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No reason, only disappointment: Ex-Minister after Karnataka cabinet snub

New Delhi. (Agency)

Former Karnataka minister and senior Congress leader Dinesh Gundu Rao on Monday voiced disappointment after being left out of the first expansion of Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's Cabinet, saying he had not been told why he was excluded despite his long years of service to the party and the state. In a statement issued after the expansion, the six-time MLA said he had stayed committed to the Congress and to the people of Karnataka throughout his political career.

His reaction came as the much-awaited Cabinet expansion was marked by confusion over the final list of inductees, the last-minute postponement of MLC Gayathri Shanthegowda's swearing-in and unhappiness among Congress leaders who did not get ministerial berths.

Gundu Rao, who served as a minister in the previous Siddaramaiah government, was among several senior Congress leaders left out of the expanded Cabinet.

Punjab BJP faces internal unrest as leadership reshuffle sparks resignations and old guard backlash

CHANDIGARH. (Agency)

Ahead of the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections, factionalism is no longer confined to the Punjab Congress. It has also gripped the state unit of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) after the recent announcement of a new team of state office-bearers triggered a spate of resignations, protests and open dissent, with leaders accusing the party leadership of ignoring loyal grassroots workers. The organisational reshuffle, intended to project unity and preparedness ahead of the polls while expanding the party's electoral appeal, has instead exposed growing unease within the saffron party. Resignations by several veteran leaders, some associated with the BJP for decades, and an unusual spell of public rebellion have reinforced the perception among sections of the traditional cadre that the old guard is being sidelined. The resentment stems from the belief that newcomers are being rewarded with key organisational positions while long-serving party workers are being overlooked. As the BJP continues to attract leaders from rival parties, many within the traditional cadre feel they are being forced to share.

Udhayanidhi Stalin's 1st reaction after detention over vulgar 'Trisha' remark

Chennai. (Agency)

Dramatic scenes played

out on Tuesday after

Tamil Nadu cops

turned up at the

doorstep of

Udhayanidhi Stalin and

arrested him at his

Chennai residence.

Udhayanidhi sparked a

row with a vulgar

remark that was widely

interpreted as an

allusion to actor Trisha.

Tamil Nadu Leader of the Opposition Udhayanidhi Stalin called his arrest "vengeful" after he sparked controversy with a vulgar remark that was widely interpreted as an allusion to actor Trisha, a close friend of Chief Minister Vijay. Dramatic scenes played out on Tuesday after cops detained Udhayanidhi from his Chennai residence and took him in a police van for questioning. In his first remarks after his arrest, Udhayanidhi told India Today that he didn't take anyone's name except the Chief Minister. "Did I say anything wrong? Did I take anyone's name other than the CM's? I don't want to comment beyond that," he said.

Udhayanidhi, the son of former Chief Minister and DMK supremo MK Stalin, has already approached the Madras High Court for anticipatory bail.

CHAOS OUTSIDE STALIN JR'S HOUSE

Before Udhayanidhi was arrested at around 11 am, protracted negotiations took place between the police and DMK leaders.



A video of an interaction between Udhayanidhi's wife and a police officer has surfaced.

In the video, the police officer is heard accusing Udhayanidhi of delaying tactics. "You have been delaying for so long. Allow us to do our job," the cop says. In response,

Udhayanidhi's wife says, "He is getting ready; he is in the toilet."

Following his arrest, protests broke out across Tamil Nadu. In some areas, clashes between DMK workers and the police were also reported. Udhayanidhi made the alleged objectionable remark during a protest held in Thanjavur against the Vijay government's handling of the Cauvery water dispute.

WHAT DID UDHAYANIDHI SAY ON TRISHA?

Vijay has been facing flak from the DMK after Karnataka failed to release the required amount of Cauvery water despite directions from the Cauvery Water Management Authority (CWMA). The Tamil Nadu government has now moved the Supreme Court. "Water should have come. But today, not even a single drop of water has come," Udhayanidhi said, referring to the Cauvery issue.

Party first, posts later, Shivakumar tells disgruntled Congress MLAs to stay patient

CM DK Shivakumar warned disgruntled Congress MLAs that their resignations would be accepted "within minutes" if they chose to quit, stressing that the party was more important than individual's political futures. He also said it was his patience that had brought him to the position he holds today.

Bengaluru. (Agency)

Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Tuesday issued a stern warning to disgruntled Congress MLAs threatening to resign after being left out of the recent Cabinet expansion, saying the party was bigger than individual ambitions and any resignation would be accepted "within a few minutes".

Urging the disappointed legislators to remain patient, Shivakumar said opportunities would come in due course and assured them that appointments to state-run boards and corporations would be made soon.



"I have said whatever I have to... Resignations keep happening in politics. No one can stop those resigning. If they want the party and their future, the party is important. If there is a party, there is everything else," he said in response to

questions about MLAs threatening to quit. Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Shivakumar cited his own political journey, saying, "I too could have resigned" when he was not made a minister during the tenures of former chief ministers Dharam Singh and Siddaramaiah. Instead, he and Deputy Chief Minister G Parameshwara chose to wait for their opportunity. Recalling the careers of senior Congress leaders, he said, "When Veerendra Patil was CM, Bangarappa, Kharge and Dharam Singh were not made ministers. Didn't Bangarappa and Singh become CMs later? One needs to have patience."

Don't get bullied: Mahua Moitra's message to Mark Zuckerberg over PM video row

New Delhi. (Agency)

Trinamool Congress MP Mahua Moitra on Monday came out in support of Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg after the social media giant indicated it was willing to apologise to a parliamentary panel over the brief restriction of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Facebook post, saying the company should not be "bullied" into apologising. In a post on X, Moitra alleged that the government routinely pressures social media platforms to remove content critical of it and downplayed the temporary restriction on the Prime Minister's post.



"Hello Mark please do not get bullied & apologise to anyone. Indian govt blackmails & threatens citizens all the time, gets content critical of it removed at will. One video mistakenly removed for few hours didn't make heavens fall!" she wrote in a post on X.

Her remarks came after Meta representatives appeared before the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology, where members questioned the company over the incident and its content moderation practices. According to a news agency PTI report, Meta officials told the panel they were prepared to apologise for the brief restriction on PM Modi's Facebook post, which had been removed in error and later restored. The company had earlier attributed the incident to a technical glitch, but the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) reportedly.

After Ram Mandir row, Raj Thackeray alleges Rs 18 crore is stolen annually at Mumbai's Siddhivinayak temple



MUMBAI. (Agency)

After the controversy surrounding the alleged theft at the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) chief Raj Thackeray has alleged that Rs 18 crore in donations is systematically stolen every year from Mumbai's Siddhivinayak Temple, a trust controlled by leaders of the Shiv Sena led by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde.

Speaking to members of the MNS student wing, Thackeray alleged that Rs 18 crore in donations was being stolen every year from Mumbai's Siddhivinayak Temple.

Shiv Sena's former MLA Sada Sarvankar, a close confidant of Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, is the chairman of the Siddhivinayak Temple Trust, while BJP, Shiv Sena and NCP leaders are among its trustees.

Thackeray further alleged that Rs 1,400 crore had reportedly gone missing from the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, while Rs 18 crore was allegedly being stolen systematically every year from Mumbai's Siddhivinayak Temple. He said that the RSS, BJP and their affiliated members are trustees of the Ram Mandir in Ayodhya, while the BJP's alliance partner.

How PK's Bankipur win hands him front-row seat to take on Bihar CM Samrat Choudhary

Jan Suraj's Prashant Kishor, who led a fierce campaign against Bihar CM Samrat Choudhary, is set to enter the Assembly after his historic win in Bankipur bypoll. With Kishor now set to become an MLA, his challenge to the chief minister will now shift from rallies and press conferences to the Assembly floor, where he can hold it to account on record.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Prashant Kishor (PK) won the Bankipur Assembly bypoll on Monday, securing the first seat for his Jan Suraj Party in the Bihar legislature. The victory places the Jan Suraj founder inside the House where he can now confront Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary directly. PK has been targeting Choudhary relentlessly since the latter was made the chief minister in April, and his criticism of the BJP leader has been an important poll plank of the poll-strategist-turned politician.

Kishor returned to Bihar after years as a

political strategist across states to build a political alternative. In a state where many with resources choose to leave, his decision to stay, struggle, and contest has already changed how people see him — as someone willing to invest his future in Bihar. Now, his repeated targeting of Choudhary, who PK alleged has a criminal background and is incompetent to lead the state, the Bihar CM would remain in the first-time MLAs crosshairs in the Assembly.

As an MLA, Kishor is expected to carry into the Assembly the style of politics that has



defined his campaign — combining fact-and-data-driven criticism of governance with scathing attacks on CM Samrat Choudhary. While PK has consistently

questioned the BJP government over jobs, migration, education and healthcare, his most sustained political offensive has been directed at Choudhary. His victory in Bankipur now gives him institutional space to pursue a campaign that, until now, has largely been fought through press conferences, padyatras and public meetings.

Unlike the Opposition's broader attacks on the BJP-led government over governance and unemployment, Kishor has centred much of his criticism on Samrat Choudhary himself. His

strategy has been to repeatedly raise questions about two decades-old criminal cases and challenge the Chief Minister to publicly address them.

His attacks, however, have not been limited to the ruling BJP. Kishor has also repeatedly mocked RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav over his educational qualifications, referring to him as "9th fail", while arguing that Bihar cannot be transformed by leaders whom he portrays as lacking the qualifications and vision to govern.

Yet, it is Choudhary who has remained the principal target of his most sustained and personal political offensive.

News box

Hindon bridge to let Noida-Greater Noida traffic skip expressway, Pari Chowk

Noida.(Agency)

A six-lane bridge over Hindon, connecting Aqua Line's Sector 146 metro station and Knowledge Park 3 in Greater Noida, is set to halve travel time for commuters by letting them skip Noida Expressway, Pari Chowk and Surajpur-Kulesra Road. The 290-metre bridge will offer a direct route from residential areas off the expressway to LG Chowk, Gamma 1, Beta 1 and Surajpur. While Noida Authority has completed 810 metres of the approach road on its side, about 150 metres of the nearly one-kilometre stretch on the Greater Noida side remains unfinished. Once ready, commuters exiting the expressway near Sector 146 metro station will have to take the service lane to access the bridge.On Monday, TOI found the service lane near the metro station blocked by construction material for an upcoming luxury housing project in Sector 146. The project's manager said the lane was incomplete and being used to store material. "We will remove it once the Authority asks us to do so," he said. Beyond the service lane, commuters can reach the bridge via the completed approach road on the Noida side, where the bridge and approach road are largely finished, with only cosmetic work left. Workers were seen painting the central verge and reinforcing the road shoulders with stones, while landscaping, tiling, streetlights and road markings were still pending.

Two offer teen ride, drive to isolated place and rape her

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

Two men were arrested for allegedly offering a ride to a 16-year-old girl in Masuri but taking her to Hapur and raping her instead, police said. An FIR had been registered based on a complaint filed by the girl's local guardian at the Masuri police station on Saturday. She told the cops that the girl had left home without informing anyone around 4pm on July 27. Unable to reach her till late at night, the woman began searching for her. "I thought she had gone to her parents in Bulandshahr and called her family, but they didn't know anything," she wrote in the complaint.Around 8pm, the next day, the girl returned to her local guardian's place. She was distressed and told the woman that she had been standing near the Masuri underpass the previous evening when a white car stopped in front of her. The two men in the car offered her a ride home. They called each other Mujahid and Salim. They then took her to an isolated place in Pilkhuwa, Hapur and took turns raping her inside the car. The men then threatened her before dropping her back to the same spot.A senior police officer said the girl seemed to have got confused about her location when she was near the underpass.DCP (rural) Surendra Nath Tiwari said that the FIR has been registered against the two men under BNS section 70 (2) (gang rape) and under sections of Pocco Act. "After scanning CCTV footage on NH-9, we identified the car. We traced the registration number to Pilkhuwa resident 45-year-old Mujahid. Our team went to his house but could not find him. Mujahid and Salim Akhtar were later arrested from Masuri Road.

Desilting shuts Ganga water plants, supply to Noida, Ghaziabad homes takes a hit

Noida.(Agency)

Taps ran dry across large parts of Noida and Ghaziabad on Monday after the Ganga water treatment plants at Pratap Vihar and Siddharth Vihar were shut for two days from Saturday to clear heavy silt accumulation at Upper Ganga Canal in Haridwar. While stored supply met demand in both districts until Sunday morning, shortages set in through the afternoon. This was the second time the plants were shut since July 30.Several sectors in Noida, includng 19, 36, 40, 12 and 55, reported water shortages on Monday, with many residents forced to buy bottled water. Power cuts and pump breakdowns in parts of the city compounded the problem. Officials said tubewells and groundwater, mixed with stored supply from underground reservoirs, are typically used to bridge such gaps during canal shutdowns, but shortfalls persisted."Residents of Sector 19 have been facing a serious problem of drinking water supply for over one week. The water supply is being received at an extremely low pressure, besides being dirty. While one motor in the underground reservoir (UGR-19) has been out of order for about a week, the Ganga water shutdown in the past two days has exacerbated the situation. Assurances are given daily that the motor will be repaired, but even after one week, nothing has been done," said RC Gupta, a Sector 19 resident.

3 years on, homeguard's family struggles to rebuild

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Three years after homeguard Neeraj Khan was shot dead on duty during the 2023 communal violence in Nuh, his family continues to battle financial hardship and personal loss. His widow Vakila and their two children now live in a single room in a 40-square-yard house in Garhi Bazidpur, trying to rebuild their lives. Vakila works as a contractual station housekeeper at Bhondsi police station, earning around Rs 19,000 a month. On the ground floor of the same house lives Neeraj's father Chiranji Lal (76), a Kargil war veteran, who says losing his youngest son remains the hardest battle of his life. Neeraj, a Gurgaon-based homeguard, was part of the security deployment when clashes broke out on July 31, 2023, during the Braj Mandal

Jalabhishek Yatra.

He and another homeguard Gursevak, also posted at Kherki Daula police station, were killed in the line of duty as clashes spread across Nuh and later to parts of Gurgaon, Faridabad and Palwal. "The struggles never seem to end. Life has not been the same since my husband died. People slowly stopped asking about us after his death," Vakila told TOI.The family received financial assistance of around Rs 57 lakh after Neeraj's death, of which Rs 10 lakh was given to his father.Vakila said she did not, however, get to keep the full amount. She invested part of it in fixed deposits for her two children, but the remaining money has gradually been spent on household expenses and other responsibilities.Her son studies in Class 9 and her daughter in Class 6 at DAV Police Public School in Bhondsi.

Vakila credits former Gurgaon police commissioner Vikas Arora for helping secure their admission without tuition fees."I am grateful that my children can study without worrying about



school fees. But raising two children on Rs 19,000 a month is extremely difficult," she said.The family's biggest challenge, she says, is space. Teir one-room home barely accommodates the three of them."My children still ask about their father.

They remember him every day and often cry. I had never worked when my husband was alive. Today I leave home every morning because I have no other option. I want my children to lead a normal life," she said, urging govt to provide her with a permanent job and allot a larger house.Neeraj's father, who served in Charlie Company of the 22 Grenadiers and was part of the team deployed in the Batalik sector of Kargil, says, "Today I am fighting another war in my heart after losing my youngest son in the line of duty."Neeraj's elder brother, Sonu Khan, who works as a security guard with a private company, recalled that the two brothers had left for work together on separate scooters on the morning of July 31, 2023. "We left home at the same time, but he never came back. We were once a happy family.

'Being hounded despite apology': Noida teen in PM abuse FIR forced to change homes thrice amid threats

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Since she was named in an FIR filed by Noida Police on July 29 for allegedly using profanities against PM Modi during the protest at Jantar Mantar on paper leaks and education reforms, a teenager from Noida and her mother have been forced to move houses three times, their lawyer told TOI Monday.Questioning the validity of the FIR, advocate Anil Kumar claimed the girl was only 14 years old when the complaint was filed. She turned 15 on Aug 1. The FIR, which was based on a complaint from a lawyer citing the video in which the girl was purportedly seen mouthing profanities, does not mention her age. It invokes BNS charges under defamation, intentional insult and statements amounting to public mischief. The teenager, who has since publicly apologised, has claimed she has been receiving rape and death threats on her social media accounts. According to the lawyer, after random strangers and police personnel showed up at their Noida residence, they became concerned for their safety and moved to a relative's place in Faridabad. But with threats continuing, they have moved again to an undisclosed location."She is a 15-year-old minor studying in Class 10 under the open schooling system from a school in Delhi, not a 25-year-old salon worker as claimed in online rumours.

Gurgaon.(Agency)

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has finalised the alignment for two proposed flyovers at Rajiv Chowk. NHAI has proposed a dedicated two-lane left-turn flyover with paved shoulders for traffic travelling from Delhi towards Sohna Road. Similarly, a second-level three-lane right-turn flyover above the existing NH8 flyover has been proposed that will cater to traffic coming from Sohna to Delhi. The proposed redesign seeks to streamline traffic movement at Rajiv Chowk, where vehicles travelling between NH8, Sohna Road, Civil Lines and Subhash Chowk frequently witness bottlenecks due to multiple at-grade

traffic conflict points.This paves the way for preparation of the final detailed project report (DPR) for the long-planned interchange aimed at easing congestion at one of the city's busiest intersections. Officials said the consultant has been directed to prepare the final DPR based on the approved alignment."The alignment for the proposed interchange at Rajiv Chowk has been finalised. Now the agency has been asked to prepare the final DPR for the project. Once the DPR is finalised, we will proceed with the remaining approvals before taking up the project for execution," an NHAI official said.At present, the junction has an eight-lane flyover along NH8 and a six-lane straight underpass on

Sohna Road. However, vehicles travelling on the Sohna Road service road towards Civil Lines and those moving from Civil Lines towards Subhash Chowk cannot use the straight underpass, forcing them to merge with surface traffic. Although a right-turn underpass exists for traffic travelling from Medanta Medicity towards Delhi, Delhi-bound vehicles approaching from Sohna Road continue to negotiate multiple conflict points at the intersection. Accordig to the preliminary plan, the structure will originate adjacent to the retaining wall of the existing NH8 flyover and terminate near the retaining wall of Sohna Road pedestrian underpass.

Haryana short of 29 C&D waste collection centres, Gurgaon accounts for over half the gap

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana is short of 29 secondary collection centres (SCCs) for construction and demolition (C&D) waste.Only 23 of the 52 SCCs mandated across seven urban local bodies (ULBs) had been established as of June 30, with the city alone accounting for 16 of the pending centres, HSPCB data reviewed by TOI shows.Among the seven ULBs covered in the presentation, the city has the largest infrastructure gap. While the city requires 20 SCCs, only four have been established so far, with the remaining 16 proposed to be completed by Dec 31.SCCs are a

critical part of the state's waste management network meant to



channel construction debris to recycling facilities and curb illegal dumping. The shortage in collection infrastructure comes despite the city generating by far the highest volume

of construction waste in Haryana. According to the presentation, the city produces 1,500 tonnes of C&D waste every day, accounting for nearly three-fourths of the total waste generated by the seven urban local bodies covered in the review. Faridabad has established five of the required 12 SCCs, leaving a shortfall of seven. Rohtak has set up two of six required centres, Karnal two of three and Manesar three of four. Sonipat and Panipat have already established the number of SCCs prescribed under the state plan.Faridabad generates 300 TPD, followed by Rohtak (95 TPD), Manesar (50 TPD), Sonipat (40 TPD), Panipat (32 TPD) and Karnal (5 TPD).

NGT shuts stone mine over illegal access road in Aravali

Gurgaon.(Agency)

National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered the closure of a stone mining operation in Haryana's Mahendergarh district after finding that the leaseholder accessed the mine through an unauthorised road passing through Aravali Plantation without mandatory forest clearance. The tribunal also held that the company violated multiple conditions of its environmental clearance (EC). The July 22 order, released on Monday, was passed by a bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava and expert member Afroz Ahmad while disposing of an application filed by Lal Chand against M/s Maa Santoshi Khanij Udh yog. The company had received environmental clearance on Oct 20, 2020, for stone mining at Musnota village in Narnaul tehsil of Mahendergarh.The petitioner alleged that the company had carved out an access road through Aravali Plantation, allowing heavily loaded trucks to pass through the protected area daily and damaging the plantation.The tribunal relied on three reports submitted by a joint

committee comprising representatives of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Union environment ministry's regional office, Haryana State Pollution Control Board (HSPCB) and the Mahendergarh district administration. In its reports following site inspections and examination of official records, the committee consistently indicated that the access road passed through land that formed part of Aravali Plantation. Referring to the committee's findings, the tribunal observed that "the 'kacha rasta' approaching the mines of the Respondent No. 5 (the company) is through khasra numbers 258 and 270 which is part of the Aravali Plantation."The tribunal noted that the company had not obtained forest clearance for the road despite it being a condition of its environmental clearance. It also recorded findings of illegal mining and other environmental violations as highlighted in the joint committee's reports.The committee found that the company failed to maintain the mandatory 7.5-metre safety zone along the lease boundary, did not undertake plantation in the safety

zone, had inadequate dust suppression measures, failed to install ambient air quality monitoring stations and piezometers, and carried out excavation outside the lease area. The order records that HSPCB imposed an environmental compensation of Rs 22.6 lakh on the company in Nov 2024 for violating EC conditions. Separately, the mining department raised a demand of Rs 42.28 lakh towards penalty, royalty and the value of illegally excavated mineral after a joint survey found mining outside the lease boundary over 15,648 sq ft involving 24,812.5 metric tonnes of mineral.The company argued that the road existed before the mining lease was transferred and referred to pending civil proceedings. However, the tribunal noted that the joint committee relied on reports of the tehsildar, range forest officer and revenue records, which showed that the kacha road through khasra numbers 258 and 270 was not recorded in revenue records and formed part of Aravali Plantation. The committee also found that an alternative paved public road was available through another khasra.

Relying extensively on Supreme Court's 2004 judgement in M.C. Mehta vs Union of India, the tribunal reiterated that plantations raised under the Aravali project are to be treated as forest land and cannot be opened for mining.

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J&K Govt notifies agriculture pause periods under VB-GRAM G to protect peak sowing, harvesting seasons

SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir Government has officially notified specific agricultural "pause periods" under the newly launched Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-GRAM-G), effectively halting public works during peak farming seasons to prevent labour shortages. The move comes as the Union Territory transitions from the erstwhile MGNREGA to the VB-GRAM-G. According to the order issued by the Secretary, Rural

Development and Panchayati Raj Department, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, the pause schedules have been tailored to the distinct agro-climatic calendars of the Kashmir and Jammu divisions. In the Kashmir Division, no new works will be commenced or executed during three key windows: April 26 to May 10 for Kharif sowing; May 25 to June 10 for Kharif transplanting and Rabi harvesting; and September 26 to October 23 for Kharif harvesting and Rabi sowing. For the

Jammu Division, the enforced pause will occur from April 15 to April 29 for Rabi harvesting; June 15 to June 29 for Kharif sowing and transplanting; and October 15 to November 13 for Kharif harvesting and Rabi sowing. The notification, issued under Sections 6(2) and 6(3) of the VB-GRAM-G Act, strictly bars the initiation or execution of scheme works during these windows. However, a carve-out allows the Government to undertake specific projects during the pause period if expressly permitted by the Government of India under Section 7 of the Act on grounds of public interest. This enforcement of a mandatory 60-day agricultural pause is a core feature of the newly notified Jammu Kashmir Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Scheme, 2026, which was

formally rolled out on July 1st, 2026. The Secretary said that the flagship programme enhances the guaranteed wage employment from the previous 100 days to 125 days annually for every eligible rural household willing to do unskilled manual work. Aijaz Asad said that with the agricultural pause periods now legally defined, we are ensuring that our drive for rural infrastructure development does not come at the cost of farm productivity. "The transition to 125 days of work under VB-GRAM-G, coupled with technology-driven planning, marks a significant shift towards the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047," he said.

DFS to deploy 24 quick response vehicles in city

New Delhi: The Delhi Fire Service (DFS) will deploy 24 newly procured quick response vehicles (QRVs) across the city from September 17 to strengthen emergency response in fire-prone and congested areas, government officials said. The compact vehicles, equipped with advanced ultra high-pressure pump extinguishing systems, are mounted on XL6 vehicles and designed to swiftly navigate through narrow lanes and heavy traffic. According to officials, the initiative, costing Rs 8.61 crore, is being implemented in three phases. In the first phase, 24 QRVs have been pro-

cured and will be deployed at high-risk Colony, Dwarka and Alipur. Tenders for an



locations, including Janakpuri, Najafgarh, Vasant Kunj, Rohini, Jahangirpuri, Lajpat Nagar, Paharganj, Geeta

additional 26 vehicles have already been floated under Phase II, while proposals for 50 more QRVs are in place for Phase I. Officials said the innova-

tion was aimed at preventing small fires from turning into major blazes by enabling quicker arrival and immediate suppression. Each vehicle carries a 100-litre water tank and operates at just 21 litres per minute, using water mist for cooling, foam for oxygen cut-off and jet systems to handle different types of fires efficiently. Initially, these QRVs will be operated by existing DFS personnel, while plans are underway to outsource manpower in subsequent phases.

IIT Kanpur to set up Centre of Excellence for green hydrogen research

New Delhi: The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur will establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) on Green Hydrogen under the Uttar Pradesh Green Hydrogen Policy 2024 to advance research and development in hydrogen energy generation. Colleges & Universities The proposal for the Centre of Excellence on Innovative and Integrated Ecosystem for Green Hydrogen (ECOGEN) has been approved by the Uttar Pradesh government and sanctioned by the Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA).

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that my client Mr. Manish Singh is/are the owner of Plot No. 4-A, Land Area Measuring 143 Sq. Yds., Out Of Khalsa No. 231 & 232, Situated In The Revenue State Of Village Dindarpur, Delhi State Delhi, Colony-2, Dindarpur, Najafgarh, New Delhi by the virtue of Sale Deed dated 30.09.2014 which is registered as doc. no. 2026/16/111676, book no.1, vol. no. 17164, Page no. 97 to 116, on 03.08.2026. SRO- South West Kapashera and Intend to mortgage the said property with Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited. If any person(s) has/have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property may please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the number & address mentioned herein below, failing which my client(s) shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever.

Khalitan & Khalitan
Plot No. 100, 1st floor
Okhla Phase III, New Delhi
Ph. No: 011-49774545

NAME CHANGE

I GOPAL GUPTA S/O G P SANGAL R/O C-2/228 JANAK PURI DELHI-110058 have changed my name to SHRIGOPAL GUPTA for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, BALWINDER KOUR R/O FLAT NO-B-2/802, BHARAT CITY PHASE-1, TILAK MODE, INDRAPRASTHA YOUNIA, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH-201022 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BALWINDAR KAUR.

NAME CHANGE

I, MAYANK TYAGI S/O RAJENDER PRASAD TYAGI R/O House No. 2, Khalsa No. 617, Master Enclave, Burari, North Delhi, Delhi-110084 have changed the name of my minor son ATHARV aged 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as AATHARV TYAGI.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as RASHI SINGHAL alias RASHI MITTAL D/O GIRISH KUMAR W/O NITIN MITTAL R/O Flat No. 1504 Kalyapso Court - 15, Jaypee Greens Wishtown, Axis Bank, Sector 12, Noida, PO: Noida, Dist: Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201301 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RASHI SINGHAL.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as BAGADA SUNIL KESHUBHAI S/O KESHUBHAI HADABHAI BAGADA Permanent R/O 83 - Jaldeep - 3, Ghuma, Ahmedabad City, P.O.: Bopal, Dist.: Ahmedabad, Gujarat - 380058 and Presently Residing at B-14, B-Block, 3rd Floor, Arya Nagar Apartment, Iq Extension, Patparganj, Delhi - 110092 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SUNIL BAGADA

NAME CHANGE

I, ANUP KUMAR S/O Chandra Prakash R/O 201 B, GALI NO-1, MALIWARA, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201001, Have change the name of my minor son VIVOM KUMAR aged 9 years and he shall hereafter be known as YASH KUMAR.

NAME CHANGE

I, USHA mother of No-17016201F, Rank-NK, Name-MISHRA JITENDRA SHRINIWAS residing at VILL-SURENDRAGARH, PO-SEMINARY HILLS, TEHSIL & DIST-NAGPUR, MAHARASHTRA-440006 have changed my name from USHA to USHA DEVI MISHRA for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 04/08/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, SHRINIWAS father of No-17016201F, Rank-NK, Name-MISHRA JITENDRA SHRINIWAS residing at VILL-SURENDRAGARH, PO-SEMINARY HILLS, TEHSIL & DIST-NAGPUR, MAHARASHTRA-440006 have changed my name SHRINIWAS to SHRINIWAS SHRIRAMNATH MISHRA for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 04/08/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I SHAISTA W/O MOHD FURQAN R/O 221A, GALI DAKOTAN, TURAKMAN GATE, Delhi-110006 have changed the name of my minor daughter from TAHURA to TAHOORA.

NAME CHANGE

I Nirmitt Kanjolia S/O Sanjay Kanjolia R/O LGF-1,36/75, Punjabi Bagh West, VTC: Punjabi Bagh, PO: Punjabi Bagh, Sub District: Punjabi Bagh, WEST DELHI, DELHI- 110026 I have changed my name to Nirmitt

NAME CHANGE

I, Raj Kumar Dutt, S/O Vidya Bhushan Dutta R/O, House No 8, Block- BG East, Shalimar Bagh, North West, Delhi- 110088 have changed my name to Raj Kumar Dutta for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, Mamta, W/O Kali Charan Rathore, R/O G-27/200, First Floor, Rohini, Sector-7, Delhi- 110085 have changed my name to Mamta Rathore for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I Sanjay S/O Sohan Lal R/O LGF-1, 36/75, PUNJABI BAGH WEST, Punjabi Bagh, West Delhi, Delhi, 110026 I have changed my name to Sanjay Kanjolia

Public Notice

I, hitherto known as PRIYA GOSWAMI ALIAS PRIYA D/O PARVINDER KUMAR R/O HOUSE NO-A-343, MAIDAN GARHI ROAD, CHATTARPUR ENCLAVE PHASE-2, CHATTAR PUR, PO: CHATTARPUR, DIST: SOUTH DELHI, DELHI 110074, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as PRIYA GOSWAMI

Public Notice

It is for general information that I PRAKASH WATI W/o S B VASHIST, R/O 635, Metro View Apartment, DDS (SFS) Flats Pocket-B, Sector-13, Dwarka, South West Delhi, Delhi-110078, declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as PER-AKASHWATI in my Aadhaar Card No.651108169921, and pan card no.AECP4982D, has been wrongly written as PRAKASH WATI in my PPO No.701731300480. The actual name of mine is PRAKASH WATI respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

CORRIGENDUM NO. 01

CANCELLATION OF E-TENDER
NOTICE NO.: KIR/ENG/33 OF 2026;
DATE: 14-07-2026

E-Tender Notice No.: KIR/Engg./33 of 2026; Date: 14-07-2026 (Tender No.1) for the Work - At Kathihar Division: AMC for Renewal of Sim & server/tracking charges for GPS Based Tracking Devices. (For three years) is treated as CANCELLED on administrative ground.

DRM (Works), Katihar
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers with a Smile"

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

E-Tender Notice No. TRS-MLDT-02-26-27 Dated: 31-07-2026. 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: Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for Under Floor wheel Lathe for a period of two (02) years at Diesel Locomotive Shed Malda. **Tender Value:** ₹28.45,759/- **Earnest Money:** ₹56,900/- **Date & time of closing of tender:** At 15.00 hrs. on 21-08-2026. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. DME/DSL/Malda Town
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"Serving Customers With A Smile"

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that (1) Sh. Lucky Tuteja (2) Smt. Deepika Tuteja are the owners of Free Hold Built-up First Floor Without Roof Rights, built up Property bearing no. 3/13, area measuring 100, sq. Yard, Situated at Ramesh Nagar, New Delhi vide Sale Deed dated 28.06.2024 executed by (1) Sh. Pankaj Khurana (2) Smt. Dvaneet Khurana in their favour, as Doc. No. 2024/22/18573 in respect of said property. That 1) Original Allotment letter issued by L&DO in favour of Hari Chand 2) Original Possession Letter issued by L&DO in favour of Hari Chand, 3) Original Lease Deed dated 24.10.1964 executed by L&DO in favour of Hari Chand As doc no. 9595, 4) Death Certificate of Mr. Ram Prakash Sharma 5) Death Certificate of Mrs. Bimla Rani Sharma 6) Original Mutation Letter dated 09.07.2004 issued by L&DO in favour of Mr. Sushil Kumar Sharma 7) Original SPA executed by Mrs. Chandar Kanta in favour of Rajinder Kumar Sharma 8) Original Sale deed dated 14.07.2011 executed by Mr. Sushil Kumar Sharma in favour of Mrs. Sangeeta Vij As doc no. 17349 was lost on 04/08/2017 duly reported to police Station P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi R/O No. 2000768/2017 as per police complaint dated 06/10/2017. If anyone found the same may return to undersigned and if the same is misused shall be at his/her own risk. That my client intends to mortgage the said immovable property for her bonafide requirements to HDFC BANK LTD. Whosoever is having any objection to the said mortgage or anyone has claim or right or interest in the property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections
NEW DELHI
DATE: 1/8/2025
PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE
Enrl. No. D/721/02
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48
Mob.: 9968006418

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as MOHAMMAD GULPHAM ALI S/O ABDUL GAFAR R/O A-160, AALI VIHAR, SARITA VIHAR, DELHI-110076 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as GULFAM ALI. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

NAME CHANGE

I, MOHAMMAD YASEEN S/O MOHD IBRAHIM R/O H.NO-B-378, NEAR TIRPAL FACTORY INDIRA VIHAR DAYAL PUR DELHI 110094. CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHD YASEEN.

NAME CHANGE

I, ZAHID S/O MOHD YASIN R/O 5957-58 BASTI HARPOOH SINGH SADAR BAZAR DELHI 110006 have changed my name to MOHD ZAHID S/O MOHD YASIN for all future Purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as Ester Jacob alias Shalini Rawat D/O Emanuel Jacob W/o Ashok Rawat R/O K-25 Lajpat Nagar, Panchsheel Park, Sahibabad, Ghaziabad U.P-201005 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Shalini Rawat.

NAME CHANGE

I, CHAUHAN KULDEEP SATPAL SINGH S/O Satpal Singh R/O H.NO.34, Karawal Nagar Village, Delhi-110094, have changed my name to KULDEEP CHAUHAN permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, VHARKAT RESHMA SANGRAM wife of JC-383706K, Rank-SUB, Name-VHARKAT SANGRAM RANGRAO residing at VILL-SARAWADE, TEHSIL-RADHANAGARH, DIST-KOLHAPUR, MAHARASHTRA-416228, have changed my name from VHARKAT RESHMA SANGRAM to RESHMA SANGRAM VHARKAT for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 04/08/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

MINOR NAME CHANGE

I, ASHISH KUMAR S/O RAM BIHARI R/O H NO-E-11A, ST NO-2, New Govind Pura, Krishna Nagar, Po: Krishna Nagar, Dist: East Delhi, Delhi-110051 have changed the name of my minor daughter namely KRATIKA aged 7 years and she shall hereafter be known as DEVIKA YADAV.

NAME CHANGE

I, BABY alias DEVI W/O Bittu R/O Flat No-987 G/F Pkt-3 Bld-D Type-A DDA Flat Bindapur Uttam Nagar New Delhi 110059 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME AND SHALL HEREAFTER BE KNOWN AS BABY.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as SNEHA JAIN W/O PANKAJ SETHIA R/O 187, IInd Floor, KOHAT ENCLAVE, PITAMPURA, SARASWATI VIHAR, NORTH WEST DELHI, DLEH1-110034 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SNEHLATA SETHIA.

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-Procurement Tender Notice No.: S/12/2026-27, Dtd: 29-07-2026. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following works.

SI.No.: 1; Tender No.: 61/26/5189/OT/78/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 21-08-2026

Brief Description : Goods, Supply, installation and commissioning of a Micro controller-Based Electronic Speed Indicating and Recording System for track machines. The system to comply with RDSO Specification No.MP.0.3700.07, Rev-7, August 2017, and includes flash memory storage of up to 90 days (internal memory). Specifications include a speed range of 0-120 KMPH and an operating voltage of 24 VDC. Each set includes the items listed below, (RDSO Specification No.MP.0.3700-07). (1) Recording cum Indicator Unit (RCI)-01 No. (2) Speed Indicator -01 No. (3) Speed sensor/Pulse Generator-01 No. (4) Junction Box with Adopter Plate-01 No. (5) Connecting Cable-01 Set of 40 Nos. (RCI to IInd Cable length 35 Meters) (6) Mounting accessories as per requirement Make: Laxven or its equivalent. Warranty: As per IRS condition of contract. Note: The installation & commissioning of the complete set has to be executed at site of working of track machines within NFR jurisdiction. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking: Item :2201261, Micro controller based Electronic Speed indicating and Recording system for Railway application] Item Type: Goods (supply). Qty-47 Set for SSE/TM/Maligaon, NFR (Assam). P.L. No-431100150035.

SI.No.: 2; Tender No.: 30/26/1317B/OT/79/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 18-08-2026

Brief Description : Set of control arm for LHB bogies consisting of (1) Control Arm Lower Right to FIAT Drg No. 1267717 Ver 00R2 with latest Version. Qty/Set=01 No. (2) Control Arm Uppers to FIAT Drg No.1277122 Ver- 01R3 with latest Version. Qty/Set=01. No. Mat Spec:- 17.334 100 06/107/01, MDTs-166 Rev-02, MDTs 241 Rev-02, IS:1865:91 Reaffirmed 2020, SG 400/18L with latest revision and amendments [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking: Item:3100595, Control Arm Lower Left, Right & Top (Casting, Casting & Machining) for FIAT Bogie Sub Item:Control Arm Lower Left, Right & Top (Casting, Casting & Machining) for FIAT Bogie] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty- 560 set for Dibrugarh Town WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-280 Set for Pandu GSD, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty -445 Set for New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (iv) Qty-13 for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR (West Bengal). P.L. No-33500149.

SI.No.: 3; Tender No.: 40/26/5066A/OT/80/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 25-08-2026

Brief Description : 12V, 70AH VRLA battery for LHB coaches in PP-CP container (9modules of 12v) as per RDSO specification no. RDSO/PE/SPEC/AC/0059-2014 (Rev-2) or latest. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking: Item :2400049, 12v, 70AH VRLA battery] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty- 9 Set for SSE/AC/Guwahati, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-6 Set for SSE/ETS/Agartala, NFR (Tripura), (iii) Qty-6 Set for SSE/ETS/Silchar, NFR (Assam), (iv) Qty-9 Set for SSE/TL/AC/Kamakhya, NFR(Assam). P.L. No-459010940012.

SI.No.: 4; Tender No.: 60/25/5178A/OT/81/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 24-08-2026

Brief Description : (1) Supply and commissioning of computerized rake test rig for maintenance of rolling stock. Specification as per attached Annexure - 1 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). Qty-3 Nos for SSE/CW/BG/ Katihar, NFR (Bihar). P.L.No- 660400101252. (2) Supply and commissioning of computerized rake test rig for maintenance of rolling stock. Specification as per attached Annexure-1 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/C&W/Alipurduar Jn., NFR(West Bengal), (ii) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/C&W/New Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/IC/C&W/New Jalpaiguri, NFR (West Bengal). P.L. No-660400101264. (3) Supply and commissioning of computerized rake test rig for maintenance of rolling stock. Specification as per attached Annexure - 1 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/C&W/Dibrugarh, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/IC/C&W/Guwahati, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty- 1 Nos for SR DME/Tinsukia, NFR (Assam). P.L. No-331400071966. (4) Supply and commissioning of computerized rake test rig for maintenance of rolling stock. Specification as per attached Annexure - 1 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/C&W/Dibrugarh, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/C&W/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty-1 Nos for SSE/C&W/Rangapara North, NFR (Assam). P.L. No-331400071978.

SI.No.: 5; Tender No.: 20/26/0351/OT/82/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 26-08-2026

Brief Description : Set of Rotary switch (04 Item of 06 Nos): 1. Failure Mode Operation to ABB Doc No HBTB585580 R1032 or latest. Qty-01, 2. Bogie cut-out Switch to ABB Doc No HBTB585580 R1022 or latest. Qty-01, 3. Vigilance Device cut-off Switch ABB Doc No HBTB585580 R0034 or latest. Qty-02, 4. Switch Cab Heater/Fan ABB Doc No HBTB585580 R5022 or latest. Qty-02 as per CLW specification No.CLVES/3/0068, Alt-C or Latest (FOR SL-1, 2 & 3) & CLWES/3/0108, Alt-A or latest for SL-4). [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking: Item :2100145, Rotary switch for cab heater] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty- 32 Set for Malda Town DEPOT, NFR (West Bengal), (ii) Qty-25 Set for Siliguri Jn. DIESEL DEPOT, NFR (West Bengal), (iii) Qty-21 Set for New Guwahati DEPOT, NFR (Assam). P.L. No-29100653.

SI.No.: 6; Tender No.: 81/26/4111A/OT/83/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 21-08-2026

Brief Description : Compressed Oxygen Gas conform to IS: 309/2005 (fourth Revision) [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). (i) Qty- 6282 CUM for Guwahati FORMS DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty-56349 CUM for Dibrugarh Town WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty-12457 CUM for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR (West Bengal), (iv) Qty-575 CUM for Siliguri Jn. DIESEL DEPOT, NFR (West Bengal), (v) Qty- 56349 CUM for New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (vi) Qty-17006 CUM for Bongaigaon DEPOT NFR (Assam). P.L. No-81040416.

SI.No.: 7; Tender No.: 60/26/5001/OT/84/2026-27; Closing/Opening Date: 20-08-2026

Brief Description : Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Electrically Operated Synchronized Locomotive Whirling/Lifting Screw Jacks (Set of 5 Jacks), Capacity-35 Ton suitable for lifting of HHP Locos, Three Phase Electric Locos and All ALCO Diesel Locos. Specification as per COFMOW compendium for the year 2023-24 & 2024-25: Sr. No - 263, Machine ID - SJE35, Specification no. - AS PER DESIGN OF JAMALPUR WORKSHOP (Specifications for 35T Lifting Jack Only to be followed). [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UJAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (supply). Qty-1 Nos for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam). P.L. No- 654300060090.

Note :- For full details of Tender Notice and Tender Documents, Tenderer may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tenders are required to log in themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

Principal Chief Material Manager, Maligaon



NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
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Public Notice

It is for general information that I, GANISHA THAKUR daughter of Shri LALIT KUMAR THAKUR, residing at 80/70-A, First Floor, Near Gurudwara, Malviya Nagar, South Delhi, Delhi-110017, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as LALIT THAKUR in my 10th and 12th Class Educational Documents. The actual name of my father is LALIT KUMAR THAKUR, which may be amended accordingly. Lalit Thakur and Lalit Kumar Thakur both names are one and the same person i.e. my father.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as BHARAT SINGH NEGI S/O BHAWAN SINGH NEGI R/O C-94/8, Top Floor, Gali No-8, Block-C, West Vinod Nagar, Mandawali Fazalpur, East Delhi, Delhi-110092 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as BHARAT SINGH.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as KURA AHIR- W/O KAMODA R/O Flat No-16 Second floor Block - A urban shelter, EWS New Adarsh Apartment, Sector - 16 B Dwarka Karkola, PO: N.S.I.T Dwarka DIST: South West Delhi - 110078 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SURJAN.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, HARPREET SINGH S/O SURINDER SINGH R/O H.NO-A-21, GALI NO-21, BHAJAN PURA, PO: BHAJAN PURA, DIST: NORTH EAST, DELHI-DELHI-110053, declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as SURENDER SINGH in my DRIVING LICENCE NO.DL0520150277094. The actual name of my father is SURINDER SINGH respectively, which may be amended accordingly. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection

PUBLIC NOTICE

LEGAL HEIR DECLARATION

It is hereby informed to the General Public that I, Sharbani Roy, Wife of Late Tapas Kumar Roy, residing at Villa-C-2, Green Valley, Sector 41-42, NHPC Colony, Faridabad, Haryana - 121010, do hereby declare that my husband, Late Mr. Tapas Kumar Roy, passed away on 02.05.2021. After his demise, the immovable property situated at Villa-C-2, Green Valley, Sector 41-42, NHPC Colony, Faridabad, Haryana - 121010 has only the following three persons as his lawful legal heirs: 1. Harshita Roy - Daughter of Late Tapas Kumar Roy, 2. Snehit Chakravorty - Daughter of Late Tapas Kumar Roy and Wife of Mr. Sudipto Chakravorty, 3. Sharbani Roy - Wife of Late Tapas Kumar Roy. No person other than the above-mentioned three legal heirs has any right, title, interest, or claim whatsoever in respect of the aforesaid property. If any person, institution, or organization has any objection or claim regarding the aforesaid property, they are requested to submit the same,

NEWS BOX

Pakistan Bans Al Jazeera For "Yellow Journalism" After Reports On PoK Crackdown

Islamabad.(Agency)

Pakistan has reportedly blocked access to Al Jazeera after the influential Qatari broadcaster released a series of reports on Islamabad's brutal crackdown on anti-government protests and election-related protests in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK). The Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif-led government has not announced any formal ban on the broadcaster so far, but multiple users across Pakistan have taken to social media claiming they were unable to access Al Jazeera's English-language website. Pakistan's Information & Broadcasting (I&B) ministry has, meanwhile, criticised Al Jazeera's "selective reporting," accusing the media organisation of "misrepresenting" the elections and the voting process."We have taken note of Al Jazeera's selective reporting from handpicked polling stations in Muzaffarabad today. Through carefully chosen timings and scripted statements from selected individuals, the channel has sought to misrepresent the AJK elections and the voting process," the ministry said in a statement posted on its X handle. Islamabad refers to the illegally occupied parts of Jammu and Kashmir as 'Azad' Jammu and Kashmir (AJK). Pakistan also accused the Qatari media outlet of doing 'yellow journalism'-- a term which refers to reports that are written in an exaggerated way in order to shock the readers.

Zelensky Sacks US Envoy Amid Push For More Patriot Missiles

Kyiv.(Agency)

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday dismissed his ambassador to the United States, Olga Stefanishyna, in a move that had been expected following a government reshuffle last month. The sacking, announced by decree, happened however as Kyiv was lobbying Washington hard to obtain more Patriot air defence missiles to block Russian strikes. In a Facebook post in which she also posted a letter asking to be relieved of her duties, Stefanishyna said the decision was her own and "dictated by personal circumstances". She called her posting to Washington "the greatest honour" of her life. "We increased the supply of American weapons and maintained support precisely when the political climate in Washington was shifting against us," she added. Stefanishyna, a former deputy prime minister and justice minister, was nominated as ambassador in July last year. The role is crucial for Ukraine, which depends on US arms deliveries and intelligence-sharing in the conflict against Russia. Relations between Zelensky and his US counterpart Donald Trump have been strained and, at times, stormy. But the billionaire Republican former real estate mogul has recently been more encouraging towards the Ukrainian leader. According to Ukrainian media, Stefanishyna is under investigation by the country's anti-corruption agency on suspicion of wrongdoing, although she has not been formally accused.

Aung San Suu Kyi Meets Red Cross Official In Rare Contact Since 2021 Coup

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

Myanmar's detained former leader Aung San Suu Kyi met with the International Committee of the Red Cross' representative in the capital on Monday, the military-backed government said, a rare moment of contact with the outside world for the Nobel laureate who has been held out of public view since the military seized power in 2021. Two photographs published with the announcement showed Suu Kyi shaking hands with Arnaud de Baecque, the ICRC's representative to Myanmar, and meeting with him in a wood-paneled room. The Presidential Press and Information Bureau, which released the photographs, said the meeting was held Monday morning but did not disclose the location or provide details about what was discussed. The ICRC confirmed in a statement on Monday that one of its delegates visited Suu Kyi under its standards and procedures for visiting people deprived of liberty, and spoke with her in private, but it did not disclose details of the discussion. The organization said it continues to engage with all relevant actors to maintain and expand its access to places of detention in Myanmar. Two other photographs showed Suu Kyi cutting a pink birthday cake bearing the inscription, "Happy Birthday Aunty Suu," suggesting they may have been taken during a celebration for her 81st birthday in June.

Japan says combat drones key to adapting to new warfare as tension rises in the region

TOKYO.(Agency)

Japan needs to adapt to the new methods of warfare like drones and artificial intelligence used in Ukraine and the Middle East and strengthen its defense industry, the government said Tuesday. Japan has bolstered its military capability and spending in recent years and has started deploying long-range cruise missiles as a deterrent to China's military activity. The 598-page defense paper adopted by the Cabinet on Tuesday reiterated that China is Japan's biggest strategic challenge. Japan is alarmed by the growing presence and frequency of Chinese warships in the Pacific Ocean. The annual white paper outlines

Japan's military activity and priorities and analysis of military trends in specific countries. As Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's government needs public support for further military buildup and spending and to attract service members, the report has features to appeal to readers including a cartoon on the cover and links to video clips in Japanese, English and Chinese. Combat drones for new warfare Inspired by the use of drones by Ukraine, Japan considers it is essential to adapt to "new ways of warfare," the paper said. With many countries racing to develop combat drones, Japan's government prioritizes development of its own for a coastal defence, in combination with long-range missiles. Speed is key," Defense

Minister Shinjiro Koizumi said in early July. The Acquisition, Technology and



Logistics Agency recently selected four drone makers out of 38 applicants for a rapid development program and that they will advance to testing by Japan's navy in early August before a final selection. A number of companies are developing similar drones. Toshiba announced Friday plans to jointly develop combat drones with startup

Pro Drone. Uncrewed weapons could help Japan make up for its decreasing number of service members in a country with a shrinking population. Experts say developing fully homemade drones while Japan's commercial drone market is dominated by Chinese imports would be a challenge. Alarmed by China's activity in the Pacific, Russia and North Korea, Japan has strengthened its military forces on southwestern islands in recent years and has started deploying long-range cruise missiles, as it worries about a conflict in Taiwan, which China claims as its territory. The paper noted the growing presence of Chinese warships and frequency of their activity in the Pacific as a major concern.

Twenty-five states file lawsuit challenging Trump's latest tariffs on India and 58 other countries

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

Twenty-five states sued the Trump administration Monday over its latest tariffs, calling them a pretext for replacing import taxes the Supreme Court struck down in February. The United States last month imposed double-digit tariffs on 59 countries and the European Union, charging that they had not done enough to crack down on imports produced by forced labor. The new tariffs took effect just as the clock ran out on temporary tariffs President Donald Trump had turned to after the Supreme Court defeat. "After losing at the Supreme Court, the administration is once again trying to illegally raise taxes on families and businesses with a new round of tariffs," said New York Attorney General Letitia James. Joining New York in the lawsuit announced Monday are Arizona, California, Colorado,

Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Maryland, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Carolina,



Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Virginia, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin. Trump, who argues that high tariffs will revive American manufacturing, last year overturned decades of U.S. policy that favored lower tariffs and freer trade. Invoking the 1977 International Emergency

Economic Powers Act, or IEEPA, he imposed double-digit tariffs on imports from almost every country, saying America's longstanding trade deficit amounted to a national emergency. But the Supreme Court ruled that IEEPA did not authorize tariffs. The decision forced the administration to send refunds to importers who'd paid the tariffs. Eager to make up the lost revenue, Trump turned to temporary 10% worldwide tariffs. But they expired at midnight July 24. Now he's tapping more durable tariffs under Section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974, which permits the president to impose import taxes and other sanctions against countries found to engage in unfair trade practices. Trump used Section 301 to impose big tariffs on China in his first term, and they survived court challenges.

Who Is Patrick Yaroch FBI Agent Accused Of Stealing \$1 Million In Crypto During Probe

BUENOS AIRES.(Agency)

A former FBI counterintelligence agent has been arrested after allegedly stealing nearly \$1 million in cryptocurrency from accounts the bureau was monitoring, according to CNN. Patrick Steven Yaroch, who worked in the FBI's Counterintelligence and Espionage Division, is accused of using his access to government systems to take funds from wallets linked to a foreign adversary. According to court documents, Yaroch became frustrated with the FBI's handling of the accounts, which sources told CNN were connected to Russia.

Prosecutors allege that he set up a personal cryptocurrency wallet in late 2024, accessed FBI databases to obtain passphrases tied to the accounts, and transferred the funds through 10 to 12 separate transactions. Investigators say the cryptocurrency was worth about \$1 million, although only \$925,426 was recovered after agents searched his home in Ashburn, Virginia. During the search, authorities also found a hardware wallet, handwritten seed phrases, and documents suggesting he had been planning a move abroad, including paperwork linked to Portugal. "As soon as the FBI became aware of these

allegations, we immediately took action, began an investigation, and ultimately executed an arrest warrant for this individual last week," an FBI spokesperson told CNN. "We hold our employees to the highest ethical standards, and this conduct is not tolerated at the FBI. We are conducting a thorough investigation in the aftermath, and as this is an ongoing matter, we will have no further comment. "Investigators also recovered ChatGPT conversations from Yaroch's phone. According to court records, he sought advice on how to invest or spend \$1 million and asked about relocating overseas.

Uganda's military unveils statue of Netanyahu's brother who died in 1976 Entebbe hostage rescue

KAMPALA.(Agency)

Uganda's military unveiled a monument to an older brother of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu who was killed during a hostage rescue operation in the East African country in 1976. The statue of Yonatan Netanyahu holding an assault rifle was unveiled on Saturday by Ugandan military chief Gen. Muhoozi Kainerugaba, who said he commissioned the monument to pay tribute to the soldier's courage. Among those attending the ceremony were Israelis including Barak Orland, a businessman in Uganda. Kainerugaba is the eldest child of Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni and his presumed heir apparent. The statue is outside the airport terminal in the town of Entebbe where Lt. Col. Yonatan Netanyahu was struck by a bullet as he led Israeli

commandos in a mission to rescue 106 passengers who had been taken hostage on an Air France flight. He was the only Israeli commando killed in the mission. "Today, this memorial stands not only in remembrance of a distinguished soldier, but also as a tribute to the enduring values he embodied: courage in the face of danger, unwavering commitment to protecting innocent lives, and steadfast devotion to duty," Kainerugaba said at the ceremony. The hijackers, two Palestinians and two Germans, separated dozens of Jewish and Israeli passengers from the rest and threatened to kill them if Israel did not free dozens of Palestinian prisoners. A week of negotiations followed as Israel planned the rescue

operation. The commandos broke into the airport on July 3, 1976, and saved all but three hostages killed in the



crossfire. Dozens of Ugandan soldiers were killed in the operation that lasted less than an hour. Ugandan dictator Idi Amin, who had severed ties with Israel, was a supporter

of the Palestinian independence cause. Israel's success humiliated and enraged Amin. The operation was criticized by the Organization of African Unity -- the African Union's predecessor organization -- which saw the raid as a violation of Uganda's sovereignty. The rescue is a seminal event in Israeli history, widely seen as one of the country's greatest military successes, and the Israeli prime minister has previously said his brother's death in the raid "changed the course" of his life. Ties between Uganda and Israel are cordial. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has said he supports a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

US confirms first two deaths linked to Cyclospora outbreak

DETROIT.(Agency)

Two people have died in the cyclospora outbreak in Michigan, state health officials announced Monday, the first deaths confirmed in the U.S. related to the microscopic parasite. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services said both people had underlying health conditions that may have been impacted by the intestinal illness and dehydration. The department said it would not provide additional information about the deaths. Cyclospora is a microscopic, spherical parasite that commonly causes watery diarrhea "with frequent and sometimes explosive bowel movements," according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Outbreaks tend to occur most often in the late spring and summer. The CDC says the illness, called cyclosporiasis, is rarely deadly. The heat-loving parasite infects the bowels and spreads through feces. In the past, people have been infected by consuming fruits or vegetables that were exposed to feces-contaminated irrigation water. Dr. Joel Kammeyer, the division chief of infectious diseases at Wayne State University and the Detroit Medical Center, called the deaths a "tragedy" but noted that despite thousands of cyclosporiasis cases, only two people have died. "For someone who comes into an urgent care and cyclosporiasis is their only issue, it's relatively easy to treat," Kammeyer said. But for people who are struggling with other illnesses, he said, "it stands to reason that there are some patients that might not be able to withstand the dehydration that can come with severe cyclosporiasis." Cyclosporiasis is less common than other foodborne illnesses, including salmonella and E. coli. Many cases are never linked to a specific food or other source and, for years, few U.S. cyclospora outbreaks were reported. But the number started rising about a decade ago, with a particularly notable spike in 2018 and 2019. Previously, 2019 saw the most reported U.S. cyclosporiasis cases, with about 4,700. The CDC said it is aware of more than 18,000 confirmed or suspected cases in the current surge. But CDC numbers can lag state reports, which suggest the number is more than 20,000 nationwide. Federal health officials have identified lettuce from Mexico served at Taco Bell locations in nine states as a source of the widespread outbreak.

Haryana seeks five-yr data on DDO bank accounts from all departments

Panchkula.(Agency)

Responding to a request from the Principal Accountant General (Audit & Entitlement), Haryana, the Haryana Finance Department has called on all Heads of Departments to promptly provide detailed records of Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) bank accounts from the past five financial years.

In a recent communication from the Additional Secretary of the Finance Department, the Government has instructed departments to compile and submit comprehensive details of DDO bank accounts for the financial years 2021-22 to 2025-26.

Departments must use the specified format and deliver both digital and printed copies within a week.

The Finance Department wants departments to report the total number of DDO bank accounts as of March 31 each year, highlighting accounts with no expenditure, the balances in those accounts, and how many accounts had spending below 50 percent, between 50 and 99 per cent, or reached full utilisation

Departments must also specify the unutilised funds remaining in DDO bank accounts at the close of each financial year.

Gujarat police asked to withdraw all FIRs against NEET paper leak protesters, there may be only one

Surat, Vadodara.(Agency)

In a letter addressed to the Director General of Police on July 31, the Gujarat Home Department directed to withdraw all cases filed against “students, youth and others” in connection with the protests held in the state over the NEET (UG) paper leak in support of the larger agitation at Jantar Mantar in Delhi.

While no FIRs were lodged in most of the major centres, Surat city police had arrested four persons for allegedly burning the effigy of former Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on July 21. The FIR was lodged at Udhna Police station of Zone 2 in Surat city.

Surat Deputy Commissioner of Police (Zone 2) Kanan Desai told The Indian Express, “We have not seen the direction of the Supreme court. We will go through it and later discuss with the Surat police commissioner and further implement the directions. One complaint has been registered in this connection with Udhna police station against four persons carrying out a protest and police have booked them under unlawful assembly and causing destruction”.

22 children died due to Chandipura virus infection in state: Minister

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

A total of 22 children have died due to Chandipura Vesiculovirus (CHPV) outbreak in Gujarat, since the first week of July, State Health Minister Praful Pansheriya said on Monday.

While seven patients who tested positive remain under treatment in various civil hospitals, the health of six others improved and they were discharged from hospitals. Admitted patients are in civil hospitals in GMERS Gandhinagar MCH, GMERS Himmatnagar MCH in Sabarkantha, GMERS Sharpur in Patan, Rajkot Civil Hospital and Bhavnagar Civil Hospital.

A statement issued by the health minister’s office on Monday also said that of a total of 184 suspected cases registered in the state so far, 35 patients tested positive for CHPV while the results of samples from 11 patients were awaited as of August 3. The statement quoted Pansheriya as saying, “...not all cases have been reported from any particular place or village in the state, but cases are coming from various areas. The Health Department has been advised to fill up cracks in mud houses. Also, intensive spraying of pesticides is being done in areas where animal husbandry is practiced.

Man sets himself on fire outside police station in Punjab, dies

Ludhiana.(Agency)

A man allegedly set himself on fire in the public washroom outside Khanna City-1 police station Monday, and died on the spot.

He was identified as Gobind Singh, a resident of Ishar Nagar, Ludhiana city.

Khanna SSP Darpan Ahluwalia said that Gobind had submitted a complaint to the police against a self-styled Godman Charan Das and his three accomplices, for allegedly duping him of Rs 73,000. Minutes after submitting the complaint, he took the extreme step in the public washroom, said the SSP.

According to the complaint, Das of Lalheri road Khanna had promised him a solution to his financial woes and said that performing a “hawan” will solve everything. Gobind stated in his complaint that he had paid Rs



73,000 to Das for performing the rituals but his woes never ended. When he demanded his money back, Das refunded Rs 20,000 but the rest was still pending. Gobind said in his complaint that the accused were harassing him, threatening him with dire consequences and because of the financial loss, he was unable to pay his children’s school fee.

The SSP said that earlier too Gobind had filed

a complaint against the accused and he was called to the police station on May 7, 2026.

“However, according to his own statement, written in today’s fresh complaint, he could not come that time as he was unwell. So he had come today to file a fresh complaint,” said the SSP. A forensic probe has been initiated and a judicial probe has been marked by the executive magistrate into the self-immolation incident. The SSP said that a matchstick and an empty bottle containing inflammable material has been recovered from the spot. “An FIR for abetment to suicide has been registered against Charan Das and his three accomplices- Makhan Singh, Jugraj Singh and Inderpreet Singh, on the basis of the deceased’s complaint in which he clearly stated that if anything happens to him, the four persons named will be responsible,” said the SSP.

HC bars Punjab government from large-scale ad campaigns till pending DA paid to employees

Chandigarh.(Agency)

The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Monday directed the Punjab government to release the pending Dearness Allowance (DA) to its employees and pensioners within 15 days and barred it from issuing any large-scale advertisement campaigns until the dues are paid.

Rejecting appeals by the State and Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) challenging a single-judge verdict, a division bench of Acting Chief Justice Ashwani Kumar Mishra and Justice Rohit Kapoor also made it clear that if the payment is not made by the end of the deadline, the government will have to pay six per cent simple interest on the outstanding amount. “The State of Punjab and PSPCL are directed to grant and release all up-to-date pending installments of Dearness Allowance/Dearness Relief (DA/DR) to all its employees and pensioners,

respectively, at the same rates as has been paid to the members of the All India Services (IAS/IPS/IFS) serving within the State of Punjab, in accordance with the Central Government pattern, within a fortnight,”



the bench ruled. “Till all such dues are cleared, the State of Punjab shall not resort to any unproductive expenditures such as large-scale advertising campaigns in print or social media as these expenses cannot justify the denial of dues admissible to State employees”, the Bench ordered. The bench

also directed the Punjab chief secretary to to ensure “scrupulous compliance of the directions” and “file a compliance report by way of affidavit” by August 31, 2026.

The State government had earlier submitted that it was not in a position to comply with the single bench directions to release arrears amounting to more than Rs 15,000 crore. Delivering the order, the division bench laid emphasis on “unproductive expenditures”.

“...the issue of financial constraints is being raised as a ground for withholding the legitimate dues of the State’s own employees. However, as per the information available in the public domain, the State is expending large amounts of money on grant of freebies, doles, advertorial campaigns, and other expenditure, which would not strictly fall within the domain of essential expenditure by a welfare State, cannot be brushed aside, lightly,” the bench said.

Retired Army Captain’s wife strangled to death by domestic help in Haryana

The Panchkula police were alerted after retired Army Captain Chandramohan returned from playing golf and realised that his wife, Neera, was not at home.

Chandigarh.(Agency)

A search for missing jewellery ended in tragedy in Haryana’s Panchkula when a retired Army Captain’s wife was found dead on the rooftop of a house in Sector 21 on Monday evening, allegedly murdered by her domestic help.

According to the police, 70-year-old Neera Mehta, the wife of Chandramohan, a retired Indian Army Captain, went to her domestic help’s house on Monday to question her about some missing jewellery. During the conversation, an argument allegedly broke out between the two, leading to Mehta being strangled to death. After the murder, the domestic help and her

son allegedly carried Mehta’s body to the rooftop of a neighbouring house and hid it behind roof tiles. A murder case has been lodged against the domestic help and her



son at the Sector 21 police station. Both have been arrested and are being questioned, the police said. According to the police, Mehta and Chandramohan stayed at House No

366 in Sector 21. Their two sons live in the United States. “The woman had been working as their domestic help for nearly 10 years, and they trusted her completely. She lived in the same sector. The owner of that house had employed her family as caretakers,” one of the investigating police officers said. On Monday, Mehta discovered that some jewellery was missing from her house. Suspecting her domestic help, she decided to question her. After Chandramohan left home to play golf, Mehta told him that she was going to her help’s house to ask her about the missing jewellery, the police said. However, she never returned home.

Bengaluru reclaims 750 km footpaths, night traffic curbs on Peenya flyover

BENGALURU.(Agency)

The month-long ‘Safe Footpath’ campaign has reclaimed more than 750 km of encroached footpaths across the city, with civic authorities now shifting focus to preventing re-encroachments through surprise inspections and repeated enforcement drives. Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said that between July 1 and July 31, the campaign cleared 750 km of footpaths, making streets safer and more accessible to pedestrians, including children, senior citizens and persons with disabilities. However, keeping the footpaths free remains the bigger challenge.

Several locations have witnessed repeated encroachments despite multiple clearance operations. Following continuous complaints from citizens, authorities recently carried out a surprise re-encroachment drive, catching vendors and illegal occupants off guard.

The Bengaluru South City Corporation on Monday said anti-encroachment operations are continuing on a regular basis to ensure reclaimed footpaths remain accessible.

At 6% surplus, Himachal sees third highest July rainfall since 2015

IMD forecasts above-normal rain in parts of hill state during August-September

Shimla.(Agency)

Himachal Pradesh recorded normal monsoon rainfall with a marginal surplus of six per cent in July when it received 272.5 mm precipitation against the normal 255.9 mm, according to the India Meteorological Department (IMD).

This is the third highest recorded rainfall in the state in the past 12 years between 2015 and 2026. The highest rainfall of 448.9 mm was recorded in 2023, followed by 285.4 mm in 2021. In 2024, the state recorded the lowest July rainfall of 181.2mm. The southwest monsoon, which entered and covered the state on July 1, brought rainfall that was slightly higher than the 250.3 mm recorded

during July last year, although the distribution varied significantly across districts.

Shobhit Katiyar, director of the Meteorological Centre, Shimla, said the state’s overall rainfall remained within the normal range despite the surplus. “Rainfall between three and six per cent above normal is categorised as normal rainfall. Practically speaking, the overall rainfall received in July this year was normal. It was neither deficient nor excessive,” he said, adding, “Kangra district received the highest rainfall in absolute terms at 546.2 mm, while Lahaul and Spiti recorded the lowest precipitation at 74.9 mm during the month.” The district-wise analysis,

however, revealed wide regional variations. Kullu recorded the highest rainfall departure at 62 per cent above



normal, placing it in the category of large excess rainfall. Hamirpur and Lahaul-Spiti registered the highest negative departure of 43 per cent each, indicating

substantial rainfall deficiency during the month. Apart from Kullu, Chamba, Kinnaur and Shimla received excess rainfall, while Bilaspur, Kangra, Sirmaur, Solan and Una remained in the normal category. The remaining districts experienced deficient rainfall during July. The IMD has projected above-normal rainfall during the second half of the southwest monsoon season (August-September) over many parts of Lahaul-Spiti, parts of Chamba district and northern Kinnaur. Rainfall is expected to remain below normal across most of the remaining parts of the state, except for some areas of northern Kullu where near-normal rainfall is likely.

Touchstones: Truly electrifying protest

Is there anyone in this country who does not have an opinion on the protest by Gen Z at Jantar Mantar? How many have formed one themselves and how many are continually chasing memes, reels and podcasts to formulate one is another matter. Many from my generation and circle of friends have gone there to see and imbibe some of that energy into their own lives. It must be said that there was something truly electrifying about it and that the protest radiated an energy and attraction that even its most cynical critics were compelled to admit. Given this, why was our own government so notably absent? This is a question that they will have to confront to accept that their arrogance is going to cost them heavily. When the PM finally decided to send a selfie message at midnight, it was too little, too late. Moreover, everyone could see that the confidence that he normally exudes was visibly missing.

I have lived long enough to remember virtually all the public protests that have taken place down the decades. Each one has resulted in cataclysmic changes so do not be surprised if this one, too, redefines the relationship between rulers and the ruled. Do remember that such movements have also betrayed the trust placed in them and once the political parties became their public face, they turned many supporters into cynics. Each one, from JP’s movement to Anna Hazare’s fast, eventually became a way for many to build their political careers. Also, the history of all youth protests, from the AASU in Assam to the Uttarakhand Krantikari movement in India to similar ones in Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Bangladesh and Nepal, achieved their goal but after the initial euphoria, came political turmoil that went on for years. I pray that this does not happen this time. Let me now tell you about the generations that grew up in India after Independence. The ones who were born and brought up in the ’50s and ’60s were what Salman Rushdie has memorably described as Midnight’s Children, like me. Our parents were devoted followers of Gandhiji and later, Nehru. Having witnessed the violence of two World Wars, non-violence was an article of faith for them. Not just that, they bore the years of rationing and deprivation with stoic fortitude. Our parents valued a good education above all else. Their faith in government-run educational institutions and hospitals was so firmly practised that we all studied in Indian universities and rare was the person who went abroad to study in my youth. Rarer were those who stayed on there after earning their degrees. Read Nirad Chaudhury to get a picture of what it was to grow up in that India.

These were the foundational decades of our country and our parents were strict disciplinarians who made sure that those values were never forgotten. We were forbidden to swear or use coarse language or raise our voices when speaking to elders. Girls were restricted from going out alone, or wearing clothes that were considered vulgar. More than that was the unspoken rule that girls and boys had separate lives and, in many cases, girls were married off as soon as a suitable boy was found. Of course, we grumbled privately but few had the courage to defy parental laws. Come now to the next generation (largely the late ’60s and ’70s), known as the Boomers. They defiantly wore colourful clothes, flared jeans and sported long hair. They worshipped the Beatles and the Beat generation poets who questioned the false ‘goodness’ of the earlier generation. It was de rigueur to be a Leftie and in the metro cities, at least, a deep commitment to the Naxal movement took root. India had shed its frugality and many early revolutionary supporters returned to join the civil services, academia or boxwallah jobs. In my mother’s memorable definition of this was her wry remark, “Between us and our children there was a generation gap, between you all and your kids, I see a degeneration gap.” Another time, she told my sister, “We were scared of our in-laws, not our children. You all are no longer scared of your in-laws, then why are you so scared of your children?”

WorldNews Section

The longevity fad is getting out of hand

What if no one is allowed to live beyond 75 years?

It’s not working. These days, everybody and his grandfather wants to live to be a hundred, even if it’s in a hospital ICU. And if we continue to make babies at the current rate and impose an 18 per cent GST on condoms (28 per cent for flavoured ones as they come under the category of fruits), by 2050, we would have eaten every animal, bird, fish, reptile and insect on the planet, except perhaps cockroaches — which are hard to digest (as many are finding out).

By 2100, we just might start eating each other, which is actually not such a bad thing. For the plain fact is that this planet simply cannot support its current population of 8 billion, expected to swell to 12 billion by 2100. A recent study published in Environmental Research Letters reveals that the planet’s resources can sustain only 2.5 billion homo sapiens.

Take India — currently 1.4 billion, expected to grow to 1.7 billion by 2070, most of this growth coming from bhakts. Our government, of course, assures us that our fertility rate has dropped to 2.1, less than the replacement rate, and that soon the achche din will be here. I don’t believe a word of it, as all figures released by this regime are fudged. We keep finding innovative ways of reducing our population, on paper at least. For example, the recent SIR has cut the population by nearly 70 million. The government refuses to acknowledge their existence. That should reduce our fertility rate to 1.8 or so, and by the time Mr Gyanesh Kumar completes his unholy exercise, it should be down to 1.5! So you see why the only figure I approve of is that of Sunny Leone: it’s a sight for sore eyes, and that’s been my consistent take for many years.

WorldNews Section

So how do we avoid becoming homo cannibalus? Economists tell us that every problem has a supply and a demand side. In this case, we can do little on the supply side because the babies will keep coming, as long as India remains the third largest consumer of porn in the world. So the solution to this over-population has to be found on the demand side, and I’ve just found one: put a cap on longevity.

No one should be allowed to live beyond 75 years; this is not the era of Methuselahs. Pass a law that everyone shall be euthanised once he/she/it reaches the age of 75; it is not enough to put them in the Margdarshak Mandal. Consider the benefits of this

drastic final solution. Death will become an appointment, not an accident, and the uncertainty shall be removed forever. We all secretly wish to die in bed of an embolism or heart attack, unaware that we are dead till we find ourselves at the pearly gates, confronted by St Peter asking us for our Aadhaar card or voter ID. But we also know that that is a remote possibility, and that we are more likely to quit this mortal coil because an eagle drops a tortoise on our head (like Aeschylus, the Greek playwright), or on a toilet seat (like Elvis Presley).

I personally find this uncertainty very unsettling. I



would like to know how and when I’m supposed to go so that I can prepare for it. My solution ticks these boxes nicely. It gets better: your kids won’t throw you out of the house because now they know it will be theirs in any case in a few years. Governance will improve because politicians, judges, bureaucrats won’t be seeking re-election or re-employment. Knowing that they have only a few years left, they would now much rather do those things they always wanted to: that trip to Las Vegas or Sonagachi, dinner at a Michelin-starred restaurant, organise a Satyanarayan pooja for Mr Modi’s good health, or take the shocked wife on a second honeymoon because you missed the first one as you had to go on election duty. Since you will no longer be a drooling, doddering, incontinent octogenarian (you’ll be

terminated at 75, remember?), you don’t have to worry about cancer, intestinal blockage, thrombosis, dementia or prostate enlargement, etc. You can die with dignity, dressed in a three-piece suit, not in faded pyjamas or in a towel. You’ll save a fortune in medical bills. Your kids and heirs will also save a fortune on lawyers’ bills. They will dote on you right up till the moment the crematorium door slams down on you with the finality of a Supreme Court order.

The government would be ecstatic: its pension bills would decline dramatically, it will no longer have to wrack its brains to find suitable berths for redundant party workers or retired judges, it will save trillions because, with a declining population, there will now be no need to provide for measures against global warming, climate change, and Ayushman Bharat bills. The world as a whole will save sextillions of dollars more once Trump goes under the new law. Sadly, Putin and Netanyahu will still be around.

This leaves only one more box to tick: how exactly will these millions of old codgers be dispatched? Well, Elon Musk has the answer — the neuralink brain implant. Designed to be implanted in the brain to control one’s cognitive and sensory functions via a computer, all it will now need is to be equipped with a “kill switch”. This will be automatically triggered once a person reaches 75, stopping all bodily and brain functions in a nanosecond.

There is also a Plan B in case the kill switch fails, as it is likely to do in the case of bhakts. These unfortunates shall be locked up in an auditorium and shall have to watch, without any break, 100 episodes of Mann Ki Baat and Ministry of External Affairs’ press conferences. Extensive trials have shown that no one can survive more than 25-30 such episodes, though the process is not entirely painless.

The new law should, however, have one caveat — it will not apply retrospectively. This, of course, has nothing to do with the fact that both Mr Modi and I turned 75 last year.

HYDRAA must match intent with integrity

With encroachments on government land and water bodies in and around Hyderabad reaching a scale that demands a dedicated enforcement mechanism, the answer is not to weaken institutions but to make the more transparent and accountable.

HYDRAA or the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency set up by Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to protect government lands and lakes from encroachments, has run into rough weather. The Telangana High Court, hearing a petition by a builder, first ordered deployment of Army personnel to protect a disputed land parcel from HYDRAA, though it later kept that order in abeyance. It then directed the state government to replace HYDRAA chief A V Ranganath, citing contempt of court and 63 pending cases against the agency. The developments raise important questions.

HYDRAA says it acted on complaints from the Society to Save Rocks and that the builder had misled the court because the land where it acted was three kilometres away from the petitioner’s site. Whatever the competing claims, the court concluded that its orders had been violated. Under the Contempt of Courts Act, 1971, contempt can attract imprisonment, a fine or both, and the court may or may not accept an apology. If the court found repeated



violations of its orders, it may have had grounds to hold the HYDRAA chief guilty of contempt and even direct his removal in what it viewed as exceptional circumstances. But the earlier order seeking Army deployment appeared excessive and invited criticism as judicial overreach.

The episode risks damaging public confidence in both the judiciary and HYDRAA, with competing narratives

already circulating on social media. Since its creation, HYDRAA has attracted controversy. Yet it has also claimed success in protecting lakes and recovering government land said to be worth about ?1.5 lakh crore. Its critics, including the Opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi, argue that it has acted selectively, targeting smaller encroachments while sparing influential violators. Some of those concerns cannot be dismissed lightly. Even so, the need for an agency like HYDRAA is indisputable. Encroachments on government land and water bodies in and around Hyderabad have reached a scale that demands a dedicated enforcement mechanism.

The answer is not to weaken such an institution but to make it more transparent and accountable. The government should complete scientific mapping of government land, lakes, parks and other protected areas, place the information in the public domain, and fix responsibility on officials who approved illegal construction.

Time for decentralisation of education

➦The task of conducting exams must be taken away from the National Testing Agency

Education Minister Dharamendra Pradhan’s resignation is only the beginning of a challenging journey. The task of conducting exams must be taken away from the National Testing Agency and given back to universities, says C Uday Bhaskar, Director, Society for Policy studies, in his Edit article Education overhaul is a long haul. In recent years, the appointment of heads of educational institutions has been determined more by political ideology and RSS endorsement than merit. The government’s focus on education is more ideological than academic (with distortions and changes in school textbooks). What India needs now is a National Education Reform Commission comprising the nation’s most credible educationists, academics and other domain experts, he suggests. The way forward lies in making the system transparent and accountable through democratic negotiations with stakeholders, institutions and individuals. To make it happen, the system needs to move towards decentralisation, writes sociologist Surinder S Jodhka in his Edit article GenZ rekindles the idea of India. Though limited to their immediate concerns, the GenZ protests of the summer of 2026 can have far-reaching implications for the idea of the Indian Republic. Over a period of just five weeks, they seem to have brought back the idea of India as imagined by its foundational thinkers: Ambedkar’s constitutionalism, Gandhi’s Sarva Dharma Sambhav and Nehru’s secularism, he writes.

For a generation that grew up in the “era of Modi” and knew little, and cared even less, about previous governments, the language used, both in irreverent social media posts as well as during the month-long agitation at Jantar Mantar Ground Zero, was unnervingly direct and fearless, writes independent journalist Nirupama Subramanian in her Edit piece Charge of the youth brigade. GenZ has shown that unlike its parents’



generation, it has moved to a zone beyond Hindu/Muslim tropes. The young generation clearly has eyes on the country’s institutions and seems keenly aware about the role it is playing in its refurbishment, she writes. When young women at Jantar Mantar deployed abusive lexicon targeting political figures, police or the situation itself, they performed a double move. First, they refused the restricted speech code assigned to their gender. Second, they claimed equal standing in the economy of verbal force, writes Haseeb Drabu, former J&K Finance Minister, in his Op-Ed article Girls, gaalis and a changing India. The swearing by girls is more than protest colour. It

is an empirical marker of the degenderisation of abuse and cuss words, which are a potent cultural resource, he writes.

Sahil Lochab was injured in pellet gun firing during the protest march in Delhi. The debate is not whether force should be used. It is whether the instrument chosen is consistent with the principle of necessity, proportionality and accountability, ex-Secretary Security, GOI, Yashovardhan Jha Azad in his Oped piece It is time to end the pellet gun era. The officer may intend to stop one violent individual, but no amount of training can determine which pellet will strike which person, what part

of the body it will hit, or whether it will blind a bystander while missing the intended target, he writes. After the sudden student protests, PM Modi is readying to receive some of the world’s most powerful leaders at the BRICS summit on September 12-13. The next six weeks in the run-up to the BRICS summit will be critical, writes Editor-in-Chief Jyoti Malhotra in her weekly column The Great Game article Turn the scalpel towards foreign policy. It will be interesting to see whether the big leaders, both Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin, will show up. Second, whether the PM can reorient India’s ship in favour of true multi-alignment — where India picks its friends and partners framed only by its national interest, she writes. In the last few days, the PM has cut through the whirlpool of the BJP’s own making by directly reaching out to India’s despairing youth brigade. Perhaps it’s time to turn the scalpel towards foreign policy and run an honest appraisal of what’s what. What does India really want? And who are its trustworthy friends? She writes. GeographicReference

The Iran war has entered its sixth month. A ceasefire was eventually reached on June 17 and on July 22, the US signed a nuclear deal with Saudi Arabia, allowing uranium enrichment for generating fuel for their planned nuclear reactors. The US nuclear deal (2009) with the UAE had denied enrichment rights. Iran now would not settle for anything less than the Saudi deal, writes former Ambassador to UAE and Iran KC Singh in his Edit article Iran must avoid overplaying its hand. Is this an attempt to forestall the Iranian nuclear weapon programme by turning Saudi Arabia too into a nuclear weapon threshold state? America’s permissive nuclear deal with Saudis opens space for a compromise with Tehran.

Haryana seeks five-yr data on DDO bank accounts from all departments

Panchkula. (Agency)

Responding to a request from the Principal Accountant General (Audit & Entitlement), Haryana, the Haryana Finance Department has called on all Heads of Departments to promptly provide detailed records of Drawing and Disbursing Officer (DDO) bank accounts from the past five financial years. In a recent communication from the Additional Secretary of the Finance Department, the Government has instructed departments to compile and submit comprehensive details of DDO bank accounts for the financial years 2021-22 to 2025-26. Departments must use the specified format and deliver both digital and printed copies within a week.

The Finance Department wants departments to report the total number of DDO bank accounts as of March 31 each year, highlighting accounts with no expenditure, the balances in those accounts, and how many accounts had spending below 50 per cent, between 50 and 99 per cent, or reached full utilisation. Departments must also specify the unutilised funds remaining in DDO bank accounts at the close of each financial year. Additionally, the government requests a department-wise breakdown of all DDO bank accounts that saw no expenditure during the year.

Haryana: Domestic help accused of killing employer in Panchkula

Panchkula. (Agency)

Police said a domestic help is accused of killing her employer, who was the wife of a retired Army captain, at their home in Sector 2, Panchkula city located in Haryana. She then tried to hide the body on a neighbour's terrace. Police said their initial investigation found that the victim confronted the domestic help about missing gold jewellery. An argument followed, and the accused then attacked the woman, leading to her death.

According to police, the accused moved the body to a neighbour's terrace, apparently to keep the crime hidden.

The victim's husband is a retired Indian Army captain. After being informed about the incident, police arrived at the scene, found the body, and sent it for a post-mortem examination.

During their investigation, police found that gold jewellery was missing from the house, and the victim suspected the domestic help of theft. Investigators think the accused killed her employer when questioned about the jewellery and then tried to hide the body to destroy evidence.

Police have taken the accused domestic help into custody and are questioning her.

The investigation is still ongoing.

PMK condemns Udhayanidhi's speech, arrest

Chennai. (Agency)

PMK President and Rajya Sabha MP Anbumani Ramadoss, whose party is an ally of the AIADMK-led NDA, on Tuesday condemned the arrest of Leader of the Opposition Udhayanidhi Stalin (DMK) and also his controversial and derogatory speech. Udhayanidhi was arrested this morning over certain remarks he made about Chief Minister Vijay during yesterday's protest in Thanjavur against the proposed Mekedatu Dam. Both Udhayanidhi speech and his arrest are condemnable; both could and should have been avoided, he said, in a statement.

The remarks made by Udhayanidhi were, in no way, acceptable and lacked dignity. A person who has served as Deputy Chief Minister and now holds the responsibility of Leader of the Opposition should learn to speak in a respectful and dignified manner.

At the same time, there was no need to arrest Udhayanidhi with such haste. Even after the High Court had directed that he should not be arrested until 12:00 noon, there was no urgency for the arrest especially when the Assembly sessions is scheduled to begin tomorrow. The extraordinary urgency shown by the government and the police in carrying out this arrest—an urgency that has not been demonstrated in addressing many of Tamil Nadu's pressing issues—suggests that the action was driven purely by political considerations, Anbumani, also a former union Minister said.

Rs 18 crore missing every year? Siddhivinayak Temple Trust asked to explain

Trust says it flagged donation irregularities and sought an audit in May, months before Raj Thackeray's Rs 18-crore theft claim. Nine people have been arrested so far.

Mumbai. (Agency)

The Maharashtra Law and Judiciary Department has sought a detailed financial report from the Siddhivinayak Temple Trust amid a political storm triggered by Maharashtra Navnirman Sena chief Raj Thackeray's allegation that donations worth Rs 18 crore are being siphoned off from Mumbai's iconic temple every year. The Trust, however, maintained that the department's move was initiated on its own request for a comprehensive audit submitted in May, months before the allegations surfaced.

"The Law and Judiciary Department has asked the trust administration to submit a

report. Based on that report, the state government will decide the further course of action," trustee Rahul Londhe said on Monday.

The development comes after Raj Thackeray, speaking at the 20th anniversary programme of the Maharashtra Navnirman Vidyarthi Sena (MNVS) on August 1, claimed that a letter addressed to Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde alleged that Rs 18 crore was being stolen from the temple every year. Rejecting the allegation, the Trust said no such letter had been written to Shinde. Instead, it said the trustees had approached the Law and Judiciary



Department in May 2026 seeking a comprehensive audit of donations received by the temple. Trust president and Minister of State Sada Sarvankar said it was the trustees themselves who first

alerted authorities after noticing discrepancies in donation collections.

"I approached the Anti Corruption Bureau and its chief Vishwas Nangre Patil with a complaint, following which officers were deployed at the temple," Sarvankar said.

According to the Trust, one temple employee, Rajendra Pendurkar, was arrested for allegedly stealing donation money, following which eight more accused were arrested in March. Sarvankar alleged that all the accused have links with Shiv Sena (UBT), a claim the party has not responded to.

Indian Medical Association to suspend services in Maharashtra

Pune. (Agency)

The Indian Medical Association (IMA), Maharashtra State, with support from the Maharashtra Association of Resident Doctors (MARD), the Association of State Medical Interns (ASMI) and several specialty medical organisations, has announced a 24-hour withdrawal of medical services on August 4.

The protest is against the proposed grant of Maharashtra Medical Council (MMC) registration to homeopathy practitioners who have completed the Certificate Course in Modern Pharmacology (CCMP).

In a statement, IMA Maharashtra president Dr Santosh Kulkarni said the move was prompted by reports that

BHMS-CCMP practitioners were being considered for MMC registration.

"This is perceived by the allopathic medical fraternity as compromising the standards, integrity and scientific



foundation of modern medicine, with potentially serious long-term consequences for public health and patient safety," Dr Kulkarni said.

IMA office-bearers said the medical fraternity's concerns had not been

addressed despite repeated representations, letters and press conferences, as well as communication with various government departments.

"With no other effective option, IMA Maharashtra has decided to undertake this protest in the larger interest of public health and to safeguard the standards of evidence-based modern medical practice," the statement said. The withdrawal of services will begin at 6 am on August 4 and continue until 6 am on August 5. "If the process of registration starts, the withdrawal of services shall continue indefinitely," Dr Kulkarni said.

IMA said the protest was not directed at patients but was being held "in the interest of patient safety, public health, and the protection of the medical profession's scientific and ethical standards."

Pune rain: Oil-mud slick on key road causes 25 vehicles to skid; 6 injured

Normal traffic resumed in the affected stretch in Pune after the Fire Brigade team launched an emergency clean-up operation.

Pune. (Agency)

Amid incessant rainfall, at least 25 vehicles skidded, and six commuters sustained minor injuries in Pune on Tuesday morning after oil from vehicles leaked onto the road, mixing with mud and rainwater.

On receiving alerts about vehicles losing traction in the slippery stretch between RTO Chowk and Naidu Hospital Road, the Pune Fire Brigade launched an emergency clean-up operation to prevent further accidents. The work was completed in an hour, after which normal traffic resumed.

"Using high-pressure water jets, firefighters washed away the oil and mud deposits before traffic police regulated vehicular movement through the affected stretch," said an officer.

Authorities urged motorists to exercise caution while driving during the monsoon, particularly on stretches where oil residue and mud can accumulate on the carriageway. "Primary inquiry



suggested that a significant number of dumpers transporting construction material use this stretch during the late-night and early-morning hours. We believe that mud carried on the wheels of these vehicles is deposited on the road as they exit construction sites.

When this mud mixes with oil leaking from heavy vehicles and other passing traffic, particularly during heavy rains, it creates an extremely slippery surface,"



said a police officer.

"Continuous rainfall further spreads the oil-mud mixture across the carriageway, making it hazardous even for vehicles travelling at moderate speeds. We will be examining nearby construction sites, the movement of heavy vehicles in the area and whether adequate measures are being taken to prevent mud from being carried onto public roads," said the officer.

Centre intensifies drive to resolve long-pending pension cases; ministries asked to complete special campaign by Aug 18

Panchkula. (Agency)

The Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) has instructed all Central Ministries, Departments, and their subordinate offices to expedite the resolution of long-pending pension grievances and claims under Special Campaign 3.0, which runs until August 18, 2026.

The campaign aims to ensure timely and effective redressal of these matters. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has circulated the DoPPW guidelines to all its laboratories, institutes, and units for compliance.

According to the Office Memorandum from DoPPW, the Government remains committed to the prompt and effective resolution of grievances from Central Government pensioners and family pensioners. The memorandum highlights

that the average disposal time for grievances on the CPENGRAMS portal decreased to 21 days in May 2026.

However, a Root Cause Analysis found that some categories of pension-related grievances and claims remain unresolved for extended periods due to procedural and administrative delays, and some claims are filed late when pensioners or family pensioners become aware of their entitlements. The analysis identified several categories requiring urgent attention. These include payment of Ordinary Family Pension instead of Extra-Ordinary Family Pension (EOFP) or Liberalised Family Pension (LFP), non-payment of ex gratia compensation and National Gallantry Awards allowance to eligible family members of martyrs, and non-revision of pension under the Modified Assured Career Progression (MACP) Scheme, Central Pay Commission

(CPC) recommendations, and One Rank One Pension (OROP), where applicable.

The campaign will also address cases such as non-payment of family pension arrears after pension commencement, delays in releasing arrears to non-payment certificates following pension account transfers, and denial of additional family pension to spouses when the Pension Payment Order (PPO) lacks the date of birth.

The Office Memorandum clarifies that these examples are indicative, and Ministries and Departments should identify other similar issues based on the grievances they receive.

Under the campaign guidelines, ministries and departments must identify long-pending grievances and claims received online or in person for which benefits became due on or before July 31, 2024, but remain unpaid. They are also

encouraged to proactively resolve such cases on their own, where possible, before pensioners or family pensioners need to file formal grievances.

The grievances on the CPENGRAMS portal are closed only after their conclusive redressal. Nodal Public Grievance Officers will act as the single point of contact for implementation of the campaign, while ministries may constitute empowered committees to monitor progress on a weekly basis.

The DoPPW will supervise implementation and provide assistance with rules, procedures, and operational matters as required.

The Office Memorandum calls for a mid-phase review in the first week of August to ensure effective implementation and make any necessary adjustments, followed by a final review after the campaign concludes.

Justice Liberhan, whose inquiry found Babri demolition was pre-planned, dies

Former Chief Justice Manmohan Singh Liberhan, who led the landmark inquiry into the 1992 Babri Masjid demolition, died on Sunday. He was 87. His 17-year-long probe concluded the demolition was "meticulously planned", a finding he continued to defend even after the accused were acquitted in 2020.

Delhi. (Agency)

Justice Manmohan Singh Liberhan, the former Chief Justice of the Madras and Andhra Pradesh High Courts who headed the Liberhan Commission that investigated the 1992 Babri Masjid demolition, died on Sunday at the age of 87, news agency PTI reported.

According to PTI, Punjab and Haryana High Court Bar Association President Rohit Sud announced Justice Liberhan's death in Chandigarh on Sunday. His cremation was held on Monday.

A veteran jurist, Justice Liberhan led the longest-running commission of inquiry into the demolition of the Babri Masjid by a crowd of kar sevaks on December 6, 1992. In its report, the Liberhan Commission described the demolition as a "meticulously planned" act and said BJP leader Uma

Bharti had "categorically" taken responsibility for the incident.

MS LIBERHAN: FROM CHANDIGARH TO AYODHYA

MS Liberhan began his legal career at the Punjab and Haryana High Court in 1964 and was elected to the Punjab and Haryana Bar Council in 1970, later serving as its secretary from 1976 to 1983.

He went on to serve as Additional Advocate General of Haryana before being appointed Advocate General of the state in August 1986. In February 1987, he was elevated as a judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

Justice Liberhan was appointed Chief Justice of the Madras High Court in July 1997 and later became Chief Justice of the Andhra Pradesh High Court in February 1998, a position he held until his retirement

in 2000.

However, what truly cemented his place in the public consciousness was his



appointment by the then Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao-led government to investigate the 1992 demolition of the Babri Masjid in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya.

JUSTICE LIBERHAN LED THE ONE-MAN LIBERHAN COMMISSION, CALLED BABRI DEMOLITION PRE-

PLANNED

Ten days after the demolition of the Babri Masjid on December 6, 1992, the P V Narasimha Rao government appointed Justice Liberhan, then serving as Judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, to head a one-man Commission of Inquiry into the demolition.

The probe, which was initially supposed to last no more than three months, ended up stretching over 17 years, received 48 extensions, held at least 315 sittings, and examined around 100 witnesses.

In its final report, submitted to then Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on June 30, 2009, the Liberhan Commission reconstructed the events of December 6, 1992. It said more than 1.5 lakh kar sevaks had gathered in Ayodhya under the leadership of senior BJP leaders, including LK Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi.

DTC buses to boost Noida airport connectivity

Delhi. (Agency)

To boost footfall at the Noida International Airport (NIA) in Jewar, a comprehensive ground transportation network has been put in place to ensure seamless connectivity for passengers. A key proposal under consideration is the operation of Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses from different parts of Delhi to the airport, a move expected to significantly improve accessibility.

It has been a little over six weeks since commercial operations began at NIA. At the launch of the first flight on June 15, airport authorities had expressed confidence that the airport would handle 50 lakh passengers in its first year. However, passenger traffic has remained below expectations, averaging around 2,700 passengers a day, it is learnt. The Airports Authority of India is yet to release the official traffic data.

An airport source told this newspaper that during July, the first full month of operations, the airport recorded an average of 17 departures and 17 arrivals daily. Flights currently connect Noida with Mumbai, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Bhopal, Jaipur, Amritsar, Jammu, Srinagar, Uttarakhand, Jodhpur, Dharamshala, Kishangarh and Bareilly.

"NIA is enhancing passenger convenience through a comprehensive and integrated ground transportation network, ensuring seamless connectivity across the NCR and neighbouring states," the source said.

Government-run bus services have also been integrated with the airport. An official said the Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation currently operates direct services connecting NIA with Noida, Greater Noida, Ghaziabad, Agra, Mathura, Vrindavan, Meerut, Aligarh, Bulandshahr, Farrukhabad, Firozabad, Garhmukteshwar, Hathras, Khurja, Moradabad and Shikohabad. Haryana Roadways operates services connecting the airport with Faridabad and Palwal. "There are also plans to introduce direct connectivity with Gurugram, Kurukshetra, Chandigarh, Hisar, Narnaul, Panipat and Ambala in the coming weeks, depending on passenger demand," the official said.

Inspired by crime series, Delhi man kills wife, hides weapon

New Delhi. (Agency)

Influenced by the Hollywood crime drama "The Staircase", a 52-year-old man was arrested from Mathura in Uttar Pradesh for allegedly murdering his wife in Delhi over a long-standing property dispute, police said on Monday.

The accused, identified as Kamal Singh, allegedly confessed during interrogation that he had meticulously planned the murder. According to police, he told investigators he believed that hiding the actual murder weapon and placing another weapon at the scene would help him evade detection.

On July 30, police received a call from the deceased's son, Gaurav, alleging that his father had murdered his mother. When officers reached the house, they found the body of Komal lying in a pool of blood near the couch in the drawing room. A blood-stained pair of scissors, suspected to be the weapon of offence, was recovered from the centre table.

Gaurav told police that he had left for his library in Noida around 9.30 am, while his sister left for work about an hour later. Before leaving, both had witnessed their father quarrelling with their mother over the registration of a property in Jagatpuri, a police officer said.

When repeated calls to their mother went unanswered in the evening, Gaurav returned home around 9.15 pm, unlocked the flat with his key and found his mother dead with multiple injuries, the officer added.

During the investigation, CCTV footage established that after the siblings left the house, only the accused and the deceased remained inside. A woman's scream was captured on the recording, following which the accused was seen concealing the weapon in a bag before leaving the house, Joint Commissioner of Police (Eastern Range) Ajit Kumar Singla said. Police said Singh had withdrawn around `7 lakh from his bank accounts shortly before absconding.

How a National Highway rumble strip row forced NHAI into an embarrassing U-turn

After initially rejecting reports on faulty rumble strips on a Rajasthan National Highway, NHAI was forced into a U-turn, suspending its Project Director and ordering corrective measures after social media user-shared visuals exposed discrepancies in its earlier defence.

New Delhi. (Agency)

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) began Monday by telling people that reports about questionable rumble strips on a Rajasthan national highway did not show the "actual condition" on the ground. By the end of the day, it had suspended its own Project Director for "wrong reporting" and ordered corrective work at the same site.

What happened in between was an unusual public fact-check of the highway authority's own rebuttal. The controversy began with visuals of unusually large rumble strips at a median opening near Prathvipura village on National Highway-25 in Rajasthan. The images and videos

raised questions over whether the strips, ostensibly meant to slow vehicles down, could themselves pose a safety risk.



It said reports about the stretch were misleading and posted photographs to support its version, maintaining that the rumble strips had been constructed at the request of a local public representative to improve safety.

But users quickly spotted what they

said was a glaring problem. The photographs NHAI had put out to defend the construction did not appear to show the same location highlighted in the original reports.

They began comparing the two sets of visuals, pointing to the road divider, carriageway and other features to argue that NHAI was showing a different spot. Soon, the authority's attempt to rebut the criticism became the subject of criticism itself. And hours later came the U-turn. Following a review, NHAI announced that the Project Director concerned had been suspended for "wrong reporting in social media on rumble strips". It also said corrective measures were being undertaken at the location to ensure the stretch conformed to prescribed road safety standards.

'Fails To Land': Gen Z On Politicians Speaking Their Language In Parliament

New Delhi. (Agency)

The protests at Jantar Mantar saw hundreds of Gen Z students raise their voices in one of the largest demonstrations from a generation that forms the future of the Indian electorate. Using platforms most palatable to them, students created reels on viral trends, raised slogans, danced, and sang songs to ensure their demands were heard. Although the widespread demonstrations concluded with the resignation of the Union Education



As the debate regarding competitive exam paper leaks reached the Parliament, parliamentarians spoke in a language rarely heard in formal

chambers-the language of Gen Z. Defending government action, BJP MP Bansuri Swaraj remarked that "Modiji clocked it" and provided a legislative solution, calling the Bill a "transformative amendment." Slamming the Opposition's delayed response to the student agitation, Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Shinde said that the opposition went "MIA" for the first 37 days, then felt "FOMO" so held a protest. Pushing back on the government's response, NCP (SP) MP Supriya Sule slammed the Centre by calling the government "delulu" over their policies.

"He's Alive": Wife Of Sailor Who 'Died' Near Hormuz Approaches Top Court

Delhi. (Agency)

The wife of Merchant Navy Captain Ashish Kumar, who is believed to have died in a drone attack on an oil tanker anchored in the Gulf of Oman at the beginning of the Iran war, has approached the Supreme Court claiming that her husband is alive and is held in illegal captivity by foreign actors. In a habeas corpus writ petition, Kumar's wife, Anshu, has claimed she has received a ransom call from an international number, demanding Rs 20 Lakh for his release.

Dead or Alive?

Ashish Kumar, 37, from Bettiah in Bihar, was presumed dead after a missile attack on the oil tanker Sky Light near Oman's Khasab port on March 1. The Indian Embassy in Oman at the time said 10 Indian sailors were aboard the parked vessel when it came under attack and caught fire, in one of the initial casualties in a conflict that has turned the Strait of Hormuz, one of the world's busiest shipping routes, into a war zone.

According to the ministry, eight of the crew members were rescued by Omani authorities, but two -- Captain Kumar and crew member Dalip -- who were in the engine room, remained missing.

On March 4, it was reported that Omani Coast Guards had found a burnt skull and bones in the captain's room. The embassy at the time said nobody had entered the captain's room and the remains "most likely" belonged to Captain Kumar.

The Family's Demand

Kumar's family has, however, not accepted the conclusion and claims the forensic and DNA testing of the remains with samples provided by the captain's younger brother yielded a negative match.

Through her petition, his wife has sought directions to the government of India, through the Ministries of External Affairs and Home Affairs, to trace, locate and produce Captain Kumar by utilising all

available diplomatic, consular and intelligence channels.

According to the plea, the Indian Embassy in Muscat informed the family on May 15,



2026, that the recovered remains did not belong to Captain Ashish Kumar. The petition describes this as conclusive scientific evidence disproving the earlier assumption of death. The petition also relies

on a Biological Technical Examination Report issued by the Directorate General of Search and Criminal Investigation of the Royal Oman Police, which reportedly found no human DNA result from the examined bone fragments.

Apart from the DNA evidence, the petition relies upon electronic evidence to claim that Captain Ashish Kumar remained alive after the attack. It states that on the day of the attack, a WhatsApp message sent by the petitioner was successfully delivered to the captain's second mobile phone more than three hours after the vessel was struck, indicating that the device survived the incident. The plea further alleges that on March 4, 2026, the petitioner received ransom calls from international and domestic numbers demanding Rs.20 lakh for Captain Ashish Kumar's release and claiming that he was alive and in their custody.

Panel made to probe foreign medical students' exam irregularity charges

New Delhi. (Agency)

The All India Medical Students' Association's Foreign Medical Students' Wing staged a protest at the Jantar Mantar on Monday demanding an independent inquiry into the Foreign Medical Graduates Examination (FMGE) conducted in June 2026, alleging that several irregularities were found. A panel was formed by the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) soon after.

The association also sought the intervention of Union Health Minister J P Nadda. Following the protests and prior discussions with medical faculties and the AIMSA-FMSW, the NBEMS constituted an independent three-member committee on Monday to examine the issues raised during the protest.

Submitting a letter to the minister, AIMSA-FMSW alleged that the June 2026 examination was marred by several issues affecting fairness and transparency. The association also claimed that video-based clinical questions were introduced for the first time without any prior information.

Additionally, no extra time was provided during the exam, despite the new format requiring more time. Further, poor infrastructure at several examination centres was also alleged. The overall difficulty level of the paper was also substantially increased without prior communication, they said.

After a meeting with the student body, NBEMS said that the three-member committee has been given a three-week timeline to review the concerns and submit its findings. The associations claimed that NBEMS had also agreed to release the FMGE answer key, as per their demand, after the review process.

After the demand for compensation or grace marks, the examination body reportedly said that a decision would be taken after evaluating the answer key and the concerns raised, and appropriate action would follow if any questions were found to be unfair or excessively difficult.

NSUI protest against police brutality on students

The National Students' Union of India (NSUI) on Monday staged a "Students' Justice March" towards Jantar Mantar to protest the police action against students at the July 20 "Sansad Chalo" march. The NSUI said its members were stopped before they reached the venue and that around 10 to 12 people were detained.

NEWS BOX

Raced CWG final with a broken foot: Tejas Shirse's season comes to an abrupt end



New Delhi,. (Agency)

India's 110m hurdler Tejas Shirse has revealed that he competed in the Commonwealth Games final with two stress fractures in his left foot, saying his season has now come to an abrupt end. Shirse had stormed into the 100m final with a strong run of 13.76 seconds, finishing third in the heats. However, the athlete visibly struggled in the final of the event on July 27, marking a heartbreaking end to his campaign.In the finals, the Indian was slow out of the blocks and, despite clearing the opening hurdles, visibly lost pace before pulling up near the finish line. His medal hopes ended in agony as he limped across the line, with the extent of the injury remaining unclear until after the race.

TEJAS SHIRSE'S INJURY

In an emotional post on Instagram, Shirse revealed that he had only realised something was seriously wrong during the warm-up before the final but chose to race despite the pain."I didn't feel it going into the competition. Something changed during warm-up. Every athlete knows that moment when your body tells you something is wrong, but your heart refuses to listen," Shirse wrote. "So I ran. Not because I thought I would win. Because sometimes you've worked too long to walk away before the gun goes off."The Indian hurdler later underwent scans, which revealed two stress fractures in his left foot, forcing him to end his season."Instead, I'm holding MRI reports. Two stress fractures in my left foot. A dream paused. A season over," he said.Shirse also addressed criticism on social media after videos of him limping during the race circulated online."I've read the comments. 'I limped because I was in last position.' No. I limped because my foot was broken," he wrote.

Serena, Venus Williams set for doubles comeback after 4 years

CHENNAI. (Agency)

Serena Williams and Venus Williams are set to make their long-awaited return to doubles tennis after four years after receiving a wildcard entry into the Cincinnati Open later this month. Tournament organisers confirmed on Monday that the legendary sisters will compete together in the women's doubles draw, marking their first appearance as a pair since the 2022 US Open.

MISSED COMEBACK IN WIMBLEDON



The reunion comes just weeks after their planned comeback at Wimbledon was called off. The Williams sisters had accepted a wildcard into the Championships, but Serena was forced to withdraw because of a knee injury sustained during her first-round singles match against Australia's Maya Joint. The 23-time Grand Slam singles champion later revealed that fluid had to be drained from her knee and admitted she was "heartbroken" to miss the opportunity to play alongside her sister again."I did everything I could to be ready, but unfortunately my knee just isn't ready to compete," Serena had said in a post on Instagram after withdrawing from Wimbledon doubles.

Despite the setback, Serena had hinted that her return to professional tennis was not over, signing off her message by telling fans to "stay tuned to a city near you."

Commonwealth Games 2026: The Indian boxers stepped up and provided an incredible medal rush to the nation. Here's how they were able to pull off the record feat and what they will need to do when the field gets stronger at the Asian Games.

Glasgow. (Agency)

That quote probably fits India's boxers perfectly after their record-breaking showing at the Commonwealth Games 2026. This wasn't about punching above their weight. It was about finally delivering on their potential and making it count when it mattered.There may be talk about India ompeting in a weakened field, but even before the boxers stepped

into the ring on Saturday, August 1, 10 medals had already been assured for India. That, in itself, was a rare feat for Indian boxing.India finished with seven gold and three silver medals, completing one of its most dominant boxing campaigns at the Commonwealth Games.At Gold Coast in 2018, India had won three gold, three silver and three bronze medals. Four years later in Birmingham, the tally stood at three gold, one silver and three bronze.

So, anything less than seven gold medals this time around would arguably have felt like an underachievement.

CWG 2026: INDIA MEDAL WINNERS

But starting with the women, the Indian boxers stepped up one after another. So, what exactly has changed compared to previous editions? Has Indian boxing genuinely taken another step forward?



If we look at the women's boxing contingent, India now has a pool of fighters who can genuinely hold their own against the best.

Sakshi Chaudhary, who stepped in for Nikhat Zareen in the 51kg division, along with Preeti Pawar, Jaismine Lamboriya

and Lovlina Borgohain, gives India a formidable group of medal contenders across major multi-sport events. Together, they underline the depth of a women's boxing unit that can go toe-to-toe with some of the strongest teams in the world.Add Priya Ghanghas to that mix and the lineup suddenly looks like one many countries would be envious of. Jaismine, the reigning champion in the 57kg category, showed exactly why she belongs in that conversation when she took on multi-time Commonwealth Games medallist Michaela Walsh.On the men's side, Sachin Siwach, Jadumani Singh and Ankush Panghal possess the confidence — and a little bit of panache — that you want to see from boxers when they step into the ring.The 54kg category, meanwhile, is arguably one of the most competitive divisions within Indian boxing itself. That makes Preet's performance even more significant.

FIFA boss Infantino's job under imminent threat after Donald Trump ignores calls

New Delhi. (Agency)

FIFA president Gianni Infantino's grip on world football appears to be weakening after his controversial plan to sell a stake in the commercial rights of the FIFA World Cup collapsed amid fierce opposition from football's governing bodies. In what could be another blow to his leadership, Infantino reportedly failed to secure support from one of his closest political allies, US President Donald Trump, after repeatedly trying to reach him in the aftermath of the proposal's withdrawal.According to the New York Post, Infantino repeatedly tried to contact Trump after Europe and Asia overwhelmingly rejected FIFA's proposal to sell around a 20 per cent stake in a new commercial entity that would control the World Cup and other major competitions. The report added that since the plan was shelved on Friday, the FIFA chief has felt



"isolated" amid a wave of criticism from across the football world.The proposal was designed to unlock up to USD 4.2 billion from private investors by spinning FIFA's commercial assets into a separate company. However, the plan was met with fierce resistance from major football stakeholders, particularly UEFA and several Asian federations, who argued that FIFA had failed to adequately consult its members before pursuing such a significant structural change.With the proposal now abandoned, attention has shifted from the failed investment plan to Infantino's own future. The setback has intensified scrutiny over his bid to seek another term as FIFA president from 2027 to 2031.

Novak Djokovic wants shorter sets, longer legacy for Grand Slams

New Delhi. (Agency)

Novak Djokovic has proposed a sweeping change to tennis scoring, arguing that the sport should modernise its format without sacrificing the drama that has long defined Grand Slam competition.The 24-time Grand Slam champion believes tennis should move to four-game sets with no-ad scoring to make matches shorter and easier to follow. Speaking on the Nick Knows Ball podcast, Djokovic said he would still retain the best-of-five format at Majors, believing it remains one of the sport's greatest attractions."We should change the format of the scoring."Not play up to six games in the set, play it up to four, possibly no advantage. Best of five sets,



keep the matches within a two hour window. It's best for everyone."Djokovic has long argued that tennis needs to evolve to attract younger audiences, especially with sports such as padel and pickleball rapidly gaining popularity. The Serbian believes the traditional scoring system

can appear confusing to new fans and that a more streamlined format would benefit players, broadcasters and spectators alike.His comments come after another physically demanding Grand Slam season in which he endured several marathon matches, including a gruelling five-set Wimbledon quarter-final against Felix Auger-Aliassime.

SHORTER SETS, SAME GRAND SLAM DRAMA

Djokovic's proposal would fundamentally change how tennis matches unfold. Reducing sets from six games to four and introducing no-ad scoring would place greater emphasis on every point, with a single service break potentially deciding an entire set.

Rishabh Pant prepares for Sri Lanka Tests under watchful eyes of MS Dhoni

GLASGOW. (Agency)

India wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant has begun preparations for the upcoming two-match Test series against Sri Lanka under the watchful eyes of former captain MS Dhoni.

India are set to travel to Sri Lanka for their World Test Championship fixtures, with the first Test scheduled to begin on August 15. Pant is expected to play a crucial role in the middle order as Shubman Gill's side looks to overcome a challenging assignment in spin-friendly conditions.The left-hander has travelled to Ranchi, where he is training alongside Dhoni and former India



spinner Shahbaz Nadeem. Videos circulating on social media showed Pant and Dhoni leaving the former captain's

farmhouse together, while several fans also shared glimpses of the training sessions.The Sri Lanka tour comes at an important time for Pant, who endured a

difficult outing in India's recent Test series against South Africa at home. With conditions in Sri Lanka expected to heavily favour spin, Pant will be hoping the training stint with Dhoni helps him fine-tune his game before the two-match contest.Dhoni, widely regarded as one of India's finest readers of spin bowling and wicketkeeping conditions in the subcontinent. Pant has regularly sought his advice over the years and shares a close bond with the former India captain.The wicketkeeper-batter has also been working on his white-ball game in recent weeks under former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh as he looks to rediscover his best form across formats.

At 31, Mirabai Chanu finds her drive again in the girls she now trains

A third Commonwealth gold in Glasgow confirmed what Mirabai Chanu already knew: the medals no longer explain her tears. It is the young girls she trains in Modinagar, chasing her old dream, who do.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Saikhom Mirabai Chanu cried after winning gold in Glasgow. Not the wracked tears of Paris 2024, when she left the platform fourth by a single kilogram, on the third day of her period,

telling reporters it 'was not in my destiny.' These were happy tears, the kind that come only when a career's worth of grind arrives somewhere at once: an Olympic silver, three Commonwealth titles now, a body coaxed back from injury and recalibrated across weight categories, all of it converging on one podium in the city where she first stood on one, as a teenager with a silver medal in 2014.Some 7,000 kilometres away in Modinagar, 40 girls had gathered around a screen to watch it happen. When her 105kg clean and jerk locked out, the cheer that went up in the hall was for a coach as much as a champion. Two years ago, a fourth-place finish in Paris could easily have been where Chanu's story ended. Instead, after recalibrating her



body down to the 48kg category, she partnered with national coach Vijay Sharma to build a sanctuary for the sport's next generation on the outskirts of Ghaziabad."Vijay sir and I together started the Weightlifting Warriors Academy in Modinagar," she told IndiaToday.in."We currently have

athletes between the ages of 8 and 14, and they are all girls. It was always our dream to train only girls and help them move forward. There are still very few girls who take up weightlifting. After the Tokyo Olympics, more girls started coming. Before that, hardly anyone came."40 children train there now, drawn from well beyond her native Manipur."Most of them are from the North East. Around 20 are from Assam and about 20 are from Manipur. We also have girls from Jammu, Maharashtra and other states," she says. "It's not just athletes from the North East. We have children from across India."What she describes next is less coaching than communion. "I train alongside them and I also coach them.

US-Iran war shook the oil market. How India softened the hit at petrol pumps

NEW YORK. (Agency)

India has managed to cushion consumers from the worst of the global oil shock, even as crude prices remain volatile amid recurring flare-ups in hostilities between the US and Iran. Petrol and diesel prices have risen at home, but the increase has been relatively contained compared with the extraordinary swings seen in international crude prices. Crude has retreated sharply from some of the highs reached during the conflict in West Asia, but the relief has repeatedly proved fragile. Oil prices fell sharply this week after US President Donald Trump held off on further strikes on Iran, but uncertainty over negotiations and the Strait of Hormuz continues to hang over the

market. For India, that uncertainty matters enormously. The country imports most of the crude oil it consumes, leaving it exposed both to higher prices and disruptions to supplies. India has not escaped that impact. Consumers have paid more for petrol and diesel. But the full extent of the global oil shock has not travelled directly to the neighbourhood petrol pump. So where did the rest of the pressure go? The answer lies in a series of buffers that India has built over the years and deployed during the latest crisis: a rapid shift in crude suppliers, a sharp cut in fuel taxes, oil marketing companies absorbing part of the higher cost, restrictions on fuel exports, strategic oil reserves and efforts to protect the rupee. INDIA

WENT SHOPPING ELSEWHERE

Perhaps the biggest challenge at the beginning of the crisis wasn't simply



the price of crude. It was where India would get enough of it. Before the conflict, India's crude imports were significantly tilted towards the Middle

East. Nearly 35% of its crude imports, or close to 2 million barrels per day, passed through the Strait of Hormuz, according to Dr VP Singh, Professor of Economics and Program Director-PGPM at Great Lakes, Gurgaon. That left India vulnerable when flows through the critical waterway were disrupted. The response was to diversify—and quickly. Russia emerged as an increasingly important supplier, while Indian refiners cast their net much wider. Singh said India eventually secured crude from as many as 41 countries, including the US and the UK, as well as less conventional sources such as Belgium, Greece and Senegal.

Will the proposed EPF wage ceiling hike to Rs 25,000 boost your PF and pension?

NEW YORK. (Agency)

Employees earning up to Rs 25,000 a month may soon come under the mandatory Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) scheme. The Finance Ministry has reportedly approved a proposal to raise the EPF wage ceiling from the current Rs 15,000, and it is now awaiting Cabinet approval, according to a Moneycontrol report. **WHAT IS CHANGING?** At present, employees with a basic salary of up to Rs 15,000 a month must be enrolled under the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) and Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS). Those earning above this limit can join only if both the employee and employer agree. Employers are not legally required to enrol them. If the proposal is

approved, the mandatory coverage limit will increase to Rs 25,000. This means employees earning between Rs 15,000 and Rs 25,000 in basic pay will also have to be enrolled under EPF and EPS.



WILL YOUR PF CONTRIBUTION GO UP?

Under the EPF Scheme 2026, mandatory PF contribution is linked to the statutory wage ceiling of Rs 15,000 a month. Both the employee and employer contribute 12% of wages, which works out to a

mandatory contribution of Rs 1,800 each per month based on the current ceiling. Contributions above this amount can be made, but they are voluntary. If the wage ceiling is increased to Rs 25,000, the mandatory contribution limit will also rise. This means employees who come under the revised ceiling could see higher mandatory PF contributions, and employers will also have to contribute more for such employees.

WHAT ABOUT THE PENSION?

The proposal is also expected to increase pension coverage. Under the present system, employers contribute 8.33% of an employee's basic salary towards the Employees' Pension Scheme (EPS), while the Central government contributes 1.16%.

Sensex 30 up, Nifty 50 down in early trade: Check prominent gainers and laggards

Kolkata. (Agency)

--- The Indian stock market showed a bit of confusion among investors in early minutes of trade as Sensex 30 was in the green and Nifty was in the red after 15 minutes of trading. At 9:30 AM, Sensex 30 was at 78,742.85, up 0.13% or 103.82 points while the broader Nifty 50 was at 24,598.45, down 0.71% or 175.85 points. The major Asian indices were in the mixed zone this morning too.

Crude oil price

This morning crude oil prices inched up after the sharp decline on

Monday. On Tuesday the concern



was the risk to West Asian supply as diplomatic resolution to the US-Iran conflict appeared unlikely, reported Reuters. Brent futures edged up by \$0.62, or 0.7%, to reach

\$84.39 a barrel while the West Texas Intermediate crude variety was up \$0.61, or 0.7% to touch \$80.95. On Monday, Brent lost 7% and WTI 5%.

Rupee gains vs USD

In early trade on August 4, the rupee rose 3 paise to reach 95.34 against US dollar. On August 3, the Indian currency strengthened against the USD for the sixth session on the trot. Weaker global crude oil prices and a weaker greenback combined with FII inflows in the Indian markets to help the rupee.

70% of real estate leaders back simultaneous cost savings, long-term transformation: Report

MUMBAI. (Agency)

Corporate real estate (CRE) leaders are increasingly pursuing cost optimisation and long-term transformation in parallel which is a shift from the traditional approach of sequencing efficiency measures before strategic investments, according to a report released on Tuesday. A report by Knight Frank -- based on a global survey of senior CRE executives -- found that 70.8 per cent of respondents believe organisations can achieve immediate cost savings while continuing to invest in long-term transformation initiatives. More than 53 per cent also expect CRE teams to play a broader strategic role in areas such as talent management, risk mitigation and enterprise-wide business transformation, it added. In addition, technology is emerging as a key enabler of this shift, with 50.8 per cent of organisations willing to integrate artificial intelligence into workplace operations to improve productivity. The report also noted that companies are focusing on targeted AI deployment within core workflows rather than large-scale workplace redesign. Globally, occupiers are moving away from expansion-led real estate strategies towards optimising existing portfolios and investing in high-quality, sustainable workplaces that foster collaboration, learning and innovation. However, India continues to stand out as a growth market, with office leasing across the country's major markets touching 86.4 million sq ft in 2025, an increase of 20 per cent year-on-year and 43 per cent higher than the pre-pandemic peak recorded in 2019.

'Likely to mislead': FSSAI bars Dabur from selling products with '100%' guarantee claims

Kolkata. (Agency)

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has prohibited Dabur India from selling several food products carrying "100 per cent" claims, saying such labelling are "ambiguous, unverifiable" and "likely to mislead consumers".

In a post on social media on Monday, the food regulator said it had issued a prohibition order to Dabur India Ltd over the sale of products carrying claims such as "100 per cent Natural", "100 per cent Pure", "100 per cent Purity Guaranteed", "100 per cent Organic" and "100 per cent Tender Coconut Water".

The products covered under the order include honey, cow ghee, edible oils, apple cider vinegar, virgin coconut oil, sesame oil, coconut water, coconut milk and other food items. According to the FSSAI, the use of such claims violates the Food Safety and Standards (Advertising & Claims) Regulations, 2018, as they are "ambiguous, unverifiable and likely to mislead consumers." "Food products being sold on the company's website were found carrying misleading '100 per cent' claims such as '100 per cent Natural', '100 per cent Pure', '100 per cent Purity Guaranteed', '100 per cent Organic' and '100 per cent Tender Coconut Water'," the regulator said.

Stocks to watch today: Paytm, Meesho, Nykaa and more in focus

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Indian stock market witnessed a strong rally on Monday (August 3) and both Sensex 30 and Nifty 50 closed the session with significant gains. The rally that began last week seems to be continuing with falling crude oil prices triggering an improvement in investor sentiment. Investors will be watching select stocks during trading on Tuesday, August 4, as some companies have signed deals and others have received orders, which could lead to fluctuations in their shares. Let's have a look at these shares.

Q1 FY27 results expected today

A number of major companies are going to announce their Q1 results today. These include Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, Bharti Airtel, FSN E-Commerce Ventures (Nykaa), Bharti Hexacom, Alembic Pharmaceuticals, Emami, Godrej Properties, Graphite India, Greaves Cotton, Kalyan Jewellers India, Marico, Multi Commodity Exchange of India, Metropolis Healthcare, Pidilite Industries, PNB Housing Finance, United Breweries and UNO Minda.

Stocks in focus

One 97 Communications (Paytm): According to media reports, SAIF Partners may sell a 2.3% stake in Paytm through a block deal.

FSSAI has barred the sale of several Diageo, Inbrev and Old Monk liquor variants for violating flavouring norms. The move forms part of a wider regulatory crackdown on product standards and claims in the food and beverage sector.

SAN FRANCISCO. (Agency)

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has barred the sale of certain rum and whiskeys sold by Diageo India's United Spirits, Inbrev Beverages and Mohan Rocky Springwater. FSSAI said laboratory tests found that some manufacturers were adding flavours of the alcoholic beverage itself, for example, rum flavour in rum or whisky flavour in whisky. The action comes in the wake of recent regulatory actions as FSSAI

has sped up scrutiny to ensure that safety regulations regarding food items are met.

THE LIST OF BARRED LIQUOR BRANDS

The FSSAI has banned sales of Antiquity Blue Whisky, Royal Challenge Whisky and the popular rum variants of McDowell. The ban extends to Inbrev's Bagpiper Deluxe Whisky and Old Cask Deluxe XXX Rum, produced in Madhya Pradesh. It includes select variants of Old Monk Rum including Old Monk The Legend, Old Monk Gold Reserve, and Old Monk XXX Matured Rum, which is manufactured in Maharashtra.

WHY FSSAI HAS BARRED THESE BRANDS

FSSAI mentions that these brands' used artificial flavouring instead of proper ageing for their beverages, and selected ingredients to achieve their

taste and aroma. In its tests, the regulator found that the products investigated were substandard due to the presence of external artificial or



nature identical flavours in the product. "There is no internationally recognised manufacturing practice whereby rum flavour is added to rum or whisky flavour is added to whisky," the FSSAI said in a statement. Such flavours would allow companies to bypass maturation or the use of

natural ingredients such as molasses, malt, or grapes, FSSAI added.

FSSAI RECENT ACTIVITY FOR SAFETY REGULATIONS

The order is followed by FSSAI's ban on Dabur products including honey, apple cider vinegar, virgin coconut oil, sesame oil, cow ghee, coconut water and coconut milk for carrying misleading '100%' claims. FSSAI last week ordered the makers of high-caffeine beverages sold as "energy drinks" to stop using that description. It found that such claims by Pepsi and Red Bull stall the necessary regulatory intervention. The series of actions by FSSAI come as the regulator has tightened scrutiny of the food and beverage sector to overcome challenges for consumer safety.

When

Sunny Leone

Recalled Mother's Heartbreaking Reaction To Her Porn Film Career: 'You Were Naked?'

In her biographical web series, Karenjit Kaur: The Untold Story of Sunny Leone, the Baby Doll actor once revisited one of the most painful chapters of her life, recalling how her parents reacted after learning she had joined the adult entertainment industry. Sunny revealed that her mother’s first response was



a stunned, “You were naked?!”, a moment she said left her family devastated. The actor opened up about the difficult conversation, saying she knew the news would come as a shock to her parents. Although she had found financial success through nude photoshoots and adult films, telling her family proved to be one of the hardest parts of her journey.

Sunny Leone’s Mother Broke Down In Tears

Sunny recalled that she had hoped sharing one piece of good news would soften the blow. She told her parents she had been named Penthouse Pet of the Year and had won \$100,000. Instead, the announcement was met with silence.

Her mother eventually asked, “You were naked?!” Sunny said her mother then started crying. “My mother wasn’t happy when she found out who I was. Why did you have to pick that name? Your brother’s name? I was like I don’t know I just picked it.”

Her Father Told Her To ‘Own It’

Sunny said her father was upset that she had made such a major life decision without speaking to her parents first. “You

obviously didn’t consult us before you made this decision.” However, he also accepted that she had chosen her path. “If she had made this choice she has to ‘now own it and be successful.’” Sunny added that her father never approved of her profession. “No father wants that at all, no parent wants that.”

Why She Entered The Adult Entertainment Industry

Sunny admitted money was the biggest reason behind her decision. She realised she could earn between \$10,000 and \$15,000 a week, far more than she could from any other job. “I didn’t think about my family. I didn’t think about what was right or wrong to them. I was making a living.”She explained that while her parents were not poor, they could not always afford to give her and her brother everything they wanted. She wanted financial independence and believed this was the quickest way to achieve it.



Nauheed Cyrusi On Finding Purpose After Two Miscarriages: ‘There Has To Be Something More’



Actress and social media personality Nauheed Cyrusi has opened up about a deeply personal chapter of her life. The actor revealed that she went through two miscarriages after marrying Rustom Contractor in 2017, and shared how the experience changed the way they looked at life and their purpose. Nauheed said that after the difficult journey, the couple decided to devote more time towards helping animals and caring for their furry companions.

Nauheed Cyrusi Opens Up About Two Miscarriages

Sharing a video on social media, Nauheed recalled that she and her husband got married in 2017 and welcomed the news of their first pregnancy in 2018. However, their happiness turned into heartbreak when she suffered a miscarriage in the third month. Soon after, the couple adopted Jojo, a cocker spaniel, from an animal welfare organisation.

“We got married in 2017, and in 2018, we got pregnant with our first baby. Unfortunately, that ended up in a miscarriage in the third month. The doctor told me to go out and tell my family. We went in for our last checkup, and unfortunately, there wasn’t any heartbeat, and we ended up adopting Jojo. He is our almost-blind, almost-deaf Cocker. We adopted him from the SPCA,” she said.

Nauheed revealed that during the Covid period, she became pregnant again, but unfortunately, the pregnancy also ended in a miscarriage. She said the losses made her and her husband reflect on their journey and think about a purpose beyond having children.

“In the middle of Covid, we got pregnant with a second baby. It also ended in a miscarriage. By now, we have started to think about our purpose in life, and that it has to be something more than just getting babies into this world, and please tell me you have noticed that this world is just not the same world that we grew up in,” she said.

Diljit Dosanjh Can't Find A Dustbin In Japan, Says Streets Are Spotlessly Clean



Punjabi superstar singer and actor Diljit Dosanjh seems to have been awestruck by the cleanliness in Japan.The actor who is currently in the country, was seen trying hard to find a place to throw a piece of garbage on the roadside dustbin. Diljit stated that the country is extremely clean and not a piece of litter will ever be seen on the streets. In the video shared by the superstar singer, he was seen lauding the beauty and cleanliness of Japan followed by some more fun exploration of the country. From its local food to its shipping, Diljit was seen exploring it all.

He wrote, ““BEFORE EUROPE TOUR JATT EXPLORING BEAUTIFUL JAPAN Jaldi Milde An Europe AURA WORLD TOUR 2026 (sic) .” Earlier too, Diljit was seen giving a sneak peek into his travel diaries from Tokyo in Japan. In the pictures and videos, Diljit was seen exploring the vibrant streets of Tokyo while enjoying Japanese delicacies. He had also treated himself to a delicious ice cream, followed by exploring local shops, capturing moments from his fun-filled outing.Meanwhile, Diljit Dosanjh had recently made headlines after extending his support to students following the Delhi Police’s alleged use of violence to disperse thousands of students and youth activists during a CJP-led protest march to Parliament on July 20.

Diljit recalled the backlash he faced when he was labelled “anti-national” for extending support to the farmers’ protest. He had written, “Mere Te Already Anti Nationalist Da Tag Baut Vaar Lagg Chuka.. Hun V Mainu Anti-nationalist Keha Jaega. After Kisan Protest.. I faced a Lot of Backlash & Legal Problems which I can’t Even Discuss.. Baki Rab Sab Dekh Reha, Baba Bhalli Karu..”

(I have already been labelled an ‘anti-national’ many times. Even now, I know I will be called anti-national again. After the farmers’ protest, I faced a lot of backlash and legal problems that I still cannot even discuss. The rest, God is watching everything. May Baba bless everyone).

Neha Dhupia's

52 Blue To Premiere At Indian Film Festival Of Melbourne, Actor Calls It A Special Journey



Neha Dhupia is taking her film 52 Blue to a global audience as the movie is set to have its Australian premiere at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM). The screening marks a new chapter in the film’s festival journey and will give Australian audiences a chance to experience the emotional story that holds a special place in Neha’s career.Sharing her excitement about the upcoming premiere, Neha said, “I’m incredibly grateful that 52 Blue is premiering at the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne. Every film has its own journey, but some stories leave a lasting impact on you as an actor, and 52 Blue is definitely one of them. It’s a deeply emotional and honest narrative that stayed with me long after the camera stopped rolling.”

The actor also spoke about the joy of seeing the film reach audiences outside India. She added, “It’s always rewarding when a story you’ve believed in finds audiences beyond borders. Cinema has the power to connect people through emotions, irrespective of language or geography, and I hope 52 Blue resonates with everyone who watches it at IFFM.”

Talking about the importance of IFFM as a platform for Indian cinema, Neha said, "IFFM has consistently celebrated diverse

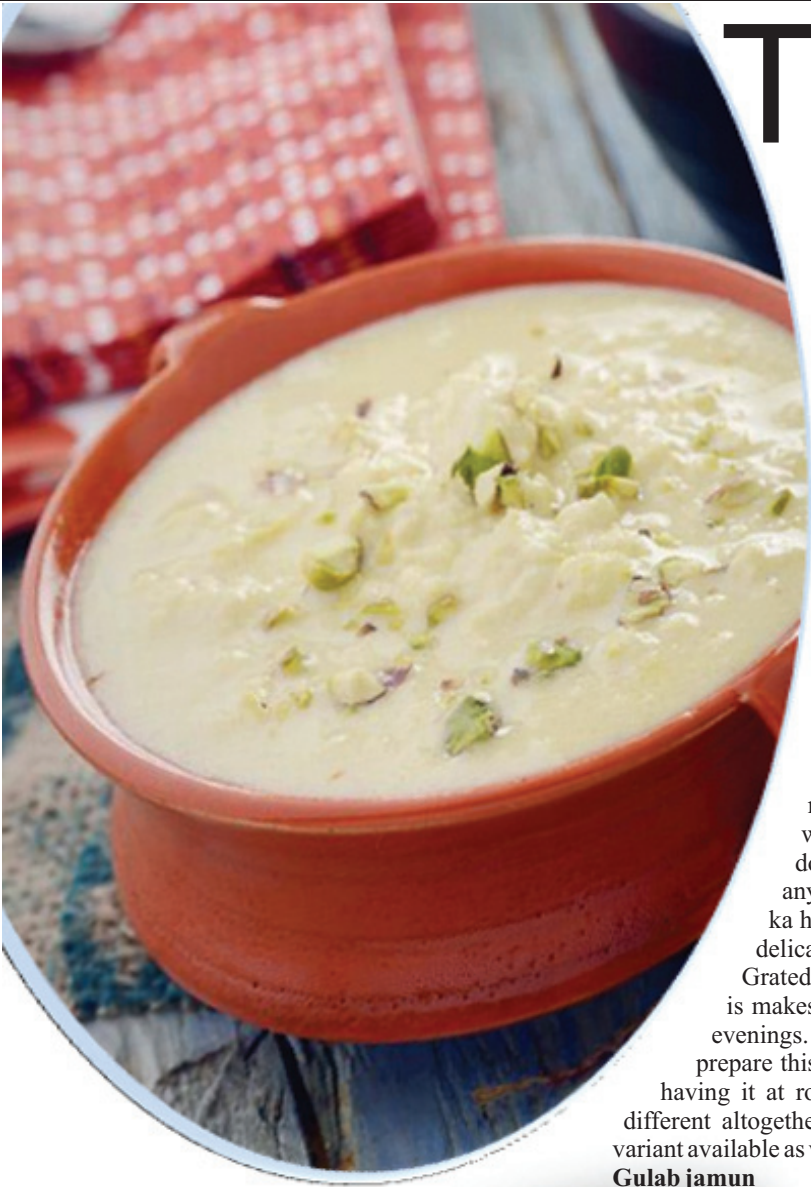
voices and meaningful storytelling. To have 52 Blue showcased there is a matter of immense pride for our entire team. I’m looking forward to sharing this experience with audiences in Australia and hearing their reactions."

Neha Dhupia made her acting debut with the Telugu film Ninne Istapaddanu in 2003, followed by her Hindi film debut in Qayamat: City Under



Threat the same year. Her performance in the film earned her a Filmfare Award nomination for Best Female Debut.

Over the years, Neha has been part of several popular films, including Kyaa Kool Hai Hum (2005), Chup Chup Ke (2006), Ek Chalis Ki Last Local (2007), Singh Is Kinng (2008), De Dana Dan (2009), Tumhari Sulu (2017) and A Thursday (2022).Apart from films, Neha is also known for her television appearances, especially as a gang leader on MTV Roadies. She is married to actor Angad Bedi, and the couple has two children.



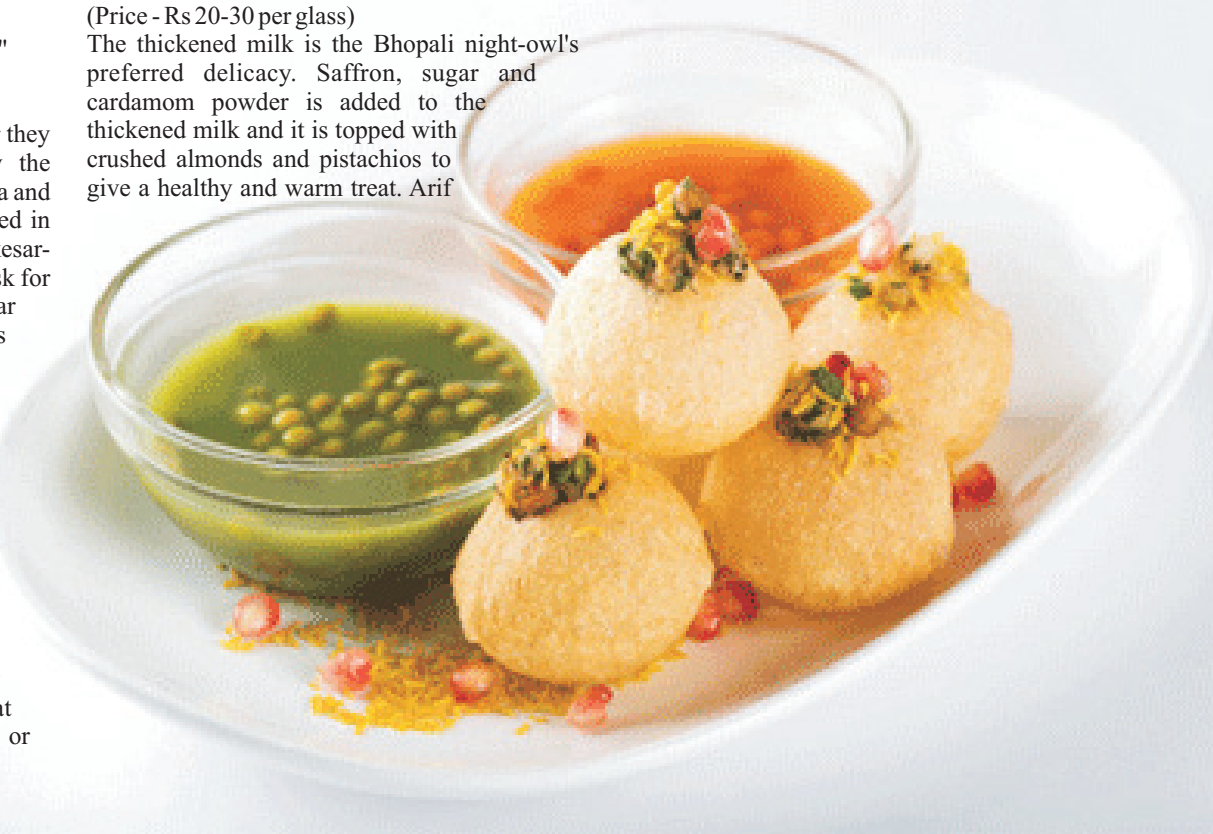
my routine every alternate day."
Rabdi Malpua with Malai
(Price- Rs 300 per kg)
Want to make someone an offer they can't deny? Ask them to try the delectable combo of rabdi malpua and malai. This sweet dish is drenched in warm sugar syrup and if hot kesar-doodh is had with it, one needn't ask for anything more. Gajar ka halwa Gajar ka halwa is one of the most nutritious delicacies offered by street vendors. Grated carrot with sugar and dry fruits is makes it the perfect dessert for cold evenings. Although many homemakers prepare this delicacy at home, the fun of having it at roadside eateries is something different altogether. Plus, there is a sugar-free variant available as well.

During winters, your body requires energy as much as warmth. So, despite the drop in the mercury, Bhopalites can be spotted at the street-side shops selling winter delicacies. These dishes, though exclusively gorged on during the cold season, are light on the pocket. We bring you some of these, that you ought to give a try.

Garadu
(Price - Rs 25-30 per plate)
One thing that every Bhopali can have throughout the winter is garadu. Bhopalites not only rush to street shops but also keep a stock of raw garadu at home as remedy to hunger pangs. The dish is garnished with a blend of spices and lemon.
Bhutte Ka Kees
(Price- Rs 20-30 perplate)
Bhutta is in demand across the year but during the cold days, the bhutta vendors make phenomenal business. Bhutte ka kees is grated corn blended with spices and garnished with coriander leaves, coconut powder, and jeeravan; served hot to make your winters more enjoyable. Harshita Mangal, a student, says, "Despite having a busy schedule, I run to the nearest shop selling bhutte ka kees, every time I have an urge to have it. During winters, this is

Gulab jamun
(Price - Rs 250 per kg)
Another regular delicacy that sells like hot cakes during winters is gulab jamun. This sweet is readily available at all the sweet shops of the city and is a great option to be had along with your group of friends or family
Kesariya doodh

(Price - Rs 20-30 per glass)
The thickened milk is the Bhopali night-owl's preferred delicacy. Saffron, sugar and cardamom powder is added to the thickened milk and it is topped with crushed almonds and pistachios to give a healthy and warm treat. Arif



Hussain, a management student, says, "After dinner, your body needs a hot drink. So, instead of opting for tea, I walk to a nearby shop to have kesariya doodh. I feel rejuvenated after sipping the milk."
Gajak, til, peanuts and more
(Price - Rs 160 per kg onwards)
Gud gajak or gud patti are just a couple of the varieties that are specially on offer during winters. The other delectable items you could spot at shops are gajak roll with mawa stuffing, dry fruits laddoo, til cake etc. Ashok Pandey, a shopkeeper, says, "We are in the gajak making business from past eight years and every year during winter, we are so busy that we don't even have the time to talk with our families. Every year, we experiment with delicacies made from til, gud, peanuts and dry fruits that are good for the health.".

6 grilled cheese sandwiches you MUST have

Foreign ingredients are now mostly available in metros, use them to spruce up the humble grilled cheese sandwich to great effect
Triple Cheese and Pesto: Goat cheese, cheddar, and parmesan make up the trio of cheeses in this sandwich. Try making a more budget-friendly pesto with pumpkin seeds as a substitution for pine nuts, which make up the other ingredients.
Grilled Cheese with Pea Shoots and Red Pepper: When you need some fresh greens to balance out an indulgent grilled cheese, pea shoots are a great topping. Add a kick to the comfort food with red pepper flakes and garlic.

French Grilled Cheese: Discover the secrets to the perfect grilled cheese with this recipe using only French cheeses like Camambert, Gouda and other semi-soft cow's cheese.
Pear And Gouda Grilled Cheese: Think fruit and cheese platters sandwiched between slices of a favorite comfort



food's bread. This pear sandwich is rich and can be served along with a cherry balsamic for some added acidity.
Grilled Carrot and Cheese Sandwich: Grilled carrots and pesto add an earthy, healthy element to the standard, gooey grilled cheddar cheese.
Italian Grilled Cheese: Feta and mozzarella make this sandwich gooey with a bit of salt. Tomatoes and spinach are also found between the layers. Try adding avocado or kale for more nutritious greens.

Simple steps to make great scrambled eggs

Eggs are god's best gift to us. Not only making simple, quick recipes from eggs are no less than a savior on days when you are low, hangover, woke up late on lazy Sundays or simply love eating eggs on given day, they are equally healthy. However, there are many who always strive to make that scrambled eggs with utmost precision and perfection, but somehow never get that. Here's a simple and easy recipe to help you make that ever succulent and tempting scrambled egg.
Ingredients
-4 eggs
-1 tsp of milk/water for each no of egg
-Salt to taste
-Black pepper as per taste
-Grated cheese
-A pinch of mixed herbs
-Olive oil/butter
-A frying pan
Method
-In a big bowl, crack open the eggs and add water or milk. While the water will make the scrambled eggs fluffy and light, adding milk will make it creamier and thicker.
-Once you have added the water or milk, add a bit of



cheese, salt, black pepper and herbs and beat it lightly.
-Beat it lightly with a fork, but don't beat it thoroughly.
-In a pan add a little butter or a teaspoon of olive oil. Once it gets melted on the pan pour in the beaten eggs.
-Once the outside of the eggs is settled, start gently pulling the edges of the eggs to the center of the pan.
-Just gently keeping moving it on a slow flame. In a minute or two turn off the flame and remove the eggs in a plate and serve it with crispy buttery toasts.

How to reuse Cooking oil?

Are you wary of using your cooking oil after frying a batch of nachos, because of the health implications? Here are some tips to reuse them.
Choose the oil
If your frying technique is off, your oil won't be reusable. Every oil has a specific smoking point, - the temperature where the oil starts breaking down. Use oils like canola, peanut or vegetable oils with a high smoking point that won't break down easily. Avoid reusing olive oil as it has a low smoking point and a dominant flavour, which makes it a bad choice for deep-frying in the first place.
Filter the oil
After the first (and each subsequent) fry, drain the oil and filter it. Any impurities and unwanted extras like loose crumbs or bits of batter are going to spoil the oil's integrity, making it burn the next time you heat it. Put a few layers of cheesecloth in a metal strainer to filter out the crumbs.
Refrigerate it
Let the oil cool down till it's at room temperature, and then refrigerate it in an air-tight container.
Use separate oils according to flavour
The oil is going to take on the flavour of the food you cooked in it, which makes fried fish oil ideal for shrimp, but not good for onion rings. Separate the oils to prevent bad flavour overlaps.



Types of foodies you'll find on campus

there is one thing that everybody has in common it has to be the love for food. While choices may differ when it comes to cuisine and the palate, it is still a binding factor. And if you are a foodie just the aroma is enough before the nom noms arrive. To some people, food must mean value for money and for yet others, the charm lies in the presentation of the dish, so they can photograph it. We list a few such foodies whom you are bound to come across on campus.
The photo foodie
This member of this clan believes in 'capturing before savouring' and this is a tradition for him/her. Nobody can stop these people from whipping out the camera and clicking; they are satisfied only when their phone pings to notify them that their picture has been liked. While all this happens, you know of their exploits once you get a notification for the same. And mind you, all this happens at same. And mind you, all this happen bolt speed. Food photography is a genre by itself and this well-established group of foodies cannot stop themselves from adding memories to their gastronomic trips. The fussy foodie

Their list of 'I don't like' reads longer than most restaurant menus. These are normally referred to as the choosy lot. They referred to as the choosy lot. They have a list of things they want to indulge in and the rest they dismiss as items they don't intend having at all. Though they appreciate the food they like, they may not be open to having everything on offer. On seeing an array of dishes will not have these foodies break into any kind of celebration. The downside



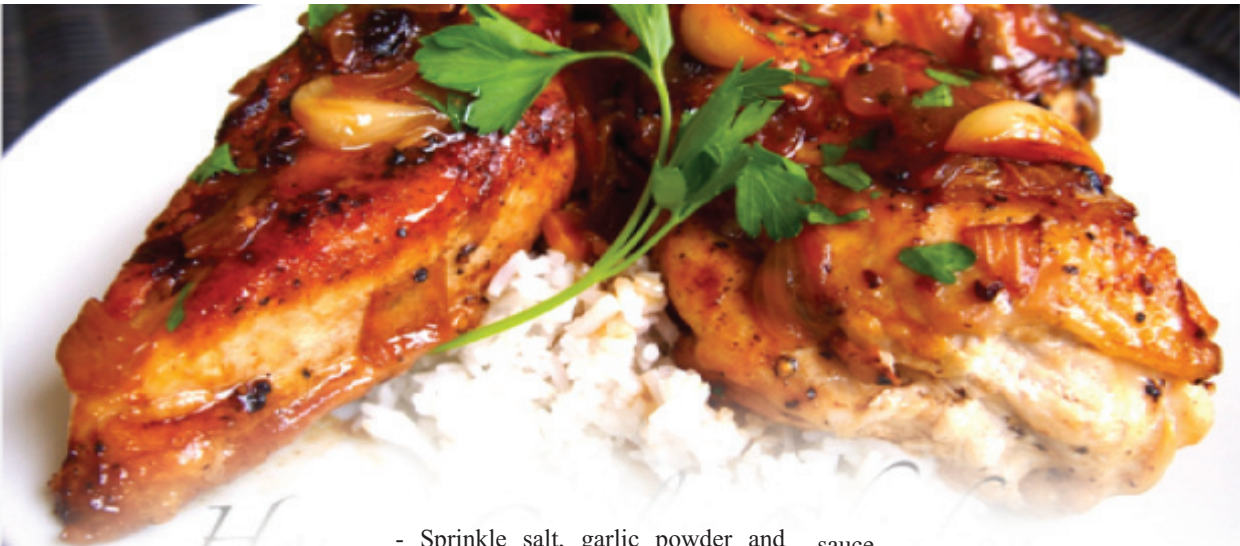
: with so many restrictions, they can never be spoiled for choice.
The diet conscious foodie
"Please keep oil content to minimum,"...this is something you get to hear every time this foodie places an order. Sure, it's good to be health-conscious, but they can go a little overboard. Even a drizzle of olive oil in something gets a strong reaction that one reserves for a dish drowning in fat.

Most of the orders are altered. so having authentic cuisine is close to impossible. You can never have butter chicken and greasy naan or even a rich, creamy jalebi with rabdi at a dhaba with this friend, for sure.
The vfm foodie
Budgeted food, but really tasty food is what you will get to indulge in with this friend. He or she knows how to spend sensibly. Value for money (VFM) food is their mantra and they may even treat friends on birth days, accordingly. Planning on saving your pocket money this month? Take recommendations from this friend and you're sure to have tasty food without burning a hole in your wallet.
The know-it-all foodie
This friend knows about all the new outlets and what should or should not be eaten. If you are in a mood to try out food from a new place, you know who to ping. This pal is sure to be updated about all the restaurants from small shops to big restaurants across the city. Phone apps are in place, they constantly keep abreast of food reviews and best part is, they share their knowledge too. This foodie also doesn't mind travelling to distant locations just to eat something that has been highly rated.

Recipe: Honey Garlic Chicken

Adelicious cooked chicken in a honey-garlic sauce. Best served with hot, steamed rice.
Ingredients
Chicken Breasts - 2, boneless, skinless
Garlic - 1 tblsp finely minced
Garlic Powder - a pinch
Butter - 4 to 5 tsp

Chicken Stock - 1/4 cup
Honey - 3 tsp
Soy Sauce - 1/2 tsp
Salt as per taste
Black Pepper Powder as per taste
Method
- Place the chicken breasts in a bowl.



- Sprinkle salt, garlic powder and pepper.
- Toss well to combine.
- Heat butter in a pressure pan.
- Add the chicken and cook until browned and slightly crisp.
- Pour the chicken stock and stir.
- Combine the garlic, honey and soy

sauce.
- Add this to the pan and stir until the chicken is evenly coated.
- Cover with a lid and pressure cook for 10 minutes.
- Switch off the flame and allow the pressure to reduce.
- Serve with rice.