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Kejriwal alleges Centre plans ethanol blending in diesel, ATF; urges people to delay vehicle purchases

New Delhi. (Agency)

Aam Aadmi Party national convenor Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday alleged that the Centre is planning to introduce ethanol blending in diesel and aviation turbine fuel (ATF), and urged people to avoid buying new vehicles for the next few years.

In a post on X in Hindi, Kejriwal alleged the government planned to increase ethanol blending in petrol beyond 50 per cent after introducing E20 fuel.

"It seems they are going to adulterate petrol with more than 50 per cent. They are just waiting for the atmosphere to calm down. First, they forced E20 petrol into your E0 and E10 vehicles and wrecked them. Today, if you buy a new E20 vehicle, the government will force E50 petrol into it after a few days and damage it," Kejriwal said. Alleging that the government would soon blend ethanol in diesel as well, Kejriwal urged people to avoid purchasing new petrol and diesel vehicles for the time being.

Congress leaders reach out to upset Karnataka legislators to defuse cabinet row

BENGALURU. (Agency)

The Congress leadership is leaving no stone unturned to pacify the disgruntled legislators—from contacting them over the phone to even visiting their residences—to douse the growing discontent that has hit the Karnataka unit after the cabinet expansion on Monday.

AICC General Secretary and Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala arrived in Bengaluru on Wednesday to hold discussions with those who are upset over not being inducted into the cabinet.

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and Surjewala reportedly spoke over the phone with several disgruntled leaders, including former ministers TB Jayachandra and MC Sudhakar. They also reached out to Indi MLA Yashavantarayagouda Patil, who withdrew his resignation. In a letter addressed to the Secretary of the Karnataka Legislative Assembly, Patil stated that he had submitted his resignation to the Speaker on August 3 due to certain reasons, but has now withdrawn the resignation. While Shivakumar and Surjewala met Congress MLAs M Krishnappa (Vijayanagar) and his son Priya Krishna (Govindraja Nagar), KPCC president BK Hariprasad met former ministers HK Patil (Gadag), Dinesh Gundu Rao (Gandhinagar), TB Jayachandra (Sira) and several others who are upset after being denied a place in the cabinet.

You can demand, not dictate: Kiren Rijiju vs Mallikarjun Kharge in Rajya Sabha

New Delhi. (Agency)

Heated scenes played

out in the Rajya Sabha

as LoP Mallikarjun

Kharge sparred with

BJP's Kiren Rijiju

amid the deadlock

over the Opposition's

demands for

statements from PM

Modi and Home

Minister Amit Shah.

Congress MP Mallikarjun Kharge and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju clashed in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday amid a deepening standoff over repeated disruptions by opposition protests in the House. The confrontation erupted during Zero Hour as opposition MPs shouted slogans of "Grih Mantri sadan mein aao" (Home Minister, come to the House), demanding a statement from Amit Shah on the Ram Mandir donations theft and police action against student protesters in Delhi. Despite repeated appeals from the Chair, the sloganeering continued.

Presiding over the House, Deputy Chairman CP Radhakrishnan repeatedly urged members to return to their seats and assured them they would be given an opportunity to speak once order was

restored. He also reminded members not to direct the Chair during proceedings.

Amid the din, Rijiju invoked parliamentary rules against disrupting House proceedings and took aim at Kharge's



repeated interventions.

"Every day, Mr Kharge stands up. He reads out whatever he has written down. Every time, the Chairman gives him a chance to speak and Mr Kharge says the same thing. This is repetition," Rijiju said.

Kharge, who is Leader of Opposition in the Rajya Sabha, fired back, asserting that it was for him to decide how to present his arguments.

"Now I have to learn the rules from Rijiju ji... If I don't read the rules, if I don't read my matter, will I read what you have given me? It's my right, what to speak, when to speak, how to speak," he said. The Congress chief accused the treasury benches of creating a ruckus whenever the opposition attempted to raise issues concerning the country. He reiterated the opposition's demand that both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah address the House.

Kharge also cited late BJP leader and former Finance Minister Arun Jaitley to defend the opposition's protests. "Arun Jaitley said in this House itself that disruption is part of democracy, and members have every right to raise relevant questions."

Maharashtra Speaker slams Congress's 'gungi gudiya' jibe at Sunetra Pawar

Mumbai. (Agency)

Maharashtra Assembly Speaker condemned the Congress's 'gungi gudiya' remark against Deputy CM Sunetra Pawar as unfortunate, demanded an apology and said such language against women has no place in political discourse.

Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar on Wednesday termed the "gungi gudiya" remark against Deputy Chief Minister Sunetra Pawar as unfortunate and said anyone using such language should express regret and apologise. The comment has triggered a political row, drawn criticism from leaders in the ruling alliance and led to protests by workers of the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP). The controversy began after NCP

leader Dhananjay Munde reportedly shielded Sunetra Pawar from a journalist's



question on the law and order situation in Beed district on Tuesday. The Maharashtra Congress later shared a video of the episode on social media and

referred to Pawar as "gungi gudiya" or "silent doll", prompting a sharp backlash from the NCP, an ally of the BJP in the Mahayuti government.

Speaking to reporters in Raigad, Narwekar, who is a BJP leader, said respecting women and honouring mothers and sisters has always been an integral part of Maharashtra's political culture. "Using such language or improper phrasing against women is unfortunate. Whosoever has used such language ought to express genuine regret and issue.

Has Gen Z stir softened govt stance? Rijiju appeals to Rahul on FCRA, delimitation

New Delhi. (Agency)

For nearly three weeks, Parliament has remained paralysed. Gen-Z protests over the NEET paper leak, the action of police and paramilitary forces on protesters in New Delhi, and the alleged donation theft at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, have stalled all discussions in the ongoing Monsoon Session. The Opposition has been stalling proceedings, demanding that Home Minister Amit Shah speak on the issues. Amid the impasse, the Narendra Modi government, accused by the Opposition of refusing dialogue and displaying political arrogance during the

agitation, has now initiated an outreach to Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi in a bid to secure support for two



significant legislations — amendments to the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act (FCRA) and the proposed

delimitation-linked Constitution Amendment Bill.

Rijiju's 50-minute meeting with Gandhi on Wednesday, days after a telephone call between the two, triggered an important question.

Has the prolonged Gen Z-led agitation forced the government to shift from confrontation to consensus? The sequence of events — weeks of nationwide protests, a washed-out Parliament, the BJP's defeat in Bankipur and Datia, and finally a ministerial outreach — points out that the Modi government is now approaching a more accommodative stance, at least for legislation it wants to pass.

"Wake Up And Respond": MK Stalin's Swipe At Vijay Over "Hollow" Budget

Chennai. (Agency)

DMK president and former Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Thursday called Tamil Nadu's agriculture budget "hollow" and asked the Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay-led government to "wake up". In a post on X, he alleged that the TVK government's maiden budget ignored issues like drought and crop losses suffered by farmers.

"Instead of addressing the drought, the Tamil Nadu Agriculture Budget 2026 served merely as a platform to sing praises and shower the chief minister with flattery," he wrote in Tamil.

He said the newly formed government had "merely rebranded existing schemes" instead of introducing meaningful measures for farmers.

"Does this government believe its job is done simply by slapping the label 'success' onto Dravidian model schemes?" he said, referring to the schemes launched by the DMK government.

"This agricultural budget offers nothing to the farmers of the Delta region, whose Kuruvai cultivation has been affected and who are waiting for a helping hand from the government. It is an utterly hollow budget," Stalin said.

"The slumbering government must wake up and provide answers. Solutions must be found," he added.

Nothing in Budget: Wearing black, Udhayanidhi slams Vijay over farmers' issues, Cauvery

Udhayanidhi Stalin sharpened the political confrontation with the Vijay government, targeting it over the Budget, Cauvery dispute and farm loan waiver.

Chennai (Agency)

Tamil Nadu opposition leader Udhayanidhi Stalin on Thursday launched a fresh attack on the Vijay-led government over its Budget and handling of the Cauvery water dispute, accusing it of failing farmers and reneging on its promise of a complete farm loan waiver. Udhayanidhi, who wore a black shirt to the Assembly along with other DMK members, said the protest was aimed at highlighting the plight of farmers, particularly those in the Cauvery delta who have been affected by difficulties in

cultivating the Kuruvai crop.

"Delta farmers are suffering due to the non-cultivation of the Kuruvai crop. To protest against and express our opposition to this government, we have worn black shirts today," Udhayanidhi said. He also took aim at the state Budget, claiming that it offered little new for farmers despite the problems confronting the agricultural sector.

"Nothing new was announced in today's Budget. In their election promises, they had assured a complete farm loan waiver, but they have implemented only a partial waiver. Today, farmers are demanding a



complete loan waiver," he said.

The DMK leader also sought to corner the government over the Cauvery water-sharing dispute and Karnataka's proposed Mekedatu dam project, demanding that Chief Minister Vijay convene an all-party

meeting to present a united Tamil Nadu position on the two issues.

Udhayanidhi claimed Karnataka had openly said it would not release water and had even asked the Tamil Nadu Chief Minister not to visit the neighbouring state. "We have been continuously making our demand. Convene an all-party meeting. On the Cauvery issue and the Mekedatu issue, convene an all-party meeting and show that all political parties in Tamil Nadu are united and share the same position," he said. Udhayanidhi said the Opposition had sought the Speaker's permission to raise both the Cauvery and

Mekedatu issues during Question Hour on Friday and hoped the Chief Minister would respond in the Assembly.

"During tomorrow's Question Hour, we have requested the Speaker to allow a discussion on the Cauvery water issue and the Mekedatu dam issue. At that time, we will speak in detail about the matter. We hope that the Chief Minister will at least speak on this issue tomorrow," he said. The DMK leader alleged that farmers had been facing a series of problems over the past three months and accused the government of failing to adequately address their concerns.

News box

Street vendors allotted space over drain lose livelihood, slab collapse exposes MCG’s planning flaws

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Fifty-four-year-old Shiv Pujan sat beside his shuttered tea stall in Sector 22 market on Wednesday, watching workers lift the broken concrete slab that had collapsed over the stormwater drain a day earlier. His wife sat beside him. The stall that had sustained the couple for years remained closed, and with officials declaring the site unsafe, they had no idea how they would make ends meet. “We have nowhere else to go. MCG officials came after the collapse and told us not to run our stall here because it is unsafe. But this stall is our only source of income. If we leave, how are we supposed to survive?” Pujan said. Pujan’s predicament reflects the uncertainty facing dozens of street vendors in the area. The incident, which trapped one vending cart inside the drain, has not only disrupted livelihoods but also raised questions over MCG’s decision to develop a designated street vending zone on slabs laid over the drain. Vendors said they have been operating from the site for nearly seven years after being allotted space by the civic body, despite repeatedly warning officials that the location was unsafe. On Wednesday, teams from GMDA continued work to remove the damaged slab and secure the site. “Some vendors have shifted outside the nearby school boundary wall, but there is hardly any space left there.

Three kanwar pilgrims die in DME crash

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

Three people, including a minor, headed to Haridwar on a bike for a kanwar pilgrimage, died after they crashed into a vehicle on Delhi-Meerut Expressway on Wednesday. Police said the riders were travelling at a high speed and lost balance and crashed into a vehicle moving ahead. This is the fourth death of a kanwar pilgrim in Ghaziabad this yatra season. On Tuesday, a truck ran over a kanwar pilgrim after he fell on the road allegedly after a roadways bus brushed against his bike. His friend, riding pillion, suffered minor injuries in the accident. On Wednesday, cops said they were alerted by passersby about three injured persons lying on DME around 4.30 am. A team from Bhojpur police station took the injured to hospital, but were declared dead on arrival. According to police, the victims — Gyan Prakash (29), Rajkumar (25) and Pradeep Singh (17) — had started for Haridwar from Haryana on Tuesday night. Prakash, who worked at a shoe manufacturing unit, was riding the bike. “He had reached the Kalchhina area of DME when the bike crashed with an unidentified vehicle,” he said. Modinagar ACP Bhaskar Verma said the bike’s front portion was mangled due to the intensity of the crash. “An FIR has been registered against an unknown driver under BNS sections 281 (rash driving) and 106 (1) (death due to negligence),” he said.

YEIDA set to roll out residential plots scheme near Noida airport

Noida.(Agency)

Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) is preparing to launch two residential plot schemes during the Navratri festival in Oct. One scheme will be for the low-income group category while the other will be open to the general public. In the first category, the plot size will be 40 sqm while in the second category it will range from 162 to 300 sqm. Authority is planning to introduce a new eligibility rule for the scheme. Applicants who have already been allotted a residential plot under any previous scheme of Noida Authority, Greater Noida Authority or YEIDA will not be eligible to ensure a fair chance for other aspirants. These plots will be launched in Sector 5-A near Noida International Airport. Shailendra Bhatia, additional CEO of YEIDA, said that Authority is finalising details for this scheme. “The number of plots and other details will be decided soon,” he said. The allotment rate of residential sectors in the Yamuna Authority area is Rs 36,260 per sqm. In June, Yamuna Authority allotted 973 residential plots through a draw near Noida International Airport. The scheme, announced in April, offered 973 residential plots and attracted 1,10,034 valid applications. The Yamuna Authority area has witnessed a sharp rise in demand for residential plots following the operationalisation of Noida International Airport. Flight operations began on June 15, while the cargo terminal became functional on June 17, significantly boosting investor confidence and real estate activity. Improved air connectivity, better logistics infrastructure and the prospect of large-scale industrial and commercial development have made the region an attractive destination for both homebuyers and investors.

Rain triggers drain slab collapse, service road caves in

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A section of the slab over the Leg-1 master stormwater drain collapsed near Rotary Public School on Sushil Aima Marg after heavy rainfall on Tuesday afternoon, exposing the deteriorating condition of the three-decade-old drain. The collapse, spanning around 25 feet, also brought down part of the drain’s retaining wall, causing soil erosion beneath the adjoining service road and triggering a cave-in along its edge. The affected stretch doubles as a designated vending zone built over the drain slab. No injuries were reported as vendors who usually operate there were absent when the slab gave way, averting a major accident. Some vendors, however, claimed a kiosk was washed away by the strong flow of rainwater through the drain.

Following the incident, GMDA barricaded the area and closed the affected portion of the service road to prevent accidents. Constructed more than three decades ago using brick masonry, the Leg-1 drain has weakened over the years due to continuous sewage flow and prolonged exposure to corrosive gases. Since its transfer from HSPV to GMDA in 2018, several sections have developed structural defects. In Sept 2023, a 10-15ft-deep cave-in developed outside Tau Devi Lal Park in Sector 23A after the drain weakened, with the collapse extending to part of the adjoining road. Earlier this year, TOI had also reported deterioration of the pavement above the drain as the structure beneath continued to weaken. GMDA is preparing to reconstruct the remaining stretch of

the ageing drain. The project was first proposed in 2021 but was delayed after the alignment between Old Delhi-



Gurgaon Road and Rezag La Chowk had to be redesigned because of trees along the corridor.

The downstream section between Rezag La Chowk and Railway Culvert-47 was rebuilt in 2024, while work on the remaining stretch is yet to begin. In June, GMDA floated a Rs 32-crore tender to reconstruct the

remaining 2.8km stretch between Old Delhi-Gurgaon Road and Rezag La Chowk using precast RCC box segments, which is scheduled for completion in 10 months. The project aims to remove a major bottleneck in the city’s stormwater network. Officials said the drain narrows from 4.25 metres upstream of Old Delhi-Gurgaon Road to 2.1 metres downstream, significantly reducing its carrying capacity and leading to frequent overflows in sectors 21, 22, 23 and Palam Vihar during heavy rain. The drain originates at Sikanderpur village and outfalls into the Najafgarh drain, making it a key stormwater channel for a large part of the city. The reconstruction has also gained urgency because the proposed Millennium City Centre-Cyber City metro corridor runs along the same stretch.

No power supply for two days, society residents block Sohna Road

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Residents of Pyramid Urban Homes in Sector 67 blocked Sohna Road on Wednesday in protest against a two-day-long power cut at the society, which, they said, has completely disrupted their daily schedule. The protesters said poor electrical infrastructure in the housing complex was causing repeated power failures and blamed the management for it. Police were called in to defuse the situation and disperse the crowd. In an effort to resolve the situation, the society’s housing manager was called and diesel gensets were arranged. Power supply through diesel generators (DG) was restored at around 5 pm, while grid supply was also resumed around the same time. However, due to intermittent tripping, the society continues to rely on DG power for electricity supply till Wednesday night, residents said.

According to residents, their houses did not have power from 3pm on Monday due to a fault in the power infrastructure connecting the society to the substation. They alleged that despite repeated complaints, the management failed to restore supply or provide a satisfactory explanation.

As a result, some families were forced to spend their nights at hotels while others shifted to relatives’ homes. Residents said the prolonged outage disrupted work-from-home schedules, online classes and access to basic amenities, including drinking water. “No appliances are working. Even RO systems are down, forcing us to buy bottled water.

HC to hear contempt plea over delay in MCG deputy mayor elections

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

Punjab and Haryana high court has scheduled the hearing of a contempt petition on Thursday after MCG failed to conduct elections for the posts of senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor within the time it had assured the court it would do so. In Feb earlier this year, the high court sought a response from MCG on when it could hold the polls. In response, on March 5, the civic body informed the court they would conduct the elections within eight weeks. Now, the contempt plea is listed for hearing on Aug 6 before the high court. The outcome of the hearing is expected to determine the corporation’s course of action regarding the elections, which have already been delayed for more than a year. On April 30, MCG had

convened a special House meeting to elect the senior deputy mayor and deputy mayor. However, despite 32 of



the corporation’s 36 councillors being present, the election was deferred after Mayor Raj Rani Malhotra stayed away citing medical reasons. After waiting for nearly an hour, councillors formally announced the postponement of the exercise. The deferment came even as the high court’s deadline had effectively

expired, raising questions over why the civic body failed to honour the commitment made before the court.

What made the episode more contentious was the contrasting incidents from neighbouring Manesar, where deputy mayor elections had proceeded last year under the chairmanship of MCM commissioner despite the mayor and several councillors remaining absent. MCG officials, however, maintained that Haryana Municipal Corporation Election Rules required the mayor’s presence, a position that fuelled allegations of selective interpretation of norms to accommodate political compulsions. Meanwhile, MCG has called a meeting on Thursday in which the action taken reports of the previous meeting will be taken up by the House.

Beam & concrete came unhinged as heat weakened Greater Noida factory metal structure, finds probe

Noida.(Agency)

A day after two firefighters died and three others were injured as chunks of concrete and an iron beam crashed on them during firefighting operations at a chip manufacturing unit in Ecotech-3 industrial area, a labour department review found intense heat due to the blaze severely weakened the building’s metal structure and unhinged the beam that led to the collapse. A joint inspection by assistant director (factories) Anshul Tiwari and assistant director (factories and

boilers administration) Ram Bahadur on Wednesday found the PUF (polyurethane foam) roofing system, steel trusses, beams and columns on the first floor of the factory, where the fire initially started before spreading vertically to the second floor, were extensively damaged after they were exposed to extremely high temperatures. Initial findings indicated the steel framework underwent rapid thermal expansion during the fire, followed by sudden thermal contraction, resulting in residual stress, buckling and a

significant reduction in the steel’s yield strength and load-bearing capacity. It noted the building lacked an adequate smoke extraction system that led to smoke accumulation and potentially increased internal temperatures. Officials said as the weakened structure came unhinged during the cooling operations, a large section of the adjoining wall and an iron L-bar, which acts as a joint connector, crashed. Fireman Rohit Yadav (32) and chief constable driver Teerathpal Singh (48), who were standing in the factory.

Haryana raises excess demand threshold, reduces penalty burden on industries

Noida.(Agency)

Haryana has eased electricity regulations to reduce costs and improve operational flexibility for industrial and commercial consumers. Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission (HERC) has raised the threshold for surcharge-free excess demand from 105% to 110% of a consumer’s approved contract demand (CD), allowing factories and businesses to absorb temporary spikes in electricity use without penalty. A 20% surcharge will now apply to consumption between 110% and 115% of sanctioned load, while the existing 25% surcharge continues beyond 115%. The regulator has also simplified the process for reducing and restoring sanctioned load. Consumers can now restore their original sanctioned load within three years without paying fresh service connection charges, subject to specified conditions. The reforms are

expected to benefit Haryana’s over 1.2 lakh registered MSMEs and thousands of larger industrial units — including factories, warehouses, malls, hotels and commercial establishments that see seasonal or production-driven spikes in demand — by lowering operating costs, improving production flexibility and cutting procedural hurdles, while retaining safeguards against misuse and electricity theft. CD is the maximum electricity load a consumer is sanctioned by the distribution company — for a factory, effectively its booked capacity. Under the earlier regime, consumers drawing more than 5% above their approved CD had to pay a 25% surcharge on their entire electricity bill, meaning even a marginal overshoot attracted a steep penalty. The revised slabs mean industries can temporarily ramp up production to meet export orders or seasonal demand as long as they stay within the new threshold. HERC has also

amended Duty to Supply Electricity on Request, Power to Recover Expenditure Incurred in Providing Supply and Power to Require Security Regulations, 2016 (Fourth Amendment), 2026, making it cheaper and simpler for consumers to reduce and later restore their sanctioned load. Consumers reducing sanctioned load without changing voltage level will now pay only a processing fee, capped at Rs 20,000 — down from the higher costs and procedural complexity involved earlier. Where the reduction involves a shift from high-tension (HT) to low-tension (LT) supply, service connection charges will be calculated only on the revised sanctioned load. The amended rules allow consumers to restore their original sanctioned load within three years without paying fresh service connection charges, subject to specified conditions. A six-month lock-in period applies after any reduction or restoration, only one of each is

permitted within the three-year window, and restoration will be allowed only once.

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Indira Gandhi arts centre brings Northeast India's living heritage to Delhi through traditional utensils

New Delhi: In an age dominated by machine-made products and mass production, the Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) is set to open a unique exhibition on Tuesday that celebrates the artistry, traditions and everyday lives of communities in Northeast India through objects often taken for granted—

household utensils. Titled 'Living Heritage in Metal, Bamboo and Clay: Traditional Utensils of Northeast India', the exhibition will showcase a diverse collection of handcrafted utensils made from natural materials that have remained an integral part of life in the region for generations. Organised by the National Mission on

Cultural Mapping (NMCM) in collaboration with the North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Corporation Limited (NEHHDC), the exhibition seeks to tell the stories behind these objects and the communities that continue to preserve traditional ways of living. From intricately crafted bamboo

containers and baskets to clay vessels and bell-metal utensils, the exhibit highlights generations of inherited craftsmanship, ecological knowledge and cultural practices. Organisers say the displayed objects are not merely artefacts but living expressions of identity, memory and a sustainable relationship with nature. The exhibition will be inaugurated by Culture Secretary Vivek Aggarwal at IGNCA's Darshanam-I and II Galleries on Janpath and will remain open to visitors until July 2. Alongside the exhibition, two monographs—Bell-Metal Craft of Assam and Chiteri Art of Bundelkhand, will also be released. The publications document traditional

craft practices and aim to contribute to the preservation of India's artistic heritage. At a time when traditional crafts face increasing pressure from industrialisation and changing consumer preferences, the exhibition offers visitors an opportunity to engage with living traditions that continue to shape everyday life in many parts of the country. Officials said the event is expected to attract researchers, artists and members of the public interested in understanding how ordinary objects can reveal extraordinary stories about culture, community and heritage.

DC Reasi chairs DLC meeting; focus on dairy expansion and poultry promotion

REASI: Deputy Commissioner Reasi Kumar Abhishek, who is also Chairman of the District Level Committee (DLC), today chaired a meeting at the DC Office Complex to review implementation of the Holistic Agriculture Development Programme (HADP), Jammu and Kashmir Competitiveness Improvement Project (KCIP) and Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). The meeting also finalised eligible cases submitted under the schemes for financial assistance. The DC reviewed the physical and financial progress under the programmes and assessed the status of agriculture, horticulture, livestock, fisheries and allied sector initiatives. He sought conver-

gence among departments for timely delivery of benefits to farmers and entrepreneurs. He directed the departments concerned to expedite processing of eligible cases and complete all proposals before placing them before the Committee, the department concerned to increase dairy units and encourage farmers and unemployed youth to set up poultry units under available schemes and bankers to clear pending loan cases and release timely assistance so that approved projects proceed without delay. During the interaction, progressive farmers requested

dedicated sale counters for marketing their produce and products. The Deputy Commissioner assured them that sale counters would be set up shortly to improve market access. Among those present were Additional District Development Commissioner Krishan Lal, GM DIC Navdeep Wazir, Sheep Husbandry Officer Sarfaraz Nassem Choudhary, the Chief Horticulture Officer, Chief Animal Officers and other officers concerned.

NAME CHANGE
I, MINA W/O SYED FAIZ AHMED residing at F-137 NEW SEELAMPUR NORTH EAST DELHI-110053, have changed my name to MEENA W/O SYED FAIZ AHMED for all future purposes

NAME CHANGE
I, Nikhil, S/O Suresh Kumar Khandelwal, R/O House No-33, Chhanamal Park East Punjabi Bagh, Punjabi Bagh, West Delhi, Delhi-110026 have changed my name to Nikhil Khandelwal for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, Suresh Kumar, S/O Kirori Lal, R/O House No-WZ-33, Chhanamal Park East Punjabi Bagh, Punjabi Bagh, West Delhi, Delhi-110026 have changed my name to Suresh Kumar Khandelwal for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, Brahmanand Dwevedi, S/O Vans Gopal Sharma, R/O House No. 233-234, 2nd Floor, Pocket-11B, Balaji Enclave, Sector-23, Rohini, North West Delhi, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Brahmanand Dwivedi for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
PUBLIC NOTICE FOR PROPOSED SALE
Notice is hereby given to the public at large that Mr. Avneesh Garig is the allottee/owner of Flat No. T3/0903 on 9th Floor in Tower-T3, admeasuring 1811 sq. ft., in the project "Spire Woods", situated at Sector-103, Gurugram, Haryana. In the process of selling/transferring the aforesaid flat in the open market to a third party. It may please be noted that if any person has any claim, right, title, interest, lien, charge, objection or encumbrance of whatsoever nature in respect of the aforesaid flat or the proposed sale/transfer thereof, the same may be raised by filing written objections along with supporting documents before the undersigned within a period of 14 (fourteen) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which it shall be presumed that no claim or objection exists, and the sale/transfer of the aforesaid flat shall be proceeded with accordingly.

Mr. Gaurav Avasthi,
CRM-Commercial Alpha Corp Development Limited 602, 6th Floor, Tower-J, World Trade Centre, Nauraj Nagar, Ring Road, New Delhi-110029
Phone: +91 9811211439
Email: gaurava@alphacorp.in

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that Mr. Ajit Kumar intends to purchase a Flat on Third Floor with roof rights area measuring 53.33 Sq. Yds., of Property Bearing No. B-703 and B-704 out of Khasra No. 305/212, Situated at Abadi of Gali No. 2, Ganesh Nagar-II, Shakarpur Khas Delhi, from Mrs. Govind Devi and she was purchased the said property from Regd. IGPA (Doc. No. 5774). Notarized ATS and Will dated 11.09.2007 executed by Mr. M. Rajendaran. The property is stated to be free from all encumbrances, liens, charges, mortgages, claims, and other third-party interests. Please also note that the said property is proposed to be financed by Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd., Subhash Nagar, Delhi. If any person(s) objection regarding subject property, then kindly may submit higher objection within 07 days from the date of the Notice in writing. The said objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.

[ASHWANI KUMAR] Advocate
Chamber No. 122, Tehsil Compound, Ghaziabad, U.P.
kumar2021ashwani@gmail.com

NAME CHANGE
I, MOHD BUNDUO KHAN S/O ABDUL MAJID R/O H NO-A-305 GALI NO-5 GURU NANAK NAGAROLD MUSTAFABAD PO- GOKALPURI NORTH EAST DELHI-110094 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO BUNDU KHAN.

NAME CHANGE
I, MOHINDER SINGH, S/O RAGHU-BIR SINGH, R/O 12A, 2ND FLOOR, LANE NO-2, M G ROAD, SECTOR-14, GURGAON, HARYANA-122001, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHINDER SINGH YADAV FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES

NAME CHANGE
I, SHIKHA RASTOGI W/O AKHIL KUMAR, RASTOGI R/O 1449/09, GALI NO-8, DURGA PURI, Shahdara, Delhi-110093 have changed my name to SHIKHA GUPTA.

NAME CHANGE
I, Indeept Singh s/o Satnam Singh R/O H-301, Anupam Apartment Near Karkardooma Court, East Arjun Nagar, Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Indeept Singh Arneja for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, CLIFFORD PRINCE S/O PRINCE ALEXANDER R/O FLAT NO D12/201 BLOCK F, KJL PLATINUM HEIGHTS, SECTOR 77 NIMKA (96) FARIDABAD HARYANA 121004 have changed my name to WILSON PRINCE Permanently for all future

NAME CHANGE
I, SHEDDAN S/O RAM BHAJAN R/O H.NO D-37, J J COLONY MADIPUR DELHI 110063 have changed my name to SIDDHODHAN Permanently for all future

NAME CHANGE
I, SALIM S/O KHURSHID AHMAD R/O D-19/A GALI NO-8 JYOTI COLONY SHAHDARA DELHI-110032 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO SALEEM

NAME CHANGE
I, KHURSHID S/O ABDUL GANI R/O D-19/A GALI NO-8 JYOTI COLONY SHAHDARA DELHI-110032 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO KHURSHID AHMAD

NAME CHANGE
I, MOHD JAVED S/O AHMED NABI ANSARI R/O H-171 GALI NO 2 BRAHAMAPURI SEELAMPUR DELHI 110053, CHANGED MY NAME TO MOHD JAVED ANSARI.

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that Mrs. Noori Khaton W/o Mr. Alauddin Rain who is the owner of PID - 180T3RD1, Plot No. 57 (Eastern Part), Nagar Nigam Plot No M.C.F - B - 1225/A, area measuring 50 Sq. Yards, Northern Part, Out of 100 Sq. Yards. Comprised in Khasra No. 34/4 Situated at Waka Moja Dabua tehsil Badkhal District Faridabad Haryana. (Details of the collateral as per doc, hereinafter called the "said property"). The owner has purchased said property by virtue of One Transfer deed and Six Sale Deeds mentioned below:
Original Transfer Deed Doc. No. 4853 Dated 15.11.2021 Executed by Mrs. Yash Vati Devi W/o Mr. Ram Fal in Favour of Mr. Rajesh Malik S/o Mr. Ram Fal Total land area 50 Sq. Yards.
Original Reg. Sale Deed Doc. No. 4614 Book No. 1 Volume No. 5 page No. 153.5 Dated 06.10.2022 Mr. Rajesh Malik S/o Mr. Ram Fal in Favour of Mr. Tushar Sharma S/o Mr. Shyam Sunder & Mrs. Saroj Devi W/o Mr. Vikash Kumar Total land area 50 Sq. Yards.
Original Reg. Sale Deed Doc. No. 8066 Book No. 1 Volume No. 10 Page No. 16.5 Dated 11.12.2023 Executed by Mr. Tushar Sharma S/o Mr. Shyam Sunder in Favour of Mr. Aaftab Khan S/o Mr. Sabir Aamaad Total land area 25 Sq. Yards.
Original Reg. Sale Deed Doc. No. 10818 Dated 05.03.2024 Executed by Mr. Aaftab Khan S/o Mr. Sabir Aamaad in Favour of Mrs. Saroj Devi W/o Mr. Vikash Kumar Total land area 25 Sq. Yards.
Original Transfer deed Doc. No. 8674 Book No. 1 Volume No. 10 page No. 168.5 Dated 29.01.2025 Executed by Mrs. Saroj W/o Mr. Vikash Kumar in Favour of Mr. Vikash Kumar S/o Mr. Hansh Raj Total land area 50 Sq. Yards
Original Sale Deed Doc. No. 4596 Book No. 1 Volume No. 5 Page No. 149 Dated 22.08.2025 Executed by Mr. Vikash Kumar S/o Mr. Hansh Raj in favour of Mrs. Noori Khaton W/o Mr. Alauddin Rain total land area 50 Sq. Yards
In the title chain documents the original deed has been missing, the deed is Transfer Deed Doc. No. 4853 Dated 15.11.2021 Executed by Mrs. Yash Vati Devi W/o Mr. Ram Fal in Favour of Mr. Rajesh Malik S/o Mr. Ram Fal Total land area 50 Sq. Yards. Acomplaint regarding the missing deed was lodged in the P.S.: Crime branch, Delhi. Delhi, vide LR No. 2997125/2025 dated 23/08/2025 and the same has been acknowledged Mrs. Noori Khaton W/o Mr. Alauddin Rain is true and lawful owner of the said property. The Owner is availing loan facility from Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Ltd. Faridabad Branch against the said property and the lender will create its charge over the said property to secure the facility. If any person(s) institution/ financier/ Bank, having any sort of right, claim, title or interest in the said property under or on the basis of the documents, or otherwise, may put forth his/her/its claim, along with the document(s) in support thereof, to the undersigned within 7 days from the publication of this notice, failing which no claim of any kind whatsoever, shall be entertained thereafter.

Deepak Malik (Advocate)
Shop - 2, Kataria Complex Dayanand colony, Gurgaon

NAME CHANGE
I, LAL, DAI DEVI Mother of NO-14660747W, Rank-HAV, Name-PRAMOD KUMAR CHOUDHARY residing at VILL-SALHA, POST & TEHSIL-LAHERIASARAI, DIST-DARBHANGA, BIHAR-846001 have changed my name from LAL DAI DEVI to LALDAI DEVI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/07/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, MEHRUNISSA, D/O SULEMAN SAIFI, H no-42, gali no-2 near Islamic Madarsa, Kureni, North West Delhi, Delhi-110040 have changed my name to MEHRUN NISHA for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, TARAKANT CHUDHARY father NO-14660747W, Rank-HAV, Name-PRAMOD KUMAR CHOUDHARY residing at VILL-SALHA, POST & TEHSIL-LAHERIASARAI, DIST-DARBHANGA, BIHAR-846001, have changed my name TARAKANT CHUDHARY to TARAKANT CHOUDHARY for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 24/07/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, SADDAM HUSSAIN S/O Adil Hassan R/O J-3/23, Gali No7, J-Extn., Laxmi Nagar, Delhi-110092, have changed my name to SADDAM HUSSAIN SALMANI permanently

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large on behalf of my client Mr. Raj Kumar in respect of Property bearing no. 22-D, area measuring 22.5 sq. yds., (Out of Total 110 Sq. yds.) Out of khasra no. 29/21, Situated in the Revenue Estate Of Village Hastal, Delhi State, Delhi & Colony Known as Sainik Enclave, Vikas Nagar, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 claiming to have undisputed ownership. Now my client intends to sell the property in which SMFG India Home Finance Company Limited will provide the financial assistance. 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 Seven 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.

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

MECHANIZED CLEANING CONTRACT OF ALIPURDUAR JN.
GEM Bid No: GEM/2026/B/7841726; **Dated:** 28-07-2026. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work:
Name of Work: Mechanized Cleaning Contract of Alipurduar Jn. (APJ) Railway station and its Circulating Area for a period of four years (1461 days). **Estimated Bid Value:** ₹ 3,88,37,562.08/- **Estimated Money:** ₹ 77,16,800/- **Date & Time of End of Bid at 19:30 hrs. and opening of Bid at 19:30 hrs. on 20-08-2026.** For details please visit in the website <https://gem.gov.in>.

Sr. DCM/Alipurduar Jn.
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

MECHANIZED CLEANING CONTRACT
Bid Number: GEM/2026/B/7841779, **Dated:** 28-07-2026. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work:
Name of work: Mechanized Cleaning Contract of New Alipurduar (NOA) Railway station and its Circulating Area for a period of four (04) years (1461 days). **Estimated Bid Value:** ₹ 24,24,14,363.48; **EMD Amount:** ₹ 48,48,300.00. **End Date/Time:** 20-08-2026 at 19:00 hrs. **Bid Opening Date/Time:** 20-08-2026 at 19:30 hrs. The above tender Notice has already uploaded in the website <https://gem.gov.in>.

DRM (C), Alipurduar Jn.
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF PUMP-MOTOR SETS
E-Tender Notice No: EL/29/51_2026/K/751; **dated:** 01-08-2026. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Tender No:** 51_2026; **Name of work:** At New Jalpaiguri: Repair & Maintenance of Pump-motor sets of different make and capacities with operation of pump set at Mahananda pump house and Filter house at New Jalpaiguri for the duration of two (02) years. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,15,21,736/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,07,600/- **E-tender will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 24-08-2026 and Opened at 15:30 hrs. on 24-08-2026.** The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website <http://www.irops.gov.in>.

Sr. DEEG & Chg./Katihar
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

NAME CHANGE
I hitherto known as GUNUNG MORYA S/O RAMHARSH MORYA R/O 791, Adarsh Colony Biharipura Vijay Nagar , Ghaziabad , Dist : Ghaziabad , Uttar Pradesh 201009, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHAGUN MAURYA

NAME CHANGE
I, Sulaiman saifi, S/O Abdul Hameed Saifi, C-16/A, S/F, shaheen bagh, abdul fazal enclave - 2, south Delhi, DELHI-110025 have changed my name to SULEMAN SAIFI for all future purposes

NAME CHANGE
I, SUNIL JAGAN NATH KATHPALIA S/O JAGAN NATH R/O House No 51 A Block -Ac - 4, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi - 110088 have changed my name to SUNIL KATHPALIA for all future purposes.

DATE OF BIRTH CHANGE
I, VIJAY KUMAR PRASAD S/O Late RAGHUNATH PRASAD R/O GALI NO-5, F-BLOCK, QUTUB VIHAR, PHASE-1, QUTUB PUR, CHHAWLA, SOUTH WEST DELHI-110071, declare that in my minor son's (ANSH KUMAR PRASAD) school records, his date of birth is wrongly mentioned as 06/09/2012, instead of his correct date of birth as 05/09/2012. That it is required to be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large on behalf of my client Mr. Shahid Ali in respect Third Floor without Roof rights, Built-Up Property bearing No. C-II/191, area measuring 50 sq. yards, out of Khasra no. 388/263, Situated at Village Chilla Saronda Banger, in the abadi of Block-C-II, Gali Peer Wali, New Ashok Nagar, Ilaqa Shahdara, Delhi-110096, claiming to have undisputed ownership. Now my client intends to sell the property in which SMFG India Home Finance Company Limited will provide the financial assistance. 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 Seven 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.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large on behalf of my client Smt. Saroj Jain in respect of PROPERTY NO. 4273 TO 4276 AND 4277, (NEW), AND 6006-6011 (OLD), WARD NO. XII, admeasuring 130 sq. yds. Situated at Bari Basti, Mughal Pura, Chajia Kare Khan, Subzi Mandi, and Bri Basti Lodhan Arya Pur, Subji Mandi, Delhi, claiming to have undisputed ownership by virtue of the Registered Will dated 19.09.1989 executed by Late Sh. Mahabir Prasad Jain in favour of Smt. Saroj Jain, after the demise of Late Sh. Mahabir Prasad Jain and Late Smt. Meenawanti. Unfortunately, Late Sh. Mahabir Prasad Jain died and Smt. Meenawanti executed a Sale Deed dated 13.09.1991 in favour of Sh. Surender Prasad Jain in respect of Entire Combined Property Including Free-hold land Plot No. 4276/1 and 4277 (old No. 6011, Ilaqa No. 12), (measuring total 589 sq. ft.) as vide Doc No. 5534. Unfortunately, Late Smt. Meenawanti died, and all the legal heirs of Mahavir Prasad Stating that they has no problem/objection if Smt. Saroj Jain is Selling his Share., Finally, Sh. Surender Prasad Jain executed a Sale Deed dated 03.08.2006 in favour of Smt. Saroj Jain in respect of Property bearing its Old Municipal No. 6011, New Municipal No. 4277, Ward No. XII, Situated at Bari Basti, Mughal Pura, Chajia Kare Khan, Subzi Mandi, Delhi and Property bearing its Old Municipal No. 4277, New Municipal Property No. 4276/1, in Ward No. XII, Situated at Bari Basti, Lodhan, Arya Pura, Subzi Mandi, Delhi, and total area of both Properties is approx. 589.00 sq. ft. as vide Doc No. 5627, in Book No. 1, Vol No. 1975, on Pages No. 14 to 12, on this dated 07.08.2006, SR-1 New Delhi. Now my client Mrs. Saroj Jain intends to sell the property in which Piramal Finance Limited will provide the financial assistance. 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 Seven 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.

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

'Abducted, raped, coerced': UP woman alleges forced conversion for marriage

Barabanki (UP): Police have registered a case against eight persons, including a police constable and four named individuals, for allegedly abducting a woman, sexually exploiting her, and forcing her to undergo religious conversion and marriage, officials said on Friday. In her complaint, the victim's mother said that a police constable named Asif, who was posted at Fatehpur Kotwali in 2024, attempted to sexually harass her daughter and pressure her to convert to Islam. When she resisted, he lured her with financial offers and put her in touch with Javed, a resident of Basara village working in Saudi Arabia. The police said Javed allegedly brainwashed the woman through social media. Upon his return from Saudi Arabia, Javed took the woman with him on January 2, raped her, and forced her to adopt Islam, the complaint said. The victim was allegedly forced to undergo abortion twice after getting pregnant during this period, it said. A few days ago, Javed, along with his relatives Rehan and Hamza, allegedly took the woman to a mazar in the Masauli area, where a cleric forcibly solemnised their 'nikah'. Additional Superintendent of Police Vikas Chandra Tripathi said an FIR has been registered based on the complaint, and the victim's official statement is being recorded. Local SHO Amit Pratap Singh said that four individuals — Javed, Hamza, Rehan and Asif — along with eight unidentified persons had been booked under the

NAME CHANGE
I, Jiyaul Haque S/O Abdul Hadiq R/O RZ- 16 a/1 F/F Gali No. 1 Main Sagarpur Sagarpur Nangal Raya South West Delhi Delhi 110046 Have Changed My Name to Jiyaulhak for All Future Purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, Abdul Harik S/O Rahman R/O RZ- 16 a/1 F/F Gali No. 1 Main Sagarpur Sagarpur Nangal Raya South West Delhi Delhi 110046 Have Changed My Name to Abdul Hadik for All Future Purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I hitherto known as JAGDISH S/O GIRDHARI LAL GUPTA R/O House No. 207 , Pocket -2 Block - B Sector - 6 , Rohini PO : Rohini Sector - 7 , Dist : North West Delhi , Delhi - 110085 , have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as JAGDISH GUPTA .

NAME CHANGE
I hitherto known as SHARDA D/o KADAM SINGH NAIN W/o JAGVIRENDRA PAL BARGOTI R/o, A - 194 , Govindpuram , Ghaziabad , Uttar Pradesh - 201013 , have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHARDA BARGOTI .

NAME CHANGE
I, Arshad zarabi S/O Gulam Hassan R/O C-157, first Floor, himalaya Lok, Jyts Garden, chhatrapur, South Delhi Pin-110074, Have Changed My Name to arshad hassan for All Future Purposes.

NOTICE
Public at large is hereby informed that my client Mr. Ankit Thakran is the owner of Property ID no. 1CR7EKA4, Plot area measuring 506 sq. yds. (4554 sq. ft.), out of Kheval/Khala No. 388/423, Khasra No 269 (80-0), Situated at Waka Sivana, Mauja Basai, Sub-Tehsil Kadipur, Distt. Gurgaon, Haryana 122001 Initially, Smt. Ramti Devi was the recorded owner of the Khasra No. 315, measuring 1 Bigha 18 Biswa and Khasra No. 269 (4 Bigha) total area 5 Bighas 3 Biswas in Village Basai. Who executed Release Deed dated 14.11.2008 in favour of Smt. Suresh Bala and Smt. Sudesh Chikara in respect of Agricultural Khasra No. 315(1-18-0), & 269 (4-0-0), & 314(1-0-0), & 341(0-3-0) & area measuring 2 Bighas 6 Biswas, 19 Biswasni, Doc. No. 18151. Later, Smt. Ramti Devi filed a petition under section 23 /2007 act before the maintenance Tribunal (Sub-Divisional Magistrate) wherein The Maintenance Tribunal finally decided the petition by judgment and Order dated 22.05.2018 and it was held that the Release Deed dated 14.11.2008 was null and void. Later, Smt. Sudesh alongwith Sh. Jasdeep challenged order of the Maintenance Tribunal by way of writ petition before the High Court and by the impugned Judgment the order of Maintenance Tribunal has been confirmed. Later, Judgment dated 06.12.2022 passed by the Supreme Court of India Civil Appellate Jurisdiction Civil Appeal No. 174 of 2021 titled as Smt. Sudesh Chikara (Appellant) Vs. Ramti Devi & Anr. (Respondents) wherein the appeal is allowed the impugned order dated 22.05.2018 passed by the Maintenance Tribunal as well as the Order dated 21.05.2019 passed by the High Court are set aside and the petition filed by Respondent No. 1 under Section 23 of 2007 Act Stands Dismissed. Later, Regd. SJA dated 15.10.2024 executed by Smt. Sudesh Chikara in favour of Sh. Jitin Ahlawat in respect of Plot area measuring 506 sq. yds., (Doc. No. 124616/IV/1505). Finally, Sale deed dated 04/11/2024 executed by Mr. Sudesh Chikara through Sh. Jitin Ahlawat in favour of Mr. Ankit Thakran in respect of Property ID no. 1CR7EKA4, Plot area measuring 506 sq. yds. (As Doc. no. 10610, Vol. no. 298/2516, SR- Kadipur). Now our above-mentioned client intends to mortgage the said immovable property for his bonafide requirements to Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company 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: 6/8/2025
Office: L-27, GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48
PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE
Enrl. No. D/721/02
Mob.: 9968006418

NORTHERN RAILWAY
NOTICE INVITE TENDER
Name of work and its location 102-SRDEE-GDLI-2026-27 Repair, Servicing, Overhauling & Strengthening of 11 KV HT installation at colonies over DLI Division.
Approx. Cost of the works in ₹ 1,79,09,580/-
Earnest Money ₹ 58,200/-
Address of the Office Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, DRM Office, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055
Last Date & Time of Submission of tender 27.08.2026, 16:00 Hrs.
Opening of Tender 27.08.2026, 16:00 Hrs.
Website & Notice Board www.irops.gov.in & Sr. Div. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi
27/24/2026

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering E-Procurement Systems
Sr. DMM, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:-

S.No.	Tender No.	Brief Description	Qty.	Closing Date
1.	93256125	EOT Crane 25/5 Ton	2 Nos.	08.09.2026

Note:- 1. Vendors may visit the IREPS website i.e. www.irops.gov.in for details. 2. No manual offer will be entertained.
No.: Sr. DMM/NSL/P/93256125/2026 Date: 05.08.2026 2709/2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SUPPLY WORKS
E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work:
1. E-Tender No: DB265546, **Dated:** 03-08-2026; **Item 1: PL Code (Group):** 330900600011; **Description:** Supply and Application of set of Water proofing for FRP base tray of RMPU Drip Tray consisting of 02 items. (1) Primer as per Annexure "A" sn -2, Qty - 4 kg (min.) & (2) Epoxy coating (Base tray) as per Annexure "A" sn - 4, Qty - 13 kg (min.) (Item 1 and 2 = 01 set = 2 RMPU Tray). [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of delivery]. **Total Qty:** 138 Set;
Item 2: PL Code (Group): 330900610030; **Description:** Supply and Application of set of Water proofing for FRP side wall of RMPU Drip Tray consisting of 3 items. (1) Sealant as per Annexure "A" sn - 1, Qty - 2000 ml (min.) & (2) Primer as per Annexure "A" sn -2, Qty - 2.5 kg (min.) & (3) Epoxy coating (Side Wall) as per Annexure "A" sn - 3, Qty - 4.5 kg (min.). (Item 1 to 3 = 01 set = 2 RMPU Tray). [Warranty Period: 36 Months after the date of delivery]. **Total Qty:** 138 Set;
Earnest Money: ₹ 1,48,190/-; **Date and time of closing of E-tender at 14:30 hrs. on 31-08-2026.**
For details please visit IREPS website <https://www.irops.gov.in>.

Dy. CMM/DBRT
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

NAME CHANGE
I, LALAN S/O LAKSMI KANT R/O. H NO-2678, GALI NO-67, MOLARBAND EXTENSION, BLOCK-E-2, BADARPUR, DELHI-110044 have changed my name to LALAN SHUKLA for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Rup kaur Narang, Daughter of Sh. Attar Singh Narang, alias Rupreet Kaur Thapar, alias Rupreet Kaur, hereby declare that all the above names refer to one and the same person. Henceforth, I shall be known and identified only as Rupreet Kaur for all purposes.

NAME CHANGE
I, NO-16131095K, Rank-SPR, Name-LAXMAN DASAR residing at MAIBOOBA NAGAR, NALATAWAD, DIST-BJAPUR, KARNATAKA-586124 have changed my father's name from RANGAPPA to RANGAPPA DASAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 06/08/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE
I, RAMANDEEP KAUR JATINDER SINGH SODHI / RAMANDEEP KAUR SODHI / RAMAN DEEP KAUR, W/O JATINDER SINGH INDERJIT SINGH SODHI, R/O HOUSE NO-5816, 3RD FLOOR, ASTER AVENUE, DLF PHASE-4, OPPOSITE SUPERMART-1, GURGAON, HARYANA-122009, HAVE CHANGED MY NAME TO RAMANDEEP KAUR FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSES

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mahinder Singh was the owner of Property Municipal No. A-461, area measuring 3 Biswa i.e., 150 sq. yds., out of Khasra no. 484/179, by virtue of Sale deed dated 28.10.1966 executed by S. Kartar Singh in favour of Mr. S. Mohinder Singh, vide Document No. 14314, Thereafter, Mahinder Singh, expired on 05.05.2015 and Since the SMC of Mahinder Singh not available a Relinquishment deed dated 28.02.2018, executed by 1) Mr. Inder Pal Singh,

NEWS BOX

A \$150M contract for migrant kids’ lawyers goes to a Trump-linked Texas firm, raising concerns

CHICAGO.(Agency)

The Trump administration has awarded a \$150 million contract to give legal representation to migrant children traveling alone to the US to a small Texas law firm with ties to the administration but little experience in immigration law, prompting legal aid groups who’ve long represented those children to warn that the move could make them vulnerable to deportation.The contract to the Houston-based Burke Law Group comes as the Trump administration ramps up its mass deportation campaign across the country and after the administration last week let a key contract with a network of legal groups working with immigrant children around the country expire with no replacement. The providers have increasingly raised worries that children won’t have the experienced legal help they need at a time when the administration is intensifying efforts to remove people from the country. Michael Lukens, who heads the Amica Center, called the idea that the administration had given the sole-source contract to the Texas firm “upsetting and shocking.”“It really does forebode a situation where children are going to get no meaningful due process, no meaningful day in court. We cannot have a random law firm entrusted to take care of children,” Lukens said. The groups said the contract announced Tuesday only applies to the children currently held in government-run shelters and that the government would need to issue another contract covering services for migrant children outside the shelter system.

Pakistan: PTI vows to intensify campaign for Imran Khan's release after three years in prison

world.(Agency)

Supporters of former Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan staged rallies across Pakistan on Wednesday to mark the completion of three years since his imprisonment, demanding his immediate release despite a police crackdown in Punjab and Sindh provinces.Members of Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party, along with his family, condemned what they described as his prolonged solitary confinement and called for the restoration of his constitutional rights. The party accused the authorities of suppressing peaceful protests and restricting political freedoms. Khan, 73, has been in prison since August 2023 and completed three years in custody on Wednesday.PTI supporters gathered in several cities, carrying party flags and chanting slogans in support of the former prime minister. Reports indicated that police dispersed protesters and detained several demonstrators in parts of Punjab and Sindh.Imran Khan served as Pakistan's prime minister from 2018 until April 2022, when he was removed from office through a parliamentary no-confidence vote. He has consistently alleged that his ouster was the result of a military-backed conspiracy orchestrated with the support of the United States.

Iran and the US say a Strait of Hormuz deal is close, but one or both would have to back down

CAIRO.(Agency)

Iran said Wednesday it is in the "final stage" of drafting an agreement with Oman over the Strait of Hormuz, and U.S. President Donald Trump has said a deal could be announced this week. That could potentially reopen the critical waterway, ease pressure on the world economy and help bring an end to the war.But the agreement is likely to be contingent on the U.S. lifting its blockade on Iran's ports. The Trump administration has previously ruled out any deal that would cement Iran's grip over the strait, which would amount to a major loss for the U.S. and a break with global norms.Iran has insisted on some measure of control over the strait, saying it will not go back to being an open international waterway, as it was before the war.The U.S., along with Israel, launched the war on Feb. 28, citing various goals including toppling Tehran's government and ending its nuclear program. Those have not been achieved, and the conflict has devolved into a fight over the strait as Iran's assertion of control and attacks on shipping have ground traffic to a near halt.Closure of the strait, through which a fifth of the world's traded oil and natural gas once passed, has driven up the price of fuel and basic goods, roiling the global economy.

How Abdul El-Sayed went from political oblivion to progressive breakthrough in Michigan Senate race

DETROIT.(Agency)

Abdul El-Sayed, a former public health official who harnessed Democratic frustration with the party establishment, narrowly defeated Rep. Haley Stevens in Michigan’s U.S. Senate primary, setting up a crucial test for progressives in a key battleground state.El-Sayed will face Republican Mike Rogers, a former congressman, in November in a race that will help determine control of the Senate. His first challenge will be unifying Democratic factions after a bitter primary that offered divergent visions for a party desperate for a path back to power.The margin was extraordinarily close. El-Sayed walked off the stage at his Tuesday night election party

without declaring victory, and the race was not called until early Wednesday, after nearly all ballots statewide had been counted. At the time The Associated Press declared him the winner, El-Sayed led Stevens by 14,893 votes — just under 1 percentage point — out of more than 1.5 million ballots counted, the most in recent state history.The political significance of the result, however, extends well beyond the slim margin.s following the funeral prayers.Abdul’s victory was, in my opinion, the most extraordinary victory that I can think of in modern American politics,” said Sen. Bernie Sanders, a leader of the progressive movement who was an early supporter of El-Sayed’s candidacyEl-Sayed, 41, has never held elected office and



entered the race seven years after losing Michigan’s Democratic gubernatorial primary by more than 20 percentage points. This time, running on an unapologetically progressive agenda, he overcame more than \$60 million in outside spending and an opponent backed by many of Michigan’s top Democrats, including Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and outgoing Sen. Gary Peters, and Senate Democratic Leader Chuck Schumer.

“In the words of Muhammad Ali, we shook up the world,” El-Sayed said early Wednesday, standing before The Spirit of Detroit, a landmark bronze statue in the city’s downtown.

El-Sayed went from political wilderness to progressive breakthroughEl-Sayed was joined Wednesday by state Sen. Mallory McMorrow, a former opponent in the Senate primary, and Curtis Hertel, chair of the Michigan Democratic Party. It was an initial step toward a unified front after a bitter primary, and it reflected El-Sayed’s extraordinary political trajectory in less than a decade.After losing the 2018 Democratic primary for governor to Whitmer, El-Sayed retreated into the political wilderness.

Israel reports troop deaths as Lebanon talks underway in Rome

JERUSALEM.(Agency)

Israel reported on Thursday its first military fatalities in southern Lebanon in more than a month, after carrying out fresh strikes despite ongoing US-backed talks in Rome aimed at ending hostilities.

The military identified the two reservists, who were killed in combat on Wednesday, as Major Harel Birenstock, 34, and Sergeant Major Tamir Vaknin, 33, of the 2855th Battalion, 55th Brigade.

The deaths were the first Israeli fatalities reported in southern Lebanon since June 28.The Israeli strikes, accompanied by the first evacuation warning in weeks, came as the United States led diplomacy between Israel and Lebanon in Rome aimed at putting



an end to hostilities, with Beirut seeking Israel's phased withdrawal from the south."In response to a blatant violation of the ceasefire by the Hezbollah terrorist organisation, the IDF has begun conducting precise strikes in

southern Lebanon," the military said in a statement, shortly after telling residents to evacuate the town of Mansouri in the south. Lebanese state media said one person died and 11 were wounded

in a separate strike.In Rome, Israel requested that the day's talks with Lebanon end three hours early, a source in the negotiations told AFP, saying the head of the Israeli delegation, US ambassador Yechiel Leiter, had blamed alleged "misleading leaks" by the Lebanese side.But the talks were expected to resume on Thursday for a third and final day.In previous US-sponsored talks in June, Israel and Lebanon agreed to a framework deal that involves the disarmament of Hezbollah, a gradual withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon's south and the deployment of the Lebanese army to the region, starting in test areas known as "pilot zones".This week's negotiations are the seventh round since Hezbollah drew Lebanon into the Middle East war in March with rocket fire at Israel in support of its backer Iran.

Verdict due for Afghan accused of deadly Munich car-ramming

BERLIN.(Agency)

A verdict is due Thursday for an Afghan man accused of a car-ramming attack in Munich last year which killed a two-year-old girl and her mother and left dozens injured.The man, named only as Farhad N., has been on trial since January, accused of deliberately steering a car into a 1,400-strong trade union march. He was 24 at the time.Prosecutors have demanded he be given a life sentence with added conditions to make early release much less likely.The attack was one of several committed by foreign nationals in the run-up to last year's general election that

inflamed debate on immigration and security.As well as two counts of murder, Farhad N. initially faced



44 counts of attempted murder, but half of these were later replaced by counts of bodily harm, 19 of them serious.The attack took place as the city prepared to host the Munich

Security Conference, a major gathering of high-level figures from the worlds of politics and defence.

A Mini Cooper that was driven into the street rally hurled a 37-year-old woman and her young daughter through the air for 10 metres. They sustained severe head injuries, of which they died several days later.

An eyewitness quoted by the prosecution described people "being flung left and right, like a bowling alley".The vehicle came to a halt after 23 metres (75 feet) "because its front wheels lost contact with the ground due to people lying in front of and underneath the car", according to the charge sheet.



employed by the State Department and was there for a security detail. Taele said he had a loaded weapon in his vehicle and was arrested after it was searched, according to federal officials. Authorities also found a 16-round magazine with ammunition in his pocket.He already appeared in court on state weapons charges and a second-degree robbery charge for an unrelated incident.Taele is charged federally with possession of an unregistered short-barreled rifle that was found at this home, authorities said. The complaint alleges the firearm is an illegally modified AR-style rifle with a barrel that was cut down to 10 inches (25 centimeters) from 14 inches (35 centimeters).

State of New Mexico sues Justice Department and Todd Blanche, saying they blocked its Epstein probe

CEDAR CREST.(Agency)

New Mexico's attorney general sued the U.S. Department of Justice on Wednesday, accusing it of blocking the state from investigating sex crimes at Jeffrey Epstein's former ranch near Santa Fe.The lawsuit in federal court in Washington, D.C., said the department and acting Attorney General Todd Blanche stonewalled New Mexico Attorney General Raúl Torrez's criminal investigation into Epstein and others, taking action that "harms victims and undermines the public interest."The lawsuit sought judicial intervention to force the federal government to turn over materials to New Mexico's investigators. It was filed the same day that the New Mexico House of Representatives released a

report saying "those directly responsible for protecting New Mexicans relied on others to do their job," including federal prosecutors in New York.Epstein took his own life in a federal jail in New York City in August 2019 after he was denied bail on sex trafficking charges lodged against him when he was arrested a month earlier. Epstein's former girlfriend and close associate, Ghislaine Maxwell, is serving a 20-year prison sentence after her 2021 conviction on sex trafficking charges in New York. Witness testimony at Maxwell's trial alleged she and Epstein had sexually abused women at his New Mexico ranch.Justic Department says it's following court orders to protect victimsAccordin to New Mexico's lawsuit, state prosecutors "have faced sustained resistance" to the kind of

information-sharing common between state and federal investigators.The Justice Department said in a statement it was not releasing some information the state requested because of federal court orders that ban disclosing victim-identifying information."New Mexico has provided no lawful basis to justify such sweeping disclosures," the agency said.

It said protecting victim privacy remains a top priority and the Justice Department "remains available to assist New Mexico's investigation consistent with the law and binding court orders." The lawsuit claims the Justice Department and Blanche were hiding information about Epstein and his co-conspirators when the state is one of the few jurisdictions that may still be able to hold Epstein's associates accountable

or "provide some sense of justice to survivors."New Mexico's attorney general said his office made 10 requests for key information that were ignored or denied."We have heard repeatedly they will cooperate and what our team has experienced is anything but cooperation," Torrez told reporters in a video call.State calls on Blanche to fix things with 'a stroke of the pen' "Todd Blanche today with a stroke of a pen could grant us the access that he claimed," Torrez said. "Instead they have decided to stonewall, to obstruct and to frankly conceal for whatever reason."The interim report released by the New Mexico Survivors' Truth Commission in part blamed federal prosecutors in Manhattan for a dearth of information about Epstein's activities in New Mexico.

Father, 14-year-old son killed in knife attack over loud music in Mumbai

Mumbai.(Agency)

A dispute over loud music turned violent in Vikhroli West here, leaving a 40-year-old man and his 14-year-old son dead, while two other family members were injured, police said on Thursday.

The incident took place around dawn on Wednesday in Rahul Nagar under Parksite Police Station limits. According to police, the trouble started after one family objected to loud music being played by another. The argument soon turned violent and the persons involved allegedly attacked each other with kicks, punches and knives.

Four members of the family were injured in the attack and were rushed to Rajawadi Hospital. The injured were identified as Sunil Vishwakarma (40), his wife Anju Vishwakarma and their sons Shlok (14) and Vivan Vishwakarma.

Sunil and Shlok died during treatment, while Anju and Vivan are undergoing treatment and are stated to be stable, police said. Parksite police have detained two persons, identified as Surendra Vishwakarma and Suraj Vishwakarma, in connection with the incident.

Police said the exact relationship between the accused and the victims is yet to be established. A case has been registered and an investigation is underway. A forensic team visited the spot and collected evidence.

Ravenshaw row: Teachers seek apology, MLA moves Speaker

CUTTACK.(Agency)

Face-off between teachers of Ravenshaw University and Cuttack Sadar MLA Prakash Chandra Sethi on Wednesday escalated with both sides accusing the other of misbehaviour and misconduct during a hostel-related meeting.

The Ravenshaw University Teachers’ Association (RUTA) staged a rally and demanded a public apology from the legislator, while Sethi wrote to the Speaker of the Odisha Assembly seeking action against head of the education department.

The teachers’ association rallied behind Prof Sudarshan Mishra, HoD of education department and chief warden of East Hostel. They alleged that during the meeting between students and the university authorities regarding the hostel issues on Monday night, Sethi arrived at the spot and misbehaved with Prof Mishra in the presence of the vice-chancellor, the boarders of the hostel and the faculty members.

“When the boarders of East hostel were staging agitation on Monday, we held a discussion with them on the issues and almost convinced the students to call off their protest. However, the Cuttack Sadar MLA arrived at the spot and started instigating them. When the chief warden interrupted, the MLA misbehaved with him and used harsh words against him,” said a protesting professor.

Multi-crore chit fund scam: ED searches property of YSRCP leader Malla Vijay Prasad

BHUBANESWAR.(Agency)

The Bhubaneswar zonal office of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Wednesday conducted raids at the property linked to former MLA and senior leader of YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) Malla Vijay Prasad in connection with a multi-crore chit fund scam.

Prasad was the MD of M/s Welfare Building and Estates Pvt Ltd. The company was enlisted with ROC, Kolkata in 2011 with its head office in Visakhapatnam. However, Prasad along with two directors of the tainted firm allegedly committed chit fund scam worth `1,200 crore in Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jharkhand, Bihar and West Bengal. ED officials said the agency is probing the alleged laundering of proceeds generated through the chit fund operations of Welfare. Accordingly, raids were conducted at the property linked to Prasad in at least five to six locations including Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam. “Further investigation is underway,” said ED sources. The firm operated in Odisha through its branch offices in Bhubaneswar, Narasinghpur in Cuttack and Nayagarh between 2009 and

Resident doctors’ protest impacts OPDs, surgeries across Maharashtra

Mumbai.(Agency)

Patients waited for hours in overcrowded OPDs, several elective surgeries were postponed and teaching came to a standstill in government and civic-run medical colleges and hospitals across Maharashtra on Wednesday as resident doctors launched an indefinite strike against the Maharashtra Medical Council’s (MMC) decision to grant conditional registration to BHMS graduates who have completed the Certificate Course in Modern Pharmacology (CCMP).

The agitation is set to intensify on Thursday, with doctors threatening to suspend even emergency services if the impasse continues, even as Medical Education Minister Hasan Mushrif said the government had halted the registration process after granting only one conditional registration on Tuesday night to defuse the situation and would not proceed with further registrations until there was clarity

from the Bombay High Court. According to Central MARD, around 40,000 resident doctors and interns across Maharashtra, including 4,500 in Mumbai, participated in the first day of the strike. The association



claimed the protest affected nearly 57,400 OPD consultations across the state, including around 10,000 in Mumbai’s government and civic hospitals.

The strike affected 35 government and five municipal medical colleges, with resident

doctors boycotting OPDs, elective surgeries and academic activities. As a result, no teaching sessions were held in medical colleges on Wednesday.

The impact was most visible in medicine and surgery departments, where hospitals struggled to manage patient loads with reduced manpower. Professors, associate professors, assistant professors, bonded assistant professors, senior residents and, in some hospitals, interns were deployed to keep essential services running.

At Nair Hospital, the waiting list of patients at the OPD crossed 140 patients by noon. Sunil Haryana, a Nerul resident who has been visiting the rheumatology OPD for treatment over the past three years, reached the hospital around 7.30 am but was still waiting to be examined after noon. “Usually the wait is not this long. Our regular doctors were not there today. Had I known about the strike, I would not have come,” he said.

Ten years after Una flogging, Dalit victims of atrocity beg for help from society to continue fight for justice

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

In March, a court in Gujarat acquitted 35 men accused of partially stripping and flogging four Dalits after falsely accusing them of killing cows in Una in Gir Somnath district 10 years ago. The incident was seen at the time as a stark illustration of the atrocities that Dalit communities continued to face at the hands of non-Dalits in many parts of the country.

Months after the acquittal, the complainant in the case, who was himself a victim of the 2016 atrocity, is seeking financial assistance from well-wishers so he can pursue his appeal in the High Court.

The last hearing on Vashram Sarvaiya’s appeal against the March 16 order of the Veraval sessions court took place on July 20. A division Bench of the Gujarat High Court asked the registry to get the records of

the proceedings in the trial court, and posted the matter for hearing on August 25.

“Over the last 10 years, we have had to incur a lot of expenses to pursue this case. Our



sources of income are limited. For a decade, we did not ask for help, but now we need it and I have appealed to society. We will need money to fight in the High Court and, if needed, in the Supreme Court as well,”

Vashram told .

On behalf of his family, Vashram has been sending out Whats App messages since July 11, 2026 to people he knows, asking for financial help to be sent directly to a bank account through UPI. He has also been calling and sending message to these people.

According to Vashram, since July 11, 2026, he has sent such messages to around 30 persons in Gujarat and 10 of them have made contributions.

Impressions about the Dalit men who were involved in the 2016 incident continue to impact their avenues of finding work, Vashram said. “If we go asking for work, people look at us as though we were the ones who were slaughtering the cow. It happened many times, and so we have now stopped going out to look for work,” he said.

Bengaluru University students protest after PG student dies in campus road accident

The memorandum also stated that the situation is aggravated by fruit vendors operating near the canteen and in front of the Northeast girls’ hostel, where vehicles make abrupt stops.

BENGALURU.(Agency)

Hundreds of students at Bengaluru University’s Jnana Bharathi campus protested on Wednesday following the death of a first-year postgraduate student who was seriously injured in a road accident on the campus on Thursday and died on Wednesday.

The students submitted a memorandum to the vice-chancellor (VC), urging the university to restrict the movement of public vehicles through Gandhi Marga that passes through the campus to prevent such accidents in the future. The deceased, Manasa (23), who hailed from Nanjangud in Mysuru district, was a first-year PG student in the Department of Visual Arts. According to the Jnana

Bharathi traffic police, on Thursday, Manasa was crossing the road near the Gandhi Marga canteen when a speeding autorickshaw crashed into



her, leaving her critically injured. She was admitted to the intensive care unit (ICU) of a private hospital in Nagarbhavi, where she succumbed to her injuries on Wednesday. The police said a case was registered, the autorickshaw driver was arrested and later

released on bail.

A case under Section 106 (causing death by negligence) has been invoked, they said. On Wednesday, hundreds of students and faculty members protested under the banner “Justice for Manasa”. In their memorandum to the V-C, they also demanded that the university extend all possible support to her family, ensure justice in her case and reimburse the medical expenses incurred by her family for her treatment.

The memorandum by the guest faculty and students of the Department of Visual Arts stated that the incident has left students, faculty members and staff deeply shocked and distressed, raising serious concerns about students’ safety on the campus.

Renovation inside Golden Temple complex: Installation of modern tiles continues despite discontinuation claims by SGPC

Conservationists argue that commercial tiles clash directly with traditional Sikh architectural heritage and should be avoided in historic Gurdwaras.

Amritsar.(Agency)

The Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC), for the second time, finds itself mired in controversy over the ongoing renovation inside the Sri Harmandir Sahib (Golden Temple) complex. The apex Sikh body assured that it had already directed the Damdami Taksal to stop work and undo the installation of modern commercial tiles at the martyrdom site of Shaheed Baba Deep Singh.

However, the installation work of tiles continued on Wednesday. Critics and heritage enthusiasts recently raised concerns after modern commercial tiles were spotted under the eaves (chhajja) of the structure. Conservationists argue that

commercial tiles clash directly with traditional Sikh architectural heritage and should be avoided in historic Gurdwaras.

Instead, experts suggest the structure should feature intricate, historic-style artwork similar to the chhajja of the Darshani Deori. When questioned over the lapse, SGPC secretary Balwinder Singh claimed that the executive wing had already stepped in to rectify the situation. “We only approve the voluntary service (sewa)... and our engineering wing inspects the site regularly. If there is any minor discrepancy where work deviates from the approved



location and ensure the work is rectified. We have already instructed them to remove tiles.”

However, the ongoing work contradicted the official statement. As opposed to the claims of removing the modern tiles and halting construction, workers on site were actively installing the modern tiles.

This marks the second time the SGPC management has faced questions over Damdami Taksal’s execution of this specific project. In May, 2025, the SGPC was forced to intervene and dismantle unauthorised ghumatis (kiosk minars) by the seminary at the same site. The shrine had been handed over to Damdami Taksal head Baba Harnam Singh on November 1, 2024, for a one-year restoration and beautification project.

‘Your name came first’: The Maharashtra homeopath who made history

Mumbai.(Agency)

Around 9.30 pm on Tuesday, Dr Neha Siddharth Pawar was asleep at home, recovering from a fractured hand, when her phone rang. On the other end was Dr Kundlik Gorad, with news that would end a 14-year wait for thousands of doctors like her.

“I was asleep because I’m on medical leave with a fractured hand when the phone rang,” Dr Pawar told The Indian Express.

“Dr Kundlik Gorad called and said, ‘Neha, your name has come first. You have become the first registered practitioner.’ I was shocked. Then he told me my name would become part of history.”

Dr Pawar, 36, had just become the first Certificate Course in Modern Pharmacology (CCMP) - qualified homoeopathy practitioner to receive conditional registration from the Maharashtra Medical Council (MMC), the first such registration granted anywhere in the country, under a framework that lets BHMS graduates who complete the course prescribe modern medicines. Her certificate, Registration No. CCMP/00001/2026, was signed around 8.30 pm, nearly nine hours after protesters first gathered outside the MMC office demanding it. The sit-in began at 11 am, when members of the Maharashtra State Homoeopathy Action Committee and the Integrated Doctors Association (National) occupied the council’s office and refused to leave until at least one certificate was issued. An MMC official described how the day spiralled.

64-year-old man surrenders 20 days after murdering partner in Mysuru

MYSURU.(Agency)

A 64-year-old man surrendered before the police nearly 20 days after allegedly murdering a woman with whom he was living in Mysuru. The incident came to light only after the accused walked into the police station and confessed to the crime.

The deceased has been identified as Jyothi (40), a native of Agasanapura village in Malavalli taluk of Mandya district. The accused, Siddaraju (64), a native of Kanakapura, had reportedly been living with Jyothi in a rented house at Ashraya Layout in Bhugathahalli on Bannur Road in Mysuru.

According to the police, Jyothi’s husband had died about 10 years ago. Following his death, she began living with Siddaraju, who is said to be her relative. The two had reportedly been in a relationship for several years.

Preliminary investigation revealed that frequent quarrels had erupted between the couple in recent months. The police said Siddaraju suspected that Jyothi had started distancing herself from him and was frequently visiting her parents’ house, leading to repeated arguments.

Student protests | Using body politics against a thesaurus of negligence

When Sonam Wangchuk stopped his struggle around the time the regime accepted the exit of Dharmendra Pradhan, I felt political life had come to a standstill. I also sensed a problem with the narrative of political movements—it was difficult to differentiate between the topical and the perennial. When a movement is on, there is urgency and immediacy about everything; but when it stops, politics becomes a kind of still life. I was struggling with this problem over the last week.

Political scientist Chandrika Parmar made a constructive suggestion. She suggested differentiating the narrative into three parts. One must emphasise that a new ethnography has to have the authenticity of narrative. Secondly, one must fit it within the logic of political discourse. And thirdly, one must capture the state of being—the phenomenology of emotion that haunted the movement. I decided to follow her suggestion.

Beginning with ethnography, I realised that the movement was tentative, open-ended and even anarchic in a decentralised way. People joined in because they felt there was problem with accountability. Accountability needed to be reworked and one had to do it in a decentralised way. Hence the movement’s plurality. Diversity of discussion was a fascinating part of the protest.

The second is the attitude of civil society towards it. It was open to joining the struggle. An outstanding example of this was the support Sikh langars gave to the movement. Hospitality became a source of legitimacy. Food and its distribution became a connecting part of the movement. People from all over India supplied food to the movement. It was a gift, an act of generosity and a source of support. It was an acclamation of democracy, not a mere agreement of ideas. It was sad that the regime saw such generosity as a problem of law and order. The third point one must make is the movement’s non-violent nature. Non-violence is not just the absence of violence, but also about an openness to difference, to alternatives—it provides a certain tentativeness to the movement. Tentativeness, in turn, becomes a sign of inclusiveness and a sense of hospitality. It is this wider invitation to politics that we must consider. Politics here acquires a new turn, a new voice, a new body language as students take it in an open-ended way. The government emphasises law and order, as expressed in the use of lathis and electrified batons. The students turn it into a commons of protest and self-doubt.

One must also emphasise the nature of political discourse. The protest is part of the Gandhian imagination where the body becomes central to the imagination. The relation of the body and body politics creates a new kind of politics different from a social contract. The protest to the body emphasises the paradox of vulnerability and strength. Fasting becomes relevant in this context. It emphasises the vulnerability and the strength of the body.It’s interesting to note that with people like Gandhi, fasting could bring down empires. It is important to emphasise three other observations, too. Many people found the struggle impressive because it both vernacularised politics and globalised it. The word ‘accountability’ was given a plurality of meanings—it became a blanket term to account for a thesaurus of negligence.As one wag put it, NEET is an onomatopoeic term that refuses to recognise the local mess that the bureaucracy and media have created. The humour with which protest greeted the accusations of funding was sheer theatre. It was a swift political move to make the regime accept that the protest was organic—in fact, swadeshi. This in turn emphasises that the nature of democracy for the protest movement was decentralised, inventive, plural and open.

Why GenZ finally rebelled

The answer lies in both the unique nature of GenZ and the unprecedented economic distress they are facing

INDIA’S GenZ surprised everyone last month when they turned up in their thousands from across the country to protest against our corrupt public examination system. I use the word 'surprised' advisedly. GenZ has been written off as a desensitised, self-absorbed, pleasure-seeking generation with the attention span of a 30-second reel.They are seen as a demographic innocent of politics or of social issues, who can be pacified with the latest iPhone or the newest colour range of Labubus. Why, then, did this depoliticised and atomised generation spontaneously erupt in such an unrestrained rebellion when the heavy hand of state action has silenced many an inveterate dissident?

The answer lies in both the unique nature of GenZ and the unprecedented economic distress that they are facing. GenZ — those born between 1997 and 2012 — are between 14 and 29 years of age right now. So, most of them qualify to be part of the working-age population, which includes anyone aged 15 years or older.The Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) estimates that there are 378 million Indians in the 15-29 years' age group. Out of these, 128 million would work if they got a job, but only 83 million are employed. That means the effective unemployment rate among GenZ is a whopping 35%. SouthAsians & Diaspora

And this is happening despite — or perhaps because of — more young people getting college degrees. Again, the CMIE surveys indicate that in the past three years, India has added 90 million graduates to the working-age population. Almost all of them would belong to GenZ. In the same period, an additional 49 million graduates have got added to the labour force —people who want paid work.The number of graduates who are unemployed has increased by nearly 12 million. That means, roughly one in four young people who earned college degrees to get better jobs is currently jobless.

The high level of unemployment among the GenZ is not because there are no jobs available. It is about the quality of jobs being offered. A significant proportion of GenZ jobseekers have college degrees or professional diplomas. Their parents spent lakhs of rupees on their education so that they could get well-

paying white-collar jobs. This is true even for those whose parents had blue-collar occupations.

It is understandable that these graduates are not going to willingly become factory workers, plumbers, electricians or Uber drivers merely because those positions are more easily available. None of those professions require spending three years in college.

But there are very few white-collar jobs available for the young. The most robust indicator for this is Naukri.com's JobSpeak Index, which is based on more than 80 lakh "new job mandates" every year.



Now consider those who graduated and joined the labour force over the past three years: their number has increased by 75%. Out of these, some did manage to get work, which means they would have at best three years of work experience.

What kind of hiring opportunities do these GenZ folks have? The JobSpeak Index shows that hiring activity in this space — those with 0-3 years of experience — has grown by just 10% in three years.

The situation is worse for the older lot among GenZ. If one assumes that most young people enter the work force at 22, the oldest among the GenZ cohort would have seven years of work experience. The latest Naukri JobSpeak Index estimates that hiring opportunities for those with four-seven years of work experience have dropped by 6% in the past three

Rain disasters: Accurate forecast, better response a national imperative

The disaster in Kerala again highlighted a significant shortcoming: the lack of a reliable weather prediction system

Fifteen dead and seven missing. That’s the human toll in the latest episode of Kerala’s continuing series of monsoon disasters. However, the numbers barely tell the real story. The unsettling truth is that the torrential rains caught the state off guard yet again, struck widespread panic and caused severe flooding and landslides, destroying lives, livelihoods and properties. The sudden heavy rainfall tested Kerala’s disaster preparedness as well as its capability to handle the aftermath, and it must be said that, on both counts, the authorities concerned were found sorely wanting.Kerala’s rainfall pattern has changed significantly since the early 2000s, showing a marked transition towards short-duration, high-intensity cloudburst-like events. The devastating floods of 2018 highlighted this extremity caused primarily by climate change. Since then, Kerala has been dealing with rain disasters almost every monsoon. This season was relatively low-key till the sudden downpours on July 31. Over the next three days, Kerala received an average rainfall of 18.4 cm, more than three times the



normal for the period, with several locations recording up to 30 cm over just 8 hours.It’s time we learnt to live with the changed patterns of the monsoon. It’s not just Kerala—the entire country is currently at the mercy of nature’s vagaries. The unprecedented wave of floods in Assam has already claimed 66 lives and affected more

than 7 lakh people. While 35 people have died in rain-related incidents in Gujarat, the flood situation in Odisha is still said to be serious. Flash floods have also been reported in Jammu & Kashmir and Chhattisgarh.The monsoon shapes India’s economy, agriculture, water supply and cultural identity. Yet, the country has come to dread the rains. The disaster in Kerala again highlighted a significant shortcoming: the lack of a reliable weather prediction system. Forecasts proved to be inaccurate and alerts unreliable, exacerbating a critical situation.

These calamities should serve as an opportunity to completely transform India’s approach to disaster management. It’s essential to transition from a reactive emergency response to a proactive one with a focus on advanced early-warning systems. The increasing unpredictability of weather is real; it must be met with greater accuracy in forecasting. Disaster preparedness and management are the duty of the government. Ordinary citizens should not have to suffer the consequences of systemic failures.

What went wrong at Jantar Mantar

The authorities missed the window of preparation and planning for the July 20 march

I watched some of the proceedings at Jantar Mantar on July 20. The crowd of protesters was humongous and, by comparison, the law-and-order forces appeared to be inadequate. Large, unruly crowds and inadequate police personnel are the essential ingredients that create a very volatile situation. As I think it over, it’s obvious that the response to the Sansad Chalo call given by the Cockroach Janta Party was grossly underestimated. As a result, the response of the forces was insufficient.Looking back at the events, it was a fast-developing situation once the word “cockroach” had entered the discourse. The man from Boston tried to create his own version of the “Tea Party” in New Delhi by giving a call for a march on Parliament. The decision to allow or disallow a gathering or protest is not the sole purview of the police but of the civil administration.The police force is an instrument of the State and its professional conduct can be the difference between a situation escalating or diffusing. The window of preparation and planning was missed by the authorities as they didn’t assess the scale of the march adequately and the situation snowballed into an unequal confrontation.Usually, whenever such a march is announced, the administration at the ground level goes into overdrive. The district magistrate and the Superintendent of Police meet, along with officers of the intelligence agencies, and assess the threat level and draw contingency plans to meet it. Force levels are assessed and the availability of lathi squads, tear gas, armed components, etc. is estimated. If more manpower and material are required, necessary requisitions are made. The officers assigned to supervise the arrangements are listed out and only those with proven experience in handling such situations are picked. Alongside, executive magistrates are nominated and paired with police officers. The area is divided into sectors, and these officers are

given specific areas of operation. Overall, a very senior officer is deputed to oversee all the arrangements and ensure that all the above factors have been taken care of. He briefs the officers of all departments and they, in turn, brief officers and men in their areas of responsibility.Briefing is of the utmost importance so that they understand to the last man the threat and their response. The use of force is based on the principle of minimum use to obtain the desired result. Officers and personnel must remember that these are our own brethren, and we are not to treat them as enemies. Minimum force must be used to obtain maximum results. The whole operation must be closely supervised.

The tear gas squad must be kept separately at a strategic point under the supervision of a Gazetted Officer (GO), and it should function only on his orders. Similarly, any armed squad must be available at a safe place under a GO and act only on his orders. Tear gas weapons and other arms should not be given to the general force, which should be equipped with regulation lathis only.

Another very essential component of the arrangements is the control room, which should be set up near the area of operations and manned round the clock by senior officers. The latest communication equipment should be available at the control room, as also by the officers in charge of sectors, and an effective channel of communication should be established.Senior officers should be in this control room — both police and

executive officers should not remain confined to their offices. Once the arrangements have been made, officers and men briefed and rehearsals conducted, the senior officers should liaise with intelligence agencies for latest updates regarding crowd strength and intentions. If possible, senior civil and police officers should meet the



organisers and impress upon them the importance of an orderly and peaceful protest. This attempt should be made at various levels, and it usually produces good results. That day, I saw on TV a lone policeman firing tear gas

shells with no visible sense of direction or purpose. Similarly, groups of protesters while running were being chased by policemen armed with all kinds of lathis and sticks. They would catch hold of one or two protesters and beat them up.

The activity of a uniformed force has to be an organised effort; a lathi charge should be conducted by a body of men and be effective in dispersing their target. A random, disorganised charge achieves no positive result — it only leads to accusations of brute force or outcomes such as head injuries. Force must be used under supervision — controlled, measured and sufficient to achieve the objective of crowd dispersal. The objective is not to vanquish an enemy at all costs as that only results in more protests and provokes the people. Once the objective is achieved, an orderly withdrawal of men and materials should be made effective. Every person, lathi, tear gas shell and bullet should be accounted for. The injured officers and protesters must be looked after and taken to designated hospitals, if needed.The subject is vast, and I have tried to encapsulate the importance of planning and following the old laid-down procedure and regulations. The Delhi administration would do well to hold an in-house, in-depth inquiry into what happened and what could have been done to prevent it. The problem today is that much of the prescribed procedure is ignored or at best given scant attention. There is much to be said for the importance given to regular training and inspections by the officers and training academies of earlier times. Today, much has been lost in the culture and conduct of our police forces and, in fact, in the entire criminal justice system.

Gurugram police advise corporate offices to allow work from home amid heavy rainfall

Panchkula. (Agency)

A Haryana Police spokesperson announced that Gurugram Police has issued an advisory to corporate offices and private establishments, urging them to allow employees to work from home on August 6, 2026, due to ongoing heavy rainfall in the city.

The spokesperson noted that persistent rain may cause waterlogging and traffic congestion on major roads and intersections throughout Gurugram.

To ensure public safety, reduce traffic, and support effective road management, Gurugram Police strongly urges corporate offices and private establishments to offer employees work-from-home arrangements on the day.

The spokesperson added that limiting non-essential vehicles on city roads will help traffic management teams maintain smooth flow and ensure uninterrupted emergency services.

The spokesperson expressed appreciation for the cooperation of corporate organisations and citizens in prioritising public safety during these weather conditions. The advisory concluded with the message, "Safety First. Drive Carefully."

IBA notifies dearness relief for pre-1986 bank retirees

Panchkula. (Agency)

The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) has announced the Dearness Relief (DR) rates for surviving pre-January 1, 1986 bank retirees and their surviving spouses receiving ex-gratia, applicable from August 2026 to January 2027. The revised rates were communicated to designated officers of all nationalised banks and the State Bank of India through a circular issued on August 3. According to the circular from the IBA's HR & Industrial Relations Department, the Dearness Relief has been calculated in accordance with the Government of India, Ministry of Finance, Department of Economic Affairs (Banking Division) letter dated December 17, 2013. The applicable Consumer Price Index (CPI) average is 9,917.76, and the Dearness Relief rate has been fixed at 1,560.43 per cent for the period from August 2026 to January 2027.

Surviving pre-January 1, 1986 retirees receiving a monthly ex-gratia of Rs350 will receive Rs5,461.50 as Dearness Relief, taking the total monthly payment to Rs5,811.50.

Surviving spouses of pre-January 1, 1986 retirees receiving Rs175 per month as ex-gratia will receive Rs2,730.75 as Dearness Relief, taking the total monthly payment to Rs2,905.75.

The IBA has reminded banks of its advisory dated February 7, 2023, recommending payment of additional ex-gratia over and above the Department of Financial Services (DFS) guidelines to ensure that surviving pre-1986 retirees and their spouses receive at least Rs10,000 per month.

UP: 6 of family die in house collapse in Pratapgarh

Pratapgarh. (Agency)

Six members of a family, including two infants, were buried alive when a 100-year-old house caved in in the city on late Wednesday night due to heavy rain.

The deceased included parents, their son, his wife, and two children. Another person was critically injured. The accident occurred in the Mahuli locality under the city police station area.

Police said that the night was hot and humid, so the family of seven was sleeping in an air-conditioned room. At 2 a.m., the roof of the house suddenly collapsed, burying everyone under the rubble.

Upon receiving information, police arrived at the scene. A rescue operation lasted nearly two hours, and everyone was pulled from the debris and taken to the hospital. Doctors declared six people dead.

The deceased were identified as homeowner Pramod Srivastava (60), his wife Rita (55), son Nitin (25), daughter-in-law Madhuri (23), and two grandsons Madhav (2) and Advik (4 months).

Pramod's another son Aman is in critical condition.

Bihar Viral Video: Patient's Broken Leg 'Bandaged' With Cardboard, Sparks Outrage

A viral video from Bihar has put a government hospital under scrutiny. Here's why doctors wrapped cardboard around a road accident victim's fractured leg

Begusarai. (Agency)

A video showing a road accident victim with his fractured leg wrapped in a cardboard carton before being referred to another hospital has triggered widespread criticism of Bihar's healthcare system. The incident took place at the Manjhaul Sub-Divisional Hospital in Begusarai district, where the injured man was reportedly given first aid using cardboard and bandages before being sent to a higher medical facility.

The viral video has reignited concerns over the availability of essential medical services at government hospitals, particularly after hospital authorities

admitted that neither an orthopaedic doctor nor a dresser was available at the time of treatment. The Whole Incident According to officials, the incident occurred on the evening of August 3. Kunal Kumar, a resident of Maheshwara village under the Naukothi police station area, sustained a leg fracture after his motorcycle met with an accident near the Har Sing Bridge.

Family members and local residents rushed him to the Manjhaul Sub-Divisional Hospital for treatment. Images and videos circulating on social media show the injured man's fractured leg completely covered with a cardboard

carton, secured with cotton bandages, before he was referred to Sadar Hospital in Begusarai for further treatment. The



Manjhaul Sub-Divisional Hospital, built at a cost of several crores, reportedly does not have facilities to provide definitive treatment for fracture cases arising from

road accidents. Hospital Defends Use Of Cardboard As Emergency First Aid

Responding to the controversy, hospital in-charge Abhinav Priyadarshi defended the procedure, stating that using cardboard as a temporary splint for fracture patients is part of emergency first aid. "A splint is applied after a fracture to stop bleeding and provide first aid. This is not medically incorrect," Priyadarshi said. He added that an orthopedic specialist and a dresser were not available at the hospital when the patient arrived, forcing medical staff to use the available materials before referring the patient to a higher medical centre.

6 years on, Shipki La trade resumes: Everything sells, but pashm is priced out

Shimla. (Agency)

For Hozer Nima, crossing the Shipki La pass after six years felt less like a business trip and more like returning to a familiar fair. The 46-year-old from Namgia village in Himachal Pradesh's Kinnaur district had been making the journey to Ship Ki village in the China-occupied Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) since 2006. When he and 15 other traders crossed over this month after the historic route reopened, people on the other side crowded around their goods, buying almost everything they had brought.

But there was one commodity the traders could not bring back: raw pashm, the scarce and expensive fibre used to make premium Pashmina. The fine undercoat of the Changthangi goat, found across the Tibetan Plateau and Ladakh's



source of the raw fibre, obtained from nomadic pastoral communities.

For the traders from Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti, therefore, pashm is not merely another commodity on a list of goods. It is one that gives the old trade route much of

its economic significance. But their ability to acquire it is now constrained by another ceiling: the permitted trade value

The first batch of 16 traders from Kinnaur and Lahaul-Spiti returned Monday with carpets, shoes, watches, sweets and Chinese crockery, having bartered agricultural implements, rice, flour, dry fruits, spices, kerosene, handicrafts and handloom products.

"We sold almost all the products we had carried... In return, we brought carpets, shoes, watches, sweets and Chinese crockery but not pashm wool," said Pasang Cheering, a trader from Dubling village. The reason is simple: pashm has become too expensive for a trade route that still runs on barter.

Before the route was suspended, raw pashm cost around Rs 12,000-15,000 a kg, depending on quality. Traders now say sellers in Tibet are quoting Rs 30,000-35,000.

UP to set up Lactation Management Units at all 120 SNCUs by year-end

Lucknow. (Agency)

To promote exclusive breastfeeding in the state, Lactation Management Units (LMUs) will be established at all 120 Sick Newborn Care Units (SNCUs) by the end of this year. Currently, LMUs are playing an active role in 34 SNCUs, benefitted more than 11,000 newborns till now. Staff at another 36 SNCUs have already been trained and will soon begin operations.

Dr. Milind Vardhan, General Manager of the National Health Mission (NHM), shared these details during a media sensitisation workshop held at the UNICEF office on Wednesday.

Speaking at the workshop—organised in collaboration with UNICEF to mark World Breastfeeding Week—Dr. Milind

noted that the decline in exclusive breastfeeding rates from 60 per cent to 35 per cent over the last three to four years is a matter of concern, and the state government has taken this issue very seriously. To ensure every child receives breast milk, the decision was made to launch LMUs in all SNCUs, and initial benefits are already visible; between April and July, over 11,000 newborns have benefitted from this initiative. The General Manager drew everyone's attention to a crucial point. He noted that more than 86 per cent of deliveries in the state now take place in institutions. Naturally, mothers are advised about breastfeeding at these facilities. Yet, the rate of early initiation of breastfeeding is only 43 per cent. Similarly, according to NFHS-6 data,

while 43 per cent of children do initial breastfeeding, the rate of exclusive breastfeeding remains at only 35 per cent. These figures indicate that the cooperation of the entire society is needed to promote breastfeeding, ensuring that every mother has access to accurate information, time, and facilities, and that every child receives the breastfeeding that is their right. Dr. SN Singh, Head of the Pediatrics Department at KGMU, stated that if children are educated about breastfeeding during their school years and people are informed of its benefits, mindsets will change. He explained that a child who is exclusively breastfed is protected against illnesses such as diarrhoea, pneumonia, and infections, and develops stronger intestines.

Rs 25,000 crore pending DA: Punjab employees knock on Supreme Court doors

Punjab government employees and pensioners have filed a caveat in the Supreme Court, anticipating the government may challenge a high court order directing it to clear pending dearness allowance dues.

Chandigarh. (Agency)

Anticipating that the Punjab government may challenge the Punjab and Haryana High Court's order directing it to clear pending dearness allowance (DA) dues within two weeks, state government employees and pensioners have filed a caveat in the Supreme Court to ensure they are heard before any interim relief is granted. The caveat was filed on August 5 in the case of Raghbir Singh versus Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Punjab. Advocate Abhishek Gupta filed the caveat on behalf of the employees.

Sukhchain Singh Khaira, president of the Punjab Government Employees Association, said they filed the caveat to ensure that they were heard before the

government knocked at the Supreme Court's doors. "Employees of PSPCL [Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd], school education department, Punjab civil secretariat have all got together to file this caveat. We had filed eight writ petitions for the DA in the high court earlier," Khaira added.

The move comes days after a division bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court dismissed the Punjab government's appeal against an earlier single judge's order and directed the state to release the pending DA dues—estimated to be around Rs 25,000 crore—within two weeks. The high court had upheld the finding that the government could not adopt different standards in extending DA benefits to All

India Services officers and state government employees and pensioners. A caveat is a legal precaution filed by a party expecting the opposite side to



approach a higher court. By filing it, the employees have ensured that if the Punjab government files a special leave petition in the Supreme Court against the high court judgment, the apex court cannot

grant any ex parte interim relief, including a stay on the high court order, without first issuing notice to them and hearing their submissions. Legal experts said filing a caveat is a routine but important procedural safeguard that prevents one-sided interim orders in cases where an appeal is anticipated.

State wanted to release DA in instalments The dispute relates to the Punjab government's delay in paying DA and dearness relief (DR) to its employees and pensioners. Earlier this year, a single judge of the High Court had struck down the state's decision to release DA arrears in 42 instalments and held that the government was required to pay DA and DR in accordance with the pattern followed by the central government.

Red alert in Delhi for heavy rain, temperatures dip

Delhi. (Agency)

Parts of Delhi are under red alert on Thursday morning, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) warning that heavy rain will continue after overnight showers. The weather department’s alert issued at 9.16 am is valid for three hours. Areas affected due to the thunderstorms and lightning include East Delhi, Shahdara, Central Delhi, Northeast Delhi, South Delhi, New Delhi, Southwest Delhi, West Delhi, Northwest Delhi and North Delhi, it noted. The remaining districts have been placed under an orange alert, forecasting moderate rain with thunderstorms and lightning. With 30.5 mm of rainfall recorded at Safdarjung as of Thursday morning, the city has already received around 59% of its long-term August average of 51.7 mm, IMD records showed. **Heavy rains logged** The city received light to moderate

rainfall over the past 24 hours, with Lodhi Road recording the highest rainfall at 43.8 mm till 8.30 am Thursday, followed by KVK CRPF Campus (28.5 mm), Narayana (27.5 mm), Palam (25.2 mm) and Safdarjung (18.7 mm). Other stations recorded 19.5 mm at Pharma Science Research, 17.5 mm at Janakpuri, 17.2 mm at Ridge, 14.2 mm at Ayanagar, 10.5 mm at Pusa, 6.5 mm at Chhatarpur, 3.5 mm at Mayur Vihar, 1.5 mm at Najafgarh, while Jafarpur recorded no rainfall. Dip in temperatures The rainfall brought down temperatures across the capital. At Safdarjung, the maximum temperature settled at 32.6°C, 0.9°C lower than the previous day and 1.6°C below normal. The minimum fell to 25.6°C, 1°C lower than the previous day and 1.3°C below normal, the IMD said. At Palam, the maximum temperature was 31°C, down 0.6°C from the previous day and 3.4°C below normal, while the minimum was



23.2°C, 1.7°C lower than the previous day and 3.6°C below normal. Lodhi Road recorded a maximum of 32.8°C and a minimum of 25.4°C, both lower than the previous day, while Ayanagar recorded 30.5°C and 25.2°C, respectively.

Forecast for the coming days The IMD has forecast generally cloudy skies with intermittent rain over the next six days. It has issued a yellow alert for Friday warning of moderate rain till noon in a few places, followed by light rain in

the evening or night. Maximum temperatures are expected to remain between 31°C and 35°C, while minimum temperatures are likely to hover between 22°C and 26°C through August 12, the IMD said.

Delhi man watches HBO’s ‘The Staircase’. He ‘recreates’ murder plot days later

Delhi. (Agency)

For weeks, The Staircase, the HBO crime drama based on one of America’s famous murder trials, played out on the television at Kamal Singh’s Gagan Vihar residence in East Delhi. The web series revolves around a husband accused of killing his wife while investigators struggle to nail him because the murder weapon is never found. Days later, police said, the plot played out again at the same house — this time in reality. On July 30, the 62-year-old software consultant allegedly killed his wife, Komal Singh (50), inside their home, hid the murder weapon and fled with more than Rs 12 lakh in cash. The murder, police said, came to light when the couple’s son, Gaurav Singh (26), a doctor, returned from a library in Noida, where he had spent the day preparing for the postgraduate medical entrance examination. He had spent hours calling Komal. But she never answered. Using a spare key, Gaurav entered their home around 9.15 pm. He found Komal, a tuition teacher, lying beside the living room sofa in a pool of blood. She had suffered more than 10 stab wounds, said police. While a pair of scissors lay nearby, the object used to hit Komal on the head was missing. Kamal had disappeared too. Only hours earlier, Gaurav had left home after watching his parents argue over the registration of a property. About an hour later, his twin sister, Gaurika, too, had left for her office in Noida, where she worked as a German language trainer.

Central agencies, Delhi police hold meet for I-Day security

New Delhi. (Agency)

Ahead of the Independence Day celebrations, Delhi Police on Wednesday held an inter-state coordination meeting with senior police officers and central agencies to finalise a joint security strategy, strengthen intelligence sharing and ensure peaceful celebrations. The meeting was chaired by Delhi Police Commissioner Anurag Kumar and attended by senior officers from Haryana, Punjab, UP, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Chandigarh, besides officials from central intelligence and enforcement agencies. Special Commissioner of Police (Crime, Perception Management and Media Cell) HGS Dhaliwal said the officers shared intelligence inputs and reviewed anti-terror measures, including intensified border checks, verification of suspicious persons and preventive security arrangements. The meeting also discussed regulation of paragliders, drones and other flying objects in open areas to prevent any security breach during the Independence Day celebrations. Officials stressed the need for timely sharing of advance intelligence on the movement of suspicious persons and vehicles. Discussions also covered monitoring of social media, interstate criminal gangs operating in the National Capital Region, and the illegal supply of firearms and narcotics. Traffic management plans and restrictions for the Independence Day celebrations were reviewed, along with measures to prevent unauthorised movement across interstate borders. Participating states and Union Territories were urged to maintain close coordination and extend full cooperation for effective implementation of the security plan. Delhi Police Commissioner Kumar emphasised the importance of ground-level coordination in border areas, continuous social media monitoring and swift action on intelligence inputs related to potential threats.

Accident-prone road ahead: Delhi commuters to soon get alerts from Google Maps

New Delhi. (Agency)

Delhi commuters using Google Maps will soon get alerts when they approach accident-prone stretches, along with the maximum speed limit for the road they are travelling on, under a new road-safety initiative by the Delhi Traffic Police. The initiative, announced on Wednesday, is being rolled out in collaboration with Google India and MapMyIndia to integrate road-safety information into digital navigation platforms used by lakhs of commuters every day. Officials said users navigating through Delhi on Google Maps or MapMyIndia will receive alerts before entering identified accident-prone zones, or “black spots”, with the objective of encouraging motorists to slow down and exercise greater caution.

“The objective is to provide timely, accessible and actionable road-safety information to commuters and promote informed and responsible driving,” said Vijayanta Goyal Arya, Additional



Commissioner of Police (Traffic Headquarters). “By integrating accident-prone zone alerts and speed-limit information with widely used navigation platforms, we hope to improve compliance with traffic regulations and contribute towards reducing road accidents,” she said.

Speed limit warnings

Apart from warning users about accident-prone locations, the navigation platforms will also display the notified maximum speed limit for roads and stretches across Delhi. Traffic Police officials said the feature is expected to help motorists remain aware of speed regulations, reduce inadvertent violations and promote safer driving behaviour. “Availability of speed-limit information will enable drivers to remain aware of the prescribed speed limits on the roads they are travelling on and encourage compliance with speed regulations. This is expected to promote safer driving behaviour and reduce the risk of accidents and vehicle collisions arising from excessive or inappropriate speed,” Arya said.

Reconsider blanket ban on construction works during winter, industry body writes to CM

New Delhi. (Agency)

Private developers have urged the Delhi government to reconsider the curbs it had issued on construction activities during winter to check pollution, saying the blanket restrictions lack scientific backing and could hurt the real estate sector as well as contractors and workers. The Delhi government’s ambitious winter action plan, notified last month, makes measures such as construction curbs, staggered office timings and vehicle restrictions mandatory every year from November 1 to February 28, a departure from the existing system where restrictions are linked to the

prevailing pollution levels.

In a letter to Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Tuesday seeking a review of the curbs, the Delhi chapter of real



estate industry body National Real Estate Development Council (NAREDCO) said the restrictions notified by the government had “caused widespread concern across

the infrastructure sector”.

As per the plan, demolition and open civil construction activities that generate dust will be prohibited from November 1 to January 31, with an exemption for essential public infrastructure projects. Finishing work, plumbing and electrical installations inside construction sites will continue to be permitted, subject to dust-control norms. Between December 10 and January 20, only government projects deemed indispensable for public utility or emergencies will be allowed, and vehicles carrying construction material will be barred from entering Delhi.

Multi-specialty block at LNJP hospital: Probe sought as project cost doubles

The Delhi government has sought a Vigilance department inquiry into the LNJP Hospital expansion project after its cost nearly doubled from Rs 533 crore to Rs 1,268 crore.

Delhi. (Agency)

Even as the Delhi government’s Finance department recently recommended before the Council of Ministers a revision in the project cost for an ongoing expansion of the LNJP Hospital with a new multi-speciality block, it has also sought a Vigilance department inquiry into the Health department’s project as the overall cost has nearly doubled since the work first started under the previous Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government, The Indian Express has learnt. LNJP hospital is the largest tertiary healthcare centre run by the Delhi government. The initial approved cost of the project — which involves the construction of a new maternity, medicine and paediatric centre at the hospital — was Rs 533.91 crore and it was targeted to be completed by 2023. The overall cost for the completion, however, has now been revised to Rs 1,268.85 crore.

What led to the cost escalation?

As per the officials privy to the matter, the initial proposal for the expansion — which began in 2021 — was to add 1,570 beds by constructing 22 floors and a double basement for establishing the new multi-speciality block at the hospital. However, the minutes of the meeting held recently by the Finance department’s Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC) highlight that a dispute with the contractor led to a cost escalation. “The work was progressing smoothly until a dispute cropped up with respect to the contractual conditions and the amount payable towards the item of structural steel work, which in this building was/is a significant item. The contractor invoked dispute redressal mechanism under Clause 25 of the contract. The dispute was decided by an arbitral tribunal, and the arbitration award was granted in favour of the contractor on 29.05.2023...,” read the

minutes. Officials said that the Administrative department submitted that an expenditure of Rs 586.09 crore was incurred with nearly 55% of the project having been completed.



An official explained, “Seeing the likely expenditure for the completion of work exceeding the original A/A (administrative approval) & E/S (expenditure sanction) due to arbitration award, revision in GST rates from 12% to 18%, escalation in the material and labour cost, Covid... the revised preliminary estimate is received amounting

to Rs 1,268.85 crore with Rs.682.75 crore set to cover the remaining work.” Last year, PWD minister Parvesh Sahib Singh had said that the government sent a file to the Lieutenant Governor, requesting for a probe in the matter, claiming the project’s budget was inflated by Rs 650 crore during AAP leader Satyendar Jain’s tenure as the Health Minister. “There is a difference between the budget sanctioned for the construction of a new block at LNJP Hospital earlier and today. The amount has increased by Rs 650 crore. AAP leader Satyender Jain was both PWD and Health Minister. He would go on inspection and rounds in the hospital and suggest changes in the going project to benefit the contractors, which led to cost escalation. There was a scam of Rs 650 crore. We sent a file to LG on this matter. He will forward it to either ACB Or CBI for inquiry in the matter,” Singh had said.

Delhi High Court directs police to ensure sanitary pad machines, washrooms in all police stations

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Delhi High Court on Wednesday directed the cops to survey all the police stations within six weeks and ensure the availability of functional sanitary pad vending machines and exclusive washrooms for women personnel. A Bench of Chief Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya and Justice Tejas Karia issued the direction to the Delhi Police Commissioner while hearing a PIL alleging a near-total absence of basic menstrual hygiene facilities in police stations across the city. Muskan Singh Bankura, representative of the Women Cell of NGO Justice for Rights Foundation, filed the PIL citing RTI replies obtained in July and August 2025 from all the 18 districts and units of the Delhi Police. The petition alleged an “almost complete absence of functional



sanitary pad vending machines, menstrual waste incinerators, and dedicated budgetary allocations for menstrual hygiene across police stations.” The bench also sought responses on compliance from the Centre through the Ministry of Home Affairs, the Delhi Police and the Delhi government by September 23, the next date of hearing. The PIL argued that requiring thousands of women police personnel to work without access to these basic facilities of hygiene and conveniences violated their fundamental rights to dignity, health, privacy and humane working conditions. The NGO has sought directions to immediately install and maintain sanitary pad vending machines and incinerators in all police stations, provide dedicated budgets, frame binding standard operating procedures for menstrual hygiene management, and ensure clean washroom facilities for women personnel and female visitors.

NEWS BOX

Indian football chief urges Tata Group to reconsider Jamshedpur FC's ISL exit



New Delhi,. (Agency)

All India Football Federation (AIFF) president Kalyan Chaubey has appealed to the Tata Group to reconsider its decision to withdraw Jamshedpur FC from the Indian Super League (ISL), saying the governing body would welcome any move that keeps one of Indian football's most influential institutions in the country's top flight. The Tata Group recently confirmed that Jamshedpur FC will exit the ISL as part of a long-planned strategy to focus on grassroots football development. Tata Steel vice-president (Corporate Services) D B Sundara Ramam also clarified that the decision had nothing to do with the uncertainty surrounding the ISL's commercial future and would not be reconsidered. half-centuries from his previous tours.

Despite that stance, Chaubey said the AIFF remains hopeful of a change of heart.

APPEAL TO TATA

"AIFF would be happy if Tata remains in football, especially in senior top-tier football. If an AIFF request or application can change their mind, the AIFF would like to appeal that, for the interest of the players and football, Tata should remain in the senior football league," Chaubey told PTI. "The AIFF welcomes any suggestion and is ready to incorporate the suggestions to ensure the best outcome," he added. Tata Steel has already assured that Jamshedpur FC will honour all existing player contracts and help footballers find new clubs following the team's withdrawal from the ISL.

Chaubey, however, believes the Tata Group's decision cannot be viewed purely through a financial lens.

Infantino refuses to resign as FIFA apologises for World Cup privatisation plan

CHENNAI. (Agency)

World football's governing body has issued a formal apology to its member associations following the collapse of a controversial plan to sell a private equity stake in the FIFA World Cup. However, President Gianni Infantino has rejected mounting calls for his resignation, securing the explicit backing of FIFA's executive leadership during a crisis summit in Rabat.

The extraordinary developments follow a chaotic week for football administration after Infantino was forced to abandon a multi-billion-dollar proposal to commercialise FIFA's flagship international tournaments. Despite intense public scrutiny and growing rebellion from major European federations, FIFA's management board



reaffirmed its "full support" for the embattled president, maintaining that Infantino remains the sole official democratically elected by all 211 member nations. The crisis stems from a clandestine scheme to establish a commercial subsidiary known as FIFA Forward Enterprise (FFE). Designed to manage the commercial rights and operations of both the FIFA World Cup and the newly expanded FIFA Club World Cup, the plan valued the subsidiary at \$20 billion. Under the terms leaked to the media, FIFA aimed to sell up to a 20 percent equity stake in FFE to private investors, raising an estimated \$4.2 billion. To win over voting members, FIFA pitched substantial financial inducements: Immediate Payouts: A one-off payment of \$20 million per member association scheduled for early 2027.

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi can eclipse Sachin Tendulkar in white-ball cricket: Uthappa

Former India batter Robin Uthappa believes 15-year-old Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has the potential to make a bigger impact in white-ball cricket than Sachin Tendulkar, but warned that careful management will be key to fulfilling his immense promise.

Glasgow. (Agency)

Former India batter Robin Uthappa believes teenage sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has the potential to leave a bigger mark on white-ball cricket than Sachin Tendulkar, but warned that the youngster's career will ultimately depend on how he is managed over the next few years. Speaking on CommBoxTV, Uthappa said the 15-year-old possesses extraordinary talent but stressed that

Indian cricket has previously seen several gifted youngsters lose their way after making sensational starts to their careers.

TENDULKAR COMPARISON

"He could have a bigger impact on white-ball than Tendulkar. But how he's managed is going to be important. We've seen in Indian cricket exciting players come through the ranks. We saw Vinod Kambli and Prithvi Shaw and started asking what they would become when they were 17-18 years old. And then suddenly they fall off the wagon," Uthappa said. Sooryavanshi has rapidly emerged as one of India's brightest batting prospects after impressing in domestic cricket before making a dream start to his international career. His fearless stroke play, composure and ability to dominate bowling attacks at just 15 have already made him one of the most talked-about young cricketers in

the country. While Uthappa believes the youngster has the talent to eclipse even Tendulkar's influence in white-ball cricket, he insisted that raw ability alone



will not determine the course of his career.

STAYING GROUNDED

The former India wicketkeeper-batter said Sooryavanshi's biggest challenge would be preserving the hunger and innocence that have defined his rise so far. "So that will be Vaibhav's first test. Can he stay pristine for the game over a

period of five years? He's 15 now, so can he stay pristine till he's 20? There's so much innocence to who he is that you want that to be protected," Uthappa said.

"I love the fact that he's saying no to every advertisement and he's focusing only on cricket. Because when he's 18, he'll start being perceived as a man and the female attention will come. That can be a distraction as well." Uthappa also acknowledged that setbacks are inevitable in any sporting career and said the teenager would need the right people around him to navigate the pressures that come with early success. There will be trials and tribulations in his career, and how he overcomes those will be key. I only hope he has the right support system and mentors to protect him from the world and allow him to live in a bubble until he is ready to explore the outside world. "His career is not going to be pristine as much as we want it to be.

Javelin: Ashish Yadav, Dharanidharan enter U20 Worlds final with medals in sight

New Delhi. (Agency)

India's Ashish Yadav and T. Dharanidharan kept the country's medal hopes alive after both qualified for the men's javelin throw final at the World Athletics U20 Championships Oregon 26 on Tuesday.

Competing in separate qualification groups, the Indian duo booked their places in the final despite neither crossing the automatic qualifying mark of 72.50m. Ashish produced the better of the two performances with a best throw of 69.87m, finishing second in Group A and second overall, while Dharanidharan's 68.07m effort saw him finish fifth in Group B and scrape through as the 12th and final qualifier. South Africa's Jan-Hendrick Heymans was the only athlete to breach the automatic qualification standard, launching the javelin 76.02m to top the standings and establish himself as the favourite for the gold medal.

QUALIFYING BATTLE



The men's javelin qualification turned out to be far more challenging than expected, with only Heymans managing to clear the 72.50m automatic qualifying mark. The remaining 11 places in the final were decided based on the best performances across the two qualification groups. Ashish was one of the standout performers behind Heymans, finishing ahead of Poland's Aleksander Wojna (69.80m) and China's Yang Zhaoqi (69.43m), who qualified in third and fourth respectively. Dominica's Addison James (68.87m) and fellow South African Marques Olivier (68.76m) also progressed comfortably.

Ignored but not finished: Mohammed Shami targeting 2027 ODI World Cup swansong

New Delhi. (Agency)

Left out of the national squad and ignored despite another impressive domestic season, Mohammed Shami refuses to give up hope of returning to the Indian team. The fast bowler, who turns 36 in September, has not represented India since the Champions Trophy in 2025. One of the driving forces behind India's fast-bowling unit between 2015 and 2023, the final chapter of Shami's international career remains one of the biggest unanswered questions in Indian cricket. Despite regaining full fitness and wreaking havoc in domestic cricket, Shami has consistently been overlooked by the selectors. Yet, whenever his name comes up, India's selection committee has stopped short of ruling him out

completely. The closest chief selector Ajit Agarkar came to addressing Shami's future was ahead of India's one-off Test against Afghanistan earlier this year. "I



know he has played a domestic season this year. But from the information that I have got, is that at this point it's T20 cricket that he's sort of ready for," Agarkar had said. For a bowler who claimed 37 wickets in seven Ranji Trophy matches last season and followed it up with 15 wickets in seven

Vijay Hazare Trophy games, that assessment appeared a little harsh. But the repeated snubs have not deterred Shami. The veteran pacer continues to harbour hopes of an India comeback and has quietly gone about preparing for another domestic season. According to his childhood coach Mohammed Badruddin, Shami has shed five kilograms since last season and is working harder than ever to get himself back into the best possible shape.

"Shami's mood is positive. He is quite motivated for the next season," a chirpy Badruddin told India Today over the phone. Badruddin believes it would be unwise for India to completely move on from a bowler of Shami's experience, especially at a time when injuries continue to plague the country's fast-bowling stocks.

Lionel Messi scores his first 2 goals since the World Cup as Inter Miami beats San Luis 4-2

MIAMI. (Agency)

Lionel Messi scored his first two goals since the World Cup and took the career scoring lead in the Leagues Cup as Inter Miami overcame an early deficit to beat Atlético San Luis 4-2 on a rainy Wednesday night. The match at Nu Stadium was delayed 30 minutes in the second half because of lightning in the area. Messi scored in the 11th and the 44th minutes. He has 14 goals in 12 Leagues Cup matches — one ahead of Los Angeles FC's Denis Bouanga for most in the tournament's four-year history. Telasco Segovia and defender Micael also scored, and Noah Allen had three assists as Inter Miami extended its

unbeaten streak to eight matches.

Messi returned to Miami's starting



lineup in his second match since the World Cup, where he led Argentina to its second straight final appearance before La Albiceleste lost 1-0 to Spain. The 39-year-old played 37 minutes as a substitute in a 2-2 draw with the

Columbus Crew on Saturday.

After being held off the scoresheet against Columbus, it didn't take Messi long to make an impact on Wednesday. He fired a long cross from Allen past Andrés Sánchez to equalize after David Rodríguez put San Luis ahead with a header four minutes into the match. Messi finished from close range later in the first half and assisted on Micael's header in stoppage time. Rafa Llorente also scored for San Luis. Messi led Miami to the Leagues Cup title in 2023 shortly after his arrival with the club. Inter Miami reached the final again last year, losing 3-0 to Seattle in a match that ended with a brawl involving Luis Suárez.

Mastering mind and attack: Coach Tan's recipe for Satwik-Chirag's world title bid

Reunited with architect Tan Kim Her, star duo Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty are chasing home glory at the BWF World Championships in New Delhi. They hope to peak at the right time after overcoming Satwik's shoulder injury.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Nearly a decade after Malaysian tactician Tan Kim Her first brought two towering teenagers together to forge India's greatest doubles partnership, Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty stand on the cusp of another

career milestone. As the duo prepare to spearhead India's challenge at the BWF World Championships in New Delhi, their story has moved far beyond potential. It is now one of resilience, psychological recalibration and physical survival. Having reunited with Tan 18 months ago for his second stint as India's chief doubles coach, Satwik and Chirag have quietly rebuilt their empire. The road back from the heartbreak of the Paris Olympics, where the former World No. 1s bowed out under the suffocating weight of medal expectations, has been painstaking. Yet, after climbing back to No. 5 in the world rankings and ending a two-year World Tour title drought at the Singapore Open Super 750 in May, the pair once again appear to be approaching their peak.

The triumph in Singapore served as a timely reminder of what Satwik and Chirag can achieve when fully fit and



firing. Their trademark power game, built around relentless attacking badminton, remains one of the most formidable weapons on the circuit. Sustaining that level, however, has

required careful management. Unlike many of their rivals, who compete in 18 to 20 tournaments a season, the Indian pair have adopted a carefully managed schedule. At the centre of that strategy is Satwik's troublesome right shoulder, where a recurring muscle tear first sustained in 2018 continues to dictate the pair's tournament calendar. There is, however, one encouraging update. After missing the recent Asian leg of the tour, Satwik is nearing 100 percent in terms of recovering from his shoulder injury. "Satwik's shoulder is almost fully recovered now. I think he'll be ready to play when the tournament starts on the 17th," Tan Kim Her said after the draw ceremony in New Delhi.

Sensex, Nifty edge up after RBI pause as crude oil prices soften

MUMBAI. (Agency)

Benchmark indices opened marginally higher on Thursday, extending their gains after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept interest rates unchanged, as easing crude oil prices and hopes of a diplomatic breakthrough in the Middle East supported investor sentiment.

At 9:21 am, the BSE Sensex was up 186.23 points, or 0.24%, at 78,767.23, while the NSE Nifty50 gained 9.95 points, or 0.04%, to 24,634.60. Markets also drew support from lower oil prices. Brent crude slipped below the \$80-a-barrel mark to \$79.34, while WTI crude traded at \$75.01, as investors assessed progress in Iran-Oman talks that could pave the way for a broader U.S.-Iran peace deal. Softer crude prices are positive for India as they ease inflationary pressures and reduce the country's import bill.

Despite the positive start, the broader market remained mixed. The Nifty Smallcap 100 gained 0.23%, while the Nifty Midcap 100 slipped 0.20%, suggesting investors remained selective after the recent rally. India VIX eased 0.35%, indicating lower volatility. Among sectors, nine of the 16 major indices traded higher. Nifty IT rose 0.31%, extending its recent recovery, while pharma gained 0.23%, media advanced 0.15%, chemicals climbed 0.59% and oil & gas added 0.16%. PSU Bank also edged up 0.11%. On the other hand, Nifty Auto declined 0.58%, Realty slipped 0.54% and Financial Services Ex-Bank fell 0.14%.

Zepto, BookMyShow, IndiGo among 9 platforms fined Rs 20 lakh for using dark patterns

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has cracked down on nine digital platforms, including Zepto, PhysicsWallah and IndiGo, for using "dark patterns"—design practices that can influence or mislead consumers into making certain choices. The government informed the Rajya Sabha that these companies have been directed to stop such practices. In a written reply, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs said the regulator has stepped up efforts to tackle unfair practices in the digital marketplace. It also said the CCPA has collected nearly Rs 20 lakh in penalties from companies found violating the dark pattern guidelines, according to several media reports.

WHAT ARE DARK PATTERNS?

The Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns Guidelines, 2023 identify 13 types of misleading online practices designed to influence consumer choices. These include false urgency, basket sneaking, drip pricing, subscription traps, confirm shaming and trick questions.

In June 2025, the CCPA had issued an advisory asking e-commerce platforms to carry out self-audits and identify any dark patterns on their platforms. According to the government's reply, Zepto Marketplace was fined Rs 7 lakh, the highest among the companies penalised.

The CCPA found that the platform was adding handling charges and membership fees during the purchase process. The regulator classified the handling fee as drip pricing, while the automatic addition of membership was treated as basket sneaking.

Rupee falls 9 paise to 95.17 against US dollar in early trade

MUMBAI. (Agency)

The rupee depreciated 9 paise to 95.17 against the US dollar in early trade on Thursday as the support from lower crude oil prices were offset by lingering geopolitical risks. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.13, then touched 95.17 against the American currency, registering a fall of 9 paise from its previous close.

On Wednesday, the rupee settled at 95.08 against the American currency. "For now the rupee finds itself caught between encouraging diplomatic headlines and lingering geopolitical risks.. Positive developments around Hormuz could help it revisit the 94.80-95.00 zone," said CR Forex Advisors MD Amit Pabari. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 0.05 per cent higher at 99.72. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 0.20 per cent lower at USD 79.29 per barrel in futures trade. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex climbed 201.43 points to 78,782.43 in opening trade, while Nifty was marginally up by 16.35 points to 24,641. Foreign institutional investors turned to selling and offloaded equities worth Rs 943.42 crore on a net basis on Wednesday, according to exchange data.

Can married central government employees claim HRA while living in official housing?

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Centre has made it clear that there is no plan to change the existing House Rent Allowance (HRA) rules for married Central Government employees living together in Government accommodation. The clarification came in Parliament after a question was raised on whether the policy would be reviewed to make it fairer for such couples.

NO PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE HRA POLICY

In a written reply in the Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said the Government has not proposed any change to the current HRA rules. The reply came in response to a question by Rajya Sabha MP Sumitra Balmik, who sought to

know whether the Government planned to review the policy for husband-wife couples who are both Central Government employees and live together in Government accommodation. The Government's response was brief and clear: there is no proposal to revise the existing policy.

WHY HRA IS NOT PAID IN SUCH CASES

The Finance Ministry explained that House Rent Allowance is meant for Central Government employees who are not provided Government accommodation. The allowance is intended to help employees meet the cost of renting a house. However, when both spouses are Central Government employees and are stationed at the same station and one of them has been

allotted Government accommodation,



the family is considered to have already been provided official housing. As a result, the Government says no expenditure is being incurred on rented accommodation by the other spouse. Therefore, HRA is not payable in such cases.

NO REQUESTS RECEIVED TO

REVIEW THE RULE

The Government also informed Parliament that it has not received any representations from Government employees or employee associations seeking a reconsideration of the policy. When asked whether it planned to review the rule to make it more equitable for couples where both spouses are Government employees, the Finance Ministry simply replied, "No."

Since there is no proposal under consideration, the question of further details did not arise.

EXISTING RULES WILL CONTINUE

The latest clarification means there will be no change in HRA eligibility for married Central Government employees living in Government accommodation.

Air India's new CEO nearly joined Pakistan's PIA, was awaiting security clearance

TOKYO. (Agency)

Air India's new CEO almost ended up across the border. Yes, you read that right.

Ethiopian Airlines chief Tewolde Gebremariam, who has now been appointed CEO and Managing Director of Air India, had earlier been tipped to take charge of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), which was reportedly waiting for security clearances before announcing him as its chief executive.

He was weeks away from taking charge of Pakistan International Airlines (PIA), according to media reports, before the Tata Group-owned carrier secured his appointment. In July, reports had suggested that PIA had selected the veteran airline executive to lead its post-privatisation turnaround, but the appointment was never formally announced. PIA WAS WAITING TO ANNOUNCE HIS NAME

Tewolde had emerged as the preferred choice to head Pakistan International Airlines after the airline's management was transferred to a consortium led by Arif Habib Group.

Bloomberg had reported that he was shortlisted for the role, while Arab News, citing unnamed sources, said PIA was awaiting mandatory security clearances before making the appointment public. A senior PIA official had told Arab News that the airline "would not announce his name until all the security clearances are completed", while a major shareholder described Tewolde as "a very capable person" who "has done a lot of turnarounds". The plan was for Tewolde to lead PIA's revival through fleet modernisation, network expansion and operational reforms after its privatisation.

AIR INDIA MOVED FIRST

Instead of taking charge at Pakistan's flag carrier, Tewolde was appointed CEO and Managing Director of Air India following what the airline described as a global search for a leader with experience in large-scale airline transformation, operational excellence, safety management and profitable expansion. Air India Chairman N. Chandrasekaran said Tewolde's "track record in building one of the world's most efficient and profitable airline groups makes him uniquely suited to lead Air India."

Even bankers didn't know: Inside government's Rs 31,500-crore LIC stake sale

New Delhi. (Agency)

One of the investment bankers advising the government on the LIC stake sale was summoned to the divestment department's New Delhi office just hours before the transaction was due to begin. The banker wasn't told why. Once inside, officials revealed the plan: the government was launching a massive share sale in Life Insurance Corporation of India that very evening. The adviser was asked to get the stock exchange filing ready. The secrecy was deliberate.

The government's Rs 31,500-crore stake sale in LIC this week was executed with unusual speed and discretion, with even some of the

investment banks advising on the transaction learning about the launch only hours before it went



public, Bloomberg reported. The tightly controlled operation helped the government pull off India's biggest secondary share sale conducted through a stock exchange, eventually increasing the size of the offering from an initial 2.5% stake to 6.5% after strong

demand from institutional investors.

WHY THE GOVERNMENT KEPT THE LIC SALE SECRET

Officials in the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) deliberately kept the timing of the sale confidential because they did not want traders positioning themselves ahead of such a large transaction, according to Bloomberg. The concern was that if the market knew in advance that the government was preparing to sell a substantial block of LIC shares, traders could build positions around the expected supply and potentially put pressure on the insurer's stock price before the offer was launched.

Global layoff wave continues: Why Amazon, Meta, Oracle and 40+ companies are cutting jobs

New Delhi. (Agency)

More than 40 companies across industries including technology, banking, retail, manufacturing and healthcare have announced layoffs this year as businesses continue to cut costs, restructure operations and increasingly adopt artificial intelligence (AI), according to a Business Insider report.

Some of the world's biggest companies, including Amazon, Meta, Oracle, UPS, Walmart, Citi, Dell, Visa, Nike and Standard Chartered, are among those reducing their workforce in 2026. While several companies cited AI-led productivity gains, others blamed slowing business growth, restructuring plans and changing customer demand.

AI EMERGES AS A KEY DRIVER OF LAYOFFS

According to the report, companies



such as Block, Coinbase and Standard Chartered have openly acknowledged that artificial intelligence has become one of the reasons for reducing headcount, with AI now performing work previously handled by employees. However, not every company is laying off workers

because of AI. Several firms are restructuring businesses, simplifying operations or responding to weaker demand in specific segments.

BIGGEST LAYOFFS ANNOUNCED SO FAR

Among the largest workforce reductions announced this year are:

UPS: 30,000 jobs to be cut as part of network restructuring and cost savings. Oracle: Around 21,000 employees, or 13% of its workforce, laid off due to AI adoption and restructuring. Citi: About 20,000 jobs, or roughly 10% of its workforce, being cut to align staffing with business needs and reduce costs. Amazon: Around 16,000 corporate jobs eliminated as the company reduces bureaucracy and reshapes its business.

Gold prices hit 7-week high: Is it a good time to buy?

Gold has regained momentum after weeks of ups and downs. So, is now a good time to buy the yellow metal, or should investors stay on the sidelines?

SAN FRANCISCO. (Agency)

After a roller-coaster July, gold finally seems to be finding its feet. The yellow metal is showing signs of stability, and while prices may not be racing higher every day, they are no longer slipping either. That sense of firmness has lifted investor confidence, with gold climbing to its highest level in seven weeks. At the time of writing, MCX Gold was trading at Rs 1,49,296 per 10 grams, up Rs 803.

WHAT'S DRIVING GOLD HIGHER?

Gold has gained as investors expect easing geopolitical tensions and softer energy prices to reduce inflation

pressures. If inflation cools further, major central banks could take a less restrictive approach to interest rates, which is generally supportive for gold. At the same time, many investors continue to hold gold as a safe-haven asset while waiting for greater clarity on the geopolitical situation. This steady demand has helped prices recover after weeks of volatility. According to Ponmudi R, CEO of Enrich Money, gold has witnessed a strong technical breakout. "MCX Gold opened with a gap up and is holding above Rs 149,000, up 0.62%, after a strong breakout candle that carried price from the Rs 144,000 zone to a high of Rs 149,494, a seven-week peak." He added that the next hurdle for gold lies between Rs 1,50,000 and Rs 1,50,700. "A break above this range targets the next resistance at Rs 1,52,200-Rs 1,52,800."

WHERE ARE THE SUPPORT LEVELS?

While the trend has improved, experts say investors should also keep an eye on support levels. Ponmudi said

immediate support lies between Rs 1,48,600 and Rs 1,48,000, while the next support zone is Rs 1,46,600-Rs 1,46,000. He also pointed out that gold has moved above all its major exponential moving averages (20, 50,



100 and 200 EMA), signalling that momentum has turned positive after weeks of consolidation. "Bias stays positive above Rs 149,000, with a hold needed to extend gains toward Rs 150,000. A slip below Rs 149,000 would signal exhaustion after the sharp run-up."

IS IT TIME TO BUY OR SELL?

The current trend suggests that gold remains in a positive phase, but that

does not necessarily mean investors should rush in at current levels.

For those who already hold gold, the outlook remains favourable as long as prices stay above Rs 1,49,000. The next upside target is around Rs 1,50,000-Rs 1,50,700, and a breakout above that could open the door to higher levels.

For fresh buyers, it may be wiser to buy gradually instead of investing a large amount at once. If prices cool towards the support zone of Rs 1,48,600-Rs 1,48,000, they could offer a better entry point. Those looking to book profits may consider doing so if prices approach the Rs 1,50,700-Rs 1,52,800 range, particularly if momentum begins to weaken. For now, gold appears to have moved out of its recent weak patch. The metal is not just holding its ground, it is showing signs of building a stronger base. Whether this turns into the next leg of the rally will depend on inflation trends, global interest rate expectations and developments on the geopolitical front in the coming weeks.

Sonal Chauhan

Hails Salman Khan’s Support For Sohail Khan On Alliance: ‘Truly The Best Bhai’

Actress Sonal Chauhan has reacted to Salman Khan’s special appearance on the reality show Alliance to support his brother Sohail Khan. The actress shared a heartfelt note after watching the episode and praised the bond between the two brothers. Taking to social media, Sonal called the episode one of the most beautiful moments of the show. She praised Salman for standing by his brother and said the superstar once again proved why fans lovingly call him “Bhai.”

Sonal Chauhan On Salman Khan-Sohail Khan’s Bond After Alliance Episode

Sonal Chauhan took to her Instagram stories to share a video clip from Alliance, which shows Salman Khan having a heartfelt conversation with Sohail Khan. In her note, the Jannat actress wrote, “This was hands down the most beautiful episode of #Alliance. A sibling isn’t just family they’re the anchor, the shield, the strongest support system life blesses us with. When the world turns its back, family stands tall beside you.” She further praised Salman Khan, and wrote, “And tonight, the biggest superstar of this nation showed us once again why he’s truly



the BEST BHAI. Aise hi poori country BHAI nahi bolti @beingsalmankhan @sohailkhanofficial God bless the bond you both share.”

Salman Khan Reacts To Sohail Khan’s Comments About Divorce With Seema Sajdeh

During his appearance on Alliance, Salman Khan said his ‘noble’ brother Sohail Khan quietly took the blame for his divorce from Seema Sajdeh despite trying his best to make things work. “Are you still listening to Seema?” the Bollywood superstar asked, before saying that Sohail had taken all the blame for the end of his marriage.

“My dear, noble brother took all the blame on himself. But I know as a brother, how much he’s trying. I know that emotionally, he’s just taking it, taking it in,” Salman said, offering his support to Sohail.

Coming back to Sonal Chauhan, the actress is known for her work in Hindi and Telugu cinema. She gained popularity after making her Bollywood debut with Jannat (2008), where she starred opposite Emraan Hashmi. She will next be seen in Mirzapur: The Movie, alongside Ali Fazal and Pankaj Tripathi. The film is scheduled to release in theatres on September 4.



Neha Bhasin

Calls Out Bhumi Pednekar Amid NEET Row: 'Lock Upp Pe Bhi Scripted Thi Aur Protests Ko Lekar Bhi'

The debate surrounding Bhumi Pednekar’s remarks on the NEET-UG 2026 protests has taken a new turn, with singer Neha Bhasin publicly disagreeing with the actress. Taking to social media, Neha shared a strongly worded note, saying the focus should not be solely on the abusive slogans allegedly aimed at Prime Minister Narendra Modi. She said equal attention should also be given to the allegations of police action and the treatment of student protesters during the demonstrations. The controversy began after Bhumi posted a video on Instagram recently expressing concern over the abusive slogans allegedly directed at Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the NEET-UG 2026 protests. While some agreed with her stance, many on social media criticised the actor for not addressing the alleged police action against students during the Sansad March held on July 20, prompting a wider debate online.

Now, in her latest post, Neha Bhasin called Bhumi out for her stance. She even took a dig at her recent appearance on Lock Upp 2. Her post read, “I would have really respected our dear PM more if there was calling out of police for openly, inappropriately touching women during the protests as he is offended by the use of gaalis. He himself said these are kids. But the police is appointed to protect and abide by the law. So why is there no accountability there.” She went on to add, “Bhumi Pednekar Lock Upp pe bhi scripted thi aur protests ko lekar bhi. Gooda nahi hai toh chup rehna best hai behen.” Sharing

her note on Instagram, she wrote in her caption, “Terrorizing teenagers and women cements patriarchy and as always pushing the focus on religion or now sankaar rather than really focusing on the deep rooted corruption and economic crisis India is drowning under. Lack of accountability of police’s action of touching women inappropriately and hitting on their private parts is our sanskar?”



Waah re waah. Jai hind. “Bhumi recently appeared on the Judgment Day episode of Lock Upp 2, hosted by Farah Khan and Riteish Deshmukh. She was joined by Huma Qureshi as Janta Ki Awaaz. The row erupted after Bhumi Pednekar posted a video on social media condemning the use of abusive remarks allegedly directed at Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the protest. She said, “Looking at the videos surfacing now, the kind of language being used, and the way the youth of our country are speaking — the youth of our country... this isn’t how we talk, man.



Farah Khan Explains How ‘Dard-E-Disco’ Came Into Being: ‘There Was A Party At Sonu Nigam’s House...’



Director-choreographer Farah Khan recently shared how the song ‘Dard-E-Disco’ came into existence. Farah recently paid a visit to music composer Shekhar Ravjiani at his farmhouse. During their conversation, the director-choreographer brought up the subject of the song, as she said, “What about ‘Dard-E-Disco’? How did you get the idea of ‘Dard-E-Disco’? You, me and Vishal were together. There was a party at Sonu Nigam’s house. And you all were telling me that Bhushan Kumar is very clear about one thing that there are two types of songs that work the most in India, painful songs and disco songs.

Shekhar said, “So Farah came and said give me a song called ‘Dard-E-Disco’”. Farah then said, “Correct. And then from there we took it to Javed uncle. And then we gave him all those. San Francisco, 26 ko”.

Shekhar chimed in, as he said, “That was all your beauty”. The director added, “And then we told him please write the song as Gulzar sahab would write it”. ‘Dard-E-Disco’ featured in the Shah Rukh Khan-starrer ‘Om Shanti Om’. The song was crooned by Sukhwinder Singh, with music composed by Vishal–Shekhar and lyrics by Javed Akhtar. It emerged as an instant chartbuster. The song is especially remembered for Shah Rukh Khan’s striking physical transformation and charismatic performance, which set new fitness trends in Bollywood.

Its vibrant choreography, glamorous visuals and catchy beats made it a staple at parties, award shows and stage performances. Even years later, the song remains a fan favourite and a defining Bollywood dance anthem.

Ramayana: Ameesha Patel Defends Ranbir Kapoor's Casting As Lord Ram, Says 'Film Dekhna Baaki Hai'



Ever since the release of Ramayana trailer, social media is divided over the casting of Ranbir Kapoor as lord Ram. While some feel that the actor is playing the part perfectly, others argue that Kapoor lacks charm and simplicity needed for Ram’s character. Amid all this, Ameesha Patel has now urged everyone to wait for the Nitesh Tiwari’s directorial to hit theatres before judging Ranbir or any other actor from the film.

“Acha laga... I hope acha jaaye, kyuki yeh humari ek ethaasik kahani hai... mythological epic hai... bachpan se hum log Ramanand Sagar ji ki ‘Ramayan’ dekh rahe hai... Toh woh benchmark ek humare dimag me hai... So I hope... Wishing the team all the best (It looked good. I hope the film does well because it’s a historical story for us... a mythological epic. We’ve all grown up watching Ramanand Sagar’s ‘Ramayan’, so that’s the benchmark we have in our minds. I hope everything goes well, and I wish the entire team all the best),” Ameesha Patel said while speaking to the paparazzi in Mumbai on Tuesday, as quoted by The Indian Express.

“Mujhe lagta hai har ek ne apna kirdar ache tarike se kiya hai, and abhi film dekhna baaki hai, toh film dekh ke pata chalega ki kaise dikhenge... Bohot mushkil hai sabke liye yeh kirdar, you know... Purane ‘Ramayan’ ko beat karna... Ek task hai... Everyone has worked very hard... So I wish them well (I think everyone has played their respective characters well. We still have to watch the film, so only after seeing it will we know how everything comes together on screen. These roles are very challenging for everyone, you know. Surpassing the old Ramayan is a huge task. Everyone has worked very hard, so I wish them all the very best),” the actress replied.

Ramanand Sagar’s Grandson Reacts To Ramayana Trailer

Previously, in a video shared on Instagram, Shiv Sagar reacted to Nitesh Tiwari’s Ramayana trailer and said, “I saw the trailer that was released yesterday, and of course, the trailer was much better than the teaser because the previous teaser they had put out had very little information. This was a longer trailer where we could see more of the characters, more of the VFX, and there was also the reveal of Ravan, who is played by Yash.” However, he also admitted that he was unsure about Ranbir Kapoor’s casting as Lord Rama. “But I did not really care much for some of the other actors. I felt that, typically, what we have done is always cast a fresh face for a character like Ram. Because Ranbir has a lot of baggage with him, especially after Animal, I really don’t know if he will be accepted as Ram,” he added.

The science behind a Happy Marriage

They say opposites attract. Like ones, repel. However, marriage is a different set of algorithms. It's far more complex, and calculated. Relationship counsellors claim that there are measures to make this fragile bond an ever lasting one. Here are six tried-and tested methods. Spend similar

If you like to keep your wardrobe up to date with the latest fashion magazine in sight, and he prefers to live off his four pairs of jeans and shirts, this, according to the laws of love, is detrimental to your marriage. A recent study suggested that people who were financial opposites had greater conflicts over money and lower marital satisfaction in the end than those whose spending tendencies were similar. Even though a spendthrift will have greater debt when married to someone similar than when married to a tightwad, the spender is less likely to argue about money with the partner.

Be grateful about us

Be grateful for what you have, and the Universe will give you more opportunities and situations to be grateful for. Most feel gratitude, but seldom relay these feelings to their partners, assuming he or she just knows. Individuals who feel appreciated by their partners often hold less

resentment over any imbalance in labour and more satisfaction with their relationships.

A study also suggested, spouses who use couple focused words such as 'we,' 'our' and 'us' when talking about a conflict show more affection, fewer negative behaviours such as anger, and lower physiological stress levels during the disagreement. Using words that expressed separateness, such as 'I', 'you', and 'me', during the discussion was associated with dissatisfaction.

Have a rollicking time in bed

You've likely met a neurotic in your lifetime, the person who gets upset easily, often has mood changes and worries constantly. Turns out, that personality trait doesn't mix well in relationships and is strongly tied to negative marital outcomes than any other personality type. Frequent sex could be a solution. Even if the sex isn't good now, keep at it: Another study found, it may get better with age. Men in their 50s are more satisfied with their sex lives than men in their 30s and 40s as it increases the bond.

Make it quick



If your spouse puts you off you now, the future is bleak. According to a study showing that couples view one another as more irritating and demanding, the longer they are together. Researchers asked 800 individuals about their level of negativity towards their partner, children and friends. Spouses and partners took the top slot as the most annoying. And the negative views of spouses tended to increase over time. However, that increase in negativity could be a normal part of relationships.

Be strong

While on the subject of spouses driving one



another mad, not to worry, says a researcher who has found that some marriages actually thrive on negative behaviours. For couples with serious problems, the best way to breed a happier marriage, it seems is by placing blame on each other, telling the other person to change, and being less forgiving. In fact, a research has found that if unhappy couples practise same positive thoughts about behaviours, their relationships seem to get worse over time. There is evidence to suggest placing blame and other negative exchanges can motivate partners to change. A research suggests marriage counsellors might do well to encourage troubled couples to be more critical of one another.

Work hard at it

Love can stand the test of time if you apply elbow grease. In a study, researchers analysed surveys of several people, including new relationships and marriages that had lasted at least 20 years. A high number of people were still much in love with their long-term partners, though the researchers drew a distinction between romantic love, which can endure, and passionate or obsessive love, which tends to fade away soon.

The key to keeping that romance alive: hard work.

Research has suggested these couples spend time and care about the relationship; they seem to be able to resolve conflicts relatively smoothly. Studies have also shown novel experiences can stimulate the production of the neuro-chemicals dopamine and norepinephrine, which show up in the brain in the early, blissful stages of a relationship.



Pamper your pets with the best care this winter



If it is too cold for you to stand at the door without your coat, it is probably too cold for your pet as well. Though some breeds have dense undercoats that protect them against very cold temperature these days there are insulated coats available for the other breeds. "As it is cold I purchased coats for my dog and they are quite useful. After all Brownie (her Pomeranian) is also a part of the family," said Rajni Kharbanda, a homemaker. "For some, pet booties, jackets, scarves and caps might seem silly but these come in very handy for protecting your pet from the harsh winters," she added. Limiting your pet's time outdoors on cold days is certainly the most important

thing to do this winter. And doing that is very easy; just provide your four-legged companion with a warm and cozy indoor shelter. A comfortable chair, basket or even a box is all he needs to make a perfect bed. If keeping your pet indoors doesn't work for you, then make sure that their surroundings are lined with old rugs and linen to keep them warm.

Your pet needs to remain hydrated as he can get dehydrated just as quickly in the winter as summer. The water in the bowl kept outside can turn icy cold and the pet might not feel like drinking it. So keep replenishing the bowl after regular intervals. Another important aspect to keep in mind

is that animals move around lesser during winters and so they need less food to eat.

Dr Dipti Barve, a dentist and proud owner of Alan, a Great Dane and Simba, a Labrador, informed, "Although your pet needs an extra layer to keep warm during winters, they don't need extra layers of fat. In fact, they move around lesser in the winters, so they need a little less food. I always feed my dogs with the highest quality natural pet food available to ensure they have a healthy coat and energy levels during winters."

Your pet won't mind if its cold and dark because he still needs to be taken for a walk. Likewise bathing your pet is also absolutely needed.

Ask your vet on the frequency of giving your pet a bath. Apurva Jain, a student, shared, "I make sure I bathe my pet and spend quality time with him in the mornings so that he gets ample amount of sunshine to dry up." This is important because otherwise your pet will often seek heat by snuggling too close to heating sources like fire places, space heaters and lamps that pose a major threat to them.

With the increasing number of pets and pet owners, pet grooming has taken centre stage. Priyanka Kharbanda, another pet owner, said "I plan to start a grooming salon and spa services for pets. Dog training

As winter sets in, everyone is busy pulling out shawls, coats and heaters out of storage. But for pet lovers, winter care for their furry pals can be a complicated matter. To help their pets in bearing the chilly winters of the city, Nashikites are giving an extra dose of care to them.

and day care facilities at affordable rates is also the need of the hour." Dr Patil, a vet from the city, informed, "Fever, cough, constant sneezing and nose discharge are the most common problems among cats and dogs during this season. To prevent these, taking utmost care of your pet is necessary." So this winter, make sure your furry friend gets most of your attention and the best perks to stay healthy and enjoy the season.

Tough jobs may protect memory

If you hate your job because it requires complex work with other people or data, you may now discard the negative thoughts as researchers have found that complex jobs help people retain their memory and thinking skills even after retirement.

The study found that people who held jobs with higher levels of complexity with data and people, such as management and teaching, had better scores on memory and thinking tests. "These results suggest that more stimulating work environments may help people retain their thinking skills, and that this might be observed years after they have retired," said study author Alan Gow from Heriot-Watt University in Edinburgh, Scotland.

"Our findings have helped to identify the kinds of job demands that preserve memory and thinking later on," Gow added. For the study, the researchers tested memory and thinking abilities of 1,066 Scottish people with an average age of 70. The tests looked at memory, processing speed and general thinking ability. Researchers also gathered information about the jobs participants held. The job titles were assigned scores to the complexity of work with people, data and things. For example, complex jobs might involve coordinating or synthesizing data, while less complex jobs might involve copying or comparing data. In terms of working with others, more complex roles might involve instructing, negotiating or mentoring, while less complex jobs might involve taking instructions or helping. The analysis used levels of complexity according to the Dictionary of Occupational Titles.

Examples of jobs that score highly for the complexity of work with people are: lawyer, social worker, surgeon. Examples of jobs that score highly for the complexity of work with data are: architect, civil engineer, graphic designer or musician.

