

Have told Pak to reign its drones in: Army chief on recent UAV sightings near LOC

India has issued a stern warning to Pakistan over drone sightings along the Line of Control, emphasising readiness to counter any threats. Operation Sindoar continues to be a key strategy in maintaining security on the western front.

New Delhi (Agency) India has conveyed a clear warning to Pakistan over recent unmanned aerial vehicle sightings along the Line of Control, with Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi saying New Delhi has told Islamabad that such activity is "not acceptable" even as Operation Sindoar remains ongoing to counter security challenges on the western front. Addressing his annual press conference, General Dwivedi said Director General of Military Operations level talks were held with Pakistan on Tuesday, during which India raised concerns over the latest drone movements spotted in Jammu and Kashmir. "We have

told Pakistan to rein in its drones," he said, adding that the Army remains fully alert and prepared to deal with any future misadventure.

WESTERN FRONT ON EDGE AFTER PAHALGAM ATTACK

The Army chief said the western front continues to demand close attention following the Pahalgam attack, after which Indian forces recalibrated their posture through what he described as a swift "reset strategy" executed within 22 minutes. Operation Sindoar, he said, was carried out with precision and remains in force.



"Any future misadventure will be dealt with effectively," General Dwivedi said, asserting that India's operations had punctured Pakistan's nuclear rhetoric and strengthened the conventional space. He added that Pakistan's claims of nuclear escalation were

political posturing, while the Indian Army stayed ready for ground action.

He said terrorist initiated activities have reduced but Pakistan continues to sponsor terrorism. "Our alertness is complete and Operation Sindoar is on," he said.

TERROR CAMPS UNDER WATCH ACROSS LOC AND IB

The Army chief said eight terrorist camps remain active across the border, with six located opposite the Line of Control and two facing the International Border. "We are keeping an eye on them and will do the needful," he said. He added that

forward movements were reduced by the end of May following DGMO level engagements, leading to a calibrated de escalation. "Our eyes and ears are open," he said.

During Operation Sindoar, Indian forces eliminated around 100 Pakistan Army personnel in firing along the International Border and the Line of Control, he said.

JAMMU AND KASHMIR SENSITIVE BUT CONTROLLED

General Dwivedi said the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir remains sensitive but firmly under control. He said 31 terrorists were killed in 2025 so far, with around 65 percent of them being.

Germany Announces Visa-Free Transit For Indian Passport Holders

Following talks between Modi and Merz, the two sides inked 19 pacts, including a roadmap for defence industrial collaboration and another on expanding cooperation in the higher education sector.

New Delhi (Agency) India and Germany on Monday unveiled measures to boost cooperation in areas of defence, trade, critical minerals and semiconductors, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chancellor Friedrich Merz vowing to bolster overall bilateral ties to jointly navigate challenges arising out of geopolitical upheaval. Following talks between PM Modi and Merz, the two sides inked 19 pacts, including a roadmap for defence industrial collaboration and another on expanding cooperation in the higher education sector. A separate pact was inked on engagement in the telecommunications sector.

The two leaders also pitched for early finalisation of the India-European Union (EU) free trade agreement to expand the overall trade basket. A visa-free transit for Indian passport holders for transiting through Germany was also announced to boost people-to-people ties. The German leader, accompanied by a

large business delegation, landed in Ahmedabad early this morning on a two-day visit to India. It is his first trip to Asia as the German Chancellor. "The growing cooperation in defence and security is a symbol of our mutual trust

and co-production," he added. In the talks, PM Modi and Merz reaffirmed their commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific, respect for international law including UNCLOS (UN Convention on the Law of the Sea), and announced a new bilateral Indo-Pacific consultation mechanism.

The move comes amid China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the region. PM Modi and Merz also reaffirmed their strong support for the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), emphasising its transformational potential in reshaping and promoting global commerce, connectivity and prosperity.

In his comments, the prime minister also said that both sides are jointly advancing new projects in areas such as climate, energy, urban development, and urban mobility. The new mega project in green hydrogen involving companies from both countries will prove to be a game-changer for the energy of the future.

and shared vision. I express my heartfelt gratitude to Chancellor Merz for simplifying the processes related to defence trade," PM Modi said in his media statement. "We will also work on a roadmap to enhance cooperation between our defence industries, which will open up new opportunities for co-development



Thackerays Step Up 'Rasmalai' Attack, Fire "Impotence" Jab At BJP Leaders

Chennai (Agency)

The Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) has stepped up the attack on BJP leader K Annamalai and also questioned why the BJP in Maharashtra had not slammed his "anti-Maharashtra" remarks. Annamalai, a former IPS officer and former chief of the BJP's Tamil Nadu unit, visited Mumbai last week to campaign for the upcoming election to the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC). Addressing a gathering, he said Mumbai needs a triple engine administration -- Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the Centre, Devendra Fadnavis at the state and a BJP mayor in BMC.

"Mumbai is not a Maharashtra city but an international city. The budget of this city is Rs 75,000 crore. Chennai's budget is Rs 8,000 crore, while Bengaluru's budget is Rs 19,000 crore. So you need good people in the administration to manage the finance and to manage the development," he said.

Thackeray brothers Uddhav and Raj, who have reunited for the BMC polls, slammed Annamalai's remarks. While Uddhav said he had revealed the BJP's hidden agenda, Raj referred to Annamalai as "Rasmalai" after the sweet dish and questioned his standing to speak about Mumbai's issues.

Hitting back, Annamalai asked who Raj Thackeray is to threaten him. "I am proud to be a farmer's son. They have organised meetings just to abuse me. I don't know whether I have become that important," he told the media in Chennai. "Some have written that they will cut my legs if I come to Mumbai. I will come to Mumbai -- try cutting my legs. If I were afraid of such threats, I would have stayed in my village," he said. "If I say Kamaraj is one of India's greatest leaders, does it mean he is no longer a Tamil? If I say Mumbai is a world-class city, does it mean Maharashtra didn't build it? These people are just ignorant," Annamalai has said.

Shiv Sena (UBT)'s mouthpiece Saamana has now written an editorial that Annamalai is a traitor to Tamils too. "Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have fought shoulder to shoulder against Hindi imposition," an editorial said.

Bhagwant Mann Govt introduces landmark reforms to secure property rights in cooperative housing societies

The Sikh Times

CHANDIGARH, 13th January: In a landmark decision aimed at strengthening property rights and easing long-pending legal uncertainties, the Punjab Government led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann has introduced major citizen-centric reforms to benefit residents living in Cooperative Housing Societies. Acting on the directions of the Chief Minister, who also holds the Cooperation Department portfolio, the Government has approved a comprehensive framework to make registration of cooperative housing properties affordable, secure, and legally robust, while ensuring legitimate recovery of stamp duty for the State. Sharing details of the decision, the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said that the Punjab

Government has taken far-reaching steps to formalise property transactions in cooperative housing societies, many of which have remained unregistered for decades. "The Chief Minister has approved a set of reforms to ensure that property transactions in cooperative housing societies are formally registered, legally secure, and financially affordable for citizens, while also safeguarding the State's revenue interests," the statement said. Explaining the key provisions, the Chief Minister's office stated that instruments of original allotment executed by Cooperative Housing Societies in favour of their original members have been completely exempted from stamp duty. "Such registrations will be permitted at face value, with only a nominal registration fee payable," the CMO said, adding that the same exemption

has also been extended to legal heirs, spouses

to ensure that genuine successor cases are fully protected. To further enable thousands of families to secure clear legal title to their homes, the Government has introduced highly concessional, time-bound stamp duty rates for non-original allottees and transferees, notified on January 12, 2026. "Under this decision, stamp duty has been fixed at 1 percent for registrations completed up to January 31, 2026, 2 percent for registrations up to February 28, 2026, and 3 percent for registrations up to March 31, 2026. After this period, normal stamp duty rates will apply," the CMO said. The CMO further noted that the Punjab Government has also placed a clear statutory cap on transfer fees that may be charged by Cooperative Housing Societies. **Contd.....page-3**

AI-Driven Errors Causing SIR Hardships: Mamata Bannerjee To Poll Body Chief

New Delhi (Agency)

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee wrote to CEC Gyanesh Kumar again on Monday, claiming that AI-driven digitisation errors in the 2002 electoral rolls were causing widespread hardship to genuine voters during the SIR exercise in the state. In her fifth letter to the chief election commissioner (CEC) since the beginning of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, Banerjee said serious errors occurred in electors' particulars during the digitisation of the 2002 voters' list using AI tools, leading to large-scale data mismatches and wrongful categorisation of genuine voters as having "logical discrepancies".

Accusing the EC of disregarding its own



statutory processes followed over the last two decades, she said electors were being compelled to re-establish identity despite earlier corrections made after "quasi-judicial hearings".

Such an approach, disowning its own

actions and mechanisms spanning more than two decades, is arbitrary, illogical and contrary to the letter and spirit of the Constitution of India," she alleged. Banerjee further claimed that no proper acknowledgement was being issued for documents submitted during SIR, claiming that the procedure was "fundamentally flawed". She said the SIR hearing process had become "largely mechanical, driven purely by technical data", and was "completely devoid of the application of mind, sensitivity and human touch", claiming that it undermined "the bedrock of our democracy and constitutional framework".

Highlighting the human cost, she wrote that the exercise, which should have been constructive, "has already seen 77 deaths with 4 attempts to suicide and 17 persons falling sick and necessitating hospitalisation," attributing it to "fear,

intimidation and disproportionate workload due to unplanned exercise undertaken by ECI." Mamata also condemned the harassment of eminent citizens, noting that Nobel Laureate Prof Amartya Sen, poet Joy Goswami, actor and MP Deepak Adhikari, international cricketer Mohammed Shami and the Maharaj of Bharat Sevashram Sangha were "subjected to this unplanned, insensitive and inhuman process." "Does this not amount to sheer audacity on the part of the ECI?" she questioned. The chief minister further criticised the treatment of female voters, saying, "Women electors who have shifted to their matrimonial homes and changed their surnames after marriage are being questioned and summoned for hearings to prove their identity.

News box

Four held after firing over old rivalry in Nuh**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

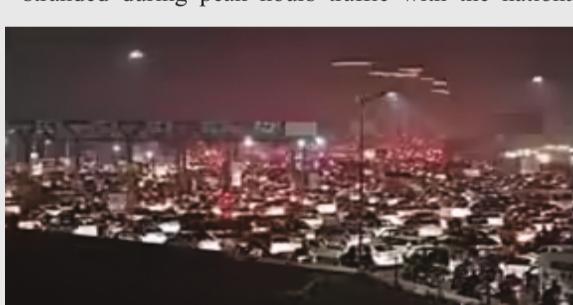
Four persons were arrested in a firing incident triggered by an old rivalry in Hilalpur village under the Rozka Meo police station area. The incident occurred on Jan 10 in which two groups clashed over a land dispute. Police said one group began pelting stones and open fired, causing panic in the area. Several rounds were fired and one person allegedly sustained a bullet wound. 2 country-made pistols and a vehicle used in the incident have been recovered. A police spokesperson said, "Rozka Meo police station swung into action soon after receiving information and reached the spot to bring the situation under control and disperse the crowd. Based on the complaint and preliminary investigation, a case was registered and multiple teams were formed to track down the accused." The complainant, Amit, a resident of Hilalpur, stated that Charan Singh fired the first shot. He alleged that Charan Singh was joined by his relatives Rahul, Rohit, Tejaswi, Vishnu and others, who opened fire. The complainant submitted evidence, including a video of the incident, to support his claims. After investigation, police arrested Charan Singh, Lakan, Rohit and Vishnu, all residents of Hilalpur village. Police said further investigation is underway to identify and apprehend other persons involved in the clash, as well as to verify the source of the illegal weapons.

Man dies by suicide, names wife & her lover, duo face FIR in Gurgaon**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

A case of abetment to suicide was registered on Sunday against a woman and her alleged lover days after the death of her 35-year-old husband. On Jan 5, Vikram Kumar, a resident of Badhauli village in Ambala district, was found dead on railway tracks between Bijwasan and Gurgaon. Vikram allegedly made a suicide video — naming wife Ritu Devi and her lover Vipin alias Prince Jaat — which he sent to relatives. Following a complaint lodged by Vikram's brother Rohit, Govt Railway Police (GRP) registered the FIR under sections 108 and 3(5) of BNS against Ritu and Vipin. Officials said the deceased was identified a day later by family members using documents recovered from the spot. GRP said the body was found in a mutilated condition and the initial inquiry indicated suicide. The autopsy confirmed death due to head injury with shock and haemorrhage following blunt force impact. Rohit alleged that Vikram was mentally harassed and threatened by Vipin and was distressed by his wife's repeated desertion, which pushed him to take the extreme step. He said that Vikram married Ritu in May 2015 and the couple had two children. Vikram worked at a private company in Gurgaon and later brought his family there. "Ritu left Vikram in Oct 2025 and eloped with Vipin, leaving behind a note. She later contacted Vikram, sought forgiveness, and was brought back with police assistance in Dec after giving a statement that she would sever ties with Vipin. However, on Jan 5, she left again with Vipin," Rohit said. Rohit claimed that when Vikram contacted Vipin, he was abused and threatened with death, including threats to his children. He also alleged that jewellery and Rs 40,000 in cash were missing from the house. After completing inquest proceedings, the body was handed over to the family for last rites.

VIP visit chokes Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway, commuters crawl through chaos**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

Traffic came to a grinding halt on Monday, choking Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway and large parts of the city for hours, following the visit of newly appointed BJP national working president Nitin Nabi to the party office near Signature Towers crossing. As the BJP office is located close to Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway, the VIP movement triggered massive traffic snarls along Sohna Road, Old Railway Road, roads near Rajiv Chowk, Shivaji Nagar, Shanti Nagar Road, Udyog Vihar, Shankar Chowk and Guru Dronacharya-Cyber City Road. With multiple VIPs, including Haryana chief minister Nayab Singh Saini, attending the event, thousands of officegoers were stranded during peak hours traffic with the national



highway having slowed to a crawl. Vehicles remained stuck for several minutes as traffic moved at a snail's pace, compounding the city's routine Monday congestion. A senior police officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the congestion was a direct fallout of the prolonged VIP movement. Commuters blamed poor planning and lack of traffic management for the chaos. "The BJP function should have been scheduled on a weekend or a day with lighter traffic. Mondays already witness monster traffic jams in Gurgaon," said Ronit Bhasin, a resident of Sector 28. The situation worsened as the VIP programme continued through the day, leaving commuters stuck in long queues until evening. Heavy congestion was also reported on the Gurgaon-Sohna Road around 7pm, adding to the misery of evening peak-hour traffic. Seize 'momentum': Nabi Whenever the nation advances, its "momentum" is carried by young leaders, believed Swami Vivekananda, BJP national working president Nitin Nabi said. Nabi, who was in the city to participate in the National Youth Day celebration to mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, called upon India's youth to take a leading role in building a Viksit Bharat, stressing that the country's rise will be driven by young people who show commitment, patience and direction.

6k Wish Town flats ready, OCs in hand for 31 towers, says Suraksha**Noida.(Agency)**

Suraksha Group on Monday claimed it has completed the construction of 5,989 flats across 63 residential towers of Jaypee Wish Town since taking over Jaypee Infratech Ltd (JIL) in May 2024. The developer also said occupancy certificates (OCs) had been received for 31 towers comprising 3,135 flats, while applications had been filed for another 32 towers with 2,854 units. The OCs for these flats, Suraksha claimed, was expected to be cleared over the next couple of months. The projects that have already received OCs include Kosmos, Klassic, Kensington Boulevard Apartments, Kensington Park Apartments and Kensington Park Heights. In Kosmos, OCs were received for 11 towers (1,078 units), while Klassic got approvals for 6 towers (674 units). Kensington Boulevard Apartments received OCs for 9 towers (818 units), and Kensington Park projects were cleared for 5 towers (565 units). Wish

Town comprises 10 residential projects with a total of 159 towers. Launched in 2010-11, it was originally slated for delivery between 2014 and 2015, but years of litigation and financial stress at Jaypee Infratech stalled work for more than a decade, leaving thousands of homebuyers waiting. The turning point came on March 7, 2023, when National Company Law Tribunal approved Suraksha Group's resolution plan to acquire the debt-ridden developer. The takeover was completed on May 24, 2024, after National Company Law Appellate Tribunal upheld the plan, adding a condition that Suraksha pay Rs 1,335 crore towards farmers' compensation to Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority. When the resolution plan was approved, construction was going on in 62 towers across four projects — Kosmos, Klassic, Kensington Boulevard, and Kensington Park Apartments and Heights — impacting more than 6,200 buyers.

Suraksha said these towers were prioritised for completion within the current financial year. Jash Panchamia, executive director of Jaypee Infratech



Ltd, said work continued despite pollution-control measures under GRAP. "Despite these challenges, we remain fully committed to meeting homebuyers' expectations. The completion of 63 towers, with OCs already received for 31

towers and applications submitted for the remaining 32, reflects our focus on timely delivery. The construction of the remaining towers is going on at full pace and we are confident of completing them in keeping with the resolution plan," he added. Buyers, however, demanded the immediate handover of flats that the developer claimed were ready. Ashish Mohan Gupta, president of JIL Real Estate Allottees Welfare Society, said when Suraksha took over the project on May 24, 2024, OCs for 22 of 62 towers had already been secured under the interim resolution professional and monitoring committee. He added that the monitoring committee's reports filed before NCLT in June 2024 mentioned that many remaining towers were already 52% to 99% complete, indicating that much of the project was ready at takeover.

Key accused held in kidnapping case in Gurgaon, plot linked to money dispute**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

The third and key accused was arrested in connection with a case involving the kidnapping of two youths and a ransom demand of Rs 5 lakh. Police said the crime was the result of a planned conspiracy to recover money from one of the victims. The case dates back to Dec 6, 2025, when two friends — Rahul and Krishna (both 21) — were kidnapped from Greater Noida.

The accused, Mayank (19), is a class XII pass and resident of Uttam Vihar in Rohtak district. Police found that Mayank had earlier given Rs 2 lakh to Rahul. To recover this amount, he allegedly conspired with his accomplices, Danish (22) and Rian (22), to kidnap Rahul. The duo was arrested earlier from Manesar.

According to the police, Rahul managed to call his sister from his mobile phone and told her that he and Krishna were kidnapped. "He initially asked the family to arrange Rs 1 lakh and come to a hotel in the Kherki Daula area of Gurgaon to secure their release," the officer said. However, soon after, they received another call from Rahul warning that the kidnappers were "dangerous" and had increased the ransom amount to Rs 5 lakh, while also cautioning the family against informing the police. The family then received a call from Mayank, who threatened that the duo would be killed if the money was not paid. Fearing for their lives, the family rushed to the spot, but Rahul's phone was found switched off.

The following day, Rahul contacted them again, saying that he and Krishna managed to escape and were standing near the Rampura flyover. When the family reached the spot, the duo disclosed that Mayank dropped them with Danish and Rian, who then kidnapped them and demanded ransom. A case was subsequently registered at Kherki Daula police station under relevant sections. As per the plan, Mayank took Rahul and Krishna to Greater Noida on Dec 6, where the duo were kidnapped by his accomplices and later brought to Gurgaon.

NGT order brings tighter watch at Akera-Kotla Lake in Nuh**Gurgaon.(Agency)**

Surveillance was intensified at Akera-Kotla Lake in Nuh following directions from National Green Tribunal (NGT), with a wildlife department team conducting a survey on Wednesday and removing illegal nets used for trapping migratory birds. Divisional forest officer (wildlife) R K Jangra said the inspection was carried out as part of an action-taken report to be submitted to the tribunal. "A team surveyed the area as directed by NGT and removed nets found at the site. Further surveillance will be carried out to prevent recurrence," he said. The enforcement action follows directions from NGT after a petition was filed by activist Vaishali Rana, which alleged rampant bird poaching, encroachment and lack of legal protection for the Kotla-Akera wetland. The plea highlighted that despite supporting several migratory and threatened bird species, the site remains officially unrecognised. Notices were also issued to the Centre and the Haryana govt regarding the plea. Rana pointed out that basic safeguards were still missing on the ground. "There are no warning signs declaring the lake a sensitive and critical



migratory bird habitat. This weakens deterrence and allows hunting to continue discreetly," she said. Further, the lake has been under watch since an FIR was registered last month over the hunting of migratory birds. Acting on a complaint by a wildlife inspector, a case was registered against unknown persons under Section 9

of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, and forest staff dismantled nets laid across the wetland. "Vigilance of the wetland was increased after repeated instances of illegal bird trapping were reported during the winter migration season," said an official, adding that similar nets had been removed about 10 days ago, but fresh attempts prompted closer monitoring of the area. Officials said the department plans sustained surveillance, joint patrols with police, awareness programmes in nearby villages and the installation of warning boards to safeguard the wetland. They added that continued on-ground presence would be crucial to prevent poaching.

Spread across nearly 108 acres in the Aravallis, Kotla Lake serves as a seasonal habitat for hundreds of birds, including migratory species such as northern pintails, little cormorants and wood sandpipers, which travel thousands of kilometres during winter. Earlier this year, TOI reported that the wildlife department filed a complaint against 23 people, mostly locals, for allegedly poaching birds at the lake and selling them to buyers, including hoteliers.

NGT allows Ghaziabad nce papers ready**Noida.(Agency)**

An additional district and sessions court on Saturday sentenced a resident of Madhuban Bapudham residential locality to life imprisonment for murdering his wife by suffocating her, and imposed a fine of Rs 11,000. The court held the accused, Rahul, guilty under Section 302 (murder) of IPC, observing that medical evidence conclusively established that the woman's death was caused by suffocation due to deliberate blocking of her mouth and nose. The case relates to an FIR registered at Kav Nagar police station on June 12, 2020, based on a complaint by Suraj, a resident of Madhya

Pradesh. In his complaint, Suraj stated that his cousin Jyoti was married to Rahul on April 22, 2016. Soon after, her husband started harassing her for dowry, and after prolonged torture, Jyoti was killed on June 12, 2020. Based on the complaint, a case was registered under sections 498A, 323, 304B of IPC and Section 3/4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act. After the police filed a chargesheet, the court took cognisance, and the matter was handed over to the sessions court for trial. The prosecution examined 10 witnesses, including family members, neighbours and the doctor who conducted the post-mortem. The doctor testified that Jyoti died due to asphyxiation — a condition caused by deprivation of oxygen — and clarified that such a death could occur only if both the mouth and nose were forcibly closed. "When this is medically established that death occurred by asphyxiation, it is not possible for anyone to hold their breath until death," the court observed, negating the chances of death by suicide. The defence counsel alleged false implication of the accused. However, the court rejected this argument, holding that the medical findings clearly pointed to murder. While convicting Rahul for murder and causing hurt.

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Flood to farm relief, 3,500 students from across India take crack at drone challenge**Noida.(Agency)**

From disaster-hit zones to farmlands, drones are being tested for real-world deployment as students from across India participate in the final phase of the National Innovation Challenge for Drone Application and Research (NIDAR) 2026 at Gautam Buddha University (GBU) in Greater Noida. The seven-day event, which concludes on Jan 16, has brought together over 3,500 students and more than 350 teams from institutions nationwide. Organised by the Drone Federation India in collaboration with the ministry of electronics and information technology (MeitY), the challenge focuses on practical drone applications in disaster response and precision agriculture. Officials said NIDAR focuses on real-world challenges that reflect the growing use of drones in governance, agriculture and disaster management.

After multiple evaluation rounds, 150 teams advanced to the Final Mission phase. The teams are now working on advanced



applications in disaster management, including geotagging, search and rescue support and emergency medical delivery, as well as in precision agriculture, with tasks such as autonomous navigation, crop health assessment and identification of low-productivity crop zones," said a senior official from the organising committee. Many participants cited recent natural disasters and agrarian distress as the sources of their motivation. "When we saw visuals of villages in Punjab and

other flood-hit states cut off for days, we felt drones could be the fastest way to drop medicines and food where boats or vehicles cannot reach," said a participant. Another participant working on agricultural applications said their aim was to help farmers make timely decisions. "If we can map crop stress early and flag areas where yields are likely to fail, it can save an entire season for small farmers. Our technology should reach the field, not remain in the lab," the participant said. According to organisers, each team was

tasked with deploying two drones operating autonomously and in coordination. In disaster scenarios, one drone identifies affected areas and requirements, while the other delivers supplies. In agriculture, paired drones assess crop conditions and productivity. Teams demonstrating the highest precision and accuracy will be shortlisted for awards. Drone Federation India president Smit Shah said the challenge is designed to encourage mission-oriented innovation aligned with national priorities. "When students work on disaster relief and precision farming, they are directly contributing to India's strategic and industrial goals," he said.

Economic advisor to MeitY, Preeti Nath, said NIDAR is helping build a skilled talent base in unmanned systems, which is critical to India's technological future. "It is the country's first national-level drone innovation challenge of this scale, aimed at enabling young engineers to contribute directly to India's digital growth and strategic self-

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Bhagwant Mann Govt introduces landmark reforms to secure property rights in cooperative housing societies

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NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, MEHTAB ALAM S/O HAJI MAQBOOL AHMAD R/O Khasra No-2, Near Madina Masjid, Budh Vihar, Mandi, North East Delhi, Delhi-110093 declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as HAJI MAQBOOL AHMAD in my Voter id card ZYF1815868. The actual name of my father is KABOOL, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I Navjot Singh S/O Amarjeet Singh, VB-66, 2nd Floor, Gall No-2, Sector-1, Badarpur, North West Delhi, Delhi-110058 have changed my name to Navjot Singh Ahuja for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I Rakesh Kumar Pruthi S/o Ved Prakash Pruthi, House No. 504, Naveen Apartments, Opposite Sainik vihar, Pitampura, North West Delhi, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Rakesh Pruthi for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I Samreen Fatima Rizvi W/O Z.H. Rizvi, GH-5/7/1092, MEERA BAGH, paschim vihar, West Delhi, Delhi-110087 have changed my name to Samreen Rizvi for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Vipin Kumar S/o Nanak Chand Jain R/o P No.32, Block-B-1, 3rd Floor, Mianwali Nagar, Rohtak Road, Paschim Vihar, Delhi-110087 have changed my name to Vipin Kumar Jain.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Shri Chand Mohammad Qureshi are the owner of First Floor Flat, Northern Side Flat, with common roof rights, area measuring 90 Sq. Yards, Property Bearing No. RZ-2018, Gali No. 16, out of Khasra No. 522, Situated at Tughlakabad Extn., New Delhi-110019, by virtue of GPA, ATS and Will dated 16.09.2021, executed by Shri Shaan Mohammad Qureshi, Mohd. Salim Kureshi, Mohammad Javed Qureshi, all sons of Late Shri Gulam Mohammad Qureshi and Smt. Gazala Qureshi D/o Late Shri Gulam Mohammad Qureshi and in the property chain SMC is not available with the seller and said property to be sold to Smt. Minaksi Kurtari W/o Shri Manish Kumar and same to be financed by Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Ltd., General public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Rahul Raj, Advocate, SGRSS Associates LLP, B-01, Plot no. 20, Koushambhi near HDFC Bank, U.P.
E-MAIL: sgrssassociatesllp@gmail.com
Ph: 0120-4968888, 8130309204.

NAME CHANGE

I, FAYYAZUDDIN S/o Naseeruddin R/o 5833/4, T.H.F.L, Basti Harphool Singh, Sadar Bazar, Delhi-110006, changed my name to FAIYAZUDDIN permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, HEENA NAAZ W/o FAIYAZUDDIN R/o 5833/4, T.H.F.L, Basti Harphool Singh, Sadar Bazar, Delhi-110006, changed my name to HINA NAAZ permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mohd. Kasim S/o Abdal Salam R/o P-5 Gaffar manjil Extn 2 jamia nagar Delhi 110025 Changed my name to Mohammad Kasim

NAME CHANGE

I, Kaikasha W/o Mohammad Kasim R/o P-5 Gaffar manjil Extn 2 jamia nagar Delhi 110025 Changed my name to Khakasa

NAME CHANGE

I, PRERANA W/o ARHANT JAIN R/o H- D-1/51, GALI NO-3, ASHOK NAGAR, NAND NAGRI, DELHI-110093 have changed my name to PRERANA JAIN for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

GENERAL PUBLIC IS HEREBY INFORMED THAT BACK CHAIN OF PLOT NO. 26 OF LAND AREA MEASURING 100 SQ. YARDS OUT OF KHASRAN-19, SITUATED IN VILLAGE KHANPUR JAPTI, GUNJAN GARDEN, PARGANA & TEHSIL LONI, GHAZIABAD, U.P.I.E. ORIGINALLY SALE DEED DT. 23.10.2013 EXECUTED BY MR. NAKUNI IN FAVOUR OF MRS. VEERWATI (DOC. NO. 42645, IN BOOK NO. 1, VOL. NO. 26109, ON PAGES 237-256, ON DT. 23.10.2013, SRO-4-GHAZIABAD), HAS BEEN LOST BY THE CURRENT OWNER MRS. MONI S/O MR. DHARMENDRA KHARI R/O, H- NO-110 INDRAPUR VIHAR KHANPUR JAPTI, GHAZIABAD U.P. AND SAID OWNER MRS. MONI PURCHASED THE SAID PROPERTY VIDE SALE DEED DT. 19.02.2024 EXECUTED BY MRS. VEERWATI IN FAVOUR OF MRS. MONI. NOW MRS. MONI WANTS TO TAKE LOAN AGAINST THE SAID PROPERTY FROM TRU HOME FINANCE LIMITED. PLEASE SUBMIT THE SAID ORIGINAL SALE DEEDS IF FIND BY ANY PERSON. ALSO PLEASE CONTACT WITH WRITTEN OBJECTION LETTER WITH RELEVANT DOCUMENTS WITH UNDERSIGNED IF HAVING ANY OBJECTION IN RESPECT OF SAID PROPERTY/SALE DEED WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THIS PUBLICATION. ITS USE BY ANYONE IS ILLEGAL.

ADITYA VERMA, ADVOCATE
E-16, MANSAROVAR PARK, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110032
MOBILE NO. 9999042521

ensures that members are not subjected to arbitrary or excessive demands at the time of transfer or registration," the CMO said, explaining that these reforms were necessitated because a large number of properties in cooperative housing societies had remained unregistered for years, leaving families

NAME CHANGE

I, Vinod Yadav S/O Attar Singh Yadav R/O H No.1620, Village Mundka, Near Pooja Temple, Kameen Factory, Mundka, West Delhi, Delhi-110041, have change the name of my minor son Parthiv aged 10 years and he shall hereafter be known as Parthiv.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as Shubhangi Gaikwad alias Shubhangi Manu Gaikwad W/O Shyam Kumar, R/O 2/51, GEETA COLONY, PO: Gandhi Nagar, Gandhi Nagar, East Delhi, Delhi, 110031, have change my name and shall hereafter be known as SHUBHANGI GAIKWAD.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mukesh Goyal s/o G D Goyal R/o A-9, First Floor, Galli No.5, Shashi Garden, Mayur Vihar Phase-1, Patparganj, Delhi-110091 have changed my name to Mukesh Goyal for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mohammad Ashraf Khan resident of F-2, Second Floor, Nizamuddin West inform that my correct date of birth is 3rd February 1997 and not 27th February 1997 as mentioned in my passport. My correct place of birth is New Delhi and not Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh.

NAME CHANGE

I, C G Mahto s/o Ramashish Mahto R/o Old No B62a, New B No B 384, New Ashok Nagar, Vasundhara, Sector-1, Badarpur, Delhi-110044, have changed my name to C G Mahto.

NAME CHANGE

I, Firoz W/o Maqsood Ahmed R/o D-216, Khaddar Colony, Jaitpur, Extn. Part-2, Galli No.7, Badarpur, Delhi-110044 have changed my name to MOHD JAVED.

NAME CHANGE

I, SALIM AHMED S/O SHAHEED AHMED R/O H-149/1, Shaheed Nagar Chikamper, Ghaziabad-201006, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to MOHD SALEEM for all future purpose

NAME CHANGE

I, SHABANA W/O MOHD SALEEM R/O H-149/1, Shaheed Nagar Chikamper, Ghaziabad-201006, Uttar Pradesh, have changed my name to SHABANA for all future purpose

NAME CHANGE

I, AAI SHAH BANO W/O ISHAN GAUHAR, R/O VILLAGE BUDHKHERA (KATLA), NAKUR, SAHARANPUR, UTTAR PRADESH-247231 have changed my name to AISHA BANO for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, MOHMOOB ALI / MAHBOOB ALI S/O AYYUB ALI R/o H NO-116, MUSTAFABAD, PACHANDA KALAN, MUZAFFARNAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-251001 have changed my name to MAHBOOB ALI for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, TAJNEEM / TAIZNEEM BANO W/O MAHBOOB ALI, R/o H NO-116, MUSTAFABAD, PACHANDA KALAN, MUZAFFARNAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-251001 have changed my name to TAJNEEM for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, AISHA BANO W/O ISHAN GAUHAR, R/O VILLAGE BUDHKHERA (KATLA), NAKUR, SAHARANPUR, UTTAR PRADESH-247231 have changed my name to AISHA BANO for all future purposes.

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NEWS BOX

New video shows the minutes before immigration officer fatally shoots woman in Minneapolis

World. (Agency)

A new video shows more of what happened before a federal immigration officer shot and killed a woman during an enforcement operation in Minneapolis, adding context to a shooting that has sparked national debate on whether the officer acted in self-defense or recklessly. The video, which is 3 1/2 minutes long and was filmed by a bystander, was posted Sunday by the US Department of Homeland Security on X. It shows federal officers and vehicles on a snowy street as a car horn blares on and off, with the sounds of whistles adding to the cacophony.

The camera swings to the left, showing a red SUV sitting perpendicular and blocking part of the road, the woman inside, Renee Good, pressing the horn repeatedly. After a minute, Good pulled the SUV back slightly, unblocking part of the road and appears to wave at cars to pass. Two vehicles drive past her down the street. Good's wife is seen outside the red SUV, but the video doesn't clearly show where she was in the proceeding minutes. Then, after a blare from sirens, a dark truck with a small flashing light pulls to a stop a few feet from Good's SUV. Two officers exit the truck and walk toward Good's car just before the video goes dark. Bystander videos released last week, shot from multiple angles, show what happened next. A video filmed by the officer who fired at Good shows one officer ask Good to get out of the car and another tries to open her door. The officer who is filming circles around to the front of the vehicle.

Good reverses briefly, which places the officer who is filming in front of the driver's side of the vehicle. Good then turns the steering wheel toward the passenger side as an officer says again, "get out of the car." Almost simultaneously, her wife, standing on the passenger side and trying to open the door, shouts, "drive, baby, drive!" The SUV pulls forward, the video veers up toward the sky and gunshots are heard.

Canada-born Punjabi youth shot dead in Abbotsford in alleged gang conflict

CHANDIGARH. (Agency)

A 28-year-old Canada-born Indian-origin Punjabi youth, hailing from Sudhar village in Ludhiana, was shot dead in West Abbotsford in a midday attack at a residence, allegedly in connection with the ongoing gang conflict in British Columbia.

The Integrated Homicide Investigation Team (IHIT) of the Abbotsford Police identified the victim as Navpreet Dhaliwal, a resident of Abbotsford. Police were called to reports of shots fired in the 3200 block of Siskin Drive at about 12.38 pm. He was found inside the house with gunshot wounds and was pronounced dead at the scene, despite efforts by paramedics to revive him. A statement issued by the Abbotsford Police on January 9 said that at approximately 12.38 pm, Abbotsford Police Patrol officers responded to a report of a shooting in the 3200 block of Siskin Drive. "Upon arrival, officers secured the scene and confirmed the incident was contained to a single residence. Inside, they located a man with life-threatening injuries. Despite the urgent lifesaving efforts of first responders, the man succumbed to his injuries at the scene," it added.

Police confirmed that the killing was linked to the gang conflict in British Columbia but said it was not related to the recent extortion-related violence directed at South Asian communities. Video canvassing in the area is being conducted, but no arrests had been made as of January 12. The public has been appealed to for any dashcam or CCTV footage from the area of Blue Jay Street and Siskin Drive between 11 am and 1 pm on January 9.

Cracks In Pakistan's Favourite Proxy: Lashkar-e-Taiba Faces Internal Revolt

World. (Agency)

The Lashkar-e-Taiba is heading for a major split, and the situation in Pakistan could get more chaotic, Indian intelligence agencies have learnt. For years, the Lashkar has remained Pakistan's favourite proxy, and never has there been a rebellion within the outfit.

Moreover, the outfit has always towed the ISI's line and never diverted from what it had been told. An Intelligence Bureau official said that problems have started to arise, and some of the top leaders are expressing discontentment over a few decisions that the outfit has had to take in recent months.

The official added that Operation Sindoar was the tipping point during which the outfit lost a considerable amount of infrastructure. Since then, the regrouping has been hard, and many have even lost faith in the ISI and Pakistan Army, as they felt that they were not protected well enough. The ISI did manage to iron out differences, and the regrouping process had begun. However, the decisions taken by the army and ISI to engage the Lashkar-e-Taiba against the Taliban, Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the Balochistan Nationalist Army (BLA) have not gone down well at all with a large majority of the operatives. Officials said that the cadres feel that the establishment is catering too much to both the Chinese and Western needs. Both China and the United States are interested in the rare earth present in Balochistan. Both the TTP and BLA are battling hard against the Pakistan Army in both Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP). Since the army is unable to handle these outfits, it decided to bring in the Islamic State Khorasan Province (ISKP) and align it with the Lashkar-e-Taiba to battle the TTP and BLA.

The Lashkar's leadership has started asking questions about the need to battle their own people so that the Chinese and Western interests are protected. Further, the outfit does not naturally ally with the ISKP, as they are considered to be enemies of the Afghan Taliban.

FBI says arson suspect targeted Mississippi synagogue because it's a Jewish house of worship

JACKSON, Miss. (Agency)

A suspect in an arson fire at a synagogue that was bombed by the Ku Klux Klan decades ago admitted to targeting the historic institution because it's a Jewish house of worship and confessed what he had done to his father, who turned him in to authorities after observing burn marks on his son's ankles, hands and face, the FBI said Monday. Stephen Pittman was charged with maliciously damaging or destroying a building by means of fire or an explosive. The 19-year-old suspect confessed to lighting a fire inside the building, which he referred to as "the synagogue of Satan," according to an FBI affidavit filed in US District Court in Mississippi on Monday.

At a first appearance hearing Monday in federal court, a public defender was appointed for Pittman, who attended via video conference call from a hospital bed. Both of his hands were visibly bandaged. He told the judge that he was a high school graduate and had three semesters of college. Prosecutors said he could face five to 20 years in prison if convicted. When the

judge read him his rights, Pittman said, "Jesus Christ is Lord."

Pittman is scheduled to appear in court for a preliminary and detention hearing on Jan. 20. Mike Scott, the public defender representing Pittman, did not immediately return The Associated Press' request for comment late Monday.

"This news puts a face and name to this tragedy, but does not change our resolve to proudly — even defiantly — continue Jewish life in Jackson in the face of hatred," the Beth Israel Congregation wrote in a statement. Attorney General Pam Bondi said she has instructed prosecutors to seek "severe penalties," according to a statement provided by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Mississippi.

A crime captured on video

The fire ripped through the Beth Israel Congregation in Jackson shortly after 3 a.m. on Saturday. No congregants or firefighters were injured. Security camera video released Monday by the synagogue showed a masked and hooded man using a

gas can to pour liquid on the floor and a couch in the building's lobby.

The weekend fire badly damaged the 165-year-old synagogue's library and administrative offices. Five Torahs — the sacred scrolls with the text of the first five



books of the Hebrew Bible — located inside the sanctuary were being assessed for smoke damage. Two Torahs inside the library, where the most severe damage was done, were destroyed. One Torah that

survived the Holocaust was behind glass and was not damaged in the fire, according to the congregation. The suspect's father contacted the FBI and said his son had confessed to setting the building on fire. Pittman had texted his father a photo of the rear of the synagogue before the fire, with the message, "There's a furnace in the back." His father had pleaded with his son to return home, but "Pittman recited back by saying he was due for a homerun and 'I did my research,'" the affidavit said. During an interview with investigators, Pittman said he had stopped at a gas station on his way to the synagogue to purchase the gas used in the fire. He also took the license plate off his vehicle at the gas station. He used an ax to break out a window of the synagogue, poured gas inside and used a torch lighter to start the fire, the FBI affidavit said. The FBI later recovered a burned cellphone believed to be Pittman's and took possession of a hand torch that a congregant had found.

How NATO works at a time when Trump is threatening to seize Greenland

YANGON. (Agency)

US President Donald Trump's repeated threats to seize control of Greenland are straining relations with its allies in NATO and have sparked a warning that doing so by force could spell the end of the world's biggest security alliance. Tensions have routinely spiked among some of NATO's members over the decades, notably between neighbors Greece and Turkey. But it would set a dangerous precedent should its most powerful country, the United States, annex the territory of another ally. "One way or the other, we're going to have Greenland," Trump reaffirmed on Sunday. The White House has not ruled out the use of military force. Trump said he wants to prevent Russia or China from taking over and that making a deal would be "easier." Greenland is a semi-autonomous island that is part of the Danish realm. Danish Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen has warned that "if the United States chooses to attack another NATO country militarily, then everything stops... including our NATO." Decades of defending against outside threats. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization was formed by 12

nations in 1949 to counter the security threat posed by the Soviet Union during the Cold War. NATO's deterrence works through a strong



American troop presence in Europe, with US nuclear weapons stationed there. Its ranks have grown since the founding Washington Treaty was signed to 32 countries after Sweden joined in 2024, worried by an increasingly aggressive Russia. Indeed, NATO officially considers its biggest threats to be Russia and international terrorism. NATO's doors are open to any European country that wants to join and can meet the requirements and obligations. Importantly, NATO takes its decisions by consensus, so every member has a veto. The Trump administration has vetoed Ukraine's application.

NATO is built on the principle that an attack on any one of its ranks must be considered an attack on them all — the collective security guarantee enshrined in Article 5 of the treaty. The organization's credibility depends on adversaries believing that all 32 allies will make good on that pledge. It's a political commitment and not a legal obligation that can be enforced by any court.

The only time it has ever been activated was in 2001, to support the United States in the wake of the 9/11 attacks on New York and Washington. Article 5: collective defense against outsiders, not insiders. Trump said last year that he is committed to the Article 5 pledge, but he has also fueled doubt about whether he would defend allies who don't spend enough on defense. However, his repeated threats against Greenland take things to a new level. Article 5 would be moot in any US-Denmark fight as there would be no unanimity to activate it. Besides diplomacy, NATO has no obvious way of dealing with open conflict among its members. Senior US and Danish officials were due to hold talks on Wednesday.

China Provokes India With 'Shaksgam Valley' Claim: Dispute Explained

Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq km of Indian territory in the Shaksgam Valley to China in 1963 from areas illegally occupied by it.

World. (Agency)

China has once again reignited tensions with India by reiterating its unfounded cartographical claims over Shaksgam Valley in Jammu and Kashmir,

stressing that the Chinese infrastructure projects in the area are "beyond reproach". The provocation came days after Delhi criticised Beijing's infrastructure projects in the valley, saying it reserves the right to take necessary measures to safeguard its interests, as it is an Indian territory.

Located in a sensitive spot bordering China's Xinjiang province in the north and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (POJK) in the south and west, the high-altitude Shaksgam Valley lies north of the Karakoram range, close to the disputed Siachen/Aksai Chin area. Pakistan illegally ceded 5,180 sq km of Indian territory in the Shaksgam Valley to China in 1963 from areas

illegally occupied by it.

China's Claims

When asked about India's position on Shaksgam, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told a media briefing in Beijing that "first of all, the territory you mentioned is part of China's territory." China's infrastructure activities in its own territory are beyond reproach," she said while responding to a question on India's criticism.

Referring to its illegal pact with Islamabad, Mao claimed China and Pakistan have signed a border agreement and determined the border between the two countries since the 1960s.

People inside Iran describe heavy security and scattered damage in first calls to outside world

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates. (Agency)

Iranians could call abroad on mobile phones Tuesday for the first time since communications were halted during a crackdown on nationwide protests in which activists said at least 646 people have been killed. Several people in Tehran were able to call The Associated Press and speak to a journalist there. The AP bureau in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, was unable to call those numbers back. The witnesses said SMS text messaging still was down and that internet users in Iran could connect to government-approved websites locally but nothing abroad.

The witnesses gave a brief glimpse into life on the streets of the Iranian capital over the four and a half days of being cut off from the world. They described seeing a heavy security presence in central Tehran.

Anti-riot police officers, wearing helmets and body armor, carried batons, shields, shotguns and tear gas launchers. They

stood watch at major intersections. Nearby, the witnesses saw members of the Revolutionary Guard's all-volunteer Basij force, who similarly carried firearms and batons. Security officials in plainclothes were visible in public spaces as well. Several banks and government offices were burned during the unrest, they said. ATMs had been smashed and banks struggled to complete transactions without the internet, the witnesses added. However, shops were open, though there was little foot traffic in the capital. Tehran's Grand Bazaar, where the demonstrations began Dec. 28, was to open Tuesday. However, a witness described speaking to multiple shopkeepers who said the security forces ordered them to reopen no matter what.

Iranian state media had not acknowledged that order. The witnesses spoke on condition of anonymity for fear of reprisal. Iran says it communicated with Washington. US President Donald Trump



are still ongoing," Araghchi said. However, "Washington's proposed ideas and threats against our country are incompatible." White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said Iran's public rhetoric diverges from the private messaging the administration has received from Tehran in recent days. "I think the president has an interest in exploring those messages," Leavitt said. "However, with that said, the president has shown he's unafraid to use military options if and when he deems necessary, and nobody knows that better than Iran." Meanwhile, pro-government demonstrators flooded the streets Monday in support of the theocracy, a show of force after days of protests directly challenging the rule of 86-year-old Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. Iranian state television aired chants from the crowd.

NEWS BOX

15,000 scented lemons sent from Agartala to Kolkata

Agartala. (Agency)

Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Ratan Lal Nath on Tuesday flagged off a consignment of 15,000 scented lemons for Kolkata from Agartala Railway Station by Tripura State Organic Farming Development Agency.

The Minister informed that around 80 farmers, cultivating on 100 hectares of land, particularly in South Hadrai and Hawaibari of Khowai district, have grown these lemons. As follow up of Prabashi Tripura conclave held a fortnight ago, a resident of Agartala settled outside Sourav Gupta, took this initiative to send a lemon consignment. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said that the foundation of India is agriculture, and we must strengthen it, ensuring all kinds of help to farmers. The priority is agriculture, then tourism, which our government has given importance to," he said.

Nath mentioned that another consignment of 15,000 scented lemons will be exported soon.

"Before 2018, organic products were cultivated on only 2,000 hectares, but now we have crossed 20,000 hectares. Our main aim is to double the income of farmers, and the government will help farmers with markets and proper prices through FPCs," Nath added.

Two militants arrested in separate operations in Manipur

Imphal.(Agency)

Two militants were arrested in separate operations by security forces across Manipur, and a cache of arms and ammunition was also recovered, police said Tuesday.

In Imphal West district, security forces recovered arms and ammunition from Langol Reserve Forest Hill near the roadside leading to the Lameng Water Supply area under Lamsang police station. The recovered items included one Self-Loading Rifle (SLR) along with two magazines, two single-barrel guns, three pistols with three magazines, 20 rounds of 7.62 mm SLR ammunition, one No. 36 high-explosive grenade, eight tube launchers and one hand-held communication set.

In another operation, security personnel recovered an unidentified metal object, suspected to be a locally made mortar (pumpi), from the Monglham area under the Thoubal Dam police station in Imphal East district during long-range patrolling.

Meanwhile, security forces arrested an extortionist from Thangmeiband Sinam Leikai in Imphal West district. A mobile phone was seized from his possession.

In a separate operation, an active militant allegedly involved in causing an explosion at a fuel station at Moirang Thana Leikai in Bishnupur district on January 8, 2026, was arrested from Kakching district.

Police officials said that following the arrest, other accomplices involved in the fuel station explosion have been identified, and efforts are underway to arrest them.

Surat International Textile and Machinery Expo gets enthusiastic response



Ahmedabad. (Agency)

An overwhelming response of over 39,000 buyers was recorded in the four-day exhibition of Surat International Textile and Machinery Expo SITME 2026, jointly organised by Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Surat Embroidery Association. SGCCI president Nikhil Madrasi claims an investment of Rs. 850 crore is expected to be generated through such an exhibition in the next couple of months. The majority of the machines are imported from China. The exhibition was organised at Surat International Exhibition and Convention Centre, Sarsana from 10am to 7pm on 9, 10, 11 and 12 January, 2026.

Around 200 machineries from 100 textile machinery brands, including embroidery, were displayed at the exhibition. Machinery ranging from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 60 lakh was displayed at this exhibition. Around 60 exhibitors said they expect to receive orders for 28 to 30 machines in the next 1 to 2 months, after receiving assurance from buyers, says SGCCI president Nikhil Madrasi.

Top court upholds Gujarat HC judgment quashing FIR under Disturbed Areas Act

Ahmad Allarakha Patel was accused of "illegally possessing" land in Sarkhej area that complainant Pranav Sheth had staked claim on

Vadodara . (Agency)

The Supreme Court recently upheld the August 2025 Gujarat High Court order quashing an FIR lodged against an Ahmedabad-based businessman, Ahmad Allarakha Patel, under the Gujarat Disturbed Areas Act (The Gujarat Prohibition of Transfer of Immoveable Property and Provision for Protection of Tenants from Eviction from Premises in Disturbed Areas Act, 1991). Patel was accused of grabbing a land parcel of the complainant in Sarkhej area of Ahmedabad and had been first booked in 2020 under the Gujarat Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, 2020.

The case pertains to an FIR lodged at Sarkhej police station on November 29, 2021 under the Disturbed Areas Act, based on the complaint filed by Pranav Harish Sheth, who had contended that

Patel was "in illegal possession" of the land that originally belonged to his father, Harish Sheth. He further contended that Patel had indulged in "illegal construction of godowns and a mosque" on the land, located in a residential zone, which was resulting in "financial gain without mandatory permissions" required from the District Collector under the Disturbed Areas Act. The complainant had contended that after the death of his father in January 2006, his name had been entered into the revenue records in June 2007, making him the "legal owner of this land".

Sheth had moved a Special Leave Petition in the Supreme Court against an August 21, 2025, order

of the Gujarat High Court quashing the FIR lodged on November 29, 2021, at Sarkhej police station against Patel. On January 9, Supreme Court Bench comprising Justice

Sheth had first filed a complaint with the District Collector of Ahmedabad under the Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act and based on the order of the "Member Secretary, District Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Committee and Resident Additional Collector, Ahmedabad, of January 2021, the police had lodged an FIR at Sarkhej police station.

The Gujarat High Court in its judgement of August 2025 had noted that the complainant had later "come to know that the disputed land falls under the Disturbed Area" and contended that Patel had "without obtaining the prior permission from the District Collector... illegally executed rental and other agreements concerning the disputed land."



Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha and Justice Alok Aradhe dismissed Sheth's petition, by an order that stated, "We are not inclined to interfere with the impugned judgment and order passed by the (Gujarat) High Court."

SEC to announce poll schedule today for 12 zilla parishads, 125 panchayat samitis in Maharashtra

The Maharashtra State Election Commission's move comes after the Supreme Court admitted its plea seeking an extension to hold the polls beyond the January 31 deadline set by the top court.

Mumbai . (Agency)

The State Election Commission (SEC) is set to announce a schedule for elections to 12 zilla parishads and 125 panchayat samitis in Maharashtra on Tuesday, which is also the last day of campaigning for polls to the 29 municipal corporations across the state. The poll panel will be holding a press conference at 4pm. Polling for the zilla parishad and panchayat samiti elections is likely to be held before February 10, as the state board examinations for Class 12 start on February 10.

The SEC's move comes after the Supreme Court on Monday allowed its plea seeking an extension to hold these elections beyond the January 31 deadline set



by the apex court. The poll panel had sought the extension up to February 10 but the court gave it time till February 15, asking the SEC to complete the polls to 12 zilla parishads and 125 panchayat samitis, where the 50 per cent reservation limit has not been breached.

Currently, elections for 32 zilla parishads and 336 panchayat samitis remain pending across Maharashtra. Out of these, 20 zilla parishads and 211 panchayat samitis exceed the 50 per cent reservation cap and their elections

will take place depending on the top court's order. As a result, the SEC has prioritised the 12 districts and 125 panchayat samitis that fall within the permissible legal reservation limits. Out of the total 34 zilla parishads, 32 are being overseen by administrators, except for Bhandara and Gondia. The term of these two civic bodies will expire in May 2027. Of the total 351 panchayat samitis across Maharashtra, 336 – where elections are to be held – are run by administrators. The districts where the elections will take place are Pune, Satara, Sangli, Solapur, Kolhapur, Raigad, Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, Parbhani, Dharashiv and Latur.

The Governor especially appealed to the youth to treat blood donation not as a one-day activity, but as a lifelong responsibility. He said, "If every healthy youth donates blood even three times a year, there would be no shortage of blood in the state, and such donation causes no inconvenience."

Referring to practices in some neighbouring countries, he emphasised the need to shed all hesitation and increase awareness regarding blood donation.

Ahead of Makar Sankranti, Bombay HC slams Maharashtra for 'continuous failure' to implement ban on nylon manja

The Bombay HC also ordered the government to designate within 3 weeks a nodal officer to monitor e-commerce, social media, and messaging platforms for immediate takedown of listings, advertisements, and content related to nylon manja.

Mumbai . (Agency)

Observing that "despite an unequivocal ban, nylon manja (kite string) continues to be freely available and widely used," the Aurangabad Bench of the Bombay High Court, on January 9 directed the Maharashtra Director General of Police (DGP) to constitute dedicated Special Task Force (STF) to

passed the order on a suo motu Public Interest Litigation (PIL) initiated after taking cognisance of injuries and deaths due to the use of nylon manja.

"We are constrained to record our serious dissatisfaction with the manner in which the authorities have addressed the issue. The record reveals a disturbing pattern. Whenever a serious incident is reported in the media, or the matter is listed before this court, assurances are tendered, raids are conducted, and so-called 'special drives' are undertaken," the HC noted. "Enforcement recedes into inertia." The court went on to observe, "Once the immediate spotlight fades, enforcement recedes into inertia. Such an approach is episodic, reactive, and ritualistic, and wholly inconsistent with the constitutional obligations of the State."

The court also said that affidavits by the state government, police authorities, and civic bodies are "repetitive, generic". "This continued failure of governance directly impacts the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution. The danger posed by nylon manja is not confined to human beings alone; it results in horrific injuries and deaths of birds and other living creatures, whose protection flows from the constitutional mandate under Articles 48A and 51A(g)." the court observed, adding that "reported cases represent only a fraction of actual harm caused."



exclusively deal with offences related to manufacturing, storage, transportation, sale and use of nylon manja, among a slew of other directions. Ahead of the Makar Sankranti festival, the court, while expressing "serious dissatisfaction" over non-implementation of the ban, said "continuous failure of the state government impacts right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution." A Division Bench of Justices Vibha V Kankanwadi and Hiten S Venegavkar

Interfaith couple forced to call off wedding reception in UP after right-wing protest

Lucknow.(Agency)

An interfaith couple, who got married five months ago, were forced to call off their wedding reception (walima) in Uttar Pradesh's Shahjahanpur allegedly after protests by right-wing group members.

The man, a 27-year-old pharmacist, is from Shahjahanpur while his wife, aged 30, is from Delhi and works at a medical firm. They tied the knot in a court marriage in the national capital last September.

Trouble started on Sunday morning when right-wing members staged a protest outside the Kotwali police station and demanded that the walima scheduled to be held later in the day at a local marriage lawn be cancelled. The protest led to heightened tension in the area and the family called it off.

On Monday, the members submitted a complaint to the police calling for an FIR against those who had organised the walima, alleging that it had the potential to disturb communal harmony and create tension in the area.

Rajesh Awasthi, who claimed to be the Braj Prant Vidhi Pramukh of the Hindu Jagran Manch and was part of

the protest, alleged that the man's family distributed invitation cards in which the name of the woman and her family was prominently mentioned.

He alleged, "The decision to hold the reception in Shahjahanpur was a calculated attempt to provoke and taunt the... community... We staged a protest at the police station and demanded that the walima be cancelled as such an event could



disturb communal harmony... A police team visited the marriage lawn... and ensured the programme was cancelled."

Superintendent of Police, Shahjahanpur, Rajesh Dwivedi said after receiving information about the matter, a police team visited the spot where the family informed them that they did not wish to hold the function and had cancelled it.

Bizarre killing in Cooch Behar: Man arrested on suspicion of cannibalism

Kolkata.(Agency)

In a bizarre development Cooch Behar police have arrested one person from Dinhata police station limits allegedly for his involvement in the brutal murder of a man who had been living in a crematorium area, with investigators suspecting that the crime may have been driven by cannibalistic intent. The arrested accused has been identified as Firdaus Alam. Police suspect that he may have killed the victim with the intention of consuming human flesh.

According to investigators, after committing the murder, the accused allegedly brought the body near his house and washed it at a nearby water tap. The case came to light last Saturday when police recovered the body of an unidentified man from a cremation ground area at Kursar Hat in Dinhata. The body bore multiple injury marks, particularly

on the neck and throat, leading police to believe that the man had been murdered, possibly on Friday night. The nature of the injuries suggested a violent and deliberate attack.

Police launched an investigation, but the remote location of the crime posed significant challenges. The area was isolated, with no CCTV cameras nearby. Investigators therefore spoke extensively with local residents to gather clues. However, the identity of the deceased could not be established.

Locals informed the police that the man had been living in the cremation ground for over a year and was possibly mentally unstable. Investigators were initially baffled as to why anyone would kill an unidentified, mentally unstable person without any apparent motive. A breakthrough came following a

tip-off from a confidential source, which led police to Firdaus Alam. He was subsequently arrested. According to police, the accused confessed to the murder during preliminary interrogation. Speaking to the media a senior police officer of Dinhata Sub-Division said,

"It is a gruesome murder. It was a very brutal and horrific murder. There is a possibility of cannibalistic intent. We are trying to explore the angle." "The most surprising aspect is that there appears to be no conventional motive behind the killing. It was a murder committed for the sake of killing," he said.

He added that witness accounts revealed that the accused brought the body to a spot near his house and cleaned it at a water tap. "Some eyewitnesses indicated that the body may have been intended for consumption. Certain features associated with cannibalism have emerged in this case. This is an

extremely rare crime, and such a possibility cannot be ruled out. The investigation is ongoing," he said.

Police also revealed that the accused was frequently intoxicated and had been sent to rehabilitation centres several times in the past for de-addiction. "His statements are incoherent and disjointed. There are indications of mental distortion due to prolonged substance abuse, though there is no documented evidence of a diagnosed mental illness. However, there is also no record of previous criminal involvement," the officer added. Investigators believe the victim was targeted because he was vulnerable and lived in isolation. Police said further interrogation and forensic examination are underway to establish the full sequence of events and confirm the motive behind the killing.

406 people donate blood at camp organised at Lok Bhavan on Jharkhand Governor's directions

Ranchi. (Agency)

On the directions of the Governor of Jharkhand, Santosh Kumar Gangwar, a Blood Donation Camp was organised by the Indian Red Cross Society, Jharkhand State Branch, at Birsa Mandap, Lok Bhavan, Ranchi, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the great philosopher and visionary Swami Vivekananda (National Youth Day). A total of 406 people voluntarily donated blood during the camp.

Prior to inaugurating the Blood Donation Camp, the Governor paid floral tribute to the portrait of Swami Vivekananda and offered tribute. On the occasion, he said that the ideals and thoughts of Swami Vivekananda continue to inspire the youth even today, and that service to humanity is the true service to God.

Describing blood donation as one of the highest and noblest humanitarian acts, the Governor said that the unavailability of blood at the right time often puts precious lives at risk. Therefore, it is essential to transform blood donation into a mass movement so that adequate availability of all blood groups can be ensured in the state. He stated that continuous efforts have been made under his guidance to revive and strengthen the Jharkhand Red Cross Society, which had remained dormant for years, and expressed confidence that the institution would emerge as a strong symbol of service, trust, and sensitivity in society. He also informed that blood donation camps would soon be organised in universities and colleges across the state.

The Governor especially appealed to the youth to treat blood donation not as a one-day activity, but as a lifelong responsibility. He said, "If every healthy youth donates blood even three times a year, there would be no shortage of blood in the state, and such donation causes no inconvenience." Referring to practices in some neighbouring countries, he emphasised the need to shed all hesitation and increase awareness regarding blood donation.

Tariff test: How Trump plans to win even if he loses

There is an old maxim about casinos and players—the house never loses. Last week, punters who placed bets on Polymarket.com correctly predicting an invasion of Venezuela learnt that the “snatch and extract” mission doesn’t qualify as an invasion and therefore doesn’t trigger payouts. Even as the issue is being debated, punters are placing their chips predicting the outcome of tariffs case in the US Supreme Court. Only 23 percent—less than one in four—believe the court will rule in favour of Trump’s tariffs. The punters will know next week if they lost their shirts or won, and will collect their payouts. The one-time owner of Trump Taj Mahal and many other casinos plans to continue to collect. Donald J Trump is planning on winning even if he loses the court case. The war room of the US president is ready with a parade of options—plans B to Z. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent, effectively the quarterback of Trump’s economic war room, said, “What is not in doubt is our ability to continue collecting tariffs at roughly the same level,” even if the justices strike them down. On January 14, the US Supreme Court is expected to rule on case No 24-1287, Learning Resources Inc & Petitioners vs Donald J Trump, President of the United States, et al. The Trump administration used the 1977 International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) to impose tariffs on imports. The IEEPA allows the US president to address declared emergencies concerning “unusual and extraordinary” threats to national security, foreign policy, or the economy, including the authority to “regulate” or “prohibit” imports. The crux: no president in the past 50 years has used the law to “impose tariffs—let alone the sweeping worldwide tariffs”. The petition, filed by educational toymaker Learning Resources, small businesses and 12 state governments, asks “whether the IEEPA authorises the president to impose tariffs”, particularly since the US Constitution gives Congress the power to regulate foreign commerce and impose import tariffs. The importers argued the IEEPA authorises sanctions or asset freezes, not broad duties. US courts, including a federal one that adjudicates on international trade, struck down the tariffs since the IEEPA contains no explicit statutes on them. The Trump team has argued “regulate... importation” covers imposition of duties. The courts pointed out that the major questions doctrine requires Congress to explicitly grant authority. The justices, during the hearings, raised fundamental questions on definitions and the separation of powers. What are the possible outcomes? The best-case scenario for Trump is that the Supreme Court upholds the tariffs entirely—a jackpot that only about one in three punters on Kalshi.com is currently betting on. The worst-case outcome—and the jackpot for global exporters—is a total strike-down. Beyond the g a m b l e r s , e v e n t h e l e g a l cognoscenti—interpreting the “tell signs” from other rulings—suspect that Trump may lose. This would mean rollback of the Liberation Day tariffs and the start of a “refund crisis” for the more than \$150 billion collected. The Trump administration is prepared for the day after. It has arranged an array of three-digit codes to keep the tariff flag flying. Section 122 of the Trade Act of 1934, under a Nixon-era precedent, allows the immediate imposition of 15 percent tariff across the board while building cases under other sections. The commerce department can launch expedited investigations to tag imports in strategic sectors (steel, auto, tech) as security threats and impose tariffs under Section 232, as was done during Trump 1.0. Section 301 empowers US Trade Representative to probe country-specific practices for remedial action. Section 338 can be used on countries that discriminate against US exports. None of these afford the kind of sweeping, universal tariffs attempted under the IEEPA.

FOR the first time since India’s 1998 nuclear tests, when the US imposed sanctions and the two governments virtually stopped talking to each other, India’s relations with its most powerful partner have hit a dangerous new low. In the last few days, the taunting has come from the highest echelons of the White House, portraying PM Modi as a supplicant. “Sir, may I call you,” the PM is supposed to have asked President Trump. Yes, America’s Great White Hope is believed to have answered. Last time a Prime Minister—Dr Manmohan Singh—was seen as genuflecting to an American President (when in 2008 he told George W Bush, ‘India loves you’), the country had exploded in righteous anger. Only 24 hours ago, the Ministry of External Affairs denied Modi’s supposed comment. But it has been awful to watch the descent into the abyss.

To see the Indian elite, the unique and great inheritors of a civilisation that connects back to a hoary past, ridiculed and mocked by America because Delhi dared to protect its own national interests—in this case, refuse to lower tariffs on certain agricultural commodities and refuse to stop buying cheap Russian oil—has been deeply disquieting. As US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick told a journalist, the US gave India “three Fridays,” or three weeks, to agree to the trade deal with the US. Modi was supposed to personally call Trump to sign off. But the PM didn’t make that call. When the Indian side finally got back, Lutnick told them it was “too late”. Certainly, none of this is new. India is—especially—used to Western leaders dressed up as emperors throwing their weight around. Inside the Ministry of External Affairs as well as outside, everyone understood the hypocrisy that was waged by the Big Powers, especially during the Cold War; the media revelled in exposing them. The problem is that at least for the last 20 years or so, India thought it was on the same side as the Americans. We got their jokes, our kids went to their colleges—Indian parents scrimped and saved to buy the golden dollars to send them—and our IT whiz generation won the H1-B lottery to make America great again and again.

We were equals. Or at least we thought we were. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, who is easily one

of the smartest men in Modi’s Cabinet, was part of the transformation from the old India to the new, because as one of India’s top diplomats he was trained to be friends with people on both sides of the fence. Jaishankar’s father, K Subrahmanyam, back in 1971, had ticked Henry Kissinger off for America’s “great tilt” towards Pakistan in the run-up to the Bangladesh war. (Why, Subrahmanyam told Kissinger, would you support Pakistan when millions of East Pakistanis are streaming into India escaping the massacres carried out by the Pakistan army, about ten million at last count, and don’t you remember what the Jews, your own community, had gone through with Hitler?)

In the new world order, Jaishankar was perfectly

such a deal, and India would be slapped with 500 per cent tariff for buying Russian oil. India became so nervous as a result that, among other things, it even refused to condemn the US capture of Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro. The words, “territorial integrity and sovereignty,” that have for decades been a sort of moral anthem for India, which were also used to chastise Russia for its invasion of Ukraine, were simply dropped for the US. Second, it is increasingly clear that India is not relevant to Trump’s world view. He is not interested—as previous US administrations for several decades, including the Democrats who brought India into the de facto nuclear fold by signing the Indo-US nuclear deal in 2008—in shoring India up so that it can be the local hegemon that contains China. Trump is certainly concerned about China’s rise, but he has publicly said he will directly deal with Beijing. Third, Trump doesn’t care that India, an old friend, ally and rising regional power, is upset. He does not remember that Modi in 2019 bailed him out in his own election by exhorting the Indian diaspora with the slogan, “Abki baar, Trump sarkar.” It is said that he won’t forget that Modi refused to also see him when he came to the US in 2024 to meet the Bidens. He hates the fact that India has publicly denied, several times, that he did not broker the end to the Op Sindoos standoff.

India is in a worrisome foreign policy spot today. The Americans are toying with Delhi. The Chinese are brooding and watching on the northern border. Bangladesh, the country that India helped liberate, is angry that its favourite cricketer is persona non grata—they have decided not to play matches in India during the coming T20

World Cup. India’s enemy, Pakistan, is cosying up to the Americans. UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan paid his maiden official visit to Pakistan in the last week of December. South America is unlikely to forget India’s prevarication on Venezuela. Nepal is in a crisis.

That leaves Russia and Western Europe and Israel and Iran. Iran’s Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi is likely to visit Delhi in the coming week. Maybe Delhi can begin the clawback from the abyss with him. But here’s the other problem: If it does, Trump is likely to be even more furious.

positioned to explain India’s unique position as an ancient nation with a long memory of colonisation to a global audience shaken up by Trump. So what went wrong? Why is Trump’s America laughing at Modi’s India when we were both supposed to be on the same side, not least as we sought to save the world against China? Why are our new best friends turning against us? There are many answers, some pleasant, some not so convivial. First, Trump’s ego—he believes the world must permanently kowtow in his direction. But when Modi refused to call Trump back to sign off on the trade deal, the Americans turned the screws differently—they put out that there would no longer be

Toxic taps: Indore tragedy holds lessons for Rohtak

The Tribune Editorial: The fact that people have had to protest on the streets to be heard reflects a failure of governance.

ROHTAK and Jhajjar are sending out distress signals that the administration cannot afford to ignore. Discoloured, foul-smelling water flowing from household taps is a public health emergency in the making. Recent complaints from residents about contaminated water supply should have triggered immediate action. Instead, they expose a familiar pattern of denial, delay and departmental buck-passing. Indore’s recent tragedy—where contaminated municipal water claimed lives and hospitalised scores—offers a lesson. There, too, early warnings were dismissed as routine complaints. By the time authorities acknowledged sewage leakage into drinking water pipelines, the damage had already been done. Rohtak and Jhajjar now stand at a similar crossroads. The causes are neither mysterious nor new. Ageing infrastructure, leaking sewer lines, unplanned urban expansion and poor coordination between civic agencies have created conditions where sewage and drinking water run



perilously close. When residents allege that sewer water is mixing with potable supply, the response must be verification, repair and accountability. The fact that

people have had to protest on the streets to be heard reflects a failure of governance. Water contamination strikes hardest at the most vulnerable—children, the elderly and those with weak immunity. Outbreaks of diarrhoea, hepatitis and other water-borne diseases spread quickly, often overwhelming local health systems. The cost of inaction is paid not just in hospital bills but also in lost lives and shaken public trust.

Contaminated pipelines must be immediately shut, comprehensive water testing conducted and results placed in the public domain. Safe alternative water supply must be ensured until the system is certified secure. Above all, responsibility must be fixed—not diffused. Urban governance is ultimately judged on the basics: clean water, sanitation and safety. Rohtak and Jhajjar still have the chance to act before headlines turn tragic. Indore should be a warning.

New gods of tech and return of old questions

The real rebellion now isn’t smashing phones or living in a forest full-time. It’s knowing when to log off, to stop optimising and to feel your body without tracking it



Every invention starts with the same vibe, ‘this will make life easier’. It starts with the same low-key flex: fire meant food no longer fought back, and night stopped being terrifying. The wheel saved our knees. Electricity killed the dark. The internet killed distance. Smartphones killed waiting. Each upgrade shaved off friction, effort, uncertainty. But here’s the twist nobody puts in the keynote slides: every time life gets easier, we end up inventing new ways to feel something again. And now here we are, paying money to run on treadmills that go nowhere, lifting iron to recreate work our ancestors were literally trying to escape, subscribing to apps that remind us to breathe, stretch, sleep, hydrate, and occasionally look up from the screen. And, ah, “Digital detox” is now a luxury product. Everyone’s talking about grounding routines, touch grass energy while holding devices that never stop buzzing. Progress didn’t fail. It looped so hard it glitched.

This is why Gates, Musk, and Zuckerberg don’t feel like just CEOs anymore. They feel like the new gods of how reality is supposed to work. Gates wants electronic tattoos on your skin tracking your body dynamics better than you can. Musk wants to skip the body entirely and wire the brain straight into machines with no screen, no delay, thought straight to action. Zuckerberg wants whole worlds where gravity, geography, and even physical presence are optional. These on-the-way tech aren’t just about products. They’re beliefs about what a human is. And right when life hits max easy mode, we start inventing difficulty again. History has seen this movie before. Humans always worship whatever they depend on. When survival depended on rivers, gods lived in rivers. When forests fed people, gods lived in forests. When cities took over, gods moved into temples. When empires ruled, gods became imperial. Religion

followed infrastructure. When Rome collapsed, Christianity hit not because it was a better idea in abstract, but because a god who suffered made sense in a world that was breaking. Monasteries weren’t escapism; they were damage control. Slow time, preserve knowledge and keep people sane. Fast forward. The Enlightenment killed God and replaced Him with Reason like the The French Revolution did. That didn’t last long. Industrialisation showed that reason could build factories and nightmares at the same time. Now look around. Data is the new sacred text. Wearables tell you when to sleep, stand, breathe, panic.

You trust a graph over your gut. Gates’ health tech isn’t evil; it’s just revealing something uncomfortable that if it can’t be measured, it barely counts. Musk’s brain implants are basically an ancient fantasy in sci-fi packaging: transcendence without discipline. Skip the hard parts and just upgrade the hardware. Every civilisation that chased shortcuts to enlightenment eventually crashed into the same wall. Turns out meaning doesn’t like being hacked. People figured this out way before Wi-Fi. Aristotle basically said: if life is too comfy, people get weak. The Stoics were like, “Let’s suffer a little so we don’t lose our minds.” In the Gita, Krishna tells Arjuna: do the work, don’t get addicted to the outcome. Modern tech does the opposite. It hooks you to numbers, likes, streaks, notifications with dopamine DLC that figures the levels in the brain, while reflection gets nerfed. Buddhism saw it coming even earlier. Wanting more doesn’t end by getting more. It ends by understanding why you want it. When everything is instant, nothing sinks in. When answers show up before questions even load, wisdom gets replaced by info spam. We saved time and somehow ended up with none. Gen Z started feeling this, but Gen Alpha is growing up inside it, born into algorithms, raised by autoplay and brains trained on swipe, skip, refresh. But there’s pushback. People are into journaling, crystals, walks, analogue stuff, weird little rituals half-ironic, half-serious, fully telling. Gates, Musk, and Zuckerberg won’t disappear. Their tech will stay. But people start asking uncomfortable questions again: what’s enough, what’s fake, what actually matters when the Wi-Fi dies. Every civilisation hits this moment. When life becomes frictionless, people go looking for weight.

When everything is easy, meaning gets rare. So humans do what we’ve always done: we invent gods, outgrow them, and then quietly borrow the best parts back. That effort isn’t cringe. The real rebellion now isn’t smashing phones or living in a forest full-time. It’s knowing when to log off, to stop optimising and to feel your body without tracking it. Above all when to exist without turning it into content. If Gen Alpha figures that out early, the next big upgrade won’t be a chip or a headset. It’ll be knowing how to live in a world that never stops offering shortcuts and choosing, sometimes, not to take them.

Three security guards found dead in Badaun mentha factory; suffocation suspected

Badaun .(Agency)

Three security guards were found dead inside a room of a mentha factory in Badaun district on Tuesday morning. Preliminary investigation suggests that the deaths were caused by suffocation after the guards allegedly burned coal in a brazier (angithi) to keep warm and went to sleep with the room locked from inside. According to police, the incident came to light when factory employees arrived in the morning and found the three guards lying unconscious in their cabin. When they tried to wake them up, it was discovered that all three had died. The police were immediately informed. Initial findings indicate that the guards may have died due to inhalation of carbon monoxide fumes. No injury marks were found on the bodies. The room was reportedly closed from inside, and a coal brazier was found inside the room.

The deceased have been identified as Jogendra (30), Bhanu (26), and Vivek Yadav (27). As news of the incident spread, family members of the deceased reached the factory premises and created an uproar. Alleging murder, they placed the bodies on the road and blocked traffic. The families are demanding that an FIR be registered against the factory owner.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) said that efforts are underway to pacify the family members and bring the situation under control. "The relatives are being counselled. The situation is under control, and a detailed investigation is in progress," the SSP said. He added that security arrangements at the factory premises are also being reviewed.

The incident occurred at a mentha factory located in Kuda Narsinghpur village under the Ujhani police station area. Notably, the same factory had witnessed a massive fire a few months ago. Police said post-mortem examinations will provide further clarity on the exact cause of death, and appropriate legal action will be taken based on the investigation findings.

Two changes made to the eligibility criteria for the BPL list in Himachal Pradesh

Bilaspur.(Agency)

Two changes have been made to the eligibility criteria for the BPL list in Himachal Pradesh. District Development Officer, Bilaspur, Yashpal Singh Parmar, said on Tuesday that the Rural Development Department has made some important changes to the eligibility process for the BPL (Below Poverty Line) list.

He said that under the first change, families who were excluded from the BPL list due to owning a pucca house will now be given an exemption and included in the BPL list. In this regard, a committee constituted under the chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) will prepare and notify the list of eligible families by January 15.

He further informed that under the second change, the age limit for children under 18 years of age has been increased to 27 years in paragraphs 1(a)(i) and (ii) of the BPL eligibility inclusion criteria, while the age limit for adult members has been set at 27 to 59 years instead of 18 to 59 years.

In addition, applications that were previously rejected for age exemption will also be reviewed. If there is no other reason for ineligibility, these families will be included in the BPL list. The District Development Officer said that based on the above two amendments, old and new applications can be submitted to the concerned Block Development Officer (BDO) office by January 25.

J&K: After brief respite, intense cold grips Kashmir again

Srinagar. (Agency)

After a slight relief, the cold wave tightened its grip again over Kashmir as mercury plummeted sharply across the Valley last night, officials said on Tuesday. According to the meteorological department the minimum night temperatures remained 0-3°C below normal at scattered places across the Kashmir division, while they stayed about 1-3°C above normal at many locations in the Jammu division. Sonmarg in central Kashmir's Ganderbal district recorded the lowest minimum temperature in Kashmir at -7.0°C, whereas Baderwah was the coldest in the Jammu division with -0.2°C.

MeT data said that Srinagar, the summer capital, recorded a minimum temperature of -4.9°C, falling from the previous night's -2.4°C. Qazigund settled at -5.0°C against -3.6°C a night earlier. The tourist resort of Pahalgam saw temperatures dip to -6.2°C from -3.4°C. Kupwara recorded a low of -5.8°C compared to -3.7°C previously, while Gulmarg, the famous ski resort, registered -3.5°C, nearly steady with -3.4°C the preceding night. Pulwama and Shopian remained in the grip of severe cold at -6.6°C and -6.3°C, both showing a further fall.

The most significant drop was witnessed in Sonmarg, where the mercury plunged to -7.0°C from -2.4°C, making it the coldest place in the Valley. Jammu city registered a minimum of 3.8°C, while Katra recorded 6.2°C. Banihal was comparatively milder at 8.9°C, whereas Batote and Kathua recorded lows of 4.1°C and 4.0°C, respectively. Ramban settled at 2.6°C. Baderwah remained the coldest in the division with the mercury dipping to -0.2°C. On Monday Jammu City was colder than most parts of Kashmir.

High Court seeks detention records in MP Amritpal's case, gives Punjab week to reply

Chandigarh. (Agency)

The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Monday directed the Punjab government to place on record the original files that formed the basis of the preventive detention order issued against Khardoor Sahib Lok Sabha MP Amritpal Singh. The direction was issued as the court granted the State one week to submit a para-wise reply to Singh's petition challenging his third consecutive detention under the National Security Act. The Bench, headed by Chief Justice Sheel Nagu, noted at the outset that the Supreme Court, by an order dated November 10, 2025, had fixed an outer limit of six weeks for adjudication of the matter. It also recorded that the petition assailing the detention order dated April 17, 2025, had been instituted in the first week of December.

Observing that it could not take the matter forward in the absence of a detailed response from the respondents, the Bench allowed the State's request for additional time and granted a week to file its reply. The court further directed

that the original records substantiating the grounds of detention be produced on the next date of hearing, and listed the case for January 20. Senior advocate Anupam Gupta appeared for the Punjab government, while Additional

security. The petition, filed through advocates Arshdeep Singh Cheema, Imaan Singh Khara and Harjot Singh Mann, describes the detention as arbitrary, without jurisdiction and in violation of the constitutional safeguards under Articles 21 and 22.

It has been argued that Singh has remained under preventive detention since April 2023 despite the absence of material justifying his continued incarceration. The plea also denies allegations of his association with anti-national elements or any conspiracy to physically harm individuals, asserting that such claims are unsupported by evidence.

According to the petition, prior to his detention, Singh was involved in social reform initiatives, including youth-focused anti-addiction campaigns, drug abuse awareness programmes and community outreach through his organisation Waris Punjab De. It states that his public speeches centred on Sikh values, cultural identity and constitutional rights, and did not advocate separatism or violence.



Solicitor General Satya Pal Jain represented the Union of India.

Amritpal Singh has questioned the legality of the third successive detention order, contending that there is no credible material linking him to activities prejudicial to public order or national

Meeting held on molasses policy under the chairmanship of DEO

The Sikh Times

Manoj Pal

Muzaffarnagar: In compliance with the orders issued by the Additional Chief Secretary Excise and Molasses Controller-cum-Excise Commissioner, Uttar Pradesh, Prayagraj, a meeting was held to ensure effective implementation of the Molasses Policy for the year 2025-26. The meeting was conducted on 13 January 2026 at the office of the District Excise Officer, Muzaffarnagar, under his chairmanship, following the directions of the District Magistrate and Senior Superintendent of Police, Muzaffarnagar. The meeting was attended by all in-charge Excise Inspectors/Sub-Excise Inspectors posted at the sugar mills in the district, along with representatives of the respective sugar mills. During the meeting, the participants were briefed in detail about the provisions of the Molasses

Policy 2025-26. Instructions were

issued to ensure that the liability

31 January 2026. It was also

directed that in the first quarter,

ratio between reserved and unreserved molasses (1:4.55) must be strictly followed.

The District Excise Officer further directed that sugar mills with incomplete storage capacity must immediately submit consent letters for necessary mitigation measures. Sugar mills were also instructed to obtain their MF-4 gate passes on time and duly inform the excise office. Additionally, for molasses transportation, it was made mandatory to print and paste the referred QR code on A4 size paper on the concerned vehicles along with the transport permit (MF-4), so that monitoring can be strengthened and strict control over misuse or illegal diversion of molasses can be ensured.



of reserved molasses remaining from the Molasses Year 2024-25 is compulsorily reduced to zero by

25 percent of the total reserved molasses liability must be fulfilled and the prescribed withdrawal

Budhana police bust honey-trap gang, two accused arrested

The Sikh Times

Manoj Pal

Muzaffarnagar: Budhana police have busted a honey-trap gang and arrested two wanted accused. Police also recovered Rs 2 lakh in cash from their possession. SP Rural Aditya Bansal said that the complainant Firoz Malik submitted a written complaint at Budhana police station on January 11, stating that on January 6, 2026, a woman named "Sana" contacted him through a video call and invited him to meet. On January 7, the victim reached the location mentioned by Sana along with his friend, where Sana and her associates allegedly planned the trap and recorded an obscene video of him. The accused later threatened the victim with implication in a false rape case, issued death threats, and even intimidated him by showing a firearm. Under pressure, the victim and his friend were forced to transfer Rs 3 lakh into different bank accounts. Based on the complaint, a case was regis

tered under relevant sections and a police team was formed for investigation. During the probe, on January 13, acting on a tip-off, the police arrested two wanted accused—Samsu, son of Abad, and Usman, son of Abad—from Badaut Road.

Shehzad, were operating an organised gang. Women members of the gang would contact strangers via video calls, lure them to meet, record videos in nude conditions, and later extort money by threatening them with false rape allegations. Police said



Police recovered Rs 2 lakh from the accused. Further legal action is being taken. During interrogation, the arrested accused revealed that they, along with their other associates including Sana, Sama, Parveen, Gulbahar, and Salman alias

accused Samsu has previous criminal cases registered against him, including under the NDPS Act, while accused Usman also has a case registered in the present matter. Police stated that the recovered money is linked to the honey-trap case.

Haryana gets four weeks to reply in PIL against retired DGP heading police complaints authority

Chandigarh. (Agency)

The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Monday gave the Haryana government four weeks to file its reply in a public interest litigation challenging the appointment of a retired Director General of Police as chairperson of the State Police Complaints Authority, cautioning that any further delay would cost the State its right to respond.

In an interim order, the Division Bench of Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Justice Neerja Kulwant Kalsan noted that despite notice having been issued on August 29, 2025, the State had not filed its reply so far. The Bench directed that if the reply was not filed within four weeks, the State's right to do so would stand forfeited. The matter has been listed for February 26, 2026.

The PIL, argued by senior advocate Rajesh Garg, raises questions over the legality of appointing a retired senior police officer to head the Police Complaints Authority, a body mandated by the Supreme Court in its 2006 judgment in the Prakash Singh case. Garg told the court that the Supreme Court had clearly directed that Police Complaints Authorities across the country should be headed by retired High Court judges. He

said that while Haryana enacted a law in 2007 allowing the post to be held by either a retired High Court judge or a retired civil servant, the provision was diluted a year later to permit appointment of any "person of eminence" with experience in administration or law. It was under this diluted provision that a retired Haryana DGP was appointed as chairperson, he argued.

Referring to a 2015 Division Bench judgment of the High Court in a similar case concerning Chandigarh, Garg pointed out that the court had quashed the appointment of a retired Indian Economic Service officer as chairperson of the authority, holding it to be contrary to the Supreme Court's directions. That judgment, he said, was never challenged before the Supreme Court and had therefore attained finality. Following the ruling, Chandigarh appointed a retired High Court judge to head the authority.

Responding to the State's contention that the Prakash Singh matter was still pending before the Supreme Court, Garg clarified that the pending issue related only to the fixed tenure of Directors General of Police and not to the composition of Police Complaints Authorities.

Himachal HC records nearly 90 Pc productivity despite vacancies

Shimla. (Agency)

Himachal Pradesh High Court achieved a productivity rate of nearly 90 per cent in 2025 despite functioning with five judges short of its sanctioned strength, reflecting a sustained push for faster and more effective justice delivery. Official data shows that the High Court had pendency of 93,942 cases as of January 1, 2025. During the year, 81,092 fresh cases were instituted, while 72,981 matters were disposed of. Pendency consequently rose to 1,02,053 cases by the end of the year, but the clearance rate stood at a notable 89.99 per cent. The court functioned with 12 judges against a sanctioned strength of 17, including the Chief Justice.

During the year, the High Court prioritised cases involving jailed convicts, undertrials, crimes against women, sexual harassment,

juveniles, and senior citizens. Proceedings stayed in subordinate courts were treated as expedited cases to prevent trial stagnation. In a bid to address long-pending matters, the High Court has declared 12 Saturdays in 2026 as working days, on which only the oldest cases will be listed. Beyond disposal figures, 2025 witnessed the High Court's intervention in a wide range of sensitive administrative and political matters. The court examined allegations of arbitrary transfer orders passed by the executive on political considerations and reiterated that administrative discretion must conform to fairness and established norms. A large number of petitions filed by government employees brought issues of politically motivated postings and transfers under judicial scrutiny.

The High Court also dealt extensively with cases relating to the exploitation of daily wagers and contractual employees, many of whom alleged denial of legitimate service benefits despite long years of service. The court repeatedly underlined the obligation of the state to act as a model employer and to safeguard the rights of its workforce. Several matters arising out of complicated crimes linked to the corridors of power came up before the court during the year. Disputes reflecting conflict of interest between central and state investigating agencies, as well as litigation arising from political friction and polarisation on party lines, also engaged the court's attention. In a significant constitutional adjudication, the High Court struck down the appointment of Chief

Parliamentary Secretaries, holding such appointments to be beyond the constitutional framework. The ruling reaffirmed limits on executive authority and reinforced the principle of separation of powers. Land and environmental issues remained a major area of litigation. The court heard challenges to laws granting the state the right to regularise or allot encroached land, besides a large number of cases relating to encroachments on forest land. Hundreds of public interest litigations were taken up on issues concerning environmental protection, governance, and safeguarding public resources. The district judiciary performed even better, achieving a clearance rate of 106.23 per cent. With a pendency of about 6.31 lakh cases at the beginning of 2025, subordinate courts received 8,02,478 new cases

and disposed of 8,52,488 matters, reducing pendency to around 5.81 lakh cases. Disposal targets for judicial officers were fixed and monitored in line with Supreme Court directives.

On the administrative front, three Additional District and Sessions Judge posts and 19 Civil Judge posts were filled by December 31, 2025, while four new AD&SJ posts and five Civil Judge posts were created. Three new AD&SJ courts at Nurpur, Amb, and Bilaspur became operational in early January 2026.

NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I, JYASHU MEHRA S/o PURAN CHAND, R/o Bikaner (221), PO: Rewari, Dist: Rewari, Haryana-123401, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as PURAN MAL in my CBSE 12th class Educational Documents. And name of my father has been wrongly written as PURANAL @ PURAN CHAND in my 10th class Educational Documents and my Birth Certificate Registration No. 8382. The actual name of my father is PURAN CHAND.

Fake 'Principal Secretary' arrested near India-Nepal border; five held with cash and beacon-fitted SUV

Bahraich.(Agency)

The alertness of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) personnel deployed along the India-Nepal border led to the arrest of five individuals, including a man posing as a Principal Secretary.

A luxury Innova Crysta fitted with a hooter and red-blue beacon lights, along with a large amount of cash, was recovered from their possession, police said on Tuesday.

The incident took place at the Rupaidih checkpost on Monday evening, where an SSB team led by Beat Team Commander Sub-Inspector Suresh Ram, along with SI Shyamba Maitey and personnel Ajay Kumar and Priyanka, was conducting intensive vehicle checks. During the operation, an Innova Crysta with flashing red-blue lights and a blaring hooter was stopped.

On being questioned, the driver identified himself as Dharmendra Singh, claiming to be a Principal Secretary posted at the Lucknow Secretariat. The vehicle bore "Government of Uttar Pradesh" markings and had four other occupants. All of them were reportedly heading towards Nepal. Suspicious of the claims, the SSB informed senior officials and the local police. During detailed questioning, it was revealed that the driver was impersonating a senior government official. A search of the vehicle led to the recovery of Rs 2,17,480 in cash. Rupaidih Station House Officer Ramesh Rawat said the arrested accused have been identified as Dharmendra Singh of Barona (Lucknow North); Shubham Vajpayee of Ashiana, Kanpur Road; Anmol of Sushant Golf City; Sachin Singh of SGPGI campus; and Swapnil Sahay of Alambagh/Bakshi Ka Talab area—all residents of Lucknow.

During interrogation, Dharmendra Singh stated that the car was registered in the name of his wife, Priya, under a firm called Priya Enterprises. He also claimed that his father runs a travel agency with several vehicles attached to government institutions. Police said the accused misused hooters and red-blue beacon lights to flaunt authority, avoid paying toll taxes, and travel freely across districts.

Shaksgam Valley: New India-China flashpoint and Pakistan's 'illegal' handover

The sharp exchange between India and China over Kashmir's Shaksgam Valley has brought into renewed focus the strategically vital area that New Delhi maintains was illegally ceded by Pakistan to China in 1963.

Delhi shivers through coldest January morning in three years; Chandigarh records coldest night in nine years

New Delhi.(Agency)
Delhi recorded its coldest January morning in three years on Tuesday, with the minimum temperature dropping to 3 degrees Celsius, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. The last time the capital saw a lower January minimum was on January 16, 2023, when the temperature dipped to 1.4 degrees Celsius. Safdarjung, Delhi's primary weather station, logged a minimum of 3 degrees Celsius, around 4.4 degrees below the seasonal average. Palam recorded 4 degrees Celsius, 3.3 notches below normal, while Lodhi Road saw a low of 3 degrees Celsius, three degrees below average. According to the IMD, cold wave conditions are declared when minimum temperatures fall 4.5 to 6.4 degrees below normal. The department said cold wave conditions are likely to persist over Delhi on Wednesday as well. The maximum temperature for the day is expected to hover around 20 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, Delhi's air quality deteriorated to the 'very poor' category, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) recorded at 337, Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data showed. The CPCB's SAMEER app indicated that 29 monitoring stations reported 'very poor' air quality, nine were in the 'poor' category and one slipped into 'severe'. Anand Vihar recorded the worst air quality with an AQI of 411.

The cold conditions followed an intense chill a day earlier, when several parts of Delhi recorded their lowest temperatures of the season.

Severe cold wave grips Punjab and Haryana
Punjab and Haryana also reeled under severe cold conditions, with Chandigarh recording its coldest night of the season at 2.8 degrees Celsius, the lowest in nine years, weather officials said. Chandigarh had earlier recorded minimum temperatures of 2.4 degrees Celsius on January 11, 2017, and 2.1 degrees Celsius on January 24, 2016.

Assailants open fire in two locations in Delhi; Bishnoi gang claims one attack

New Delhi.(Agency)
Two unidentified motorcycle-borne men allegedly fired three to four rounds in the air outside a house in West Vinod Nagar in east Delhi in the early hours of Tuesday, police said, adding that the incident may be linked to an extortion threat received by the homeowner. The incident was reported around 12 am, they said, adding that the firing took place outside the residence of Jitender Gupta.

No injuries were reported in the incident. The firing may be linked to a similar incident outside a gym in Paschim Vihar, where a purported social media post surfaced in which Lawrence Bishnoi gang members took responsibility, a senior police officer said, adding that they are verifying the facts. In that incident, the complainant alleged that he had received an Internet-based audio call from an unknown international number on September 27, 2025. The caller allegedly identified himself as a member of the Bishnoi gang and demanded Rs 5 crore within eight days, threatening dire consequences if the demand was not met, the police said.

A PCR call was received regarding the firing by two bike-borne persons. On reaching the spot, the police team found Jitender Gupta along with an eyewitness, identified as Harshit Gupta, a resident of the same locality. In his statement, the eyewitness told the police that while he was standing on the road, he noticed two unknown men wearing helmets on a motorcycle.

The duo was allegedly making a video of the complainant's house on a mobile phone, he said.

Moments later, he heard a gunshot and saw the pillion rider raise his hand and fire in the air.

The two men then fled from the spot on the motorcycle, the police said. Following the incident, a mobile crime team and a forensic science laboratory (FSL) team were called to the scene and the area was inspected.

However, no empty cartridge or bullet lead has been recovered so far, an officer said. Given the sensitivity of the matter, the police said two armed sentries have been deployed outside the complainant's residence to provide security. The police said an earlier case related to an extortion threat had already been registered at the Madhu Vihar police station on the complaint of Jitender Gupta.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Over a year after India and China reached a deal to end a protracted military standoff in eastern Ladakh, a fresh border tussle seems to be brewing over Shaksgam Valley in Jammu and Kashmir. The recent sharp exchange between India and China over the Shaksgam Valley has brought into renewed focus the strategically vital 5,000 sq km tract that New Delhi maintains was illegally ceded by Pakistan to China in 1963. With China already building key infrastructure in the valley as part of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), it has raised concerns of the two all-weather friends sandwiching Indian positions. Situated close to the Siachen Glacier in the eastern Karakoram range, the Shaksgam Valley, also known as the Trans Karakoram Tract, borders China's Xinjiang region in the north and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (POK) in the south and west. What seems to have India on its toes is China's construction of an all-weather road in the valley. Nearly 75 km of

the road, around 10 metres wide, has reportedly been completed.

Reacting to it, the External Affairs Ministry asserted that the region was part of Indian territory and it had the right to take "necessary measures" to safeguard its interests. The MEA also underlined that India never recognised the agreement signed by Pakistan with China in 1963, ceding 5,180 sq km of territory in the Shaksgam Valley to Beijing from areas under Islamabad's illegal occupation.

However, China has rejected India's objections while insisting that its construction activities were "beyond reproach". The move only lays bare China's hypocrisy on its Kashmir position, which it calls a dispute to be resolved bilaterally between India and Pakistan. However, at the same time, China continues to actively assert control by pursuing strategic development in areas of Kashmir illegally occupied by Pakistan.

WHY SHAKSGAM VALLEY IS



IMPORTANT

For India, the Shaksgam Valley is significant on two counts -- territorial and military. The valley sits close to the Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battlefield. Besides, it also provides direct access to the Karakoram Pass. From Siachen, India keeps a direct eye on Pakistan. And, from the Karakoram Pass, India can monitor Chinese manoeuvres. Thus, control or influence in the Shaksgam Valley has direct implications for India's military posture along the LAC with China and the

LoC with Pakistan. Geostrategist Dr Brahma Chellaney said China's "salami slicing" in Shaksgam was reaching a tipping point with the rapid completion of key projects.

"By mid-2024, China had pushed a road across the 4,805-metre Aghil Pass into the Lower Shaksgam Valley, placing Chinese construction teams - and potentially military patrols - within 50 km of Indian-controlled Siachen Glacier at Indira Col," Chellaney tweeted. Col is the lowest point on a ridge. Over the decades, India focused on defending the Siachen region mainly against Pakistan, with the threat centred around the southern side. "The new axis of access enables China to apply pressure from the north, raising the prospect of a two-front contingency on the world's highest battlefield," Chellaney further said. This explains India's concerns about China and Pakistan sandwiching its positions, as was mentioned earlier in the story.

Ostriches, Stoics, Suspicions: What Back-to-Back PSLV Failure Means For ISRO

New Delhi.(Agency)

India's storied "workhorse" rocket stumbled again on Monday, and with it came a cascade of reactions - some refusing to call it a failure, some meeting the blow with quiet resilience, and others openly wondering whether strategically important missions are being sabotaged. The Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C62), carrying the EOS-11 Earth-observation satellite and a cluster of commercial payloads, deviated from its planned path after "disturbances" at the end of the third stage, in the Indian Space Research Organisation's (ISRO) first mission of 2026.

But the overwhelming feeling was ISRO will bounce back stronger, since the Indian space community has no other alternative but to strive for a more resilient higher orbit. The saving grace remains Launch Vehicle Mark-3 which has a one hundred percent success record, which did launch a few weeks ago from the same rocket port at Sriharikota.

At 10:18 am on Monday, the 44.4-metre, four-stage PSLV lifted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota, with an ambitious manifest that included a strategic hyperspectral surveillance satellite dubbed Anvesha and a Kestrel Initial Technology Demonstrator (KID) capsule slated for re-entry and more. Less than half an hour after launch, ISRO confirmed the anomaly, setting off a familiar, sobering post-mortem that the space community has now endured two PSLV flights in a row.

"We Shall Come Back At The Earliest": ISRO Chief

ISRO chairman V Narayanan spoke moments after the anomaly, offering a precise accounting of what engineers were seeing in real time: "The PSLV is a four-stage vehicle with two solid stages and two liquid stages. The performance of the vehicle up to the end of the third stage was expected. Close to the end of the third stage, we are seeing more disturbance in the vehicle, and subsequently, there was a deviation observed in the flight path. We are analysing the data, and we shall come back at the earliest," he said. Later he admitted the "mission could not proceed in the expected path".

The chairman's remarks match ISRO's public characterization that the disturbance emerged near the end of the third stage (PS3), prompting an immediate review of telemetry and propulsion performance. Some experts said ISRO should out rightly admitted that the mission had failed rather beating around the bush.

Stoic In Storm: Dhruva Space Keeps Its Chin Up

Among the most affected was Hyderabad-based Dhruva Space, which had "so much riding" on PSLV-C62 through its Polar Access-1 (PA-1) stack, four satellites, five deployers, and ground infrastructure enabling seven missions for states and institutions across India and abroad.

Congress slams BJP over China meet as Beijing stakes claim to J&K's Shaksgam Valley

New Delhi.(Agency)

A fresh political storm has erupted over China's claims on Indian territory after the Congress accused the Bharatiya Janata Party of sending mixed signals to Beijing, even as reports emerged of Chinese construction activity in the Shaksgam Valley of Jammu and Kashmir.

Congress leader Supriya Shrinate on Tuesday launched a sharp attack on the BJP following a meeting between senior party leaders and a delegation of the Chinese Communist Party in New Delhi. Raising concerns over national security, she alleged that China was asserting territorial claims while political engagement continued in the capital. "China has claimed the Shaksgam Valley of Jammu and Kashmir as its own

territory. For the past several days, construction is going on there in the name of CPEC. After Ladakh, how has China managed to intrude all the way here now?" Shrinate wrote on X. She added, "How is China showing



such audacity? And meanwhile, BJP leaders are holding meetings with China's Communist Party."

'VILLAGES IN ARUNACHAL, MEETINGS IN DELHI'

Sharpening her attack, Shrinate

questioned the optics of the BJP engaging with the CCP at a time of heightened border tensions. "This photo is of the BJP office. A meeting is taking place between BJP leaders and leaders of China's Communist Party. China supported Pakistan during Operation Sindo. Our brave soldiers were martyred in Galwan. China is sitting there after encroaching in Ladakh. It is settling villages in Arunachal Pradesh. And here, hugs are being exchanged," she said.

She also accused sections of the media of remaining silent. "Why is no one questioning the BJP about this meeting? What is this relationship called? Why did the BJP commit treason against the country? What secret agreement was made between the BJP and China?" Shrinate asked.

Delhi Airport Ops To Be Hit For 6 Days For Republic Day Security

New Delhi.(Agency)

Flight operations at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport will be halted for nearly two-and-a-half hours every day from January 21 to January 26 as part of heightened security measures for Republic Day celebrations.

The temporary shutdown, confirmed through a government-issued Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), is expected to disrupt travel plans for thousands of passengers, with delays, rescheduling and missed connections likely.

According to the NOTAM, the airport will remain closed from 10.20 am to 12.45 pm --

145 minutes -- on each of these days. This window coincides with one of the busiest phases of the day at Delhi airport, when a large number of domestic arrivals funnel passengers into afternoon departures bound for Europe and multiple Indian cities. Airlines have been advised that while some flights may be cancelled, many will see revised departure or arrival timings. In several cases, passengers may be rebooked on alternate flights, adding to the operational challenge for carriers already dealing with peak winter traffic. The closures are essential to ensure security during



during this period every year.

The impact will not be limited to domestic travel. International services to destinations including Toronto, Washington, Tashkent, Kathmandu, and Colombo are also likely to face delays or schedule changes due to the restricted airspace.

Complicating matters further is the winter fog that affects Delhi around this time. On days of low visibility, airlines may have to manage a high volume of flights within a narrower operational window, increasing the risk of congestion and passenger inconvenience.

For every dog bite death, we'll likely impose heavy fine: Supreme Court warns states

New Delhi.(Agency)

The Supreme Court on Tuesday, while hearing the stray dogs' case, warned the Centre and state governments of heavy compensation for every bite and death victim as it rapped authorities for "failing miserably" to implement the ABC rules. The court also said that dog feeders should be made liable for attacks, which the bench said has a lifelong effect.

"We are going to take the Union government and state governments to task. The issue has been ongoing forever. You yourself have mentioned that parliament has been looking into it since the 1950s. It is because of the Union and state governments that the problem has multiplied 1000 times. Complete failure on the part of the Union and state governments. For every man, woman and child who has lost their lives to a dog bite, we will impose heavy compensation on the government responsible," the bench

comprising Justices Vikram Nath, Sandeep Mehta and NV Anjaria said.

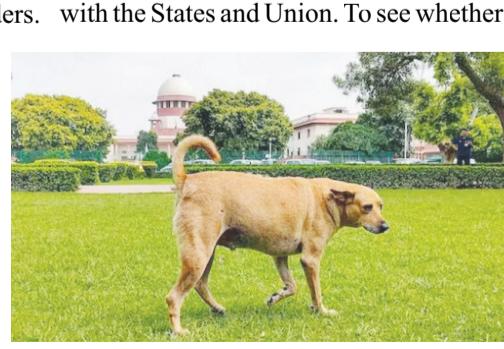
The bench also rapped dog feeders, asking them to take the strays to their homes. "And also liability to dog feeders. You take them to your house, keep them. Why should they be allowed to roam around, biting, chasing? The effect of a dog bite is lifelong," it said. The hearing on the contentious matter resumed this week after an in-depth discussion, as many as three times, last week. The top court had clarified last week that they are not saying all street dogs should be removed and that they were only calling for proper implementation of the rules.

During today's hearing, the bench reiterated their message, requesting lawyers from both sides to allow the "implementation of statutory provision". "Our request to all the lawyers is to

allow us to take to task the union, the state authorities and other bodies to put what

happened in 1957 into effect. Allow us to pass an order. We need to spend half a day

with the States and Union. To see whether



they have a plan of action or not. The problem has multiples a thousand times. We just want implementation of statutory provision. Allow us to do that. Allow us to work. Allow us to proceed further. The same things are coming again and again. This has become a public platform rather

than a court proceeding," the Supreme Court said.

During the hearing, the Supreme Court also slammed "so-called dog lovers" as it mentioned the case of a lawyer being bitten in Gujarat High Court.

"When a lawyer was bitten in Gujarat, and when the municipal corporation people went to capture the dogs, they were thrashed. By lawyers! By these so-called dog lovers," he said.

Senior Advocate Arvind Datar, who is representing parties opposing the top court's November 7 order, said that the directive should be extended to airports, public parks and courts as well.

"Therefore, the order dated 7.11.2025 should be extended to airports. The impression is that once a street dog is placed in an area like that it gets some kind of special protection. The court should clear this. This needs to extend to public parks and courts too," he argued.

NEWS BOX

After WPL snub, Australia captain Alyssa Healy announces shock retirement from cricket

New Delhi. (Agency)

Australia captain Alyssa Healy has announced her shock retirement from international cricket, revealing that the upcoming multi-format home series against India will bring the curtain down on a decorated 16-year career. The 35-year-old made the announcement on Tuesday during an appearance on the Willow Talk podcast, where she is a regular contributor. Healy admitted she has been contemplating retirement for several months, having felt her competitive edge slowly fade after years at the highest level. "It's with mixed emotions that the upcoming India series will be my last for Australia," Healy said. "I'm still passionate about playing for Australia, but I've somewhat lost that competitive edge that's kept me driven since the start, so the time feels right to call it a day." Reflecting on the mental and physical toll of elite sport, Healy explained how the last few seasons had taken a significant toll. "It's been a long time



coming. The last few years have been more mentally draining than anything else. There have been injuries, and it's getting harder to keep diving back into the well when it's not as full as it used to be," she said.

Alyssa Healy: An Australia great Healy will finish her career having played close to 300 international matches, scoring over 7,000 runs across formats. Behind the stumps, she has been equally influential, registering 275 dismissals since making her debut as a teenager in 2010. For much of her career, Healy served as vice-captain under Meg Lanning, before taking over as full-time skipper in 2023. One of her standout moments as captain came when she led Australia to a historic 16-0 whitewash of England. Across her career, Healy has been part of eight ICC World Cup-winning campaigns and has etched her name into the record books. Her achievements include the highest individual score in a World Cup final and the most dismissals by a wicketkeeper in women's T20 Internationals.

Gautam Gambhir biased Did Ayush Badoni deserve India ODI call-up

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

Ever since Ayush Badoni earned his maiden call-up to Team India for the remaining two ODIs against New Zealand, there has been widespread criticism of head coach Gautam Gambhir, with accusations of favouritism being levelled against him. Badoni replaced all-rounder Washington Sundar in the squad, who was ruled out of the series after reporting an acute onset of discomfort in his left lower rib area while bowling during the first ODI. As Badoni found a place in the team, fans began questioning his selection due to his underwhelming numbers in List A cricket so far. In the 22 innings he has played in the format, the 26-year-old has scored 693 runs at an average of 36.47, registering one century and five half-centuries. Apart from his batting contributions, the off-spinner has also claimed 22 wickets at an average of 23.50,



with best figures of 6/73. Moreover, the youngster is not having a memorable time in the Vijay Hazare Trophy 2025-26, having scored just 16 runs from three innings at an average of 8. However, Badoni does have encouraging numbers to show for himself from the Indian Premier League 2025 (IPL 2025), where he amassed 329 runs from 11 innings at a strike rate of 148.19, while also picking up two wickets. The right-handed batter also enjoyed decent outings in this season's Ranji Trophy, scoring 218 runs from five innings, including three half-centuries and seven wickets. Earlier, in the Duleep Trophy, he finished as the fourth-highest run-getter, scoring 307 runs from three innings at a staggering average of 153.50, with one century and one fifty to his name.

The USD 950,000 India Open will be played

Khel Ratna or not, Hardik Singh has eyes firmly on World Cup-Asian Games double

With the World Cup and Asian Games on his mind, Hardik Singh wants to achieve the double and stand on the top step of the podium at both events this year. In an exclusive chat with India Today, the Indian vice-captain talks about playing for HIL GC, 2026 goals and more.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Hardik Singh Rai always seemed destined to play hockey for the Indian team. A fifth-generation hockey player, his grandfather Preetam Singh Rai was a coach and his early mentor. His uncles, Gurmail and Jugraj Singh, were hockey players, with the former being part of the gold medal-winning Indian team at the 1980 Olympics. His aunt, Rajbir Kaur, also played internationally for India. So when the midfielder made his debut for the national side in 2018, many expected him to rise rapidly — and that's exactly what followed. Indian fans witnessed Hardik win two Olympic bronze medals, gold at the 2022 Asian Games, the Asian Champions Trophy

in 2023, and most recently, the Asia Cup in 2025. Over the past seven years, Hardik has been compared to legendary midfielder Sardar Singh, dons the iconic No.8 jersey, and has been elevated to vice-captain of the senior team. He has played 166 matches for India and scored 12 goals. His performances have also earned him individual recognition, with recent reports suggesting that he is the sole nominee for the Khel Ratna award — India's highest sporting honour. Naturally, one of the questions during this exclusive interaction with India Today focused on his emotions around a possible Khel Ratna win. But Hardik responded with the same calmness he displays on the field and the familiar smile he carries off it. For the 27-year-old, the ultimate goal remains unchanged: winning the World Cup and Olympic gold. "I will wait for the formal announcement. My ultimate goal is to win World Cup and Olympic gold. National awards inspire youth and athletes feel recognised, but for me, it's more about team sport. Being a nominee for the award, it's not in my hand. What is in my hand is giving one hundred percent every time I wear

an Indian jersey," said Hardik. The World Cup is now just around the corner. India face a packed August and September, travelling to the Netherlands and Belgium for the World Cup before lining up for the Asian Games just weeks later. But as vice-captain,



Hardik believes in taking things one step at a time. "I think we can achieve more than we think in both tournaments. The priority is the World Cup for now. We are not thinking about two tournaments, only the World Cup. One step at a time. Whatever happens in the World Cup, we will see what is best for the team. It's all about getting better day by day,"

said Hardik. There is good reason for India's single-minded focus. The men's team last won the World Cup in 1975 — almost 50 years ago. Hardik believes that drought has lasted long enough and wants India to recreate the magic of the cricket team's 2011 triumph. "For sure, 50 years is enough now. I feel like India is that country in hockey where everyone wants India to win, like 2011 cricket World Cup feeling. We will go step by step. Whatever happens in World Cup, we will be shoulder to shoulder with every team," said Hardik.

Being part of HIL GC Hardik was among the biggest buys at the Hockey India League auction in 2024, with UP Rudras snapping him up amid heavy interest. Named captain, he led the side to a strong season, narrowly missing out on the playoffs. Expectations were high for the second season, but drama unfolded just days before the auction when UP Rudras announced they would no longer participate in the league, leaving players and staff in limbo. Hardik admitted the uncertainty was difficult.

Virat Kohli's brother takes cryptic dig on Sanjay Manjrekar for easy ODIs comment

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

Virat Kohli's match-winning knock in Vadodara reignited debate around the "easy ODI" narrative. The discussion flared up after his elder brother Vikas Kohli took a cryptic swipe at former India cricketer-turned-commentator Sanjay Manjrekar following the first ODI against New Zealand. Having steered India to victory with a composed 93 off 91 balls on January 11, Kohli's innings was followed by a pointed social media post from Vikas on Threads. The message was widely viewed as a veiled response to Manjrekar's recent remarks on the nature of one-day cricket, particularly for batters at the top of the order. "Such a easy format isn't ... someone gave his gyaan few days back... easier said than done..." Vikas Kohli wrote, a line that quickly circulated online and was seen by many as a clear reference to Manjrekar's earlier comments.



The backdrop to the post dates to January 6, when Sanjay Manjrekar suggested that the ODI format was the easiest for top-order batters. Speaking in an Instagram video, Manjrekar argued that limited attacking fields made run-scoring significantly easier in the 50-over format compared to Tests.

"A lot of people have asked me why I keep saying ODI cricket is easy for top-order batters. Go back a few years in Indian cricket and look at the guys who were opening for India for a long time in 50-over cricket. Those batters were middle-order batters in Test cricket. They were not very keen to open in Test cricket or bat in the top three. They were very happy to play at No. 4, 5, 6," Manjrekar said. "But come one day cricket, they were almost desperate to bat in the top three and open. Therein lies the answer as to why I believe it's easy for top-order batters, because everybody is queuing up to bat in the top three. The first advantage you get when you are opening in 50-overs cricket or batting at No. 3, there's no four slips and a gully. And you know when a bowler is running in, he's not really coming in to get you out. He's just trying to make sure you don't get 10-15 runs an over," he added. Vikas Kohli stepping in to defend his brother is far from unprecedented. He has previously pushed back against Manjrekar's criticism on multiple occasions, including during the IPL, when Virat's strike rate and approach were questioned.

Wayne Rooney eyeing Manchester United return with Michael Carrick coaching link

Wayne Rooney has opened the door to a Manchester United return as a coach. The club legend said joining Michael Carrick's interim setup would be a "no-brainer" if offered the opportunity.

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

Manchester United and England legend Wayne Rooney has opened the door to a possible return to Old Trafford, revealing he would be willing to join Michael Carrick's coaching staff if the former midfielder is appointed caretaker manager for the rest of the season. Speaking on the BBC podcast The Wayne Rooney Show, Rooney said, "Comeback to Manchester United would be a 'no-brainer' decision should Carrick be handed the interim role following the club's decision to sack Ruben Amorim on January 5. Carrick has since emerged as the leading internal candidate to steady the side until the end of the campaign. "Of course I would. It's a no-brainer," Rooney said. "I'm not begging for

a job here. But if I was asked, of course I would help. Appointing the manager is the most important thing." The 38-year-old went on to back Carrick as a strong fit for the role, arguing that Manchester United need figures who understand the club's culture to help restore its identity. Whether it's Michael, Darren Fletcher, John O'Shea or myself, it needs people who know the

football club," Rooney added. "The club has lost its identity and that family feel. This is an opportunity to bring the spirit of Manchester United back."

Who will be Man United's new boss? Carrick, 44, is expected to be confirmed as interim manager as early as the end of the week, with discussions ongoing over his coaching team. Fletcher, who has already

taken charge of first-team duties on a caretaker basis, is likely to be involved. United's director of football Jason Wilcox and chief executive Omar Berrada are understood to have spoken to another former club coach, Ole Gunnar Solskjær, but Carrick is believed to have impressed most during the process. As a player, Carrick enjoyed a trophy-laden career at Old Trafford, winning five Premier League titles before retiring in 2018. He briefly served as United's caretaker manager following Solskjær's exit, before Ralf Rangnick's appointment. Carrick later moved into management with Middlesbrough, guiding them from the relegation zone to the play-offs in his first season and reaching the League Cup semi-finals the following year, before being dismissed last summer after a 10th-place league finish.

Rooney has been out of work in a coaching capacity since leaving Plymouth Argyle in December 2024, with the club bottom of the Championship at the time. His managerial CV also includes spells at Derby County, Birmingham City and DC United. Notably, Rooney was on holiday with Carrick in Barbados only last week, adding further intrigue to the possibility of a reunion.

Kylian Mbappe pens special farewell message for Xabi Alonso after Real Madrid exit

New Delhi. (Agency)

Kylian Mbappe has shared a heartfelt farewell message for Xabi Alonso after Real Madrid confirmed the manager's sudden exit, bringing an abrupt end to what was meant to be the start of a new era at the Santiago Bernabeu. Taking to his Instagram story, Mbappe addressed his message directly to Alonso, offering appreciation just hours after the club announced the decision. The French forward, who arrived in Madrid amid huge expectations, acknowledged the short-lived partnership while underlining the impact Alonso had during his brief tenure. "It's been short but it was a pleasure to play for you and learn from you," Mbappe wrote. "Thank you for giving me the confidence since day one," Mbappe wrote. "I will remember you as a manager who had clear ideas and knows many things about football. Best of luck for your next chapter," he added. Xabi's short Real Madrid stay



Real Madrid confirmed on Monday that Xabi Alonso had left the club, with the decision coming less than 24 hours after their Spanish Super Cup defeat to Barcelona on Sunday, January 11. The loss effectively sealed the former midfielder's fate, bringing an end to a seven-month stint that had begun only last summer.

Alonso's return to the Santiago Bernabeu was billed as the start of a new cycle, shaped by tactical clarity and an emphasis on modern pressing. Appointed in May on a three-year

deal following a remarkable spell at Bayer Leverkusen, he arrived in Madrid with considerable pedigree. During the 2023-24 season, Alonso had led Leverkusen to an unbeaten Bundesliga title, added the German Cup, and guided the side to the Europa League final — successes that persuaded Madrid to back him with the first-team role. The reality in Spain, however, proved far more challenging. As the season wore on, performances lost consistency and results began to slide. Heavy defeats against Paris Saint-Germain in the Club World Cup, Atletico Madrid in LaLiga, and Liverpool and Manchester City in the Champions League exposed deeper issues within the squad. Early promise gave way to uncertainty, and a title race that once looked firmly under control unravelled, with Madrid dropping from a five-point lead to second place, now four points adrift of Barcelona.

India Open: Lakshya vs Ayush to kick off blockbuster badminton week in Delhi

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

For the first time, the India Open — a premier Super 750 badminton tournament — will shift venues, moving less than 500 metres from the KD Jadhav Indoor Stadium to the larger Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium. The move is significant not merely for its scale, but for its timing: the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium will also host the World Championships in August. The India Open is a marquee event in its own right, with a storyline that stands independent of what lies ahead later in the year. However, staging the January tournament at the World Championships venue offers clear added value. It allows Indian shuttlers — and the field at large — an early opportunity to familiarise themselves with the conditions, turning this week's competition into both a high-stakes contest and a valuable dress rehearsal six months ahead of the sport's biggest event, which returns to India after 16 years.

The USD 950,000 India Open will be played

from January 13 to 18. Live streaming of the tournament in India will be available on the BWF YouTube channel, while Eurosport will provide television coverage. Images of the badminton arena at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium have already been doing the rounds on social media, with fans and players alike praising the aesthetics and the scale of the venue. As many as four courts will be in use on the opening day of the Super 750 event as India prepares to welcome the world to a badminton spectacle. "The stadium is much bigger. I played here around 15 years ago. The previous stadium was much smaller," said Chirag Shetty on Monday, offering insight into the transition players are undergoing this week. "It takes a while to get used to the conditions. The air conditioning is not on, so there shouldn't be much drift. But if you lift the shuttle high, judging its length can be a little difficult."

LAKSHYA VS AYUSH

The highlight of the opening day will be the

clash between Lakshya Sen and his junior training partner Ayush Shetty, who stands 5ft tall. Lakshya, the 2022 champion, faces a stern test against the 20-year-old, who is



widely regarded as one of the brightest prospects in Indian badminton.

While Lakshya's season began on a disappointing note with an early exit in

Malaysia last week, Ayush made headlines by stunning former world No. 2 Lee Zii Jia in the opening round of his Super 1000 debut, before pushing world No. 1 Shi Yuqi to three games. It promises to be a tough contest for the home crowd, with one of their favourites set to pack his bags at the end of Tuesday's match. However, it also presents a valuable opportunity for the two players — who train at the same Centre for Excellence in Bengaluru — to stake bragging rights.

Ayush, who is making his India Open debut, is well aware of the magnitude of the challenge. "Playing Lakshya in the first round is definitely a big challenge," he said at a packed press conference in Delhi on Monday, handling the spotlight at the highest level for the first time. "He has a lot of experience at this level, and for me it's a great opportunity to test myself right at the start of the tournament, especially in my debut at the India Open."

Sensex opens over 250 points higher, Nifty above 25,800; Eternal up 3%

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Benchmark stock market indices opened higher on Tuesday as Q3 results for major IT firms painted a positive picture for the sector, boosting markets. However, indices soon erased gains to trade in red, a few minutes into the day. The S&P BSE Sensex lost 90.05 points to 83,788.12, while the NSE Nifty50 was down 37.50 points to 25,752.75 as of 10:12 am. Dr. VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Investments Limited, said that geopolitical developments and President Trump's comments and actions will continue to influence markets. "Trump's weaponisation of tariffs have already impacted global trade and particularly countries which have been targeted with penal tariffs. Trump's latest declaration that the US will impose 25% tariffs on countries doing trade with Iran clearly sends out the message that this policy of weaponisation of tariffs will continue," he added. Eternal was the top gainer in early trade, rising 2.98%, followed by State Bank of India, which was up 0.79%. Tech Mahindra gained 0.76%, HDFC Bank added 0.74%, and ICICI Bank was higher by 0.63%, supporting the market at the open. Larsen and Toubro was the biggest loser, slipping 2.28%, followed by HCL Technologies, which fell 2.13%. Bharti Airtel declined 1.33%, Trent was down 1.17%, and Reliance Industries eased 1.12% in early trading. Apart from targeting other countries, Trump is also targeting those who don't toe his line at home. The charges levelled against the Fed chief Jerome Powell is an example of the fact that Trump will go against anyone who doesn't fall in line. This unprecedented, unstable, unpredictable behaviour of the US president will continue to weigh on markets," said Vijaykumar. "From the Indian market perspective, the necessity of a US-India trade agreement was evident yesterday when the market bounced back sharply when the US ambassador Sergio Gor declared that the US is determined to have a trade agreement with India and the talks will resume as early as January 13. In the near-term Q3 results will witness stock specific action," he added.

Canara Bank FD Rates Revised: Check Best Returns On Special Tenures Of 4 Other Banks

New Delhi.(Agency)

Canara Bank has revised its fixed deposit (FD) interest rates. The bank is offering up to 7 percent interest to senior citizens on callable fixed deposits. The revised rates came into effect from January 5, 2026. The FD rate moderation comes against the backdrop of continued monetary easing by the Reserve Bank of India. The RBI has reduced the repo rate by a cumulative 125 basis points since last year, bringing it down to 5.25 percent with the latest 25 bps decrease last month. Under the revised structure, the bank's special tenure deposits continue to offer better returns especially for senior citizens.

Under the 555-day Fixed Deposits, the bank is offering 6.50 percent interest to the general public and 7 percent interest to senior citizens which is the highest callable rate of the bank. Under the 444-day Fixed Deposits, the bank is offering a 6.45 percent interest rate to the general public and 6.95 percent to senior citizens. For most other callable tenures of more than a year, Canara Bank's FD rates remain fixed at 6.25 percent for general customers and 6.75 percent for senior citizens. Other banks have revised interest rates.

Four other banks have also revised their FD interest rates in January 2026, including Bank of Baroda, Bank of Maharashtra, Tamilnad Mercantile Bank and Jana Small Finance Bank.

25% US Tariffs Over Trading With Iran: What It Means For India

New Delhi.(Agency)

India, which is already facing steep 50 per cent US tariffs, is likely to be affected, among other countries trading with Iran, after US President Donald Trump announced 25 per cent tariffs on any country doing business with Tehran.

New Delhi is among Tehran's top five trade partners.

India exported goods worth \$1.24 billion to Iran and imported goods worth \$0.44 billion in the financial year 2024-25, resulting in a total bilateral trade of \$1.68 billion, according to official data. India and Iran are important trade partners. India has been among Iran's five largest trade partners in recent years. Major Indian exports to Iran include rice, tea, sugar, pharmaceuticals, manmade staple fibres, electrical machinery, artificial jewellery, etc. In contrast, major Indian imports from Iran consist of dry fruits, inorganic/organic chemicals, glassware, etc., according to the information available on the website of the Indian Embassy in Tehran. India and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in 2015 to jointly cooperate on the development of the Shahid Beheshti Port at Chabahar, Iran. According to the Embassy, India continues to cooperate closely with Iran in realising the vision of Chabahar Port as a major regional and international hub in the movement of humanitarian and commercial goods.

The United States recently extended a six-month sanctions waiver for India to continue its operations at the Chabahar port, effective from October 29. The extension was seen as a diplomatic win for India, especially amid broader tensions involving US sanctions on Iran and Russia.

Vande Bharat Sleeper train is welcome, but let's have more Amrit Bharats Expresses, too

New Delhi.(Agency)

India's first Vande Bharat Sleeper train is set to be inaugurated later this week, amid much official fanfare. The service, projected as a symbol of speed, comfort and modernity, is also expected to be costlier than Rajdhani and existing Vande Bharat trains, placing it firmly beyond the reach of poor and even middle-income passengers. The only change is that the honour goes to poll-bound Assam and West Bengal instead of Bihar. Many may not have heard the name, but a few may still remember Madhu Dandavate, the Railway Minister in the Janata Party government that was in power at the Centre from 1977 to 1979. Due to his initiative, the hard wooden berths of general-class coaches were replaced with soft, cushioned ones. As the historian Ramachandra Guha noted, this single measure brought more relief to more people than almost any other initiative by an Indian politician. In the years that followed, no such significant improvement came the way of passengers

travelling in general coaches. The Jana Sadharan Express, focused on routes heavily used by migrant labourers, with high seating density, was short-lived. This led the Delhi High Court, while hearing the Delhi Railway Station stampede case, to wonder, "Why were the tickets sold beyond the bogies' capacity?" The answer will expose all concerned. Sudhanshu Mani, who worked as the General Manager of the Integrated Coach Factory of Indian Railways and played a key role in the manufacturing of "Vande Bharat" trains, said in a podcast on June 24, 2025, that the central government had not paid proper attention to the needs of ordinary passengers in the past, and that now the situation seems to have deteriorated further. He added that this matter is not only about their comfort but also about their self-respect. It is a crime to carry excess passengers in any mode of transport, including one's own. Similar is the case with the transportation of goods. There are mechanisms to ensure that these



do not happen. But as far as the Indian Railways is concerned, Section 147 of the Railways Act merely provides that "if any person enters upon or into any part of a railway without lawful authority, or having lawfully entered upon or into such part, misuses such property or refuses to leave, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with a fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, or with both, or in special cases a fine that shall not be less than five hundred rupees." However, the Act does not

impose any restrictions on the issuance of unreserved tickets, even when it leads to overcrowding to an extent that there is hardly any place even to set foot. The fact that out of about 2.4 crore people travelling by train in a day, more than 80% travel in general bogies is mind-boggling. There are now some trains on Antyodaya Express routes with only general compartments which are comfortable to sit and travel in, but again, without reservation facilities. On the other hand, tickets will not be issued once the waiting list is full in the case of reserved bogies. If anybody enters a reserved bogie without a valid ticket, one can complain.

Also, if such people are caught during inspections, they may be penalised and also detained. In sleeper class, cushioned berths invite us to lie down comfortably, with bedrolls supplied on payment of the required charges. Those who can afford to spend more can choose A.C. chair cars and bogies. Again, more the merrier. Third, second, and first-class A.C.

Gold rally is not stopping anytime soon. But is buying at record levels a good idea

New Delhi.(Agency)

The gold rally that began last year shows no sign of slowing down. After ending 2025 with its strongest yearly rise in nearly 50 years, the yellow metal has carried the same pace into 2026. Prices have moved to fresh records, driven by global tension, economic worries and hopes of interest rate cuts in the United States. On Tuesday, gold prices eased slightly after hitting a new lifetime high a day earlier. Spot gold slipped 0.4% to \$4,576.79 per ounce at around 07:04 AM. This came after bullion touched a record level of \$4,629.94 per ounce on Monday. US gold futures for February delivery also saw mild profit booking, falling 0.6% to \$4,585.40.

The fall was largely due to investors booking profits after the sharp rise. Still, market experts say the overall trend remains positive as global risks continue to push money towards safe assets like gold. GLOBAL UNCERTAINTY CONTINUES TO SUPPORT GOLD

One of the key reasons behind the strong gold rally is rising global uncertainty. On Monday, US President Donald

Trump said that any country doing business with Iran would face a 25% tariff on trade with the US.

This statement came at a time when Iran is seeing its biggest anti-government protests in several years, adding to



tension in the Middle East. At the same time, the US has been active on the global stage, with recent developments involving Venezuela and talks around Greenland. These events have made investors nervous and pushed them towards assets that are seen as safe during uncertain times.

Concerns have also risen over the US financial system. The US dollar stayed weak and hovered near one-month

highs after the Trump administration opened a criminal investigation into Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell.

This move has raised questions about the independence of the central bank and trust in US assets. The decision drew criticism from former Federal Reserve chiefs and members of the Republican Party.

INTEREST RATE CUT HOPES TO GOLD STRENGTH

Another major factor supporting gold is the growing hope of interest rate cuts in the US. Big global brokerages such as Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley expect the US Federal Reserve to cut rates twice this year, with two 25 basis point cuts likely in June and September.

Lower interest rates usually support gold prices as the metal does not offer interest. When rates fall, non-yielding assets like gold become more attractive compared to bonds or fixed deposits.

Recent US employment data has also played a role. Softer labour market numbers, including an unemployment rate of 4.4%, have raised expectations that the Federal Reserve may move faster on rate cuts.

India In Goldilocks Phase Of High Growth, Economists Urge Neutral Policy Path

New Delhi.(Agency)

India appears to be in a Goldilocks phase of high growth and low inflation, a report said on Tuesday, with economists urging a shift towards a near-neutral policy. The report from HSBC Global Investment Research said that a near-neutral policy, combining fiscal restraint with continued monetary ease, would best support markets and the broader economy in 2026. "A combination of tight fiscal and easy monetary policy which creates a better economic balance should be positive for all asset classes," it said. The research firm, however, cautioned that underlying weaknesses such as insufficient corporate investment and foreign

inflows must be carefully addressed.

Bond markets have already priced higher state borrowing for early 2026, and that RBI bond purchases, fiscal prudence in the budget and potential global bond-index inclusion could attract foreign inflows, the report said.

The report further stated that equities may gain from recent reform momentum, rising nominal GDP and more reasonable valuations, and cautioned that durable gains require structural reforms to boost corporate capex and foreign investment. Pranjal Bhandari, Chief India Economist and Strategist, argued that the research firm's estimate suggests inflation will remain just under the 4 per cent target next year, removing pressure on the

Reserve Bank of India to tighten and leaving room for further easing if growth softens. "In fact, there is space for further easing if growth dips. And this is where we are polar opposite of what markets are currently expecting (tight monetary policy, loose fiscal policy)," Bhandari noted.

There is a lot going on globally that impacts Indian markets, such as news on tariffs and bond index inclusion, and steepening DM yield curves, she added. The central government aims to lower public debt ratios to pre-pandemic levels by FY31, which will require continued fiscal consolidation over the next five years. The report highlighted that such consolidation at the central level could.

GREY MARKET PREMIUM AND LISTING EXPECTATION

As of January 13, 2026, at 09:34 AM, the grey market premium for Amagi Media Labs IPO stood at Rs 20 per share. Based on the upper price band of Rs 361, the estimated listing price is around Rs 381 per share. This suggests an expected gain of about 5.54% per share on listing, if the current GMP trend continues. However, market participants usually note that GMP is an unofficial indicator and can change quickly depending on overall market mood and demand closer to the listing date.

How smaller cities are driving India's forex and overseas travel demand

What was once a metro-led trend is now spreading deep into non-metro India. Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities are fuelling a sharp rise in overseas travel and foreign currency spending.

New Delhi.(Agency)

India's overseas travel story is quietly undergoing a major shift. What was once dominated by metros is now being powered by smaller cities, as Tier 2 and Tier 3 India steps onto the global travel map with growing confidence, spending power and ambition. From family holidays and medical travel to education and business exposure, non-metro India is emerging as a key driver of outbound travel and foreign demand. IndiaToday.in spoke to Manoj Dhanotiya, Founder and CEO, MicroMitti and Pavan Kavad, Managing Director of Prithvi Exchange, to understand what is fuelling this surge, how spending patterns are changing, and why smaller cities are reshaping India's global travel footprint. ASSET-DRIVEN ASPIRATIONS REPLACE SALARY-

LED TRAVEL

According to Manoj Dhanotiya, the rise in outbound travel from smaller cities is rooted in deep structural changes rather than short-term trends. "India's international travel growth is no longer being driven only by metros. Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities are now the fastest growing contributors, and the reasons are structural, not temporary," he says. A major factor has been post-Covid wealth creation. Sharp appreciation in land and real estate prices across many Tier 2 cities has unlocked liquidity for first-generation entrepreneurs, traders and landowners. "In cities like Indore, Surat, Jaipur and Lucknow, land values have grown multi-fold in certain micro markets. This has created liquidity in the hands of people who were earlier asset-rich but cash-poor," Dhanotiya explains. As a result, foreign travel has moved from being a distant dream to a practical choice. "International travel in Tier 2 India is no longer salary driven, it is asset driven," he says.

DIRECT FLIGHTS CHANGE BEHAVIOUR OVERNIGHT

Better air connectivity has amplified this trend. The launch of direct international flights from Tier 2 cities has removed both logistical and psychological barriers. "A direct flight from Indore to Dubai, for example, has dramatically increased



outbound travel from Central India," Dhanotiya says. "A direct flight does more to unlock demand than years of aspiration marketing."

Pavan Kavad, Managing Director of Prithvi Exchange, echoes this view. "Rising disposable incomes, stronger job opportunities and better air connectivity from regional airports have made international travel far more accessible," he says. He adds that easier visa

processes, social media and online travel platforms are encouraging first-time travellers from smaller towns to explore global destinations.

DUBAI BECOMES BHARAT'S FIRST INTERNATIONAL STAMP

Destination choices reflect practicality and comfort. India recorded around 27 million overseas trips in 2023, surpassing pre-Covid levels, with non-metro cities contributing the fastest incremental growth, says Dhanotiya. "Dubai and Southeast Asia have seen strong double-digit growth from Tier 2 catchments," he says. "Dubai has effectively become the first international stamp for Bharat, not just metros." Ease of visas, short flight durations and cultural familiarity have made these destinations especially attractive. Kavad adds that Thailand, Vietnam, Bali, the Middle East and even budget-friendly European destinations such as Georgia are seeing strong demand. "These places offer easier visas, competitive pricing and strong availability of group packages, which appeal to travellers from non-metro regions," he says.

Malti Chahar's

Blue Ombre Look Proves Her Bigg Boss 19 Style Run Was No Fluke

Malti Chahar's stint as a wildcard entrant on Bigg Boss 19 instantly grabbed attention. While her nonchalant attitude inside the house became a major talking point, her style also made waves on the internet. Her looks were among the most stylish of the season, and she continues to slay with her fashion choices even now. Proof of that is her latest Instagram post, which once again has fans taking notes.

Malti Chahar Stuns As A 'Blue Beauty' In Her Latest Instagram Post

Malti shared a series of pictures of herself in a stunning cobalt-to-navy blue ombre dress. The strapless outfit features a pleated bodice with a cutout design, held together by gold circular accents, and a flowy, micro-pleated skirt. She kept her accessories minimal, pairing the look with gold bangles, earrings, and rings. Her makeup was subtle, perfectly complementing her sleek, straight blowout hairstyle.

Her caption read, "A little sky, a little sea, a lot of me." Malti's brother and cricketer, Deepak Chahar, added a blue-heart emoji on her post. The Bigg Boss 19 contestants replied to his comment, "Dude!! Your sister is so butterfly." Reacting to Malti's stylish post, a user wrote, "Calm, confident, and captivating in blue." Another one added, "Please upload some casuals also along with photoshoots. You look so good in natural photos." Someone commented, "Am I dreaming? Because such a heavenly beauty can exist only in dreams." An individual remarked, "Unreal beauty! Gorgeous Malti."

Another Stylish Look

Malti is truly a stunner. Another post of hers was equally

captivating. She opted for a black, full-length halter-neck gown with a daring plunging neckline, striking the perfect balance between elegance and boldness. The minimal gold detailing around the neckline added a subtle touch of glamour.

True to her style, she kept the accessories understated, letting her flawless face card and statement dress steal the spotlight. Her sleek, straight hair framed her look beautifully, while the dewy makeup enhanced her natural glow and perfectly complemented the ensemble. Her Instagram feed is full of stunning looks that clearly reflect her sense of style. Each outfit speaks for itself, making her fashion choices easy to admire. Her looks are definitely ones that fashionistas can take notes from.



Nidhhi Agerwal

Calls Prabhas A 'Darling,' Says He Has A Very King-Like Personality

Actor Nidhhi Agerwal, who recently starred with Prabhas in *The Raja Saab*, has spoken about the *Baahubali* star, and while calling him a "darling," she shared that he is someone who doesn't judge people. Speaking to *India Today*, Nidhhi Agerwal shared, "I think everything people say about him is true, that he's a darling, that he has a very king-like personality, and that he treats people kindly. People also say he's very quiet and mostly talks to people he knows or is comfortable with, and that's true."

Calling him an introvert, Nidhhi added, "Once you meet him and start talking to him, he's one of the sweetest, most non-judgmental people you can have a conversation with. He's not exactly what people think at first; he's just a bit shy and selective."

Earlier, in an interview, Nidhhi shared her experience of working with Prabhas. The actress praised him and said, "All heroes in the industry have dupes to perform stunts. But in *The Raja Saab*, there wasn't much action in my scenes, and I got to act with the real Prabhas!"

Prabhas and Nidhhi Pose With Korean Heart

Symbol
On Sunday, Nidhhi took to Instagram to share a selfie with Prabhas. The picture captures the duo posing with the Korean heart symbol, made by crossing the index finger and thumb to form a small heart. This gesture, popular among K-pop stars, actors, and fans, symbolises love and appreciation. In the caption, she wrote, "This is not AI," followed by a smiling emoji and the hashtag of their film.

About The Raja Saab

Prabhas stars in the horror-comedy *The Raja Saab*, which also features Malavika Mohanan, Nidhhi Agerwal, Riddhi Kumar, Samuthirakan, Sanjay Dutt, Boman Irani, and others. Aside from *The Raja Saab*, Prabhas has another release this year, *Fauzi*.

Combining domestic and overseas figures, *The Raja Saab* closed its first three days with a ₹158 crore worldwide gross. For a film that lost momentum quickly, the number still places it comfortably above several recent big releases. The weekend total has already pushed the film past *Balakrishna's Akhanda 2*, which finished its run at around ₹128 crore, and *Mirai*, which collected close to ₹150 crore globally.



Nupur Sanon And Stebin Ben Get Married In Hindu Ceremony Following White Wedding



After tying the knot in a beautiful white wedding, Nupur Sanon and Stebin Ben got married in a stunning Hindu wedding in Udaipur. The first video from the Hindu wedding ceremony has surfaced on social media, and it looked nothing short of a fairytale. Nupur Sanon looked stunning in a heavily embroidered red and orange lehenga, while Stebin Ben complemented her in a light beige sherwani. The video shows them beaming with joy and smiling ear to ear as they celebrate their union.

Nupur Sanon and Stebin Ben White Wedding

Taking to her Instagram, both Stebin and Nupur shared the first picture after their wedding ceremony concluded. In the first pic, Stebin and Nupur were seen sharing a sweet kiss after the wedding. While sharing the picture, Stebin captioned the post, "I did. I do. I will. Always & forever...". As soon as the couple dropped the pictures, friends from the industry started congratulating them. However, it was Kriti who took to her Instagram Stories and shared the cutest wish for her baby sister. Kriti reshared the post on her Instagram Stories and wrote, "My heart is full! Love, happiness, blessings. #StebinNupur."

About the Ceremony

Kriti Sanon was present throughout the celebrations, standing by her sister's side. Also spotted in Udaipur was Kriti's rumoured boyfriend, Kabir Babiya, who joined the family for the wedding events. Adding to the buzz were close friends of the bride, including actors Disha Patani and Mouni Roy, both of whom were seen attending the celebrations.

The couple hosted a lively haldi ceremony that seamlessly transitioned into a high-energy sangeet night. The highlight of the evening was the spirited performances by sisters Kriti Sanon and Nupur Sanon, which added an extra dose of joy to the celebrations. Videos from the sangeet have been widely shared across Reddit and other social platforms. One particularly popular clip features Kriti dancing alongside the bride and their girl gang to Sajanji Vari Vari. Earlier videos from Stebin Ben and Nupur Sanon's haldi ceremony had already set social media buzzing, with Kriti Sanon and the soon-to-be-married couple stealing the spotlight. In the clips, the trio is seen dancing energetically to the dhol beats, fully soaking in the joy of the moment.

Dhurandhar's Saumya Tandon Enters Sooraj Barjatya's Yeh Prem Mol Liya Cast With Ayushmann Khurrana, Sharvari



After making a strong impression with her recent big-screen outing, Saumya Tandon is gearing up for another notable project. The actor, who was last seen in *Dhurandhar*, has now joined the cast of Sooraj Barjatya's upcoming film *Yeh Prem Mol Liya*. The romantic drama stars Ayushmann Khurrana and Sharvari in the lead roles and is already drawing attention for its casting choices. According to sources close to the entertainment portal PinkVilla, Saumya's addition significantly strengthens the film's ensemble and marks an important step forward in the project's journey.

Saumya Tandon's Acclaimed Turn In Dhurandhar

Saumya recently earned appreciation for her restrained and emotionally layered performance in *Dhurandhar*.

She played Ulfat Rehman, the wife of Akshay Khanna's character, a role that stood out for its quiet intensity and emotional maturity. Her portrayal added depth to the narrative and reminded audiences of her versatility as a performer. Following this well-received performance, her casting in *Yeh Prem Mol Liya* feels like a natural progression, placing her in a film helmed by one of Hindi cinema's most trusted storytellers.

Inside Sooraj Barjatya's Yeh Prem Mol Liya

With *Yeh Prem Mol Liya*, Sooraj Barjatya returns to the romance and family-drama space that has long defined his cinematic identity. Known for emotionally rooted storytelling and relationship-driven narratives, Barjatya's new film pairs Ayushmann Khurrana—celebrated for his unconventional and layered choices—with Sharvari, who continues to carve a niche with diverse roles.

Saumya Tandon's inclusion brings a balance of experience and emotional gravitas to the cast, hinting at a character that could play a key role in shaping the film's emotional arc. While official details remain under wraps, the project is steadily building buzz ahead of further announcements.

Finish before buying new products

One of the best ways to ensure that you do not waste your old products is by using them until they are completely empty. For example, if you have a moisturiser left, squeeze it until there is nothing left in it anymore. Often when you do not finish a product, it keeps lying in your makeup kitty and with time it expires.

Stop yourself from impulse purchases

The only reason why your old products finds its way behind the new ones is because more often than not, women tend to buy beauty products simply on an impulse. If you already have a shade of red lipstick, wait for it to get over and then get another one of the same shade, rather than accumulating six lipsticks of the same colour scheme.

Try out samples before you buy

Trying out product samples before making a final purchase can



6 ways to avoid wasting Beauty Products

prevent you from getting a skin rash or any other kind of skin inflammation. Further, you may also realise that you do not want to use the product because either the colour is not what you want or it doesn't go well with your skin complexion. Sampling the product will help you from recklessly purchasing it.

Go for small-sized products

You are bound to pick the larger size when it comes to buying beauty products. Though you cannot pick a small size for every product, like a lipstick, mascara or a lip liner, there are other items that are available in

small sizes. For example, if you want to buy an eye shadow, instead of picking an entire palette, try a palette of one or two shades that will be easier for you to finish.

Check your stock always

Before you begin buying a new product, always check whether you have something similar in your kitty.

Opt for all-in-one items

For those who love to stock on various types of cosmetics and beauty essentials, it is always safe to choose all-in-one products that are not only

How many times have you found yourself checking half finished products lying in your makeup kitty? For most women, even before they finish using a product completely, the urge to buy a new one takes form with the old product being pushed right behind the new ones. Here are a few ways to make sure that you do not waste your old products.

Myths debunked 8 skincare

The truth and the fiction behind getting supple skin

Washing your face will cure acne:

You may have heard this way too many times, but washing your face constantly throughout the day does not aid in reducing acne. In fact, it strips your skin of essential oil and makes your skin extremely dry and parched and susceptible only to acne. Restrict to washing your face only twice or thrice in a day.

**Scrubbing often reduces excess oil on the face:**

It is believed that if you have oily skin, scrubbing your face twice or thrice in a week will reduce the excess sebum. But this is not true. In fact, scrubbing your face more often might end up bruising your skin and in turn cause blemishes or pimples.

Pimples reduce with age:

Most women believe that acne mostly happens to women in their teens and early 20s. However, acne has nothing to do with age. Not everyone outgrows it with age. Instead it reduces when you alter your lifestyle and have the right kind of food that

cleanses and detoxifies your system from within.

Do not wear an SPF on a cloudy day:

Just because it is raining heavily, does not mean that you don't require a sunscreen. Going without it even at this time of the year is a complete no-no. Even on a cloudy day, the UV rays of the sun are at its prime and if you go without a sunscreen, you will surely get tanned.

Age spots are signs of getting older:

Age spots or sun spots as popularly known, can occur at any age. The freckle-like spots on the skin are not really age spots, but happen when your skin has been exposed to the harmful UV rays of the sun. The sun-induced discolouration can be only treated by skin treatments that are done by dermatologists.

Makeup can lead to skin breakouts:

It is a popular belief among women that applying too much make-up can cause acne and pigmentation. Though applying a product that does not suit the skin does lead to breakouts, but that's not too often. However, you must choose a product that suits your skin type. Also, look for products that have 'non-comedogenic' or 'non-acneogenic' written on it.

If you have dry skin, drink more water:

It is said that if you have dry skin, drinking more water will bring moisture to your skin. However, drinking water has nothing to do with dry skin. Surely, it does help your face glow and clears toxins from your system but it does not necessarily bring moisture to your skin. When you have more water, it cleanses your system from within, thereby making your skin less prone to any skin-related problems.

Expensive products are better:

It is believed that only expensive brands and products go a long way in keeping your skin healthy and free from any skin-related problems. But the fact is that they almost do the same job that probably a less expensive product would do. It is actually your lifestyle choice and the kind of food on an everyday basis that keeps your system healthy from within.

5 Essential makeup tips for the summer

It is that time of the year again, when the sun relentlessly shines down upon us.



While summer is a great time to experiment with colours and prints, for those of us who like to wear makeup, there is always the fear of sweat, turning your carefully made up face into a pile of melted mush. No one wants concealer streaks down their face now, do they? Here are some tips and tricks which will help you keep your makeup in place during the hot summer months... Sweat is not the only cause for melted makeup, oil too is a major factor. Make sure you use an oil-control facial cleanser or toner to reduce the oil on your face especially the T-zone. Rather than using a foundation, use a tinted concealer or a tinted moisturizer for a light and sheer look. If you have to use

will cling to the powder and not run when you sweat. Plus it will give your lashes a fuller look. Of course, waterresistant mascara works best.

Lipsticks tend to last longer during the summer if you apply a base of foundation first. Stay away from lip gloss and opt for matte finishes or lipstains instead.

