

Winter Session begins: PM Modi targets Opposition, says Parliament for delivery, not drama

His remarks drew angry responses from Opposition parties, with the Congress alleging that Modi was the "biggest dramebaaz" and that his statement was "nothing but hypocris".

New Delhi.(Agency) Beginning the Winter Session of Parliament with an all-out attack on the Opposition, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday accused it of using Parliament either as a "warm-up arena" for elections or "as an outlet to vent frustration after defeat". He said Parliament should be a place for "delivery", not drama; neeti (policy), not naare (slogans). His remarks drew angry responses from Opposition parties, with the Congress alleging that Modi was the "biggest dramebaaz" and that his statement was "nothing but hypocris". Modi's remarks came in the backdrop of indications from the Opposition that it would not let Parliament function unless the government agreed to its demand for a discussion on the Special Intensive Revision of electoral rolls, or on the broader topic of electoral reforms. With the government yet to come out with a decision, the Opposition parties on Monday disrupted Lok Sabha, which adjourned without transacting any

business, and raised the issue in Rajya Sabha too. In his customary pre-session address, Modi said Parliament must not become a stage for political theatrics, but a platform for constructive and results-driven debate. "For some time, our Parliament has either been used as a

of using Parliament for their state-level politics. They should reflect on the fact that the country has not accepted these methods for the past 10 years," he said. "They should now change their approach, change their strategy. I am ready to give them tips on how they should perform.

But at least do not infringe upon the rights of MPs. Give MPs the opportunity to express themselves. Do not make MPs the victims of your despair and your defeat," he said.

The Opposition should "come out of the despair of defeat" and "fulfil its responsibility, raise issues in discussions, and bring forward strong issues," he said.

"Unfortunately, there are one or two parties that cannot even digest their defeat. I thought that enough time had passed since the Bihar results and they would have recovered, but hearing their statements yesterday, it seems their defeat is still troubling them. But I appeal to all parties that this Winter Session should not become a battleground for the frustration of defeat. And neither should this Winter Session turn into an arena for arrogance.



warm-up platform for elections or as a place to vent frustration after defeat. I have seen that in some states there is so much anti-incumbency that leaders, after being in power there, are unable to go among the people or speak to them. And so they come to Parliament and pour out all their anger here.

Some parties have started a new tradition

Sanchar Saathi app not mandatory, can delete, government clarifies amid backlash

New Delhi .(Agency) Union minister Jyotiraditya Scindia on Tuesday clarified that activating the Sanchar Saathi app was optional and anyone could delete it after the Centre's directive raised privacy concerns and fears of state surveillance. The Union Telecom Minister underscored that the state-developed cybersecurity app involves no spying or call monitoring. Speaking to reporters outside Parliament, Scindia underlined that the app could be deleted anytime and works only after user activation. The backtrack by Scindia comes even as the Department of Telecommunications' order to manufacturers specifically stated that the app's functionalities should not be disabled or restricted. "If you want, you can activate it; if you don't, then don't activate it... If you don't want Sanchar Sathi, you can delete it. It's not mandatory. It is optional," Scindia said amid a massive uproar over the Centre's directions to phone manufacturers to pre-install the app. Scindia emphasised that the motive behind the direction was only to ensure wider access to a tool designed to curb cyber fraud. The minister's clarification comes a day after the DoT ordered all smartphone manufacturers to - 1) pre-install Sanchar Saathi on new mobile devices, 2) ensure that the app is readily visible and accessible to the users and that its functionalities are not disabled or restricted, 3) devices already being used will receive the app through a software update.



Companies have been given 90 days to implement the mandate. The Sanchar Saathi app, launched in January 2025, offers various facilities, like blocking a stolen phone, checking mobile connections in your name, and reporting suspected fraud.

'SNOOPING APP, PEGASUS PLUS PLUS'

The recent directive has not only created friction with smartphone manufacturers but has also stirred a political row over data collection and user consent. The issue also reverberated in Parliament, with the Congress demanding an immediate rollback of the directive.

World Listens To PM Modi As India Displays Its Strength Where Needed: RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat

New Delhi .(Agency) RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat has said world leaders listen carefully when Prime Minister Narendra Modi speaks and this is happening because India's strength is getting manifested and the country is finding its rightful place. Speaking at an event organised in Pune on Monday to mark 100 years of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), Bhagwat suggested one should not look forward to celebrating milestones like jubilees or centenaries, but aim to complete the given task within the stipulated time. "That is what the Sangh has been doing. Though the Sangh has completed 100 years, braving challenges and weathering many storms, it is time to introspect why the task of uniting the entire society has taken so long," he told the gathering.

It is generally believed that when India rises, global problems get resolved, conflicts diminish, and peace prevails, the RSS leader opined.

"This is recorded in history, and we must recreate it. This is the need of the hour. The current global situation demands this from India. And that is why Sangh volunteers have been working since day one with the resolve to complete this mission," he noted. Highlighting India's growing stature at the global stage, Bhagwat said, "Why is Prime Minister (Modi) being heard globally with rapt attention? He is being heard because India's strength is now beginning to manifest at places where it rightfully should. And that has made the world take notice." Noting the sacrifices made by RSS founder Dr Keshav Baliram Hedgewar, who established the Hindutva organisation in Nagpur in 1925, Bhagwat recalled that Sangh volunteers began their journey of achieving the mission given to them amid numerous adversities and challenges.



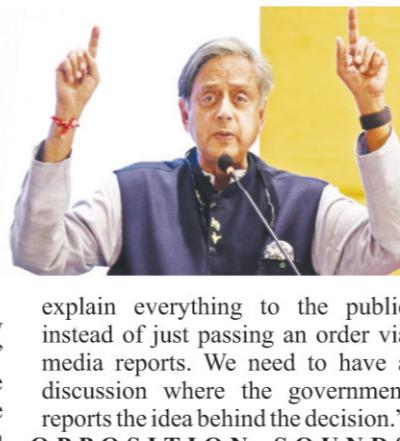
There was no certainty that their work would yield positive results, observed the RSS leader, referring to early months and years of the Sangh. "They (Sangh volunteers) sowed the seeds of success and paved the path for transformation by dedicating their lives.

Shashi Tharoor slams compulsory Sanchar Saathi app, questions Centre's logic

Mumbai.(Agency) A political storm erupted on Tuesday after the Centre directed smartphone manufacturers to pre-install the Sanchar Saathi cybersecurity app on all new devices, and to push the app onto existing phones through software updates. Users will also not be allowed to delete or modify the state-developed application. The decision, issued through the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), has triggered a fierce debate on privacy, government overreach and digital surveillance, with several Opposition leaders calling it "Pegasus 2.0".

'TROUBLING TO MAKE APPS COMPULSORY'
Congress MP Shashi Tharoor expressed unease over the mandatory nature of the policy, stressing that such tools should be optional. "Common sense tells me these apps can be useful provided they are voluntary. Everyone who needs them should be able to download them. Making anything compulsory in a democracy is troubling," Tharoor said. He added that the government must explain the rationale before enforcing such measures. "The government should

explain everything to the public instead of just passing an order via media reports. We need to have a discussion where the government reports the idea behind the decision." **OPPOSITION SOUNDS SURVEILLANCE ALARM**



Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra sharply criticised the directive, calling it a direct assault on privacy. "It is a snooping app. It's ridiculous. Citizens have the right to privacy. They are turning this country into a dictatorship in every form," she said. She argued that while cybersecurity is essential, it cannot justify intruding into personal communication.

"There's a very fine line between reporting fraud and seeing what every citizen of India is doing on their phone. That's not how it should work."

Every School-Going Child Must Have Gita In Schoolbag: Mohan Yadav

Bhopal .(Agency) The three-day International Gita Mahotsav kicked off with spiritual fervour at Dussehra Ground in Ujjain on Monday as Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr Mohan Yadav inaugurated the festival, emphasising that the Bhagavad Gita should find a place in every child's school bag. "We have given importance to Gita and the divine plays of our Lord Krishna in our school curriculum," the chief minister said, referring to the new education policy launched in 2020.

Dr Yadav formally initiated the celebrations by lighting the ceremonial lamp amid melodious chanting of Gita shlokas by scholars. Prominent saint Ranganathacharya Maharaj was accorded a warm welcome on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering packed with saints,



seers, schoolchildren and students, the Chief Minister described the Gita as a timeless guide offering practical wisdom for life.

"Lord Krishna and Sudama studied together in the same gurukul -- this shows there was no discrimination between rich and poor. This is the

biggest lesson for today's students," he said. He announced that the Madhya Pradesh government has already accorded the Bhagavad Gita a special place in the school curriculum. "The Gita is not just a religious scripture; it is a book of practical knowledge that every child must carry," Dr Yadav stressed. The CM added that he would participate in similar Gita Mahotsav events in Bhopal later in the day and receive the newly constructed Gita Bhavan in Indore the same evening. The festival, coinciding with Gita Jayanti, will feature a rich cultural lineup. On Monday evening, Bollywood actor-director Puneet Issar will present the dance-drama 'Jai Shri Krishna - Gita Saar' at Dussehra Maidan. Tuesday will see Delhi artist Vaishnavi Sharma's performance, followed by the play 'Krishnayan', directed by Mohit Shewani.

"DK Shivakumar To Be Chief Minister If...":

Siddaramaiah Leaves Decision To Congress

BENGALURU.(Agency)

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah met his deputy, DK Shivakumar, for a 'power breakfast' Tuesday, a meeting that under most other circumstances might seem normal. This meeting, though, was not. The two Congress leaders - squabbling over the chief minister's post since the 2023 election - sat down to idli, a country-style chicken curry, and coffee (a splash of milk for the Chief Minister) and discussed their tug-of-war. But the outcome remains uncertain, particularly since Siddaramaiah pointed out the two spoke about the Karnataka Assembly session next week. But - in perhaps the first clear admission that his time as Chief Minister may be drawing to an end - Siddaramaiah also indicated he is prepared to stand down, though only if told to

by the Congress' top leaders. "Both of us will accept the decision taken by the party, especially Rahul Gandhi, Sonia Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, and Mallikarjun Kharge."

Meanwhile, sources said DKS made a genuine attempt to show respect to Siddaramaiah; his younger brother, DK Suresh, who last month spoke out against the Chief Minister, was seen bending down to touch his feet, a traditional show of respect.

Sources also said the two will likely be summoned to Delhi, to meet those leaders on December 8. The plan, sources explained, is for the two to fly out from Belagavi - where the Karnataka Assembly is located - after the House is adjourned. On paper, they will be accompanied by Congress MPs from the state

and it will be a trip to flag problems faced by Karnataka farmers and the management of the state's water resources. But backchannel talks are also on the agenda, was told. Before that senior Congress leader KC Venugopal and they are expected to hold curtain-raiser talks in Mangaluru.

A face-to-face with Rahul Gandhi and Kharge, it is understood, will be crucial in setting out a transition plan and break a deadlock that has rumbled on for nearly three years, threatening the stability of one of only three states the Congress controls on its own. The caveat, though, as it appears with most party matters, is that Rahul Gandhi will take the 'final decision'. That might not be the best news for DKS' hopes of taking over as Chief Minister in the next six months because last week was told that Gandhi does not agree with a mid-term swap. In any case, breakfast at DKS' home today was the second meeting in three days as the Congress tries to broker peace - again - long enough to focus on the 2028 election. And the party released another obligatory 'all is well' photo to signify unity.

At the centre of this row is a deal that was allegedly struck after the Congress' surprise 2023 election win - that Siddaramaiah and DKS would share the five-year term, i.e., each would be chief minister for 2.5 years.



News box

Man dies and friend injured as pickup truck crashes into bike in Gurgaon**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

A 22-year-old man was killed and another sustained critical injuries after their motorcycle was hit by a pickup truck in Badshahpur on Sunday morning.

A complaint filed by the family members of Sahib at Sadar Sohna police station said Sahib and his friend Imran, both residents of Tikri Kheda in Faridabad, were on their way to work when the truck allegedly approached from behind at "high speed" and rammed into their vehicle near Tethar village. The impact threw both riders on the road, police said. Passersby rushed the duo to Al Falah Hospital, Dhauli, where doctors declared Sahib dead. Imran suffered severe injuries and was referred to another hospital. Police received the intimation from the hospital, following which an officer reached the hospital.

"After examining the complaint and medical report, offences under sections 281 (rash driving), 125(a) (act endangering life) and 106 (death by negligence) of BNS were registered," the officer said. In another accident, a drunk car driver and his helper were rescued after their vehicle rammed into stones placed along the roadside near Khawaspur village in Farrukhnagar on Sunday night, leaving both men trapped inside the mangled cabin. The accident took place around 9.30pm when the car, driven by Bantu, a resident of Mathura, crashed into a pile of stones. The impact crushed the front portion of the vehicle, trapping Bantu and his helper Ashu inside. Passersby attempted to pull the duo out of the damaged cabin but were unable to free them. Police and the Manesar Fire Station were alerted immediately.

"One person's leg was stuck between the metal sheets and heavy pressure was on the other man's chest. The team cut through the cabin and rescued both in about 20 minutes," a fire official said. Both men were given first aid in an ambulance before being shifted to the civil

Three handed life in jail for abducting minor girl from her Noida residence in 2010**Noida.(Agency)**

GB Nagar additional sessions court-II on Saturday sentenced three men to life imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 30,000 each after finding them guilty of kidnapping a minor for ransom and criminal intimidation. The convicts — Sonu Kashyap, Shiv Kumar and Rinku — conspired with Anshuman Dixit to abduct a two-year-old from her residence in Shatabdi Vihar in April 2010. Dinesh, another accused and Rinku's son, died during the trial. Anshuman, the child's maternal uncle and a juvenile then, was tried separately in a juvenile court and earlier convicted.

The case began when Harish Kumar Sharma lodged a missing-person report with Sector 24 police on April 28, 2010, saying his cousin Anshuman had taken away his daughter the previous day and both were missing. The next morning, the family received a ransom call demanding Rs 40 lakh for the child's safe return and threatening harm if the incident was reported to the police. An FIR under sections 364A and 506 of the IPC was registered against Anshuman, who was suspected of planning the kidnapping. Police investigations established that Anshuman had been seen with friends Shiv Kumar and Sonu the previous evening. Taking Shiv into custody and using mobile tracking, officers located Anshuman in Meerut. A raid at the house of Sonu's uncle, Rinku, led to the recovery of the child; Dinesh was also taken into custody there.

Chargesheets were filed against all five accused, with Anshuman's matter handled separately in juvenile court. The sessions court framed charges on Aug 5, 2010. At trial, the prosecution produced seven witnesses, including the child's father and investigating officers. Defence counsel highlighted inconsistencies in police team details and noted that the recovery had not been carried out in the presence of neutral witnesses. They contended that the Meerut police were not taken into confidence during the raids. The judge gave credence to the oral evidence of the minor's father, who deposed that the ransom call originated from a number recovered from Anshuman's mobile. The judge said the complainant filed a missing persons report about his daughter and cousin. Judge Somprabha Mishra held that the recovery of the motorcycle, the mobile used for the ransom call and the lead provided by one of the conspirators were sufficient to prove the complicity of those arrested during recovery of the minor.

Car falls off flyover in Ghaziabad, lands on PWD office, 1 dead**Ghaziabad.(Agency)**

A car plunged 30 feet from a flyover near Sihani Gate and landed on the PWD office compound on Monday afternoon, killing one of its occupants and leaving the driver seriously injured. Swift Dzire was being driven by Prince (25) and the victim was his father Rakesh Kumar Singh (50). Police suspect Prince may have dozed off while driving, causing him to lose control of the car. The impact was severe, with the car landing on the side where Rakesh was seated, trapping him inside. He was later pulled out, and only one airbag was found deployed, police said. Rakesh worked as a guard at a bank in Raj Nagar District Centre. Prince runs a grocery shop. ACP (Nandigram) Upasana Pandey said the father-son duo were returning from a wedding.

The car crash happened on the lane leading from the old bus stand towards Hapur Mor in Raj Nagar. "Preliminary investigation revealed that the car was being driven at a speed of 100 kmph. The driver might have dozed off, causing the vehicle to go out of control and crash directly into the bridge railing," said ACP Pandey. She added that the collision was so severe that the strong iron railing broke, and the car fell into PWD office premises. People at the spot immediately informed cops. A police team arrived and pulled out both the injured and rushed them to the hospital, where doctors declared Rakesh dead. The accident occurred at a time when traffic was minimal, preventing further casualties. Had it happened during peak hours, the consequences could have been far more devastating, ACP Pandey added.

One-third of safai budget spent, yet Gurgaon streets remain choked with garbage**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

Despite high spending, waste management remains fragmented and inefficient. By Oct 31, MCG had already exhausted Rs 129 crore, which is 33% of its sanitation budget for the current financial year, even as several parts of the city continue to reel under piles of garbage on roads and vacant plots. While the city lacks a dedicated firm for door-to-door garbage collection, waste processing at the Bandhwari plant has come to a halt. A fresh MCG report shows the civic body also overshot its sanitation budget last year, spending Rs 360 crore or 103% of its allocation, in 2024-25. "When MCG is spending money in crores on sanitation, where is that result visible on the ground?" co-convenor of United Gurugram RWA Chaitali Mandhotra asked. An MCG official said, "There are two main components of the sanitation expenses that we have done in the current fiscal year. It includes the expenditure on the tractor trolleys and other vehicles

engaged in waste management this year and door-to-door waste collection, transportation. As per the report, the civic body has already spent over Rs 54 crore out of the current FY allocation of over Rs 310 crore on doorstep waste collection, transportation and processing of waste.

In the last FY, over Rs 286 crore was spent against the allocation of Rs 300 crore for doorstep waste collection, transportation and processing of waste. The civic body has already spent over Rs 16 crore against the budgetary allocation of Rs 12 crore for hiring vehicles/tractors/trolleys, etc., in the current FY and over Rs 16 crore against the allocation of Rs 1 crore has been spent under the budget head of "other sanitation & solid waste management" since April 1 this year to Oct 31. Over Rs 28 crore has already been spent in the current FY on operations and maintenance of sewage



treatment plants (STPs), sewerage system and water supply as against the budgetary allocation of Rs 28 crore for the budget head. All these components form the overall sanitation expenses. The mismatch between escalating expenditure and deteriorating on-ground sanitation has raised eyebrows as regards waste-management failures, with residents questioning why garbage continues to accumulate across the city despite crores already spent. Kundan Lal Sharma, a city resident and former cabinet secretariat officer, said,

"Doorstep waste collection remains a weak point of MCG though they have stepped up their efforts in sanitation recently. Fresh waste is being dumped on the roads in Mullaheera and between sectors 22 and 23. The clean-up happens once a week, so MCG still has to step up its enforcement to check illegal dumping of waste." Chaitali Mandhotra (United Gurugram) added, "There are three locations just outside Ardee City where the waste dump is not lifted. In the colony, not even a single sanitation staff has turned up since April 16 and the RWA has been using its own funds for sweeping and cleaning of roads and vacant plots. MCG has become a typical political organisation, which is just maintaining its image on social media by glorifying its cleanliness work." Besides sanitation, the report also discloses that the civic body has already spent Rs 1.6 crore or 40% of the allocation on storm-water drain maintenance.

7 Godara gang members held in STF operation, pistols seized**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

Seven operatives of the Rohit Godara-Naveen Boxer gang have been arrested by Haryana Police's special task force (STF) Sonipat. In overnight raids on Sunday and Monday, police also recovered a cache of foreign-made pistols and ammunition. Seven pistols — five factory-made foreign weapons and two country-made — along with 197 live rounds of .3 bore and 9mm ammunition, and four extra magazines were recovered. According to officials, the arrests dealt a major blow to the syndicate, which has been involved in extortion, targeted killings, and firing incidents across Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, and Rajasthan while operating from abroad.

The STF said gang leader Rohit Godara, a close associate of fugitive gangster Goldy Brar from Rajasthan, is currently directing operations from overseas. He is working with co-accused including Naveen Boxer of Bhiwani, Mahendra

Sahran, Virendra Charan, Rahul Rinaun, and Manoj Diggoo, most of whom had fled India using forged passports. Police said the gang lures young people into crime by glorifying gang culture on social media and promising money and overseas travel. The group was recently linked to the murder of Lovjeet at Bhiwani court and to threats sent to hospital operators in Dadri over ransom demands. The arrests follow an ongoing investigation in a case under sections 111(3) and 111(4) of the BNS, which deal with organised crime, and section 25(6) of the Arms Act, relating to illegal possession of firearms by gang members.

Earlier, three gang members, including Sandeep alias Bittu, had been arrested. Continuing the probe, the STF picked up these seven gang-linked individuals who were allegedly transporting weapons, collecting funds, conducting reconnaissance, and preparing for attacks on orders from abroad. Those arrested include Rohit alias Katwaliya of Sonipat,

Mohammad Sajid of Saharanpur, UP, Manav Kumar of Bihar, Vikas Pal of UP, Happy Singh of Patiala, Jaberjarg Singh of Patiala and Vijay Kumar of Dera Bassi in Mohali. Eight mobile phones were also seized from these suspects. An STF officer said, "We will now identify remaining gang members, block the flow of weapons and funds, and prevent planned attacks. The crackdown will continue in coordination with agencies in neighbouring states."

"Earlier, in Sept, Haryana STF had arrested four local youths recruited by Rohit Godara, believed to be operating from the US, to attack Congress MLA Mamman Khan. Officials said Godara and Goldy Brar had previously worked with Lawrence Bishnoi's gang but recently split, turning from allies to rivals. After Anmol Bishnoi, Lawrence's brother, attempted to lead the gang, it fractured, with both factions now vying for control over Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, and neighbouring regions."

Shining a light on safety: Gurgaon cops push for infra repairs to avert accidents in winter**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

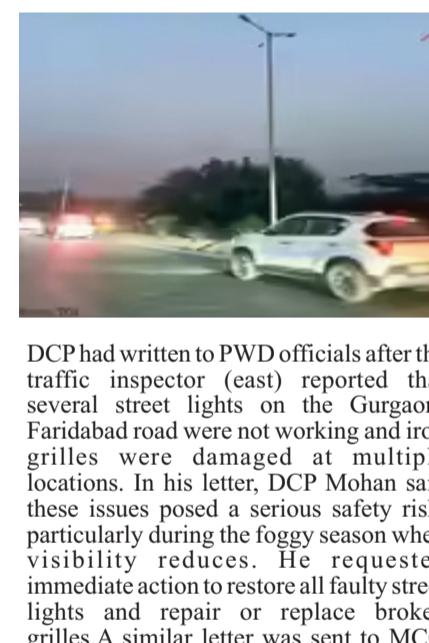
As the city is reporting an increase in accidents during winters, the traffic police have requested MCG and PWD, (Building and Roads), to restore all non-functional street lights and repair or replace broken iron grilles along Gurgaon-Faridabad road. The issue was taken up by the traffic police in a road safety meeting held last week.

In the previous month, 51 people died in road accidents compared to 44 accidental deaths across the district in Oct. Of the 51 deaths, 24 occurred at night. A total of 428 people lost their lives on Gurgaon roads till Nov this year, compared to 442 in the same period last year. Last year saw 478 road deaths in the district. On Monday, DCP (traffic) Rajesh Kumar Mohan chaired a meeting with all ACPs and senior traffic officers, directing them to implement safety measures to reduce crashes during foggy conditions. "I have asked all ACPs to visit accident spots to identify the causes so that we can address the factors leading to crashes and save lives," DCP Mohan said. On Nov 21, the

DCP had written to PWD officials after the traffic inspector (east) reported that several street lights on the Gurgaon-Faridabad road were not working and iron grilles were damaged at multiple locations. In his letter, DCP Mohan said these issues posed a serious safety risk, particularly during the foggy season when visibility reduces. He requested immediate action to restore all faulty street lights and repair or replace broken grilles. A similar letter was sent to MCG earlier, following which a civic official claimed repairs were carried out. "There

was a temporary fault in the street lights on the road, which we have repaired. Lights are now fully operational. A discussion took place in a meeting chaired by the DC recently, after which the repairs were completed," the official said.

Meanwhile, a ground check by TOI on Monday revealed that street lights were only partially functional. They were working from Khushboo Chowk to Ghata turn, but the stretch from Ghata turn towards Paras Quartier was unlit. The section from the Gwal Pahari police post to the Gurgaon-Faridabad toll also lacked functional street lights. Talks about improving night-time road safety resurfaced after a dumper truck crashed through a police checkpoint in Gwal Pahari early on Nov 20, killing a 32-year-old constable on duty. According to a police official, reminders were sent to civic authorities on the need to fix road infrastructure in May, but they led to no action. "Gurgaon has poor pedestrian infrastructure. The foggy season is especially dangerous for pedestrians,

**Banks to pay cyber fraud victims for due diligence failures: Haryana DGP OP Singh****Noida.(Agency)**

Banks could be held responsible for the financial losses incurred by victims of cyber fraud if investigations uncover a failure to exercise "due diligence" on their part, Haryana DGP OP Singh said on Monday, underlining the importance of an institutional mechanism that proactively thwarts cyber frauds, and does not move only reactively when a customer complains. Singh said the IT Act clearly stipulates that banks are responsible for compensating victims in cases of negligence. "If a bank fails to take appropriate measures to prevent fraud or overlooks suspicious transactions, resulting in losses, it must compensate the customer. Our investigation will determine whether the bank adhered to due processes in handling the defrauded amount," he said. The DGP's remarks came during a surprise visit to Cyber East police station. Banks can be held liable if they do not act promptly upon being informed of a fraud, Singh stated, laying out

measures to expedite release of small amounts of money frozen during cyber crime investigations. He further said victims often incur huge fees to recover even modest sums, causing undue hardship. Citing a high court directive, Singh said police could take such cases directly to Lok Adalat without registering an FIR, facilitating quicker resolution and refunds. "If a victim's Rs 4,000 is frozen, they shouldn't have to struggle for months. Such cases can be presented before Lok Adalat for immediate relief," Singh added. The DGP said police will launch an expanded awareness

campaign, incorporating social media outreach and community programmes. As part of this initiative, head boys and head girls in schools and colleges will be appointed as cyber awareness ambassadors to educate students about online safety and emerging fraud trends. A dedicated network will also be established with the help of head boys and girls and SPIC MACAY to raise awareness about cybercrime and drugs through these enthusiastic Gen Alpha kids via events," Singh later shared on social media. Singh cautioned the public that most cybercrimes

exploit greed and fear. "Anyone offering unrealistic returns or pressuring you to share information is likely a fraudster. Vigilance is the strongest protection," he said.

During his inspection, the DGP also instructed officers to improve the condition of the police station's waiting room, ensuring it is clean, orderly, and comfortable for complainants. In a post on X, Singh recounted his arrival at the cyber police station to file a case regarding digital arrest. "The gate sentry didn't recognise me. When I said I needed to file a case, he directed me to the duty officer on the second floor in room number 24, who was busy with a complainant's matter."

He also stressed the importance of maintaining proper uniform standards. While leaving the police station, Singh asked a gunman how many sets of uniforms he had and how frequently he ironed them. He even pointed out to an inspector that his cap was tilted to one side, he corrected it, and reminded him to maintain a

smart appearance. Upon hearing about the top cop's arrival at the police station, police commissioner Vikas Arora, DCP (east), and the district attorney made.

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NEWS BOX

Meet Amar Subramanya, Apple's New Vice President Of AI

World. (Agency)

Amar Subramanya has been appointed as Apple's new vice president of AI, replacing long-time executive John Giannandrea, who will continue as an adviser until his retirement next spring.

"AI has long been central to Apple's strategy, and we are pleased to welcome Amar to Craig's leadership team and to bring his extraordinary AI expertise to Apple," Apple CEO Tim Cook said. "His deep expertise in both AI and ML research and in integrating that research into products and features will be important to Apple's ongoing innovation and future Apple Intelligence features," the company said in its blog post.

Who is Amar Subramanya?

Subramanya graduated in electrical, electronics, and communications engineering from Bangalore University in 2001. He joined IBM as a software engineer. In 2005, he pursued a PhD at the University of Washington and interned at Microsoft for a few months before working as a visiting researcher at the company. Following his doctoral studies, he joined Google in Mountain View, California, as a staff research scientist. After eight years, he was promoted to principal engineer and then to VP of Engineering in 2019. He headed engineering for Google's Gemini Assistant. In July this year, he briefly moved to Microsoft as Corporate Vice President (CVP) of AI. After his 16-year stint at Google, Subramanya has now joined Apple as CVP, reporting to Apple's software chief Craig Federighi, who oversees key areas, including foundation models, machine-learning research, search and knowledge and AI infrastructure. Under Giannandrea's AI leadership, Apple faced criticism for lagging behind rivals in generative AI adoption. Competitors such as Samsung have been quicker to integrate AI features into their smartphones.

Brazilian Teenager, Who Wanted To Work With Animals, Mauled To Death By Lion At Zoo

DHAKA. (Agency)

A 19-year-old Brazilian teenager, who dreamed of becoming a lion tamer, was fatally attacked by a lioness at Parque Zoológico Arruda Camara in the city of João Pessoa on Sunday, according to the New York Post. The tragic incident happened after the teen, Gerson de Melo Machado, climbed over a 20-foot wall and security fencing to enter the lion's enclosure on Sunday. Horrified zoo visitors witnessed the incident and captured on camera. The disturbing video was shared on social media platforms. The lioness, Leona, dragged Machado to the ground, causing fatal injuries. Despite efforts to rescue him, Machado succumbed to his injuries. Machado's family and friends described him as having severe mental health issues, including schizophrenia, and a history of institutionalisation. He had previously attempted to sneak onto a plane to Africa, hoping to work with lions. The zoo was closed temporarily for investigation, and authorities have ruled out euthanising Leona, citing her healthy condition and lack of aggressive behaviour outside this incident. In an Instagram post, the zoo wrote that the animal "was immediately evaluated by the technical team and remains under continuous observation and monitoring, as she experienced a high level of stress." "Leona is healthy, does not exhibit aggressive behavior outside the context of the incident, and will not be euthanized. The protocol in situations like this provides exactly what is being done: monitoring, behavioral assessment, and specialized care," the statement continued.

Apple Names Amar Subramanya As New Vice President Of AI

World. (Agency)

Apple on Monday named veteran researcher Amar Subramanya as its vice president of AI, replacing John Giannandrea. Apple — a laggard in the AI race — has been slow to add AI features to its products in comparison to rivals such as Samsung Electronics, which have been quicker to refresh their devices with



AI features. Subramanya will lead critical areas, including Apple Foundation Models, ML research and will report to software chief Craig Federighi. He is joining Apple from Microsoft, where he most recently served as corporate vice president of AI. Previously, Subramanya spent 16 years at Google, where he was, among other roles, the head of engineering for the Gemini assistant. Giannandrea will serve as an adviser to Apple until his retirement in spring next year. Earlier this year, Apple said that artificial intelligence improvements to its voice assistant Siri would be delayed until 2026.

What Imran Khan's sister said after meeting him in jail amid death rumours

WORLD. (Agency)

Imran Khan's sister Uzma Khan was allowed to meet the jailed former Pakistani Prime Minister in Adiala Jail on Tuesday evening as his party members threatened to organise mass protests across Rawalpindi despite restrictions. Uzma Khan was taken inside the jail to meet her brother amid widespread speculation that the Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf (PTI) was murdered in custody, Geo News reported. After meeting him, she claimed that Imran Khan was kept in solitary confinement and was being mentally tortured. She also put an end to death rumours, saying he is fine.

"Imran Khan is fine, his health is good. He has been kept in solitary confinement, he is being tortured mentally," she told reporters after meeting him in jail.

"Imran Khan said he has no contact with anyone, nor has he met anyone. He said they are mentally torturing him. He is angry and he said Asim Munir is responsible for everything that is happening," she added.

Previously, there were reports that the jail authorities granted permission under a strict gag condition. However, Uzma said no conditions were imposed. "We don't go by conditions," she said while entering the heavily guarded prison complex. Tensions have flared outside Adiala Jail since last week amid rumours that Imran, who has been languishing for over two years in a web of corruption and terrorism cases, was murdered inside the prison. The rumours coincided with Imran's family members being denied access to him for the last several weeks despite court orders.

On Tuesday, supporters of the cricketer-turned-politician gave a call for massive protests in Islamabad and Rawalpindi to press the authorities to restore visitation rights to Imran. A showdown loomed, with the Shehbaz Sharif-led government prohibiting large gatherings and turning

Rawalpindi into a fortress. However, in the afternoon, the jail authorities granted permission to one of Imran's sisters



"something irreversible" about his condition was being concealed by the authorities.

The meeting came as the region around Adiala Jail was put on high alert, with five additional checkpoints set up along the stretch. Over 700 security officials equipped with anti-riot gear were stationed near the prison, which has seen a week of protests and sit-ins staged by Imran's sisters and party workers.

Matters came to a head last week after Imran's sisters claimed that they were dragged on the street by police officials, manhandled, and briefly detained. Amid the rumours, the Adiala jail administration as well as the government maintained that Imran was healthy and he was receiving "complete medical attention". "There is no truth to reports about his (Imran) transfer from Adiala jail. He is fully healthy," a statement by Adiala Jail said.

China, Japan In Fresh Incident Around Disputed Islands

JAPAN. (Agency)

Japanese and Chinese vessels engaged in a fresh standoff around disputed islands on Tuesday, the two countries' coast guards said. Relations have been strained since Japan's new Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi suggested last month that her country could intervene militarily in any Chinese attack on Taiwan. Japan's coast guard said two Chinese coast guard patrol ships entered Japan's territorial waters around the Senkaku Islands in the East China Sea in the early hours of Tuesday, and left a few hours later.

The Japanese-administered Senkaku Islands, known as the Diaoyu in China, have been a regular flashpoint between the two nations over the decades.

After the patrol ships sailed toward a Japanese fishing boat, a Japanese coast guard vessel issued a demand that they leave the waters, the Japanese coast guard statement said. The activities of Chinese coast guard vessels



navigating within Japan's territorial waters around the Senkaku Islands while asserting their own claims fundamentally violate international law," it said. The statement added that the two Chinese vessels, and others, were still in the area. China Coast Guard spokesman Liu Dejun said a Japanese fishing vessel "illegally entered China's territorial waters".

China Coast Guard vessels took necessary control measures and made warnings to drive it away," Liu said on the China Coast Guard's official WeChat account. "The China Coast

Guard will continue to conduct rights protection and law enforcement activities in the waters around the Diaoyu Islands, resolutely safeguarding national territorial sovereignty and maritime rights," he added. It followed a similar incident around the islands on November 16, around a week after Takaichi's comments, Kyodo News reported.

China claims self-ruled Taiwan as part of its territory and has not ruled out using force to take the democratic island.

Beijing has urged its citizens to avoid travel to Japan and a number of cultural events have been hit — including the halt of a performance by a Japanese singer in Shanghai on Friday. Aside from reportedly renewing a ban on Japanese seafood imports, China has however so far stopped short of imposing more serious economic measures such as curbing exports of rare earth metals.

Don't Want "A Slave's Peace": Venezuela's Maduro On US Military Threat

US President Donald Trump has ramped up pressure on Maduro with a major naval build-up in the Caribbean, launching strikes on suspected drug-ferrying boats and making ominous warnings to avoid Venezuelan airspace.

PARIS. (Agency)

Venezuela does not want "a slave's peace," President Nicolas Maduro told thousands of supporters Monday about a US military deployment he said has been "testing" his country for months. US President Donald Trump has ramped up pressure on Maduro with a major naval build-up in the Caribbean, launching strikes on suspected drug-

ferrying boats and making ominous warnings to avoid Venezuelan airspace.

"We want peace, but peace with sovereignty, equality, freedom! We do not want a slave's peace, nor the peace of colonies!" Maduro said at a rally in Caracas, even as Trump was set to meet his top national security officials to discuss Venezuela. The United States has moved the world's largest aircraft carrier and other warships to Latin America and designated an alleged drug cartel run by Maduro as a terrorist group. Since September it has launched strikes on boats in the Caribbean Sea and eastern Pacific Ocean that have killed at least 83 people without providing proof they were drug runners. Rights groups say the strikes are illegal regardless of whether the targets were traffickers or not. Washington says the aim of the military deployment is to curb drug trafficking in the region, but Caracas insists regime change is the ultimate

goal, and Maduro has ramped up his own military readiness. "We have endured 22 weeks of aggression that can be described as psychological terrorism, 22 weeks during which they have tested us. The people of Venezuela have demonstrated their love for the homeland," he said on Monday. Over the weekend, Trump upped the ante by warning Venezuelan airspace should be considered "closed," raising fears of imminent military action. Trump said Sunday he had recently spoken with Maduro for the first time since returning to office in January, but would not give details. Maduro has repeatedly said he is ready to talk to Trump face-to-face. Hundreds of regime supporters marched in Caracas Monday, denouncing US "threats" against the country torn by economic strife and political unrest. "We are a free homeland, we do not want war, we want peace!" protester Narciso Torrealba, a 68-year-old community

Officers were notified and attended the casino, where they arrested the woman and her 44-year-old husband. "Apart from the camera and earpieces, the authorities also found 'magnetised probes' and a mirror attachment for a phone during the search. The authorities said the camera connected to the couple's cellphones relayed live footage from the card tables. "With their mobile phones capturing images of the table, the pair communicated using deep-seated earpieces through which they received instructions to wager on different card games and ultimately cheat the casino," the police alleged.

Couple Charged

Following the initial discovery, investigators searched the couple's Sydney accommodation and found more gambling equipment, along with valuable jewelry and Rs 2 lakh (2,000 euros) in cash. The pair have been charged with dishonestly obtaining a financial advantage and remain in custody. Our detectives collaborate closely with casino security to identify and disrupt unlawful behaviour. This strong cooperation is vital to maintaining the integrity of gaming operations and is reflected in outcomes like this," said Commander of the Organised Crime Squad, Detective Superintendent Peter Faux.

Former Trump lawyer Alina Habba is disqualified as top New Jersey prosecutor, US appeals court rules

PHILADELPHIA. (Agency)

President Donald Trump's former personal lawyer Alina Habba is disqualified from serving as New Jersey's top federal prosecutor despite his administration's maneuvers to keep her in the role, an appeals court said Monday. A panel of judges from the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sitting in Philadelphia sided with a lower-court judge's ruling after hearing oral arguments at which Habba was present on Oct. 20. "It is apparent that the current administration has been frustrated by some of the legal and political barriers to getting its appointees in place. Its efforts to elevate its preferred candidate for U.S. Attorney for the District of New Jersey, Alina Habba, to the role of Acting U.S. Attorney demonstrate the difficulties it has faced — yet the citizens of New Jersey and the loyal employees in the U.S. Attorney's Office deserve some clarity and stability," the court wrote in a 32-page opinion. It concluded: "We will affirm the District Court's disqualification order." The ruling

comes amid the push by Trump's Republican administration to keep Habba as the acting U.S. attorney for New Jersey, a powerful post charged with enforcing federal criminal and civil law. It also comes after the judges questioned the government's moves to keep Habba in place after her interim appointment expired and without her getting Senate confirmation. Habba said after that hearing in a statement posted to X that she was fighting on behalf of other candidates to be federal prosecutors who have been denied a chance for a Senate hearing. The White House had no immediate comment on Habba and referred questions to the Justice Department. Messages were left Monday seeking comment from the U.S. attorney's office in New Jersey, Habba's personal staffer and the Justice Department. The decision affirmed Habba is serving unlawfully, attorneys for the appellees said in an emailed statement. "We will continue to challenge President Trump's unlawful appointments of



purported U.S. Attorneys wherever appropriate," said attorneys Abbe Lowell, Gerry Krovatin and Norm Eisen in the statement. Other appointments have been challenged, too. Habba is hardly the only Trump administration prosecutor whose appointment has been challenged by defense lawyers. Last week, a federal judge dismissed criminal cases against former FBI Director James Comey and New York Attorney General Letitia James after concluding that the hastily installed prosecutor who filed the charges, Lindsey

Halligan, was unlawfully appointed to the position of interim U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia. The Justice Department has said it intends to appeal the rulings. The judges on the panel were two appointed by Republican President George W. Bush, D. Brooks Smith and D. Michael Fisher, as well as one named by Democratic President Barack Obama, Luis Felipe Restrepo. It wasn't immediately clear how the ruling would affect prosecutions. Jacob Elberg, a Seton Hall Law School professor, said the decision would have "real implications." "This is an office that has a lot of responsibility for protecting citizens from all types of criminal conduct as well as issues that are civil in nature, but real significant consequences," he said. "And this is a real challenge to that office's ability to do its work." The judge said Habba was unlawfully serving as a lower-court judge. Matthew Brann, said in August that Habba's appointment was done with a "novel series of legal and personnel moves" and that she was unlawfully serving as U.S. attorney for New Jersey. That order said Habba's actions since July could be invalidated, but the judge stayed the order pending appeal.

NEWS BOX

Man held for trying to kill wife, minor daughter

Mumbai . (Agency)

The Dahanur police have arrested a 36-year-old man for allegedly attempting to kill his wife and 14-year-old daughter at their residence on Sunday night. The minor girl sustained an injury to her neck and was given five stitches at a local hospital. The accused has been identified as Hanumant Sonwal.

An attempt-to-murder case has been registered against him based on the statement of his daughter and he was produced before a court on Monday. He has been remanded to police custody until December 3.

According to the police, the victim, Priyanshi, lives in Dahanur with her parents. Her mother, Rajshri, works for a diamond company, while Sonwal is employed with a pest control firm. Rajshri had earlier filed a divorce petition in Bandra court, allegedly due to repeated domestic abuse and harassment.

In her complaint, the girl stated that her father frequently assaulted her mother under the influence of alcohol. On Saturday, Rajshri and her daughter went out for dinner to celebrate her birthday while Sonwal remained at home. When they returned, the accused allegedly called his relatives over and accused his wife of infidelity, issuing threats to her. On Sunday, Rajshri reportedly visited a lawyer in Nalasopara for consultation regarding the divorce. When she returned home later that evening, another altercation took place between the couple. Rajshri allegedly told Sonwal that she was planning to sell the house and move to Pune with her daughter.

Bengaluru traffic is the worst: Samajwadi Party MP Rajeev Rai

BENGALURU . (Agency)

Samajwadi Party MP from Uttar Pradesh Rajeev Rai on Sunday criticised the traffic authorities in Bengaluru, saying that the traffic management here is "the worst" and the city has the most "irresponsible, useless traffic police".

Tagging Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, he posted on X: "I'm sorry, but you have the worst traffic management and the most irresponsible, useless traffic police. They don't even pick up phone calls. Here is the SS (screenshot) of my attempt to speak to them, none of them picked up my call. For the last one hour, we have been stuck at the same place on Rajkumar Samadhi Road. I am going to miss my flight; tomorrow I have to attend the Parliament session.

Not a single policeman is seen around. These inefficient officers are enough to spoil the name and charm of this beautiful city. No doubt Bengaluru traffic has now earned the reputation of being the most notorious." He tagged the city police commissioner and the joint commissioner of traffic on the screenshot. The Opposition parties were quick to pick up the issue. BJP Karnataka responded, "Worst traffic management", "Useless police", "Inefficient officers". These aren't our words, but those of a sitting SP MP and INDIA bloc partner. The Congress government has single-handedly destroyed the global BRAND BENGALURU.

Congress, do you have an answer for your ally, or will this call go unanswered too?" The JD(S) posted, "Congress' own allies are calling Bengaluru traffic police 'useless' and 'irresponsible.' Siddaramaiah and DK Shivakumar, when friends roast you this hard, the opposition doesn't have to. Brand Bengaluru is paying for your misrule."

When reporters asked Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, he said, "Let me meet him in Delhi. I will show him what the traffic in Delhi is like."

Red alert issued as heavy rains lash Chennai and Tiruvallur

CHENNAI . (Agency)

The deep depression, the remnant of cyclonic storm Ditwah, weakened into a depression at around 5.30 am on Tuesday. By then, it had already brought very heavy to extremely heavy rainfall to parts of Chennai and Tiruvallur, with areas in North Chennai recording as much as 20-26 cm of rain following near-continuous showers on Monday night.

A red alert warning of extremely heavy rainfall was issued for Chennai and Tiruvallur for Tuesday. Weather bloggers noted that the city would continue to receive moderate to heavy spells of rain over the next 24 hours.

With the city recording an average of 13.45 cm of rainfall within 24 hours between 5.30 am on Monday and Tuesday morning, several neighbourhoods experienced inundation even as the Greater Chennai Corporation deployed high-capacity pumps to clear water from the streets. Residents reported sustained waterlogging, with roads flooding again soon after water had been drained by authorities.

According to the Regional Meteorological Centre (RMC), the depression is likely to move slowly southwards towards the North Tamil Nadu-Puducherry coasts and maintain its intensity for the next 12 hours before weakening into a well-marked low-pressure area.

Data from the GCC's Integrated Command and Control Centre (ICCC) showed that several parts of the city received extremely heavy rainfall during this period, with at least five locations crossing the 20 cm mark. Parrys recorded the highest rainfall at 26.52 cm, followed by Ennore at 26.43 cm. Other areas that saw very heavy rainfall included Ice House (23.13 cm), Basin Bridge (20.76 cm), and New Manali Town (20.66 cm).

Bomb threat: IndiGo's Kuwait-Hyderabad flight makes emergency landing in Mumbai; probe launched

An official with the Mumbai airport said procedures were followed as per protocol after the bomb threat was received. The passengers were evacuated safely before security agencies began to inspect the aircraft.

Mumbai . (Agency)

An IndiGo flight operating from Kuwait to Hyderabad was diverted to Mumbai Tuesday morning after the airline received a bomb threat, according to officials at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA). The aircraft made an emergency landing at 7.45 am and was taken to an isolated bay for security screening.

Officials said the passengers were evacuated safely, following which teams from the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Mumbai police, and the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS) carried out a full inspection of the aircraft as part of standard operating procedures. An investigation has been initiated to identify the source and nature of the threat.

IndiGo said it acted as per protocol. "A security threat was received for IndiGo flight 6E1234 operating from Kuwait to Hyderabad on 2nd December 2025 due to which the aircraft was diverted to Mumbai. Following the

established protocol, we informed the relevant authorities immediately and fully cooperated with them in carrying out the necessary security checks before the aircraft

are our topmost priorities," the spokesperson added.

A Mumbai airport official said procedures were followed as per protocol after the bomb threat was received. "The flight was diverted and secured. Further information will be available after the checks are completed," the official said. Authorities stated that alternative arrangements will be made for passengers bound for Hyderabad after clearance from security teams. IndiGo and airport authorities are expected to issue further updates as the probe progresses. Travellers have been advised to monitor airline and airport notifications for any changes in schedule.

Tuesday's incident follows a similar threat reported on November 12, when an email received on IndiGo's grievance portal triggered a high alert at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA).

was cleared for operations," an IndiGo Spokesperson said.

"We made all efforts to minimise inconvenience to our customers including offering them refreshments and sharing regular updates. As always, safety and security of our customers, crew and aircraft

and road constructions were granted ignoring statutory regime under the Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection and Preservation of Trees Act, 1975 that provides for compensatory planting of trees.

intervenors suggested that during or before the onset of autumn season, there must be a health advisory issued by the BMC and health department as awareness programme for Mumbai citizens to protect themselves from air pollution.

"After hearing the parties in this suo motu PIL, we find that despite repeated directions of this court, air pollution during the autumn months has now become a recurring and persistent concern," the HC noted.

The panel will consist of four members including Anita Patil, Conservator of Forests, Sanjay Gandhi National Park and advocates Karan Bhowal, Namrata Vinod and Anant Mallya and will be assisted by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) and Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC).

Act, 1975 that provides for compensatory planting of trees. Among other submissions alleging lack of action by authorities to curb air pollution by the petitioners, one of the

intervenors suggested that during or before the onset of autumn season, there must be a health advisory issued by the BMC and health department as awareness programme for Mumbai citizens to protect themselves from air pollution.

Air pollution during autumn months a recurring and persistent concern despite directives: HC

The court was told that a major portion of air pollution was contributed by construction dust and permissions for building and road constructions were granted ignoring statutory regime under the Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection and Preservation of Trees Act, 1975 that provides for compensatory planting of trees.

Mumbai . The Bomb High Court recently observed that despite several directions and guidelines issued by it to curb air pollution in Mumbai and surrounding areas, the same during autumn months has become a recurring concern.

The HC on November 28 passed an order directing formation of a committee to inspect some construction sites in Mumbai and Navi Mumbai to review whether earlier guidelines issued were complied with or not. The detailed order was made available on Monday.

A bench of Chief Justice Shree Chandrashekhar and Justice Gautam A Ankhd had passed an order on suo motu PIL and other pleas initiated and filed after noting various news reports, including the 'Death by Breath' series by The Indian Express which presented an 'alarming scenario' of air pollution, beginning in November 2023. The court was told that a major portion of air pollution was contributed by construction dust and permissions for building

and road constructions were granted ignoring statutory regime under the Maharashtra (Urban Areas) Protection and Preservation of Trees

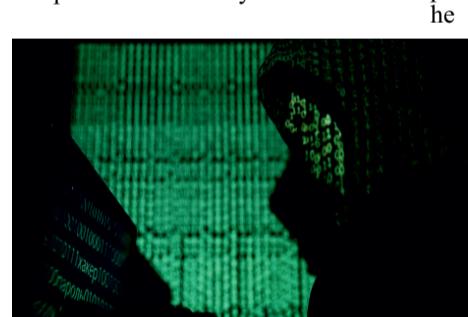
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Man loses Rs 17.94 lakh to fake trading platform in Hyderabad

Police urged citizens to remain cautious of fake trading apps and WhatsApp groups impersonating SEBI-registered brokers.

HYDERABAD . (Agency)

A 27-year-old resident of Kanchanbagh lost Rs 17.94 lakh after fraudsters posing as representatives of Fyers Securities



lured him into investing through a fake online trading platform named FYERS-DMA.

The victim was contacted on WhatsApp and convinced to trade through the platform, which initially appeared genuine and

even allowed two withdrawals totalling 3.6 lakh to gain his trust. He eventually transferred Rs 17.94 lakh into multiple accounts provided by the fraudsters. When he attempted to withdraw his funds, the platform blocked access and stopped responding. The fraudsters further tried to extort him by showing fake profits and demanding repayment of a fabricated Rs 15 lakh 'loan'.

After checking with the official Fyers team, the victim learnt that the platform and services were fake and filed a complaint.

Cybercrime police have registered a case and launched an investigation.

Police urged citizens to remain cautious of fake trading apps and WhatsApp groups impersonating SEBI-registered brokers.

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A new era of nari shakti in Amrit Kaal as national mission

When women rise, the nation soars. In a society rooted in values of equality and justice, a woman's dignity must be non-negotiable. The Government of India, under the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has reaffirmed this belief by translating it into institutional frameworks through Mission Shakti—our comprehensive programme for safety, security, and empowerment of women.

As the Prime Minister has rightly said, "Our government places utmost importance on 'Sammam' and 'Suvidha' for women." These guiding words are not mere sentiments—they are the foundation on which the Modi government has built robust institutional mechanisms for empowering women in every corner of India, under Mission Shakti.

At the heart of this effort are the One Stop Centres (OSCs), operationalised under the 'Sambal' sub-scheme of Mission Shakti. Launched in 2015, these centres offer a unified response mechanism to women affected by violence, ensuring they do not suffer in silence or navigate fragmented support systems. Till date, with 862 OSCs functional across India, more than 12.20 lakh women have received integrated support, including legal aid, medical assistance, police facilitation, shelter, and psychological counselling—all under one roof. From fear to freedom, from silence to support—OSCs are where healing begins. These centres represent a shift from reactive to proactive governance. Whether a woman faces violence in her home, workplace, or a public space, OSCs stand as a testament to the Modi government's resolve to support her recovery, dignity, and justice.

Importantly, these centres are located within or near hospitals to ensure immediate access to medical care—a crucial first step in crisis response. Equally important is the universalisation of the Women Helpline (181), which complements OSCs by ensuring 24x7 assistance for women in distress. Functional across 35 states and UTs, the helpline has handled over 2.56 crore calls and aided more than 93.48 lakh women (till 30 September). Integrated with Emergency Response Support System (ERSS-112), the helpline bridges the gap between distress and relief.

Fast Track Special Courts

To reinforce systemic accountability and fast-track justice, we have established 745 Fast Track Special Courts, including 404 exclusive POCSO Courts. These have resolved over 3.06 lakh cases to date, ensuring that justice delayed is not justice denied. Every verdict delivered, every right restored—is a step towards a just and gender-equal Bharat. Justice delivery is no longer constrained by procedural delays, and every survivor can expect time-bound redressal. In tandem, we are strengthening the grassroots with 14,658 Women Help Desks (WHDs) at police stations, of which over 13,700 are led by women. These desks foster confidence among survivors to report crimes, supported by trained personnel sensitised to gender issues. The presence of women officers not only instils confidence but also strengthens institutional sensitivity and accountability.

Anti-Human Trafficking Units

We are also tackling human trafficking through 807 operational Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) and ensuring safe mobility through the installation of emergency surveillance systems in railways and road transport services under the Nirbhaya Fund.

IT has been quite a while since the car blast took place in New Delhi. Enough time has passed and the investigation has picked up pace and direction. Enough time for various theories to be expounded and revelations made. The blast near the gates of the Lal Qila was shocking and its audacity was bone-chilling. What comes to mind straightaway is that the plans were long in the making; indoctrination of professionals (mostly doctors) had taken place, and this takes time. Material was collected for making high-level explosives, skilled training given in bomb-making from readily available chemicals (it is not as simple as shown in the movies, rather a highly skilled task). Targets were selected, recce carried out and all other strands of a web brought together for a major simultaneous strike across regions. What comes across is that this time our police and intelligence agencies were completely blindsided and could not spot the design and activities of a very dangerous enemy organisation. It was only the humongous recovery of ammonium nitrate (by the J&K police) that gradually led to the unravelling of a complex and vast network of terrorists and their nefarious plans to cause mayhem in Delhi and other places.

These terrorists, it appears, were working in coordination with handlers in Turkey and Pakistan. The hub of activity appears to have been the Al Falah Medical College in Faridabad, and the point of origin is allegedly Kashmir. For some reasons, people in authority keep claiming the extinction of local terrorists from J&K. Obviously, they have been caught flat-footed and every day there are new revelations and fresh detentions and arrests in J&K, Haryana, UP, etc. Perceptibly, the interrogation of those picked up is the basis of these detentions and recoveries. What worries me is that from conception to indoctrination, purchase of material, selection of targets and deployment of men and material, it is a complex time-consuming task which had to be done in secrecy. Most of the tasks were complete and the final stage was near, and we missed the whole song and dance... we got lucky. However, it must be noted that the initial breakthrough came from the J&K police who located the huge dump at Faridabad. This is what good policing is all about. The obvious next question which comes up is: how many such cells are still out there? What is their composition and what are their likely targets? Who are the ultimate perpetrators of these operations? Hopefully, these questions should be keeping the officers and organisations concerned in our country working round the clock, because the alternative is too painful to comprehend. Today, as the situation is even more fluid, more such action can be anticipated. We have not only to look out for our inbred terrorist, but also watch our neighbours. The Pakistanis have always been active, and with seeming American support they appear to have their tails up; we must remember that they have always

We must strengthen our vast network of police stations as they form the core of our security network



had overground and underground networks in J&K and some other states also. Newspapers are full of reports of recoveries being made in states of north India. Add to this the new animosity of Bangladesh and our very vulnerable and porous border with it... the problem multiplies exponentially. We now must keep our guard up in the Northeast as well. The new and surprising factor which has come up in the media is that of Turkey. It has been a supporter of Pakistan over J&K, but this is the first time it has been alleged that terrorists went to Turkey to meet their handlers... this needs to be watched carefully.

I have deliberately avoided talking about the Chinese factor for it is there and as inscrutable and mysterious as ever, but definitely not favourable to us. So, all in all, the investigation has been giving good results so far and a vast network has been exposed. We have escaped a major tragedy by the timely recovery from Faridabad. However, we must do in-house plain speaking and accept our shortcomings. This can only come about through intervention at the highest political and professional levels. There is nothing more important than the security of the state and no better instrument to secure it than timely and outstanding policing and intelligence.

A complex and vast nation such as ours will always face

challenges both from within and outside. These challenges have to be met from a position of strength both diplomatically and militarily, for the best victories are those that require no battle. Sun Tzu said: "If you know the enemy and know yourself, you need not fear the result of a hundred battles. If you know yourself but not the enemy, for every victory gained you will also suffer a defeat. If you know neither the enemy nor yourself, you will succumb in every battle." The heart of this strength is the policing at the police station level and intelligence we can gather i.e. actionable intelligence. Internally, we must strengthen our vast network of police stations as they form the core of our security network. We have seen it in Punjab and J&K that the best response to terrorism is an active and motivated police force, for they are the sons of the soil and familiar with ground-level activities and activists. The need is to motivate them and not denigrate them—this is what good leadership is all about. Even if there are foreign mercenaries, they are easily noticed by the local populace and the police who are familiar with the terrain and the people. This requires both police and political leadership as well as coordination. The needs of national security are paramount, and these needs should enable all parties to evolve a national consensus on how to face the situation.

Supreme Court for free digital oversight body, but the 'how' wide open

The government's draft proposals submitted to the Court earlier this year speak of clearer content classifications, stronger age verification, and specific rules for harmful or AI-generated content.

The Supreme Court's call for a "neutral, independent and autonomous" regulatory mechanism for digital content marks an inflection point in India's struggle to balance free expression with public safety. It is a moment that demands clarity. The Court's concern is neither moral panic nor a veiled push for censorship. It is an acknowledgement of an undeniable reality—self-regulation, as it stands, is not working. For years, digital platforms have insisted that voluntary codes, age labels, and grievance bodies are sufficient. In practice, however, harmful content—from obscenity to targeted humiliation of marginalised groups—spreads faster than platforms can react, and far faster than victims can seek redress. This was the concern flagged by Justice Jayamala Bagchi: response time. Once uploaded, the material goes viral before the authorities can act. Children, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable communities bear the brunt. The Court's anxiety is not abstract. It is rooted in lived harm. At the same time, the fears raised by civil liberties advocates cannot be dismissed. Terms like 'anti-national' have been historically misused, and any regulatory



architecture that is vague, overbroad, or politically influenced can chill free speech. The Court signalled caution by calling for effective regulation. The phrase does not endorse any form of prevention or pre-censorship. That restraint is crucial. India's constitutional commitment to free expression must never be compromised through ambiguous standards or discretionary policing of dissent. What the moment calls

for, therefore, is not maximalist regulation but smart, proportionate, transparent oversight. The government's draft proposals submitted to the Court earlier this year speak of clearer content classifications, stronger age verification, and specific rules for harmful or AI-generated content. However, the key lies in who enforces them. A regulator that is truly independent of both state power and industry influence is the only model that can maintain credibility. Its task should be narrow: ensuring due process, rapid response to egregious violations, and accountability from platforms—not micromanaging creative expression. India has confronted technological disruptions before; the principles that guided earlier transitions remain relevant today. Protect free speech and vulnerable citizens. Ensure competition and transparency. Legislate only after meaningful public debate. But India must be equally vigilant that "effectiveness" never becomes a euphemism for overreach. The challenge is delicate but not insurmountable: to build a system where creators remain free, platforms are responsible, and citizens are safe.

Real disaster: Missed early warning alerts

Mounting public frustration targets the Sri Lankan government's response, from the lack of a relief-and-rescue mechanism to failures to declare a national emergency or issue timely disaster updates

On November 28, Sundaram Thevapalan (36) and his family had to wade through Colombo's flood waters to find shelter. They received no alerts of 200 mm of rainfall or flooding. The rising water itself served as a warning for those in Colombo's low-lying areas. There were no temple bells, government announcements, or community-based messages. "You read the crisis when water reached your doorstep," he said. As torrential rains lashed out, Cyclone Ditwah, the worst cyclone to hit the Indian Ocean island nation since 2003, left a trail of destruction. There were 334 deaths, 147,931 displaced, and 370 reported missing.

In the past 130 years, the island faced 16 cyclones, five of them severe, including those in 1978, 2000 and 2003. According to the 2024 Risk Information Index, 87 percent of the population is at medium or high climate risk. Between 2015 and 2022, 304 climate-related disasters were recorded, compared to 35 between 2008 and 2014. This calls for an effective, multi-pronged disaster response that activates upon early warnings. While the country was overwhelmed by rescue demands, mounting public frustration focused on the state response, from a lack of a combined relief-and-rescue mechanism to failures to declare a national emergency and communicate in a timely manner.

If a November 12 warning by Athula Karunayake, Director General of the Department of Meteorology, had been heeded, the nation could

have been better prepared. In a television discussion, Karunayake strongly predicted that a depression would develop in the Bay of Bengal by November 14, with the possibility of severe weather. Having lived through severe storms and the 2004 tsunami, Sri Lanka still seems not to have got its act together. Despite the magnitude of this disaster, the response was slow, poorly coordinated, and insensitive to language. As bad weather intensified, a public holiday was declared on November 28. This affected emergency communications as people reached out to local authorities, only to find no one available. President Dissanayake declared a national emergency on November 29 amid growing criticism of the state's failure to mount an effective, coordinated response to the disaster. Making matters worse, public communications were issued mostly in Sinhala, in violation of the country's language policy and denying critical information to the Tamil-speaking public. Due to a weak response, the government is now criticised for adding to Cyclone Ditwah's trail of destruction, through omissions that could have contributed to increased fatalities. The majority of disaster warnings being issued only in Sinhala are not a communication error: they are a governance disaster steeped in language discrimination that denied life-saving information at a critical time. The Tamil Guardian first claimed that despite the

severity of the cyclone, people in the island's cyclone-battered North and East could not use the information as the state continuously issued almost all emergency communications exclusively in Sinhala or English. "Even official warnings shared



by ministries and the DMC at a press conference held at the defence ministry were issued without translation, with Tamil completely excluded and only occasional updates available in English," the Tamil Guardian claimed.

Sanjana Hattotuwa, a Colombo-based disinformation expert and analyst, studied 68 posts on the Disaster Management Centre's official Facebook page posted from November 25 to 7.15 am on November 29. In a LinkedIn post, he noted all critical information on the banner page was in Sinhala. "Of the 68 Facebook posts, just a dozen

featured content and vital updates in Tamil. When machine translation was used to study the updates, all of them were related to flooding or the high risk of flooding," he stated. Hattotuwa further noted: "There was a significant disparity in both the frequency and the granularity of lifesaving, critical information provided in Sinhala versus Tamil. While Sinhala DMC Facebook updates covered a wide spectrum of disaster management, including specific road closures and Advanced Level exam logistics, the posts/updates in Tamil were exclusively around flooding."

Accordingly, what was not effectively communicated to the Tamil-speaking public included, landslide warnings (not a single post in Tamil detailing specific landslide risks despite Tamils living in the hill country, a demographic most vulnerable to landslides), information on critical infrastructure and road closure updates, education and logistical updates such as postponement of examinations, specific river basin-related warnings, granularity of maritime and wind warnings. "The DMC's official website has a selection for Tamil, but aside from page navigation, header, and footer text, everything else remains in Sinhala (or English). By November 28, I had studied 85 updates posted on the Meteorology Department's website." He also studied the official Facebook page, which featured 36 posts in Tamil.

NEWS BOX

Six senior cops promoted, 9 new IPS officers get Gujarat postings

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

The state government in two orders on Monday promoted six IPS officers — two to Director General (DGP) rank and four to the rank of Inspector General (IG). It also gave postings to nine officers of the 2022-2023 batch as Additional Superintendents of Police (ASP). Manoj Sashidhar of the 1994 batch, currently on central deputation, serving as Special Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), was promoted to the rank of DGP. Raju Bhargava of the 1995 batch, currently posted as Additional Director General (ADGP) of Armed Units, was promoted to DGP-rank and his cadre post was also upgraded accordingly.

Four other IPS officers of the 2007 batch were promoted to the rank of Inspector General (IG) of which three are on central deputation and one is posted in Gujarat.

Divya Mishra is currently serving as Additional Deputy Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB). Deepan Bhadrani is currently posted as Director in the Senior Executive Cadre of the Cabinet Secretariat, and Saurabh Tolmibia is Advisor (Security) at Gas Authority of India Limited. The fourth officer, PV Rathod, currently serving as DIG of CID (Crime), was also promoted to IG rank and his cadre post was also upgraded to reflect the same.

Postings of 2022, 2023 batch officers

The state government on Monday also granted postings to nine IPS officers of the 2022 and 2023 batches as Additional Superintendents of Police (ASP). From the 2022 batch, Ankita Mishra was posted as ASP of Asali in Ahmedabad Rural, Ghanshyam Gautam in Bhavnagar Rural of that district, and Akshay Mahendra Engineer as ASP to Mandvi in Surat Rural.

UP minister Sanjay Nishad's Ballia 'dalal' remark stokes row, Karni Sena demands FIR against him

Lucknow. (Agency)

A statement Uttar Pradesh minister and NISAD Party chief Sanjay Nishad made on November 29 over Ballia "muddle" has sparked a controversy, with local organisations staging protests and demanding registration of an FIR against him.

Addressing party workers at a workshop for the preparations for Assembly elections, Nishad had said, "Yeh Ballia hai, yahan ke log angrezen ke dalal the. Aur dalal ka system chalta raha hai abhi bhi. Isliye Ballia bhi barbad hai. (This is Ballia where people acted as middlemen for the British and this system is prevalent till date. Because of this Ballia has been ruined.)"

"Otherwise, it was the land of rebels that drew the British away and helped the country attain freedom," he added. Hitting out at the minister over his remarks, Karni Sena's district president Kamlesh Singh said, "Those who themselves sell Ballia are trying to defame the place which is the land of martyrs. If I happen to meet him, I will snip his tongue for his remarks and if I am unable to do it, I would ask the youth of Ballia to do it for me. Whoever does it will be given Rs 5 lakh reward and I will also help him fight a legal case free of cost."

"I will not tolerate any humiliation and disrespect of Ballia," he added. According to sources, local organisations staged a protest on Monday demanding an FIR against Nishad. They also tried to burn his effigy and police had to intervene to bring the situation under control.

Clear e-khata applications quickly, GBA chief Maheshwar Rao tells officials

BENGALURU. (Agency)

Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao has directed his officials to expedite the disposal of pending e-Khata applications under the five city corporations. Addressing a virtual meeting on Monday regarding issuing of e-Khata, conversion of B-Khata to A-Khata and property tax matters, he said a separate helpline number — 94806 83035 — has been designated for e-Khata-related complaints.

He directed officials to ensure that all complaints received on the helpline are resolved within the stipulated time. "Complaints to the e-Khata helpline must be monitored separately. Rejected applications should be reviewed to understand the reasons for rejection and appropriate corrective action must be taken," Rao told officials.

He emphasised the need to immediately process new e-Khata applications and those seeking conversion from B-Khata to A-Khata. Timely disposal of these applications would help increase the revenue of the corporations, he noted.

Special Commissioner Munish Moudgil said the e-Khata helpline receives nearly 1,000 calls every day, and the issues raised are being tracked and resolved on priority.

He stressed that e-Khata applications should not be rejected without valid reasons. The reasons for rejection will be reviewed and corporation-wise reports will be compiled. This will help speed up the disposal of pending e-Khata applications, he added.

He also said that commercial properties of major defaulters within the five city corporations under GBA are being sealed to recover outstanding taxes.

Lawrence Bishnoi gang member accused of many crimes shot dead

9-10 rounds of bullets fired at Inderpreet Singh, alias Parry, CCTV examined to trace the shooters

Chandigarh. (Agency)

An associate of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang was shot dead by unidentified assailants near Timber Market in Sector 26, Chandigarh on Monday evening. The deceased, identified as Inderpreet Singh, 35, alias Parry, was found inside a car and was rushed to PGIMER, Chandigarh, where he succumbed to his injuries. After the incident, a post on Facebook went viral, in which one Aarzoo Bishnoi claimed responsibility of the murder.

Sharing the details, IG Chandigarh Police Pushpendra Kumar said, "We received a call about a firing incident near Timber Market at around 6 pm. The police team reached the spot and found the victim in the car. He was taken to PGIMER, but he could not survive."

He added that *prima facie*, the assailants appeared to be known to Parry, who had around a dozen criminal cases registered against him. CCTV footage from the area was being examined to identify the shooters and trace the victim's movement prior to the attack. "We are tracing the assailants. An FIR for murder has been registered," the IG said. Police said that around 9-10 rounds of bullets were fired by the assailants — two on Parry's Kia Seltos car

windshield. The assailants who were reportedly in a compact SUV escaped after the incident. According to police sources, he recently got married on November 13.

Sources later said that a known Parry, who is

Was jailed with Lawrence. Former SOPU leader, he had gone to jail with Lawrence 14 years ago. Over the past decade, the 35-year-old Sector-33 resident had repeatedly figured in extortion, arms recovery, and assault cases investigated by both Chandigarh and Punjab Police. According to police sources, Parry had several criminal cases lodged against him in Punjab and Chandigarh. In Chandigarh, he was facing trial in a 14-year-old assault case.

Fourteen years ago, he had been jailed along with Bishnoi. As per police records, Bishnoi, Parry and their associates had forcibly entered a house in Sector 40 and assaulted a man, leading to the registration of a case. The trial in the matter is still underway, with Bishnoi also named as an accused.

The case pertains to June 28, 2011, when complainant Harpreet Singh Grewal reported that around 8.45 pm, Lawrence and five accomplices — armed with a pistol and swords — stormed into his house and attacked him and his friends, leaving them injured. The accused allegedly threatened to kill them before fleeing. Police later arrested several of the accused, including Parry.

suspected to be sitting beside him in the car was part of the conspiracy with the assailants, who came in a white (Creta) car. The co-passenger in Parry's car also fired at him before escaping. However, sources added that they are still probing this theory more.

Ministry of Railways Sanctions Final Location Survey for

Doubling line of New Coochbehar -Abhayapuri Section

The Sikh Time

Maligaon, 02nd December: The Ministry of Railways has accorded sanction for conducting a Final Location Survey for the doubling of the New Coochbehar - Golakganj - Gauripur - Abhayapuri section, covering a length of 152.31 km at an estimated cost of Rs 3,65,54,400/- This approval marks important step toward strengthening railway infrastructure and enhancing line capacity along this important corridor. The New Coochbehar - Golakganj - Gauripur - Abhayapuri section is a vital corridor for NFR and provides significant benefits to the people of North Bengal and Lower Assam. With rising passenger demand and a consistent increase in freight movement across the region, enhancing rail line capacity has become an important requirement. The sanctioned sur

vey will help assess these needs and guide effective planning for the proposed doubling work. The

graphical features, bridges, tunnels, soil conditions and other engineering aspects. Based on

smoother and faster movement of both passenger and freight trains.

Northeast Frontier Railway will



project is expected to improve railway capacity, enable smoother train operations, strengthen local supply chains and support economic growth across the region. The Final Location Survey will cover detailed examination of geo-

these findings, a comprehensive report will be prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Railways for further consideration and approval. This survey forms a vital preparatory stage for the planned doubling work, aimed at enabling

continue to carry out such surveys and studies to strengthen railway infrastructure, adopt forward looking initiatives and enhance the safety, efficiency and overall quality of rail services for the public.

Red Fort blast case: NIA searches family home of doctor siblings in Lucknow

Lucknow. (Agency)

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Monday conducted searches in Lucknow at the family residence of Shaheen Shahid Ansari (44) and her younger brother, Parvez Ansari (38), as part of its investigation into last month's Red Fort explosion.

The duo were arrested in connection with the alleged "transnational and interstate terror module" that the J&K Police busted last month.

The NIA had arrested Shaheen, after it took over the probe into the Red Fort blast. According to officials, Lucknow is among eight locations where the NIA is conducting coordinated searches.

An NIA team, which included a woman officer, arrived at the family home in Khandari Bazaar under the Qaiserbagh police station limits. At the time of the search, several family members were present, including their 80-year-old father, Syed Ahmed, a retired government employee, and their elder brother, Mohammad Shoaib.

"The NIA team reached the house in the morning and conducted a thorough search. They did not disclose



In 2013, however, she had suddenly left the institute without informing anyone. After that, she joined the Al Falah School of Medical Sciences & Research Centre in Faridabad. Parvez finished his MBBS from Era Medical College in Lucknow and completed his MD in Medicine from a college in Agra. He joined Integral University as a senior resident in 2021 but resigned from the job on November 6.

The Lokayukta police registered a case against Venkatesh in 2012 under the Prevention of Corruption Act for allegedly possessing DA worth Rs 1.60 crore during the check period between August 1981 and 2012. Later, they raided the house, bank lockers and the office of the accused. Concluding that the DA of the accused is Rs 59.86 lakh, which is 24.90% of

73-year-old former BBMP AEE gets 3-year jail, fined Rs 59.86 lakh in DA case

BENGALURU. (Agency)

A special court has sentenced a retired Assistant Executive Engineer (AEE) of the then Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP), V Venkatesh, 73, to three years' simple imprisonment and ordered him to pay a fine of Rs 59.86 lakh, as charges of possessing disproportionate assets (DA) to his known sources of income and abusing his official position have been proved.

Judge Nandeesha RP, Special Court for Lokayukta Cases, passed the order. Venkatesh was AEE of Uttarahalli Sub-Division of BBMP when action was initiated against him. He was appointed as assistant engineer in the Public Works Department (PWD) and later deputed to BBMP.

his known sources of income of Rs 2.40 crore, the court noted that the prosecution has proved the charges against the accused.

The court noted that the accused did not provide any evidence to prove his lawful sources of income for the excess wealth possessed by him. Apart from that, he did not intimate the income said to be derived from the



sale of a property owned by his wife, income from sericulture, etc., as per the Karnataka Civil Service (Conduct) Rules.

Therefore, the prosecution proved that he could not comply with the requirement of known sources of income as provided under the explanation to Section 13(1)(e) of the PC Act.

After fivefold spike in 2023, EV sales struggle to pick pace in Chandigarh

According to the RLA Chandigarh, electric four-wheeler registrations in 2021 and 2022 were 123 and 254 respectively, and increased significantly to 1,013 in 2023. Electric vehicle (EV) four-wheeler registrations — which were 1,326 in 2024 — rose to 1,348 this year, which is about to conclude.

Chandigarh. (Agency)

After seeing a fivefold jump in 2023, electric vehicles sales in Chandigarh are growing at a snail's pace in the last few years, suggests the data by the Registering and Licensing Authority (RLA).

According to the RLA Chandigarh, electric four-wheeler registrations in 2021 and 2022 were 123 and 254 respectively, and increased significantly to 1,013 in 2023. Electric vehicle (EV) four-wheeler registrations — which were 1,326 in 2024 — rose to 1,348 this year, which is about to conclude. The electric two-

wheelers' sales, after recording substantial growth in 2022 and 2023, is continuing to go down with 1,404 EVs registered so far in 2024 as compared to 1,752 in 2024. Registrations after picking up massively from 122 in 2021 to 752 in 2022, took another stride in 2023 with 2,103 registrations. However, significant decline began in 2024 when only 1,752 such vehicles got registered. Incentives increased three months ago.

This year again in the review meeting of the EV policy for Chandigarh, the administration increased a slew of incentives three months ago. For four-wheelers (personal), the cap on the number of electric four-wheelers eligible for incentives under the policy has been increased from 2,000 to 3,500 units, due to rising public interest.

Also, there is insurance support for electric two-wheelers, with buyers eligible for assistance of up to Rs 5,000 for the first year, helping to reduce the upfront cost of ownership.

The incentive for electric two-

subject to a maximum of Rs 30,000 per vehicle. Special incentives for women buyers



To promote greater participation of women in EV adoption, women buyers of electric two-wheelers

have been given an enhanced subsidy of Rs 12,500/kWh, capped at Rs 37,500 per vehicle.

Also, to encourage non-motorised, sustainable mobility, the incentive for electric bicycles has been increased from 25 per cent of the cost up to Rs 4,000 to 25 per cent of the cost up to Rs 6,000. Seeing an increase in purchases, the UT Administration has also decided to expand the EV charging station network across all areas of Chandigarh, ensuring comprehensive coverage across Chandigarh.

CEPT University, Chennai-based startup join hands to set up on-campus additive manufacturing, 3D concrete printing facility

Ahmedabad. (Agency)

CEPT UNIVERSITY will establish an additive manufacturing and 3D concrete printing workshop on its campus with the help of Chennai-based deep-tech startup Tavsta Manufacturing Solutions, with which it signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Monday. A release issued by the university said that as per the accord, Tavsta would provide the robotic arm that will be capable of printing complex concrete forms and place the University among the few premier institutions equipped with such an advanced research infrastructure. This workshop will be developed over the coming months and will support teaching studios, applied research projects, and prototype development targeting real construction challenges.

short article insertThe initiative is led by Prof Jinal Shah, Programme Chair of the Masters in Computational Design and Fabrication (MCDF), and Kalyan Vaideyanathan, Chief Technology Officer (Construction) at Tavsta. The collaboration aims to increase the scope of 3D-printed concrete through research into printed facades, integrated structural systems, embedded electrical conduits, and environmentally responsive forms. Other key areas of interest will be components that can be printed off-site and assembled in challenging terrains where traditional construction is impossible, the statement said.

Bringing advanced additive manufacturing into the academic ecosystem at CEPT will help students "prototype, experiment and rethink how India conceives and constructs its buildings" deputy Provost Prof Chirayu Bhatt was quoted as saying. Prof Shah added that the collaboration strengthens rapid prototyping, material-driven design and sustainable construction approaches for students. The company, which pioneered 3D-printed structures in India, will also offer DFAM (Design for Additive Manufacturing) studio courses in collaboration with CEPT, where students can build their designs on robotic printing systems.

Delhi-Saharanpur-Dehradun Expressway Opens For Trial Run, Launch Soon

Authorities are preparing to inaugurate a 32 km-long completed section of the expressway between late December and early January

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Delhi-Saharanpur-Dehradun Expressway, one of North India's most significant highway projects, had one section opened for a trial run, marking a major milestone toward its full operational launch. Once completed, the 210 km high-speed corridor is expected to reduce the travel time between Delhi and Dehradun from the current 6 to 6.5 hours to just 2 to 2.5 hours, significantly improving connectivity between the national capital, western Uttar Pradesh, and Uttarakhand. Authorities are preparing to inaugurate a 32 km-long completed section of the expressway between late December and early January, even

as work continues at an accelerated pace across other stretches. While a formal inauguration date has not been announced, various parts of the road - particularly near Geeta Colony, Seelampur and the Shahdara area in Delhi - have already been opened for trial use. Barriers have been removed in the Shahdara and Northeast districts, allowing vehicular movement and indicating that a broader public launch is drawing close. While speaking to the , one of the commuters, Rohit Kumar said, "We have been waiting for this for a long time. Now going to my native place has become easier. I used to go to my home on Friday evening after office and then used



to come Sunday night to join the office on Monday."

The team travelled on the

expressway to bring ground zero reality. The final touch-up is being given to the newly designed six-

lane. The expressway includes provisions for future expansion to eight lanes to handle rising traffic congestion on the expressway. The project incorporates extensive modern infrastructure such as multiple interchanges, service lanes, underpasses, and overpasses to ensure a smooth and uninterrupted driving experience on NH 709B. The corridor begins near Delhi's Akshardham Metro Station, linking seamlessly to the Delhi-Meerut Expressway before passing through western UP's Baghpat, Shamli, and Saharanpur districts. It finally terminates in Uttarakhand's capital city, Dehradun, providing a direct, high-speed route for commuters,

tourists, and commercial traffic. Construction is being executed in four phases. The first stretch, from Akshardham to Baghpat, has been ready for some time. The second phase between Baghpat and Saharanpur is nearly complete, while the third is in its final stages. The fourth phase involves tunnels and elevated structures in the hilly terrain near Dehradun and is currently undergoing finishing work. As per sources, the expressway will be fully open to the public by February 2026. The government has directed that the inauguration should take place only after all four phases are complete, ensuring a seamless, end-to-end high-speed travel experience.

Operation Sindo "Remains In Progress": Navy Chief

New Delhi.(Agency)

Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi on Tuesday said his force's aggressive posturing during Operation Sindo in May forced Pakistan Navy to remain close to their ports. In his annual press conference, Admiral Tripathi also said that the Indian Navy maintained a high operational readiness, including in the Western Arabian sea, in the last seven-eight months following the hostilities with Pakistan.

The Navy chief, without elaborating, said Operation Sindo "remains in progress". "The aggressive posturing and immediate action during Operation



Sindo, including deployment of the carrier battle group forced Pakistan Navy to remain close to their ports or near the Makran coast," he said.

The Navy chief said Operation Sindo has put financial strain on Pakistan as significant number of merchant ships avoided travelling to that country following the hostilities.

Delhi Man Steals Phone To Buy Wife 'Costly' Anniversary Present

New Delhi.(Agency)

A man, who allegedly snatched a mobile phone to buy a costly gift for his wife on their marriage anniversary, has been arrested by Delhi Police, an official said on Monday. The accused, Rohit alias Macchihi, is a habitual offender and has been previously involved in 22 cases of robbery and snatching, he added.

"His accomplice, 33-year-old Arjun Sareen, who has two previous cases against him, was the first to be caught after the complainant tracked the stolen phone's location," the senior officer said. The incident took place at 11.30 am on Sunday when complainant Ronit Karati was cycling towards Kishan Ganj. Near a sweets shop on the Old Rohtak Road, two men on a motorcycle allegedly snatched his mobile phone and fled.

According to the police, Karati and his friend tracked the phone through a laptop and reached Pratap Nagar metro station, where they spotted the duo. Karati managed to



get hold of Arjun along with the motorcycle, while Rohit escaped.

"A case was registered, and further investigation was taken up. During interrogation, Arjun revealed that Rohit had insisted on committing the snatching as he wanted money to arrange a costly gift for his wife on their marriage anniversary," the officer said. He also disclosed that they had covered the motorcycle's number plate with black tape to avoid identification.

A police team later traced Rohit and arrested him near the railway tracks in the Kishan Ganj area late on Sunday night. The stolen handset was recovered from him.

The officer said he was looking for a buyer for the stolen phone when he was caught. Rohit, a drug addict, was released from jail in November 2024 and had returned to crime soon after, he added.

"Baseless": India Rejects Pak's Airspace Denial Claims For Sri Lanka Aid

New Delhi.(Agency)

India has granted rapid clearance for Pakistan's aid flight carrying relief material to cyclone-hit Sri Lanka, firmly rejecting "baseless and misleading" claims circulating in Pakistani media that New Delhi had denied permission to use its airspace.

Officials confirmed that the request for overflight was submitted by Pakistan at approximately 1300 hrs (IST) on Monday, seeking same-day permission to fly over Indian airspace. Given the purpose of the request - to provide humanitarian assistance to Sri Lanka - India processed the request with exceptional speed.

Permission was officially granted and communicated to the Government of Pakistan through official channels at 1730 hrs (IST) on Monday, with the clearance processed within a

minimal four-hour notice period, they said.

Officials emphasised that this clearance was a purely humanitarian gesture, made despite Pakistan maintaining a ban on Indian airlines'



use of its airspace. India's reaction came in the wake of reports by certain Pakistani media outlets claiming that India "refused to grant airspace" for the aid flights.

Officials categorically labelled these allegations as "baseless and misleading." Sri Lanka has suffered

MCD retenders waste contracts as Okhla, Bhalswa cleanup races against 2026 deadlines

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) is not happy with the performance of companies involved in waste processing at its landfill sites and has taken the retendering route to onboard replacements. It will complete the re-tendering process at Okhla and Bhalswa sites within the next one month, officials said on Monday.

According to the deadline set by the MCD, the Okhla landfill should be cleared by July 2026 and the Bhalswa landfill by December 2026.

An official, who requested anonymity, said that the output of the previous companies which were responsible for waste processing was

not satisfactory and will be changed. Currently, the tendering process is at the stage of technical evaluation, officials aware of the matter said.



According to a senior official, the MCD's target is that approximately 12,000 metric tonnes of solid waste and 6,000 metric tons of construction

and demolition waste are cleared completely. Additionally, he said, the legacy waste in Okhla, Bhalswa, and Ghazipur sites would also be cleared completely. The deadline for the Ghazipur site has been set for December 2027.

"As of now, we are targeting that the solid waste generated on a daily basis should be zero within the next 1.5 years, and that is why we are attempting to clear solid waste every day," he said. He also said that the heaps of wastes were accumulating because till now the waste was just being dumped and not being processed. "We are working on the targets and thereby monitoring on a daily basis," he added.

Delhi India Gate Protest: 3 Protestors Sent To Police Custody

The investigating officers needed time to probe the slogan in solidarity with slain Maoist commander Madvi Hidma, they said.

New Delhi.(Agency)

A Delhi court on Monday remanded three protesters to three days of police custody in a case relating to the alleged use of pepper spray on police personnel during a demonstration at the India Gate over pollution last month.

The trio was identified as Ravjot, Gurkiran and Kranti. The court also remanded seven other accused protesters to seven-day judicial custody.

While Delhi Police requested 10 days of police custody for Ayisha Wafiya and three other women, the court granted them only three days of judicial custody.

Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC) Aridaman Singh Cheema passed the order, directing that the women be interrogated only by female investigating officers. The decision followed arguments from the defence counsel, who claimed the women had been subjected to rape

threats and sexual harassment by male police officers.

While arguing for police custody, Delhi Police said that some of the arrested students had attended a conference of the banned Radical Students' Union (RSU) in Hyderabad in February and that several videos allegedly showed their links to the Naxalite movement.

The investigating officers needed time to probe the slogan in solidarity with slain Maoist commander Madvi Hidma, they said.

The investigating officers also argued that further custody was necessary due to new evidence, including videos showing the students raising controversial slogans and WhatsApp chats revealing coordination among the group, and to trace the source

of their funding, as the accused were found travelling to a conference and using expensive phones.

Opposing the plea for further custody, the defence contended that the accused had

Their devices had been seized, and there was no further possibility of tampering with the evidence by the accused.

Since the primary virtual evidence was already in police custody, there was no further need for custodial interrogation, the defence counsel argued.

Many of the members played no active role in coordinating and organising the protest beyond being members of a WhatsApp group and being present at the venue on the day of the protest, showing there was no meeting of minds between the accused protesters, the defence counsel said. Delhi Police was also accused of acting in a "lackadaisical" manner, as there have been no leads on who sourced the pepper spray at the venue of the protest, despite more than a week of custodial interrogation, it argued.



cooperated fully, had already been interrogated and had spent two days in police custody in a related case.

NEWS BOX

Gautam Gambhir backlash makes no sense, he is the best coach and human: Ex-KKR star

New Delhi. (Agency)

Afghanistan wicketkeeper and former KKR star Rahamanullah Gurbaz has jumped to the defence of Gautam Gambhir after the current Indian coach suffered the wrath of the fans after India's 0-2 Test series loss to South Africa. Gambhir has endured a polarising time as the Indian coach, as the failures in red-ball cricket have cast a shadow over his achievements with the side. Before the loss to South Africa, India were humbled 0-3 by New Zealand and went on to lose the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. These results meant that fans were asking for Gambhir to get sacked in the aftermath of the Guwahati Test loss. Speaking to PTI, Gurbaz said that the backlash doesn't make sense to him and hailed the former Indian opener as the best coach and human being. "If 1.4 billion people are there in your country, you can say 2-3 million will be against him. The rest are with Gautam sir and with India team. It doesn't make sense to talk about them. 'He's the best ever coach and human being, mentor that I have had in my career so far. I love the way he goes about things,'" said Gurbaz. Gurbaz also pointed out how India won the Champions Trophy and Asia Cup under Gambhir.

"India just won the Champions Trophy in ODI



format, Asia Cup in T20 format. They have won a lot of series, so you can't blame them for one series."

NOT STRICT BUT DISCIPLINED'

Gurbaz spent one season working alongside Gambhir at KKR in 2024 where they went onto win the IPL title. The Afghan wicketkeeper said that Gambhir made sure that the environment for the players was easy and not stressful. "I love the way he goes about his job. When you have a good environment, you will be always on the top. He made the environment very easy for us, nothing stressful, nothing strict... and that's why we won the tournament," he said.

"He is not strict but he is disciplined. He is strict only when something goes against discipline." Gambhir is currently with the Indian team as they face South Africa in the ODI series.

Hockey India eyeing Sjoerd Marijne return to women's team as Harendra Singh resigns

New Delhi. (Agency)

Hockey India are reportedly set to approach Sjoerd Marijne to return as the Indian women's team head coach following Harendra Singh's departure from the post. Marijne took the job first in 2017 and after a brief stint as the senior men's team coach, returned back to the women's team and led them to the quarterfinals of the Women's World Cup in 2018. His biggest achievement with the team was guiding them to fourth place at the Tokyo Olympics, where they defeated Australia along the way. The Dutchman resigned from his role following the Olympics in 2021. The search for a new coach comes after Harendra resigned from the role on Monday, December 1. The former Indian men's team coach took over the reins of the team in April and guided



them to the Asian Champions Trophy 2024. However, a poor performance in the FIH Pro League, where India finished last, saw them get demoted. "Coaching the Indian women's hockey team has been a privilege that has been a highlight of my career. Though personal reasons call me to step away, my heart remains with this extraordinary team and their ongoing success," said Harendra in a statement. "I will always cherish my journey with Hockey India and continue to support their efforts to take Indian hockey to the highest levels of achievement."

Hockey India president Dilip Tirkey thanked Harendra for his work with the team and said they will start the process of appointing a new coach soon. "We thank Harendra Singh for his services and his exemplary experience. His commitment towards the development of Indian Hockey is well-known across the hockey community across the world. While we will announce a suitable replacement soon, we wish him the very best," said the former India player.

SMAT 2025: Arjun Tendulkar continues red-hot run with ball after big IPL trade

Arjun Tendulkar continued his impressive bowling for Goa in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. He took three wickets and smashed a quickfire 16 in their 7-wicket win against Madhya Pradesh on Tuesday in Kolkata.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Fast bowler Arjun Tendulkar continued his excellent run with the ball in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, representing Goa after switching from Mumbai ahead of the 2025-26 domestic season. On Wednesday, Arjun, son of the legendary Sachin Tendulkar, produced another impressive spell, taking three wickets in four overs against Madhya Pradesh in Salt Lake, Kolkata. Arjun finished with figures of 3 for 36 from his four overs, having conceded just

five runs in his first two. He was introduced into the attack as early as the opening over, entrusted with the responsibility of bowling with the new ball. He struck immediately, removing Madhya Pradesh opener Shivang Kumar, before dismissing fellow opener Ankush Singh in his second over. Arjun then claimed the big wicket of former Kolkata Knight Riders and India all-rounder Venkatesh Iyer, who struggled for fluency and managed only six off 13 deliveries. He was also involved in the dismissal of Royal Challengers Bengaluru and Madhya Pradesh captain Rajat Patidar, completing a catch off the bowling of Koushik V.

Arjun's fiery effort helped Goa restrict Madhya Pradesh to 170 for 6 in their 20 overs. In response, he gave his side a rapid start at the top of the order, striking three boundaries in a 10-ball 16. The left-hander has been opening the batting for Goa in the tournament, consistently providing brisk starts. Goa eventually went on to beat Madhya Pradesh by seven wickets, chasing 171 in 18.3 overs. Captain Suyash



Prabhudessai hit an unbeaten 75 off 50 balls to steer them past the finish line. In the ongoing Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Arjun has taken six wickets in four matches at a healthy economy rate of 7.70. He has also contributed with the bat, scoring 65 runs at a

Playing with Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli brings a different confidence: Tilak Varma

New Delhi. (Agency)

Tilak Varma reckons that sharing the dressing room with Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli has given him a new level of confidence as he looks to establish himself in international cricket. The 23-year-old, who has featured in four ODIs and scored a half-century, enjoys the longer formats and is intent on making the most of his opportunities on the South Africa tour.

"ODI and Test cricket feel like my game because I enjoy the longer format. I'm really excited to play more ODIs as well. When Rohit bhai and Virat bhai are in the same team, the confidence level is completely different," Varma said on JioStar.

For Varma, spending time with two of India's



most accomplished cricketers has been a valuable learning phase. "They have so much experience and knowledge, and I try to take as much advice from them as possible to get better," he said. The conversations, he added, have helped him understand the demands of international cricket from close quarters.

A major part of his growth has come through discussions with Virat Kohli, especially on fitness and running between the wickets - areas Varma wants to sharpen as he prepares for a long future with the Indian team.

"I speak to Virat bhai a lot, especially about fitness and running between the wickets. His intensity is incredible. I love running too, and I feel I'm pretty quick, so I really enjoy that part of the game," he said. Kohli's emphasis on sharp singles and maintaining tempo during an innings has already influenced Varma's approach. The youngster is also eager for the chance to bat with Kohli more often.

"If we play together, running between the wickets with him is something I look forward to," he said.

Australia's Glenn Maxwell pulls out of auction, hints at ending IPL career

Australia all-rounder Glenn Maxwell has confirmed that he will not enter the IPL 2026 mini-auction. The 37-year-old becomes the latest player to withdraw from next season, following Andre Russell and Faf du Plessis.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Australia all-rounder Glenn Maxwell, 37, on Tuesday confirmed he won't be entering the IPL 2026 mini-auction, hinting he has already played his last game in the lucrative T20 league. Maxwell is the latest high-profile player after Andre Russell and Faf du Plessis to pull out of the mini-auction, scheduled to be held in Abu Dhabi on December 16. Glenn Maxwell took to social media to confirm he took the big call after a lot of deliberation. The Australian superstar would have fetched big money, given the dearth of quality overseas all-rounders after Russell retired from the IPL to take up the 'power coach' role with Kolkata Knight Riders. After many unforgettable seasons in



the IPL, I've decided not to put my name into the auction this year. It's a big call, and one I make with a lot of gratitude for everything this league has given me," Maxwell said. Maxwell last played for Punjab Kings under Shreyas Iyer's captaincy and Ricky Ponting's coaching last year. He suffered a finger injury ruled him out of the season. Maxwell was bought by the Kings for Rs 4.2 crore last year in the mega auction. He attracted bids from Chennai Super Kings and SunRisers Hyderabad before the Kings came up with the winning bid. However, Maxwell failed

to live up to expectations. He managed just 48 runs in six innings and was used more as a bowler by Shreyas. SEE YOU SOON! Maxwell hinted at bringing the curtains down on his topsy-turvy IPL career.

"The IPL has helped shape me as a cricketer and as a person. I've been lucky to play with world-class teammates, represent incredible franchises, and perform in front of fans whose passion is unmatched.

"The memories, the challenges, and the energy of India will stay with me forever.

"Thank you for all your support over the years, hopefully see you soon," he said. Maxwell has scored 2,819 runs at an average of 23.88 in 141 IPL matches. He began his career with the Delhi Capitals in 2012 and won the title with the Mumbai Indians in 2013. He then had a topsy-turvy stint with the Punjab Kings between 2014 and 2017 before securing a major contract with Royal Challengers Bengaluru in 2021. At RCB, Maxwell finally played closer to his potential, producing seasons of 513, 301 and 400 runs in his first three years with the franchise. Teams frequently shelled out crores for Maxwell's services — his auction price peaked in 2021, when Royal Challengers Bangalore paid Rs 14.25 crore for him. In that season,



rare three-test series for both countries. New Zealand is the only test-playing nation yet to start its campaign in the new World Test Championship cycle. New Zealand's only other test series in 2025 was against Zimbabwe in August, a 2-0 series win. Williamson, who missed the Zimbabwe series while playing in England, is playing his first test since December 2024, the longest break from test cricket in his career.

Neymar's last push for FIFA World Cup 2026: The prince goes all-out to save his legacy

Neymar's fight for a place at the 2026 World Cup has become a race against time. Playing through injury, the 33-year-old is pushing his limits to keep both Santos and his Brazil dreams alive.

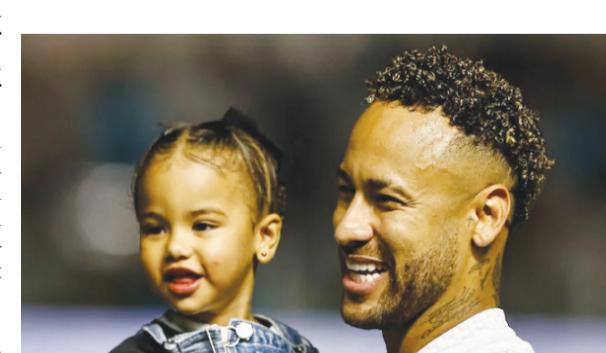
New Delhi. (Agency)

In the quiet corners of Vila Belmiro, long before kickoff, there was a sense that Neymar Jr. was about to do something unreasonable. Not reckless — but unmistakably Neymar. Brazil's all-time leading scorer, twice broken by injuries, repeatedly written off, walked onto the pitch for Santos knowing full well that medical

charts insisted he should not be there at all. Yet when Santos needed saving, the boy who once ruled the country's imagination returned not as a superstar, but as a lifeline. Against Sport, Neymar played through a meniscus problem that had reportedly ruled him out for the rest of 2025. Ninety minutes later, he had a goal, an assist, and a stadium on its feet. More importantly, he had dragged Santos out of the relegation zone and reopened a conversation many believed was closing fast — Neymar's final push for one last World Cup.

"This injury won't stop me" After the match, Neymar insisted the decision to play was collective, not rebellious. Physically I'm fine, I feel like I'm improving day by day. This injury is sad and annoying, but it's not something that will stop me. I'll definitely be in the next match." He then took aim at speculation that he had ignored medical advice. "To be honest, it's

not okay! People need to know that doctors and I know. We will never harm my career. People invent many things. I'm sad! Very



upset." Behind the frustration was a clear reality: Neymar's time is running out. Since leaving PSG, injuries have consumed entire seasons. In 2025 alone, he has missed 18 matches and may require surgery by year's end. Ancelotti's tough line: "He must be

100%."

Brazil head coach Carlo Ancelotti has offered little room for sentiment.

"Neymar has to be at 100%. There are many very good players, I need to choose players who are at 100% If Vinicius is at 90%, I'll call up another player who is at 100%."

His Brazil is younger and faster, with breakthrough talents like Estevão receiving stronger backing for 2026 than Neymar himself. "I think he's a great talent. He's had the bad luck of having injuries. He couldn't be in good physical condition because of the injuries he's had." For the first time since 2010, Neymar's place in the Seleção is no longer assured.

A legacy in the balance At 33, Neymar knows this World Cup may define his legacy. He has become Brazil's all-time top scorer, yet the trophy he covets most continues to elude him. The scars of 2014, 2018 and 2022 still linger — and Qatar may have been his last real shot.

Rupee plumbs more, loses 32 paise to hit a new low of 89.92 in early trade

MUMBAI.(Agency)

The rupee continued its downward spiral for the third day, losing 32 paise against the dollar and plumbing to a new life-time low of 89.85 in morning trade Tuesday, weighed down by the broad strength of the greenback in overseas markets and persistent foreign fund outflows coupled with the still-missing trade deal with the US as well as rising chance of an status quo on the rates side from the Reserve Bank later this week. The beleaguered currency, which has lost almost 5% year-to-date opened 89.70 against, 5 paise up from the previous close of 89.755 to a dollar when it was down 49 paise from Friday's closing, but soon lost the keel and drifted down to hit a new low of 89.92, down 32 paise from its previous close. The local unit is just 15 paise shy of touching the psychologically sensitive 90 marks, which market men feel is closer than it appears now. Traders said strong dollar demand from corporates, importers and foreign portfolio investors pressured the rupee. Moreover, elevated crude prices further dented investor sentiment. On Monday, the rupee, after sinking to 89.79 in intraday trade, settled at 89.755 against the dollar. The RBI has been selling dollars, but it has also bought dollars when the rupee rose, thus keeping the demand intact," Anil Kumar Bhansali, head of treasury at Finrex Treasury Advisors said in a note. Bhansali also noted that the strong economic fundamentals like the blowout GDP growth of 8.2 percent, are overshadowed by the rising dollar demand. Another pain point is the still missing uncertainties trade deal with the US and the government's continuing promise of a deal within days have not helped the rupee at all but in fact has actually aggravated the dollar buying syndrome," he added. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 99.41.

On the domestic equities front, the benchmark Sensex declined is trading over 300 points down from yesterday's close, a third straight day of losses, while the Nifty was down over 100 points at 1130 hrs.

Jio-Facebook deal: SC rejects plea of RIL against SAT order imposing Rs 30 lakh fine

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed an appeal of Reliance Industries Limited and two of its officials against a decision of the Securities Appellate Tribunal, which had upheld a penalty imposed by markets regulator SEBI for not making prompt clarification to stock exchange about the Jio-Facebook deal.

In June 2022, the capital markets regulator SEBI imposed a penalty totalling Rs 30 lakh on RIL and two individuals, Savithri Parekh and K Sethuraman, for not making prompt clarification to the stock exchange pertaining to the Jio-Facebook deal, which was disclosed through media reports.

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) penalty was upheld by the SAT on May 2, 2025.

A bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi declined to interfere with the SAT ruling and effectively affirmed SEBI's findings that RIL and its compliance officers failed to promptly disclose unpublished price-sensitive information (UPSI) concerning the high-profile stake sale. The top court said the SAT findings did not merit interference and moreover, no question of law was there needing adjudication. SEBI's adjudicating officer had in June 2022 imposed the Rs 30 lakh combined penalty after concluding that RIL violated Principle 4 of Schedule A of the Prohibition of Insider Trading (PIT) Regulations. The regulator held that the company did not issue timely confirmations or denials in response to widespread media reports in March-April 2020 speculating on Facebook's investment in Jio Platforms.

Overall consumption picks up post GST 2.0, but textiles and two-wheelers lag

New Delhi.(Agency)

Consumption has improved across most product categories where GST rates were reduced as part of the government's rate rationalisation exercise, but textiles and two-wheelers have not seen the expected recovery, data shared by the Ministry of Finance on Monday showed. According to officials, cumulative consumption growth of the impacted goods rose to 15% in September-October 2025, compared with 8.6% in the same period last year. However, year-on-year consumption growth in textiles slowed to 8% from 12% a year earlier, while two-wheeler demand eased to 18% from 23%. "The fall in textiles consumption is primarily due to a decline in exports. The slowdown in two-wheeler sales is because consumers are now opting for smaller cars, which have become more affordable after the rate cuts," officials said. While overall revenue has increased, gross domestic GST revenue — measured by taxable supplies — fell 2.3%, even as IGST collections from imports rose 10.2%. Officials expressed confidence that ongoing GST reforms will have a "bigger multiplier effect" in the coming months.

According to the officials in the finance ministry, the collection showed 'resilient momentum' even after compensation cess has been removed. The state GST collection has mostly gone down for the majority of the states barring a few exceptions like Haryana, Assam, Kerala, Maharashtra, where the revenue collection went up in November. Jharkhand has the highest fall in GST revenue as it went down by 30% as compared to previous year. Officials maintained that states will emerge as the biggest beneficiaries of rate rationalisation in the long run, citing the revenue performance of states that have already seen gains post rate cuts.

Will Nifty cross 29,000 by 2026? Here's what this global brokerage expects

Domestic flows remain steady, earnings have held up better than expected, and the broader macro backdrop has turned more predictable. Together, these have opened the door for fresh medium-term forecasts.

New Delhi.(Agency)

After months of choppy sentiment and a year of relative underperformance against global peers, the benchmark indices on Dalal Street have quietly rebuilt their footing. Record highs last week were the first clear sign that the market has moved past the turbulence triggered by last year's tariff-driven correction. Domestic flows

remain steady, earnings have held up better than expected, and the broader macro backdrop has turned more predictable. Together, these have opened the door for fresh medium-term forecasts.

It is in this context that global brokerage firm Nomura has raised its outlook for the Nifty 50, projecting the index to reach around 29,300 by the end of 2026, reported news agency Reuters.

The call suggests that the next two years could see a healthier mix of earnings revival, stronger economic momentum and a calmer global environment than what investors dealt with through 2024 and early 2025.

Nomura's view stems from a shift it made last May, when it withdrew its valuation concerns after markets stabilised from the sell-off triggered by the US import duty hike.

Since then, several indicators, including

steadier inflation prints, a recovery in cyclical demand and clearer policy continuity, have strengthened its confidence that valuations can hold at current levels and gradually move higher.

The firm also notes that India's

underperformance over the past year has helped reset valuation premiums that had earlier looked stretched, leaving less room for downside pressure. A key part of the argument is the earnings cycle. Early signs of a pickup, supported by domestic demand and more stable global

financials, manufacturing-linked names, real estate, telecom and cement as more favourable themes. It also sees selective strength in pharma, IT and non-bank lenders. On the other hand, it remains cautious on consumer staples, healthcare services, infrastructure and capital goods, where valuations still look demanding relative to near-term earnings potential.

Some stocks stand out in its 2026 view, including ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, Insysys, UltraTech Cement, Mahindra & Mahindra and Bajaj Finance. These are names it believes offer a combination of balance-sheet strength, visibility on earnings and resilience across global cycles. The optimism is balanced by a few clear risks. Nomura has highlighted the possibility of rising global risk premiums, any sharp spike in commodity prices and geopolitical flare-ups that could unsettle markets. It also warns that stocks driven more by narrative than fundamentals may see limited upside from here, making this a market where selectivity will matter more than broad exposure.



8th Pay Commission: Government clarifies on DA-basic pay merger plans. Details here

Responding to a written question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary stated that there is no proposal at present to combine any part of the existing DA with basic pay.

New Delhi.(Agency)

The central government has clarified that it is not considering any proposal to merge dearness allowance (DA) with the basic pay of central government employees. The statement was placed before Parliament on Monday, just days after the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the 8th Central Pay Commission were officially released.

GOVERNMENT RULES OUT DA-BASIC PAY MERGER

Responding to a written question in the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary stated that there is no proposal at present to combine any part of the existing DA with basic pay. This clarification came on December 1, the opening day of the Winter Session of Parliament. Over the

past few weeks, several employee unions had been pressing the Centre to merge 50% of DA with basic pay, according to reports. Their argument is that with the 8th Pay Commission expected to revise pay scales only after 2027, an early merger would boost basic salaries and lead to higher future



DA calculations.WHY EMPLOYEE UNIONS WANT A DA MERGER

Central government staff groups say that merging 50% DA with basic pay would bring immediate relief, especially as rising inflation increases living costs. Such a merger was carried out in earlier decades before new pay commissions were set up. However, this time, the government has made it clear that it is not examining such a move. **8TH PAY COMMISSION: TERMS OF**

REFERENCE ANNOUNCED

On October 28, the Union Cabinet approved the Terms of Reference for the 8th Central Pay Commission.

The Commission will review the salaries, allowances, pension structures and other service conditions of nearly 50 lakh central government employees.

TIMELINE AND EXPECTED IMPLEMENTATION

According to Information and Broadcasting Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, the 8th Pay Commission is expected to submit its recommendations within a period of 18 months. If things move as planned, the revised pay structure may come into force from January 1, 2026. The government had earlier confirmed the formation of the Commission in January 2025.

WHY PAY COMMISSIONS MATTER

Pay Commissions play an important role in shaping the pay and service conditions of central government employees. They are set up from time to time to review salary structures, allowances, pensions and overall service benefits.

Vodafone Idea rallies as hopes rise for year-end AGR relief

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Vodafone Idea shares climbed nearly 4 percent on Tuesday (2 December) in the early trade as investor sentiment turned positive on expectations that the government may finalise an AGR relief plan for the telecom operator by the end of the year.

The stock, which has been volatile in recent weeks, gathered momentum in early trade as remarks from policymakers revived hopes of significant financial easing for the loss-making company. The stock was trading close to Rs 10.15 a share, up 2.11 percent, by mid-morning. The latest surge follows a major development last month when the Supreme Court allowed the

government to reassess and potentially restructure Vodafone Idea's outstanding AGR dues. That ruling opened a window for meaningful relief on a liability that has weighed heavily on the company's balance sheet and has long been viewed as the biggest obstacle to its revival. The possibility that the government may provide clarity before year-end has encouraged traders to take fresh positions, especially after the stock faced selling pressure in the previous sessions.

Alongside the legal relief, Vodafone Idea has continued efforts to strengthen its finances. Its infrastructure subsidiary recently adjusted the size of a planned bond issue and is working to complete the fundraising process this month.

Market observers believe the company is attempting to steady its financial footing ahead of any final decision on the AGR restructuring, which could influence its ability to raise additional capital or secure strategic investment.

Even as optimism builds, analysts warn that a durable turnaround will require more than regulatory concessions. Vodafone Idea continues to face challenges including high overall debt, competitive pressure from rivals, and the need to improve subscriber metrics and revenue growth. The precise form of the AGR relief — whether it involves waiver, rescheduling or conversion — also remains uncertain, leaving room for volatility until the details emerge.

Meesho IPO to open soon: Will it turn into next stock market jackpot Check GMP

Meesho IPO is a book-built issue worth Rs 5,421.20 crore. This includes a fresh issue of 38.29 crore shares worth Rs 4,250 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 10.55 crore shares worth Rs 1,171.20 crore.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Meesho's long-awaited IPO will open for subscription on December 3, and many retail investors are keen to know whether the issue can deliver strong listing gains. The company, which has grown rapidly in India's e-commerce space, is coming to the market with a large issue size and early signals from the grey market suggest healthy listing-day returns. The IPO will close on December 5 and the allotment will be finalised on December 8. Meesho is set to list on the BSE and NSE on

December 10. Meesho IPO is a book-built issue worth Rs 5,421.20 crore. This includes a fresh issue of 38.29 crore shares worth Rs 4,250 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of 10.55 crore shares worth Rs 1,171.20 crore. The price band is fixed at Rs 105 to Rs 111 per share. Retail investors will need Rs 14,985 to apply for one lot of 135 shares at the upper price band. For non-institutional investors, the snII lot size is 14 lots (1,890 shares) requiring Rs 2,09,790, and the bNII lot size is 67 lots (9,045 shares) requiring Rs 10,03,995. Kotak Mahindra Capital Co. Ltd. is the book running lead manager, and Kfin Technologies Ltd. is the registrar. **HOW MUCH PROFIT CAN INVESTORS EXPECT?**

The grey market premium (GMP) for Meesho IPO is showing strong interest. The last recorded GMP is Rs 46.5 per share (as of December 2, 2025, 10:31 am). Based on the upper price band of Rs 111, the estimated listing price comes to around Rs 157.5, indicating an expected

gain of 41.89% per share if GMP trends hold till listing. A 40%+ potential listing gain makes the IPO attractive for short-term investors, though GMPs can fluctuate close to listing day.

Meesho has reported mixed financial results. Revenue rose by 26% between FY24 and FY25, showing strong business growth. However, its profit after tax (PAT) fell sharply by 1103% during the same period. The fall in profit may raise concerns for some long-term investors, especially given the company's high spending on technology, marketing and expansion.



SHOULD YOU SUBSCRIBE? Dr. Ravi Singh, Chief Research Officer from Master Capital Services Ltd said that Meesho pushes into new categories or new states, some rise in spending is inevitable, which could temporarily pressure free cash flow again.

"Meesho's growth is different because it is still tapping into a part of India that is not fully penetrated by large e-commerce players. A big chunk of its demand comes from first-time online buyers in smaller towns who are more focused on price and selection than on brand names," he added.

"The real test will be whether revenues from logistics, advertising, fintech and seller services can eventually offset operating costs. The model can work, but only if volumes keep rising and cost control improves meaningfully. Profitability is possible, but it will likely come gradually rather than through any sudden turnaround. Investors should see this as a long-term execution story, not a quick-margin business," said Singh.

Jannat Zubair

Stuns In White Lehenga, Makes Young Fan's Day By Clicking Picture

Jannat Zubair once again showed why she is considered a true Gen Z style queen. Known for effortlessly switching between ethnic glam and modern chic, she caught everyone's eye before the shoot of Laughter Chefs Season 3. She arrived in a dreamy white lehenga choli paired with a bright yellow dupatta, a combination that instantly gave her the look of a youthful, graceful princess. With her hair left open and styled naturally, her appearance felt fresh, elegant and completely in sync with her signature style.

Her Sweet Interaction With a Young Fan Wins Hearts

While her outfit drew plenty of attention, it was Jannat's warm gesture towards a young fan that truly stood out. She willingly posed for photos with the little girl right in front of the paparazzi, making sure she felt special and included in the moment. Her friendly nature continued as she greeted Aly Goni, Eisha Singh and Isha Malviya with warm hugs when they arrived.

Laughter Chefs Season 3 Continues Its Successful Run

Laughter Chefs has quickly become one of the most popular shows on Colors TV and Season 3, which premiered on November 22, has already brought a fresh wave of excitement. Celebrities from the show have been seen arriving on set, posing for the cameras and getting into the fun spirit of the competition. The show mixes humour, cooking and entertainment in a way that appeals to a wide audience, making each episode feel lively and unpredictable.

The Show's Format: Where Food Meets Fun

Created by Optimystix Entertainment, Laughter Chefs – Unlimited Entertainment blends comedy with a cooking challenge, giving the format its own unique charm. The show

originally began on Colors TV on June 1, 2024 and is hosted by the ever-energetic Bharti Singh, while Chef Harpal Singh Sokhi leads the judging panel with his culinary expertise.

Each episode gives the contestants a new theme or task and they must prepare their dishes while handling hilarious interruptions and unexpected twists. At the end, the dishes are judged and stars are awarded based on how well they meet the challenge. The show is also available for streaming on Hotstar, making it accessible to a wider audience.

A Packed Lineup of Stars Competes in the Kitchen

This season brings together a lively mix of well-known personalities who add both chaos and charm to the kitchen. Jannat shares the stage with Vivian Dsena, Krushna Abhishek, Kashmera Shah, Tejasswi Prakash, Karan Kundra, Isha Malviya, Eisha Singh, Samarth Jurel, Abhishek Kumar, Elvish Yadav, Aly Goni, Gurmeet Choudhary and Debina Bonnerjee. Inspired by the Tamil hit Cooku With Comali, the previous season saw Karan Kundra and Elvish Yadav as winners.



Bigg Boss 19: Yuvika Chaudhary Wants Gaurav Khanna To Lift The

Bigg Boss 19 is reaching close to its finale with contestants already entering the last week of the show, and amid this, the excitement of the viewers is sky-high as they want their favourite contestant to lift the trophy of the Salman Khan-hosted show. Bigg Boss is one show that is quite popular among everyone, and many actors too are big fans of it. Ex-contestant and popular TV star Yuvika Chaudhary was snapped in the city, and when asked about Bigg Boss 19 and who she is supporting, the actress shared her opinion. Yuvika, while interacting with the paparazzi, shared, "Support toh sabke saath hai, par mujhe lagta hai Gaurav jeetna chahiye."

Salman Khan Praised Gaurav Khanna

During the recent Weekend Ka Vaar episodes, Salman started by asking the housemates if they felt Gaurav had opened up fully. As the housemates called out Gaurav for playing safe, Salman went on to praise him for staying calm throughout the game.

Salman began by saying, "The strategy that GK has chosen in the house is very risky, but since day one, he has never lost his cool or said anything wrong to others. I know that a person like Gaurav can be a disadvantage to the show, the makers, to me, and even to himself. But whether you call it his personality or his strategy, he has stuck to it since day one. If this is his personality, then I applaud him, but if it is his gameplay, then hats off, bro." He further continued, "I don't know if he will win the show or get work outside because people might think he keeps sitting in the house doing nothing. They may wonder why they should give him roles, thinking he has become complacent. But his personality will be greatly appreciated. More than that, his family, friends, and wife will have tremendous respect for him. He will be a delight to work with. I myself will be working with Gaurav very soon."

About Bigg Boss 19

The Salman Khan-hosted reality show is in its finale week. While Gaurav is already a finalist, others in the race are Tanya Mittal, Farahana Bhatt, Pranit More, Amaal Mallik, and Malti Chahar.



'Everything Everywhere': Armaan Malik Sums His November Journey Through Pictures



It has been an eventful month for singer Armaan Malik. From attending concerts, taking vacations with his wife to supporting his brother Amaal Mallik in the Bigg Boss 19 house, Armaan has been up to a lot of things. He shared a series of pictures on his Instagram profile summarising most of what his month looked like and his fans can't get enough of it.

The pictures showed him posing with his wife Aashna Shroff for mirror selfies, them enjoying a serene vacation as well as delectable food. Some of the snaps also featured him performing on stage or simple posing for the camera solo. One picture also showed him inside the Bigg Boss house with Amaal Mallik. In the caption, he wrote, "everything everywhere all at once."

Aashna Shroff Praises Armaan Malik's Concert

Earlier, following one of Armaan's shows, Aashna shared her emotional thoughts on Instagram. In her message, she talked about how special it was to see Armaan play in her hometown, surrounded by loved ones. She wrote, "Last night was a dream come true in every way. I got to watch my husband be his superstar self on stage in my city, with thousands singing, crying and dancing to his voice, surrounded by people I love most. felt like the proudest wife and luckiest girl."

Aashna Shroff and Armaan Malik started dating in 2017, briefly separated, and reconnected in 2019 after Armaan initiated an honest conversation. Since then, their relationship has remained primarily private, with passionate posts and infrequent public appearances.

Armaan proposed to Aashna in August 2023, and the couple later announced their engagement, much to fans' pleasure.

They married in January, with a modest wedding in Mahabaleshwar attended by close friends and family. Each milestone, whether a live concert or a social media post, demonstrates their ongoing relationship.

Bharti Singh Engages In Banter With Paparazzi, 'Tum Sab So Rahe Hoge, Mama Bana Dungi Sabko'



Comedian Bharti Singh was caught in fun banter with the paparazzi at the sets of Laughter Chefs Season 3. After sharing stunning glimpses from her maternity photoshoot, Bharti Singh appeared at the sets, showing off her baby bump. Bharti Singh glowed in a stunning green gown with a sheer cape-like design. While posing for the shutterbugs, the Laughter Chefs host asked the paparazzi if they had seen her maternity photoshoot. Before heading inside in true Bharti manner, she told the photographers, "Tum sab so rahe hoge, mama bana dungi sabko." Bharti's fun banter with paparazzi left everyone in splits.

Bharti Singh Drops Maternity Photoshoot

Ahead of the arrival of Bharti Singh's second baby, the comedian shared a series of pictures from her maternity photoshoot. The pictures featured Bharti in a gorgeous silk blue gown with huge floral embellishments. She posed for the camera with one hand resting on her baby bump. "2nd Baby Limbachiya coming soon," she wrote in the caption, followed by a baby face emoji.

Bharti Singh Announces Second Baby with a Photo

Previously, Bharti Singh and her husband Harsh Limbachiya announced their pregnancy on a family trip to Switzerland. In the sweet post, the couple was seen holding a banner, and their son Gola was wearing a T-shirt that said, "Main baba banné wala hoon."

Bharti Singh Gets Candid About Health Issues

While awaiting her second baby's arrival, Bharti Singh opened up about the challenges she faced during pregnancy. In one of her YouTube vlogs, she was seen expressing concerns about her health. "My sugars have rapidly increased, especially the fasting sugars; they usually are never so high. I am definitely going to be scolded by the doctor today," she shared.

"I am confused because I did not eat anything that would trigger my sugars or increase them, nor am I in any stress," Bharti added, explaining she has been extremely particular about her diet. "I only eat millets and have completely cut off rotis and rice and other forms of carbs, so I don't know why my sugar has come so high. And I am extremely worried because I don't know. I just want it shouldn't affect my baby in any way," she said.

Spa Therapies

you must try before your

Wedding day

Heading towards your big, D-Day soon? The run-up to it is bound to be full of stress, to-do lists, shopping trips and more. And in all that, it's important to find the time to recharge, lose the fatigue and get prepared

for your wedding day. To help you unwind, it's a good idea to chalk up trips to the spa for a mix of massages for your pressure points, body wraps, facials and other relaxation therapies. Here's more...

One of the best ways to de-stress is via an Ayurvedic massage, which effectively



Skincare facials

Signature facials are definitely a part of the list. "Brides love the 'blue diamond' facial, with mineral ingredients and thermal spring water, which gives a brightening and even tone skin effect," says Husnavaz Dastur, spa director at a hotel at Lower Parel. And grooms get pampered, too. "Popular for men are facials that use minerals to remove dead skin cells and clarifying masks. You also have eye treatments that are part of the facial," she says.

One of the best ways to de-stress is via an Ayurvedic massage, which effectively

drains away toxins and restores the energy balance in the body. The masseur uses vigorous strokes (not painful) in order to balance the energy centers. There's a lot to try — Abhyanga, a hot-oil massage, Shirodhara, where herb-infused hot oil is dripped onto the forehead or Tanlepa, an oil massage followed by a wrap. There's also an international blend to help you relax and get shipshape. Says Gunjan Chawla, spa director at a five-star hotel at Juhu, "We do an odyssey, a total indulgence trip, which is an hour-long massage followed by a scrub and a facial that enhances one's glow. Brides-to-be also love the Mediterranean sojourn — a luxe scrub with marine salt, brown sugar and lemon that

softens the skin and the Egyptian one, where you relax in a milk bath with brown algae extracts and gold flecks, that lends the body a silky smoothness." And to bust fatigue, opt for a de-stress massage. Says Nalini Naegamvala, "This is a scalp, neck, shoulder, hand and foot massage that eases away aches. It's a lunchtime regimen that can be done without taking off the clothes or having a shower."

Skin pampering soaks for the bride and couple-to-be are also big on the agenda. Informs Dastur, "In demand are 'royal baths' that use rose bath salts, crystals with rose oil and coloured flower petals and Moroccan lamps — all of which go to enhance the whole experience. So it's really a colour therapy experience, which is very popular, now."

Traditional herbal baths are also a great option. They offer a tranquil and beautifying experience. "You can use herbs such as triphala churna or mulgari churna which are added to water or milk and poured over the person. Not only does it help with skin disorders but it is also cooling and refreshing," says Nitin Rajen, ayurvedic spa co-ordinator.

One of the biggest skin woes is tanning and roughness on the skin of the feet. Spa foot therapies are now as exotic as it gets. You can choose from a variety of foot treatments — with roses, chocolate, peppermint oils, Mandarin oranges, lime and honey.

It's not just for the bride alone. The trend is to round up the gals and head to the spa. The therapies have now translated into girl getaways to places like Goa and Maldives before the big day. "Each spa has a curated menu designed to ensure that the bride and her friends feel rejuvenated. Popular now, are massages using heated coconut sticks and organic scrubs made from pineapple and papaya, followed by lunch, yoga and meditation," says Lyle Lewis, general manager at such a facility.

Check into a salt room

One of the latest wellness trends, this uses one of natures' most basic ingredients — salt, which is anti-bacterial and anti-inflammatory. Say hello to the 'salt therapy'. Opened at Horniman Circle in Mumbai, you check into the salt room here and breathe in the grain. This helps combat respiratory ailments and leaves you feeling calm and refreshed. Salt also acts as a cleanser on the skin and gives it a glow.



Bad beauty habits to fix now



Pause and take a look at your daily beauty ritual. Time to bring it back on track if the don'ts overpower the dos. It's natural to pick a bad habit or two even

when it comes to beauty. But not many of us are aware of these. Says Narcis Jordan, a beauty professional, "Poor hygiene could lead to severe skin and hair infections.

Following a beauty routine according to your skin and hair type is not enough, you need to make sure that you are doing it the

proper and healthy way." There's more...

Sleeping with make-up on

Beauty experts have often spoken about the harmful effects of sleeping with make-up on. Nevertheless, many still forget to cleanse their face before going off to bed. No matter how tired you are, make sure to remove each and every trace of make-up before you retire for the night.

It can clog your pores and can cause acne breakouts. It can also make your skin look dull due to the product buildup.

Beauty advice: Make-up professional Meghna Butani says, "Use a make-up remover to clean your face thoroughly, before washing it off with water and cleanser. You can use unscented baby wipes to remove your eye make-up. Make sure to apply night cream after that."

Touching your face too often

A common mistake that most women make, consciously or unconsciously, is to keep touching their face throughout the day. Touching your face consistently can lead to a buildup of dirt and oil from your fingertips to your face; this will clog your pores and cause breakouts.

Beauty advice: "Sanitise your hands if you've been outdoors or to the washroom before you touch your face. Further, you need to make a conscious effort to remember that touching your face too often can lead to a buildup of dirt on your face,"



Clear off dirty make-up brushes

More often than not, one forgets to clean the make-up brushes on a daily basis. Think about all the surfaces your make-up brush comes in contact with — bathroom countertops, inside of your make-up bag etc. They breed bacteria, if you do not clean them properly. They will irritate your skin and also cause itching and burning eyes. Apart from this, using dirty brushes may also impact the look of your make-up. The application of your foundation or compact will not be smooth as it's supposed to be.

Beauty advice: Clean your brush at least once a week. Wash them with water and shampoo and lay them flat to dry out in the sun. However, you must never blow-dry these brushes, else they might stay damp.