its Park Town headquarters, with officials from the Chennai division, construction units and RLDA asked to be present to examine design options and operational modalities. The state government is advancing three major projects that will all pass through Tambaram. These include extension of the Airport metro line to the Kilambakkam bus terminus near Vandalur, the Phase III metro corridor from Tambaram to Guindy via Velachery and a proposed RRTS link from Alandur to Villupuram-Puducherry via Tambaram. Jayakumar said that Tambaram is being developed by Southern Railway as a major terminal for mail, express and suburban



operations, with the RLDA designing new station buildings on both the GST Road and Selaiyur sides. "All the above projects need to be fully integrated with the Tambaram Railway Station for effective transport service delivery," Jayakumar said.

The centre has also been pushing for multi-modal hubs under national mobility and logistics policies, heightening the urgency of interoperability between metro and railways. It is learnt that railways is examining feasibility ahead of the cross-agency discussions. The Tambaram integration effort is being viewed as a test case for Chennai's broader mobility strategy, outlined in the Comprehensive Mobility Plan covering 5,904 sq km. If successful, it would mark the city's first fully-planned convergence of metro, suburban, long-distance rail and a future regional rapid system. umar said.

Interns to conduct survey of 1K schools in Delhi

**The
dedicated
application
will feature
GPS tagging,
role-based
access
control, data
validation
and
customized
reporting.**

For a cause! Tihar turns to healing with cows

New Delhi.(Agency)
Tihar inmates who often sit through long, quiet days without family visits will now have something to keep themselves occupied: cow therapy. A new gaushala in the jail complex was inaugurated on Wednesday, opening up a space where prisoners can care for cattle, earn a small income, and spend time with an animal that, officials say, can ease loneliness. Tihar's baking school has also been digitally integrated, with its products now available online. L-G V K Saxena launched the new gaushala and three ICT initiatives at Tihar, calling them a meaningful push toward rehabilitation. He said the Tihar Gaushala and Tihar Bakery mark "a significant step towards the reform and rehabilitation of prisoners".

Delhi Home Minister Ashish Sood said, "For inmates suffering from loneliness, cow therapy offers a new ray of hope. It is a psychological method that can help eliminate loneliness." Sood said he has proposed a larger, state-of-the-art gaushala at Tihar, supported by government funding and designed for a more systematic upkeep of cattle. The idea, he said, is to shelter stray animals and strengthen reform programmes.

A statement from Tihar Jail said the gaushala will focus on "preserving indigenous cow breeds, particularly Sahi cows". "This will enable the inmates to generate income and support their families. The gaushala will also provide an opportunity for cow therapy to the inmates who are lonely and don't get visits from family or friends," the statement read.

Intellectuals turning terrorists more dangerous, cops tell Supreme Court

New Delhi.(Agency)
The Delhi Police referred to the Red Fort blast case and the recent busting of a white collar terror module in the Supreme Court to oppose the bail petitions of activists Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam and others in the 2020 Delhi riots. Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, appearing for the Delhi Police, said a trend has emerged where intellectuals were using state funding to become doctors and engineers and then engage in anti-national activities.

Strongly opposing the bail pleas of the activists, the ASG said, when intellectuals become terrorists, they become more dangerous than those functioning on the ground. "Intellectuals use state funding to become doctors. Then, they do nefarious activities. They are much more dangerous," ASG



Raju said. The remarks come on the heels of security agencies busting a Jaish-e-Mohammad-backed white collar terror module that was functioning from Haryana's Al-Falah University. Around 2,900 kilograms of IED-making material were seized from the premises of a doctor earlier this month.

A day later, his accomplice, Dr Umar Nabi, detonated a car outside the iconic Red Fort, killing 14 people. Since then, several doctors have been arrested and detained. The Delhi police brought up the issue in the Supreme Court while a bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and NV Anjaria was hearing the bail pleas of Imam, Khalid, and three others. Imam and Khalid have been booked under the UAPA, the stringent anti-terror law, for allegedly being part of a larger conspiracy that led to the communal riots in northeast Delhi in February 2020 over the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

New Delhi.(Agency)

Days after the Delhi government launched an initiative to inspect the government schools to monitor infrastructure, students' performance etc, the Delhi government is set to put in place a three-month infrastructure audit across more than 1,000 of its schools through a new internship programme. The initiative will engage undergraduate engineering students and recent Class 12 graduates, offering them hands-on field experience while supporting the government's evaluation efforts, an official said on Wednesday. The audit will help build a comprehensive digital inventory of Delhi's government school infrastructure, a first-of-its-kind step aimed at guiding policy decisions and ensuring safer, more resilient learning environments for students, the official added.

Under the initiative, interns will undertake extensive fieldwork across the city's government schools, where they will gain "direct exposure to surveying buildings, documenting infrastructure, assisting engineers, and working with digital assessment tools", the official said, adding

that they will receive a stipend of around Rs 15,000. As per the official, the idea is to familiarise young students with real-world technical processes while simultaneously strengthening the government's data systems for school infrastructure. He said the citywide audit will involve an assessment using tools ranging from drone surveys and 360-degree imaging to on-site inspections and AI-based digital analysis.

The aim is to map and upgrade the infrastructure and safety of 1,086 schools operating from 799 building premises, he added. The interns will help create digital profiles of each school, documenting existing infrastructure, facilities and their physical condition. These profiles will also integrate information related to structural stability and safety, enabling the government to identify gaps, prioritize repairs, and plan long-term improvements through a data-backed

approach, the official said.

"Their work will include conducting drone-based and high-resolution surveys, generating 360-degree room documentation,

Authority, he said.

"The idea is to consolidate all information about government school infrastructure in one place to improve planning, maintenance, and safety standards," the official said. The dedicated application will feature GPS tagging, role-based access control, data validation and customized reporting. As part of the assessment, interns will examine classrooms, toilets, electrical fittings, furniture, laboratory and sports equipment and other assets, categorizing them as "good", "minor repair", "major repair" or "replacement needed", he said. The interns will also assist in safety and structural stability checks through visual inspections and non-destructive tests such as

rebound hammer and ultrasonic pulse velocity tests, under the supervision of qualified structural engineers. Buildings flagged as structurally weak or requiring major repair will have their reports reviewed by technical institutions such as IITs or NITs.



and uploading data in real time through a dedicated web-based application," he said. This platform will automatically generate analytical reports and flag deficiencies against benchmarks set by agencies such as the Central Board of Secondary Education and the National Disaster Management

Delhi government hospitals roll out seven-colour bedsheet system to boost hygiene

New Delhi.(Agency)

In a bid to improve cleanliness and strengthen infection-control practices, the Delhi government has introduced a seven-colour bedsheet rotation system across all its hospitals. The initiative, announced on Wednesday, is being implemented under the Centre's Kayakalp framework, which promotes sanitation and hygiene in public health facilities. Under the new system, government hospitals will use a different colour of bedsheet for each day of the week — white on Monday, pink on Tuesday, green on Wednesday, purple on Thursday, blue on Friday, light grey on Saturday and peach on Sunday. Officials said the colour-coding will help patients and their attendants visually assess the freshness of the linen while ensuring a more structured linen management cycle



for hospital staff.

The Health Department has also directed hospitals to maintain adequate stocks of each colour to ensure that bedsheets are changed regularly and no ward faces shortages. The procurement of the new sets, officials added, is being standardised to ensure uniform quality across hospitals. According to the government, the measure directly aligns with the Kayakalp guidelines, which emphasise strict linen-handling

protocols to prevent healthcare-associated infections (HAIs). These include the segregation of soiled linen, separate transportation channels, and mandatory hot-water washing with detergent.

By assigning a fixed colour to each day, officials believe adherence to these requirements will be simplified, reducing the chances of lapses in hygiene. Health Minister Pankaj Kumar Singh said the step was aimed at improving both safety and patient experience in public hospitals. "Our priority is to ensure every patient feels safe and cared for. The seven-colour bedsheet system is a small but significant step toward building greater trust, transparency, and hygiene in our hospitals," he said, adding that the practice is expected to lower HAI rates and create a more reassuring.

MCD fails to present plan to curb pollution

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) on Wednesday failed to present a concrete strategy to tackle rising air pollution, even as the city government led by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta faces mounting political heat over deteriorating air quality.

At a meeting of the Standing Committee, the civic body appeared unprepared, with officials unable to respond to basic questions raised by councillors across party lines. Ruling party councillor and Standing Committee member Sundar Singh opened the session by demanding written replies on the MCD's pollution-control measures. Officials claimed the responses would be submitted "in the coming days", prompting Singh to allege deliberate delays by the bureaucracy to evade accountability. He criticised the officials for not offering even verbal explanations during a crisis that demands urgent action. Another ruling party councillor, Jagmohan Mehlawat, questioned the officials about the budget allocated by departments responsible for pollution mitigation. However, no one from the DEMS (Department of Environmental Management and Services) department — tasked with engineering, sanitation and technical functions — came forward to address the query.

BJP councillor Rajpal Singh also criticised the bureaucratic wing for failing to curb pollution during winter, stressing the need for fixing accountability of officials who were not active on the ground.

AAP councillor and Standing Committee member Praveen Kumar accused the ruling party of failing to control pollution, claiming the situation had worsened to the point that people were considering moving out of Delhi. "Every third person is affected by respiratory diseases. There is no concrete plan on the ground to control pollution," he said. Another AAP member Rafia Mahir also slammed the MCD for "inaction", saying officials rarely provided appropriate responses when questioned on pollution-related issues.

Sources in the Delhi government indicated growing dissatisfaction with the MCD's performance. After a review meeting on November 11, the government concluded that the civic body was underperforming in key areas of pollution control. The chief minister and her cabinet have now decided to monitor cleanliness and pollution-control measures directly at the ground level.

According to sources, the government found gaps in MCD's functioning — dust-control machines were not running at full capacity, garbage collection was delayed in several wards and road-washing operations remained largely non-functional.

India fully prepared: Navy vice chief as Pak set to induct China-made submarines

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Indian Navy on Thursday said it was keeping a close vigil as China accelerates delivery of advanced submarines to Pakistan, a move seen as Islamabad's bid to shake up the regional naval balance. The Navy's vice chief Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan said it's maintaining operational readiness. "We are aware that China is supplying submarines and ships to Pakistan. We are monitoring everything closely, and the Indian Navy is fully prepared," he stated. Pakistan is set to induct eight Hangor-class diesel-electric submarines under a \$5 billion deal with China.



The programme, first inked in 2015, includes four boats built in China and four assembled in Pakistan. The first submarine was launched in April 2024, followed by two more this year. All eight are slated for delivery between 2022 and 2028.

Admiral Naveed Ashraf, Pakistan's

Naval Chief, recently told the Global Times that induction remains on track for 2026. He hailed the launch of the second and third boats as "a major milestone for naval collaboration between China and Pakistan."

Pakistan has been firming up its naval posture since Operation Sindoor, after military voices questioned their navy's readiness during heightened tensions with India in May. Vatsayan, who took charge as Vice Chief of the Naval Staff in August, suggested India is recalibrating to stay ahead of the curve. Tactics, force structure, and capability requirements, he added, are under continuous review.

Indian seafood a great hit in China as Beijing takes on Tokyo

Indian seafood exports to China have been rising amid Beijing's clampdown on imports from Japan. Beijing on Wednesday imposed a complete ban on Japanese seafood imports amid a diplomatic battle over Taiwan. Shares of Indian seafood exporters surged soon after, pointing towards potential gains for the sector, which was hit by steep US tariffs.

New Delhi.(Agency)

A China battling Japan seems to be a big catch for the Indian seafood industry. Hit by steep tariffs by the Trump administration, India's seafood industry has gained with China imposing curbs on imports from Japan. On Wednesday, Beijing imposed a complete ban on Japanese seafood imports, asserting its economic might amid a diplomatic battle over Taiwan. Shares of Indian seafood exporters jumped as much as 11% soon after.

Shares of Telangana-based, Avanti Feeds, an integrated seafood company, closed nearly 10% higher, which was its strongest daily gain in over two months, while those of Coastal Corporation, one of the leading producers and exporters of seafood in India, rose 5%. The latter had announced plans earlier this year to ramp up shipments to China and other markets as part of efforts to reduce exposure to the United States, which has erected trade barriers. The jump in shares came after China imposed a full ban on Japanese seafood imports as Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi linked the Taiwan conflict to Japan's security.

HOW CHINA'S LATEST BAN HITS JAPAN'S SEAFOOD INDUSTRY

China had only recently resumed Japanese seafood imports after a nearly two-year blanket ban imposed over the release of treated water from the now-decommissioned Fukushima nuclear plant.

A renewed blanket suspension would deliver a setback to Japanese exporters, for whom China previously accounted for more than 20% of seafood export

volumes.

China has targeted Japan's seafood industry as it is highly vulnerable—though it is just about 1% of all of Japan's exports, historically China has absorbed 20–25% of Japan's seafood



exports, making it the top market before bans.

HOPE FOR INDIAN SEAFOOD SECTOR HIT BY TRUMP TARIFFS

For Indian producers and exporters of seafood, any increase in Chinese buying interest would provide relief at a moment when the sector is grappling with steep US tariffs that have disrupted shipments to its largest market.

Indian seafood buyers in the US include major retailers such as Walmart and

Kroger. The tariffs on India were imposed as a penalty for New Delhi's continued purchase of Russian oil, which the US alleges has fuelled the Ukraine war.

Reports suggest that apart from shipments to China, exports to Vietnam and Thailand have also surged significantly, which points to a shift in trade dynamics toward Asian markets.

Duties reaching up to 50% on Indian shipments, introduced in phases since August, have made the products less competitive, leading to a roughly 9% year-on-year drop in exports to the US in October, Commerce Ministry data showed.

India's seafood exports totalled around \$7.4 billion in the last fiscal year, with frozen shrimp—the flagship item—and frozen fish accounting for over 40% of the value, according to Reuters. Last week, India's cabinet approved a Rs 450.6 billion (\$5.3 billion) support package for labour-intensive export sectors including textiles, jewellery, and seafood—particularly shrimp—aimed at cushioning the impact of global trade headwinds and boosting competitiveness.

NEWS BOX

Former Pakistan captain Azhar Ali resigns from PCB selection panel**New Delhi. (Agency)**

Pakistan's former Test captain, Azhar Ali, has resigned from the national selection committee and also as the head of the youth development department at the National Cricket Academy. A reliable source close to Ali confirmed that he sent his resignation to the Pakistan Cricket Board after another former Test captain, Sarfaraz Ahmed, was given complete control of the Pakistan Shaheens and under-19 teams. Azhar sent his resignation to the board earlier this week and it has been accepted," the source said. Azhar, a stalwart of 97 Tests, started his tenure last year as the selector and head of youth development but the source said he had been increasingly frustrated at the way things worked in the board. "The red-tape style of working irritated him as did the fact that some of his proposals for young cricketers grooming at the academy were not pushed forward." The source said Azhar was disappointed when suddenly the board



decided to hand over all matters of the Shaheens and under-19 cricket to Sarfaraz without discussing the matter with him. "Azhar felt that with Sarfaraz now asked to run the Shaheens and under-19 teams, a large part of his responsibilities as head of youth development had been taken away without his consent, so he decided to resign," he added. Sarfaraz, who has been working with the board first as a mentor and then as an advisor on cricket affairs, was last week told to take charge of the two teams and oversee all aspects, including coaches' performances, selection matters, organising training camps. He was also given the authority to travel with the teams. In recent years, there has been a history of former players and coaches, including foreigners, not completing their contracts, either leaving or being fired. Recently, the PCB didn't renew the contract of Muhammad Wasim as head coach of the women's team after the World Cup disaster where it finished last among the eight teams.

No 2.5 day lottery, Shubman Gill replacement: Chopra on India's to-do list for 2nd Test**New Delhi. (Agency)**

Aakash Chopra has revealed India's to-do list ahead of the Guwahati Test against South Africa, starting on November 22. India have their backs against the wall after the 30-run defeat against the Proteas during the Kolkata Test as they aim to level the series and avoid another home Test loss.

India will have a lot of thinking to do as the plan to make a rank turner during the first Test backfired. The pitch at the Eden Gardens came under serious scrutiny and,



despite coach Gautam Gambhir's justification, fans and pundits slammed the track that was used during the match. Another worry is the availability of captain Shubman Gill. The Indian skipper suffered a neck injury during Day 2 of the first Test and had to miss the remainder of the game. His availability for the second match of the series in Guwahati remains a serious doubt at this point in time. Chopra sent out a tweet on Thursday, November 20, explaining the things India will need to do to bounce back in the second Test. The former cricketer said that the Indian team management should make sure they select a sporting track for the game and not look to finish it off in two and a half or three days. The second suggestion from Chopra was in regards to the team combination as he suggested that India should play six proper batters and the plan of having four spinners and two pacers won't work in Tests.

Australia captain Pat Cummins and fellow paceman Josh Hazlewood will be missing the first test because of injuries, leaving Australia's attack without half of its frontline bowlers.

PERTH. (Agency)

The build-up to the Ashes series starting Friday began at the end of July 2023 following one or the more acrimonious test cricket series between England and Australia. Ben Stokes and his England lineup won that test at The Oval in South London but it wasn't enough to reclaim the Ashes from the Aussies, who won the first two tests and drew the fourth in a five-match series to retain the old urn. Cue to Perth Stadium, Day 1 of a possible 25 spanning seven weeks and five cities. There are some big questions in play. Can an aging, understrength Australia continue its unbeaten run in Ashes tests on home soil

that dates to the 2010-11 series?

Can Stokes inspire an end to that long drought for England? Can Joe Root, the world's No. 1-ranked test batter, finally post an Ashes century in Australia? Can Stokes and Root win a test on Australian soil for the first time? The Aussies Australia captain Pat Cummins and fellow paceman Josh Hazlewood will be missing the first test because of injuries, leaving Australia's attack without half of its frontline bowlers. The remaining half—left-arm fast bowler Mitchell Starc and offspinner Nathan Lyon—are confident that the team can win on what is expected to be a fast, bouncy pitch in Perth. Brendan Doggett is set to make his test debut alongside fellow fast bowler Scott Boland, making it the first time an Australian men's test XI will contain two players with Indigenous heritage. "Good to see the depth in the squad," Starc said. "We know what Scotty Boland can do, ... (and) 'Doggie's' coming off a hot streak at

the moment." Cameron Green's fitness to bowl means he'll fill the allrounder spot and Australia can give opening batter Jake Weatherald a test debut at the age of 31. The flow-on means Marnus Labuschagne will



return to the test lineup at No. 3, with stand-in skipper Steve Smith at No. 4. The English Stokes knows the record: 13 losses, two draws and no wins in the last 15 tests Down Under for England. He's thinking more about the 2010-11 squad that beat the Australians 3-1. "I do understand how big a series this is. I've

come here absolutely desperate to get home on that plane in January as one of the lucky few captains from England who have come here and been successful," he said. "A lot has been spoken of about the history and how it has gone for England — this is our chance to create our own history."

In a bid to break the drought, England is likely to start a pair of express pace bowlers in conditions expected to suit them. Jofra Archer is primed to do well in Australia and 35-year-old Mark Wood recovered from a minor hamstring strain to be including in the 12-man match squad for the first test. Stokes will bowl and it's likely seamers Brydon Carse and Gus Atkinson will also start, although spinner Shaib Bashir has been included in the 12. "Jofra and Woody are amazing bowlers and they'll be huge for us this series," Atkinson said. "You hear about (tests in Australia) and it's all 'pace, pace, pace' but we're hearing lately a bit more seam movement. It's nice to hear that — something I'm looking forward to."

Arshad Nadeem yet to get over World Athletics Championships disappointment**New Delhi. (Agency)**

2024 Olympics Javelin champion Arshad Nadeem said that he is still not over his World Athletics Championships disappointment and gave the reason why he struggled during the event. Coming in as one of the favourites to win the title alongside India's Neeraj Chopra, the Pakistan javelin star failed to impress everyone. During the event, Nadeem could only manage 82.75 metres and finished 10th in the standings. This result came as a shocker as he had won gold at the Paris Olympics with a monster throw of 92.97 m. Nadeem would bounce back at the Islamic Solidarity Games in Riyadh recently, where he won the gold medal for Pakistan. Speaking about his World Athletics Championships performance, Nadeem said that the surgery he had before the tournament prevented him from giving his best. The Pakistan star said that his performance in Tokyo wasn't up to the standards of an Olympic champion. "It gives me satisfaction that I could



during their first season. Lowdon emphasised that these internal benchmarks will define their early progress. "We'll be measuring all the things that we're in control of and how we execute those. That's the key thing for next year. How do we operate?" Crucially, Lowdon highlighted the significant backing Cadillac enjoys

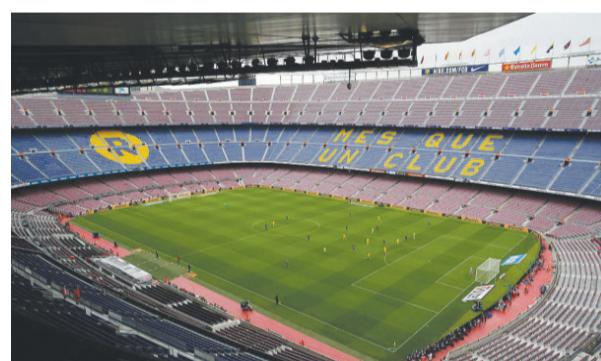
from General Motors, both financially and technologically. He said the project has been deliberately built to operate at Formula One's cost cap immediately and accelerate its development curve, rather than spending years at the back. "With the backing we have, our ambitions are limitless, and they should be," Lowdon said. "We want to—irrelevant of where we start—move forward and develop in a constructive way. While acknowledging the steep challenge that awaits any new entrant in a sport dominated by long-established outfits, Lowdon expressed confidence in Cadillac's hiring strategy and structural foundations. The team is assembling experienced personnel capable of competing with F1's elite operations. "You can't just turn up and go against teams that have been doing it for years. But if we operate well, we'll build a good team as well," he added.

UEFA approves Barcelona's Camp Nou return for Champions League game against Frankfurt

Barcelona announced its Spanish league game against Athletic Bilbao, on Saturday, will be its first at the Camp Nou since it began upgrading the stadium in June 2023 to expand capacity in Europe's largest soccer venue from 99,000 to 105,000.

BARCELONA. (Agency)

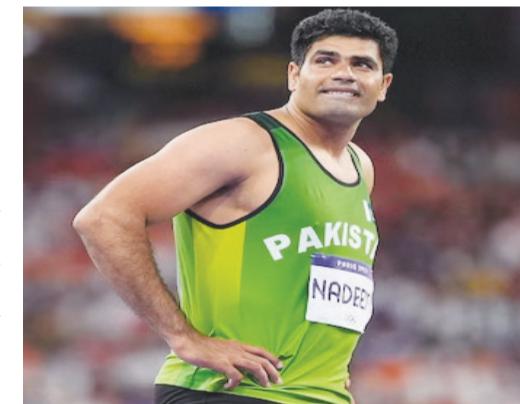
Barcelona's next Champions League match at home will be at the renovated Camp Nou stadium with partial capacity. The club said Wednesday it will host Eintracht Frankfurt at the venue on Dec. 9 in the league phase of the European competition. About 45,000 tickets are expected to be available. Barcelona said UEFA accepted the team's request to return to the Camp



Nou, "considering that all necessary requirements have been met." The club needed an exemption from European soccer's governing body as regulations state that teams must use the same stadium for all four home games in the league phase. "Barcelona is pleased to be able to compete again at its stadium and to continue advancing in the comprehensive transformation project of the new Spotify Camp Nou," the club said. On Monday, Barcelona announced its Spanish league

game against Athletic Bilbao, on Saturday, will be its first at the Camp Nou since it began upgrading the stadium in June 2023 to expand capacity in Europe's largest soccer venue from 99,000 to 105,000. Only 45,401 fans will be allowed in against Athletic. More than 20,000 fans paid to watch the team practice at the Camp Nou on Nov. 7. The highly indebted club secured 1.45 billion euros (then \$1.6 billion) from multiple investors to undertake the project.

Barcelona had originally planned to be back playing at the venue as early as November 2024 to coincide with the club's 125th anniversary. The team has played at the municipally owned 55,000-seat Olympic Stadium since the start of the 2023-24 season. Another delay this summer led to the club scrambling to hold a Spanish league game at the 6,000-seat stadium located on its training grounds on the outskirts of the city in September.



win another gold medal for my country and I am always grateful to Almighty Allah for his blessings but I am yet to get over the disappointment of the World Athletics Championships in September," said Nadeem.

"I won gold here (Riyadh) but the recovery from surgery kept me from giving my best. A throw of 83.05m is not up to my standards as Olympic champion." Nadeem had to undergo calf muscle surgery in July in England ahead of the World Athletics Championships. Nadeem mentioned that he is currently putting together a structured rehab plan that will help him return to peak fitness by the beginning of next year. The year 2025 has been a rollercoaster ride for the Pakistan star as he has enjoyed some highs and lows.

Steve Smith recalls Panesar's embarrassing quiz show after sandpaper sledge**SEVILLE. (Agency)**

Stand-in Australia captain Steve Smith has hit back at Monty Panesar with a sharp and unexpected reference to the former England spinner's infamous appearance on a British quiz show ahead of the Ashes opener in Perth. Panesar had urged England players, travelling fans and the British media to keep targeting Smith over the 2018 ball tampering scandal, saying the stand-in Australia captain should be made to feel "guilty" about replacing Pat Cummins for the first Test. His comments revisited the long-running fallout from the Sandpapergate episode and appeared intended to unsettle one of Australia's most important batters. emarks slide. When a journalist raised Panesar's criticism at the pre-match press conference, the stand-in Australian captain responded with a prepared and pointed detour about Panesar's gaffe-riddled 2019 appearance on Celebrity



Mastermind. "I am going to go off topic here, who in the room has seen Mastermind, and Monty Panesar on that? Any of you?" Smith asked, drawing laughter from the room. Those of you that have will understand where I am coming from. If you

have not, do yourself a favour because it is pretty comical. Anyone that believes that Athens is in Germany, that is a start, or that Oliver Twist is a season of the year and America is a city. "It does not really bother me, those comments. That is as far as I will

go with that one." Panesar's appearance on the BBC quiz show went viral at the time after he delivered several incorrect and illogical answers during a general knowledge round hosted by John Humphrys. Smith's remarks ensured the clip resurfaced once again and quickly began circulating across social media on the eve of the first Ashes Test. Smith appeared calm and assured as he named Australia's playing XI for the first Test, his ninth and perhaps final Ashes campaign. "I'm pretty chilled," the 36-year-old told reporters. "I think I've learned a lot over my journey. And yeah, the couple of times that I've stood in for Paddy, I've tried to be pretty relaxed and let the game play." And, obviously, I've got to do it my own way out there and have my own style. But I'm a lot more relaxed these days, chilled and let the guys go about their work."

Zomato plans to share your data — how will it shake up the food-delivery game

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Zomato is preparing to share customer data with restaurants, a move that could reshape how India's food-delivery industry works. According to reports, the company is close to an agreement with the National Restaurants Association of India to allow restaurants access to basic customer details — mainly phone numbers — but only after users give clear consent. For restaurants, this marks a breakthrough. Many have long argued that delivery platforms control all the customer information while restaurants themselves remain disconnected from their own diners. With access to contact details, restaurants expect to build direct relationships, send targeted offers and understand ordering patterns better. Zomato's decision, however, also raises concerns. Even with consent built in, privacy advocates worry about how responsibly restaurants will use this information. There is also the risk that users may face more promotional messages unless strict limits are enforced. Regulators are watching the development closely. The Competition Commission of India has previously been asked to examine whether platforms misuse the data they collect from restaurants. Allowing eateries to access customer details could reshape competition in an already fierce market. At the same time, some restaurant groups have complained that Zomato and Swiggy have used their data to push their own private-label food brands, intensifying tensions in the ecosystem.

For consumers, the impact could go either way. Those who opt in may get more relevant deals and better engagement from restaurants they already like. Others may see it as another channel for marketing messages.

Lenovo India revenue soars 23% to \$1.2 billion, fuelling record global sales



New Delhi.(Agency)

Lenovo India has emerged as the key driver of growth for the global technology giant, reporting a robust 23 percent year-on-year increase in revenue to \$1.2 billion for the second quarter of FY25/26. This strong local performance significantly contributed to Lenovo Group's worldwide record revenue of US\$20.5 billion.

The impressive growth in India was driven by surging demand across all business categories, fuelled by broader digitization trends, market premiumization, and improved consumer sentiment.

"Lenovo India recorded a strong quarter across all business groups," said Shailendra Katyal, Vice President and Managing Director, Lenovo India. "We have seen a good demand view in India for all our categories with higher digitisation trends, premiumisation and improved consumer sentiment. Our robust performance was driven by the strong adoption of our end-to-end AI-powered technology solutions among both retail, MSME, and enterprise customers." Katyal emphasized that the company is perfectly positioned to capitalize on India's evolving tech landscape. "As India's role expands as a global hub for digital capability centres and enterprise transformation, we are riding the AI democratization trend, leveraging our large install base, and building on our strong business foundation to win in Hybrid AI. With a purpose-built, smarter AI for all ready portfolio we are committed to expand our leadership in Personal AI and deliver our value proposition in Enterprise AI." This local success story mirrors the global results. The company on Thursday reported record results for the second quarter of 2025/26, with overall group revenue reaching an all-time high of \$20.5 billion, up 15 percent year-on-year. Adjusted net income grew 25 percent year-on-year to \$512 million, and adjusted net income margin expanded to 2.5 percent, driven by higher revenues.

Big Aadhaar Update: Why Is UIDAI Planning ID Without Address And DoB

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) is considering issuing Aadhaar cards having only the holder's photo and a QR code. The UIDAI is considering the initiative to prevent exploitation of personal data and discourage offline verification practices. In an open online conference about a new Aadhaar app, UIDAI CEO Bhuvnesh Kumar said, "There is a thought process as to why there should be any detail on the card. It should be only a photo and a QR code." He added, "If we keep printing, then people will keep accepting what is printed. People who know how to misuse it will keep misusing it." According to Kumar, the authority is planning to implement a rule in December that will enhance age verification processes and prohibit offline verification by hotels, event organizers and others. According to Kumar, legislation was being drafted to discourage offline verification using physical copies. The Aadhaar authority will review the proposal on December 1. Kumar said, "Aadhaar should never be used as a document. It should only be authenticated with the Aadhaar number or verified using the QR code. Otherwise, it can be a fake document." Currently, the Aadhaar Act forbids the collection, use or storage of an Aadhaar number or biometric information for offline verification. However, several entities continue to maintain duplicates of Aadhaar cards.

Leading e-commerce platforms say they now comply with anti-dark pattern rules

Among the 26 companies listed by the CCPA are well-known names such as Flipkart, Myntra, Zomato, Swiggy, Meesho, BigBasket, JioMart and others.

New Delhi.(Agency)

In a significant leap for consumer protection in India's digital marketplace, twenty-six major e-commerce platforms have voluntarily submitted self-declaration letters confirming compliance with the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns, 2023. These platforms have performed either internal self-audits or engaged third-party audits, and have declared that their online user-interfaces are free from so-called "dark

patterns," manipulative design features that mislead or steer consumers into decisions that might not be in their best interest. The CCPA has responded with appreciation, calling these declarations "exemplary" and urging other digital-players be they e-commerce marketplaces, service-apps or platform-providers to follow suit. The move marks a major stride in regulating the digital consumer ecosystem in India. The Guidelines, notified on 30 November 2023 under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, identify and prohibit thirteen specific dark-pattern types including false urgency, basket sneaking, subscription traps, trick wording, and disguised advertisements. By voluntarily declaring compliance, the companies are signalling that consumer-transparency and business growth need not be at odds, instead, ethical digital experiences can enhance brand trust and long-term credibility.

Among the 26 companies listed by the

CCPA are well-known names such as Flipkart, Myntra, Zomato, Swiggy, Meesho, BigBasket, JioMart and others. The CCPA had issued an advisory on 5 June 2025 instructing all e-commerce



platforms and online service providers to complete self-audits within three months and upload declarations on their websites for public access. The CCPA-backed outreach also includes the National Consumer Helpline (NCH), social-media campaigns, informative videos and other

programmes to educate consumers about recognising dark patterns and registering complaints when necessary. The 13 dark patterns prohibited include false urgency, basket sneaking, confirm-shaming, forced action, subscription trap, interface interference, bait and switch, drip pricing, disguised advertisements, nagging, trick wording, SaaS-billing and rogue malware. Consumers can view the self-audit declarations of these companies on the CCPA website. Companies yet to submit such declarations are being encouraged to do so, failing which closer regulatory action may follow. With this voluntary compliance by leading platforms, India's digital marketplace is taking a more consumer-friendly turn, making it harder for design-tricks and shady UI practices to hide behind fancy interfaces. For consumers, it means more transparency; for businesses, clearer rules of engagement.

Investing Rs 5,000 every month in SIPs This is when you can hit Rs 1 crore

New Delhi.(Agency)

If you have only Rs 5,000 to invest every month, you are not alone. A large number of Indians start their investing journey with this amount. And with SIPs becoming the most popular way to build long-term wealth, many new investors want to know how to divide this money, which funds to pick, and how long it will take to reach big goals like Rs 1 crore. The worries are common. Should



you put the whole amount in one fund? Split it? Choose equity or hybrid? How much risk is too much? And the most asked question, can Rs 5,000 a month really help you build serious wealth one day? The good news is that India's growth in SIP investing shows that small, regular amounts can build meaningful wealth when invested with discipline. And today, more people than ever before are joining the SIP route.

SIP INVESTING IS BOOMING IN INDIA

In the last three years, SIP participation in India has reached record levels. Data from AMFI shows: By March 2025, India had 8.11 crore contributing SIP accounts, with 6.80 crore new accounts added in that year alone.

By September 2024, the number had reached 9.87 crore, and even after market volatility, October 2025 still showed 9.45 crore active SIP accounts. The money going into SIPs has also surged:

FY22: Rs 1.24 lakh crore

FY23: Rs 1.56 lakh crore

FY24: Rs 1.99 lakh crore

FY25: Rs 2.89 lakh crore

This means SIP contributions have more than doubled in three years. This growing trend shows that more Indian households now trust systematic investing instead of trying to time the market. And for beginners, especially those starting with Rs 5,000 a month, SIPs offer one of the simplest ways to start their investing journey.

HOW TO DIVIDE RS 5,000 ACROSS SIPs

Abhishek Kumar, Sebi RIA and founder of Sahaj Money, said that even a small monthly amount can be invested in a structured way.

Groww share price falls 10% again: Is the post-listing rally over

New Delhi.(Agency)

Billionbrains Garage Ventures, the parent company behind online investing platform Groww, is finally hitting the brakes. After a euphoric debut that turned the stock into one of the most eye-catching IPO stories of the year, the counter has now slipped for the second straight session. Around 1:12 pm, shares of the company were trading 9.18% lower at Rs 154.30. Over the last two sessions, the stock has slipped nearly 18%, a sharp reversal that has investors wondering whether the post-listing rally has already run its course. The stock, which listed at a premium over its issue price of Rs 100, had surged over 90% in just a few days and briefly pushed the company's market value past the Rs 1 lakh crore mark. But the climb wasn't driven by fundamentals alone. A combination of tight free float, aggressive buying and a messy short-seller trap inflated the rally far faster

than the business could justify. That momentum has gone into reverse this week. The stock hit the lower circuit on Tuesday and extended its slide the next day, together wiping out roughly 20% from its peak. The mood on Dalal Street has shifted from celebration to caution. A big part of the story is the short squeeze that unfolded soon after listing. With only a small portion of shares available for trading, early short sellers, who bet on the stock falling, were caught off-guard as prices surged. More than 30 lakh shares reportedly entered the NSE auction window after sellers failed to deliver what they had shorted, forcing expensive buybacks and fuelling a mechanical spike in prices. That fuel source is now drying up. With shorts largely covered and the forced-buying phase behind the market, Groww's share price is finally behaving like a normal stock, not one trapped in a technical loop. Analysts say the correction isn't surprising. The

stock trades at valuations sharply above other listed brokers, even as the company enters its first quarters as a publicly traded entity. With the hype cooling, investors are beginning to look at earnings, margins and the competitive landscape, especially in the high-churn, low-yield broking business. There is also the question of supply. Any increase in free float, whether through future unlocks or shareholder moves, could add more pressure in the coming weeks. To be clear, the long-term story around retail investing in India remains solid, according to analysts. Groww has strong brand recall, a large customer base and a favourable macro trend on its side. But the blistering gains of the listing week were never sustainable. Much of it was technical, some of it speculative, and a good chunk of it opportunistic. Simply put, now the stock has to stand on fundamentals.

Considering a personal loan for holiday travel Ask these 5 questions first

New Delhi.(Agency)

As you plan to swap looking at work emails with boarding passes and luggage wheels, it is important to consider how you fund your holiday travel. Funding that year-end getaway through an instant personal loan might seem like a savvy move, but it is important to assess the need thoroughly. An impulsive decision may be overshadowing some important financial realities. In India, the retail personal loan market has been booming over the past few years, but so are the concerns over unmanaged borrowing and related repayment stress. For instance, the gross non-performing asset ratio for personal loans rose from 1.03% in March 2024 to 1.18% in March 2025. Before you commit to a personal loan for holiday travel, it is vital to ask yourself a few key questions to ensure that you land back home with memories and not regrets.

How much will the loan really cost you?

It's tempting to focus only on what your monthly installment will be and how it lets you travel now. But remember, the interest rate and tenure shape the total cost. Many lenders in India offer



personal loans starting at around 9.99% p.a., depending on your profile. The actual effective rate for you may be higher if you have a shorter tenure or a lower credit score. In addition to this, factor in processing fees and whether you'll incur a pre-payment penalty. When you put these elements together, calculate what you'll still

owe after the trip ends. This gives a clearer view than the excitement of booking flights and hotels.

Can you afford the loan payment without compromising other priorities?

When travel is funded through loan funds, it becomes part of your fixed monthly obligations. As a thumb rule, all EMIs put together ideally should not exceed 30–40% of your take-home income; beyond that, any shock to your income makes repayment harder. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reports that "other personal loans" have moderated in growth, suggesting borrowers are now more selective. Ask whether your monthly budget can cover the EMI alongside your routine expenses, emergency buffer, and key goals such as savings or retirement. If the loan payment crowds out other priorities, you might return from vacation with a financial hangover.

The new trade playbook: Why the world needs a more distributed system

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Global trade is entering a period where manufacturers and exporters are re-examining long-standing assumptions around efficiency, concentration, and continuity. What is taking shape is a trade landscape that is more distributed, where resilience carries weight alongside cost optimisation. These shifts are not driven by a single factor but by the combined influence of policy changes, supply chain lessons from recent years, and the evolving priorities of businesses and governments. The data points to a meaningful shift. Government-led trade interventions have risen sharply from around 500 in the early 2010s to more than 3,400 in 2024. Tariff movements on major routes have also grown more frequent, at times shifting noticeably within short windows. For companies with global supply chains, these changes affect cost structures, production timetables, and long-term planning. A single tariff adjustment can reshape margins. Export restrictions on critical materials can delay production across multiple regions. Currency movements can adjust comparative advantages quickly. These

are practical issues that now feature more prominently in strategic conversations.

RETHINKING CONCENTRATED SUPPLY CHAINS

For nearly three decades, the dominant industrial model focused heavily on labour efficiency, dense supplier ecosystems, and predictable trade conditions. China's rise, accounting for close to 30 percent of global manufacturing output, reflected long-term investment, strong infrastructure, and a highly developed supplier base. These capabilities continue to support global production. However, many of the assumptions behind this concentrated model were formed during a period of steadier trade relations. Recent years have shown that external conditions can change faster than the structures built around them. This does not reduce the strengths of established hubs. Instead, it highlights the benefit of building additional pathways that complement them and offer more room to manoeuvre. The discussion within manufacturing has shifted from whether alternative footprints are needed to how



they can be developed in a way that protects efficiency. When operations are heavily anchored in one geography, even temporary policy changes or logistical challenges can create an outsized impact. As a result, interest in multi-region manufacturing has gained traction.

ECONOMICS OF A BROADER SOURCING NETWORK

Expanding sourcing and production across regions helps companies manage several categories of risk. Exposure to multiple markets allows demand fluctuations to be balanced. A wider distribution of cost bases reduces the effect of currency swings. Regulatory changes in one jurisdiction become less disruptive when

operations are not dependent on a single set of rules. Recent examples illustrate the value of this approach. Companies with manufacturing capabilities across more than one region responded to tariff adjustments with fewer disruptions. Firms with wider supplier networks managed export restrictions with more stability. Businesses selling into a broader set of markets absorbed regional demand shifts more gradually. Building this wider footprint requires effort. Supplier relationships must be strengthened. Standards must be verified. Logistics networks must be redesigned. Compliance requirements multiply. Yet in a period defined by faster policy cycles and evolving regulations, the investment supports long-term continuity.

TECHNOLOGY AS A KEY ENabler
Running operations across several countries requires systems that can track information seamlessly. Manufacturers need real-time visibility into inventory across borders. Compliance frameworks must adjust quickly when rules change. Risk signals must be detected early enough to support planning.

Parineeti Chopra

Raghav Chadha Name Their Baby Boy 'Neer', Share Aww-Dorable Photos

Parineeti Chopra and Raghav Chadha have announced that they have named their baby boy, Neer. On Wednesday, the couple shared a joint post on Instagram and revealed their little munchkin's name. The two dropped a couple of adorable pictures in which they were seen kissing the baby's feet, while his face wasn't visible. In the caption of their post, Parineeti and Raghav wrote, "Our hearts found peace in an eternal drop of life. We named him Neer" — pure, divine, limitless." Interestingly, Neer is a combination of Parineeti and Raghav's names.

Soon after the post was shared, fans and friends rushed to the comments section to shower love on the couple and their newborn. While Varun Dhawan dropped multiple red-heart emojis, Gauahar Khan also commented,

"Congratulations".

Among others, Bharti Singh, Nirmaat Kaur, Saba Pataudia, Kanika Kapoor and Hardy Sandhu also sent wishes to the new parents.

When Did Parineeti, Raghav Become Parents? Parineeti Chopra and Raghav Chadha became proud parents to a baby boy in October this year. The couple, who tied the knot on September 24, 2023, announced the happy news on Instagram with a note

that read, "He is finally here! Our baby boy. And we literally can't remember life before! Arms full, our hearts are hearts are fuller. First we had each other, now we have everything." The post garnered over a million likes and more than 10K comments. Celebrities like Katrina Kaif, Honey Singh, Kajol, Jennifer Winget, Rohit Shetty, Ananya Panday, Zareen Khan, Rajkummar Rao, Neil Nitin Mukesh and Kriti Sanon congratulated the couple in the comments section.



Disha Patani

Aditya Roy Kapur Spotted Together At The Airport; Fans React

Disha Patani and Aditya Roy Kapur, who set screens on fire with their sizzling chemistry in Mohit Suri's 2020 film *Malang*, were recently spotted together at Kalina airport. In the video, Disha looked effortlessly gorgeous in a casual pink top and jeans. The *Aashiqui 2* actor, on the other hand, looked as dapper as ever in a grey suit. The duo shared a warm hug as they exited the airport and shared a brief conversation before heading to their respective cars.

Fans were delighted to see the duo after a long time. A user commented, "They look cute together, they should date." Another remarked, "What a jodi!" Another one added, "Stopppp they look so good together. This frame is everything."

It's Raining Celebs At The Airport!

Not just Disha and Aditya, a whole slew of B-town celebrities were spotted at the airport last night. The busy terminal turned into a mini red carpet as Varun Dhawan, Arjun Kapoor, Janhvi Kapoor, Lakshya, Ibrahim Ali Khan, and Shanaya Kapoor were all seen making their way through, each sporting their own distinct travel style. Netizens were clearly curious about where all of them were flying in from, and the comments section echoed the same question in unison. Someone asked, "Where are they coming from?" Another user added, "Where is everyone from, some award show or something?" One person replied claiming they were coming from Delhi, though nothing has been confirmed yet. A user also remarked, "Dammn the whole industry showed up. The vibes are immaculate."

What's Next For Disha Patani And Aditya Roy Kapur?

Aditya Roy Kapur was last seen in *Metro...In Dino*, which also starred Sara Ali Khan, Konkona Sen Sharma, Pankaj Tripathi, Anupam Kher, Ali Fazal, Fatima Sana Shaikh, and Neena Gupta. The film was helmed by Anurag Basu. Disha Patani will next be seen in *Welcome To The Jungle*, a multi-starrer. The actress recently shared a glimpse from one of the songs, which was posted by her and Akshay Kumar in a collaborative post. The caption of the post read, "From our hearts to yours!! What a throwback, 18 years and still an all time favourite. With so much nostalgia, beautiful Disha and I bring you *Welcome To The Jungle*...Never forgetting our queen Katrina." The film also stars Jacqueline Fernandez, Lara Dutta, Suniel Shetty, Raveena Tandon, Paresh Rawal, and many others.



Aishwarya Rai Touches PM Narendra Modi's Feet At Sri Sathya Sai Baba's Birth Centenary Celebration



On Wednesday, November 19, Bollywood actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan attended the birth centenary celebrations of Sri Sathya Sai Baba in Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh. Along with her, the event was graced by many high-profile people, including former cricketer Sachin Tendulkar, Union Ministers Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu and G. Kishan Reddy, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. At the event, Aishwarya delivered a powerful speech recalling the teachings of Sri Sathya Sai Baba. After her speech, the actress greeted PM Modi by touching his feet and receiving blessings from him. As Aishwarya touched the PM's feet, he placed his hand on her head to bless her and then joined hands with her in a warm gesture.

For the event, Aishwarya wore a stunning yellow ethnic outfit. With her hair left open, big chunky earrings, and detailed makeup, Aishwarya looked like a princess at the event.

About Aishwarya's speech

Delivering a powerful speech at the event, Aishwarya said, "There is only one caste, the caste of humanity. There is only one religion, the religion of love. There is only one language, the language of the heart, and there is only one God, and he is omnipresent."

About Aishwarya Rai

Aishwarya Rai got married to actor Abhishek Bachchan in April 2007. The two first met in 1999 during a photoshoot for *Dhaai Akshar Prem Ke* and became close while shooting *Umrao Jaan* in 2006. The couple are proud parents to a girl, Aaradhya Bachchan, who was born on November 16, 2011. Recently, Aishwarya hit headlines when rumours of trouble in her marriage with Abhishek Bachchan circulated, but neither addressed the speculation. Recently, after winning his first Filmfare for *I Want To Talk*, Abhishek thanked Aishwarya for her support and said, "To Aishwarya and Aaradhya, thank you for allowing me to go out and follow my dreams. I hope that by winning this award, they see that their sacrifices have been one of the main reasons I stand here today."

Gaurav Khanna's Wife Akanksha Says She Kept Waiting For Him After Marriage: 'He Doesn't Come Home'



Family Week on *Bigg Boss* 19 has brought out everything from tears to chaos, but it was Gaurav Khanna's wife, Akanksha Chamola, who walked in and instantly turned the house into a mix of comedy, confession and a full-blown romantic moment. What followed was one of the most talked-about entries of the season.

Akanksha arrives with jokes, energy and zero filter

The housemates have been freezing and unfreezing on command as their families drop in, but Akanksha didn't waste a second before setting the tone.

The moment she entered, she warned everyone she wasn't staying long because she had to rush back to shoot. With her usual spark, she looked around the room and joked, "You all are looking very good. Pranit, you have to make me laugh. I am just here to party." She then turned the attention to her husband, telling the contestants, "Gaurav is very innocent."

Her next line left the housemates howling. "I feel like the amount of household work my husband didn't do in 10 years of our marriage, *Bigg Boss* has made him do that much work in three months."

Akanksha kept the teasing going as she told Pranit, "Gaurav doesn't party at all; he is a weird human being. He works a lot, so he will not want to come back home at all. This guy doesn't come home. After we were newly married, I would keep waiting for him, and he kept working on set for 18 hours."

When Akanksha asked *Bigg Boss* to release Gaurav from his freeze position, she threatened to kiss him on national television if he didn't. *Bigg Boss* didn't budge — and Akanksha did exactly what she promised. She leaned in and planted a kiss on his lips, leaving the contestants cheering and laughing.

Their love story goes back to an audition room
Later, as the live feed showed, Akanksha sat with Ashnoor and Pranit and opened up about how she met Gaurav. She recalled noticing him during an audition and said, "It was a moment where we immediately noticed each other. Gaurav didn't end up giving that audition because he was busy talking to me. Very smoothly, he took my number, and later he would keep dropping me off at audition venues and would wait outside for me."

Chorao Island

The island life in

Goa

you need to experience



Chorao Island is not a hidden gem, and we say that because it's literally an island that's located just 11 km away from the capital city of Panjim. But even though it is so close to the bustling Panjim, Chorao has managed to keep the serene vibe about it. For those who can't do without sightseeing, Chorao Island is the place for them.

Here's what makes Chorao Island unique and popular – the stunning mix of natural beauty, vibrant wildlife, traditional Goan roots and a slower pace of life. It's the latter that we find the most intriguing about Chorao Island.

Beautiful offbeat destinations in Western Ghats for a perfect getaway

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When compared to the hustle and bustle of Panjim and the nearby places, with their beaches and nightlife, Chorao

island is where you come to drop all that, embrace the minimal and really soak in all the nature that's around you.

The silence here is beautiful.

One can reach Chorao Island by taking the ferry from Ribandar. The ferry ride is a very simple yet exciting one. If you have a four-wheeler with you, you will only need to pay INR 10 for the vehicle only. For people and two-wheelers, the ferry ride is free of cost. The 10-minute ferry ride on the Mandovi River takes you through the lush mangroves. Feel free to climb the stairs up to the observation deck on the ferry. It will not give you a bird's eye view of the place but it's just a fun thing to do.

The real fun, however, begins once you get off the ferry. Right at the mouth of the ferry point, is the entrance to

the very famous Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, named after the very important Bird Man of India – Dr. Salim Ali.

For those who are unaware, Dr. Salim Ali was a noted ornithologist and one of the most influential citizen scientists India has ever seen. Thanks to him, today we know about avian diversity in India, and we have so many bird sanctuaries where we can visit and truly appreciate nature, especially birds, as they should be. The sanctuary boasts a captivating variety of bird species, including kingfishers, eagles, herons, and so many species of migratory birds. Birdwatchers and nature enthusiasts from all over India and the world come to experience this avian wonderland. Here, you can observe the birds in their natural habitat and at the same time, explore and learn more about the mangroves and the backwaters. This bird sanctuary will let you have a good start to your Chorao experiences.

From here on, you will start to notice that there is practically no crowd, no traffic hold-ups, no busy streets. The roads here are quieter and the surroundings are greener as compared to other parts of Goa.

Most people visiting Goa tend to hire either a car or a scooter to go around town. If you are on a scooter, you are going to love the ride on this island.

Yes, the roads are narrow, but they are also pretty isolated and quiet. But that, in no way, means that you will throw caution to the wind. Ride slowly and enjoy the scenery and the greenery,

these are things that are so hard to come by these days, especially for those outstation visitors.

You will be passing through small villages on the way, and these are some of the best ways to experience the traditions and culture of the locals.

Scattered along the way are also small local eateries where they serve traditional Goan cuisine. At these eateries, you will find from hot cups of tea and plates of fried veggie fritters to delectable local seafood items.

When in Chorao, take some time out to explore some more. Just an hour and a half away inland is Goa's hinterlands. Chorla Ghats is where one gets to experience the best of the Western Ghats in Goa. From Arvalem Falls and Pandava Caves to the ancient Tambdi Surla Temple and Dudhsagar Waterfalls, these jewels of the Chorla Ghats are great addition to your Chorao Island itinerary.

Chorao Island in Goa is what we call perfect slow-living. It's the relaxed pace of life that we find the most attractive here in Chorao Island.

How can I reach Chorao Island in Goa?

To reach Chorao Island, fly to Goa International Airport, then take a taxi to the nearest ferry point (Ribandar) and hop on a short ferry ride to the island.

What are the main attractions on Chorao Island?

Chorao Island's highlights include the Salim Ali Bird Sanctuary, serene beaches, historical sites, and scenic cycling trails.

Are there accommodations on Chorao Island?

Accommodations on Chorao Island are limited, so many visitors choose to stay in nearby areas and visit for day trips. Booking in advance is recommended during peak seasons.

CHORAO ISLAND

Goa



Places to experience the best of Parsi heritage in India



society, but have also maintained their rich culture and heritage. Here are some of the best places in India, where you can experience the beautiful Parsi culture and heritage.

Udvada

Udvada is a coastal town situated in Pardi in Valsad district, Gujarat. It is also one of the most important places for the Parsis. The town is home to the Zoroastrian temple, Udvada Atash Behram. The Atash Behram fire temple is the most sacred of all Zoroastrian temples in India. The holy fire has been continuously burning for centuries now, making it one of the oldest continuously burning fire temples in the world.

Baroda

Baroda is located in Sayajigunj in Baroda, Gujarat. The city is home to Parsi Agiary, the first Parsi temple in Baroda (1923). The temple was built by the then state contractor for the Baroda state, Faramji Contractor, for the Parsi community living in the city. The temple is managed by the members of the family only. Parsi Agiary is a great way to get to understand the local architecture style mixed with the Parsi elements.

Pune

When you are in Pune, you can't really miss MG Road, which is also one of the largest Parsi hubs in the city. It is a great place to experience Parsi food, especially the Camp area. Back in the day, Camp was a very popular landmark. In present times, Sharbatwala Chowk is probably one of the most well-preserved in terms of Parsi culture and heritage.

Bahrot caves

Bahrot Caves near Dahanu, Maharashtra, are the only Zoroastrian cave temples in India. Located approximately 25 km from Sanjan, Bahrot Caves once gave shelter to the Parsis when Sanjan was invaded by Alaf Khan, a general of Muhammad bin Tughluq in 1393. According to history, they hid in the caves for 13 years. When the Parsis moved to Bahrot, they also brought with them the holy fire



– Iranshah Flame. This fire is now burning in the Atash Behram in Udvada.

Dadar Parsi Colony

Dadar Parsi Colony is the largest Parsi colony in Mumbai, and is probably the best. It's a posh colony, where you will see art deco buildings. The colony is also home to the famous Five Gardens created by Mancherji Joshi, the founder of the Dadar Parsi Colony.

Places to experience the best of Parsi heritage in India According to old records, the Parsis first arrived in India in the 8th-10th century and Sanjan was the first place where they set foot. Sanjan town is situated in Umargam taluka in Valsad district, Gujarat. Being the first settlement of Parsis in India, Gujarat, by default, is also an important heritage destination for the Parsis. Over time, the Parsis moved to Maharashtra, especially Mumbai, which has the largest number of Parsis in India. Over the years, the Parsis have not only managed to integrate into the Indian