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Jairam Ramesh urges NGT to make Great Nicobar project review report public

New Delhi. (Agency)

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Sunday urged the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to make public a High-Powered Committee report reviewing the environmental clearances granted for the Great Nicobar Island Project, which he described as "ecologically disastrous".

Ramesh said the report, submitted to the NGT in a sealed cover on July 8, 2025, should be released and claimed it would be found to be "deeply flawed".

His remarks came ahead of the Lok Sabha taking up the Tribunals Reforms Bill, 2026, which seeks to overhaul the functioning of 16 tribunals, including the NGT.

In a post on X, Ramesh said the Bill seeks to implement the Supreme Court's directions in its November 19, 2025, judgment in the Madras Bar Association case.

The court had struck down key provisions of the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021, and called for an independent National Tribunals Commission.

5.14L enrolled in Delhi Lakshmi Yojana scheme

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Delhi government's Delhi Lakshmi Yojana has received more than 5.14 lakh registrations within seven days of its launch on August 1, with over 2.18 lakh applications finally submitted, officials said. As of Saturday afternoon, 5,14,460 women had registered under the scheme. Of these, 4,36,316 had entered their district or Assembly constituency details, while 78,144 had not yet provided the information.

A total of 2,18,728 applications had been finally submitted. The North-East district recorded the highest number of registrations at 73,676, followed by North-West with 55,700 and West with 44,358. New Delhi recorded the lowest number at 5,573.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said the response to the scheme reflected growing trust among women and the government's commitment to their economic empowerment. She said the scheme aims to provide financial assistance while promoting savings, digital financial inclusion, social security and long-term financial stability.

Under the scheme, eligible women will receive Rs 2,500 per month. They can choose between receiving Rs 1,000 in a Central Bank Digital Currency wallet for daily expenses and Rs 1,500 in an RD/FD, or depositing the entire.

Those insulting national symbols can't be allowed to live in India: Yogi Adityanath

New Delhi. (Agency)

Yogi Adityanath flagged off a Tiranga Yatra in Lucknow on the 101st Kakori anniversary. He used the march to invoke patriotism, honour martyrs and mobilise support before Independence Day.

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday said people living in India cannot be allowed to insult the country's symbols, great personalities, the national anthem and the national song. He made the remarks in Lucknow before flagging off a Tiranga Yatra to mark the 101st anniversary of the Kakori Train Action and ahead of Independence Day.

The march was led by Adityanath from the chief minister's residence at 5, Kalidas Marg to the Vidhan Bhavan, with Uttar Pradesh BJP president Pankaj Chowdhury, deputy chief ministers Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brijesh Pathak, and thousands of young participants joining in. Adityanath said the yatra was meant to honour freedom fighters and

martyrs and to carry forward the message of putting the nation first. "We are all grateful to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has ensured greater respect for India's



national symbols and enhanced the dignity of the national anthem and national song by classifying insults against them as cognisable and punishable offences. People can no longer be allowed to live in India while insulting the country's

symbols, its great personalities, its national anthem, and its national song," Adityanath told the gathering,

He said the national flag symbolised India's simplicity, development and heritage, and its "aan, baan and shaan". The chief minister paid tribute to freedom fighters including Ram Prasad Bismil, Thakur Roshan Singh and Ashfaqullah Khan, and said they had shaken the foundations of British rule through the Kakori Train Action in 1925. He said, "Today is also the 101st sacred anniversary of the Kakori Train Action. On this occasion, the BJP is starting Tiranga Yatras across the country to express gratitude towards the great revolutionaries and freedom fighters." He also recalled the sacrifice of soldiers after Independence and said, "This Tiranga Yatra is an expression of gratitude towards all those martyrs and a resolve to carry forward Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of 'nation first'."

Chidambaram backs Rahul Gandhi, calls women's quota-delimitation link mischievous

New Delhi. (Agency)

P Chidambaram's intervention came a day after Rahul Gandhi and Kiren Rijiju traded barbs over the women's quota and the Centre's move to link its rollout to delimitation.

Senior Congress leader P Chidambaram on Sunday backed Rahul Gandhi in his war of words with Union Minister Kiren Rijiju over women's reservation, accusing the Centre of "unnecessarily and mischievously" linking its implementation to the contentious delimitation exercise. The Rajya Sabha MP said Rijiju was "wrong" to suggest that the Congress needed to support a

Women's Reservation Bill, pointing out that the law providing 33 per cent reservation



for women in the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies had already been passed in 2023 as the 106th

Constitutional Amendment.

"The Women's Reservation Bill was passed in 2023. It was unnecessarily and mischievously linked to the Census and Delimitation by the BJP government," Chidambaram said in a post on X.

"We had pointed this out in 2023, but the government was adamant because it had a hidden agenda. Snap this linkage," he added, arguing that the quota could be implemented before the 2029 Lok Sabha elections.

Gen Z our children, some people misled them during NEET protests: Dharmendra Pradhan

Bhubaneswar. (Agency)

Former Education Minister and senior BJP leader Dharmendra Pradhan on Saturday said some people had tried to "mislead" Gen Z during the protests over the NEET paper leak issue, which led to his resignation. Breaking his silence on the matter, Pradhan said the ministerial post had never been important to him, and he had himself approached Prime Minister Narendra Modi with an offer to resign from the Union Council of Ministers. Pradhan made the remarks

while addressing students and teachers at GM University in Bhubaneswar, exactly



two weeks after stepping down amid the Cockroach Janta Party-led student protests at Delhi's iconic Jantar Mantar

over the NEET paper leak row. He resigned from the ministry on July 25.

"Gen Z is our children. Some people attempted to mislead them. I had no personal issues then. At least two crore children are born in India every year. During the last 10 years, 20 crore children were born. They have aspirations, and they will make India a 'Vishwa Guru'. The post was not important to me," Pradhan said. At another meeting in Rairakhol, Pradhan also hit out at former Odisha Chief Minister and BJD president Naveen Patnaik, saying he was not disturbed by protests by BJD workers and slogans asking him to "go back".

E20 will hurt India's economy: Arvind Kejriwal intensifies attack on govt

New Delhi. (Agency)

AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday stepped up his attack on the Centre's E20 petrol policy, warning that it could hurt the economy if concerns among car buyers continued to grow.

Responding to a post on X claiming that inventories of petrol cars were piling up at dealerships as buyers shifted towards CNG and electric vehicles over concerns around E20 petrol, Kejriwal said people had "stopped buying petrol cars" and urged the government to reverse its ethanol policy.

"People have stopped buying petrol cars. Govt should reverse its ethanol policy. Else it will hurt economy very badly," Kejriwal wrote.

His remarks came days after AAP intensified its campaign against E20 petrol, with Kejriwal leading a march towards the Prime Minister's residence on Tuesday carrying 2.38 lakh petitions collected from across the country.

The delegation was stopped by Delhi Police near Firoz Shah Road, following which Kejriwal and other AAP leaders staged a sit-in on the road.

Police later took possession of the petitions after the delegation was informed that Prime Minister Narendra Modi would not meet them. Kejriwal subsequently said the petitions had been sent to the Prime Minister's Office.

Mayawati attacks RSS chief for linking reservation to rising bitterness in society

The BSP chief also strongly opposed applying the "creamy layer" principle to reservations for SCs and STs, arguing that reservation was linked not merely to economic status but to social transformation, dignity and self-respect.

Lucknow (Agency)

BSP chief Mayawati on Sunday tore into RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat over his remarks on reservation, accusing him of betraying a "casteist mindset" and warning against any move to dilute the existing quota system for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Mayawati was responding to Bhagwat's remarks that reservation had been politicised, creating bitterness in society, and that those who no longer needed its benefits should voluntarily give them up. She said such a position might suit narrow political interests but would weaken the constitutional objective of social justice.

"Caste discrimination cannot be measured merely through economic progress. Its impact continues to affect every aspect of the lives of those who have suffered from it," Mayawati said in a post on X.

MAYAWATI OPPOSES 'CREAMY LAYER' FOR SCs, STs

The BSP chief also strongly opposed applying the "creamy layer" principle to reservations for SCs and STs, arguing that reservation was linked not merely to economic status but to social transformation, dignity and self-respect.

She described reservation as an



especially for those who had faced discrimination, exploitation and exclusion for generations.

"Reservation is essentially about giving millions of people who have been victims of the caste system for centuries, and who have been exploited, oppressed, neglected and ostracised, their constitutional and legal right to equality on humanitarian grounds," she said.

Mayawati argued that introducing a creamy layer for SCs and STs would run contrary to the humanitarian objectives of the Constitution drafted under the leadership of Dr B R Ambedkar.

ASKS CENTRE TO ARGUE CASE STRONGLY IN COURT

Mayawati said successive governments at

the Centre were aware of the "ground reality" surrounding caste discrimination and urged the present government to effectively argue before the courts for keeping SCs and STs outside the creamy layer framework.

"If the government, based on valid arguments, effectively presents its case and persuades the court to keep the SC and ST communities outside the creamy layer, it would be entirely appropriate and constitutional," she said.

She also alleged that weak government responses and ineffective legal representation had, at times, prevented courts from delivering proper justice on matters linked to social transformation.

News box

Man stabbed to death after objecting to teen’s smoking, accused held

Noida.(Agency)

A 28-year-old was stabbed to death by a 17-year-old boy in Faridabad’s Om Enclave on Friday night, with his family alleging he was attacked after asking the teenager not to smoke. Police have apprehended the juvenile but say the motive is still under investigation.The incident occurred around 11pm when Kishori was standing near his house talking to his friend Anil. The teen approached, pulled out a cigarette and asked Anil for a matchbox. According to Anil, Kishori told him not to smoke, prompting the minor to hurl abuses, which led to a heated exchange. The boy left but returned a short while later, allegedly pulled out a knife and stabbed Kishori in the neck and stomach before fleeing.Anil and other friends rushed Kishori to Palla civil hospital, where doctors gave him initial treatment before referring him to AIIMS, Delhi. He died on the way. Relatives said he worked for a private company and was the family’s sole support.“He had done nothing wrong and had only asked the accused not to smoke,” Kishori’s elder sister told.

8-year-old Ghaziabad boy tries to unplug charging e-scooter, electrocuted

Noida.(Agency)

An eight-year-old boy was allegedly electrocuted while trying to unplug an electric scooter in Ankur Vihar.The child, Yug alias Kunal, was alone at his home in Chaman Vihar Colony when the incident took place around 9am on Friday. His parents were at Mathura to attend the last rites of a relative. Police said Yug approached the e-scooter, which had been left charging on the verandah, and while trying to remove the charger, came into contact with an exposed or faulty part of it. He suffered a severe electric shock and collapsed unconscious. A cousin spotted him and rushed to help, but found Yug entangled in the charger wire. While trying to free him, the cousin also received an electric shock



but escaped without serious injury. Yug was rushed to Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital in Delhi, where doctors declared him dead on arrival and informed the Ankur Vihar police station about the incident.Police said the circumstances leading to the electric shock are being examined. They said it is not yet clear if the scooter was being charged from an ordinary socket. It typically requires a high-power 16-ampere socket with proper earthing to prevent overheating and fire risks. The scooter was from a local brand. It had been parked outdoors and police suspect that the child had been playing with the socket before he got electrocuted.

‘Will cut gas line’: 2 lose 30 to IGL bills scam

Noida.(Agency)

A group of cybercriminals allegedly cheated elderly residents in three separate incidents in Noida and the National Capital Region using fake bill notices and an unauthorised credit card transaction. In two of the cases, fraudsters posed as employees of a cooking gas distribution company and threatened the victims with disconnection within two hours over allegedly unpaid bills.In the first case, on Jan 12, a person claiming to be an IGL employee called a retired bank official from Greater Noida and told him that his gas connection would be disconnected if the dues were not cleared. The caller also sent him an APK file purportedly containing a copy of the bill. The complainant, however, told the caller that he had regularly paid his bills and showed the receipt as proof over a video call. The following night, between 8 pm and 9 pm, the complainant received six messages informing him that Rs 10 lakh had been withdrawn from his bank account.In a similar case, a doctor from Greater Noida was contacted on Nov 30, 2025, on the pretext of an IGL bill. He was sent an APK file, after which Rs 20 lakh was transferred from his bank accounts.In yet another case, a retired IRS officer and former principal chief commissioner of income tax lost \$586.23 (around Rs 55,000) from his credit card through an unauthorised transaction while he was visiting Meerut. The victim received a message at around 12:27 pm regarding a \$586.23 payment through his HSBC Premier credit card to Hertz, a car rental company.

Bandhwari leachate flows towards Mangar after heavy rain

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Leachate from Bandhwari landfill has started flowing towards Mangar village after heavy rain, with MCG’s move to dump soil along the front side of the landfill failing to stop the discharge from spilling onto the road. The contaminated flow has instead found a new route downhill, moving through the Johar nullah towards the Johar bandh — barely 600 metres from Mangar habitation, which abuts Mangar Bani, one of the Aravalis’ last remaining forest groves — raising concerns over the village’s water sources, environmentalists said.“This is a serious threat to Mangar village. Bandhwari has already suffered

contamination and now the pollution is moving towards Mangar. MCG needs to act before this contaminates the village’s groundwater and borewells,” said environmentalist and Mangar resident Sunil Harsana.“We received information about the issue and have diverted the leachate to the ponds in the landfill. It would have happened due to excessive rainfall,” an MCG official said.“This is not the first time that leachate has moved towards Mangar. We saw this happening around three to four years ago as well. At that time too, the contamination happened in Mangar. Pollution Control Board should conduct a site inspection and take samples,”

environmentalist Vaishali Rana said.The latest flow lends fresh weight to an admission MCG made before



National Green Tribunal in July, when TOI reported that the corporation had acknowledged that runoff from Bandhwari landfill flows into the adjoining Aravali forest during

periods of heavy and prolonged rain.According to MCG’s affidavit, rainwater from the rear of the landfill drains into low-lying forest areas, while infrastructure meant to permanently prevent such contamination was still being planned or built.“During heavy and prolonged rains, the surface run off rain water from the landfill site (back side) drains into the low-lying area of forest land behind the site. In this regard, the agency which has been awarded tender for processing of legacy waste has installed 2 sets of trommel to process the waste from this side (forest/pond) and to create a buffer zone of about 1 to 2 acres along the forest area.

School bus, Fortuner submerged in separate incidents at Old Faridabad underpass

Gurgaon.(Agency)

A school bus and a Fortuner got submerged in the Old Faridabad railway underpass in separate incidents on Friday, after continuous rain left the stretch several feet underwater. Police and locals rescued the bus staff and an elderly man trapped inside the SUV. There were no children on the bus.The first incident occurred on Friday afternoon, when the school bus entered the waterlogged underpass. As water levels rose around the vehicle, the staff climbed onto its roof to save themselves. Police reached the spot on being alerted and safely rescued them.The second incident took place around 7pm, when the Fortuner entered the underpass despite locals trying to stop the driver, by which point around 25-30 feet of



water had accumulated. Police said the SUV entered from the Women Police Station, Sector 21 side. The vehicle got stuck in the deep water, and the driver — aged around 60 — began drowning after the car’s manual controls stopped functioning, locking the doors and windows and trapping him inside.Locals and police launched a

rescue operation, during which a youth broke the SUV’s window with his foot to pull the driver out, injuring his leg in the process. A fire department vehicle also joined the operation. The driver was taken to a private hospital near Neelam Chowk and put on ventilator support. The Fortuner remained submerged in the underpass, with efforts underway to pull it out.Delivery orker electrocuted in SehaturSeparately, a 26-year-old delivery worker died after coming into contact with an electric pole in Sehatur on Friday evening, amid heavy rain and waterlogging in the area.Ramkhelawan, who worked for Blinkit and lived in Chetan Market, was riding his motorcycle towards Sehatur around 5pm to deliver goods when he came into contact with the pole and suffered a shock.

No windows, no AC: NCPCR seeks probe after parents say classes held in

Noida.(Agency)

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has written to the district magistrate seeking a probe into allegations that nearly 40 students of Bal Bharti Public School in Sector 21 were forced to attend classes in a basement room that lacked proper ventilation and had no windows. The action comes after parents claimed students of Class VIII-D had to endure extreme heat and humidity as the classroom’s air conditioner (AC) remained defunct for the past several days. This was despite the school

charging an additional Rs 500 per month from July 1 for its 24 air-conditioned classrooms, saying the amount would cover installation, electricity, maintenance and repair costs.“Despite full tuition and AC fees being paid, air conditioners are constantly out of order, causing children to suffocate in the intense heat. The application is self-explanatory and may be reviewed,” NCPCR said in a letter to district magistrate Medha Roopam on Aug 7. The child rights panel also raised concerns about compliance with fire-safety norms and sought an

investigation into the allegations and a report.The district administration has now sought a report from Noida Authority, even as the district inspector of schools has served a notice to Bal Bharti’s management seeking their response within the stipulated period.Roopam told that the complaints had not been raised during the recent district fee regulatory committee meeting. “During the DFRC meeting, no such complaints were brought to our notice. However, now Noida Authority and the police department have been informed about it.

Why some Gurgaon underpasses flood and others don’t

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

A contrasting picture has emerged across the city’s underpasses this monsoon — some were inundated and had to be shut temporarily, while others continued handling traffic despite the same spell of intense rain. The difference is starkest on Golf Course Road, where underpasses that faced waterlogging in past years have since seen drainage and engineering interventions, and stayed relatively clear through the recent downpour. At least three underpasses — Medanta Road, Bajghera and IFFCO Chowk — were disrupted in the recent spell. NHAI shut the Medanta and IFFCO Chowk underpasses after they flooded, while traffic at Bajghera was stopped for three hours as flood barriers and sandbags went up to keep water out.The city has a network of 24 underpasses across national highways, expressways and arterial roads, maintained by different agencies including NHAI, PWD, GMDA and DLF. On Delhi-Gurgaon Expressway, these include Rajiv Chowk, Hero Honda Chowk, Medanta Road, Signature Towers, Ambience Mall and IFFCO Chowk. Subhash

Chowk and Vatika Chowk lie on Sohna Highway. Dwarka Expressway corridor has underpasses at Bajghera, sectors 109/110 and 88B, Kherki Majra, and the Trumpet interchange. Golf Course Road alone has seven — at Sikanderpur, Shankar Chowk, DLF-1, Genpact and Cyber City, besides two DLF Cyber City U-turn underpasses. Additional underpasses exist at Atul Kataria Chowk, Mahavir Chowk, Dhanwapur and Millennium City Centre.The recent incidents suggest flooding isn’t linked to rainfall intensity alone, but to a combination of factors — drainage arrangements, surrounding topography, the volume and direction of surface runoff entering the structure, sump capacity, and the capacity and functioning of pumping systems and the receiving stormwater network.NHAi attributed the waterlogging at Medanta Road to backflow of surface-drain water into the underpass through the faulty sump-pump system, rather than seepage. The authority said the problem would be addressed by installing a non-return valve in the sump pumps to prevent it from recurring.Bajghera presents a

different challenge. NHAI said stormwater from the ROB side, along Bajghera road, flows towards the underpass because of the natural ground slope, with surrounding developed areas at a higher elevation adding to the runoff.



The situation is compounded by the lack of a proper inlet into GMDA drain. “With the drain already running at full capacity, it was unable to take additional runoff from the road, resulting in water accumulating outside the underpass,” an NHAI official said. The underpass has faced waterlogging during heavy rain for the past two years, since Dwarka Expressway opened. NHAI deployed flood barriers and sang bags. Traffic was restricted

for three hours as water levels failed to recede even after the rain stopped. While such measures protect the structure during heavy rainfall, they remain a temporary response rather than a permanent fix.The pumping infrastructure also points to why individual underpass.

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Press Area, ITO, New Delhi
Editor-in-Chief
Gurcharan Singh Babbar
Mob : 9654077232, 9971359517
Website : www.thesikhtimes.in
Email : sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

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NGT seeks states' response on tree protection framework

The Sikh Times

New Delhi: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has directed states and Union Territories to review and submit their responses within four weeks to the Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB) final report on strengthening tree protection and conservation frameworks. The CPCB, in its final report dated May 21, recommended that states and Union Territories without a legal framework for tree protection should establish one, while those with existing laws should align them with the objectives of the National Forest Policy, 1988. The report emphasised the need for robust enforcement mechanisms, the use of modern technologies for monitoring, and adequate staffing and resources for effective implementation. According to the report, "States and UTs not having a legal framework at

present for promoting the growth of trees and enabling protection should take up the process of establishing the required legal frame-



work." It further suggested that, "States/UTs with the existing legal framework may align with the broader objectives of national forest conservation efforts by integrating applicable advisories into their existing frameworks." The CPCB also advised that tree manage-

ment in non-forest areas should be governed by clear guidelines, including authorization for felling, preservation of heritage trees, and preparation of



plantation augmentation plans. It proposed that Tree Authorities should include representatives from government departments, urban planners,

ecologists, arborists, legal experts, NGOs, and community members for "a holistic approach to tree management." The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) has been asked to provide policy guidance, capacity-building support, and financial assistance under schemes such as the Green India Mission. The Tribunal directed that all respondents must also submit their views on the conduct of a tree census, including proposed modalities for its implementation, particularly in major urban local bodies (ULBs). The Bench noted that these measures were aimed at ensuring better coordination between central and state agencies and promoting effective monitoring of tree conservation across the country.

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

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

survival rates are exceedingly low. Against all odds, the baby was delivered, intubated immediately, and resuscitated in the delivery room. Despite being counselled about the poor prog-



nosis, the parents placed their trust in Dr Kishore's expertise and opted for full intensive care support. The team provided round-the-clock, meticulous care — the baby was ventilated, given early surfactant therapy, and placed on Parenteral Nutrition. By day 3, mother's own milk (MOM) was introduced, and by day 10, the baby was successfully weaned off invasive ventilation. After prolonged non-inva-

sive support using synchronised NIPPV and CPAP on an indigenous Optimedics ventilator, the baby was shifted to room air. Amazingly, during the entire NICU stay, not a sin-

gle drop of formula milk was used. The care approach included developmentally supportive care, kangaroo mother care, and exclusive use of mother's milk, which played a critical role in the baby's growth and neurological development. Cranial ultrasounds before discharge were normal, and LASER treatment for

Zone 2 Plus ROP was successfully completed. Dr Kishore said, "A perfect triad of medical excellence, nursing dedication, and parental trust. At 22 weeks, survival is not just about

machines or medicines — it's about a system that refuses to give up. Our nurses, associate consultants, and the parents stood by every single day. This is a victory for all of them."

15 years on, man held from Gujarat for murdering wife

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

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as ASHISH KUMAR RATHOR S/O PURAN LAL R/O Q-48, RAJEEV NAGAR BEGUM PUR, NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110088, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAZA AHMED.

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Cops yet to make any breakthrough

New Delhi: A day after a headless body of a woman with severed palms was found in a drain near the Sector 82 Cut in Noida, the police on Friday intensified their search to identify the deceased. They are also resorting to forensic examination and scanning CCTV footages to get lead in the case. Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police (ADCP) Sumit Shukla said three teams had been formed to identify the woman. They were awaiting the post-mortem report to determine the exact cause of death. Another official said it seems the woman was murdered around 24-30 hours ago and her body was dumped in the drain. The official said her palms might have been severed to hide her identification mark such as tattoos. However, the motive behind beheading her could only be established after a thorough investigation. A passer-by contacted the emergency helpline after spotting the body in an eight-foot-deep drain in a remote location near a high-rise residential building and Sector 108 park.

NAME CHANGE

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

NAME CHANGE

I, SH AUTAR SINGH FATHER OF JC-413677X Rank-SUB MAJ Name-BHAGAT SINGH presently residing at VILL-BILTIYA SOKOLI TALUQA-PO-DHAUNTAHAL, DIST-PAURI GARHWAL, UTTARAKHAND-246155 have changed my name from SH AUTAR SINGH to AVTAR SINGH for all future purposes vide affidavit dated 12/03/2024 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

NAME CHANGE

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

NAME CHANGE

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

NAME CHANGE

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

NAME CHANGE

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

Police arrest teenage realtor for gunning down gardener over closed gate in south Delhi

New Delhi: Santal, who also worked as a caretaker of the property, was shot in the chest. Police have arrested 19-year-old Piyush Yadav, a local real estate agent, for gunning down the older man. They said the incident took place around 2 am near the Shamshan Ghat in Dera village. "A police team rushed to the spot after receiving information that women were crying loudly in the neighbourhood. Upon reaching, it was found that a man had been shot and was lying motionless near the cremation ground," an officer said. An empty cartridge was recovered from the spot, he said. "During the investigation, it was revealed that the accused had a verbal altercation with the victim over the closing of a gate of the property. The altercation escalated, and in a fit of rage, Piyush allegedly shot Santal and fled the spot," the officer said. When questioned, Piyush confessed to the crime and led the police to the gun he had hidden in his house. Police said Santal took care of several properties in the vicinity, while Piyush Yadav ran his real estate business from Chhatarpur Phase 2. Santal's body was taken to Safdarjung Hospital for a post-mortem.

Delhi University rolls out 'zero tolerance' policy for campus defacement

New Delhi: With the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) elections for fast approaching, the university administration has announced a stringent "zero tolerance" policy against defacement, under the banner of its "Green Election, Clean Election" initiative. The announcement was made following a meeting on Tuesday, attended by the Chief Election Officer, members of the Proctorial Board, Maurice Nagar SHO, DUSU office bearers and student representatives. An official statement from the DU Election Committee said, "The committee also apprised the representative that there would be zero tolerance for defacement during the current DUSU elections." All candidates have been directed to use only handmade posters and to strictly adhere to specified campaign expenditure limits. The university's crackdown follows complaints from past years, when graffiti, unauthorised banners and posters covered walls, flyovers, and metro pillars across both North and South campuses. This year, authorities say, enforcement would be much more vigilant.

Panipat man charred to death, another injured as car catches fire after accident in Delhi

New Delhi: A 40-year-old man was charred to death while another was injured after their car caught fire following an accident in outer north Delhi's Hulambi Khurd area in the early hours of Sunday, an official said. The incident occurred around 2 am near Jhanda Chowk on Urban Extension Road II, under the jurisdiction of Narela Industrial Area police station, the official added. According to the police, a PCR call was received and a team rushed to the spot where they found a white Ertiga in a burnt condition. The driver was found dead, while another was rescued from the adjacent seat. He was injured. The driver was identified as Vipender and the injured as Jagbir, both residents of Haryana's Panipat, police added. Jagbir was immediately shifted to the SRHC Hospital in Narela, while the dead body was moved to the BJRM Hospital, a police officer said. Initial investigation suggests that the Haryana-registered SUV might have lost control and crashed before catching fire, though the exact cause is still under investigation, the officer said. A case has been registered, and further investigation is under way to ascertain the cause of the fire and the circumstances surrounding the accident, the officer added.

3 held for performing car stunts on road

New Delhi: The police have arrested three individuals for performing dangerous car stunts on a public road, after a video of the incident went viral on social media. Three vehicles used during the stunts have also been seized. According to the police, the video, which circulated widely online, captured the suspects engaging in risky behaviour near the Shobha City traffic signal in Sector 108, under the jurisdiction of Rajendra Park police station. In the footage, three young men were seen standing atop a moving car. Behind them, several others were spotted in 8 to 10 vehicles, with sunroofs open and some individuals emerging from windows while filming the stunt and performing hazardous manoeuvres. The arrested accused has been identified as Himanshu (22), a resident of Khaika village near Sohna, Sagar (24) and Kaushal (24), residents of Peeragarhi in Delhi. "The accused not only endangered their own lives but also put the safety of others at risk by performing these stunts on public roads," said a police spokesperson. "We have recovered three vehicles used in the act — two Mahindra Thars and one Toyota Fortuner. A further investigation is underway, and more arrests are expected soon."

NEWS BOX

Shanghai Cancels Over 1,300 Flights As China Prepares For Typhoon Dolphin

Beijing.(Agency)

Shanghai's two airports canceled more than 1,300 flights and authorities relocated some 300,000 people in surrounding regions as China prepared for Typhoon Dolphin, after the storm brought heavy rains to northern Taiwan. The outer bands of the storm on Saturday hit northern Taiwan, including the capital Taipei, bringing rain. Some Taiwanese airlines also canceled their flights to China Sunday. The storm's maimum sustained winds were estimated at about 162 kilometers per hour (101 mph) as of Sunday morning. It is bringing heavy rains, creating a risk of severe flooding as well as landslides and is expected to hit Zhejiang province and northern parts of neighboring Fujian province late Sunday. Forecasters in China predicted that areas could see 200-400 mm (7.9–15.7 inches) of rainfall over the next few days. Authorities are warning of severe landslide risks in Zhejiang. Shanghai's Hongqiao and Pudong airports respectively also canceled about 60% of Sunday's expected flights, according to the Paper, Shanghai's state media. On Saturday evening, authorities in Zhejiang evacuated some 390,000 people in the city of Taizhou. Authorities in Shanghai evacuated some 30,000 plus from riskier areas. Zhejiang authorities also suspended all water-based activities, including ferries and cruises.

Myanmar rejects ASEAN call for Aung San Suu Kyi's unconditional release

Bangkok.(Agency)

Myanmar's military-backed government has rejected ASEAN's renewed call for the complete and unconditional release of detained former leader Aung San Suu Kyi, and has also signalled that it does not see a need to continue with the regional bloc's special envoy mechanism beyond next year, according to the foreign affairs ministry. The response came after the Philippines, the current chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, welcomed a recent visit to Suu Kyi by a representative of the International Committee of the Red Cross as a step towards dialogue and reconciliation, while also urging wider access to political detainees. President Min Aung Hlaing, the former army chief who seized power in 2021 from Suu Kyi's civilian government, has been trying to gain political legitimacy since the takeover and restore ties with ASEAN. The regional bloc had adopted a peace plan for Myanmar in April 2021 to end hostilities and begin dialogue among rival sides, with the process to be facilitated by a special envoy. Min Aung Hlaing has since been barred from attending top-level ASEAN meetings for failing to comply with the plan. In what appeared to be an attempt to ease criticism, the government last week allowed an ICRC representative to visit 81-year-old Suu Kyi.

Ukraine denies targeting Bulgaria as drone explodes near pipeline

world.(Agency)

Ukraine on Saturday denied targeting Bulgaria after a drone exploded close to the strategic Trans-Balkan gas pipeline linking Turkey to Ukraine near the Romanian border. Bulgaria's defence ministry said the drone was of a type "widely used by the Ukrainian military", and the foreign minister summoned the Ukrainian ambassador for a meeting on Monday in response, her office told AFP. Kyiv said it was "in close contact with the Bulgarian side to clarify the circumstances" of the incident, the latest case of a drone straying into NATO airspace as Ukraine fights off Russia's invasion. "We can say with certainty that the Ukrainian Armed Forces did not intentionally direct any assets toward Bulgaria," Ukraine's foreign ministry spokesman Georgiy Tykhyi said, blaming Russia's invasion for the incident. While the explosion caused no casualties, Bulgarian Prime Minister Rumen Radev said the amount of explosives it was carrying was "significant". "The drone exploded in the immediate vicinity of the Kardam border-crossing with Romania," near the Black Sea in the country's northeast, "1,000 metres from the Trans-Balkan gas pipeline's compressor station," he said in a video released by the government. After analysing the debris from the crash, Bulgaria's defence ministry however said that "currently, nothing suggests that this was a deliberate incident". Romania border police recorded the sound of the drone, then a Bulgarian border police patrol spotted "a loud explosion accompanied by black smoke", Radev added, speaking after an extraordinary meeting of his cabinet's security council.

Canada Deports Over 3,000 Indian Nationals In First Half Of 2026: Report

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

Canada deported 3,323 Indian nationals in the first six months of 2026, putting the figure on track to surpass the last six years' record, according to official data. According to data from the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), the number of Indians removed from the North American country in the first half of this year is already nearly 88 per cent of the 3,779 removed during the whole of 2025, which was itself a record high. The data comes at a time when Canada has been tightening its immigration system and reducing the number of temporary residents, including international students and temporary foreign workers. Canada routinely

deports Indian nationals primarily due to non-compliance with immigration rules, rejected asylum or refugee claims, visa overstays and visa fraud scams. Indians emerged as the largest nationality among those removed from Canada in the first half of 2026, overtaking Mexicans with 1,573 deportations. Mexico topped Canada's list of nationalities for deportations in each of the last five years, with India ranking second during that period. India had last topped the list in 2020, when 1,424 Indian nationals were deported from Canada. In 2021, as many as 603 Indians were deported from Canada, followed by 786 in 2022. In 2023, the number rose to 1,132, and further to 2,004 in 2024, according to CBSA data. The CBSA maintains a



separate database on reasons for deportation, but that does not have a country-wise breakdown. Indians also accounted for the largest group in Canada's "removal in progress inventory", with 7,669 people awaiting removal, CBSA data showed. Canada enforces three broad categories of removal orders. Under a departure order, a person is

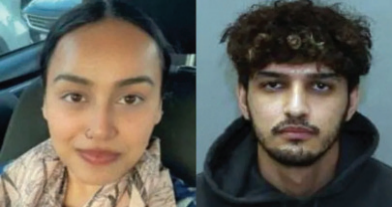
required to leave Canada voluntarily within 30 days, failing which it automatically becomes a deportation order. An exclusion order bars a person from returning to Canada for a specified period, generally between one and five years. A deportation order permanently bars re-entry unless the person obtains written authorisation from the Canadian government. Canada's deportation figure for this year is also more than two-and-a-half times the number of Indians deported by the United States to India. India's Ministry of External Affairs said last month that 1,273 Indian nationals had been deported from the US between January 1 and July 22.

Indian-Origin Woman's Partner Arrested 7 Months After Her Murder In Canada

world.(Agency)

A 32-year-old man has been arrested about seven months after his Indian-origin partner was found murdered in Canada's Toronto. Himanshi Khurana, 30, was found dead at a residence in Toronto on December 20, with police calling it an "act of intimate partner violence". Her partner, Abdul Ghafoori, also from Toronto, was then wanted by the police on the charge of first-degree murder. He was arrested on Friday at a Toronto airport, the police said in a statement on Saturday. Officers with Toronto's fugitive squad and homicide unit

coordinated with national and international police services to



bring him back to Canada, the statement added, without specifying the country he had been in. The Night Himanshi Khurana Was Murdered Himanshi Khurana was found dead on the night of December 19, in what was Toronto's 40th homicide case of 2025. Toronto Police said they

received information about a woman missing from the Strachan Avenue and Wellington Street West area at around 10:41 pm and launched a search operation. They found her body inside a house in the same area the next day at around 6:30 am. After initial nvestigation, the police declared it a homicide. As the investigation progressed, the police found out that Ghafoori and Khurana were in an "intimate partner relationship". They issued a countrywide warrant for his arrest and also released his photograph, appealing to the people to provide information about him.

Joe Biden's Prostate Cancer Spread To Bones, Son Says It's "Painful"

➔ In May 2025, just four months after he left office as the oldest sitting president, Joe Biden revealed he had been diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer that had spread to his bones.

United States.(Agency)

Former US president Joe Biden's cancer has metastasized further, according to his son Hunter Biden, who shared the update in a recent interview with the BBC. In May 2025, just four months after he left office as the oldest sitting president, the elder Biden revealed he had been diagnosed with an aggressive form of prostate cancer that had spread to his bones. He subsequently began treatment,



ranging interview published late Friday with BBC Newsnight, Hunter Biden said his father's disease has spread despite the treatment. The cancer has spread, is metastasized into his bones and further," Biden said.

"It's very painful, and it's very debilitating in many respects, but he's still out there. He's still doing his thing...he so believes in this country." Hunter Biden appeared to get emotional at times during the interview while discussing his father's health. "It's really, really hard, and it's really sad to watch," he added. Despite persistent questions about his health as the oldest-ever US president, Biden, then aged 81, decided to run for a second term in 2024. Following a disastrous debate performance against Donald Trump in June 2024 and a wave of pressure from Democrats, Biden withdrew from the presidential race. Trump went on to beat Biden's replacement candidate -- then-vice president Kamala Harris.



County sheriff and coroner. "The National Transportation Safety Board will investigate once its team can examine the wreckage. It will likely take the NTSB a year or more to determine the cause. Numerous fires also were burning in other parts of the West, including one that closed part of Mount Rainier National Park in Washington. The National Park Service shut down access to the Sunrise and White River areas of the park after a new wildfire burned less than a third of a square mile (less than a square kilometer). Firefighters were working to gain control of it. Larger fires near Spokane, Washington, have now burned more than 15.63 square miles (over 40 square kilometers), but firefighters constructed more than 75 miles (over 120 kilometers).

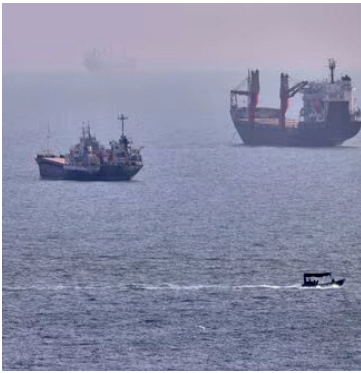
Iran links Hormuz reopening to US demands as Gulf security strains

World.(Agency)

Fresh tensions and political moves marked developments across the Middle East on Saturday, with Iran setting new conditions for reopening the Strait of Hormuz, the United Arab Emirates accusing Tehran of targeting one of its vessels, Yemen's military striking Houthi positions, and Turkiye moving ahead with a Kurdish peace bill. The Strait of Hormuz remained at the centre of attention as Iran said the waterway would not reopen until the United States "corrects its behaviour". At the same time, details emerged of a possible temporary Iran-Oman arrangement on navigation through the strait, while Turkiye said a new defence agreement with Saudi Arabia and Pakistan was not aimed at any third country. Iran's Supreme National

Security Council said the strait would not open until the US met a series of demands. In a statement carried by state media and attributed to the council's secretary, Mohammad Bagher Zolghadr, who is also a Revolutionary Guard commander, Iran said the US must never threaten it again, must permanently end the war with Iran and its armed allies in the region, lift the naval blockade of Iranian ports, withdraw its military from the area, "completely compensate" Iran for war damage, lift sanctions and "unconditionally" release frozen assets. The US had no immediate comment. Under the interim deal signed in June, a timetable for lifting sanctions and a plan on compensation were to be part of a final deal, while negotiations were also to cover frozen assets. Iran has said it was close to a

separate agreement with Oman to manage the strait, which lies between the two countries. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi said earlier on Saturday that they were close to an agreement on navigation, but added that reopening the waterway depended on other conditions and blamed the situation on what he called the US violation of the interim deal. Oman, which has been mediating, said talks were continuing "in a positive and constructive atmosphere" and condemned attacks on ships in the strait. According to two people familiar with the talks, who



spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to speak publicly, the temporary Iran-Oman arrangement would reopen the strait with ships entering through a route close to Iran and exiting through one close to Oman. Ships would not pay fees or tolls during the interim period. The agreement is intended to restore an earlier separate US-Iran understanding and restart a 60-day clock for talks on Iran's nuclear programme. During that period, Iran is expected to be able to sell oil. The current 60-day deadline for a final deal is due to end in just over a week.

Month-long stray dog vaccination drive launched by Tambaram corporation

CHENNAI.(Agency)

The Tambaram City Municipal Corporation (TCMC) has launched a month-long anti-rabies vaccination (ARV) drive for stray and pet dogs in the city, starting from Saturday. The drive is being conducted under the guidance of the corporation's public health department to prevent the spread of rabies and protect both people and animals.

Vaccination teams will visit different wards and administer the ARV vaccine to dogs. According to the corporation, the vaccination drive will continue on working days throughout August, free of cost. Residents have also been urged to cooperate with the vaccination teams when they visit their wards and help the corporation in its efforts to make Tambaram safer from rabies.

The corporation has appealed to residents to bring their pet dogs to the vaccination camps in their respective areas and get them vaccinated. It said regular vaccination of dogs would help reduce the risk of rabies and protect both people and animals. The civic body also plans to create awareness among residents and school students about rabies prevention and responsible care of dogs.

CM Seat Becho Yojna: Jharkhand students use satire to show discontent at protest

Ranchi.(Agency)

Protesting students in Jharkhand are using satire, posters, poetry and mock displays rather than abuse or violence to express anger over alleged irregularities in recruitment examinations. Their agitation, led by the JPSC-JSSC Reforms Manch, is centred on exam reforms and the cancellation of the 14th Jharkhand PSC Civil Services Examination, along with an independent probe into the alleged irregularities.

At the protest site, students have sought to keep the movement focused and non-abusive, while using sharp visuals and slogans to make their point. The demonstration entered its 16th day on Sunday.

At Jaipal Singh Munda Stadium in Ranchi, a weighing scale stacked with bundles resembling Rs 500 notes has been placed beside a mock "rate card" for government jobs. Some students have put up a mock "Naukri Bikri Kendra (Centre for Sale of Jobs)", listing an assistant teacher post at Rs 15 lakh, deputy superintendent of police at Rs 1.2 crore, block development officer at Rs 90 lakh and circle officer at Rs 1 crore, among others.

27 locations linked to banned Jamaat-e-Islami raided in J&K's Sopore

Srinagar.(Agency)

At least 26 locations were jointly raided by investigation agencies and security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district on Sunday as part of a crackdown on a suspected terror-linked network. The coordinated searches were carried out across the city of Sopore. The raids came following a case registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) against Jamaat-e-Islami (JeI). The raids were aimed at uncovering the activities of an alleged underground network associated with the banned outfit.

Earlier this year, on May 25, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) carried out a series of raids across the Kashmir Valley in connection with a terror-funding probe linked to JeI. Multiple educational institutions and the residence of a former chief of the proscribed outfit were searched back then.

The May raids were conducted at three locations in Srinagar and Shopian districts, where investigators recovered several incriminating financial documents and electronic gadgets suspected to be linked to the activities of JeI and its associated trusts and organisations in Jammu and Kashmir.

Railway Board clears CBTC signalling for Namma Metro's Pink, Blue lines

BMRL is following up with the Railway Board and RDSO in the last one month to facilitate completion of the approval process.

BENGALURU.(Agency)

The Railway Board has accorded In-Principle Approval for the CBTC (Communications Based Train Control) signalling and train control system for Namma Metro's Pink Line (Reach-6) as well as the entire Blue Line – Phase 2A and 2B extending up to Kempegowda International Airport (KIA). Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRL) said on Saturday that the approval is a step towards commissioning the Pink Line between Kalena Agrahara and Tavarekere. BMRL



is following up with the Railway Board and RDSO in the last one month to facilitate completion of the approval process. The approval also covers the Blue Line (Central Silk Board to KIA), while the

signalling clearance was a pending milestone for the Pink Line, for the Blue Line it was secured well in advance of its proposed commissioning, facilitating timely testing and safety certification, BMRL added. The corporation said, Pink Line will now proceed with the remaining steps towards commencement of passenger services: interim speed certification from RDSO, statutory inspection of the rolling stock by CCRS, trial runs, and thereafter the final statutory inspection and clearance for opening the line for public use.

New floating jetty will bring Fort Kochi closer for Onam tourists

Kochi.(Agency)

For visitors arriving by State Water Transport Department (SWTD) boats in Fort Kochi, accessing the beach or the main tourist attractions now involves a long walk. The new floating boat jetty at Kamalakadavu could change all that. The floating jetty, coming up near the Ro-Ro ferry jetty, is expected to start receiving SWTD services before Onam. Final electrical works are now under way at the jetty, which has been developed at the under-utilised Kamalakadavu boat jetty of Kochi corporation using Cochin Smart Mission Ltd (CSML) funds. “The department currently has no boat jetty in this part of Fort Kochi. The new facility is therefore expected to provide a



more direct connection between the mainland and the tourist core. It would provide daily commuters easy access to the bus stop, which is a 12-minute walk from Fort Kochi boat jetty. Tourists can also be dropped closer to places they intend to visit,” said Kalesh Kumar, an SWTD official. The new jetty adjusts to changing water levels making boarding and disembarking

more convenient during both high and low tides. “It can accommodate more than 100 people at a time and is designed exclusively for berthing SWTD boats. At present, all catamaran boats operated by the department in Ernakulam can berth there without any modifications,” officials said. After CSML hands over the facility to SWTD, the department will finalise service timings and schedules. It is expected to be operated between 8am and 8pm. The journey of passengers will begin at a ticket counter, located close to the old Kamalakadavu jetty. They will then proceed with tickets towards the floating facility. When a boat arrives, a gate watcher will carry out the necessary

Search for missing fishermen to be widened to TN's Ramanathapuram

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM.(Agency)

Even after nine days have passed, the search for the two fishermen who went missing on the shores of the capital city continues. The operations to trace Shijin, 32, from Muthalapozhi, and John Mathias from Vizhinjam, 54, are continuing amid families raising concerns that the search is inept to identify them. While Shijin's family members alleged that the Scuba diving team that was supposed to reach the site on Saturday early morning didn't reach Muthalapozhi on time. Meanwhile, the Fisheries Department is planning to expand the area of search to

Ramanathapuram according to the demands of the family members of the missing fishermen. Calling harsh weather the main challenge for the search operations, Chirayinkeezhu MLA



Ramya Haridas said that the Scuba teams have also conducted searches, as demanded by the people. “A team of four Scuba divers and a set of four local fishermen, as promised by the Church priest to

Minister C P John, did all possible searches. The waves at the estuary opening turn ferocious very often, and even our Scuba teams express concerns. Forecasts expect that the harsh climate will continue even on Sunday, but our Scuba team will reach here by 6.30 am itself, and we will continue the search,” Ramya told .Top officials from the Fisheries Department said that the state has initiated steps to increase the search area up to Ramanathapuram through the Chennai Coast Guard, as demanded by the natives. “The search at Vizhinjam will also go to the Thengapattanam route, and will continue with a marine ambulance on Sunday too. All our patrol boats are on the waters to trace the two missing fishermen,” she said.

From 30 bags to 200kg a day: Karnataka farmer turns mushrooom venture into thriving business

Recognising the importance of technical knowledge, Mahesh started organising training programmes for aspiring mushrooom growers in 2023.

BAGALKOT.(Agency)

What began as a small experiment with mushroom cultivation in 2021 has now become a flourishing business for Mahesh Kolar from Mudhol taluk. Mahesh now produces nearly 200kg of mushrooms every day and employs hundreds of people directly and indirectly in Bagalkot district. From struggling to find buyers in early years to becoming a resource person for agricultural universities and training institutions, Mahesh's journey is an inspiring example of how determination can turn challenges into opportunities. After completing his diploma in

agriculture, Mahesh started cultivating mushrooms. “I started mushroom cultivation in 2021 on a trial basis with just 30 bags. At that time, I harvested hardly 3kg of mushrooms a day. Today, I produce nearly 200 kg daily,” he told TNSE. For him, inspiration came from one of his relatives who attempted mushroom cultivation earlier and discontinued it after failing to find buyers. “My relative suffered losses as he could not market his produce. I took it as a challenge and created my own network to sell mushrooms,” he said. Before venturing into mushroom farming, Mahesh visited farms across



mushrooms on his motorcycle and rode almost 80km daily to sell them. “There were days when I spent long hours riding my bike carrying

Karnataka to gain practical knowledge. Initially, Mahesh carried fresh mushrooms looking for buyers. People were not familiar with mushrooms and were reluctant to buy them. I had to educate them about the nutritional benefits of mushrooms,” he said. Later, he set up stalls and approached various government departments, requesting permission to sell mushrooms during their exhibitions and other events. Eventually, Mahesh succeeded and people slowly began buying mushrooms. Realising that value-addition could significantly increase income and reduce post-harvest losses, Mahesh diversified into processing of mushrooms in 2024.

Chennai pulls up socks to face monsoon

CHENNAI.(Agency)

Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner GS Sameeran on Saturday reviewed several ongoing and proposed development projects across the city. He instructed the officials to expedite and complete all ongoing projects, particularly stormwater drain works, by the end of September, ahead of the northeast monsoon. As part of monsoon preparedness, Sameeran directed officials to keep high-capacity motor pumps, rainwater collection tanks and dewatering equipment ready. Relief centres and kitchens should also be kept prepared, while desilting of stormwater drains and silt catch pits, canal improvement works, and pruning of dangerous tree branches should be intensified. During the meeting at Ripon Building, Sameeran reviewed projects including construction of stormwater drains and desilting of silt catch pits and canals, along with other developmental projects including integrated sports complexes, play turfs, training playgrounds for kabaddi, basketball and cricket, construction of libraries, urban primary health centres, dialysis centres, community halls, markets, footpaths, modern bus shelters, resting rooms for gig workers, upgradation of Chennai schools, gym, increase green cover through tree planting, develop ponds and construct housing units through the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board.

Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation gives four weeks for property owners to submit documents

BHUBANESWAR.(Agency)

The Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC) has extended the deadline for submission of planning approval and other statutory documents by property owners using residential buildings for commercial purposes, to four weeks from existing two weeks. The civic body had earlier informed that it was offering a 15-day window to those issued notice for allegedly using their residential property for commercial purpose without obtaining necessary approval. However, it has now stated that the documents can be submitted online on BMC portal or Bhubaneswar One portal within four weeks. The corporation served notices on the basis of the directions of the SC for taking immediate action against unauthorised constructions, deviations from sanctioned building plans and illegal conversion of residential buildings for commercial use. The list of properties served notices includes a number of prominent government and private institutions, educational establishments, hospitals, hotels and private companies.

Concrete horizon: Navigating India's urban metamorphosis

Since 1980, the global landscape has undergone a tectonic shift. For the first time in human history, the ‘urban’ is no longer the exception, but the rule; approximately 55 percent of the world’s population now inhabits urban spaces. In India, this transition is not merely a demographic statistic; it is a profound reorientation of a civilisation. In 1990, just 25 percent of Indians lived in cities. Today, that figure has climbed to a third, and by the end of this decade, 40 percent of the nation is expected to reside in urban clusters.

This shift represents a fundamental departure from the Gandhian ideal that India “lives in her villages”. As the country moves from the paddy field to the pavement, the national consciousness is being rewritten. It is time to explore the policy-driven nature of this shift, its impact on the social fabric, and the urgent need for a politics that addresses the unique pressures of the Indian city.

India’s urbanisation was not an accidental byproduct of growth but a directed effort, often prodded by global financial institutions. Following the 1991 liberalisation, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank advocated that India see urban centres as “engines of growth”. This led to a series of landmark missions designed to upgrade the country's decaying infrastructure. The Mega City scheme of 1993 was an early attempt to channel funds into five major metros to handle the initial post-liberalisation surge. The Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission in 2005 marked the first comprehensive effort to link infrastructure funding with institutional reforms. Ten years later came the Modi government’s Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation and Smart Cities Mission, which shifted the focus toward technology-driven governance and ‘rejuvenation’, aiming to create sustainable, digitally-integrated urban hubs.

These policies reflect a State that has pivoted away from the village-centric development of the mid-20th century. However, the speed of this transition has often outpaced the capacity of our institutions, leading to cities that are hyper-modern in their aspirations but crumbling in their execution. The move to the city is more than a change of address; it is a psychological migration. In the village, identity is often fixed—inherited through caste, family and land. In the city, identity becomes fluid. For the Indian youth, the city is a space of anonymity, which, while often lonely, is also liberating. It offers a chance to shed the baggage of traditional hierarchies. The urban environment has also birthed a new Indian ‘aspirationalism’. Success is no longer measured by the harvest, but by consumption, connectivity and mobility. However, this has created a unique set of pressures. The urban youth face a paradox: they have more freedom than their ancestors, but they live in a state of precariousness—navigating a gig economy, rising rents and the compressed living of tenements and high-rises. The city has also altered social mores. Traditional family structures are giving way to nuclear setups or ‘chosen families’ among migrant workers. Yet, the city also reinforces divisions. We see the rise of gated communities— islands of privilege that physically wall themselves off from the surrounding slums, creating a fragmented social consciousness where the ‘other’ is always in sight but never in reach. One of the most sobering questions raised by urbanisation is the nature of conflict. Historically, communal violence in India has been predominantly an urban phenomenon. Why does the city, supposedly the bastion of modernity, become a theatre for ancient animosities? Urban spaces concentrate diversity, but they also concentrate competition. When resources (land, water, jobs) are scarce, identity becomes a tool for mobilisation.

Perils of promoting ancient remedies

Science funding agencies should stop sponsoring studies by dubious institutions & researchers

SOME curious remarks were made about cow urine (gaumutra) in Parliament last week. The context was the appointment of Veezhinathan Kamakoti, Director of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, as a member of the task force on entrance test reforms. During the debate on the subject, an indirect reference was made to Kamakoti’s support for the use of cow urine. In defence, some ruling party members cited patents granted for certain properties of cow urine to prove that the claims were indeed scientific. In January last year, Kamakoti, at a public meeting, claimed that cow urine had “anti-fungal, anti-bacterial and anti-inflammatory” properties that had been “scientifically demonstrated”.

A group of academics has extended support to Kamakoti, saying that the dismissal of his views on cow urine amounts to undermining scientific temper enshrined in the Constitution, and that he is entitled to “present a hypothesis and discuss traditional knowledge”. The Director of the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta, too, has defended Kamakoti. Research into cow urine and cow dung is not new. Some claims were made and papers were published even in the 1970s and 1980s, but they remained on the fringe. What’s new is official support for such research as part of a systematic state-driven effort to prove mythical-religious beliefs as being scientifically validated.

As a result, there is a surge of articles and reviews about cow urine and cow dung in professional journals, and patents are being filed on certain claims. While professional bodies of scientists have kept mum, such claims are getting support from high-profile academics like Directors of IITs and IIMs — who are not necessarily experts in biochemistry, pharmacology or drug discovery. Seeking scientific validation of ancient ideas and beliefs is not true science for several reasons. This approach to research starts with a preconceived notion and a sort of confirmation bias, while lacking falsifiability. Ancient texts and traditional knowledge mention the human body, diseases and cures in such broad terms



that they can be twisted or interpreted to fit any modern discovery or concept. This path is often adopted to claim that plastic surgery, stem cell treatment, in vitro fertilisation and satellite communication existed in ancient India. WorldNews Section The same validation approach is being applied to cow urine. Finding certain trace minerals and bioactive peptides in cow urine or excreta is not a convincing proof of their medicinal properties because they can be found in excreta or urine of humans as well as other mammals like bulls, yaks or even deer. At most, such research can fall in the realm

of pseudoscience because there is a bit of scientific jargon used to describe urine chemistry, but claims of medicinal benefits are not scientific because all that has been done is in a Petri dish and using some distillates of cow urine and not whole urine.

When research starts with a preconceived notion, it tends to ignore or suppress negative results. The government recently claimed that a new study had validated papaya leaf extract “as a low-cost solution for chemotherapy-related low platelet counts.” The results were published in an oncology journal. However, the journal has been forced to review the results following red flags raised by independent experts, who found that the researchers omitted the cases of patients who did not recover to make the

Growth uptick shows hope in measures to offset demand drag

While strong private consumption, robust investment sentiment and stronger services activity support the growth outlook, rural demand remains uneven

The RBI kept the benchmark repo rate unchanged at 5.25 percent, entering a phase of prolonged pause and joining a slew of global central banks favouring status quo. Retail inflation rose to an 18-month high in June; yet, Wednesday’s policy tone sounded more dovish than market expectations. Governor Sanjay Malhotra maintained that the policy was balanced and appropriate for the evolving macroeconomic conditions. Analysts now expect the central bank to pause rate actions through 2026 unless supply-side pressures translate into a sustained, broad-based inflationary spiral. That said, Malhotra underlined anticipated risks from an uneven monsoon, volatile energy prices and geopolitical uncertainties. With several cross-currents in play, the RBI remains cautious with its neutral policy stance, guiding a wait-and-watch approach to future rate directions. For investors, the status quo signals a stable policy environment, near-term certainty and visibility on interest rates. The headline inflation for 2026-27 has been revised 10 basis points lower to 5 percent owing to a softer print in the first quarter. However, prices are expected to peak in Q3 and will likely ease thereafter. Overall, the year’s inflation projection remains within the upper half of the



government’s tolerance band. But the RBI is willing to look through moderately higher prices to avoid choking growth because, as Malhotra noted, the inflationary uptick is supply-driven and limited to food and fuel, with little

herbal extract appear more effective.

The same has been the case with curcumin, an active ingredient of turmeric, which has been touted as a miracle herb with therapeutic value for several diseases, including cancer. In recent years, it has emerged that claims are based on dubious research, although published in international journals. Over 30 research papers on curcumin, written by an American researcher, Bharat Aggarwal, have been retracted by international journals so far for falsified data, duplicated images and manipulated figures.

In the 1990s, RB Singh, a researcher based in Moradabad, collaborated with those from Israel and Slovakia to test the benefits of the Indo-Mediterranean diet on the progression of heart disease and published the findings in The Lancet and the British Medical Journal. A few years later, independent scientists raised red flags about the authenticity of the clinical trial data. When asked to make available raw data, Singh claimed that termites had devoured the files. Another problem with the validation approach is that it bypasses safety issues. The argument that toxicity tests for natural remedies, which find mention in ancient texts, are not required is flawed. Plants and herbs may contain heavy metals and other contaminants present in soil, which may cause injury to the liver or kidneys.

Bioavailability of active ingredients in a plant also varies, depending on the conditions under which it is grown. In the case of cow urine, a study by the Indian Veterinary Research Institute has concluded that it is unfit for human consumption as it contains harmful bacteria. WorldNews Section

China has taken a science-based approach to traditional medicine, instead of religious or ideology-based validation. The discovery of artemisinin, an anti-malarial drug which won the 2015 Nobel Prize in medicine for Chinese scientist Tu Youyou, is a good example. Instead of accepting ideas mentioned in ancient texts as uncritical truths, the project used them as clues and screened over 400 plants. Rigorous experiments were conducted over almost half a century before the molecule was isolated and developed as a drug. The discovery was not claimed as a validation of ancient texts, but as proof of a time-tested scientific method.

evidence of a broad-based rise. Such price pressures do not often warrant a monetary policy response, or an urgent rate hike. In any case, RBI’s neutral stance allows it flexibility in policy action if conditions change in either direction. Meanwhile, higher Q1 growth prompted the central bank to revise the 2026-27 real GDP growth rate upwards by 10 bps to 6.7 percent, with Malhotra stressing that domestic emand remains resilient amid geopolitical tensions.

While strong private consumption, robust investment sentiment and stronger services activity support the growth outlook, rural demand remains uneven. The RBI acknowledged this as an unclear near-term growth dampener besides mixed indications from consumption-intensive sectors and the monsoon. Yet, the upward revision of the full-year forecast signals that, on balance, investment uptick, supply-side measures and government spending will likely offset the demand-side drags this fiscal. Moreover, the RBI must remain vigilant about trade uncertainties, currency volatility and renewed supply-chain disruptions—all of which could affect growth and inflation.

Valid Gen Z demand: Robust exams

➡Several countries have taken smart steps to secure exams. India’s framework continues to suffer from three major structural weaknesses: excessive dependence on private vendors, mostly pen-and-paper tests and inadequate infrastructure. The Bill on safer exams is one step towards a fairer system. Many more are awaited

The recent student protests in the country can be viewed from several perspectives. One may see them as an attempt to politicise the issues, as an effort by certain elements—who had tried in the past, and were rightfully named ‘Aandolanjeevi’ by the Prime Minister—to raise anti-national slogans, as an occasion where vulgar language was used against the PM, or an attempt to create havoc through violence. At the same time, it is equally true that many of the students participating in these protests were genuinely demanding that the government create a system capable of permanently eliminating the problem of examination paper leaks.

However, I view these protests from a different perspective. For me, they reflect the energy of India’s GenZ. If this energy can be channelled in the right direction, it has the potential to transform the country. As the PM has consistently said, India’s development will be possible only when its youth become the driving force behind progress. Since 2014, the Modi government has focused primarily on empowering India’s young population physically, mentally and intellectually. To promote physical development and fitness among the youth, national initiatives such as the Fit India Movement and Khelo India were launched. These programmes have encouraged a sporting culture at the grassroots level while preparing young athletes for the global stage. Alongside this, the promotion of regular yoga and the Nasha Mukti Bharat Abhiyan has encouraged young people to adopt healthier lifestyles by steering them away from substance abuse. On the other hand, initiatives such as Tele-MANAS and the education ministry’s Manodarpan helpline were launched to strengthen the mental health, emotional well-being and intellectual capabilities of young people. The PM’s annual Pariksha Pe Charcha has played a significant

role in advocating reduction in exam-related stress among students through mass level awareness. To promote intellectual and creative development, the National Education Policy 2020 was implemented, while Atal Tinkering Labs established in schools encouraged robotics, coding and innovation, thereby strengthening critical thinking among young minds. Similarly, platforms such as MY Bharat and Skill India have provided young people with digital and practical opportunities to build skills and actively contribute to nation-building. Looking towards the future, the present government considers the youth not merely as beneficiaries of development, but as the principal drivers of the Viksit Bharat @2047 vision—the Amrit Peedhi. The government’s long-term roadmap aims to equip young people with skills in emerging sectors such as artificial intelligence, semiconductors and green technologies, with the objective of transforming India into a global skill hub. At the same time, it seeks to promote startups and entrepreneurship so that young Indians become job creators rather than job seekers, while also building a generation that is healthy, drug-free and mentally resilient. However, there is also an urgent need to build a robust and reliable exam system in the country. If one looks at the data, between 2004 and 2026, more than 70 incidents of question paper leaks have been reported across over 15 major national exams as well as several state-level exams. Despite major national exam paper leaks such as CBSE AIPMT in 2004, CAT in 2006 and AIEEE in 2011, the government failed to demonstrate the

political will to enact a dedicated and stringent central law to curb this organised exam mafia. For almost an entire decade, an issue involving the future of lakhs of young people continued to be dealt with under the ordinary provisions of the Indian Penal Code, such as those relating to cheating and forgery, allowing exam rackets to



repeatedly escape accountability. In the past, despite repeated scandals, the government’s response remained largely confined to cancelling exams and carrying out routine administrative formalities. Even the establishment of transparent institutions such as the National Testing Agency or the creation of a strong legal framework remained on paper for years. This clearly indicates that during that period, the integrity of competitive exams and the future of India’s youth did not receive the policy priority they deserved.

Paper leaks and cancelled exams are not new phenomena

in India, and the problem has continued under the BJP government as well. My point is that every paper leak or cancelled exam amounts to playing with the future of the country’s youth. At the global level, I have observed that countries with large populations have adopted extremely stringent and technologically advanced models to secure their national exams, compared to which India still lags behind. In China, papers for the Gaokao, taken by nearly 1.3 crore students, are transported under military supervision, while serious exam fraud can attract imprisonment of up to seven years. In South Korea, professors involved in preparing questions remain in complete isolation at undisclosed locations for about 40 days until the exams conclude. Meanwhile, the US has largely replaced the traditional pen-and-paper system with encrypted digital adaptive testing, where AI algorithms ensure that every student receives a different set of questions. In contrast, India’s exam framework continues to suffer from three major structural weaknesses: excessive dependence on private vendors, an outdated pen-and-paper exam system (in most cases), and inadequate infrastructure. In exams such as NEET, the reliance on private contractors for printing question papers and courier services creates significant security vulnerabilities. Furthermore, transporting physical question papers to thousands of exam centres and using private institutions as exam centres provide organised mafias ample opportunities to compromise the process.

Madagascar heritage main highlight of RMNH's anniversary

Bhubaneswar. (Agency)

The Regional Museum of Natural History (RMNH), Bhubaneswar, will celebrate its 22nd anniversary day on Monday with a special exhibition showcasing the geological heritage of Madagascar.

Titled 'Natural Treasures of Madagascar', the exhibition will be inaugurated by principal chief conservator of forests and head of forest force K Murugesan. Former ISRO scientist Dr Jai Singh Parihar and former deputy director general of the Geological Survey of India Jadaba Nanda Das will be present.

The exhibition will feature around 100 specimens, including fossil ammonites, marine corals and a variety of gemstones, offering visitors an insight into Madagascar's geological evolution and natural heritage, said Devi Priyadarshini, scientist-in-charge of RMNH.

The collection has primarily been donated by the late Abasar Beuria, former Indian Ambassador to Madagascar and his wife Trupti Beuria. The rare specimens provide students, researchers and visitors an opportunity to understand the island's geological wealth and the processes that have shaped the Earth over millions of years.

Farmers seek loan waiver, ex gratia, announce protests in Bargarh

BARGARH. (Agency)

The Sanjukta Krushak Sangathan, Bargarh on Saturday announced a series of protest seeking fulfilment of their 11-point charter of demands, including withdrawal of the India-US bilateral deal, loan waiver for farmers and compensation for crop losses caused by heavy rainfall in the district. Addressing mediapersons, the organisation said the Samyukta Kisan Morcha will on Sunday stage protests at around 1,000 locations across the country to press for the demands. As part of the programme, the Bargarh unit would also stage dharna in front of the district SP's office and the SDPO offices at Padampur and Attabira, besides courting arrest.

The organisation opposed any move to privatise the agriculture sector and urged the government to protect the farmers' interests and ensure their economic security. Among its other demands included fixing of minimum support price (MSPs) for agricultural produce based on the Swaminathan Commission recommendations and adequate subsidised fertiliser supply to farmers.

Project Sangam empowers farmers of Kalahandi district

BHUBANESWAR. (Agency)

The Project Sangam of Vedanta Aluminium has equipped more than 400 farmers across 23 villages of Kalahandi district with knowledge on safe handling of agrochemicals and sustainable agricultural practices.

The programmes focused on the safe handling, storage, transportation and disposal of highly hazardous fertilizers and pesticides while promoting the correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE) to reduce occupational health risks and encourage environmentally responsible farming practices. "We believe that the well-being of farmers is fundamental to building resilient and prosperous rural communities. Through Sangam, we are empowering farmers with the knowledge and tools needed to adopt safer, healthier and more sustainable agricultural practices," said CEO, Vedanta Alumina Business, Lanjigarh, Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya.

So far, Project Sangam has positively impacted over 9,000 beneficiaries across 41 villages, creating lasting value through improved agricultural practices, enhanced livelihoods and stronger community resilience.

Mumbai's 4 new railway bridges: When they'll open and how they'll ease traffic

Three cable-stayed bridges and Mumbai's first double-decker road overbridge are under construction across some of the city's busiest rail crossings. Here's where they stand and when commuters can expect relief.

Mumbai. (Agency)

From Dadar to Ghatkopar, four of Mumbai's busiest traffic bottlenecks are set for a major overhaul over the next two years as new road overbridges come up across suburban railway lines.

Together worth Rs 1,179 crore, the projects are being jointly executed by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and the Maharashtra Rail Infrastructure Development Corporation (MRIDC). Three of the bridges are cable-stayed structures, while the Prabhadevi project will be Mumbai's first double-decker road overbridge. The bridges are



replacing ageing British-era structures that have become structurally inadequate and can no longer cope with the city's growing traffic. Designed with wider carriageways and higher load-bearing capacity, the new bridges are expected to improve east-west connectivity and reduce bottlenecks at

some of Mumbai's busiest railway crossings.

Tilak Bridge, Dadar: A six-lane replacement for a century-old crossing

The century-old Tilak Bridge, commissioned in 1925, is being replaced with a 600-metre-long cable-stayed bridge featuring six traffic lanes, three times the capacity of the existing two-lane bridge. A structural audit in 2019 recommended replacing the bridge after it was found to be deteriorating. The crossing is one of Mumbai's busiest east-west links near Dadar railway station. Construction is being carried out in two phases. The

first three-lane arm is around 70 per cent complete and is expected to open by April 2027. The entire bridge is scheduled to be completed by May 2027.

Y Bridge, Byculla: Opening expected this year

The century-old Y Bridge is being replaced with a 916-metre cable-stayed bridge designed to improve connectivity along the Byculla-Dadar corridor. One of the project's biggest engineering challenges involved launching a 1,500-tonne steel span above the Central Vegetable Market without disrupting market operations or railway traffic. The bridge is expected to open by December this year.

Mumbai's Metro 1 to run short-loop trains between Andheri, Ghatkopar in peak hours

The Metro 1, Mumbai's first metro, is also the city's busiest metro route, serving around 5 lakh passengers per workday.

Mumbai. (Agency)

To decrease headway between trains in evening peak times to 3 minutes to handle the extreme crowds that flock on the metro Line 1 (Versova to Ghatkopar), Mumbai Metro One is starting mixed-loop operations from August 10.

This would mean short loop trains that operate only between Andheri and Ghatkopar would alternate between full loop trains travelling the entire route during evening peak hours.

The Andheri-Ghatkopar section has been chosen as it is the busiest section of the line. Such short loop trains would operate between 6:23pm to 8:23pm. Waiting times between trains in this section will be

reduced.

Officials from Metro One said this would



take the headway between trains from 3.2 minutes to 3 minutes. This would increase carrying capacity by 20%, accommodating 28,000 additional commuters. With this, daily services will increase from 476 to 484

trips. This will however increase the time between trains between Versova and Azad Nagar in the evening hours to just over 6 minutes. "The mixed-loop operations are part of Mumbai Metro One's ongoing efforts to optimise train operations and maximise the capacity of our existing infrastructure. By introducing this operational innovation during peak hours, we aim to reduce waiting times, enhance carrying capacity and provide faster, more convenient and reliable services to our commuters," said Shyamantak Choudhury, CEO, Mumbai Metro One. The Metro 1, Mumbai's first metro, is also the city's busiest metro route, serving around 5 lakh passengers per workday.

Tiranga' Campaign from 9th to 17th August, 2026

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 9th August: Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) will observe the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign from 9th August to 17th August, 2026, in line with the initiative of the Government of India to encourage citizens to hoist the National Flag at their homes and foster a personal and emotional connection with the Tiranga. The 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign was launched by the Government of India in 2022 under the aegis of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav', with the objective of inspiring citizens to participate in the celebration of the spirit of patriotism and national unity by proudly displaying the National Flag at their homes. Every year, NFR observes the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign with great enthusiasm, promoting the spirit of patriotism and encouraging active public participation.

Continuing this tradition, NFR will once again observe the campaign at railway offices and establishments, while promi-



sage of 'Har Ghar Tiranga'. Instrumental renditions of the National Song "Vande Mataram" will be played through the Public Address System at major railway stations, and suitable patriotic programmes will be organised to foster the spirit of unity and nationalism. Officers, employees and members of the public will also be encouraged to upload their "Selfie with Tiranga" as a symbol of their participation in the nationwide campaign. These initiatives aim to strengthen the spirit of patriotism, national pride and unity while encouraging everyone to celebrate the Tiranga with respect, dignity and pride. The campaign aims to strengthen the spirit of patriotism, national pride and unity among citizens and encourage everyone to celebrate the Tiranga with respect and pride.

Tippagondanahalli reservoir holds 2.2 tmcft of unused water amid Bengaluru's needs

BENGALURU. (Agency)

The State Government is wasting around 2.2 tmcft of water from Tippagondanahalli (TG Halli) Reservoir, the first man-made dam built in 1933 and located around 35 km from Bengaluru on Magadi Road.

Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) officials said the reservoir has 2.2 tmcft of water standing at 58 feet, which has been ignored and not utilised. "To ensure that the machinery that was recently repaired and restarted at a cost of Rs 230 crore is not wasted, we are pumping 4 MLD of drinking water downstream to Manchanabele Dam and Magadi villages. The rest of the water is standing idle and is being lost to evaporation and leakage. The positive

takeaway is that the groundwater table in the region is good and farmers are happy," said a BWSSB engineer.

"Bengaluru does not need the 4 tmcft



from the Mekedatu project when this existing water body is left neglected. The DPR for Mekedatu does not include the pipeline to be laid to Bengaluru. In the case of TG Halli, there is already an existing pipeline which was also repaired recently. On the directions of

Indian Institute Science, an additional ozonisation plant was added to treat water to make it fit for consumption in 2024. It was supplied to Bengaluru in 2024 on a trial basis, but was stopped on government orders," the official said.

'TG Halli water good, fit for consumption'

The TG Halli Reservoir has a capacity to store water up to 74 ft. Its water spreads across 2,300 acre and the total site area is 2,700 acre. But the government and citizens do not trust water from the reservoir. Apart from rain, the source of water supply to TG Halli reservoir is Arkavathy river and Hessarghatta.

While Cauvery water is treated and chlorinated, water from TG Halli undergoes an additional ozonization process. 35 MLD of treated water from

Arkavathy flows into TG Halli. BWSSB is preparing a catchment revival report. They now supply 1,940 MLD of Cauvery water from TK Halli reservoir to Bengaluru every day.

"Water from TG Halli reservoir is good and fit for consumption, yet it is ignored and wasted every day. The government wants to use TG Halli water when the Yetinaholle project reaches Bengaluru. But that project is delayed. To use TG Halli water, a project report to supply it to Dobbaspeth and Peenya industrial areas is being prepared," the engineer said. Prof TV Ramachandra from the Centre for Ecological Sciences, IISc, said Bengaluru does not need the Mekedatu project as the city receives sufficient rain. The city also gets a good quantity of Cauvery water and an equal amount of treated waste water is also generated.

Driver, conductor killed in Kerala transport bus crash on Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway

Bengaluru. (Agency)

A driver and a conductor with the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation died, and 20 passengers were injured, after their bus crashed into a massive signboard on the Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway on Saturday morning.

The accident took place around 6.30 am near Avaragere Bridge in Bidadi. Driver Mithilesh and conductor N M Arun were attached to the Kozhikode depot of the



Kerala transport corporation.

According to the police, the Super Deluxe bus was on its way to Bengaluru from Kozhikode when the driver lost control of the vehicle. The bus swerved to the left and rammed into a large overhead signboard that displays live vehicle speeds.

The police suspect fatigue was the primary cause of the accident, with preliminary findings suggesting the driver may have dozed off at the wheel.

Locals and passersby rushed to rescue the victims, pulling the injured staff and passengers from the wreckage before shifting them to a hospital in Bidadi. While Arun died on the spot, Mithilesh succumbed to injuries at the hospital.

The Bidadi police registered a case and initiated an investigation to determine the exact cause of the crash.

India updates Arunachal map with 1962 war-linked sites ahead of BRICS summit

Delhi. (Agency)

India has updated its official map of Arunachal Pradesh, giving greater prominence to strategically significant passes, lakes, settlements and a war memorial along the frontier with China, including several locations associated with the 1962 India-China war. The move comes at a significant time, with India preparing to host the BRICS Summit in New Delhi on September 12-13 and Chinese President Xi Jinping expected to attend. The cartographic update assumes significance because the India-China boundary remains disputed even as bilateral ties enter a phase of cautious stabilisation. The revised map gives greater visibility to locations carrying

both strategic and historical importance, including areas around Tawang and sites linked to the 1962 conflict. **WHY UPDATE THE MAP NOW?** Along a contested frontier, maps are more than geographical documents. The identification and standardisation of settlements, passes and other geographical features can reinforce a country’s official territorial and administrative position. and Trade and Taxes Department. The move also comes against the backdrop of China’s continuing claims over Arunachal Pradesh, which Beijing refers to as “Zangnan” or “South Tibet”. Recent developments in Arunachal’s Taksing sector have also renewed attention on Chinese claims in the region. India has consistently rejected Beijing’s

claims and maintained that Arunachal Pradesh is an integral part of the country. The map update, therefore, does not signal any change in India’s territorial position. Rather, it formalises and gives greater visibility to India’s existing position at a time when New Delhi and Beijing are attempting to stabilise relations without resolving their fundamental boundary dispute. **FROM 1962 FLASHPOINTS TO TODAY’S BORDER** Several locations highlighted on the map are closely linked to the 1962 war, particularly in and around Tawang. Their relevance, however, is not merely historical. The eastern sector remains one of the most sensitive parts of the India-China boundary and continues to be central to Beijing’s territorial claims over

Arunachal Pradesh. The government says the update is aimed at ensuring accurate recognition of these locations and improving public awareness. The choice of features is nevertheless significant, particularly because several are directly connected to India’s border history and military engagements with China.



WHAT EXACTLY HAS CHANGED? The government has added or formally identified 27 locations and geographical features.Four mountain passes have been included: Dzo La, Riza La, Pukur La and Thag La.The inclusion of Thag La is particularly significant because of its association with the opening phase of the 1962 India-China war and its location in a strategically sensitive part of the eastern sector.The map also identifies Sambho Sarovar, a high-altitude lake, by its standard Indian name.Another 21 geographical entries have been added: Longju, Maja, Bisa, Bara Kundun, Chhota Kundun, Dhan Bari, Pritnagar, Buddhamandir, Jairampur, Teritnagar, Ramnagar, Jaswant Garh, Sagar, Padma, Jyotinagar, Baisakhi, Chhota Ropuk, Bara Ropuk.

3 Kanwariyas killed after speeding car hits them in Punjab, driver flees

Delhi. (Agency)

Three Kanwariyas (devotees of Lord Shiva) were killed and another sustained serious injuries after a speeding car hit them on a highway in Punjab's Fatehgarh Sahib district early Sunday.The incident took place when a group of Kanwariyas were returning to the Faridkot district in Punjab after carrying holy water from Gangotri in Uttarakhand. People, including other Kanwariyas, staged a sit-in protest at the scene, demanding the immediate arrest of the driver, who fled the spot. The car's number plate fell while the car was speeding away.A case has been registered in connection with the matter. The police have recovered the registration plate and are trying to trace the vehicle and the driver. Those who lost their lives in the incident have been identified as Mahinder Pal alias Gagan (43), Deepak Kumar (42), Jagdish Mittal alias Kalu (40) – all residents of Faridkot. They were rushed to a hospital, where they were declared dead by the doctors. The Kanwariya who escaped with injuries is also a resident of Faridkot. The incident came during the peak of this year's Kanwar Yatra. The annual Hindu pilgrimage, which commenced on July 30 with the beginning of the holy month of Shravan, will culminate on August 11 with Shivratri.



Govt presses Meta on sexual abuse content, deepfakes as talks continue

New Delhi. (Agency)

The government's discussions with Meta over content moderation, deepfakes and platform algorithms are continuing, with sources stressing that the company's platforms operating in India must comply with Indian laws and regulations rather than rely solely on global content policies. The talks have gone through three rounds so far, with another round expected in the coming week. Government sources clarified that the discussions do not amount to a direction to Meta to completely overhaul its algorithms. Instead, the focus is on ensuring that the company's content policies, moderation systems and enforcement mechanisms comply with India's legal and regulatory framework. **ZERO TOLERANCE ON CSAM** The government has reiterated its zero-tolerance approach towards Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM).Officials have conveyed that such content cannot be allowed to remain on Meta's platforms and have sought stronger, proactive mechanisms to identify, remove and prevent its circulation. Sources said the emphasis was on concrete action rather than assurances or apologies. **HUMAN OVERSIGHT IN DEEPFAKE CASES** Deepfake detection has also emerged as a key area of discussion.Officials raised concerns that genuine content posted through authorised or verified accounts could be incorrectly classified as synthetic. The government has therefore stressed the need for a “human-in-the-loop” mechanism, particularly in sensitive cases, rather than relying entirely on automated systems.

Centre appoints 30 judges to four High Courts, Madras gets highest share

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Centre on Saturday notified the appointment of 30 judges across four High Courts, with the Madras High Court receiving the largest share of new appointees as part of an effort to strengthen judicial capacity and reduce case pendency. According to a notification issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice, the appointments include 20 advocates and 10 judicial officers. Of the total, 15 judges have been appointed to the Madras High Court, eight to the Calcutta High Court, six to the Karnataka High Court and one to the Madhya Pradesh High Court. The appointments were made by the President in consultation with the

Chief Justice of India and the Supreme Court Collegium. **MADRAS HIGH COURT GETS 15 JUDGES** The Madras High Court received the highest number of appointments,



including five permanent judges and ten additional judges. The newly appointed permanent judges are advocates Krishnaswamy Govindarajan, Rajnish Pathiyil, Natarajan Ramesh, G K

Muthukumaar and Ramakrishnan Rajesh Vivekananthan. Additional judges appointed from the Bar include Sankaranarayanan Raveekumar, Nagarajan Dilip Kumar and Ellappan Manoharan. Among judicial officers elevated as additional judges are Dr. P Murugan, MD Sumathi, S Alli, C Thirumagal Chandrasekar, Shanmugam Karthikeyan, Baluchamy Murugesan and N. Gunasekaran. **EIGHT JUDGES APPOINTED TO CALCUTTA HIGH COURT** The eight new additional judges appointed to the Calcutta High Court are advocates Aryak Dutta, Atarup Banerjee, Sandeep Kumar Dey, Partha Pratim Roy, Sudip Deb, Anuj Singh, Arjun Ray Mukherjee and Rishad Medora.

18-year-old swept away in drain in southeast Delhi’s Sarita Vihar amid heavy rain

Delhi. (Agency)

An 18-year-old youth was allegedly swept away in a drain after he lost his balance in southeast Delhi’s Sarita Vihar amid heavy rainfall, police said on Saturday.The incident took place on Friday evening when the victim was returning home from Noida, police said. Two PCR calls were received on Friday at 8.31 pm at police station and at Kalindi Kunj police station and at



8.54 pm at Sarita Vihar police station regarding the incident, drain and was swept away by the strong flow of water, DCP Hemant Tiwari said, adding that search operations were underway. Rescue operations were launched with the help of the District Disaster Management Authority East rescue team and Delhi Fire Service. On Friday, the city witnessed heavy rainfall, bringing it to a standstill as roads went under water, traffic impacted and residential colonies were inundated.

Pilot of turbulence-hit Air India Phuket-Delhi flight failed dope test: Sources

Delhi. (Agency)

One of the two pilots of the Air India flight that recently encountered severe turbulence and a sudden loss of altitude while flying from Phuket to New Delhi failed a dope test after the incident, sources told India Today on Sunday.The sources also confirmed that both the pilots have been de-rostered (removed from duty) pending completion of the enquiry into the drop in altitude. Another highly placed source within the Ministry of Civil Aviation noted that the incident is being probed by the country's top aviation watchdog, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), and said that the enquiry's outcome will be taken into consideration to decide whether the matter needs further investigation by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB).Responding to a query from India Today, Air India said it was in no position



to comment as findings of the post-flight drug screening had not been shared with it. "We are aware that a post-flight screening test was conducted on the pilots in

accordance with applicable protocols. However, the results of the test have not been shared with Air India, and we are therefore not in a position to comment on

any findings," a spokesperson for the airline said."Air India undertakes regular drug testing of crew members in compliance with civil aviation regulations, independent of any specific flight or operational incident. We will continue to cooperate with the relevant authorities as required," the statement added. This comes days after at least 17 people, including four cabin crew members, were injured when an Air India A320 aircraft operating flight AI2379 from Phuket to New Delhi faced severe turbulence and suddenly lost 300 feet in altitude during its journey. The incident took place on August 5. At a press briefing later, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammoohan Naidu said the turbulence lasted for roughly five minutes. When asked about the extent of injuries, he said that a couple of crew members had suffered spinal injuries near the tailbone and also near the neck, adding that they had been advised by doctors to rest.

Traders take problems to L-G Taranjit Singh Sandhu’s door

New Delhi. (Agency)

- Lieutenant-Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu held an interaction with representatives of market and traders’ associations to discuss issues affecting trade, commerce and consumers. Representatives from major commercial hubs, including Sarojini Nagar, Lajpat Nagar, Connaught Place, Mori Gate and Chandni Chowk, raised issues related to unauthorised encroachments, traffic congestion, parking management and public grievance redressal mechanisms. During the interaction, Sandhu sought feedback from market representatives on the implementation and impact of the ‘Jan Sunwai’ initiative being conducted regularly by the Delhi Police at police stations across the national capital. The L-G said direct public interaction and structured feedback were important to assess the responsiveness of law enforcement agencies and ensure that grievances related to safety, traffic and encroachments were addressed in a time-bound and transparent manner. Emphasising the economic importance of Delhi’s commercial hubs, Sandhu said well-organised, accessible and clean markets were essential for the capital’s economic resilience, consumer confidence and its position as a major shopping and investment destination. He stressed the need for a balanced approach involving strict enforcement against violations along with responsive urban planning and data-driven civic measures to address operational challenges faced by markets. Sandhu also underlined the importance of walkability, smooth traffic movement, parking discipline, cleanliness and maintaining pedestrian spaces in Delhi’s major markets. He called for continued coordination between market associations, traders and civic and law-enforcement agencies to develop cleaner, safer and better-organised commercial areas across the national capital.

NEWS BOX

Shahnavaz Khan bags long jump bronze for India at World U20 Championships



Oregon. (Agency)

Shahnawaz Khan won bronze in the men's long jump at the World Athletics U20 Championships, giving India its third medal of the competition. His best effort of 7.84m also made him the first Indian men's long jumper to win a medal at a World-level championship.

The 20-year-old Indian entered the final after qualifying with a 7.73m effort and improved his mark in the medal round. His third attempt proved decisive as he landed 7.84m to move into third place and eventually secure a third medal for India in the competition after Ashish Yadav and Basant Meghwal's silver medals.Italy's Daniele Leonardo Inzoli won gold with 7.97m, while Australia's Mason McGroder took silver with 7.96m. Shahnawaz finished ahead of the rest of the field despite a late scare in his final attempt.

SHAHNAWAZ HOLDS ON FOR BRONZE

Shahnawaz opened the final with a 7.67m jump and followed it with 7.72m. He then produced his best effort of the competition, jumping 7.84m on his third attempt.His fourth attempt measured 7.52m, leaving the 7.84m effort as his best mark. There was some concern after his final jump as Shahnawaz appeared to suffer a cramp and was left on his knees, visibly frustrated as he waited to see whether the athletes behind him could challenge his position.None could produce a better mark, allowing the Indian to hold on to bronze. His series in the final read 7.67m, 7.72m, 7.84m and 7.52m.

Defences win you tournaments like World Cup: Fulton

CRAIG. (Agency)

Fulton is on the cusp of greatness for two reasons. No coach of the Indian men's hockey team has survived a full Olympic cycle in recent history. More importantly, no coach has managed the double of medalling at the Olympics and the World Cup this century. The South African is aware of what he can do with this group of players over the next few weeks in the Netherlands and Belgium, but he doesn't want to get ahead of himself.

He readily accepts that a 'podium at the World Cup' is a goal, but there are caveats. In an interview conducted before the jersey colour change farrago, he spoke about the season so far, why defending is pressing and the upcoming World Cup from August 15th. Excerpts: On the year so far

It was a very difficult first block. We have



a tough time post the Hockey India League (HIL), because in HIL, all our Indian players take part and rightfully so. All the marquee players are expected to perform for their franchises. But within 10 days, we play 10 games internationally (in the Pro League). It really zaps our players from a freshness point of view. The last two HILs have shown that it's not an easy period, but it's not an excuse.We had a really good build-up to the second part of the Pro League. From March-June, we settled down and had three big training blocks. We have got everything we want in terms of fitness, nutrition, tactics and strength — that's been the foundation for the rest of the year.

Not Sachin Tendulkar, Brett Lee picks Jacques Kallis as cricket's GOAT

Brett Lee has picked Jacques Kallis over Sachin Tendulkar when it comes to the greatest cricketer of all time. The Australian great, however, still considers Tendulkar the finest batsman he ever saw play the game.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Australia great Brett Lee has revisited one of cricket's most enduring debates, but his choice for the greatest cricketer of all time is not Sachin Tendulkar. Lee has instead put Jacques Kallis at the top, drawing a distinction between the finest batsman he saw and the most complete cricketer he played against.Tendulkar,

the former India batting great and the only player to score 100 international centuries, has long been regarded as one of the finest batsmen the game has produced. Kallis, the legendary South African all-rounder, built his reputation as a player who could dominate with both bat and ball while also being an outstanding slip fielder.Lee has long regarded Tendulkar as the best pure batsman to grace the game. But when the discussion moves beyond batting and takes in bowling and fielding as well, the former Australia pacer believes Kallis has the stronger case.Speaking on the BeerBiceps podcast, Lee explained why he separates the two debates."I've always said that I think that the best batsman to ever play the game is Sachin Tendulkar. But the best cricketer is Jacques Kallis. He's got the best numbers in the world. If

you look at his stats, the stats don't lie. He's incredible."

WHY KALLIS OVER SACHIN FOR LEE?

Kallis' numbers certainly provide plenty



of ammunition for that argument. The South African remains the only cricketer to have scored more than 10,000 runs and taken over 250 wickets in both Test and ODI cricket.There is also a personal element to Lee's assessment. The two shared the Kolkata Knight Riders

dressling room for three IPL seasons, from 2011 to 2013, giving Lee a close look at Kallis away from international cricket. Kallis played 56 matches for KKR between 2011 and 2014, while Lee featured for the franchise from 2011 to 2013.Lee recalled how remarkably relaxed Kallis appeared before going out to bat, even while preparing for another demanding innings.But to be alongside as a teammate and to watch him prepare for a game, his heart rate was about 30 beats a minute before going out to bat as he was chilled out. So relaxed," Lee said.He also remembered Kallis' meticulous routine before batting, including the order in which he put on his equipment."The way I'd wach him get changed, he'd put his gear on, his batting gear, and he'd put his left sock on first, his other sock would go in his mouth. Same thing every single day," Lee recalled.

Ashmita Chaliha wins Korea Masters after stunning comeback vs Han Qian Xi

Asan. (Agency)

Ashmita Chaliha produced a superb comeback to win the VICTOR Korea Masters 2026, beating China's Han Qian Xi in the women's singles final on Sunday. The Assam shuttler recovered from losing the opening game to prevail 14-21, 21-14, 21-14 in 53 minutes and claim her maiden BWF World Tour title.The 26-year-old had to overcome a difficult start against fourth seed Han, ranked No. 35 in the world, who controlled the opening game and moved into an early advantage. Ashmita gradually found her rhythm, however, and responded with greater aggression to level the contest at one game apiece.

WATCH THE VIDEO HERE:

The second game proved to be the turning point as Ashmita began to dictate more rallies with her attacking strokes. She kept



Han under pressure and closed out the game 21-14 to take the final into a decider. The third game remained competitive in its early stages, with the two players exchanging points. Ashmita then began to pull away after the midpoint break, producing a series of confident winners and making the most of Han's errors to take control of the match.

FIRST SUPER 300 TITLE FOR CHALIHA

Ashmita eventually moved 12-11 ahead with a precise winner close to the line before producing another excellent shot while stretching to send the shuttle just inside the court for a 15-11 advantage.The Indian maintained that momentum as the finish approached. A cross-court winner took her lead to 19-14 before Han sent her next return wide, bringing the contest to an end.

FIFA hits back at 'concerted' campaign to oust President Gianni Infantino

FIFA has defended Gianni Infantino against what it called a concerted effort to undermine him. The response comes as UEFA pressure and scrutiny over his past at UEFA intensify.

St. Louis. (Agency)

FIFA has hit back at what it described as a “concerted and ongoing effort” to undermine president Gianni Infantino, accusing critics of using allegations and misinformation to challenge his leadership. The statement comes amid growing tensions with UEFA and fresh scrutiny over Infantino following reports concerning his time as UEFA general secretary.

FIFA's strong response followed a Daily Telegraph report that raised questions about a severance payment made by

UEFA to a female staff member who had worked with Infantino during his time at the European governing body. The



report also made allegations about the nature of their relationship, which Infantino has strongly denied.Uefa confirmed that a departure payment had been made and said it was in accordance with the regulations that existed at the time. The organisation added that its rules around such payments have since been tightened.

The latest controversy comes at a particularly difficult time for Infantino, who is already facing resistance from European football over his aborted FIFA Forward Enterprise proposal.

FIFA DEFENDS INFANTINO'S MANDATE

In its statement, FIFA insisted that Infantino's position remains backed by the organisation's democratic structures and the member associations that elected him.“The FIFA President was democratically elected by FIFA’s Member Associations and continues to serve with their mandate,” FIFA said.The governing body also pushed back against what it described as inaccurate reporting and unsupported claims.“Speculation and insinuation should not be presented as fact, and repetition does not make an allegation true,” the statement added.

Basant Meghwal makes history with India's first U20 World Athletics high jump silver

MADRID. (Agency)

Basant Kumar Meghwal won the silver medal in the men's high jump at the World Athletics U20 Championships, securing India's second medal of the competition. He cleared 2.21m, matching his lifetime best, to finish second behind Algeria's Younes Ayachi.

Ayachi also cleared 2.21m, but did so on his first attempt, while Basant needed two attempts. Great Britain's Otis Poole also finished at 2.21m, but required three attempts, giving Basant the silver on countback.The result marks India's first silver medal in the men's high jump at the World Athletics

U20 Championships. It also adds another podium finish to India's campaign at the junior global



championships, after Ashish Yadav won a silver medal in Javelin throw earlier this week.Basant's route to the medal

saw him clear 2.06m on his first attempt, 2.12m on his second and 2.17m on his first before negotiating 2.21m at the second time of asking.

BASANT MATCHES PERSONAL BEST

Basant began the final with a successful clearance at 2.06m on his opening attempt. He then needed two tries to get over 2.12m before clearing 2.17m at the first time of asking.The bar was subsequently raised to 2.21m, where Basant initially failed to clear the height. He responded on

his second attempt to match his lifetime best and put himself firmly in medal position.

ISL launches fan survey as Jamshedpur FC turmoil clouds new season

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Indian Super League (ISL) has launched a new fan feedback survey as the 2026-27 season draws closer, seeking direct views from supporters on their clubs, viewing habits and matchday experiences. The exercise comes amid fresh uncertainty around Jamshedpur FC and a wider transition towards a new club-led commercial model for the league.The survey takes around five minutes to complete and covers topics including favourite clubs, match-viewing habits, refereeing, fantasy football and the content supporters want to see. Fans can access the form through the ISL's social media channels.

ISL FAN SURVEY - CLICK FOR FORM

The timing is significant. After months of uncertainty over the league's future, the ISL is entering a new phase in which its 14 clubs will have greater control over management and commercial decisions. The 2026-27 season is scheduled to begin on September 4 and will return to a full home-and-away format.But the survey arrives while the league continues to deal with issues that go well beyond fan engagement. Jamshedpur FC's ongoing turmoil, following Tata Steel's decision to withdraw its funding, has once again highlighted the financial fragility facing some ISL clubs.The league therefore has two very different challenges ahead: understanding what supporters want and ensuring that the competition itself remains stable enough for those



supporters to stay invested.

HOW WILL THE ISL FAN SURVEY WORK?

The survey is designed to give the league and clubs a clearer understanding of their supporters.Fans are being asked which clubs they follow, how they watch ISL matches and how they rate their overall experience. Questions also cover refereeing, fantasy football and digital content, giving the league a sense of how supporters interact with the competition beyond the 90 minutes.That information could become particularly useful under the new club-led structure.

With greater responsibility for their own commercial operations, clubs can use fan feedback to shape ticketing, merchandise, matchday experiences, social media and community initiatives.

Jindal Stainless to identify site for ₹40,000 cr

Maharashtra project: CEO

New Delhi. (Agency)

Jindal Stainless is in the process of identifying a site for its proposed Rs 40,000-crore stainless steel manufacturing facility in Maharashtra, the company's CEO Tarun Khulbe said. "It is taking a bit of time, but...we are progressing in that direction," he said, replying to a question related to land acquisition for the said project.

There will be clarity, maybe in another one or two quarters, and then the company comes out with its plans, Khulbe said.

The company is scouting for several land options in the state, he added. According to the company, the proposed stainless steel facility will have a total capacity of 4 million tonnes per annum and will be constructed in phases, with the first phase expected to be operational in the next four years. Jindal Stainless Ltd (JSL) will also produce specialised grades of steel for critical applications in emerging sectors such as hydrogen, nuclear energy, defence, mobility, infrastructure, and process industries.

The government of Maharashtra will support the proposed investment by expediting the necessary permissions, registrations, approvals, clearances, and fiscal incentives from the relevant state departments, the company has said. Jindal Stainless is India's largest stainless steel manufacturing player, having a combined capacity of 3 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) at its two plants in Hisar (Haryana) and Jajpur (Odisha). Once operational, the Maharashtra facility will take the company's overall manufacturing capacity to 7 MTPA in India.

Hyundai Motor India expects exports volume to recover from Q2FY27: CEO

New Delhi. (Agency)

Hyundai Motor India Ltd expects a strong recovery of its exports volumes from the second quarter of the ongoing fiscal year on the back of continued robust demand and a healthy order backlog across key markets, according to its Managing Director and CEO Tarun Garg.

In the first quarter, Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) had witnessed a decline in its exports impacted by the West Asia war and temporary production disruption due to a fire incident at the facility of one of its suppliers, Mobis.

The company's exports were down 19.6 per cent at 38,708 units in Q1 FY27 as compared to 48,140 units in the corresponding period last fiscal.

"The US-Iran conflict, which started towards the end of last financial year, continued to impact our Middle East exports during Q1 FY27. Further, export volumes were also affected by the temporary production disruption in June," Garg told analysts.

However, he added, "The underlying fundamentals of our export business remain strong. We continue to maintain a healthy order backlog across key markets, and customer demand remains robust." Garg further said, "Supported by healthy backorders, continued portfolio expansion, and our resilient operations, we expect strong recovery in export volumes from Q2 onwards and remain confident in delivering our stated full-year (overall) growth guidance of 8 per cent to 10 per cent."

Hero MotoCorp volume momentum stays strong, but margin headwinds persist

New Delhi. (Agency)

Two-wheeler major Hero MotoCorp (HMCL) had a strong June quarter (Q1 Fy27), registering a beat across most parameters. While revenues were aided by volume as well as value growth, operating performance remained resilient despite commodity headwinds. After a 14 per cent volume growth in the June quarter for the sector, with HMCL growing faster at 22.7 per cent, the company expects the momentum to continue into the September quarter.

For FY27, the volume growth expectation for the sector is in high single digits. While the sales outlook remains robust, given new products and refreshes, its ability to outperform the sector and maintain margins amid rising input costs will be the key drivers going ahead. At the current price, the stock, which has gained about 16 per cent over the past month, is trading at 19.6 times its FY27 estimates. This is at a discount to its five-year average. Revenues for the quarter saw a 35.7 per cent jump, aided by a 22.7 per cent year-on-year (Y-o-Y) growth in volumes to 1.7 million units, though the growth was on a lower base. Price realisation at ₹77,500 per unit grew 10.6 per cent Y-o-Y and 3.8 per cent quarter-on-quarter (Q-o-Q), aiding the topline show. Average selling prices were helped by a 30 per cent Y-o-Y jump in revenue from the high-margin parts, accessories and merchandising businesses.

BIS to scale up silver hallmarking testing as buyers shift from costly gold

New Delhi. (Agency)

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) is preparing to scale up testing of silver jewellery as demand shifts from gold amid a spike in prices, a senior BIS official said, adding that referral and assay laboratories for silver will expand nationally within two years. Silver hallmarking has been voluntary since 2005, and from September 2025 onwards, hallmarked silver articles carry a Hallmark Unique Identification (HUID) number, enabling buyers to verify purity.

"Last year, we introduced HUID for silver jewellery as well, and demand is increasing. We have taken stock of the requirements and are ready to take up silver jewellery testing in a big way in

our laboratories," BIS Deputy Director General (Laboratories) Nishat S Haque told.

"We will be able to handle the requirement within our own labs for roughly the next two years. Within that period, we will be expanding referral and assay laboratories across the country," she said.

The number of silver jewellery articles hallmarked rose to 5.9 million in the 2025-26 fiscal year from 3.2 million in 2024-25, according to official data. There are currently around 230 Assaying and Hallmarking Centres recognised by BIS for testing silver jewellery.

Gold hallmarking surveillance kept in-house

BIS, the government's national standard-setting body, runs all market surveillance testing of hallmarked gold jewellery through its own



laboratories rather than outsourcing it, Haque said, describing the scheme as one of the regulator's biggest consumer-confidence successes.

"This is the one product where we have set up a referral and assay laboratory within BIS's own lab setup. We do not outsource this market surveillance activity of hallmarked jewellery to any outside lab," she said.

Laboratory network has nearly tripled since 2014

BIS tested nearly 270,000 product samples in the past year, Haque said, as its laboratory network has expanded sharply to meet rising certification demand.

BIS now operates 10 of its own laboratories nationwide, backed by a wider network of recognised private and empanelled government labs built under a Laboratory Recognition Scheme introduced in 1985.

Ownly, magicpin target bigger share of India's food delivery market

Kolkata. (Agency)

Food delivery platforms Ownly and magicpin are eyeing a bigger share of India's food delivery market, citing growing restaurant participation and order volumes across major cities. The developments come as India's food delivery sector sees more platforms seeking a foothold in the market, while restaurants push for greater control over commercial terms and customer-facing promotions.

Anshoo Sharma, Founder and CEO, magicpin, told that the platform has seen growth across major cities, with both restaurant partnerships and daily orders increasing.

"Restaurants appreciate the transparency we bring to the table and as a genuine alternative, with operations across top major cities throughout India. It is our restaurant partners and customers who have helped us to become India's third-largest food delivery app, and we



only see a growth trajectory going forward," Sharma said.

"We have experienced growth across all the major cities across India, and our operations continue to run smoothly, with steady growth in both restaurant partnerships and daily orders," he added. Aravind Sanka, co-founder at Rapido & Ownly, said the platform is already generating significant order volumes for some restaurant partners. "If restaurants continue to see better economics and customers continue to get transparent pricing, growth will follow. Our focus is on increasing restaurant participation, order density and making Ownly the preferred platform for everyday food ordering," he said. Sanka said there was room for multiple players in India's food delivery market, which he described as under-penetrated.

Loan book to cross ₹2 trn milestone in FY27 on firm demand: Hudco CMD

New Delhi. (Agency)

State-owned infrastructure financing institution Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd (Hudco) expects its loan book to cross the Rs 2 trillion mark during the ongoing financial year on firm demand. To fund asset expansion, the company plans to borrow Rs 75,000 crore from both domestic and overseas markets during the current fiscal.

Of this, the company has already raised Rs 20,000 crore in the first quarter and the remaining Rs 55,000 crore would be mobilised in the three quarters of FY27, Hudco Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) Sanjay Kulshrestha told PTI.



debentures and other means.

The government authorised the company to issue 54 EC Capital Gain Bonds last year and it mobilised about Rs 120 crore during Fy26.

Capital Gains Bonds are a type of

investment instrument, authorised by the Income Tax Act, 1961. These bonds provide an opportunity for individuals to save on long-term capital gains taxes incurred from the sale of property or assets.

By investing in these bonds, an investor can defer the payment of capital gains tax and enjoy the potential benefits of a reliable investment option. Talking about disbursement, Kulshrestha said the company intends to disburse Rs 65,000 crore during the entire financial year.

During the April-June period, the company reported its highest-ever quarterly loan disbursements of Rs 16,377 crore, registering a growth of 28 per cent over Rs 12,812 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

Maruti Suzuki chairman calls for faster reforms, easier business climate

New Delhi. (Agency)

Maruti Suzuki India Ltd Chairman RC Bhargava has urged the Centre and state governments to proceed faster on the road of reforms and increase efforts to make doing business easier, while requesting all political parties to support reforms and programmes that create wealth.

In his message to shareholders in the company's annual report for 2025-26, the veteran industry leader also noted that the government, and the opposition, should "ensure that the additional resources that would be generated would be used to create a more equitable and just society". Bhargava also said that considering how the car industry

has grown post GST2.0, there could be some changes in the company's longer-term target and "presently, we are estimating that the car



industry would grow to 6.1 to 6.3 million by FY 2030-31 and that the share of the small car market would grow significantly faster than what had happened in the last five years".

He also reiterated the company's stand on the need to use multiple technologies to achieve the goal of

moving to net zero in India, while highlighting that biogas, which can be generated in large quantities from locally available resources, could be a "substitute for imported CNG and be clean and renewable with zero import content". "Despite the Iran-US war that has adversely affected most global economies, the Indian economy continues to do well and remains the fastest growing among larger countries," he wrote in the address. GST collections, despite rates of tax being reduced on over 90 per cent of products, have shown buoyancy and reached new high levels, Bhargava said, adding "without GST reforms we may not have done so well in the difficult months that have elapsed".

‘RBI focus on core inflation confusing for markets’: Murthy Nagarajan

New Delhi. (Agency)

Indian markets have been left "confused" by the Reserve Bank of India's focus on inflation excluding food, fuel, and precious metals in its monetary policy decision on Wednesday, according to Murthy Nagarajan, Head of Fixed Income at Tata Asset Management.

"RBI has said it is looking at headline inflation. But the language which has been used shows that it is looking at core inflation," Nagarajan told Siddharth Upasani in an interview. He also discussed how the Monetary Policy Committee may act in the future and Foreign Currency Non-Resident (Bank) deposits possibly touching \$100 billion. Edited excerpts:

Do you agree with the view the RBI was unexpectedly dovish in its latest meeting?

Yes. Just a week ago, the Governor gave an interview where he made similar statements. So, the market was expecting this to be a dovish policy. But the way in which he spoke on Wednesday was still a surprise.

While he was expected to talk about inflation, he has changed the context. Now the general view is that the RBI is looking at core inflation and core inflation excluding precious metals, which is projected to rise from around 2.5% and move towards 4%. If that is the case and 4% is the target, the feeling is that most probably in our view there will not be any rate hikes in 2026-27.

It is slightly confusing for the market. My reading is that because there is so much uncertainty, the RBI wants to keep the powder dry right now.

Moreover, FPI flows into debt have been strong and FCNR(B) inflows

February, the view was that Brent oil prices will go below \$70 per barrel. If



could be \$80 billion-\$90 billion at least and possibly touch \$100 billion. In this situation, there doesn't seem to be a worry about forex. Back in

we were to move towards that, should things clear up, then there may not be a need to hike rates. And if growth is strong, equity inflows can start coming back to India.

It's a wait-and-watch situation. I believe, if inflation goes above 5% and the war continues, then reluctantly the RBI will hike rates. It will try to push it as far as possible because it is looking for signs of strong growth. The Indian market is more a function of growth; we are a growth economy. FDI, FPI inflows will come only because of growth. We are a BBB (rated) economy and the only reason why FPI will come is for high growth, so we have to grow fast.



Kiara Advani

Makes First Appearance Amid 'Toxic' Debate, Lands In Bengaluru For Trailer Launch

Kiara Advani made first public appearance on Saturday morning amid the debate around the recently released song Tabaahi from her upcoming movie Toxic: A Fairy Tale For Grown-Ups. The actress was spotted by the paparazzi as she arrived in Bengaluru, where the trailer of her movie will be released later today. In a video that surfaced on social media, Kiara looked prettiest in an all-denim attire as she stepped out of the airport. She was also seen taking selfies with fans and posing for the paparazzi. Kiara was also accompanied by the director of the film, Geetu Mohandas. Watch the video here:

Tabaahi Release Sparks Debate

Following the release of Toxic song Tabaahi, Kiara Advani found herself facing criticism from a section of social media users over her intimate scenes with Yash. The discussion gradually moved beyond the song itself, with some users dragging Kiara's personal life into the conversation. Trolls also began leaving comments on husband Sidharth Malhotra's social media posts, linking the film to their marriage. Meanwhile, Yash, who is also married, drew comparatively less criticism, prompting conversations online about whether female actors continue to be judged more harshly than their male counterparts for similar on-screen performances.

Huma Qureshi Backs Kiara Advani

However, amid the discussion, Huma Qureshi, who is also a part of Toxic, recently defended Kiara and said, "It's sick. It's disgusting, absolutely. But I think women in this film, the actresses and the directors will have the last laugh. There's no point in trying to defend something at all because you can't change people's mindset with words. I would just let the film do the talking." Besides Kiara, Yash and Huma, Toxic also stars Nayanthara, Tara Sutaria and Rukmini Vasanth. The film is scheduled to hit theatres on August 26.



Bharat Bhagya Viddhaata OTT Release: When And Where To Watch Kangana Ranaut's Film



Kangana Ranaut starrer Bharat Bhagya Viddhaata is now heading to the digital space after its theatrical run. Directed by Manoj Tapadia, the film hit cinemas on June 12, 2026, and is inspired by the events surrounding the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks. While it received appreciation in some quarters, the film did not make a significant impact at the box office. Here's everything you need to know about its OTT release, including when and where you can watch it. Bharat Bhagya Viddhaata is all set to premiere on ZEE5 on August 14. The official Instagram handle of the platform shared a new trailer to make the announcement. Along with it, they wrote in the caption, "An untold story of ordinary nurses who stood with extraordinary courage on the darkest night of 26/11. Some heroes were never seen. Their stories were never told. Until now. Bharat Bhagya Viddhaata Trailer Out Now. #BharatBhagyaViddhaata premieres on 14th Aug on Hindi Zee 5."

Soon after the announcement was shared, fans of Kangana expressed excitement in the comments section. One fan wrote, "Wow finally." Another fan wrote, "Can't wait to see it again." Others were seen dropping fire emojis.

Set largely inside Cama and Albless Hospital, the film follows Gita Madhav Gandhare, played by Kangana Ranaut, a nurse who finds herself and her colleagues caught in the middle of the unfolding terror. As armed terrorists target the hospital, the medical staff race against time to protect hundreds of patients, including pregnant women and newborns. With no weapons or combat training, the nurses and other hospital workers rely on courage, quick thinking and teamwork to keep the patients safe. The film draws inspiration from the real-life bravery of Cama Hospital nurse Anjali Kulthe and shines a light on the lesser-known heroes who risked their lives to save others during the 26/11 attacks.

Jackie Shroff Joins Salman Khan's Upcoming Film With Nayanthara, Starts Shoot In Mumbai



Salman Khan's upcoming collaboration with director Vamshi Paidipally continues to get bigger with every new update. A fresh report now suggests that another popular Bollywood face has now come on board.

According to a report by Bollywood Hungama, veteran actor Jackie Shroff has joined the cast of the Salman Khan and Nayanthara starrer. The report states that Jackie began shooting for the film in Mumbai on Friday and will be seen in a key role. A source told the portal, "Jackie Shroff starts shooting for the film with Salman Khan today (Friday) in Mumbai. He has a dynamic role and is sure to be greeted with seetis and taalis. Contrary to the buzz, he isn't the negative lead, but plays a part pivotal to the film's narrative."

The report further claimed that Rahul Dev, Abhimanyu Singh and Aravind Swami will be playing the film's antagonists. It also revealed that the India schedule is expected to conclude by the end of August, following which the team will head to Europe to film a short schedule.

Interestingly, there had earlier been reports suggesting that Anil Kapoor would feature in an important role in the film. However, there was never any official confirmation. With Jackie Shroff now reportedly joining the project, it remains unclear whether he has stepped into the role that was previously linked to Anil.

Currently referred to as SVC63, the film is expected to arrive in theatres on Eid next year. The project has generated considerable buzz, especially as Salman looks to bounce back after a string of underperforming releases at the box office.

Apart from SVC63, Salman also has Maatrubhumi in the pipeline. Directed by Apoorva Lakhia, the film has already completed production. It was initially scheduled to release in April this year but was later postponed.

There were reports that Maatrubhumi had been pushed to 2027. However, the makers recently unveiled a new poster carrying the release year 2026, indicating that the film is now expected to hit theatres before the end of this year.



Swara Bhasker

Admitted To Hospital With Dengue, Shares Pic From Hospital Bed

Dengue cases are on a rise these days and the latest celeb to contract the disease is Swara Bhasker. The actress took to Instagram to share her health update with her fans. Swara shared a picture of herself from the hospital bed on her Instagram story, writing, "Well that escalated fast. Dengue-fied and hospitalised!"

Meanwhile, Balika Vadhu actress Avika Gor was also hospitalised after being diagnosed with dengue. Her husband, Milind Chandwani, shared an update about her health and revealed that the actress had been pushing through work despite being unwell. Sharing a video message on Instagram, Milind revealed that Avika had been battling a very high fever for the past five days. Despite being unwell, the actress continued to honour her professional commitments and kept shooting. It was only after her reports came back positive for dengue that she finally stepped back from work and was hospitalised.

Milind Chandwani shared, "Avika has been admitted to the hospital since last night. She's had a fever of 103-104 degrees for the past five days. Now guess what she's been doing over these last five days? First, she went to finish the remaining

two days of a project shoot. She did so incredibly well despite having a 104-degree fever that the entire thing wrapped up in just one day. Then she came back and had two days break. She spent the entire time in bed, taking medicines, barely able to move, unable to eat properly."

Coming back to Swara Bhasker, she was last seen in the TV show Pati Patni Aur Panga along with her husband Fahad Ahmad. She is yet to announce her upcoming project.





How about a black & white home?

The two colours symbolise class in two different contexts; but a punch of the two can create such simplistic yet elegant impression. And to add to this, there's also that element of drama that one can't give away when there's a blend of black and white.

- Using black and white to decorate the flooring and to colour of small rooms is the most basic one can do. For instance, you can go for black flooring for your bathroom, and then use the bathroom fittings in white. This gives it a perfect look.
- Walls, if done well, enhance the look of every house. Paint your walls black and white. Either go

for a proportional 3:1 look by painting three walls black and one wall white, or go with diagonal walls painted in the contrast colours. Stripes in black and white or spraying black paint over white walls are others you can opt for.

- You could also paint the walls white and then use black photo frames or wall hangings on the same wall to add charm.
- Tiles and floor paper in the combination of black and white look great. The checked ones might seem out of style, but are still elegant. Use tiles lined with the contrast colours, this way it looks a little less dramatic than the one before.

- Decorate your desk or tables in the black-white combo. Spread a black table cloth and display all-white objects on the table. Other ways are to use furnitures with complementing shades against a black and white combination wall. This also adds modishness.
- You could also make your hosiery a part of this experimentation. Use

black and white shaded rugs, carpets, curtains (all of which suit the colour of your wall and does not look a mismatch.)

- Another important part of home decor are lights. You could use chandeliers, light shades, lamp shades which have black and white combined in hue. This way, you could keep it simple yet add the required shades

If sophistication and innovativeness is the extra edge you want to add to your home decor, what better than use a cocktail of the colours black and white to decorate your abode.

to your decor. Not only is the black and white combination elegant and sophisticated but it also adds quite a lot of drama to the decor. Not only does these techniques allow you to match your home decor with your personality, but it does all this and more in an extremely expensive way. If you're the kinds who likes trying things that are out of the mundane and wants to give your home a complete makeover, we suggest you go 'Black and White'.



- Begin from the corner near your door and gradually move your way around the room. Do the superficial stuff first and then move on to the main things.
- Remember to make your storage space smaller. The more storage space you have, the more you'll fill it with stuff.
- If you haven't worn an item in six months, chances are

that you will never wear it in the future. Give it away, you don't need it.

- Declutter one room at a time. Doing more rooms together will simply tire you out.
- Have your family member or friend help you go through things. Another person's perspective will help you get over the (at time irrational) emotional attachment that you might have for objects that are of no use.

- Listen to some music while you sort out things and give yourself a little treat once you finish.
- While sorting clothes, group them into categories — hang all the skirts together, fold and keep you jeans and tops together, keep woollens and beach clothes a little behind in your closet because you won't need them all the time.
- Plastic organisers are a great way to keep clothes sorted and in place.

The entrance of the house brings in the main energy. Read on to find out more about the vastu of the main entrance

The main entrance of the house is one of the most important areas. Dr Snehal S Deshpande, Advanced Feng Shui & Pyravastu Consultant tells us more about it. The main entrance is the mouth of a house which brings in main energy and here are certain rules about the dos and don'ts regarding the door.

Avoid a property which has a door facing South West as it is the entry of the devil energy and brings in struggles and misfortunes. If the wealth energy as per advanced Feng Shui of that house is good, the

occupant may prosper during initial 3-4 years. But then may face a down fall. If your house already has a door facing South West, fix 2 Hanumanji's tiles (with the Gada in his left hand) outside the door & see the difference. Certain gems like Yellow Sapphire, Earth Crystals, Lead with the Expert's advice can also further reduce the severity of this defect. But it is always better to avoid such properties.

The door facing South East is said to be a door which brings in

Vaastu tips for your home's main entrance

illness, anger and court matters. wo stickers of Gayatri Mantra should be fixed on both the sides of the door from outside. Use of gems like Coral, Yellow Sapphire etc. and copper with a proper advice will further reduce the defects of this door.

South facing door brings in sharp energy which disturbs positive energy field of the house. Door here means a highly active social life. Some times it may bring in arguments or disagreements. Again fixing two above mentioned Hanumanji's tiles outside the door will help. It can further be protected by using lead, cat's eye etc. But this door if it is in fourth Pada is very good for an occupant.

West facing door is also not bad for the youngsters as it has an active energy &

energy of enjoyment. That is why in Japan, Geisha houses are always facing west.

North West facing door is not so bad. It can bring in health, wealth and prosperity if supported by other vastu rules. Only thing that the main male member of the house may remain out of the house for a longer time if the door faces west and a female if the door faces North.

Normally doors facing East, North, North East are said to be good doors. But again there are many other things like Cuts, Extensions, Under Ground Water Tanks, Feng Shui (Flying Stars Chart) of the house which decide the wealth and health of the occupant. A few words on these topics some other time.

With the spicy, oily food that we all love, our table napkins are always left with some reminders of the sumptuous meals served at our tables. Table napkins, especially the whites have a way of stubbornly holding on to stains. And if you don't want to discard the napkins that are otherwise in perfect condition, then this will prove to be the best way to salvage them. Tie and dye napkins are easy to make.

Here is what you will need: Napkins, Fabric dye, Rubber bands, A large bowl or vessel, Plastic wrap, Rubber gloves

Method: Wash napkins and let them dry. Wear rubber gloves and mix the dye according to product

Get creative with table napkins

instructions and transfer to your bowl. Now, pinch fabric in and then using rubber bands or thread, tie up fabric together at intervals on the napkin to create a design.

Submerge the tied napkins into the bowl of dye, letting dye seep in. Remove. Let it dry (designs absorb best when left overnight.)

Once it is completely dry, remove the rubber bands and unfold your napkin. The rubber bands would have left designs where the colour



didn't dye. Rinse napkin with cold water until the water runs clear. Wash and

dry according to dye instructions. Set the table with your new napkins. Cool,na?



How to clean your kitchen

Have a particular place for everything — utensils to appliances, clean it and put it away when it has a

home.

- Keep a special drawer that can be used just for foil,

plastic wrap and your parchment papers. Those items are always easy to

find, and should be put away after each use.

- Do not mix ammonia and bleach to clean the platform because it will create toxic fumes and leave a black patch on it.

- Identify spots in your kitchen that accumulate clutter and take a few minutes every day to clear those spots and place objects in their correct homes. Try to end each day with a clean, empty kitchen sink.

