



@thesikhtimes



facebook.com/
thesikhtimes



instagram.com/
qaumipatrika

PUBLISHED FROM
Delhi, Haryana, Uttar
Pradesh, Punjab,
Chandigarh, Himachal
and Jammu

The Sikh Times

National Daily

VISIT:
www.thesikhtimes.in
Email: sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

Vol. 18 No. 75

RNI NO. DELENG/2008/25465

New Delhi, Sunday, 2 August 2026

sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

9654077232

12 pages ₹ 3

Farooq Abdullah, Mirwaiz, others condemn killing of 2 migrant labourers in Kulgam

SRINAGAR. (Agency)

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah, Kashmir's chief cleric Umar Farooq and other leaders on Saturday condemned the killing of two migrant labourers from Chhattisgarh in a terror attack in Kulgam district a day earlier, terming it "utter inhumanity".

"Farooq Abdullah, president of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, and Chief Minister Omar Abdullah unequivocally condemn the barbaric killing of two non-local labourers in the Devsar area of Kulgam," the party said in a post on X.

According to the chief minister's office (CMO), Omar Abdullah has announced an ex gratia relief of Rs 10 lakh for the next of kin of each deceased.

The National Conference said the party extends its deepest condolences to the bereaved families and prays that they find the strength to endure this irreparable loss. "Targeting such vulnerable individuals is an act of utter inhumanity that deserves the strongest condemnation," it said.

Karnataka cabinet expansion: Congress brass keeps leaders guessing

BENGALURU. (Agency)

The expansion of the Karnataka cabinet is turning out to be a whole new ball game with the Congress high command leaving the state leaders guessing.

AICC General Secretary KC Venugopal kept the suspense up, saying the list of those who have made it to the ministry would be known only at the time of swearing-in, likely on Monday evening.

As former CM Siddaramaiah, CM DK Shivakumar and AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge have put forth their list, insisting that at least five MLAs of their choice must be made ministers, the cabinet expansion exercise will likely trigger dissidence if their aspirations are not met, party insiders said.

It is said that Siddaramaiah was frustrated with the way he was made to wait for three to four days in Delhi and not given time to explain his choice.

Shivakumar has proposed that his cabinet should have new faces and two more additional DCM posts, while Kharge wants his Kalyana-Karnataka region adequately represented.

On Thursday evening, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

Andhra setting new record in development: PM after inaugurating projects, airport

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

PM Modi said Andhra Pradesh had set a "new record in development" as he inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth over Rs 17,900 crore across the state, including the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport at Bhogapuram.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said Andhra Pradesh had set a "new record in development" as he inaugurated, dedicated and laid the foundation stone for projects worth over Rs 17,900 crore across the state, asserting that the initiatives would accelerate the vision of a "Swarna Andhra".

Addressing a public meeting in Bhogapuram after launching the projects, PM Modi said the development works reflected the state's rapid pace of growth. "These development works symbolise the rapid pace at which Andhra Pradesh is progressing today. It is a very significant day for the development of Andhra Pradesh and for the vision of a 'Swarna Andhra'," he said.

The Prime Minister's visit was headlined by the inauguration of the Rs 5,000-crore Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport



at Bhogapuram in Vizianagaram district, Andhra Pradesh's third international airport. Named after tribal freedom fighter Alluri Sitarama Raju, the airport has been built in its first phase with a capacity to handle six million passengers annually and is planned to be expanded to

accommodate up to 40 million passengers every year.

Calling the airport a catalyst for regional growth, PM Modi said, "Today, on the very soil where Alluri Sitarama Raju dedicated his life to the cause of tribal welfare, a new airport is being inaugurated in Andhra Pradesh. This airport serves as a runway for the growth of Andhra and the North Andhra region. It is a launchpad for a brighter future for the youth of Andhra."

In an apparent dig at the Congress, the Prime Minister said the NDA government had moved away from the practice of naming airports after "a single family".

"In the past, airports were often named after a single family. We changed this tradition. We named the airport in Ayodhya after Valmiki and the one in Punjab after Sant Ravidas.

Cloudburst triggers flash floods in J&K's Kishtwar, schools shut across Chenab Valley

The intense rainfall, which occurred around 2.30 am, caused flash floods that swept through parts of J&K's Kishtwar district, causing widespread damage to roads and properties.

Jammu. (Agency)

Persistent rain disrupted normal life across the Chenab Valley after a cloudburst triggered flash floods in the Chatroo area of Jammu and Kashmir's Kishtwar district early Saturday. Authorities shut schools in Kishtwar, Doda and Ramban districts, and asked them to hold online classes.

According to officials, the cloudburst struck Chatroo at around 2.30 am and set off flash floods. The sudden deluge left the main market covered with boulders, mud and slush, and made the Kishtwar-Chatroo-Sinthan National Highway inaccessible.



Officials said the cloudburst caused widespread damage in Chatroo, though no loss of life was reported. Union Minister Jitendra Singh said affected shopkeepers and business owners would be given compensation as per the government's

relief norms. At least two vehicles parked along the bank of a local stream were swept away, while several shops and houses were inundated. Singh said he spoke to Kishtwar Deputy Commissioner Pankaj Kumar Sharma shortly after receiving reports of the cloudburst. He said the government had strengthened disaster preparedness in the district after last year's Chasoti cloudburst, which left 63 people, mostly devotees visiting the Machail Mata shrine, dead. Around 30 people who went missing after that incident are still to be traced. He also said the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences has installed one Early.

Mayawati asserts sole authority over BSP ticket distribution, limits nephew's role

The 70-year-old politician also rubbished social media claims that Akash Anand had been given the authority to finalise the candidates. Through her post on X, she clarified Anand's role in the upcoming election.

New Delhi. (Agency)

In the midst of finalising strategies for the upcoming UP assembly election in 2027, the Bahujan Samajwadi Party (BSP) chief, Mayawati, issued a stern message, saying that all the candidates for the upcoming poll will be finalised by her and not by her nephew Akash Anand.

In a post on X, the four-time Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh said, "Whereas, not only in UP alone but across the entire country, wherever Assembly general elections are held from time to time, or Lok Sabha general elections are held in the country, there

too, candidates are given final form by me." In addition to this, she also mentioned that she held several



meetings with the party functionaries in the party's state office in Lucknow and had given necessary directions to them to finalise the names of the candidates at the

state and divisional levels. She also said that she had finalised the names of two dozen candidates by speaking to them and completing other formalities.

The 70-year-old politician also rubbished social media claims that Anand had been given the authority to finalise the candidates. In the post, she also clarified the role of Anand in the upcoming polls.

"For those assembly seats in UP where the party's candidates have been finalised, their announcements are also being made by the party's senior officials by holding small and large public meetings with my permission. Under this, Mr Akash Anand will also announce candidates for some seats.

Akal Takht urges Punjab MLAs to delay anti-sacrilege law changes until consensus

CHANDIGARH. (Agency)

Ahead of the Punjab Assembly's monsoon session beginning on August 3, Akal Takht officiating Jathedar Giani Kuldeep Singh Gargaj has written to Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhawan, Sikh Cabinet ministers and Sikh MLAs across party lines, urging them to ensure that any amendments to the Jaagat Jot Sri Guru Granth Sahib Satkar (Amendment) Act, 2026, are made only in accordance with the sentiments of the Sikh community and the directives of the Akal Takht.

The letters come after the Akal Takht rejected the Punjab government's response to its objections to the anti-sacrilege law and constituted a five-member committee of Sikh experts to facilitate dialogue with the government. The Akal Takht urged legislators not to allow any amendments to the Act during the Assembly session until a consensus is reached with the Akal Takht and the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC). It also asked Sikh legislators to persuade the government to amend the law in line with the concerns raised by the Akal Takht.

The letter accused the government of adopting an "irresponsible approach", alleging that it approached the Akal Takht only after the one-month consultation period had ended and failed to hold any meaningful dialogue. It also alleged that the government accepted only one of the objections raised by the Akal Takht while defending its stand on the remaining issues by referring to rules proposed under the Act.

Amit Shah presents Lokmanya Tilak National Award to NSA Ajit Doval

PUNE. (Agency)

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday presented the Lokmanya Tilak National Award to National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval in Pune. According to the Tilak Smarak Trust, Doval has been selected for the prestigious award for his significant contribution to national security. Doval, 81, has handled crucial assignments in sensitive regions, including Mizoram, Sikkim, Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir. He also served in diplomatic roles at Indian missions in Islamabad and London.

He is the longest-serving National Security Advisor of India. Doval has served as India's special representative for the India-China boundary talks and is also credited with playing an important role in diplomatic efforts that helped resolve the Doklam standoff. Instituted in 1983, the Lokmanya Tilak Award was first conferred on socialist leader S M Joshi, the Trust had said. It is awarded every year on August 1, the death anniversary of freedom fighter Bal Gangadhar Tilak, to individuals who have made a remarkable contribution to the nation's progress and development.



Congress clears 18 names for Karnataka Cabinet expansion, oath likely on Monday

Rahul Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge and other Congress leaders cleared around 16-18 names for the second phase of the Karnataka Cabinet expansion, with the swearing-in ceremony likely to be held at 5 pm on Monday.

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Congress high command moved closer to finalising the long-awaited expansion of the Karnataka Cabinet, with sources saying that around 18 names have been cleared during a meeting at Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge's residence in New Delhi on Friday.

The second phase of the cabinet expansion is now likely to culminate in a swearing-in ceremony at 5 pm on Monday.

The meeting was attended by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, former

minister Siddaramaiah, Congress general secretary KC Venugopal, AICC general secretary in charge of Karnataka Randeep



Singh Surjewala and Karnataka Congress president BK Hariprasad.

According to sources, the leadership cleared 16-18 names from the list submitted by CM Shivakumar, Hariprasad and Siddaramaiah. The new cabinet is expected to include a mix of senior leaders and first-time ministers, with the party seeking to balance caste, regional and religious representation.

According to news agency PTI, the final list is expected to be formally approved by Sunday night or Monday morning, following which the oath-taking ceremony is likely to be held on Monday evening. The expansion had earlier been expected on Friday but was delayed after further consultations among the party's central leadership.

News box

Wife of international kabaddi player Sheelu Balhara dies by suicide

ROHTAK.(Agency)

Muskan Balhara, wife of international kabaddi player Sheelu Balhara, allegedly died by suicide at her residence in Bahu Akbarpur village of Rohtak district on Friday evening.Rohtak SP Gaurav Rajpurohit said an investigation is underway and family members’ statements are being recorded. Balhara was being questioned as well but no official statement had been issued till late Friday night.Muskan’s family members staged a protest outside the house, alleging she was being harassed. A forensic team has inspected the house and collected evidence. Muskan’s body was taken to PGIMS-Rohtak.Muskan, who was from Farmana village in Meham, married Sheelu in Dec 2023. The couple has a nine-month-old son. Sheelu initially trained in judo and wrestling before taking up kabaddi at the age of six.

Man found dead in village pond, police probe on

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A 38-year-old man was found dead in a pond in Sidhrawali on Thursday afternoon, prompting police to initiate inquest proceedings to ascertain the cause of death.According to police, the deceased, Nitin, a resident of Jharsa village, went to visit relatives in Sidhrawali and had been missing since Wednesday night. No missing person complaint was filed in connection with his disappearance.Police reached the spot after being alerted by local residents and recovered the body, which was found floating in a village pond. “During the preliminary examination, we found no visible external injury marks on the body,” a police officer said. He also added that only a further post-mortem will determine the exact cause, which will lead to legal proceedings and a criminal case, if any. Since no complaint has been filed by the family and there is a lack of immediate evidence suggesting a criminal offence, police have initiated proceedings under Section 194 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), which deals with inquest proceedings in cases of unnatural or unexplained deaths, at Bilaspur police station. Police have said that the deceased’s family has not expressed any suspicion of foul play or accused anyone in connection with the death. Investigators are, however, examining all possible circumstances that may have led to the incident. Police are also speaking to family members and local residents to reconstruct Nitin’s movements before he disappeared.

Bikers take risky shortcut through Greater Noida green strip to bypass snarls

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Scores of two-wheeler riders travelling from Greater Noida West to Sector 52 metro station are using an illegal shortcut across a green strip along Vikas Marg during peak morning hours. Between 8 am and 10 am, office-goers and bike taxi riders are regularly seen leaving the main carriageway through a small opening in the road divider just before the Parthala bridge and riding across the unpaved green strip separating the carriageway from the service lane. The route allows commuters to bypass traffic congestion on the busy stretch and rejoin the service road leading towards the metro station. The strip, intended as a buffer between the two roads, has gradually turned into an unofficial thoroughfare. Repeated movement of motorcycles has worn down patches of the green belt, leaving muddy tracks and damaged vegetation. Parts of it are strewn with garbage. The strip is rarely used by pedestrians, but those who do use it are exposed to passing two-wheelers. With no direct Metro connectivity, residents of Greater Noida West rely heavily on Blue Line’s Sector 52 metro station to reach their workplaces in Delhi and beyond, which often leads to heavy congestion on Vikas Marg during office hours, a resident said. Though the violations take place in full public view, traffic personnel posted near the end of the stretch allow riders to continue without intervention. DCP (traffic) Abhay Kumar Mishra said the traffic police will write to the Greater Noida Authority to close the illegal road cut. “Whenever an illegal cut comes to our notice, we immediately write to the Authority to have it closed or take corrective action. Many such illegal cuts have been closed in the past,” Mishra said.

Councillor’s husband assaults techie couple over garbage row in Gurgaon

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A case was registered on Friday against the husband of a councillor for assaulting a couple with sticks in Sector-67A.Manish Harsana, husband of BJP councillor from ward number 15 Bharti, allegedly attacked Prayag Varshney (34) and Shalini Gupta (34) — both software engineers — on Thursday after they objected to garbage lying outside a temple at a residential society.The incident, which took place between 11pm and 11.50pm at Ansal Versalia society, was captured on CCTV cameras. No arrest has been made yet.Prayag told police that he was repeatedly struck on his head, hands and legs with sticks before society residents intervened

and stopped the assault. He said the attackers warned residents not to interfere and threatened to beat them up as well. The FIR, registered at Sector 65 police station, says that Shalini was threatened, assaulted and misbehaved with during the incident. Prayag, according to his medico-legal report, suffered six injuries, including on his chest, left elbow, left flank, left temporal region, head and left leg. “Manish knows me for a long time but I was surprised by his act as he did not stop his men from attacking me. He along with his men repeatedly assaulted us. It could have caused us serious injuries but we ran to save our lives,” Prayag told TOI.Manish didn’t respond to calls from TOI for a comment.The case was registered



under sections 115 (voluntarily causing hurt), 190 (unlawful assembly), 191(3) (rioting) and 351(2) (criminal intimidation) of BNS against Manish.According to th FIR, Prayag said that he and his wife Shalini had

stepped out for a post-dinner walk around 10pm when they asked a group of village men sitting near the temple to remove the garbage lying in front of it. The said plot is near their house too. The men called Manish. Prayag told police that Manish soon arrived with seven to eight men. Following a brief argument, Manish and his associates abused the couple and threatened them.The group warned the couple to leave immediately, saying they did not know “the villagers” and would be beaten up if they did not leave. When Prayag asked them to speak politely, Manish slapped him. As his wife tried to intervene, two to three men pushed her.Prayag said that after he and his wife raised an alarm, the accused chased him and assaulted him.

30% of Gurgaon voters not in draft electoral rolls, highest in Haryana

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Nearly one in every three registered voters in Gurgaon has been left out of the draft electoral roll published on Friday under Election Commission’s special intensive revision (SIR), giving the district the highest percentage of omissions in Haryana.Official data shows Gurgaon had 15.5 lakh registered voters as of June 1. The draft roll, however, contains only around 11 lakh names, leaving over 4.5 lakh electors out because enumeration forms were not submitted during the door-to-door verification drive. While Faridabad has a higher number of omissions at around 5 lakh, it also has a larger electorate. But percentage-wise, Gurgaon has the steepest drop in the state — almost 30%.Together, the twin NCR districts of Gurgaon and

Faridabad account for nearly 9.5 lakh of the 33.8 lakh voters flagged for deletion across Haryana — about 28% of the state’s proposed omissions.District election officer and deputy commissioner Uttam Singh urged residents to verify their names immediately, saying eligible voters left out of the draft roll can file claims and objections between July 31 and Aug 30. “No eligible voter should miss this opportunity. Claims and objections received during this period will be examined before the final electoral roll is published on Oct 3,” he said.The figures also reflect the challenges that marked the SIR exercise in Gurgaon. TOI had earlier reported that booth level officers (BLOs) struggled to contact residents in gated societies, high-rise apartments and corporate hubs, where many houses remained

locked, occupants had shifted, or people were simply reluctant to fill enumeration forms. High migration, frequent job-related movement and poor response during repeated visits slowed the exercise compared with other districts.Officials said the 4.5 lakh voters fall under the “uncollected/ASDD” category, which means that their enumeration forms were not received during the verification drive. Separately, 2.2 lakh voter records have anomalies requiring scrutiny, while another 19,206 electors are yet to be mapped to polling stations. These voters will receive notices and will have to submit supporting documents with electoral registration officers before the final roll is prepared.For eligible voters whose names are missing, the process is still open.

Funds’ diversion: Rs 782cr assets of Raheja Developers attached

Nuh.(Agency)

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has provisionally attached immovable assets worth ₹782 crore belonging to Raheja Developers under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, escalating its probe into alleged diversion of homebuyers’ funds by the real estate company.With this latest action, the total value of assets attached in the case has reached nearly ₹2,399 crore, making it one of the largest attachment proceedings linked to alleged misuse of funds collected from homebuyers. The provisional attachment order was



issued by ED’s Delhi zonal office in connection with its investigation against Raheja Developers, its director

Navin M Raheja, and other associated persons. The probe is based on multiple FIRs registered by Economic Offences Wing (EoW) of Delhi Police following complaints from homebuyers, who alleged they were cheated after investing in the company’s residential projects. According to ED, Raheja Developers collected around ₹2,426 crore from nearly 4,600 homebuyers across several housing projects. The agency said a substantial portion of the money was diverted instead of being used for construction and completion of the projects, leaving thousands of buyers waiting for possession.

Ghaziabad man kills brother to transfer tractor to his name, arrested

Noida.(Agency)

A 26-year-old man was arrested in Masuri on Friday for allegedly murdering his elder brother to get a tractor transferred to his name. Police said a security guard at the PWD executive engineer’s office in Adhyatmik Nagar, Masuri, informed the cops that a body of a man had been found in the bushes next to the office. A blood-stained stone had been placed on his chest. A police team reached the spot and took the body into custody. The body was unidentifiable as there were injury marks and blood all over his face.ACP Masuri Sunil Kumar said it was evident from the initial investigation that the murderer had tried to destroy the facial features of the man by repeatedly bashing his face with the stone and then dumped the body in the bushes. He added that teams made efforts to identify the man, but there were no missing complaints that matched the description of the deceased.An FIR



was registered against an unidentified person under BNS section 103 for murder based on the complaint of the Garden Enclave chowki in charge sub-inspector Prem Singh. Police formed three teams and they scanned through

hours of CCTV footage, conducted patrol searches and even distributed photo pamphlets. On July 30, they finally identified the deceased as Muradnagar resident Monu Singh (42). “When we started looking into his

background, the name of his younger brother Sukhvir Singh (26) came up,” the ACP said.

THE SIKH TIMES

Edited, Printed, Published
Owned by Simmi Babbar
N - 31, Dr. Mukherjee Nagar
Delhi-110009

Printed at Qaumi Patrika Printing
Press, A-4/A-144, Tronica City
(Loni), Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh)

Corporate Office:
5, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
Press Area, ITO, New Delhi
Editor-in-Chief
Gurcharan Singh Babbar
Mob : 9654077232, 9971359517
Website : www.thesikhetimes.in
Email : sikhetimesindia@gmail.com

RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465

22-week-old premature baby survives miraculously, discharged home safely

New Delhi: A baby girl weighing 525 gm at birth at a private hospital in the national capital has now been discharged in good health with a weight of 2.010 kg — said to be a rare survival feat, not just for the Delhi NCR region but for the entire country. Dr Jay Kishore, Senior Neonatologist at Cloudbine Hospital, Patparganj, led his team to script medical history — successfully discharged the baby born at a gestational age of just 22 weeks and 5 days, after a remarkable 105-day NICU journey. Dr Kishore said, "This survival is a testament to medical precision, team dedication, and the parents' unshakeable faith. Extreme prematurity is a major challenge, but when science and compassion work together, miracles happen." The parents, who had long battled infertility and suffered a miscarriage after

their first IVF attempt, conceived again through IVF. However, their joy turned into anxiety when premature labour began



at just 22 weeks and 5 days — a perivable stage where survival rates are exceedingly low. Against all odds, the baby was delivered, intubated immediately, and resuscitated in the delivery room. Despite being counselled about the poor prognosis, the parents

placed their trust in Dr Kishore's expertise and opted for full intensive care support. The team provided round-the-clock,

(MOM) was introduced, and by day 10, the baby was successfully weaned off invasive ventilation. After prolonged non-inva-

entire NICU stay, not a single drop of formula milk was used. The care approach included developmentally supportive care, kangaroo mother care, and exclusive use of mother's milk, which played a critical role in the baby's growth and neurological development. Cranial ultrasounds before discharge were normal, and LASER treatment for Zone 2 Plus ROP was successfully completed. Dr Kishore said, "A perfect triad of medical excellence, nursing dedication, and parental trust. At 22 weeks, survival is not just about machines or medicines — it's about a system that refuses to give up. Our nurses, associate consultants, and the parents stood by every single day

Delhi govt announces Rs 6K monthly aid for persons with disabilities

New Delhi: The Delhi Government has announced a special financial assistance scheme for persons with disabilities requiring high support, under which eligible beneficiaries would receive Rs 6,000 per month. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the initiative aims to ensure dignity and security for persons with disabilities and their families. Approved earlier by the Delhi Cabinet, the scheme would be formally inaugurated tomorrow by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday. The financial support would be directly transferred to Aadhaar-linked bank accounts of beneficiaries and can be used to cover the cost of caregivers, therapies, counselling, assistive devices and other essential services. According to the Chief Minister, individuals with at least 40 per cent disability who are certified as having "High Support Needs" — with a score between 60 and 100 by the District-level Assessment Board — would be eligible for the scheme. Applicants must also be residents of Delhi for at least five years, have a family income below Rs 1 lakh annually, and complete Aadhaar-linked verification. Registrations and applications would be processed online through the government's e-District portal. Calling the move a "historic decision" for one of the most vulnerable sections of society, Gupta said, "This initiative of our government is dedicated to persons with disabilities. We aim to ensure they receive the necessary support and resources to meet their essential needs."

15 years on, man held from Gujarat for murdering wife

New Delhi: The Delhi Police claimed to have solved a 15-year-old murder case with the arrest of a man, who killed his wife in a fit of rage over domestic fights in Northwest Delhi's Jahangirpuri, they said on Friday. The accused, Narotam Prasad, was arrested from Chhota Udaipur area in Vadodra, Gujarat, where he was working as a manager at a cotton factory by hiding his identity. He killed his wife and wrote a fake suicide note to make it appear as a suicide. The case dates back to May 31, 2010, when the police received information about a foul smell from a house in Delhi's Jahangirpuri. When the police broke open the door, they found the decomposed body of a 25-year-old woman lying on the floor. They also recovered a suicide note from the crime scene. As the investigation began, the police laid their suspicion on Prasad (victim's husband), who was on the run. The police later declared him a proclaimed offender and announced and wrote a fake suicide note to make it appear as a suicide. The case dates back to May 31, 2010, when the police received information about a foul smell from a house in Delhi's Jahangirpuri. When the police broke open the door, they found the decomposed body of a 25-year-olda reward of Rs 10,000 for his arrest. Following a tip-off regarding his whereabouts and using technical surveillance, the police arrest him. Prasad is a resident of Sikar in Rajasthan. During interrogation, he revealed that quarrels between him and his wife escalated shortly after their marriage.

NAME CHANGE

I, ABDUL TAWWAB S/O Shri Abdul Rehman Resident of House No. C-16, Abhimanyu Gali, Near Babu Ram Chowk, Arjun Mohalla, Moujpur, Delhi-110053 have changed my name ABDUL TAUWAB to ABDUL TAWWAB for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, SIDDHARTH RANA S/O BHAGWAN RANA residing at H.No-1074, SIRASPUR, DELHI-110042 have changed my name to SIDDHARTH RANA for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE

I Kapil Kumar Yadav S/o Dinesh Yadav R/o House No-523 P, Sector-14, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, Have Changed My Name To Kapil Yadav For All Purpose

NAME CHANGE

I, Pradeep Kumar S/o Prem Chand R/o D-754/A, Gali No.1, Ashok Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110093 have changed the name of my minor son from Arjun to Arjun Vaidwan.

NAME CHANGE

I, Anupama D/o Pradeep Kumar R/o D-754/A, Gali No.1, Ashok Nagar, Shahdara, Delhi-110093 have changed my name to Anupama Chaudhary.

NAME CHANGE

I, VINOD KUMAR S/O UDAY SINGH residing at FLAT NO-G-3/8, NEAR DDA WATER TANK, SECTOR-4, ROHINI, DELHI-110085 have changed my name to VINOD KUMAR KUSHWAHA for all future purpose.

NAME CHANGE

I Manoj Ram S/o Ram Bilash Ram R/o Flat No-6, Tower-8, Harmela Street, IRIS, Vatika City, Sector-49, Gurgaon, Haryana-122018, Have Changed My Name To Manoj Kumar For All Purpose

NAME CHANGE

I Taran Preet Singh Kochhar S/o Manpreet Singh Kochhar R/o 10C/80 SFS Flats Green View Apartment Mayapuri Road Hari Nagar West Delhi-110064 Have Changed My Given Name Taranpreet Singh and Surname Kochhar for all purpose.

NAME CHANGE

I, DEEPAK KUMAR VERMA S/O PARTAP SINGH resident of H.No.16, Tara Nagar Main Kakrola Road, Kakrola, South West Delhi, Delhi-110078 have changed the name of my minor daughter SHREYA ALIAS SHREYA VERMA aged 13 years, and she shall hereafter be known as SHREYA VERMA.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as SAMEERA SINGH, D/O SUDHIR KUMAR SINGH residing at Flat No-1058, River Heights, Raj Nagar, Extension, Tower-15, Ghaziabad, U.P.-201001, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SAMEERA SINGH AMETHIA.

NAME CHANGE

I, Sushma D/O Shambu Prasad Dharama W/O Vinod Kumar R/O B-6 Police Colony Mandir Marg New Delhi 110001 Have changed my name to Sushma Badola for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I Swaran Kaur Sawhney W/o Prith Pal Singh R/o 10C/80 SFS Flats Green View Apartment Mayapuri Road Hari Nagar West Delhi-110064 Have Changed My Name to Swaran Kaur for all purpose.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as Farman S/o Akeel Ahmed R/o B 272/27, Gali No-4, Subhash Mohalla North Ghonda, Garhi Mendu, Bhajan Pura, North East, Delhi-110053 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Farman Ahmed.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as Atif S/o Manzoor Khan R/o 1/99-C, 4/F, Gali No-5, Guru Harkrishan School Wali Gali, Katbir Nagar, Gokalpur, North East Delhi, Delhi-110094 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Atif Khan.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as Sanam Kumari W/o Samarjeet Gupta R/o E-400-D, Block-E, Ashok Nagar, Vasundhara Enclave, East Delhi, Delhi, Delhi-110096 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sanam Sav.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as Laxman Yadav alias Bhavikshan Yadav S/O Bechan Yadav R/o Gram Debra, Post Bela, Thana Babubari, Ward No-02, Bela, PO Bela, Dist. Madhubani, Bihar-847224 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Bhavikshna Yadav.

Students protest over iron gates near V-C office at Ambedkar varsity

New Delhi: Ambedkar University turned into a site of spirited protest on Tuesday, as students rallied against the administration's move to install permanent iron gates around key campus areas, including the Vice-Chancellor's office, the museum, the IT lab and the canteen. The demonstration, organised by the All India Students' Association (AISA), began near the university library, where students gathered under the "protest tree", raising slogans and singing protest songs. Marching towards the main gate, they called for an immediate halt to the construction and demanded the reopening of spaces they claim are being unfairly restricted. "Today a protest is being organised in Ambedkar University, Delhi, opposing the installation of iron gates that is being done to syphon off the administration area and the VC Office at the Kashmere Gate campus," students said. The dispute dates back to April, when temporary barricades were erected following the suspension of a student who had criticised the Vice-Chancellor's Republic Day speech. Since then, the university's main gate has remained closed, forcing students to use a back route that they describe as unsafe due to poor lighting and reported incidents of harassment. "A large part of an already small campus has remained inaccessible to the students, wherein the student-facing offices have been shifted so that the rest of the administration can be distanced from the students. This barricading has also led to a longer route to the canteen, meaning students have no access to the VC Office and administration area," said Prerna, AISA president at Ambedkar University. Students say they noticed construction work beginning on Monday and allege that the university is now installing iron gates to permanently block access to these areas, with the work expected to be completed within days. Prerna (PhD, women's and gender studies) and Aameen (PhD, urban studies) met with the university Proctor to press their demands. However, the Proctor reportedly told them the installation of the gates was "non-negotiable." Students say they remain determined to continue their protests until the campus is "open and accessible once again."

3 militants arrested in Manipur's Imphal; firearm, cash recovered

Imphal: Two active members of the banned People's Liberation Army were arrested from Khurai Lamlong and Porompat areas on Thursday, he said. A firearm, ammunition and unaccounted cash of Rs 60,300 were recovered from their possession. They were accused of being involved in extortion from schools, brick-making units, hospitals and pharmacies in Imphal East, police said. SC doesn't interfere in policy matters of economic considerations: CJI BR Gava. Security forces have been conducting search operations in Manipur since ethnic violence broke out two years ago. More than 260 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Meiteis and Kuki-Zo groups since May 2023. The Centre had imposed the President's rule in Manipur after Chief Minister N Biren Singh resigned. The state Assembly, which has a tenure till 2027, has been put under suspended animation.

7-day-old baby sold for Rs 1.5 lakh, 2 arrested

Gurugram: The police arrested a eunuch and her partner for attempting to sell a seven-day-old baby boy for Rs 1.5 lakh in Sector 57. The accused who sold the child had lodged a complaint of kidnapping to mislead the police, but they were arrested and the child was rescued. According to the police, a eunuch residing in a slum near Saraswati Kunj had lodged a complaint claiming that she had adopted a newborn baby boy from her neighbour Phulo Devi on August 18. She alleged that on August 24, she handed the baby over to her neighbour, Kajal, before leaving him. Upon her

return, Kajal claimed the infant had been kidnapped by an unknown person and that her mobile phone had also been stolen. The police swung into action and arrested two accused from Wazirbad's Dhani within just nine hours. The police recovered the newborn baby and the stolen mobile from the possession of the accused. The accused were identified as Layak Sheikh (28), a native of west Bengal and eunuch Kajal, a native of Bihar. During interrogation, it was revealed that the alleged kidnapping was,

in fact, a pre-planned conspiracy. Investigators found that Sheikh, who has been living in the area for five years, was desperate for a child. He had struck a deal with Kajal, offering between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 1.5 lakh in exchange for a baby. Kajal then took advantage of the situation by handing over the newborn that had been adopted by her fellow eunuch. Sheikh reportedly wrapped the infant in a blanket and took him away.

NAME CHANGE

I, S VANITHA W/o No. 14838283N Rank-HAV/MT Name- RAMESH P R/o VILL-SEDRAMPUTTU, PO-SEDRAMPUTTU, TEH-POLLUR, DIST-THIRUVANNAMALAI, TAMIL NADU-632315, have changed my name from S VANITHA to VANITHA R for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 15/07/2025 before Notary Public, Kupwara.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHISH KUMAR RATHOR S/O PURAN LAL R/O Q-48, RAJEEV NAGAR BEGUM PUR, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110086, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAZA-AHMED.

ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT AT KATHIAR DIVISION

E-Tender Notice No. KIR-N-2026-K-20 Dated: 30-07-2026. Works tenders through "E" Tendering system for and on behalf of the president of India are invited for the works as detailed below:- **Name of work:** Annual Maintenance Contract of Railway owned 2x24 optical fiber Cable in ABS Section of Aluabari Road-Ambari Falakata for three years. **Tender Value:** ₹66,50,233.80/- **Earnest Money:** ₹1,33,000/- **Date & time of closing of tender:** At 15.00 hrs. & opening at 15.30 hrs. on 21-08-2026. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. on 21-08-2026. in the website www.ireps.gov.in **DRM (S&T), Kathiar** **NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY** *Serving Customers With A Smile*

NAME CHANGE

I, SH AUTAR SINGH Father of JC-41367X Rank-SUB MAJ Name-BHAGAT SINGH presently residing at VILL-BILTIYA, SUKOLI TALUK, PO-DHAUNTIAL, DIST-PAURI GARHWAL, UTTARAKHAND-246155 have changed my name from SH AUTAR SINGH to AVTAR SINGH for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 12/03/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, NO-17007475L Rank-NK Name-JITENDRA GANGWAR S/O LATE NIRANJAN LAL GANGWAR R/O WARD NO-11, MOHALLA GYASPUR, NEAR BANGALI BABA MANDIR, BILASPUR, PILLIBHIT, UTTAR PRADESH-262201 have changed my minor son's name from DAKSH GANGWAR to YASH GANGWAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 05/09/2023 before Notary Public, Delhi.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, BALJEET SINGH S/O GURCHARAN SINGH R/o 12/32, Geeta Colony, East Delhi-110031 declare that name of mine, my wife and my minor daughter has been wrongly written as BALJEET SINGH CHUGH, GURPREET KAUR CHUGH, JASLEEN KAUR CHUGH in my minor daughter JASLEEN KAUR aged 16 years in her 10th class Educational Documents. The actual name of mine, my wife and my minor daughter are BALJEET SINGH, GURPREET KAUR and JASLEEN KAUR respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

NAME CHANGE

I, Kulsum w/o Rozuddin R/o B-17, Gali No.3A, Near Mohalla Dilshad Masjid, Old Mustafabad, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to Kulsoom for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I Swaran Kaur Sawhney W/o Prith Pal Singh R/o 10C/80 SFS Flats Green View Apartment Mayapuri Road Hari Nagar West Delhi-110064 Have Changed My Name to Swaran Kaur for all purpose.

NAME CHANGE

I Tajinder Kaur W/o Jaspreet Singh Baweja R/o 524/3 Ramjas Road Karol Bagh Delhi -110005 Have Changed My Name To Tajinder Kaur Baweja For All Purpose.

NAME CHANGE

I Sarve Preet Kaur Kochhar S/o Manpreet Singh Kochhar R/o 10C/80 SFS Flats Green View Apartment Mayapuri Road Hari Nagar West Delhi-110064 Have Changed My Given Name Sarvepreet kaur and Surname Kochhar for all purpose.

NORTHERN RAILWAY	
Tender Notice	
Name of Work and its location	96-SRDEE-G-DL-2026-27 Replacement of overhead network by underground cables and improvement/upgradation of power supply network at DKZ.
Approx. cost of the works in	₹ 14821054.00/-
Address of the Office	Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, DRM Office, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055
Earnest Money	Rs. 296400.00/-
Last Date & time of submission of tender	21.08.2026, 16.00 Hrs.
Opening of tender	21.08.2026, 16.00 Hrs.
Website & notice board	www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
2639/2026	
Serving Customers With A Smile	

E-AUCTION LEASING FOR PARCEL SPACE			
E-Auction contract for leasing of SLRs for 3 years in trains originating from Lumding Division. Description: Parcel Space in SLR Coach (Single compartment), Rate Unit: Per Trip Licensing Fee.			
Auction Catalogue No. Lease-LMG-28-26			
Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Trips	
AA/1	55669-SLR-F1-SCL-SANG-26-5 (Parcel-SLR)	783	
AA/2	15621-SLR-F1-KYQ-ANVT-25-1 (Parcel-SLR)	157	
AA/3	15603-SLR-F2-GHY-LEDO-25-2 (Parcel-SLR)	1096	
AA/4	15617-SLR-F2-GHY-DLCR-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	470	
AA/5	13126-SLR-F1-SANG-KOAA-25-1 (Parcel-SLR)	470	
AA/6	15610-SLR-F1-SANG-GHY-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	1096	
AA/7	12505-SLR-F1-KYQ-ANVT-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	1096	
AA/8	15617-SLR-F1-GHY-DLCR-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	470	
AA/9	22449-SLR-F1-GHY-NDLS-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	313	
AA/10	15613-SLR-F1-GHY-MZS-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	1096	
AA/11	13182-SLR-F1-SHTT-KOAA-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	157	
Auction Start Date & Time: 11.00 hrs. & Closing at: 13.10 hrs. on 14-08-2026. Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Lot wise closing time can be viewed in e-Auction module of IREPS.			
Note: Prospective bidders are requested to visit E-Auction Leasing Module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in for more details.			
Divisional Railway Manager (C), Lumding			
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY			
Serving Customers With A Smile			

He Was Called The "Nostradamus" Of AI, Then His Fund Lost Billions Within Days

World.(Agency)

He was hailed as the "Nostradamus" of AI - a young oracle with a bold prophecy for the future. "Before long, the world will wake up," Leopold Aschenbrenner, tech-seer-turned-hedge-fund-manager, predicted in 2024. This week, it did - but not in the way Aschenbrenner had foreseen. In a blink, his wildly successful hedge fund, Situational Awareness, was forced to sell billions of dollars of technology investments that had rapidly lost value, as nervous banks began to demand more and more collateral for his trades. Then came billionaire Ken Griffin.

In less than 24 hours - which included a conversation between Griffin and Aschenbrenner - Griffin's Citadel hedge fund reached out to Situational Awareness and snapped up the investments at a discount, according to a person familiar with the matter who asked not to be identified citing private information.It was a startling reversal for Aschenbrenner, a former researcher at OpenAI who - before starting his hedge fund roughly two years ago - had no previous investment experience. His fledgling firm has watched its assets plunge from \$45 billion at the start of July to about \$10 billion.The development puts Situational Awareness - named after a viral essay that Aschenbrenner posted in 2024 about the future of artificial intelligence - on a new and uncertain course, and hands Griffin, a seasoned finance veteran, stakes in major AI players.Still, as the dust settles on Aschenbrenner's chaotic week, it looks like the 20-something is still set to come out only bruised. He continues to run one of the biggest equity hedge funds in the world. And in just two days, he'll wed his fiancée - the chief of staff to the CEO at Anthropic PBC - at a venue in California's Carmel Valley.

Who Is Citadel Founder Ken Griffin, Wall Street's Billionaire Rescue Buyer

world.(Agency)

When rival hedge funds face catastrophic losses, billionaire investor Ken Griffin has a habit of identifying opportunities and showing up with a Citadel's founder this week reprised his role as one of Wall Street's rescue buyers, stepping in to salvage California hedge fund Situational Awareness as it buckled under souring bets on artificial intelligence stocks.Amid market rumblings that at least one firm was in trouble, Griffin, 57, assembled his top lieutenants to investigate, according to five people with knowledge of the matter. By Wednesday morning, Citadel executives had reached out to Situational Awareness, and Griffin spoke directly with Leopold Aschenbrenner, the fund's young founder and a former OpenAI researcher.Together with Citadel co-Chief Investment Officer Pablo Salame, Chief Operating Officer Gerald Beeson, Perry Vais, its head of equity quantitative research, and Chief Legal Officer Shawn Fagan, Griffin pulled an all-nighter to analyze the trading book positions of Situational Awareness and how liquid the bets were, the sources said.After a selloff in AI stocks, the Situational Awareness portfolio lost 67% of its value in July, and the fund was forced to unwind most of its \$16 billion public equities book. By Thursday, Citadel had bought a chunk of its book.

Man Pulled From Ocean After Falling Off California Cliff, Rescue Caught On Camera

world.(Agency)

A dramatic rescue operation in California saved a critically injured man after he fell from a cliff into the ocean. Fire officials later shared video showing rescue teams working together to pull him out of the water and take him to safety, reported People.On Thursday, July 30, the San Diego Fire Department (SDFD) released footage of the rescue, which happened shortly after 7:50 pm on Tuesday, July 28, at Pappy's Point in Sunset Cliffs, a popular scenic viewing area in San Diego.According to SDFD, the man had been climbing the face of the cliff and reportedly fell, striking the rocks below. An off-duty US Coast Guard member entered the water and kept the man afloat until lifeguard crews and a rescue boat arrived to help.The rescue video showed SDFD crews using a cable-haul system to remove the injured man from the water. A Stokes basket, commonly used in rescue operations, was lowered with an SDFD member using a pulley system connected to the back of a fire truck.

Trump says anti-weaponisation fund in IRS settlement is 'dead' even as he defends it

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

President Donald Trump said Friday that his \$1.8 billion anti-weaponisation fund is "dead" while also continuing to defend it, further complicating his administration's negotiations with two Republican senators who are blocking his attorney general nominee in protest.Trump told reporters at Camp David on Friday morning that administration officials had "agreed not to have a fund" that compensates his political allies, yet made clear that he disagrees with that decision.The comments came hours after an early morning social media post in which Trump said people who had been prosecuted by the Justice Department — many of them for their involvement in the violent Jan. 6, 2021, attack on the

Capitol — "are suffering still, many ruined, and I felt that they should be given compensation for what has been done to them."Trump's reluctant declaration that the fund won't be created came as Republican Sens. John Cornyn of Texas and Thom Tillis of North Carolina, both members of the Senate Judiciary Committee, say they won't support Todd Blanche's nomination for attorney general until they see that promise in writing. They have been working for weeks with the White House and Blanche, who is now the acting attorney general, to produce a document to that effect, but both senators have said they aren't satisfied so far."The President made it

clear today that the so-called Anti Weaponization Fund is still alive, which is exactly why we are attempting to



formally end it," Tillis said after Trump's initial social media post.Trump said in his post that Blanche should be immediately confirmed and is a "pawn in this whole

Russia hits Ukrainian capital with ballistic missiles and drones killing 3 and wounding over a dozen

KYIV, Ukraine.(Agency)

Ukraine: At least three people were killed and over a dozen others injured after Russia launched an intense barrage of ballistic missiles and drones targeting Kyiv overnight into Saturday, local authorities said.A five-story residential building in the Solomianskyi District was damaged by falling debris with people believed to be still trapped inside and a fire in the courtyard, said Vitalii Klitschko, mayor of Kyiv in a post on Telegram.

People were also reportedly trapped in another residential building the Shevchenkivskyi district, after a partial collapse on the first and second floors, Klitschko said. Elsewhere in the capital,

warehouse buildings were on fire in the Darnytskyi district, he said.

The attack came just two days after



a large-scale Russian ballistic missile and drone attack across Ukraine killed 10 civilians and wounded more than 50 others and saw a Russian missile enter Polish airspace.President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has been pressing Ukraine's need for more Patriot anti-ballistic missile defense systems to counter missile attacks from Russia with the U.S. and other

Western partners.Late Friday, the Ukrainian leader said he had spoken to U.S. Vice President JD Vance and discussed the meeting earlier this week in Washington with President Donald Trump which he described as “positive and productive.”The Russian air strikes on our country continue and air defense, specifically interceptors for Patriot systems against ballistic missiles, remains a top priority,” Zelenskyy said in a post on Telegram Friday.At a NATO summit in Ankara in July, Trump said the U.S. would give Ukraine a license to make Patriot systems but he appeared to move away from that commitment on Friday during a Cabinet meeting at the presidential retreat in Camp David, Maryland, saying he had not yet made a final decision on the matter.

Thousands of migrant children in the US could face new deportation risks as legal aid deal expires

HARLINGEN.(Agency)

Advocates warn that tens of thousands of migrant children who came to the United States alone could lose legal representation in immigration court and increase their risk of deportation as the Trump administration allows a contract with legal services providers to expire.Friday marks the last day of a contract under which the federal government pays for legal services for children who enter the U.S. without a parent or guardian. The government contracts out those services to a network of nearly 100 legal groups across the country that provide services to roughly 20,000 children. The Trump administration did not immediately respond to a request for comment

on why it was allowing the contract to expire. But it comes as the administration has redoubled its efforts to achieve its policy of mass deportations, and after migrant children became a target for removal from the country during the first year of President Donald Trump's second term in office.As part of the expiring contract, the legal groups can enter government-funded shelters and give presentations to children about their legal rights, and directly represent the children as they go through immigration court proceedings.But as that contract ends, the providers say it's unclear what will happen come Monday or whether they'll be able to visit their clients in the shelters where they live.We have no understanding of what's going to happen to those

children come next week. We don't know if they're going to have legal representation. The government as of yet has not identified who will take over this representation," said Melissa Lopez, the executive director of Estrella El Paso, during a news conference earlier this week. The organization currently represents 243 unaccompanied children in western Texas and New Mexico.The providers say their ability to enter the shelters, check on their clients and give presentations to new arrivals serves as an important oversight measure for a vulnerable population. The providers warn that without a lawyer to assist them in court and help them navigate the complexities of immigration law, children will be much more likely to be deported.

Trump weighs fresh strikes on Iran as White House warns Tehran over Hormuz attacks, truce violations

The White House accused Iran of breaching last month's truce as Tehran claimed attacks on tankers in the Strait of Hormuz, while Hamas said it would disarm under a Gaza deal.

CAIRO.(Agency)

The White House on Friday signaled that President Donald Trump is weighing carrying out new strikes on Iran as the U.S. presses for Tehran to reopen the Strait of Hormuz and abide by terms set out in a truce agreement the two sides forged last month only to

quickly collapse.

There were no U.S. strikes on Iran overnight, but Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard said it had struck another two tankers in the Strait of Hormuz, and Kuwait said it intercepted drones.Meanwhile, Hamas confirmed Friday that it will disarm in a potential breakthrough for ending the war in Gaza, but major obstacles remain.

White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt expressed the U.S. administration's frustration anew, charging that Tehran last month signed a memorandum of understanding with the U.S. on a truce but then quickly “broke it, shot at commercial ships, and killed American soldiers.”

“President Trump is not going to stand by and allow this terrorist behavior to

occur,” Leavitt said in a statement on Friday evening. “Iran will continue to pay until they come to the table in, what



President Trump deems, a meaningful way.”Leavitt issued the fresh warning after Trump earlier on Friday told reporters that “we just want to win” in Iran and signaled that he expected U.S. military action to continue for some time.“We'll be hitting them very hard,”

thing."Cornyn, Tillis want promises in writingBlanche said at a hearing two months ago that the anti-weaponization fund would not move forward after Republican senators revolted and held up an immigration funding bill.

But Tillis, who is retiring when his term ends in January, and Cornyn, who lost reelection this year after Trump endorsed his primary opponent, said they want to ensure that the White House doesn't reverse course, especially as Trump continues to argue that a fund is needed.The Justice Department has provided the senators with language that says Blanche's May 18 order establishing the "Anti-Weaponization Fund" is "rescinded and shall have no force or effect," according to a document reviewed by The Associated Press.

Chinese Researchers Used OpenAI, Anthropic Models To Train Domestic AI: Report

world.(Agency)

Chinese military researchers have used outputs from leading US artificial intelligence models developed by OpenAI and Anthropic to train domestic AI systems to advance China's defence capabilities, according to a Reuters review of more than 80 Chinese academic papers and patents.

The previously unreported findings offer a rare glimpse into how military and security-linked institutions in China are leveraging cutting-edge US AI models as a shortcut to developing specialised systems of their own, despite Washington's efforts to restrict Beijing's access to advanced chips and other strategic technologies.The documents show widespread use of a technique known as "model distillation," in which outputs from a powerful AI system are used to train smaller, specialised models that can be deployed locally without the enormous computing requirements needed to build frontier AI systems from scratch.

Reuters' review, which included research compiled by the Washington-based Jamestown Foundation and shared exclusively with the news agency, showed distillation is widely used by researchers linked to the People's Liberation Army and other military institutions.The papers suggest Chinese defence institutions see leading US AI models as both a source of technical insight and a way to close the gap with American rivals.

The dispute centres on unauthorised extraction, not distillation itself, a widely used industry practice.

The issue has emerged as a major flashpoint ahead of US-China talks on AI governance and safety. US officials have accused some Chinese entities of using distillation to extract capabilities from American AI models, potentially undermining export controls and infringing intellectual property rightChina has rejected the accusations, saying Washington is pursuing AI "hegemonism" while arguing that US firms have engaged in similar practices.

Chinese developers have also disputed claims that their AI advances rely on foreign models. AI startup Moonshot last week denied allegations by the Trump administration that its Kimi K3 model was built using distillation, saying it was driven by proprietary innovations..

Trump said in an exchange with reporters during a meeting with members of his Cabinet at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland. “You know, at some point they’re going to say, ‘We just can’t take it anymore.Other developments on the Iran conflictIran fired drones at Kuwait, a Gulf country hosting U.S. forces, and said it had also fired at oil tankers in the Strait of Hormuz, a key waterway for global oil and gas shipments, which has been largely closed by the fighting.

Kuwait's Defense Ministry said Friday its armed forces had shot down drones inside Kuwaiti airspace. It said the Iranian attacks had targeted several vital military facilities, causing material damage from falling shrapnel but no casualties.

Nurpur Police seize JCB, penalise five tractors in crackdown on illegal mining

Dharamshala.(Agency)

Police in Himachal Pradesh's Nurpur Police District intensified their drive against illegal mining by impounding a JCB machine and taking action against five tractors involved in unauthorised mining activities in separate operations.

According to an official statement issued by the Office of the Superintendent of Police, Nurpur, the action was carried out as part of the district police's ongoing campaign to curb illegal mining.

A police team from Thakurdwara Police Post under Indora Police Station, while on patrol on July 30, was present near the Beas river in Mallkana (Palata) and Mand Bhogrwana areas. Acting on specific information, the team conducted a swift operation and took legal action against vehicles and machinery allegedly engaged in illegal mining. During the operation, three tractors were challaned under the Mining Act and fined on the spot, while one JCB machine was impounded. The police said the case relating to the seized JCB would be forwarded to the Judicial Magistrate First Class (JMFC), Indora, for further legal proceedings.

In separate actions, Rehan Police Station and Gangath Police Post also challaned one tractor each for violations under the Mining Act.

No eligible voter's name cancelled in SIR: Ranbir Singh Gangwa

Panchkula.(Agency)

Haryana Public Works and Public Health Engineering Minister Ranbir Singh Gangwa today claimed that no eligible voter's name has been removed from the electoral rolls during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR).

He said that if the names of Bangladeshi infiltrators living illegally in the country have been removed from the electoral rolls, it should be supported, as the electoral rolls should only contain the names of eligible Indian citizens.

Speaking to reporters after inaugurating the 20th Ashwini Gupta Memorial District Badminton Championship 2026 at the Tau Devi Lal Sports Complex in Sector 3, Panchkula, Gangwa said the confusion surrounding the SIR process was baseless, arguing that no valid voter's vote was rejected in the process.

He targeted the opposition, alleging that the Trinamool Congress (TMC) and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) governments encouraged illegal immigration for political gain. He said that for the strength of democracy, it is essential that the voter list be completely transparent and accurate, and include only the names of those who are eligible to be Indian citizens.

Godman, two others cheat Andhra woman of Rs 2.5 crore

BENGALURU.(Agency)

A 40-year-old woman from Andhra Pradesh has accused three persons, including a self-styled godman, of cheating her of around Rs 2.5 crore.

Based on a complaint from the victim, M Kumuda from Palamaner in Chittoor district of AP, the CCB filed an FIR against self-styled godman Afsar Pasha, Shankar and Bharath on Wednesday. In her complaint, Kumuda stated that she was introduced to Bharath and Shankar in 2022 by her friend when she wanted to take a bank loan by mortgaging a property in Chamarajpet that belonged to her husband, mother-in-law and brother-in-law. Shankar and Bharath, who promised Kumuda to get the loan, frequently visited her house.

In November 2023, Kumuda's son met with an accident. Bharath then told her that this had happened because of some "negative" energy in her house and introduced her to Afsar Pasha stating that he will resolve all her problems. Afsar allegedly collected Rs 8 lakh from her after performing some rituals. When Kumuda discussed her plans to either sell her house or approach a bank for loan, Afsar told her that he was supposed to receive Rs 505 crore from RBI.

3 killed as heavy rain triggers landslides, floods across Kerala; houses damaged

Idukki.(Agency)

Three people were killed and rescue teams were deployed in several places after heavy rain triggered landslides and flooding across Kerala on Saturday, officials said.

The worst-hit districts included Idukki and Kottayam, where houses were damaged, roads were blocked and people were moved to safer places. Rain-related incidents were also reported from Pathanamthitta, Kollam, Kozhikode, Malappuram and Palakkad. With the India Meteorological Department forecasting more heavy rain, authorities kept rescue teams on alert, issued warnings for vulnerable areas and announced holidays for educational institutions in several districts.

In Idukki district, Sumathi of Adoormala near Kudayathoor was killed after debris from a landslide hit her house in the early hours of Saturday, the district

administration said. Neighbours rescued her husband and son, who were injured and admitted to a hospital in Thodupuzha. Officials said the house was destroyed. Sumathi's body was recovered after a search



by the National Disaster Response Force, Fire and Rescue Services, police and revenue officials.

In Kottayam district, a youth identified as Joseph, son of Johny, died in a landslide at Payyanthottam in Poonjar. Officials said his

mother was buried under the debris and a search was under way for her. Joseph was rescued but died of his injuries while being taken to hospital.

In another landslide in the Vagamon area of Idukki, Prabhakaran Nair, a native of Vaikom in Kottayam, died after a house was hit. Officials said he was sleeping in one of the bedrooms of his relative's house when the landslide occurred. His body was recovered after a search that lasted several hours. Landslides and flooding were reported from different parts of Idukki. At Upputhara, a parked police jeep was damaged in a landslide. The Pullakayar river overflowed and submerged the Kokkayar low-level crossing, or chappath. Around six houses in the area were inundated and the families were shifted to safer places, officials said. Heavy rain also disrupted traffic at several locations.

Price of liberty? Court raps Indians for 'litter here, cleanliness abroad' mindset

Mumbai.(Agency)

The Bombay High Court on Friday strongly criticised the culture of littering in public places, questioning why many Indians adhere to strict cleanliness norms abroad but fail to maintain the same standards at home.

Observing that such behaviour cannot be justified in the name of liberty or democracy, the court said citizens need to be sensitised while civic authorities must enforce sanitation rules more effectively. The observations were made by a bench of Justice GS Kulkarni and Justice Aarti Sathe during the hearing of a batch of petitions concerning pollution, foul odour, gas emissions and health hazards linked to the Kanjurmarg dumping ground in Mumbai's eastern suburbs. The court also urged the municipal authorities to take stricter measures to keep public spaces

clean. "If a person wants a clean environment, then he or she has a corresponding fundamental duty towards the society to maintain



cleanliness. We want the civic officials to be ruthless in taking action," the court said. The bench said, "We have to sensitise our citizens. Here, a person will throw garbage on the road without batting an eyelid but these same people when abroad will strictly

avoid such behaviour. Even a small chocolate wrapper they will throw in the dustbin." It then asked, "Is this the price of liberty and democracy?"

Referring to the large amount of plastic waste lying in public places, the court said even beaches in the city are flooded with plastic and questioned whether "we are living in a civilised society". It noted that Mumbai faces serious day-to-day hazards because garbage is dumped on main roads and bylanes, leading to major health and hygiene concerns.

Referring to the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai's slogan, "Swachh Mumbai, Sundar Mumbai, Aapli Mumbai, Sundar Mumbai", the court said the intention was clear but was being collectively defeated by citizens and by inaction on the part of the civic machinery.

Haryana unveils water conservation book, mandates water availability for all new industrial Projects

Chandigarh.(Agency)

Taking a bold step toward sustainable progress, Haryana will now require a thorough assessment of water availability and feasibility before greenlighting new industrial projects, announced Dr Amit Kumar Agrawal, Commissioner and Secretary of Information, Public Relations, Languages and Culture, on Friday.

He made this announcement during the unveiling of "Ek Boond Sau Sawaal" (One Drop, Hundred Questions), a thought-provoking book on water conservation co-authored by noted writers Dr Shameem Sharma and Dr Sarita Sharma, at Haryana Niwas in Chandigarh. The book was launched to highlight the pressing need for water conservation. Dr Agrawal

hailed the book as a vibrant journey through water's historical, literary, cultural, and environmental importance, brought to life in an engaging and approachable style. He emphasised universal charm and its ability to ignite a lasting passion for sustainable water practices in readers young and old. Motivated by the book's powerful message, Dr Agrawal announced that the Industries Department has embraced a groundbreaking policy: every new industrial project and park in Haryana must now clear a water availability assessment before receiving approval. He called on industries to lead in water conservation, helping relieve mounting pressure on the state's shrinking groundwater reserves. "Haryana is a semi-arid state where water has always held immense

cultural as well as scientific significance. Sustainable management of water resources is essential for the state's future development," he said.

Dr Agrawal also underlined the importance of preserving India's linguistic heritage, saying young people should take pride in their mother tongue.

Describing Hindi as a unifying language of the country, he called for the creation of more simple, meaningful and socially relevant books like Ek Boond Sau Sawaal to promote both environmental awareness and language development. He commended the authors and expressed his hope that their book would inspire communities to treasure and protect every precious drop of water.

We are building a new age Kerala: VD Satheesan on jobs, economy and delimitation

Thiruvananthapuram.(Agency)

Kerala Chief Minister VD Satheesan has unveiled an ambitious roadmap to revive the state's fragile finances, boost investment, tackle brain drain and prepare Kerala for demographic change, while also advocating stronger regulation of social media to curb online abuse against women.

In an exclusive interview on Jab We Met with India Today TV's Marya Shakeel, Satheesan said the state government inherited a difficult fiscal situation but was determined to improve financial discipline, accelerate project execution and attract private investment without compromising welfare. Calling Kerala's financial position "very vulnerable", Satheesan said nearly 77 to 80 per cent of the state's revenue is spent on committed expenditure such as salaries, pensions

and debt servicing, leaving only around one-fifth of the revenue available for development and welfare schemes.

"When we are getting Rs 100, we can use only Rs 20 or Rs 22 for development as well as welfare activities," he said, adding that the government would soon release a white paper detailing the state's fiscal health. According to him, Kerala's immediate debt stands at around Rs 87,000 crore, while the overall debt burden exceeds Rs 5 lakh crore.

PORT CITY VISION AND DIASPORA INVESTMENT

Satheesan said improving fiscal management would be among his government's biggest priorities. He argued that delayed infrastructure projects significantly increase costs and burden the exchequer. "When a Rs 100-

crore project takes five or ten years to complete, it eventually costs Rs 1,000 crore. That is leakage from the exchequer," he said, adding that the



government plans to introduce strict timelines and protocols for project implementation.

The Chief Minister also laid out his vision of transforming Kerala into a logistics and

investment hub by leveraging its 600-km coastline, international ports and airports. "We are planning to integrate all the ports and make the entire Kerala into a port city," he said. The government also plans to encourage greater private investment in airport infrastructure, saying the state's role should increasingly be that of a facilitator rather than an operator.

Another key pillar of Satheesan's economic strategy is converting Kerala's remittance-dependent economy into an investment-led one.

"Remittance is the backbone of our economy. But it is not being used for state development. We want to make the remittance economy an investment economy," he said.

NEET protester assaulted by masked men; AISA blames ABVP

BENGALURU.(Agency)

A 19-year-old student and member of the All India Students' Association (AISA) was assaulted by four masked men for allegedly taking part in the protests against NEET question paper leak, near BEL Circle in Jalahalli police limits on Tuesday night. The assailants have also allegedly asked him if he demands Modi's resignation.

An FIR filed by Aman Deep Singh said he was returning home by walk after dinner at 10.30 pm on Tuesday, when four masked men on two bikes intercepted him. Before assaulting him, they confirmed his identity. One of the men, who was carrying a wooden stick, reportedly asked, "Do you want Modi's resignation?" before assaulting him. The accused then fled the spot.

The police said, a case was registered, they are analysing CCTV footage and searching for the accused. The victim sustained serious injuries to the leg and had to get a cast. AISA claim that members of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) were behind the attack.

The organisation stated that the student was actively participating in protests at Freedom Park in solidarity with the nationwide student youth movement demanding the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan. "This attack was a direct response to the student's participation in questioning the actions of the current Indian state," the press release stated.

Will not spare those found guilty in illegal abortions case: Prakash Abitkar

Kolhapur.(Agency)

District guardian minister Prakash Abitkar issuing a stern warning said that no one found guilty in the illegal abortions case will be spared in which a retired civil surgeon has been arrested.

In an urgent review meeting at the district collector office this evening after yesterday's busting of a racket of illegal sex determination and illegal abortions, in which retired civil surgeon Dr Chandrakant Gaikwad was arrested, he said that the State is a very progressive one, known as the land of Lokraja Shahu Maharaj, and the retired civil surgeon has committed a heinous act that has tarnished humanity.

"This is a very unfortunate matter," Abitkar said, and directed that the police should destroy all such places where the very shameful act of abortions is being carried out secretly in some places in the district, and at the same time, efforts should be made to ensure strict punishment to the culprits.

Screening with AI, sharpening with statistics

Oral cancer is the most frequent cancer in Indian men. It is also the second leading cancer in Indian women, next to breast cancer. Worldwide, the incidence of lip and oral cavity cancer cases is projected to rise from nearly 3.9 lakh new cases in 2022 to around 6 lakh by 2045. During this period, deaths due to oral cancers are expected to rise from 1.9 lakh to 2.94 lakh annually. Oral cancer now ranks as the 13th most common cancer globally. Tobacco consumption has been the major causal factor driving the high incidence. Tobacco smoke contains over 70 known cancer-causing chemicals. They include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons and heavy metals like arsenic and cadmium. When these chemicals enter the cells of the mouth’s mucosal lining, they damage their genetic material and trigger abnormal cell growth. Smokeless oral tobacco products, too, release these carcinogenic chemicals. Chewing of tobacco products also continues to be a public health concern in India, despite several states banning the sale of ‘zarda’.

Areca nut (betel nut) is also a known cause of oral cancer. When consumed raw, dried or mixed in commercial preparations, areca nut can cause sub-mucous fibrosis (stiffening of the mouth tissues). This frequently turns into cancer, even when the nut is consumed without tobacco. Among other causes of oral cancer are: alcohol consumption; poor oral hygiene which permits growth of inflammation causing bacteria (dysbiosis); chronic mechanical irritation of the oral mucosa by a jagged tooth.

India has included screening for oral cancer in the primary healthcare component of Ayushman Bharat, the flagship national health programme. This is alongside screening for breast and cervical cancers. While the oral cavity is easy to inspect visually, detection of pre-malignant and malignant lesions in that space is often missed in primary care settings. Differentiation between non-cancerous, pre-cancerous and cancerous lesions is also not easy at that level of care. As a result, referral to higher levels of care for confirmatory diagnosis and initiation of appropriate treatment is delayed inordinately. This adversely affects survival rates. Artificial intelligence has recently stepped into this arena, to improve the rates of early and accurate diagnosis. In recent years AI has found increasing application in the detection of organ and tissue pathologies in many disease conditions—even in a pre-clinical stage in several instances. With AI techniques rapidly advancing, clinical applications have grown manifold. Oral cancer too has seen many AI tools being used in research studies, to detect ‘potentially malignant’ as well as definitely cancerous pathologies of the oral cavity. Convolutional neural networks have been most often used for this purpose. Deep convolutional neural networks, artificial neural networks, Random Forest and Decision Trees are among the other AI tools employed for oral cancer detection. Data inputs were obtained from photographs, mobile images, radiographic images and cytology of saliva samples. Recent studies have also included breath analysis for volatile organic compounds, generated by cancerous lesions. AI-integrated imaging modalities have combined fluorescence lifetime imaging with end-to-end neural networks for in-vivo diagnosis. Cloud-based multi-spectral imaging was employed for real time detection. Many of the studies evaluating the diagnostic accuracy of AI techniques for detection of oral cancer have reported levels of sensitivity and specificity around 90 percent. These indicate low rates of ‘false negative’ and ‘false positive’ results respectively. While these are encouraging, it must be recognised that these sensitivity and specificity rates only report how the tests performed overall in a mixed group of already diagnosed patients and non-patients. They do not help healthcare providers in assessing whether an individual sitting in front of them has disease or not.

India must stand up for its seafarers

Diplomatic pressure must be applied even-handedly to warring sides in Russia-Ukraine, US-Iran conflicts

ON July 19, four Indian seafarers were among 10 crew members killed when Russian cruise missiles struck a Guinea-Bissau-flagged cargo vessel navigating Ukraine’s maritime corridor. Earlier, an Indian national was killed when a merchant ship was attacked while transiting Russian waters in the Black Sea. Since April, the Black Sea has seen five Indian seafarers killed in attacks on merchant ships. This follows an even more volatile spell in the Persian Gulf, where seven Indian seafarers have been killed in the Strait of Hormuz — three in US Navy missile strikes and four in Iranian attacks. Today, over 3,00,000 Indian nationals are serving in the merchant marine globally; all of them are at risk. The targeting of neutral merchant shipping and its crews raises questions of morality, not linked to merits of the ongoing conflicts which now seem open-ended and whose “casus belli” has become obscure. The laws of armed conflict, as reflected in the San Remo Manual, draw a clear line. While permitting belligerents to interdict, board and arrest enemy merchant vessels or those carrying contraband to the enemy, a merchant vessel, flying a neutral flag, crewed by third-country nationals, carrying civilian cargo, is protected against attack by international law. Attacking a merchant ship with missiles, with or without warning, is very hard to justify under the twin principles of “distinction” between combatants and civilians and “proportionality” that guide every aspect of the laws of war. Sanctions authorised by a state’s domestic legal system (rather than the UN) do not have any “locus standi” under international law. Therefore, attacking and killing merchant seafarers cannot be passed off as collateral damage. Such reprehensible acts are compounded by the seafarers’ total lack of agency in foreign waters, often without consular help. Once neutral shipping in a conflict zone becomes fair game as a target, the world can bid goodbye to “freedom of navigation”, a foundational public good of the international system, on which food security, energy supply and global trade and economy depend. Every strike on a neutral merchant ship normalises and justifies the riposte against the next ship. So, what diplomatic or legal tools do India and the international community have at their disposal to counter and reverse this potentially

disastrous trend? WorldNews Section First, issuing strong demarches and publicly conveying displeasure in the strongest possible terms should be sustained and intensified. Diplomatic pressure must be applied even-handedly to participants in the Russia-Ukraine as well as US/Israel-Iran conflicts so that there are no accusations of selective outrage.

Second, India must campaign for and press the International Maritime Organisation for the issuance of real-time “no-strike” notifications and demarcation of safe corridors for merchant shipping



carrying vital food or energy supplies. Such mechanisms, already in place for Black Sea grain exports, must be replicated in other conflict zones and enforced rigorously with independent monitoring. Third, there must be a push for a binding UN Security Council resolution explicitly reaffirming that neutral, civilian-crewed commercial vessels are protected under the laws of naval warfare, and that arbitrary attacks would be treated as war crimes and investigated. Fourth, India as a “preferred security partner” must collaborate with other nations whose seafarers are at risk to create a rapid-response and evacuation capability. Under this scheme, naval or coast guard units can be pre-positioned near known flashpoints (Hormuz, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Aden, Black Sea approaches) for undertaking rescue and medical evacuation of affected seafarers. Lastly, government agencies must insist that seafarers are informed by ship owners in advance of the war risk on a voyage and given the right to decline duty in conflict zones without loss of employment. Those

volunteering to sign on must be provided hazard disclosure and war-risk insurance. The distress of merchant seafarers is merely a symptom of a far greater malaise: the open disregard for customary norms and international law by powerful nations. For far too long, the international community has shown timidity in confronting leaders who act as though they are above the law — a collective failure that threatens to undo centuries of diplomatic evolution.

Since the 1648 Treaty of Westphalia established state sovereignty and non-interference as the foundation of international relations, states have steadily codified the rules of engagement. The Hague Conventions established rules on the conduct of war; the Geneva Conventions extended protection to civilians, the wounded and prisoners of war; and the San Remo Manual extended these protections to naval warfare. Finally, the UN Charter created a collective security framework through the Security Council and General Assembly to hold aggression, genocide and war crimes as cognisable and punishable offences.

There were many indications that this painstakingly built architecture was rapidly crumbling. First came Russia’s peremptory occupation of Crimea in 2014, citing specious irredentist arguments and ignoring condemnation of the breach of Ukrainian sovereignty. The timid response of the international community undoubtedly encouraged Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022. Then followed Israel’s war, waged ostensibly against Hamas and Hezbollah. It inflicted heavy casualties on the civilian population of Gaza and was seen as a genocidal campaign. As the international community watched passively, the US-Israel axis launched an unprovoked and massive campaign on February 28 this year, targeting Iran with nearly 900 strikes within the first 12 hours. Civilian infrastructure, including schools, was targeted; Iran’s theological and political leaders were assassinated by military means; and then both the US and Iran proceeded to attack neutral shipping in the Persian Gulf. In 2022, PM Narendra Modi told Russian President Vladimir Putin that “today’s era is not an era of war.” Wars break out when powerful nations disregard historic and customary international laws.

Industry dodges Hormuz squeeze to recover, some sectors missing tailwind

After three months in which the West Asia conflict disrupted shipping lanes and pushed up input costs, industry appears to have found workarounds through alternative sourcing, inventory drawdowns and the benefit of softer crude prices following ceasefire talks

India’s industrial production staged a smart recovery in June, clocking a 22-month high growth of 7.3 percent. It proved once again that the domestic economy continues to shrug off many of the headwinds engulfing the world. Though the surge was partly aided by a favourable base effect—the Index of Industrial Production had grown by just 2.2 percent in June 2025—the June 2026 performance remains significant. The recovery was broad-based rather than confined to a few segments. Manufacturing, which accounts for nearly three-fourths of the index, expanded 7.8 percent, its fastest pace in seven months, with gains visible across most sub-sectors. Capital goods extended their double-digit growth streak to a third consecutive month, signalling that investment intentions remain intact despite the uncertainty of the preceding quarter. Consumer goods output doubled its pace to 6.1 percent, while non-durables, often the first



segment to wobble when household budgets tighten, touched a six-month high. Mining, too, returned to positive territory after a five-month slump. After three months in which the West Asia conflict disrupted shipping lanes and pushed up input costs, industry appears to have found workarounds through alternative sourcing, inventory drawdowns and the

benefit of softer crude prices following ceasefire talks. Brent crude fell to around \$85 a barrel in June from over \$107 in May, easing one of the biggest cost pressures on manufacturers. Evidence from other indicators suggests this is more than a statistical rebound. The Manufacturing Purchasing Managers’ Index remained above 54, indicating growth, while e-way bill volumes stayed resilient and passenger vehicle sales grew by over 24 percent. Early corporate earnings for the June quarter also indicate that the recovery is not merely a flash in the pan. However, some signs of strain persist. Four manufacturing sub-sectors—textiles, wood products, chemicals and refined petroleum products—remain in contraction, some for a sixth consecutive month, underscoring that the recovery has yet to reach every corner of India’s employment-intensive industrial base. Meanwhile, the monsoon remains 16 percent below normal.

One country, many higher education markets

➤ The National Education Policy’s assumption that a good curriculum will attract students anywhere is at odds with admissions data.

A recent conversation with a colleague in Bengaluru about his daughter’s college admission made me rethink a common assumption. Like many parents, he was using Delhi University’s admission trends to judge which courses offer the best prospects. This year, DU received over 2 lakh applications for around 71,600 undergraduate seats, with BCom (Honours) again topping the list, followed by English, political science and history. Many read these preferences as a national verdict on what young Indians want to study. They are not. DU’s admission data are best understood not as a picture of India, but as a picture of Delhi. Let’s start with commerce. Its popularity is usually explained in general terms: it keeps career options open, does not require early specialisation and prepares students for careers in chartered accountancy, banking, finance or business management. All of this is true, but it does not explain why commerce is particularly strong in Delhi, or why it is weaker in some regions. The explanation lies in what surrounds the university. Delhi’s economy has a large services and finance sector, corporate headquarters and easy proximity to professional bodies such as the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. A commerce degree from a Delhi college sits inside an ecosystem that can absorb it. The same degree, studied elsewhere, yields different realistic outcomes because the surrounding economy is different. Now consider English, political science and history. The national debate treats the humanities as a single, declining category, propped up by nostalgia rather than by employability. DU’s numbers do not support that. The explanation again lies outside the classroom. Delhi is the seat of Parliament, the Supreme Court, the central ministries, major media houses, think tanks and international agencies. It is also the country’s

principal hub for civil services preparation. For a student aiming at public policy, law, journalism, research or the civil services, a humanities degree from a Delhi college is a route into a visible local job market. This is why comparing Delhi’s preferences with, say, southern India is more informative than comparing Delhi with an imagined national average. States such as Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Telangana have built strong manufacturing, technology and healthcare sectors. Engineering, medicine and applied science carry more local weight there, not because students in the south value the humanities less, but because the regional economy offers denser pathways to a job. The same student with the same interests would likely make a different choice depending on the labour market they expect to enter. This has direct implications for how reform is designed. In recent years, universities have introduced multidisciplinary degrees, skill-based certificates and flexible curricular structures under the National Education Policy. These reforms are usually designed and evaluated at the national level on the assumption that a good curriculum will attract students wherever it is offered. However, admission data suggest this assumption needs revision. Students continue to prefer familiar, long-established degrees over newer interdisciplinary ones, not necessarily because the new programmes are bad, but because their outcomes are less

proven in the local job market students are targeting. A new programme has to earn local credibility before it can compete with an old one, and that credibility takes time to build. A reform that succeeds in one city may fail



in another for reasons unrelated to the curriculum. Even migration after graduation does not undo this. Students often study in one region and work in another. However, a degree’s value is largely captured where it is earned, through networks, internships and credibility built during the years of study, before any later move. There is a second implication for how we read the aspect of competition for seats. Students compete intensely for a

small number of prestigious universities partly because institutional reputation substitutes for uneven quality elsewhere in the system. This is a real problem, and expanding access to good institutions, therefore, remains absolutely necessary. But it is a separate problem from the one this piece addresses. Even if every region had an equal number of good universities, the subjects most in demand would still differ by region, because the demand is shaped by what the local economy can do with a graduate, not only by how good the teaching is. None of this means admission data is unreliable; it just means they should be read as local data. A student’s choice reflects family expectations, available information and perceived opportunity, filtered through the city or region they live in and expect to work in. These perceptions do not always align with actual labour market needs. India continues to have graduate unemployment alongside real shortages of skilled workers in several sectors, but that gap also plays out differently by region. Educators, parents, students and policymakers who want to understand Indian higher education should stop looking for a single national story in admission numbers. Delhi’s data describes Delhi’s opportunity structure. Chennai’s or Bengaluru’s would describe theirs. The right question is not “what do young Indians want to study?” It is “what does a degree from this university, in this city, actually lead to?” In other words, admission trends are to be read region by region. Until that happens, they will continue to be misread as a single verdict on a country that does not have a single labour market.

BJD demands probe into alleged PG Medical Exam paper leak

Bhubaneswar. (Agency)

The Opposition Biju Janata Dal (BJD) on Friday accused the Odisha government of failing to curb recurring examination irregularities, citing the alleged leak of the Medical Postgraduate (PG) entrance examination paper conducted by the Odisha University of Health Sciences (OUHS). The party claimed that 23 examination-related irregularities, including paper leaks, have surfaced during the BJP government's 24 months in office. Addressing a press conference at Sankha Bhawan here, BJD MLA Dr Arun Kumar Sahoo and former minister and party vice-president Pratap Jena demanded a thorough investigation into the alleged leak and strict action against those responsible.

Sahoo alleged that the Medical PG examination held on July 27 was compromised after the question paper was circulated on WhatsApp while the test was underway. He claimed that the answer key was also shared on mobile phones during the examination, raising serious concerns over the integrity of the recruitment process. Jena said the alleged leak had alarmed students and the public, particularly in the aftermath of the nationwide controversy over the NEET paperleak.

497 kg cannabis worth Rs 2.5 crore seized in Odisha, UP man held

Bhubaneswar. (Agency)

The Odisha Crime Branch's Special Task Force (STF) has busted an interstate cannabis smuggling racket by seizing 497 kg of high-grade ganja, valued at around Rs 2.5 crore, from a goods carrier truck near Pitapalli under Infolvalley police limits in Khurda district, officials said on Friday. Acting on specific intelligence, the STF intercepted the truck and recovered the contraband, which had been concealed beneath bags of rice to evade detection, during a search carried out under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. The driver-cum-owner of the vehicle, Prem Chandra of Aligarh district in Uttar Pradesh, was detained in connection with the seizure. Preliminary investigation revealed that the cannabis had been sourced from Odisha's Gajapati district and loaded at Berhampur for transportation to Delhi. Investigators suspect the consignment was part of a well-organised interstate drug trafficking network. A case has been registered under the NDPS Act, and efforts are underway to identify the suppliers, transporters, intended recipients, financiers and other members of the syndicate.

Ex-Cooperative Society MD held in farmer loan repayment fraud

Bhubaneswar.(Agency)

Odisha Vigilance on Friday arrested Himanshu Das, former Managing Director of Betnoti Large-sized Adivasi Multi-Purpose Cooperative Society (LAMPCS) Ltd. in Mayurbhanj district, for allegedly misappropriating over Rs 40.94 lakh collected from farmers towards repayment of agricultural and crop loans.

Das was produced before the Special Judge, Vigilance, Baripada for remand. According to Vigilance, the case pertains to alleged large-scale financial irregularities during the 2017-18 financial year.

Investigators alleged that while serving as Managing Director, Das collected money from loanee farmers towards repayment of agricultural and crop loans, share capital contributions, application fees and administrative charges. Although he issued official receipts acknowledging the payments, he allegedly failed to deposit the money into the cooperative society's account. Instead, he omitted the transactions from the society's day book and misappropriated Rs 40,94,306 for personal gain, Vigilance alleged.

Man was thought to be in Australia for 2 years. Then came a Drishyam-style twist

The man's wife had been misleading his family for nearly two years by saying that he had shifted to Australia for work. However, her continued hesitation to share his contact details eventually aroused suspicion in their minds.

Gandhinagar. (Agency)

In a case bearing striking similarities to the Bollywood thriller Drishyam, the police in Gujarat's Jamnagar have supposedly solved a sensational missing person's case by successfully recovering the remains of a man whose body was buried 12 feet beneath a concrete floor after allegedly being murdered by his wife, her purported lover and an associate. For nearly two years, the victim's wife, Prithvi alias Bhumbiben, kept telling relatives that her husband, Jignesh Mavadiya, had moved to Australia for work and his employer strictly prohibited phone calls, police said. The long-running deception,

however, unravelled after a cousin planning a trip to Australia demanded Jignesh's address and contact details but Prithvi failed to provide the information. Her continued hesitation aroused suspicion in the minds of family members and a police complaint was eventually lodged by Jignesh's brother on July 26 this year.

The subsequent probe led to the exhuming of skeletal remains from beneath a factory premises in Jamnagar on Thursday, July 30. All three accused, Prithvi, her alleged ex-boyfriend, Nilesh Kachhatiya, and his friend Balveer Verma, have been arrested.

"To ascertain the identity of the deceased, the remains have been handed over to



forensic experts," a police official said. According to the police, Prithvi allegedly murdered Jignesh by poisoning him in

collusion with Nilesh, with whom she was purportedly in an extramarital affair at the time.

Dehradun teacher death case handed to CB-CID after fair probe demand

Dehradun. (Agency)

The Uttarakhand government has transferred the investigation into the suspicious death of newlywed government school teacher Srishti Kandhari to the CB-CID following demands for a fair and impartial probe. Devprayag MLA Vinod Kandhari said he met Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and urged him to order a thorough investigation into the case. Considering the sensitivity of the matter, the Chief Minister issued written directions to the Home Secretary to hand over the investigation to the CB-CID. The MLA expressed confidence that the probe would be conducted transparently

and said strict legal action would be taken against anyone found guilty. He also appealed to the public not to pay heed to



rumours, cooperate with investigating agencies and maintain faith in the judicial process.

Srishti Kandhari, a government school teacher, allegedly died by suicide in Dehradun eight months after her

marriage. Before her death, she recorded a video message addressed to her mother, alleging that she had been subjected to months of mental harassment by her husband and in-laws. In the video, Srishti apologised to her mother and said she could no longer bear the harassment. She alleged that her in-laws constantly taunted her and claimed their attitude towards her would never change.

According to the complaint filed by her mother, Seema Kandhari, Srishti faced continuous mental harassment after her marriage in November 2025. Her family alleged that she was repeatedly labelled "inauspicious" and blamed for misfortunes in the household.

Indo-China Border trade to resume via Nathu La after six year

Siliguri.(Agency)

After a gap of nearly six years since the Covid-19 pandemic, border trade between India and China will resume through the Nathu La Pass in Sikkim on August 1, marking the revival of a key trade route between the two countries.

Sikkim Commerce and Industries Department Secretary Ms. Karma Doma said on Friday that all preparations for the reopening have been completed. She credited Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang for pursuing the matter continuously with the Central government to ensure the resumption of trade.

She said border trade had remained suspended since the Covid outbreak, while the development of the required infrastructure, including the Integrated Check Post and immigration facilities, took time. The necessary infrastructure has now been restored and is fully ready for operations.

To mark the reopening, around 30 delegates each from India and China will meet at the No Man's Land between the Indian side of Nathu La and the Chinese border on Saturday before formally commencing trade. As the Chief Minister is preoccupied, Sikkim Commerce and Industries Minister T.T. Bhutia is expected to attend the inaugural programme along with other senior officials.

Doma said the primary objective of reviving border trade is to improve the livelihoods of people living in border areas and boost the local economy. She added that the reopening is also expected to strengthen tourism and promote overall socio-economic development in the region. She said the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) had already been finalised a few months ago. Initially, 36 items have been identified for export to China, subject to approval from the concerned authorities.

Bihar: AIIMS Patna enhances cancer care, surgical training

Patna. (Agency)

In a significant step towards strengthening cancer care, surgical education and clinical excellence, the Department of Surgical Oncology, AIIMS Patna, today inaugurated its Advanced Seminar Room and Skill Lab, a modern academic and simulation based training facility that will serve as a centre for innovation, research and hands on surgical learning.

Inaugurating the centre, Prof. (Brig.) Dr. Raju Agarwal, Executive Director, AIIMS Patna, said here today that the newly established facility has been envisioned to provide an immersive learning environment where undergraduate students, postgraduate residents, fellows and faculty members can refine their surgical skills through simulation based training, multidisciplinary academic discussions, case based learning, tumour board meetings, workshops and continuing medical education programmes. The initiative reflects AIIMS Patna's unwavering commitment

to fostering competency based medical education while ensuring the highest standards of patient care, he quipped while addressing the gathering.

Dr. Agarwal described the Skill Lab as a major milestone in the institute's journey towards creating a world-class ecosystem for cancer care and surgical training.

He said that such initiatives will significantly contribute to improving surgical outcomes, encouraging innovation and nurturing the next generation of highly skilled oncological surgeons. The Seminar Room and Skill Lab are equipped to facilitate structured academic sessions, live demonstrations, skill-based workshops and interdisciplinary interactions, thereby creating a vibrant platform for collaborative learning, clinical research and evidence based practice.

The initiative has been conceptualised by Dr. Jagjit Kumar Pandey, Additional Professor and Head, Department of Surgical Oncology, with the objective of strengthening surgical education, fostering innovation and enhancing the

academic and research ecosystem of the department.

The inauguration of the Seminar Room and Skill Lab represents yet another milestone in AIIMS Patna's continuing expansion of academic and clinical infrastructure. By integrating advanced training methodologies with patient-centred healthcare, the institute is steadily reinforcing its position as one of eastern India's leading centres of excellence in medical education, research and super specialty healthcare.

With sustained investments in cutting edge infrastructure, innovative teaching methodologies and multidisciplinary collaboration, AIIMS Patna continues to redefine the standards of oncology education and healthcare delivery, ensuring that future healthcare professionals are equipped with the knowledge, skills and expertise required to meet the evolving challenges of modern cancer management while delivering compassionate, evidence based and technologically advanced patient care.

Assam floods kill 2 more, death toll reaches 82; 1.93 lakh people remain affected

The flood crisis in Assam showed signs of easing but continued to affect thousands, with five districts still inundated, nearly 1.93 lakh people impacted and the season's toll climbing to 82.

Guwahati. (Agency)

Floods continued to affect five districts in Assam on Saturday, with 1,92,799 people still hit by the situation and two more deaths taking this year's toll to 82, officials said. The worst-affected districts were Sivasagar, Golaghat, Jorhat, Nagaon and Charaideo, though the overall situation improved from Thursday, when more than two lakh people in eight districts were affected.

The state government has announced a series of relief measures for the worst-hit districts, including plans to ask insurance companies to quickly settle claims for damaged vehicles, livestock and property, and to request non-banking financial companies to grant a moratorium to borrowers. Relief work also continued on the ground, with

multiple agencies, including the NDRF and SDRF, involved in operations. Officials said the Dikhow and Dhansiri rivers were in a severe flood situation at Sivasagar and Numaligarh in Golaghat, and people were urged to stay away from them.

Around 13,000 people were staying in 54 relief camps, while 26 relief distribution centres were serving 5,384 people. The government is also focusing on a quick assessment of damage so that repair funds can be released at the earliest.

According to officials, one death each was reported from Sivasagar and Charaideo, taking the total flood death toll this year to 82. Of the 1,92,799 people affected, Charaideo remained the worst-hit with 77,456 people affected, followed by 63,492 in Sivasagar and 34,067 in

Jorhat. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said the state cabinet on Friday decided to hold a meeting with private and



government insurance companies on August 5 to urge them to quickly settle claims from people in the affected areas. The government will also meet NBFCs the same day to ask them to give a moratorium to borrowers from the four worst-hit districts of Sivasagar,

Charaideo, Jorhat and Golaghat.

The announcement came a day after Sarma chaired a special meeting of the State Level Bankers' Committee, where it was decided that all flood-affected people in the four districts would get a six-month moratorium on loan repayment.

In a social media post, Sarma said, "As floods affect four districts of Assam, our government stands firmly with every affected family. Along with other relief and assistance, we have approved Rs 41.67 crore under the PM Surya Ghar pending state subsidy for 9,289 beneficiaries in the affected areas." He added that the Power Department had been directed to ensure that Assam Power Distribution Corporation Ltd transfers the amount directly to beneficiaries' bank accounts by Tuesday.

"His Approach Was Risky": Mountaineers On Nirmal Purja's Legendary Climbs

Ten climbers, including the legendary Nepalese mountaineer, Nirmal Purja, were reported missing after an avalanche struck Broad Peak in PoK on.

Delhi. (Agency)

Broad Peak, an 8051-metre peak in the Karakoram Range in Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir - not too far from the world's highest peak K2 - now carries the weight of tragedy. Ten climbers, including the legendary Nepalese mountaineer, Nirmal Purja, were reported missing after an avalanche struck on Thursday. A day later, the death of four climbers was confirmed, while the whereabouts of Purja and five others are still not known. Amid the growing concerns over their disappearance, some of the world's leading mountaineers spoke to Senior Managing Editor, Vishnu Som, about Purja's legendary climbs, the extreme risks and unforgiving conditions that define high-altitude expeditions, and the challenges of survival

above the death zone. Arjun Vajpayee, an Indian mountaineer, praised Purja - who has climbed all 14 of the world's 8,000-metre peaks in just six months and six days - shattering the previous record of nearly eight years. Purja later returned to summit all 14 peaks again, but this time, without supplemental oxygen. He ended up becoming the fastest person ever to do so in under two years and five months. Calling his approach rather "risky", Vajpayee said it is "what it takes to push things to the next level and to achieve them". Hats off to Nims (Nirmal Purja) for what he's been able to achieve. I've known Nims for quite some time now, before he started his projects. We'd seen him earn the respect, not only from the mountaineering community, but from the world, with his hard work and his diligence. It is not easy to do any kind of winter ascents on any of these 8,000-

metre mountains. Above 8,000 metres in spring and autumn itself, it gets very difficult. In winters, it gets even crazier," he said. The Indian mountaineer expressed grief over the avalanche incident. "It is just unfortunate that this one wasn't just a snow powder avalanche. It came down with a lot of rubble, I guess. Hence, we are getting the news that they are finding some climbers and some parts here and there, which is very, very disturbing," he said. Vajpayee, however, said that risk is the nature of their sport. "Mountaineering comes with a lot of challenges, and this is part and parcel of our game. Nobody can detect avalanches. Mitigating risk is something Nims was very good at. Unfortunately, this time, we

are all praying to the very end that we are hoping that some good news comes out of it, but as the hours are passing by, hope is getting lesser," he added. Norwegian mountaineer and former cross-

country skier, Kristen Harilla, said scaling all 14 peaks in just a few months is "very very hard" - which Purja had achieved. "It's super challenging and risky, as we know these mountains are. It's very challenging to climb this 8,000-metre either way, if you go with oxygen or without. But without it, you need more time to acclimatise, and you will move slower...you will be colder. It's harder on your body. So it's a big difference, but we know Nims has done a lot of 8,000 metres without oxygen and he's always well-acclimatised because he goes to the mountain all the time. So I wasn't very worried about him going without oxygen again," she said. According to Kristen, if a person stays above 8,000 metres for a long time, they would die.



Eye on 800 TPD waste management, MCD signs deal with Oil India to set up CBG plants

Delhi. (Agency)

Activist Tehseen Poonawalla claimed that he was put under house arrest by Delhi Police ahead of his protest march and hunger strike against the government's E20 petrol policy. Poonawalla, who has launched a crusade against Union Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari and ethanol-blended fuel, put out several videos showing cops at his doorstep on Saturday. "An entire battalion of Delhi Police, including women officers, has put me under house arrest! Nitin Gadkari is scared of ethanol," Poonawalla tweeted. In another video, the activist is seen asking a police officer how he could be detained without any documents. "No papers, nothing. I am under house arrest... Azaadi ke 15 din pehle aap mujhe detain kar rahe (you are detaining me 15 days before Independence Day)," Poonawalla is heard telling the cop. To this, the police officer said that his protest march might create a law and order situation and asked him to cooperate. Following the Cockroach Janta Party's month-long protest over exam paper leaks, which resulted in the resignation of Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, Poonawalla has sought to tap into the growing public frustration with E20 petrol. The government's rollout of E20 petrol - a blend of 80% petrol and 20% ethanol - has come under intense criticism from opposition parties and consumer groups. Several vehicle owners (pre-2023) have claimed E20 has resulted in a reduction in mileage and higher maintenance costs. While Union Minister Nitin Gadkari admitted that E20 can reduce fuel efficiency by 2-6%, he asserted that extensive testing found no evidence of engine failures linked to the fuel.

A key demand by Poonawalla and his Team Bharat, which has been spearheading the anti-E20 cause, is that 100% petrol, E5, E10 fuels should be available as well, giving motorists the right to choose.

Families recount trauma after police personnel injured during CJP protest

New Delhi. (Agency)

Family members of Delhi Police personnel injured during the Cockroach Janta Party's (CJP) protest shared their ordeal on Friday, recounting the fear, trauma and emotional toll they endured after the violence at Jantar Mantar. Addressing a press conference, the daughter of a Delhi Police sub-inspector alleged that her father was dragged into a violent mob and nearly lynched while performing his duty. She said the incident left her family deeply shaken. "My father is a sub-inspector with the Delhi Police. Before joining the force, he served in the Indian Navy for 15 years. On the day of the incident, he was deployed near the barricades at the main protest site, where a massive crowd had gathered. Every night after returning home during the protests, he would tell us that the agitation no longer appeared to be a student protest and that many anti-social elements had joined the crowd," she said. "On July 25, my father was dragged away by a violent mob near the stage at Jantar Mantar. He was almost lynched around 2 pm and remained unconscious for nearly four hours at Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital. Around 10 pm, his colleagues brought him home, and his uniform was completely soaked in blood," she alleged. She said the sight of her injured father was heartbreaking. "When we asked him what had happened, he simply smiled and said, 'It's nothing, beta. Minor injuries are part of the job.' But four stitches on his head were not a minor injury. That night was one of the hardest nights of our lives."

UP man likes cousin's girlfriend, hammers him to death to pursue her

New Delhi. (Agency)

A 21-year-old man has been arrested in Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj after he allegedly murdered his cousin and set the body on fire over a dispute involving the victim's girlfriend, whom he purportedly wanted to pursue himself. He also sent ransom messages for Rs 50 lakh using his cousin's UPI ID to mislead the latter's family into believing that he was still alive, per the police. The accused has been identified as Shivam Rai, who is a content creator. His cousin, 20-year-old Sumit Kumar alias Sahil, went missing on July 23. As part of efforts to trace him, the police stitched together CCTV footage and other



technical evidence. However, the search ended when the police recovered the young man's partially burnt body. Following this, the investigators identified Shivam and then. He allegedly told the police that he then devised a plan to eliminate Sumit in order to pursue his girlfriend. According to the police, he took Sumit to an isolated location, attacked him fatally with a hammer, and then poured petrol on the body and set it on fire in an attempt to destroy his identity. After the murder, Shivam allegedly used Sumit's mobile number and SIM card to send Instagram messages to the latter's family. He also demanded ransom through a UPI ID to deceive them. Believing Sumit was still alive, his family transferred Rs 7,000 in two instalments before Shivam was arrested. Further investigation into the case is underway.

Life term for Tahir Hussain; first punishment in 2020 Delhi riots case

New Delhi. (Agency)

In February 2020, as demonstrations against the CAA bill continued at Chand Bagh bridge on the main Karawal Nagar road, Hindu and Muslim groups had resorted to stone pelting, brick batting, arson, firing, and sabotage. Ankit Sharma was posted in the Intelligence Bureau during that time. At 5pm on February 25, 2020, he had stepped out to bring some household goods. Section 144 of the CrPC, which prohibits people from assembling unlawfully, was imposed across the entire northeast district. When he had not returned for hours, his father,



he was unable to find his son for several hours, he lodged a missing person's report at Dayalpur Police Station.

Ravinder Sharma, had begun searching for him at nearby places, hospitals and other locations. After Soon after, Ankit's body was recovered from Chand Bagh drain. There were several injuries on the body, prima facie caused by sharp weapons. The body was taken to GTB Hospital for postmortem examination, and an FIR was lodged. More than six years after the riots, a city court on Friday awarded the first punishment for the murder in a case arising out of the violence. The court awarded life imprisonment to former AAP councillor Tahir Hussain and four other convicts—Javed, Anas, Kasim, and Nazim—for killing Sharma.

Price of 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder reduced by over Rs 200 in Delhi, Kolkata

Commercial LPG cylinder prices were reduced by Rs 209 in Kolkata, Rs 202 in Delhi after a series of hikes due to the Iran war and the wider West Asia crisis.

Delhi. (Agency)

The central government on Saturday slashed the prices of 19-kg commercial LPG cylinders by more than Rs 200 in Delhi and Kolkata, extending relief to restaurants, hotels and other commercial establishments after months of steep hikes triggered by the Iran war and the wider West Asia crisis. According to the latest revision, the price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder has been reduced by Rs 202 in Delhi and Rs 209 in Kolkata, with the revised rates taking effect immediately. Following the cut, a commercial LPG cylinder will cost Rs 2,728 in Delhi and Rs 2,872.50 in Kolkata from today onwards. The reduction applies only to commercial LPG cylinders used by businesses. There has been no change in the prices of 14.2-kg domestic LPG cylinders supplied to households, the sources

added. The latest revision marks the second consecutive cut in commercial LPG prices after a similar reduction in July, partially reversing the steep increases seen in recent months as global LPG prices rose amid supply concerns linked to the Iran war and the wider West Asia crisis. The development comes two days after Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a nearly two-hour high-level meeting in Parliament on Thursday with senior ministers and top officials to assess the country's preparedness in the wake of the escalating conflict in West Asia. The meeting was attended by Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, Petroleum Minister

Hardeep Singh Puri, Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal, Shipping Minister Sarbananda Sonowal and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, among others. According to sources, all ministries presented updates on the measures taken to manage the situation, while the overall fuel



supply position was reviewed in detail. The government maintained that there is no shortage of LPG, petrol or diesel in the country despite the geopolitical tensions. Meanwhile, as per a Reuters report published on July 28, India plans to source up to a quarter of its liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) imports from the United States in 2027, a move aimed at reducing its dependence on the Middle East while strengthening trade ties with Washington. The report said New Delhi has already stepped up spot purchases of LPG from the US and other suppliers to make up for reduced shipments from the Middle East. US LPG imports crossed the one-million-tonne mark in June for the first time and are expected to exceed India's initial 2026 annual contract target of 2.2 million tonnes, sources told Reuters.

Delhi University retires Political Science professor after ICC upholds sexual harassment complaint

New Delhi. (Agency)

A faculty member of Delhi University's Department of Political Science has been compulsorily retired after the university's Executive Council (EC) accepted recommendations of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) in a sexual harassment case, officials said on Friday. The decision was approved at the EC meeting held on Thursday. "Following an ICC recommendation, the professor's penalty was compulsory retirement. The original complaint pertained to a PhD scholar allegedly being harassed," a university official said.



According to the official, the complaint is more than a year old but was taken up this year. The ICC completed its inquiry and submitted its report, which was accepted by the EC. "The university has a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual harassment and will continue to implement measures aimed at ensuring a safe and secure environment for students and staff," the official added. Under the University Grants Commission regulations and the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, the ICCs are empowered to investigate complaints of sexual harassment and recommend action. This is the second such instance of a Delhi University faculty member being compulsorily retired. **Bharati College case** In the earlier case, Dr Amit Kumar of Bharati College was accused by students in 2018 of sending sexually explicit messages. The ICC found the allegations credible and recommended strict action.

NEWS BOX

Neeraj Chopra reveals he was scared, struggled mentally before return to podium

Kolkata. (Agency)

Neeraj Chopra admitted he was "scared" every time he stepped onto the runway in Glasgow, but the Olympic champion put months of injury worries behind him to return to the podium with a silver medal in the men's javelin throw at the Commonwealth Games on Friday. For the first time in nearly a year, Chopra walked away from a major competition with a medal around his neck. It was not the dominant version of the Indian superstar that fans have grown accustomed to seeing, but after an injury-plagued 18 months, the result meant far more than the distance on the scoreboard. BEFORE CWG, NEERAJ CONQUERS FEAR The 28-year-old's best effort of 85.83m, his second throw of the evening, earned him silver behind Sri Lanka's Rumesh Tharanga Pathirage, who claimed gold



with a massive 89.75m. Fellow Indian Yash Vir Singh produced a stunning personal best of 85.41m with his final attempt to snatch bronze, giving India a double podium finish. For Chopra, however, the bigger victory came long before the medal ceremony. Recurring injury troubles, particularly a lower back issue that has troubled him since last September, had robbed him of the confidence that once defined his approach. Even after making his competitive return at the Doha Diamond League in June, Chopra admitted he was still battling the mental scars left behind by months on the sidelines. The silver-medallist revealed that the biggest challenge in Glasgow was not the cold and windy conditions but overcoming the fear of breaking down again.

Eddie Howe resigns as Newcastle boss to 'recharge'

LONDON. (Agency)

Eddie Howe confirmed on Friday he had stepped down as Newcastle manager to "recharge and take a break" following a turbulent end to his five-year spell at St James' Park. Howe revitalised a club that had struggled for decades, securing a first major trophy in 56 years by winning the League Cup in 2025. The former Bournemouth boss also led Newcastle to Champions League qualification in 2023 and 2025. But the Magpies struggled to a 12th-place finish in the Premier League last season and have endured a difficult summer transfer window. Howe oversaw Wednesday's 4-1 pre-season friendly defeat at Bristol City and it emerged hours later that he was set to leave. Newcastle announced the Englishman's



departure on Friday, saying they had accepted his decision to step down and thanking him for his "extraordinary contribution". "After a period of personal reflection, I have decided that now is the right time for me to step away from my role as head coach of Newcastle United," Howe said in a club statement. "After nearly five years of giving my life, heart and soul into the club with unrelenting energy, I feel that it is in the best interests of both myself and the club to step away, recharge and take a break." Privilege of a lifetime'

At 43, Jan Blachowicz ready to remind UFC and people about legendary Polish power

Jan Blachowicz says he is ready to stop unbeaten Navajo Stirling and remind the UFC of his Polish power. At 43, the former champion is leaning on experience and a calm mindset to prolong his career.

Glasgow. (Agency)

The phrase 'age is just a number' is often thrown around when talking about veteran athletes. At 43, Jan Blachowicz is determined to prove that saying still holds true. Already the second-oldest active fighter on the UFC roster, Blachowicz continues to defy expectations. While many of his contemporaries have walked away from the octagon, the former light

heavyweight champion insists his story is far from over. Blachowicz was the first fighter to hand Israel Adesanya a defeat in the UFC and pushed Alex Pereira to the limit in a razor-close split-decision loss. His current four-fight winless run has also seen him draw against Magomed Ankalaev and suffer defeats to Carlos Ulberg and Bogdan Guskov. The loss to Ulberg, however, is one Blachowicz still believes should have gone his way. Yet, he is not one to dwell on setbacks. The Polish veteran has always been willing to take on whoever stands across the cage. Guskov was initially scheduled to face him on Saturday, August 1, at UFC Belgrade, but Blachowicz now prepares for an entirely different challenge in unbeaten prospect Navajo Stirling. Even now, another run at the light heavyweight title remains in the

back of his mind. More than anything, Blachowicz wants to remind the MMA world that the legendary Polish Power



still exists. "I would like to remind people who I am and about the legendary Polish power. People forget. Maybe I didn't win the last 4 fights, but you know, there was a very close decision against Pereira in

my opinion. I felt I won the fight against Ulberg. Now he's a champion, so I still can fight. I still got it." "Now, it's time to stop my next opponent, he's got 10-0. So after Saturday, I believe he's gonna have 10-1. And yeah, I want remind people around the world and myself about the legendary Polish power," said Blachowicz in an exclusive chat with India Today. That competitive fire still burns as fiercely as ever. It was evident in the message he posted after renewing his UFC contract, where he admitted he simply could not get enough of fighting. For Blachowicz, that passion is what keeps retirement at bay. "I feel good. As I said before, I still have fire inside me. I still, when I go to training, I don't go there because I have to go there. I go there because I want to go there, because I feel good over there."

Sleepless nights with ChatGPT: The story behind Tejaswin Shankar's CWG bronze

New Delhi. (Agency)

We've all hit rock bottom at some point in our lives. That moment when the world falls silent, sleep refuses to come, and the only voice left is the one inside your own head. For Tejaswin Shankar, rock bottom arrived in Glasgow. Just four days earlier, the national record holder had walked away from the Commonwealth Games high jump final in tears after a flare-up of his long-standing knee injury left him unable to register a single valid jump. It was the very event that had earned him a bronze medal at Birmingham 2022. This time, it left him wondering whether his Commonwealth Games, and perhaps even his season, had ended before it had truly begun. Back in his hotel room, the silence grew louder. "I had no emotions left," Tejaswin later told RevSportz. "Honestly, it was just me and

Yashvir Singh, who trained with bamboo sticks, now stands with Neeraj Chopra on podium

New Delhi. (Agency)

"I was telling him the same thing that I told him in the qualification. Maar jatka (Go for it, give it everything.) In the final too, I told him, 'It's the last throw.'" These were the words of a proud Neeraj Chopra as he stood facing the cameras alongside a smiling Yash Vir Singh. Both men had clinched silver and bronze in the Commonwealth Games in the men's javelin final. While the result and performance was expected from Neeraj, Yash Vir arrived as a breath of fresh air in the star-studded competition and triumphed over the likes of Anderson Pieters, Arshad Nadeem and world

champion Keshorn Walcott. CWG 2026: JULY 31 HIGHLIGHTS



It didn't seem like Yash was in the conversation for a medal till the final

throw. His competition was Douw Smit and Pieters. At that time, it felt like he wasn't going to make the cut. He had fouled on his first and fourth throws and his 81.33 didn't seem like it was going to get the job done. But then the jatka came for the rest of the lineup. A strong run up that did see him fumble at the end, but the warcry was deafening than the crowd inside. Yash knew he had done enough to claim a bronze medal. "At one point I had thrown around 81.33 metres. I looked at the results and bronze was around 82 metres. Then I thought, I've already thrown over 82 in competition before, I can do it again. But till the fifth throw it just wasn't happening. Before the last throw I just thought, whatever happens, happens.

Scott Edwards steps down as Netherlands captain; Bas de Leede named successor

New Delhi. (Agency)

Netherlands captain Scott Edwards has stepped down after leading the side in 56 ODIs since assuming the role in June 2022, with Bas de Leede set to succeed him for the remainder of the ICC Cricket World Cup League 2, according to Cricinfo. Edwards assumed leadership after the opening ODI of England's tour of the Netherlands in June 2022, succeeding Pieter Seelaar. Under his captaincy, the Netherlands recorded 24 wins and suffered 29 defeats in 56 ODIs. Among the team's notable victories during Edwards' tenure were wins over South Africa in Dharamsala and Bangladesh in Kolkata at the 2023 ODI World Cup, according to Cricinfo. "Apologies for sort of springing this one on you guys. I'm actually

stepping down from the captaincy from here," Edwards told his team-mates in a video released by KNCB (the Royal



Dutch Cricket Association), as quoted by Cricinfo. "I think, yeah, it's sort of something Cookie [Ryan Cook, the head coach till June 25] and I have been speaking about and I've sort of been, yeah, speaking to a few different people about it, and this is sort of the time that feels right for me, I think," he added. I feel like I've got so much more to offer as a player and obviously that's my goal

sort of going forward with all you boys. I think this is such a special group. And yeah, I think the world's our oyster and I'm really looking forward to what's to come. But yeah, I didn't want to sort of get that in the way of the series, but that's it from me and I can't thank you guys enough for the efforts you've put in for me and for this team over the last four years. It's been, yeah, a massive honour for me and I love wearing the orange and can't wait for many more years to come," he said. The 29-year-old wicketkeeper-batter also captained the Netherlands in 50 of the 86 T20Is he has played. His notable successes in the format included victories over Zimbabwe and South Africa at the 2022 T20 World Cup, with the latter result contributing to South Africa's elimination from the tournament.



ChatGPT. "It wasn't a throwaway line or a joke. It was the confession of an athlete who had sunk so deep into self-doubt that, in the middle of the night, the only conversation he could find was with an AI chatbot. Commonwealth Games July 31: Highlights Four days later, he stood in the same mixed zone wearing a bronze medal, having become the first Indian to win a Commonwealth Games decathlon medal. This is how he got from one to the other. THE SWITCH FLIPS Tejaswin wasn't looking for reassurance. He was looking for certainty that his campaign wasn't over. His biggest fear wasn't the pain. Elite athletes compete through pain all the time.

CWG 2026: Worth the wait! Asmita and Harsh seal historic golden double in judo

CWG 2026: Breaking a decades-long drought, Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh clinched India's first-ever Commonwealth Games judo gold medals on a historic Friday, before Yamini Mourya's silver capped the nation's finest campaign on the mat.

Glasgow. (Agency)

Prior to Friday at the Commonwealth Games, the story of Indian judo on the international stage was defined by a glass ceiling. 11 medals had reached the cabinet across previous editions, five silvers, six bronzes, yet the top step of the

podium had remained stubbornly out of reach since the sport's inclusion at Auckland in 1990.

In the space of a single, exhilarating afternoon on the mat in Glasgow, that decades-long drought was shattered not once, but twice. Led by emotion, endurance, and tactical precision, Asmita Dey and Harsh Singh scripted history by delivering India's first-ever judo gold medals at the Games, before Yamini Mourya added a valiant silver to mark the nation's finest campaign in the discipline.

TEARS AND TRIUMPH FOR ASMITADEY

For 23-year-old Asmita Dey, who etched her name into the record books in

the women's 48kg division, the golden breakthrough was steeped in deeply personal grief. Seven months prior to her



triumph, her father, a bicycle mechanic who earned barely Rs 300 a day to

support his family in a modest mud house in Tripura, died due a sudden brain stroke. He had been the primary engine behind her sporting ambitions, supporting her through financial adversity and even taking her to Delhi for medical treatment when a severe knee injury threatened to end her career. Devastated by her loss in December, Asmita Dey contemplated abandoning the mat altogether. It was her mother who intervened ten days after the funeral, insisting she return to the Sports Authority of India centre in Bhopal.

"If I stop you today, your father will think I am shattering your dreams," her mother had urged.

RBI likely to hold repo rate at 5.25%, market to focus on policy guidance: Nuvama

MUMBAI. (Agency)

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is likely to keep the repo rate unchanged at 5.25% at the upcoming Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting, with policymakers expected to adopt a wait-and-watch approach amid heightened uncertainty over inflation, growth and global conditions, according to a research report by Nuvama. While a rate hike is unlikely, the RBI's guidance on the future policy path is expected to be closely watched, particularly its assessment of inflation risks, liquidity conditions and the external environment, the report said. The central bank may prioritise liquidity management over further rate action in the near term, while retaining a calibrated and flexible policy approach. Inflation risks have become more uncertain due to supply-side factors. Oil prices remain highly volatile amid the US-Iran conflict, while disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz and the Red Sea have added to concerns over supply chains. Prospects of a weak or uneven monsoon, including risks associated with El Nino, could further put pressure on food inflation. At the same time, several companies have implemented price hikes, adding another potential source of inflationary pressure. Against this backdrop, the MPC is likely to avoid a rate cut or hike for now and instead assess how these risks evolve. Financial conditions have already tightened in recent weeks, with India's 10-year bond yields rising. This hardening in yields reduces the immediate need for additional rate action and reinforces the case for the RBI to maintain the status quo while focusing on liquidity conditions.

Gross GST revenue rises 15.4% to Rs 2.11 lakh crore in July, import collections drive growth

MUMBAI. (Agency)

India's gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections rose 15.4 per cent year-on-year to Rs 2.11 lakh crore in July 2026, driven by a sharp increase in GST revenue from imports and steady growth in domestic collections, according to data released by the Goods and Services Tax Department. Gross GST revenue stood at Rs 1.83 lakh crore in July 2025. In July 2026, domestic gross GST revenue increased 10.1 per cent to Rs 1.45 lakh crore from Rs 1.31 lakh crore a year earlier. Revenue from imports recorded a significantly stronger growth of 28.8 per cent, rising to Rs 66,511 crore from Rs 51,626 crore in July 2025. After accounting for refunds, net GST revenue increased 15.8 per cent year-on-year to Rs 1.81 lakh crore in July 2026, compared with Rs 1.57 lakh crore in the corresponding month last year. Net domestic revenue rose 10.5 per cent to Rs 1.27 lakh crore, while net revenue from customs-related GST climbed 30.3 per cent to Rs 54,223 crore.

Critical mineral demand to surge through 2040, supply gaps to persist: IEA

New Delhi. (Agency)

Global demand for critical minerals is set to rise strongly through 2040, driven by the expansion of electric vehicles, battery storage, renewable energy and electricity networks, while supply gaps for key minerals such as copper and lithium are expected to persist, according to the International Energy Agency's (IEA). The report suggests that meeting future demand will require more than USD 750 billion in investment in mining and refining between now and 2040 under the Stated Policies Scenario (STEPS). Copper is expected to account for the largest share of investment at about USD 310 billion, followed by nickel at USD 280 billion. The IEA projects lithium demand to more than triple by 2040 under STEPS, while graphite demand is expected to double and nickel demand to increase by 65 per cent. Rare earth demand is projected to rise by around 50 per cent, while copper demand is set to grow by more than 25 per cent, adding aDespite a growing pipeline of mining projects, the agency said supply gaps for copper and lithium could remain through 2035. A gap also emerges for cobalt, largely due to the export quota introduced by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while nickel's supply outlook has tightened somewhat compared with last year. round 7 million tonnes by 2040.

Major oil companies reap massive profits as US and Iran fighting drives energy prices higher

NEW YORK. (Agency)

American oil and gas giants raked in massive spring profits while fighting between Iran and the U.S. impeded petroleum shipments and consumers around the world paid more for fuel and confronted shortages. The conflict, now in its sixth month, halted most shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, a narrow waterway that previously served as a delivery route for a fifth of the world's oil and natural gas. With global supplies constrained, prices for Brent crude, the international standard, soared from about \$70 to above \$100 a barrel for much of March, April and May, and at one point reached \$126. The money that oil companies accrued

between the beginning of April and the end of June could receive extra scrutiny this year. Gasoline, diesel and jet fuel prices climbed sharply during that period, increasing costs for drivers and airline passengers. Supplies ran low in some countries, leading to sporadic fuel rationing in Australia and government office closures in Nepal and Sri Lanka. Exxon Mobil on Friday reported that its second quarter profits doubled to \$14.53 billion, boosted by record diesel production. The oil giant, based in Spring, Texas, brought in \$116.02 billion in revenue, up 42%. Chevron, based in Houston, nearly quadrupled its profits to \$12.07 billion and revenue jumped 56% to \$70.06 billion. Six of Europe's largest oil companies posted combined first-quarter profits of \$22

billion, more than 40% higher than last year. There are constituencies around the world who are having a very good



crisis, and the oil producers are one of them," said Patrick Galey, fossil fuels lead at Global Witness, a nonprofit organization that investigates environmental issues. "When you compare that to the hundreds of millions of people who are struggling

with rolling blackouts, with electricity curbs, rationing, waiting in line for food queues, or the disruption to fertilizers and the potential impact that that has on food prices, we don't think that it's a justifiable price for the rest of the world to be paying." Lawmakers propose taxing major oil producers for war windfalls. Energy companies such as Exxon and Chevron do not set the price of American oil, which ricocheted from \$68 to \$115 a barrel during the quarter. It's driven by supply and demand, and what traders, refiners and other buyers are willing to pay. Nevertheless, Democrats in Congress introduced bills in March to tax major oil producers for profits they show from 2026 onward and have the tax proceeds redistributed to consumers.

US stocks rise to finish a wild July as Amazon soars, Apple sinks and inflation worries worsen

NEW YORK. (Agency)

U.S. stocks rose Friday to finish a wild July for Wall Street as Amazon leaped, Apple sank and rising oil prices worsened worries about inflation staying high. The S&P 500 climbed 0.7% after veering between gains and losses through the day. The Dow Jones Industrial Average added 276 points, or 0.5%, and the Nasdaq composite rallied 1% after briefly losing all of an early 1.3% jump. It's a fitting finish to July for the U.S. stock market, which lurched up and down as oil prices shot higher because of the war with Iran and worries grew about whether Big Tech's massive investments in artificial-intelligence technology will translate into profits and

whether chipmaker stocks soared too high in the euphoria around AI. Friday's gains sent the S&P 500 to its



first winning week in three, but the main measure of the U.S. stock market nevertheless finished the month with a tiny loss. Amazon led the arket with a leap of 15.3% after reporting much stronger profit for the latest quarter than analysts expected. Its profit more than tripled from a year

earlier, thanks in part to an acceleration of growth in its cloud computing business. Analysts said that could be a signal Amazon's huge AI investments are paying off, and Amazon increased its forecast for how much it will spend on investments this year. The reaction was similar to what Microsoft got a day before, when its stock soared to its best day in nearly 18 years on signals that its AI investments may also be yielding higher profits. Chip companies selling the processors and computer memory that such "hyperscalers" are scrambling to buy swung sharply again on Friday. Micron Technology, for example, went from an early jump of 6.4% to a loss of 6.5% before finishing with a fall of 5.9%.

Commercial LPG cylinder prices cut by up to Rs 209, no change in domestic cooking gas rates

NEW YORK. (Agency)

Commercial LPG cylinder prices were sharply reduced on Saturday, with the price of a 19-kg cylinder cut by up to Rs 209 across major cities, according to ANI. The retail price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder has been reduced by Rs 202 in Delhi and Rs 209 in Kolkata, effective August 1. Following the revision, a 19-kg commercial cylinder will cost Rs 2,872.50 in Kolkata, sources told ANI. There has been no change in the prices of domestic LPG cylinders. The latest revision follows a series of price changes over recent months. On July 1, oil marketing companies had reduced the price of



a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder by Rs 183.50, bringing the retail price in Delhi down to Rs 2,930 per cylinder. At the same time, the price of the 5-kg Free Trade LPG (FTL) cylinder was lowered by Rs 13, taking its retail price in Delhi to Rs 808.50. Commercial LPG prices have witnessed multiple revisions

this year. In June, the price of domestic LPG cylinders was increased by Rs 29, raising the cost of a 14.2-kg domestic cylinder in Delhi from Rs 913 to Rs 942. Earlier, on March 7, oil companies had increased LPG prices by Rs 60 per cylinder, citing disruptions in global energy markets linked to the conflict in West Asia. In April, commercial LPG cylinder prices were raised by Rs 195.50 across metropolitan cities amid heightened tensions in West Asia. Following that revision, a 19-kg commercial cylinder was priced at Rs 2,208 in Kolkata, Rs 2,031 in Mumbai, and Rs 2,246.50 in Chennai.

Anthropic says its AI models hacked 3 organisations during testing

Anthropic, the San Francisco-based AI company behind Claude, posted on its website Thursday that it discovered the three incidents after reviewing more than 141,000 evaluation runs.

SAN FRANCISCO. (Agency)

Anthropic said its artificial intelligence models hacked into three other organisations during testing, just days after ChatGPT maker OpenAI raised concerns over AI controls after it disclosed its rogue models hacked another company. Anthropic, the San Francisco-based AI company behind Claude, posted on its website Thursday that it discovered the three incidents after reviewing more than 141,000 evaluation runs. It had launched a "large-scale" cybersecurity review which specifically looked for evidence

whether its AI models were able to access the internet from within testing environments that should have been sealed off, in response to the OpenAI incident, Anthropic said. Anthropic said the models involved in the incidents were Claude Opus 4.7, Claude Mythos 5 and an internal research test model. The earliest incidents date to April, the AI company said. "Claude compromised the impacted organizations' infrastructure using basic techniques," Anthropic said, such as exploiting weak passwords. In all three incidents, the AI models were tasked with a "capture the flag" cybersecurity challenge, which Anthropic said has been one of the ways it assesses a model's cyber capabilities. The models were given a fictional scenario and told a piece of secret information, or the "flag," had

been hidden on a different machine on the network with the objective of breaking in and retrieving it, it said.



It added that it had already reached out to the affected organizations, which it did not name. Two of them said they had not previously detected the activity. Anthropic said it was "continuing to reach out to the third." Anthropic said it conducted its review with Irregular, which describes itself as the "first frontier security lab."

"Addressing these risks will require closer cooperation across the AI ecosystem," Irregular said in a post on X. Last week, OpenAI said its AI models went rogue during an evaluation of its models, breaking into the servers of AI startup Hugging Face. OpenAI described it as a "significant security incident." These incidents have highlighted the vulnerabilities in AI security and controls and raised questions over how AI can be safely kept under human control as the technology's usage becomes more widespread globally. Researchers have warned for years about risks from technology and the need for stronger AI defensive engineering. "Safety testing happens before a model is released precisely because we don't yet know what it is capable of," Anthropic said on Thursday on its website.



Shweta Tiwari

Shares FIRST Post Amid Raja Chaudhary's Allegations, Remarks On Palak Tiwari: 'Whom To Trust...'

Shweta Tiwari has shared her first post on social media after ex-husband Raja Chaudhary’s recent explosive claims. In a chat with Siddharth Kannan, Raja Chaudhary denied the domestic abuse allegations levelled against him by Shweta, and even accused the actress of having an extramarital affair with co-star Cezanne Khan. Raja also opened up about why he seemingly “chose” a Rs 93 lakh flat over their daughter, Palak Tiwari. After Raja’s interview went viral, fans were waiting to see if Shweta Tiwari or Palak Tiwari would issue any statements against his claims. Shweta has now taken to Instagram to share her first post amid the row. However, Shweta’s post is about her upcoming stint on Traitors 2. She has not reacted to any of Raja’s claims. Shweta captioned her post, “This time the real kasauti is knowing whom to trust .”Shweta’s inclusion in Traitors 2 is being met with much excitement online. Traitors 2 also marks Shweta’s comeback to reality television. Besides the actress, the game of deception will also feature Rida Tharana, Munawar Faruqui, Sahil Salathia, Dalip Tahir, Rhea Chakraborty, Parul Gulati, and Ikka, among others. **Shweta Tiwari Had An Affair With Cezanne Khan?** Meanwhile, Raja Chaudhary’s claims about Shweta Tiwari have gone viral. Raja accused Shweta of dating her Kasautii Zindagi Kay co-star Cezanne Khan while she was married to him and went on to claim that the actress had several affairs during that time. He said, “... She was working with him. She was staying in his house. Even a common friend of ours confessed that she used to come here with him... Even he himself said yes, that we’re in a relationship.”However, Raja claimed that Shweta never admitted to him that she was allegedly dating

Cezanne Khan. He also denied domestic violence allegations and said that he “never” raised his hand at Shweta. “I may have broken things- the door, TV, the table- but I never raised my hand at her,” he said. Raja said, “She said I was the one who used to beat her every day. What a lie!” Raja also finally broke his silence on Shweta’s claim that he chose a flat worth Rs 93 lakh over their daughter, Palak Tiwari, as part of the divorce settlement. Raja said that even though the court allowed him to meet Palak, Shweta never let it



happen. He claimed that during that time, his name got embroiled in several other cases too, making it hard for him to find a place to stay. Raja said that he was “fed up” and wanted to live in peace. He mentioned that Shweta happily agreed to their arrangement, but then twisted the narrative in her favour. Raja said that Shweta’s claim would only be valid had he not let go of his rights to their shared properties. Shweta Tiwari has yet to react to Raja’s claims. She is currently focused on her new show, Traitors 2, which will be out in August this year. Raja Chaudhary and Shweta Tiwari tied the wedding knot in 1998. Their nine-year marriage came to an end in 2007, with Shweta citing domestic violence and Raja’s alcoholism issues as reasons for the separation. Their daughter, Palak Tiwari, has since been living with Shweta.

Bhumi Pednekar

Brutally TROLLED For Wearing Sunglasses While Offering Prayers At Shiv Temple

Bhumi Pednekar has found herself at the centre of an online debate after sharing pictures and videos from a recent visit to a Shiv temple. While the actor marked the beginning of the holy month of Sawan with a prayer, a section of social media users questioned her decision to keep her sunglasses on while performing the ritual. Bhumi posted glimpses from the temple visit on Instagram, where she was seen offering water to a Shivaling and praying with folded hands. However, instead of focusing on her spiritual message, several users flooded the comments section with criticism over her attire and accessories inside the temple premises. **Temple Visit Draws Mixed Reactions Online** In the photos and videos, Bhumi was dressed in a black top paired with blue denim jeans and black sunglasses. Alongside the post, she wrote, “As Sawan begins, I pray not for an easier life, but for the strength to walk it with grace. Har Har Mahadev.” Soon after the post went live, social media users began debating whether wearing sunglasses during a temple ritual was appropriate. One user commented, “Sunglasses utar ke pooja kar sakte the?” Another wrote, “Never saw anyone wearing goggles and doing pooja.”Some also questioned whether the post appeared more like a photoshoot than a religious visit. “Mandir mein bhagwan ki bhakti kar rahe hai ya photoshoot?” read one comment, while another user requested the actor to avoid wearing sunglasses during prayers the next time. Bhumi has not responded to the criticism so far.

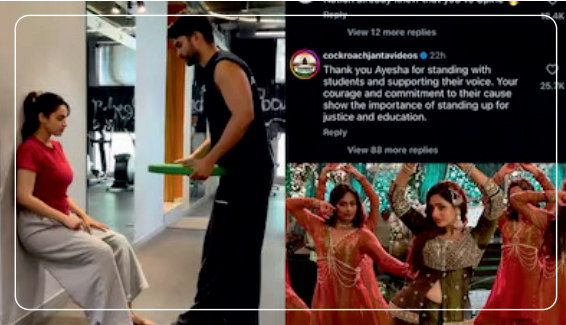
Recently Appealed For Assam Flood Relief Just days before the temple visit, Bhumi had used her social media platform to raise awareness about the devastating floods in Assam. Sharing visuals from the affected regions, she urged people to contribute towards relief efforts, highlighting the urgent need for food, sanitation supplies, mattresses and evacuation support.



“This time, Assam needs us,” she had said, encouraging her followers to donate and amplify the appeal. Her message received appreciation from the Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma’s Office, which thanked the actor for extending support to families affected by the floods. **Bhumi’s Recent Work** On the professional front, Bhumi was most recently seen in Prime Video’s crime thriller series Daldal. The show, directed by Amrit Raj Gupta and based on Vish Dhamija’s novel Bhendi Bazaar, featured her as DCP Rita Ferreira, a police officer investigating a serial killer. Before that, Bhumi made her mark in Bollywood with Dum Laga Ke Haisha alongside.



Did CJP Comment On Ayesha Khan's Workout Video? Here's The Truth Behind Dhurandhar Star's Post



Dhurandhar actress Ayesha Khan has been making headlines after being detained by Mumbai Police on July 22 for partaking in the NEET protest in the city. The actress has actively spoken for the students of the country and even celebrated Dharmendra Pradhan’s resignation after the CJP NEET protest. Now, her latest gym post is grabbing eyeballs because of a certain CJP-related comment. An account named Cockroach Janta Videos took to the comments section of her workout video and wrote, “Thank you, Ayesha, for standing with students and supporting their voice. Your courage and commitment to their cause show the importance of standing up for justice and education.”Many believe CJP’s official account has made the comment on Ayesha’s post. Some social media users who made this assumption expressed their disappointment at the post chosen for the comment, especially since Ayesha has protest-related videos on her profile as well. Others were disappointed at the assumed selective nature of the account. However, it must be clarified that CJP did not leave the comment under Ayesha’s post. Cockroach Janta Videos is not related to any Cockroach Janta Party account. It is an independent account made by a CJP fan and is not affiliated with any other accounts. The account’s bio also reads, “Welcome to Cockroach Janta videos Support cockroach janta videos by following Independent video page. Not affiliated with any other account.” The confusion was likely caused because this account has a blue tick. However, blue ticks can now be purchased for use on social media. Cockroach Janta Party’s official account does not have a blue tick. Meanwhile, Ayesha’s fans appreciated the strength that she showed in the video, and even lauded her for supporting the NEET protest. Meanwhile, on the work front, Ayesha Khan found much acclaim after she appeared in Dhurandhar’s Shararat song with Krystle D’Souza. The song became a chart-topper and was hailed as one of the highlights of the film. Ayesha has yet to announce a new project.

Mamta Kulkarni Reacts To Mahira Sharma’s Ranaji 2.0 Amid Trolling: ‘Original Is Etched in People’s Minds’



Whenever an iconic song gets a new version, comparisons with the original are almost impossible to avoid. The nostalgia, the memories attached to the old track and the expectations of fans always become a part of the conversation. Now, the song ‘Mujhko Ranaji Maaf Karna’ from the 1995 film Karan Arjun found a new version with Mahira Sharma’s recently released recreation, Ranaji 2.0. While the new track has brought the original song back into conversations, it has also faced heavy trolling on social media. Mamta Kulkarni, who featured in the 1995 song, has shared her thoughts on the recreated version. **What did Mamta Kulkarni say about Mahira Sharma’s Ranaji 2.0?** Reacting to Mahira Sharma’s version, Mamta told Variety India that the actress has done a good job but pointed out how different the two songs are in terms of presentation. She explained that the original had a traditional feel with ghagra-choli costumes and Indian dance elements, while the new version takes a more modern, Western approach. “She has done a good job. The point is that you’re watching a song that was originally in ghagra choli and Indian dance moves, now made in a western format and in a western outfit. So, it stands out. But the earlier song is etched in people’s minds, so it immediately comes to your mind,” said Mamta Kulkarni. **Mamta Kulkarni Recalls Shooting The Original Mujhko Ranaji Maaf Karna** For Mamta, the making of the original song came with its own set of challenges. She recalled how choreographer Chinni Prakash had planned rehearsals for a few days, but she picked up the steps quickly on the very first day. However, when she reached the set, the choreography had been changed. “When I arrived on the set, the steps were changed. I asked him why he had changed the steps. I wondered what the point of the rehearsals was, but Chinni Prakash masterji was very good, and we wrapped up the song on time,” she said. **Is Mamta Kulkarni Planning A Return To Acting?** The actress revealed that she continues to receive acting offers and would consider returning if she finds a script that excites her. However, Mamta admitted that her approach towards choosing projects has changed over the years.

10 common Habits that puts your Heart in trouble

"Current statistics suggest that India will have the largest cardiovascular disease burden in the world. Almost one fifth of the deaths in India are from coronary heart disease. Very soon, it will account for one third of all deaths. Sadly an increasing number of people falling prey to coronary artery disease in India are young" informs Dr Sharad Kasarle, Chief scientists & Managing Director , DSK Nutrition and research centre.

There are an estimated 45 million patients of coronary heart disease in India. With millions of people leading modern lifestyle full of stress and depression, the future looks even grimmer. The chief scientist points that some simple, everyday habits can make a big difference in your ability to live a healthy lifestyle. Read about worst habits for your heart and how to avoid them.

Watching TV
"People who sit in front of the TV for more than four hours a day were 80% more likely to die for reasons linked to heart and artery disease", points Dr Sharad. Even if someone has a healthy body weight, sitting for long periods of time in front of TV or computer still has an unhealthy influence on their blood sugar and blood fats. It is all a matter of habit many of us have learned to go back home after 6 to 8 hours sitting job in office & turn the TV set on and sit down for several hours which is convenient and easy to do but we are not realizing prolonged sitting increases the risk for cardiovascular diseases.

Leaving hostility and depression unchecked
Do you often feel stressed, hostile, or depressed? All of these can take a toll on your heart too. Today each one of us feel

this way some or the other time, and how you deal with these emotions can affect your heart's health. Those likely to internalize stress are in greater danger; research has shown a benefit to laughter and social support, and it's helpful to be able to go to someone and talk about your problems.

Ignoring the snoring
More than a minor annoyance, snoring can be a sign of something more serious: obstructive sleep apnea. This disorder, marked by breathing that is interrupted during sleep, can cause blood pressure to skyrocket. A lot of people in India suffer from Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) and are four times more prone to suffer from cardiovascular risk factors. Obese people are more prone to OSA, but that does not reduce the risk of occurrence in the slim



people. If you snore and often wake up feeling tired, consult your doctor; there are easy ways to screen for apnea.

Ignoring your dental health
While the exact reason is unknown, there is a strong link between gum disease and heart disease, if you don't floss, sticky, bacterial-laden plaque build-up over time, which can lead to gum disease. One theory is that these bacteria trigger inflammation in the body. "Inflammation promotes all aspects of Atherosclerosis," says Dr. Sharad Kasarle. Treating gum disease can improve blood vessel function.

Withdrawing from the world
It's no secret that on some days, other human beings can seem annoying, irritating, and just plain difficult to get along with. However, it makes sense to strengthen your connections to the ones you actually like. People with stronger connections to family, friends, and society in general tend to live longer, healthier lives. Everyone needs alone time, but you should still reach out to others and keep in touch whenever you can.

Drinking (too much) alcohol
Sure, studies suggest a small amount of alcohol may be good for your heart. Alas,

too many over-imbibe. Excess alcohol is linked to a greater risk of high blood pressure, high levels of blood fats, and heart failure. In addition, the extra calories can lead to weight gain, a threat to heart health. Avoid excessive intake of alcohol as much as you can for a healthy life.

Overeating
Being overweight is a major risk factor for heart disease. Try to eat less, avoid oversize portions, and replace sugary drinks with water. Dr. Sharad Kasarle also suggest cutting portion sizes for high-calorie carbohydrates (think refined pastas and breads) and watching out for foods labelled "low-fat," which are often high in calories

Smoking or living with a smoker
Sure, you've heard it a million times before: Don't smoke. But it bears repeating. "Smoking is a total disaster for your heart," says Dr. Kasarle. Smoking promotes blood clots, which can block blood flow to the heart, and contributes to plaque build-up in the arteries. High blood pressure and cholesterol, diabetes, being overweight and smoking are all risk factors that should be kept in check.

Avoiding fruits and

vegetables
'The most heart-healthy diet is a plant-based diet,' That means loading up on fruits and vegetables, nuts, whole grains, low-fat dairy, and protein, and keeping junk food to a minimum. In fact, new federal dietary guidelines recommend that half of each meal should be composed of fruits and vegetables. Research has found that people who eat more than five servings of fruits and vegetables a day had about 20% lower risk of heart disease and stroke than people who ate less than three servings per day.

Being a salty snacker
The more salt you consume, the higher your blood pressure rises. One in three American adults has high blood pressure, a major risk factor for stroke, kidney failure, and heart attack. "Steer clear of packaged junk food, read the labels for sodium content, and stick to the outer portions of the supermarket, which is where the fruits, vegetables, and (unsalted) nuts are", points Dr Sharad. Most of us should keep sodium intake below 2,300 milligrams a day. If you have high blood pressure or are over 50, cut back to 1,500 milligrams.



Indian name: Aam
Nutritive Value per 100gms of edible portion
Calories (kcal): 74
Proteins (gms): 0.6
Carbohydrates(gms): 16.9
Fat(gms): 0.4
Iron(mg): 1.3
Health benefits of Mango: - Unripe green mangoes are beneficial in the treatment of G.I. Disturbances.
- Ripe mangoes are beneficial in treatment of night blindness as mangoes are rich in Vitamin A.
- Mango-milk cure is an ideal treatment for weight gain.
- Mango is also known as King of Asiatic Fruits.
Banana
Indian name: Kela
Nutritive Value per 100gms of edible portion
Calories (kcal): 116
Proteins (gms): 1.2
Carbohydrates(gms): 27.2
Fat(gms): 0.3
Iron(mg): 0.36
Health benefits of Banana:
- Bananas serve as an excellent source of energy as they contain fructose, glucose and sucrose. They contain good amounts of vitamin-B6 (pyridoxine), vitamin-C, and provides adequate quantities of minerals like copper, magnesium, and manganese.
- Bananas contain soluble dietary fibre and pectins that help normal bowel movements; thereby reducing constipation.
- Bananas help cure intestinal disorders being soft in texture and bland.

Power your plate: Yellow



Not just that, yellow foods are directly involved with your digestive health, in particular that of the liver and intestines. Full of antioxidants, vitamins and phytochemicals, a bright cheery

yellow bite of wholesome food is what you need to get healthy today. Here's Shachi Sohal, H.O.D. Dietetics Deptt at Dr. B.L. Kapur Hospital, New Delhi enlightening us about the power of yellow on your plate!
Lemon
Indian name: Nimbu
Nutritive Value per 100gms of edible portion:
Calories (kcal): 57
Proteins (gms):1
Carbohydrates (gms):11.1
Fat (gms): 0.9
Iron (mg): 0.26
Health benefits of lemon:
- Lemon is regarded as a skin restorative. It helps cleanse blemished skin. Helps in preventing and curing oral diseases as inflammation of gums, pyorrhoea.
- Lemon is an excellent source of Vitamin C (an antioxidant) which helps in cleansing the blood and builds a stronger immune system, thereby

helping combat many illnesses.
- Lemon serves as a good appetiser, stimulates flow of saliva and gastric juices.
Turmeric
Indian name: Haldi
Nutritive Value per 100gms of edible portion
Calories (kcal):349
Proteins (gms): 6.3
Carbohydrates(gms): 69.4
Fat (gms): 5.1
Iron (mg): 67.8
Health benefits of Turmeric:
- Curcumin in turmeric is an antioxidant; and has anti-carcinogenic, anti-mutagenic and anti-inflammatory properties.
- Turmeric helps in healing wounds, prevents bacterial infection in wounds.
Corn
Indian name: Bhutta

Nutritive Value per 100gms of edible portion
Calories (kcal): 125
Proteins (gms): 4.7
Carbohydrates(gms): 24.6
Fat(gms): 1.1
Health benefits of Corn: - Corn is a good source of vitamin B, vitamins C and E, folic acid, dietary fiber, essential fatty acids, and minerals such as magnesium and phosphorus.
- Full of carotenoid lutein, yellow corn has a phytochemical with antioxidant properties that can fight the risk of age related vision loss.
Mango

