



@thesikhtimes



facebook.com/  
thesikhtimes



instagram.com/  
qaumipatrika

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

# The Sikh Times

## National Daily

**VISIT:**  
[www.thesikhtimes.in](http://www.thesikhtimes.in)  
Email: [sikhtimesindia@gmail.com](mailto:sikhtimesindia@gmail.com)

Vol. 18 No. 119

RNI NO. DELENG/2008/25465

New Delhi, Wednesday, 16 September 2026

sikhtimesindia@gmail.com

9654077232

12 pages ₹ 3

### TN gets Rs 12,300 crore investment boost

CHENNAI (Agency)

During Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay's official visit to the United Kingdom, a Tamil Nadu state delegation signed multiple agreements in London on Monday, securing investment commitments worth Rs 12,300 crore.

The projects span key sectors, including advanced manufacturing, electrical equipment production, and Global Capability Centres (GCCs), and are expected to create approximately 10,000 high-value jobs across the state. A major part of the investment comes from Samvardhana Motherson International Ltd, which, alongside its European and UK joint venture partners, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to invest Rs 11,000 crore. The mega-project is expected to create nearly 7,000 employment opportunities for the TN workforce.

The MoU was signed by Barrie Painter, Global Head, Marketing and Communications, Samvardhana Motherson International Group, and Deepak Jacob, Managing Director, Guidance, Tamil Nadu government.

The proposed investment will cover design, engineering, manufacturing, assembly and logistics facilities and is expected to strengthen Tamil Nadu's position as a hub for advanced manufacturing, engineering and automotive-related activities.

The Motherson commitment is the first major investment announcement from London since the CM arrived in the UK capital as part of his visit to attract investments to TN.

### 'Tear us apart': Shivakumar challenges Oppn over probe by Central agencies

BENGALURU. (Agency)

Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Sunday challenged the Opposition to conduct any investigation against him and his party leaders, including by the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) or Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), but questioned why they, including Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, approach courts for relief when investigations are initiated against them.

"Do whatever you want with us. Tear us apart, hand us over to the CBI and conduct any investigation. But when investigations are conducted against them, why do they go to court and obtain stays?" Shivakumar wondered. "I do not want anyone to face trouble. Power should be used positively and not misused. My commitment is to use this authority to do good for people," the CM said.

### 'HDK pushing aside Ashoka and Vijayendra'

Chief Minister DK Shivakumar took a dig at Union Minister HD Kumaraswamy, saying the JDS leader was waiting to push aside BJP leaders R Ashoka and BY Vijayendra and emerge as the principal Opposition leader in Karnataka.

"Let elections come closer. Ashoka and Vijayendra will have no authority. Someone else (Kumaraswamy) will parachute in," Shivakumar said.

## Defence sector key to India's 2047 vision, tech leadership vital for strategic edge: **Rajnath Singh**

**Singh said India must achieve self-reliance in critical technologies, substantially increase indigenous content, expand defence exports and establish a stronger presence in global supply chains by 2047.**

New Delhi (Agency)

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Tuesday said technological leadership would determine strategic advantage in future warfare and called for closer collaboration between the DRDO, industry, start-ups and MSMEs to build a self-reliant defence ecosystem.

Addressing the DRDO-Industry Synergy Meet, 'Vimarsh 2026', at DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi, Singh said the vision of a Viksit Bharat by 2047 was not limited to economic growth but envisaged a "technologically self-reliant, socially inclusive, environmentally sustainable, and strategically secure India".

"The defence sector is the cornerstone of this vision," he said. Singh said India must achieve self-reliance in critical technologies, substantially increase indigenous content, expand defence exports and establish a stronger presence in global supply chains by 2047. "By 2047, we have to achieve self-reliance in critical technologies, significant increase in indigenous content, multi-fold growth in defence exports, and we will have to

ensure strong presence of India in global supply chain," he said.

He said the DRDO-industry partnership should go beyond production to encompass research, design, testing, certification and the entire manufacturing value chain. MSMEs and start-ups, he added, must be made an



integral part of this ecosystem.

Singh also underlined the importance of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and drones in future warfare and urged defence companies to invest in developing technologies that could shape the battlefield of the future.

"Today, we are seeing how AI can be used to

render an image which seems to be of the 80s (referring to the viral 'in the 80s' AI-driven trend online). Joy would be when you can present an image of the future 40-50 years ahead," he said.

"We need to not just imagine the technology of the future, but we need to develop the technology of the future, today. Because, in future warfare, only that country will be able to leverage a strategic advantage, who will lead the technology. And, our imagination of today will become tomorrow's military capabilities," he said.

Singh said companies investing in new and emerging technologies would emerge as technology leaders, while closer cooperation between DRDO and industry could make India a global hub for defence manufacturing.

He described recent reforms in the defence sector as "unprecedented" and said self-reliance was not merely about manufacturing military platforms, machinery and components but also about developing an "Atmanirbhar" mindset. "The country which has its technology, has the power to build its future," he said.

## **Yogi Adityanath** announces Rs 5 lakh insurance, tablets for 400 UP advocates

Prayagraj (Agency)

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday criticised the previous Samajwadi Party government over the state of governance before 2017 and announced a series of measures for the legal fraternity, including tablets for 400 state law officers and a cashless insurance scheme of up to Rs 5 lakh for practising advocates. Addressing a felicitation ceremony organised by the Allahabad High Court Bar Association in Prayagraj, Adityanath said his government had worked on law and order, judicial infrastructure, technology and coordination between the executive and the judiciary, while also expanding welfare support for advocates.

"Before 2017, the challenge before us was not merely of resources. It was also a challenge of the system and approach, transparency and accountability in administration, law and order and judicial infrastructure," the Chief Minister



said.

He said nearly 45 to 50 per cent of posts in the Uttar Pradesh Police were vacant before his government took office in 2017. He added that the police force's annual training capacity was then around 3,000 personnel and has now gone up to 60,000.

"There was no training capacity and even basic facilities for the police were lacking," Adityanath said, adding that his government

had strengthened police infrastructure and training facilities across the state.

The Chief Minister also spoke about the condition of the subordinate judiciary before 2017, saying many courts functioned from dilapidated or temporary buildings and district courts in ten districts were operating from rented premises. He said the government had addressed problems that had earlier affected the criminal justice system, including witnesses turning hostile out of fear in serious cases and poor arrangements for taking prisoners from jails to courts.

"Today, you can see the results of better coordination between the executive and the judiciary. When we reform and transform, the performance becomes visible on its own," he said. He added that a strong judiciary strengthens the foundations of good governance and should be a priority for any elected government.

## "We have no objection if CBI conducts impartial probe": **Sanjay Raut** on Disha Salian case

Mumbai (Agency)

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut on Tuesday said his party has "no objection" if the CBI conducts an impartial investigation into the Disha Salian case.

Raut alleged that the issue was being repeatedly raised for "political motives" despite investigations establishing that party leader Aaditya Thackeray had "no connection" with the matter. Speaking about the case, Raut said he had earlier refrained from commenting on it as it was a sensitive matter involving a young woman and her family. "Disha Salian's death was unfortunate. The Mumbai Police have investigated the matter multiple times. The integrity and impartiality of the Mumbai Police cannot be questioned," Raut said.

He said Shiv Sena was no longer in power in Maharashtra and Uddhav Thackeray was not



the Chief Minister, while Devendra Fadnavis currently holds the posts of Chief Minister and Home Minister. Raut said the investigation into the case was completed and a closure report was submitted during the tenure of the present government as well.

"According to the police report, Aaditya Thackeray had no connection whatsoever to the case," he said. The Shiv Sena (UBT) leader alleged that the matter was being brought up repeatedly for political reasons. "This is tarnishing the reputation of Disha Salian and her family. A sensitive matter has been turned into a political battleground," Raut said. He said that when the matter reached the court and a CBI inquiry was ordered, it was clarified that the investigation should not proceed by treating anyone as an accused from the outset.

"The recent discourse surrounding this case in certain media outlets is part of a political conspiracy," Raut alleged. He added that the Thackeray family holds a distinct place in Maharashtra and alleged that attempts were being made to defame Balasaheb Thackeray's family. "We have no objection if the CBI conducts.

### Bring UCC Bill in Parliament if you have numbers: **J&K CM Omar Abdullah** to BJP

SRINAGAR (Agency).

Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Tuesday challenged the BJP to bring the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) bill in Parliament if it has numbers and should not bring it through the back door via BJP states as the "whole country is not a BJP-ruled state".

"It is the Parliament's job. If you have a number, bring it to the Parliament. Why are they doing it from different states?" Omar told reporters in Srinagar.

He was reacting to Home Minister Amit Shah's statement that UCC would be implemented in all 21 BJP-led NDA ruled states before 2029.

Questioning whether BJP had the backing of all its NDA allies for the proposed legislation, Omar said, "Not everyone agrees with this in their own NDA. There are reports that Janta Dal United has raised their hand and said that it will not be implemented in Bihar. If their own people are not ready for its implementation, how can they say that it should be implemented in the whole country?"

The (UCC) bill, he said, should not be brought from the back door but they should bring this bill to the Parliament and see if they have a number or not.

"Just like their own allies are not in favour of this, I don't think they will be able to pass this in the Parliament," he said adding that is why they are taking this path.

Omar argued that the proposed legislation could not be described as "universal" if it was implemented only in states governed by the BJP or its allies.

"It is not universal if it doesn't apply to the whole country. The whole country is not a BJP ruled state. There are a number of states and territories that the BJP does not rule. Therefore, if you apply it only to BJP states, it is not universal," Omar said in response to a question.

## Maharashtra govt plans to bring Uniform Civic Code Bill in Winter Session

Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis said his government will bring a bill on the Uniform Civil Code in the Winter Assembly session after the state panel submits its report.

Mumbai (Agency)

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Monday said the state government will implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) once the committee drafting its recommendations submits its report. He said the government plans to bring the legislation during the winter session of the state assembly in Nagpur. Fadnavis made the remarks a day after Union Home Minister Amit Shah said BJP-led NDA governments in 21 states would introduce the Uniform Civil Code before 2029.

Speaking to reporters, Fadnavis said the seven-member panel headed by retired Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Desai

was working on its recommendations. The Maharashtra government had set up the committee in July and given it six months to



submit its report. Apart from Justice Desai, the panel includes former High Court judges RC Chavan and SG Mehare, former chief secretary DK Jain, former advocate general

Virendra Saraf, constitutional expert Ramesh Patange and educationist Suvarna Rawal. "The Maharashtra government has constituted a committee on UCC, and it is working on the matter. We will proceed with implementation as soon as the panel submits its report," Fadnavis said.

The Chief Minister attacked Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi over his criticism of the all-vegetarian dinner served at the BRICS Summit in Delhi, saying the issue was being raised to divert attention from India's diplomatic gains.

He said, "BRICS was not organised for a dinner," and added that a controversy was being created over the menu deliberately to shift public attention away from India's diplomatic achievements.

## Rahul Gandhi alleges UPI move opens door to charges, accuses Modi govt of yielding to US pressure

The Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha alleged that American payment companies had long opposed India's zero-MDR policy and claimed the government had now created a route to change it.

New Delhi (Agency).

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday alleged that the Centre's latest notification on UPI transactions had opened the way for merchant discount rates (MDR) to be imposed on transactions above Rs 2,000, accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi of "once again surrendering to American pressure".

Gandhi claimed the move would eventually burden consumers even if charges were levied only on merchants. "Now, MDR can be levied on merchant UPI transactions above Rs 2,000. Even if these transactions account for just 5% of the volume, they make up nearly 65% of UPI's total transaction value," he said in a post on X.

"The government says no fees will be charged to customers. But where will the fees imposed on shopkeepers ultimately come from? Added to the prices, straight out of the customer's pocket," Gandhi said. He alleged that American payment companies had long opposed India's zero-MDR policy and claimed the government had now created a route to change it. "Just like with the US Trade Deal, Compromised PM Modi is once again surrendering.





## Traffic diversions planned around Greater Noida Expo Mart for Bauma CONEXPO

Noida(Agency)

Traffic police have issued an advisory ahead of Bauma CONEXPO India 2026, scheduled at India Expo Mart from Sept 15 to 18, with around 10,000 visitors expected each day.

Traffic will continue to move normally during the exhibition, but temporary diversions may be introduced if congestion builds up around the Expo Mart roundabout.

If the junction is closed to regulate traffic, vehicles travelling from Galgotia Cut towards IFS Villa roundabout via Expo Mart will be diverted through Nasa roundabout, Sharda roundabout and LG roundabout. Motorists can then proceed towards Jagat Farm and continue to their destinations.

Officials said the diversion will be implemented only if traffic pressure warrants it. Commuters have been advised to follow directions given by traffic personnel and displayed at diversion points.

A dedicated parking facility has also been arranged for exhibition visitors at Nasa parking near Nasa roundabout. Visitors have been advised to park their vehicles there and proceed to the venue.

Traffic police said arrangements have been made to ensure that emergency vehicles, including ambulances and fire tenders, can move without unnecessary delay during diversions.

Motorists travelling through Greater Noida during the four-day event have been advised to plan their journeys in advance and use alternative routes if congestion develops around India Expo Mart.Commuters can contact the GB Nagar traffic police helpline at 9971009001 for assistance or to report traffic-related problems.

## Peeling plasters, exposed rods: Noida orders condo audit

Noida.(Agency)

Recurring plaster, seepage and structural defects at Great Value Shramam in Sector 107 have prompted Noida Authority to order a structural audit. An inspection found peeling plaster and exposed reinforcement bars in towers and the basement.

“Ever since residents shifted here, there has not been a single year when we have not seen patchwork being carried out,” Kaladhar Narayan, a resident, told.

Narayan, a senior official with GAIL, purchased a 4BHK apartment here in 2018. He said that peeling plaster, in particular, has been a persistent problem in the society for years.

The society, home to around 1,300 families living across 17 towers, has seen repair work several times over the years, but there’s been no permanent fix for the underlying issue of poor construction quality, residents said.

“We have been complaining to the Noida Authority and requesting that they look into the matter. It appears that the quality of the raw material is poor, and that is why we requested a structural audit,” Narayan added.

According to officials, the Authority has now issued a notice to M/s Great Value Projects India in response to a complaint by the society’s AOA and directions from the Resettlement and Industrial Development Commissioner.A recent inspection by Noida officials found plaster peeling off at several locations, exposing reinforcement steel in beams beneath balcony .

## Dog owner stops woman from entering lift in Ghaziabad highrise, assaults her with stick

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

Two women got into a physical fight inside a lift at a highrise society in Rajnagar Extension after one of them who had a muzzled dog with her stopped the other from entering a lift, police said.

The woman who had been stopped from entering the lift, Hina Bari, has filed a complaint at Nandgram police station against the other woman, Shweta Dubey, on Sept 12. In her complaint, Bari, who is a teacher at a private school in Indirapuram, said that she reached the society around 3 pm that day. Dubey was in the lift and stopped her from entering. She allegedly used abusive language, and when Bari entered the lift forcibly, she slapped her, gave her threats and struck her with the



stick.

The altercation was captured by the CCTV cameras installed in the lift of Tower C at Windsor Paradise-2. In the footage, Dubey can be seen inside the lift with her dog. As the lift door opens, Bari is seen trying to enter the lift. Dubey stops her and soon strikes her with the stick in her hand. Other residents and security guards trying to tackle the situation can also be seen in the video.Nandgram ACP Ziauddin Ahmed said a non-cognisable report, a police record of a minor crime where the police cannot arrest or investigate without permission from a magistrate, has been registered against Dubey under sections 115 (2) (Voluntarily causing hurt) and 504 (intentional insult with intent to provoke breach of the peace) of BNS.

# 'Could have died': After viral crash video, Gurgaon biker Sia hits back at driver's 'accident' defence

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Woman biker Sia, whose video of a car allegedly hitting her motorcycle on Golf Course Road went viral on Monday, responded late Monday night to the accused driver's claims that the collision was accidental and that bikers were playing the “victim card”.

In a video statement shared on Instagram, Sia said the footage clearly showed how the car followed the bikers before the collision and questioned the accused's claim that he had been trying to avoid them.

“It is very clear from the original video who was instigating whom. Even if we were changing our speeds frequently, that does not give you the right to chase us all the way. You came and asked me to stop the bike,” she said.

She said two separate videos captured the collision from different angles.“One

video shows you switching directly from the first to the third lane to hit and then run away. Another video, recorded by my camera from the front, shows you hitting me and your car violently colliding with my bike, eventually making me fall on the road,” she said.She questioned why the driver did not stop after the collision to check whether she was injured.

“Aren’t these two videos enough? Why did you not stop to check on me? It was your responsibility to stop and check whether I had suffered any injuries after you knocked me down,” she said.

Sia also pointed to the possibility of more serious consequences, asking what could have happened if she had suffered broken bones or died in the crash.

“The videos clearly show the way he ran away after hitting my bike and did not

even stay back to check whether the person he hit was dead or alive,” she said.

Sia said the incident also highlighted how unsafe women can feel on the roads



in Gurgaon and Delhi. She thanked people for supporting her and said she hoped the incident would encourage people to drive responsibly.

The statement came after Kalyan Baisla,

identified as the man who was driving the car, denied deliberately hitting Sia.

Baisla claimed 22-23 bikers were riding aggressively, repeatedly overtaking his car and slowing down in front of it.

He said Sia suddenly turned while he was taking a U-turn, leaving him little time to react, and claimed he had tried to avoid the collision.

He also denied fleeing after the crash and said the videos circulating on social media had been edited by joining separate clips.

The car's owner, Manish, had earlier said that Baisla had borrowed the vehicle two days before the incident. Manish

said he was at work when Baisla took the car and that he learnt about the accident only on Monday morning.

## Play equipment lifts attendance by 36% at Nuh anganwadi centres

Gurgaon.(Agency)

What began as a push to make anganwadi centres more child-friendly has ended up in a significant rise in attendance, with children’s average daily attendance jumping by 36% across 49 centres in Nuh district after the installation of playschool equipment.

Mewat Development Agency (MDA), which launched the Model Anganwadi Centre initiative across all five blocks of the district, found that average daily attendance increased from 1,150 to 1,567 children — an addition of 417 children. The increase was recorded across Nuh, Punhana, Tauru, Nagina and Firozpur Jhirka, with no block reporting a decline. Nuh DC Akhil Pilani said the results showed that relatively simple

interventions could make anganwadi centres more attractive to children and parents. “The objective was not merely to install play equipment, but to create an environment where children would want to come to the anganwadi centre every day. The increase in attendance indicates that making these centres more child-friendly can have a direct impact on participation,” he said.The biggest turnaround was reported in Tauru, where attendance rose by 68.1%, from 232 to 390 children across 15 reporting centres. Firozpur Jhirka recorded a 43.2% increase, followed by Nuh at 39.4%, Punhana at 26.4% and Nagina at 16.2%. Officials said the relatively lower percentage increase in Nagina was partly because its centres already had comparatively high baseline attendance

of around 25 to 40 children, leaving less room for a sharp percentage rise. Pilani said the district would now focus on strengthening the centres where basic facilities remained inadequate. “Attendance is only one indicator. For these centres to function effectively as early childhood development spaces, children also need access to safe drinking water, electricity, nutrition and regular activities. We are looking at these gaps along with the infrastructure,” he said.

Hasanpur in Tauru, where attendance had been just 12 children, saw the figure rise to 36, a 200% increase. Kota in the same block went from 11 to 28 children, while Khori Kala increased from 10 to 22. Zoorasi doubled its attendance from 11 to 22 children. Adbar in Nuh recorded a 67% increase.

## 100+ owners remove stilt violations ahead of enforcement drive in Gurgaon

Noida.(Agency)

The ongoing crackdown on illegal construction and commercialisation of residential properties appears to be prompting around 100 property owners to take corrective action on their own.

Owners in Sushant Lok-1 and 2, DLF phases 1, 2 and 3, Greenwood City, Vipul World and South City 1 are removing unauthorised structures from stilt areas fearing enforcement action.

More than 100 owners have already shared photographs and videos with officials showing that they have cleared violations from their stilt areas, according to DTCP.

“We are asking property owners to share photographs and videos. More than 40 owners have already submitted such evidence, which will be verified by the department,” city town planner

(enforcement) Amit Madholia said, adding that the department of town and planning (DTCP) was encouraging property owners to remove violations voluntarily rather than wait for enforcement action.

The submissions are being used by the department to track voluntary compliance, even as enforcement action continues against properties where violations remain. The voluntary removals are significant as they suggest that enforcement action is beginning to change behaviour even among property owners who have not yet faced demolition or sealing.

However, the department’s verification will be crucial. A photograph showing a cleared area would need to be matched against the sanctioned building plan and the nature and extent of the original violation. Residents said the action had created a sense of urgency among property owners.

“People had been taking the stilt area for granted, either converting it into rooms or using it for commercial purposes. Now, after seeing demolitions and sealing, owners are realising that they could be next,” said a resident of Sushant Lok-1.

A DLF Phase 3 resident said the crackdown had also highlighted the importance of keeping stilt areas available for their intended purpose. “These areas are not just about parking. Keeping them open is important for movement and emergency access, particularly in colonies where buildings are already closely packed,” the resident said.Another resident said voluntary removal was welcome but needed to be followed by proper verification.“If someone has removed an illegal structure, that is a good thing, but the department should check whether the entire violation has actually.

# Haryana’s first unmanned aerial vehicle, anti-drone centre inaugurated at J.C. Bose University

Gurgaon.(Agency)

Haryana’s first dedicated Centre of Excellence for Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) and Anti-Drone Technology was inaugurated at J.C. Bose University of Science and Technology, YMCA, Faridabad, Monday, marking the university’s entry into the defence technology sector. The centre was inaugurated by Haryana governor and university chancellor Prof Ashim Kumar Ghosh during the university’s sixth convocation and has been established to develop specialised manpower, promote research and strengthen indigenous capabilities in UAV, counter-UAS and anti-drone technologies.

Developed by Community College of Skill Development with the department of electronics engineering, with support from the Haryana govt. The centre will provide facilities for education, practical training, research and innovation. University officials said it is the first dedicated academic centre of its kind in Haryana integrating UAV and counter-UAS technologies under one platform. Vice-chancellor Prof Rajive Kumar said



the centre was aimed at creating an integrated academic ecosystem. He said students and researchers would be able to acquire theoretical knowledge, practical skills and research experience in UAV and anti-drone technologies, contributing to the development of specialised human resources and indigenous technological capabilities in

the state.

A major feature of the initiative is the standalone one-year PG Diploma in Anti-Drone & Autonomous Technology. The university said the programme focuses on practical and operational skills in electronic threat detection, autonomous systems and counter-drone technologies. Principal of Community

College of Skill Development, Prof Sanjeev Goyal, said the centre and

### THE SIKH TIMES

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

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

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

RNI No. DELENG/2008/25465



# DM Kupwara chairs NCORD Committee Meeting, reviews Anti-Drug measures in District

KUPWARA, SEPTEMBER: District Magistrate (DM) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, today chaired a meeting of the District-Level NCORD (Narco Coordination) Committee to review the measures being undertaken to curb the menace of drug abuse and illicit trafficking in the district. The meeting focused on strengthening coordinated efforts among various departments and agencies involved in drug demand reduction, enforcement, prevention, public awareness and rehabilitation. Detailed discussions were held on the progress achieved so far and the measures required to further intensify the district's fight against drug abuse. During the meeting, the Committee reviewed enforcement-related action taken under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act. The meeting

took stock of FIRs registered by the Police Departments of Kupwara and Handwara, action taken against drug peddlers, attachment of properties linked with narcotics-related activities, preventive detention of habitual offenders and other measures aimed at disrupting the drug supply network. The District Magistrate directed all concerned departments to maintain close coordination and adopt a proactive approach in identifying vulnerable areas and taking timely action against persons involved in the cultivation, production, transportation and distribution of narcotic substances. The meeting also reviewed the ongoing drive against illicit cultivation of cannabis and poppy. The concerned agencies were asked to sustain field-level surveillance and ensure timely destruction of illegal crops to prevent their

conversion into narcotic substances. Measures pertaining to the removal of encroachments and other activities associated with drug-related hotspots were also discussed. Emphasizing the importance of preventing the availability of spurious and unauthorized medicines, the District Magistrate directed the Assistant Drug Controller to intensify market inspections and conduct special checking drives in coordination with the Police Department. The officers were asked to ensure strict action against the sale and distribution of fake, spurious or unauthorized drugs and strengthen monitoring of pharmaceutical outlets across the district. The District Magistrate stressed that enforcement alone cannot address the drug problem and called for greater emphasis on preventive interventions, awareness generation and

rehabilitation. He directed the concerned departments to enhance awareness programmes, particularly among students and youth, regarding the harmful consequences of drug abuse and the importance of seeking timely assistance. He further underscored the need to identify vulnerable individuals and ensure that persons affected by substance abuse are appropriately guided towards counselling, treatment and rehabilitation services. The concerned departments were instructed to work in close coordination to facilitate access to support mechanisms for affected persons and their families. The District Magistrate called upon all stakeholders to adopt a sustained and coordinated approach towards making Kupwara a drug-free district, stressing that concerted efforts by government depart-

ments, law-enforcement agencies, educational institutions, civil society and the general public are essential to effectively combat the challenge of substance abuse. SSP Kupwara, Syed Al Tahir Gilani; SSP Handwara, Tahir Saleem Khan; ADC Kupwara, Gulzar Ahmad Khan; Principals of GDCs, ACR, ACD, CMO, DIO, ARTO; officers from the Prosecution Department, Agriculture Department, Drug Control Department and Social Welfare Department; Tehsildars, and other concerned officials attended the meeting.

## Two-Day HRD Programme on Integrated Pest Management held at Baramulla

BARAMULLA, SEPTEMBER: A two-day Human Resource Development (HRD) Programme on Integrated Pest Management was inaugurated today at Fruit Mandi Meeting Hall, Sopore. The programme was organized by the Central Integrated Pest Management Centre, Srinagar, in collaboration with the State Horticulture Department, Kashmir. Dr. Barkat Hussain, Chief Scientist, Entomology Division, SKUAST-K, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. He addressed the concerns of pests and diseases of Apple, which is

growing day by day, and made farmers and pesticide dealers aware about different IPM methods to curb the problem. Dr. Mithilesh Kumar Arya, Deputy Director (PP), delivered a detailed Pest Management (IPM) and the Safe and Judicious Use of Pesticides. He elaborated on the principles of IPM, focusing on need-based pesticide application, biological control measures, and resistance management to minimize environmental and health hazards. He also told about Natural enemies of Apple, Yellow Sticky & Pheromone traps as well to reduce level of infestation. Abir

Shankhari, Assistant Plant Protection Officer (WS), also gave a brief demonstration and lecture about National Pest Surveillance System and informed how this application is highly beneficial for farmers nowadays. Kawal Nain Singh, Scientific Assistant, addressed different ill effects of pesticides on human body and mentioned all precautionary measures while spraying pesticides. The technical session was held by Basharat Hussain Shah, Horticulture Development Officer, Sopore, who provided insights into the scope and importance of IPM techniques and highlighted the need of minimizing pesticide applications. The pro-

gramme witnessed active participation from field officials, pesticide dealers and farmers, aiming to strengthen pest surveillance, promote responsible pesticide use, and enhance sustainable horticultural productivity in the region.

### No arrest 48 hours after Narela gym shooting

New Delhi : More than 48 hours after a 42-year-old man in Narela and fifteen empty cartridges were recovered from the spot, the two unidentified assailants are still at large, officials said. Police said Pramod Kumar, a resident of Nahri village, was allegedly shot multiple times by two men near a gym close to Delhi Hospital in Bakner around 6:50 am on September 3. Officials said four teams comprising personnel from the local police and Special Staff have been deployed to work on the case. Following the incident, Kumar's family members and residents blocked the road and demanded the immediate arrest of those responsible. Police officials reached the spot and assured the protesters that teams had been formed to trace the accused. Investigators are examining CCTV footage from the area and gathering local intelligence to establish the identity and movements of the shooters.

### Woman held for attacking 2-yr-old son in Faridabad

Gurugram: According to the police, Krishna Kumar, a resident of Shiv Enclave (Part-3) in Faridabad, had filed a complaint against his wife alleging that her behaviour towards the children was poor and she often beat them in fits of anger. The complainant said he had been married to his wife for about five years and had three children with her. The police said the accused was at home with her children when she attacked the two-year-old. When the father tried to save the child, the woman allegedly struck the boy's throat with a paper cutter kept in the house. The boy was critically injured and rushed to a nearby hospital.

#### NAME CHANGE

I, TABEER S/O JAVED R/O U-560 GALI NO-2 PUSTA-2 PARSADI MOHALLA NEW USMANPUR GARHI MENDU BHAIJAN PURA DELHI-110053 have changed my name to TABIR for all future purposes.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Mrs. Kiran Negi W/o Mr. Sohan Singh & Mr. Vijay Kumar Negi S/o Mr. Sohan Singh intends to purchase a Plot no. B-33 area measuring 100 Sq. Yds., out of Kharsa no. 62/12/1 Situated in the area of village Palam colony known as Raj Nagar Extn., New Delhi, from Mr. Lilaadhar Yadav. He was purchased the said property from Notarized GPA, ATS & Will dated 22.04.1993 executed by Mr. Kartik Singh S/o Mr. Bindeshwari. The property is stated to be free from all encumbrances, liens, charges, mortgages, claims, and other third-party interests. Please also note that the said property is proposed to be financed by Bajaj Housing Finance Ltd., Ghaziabad. If any person(s) objection & regarding subject property, then kindly may submit his/her objection within 07 days from the date of the Notice in writing. The said objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.

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

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform you that Mrs. Sristi Sachan intends to purchase the in respect of Built-up Property Unit on Third Floor with 80% of Roof rights area measuring 81.5 Sq. Yds. Part of Property No. RZ-19 Out of Kharsa No. 629 Situated in the area of Village Nasirpur Delhi State Delhi Colony Known as Indra Park D. N. Sharma Road New Delhi-110045., from Mr. Praveen Sharma. He was owner of the property vide Family Will Dated 12.07.2021 executed by Mrs. Shakuntla Rani Sharma W/o Late Mr. Dina Nath, as Doc No. 417, Book No. 3, Vol. No. 777, on Pages No. 71-78, on Dated 13.07.2021, SR-IX, New Delhi, and after death of Mrs. Shakuntla Rani Sharma died on Dated 11.12.2022. The property is free from all encumbrances, liens, charges, mortgages, and other third-party claims. The physical possession of the property is presently with Mr. Praveen Sharma. The proposed purchase of the aforesaid property is to be financed by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited, Branch: Gurgaon. If any person(s) objection & regarding subject property, then kindly may submit his/her objection within 7 days from the date of the Notice in writing. The said objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.

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

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is hereby given to the general public that our client Mr. Pardeep Kumar S/o Mr. Surajbhan Rathee is the owner and in possession of a Freehold Residential Property ID No. 38CPUE73, Plot area measuring 270 Sq. Yards, Out of Kharsa No. 24/21/2, 22, Situated at Waka Maaja Vats Colony, across the railway line, Tehsil Bahadurgarh, District Jhajjar, Haryana. Our client acquired the said property by virtue of a Transfer Deed in Blood Relation dated 05.08.2026 Vide Doc No. 3735, Book No. 1, Vol. No. 407/333, on dated 05.08.2026 at SR-Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar, in the chain documents below mentioned documents not available i.e. Original Sale Deed dated 19.10.1983 executed by Mrs. Priti Kaur in favour of (1) Mr. Jai Prakash, (2) Mr. Parmod Kumar, (3) Mr. Pardeep Kumar and (4) Mr. Praveen Kumar all S/o Mr. Surajbhan in respect of Plot area measuring 270 Sq. Yards, Out of Kharsa No. 24/21/2, 22, Vide Doc No. 2600, Book No. 1, on dated 19.10.1983 at SR-Bahadurgarh, Jhajjar. Therefore, our client hereby declares that except him, no other person has any right, title, interest, claim or objection in respect of the above-mentioned property, and the said property is presently financed/ mortgaged with Piramal Finance Ltd., Branch: Bahadurgarh Haryana. If any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the 'right, title or interest in the Said Property then contact us within 07 days from the date of Publication of this notice and or the same to the undersigned if found by anyone. Thereafter no claim shall be entertained

[NAVEEN KUMAR VERMA] Advocate  
F-211, Sector-3,  
Vaishali, Ghaziabad,  
Uttar Pradesh-201010  
(Contact at 09958871432)

#### NAME CHANGE

I, JAHEED ALI S/O HAMID ALI ANSARI Residing at H. NO. A-141/1 A- BLOCK, NEW SEELAMPUR, Seelampur, North East Delhi, Delhi -110053 have changed my name to ZAHID ALI ANSARI for all future purpose

#### NAME CHANGE

I, MOHAMMAD YAMIN MALIK S/O SIRAJUDDIN, residing at H NO-B-408 GALI NO-4 CHAMAM PARK, INDIRA VIHAR DELHI-110094, have changed my name to MOHD YAMEEN

#### NAME CHANGE

I SAJULL S/O RAICHALI MONDAL R/O H.NO 8 STREET NO7 BLOCK 5 GEETA COLONY DELHI CHANGED MY NAME TO SAJULL MONDAL

#### NAME CHANGE

I ARCHANA W/O SAJULL MONDAL R/O H.NO 8 STREET NO7 BLOCK 5 GEETA COLONY DELHI CHANGED MY NAME TO BABY MONDAL

#### NAME CHANGE

I VARUN S/O VIJAY KUMAR R/O H.NO B-16 2ND FLOOR BLOCK-B AMAR COLONY DELHI 110024 CHANGED MY NAME TO VARUN ICHPAL

#### NAME CHANGE

I, NAVEEN KUMAR SHARMA S/o LATE MAJOR DINE RAM SHARMA aged 60 years, resident of B-190, SECTOR-4, DEFENCE COLONY, DEHRADUN (UTTARAKHAND), have changed my name from NAVEEN KUMAR SHARMA to NAVEEN SHARMA vide affidavit dated 07/09/2026 sworn before the Executive Magistrate, Delhi. I shall henceforth be known as NAVEEN SHARMA for all purposes.

#### NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as NEETU MEHTA alias NEETU GIRI GOSWAMI D/o PURAN GIRI GOSWAMI, W/o RAVI KANT VERMA, residing at SMQ 372/H3, Camero Complex, Suborto Park, Delhi Cantt, South West Delhi, Delhi-110010, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NEETU VERMA.

#### NAME CHANGE

I, MOHAMMAD WASEEM S/O MOHAMMAD ASIF residing at H NO-1025, 5th FLOOR, STREET SHAKTI MANDIR, DARYA GANJ, DELHI-110002 have change my name to MOHD WASEEM for all future purpose

#### NAME CHANGE

I, PRAVEEN KUMAR YADAV S/O JUGNANDAN YADAV R/O 5600 SECOND FLOOR 76 RAIGAR PURA KAROL BAGH DELHI-110005 have changed my name to PRAVEEN KUMAR for all future purposes.

#### NAME CHANGE

I, DEV CHOUDHARY S/O JAGDISH CHAUDHARY R/O H.NO-242, GHONDI VILLAGE, KRISHNA NAGAR, DELHI-110051, have changed my name to DEVI CHOUDHARY for all future purposes.

#### NAME CHANGE

I, MOHAMMAD YAMEEN S/O ABDUL QADEER R/o H NO-2793-94, GALI PEELAL WALI, GB ROAD, MOHALLA NIYARIYAN, DELHI-110008 have changed my name to MOHD YAMIN for all future purposes.

#### NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as NISHA alias NISHA YADAV D/o VIRENDER SINGH, W/O AGANDEEP YADAV R/o 50 VPO Daulat Pur, South West Delhi, Delhi - 110043 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as NISHA YADAV .

#### NAME CHANGE

I, Ramneek S/o Rajender Kaushik R/o House no. 78, Kham Pur, PO: Khampur, Dist: North West Delhi, Delhi - 110036 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Ramneek Kaushik

#### NAME CHANGE

I RAJESH RAMESH LIMAYE S/O RAMESH MADHAV LIMAYE R/O , B-969 2ND FLOOR GREENFIELD COLONY NHPC COLONY FARIDABAD HARYANA 121010 have changed my name to RAJESH LIMAYE Permanently for all future purposes

#### NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as RAMAWANTI DEVI alias RAMAWATI DEVI D/o SRI RAM W/o YOGENDRA YADAV R/O RZ319/3, Gali No. -7, Gitanjali Park , West Sagarpur Delhi - 110046 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAMAWATI DEVI .

#### NAME CHANGE

I, PADMA SHREE Mother of No-2618477F, Rank-HAV, Name-LIN-GARAJ HADIMANI residing at VILL-KALKUPPI, PO-MEKALMARADI, TEHSIL-BAILHONGAL, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591121 have changed my name BABU to BABU HADIMANI for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 14/09/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

#### NAME CHANGE

I, BABU father No-2618477F, Rank-HAV, Name-LINGARAJ HADIMANI residing at VILL-KALKUPPI, PO-MEKALMARADI, TEHSIL-BAILHONGAL, DIST-BELAGAVI, KARNATAKA-591121 have changed my name BABU to BABU HADIMANI for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 14/09/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

#### NAME CHANGE

I MOHAMMAD AHMADULLAH KALIM S/O MOHAMMAD SERAJUDDIN R/O D-319 ABUL FAZAL ENCLAVE PART -1, DAWAT NAGAR JAMIA NAGAR OKHLA DELHI 110025 have changed my name to MD AHMADULLAH KALIM Permanently for all future purpose

## KIND ATTENTION RAIL PASSENGERS! IMPORTANT INFORMATION

**RUN OF MORE FESTIVAL SPECIAL TRAINS-2026**  
In order to clear extra rush of passengers during this Festival Season, Railways have decided to run the following additional Festival Special Trains as per details given below:

| 04072/04071 New Delhi - Supaul - New Delhi Reserved Special Express |       |   |          |      | 118 Trips       |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|---|----------|------|-----------------|-----------|
| Train No. 04072                                                     |       | ↓ | STATIONS | ↑    | Train No. 04071 |           |
| ARR.                                                                | DEP.  |   |          |      | ARR.            | DEP.      |
| ---                                                                 | 21:35 |   |          |      |                 | New Delhi |
| 06:35                                                               | ----  |   | Supaul   | ---- | 07:45           |           |

Days of run :- 04072 Ex. New Delhi on everyday from 01.10.2026 to 30.11.2026 and 04071 Ex. Supaul on everyday from 03.10.2026 to 30.11.2026.

**Composition :** 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and General.  
**Stoppages:** Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundla Jn., Etawah Jn., Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Gyanpur Road, Varanasi Jn., Aunhar Jn., Ghazipur City, Ballia, Suraimanpur, Chhapra, Sonpur, Hajipur Jn., Shahpur Patoree, Barauni Jn., Begusarai, Khagaria Jn., Mansi Jn., Simri Bakhtiyarpur & Saharsa Jn. Stations.

## 04212/04211 Sultanpur - Lokmanya Tilak (T) - Sultanpur Reserved Special Express

| Train No. 04212 |       |      | STATIONS                | Train No. 04211 |       |  |
|-----------------|-------|------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|--|
| ARR.            | DEP.  | ARR. |                         | DEP.            |       |  |
| ---             | 04:00 |      | Sultanpur               | 23:00           | ---   |  |
| 06:20           | 06:30 |      | Lucknow                 | 20:50           | 21:00 |  |
| 14:00           | ----  |      | Lokmanya Tilak Terminus | ----            | 15:00 |  |

Days of run :- 04212 Ex. Sultanpur on every Wednesday from 21.10.2026 to 11.11.2026 and 04211 Ex. Lokmanya Tilak Terminus on every Thursday from 22.10.2026 to 12.11.2026.

**Composition :** 3 Tier AC Economy and General.  
**Stoppages:** Kanpur central, Orai, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Bina, Rani Kamlapati, Itarsi Jn., Khandwa, Bhusaval, Nasik Road, Igatpuri, Kalyan & Thane Stations.

## 04226/04225 Varanasi - Lokmanya Tilak (T) - Varanasi Reserved Special Express

| Train No. 04226 |       | STATIONS                | Train No. 04225 |       |
|-----------------|-------|-------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| ARR.            | DEP.  |                         | ARR.            | DEP.  |
| ----            | 01:35 | Varanasi Jn.            | 02:05           | ----  |
| 06:20           | 06:30 | Lucknow                 | 20:50           | 21:00 |
| 14:00           | ----  | Lokmanya Tilak Terminus | ----            | 15:00 |

Days of run :- 04226 Ex. Varanasi Jn. on every Thursday from 22.10.2026 to 12.11.2026 and 04225 Ex. Lokmanya Tilak Terminus on every Friday from 23.10.2026 to 13.11.2026.

**Composition :** 3 Tier AC Economy and General.  
**Stoppages:** Jaunpur City, Sultanpur, Kanpur Central, Orai, Virangana Lakshmbai Jhansi, Bina, Rani Kamlapati, Itarsi Jn., Khandwa, Bhusaval, Nasik Road, Igatpuri, Kalyan & Thane Stations.

## 04314/04313 Yog Nagari Rishikesh-Muzaffarpur -Yog Nagari Rishikesh Reserved Special Express

| Train No. 04314 |       |      | STATIONS             | Train No. 04313 |       |       |
|-----------------|-------|------|----------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| ARR.            | DEP.  | ARR. |                      | DEP.            |       |       |
| ----            | 15:20 | ↓    | Yog Nagari Rishikesh | ↑               | 11:15 | ----  |
| 11:45           | ----  |      | Muzaffarpur Jn.      |                 | ----  | 13:15 |

Days of run :- 04314 Ex. Yog Nagari Rishikesh on every Sunday & Thursday from 01.10.2026 to 29.11.2026 and 04313 Ex. Muzaffarpur Jn. on every Monday & Friday from 02.10.2026 to 30.11.2026.

**Composition :** 2 Tier AC, 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and General.  
**Stoppages:** Haridwar Jn., Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Sitapur, Gond, Basti, Gorakhpur, Siwan, Chhapra, Sonpur & Hajipur Stations.

## 04052/04051 New Delhi - Howrah- New Delhi Reserved Special Express

| Train No. 04052 |       | STATIONS   | Train No. 04051 |       |
|-----------------|-------|------------|-----------------|-------|
| ARR.            | DEP.  |            | ARR.            | DEP.  |
| ----            | 18:15 | New Delhi  | 08:20           | ----  |
| 23:40           | ----  | Howrah Jn. | ----            | 01:40 |

Days of run :- 04052 Ex. New Delhi on every Friday from 02.10.2026 to 27.11.2026 and 04051 Ex. Howrah Jn. on every Sunday from 04.10.2026 to 29.11.2026.

**Composition :** 3 Tier AC, Sleeper and General.  
**Stoppages:** Ghaziabad, Aligarh Jn., Tundla Jn., Govindpur, Prayagraj Jn., Mirzapur, Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Jn., Buxar, Ara, Patna Jn., Bakhtiyarpur Jn., Kail Jn., Jhajha, Jasidih Jn., Madhupur Jn., Chittaranjan, Asansol Jn., Durgapur, Bardhaman & Bandel Stations.

**RailMadad Helpline No. 139**  
Visit RailMadad website:-  
[www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.railmadad.indianrailways.gov.in)  
Download RailMadad app.

#### NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as RAKHI VERMA D/O SHANTI DEVI R/O C-267, Aditi Garden Chauhan Patti, Karawal Nagar, PO: Karawal Nagar DIST: North East Delhi, Delhi - 110094 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RAKHI.

#### NAME CHANGE

It is for general information that I SHAHRUKH KHAN S/O MAHFUJ KHAN R/O C-11/1, Gali No-1, 25 Futa Road, Shri Ram Colony, Khazuri Khas, North East, Delhi-110094 declare that name of my father and my mother has been wrongly written as MEHFOOJ KHAN and IMRANA KHAN in my all educational documents. The actual name of my father and my mother are MAHFUJ KHAN and IMRANA KHATOON respectively which may be amended accordingly

#### NAME CHANGE

I, DEEPA JOSHI D/O DEVI DUTT SHARMA Ex- wife of LUXMAN NEGI, R/o C-102, FAKHRUDDIN APARTMENT, PLOT NO-18, SECTOR-10, DWARKA, DISTRICT, COURT COMPLEX DWARKA, DELHI-110075, declare that I got divorce from my Ex-husband LUXMAN NEGI vide court decree (HMA), 1662/2023 dated 29/05/2023 further, I have changed the name of my minor son ARMAAN NEGI, aged 12 years and he shall hereafter be known as ARMAAN JOSHI, for all future purposes. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

#### NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as MUNINDER RAM S/O SHRI RAM CHANDER RAM R/O H NO. 29-A, RAGHWIR ENCLAVE , NAJAFGARH, SOUTH WEST DELHI , DELHI - 110043, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MUNINDER KUMAR RAM.

#### NAME CHANGE

I, AJAY S/o V Narsim R/o E-51, and 52 T/F, R/Side, Front Side, Block-E, Om Vihar Extn., Uttam Nagar, Delhi-110059, have changed my name to AJAY VADDDIPOGU for all future purposes.

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that my client Sh. Uttam Kumar Karmakar, S/o Late Sh. Ratan Kumar Karmakar, R/o 2/211, Dakshinpur, near Ambedkar Nagar Thana, Ambedkar Nagar New Delhi-110062, is the lawful owner of Property No. 2/211, Dakshinpur, Ambedkar Nagar New Delhi-110062, which was duly transferred/registered in his favour by his father Late Sh. Ratan Kumar Karmakar through a registered document. Smt. Geeta Karmakar W/o Sh. Ratan Kumar Karmakar has no right, title or interest in the said property and has no authority to sell, transfer, create any third-party interest or interfere with my client's ownership/possession. Any person dealing with the said property through her shall do so at his/her own risk and shall be liable for appropriate legal action as per law.

#### S. Firoz Advocate

Supreme Court & Delhi High Court

## NORTHERN RAILWAY

### E-TENDER NOTICE

AMM/EMU/GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India Invites E-Tender against Tender No. 46265431 The details are as under

| 1. Name of work                                                               | Cylindrical Roller Bearing Rivet less Cage No. MP.0.2402.03, Rev.-04 Apr 2021 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2. Approx. cost of work                                                       | Rs. 7926768/-                                                                 |
| 3. Quantity                                                                   | 240 nos                                                                       |
| 4. Last Date & Time of Submission of tender bid of tender                     | 10.10.2026 (11:00 Hrs.)                                                       |
| 5. Date & Time of opening of tender document                                  | 10.10.2026 (11:00 Hrs.)                                                       |
| 6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen | <a href="http://www.ireps.gov.in">www.ireps.gov.in</a>                        |

Note: (i) The tenderers must be registered on the Indian Railways E-Procurement System (IREPS) site i.e. [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in). (ii) Please refer to the tender document for all terms and conditions. (iii) No manual offers are acceptable. NIT No.46265431 Date: 12.09.2026

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3178/26

## 04062/04061 Anand Vihar (T) - Bhagalpur Anand Vihar (T) Reserved Special Express

| Train No. 04062 |       |      | STATIONS             | Train No. 04061 |       |       |
|-----------------|-------|------|----------------------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| ARR.            | DEP.  | ARR. |                      | DEP.            |       |       |
| ----            | 12:00 | ↓    | Anand Vihar Terminal | ↑               | 20:00 | ----  |
| 13:30           | ----  |      | Bhagalpur            |                 | ----  | 16:30 |

Days of run :- 04062 Ex. Anand Vihar Terminal on everyday from 10.10.2026 to 25.11.2026 and 04061 Ex. Bhagalpur on everyday from 11.10.2026 to 26.11.20



NEWS BOX

Police arrest man after multiple people wounded in China knife attack

BEIJING.(Agency)

Police in southern China said they have arrested a man who wounded multiple people in a knife attack outside a hot pot restaurant.

Authorities received reports that the suspect, a 35-year-old surnamed Li, had carried out the attack in Guangzhou's Panyu district at 5:20 pm on Monday, a police statement said later that evening.

Several people sustained "non-life-threatening" injuries, the statement added.

It did not give the number of victims or a suspected motive.

Footage of the incident posted online suggested the attacks took place in a shopping centre and showed at least three victims with wounds to their faces.

A video seemingly captured from CCTV showed a man in a face mask stabbing a woman in the face as he walked past her in front of a restaurant.

Another video showed police rushing into a shopping centre and pedestrians fleeing.

Police said they are investigating the case.

China has seen high-profile knife attacks in recent years, including in May when three people, including two Japanese citizens, were injured in an attack at a restaurant in Shanghai.

In November 2024, a former student of a vocational college in eastern China killed eight and wounded 17 in a knife attack after he failed his exams.

NATO fighter jets shoot down drone in Lithuania

world.(Agency)

NATO fighter jets shot down a drone over Lithuania, the country's President Gitanas Nauseda said Tuesday.

Baltic states Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia -- NATO members sharing a long border with Russia -- regularly report drone incursions into their territories as part of Moscow's war with Ukraine.

"A drone that just entered Lithuanian airspace was destroyed by NATO fighter jets," Nauseda wrote in a post on X.

"With Russia intensifying its aggression against Ukraine, such readiness is vital for our region," he added.

According to Lithuanian public radio LRT, which cited the National Crisis Management Center (NKVC), the drone crashed in a rural area near Lake Kaunas, in the country's central region.

Lithuanian Foreign Minister Kestutis Budrys in a post on X thanked allies "whose presence helps protect our skies and strengthens our security".

"This is best example of Allied unity and resolve in action -- sending a clear message that NATO stands vigilant, committed, and ready," he added.

A NATO fighter shot down a Ukrainian drone over Estonia in May, the first interception of a foreign drone in the airspace of a Baltic state by NATO's air police since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022.

North Korea's Kim pledges 'invariable support' in Putin letter

SEOUL.(Agency)

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un promised his "invariable support" for Russia in a letter to President Vladimir Putin, calling Russia's ongoing war "sacred," state media reported Tuesday.

Since Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine in 2022, North Korea has become a key ally of the Kremlin, sending troops to support Moscow's war effort in return for economic benefits and military technology, analysts say.

South Korea's spy agency estimated last year that some 2,000 North Korean troops had been killed in the war, while a more recent assessment put the number of North Korean soldiers killed or wounded at around 6,000.

"Firmly convincing the victory of the Russian Federation in the present sacred war for defending the security interests of the country and international justice.

US judge postpones Trump’s new visa rules for foreign students, journalists

MANILA.(Agency)

A US federal judge on Monday postponed implementation of a Trump administration policy that would impose stricter limits on how long foreign students and journalists can study or work in the United States.

The preliminary injunction from District Judge Dennis Saylor came one day before the new visa rules from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) were scheduled to take effect.

Under the proposed new rules, foreigners on student visas would be admitted for a maximum of up to four years after which they would have to apply for an extension.

International students were previously allowed to remain for the duration of their studies.

Foreign journalists would be limited to stays of just 240 days, or around eight months, but could apply for extensions of similar duration.

Until now they could stay up to five years.

Chinese journalists would get just 90 days, with extensions of 90 days.

A coalition of unions representing universities, teachers and journalists had filed a lawsuit challenging

the visa restrictions.

Saylor put implementation of the new DHS rules on hold for now without ruling on the merits of the case and scheduled another hearing for October 2.

But in an accompanying memo, the judge expressed skepticism about the visa restrictions on international students and journalists.

He said the current system has permitted tens of millions of foreign students to come to the United States, resulting in "groundbreaking research in science, medicine, and technology, substantial economic growth, and a host of other benefits."

Rather than attempt to improve that system, DHS elected to replace it with a new program that will substantially restrict the overall number of foreign students, researchers, professors, and journalists," he said.

The judge said that under the new rules, DHS denials of visa extensions would be "entirely discretionary and unappealable."

A DHS official -- based on limited and vague criteria, and with no possibility of appeal -- will have the power to cut short the academic, research, or teaching activities.

New US tariffs, exemptions take effect on Canadian goods

Various cheeses, motorboats, papers and aluminum and steel products were added to the list, as were mattresses and certain types of furniture.

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

Key changes to US tariffs on Canadian goods took effect Tuesday, with cheeses and motorboats among products added to the list of affected items while toilet paper, fishing rod parts and cement are now exempt.

The move comes weeks ahead of US midterm elections, as households and businesses grapple with high costs of living -- while recent tariffs on Canadian products threatened to hike costs further for some groups.

The latest amendments change the mix of Canadian products impacted by 50-percent US duties, and senior US officials maintained that the



tariffs only apply to a small amount of overall bilateral trade.

Various cheeses, motorboats, papers and aluminum and steel products were added to the list, as were mattresses and certain types of furniture.

But toilet and facial tissues, fishing gear and whiskies in containers



exceeding four liters are now exempt from the 50-percent duty.

Also excluded are road salts, needed in states experiencing harsher winter weather, and cement key to construction projects.

Senator Susan Collins of Maine, whose reelection will be key to Republicans retaining control of

the chamber, said she had specifically raised the impact of tariffs on road salt and cement to the federal government.

The duties mark the latest salvo in an escalating trade war between the North American neighbors.

President Donald Trump slapped a 50-percent tariff on \$20 billion in imports from Canada in August after trade talks collapsed, triggering Ottawa's counter-tariffs on a similar value of goods.

The White House pushed back against Canada's retaliation last week by announcing a ban on some alcoholic beverages and dairy goods, effective September 29, while making changes to its tariff list.

Trump tapped a little-known legal provision for the latest tariffs affecting Canada, Section 338 of the Tariff Act of 1930.

The new duties apply to goods covered under the US-Mexico-Canada free trade agreement, and come in addition to Trump's sector-specific tariffs.

And temperatures could rise further.

A senior US official told reporters last week that Trump's earlier threat to hike tariffs on Canadian autos from 25 percent to 50 percent come January remains in effect.

US military says Iran war has led to munitions shortfall

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

The US Defence Department's inspector general revealed Monday that the United States is facing a shortfall in ammunition as a result of its costly war in Iran.

In a first-of-its-kind mandatory report to Congress, the inspector said that between February 28 and June 30, Operation Epic Fury (OEF) had an estimated cost of \$33.4 billion, with \$22.3 billion of that spent on expended munitions alone.

The report noted "the munitions expenditure on OEF has resulted in strategic inventory shortfalls and revealed industrial base bottlenecks for munitions resupply."

It also lists losses to the American fleet, including four F-15s destroyed, one F-35 damaged, seven KC-135 tanker aircraft damaged and up to 30 MQ-

9 Reaper drones destroyed.

President Donald Trump has repeatedly brushed off concerns of depleted weapons stores during the

reported shortages of long-range guided missiles and air-defense interceptors had affected Trump's strategy in the conflict with Iran,

with the US military having "nearly exhausted 80%" of its stock of THAAD interceptors.

During the first 24 hours of war against Iran, the United States struck more than 1,000 targets, US Central Command (CENTCOM) has said, and has not returned to such large scale attacks in recent months.

The report notes that "Iranian strikes damaged and destroyed hundreds of buildings and structures at US bases in Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, and Jordan during the conflict," but does not include those costs in the cost estimates, saying it's not yet clear if all the bases will be built, or who will foot the bill.



six months of war in the Middle East, saying the US has "virtually unlimited" ammo just a couple weeks ago.

On Monday Trump posted to his Truth Social platform saying again the US is producing "more Exquisite and Elite Weapons than at any time in our History."

CNN has previously

Russia to hold tightly controlled vote in fifth year of war

MOSCOW.(Agency)

Russia will this week hold tightly-controlled elections in a vote seen by the Kremlin as a barometer of public opinion on the war with Ukraine, which is dragging through its fifth year.

Some Russians have grown weary of economic stagnation and intensifying Ukrainian retaliatory attacks and there is fear in some quarters that Putin could order a mass call-up of new soldiers after the election.

The parliamentary vote -- held from September 18 to 20 -- will be the first since Russia launched its offensive in February 2022, and only the second nationwide poll after a presidential contest that re-elected Putin in 2024.

Voting is also due to take place in parts of Ukraine occupied by Russia's army.

The war has killed hundreds of thousands, brought huge censorship at home, devastated eastern Ukraine and seen Moscow hit with unprecedented Western sanctions.

With Moscow having banned

criticism of the war, no real opposition parties will be on the ballot paper and Putin's ruling United



Russia party is assured to scoop a majority of seats in the State Duma.

A European diplomat told AFP that while the election was "quite a sham", it was a "ritual the Kremlin considers essential", and it would be striving to "ensure a high turnout".

Even if the results are "predefined", voting still matters, exiled Russian political scientist Nikolai Petrov said.

"Just like at the time of the Soviet Union, elections should demonstrate loyalty of citizens," he told AFP.

For

Putin -- in power for 26 years -- it is important to "demonstrate to elites that he is still supported, still trusted by ordinary people", Petrov said.

Half of the 450 seats up for grabs will be decided by a nationwide vote for party blocs, with the other half allocated to single-member districts across the country.

Only parties that support Putin and the war have been permitted to stand on the national ballot: the ruling United Russia party, the Communist Party, A Just Russia, nationalist LDPR and New People.

Russia's sole anti-war party still active inside the country, Yabloko, was barred from standing.

"It's a choice without a choice," 18-year-old Yevdokia told AFP on the streets of Moscow.

She had planned to vote for Yabloko, which called for an end to fighting in Ukraine, but will now go for New People.

Authorities have used the backdrop of the war to ramp up repression to levels unseen since the Soviet Union.

Saudi Arabia warns it will react 'firmly' to Houthi attacks

Sanaa.(Agency)

Saudi Arabia warned Tuesday it will react "firmly" to Yemen's Houthis, after a series of attacks carried out by the pro-Iranian rebels using ballistic missiles and drones wounded 13 civilians in the country's south.

The Houthis have been engaged in renewed fighting with Saudi-backed government forces since Yemen's civil war reignited in July, when the group declared a maritime blockade on Riyadh and began targeting its ships in the Red Sea.

The group seized control of Yemen's Red Sea coast and the Bab al-Mandab Strait last week, which has become vital as the wider US-Iran war chokes the Strait of Hormuz, in a significant blow to Yemeni government forces.

It has also targeted the oil infrastructure of Saudi Arabia, the world's leading crude exporter, pushing oil prices above the \$100 threshold.

A Houthi strike in western Yemen on Monday killed eight soldiers from

government forces, according to two military sources.

The Houthis claimed a new "large-scale" attack using "dozens of ballistic



missiles and drones" against the King Khalid airbase in Khamis Mushait, in southern Saudi Arabia.

A Khamis Mushait resident told AFP he heard "intense blasts" which left fires burning for a "long time".

"Honestly, we couldn't sleep at all."

The Riyadh-led coalition confirmed Tuesday there had been missile and drone attacks the previous day on

Khamis Mushait, Abha and Taif, reporting 13 wounded.

Riyadh responded with more than 50 strikes, as it had the day before, according to the Houthis.

The coalition said it would deal with the attacks "firmly to protect the sovereignty of the Kingdom" and would take "all necessary operational measures to deter this... hostile and extremist approach".

Hazem al-Assad from the Houthis' politburo said the "Yemeni response will continue and escalate as long as they (Saudi Arabia) persist in their aggression against our people".

In the early hours of Tuesday, Saudi civil defence issued air-raid alerts in six regions, before lifting them.

The renewed fighting in Yemen comes as the wider regional war remains at a stalemate.

But US President Donald Trump on Monday said he was open to holding talks with Iran.

"The failing Nation of Iran wants to make a deal, quickly and badly. I will determine whether or not the U.S.A. will choose to engage.



2 more arrested in Jharkhand exam irregularities case; 13 suspects caught so far

**Ranchi,(Agency).** The CID has arrested two more people in connection with alleged irregularities in recruitment examinations in Jharkhand, taking the number of arrests in the JSSC Combined Graduate Level examination-2023 case to 13, an official



said on Tuesday.In a related development, the agency also arrested a coaching centre operator in Ranchi in connection with alleged irregularities in recruitment examinations conducted by the Jharkhand Public Service Commission. The CID has arrested more than 20 people in that case so far, including former JPSC chairman L Khiangte.An official said Dilip Kumar Paswan, 41, from Bihar's Jamui district, was arrested in connection with the alleged irregularities in the JSSC-CGL examination in 2023. He allegedly provided unfair advantages to several

candidates who appeared for the examination, the official said. With Paswan's arrest, the CID has so far arrested 13 people in connection with the irregularities' case, the official added. In the JPSC-related case, the arrested coaching centre operator was identified as Sanjit Kumar, a resident of Ranchi. "Kumar has been arrested and remanded to judicial custody. The arrested accused runs Ranchi-based Shivangan Coaching and was operating as an agent," the official said. The CID has so far arrested more than 20 people in this case, including former JPSC chairman L Khiangte, who was arrested on August 10. Job aspirants had staged protests from July 25, demanding cancellation of examinations conducted by the JPSC and JSSC and a CBI probe into the alleged irregularities. On August 18, the state government announced the cancellation of several recruitment examinations, including the JSSC-CGL-2023, after the protests, following which the aspirants withdrew their agitation. However, the Jharkhand High Court later paused the government's decision on a petition.

School and homes submerged, Bihar students brave flood with classes on boat

**Amid devastating floods that have submerged homes, roads and schools in Bihar's Katihar, a teacher has turned a boat into a classroom to ensure children's education continues.**

**Katihar,(Agency).** A flood has submerged their village. Roads are underwater, homes are surrounded by water and the local school is inaccessible. But for children in Bihar's Katihar district, the floods have not brought their lessons to a halt. With nowhere else to study, they are now attending classes on a boat. Several areas in Katihar are bearing the brunt of the floods. In Raghunathpur, water has entered homes, coaching centres and schools, leaving students without a regular place to study. In response, a private teacher has turned a boat into a makeshift classroom, allowing children to continue their education amid the floodwaters. Mohammad Sahib, who runs a private tuition centre, began conducting classes on a boat after floodwater submerged the school in the area and his coaching centre."The idea came when water entered our coaching centre. For two or three days after it was flooded, we stopped classes.



But then we felt that if we stopped studies, it could affect the children's future. So we thought, let us bring the children's work onto a boat and continue their education there," he said.

Sahib said the decision was also aimed at ensuring that children did not lose the skills and knowledge they had already acquired. "This way, whatever skills the children have and whatever development they are undergoing will continue. If studies stop like

this, even the things they have been taught can be forgotten," he said.The teacher said he and others approached the children's parents before starting the boat classes. "We went to the homes of the children ourselves and spoke to their guardians. We told them that we wanted to conduct classes in a safe manner. All the guardians agreed, and we brought the children from their homes safely," he said. The classes are being held at a location adjoining the submerged school, where the water is shallow and the area is relatively calm. The safety of the location was also checked before the classes began.Asked about the risks of teaching young children on a boat amid the floods, Sahib said the children were accustomed to dealing with difficult circumstances.Look, this is Bihar, and the children of Bihar know how to face challenges. We can do anything for education. If we have to study on a boat, there is no problem," he said.He added that the water at the location was not deep.

Blast in BJP leader's plot in Chitrakoot leaves one dead, severed legs found

**Chitrakoot,(Agency).** A major explosion at an empty plot owned by a BJP leader in Uttar Pradesh's Chitrakoot district has triggered panic in the area after police found the severed legs of an unidentified person near the blast site.The explosion took place near Ashoh village under the Pahari police station area, along the main road connecting Karwi and Pahari. The blast was so powerful that it left a crater several feet deep inside the plot owned by BJP leader Jagdish Gautam. Police were informed about the incident on Monday night, two days after the explosion reportedly took place. When a search operation was conducted on Tuesday, officers found a large crater inside the boundary wall and a severed human leg in the grass some distance away. Another leg was later found outside the boundary wall. However, the rest of the person's body could not be located, prompting police to treat the



incident as a major explosion and launch a detailed investigation.Chitrakoot Superintendent of Police Arun Kumar Singh inspected the spot along with a dog squad, the Special Operations Group (SOG) and Pahari police personnel. He directed the teams to establish what caused the explosion and identify the deceased person. According to Singh, BJP leader Jagdish Gautam informed police on Monday night that the person guarding his plot had initially said lightning had struck the premises a day earlier. The guard later reported

that an explosion had occurred and that a human leg was lying inside the plot.Police reached the spot that night but could not find anything because of darkness. During a fresh search on Tuesday, they found the large crater, a severed leg and a piece of torn clothing. Some bricks from the upper layer of the boundary wall had also been dislodged and were covered with soil. Leaves from a tree near the crater had been completely blown off, indicating the intensity of the blast. The SP said the circumstances at the scene prima facie suggested that the explosion may have occurred while an unidentified person was handling explosives and that the device may have detonated accidentally, killing the person handling it."No person from any village has so far been reported missing," Singh said, adding that police were trying to establish the identity of the deceased and determine exactly what happened.

Bengal may hike private bus fares after Durga Puja, minister says it's long overdue

**Kolkata,(Agency).** West Bengal Transport Minister Arjun Singh on Monday said the government would consider a hike in private bus fares after Durga Puja, asserting that such an increase was long overdue. He said any fare revision would have to be matched by better amenities for passengers. The issue came up at a meeting between the minister, senior officials and associations of private bus operators. Singh also said state transport undertakings, which are running heavy losses, should have raised fares earlier, while private bus owners pressed for a revision, saying the current structure has remained unchanged for eight years and is no longer viable. "I think the bus fare hike is long overdue. We will take a decision after Durga Puja. Once hiked, the operators should offer improved amenities to commuters. We need better managed buses on roads, including those having AC services," Singh said.The minister met representatives of the Joint Council of Bus Syndicate, City Suburban Service, and West Bengal Bus and MiniBus Owners' Association at the transport department's Maidan Tent.West Bengal Bus and Minibus Owners' Association representative PN Bose said the meeting discussed several issues, including fines imposed on buses and the disparity in road toll fares in West Bengal and other parts of the country. He said the minister promised to address all these

issues.Bose said a one-time relief package for bus operators was also discussed, though there was no immediate assurance from the government. At present, the state-fixed fare for stage 1 is Rs 7, while private bus operators charge Rs 10 in what the report described as a clandestine arrangement. "A fare revision is the need of the hour. The existing fare structure, unchanged for eight years, is no longer financially viable. We cannot survive on the



2018 fares in 2026. In the first stage at present, we demand Rs 20 to offset the operational losses," Bose said.Private bus owners said they could no longer sustain operations under the current fare regime, with diesel prices above Rs 100 per litre and maintenance costs steadily rising. "Let the government provide a one-time waiver of pending VAHAN-related penalties," Bose said.

Christian leaders ask Kharge to push Karnataka anti-conversion law repeal, 1% quota



**Bengaluru,(Agency).** A delegation of Christian leaders from Karnataka, headed by Archbishop of Bangalore Most Rev. Dr. Peter Machado, met Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge at his Bengaluru residence on Monday and urged him to press for the repeal of the Karnataka Protection of Right to Freedom of Religion Act, popularly known as the anti-conversion law, besides seeking a 1 per cent exclusive reservation for Christians. The delegation raised a range of issues concerning the Christian community, including greater political and administrative representation, nomination of a Christian representative to the Karnataka Legislative Council, and adequate representation on government boards, corporations and other statutory and nominated bodies. The Christian leaders also sought 1 per cent exclusive reservation for the community under the Backward Class category, arguing that sections of the community continue to face socio-economic challenges. They urged the government to improve opportunities in

education, employment and other areas of development. A key demand placed before Kharge was the repeal of the 2021 Freedom of Religion legislation. The delegation expressed concerns over the law's provisions and their perceived impact on the constitutional rights of citizens to practise and propagate their faith. According to the delegation, Kharge listened to the concerns in detail and assured the representatives that he would take up the issues with Karnataka government leaders. He also promised to provide necessary directions for consideration of the demands and appropriate action.The delegation comprised Archbishop Peter Machado, Bishop of Mangalore Rev. Dr. Peter Paul, Bishop of Mysore Rev. Dr. Francis Serrao, Rev. Fr. Arun Lewis SJ, Director of Ashirwad, Praveen Peter, Anthony Vikram, and J.A. Kanthraj, PRO and spokesperson of the Archdiocese of Bangalore.The delegation thanked Kharge for meeting them and expressed hope that the Karnataka government would give due consideration to the demands raised.

Odisha STF to seek help from Assam, Mizoram, Maharashtra cops in orangutan case

**BHUBANESWAR (Agency).** The Special Task Force (STF) of Odisha Police, which is probing the alleged smuggling of five baby orangutans into Balasore, is set to seek the assistance of counterparts in Assam, Mizoram and Maharashtra, where such primates were rescued in similar circumstances in recent years, officials said. In 2022, two baby orangutans were rescued from Cachar district in Assam. In October 2023, one was rescued from Aizawl district in Mizoram. In 2024, another was rescued from an apartment in Dombivli in Thane district of Maharashtra. Orangutans are not native to India and are primarily found in the islands of Sumatra and Borneo. The recovery of five infant orangutans in a forest in Balasore has raised suspicion that they may have been brought into the country as part of an illegal wildlife trafficking network with international links, a senior police officer said. "As part of the investigation, steps will be taken to coordinate with the states from where the apes were previously rescued. This may provide substantial leads to trace the suspected wildlife trafficking network that brought the infant orangutans to Odisha," the officer said. West Bengal Police are also assisting the Odisha STF in the investigation. However, investigators are facing difficulties in tracing the suspected movement of the animals between Odisha and West Bengal as neither Balasore nor Digha has automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) cameras. The STF had earlier obtained CCTV footage showing a black Thar moving near the Balasore forest, which investigators suspect may have been used to transport the orangutans to Odisha. Police tracked the SUV to a hotel in Digha. However, they are yet to establish whether the vehicle's occupants were involved in transporting and abandoning the orangutans in the Balasore forest.

ED attaches Rs 13.44 crore assets in United Services Club money-laundering case

**Mumbai,(Agency).** The Enforcement Directorate (ED), Mumbai Zonal Office, has provisionally attached 13 movable and immovable properties worth around Rs 13.44 crore in connection with a money-laundering case involving the United Services Club, the agency said. The attached assets, located in Mumbai, Goa and Madhya Pradesh, include flats, land and plots, fixed deposits and bank balances belonging to Bernadette Bharat Varma, Bharatkumar Shankarlal Varma and others. **FAKE ACCOUNTS USED TO DIVERT CLUB FUNDS** The ED investigation was initiated on the basis of an FIR registered by the Mumbai Police under various provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023. According to the ED, Bernadette Bharat Varma, who was serving as Deputy Secretary (Finance) of the United Services Club, allegedly acted in connivance with her husband, Bharatkumar Shankarlal Varma, to open or arrange fake and dummy bank accounts bearing names similar to the club's regular vendors. The agency alleged that around Rs 77 crore belonging to the United Services Club was transferred into these accounts. The funds were subsequently diverted to personal and joint bank accounts belonging to Bernadette Varma, Bharat



Prakash Pandey, his family members and firms controlled by him, the ED said. Pandey was the Chartered Accountant associated with the United Services Club, according to the agency. The latest attachment takes the total value of properties attached in the case to around Rs 47.95 crore. Earlier, on March 20, 2026, the ED had attached 35 properties valued at Rs 34.51 crore. The investigation into the alleged diversion and laundering of the club's funds is ongoing.



## The Future Will Judge Our Civilisation

There is something profoundly perverse in contemporary politics: those who shout loudest about defending civilisation and culture are those whose conduct is most conspicuously divorced from both.The phenomenon is not confined to India. Islamists invoke an imagined purity of Islamic civilisation while practicing violent intolerance. Christianity has a long history of projecting a ‘superior’ Christian civilisation, while engineering atrocities across the world. In India, the contradiction is increasingly visible in the political appropriation of Hindu identity: the kanwadias, for example, have become a spectacle of religious assertion and of coercive and obscene public behaviour, while the vocabulary of Hindutva, Sanatan, and civilisational greatness is used to legitimise an aggressive repudiation of civility.The fundamental confusion is between cultural and civilisational history, on the one hand, and living culture and civilisation, on the other.

AI in sports video 2AI in sports video 2  
India possesses an extraordinary civilisational inheritance. Its achievements in mathematics, philosophy, linguistics, literature, architecture, medicine, and the arts are indisputable. Its ancient traditions of argument, scepticism, dissent, and intellectual contestation are extraordinary.

But the achievements of people who lived centuries or millennia ago are not the achievements of those who merely occupy the same geographical space today.We cannot claim Aryabhata’s mathematics, Kalidasa’s genius or the intellectual achievements of ancient India simply because we were born here. Civilisation is not hereditary property.A civilisation survives not because its ancestors were great, but because its descendants are capable of greatness.Contemporary India is increasingly substituting ancestral pride for contemporary achievement. We celebrate Nalanda while engineering a collapse of educational standards; invoke ancient philosophical traditions while public discourse rewards abuse; boast of vasudhaiva kutumbakam while cultivating hostility towards specific ‘outgroups’; invoke a tradition of debate while treating disagreement as betrayal.The past has simply become an instrument for avoiding responsibility for the present.

Culture, meanwhile, is reduced to symbols—dress, food, ritual, festivals, monuments, and slogans. But the essence of culture is reflected in whether disagreement produces argument or assault; whether public spaces belong equally to everyone; whether citizens can live differently without becoming objects of hatred.The kanwadia who believes religious devotion entitles him to intimidate another citizen, the Islamist who believes faith entitles him to suppress unbelief, and Christian extremists who believe righteousness entitles them to impose their dominance over others, are separated by theology and history; but they share a deep pathology: the conversion of a complex civilisation into a closed political identity. The scheme behind this is Orwellian. Political control increasingly depends not merely on coercion, but on controlling language and historical memory. Nationalism is obedience; patriotism is the absence of dissent; culture is conformity; history is grievance; and dissent is anti-national. Through these, authoritarian proclivities are socialised: vocal sets of citizens dictate what others should or should not eat; who they should or should not marry, how they should practice their faith; what they should read; and what particular opinions they must hold.But a confident civilisation does not fear difference; an insecure ideology does.India’s civilisational history provides powerful resources against this insecurity. It is a history of encounters, migrations, arguments, accommodations, and transformations. India’s strength was not uniformity, but its capacity to absorb and transform differences through intellect.The question for Indians today is not what our ancestors achieved, but what we are doing.

## Urgent lessons from Nepal floods for Himachal

What is needed is decisive action and a drastic change in the model of development for Himachal Pradesh

Only a fool learns from his own mistakes,” said Otto von Bismarck, “the wise man learns from the mistakes of others.” It is now time for the Himachal Chief Minister to demonstrate his wisdom and imbibe some lessons from the horrendous tragedy of Nepal. And the lesson is simple — the Himalayas have had enough. Back off!Development” has gone berserk in Himachal — 12,000 hectares of forestland diverted in the past 20 years for various projects, 174 hydel projects sanctioned or commissioned, 50 lakh trees felled, construction rules relaxed to permit even 10-storey buildings, the Shimla Development Plan 2041 approved to deregulate the city’s precious Green Belts, an epidemic of unnecessary four-lane highways criss-crossing the state, tunnels planned under the fragile mountains, efforts to increase tourist footfall from 20 million per annum to an unsustainable 50 million. And all this in a state which comes under the highest seismic zone.The Himalayas are now pushing back, with increasing intensity. The not-so-natural disasters between 2022 and 2024 have caused financial losses of Rs 13,500 crore to the state and claimed 800 lives. The natural features that hold the fragile mountain stratas together — trees, glaciers, snowfields, permafrost, river drainage — are being decimated. The Himalayas are warming at twice the average global rate, and this is being amplified by local “heat islands” caused by emissions from heavy machinery and labour camps, deposit of black carbon on the ice fields, pollutants from the ever-increasing number of vehicles intruding into high-altitude fragile ecosystems on the new roads, and the removal of green cover.Dumping of muck in the rivers is reducing their capacity to carry excess water, resulting in regular flash floods. Many red lines have been crossed.

The Himalayas have been warning us for some time now — there was Kedarnath in 2013, Chamoli in 2021, Sikkim in 2023, Dharali in 2025, and now Nepal.Among the most dangerous impending threats to Himachal is the growing number and size of glacial lakes. The state had 107 glacial lakes of noticeable size with a total area of 5.54 sq km in 1990; the numbers are 669 and 11.2 sq km now. Some have reached dangerous proportions, like Ghepan in Lahaul, which has grown six times to almost 100 hectares. All the major rivers emanate from the glaciers above these lakes and the hydel projects on these rivers are extremely vulnerable to Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF) events.Any damage to these projects would also endanger the lakhs of people living in towns and villages below them, as Nepal has so tragically shown.

Himachal is also naturally susceptible to other high risks: the state lies in the highest seismic zone, it has 20,000 landslide-prone hotspots, and EWEs (Extreme Weather Events) caused by climate change have increased by 40 per cent in the past few years.The time for studies, seminars and only monitoring is over. What is needed



urgently is decisive action and a drastic change in the model of development.Impose a moratorium on all new hydel projects, and stay those sanctioned but where actual construction has not yet started. Scrap the dozens of projects approved/planned for the high-altitude Chenab and Chandrabhaga basin in Lahaul-Spiti, and in Kinnaur and Pangti areas (which the local people have already been protesting against).

Exhume the 2010 report on environmental impacts of hydel projects by the then Additional Chief Secretary (Forests), which the High Court had accepted but the then government opposed and subsequent ones moth-balled. Consider its major recommendations — a ban on hydel projects in high-altitude, alpine, glaciated, forest catchment areas; a minimum distance of 5 km between projects; ensure minimum perennial flow of rivers.

Vigorously oppose the Centre’s proposal for a 8.7-km tunnel below the Pir Panjal range to bring the waters of the Chandrabhaga in Lahaul to the Beas in Kullu. This Chinese-style project would rip out the heart of the Himachal Himalayas and would be a disaster of unprecedented proportions: it would destabilise the geology of three districts, generating tens of millions of tonnes of muck which can only clog the rivers, waterways and drainage of these areas. It would disturb the underground aquifers, and the additional water now added to the Beas would amplify the river’s destructive

potential, which already causes havoc in Kullu every year.Reconsider the mindless focus on increasing tourist numbers to 50 million. The state’s environment cannot support such numbers; the infrastructure needed for it and its effects — roads, buildings, vehicular pollution, sewage and garbage, water supply — would result in huge damage to the natural environment and cultural identity of the state. Learn from Bhutan. Limit the numbers, improve the quality.Discontinue and put a halt to the four-laning epidemic. They fracture the geology of the areas they pass through, destroy properties, deprive people of livelihoods, encourage even more polluting vehicles to contaminate our pristine ambience. Both the Parwanoo-Shimla and Kiratpur-Manali highways are continuing (and very expensive) disasters that prove this.

The time to act is now. The Himalayas have tolerated our arrogance for centuries, but their patience is now wearing thin. Even the Supreme Court has advised the state to be more sensitive to the environment, or else it “would disappear from the map of India”. We proudly call Himachal ‘Dev Bhoomi’ but ravage and pillage it shamelessly for votes and profit. This must change.

We are proving right the words of Hubert Reeves, a French astrophysicist and environmentalist: “Man is the most insane species. He worships an invisible God and destroys a visible Nature. Unaware that this Nature he is destroying is the God he is worshipping!”

## Make space for film lovers of all means

It’s true that multiplexes have changed the movie-going experience. But none of these should cost so high that they would burn holes in the pockets of film lovers

The Thiruvananthapuram mayor’s recent exclamation—“A movie ticket for ₹200 and popcorn for ₹500!”—has reignited a much-needed discussion about the exorbitant cost a family incurs when it decides to watch a movie at a theatre. While questioning the hefty prices of what’s sold inside, Mayor V V Rajesh also called out the restrictions on carrying in food and drinking water from outside. Thankfully, he did not stop at that and directed all theatres in the city to ensure clean drinking water dispensers near entrances and exits. Cinema halls have also been warned against stopping parents from bringing essential food items for young children. The mayor has given theatre owners 15 days to act on these fronts.

It’s true that multiplexes have changed the movie-going experience. The transition from single-screen halls to multiplex screening has also raised operational costs, which theatre owners try to recoup with overpriced food and beverages. But none of these should cost so high that



they would burn holes in the pockets of film lovers.

Theatre owners peg their argument to a recent Supreme Court verdict striking down a Jammu and Kashmir High Court order removing restrictions on movie-goers bringing in food. The SC had also allowed theatre owners

to fix the price of refreshments. But it had also mandated that free water should be provided and food for infants be allowed in halls. The theatre owners seem to have conveniently forgotten that part of the order serving their patrons’ basic needs.Whatever be the legal reading, it should not stop anyone—especially elected representatives—from calling out a level of pricing that affects the public. Big-screen viewing should not be the sole preserve of well-to-do households. Such exclusionary practice has larger implications, too. The affordability crisis is deterring most Indian families from flocking to big screens, which in turn directly dampens the prospects of the film exhibition and distribution segments, on which a large number of livelihoods depend. Things have come to such a pass that a wider consensus on pricing food and beverages is called for—keeping in mind the interests of both audiences and entrepreneurs. Lawmakers should pick up the cue given by the Thiruvananthapuram mayor.

## Steps should be taken to regain the Supreme Court’s lost glory

└┐Courts at all levels are moving towards majoritarianism, which is anathema to democracy

No country can claim to be free unless it has an independent and fearless judiciary. Democracy is the rule of the majority, but majoritarianism, where the voice of the other side is not heard, is anathema to democracy, writes Justice Deepak Gupta, former Judge, Supreme Court, in his widely acclaimed article The true meaning of freedom. Unfortunately, courts at all levels are moving towards majoritarianism. The vast majority of judges are men and women of integrity, but the number of black sheep is increasing. Citing various examples from Umar Khalid, Sonam Wangchuk to the Gyanvapi mosque case and chicken-on-Ganga boat, he writes that dissent is an essential part of democracy. The root of the problem is the manner of appointment of judges to the High Courts and the Supreme Court. The collegium system has failed, he writes. It has become totally opaque. The collegium takes extremely important decisions without giving reasons. Even today, most of the people repose more confidence in the judiciary compared to the legislature or the executive. Steps should be taken to regain the lost glory, he writes. This can and must be done because if people lose faith in the judiciary, the judiciary itself becomes irrelevant. That will sound the death knell for a democratic India, he warns.The Tribune Editor-in-Chief Jyoti Malhotra writes that Justice Deepak Gupta reiterated The Tribune’s fidelity to fairness in an interview with the noted journalist Karan Thapar. “It is run by a Trust, not by a private player,” Justice Gupta said, adding that was why The Tribune refused to inculcate the perils of “tabloidization”. In current times, what legacy media has sometimes failed to achieve, social media has often succeeded by putting the searchlight on wrongdoing, she writes in her weekly column (The Great Game) article Trust is the key in the AI age. The fact remains that we, the legacy media, were supposed to be the conscience-keepers of the nation, not websites or social media handles prone to perversion by AI tools. What is new is the childlike glee with which the media is using AI tools to deliberately transform a nuanced story into a darker, more grotesque version of itself. The biggest challenge is how to tame AI and make it work for us, instead of the other way around, she writes.In a prelude to the BRICS summit, former MEA Secretary KC Singh in his Op-Ed article India’s BRICS balancing act wrote that behind the summit rhetoric lie difficult choices over security, trade and diplomacy. Geopolitics is shaping the role of all global groupings. With

Canada, the UK and France sanctioning Israeli settlers in the West Bank, the cracks in NATO will widen. In US President Donald Trump’s second term, the US has lost interest in the group as he engaged China in a G-2 format. The leaders attending the BRICS summit will operate at multiple levels, he writes. They would formally discuss the themes devised by India, which seek ‘Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability’. A few plurilateral summits may at best frame solutions, but implementation requires



visionary leadership, he stresses.After 25 years of the 9/11 attacks, geopolitics continues to shape counter-terrorism measures. If India expected the post-9/11 war on terror to restrain Pakistan’s indulgence in cross-border terrorism, then it has been disappointed and will continue to be so in the future, writes former Foreign Secretary Shyam Saran in his Edit article 9/11 and the unfinished war on terror. Pakistan-sponsored terrorism against India has never been a US problem except when American or Israeli citizens have been killed. It resulted in limited counter-terrorism cooperation involving Pakistan-based groups, but this has receded over time. Paradoxically, the war on terror brought Pakistan back from the doghouse in which it had found itself after General Musharraf’s military coup against the Nawaz Sharif government.

An important reason for the decline in international attention on terrorism is on account of the US’s strategic defeat in its ‘forever war’ in Afghanistan, writes Vivek Katju, former Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, in his Op-Ed article Why the world has moved on from 9/11. It led to an introspection within the US and the West if the manner in which it had reacted to 9/11 was strategically wise. For India, the lesson of the world’s loss of real interest in terrorism is that it will have to handle Pakistani terrorism on its own, he writes.The phrase that characterises this new world is weaponised interdependence. For a middle power like India, such a world is more complex and offers many new challenges, and only imperfect answers or solutions, writes senior journalist TN Ninan in his elaborate article The quest for self-reliance in defence. There is import dependence because too many plans, goals and targets have come unstuck. The country should continue to build its conventional defence capabilities. Countering weaknesses against high-performance weapons systems can be done by deploying greater numbers (swarming), using techniques that render the superior system ineffective and making better tactical use of even inferior systems, he writes. Ukraine has shown how creative it can be and surprised the world. Ultimately, it depends on how well India has mastered the demands of drone and missile warfare and how effectively it marries tactics and technology to make up for any deficiencies in the traditional weapons of war, he writes.

Meanwhile, nine employee associations representing thousands of workers from centres of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) recently came together to voice their concerns about the trajectory of India’s space reforms. The apex space agency may wither away incrementally without a transparent debate. The fear that ISRO is being allowed to bleed to death is not unfounded, writes TV Venkateswaran, visiting professor, IISER-Mohali, in his Edit article ISRO stands at a crossroads. The issue is not whether private industry should participate. It already does. The real question is where the boundary between public capability and private participation should lie. A vibrant private-sector participation does not require a weakened public space agency. That is why the present debate should not be reduced to a choice between “ISRO versus private industry.



NEWS BOX

Came through roof, stayed 8 hours: How masked man stole Rs 14-crore gold in Mathura

KOCHI (Agency). Around 9.30 pm on Sunday, a lone figure dressed in black snuck into a jewellery shop in Mathura through the roof. He remained inside for nearly eight hours. By the time he slipped out at 5.30 am, more than 10 kg of gold worth Rs 14 crore and nearly Rs 14 lakh in cash were gone — along with the shop’s CCTV Digital Video Recorder (DVR). Mathura police are now trying to identify the masked man who allegedly carried out the heist at the shop in Kosi Kalan. The thief’s movements after the break-in have been pieced together from CCTV cameras outside the shop. Police suspect the crime may have involved an insider and have zeroed in on a former employee, sources said.

**How the thief got in**

Police suspect the alleged thief reached the shop’s terrace by scaling the boundary wall of a neighbouring house and crossing several interconnected rooftops. He then cut through an iron grille, meant to keep monkeys out, using a gas cutter to enter the shop. Police said once inside, he went straight to the room where the strong-room keys were kept and used them to open the safe.

Police said the suspect took gold ornaments, jewellery and gold biscuits, leaving the silver and artificial jewellery untouched. He then retraced his route: police said he went to the terrace, crossed to the neighbouring rooftop, descended into the house below, and left through the main gate.

**CCTV trail goes cold**

With the shop’s DVR missing, police have had to rely on CCTV cameras installed at nearby shops and houses. Footage shows the suspect carrying two bags and hiring an e-rickshaw in the early morning hours. The e-rickshaw took him to several locations, with police following his movements through CCTV footage along the route. Police found he went to the railway station before doubling back. He was later dropped off in a congested part of the city, where his trail went cold. Police also questioned the e-rickshaw driver, but he could not provide a clear description of the man’s face.

**Rs 70 crore in fake Rs 20 coins: How UP gang put them into circulation**

Lucknow (Agency). Through liquor shops, toll plazas and grocery stores, a counterfeit coin syndicate has allegedly put fake Rs 20 coins worth an estimated Rs 70 crore into circulation, police said. Saharanpur Police busted the gang, arresting five alleged members in the Titron area on Sunday while they were transporting machinery to set up a new unit in the district. Police said the gang allegedly operated across Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Bihar. “The gang claimed to have the capacity to produce 10,000 to 12,000 counterfeit coins a day using the machines. These coins were then circulated through liquor shops, toll plazas and grocery stores on a commission basis, with liquor shops reportedly being the gang’s primary market,” said Saharanpur SSP Abhinandan. Police claimed to have recovered 6,400 counterfeit Rs 20 coins, with a face value of Rs 1.28 lakh, semi-finished coins estimated to be worth around Rs 5 lakh, and six coin-making machines. Among the five arrested is the alleged kingpin, Upkar Luthra alias Abhay Pratap Singh, who used to work as a goldsmith in Punjab’s Mohali. Police said Luthra, who is in his 50s, has been involved in the counterfeit coin trade since 2001. He was arrested by Delhi Police in 2017 after a Rs 1 lakh reward was announced for information leading to his capture. The other four are Himanshu alias Gullu of Saharanpur; Kuldeep of Muzaffarnagar; Anurag Pal alias Lankesh of Bhadohi; and Santosh Chaurasia alias Janardan of Bihar. They are aged between 30 and 40. Asked how police arrived at the Rs 70-crore figure, Superintendent of Police Vyom Bindal said it was an estimate of the value of fake coins the accused had circulated in the market. The arrests come days after counterfeit currency worth Rs 17.29 crore was recovered from the currency chest of a nationalised bank in the district. The recovery is being probed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA), which has arrested one person so far.

**The operation**

Police said the eight members had been assigned different roles within the network.

Punjab has money for DA arrears, employees say. Do the numbers back them up?

From higher tax generation to excise collection to GST inflow jump, employees cite state government's figure to justify demand; economists differ

Mumbai (Agency). Citing a sharp rise in Punjab’s tax revenues over the past four years, employees’ unions say the state can afford to clear the roughly Rs 14,200 crore in pending Dearness Allowance (DA) and related arrears sooner than later. Punjab’s own revenue numbers form the centrepiece of their argument. Tax revenue has risen from about Rs 37,300 crore in 2021-22 to Rs 57,900 crore in 2024-25, according to figures cited by the unions. Citing the Comptroller and Auditor General report, they point to a similar increase across major revenue heads. Excise collections, which averaged about Rs 4,406 crore in 2016-17 under the SAD-BJP government and Rs 6,158 crore under the Congress government in 2021-22, are expected to touch Rs 12,800 crore under the current government this financial year. GST inflows have nearly doubled on an annual average basis, from Rs 15,541 crore in 2021-22 to about Rs 32,000 crore this year. Stamp duty collections of about Rs 19,500 crore in the four years till January this year have already exceeded the collections under either of the previous two five-year

governments over their full terms, the unions claim. Early figures for the current financial year, they say, point in the same direction. Revenue receipts during April-July 2026 reached 29.08 per cent of the annual target,



compared with 27.44 per cent during the corresponding period a year earlier. Non-tax revenue nearly doubled over the same period, while both the revenue and fiscal deficits were accumulating at a slower pace than last year. Employees and some economists say the trend indicates that the state has greater fiscal room than the government is willing to acknowledge. That is only part of the unions’ argument.

DC Kupwara reviews Road Safety Measures Calls for strict enforcement, improved Traffic Management

KUPWARA, SEPTEMBER: Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kupwara, Shrikant Suse, today chaired a meeting of the District Road Safety Committee (DRSC) at the Mini Meeting Hall of the DC Office to assess the implementation of road safety measures and review traffic management arrangements across the district. The meeting held detailed deliberations on strengthening road safety mechanisms, improving traffic regulation and ensuring strict compliance with traffic rules to minimize road accidents and safeguard the lives of commuters, pedestrians and other road users. The Deputy Commissioner directed all enforcement agencies to intensify field-level inspections and take firm action against traffic violations. Particular emphasis was laid on curbing underage and teenage driving, overloading, speeding and other unsafe driving practices. The Traffic Police were asked to conduct frequent surprise checks and strengthen enforcement at vulnerable locations, busy market areas and major traffic junctions. The DC further directed the concerned agencies to ensure effective traffic regulation during peak hours and at locations witnessing frequent congestion. Municipal Councils, in coordination with the Revenue Department and other concerned agencies, were instructed to undertake regular anti-encroachment drives to clear road corridors and public spaces obstructed by unauthorized structures or activities, thereby facilitating smoother movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Emphasizing the importance of preventive measures, the Deputy Commissioner called for an extensive road-safety awareness cam-

paign across schools and colleges. He directed the Assistant Regional Transport Officer (ARTO), Traffic Police and Chief Education Officer to jointly organize awareness programmes focusing on students and youth, besides sensitizing commercial drivers about responsible driving, traffic discipline and the consequences of violating road safety norms. The meeting also reviewed the status of school bus safety audits and inspections of driving schools being conducted by the ARTO. The Committee discussed measures to ensure that school buses strictly adhere to prescribed safety standards and that driving schools maintain the required infrastructure, documentation and regulatory compliance. Detailed attention was also given to road safety audits and the identification of vulnerable stretches, particularly along hilly roads and highways. The concerned executing agencies, including PWD, PMGSY and BEACON, were directed to conduct regular safety assessments and undertake necessary corrective measures on identified stretches. The meeting further reviewed the identification and rectification of accident-prone locations and black spots, improvement of sharp curves, timely maintenance and repair of roads, installation and maintenance of appropriate road signage, particularly at blind curves, and other engineering interventions required to enhance road safety. The Deputy Commissioner stressed that road safety

requires a coordinated approach involving enforcement, engineering, education and emergency response. He directed all concerned departments to work in close coordination and ensure timely implementation of the decisions taken during the meeting. The DC also emphasized the need for continuous monitoring of road conditions and traffic arrangements, particularly in vulnerable and accident-prone areas, and called upon all stakeholders to adopt a proactive approach towards preventing road acci-

dents and creating a safer road environment across Kupwara district. The meeting concluded with directions to the concerned departments and agencies to regularly review the progress of road safety initiatives and ensure strict adherence to prescribed safety standards and traffic regulations. SSP Kupwara, SSP Handwara, SE R&B, ACR, ACD, CMO, OC BEACON, DIO, ARTO, Executive Engineers (PWD) and other concerned officials attended the meeting.

In drugs crackdown, Gujarat police plan rejig of units, adoption of new methods – here’s how

Ahmedabad (Agency). Gujarat Police will set up 41 new “Anti-Narcotics Wings (ANWs)” of the force, including at least one in each of the state’s 34 districts.

These ANWs will act as a force multiplier for the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) that was announced in August 2025. The Narcotics Cell of the CID Crime was upgraded to the ANTF last year to “control the sale, trafficking and production of banned drugs”.

The strength of the unit was increased from 34 to 211, and six specialised police stations were proposed to be set up across the state.

Why the increased focus on the narcotics trade?

The focus on the narcotics trade follows a string of major seizures of contraband drugs over the last few years, including the huge offshore haul of more than 3,000 kg of hashish, meth and morphine in February 2024.

This May, the Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad and Coast Guard recovered 118 kg of cocaine valued at almost Rs 1,200 crore from five bags thrown into the sea off Mundra, the largest commercial private port in the country.

Over the past five years, the Gujarat Police has registered more than 3,700 cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 (NDPS Act), and arrested 5,346 accused. During this period, more than 1.36 lakh kilograms of drugs worth about Rs 13,600 crore have been seized. These seizures suggest that Gujarat acts as both a landing point for international maritime consignments of narcotics, as well as a local base for the production of synthetic or psychotropic drugs. In 2021, the government launched a “Narco Reward Policy” to combat the menace.

41 UNITS ACROSS

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/18/2026-27; Dated: 11-09-2026. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works:-

SN. 1: Tender No. 40/26/0402A/OT/124/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 21-09-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Sealed maintenance free battery, VRLA, 120 Ah with inter cell and end cell connector (One Sets Consist of 19 Monoblock battery of 6 volts) conforming to RDSOs specification No. RDSO/PE/SPEC/AC/0009-2014 (Rev-2) or latest. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No., Stages:0] [UAVM Linking: Item : 2400048, 120 Ah VRLA battery] Item Type: Goods (Supply), (i) Qty - 300 Set for Dibrugarh Town Workshop Depot, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty - 230 Set for New Bongaigaon Workshop Depot, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty - 10 Set for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR (West Bengal), (iv) Qty - 8 Set for Kathihar GSD, NFR (Bihar), P. L. No. - 45170356.

SN. 2: Tender No. 61/25/5243C/OT/125/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 05-10-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** ZERO TOE LOAD FASTENING SYSTEM (ZTLF): INSULATED ZTLF FOR 60 KG RAIL OVER H-BEAM SLEEPERS ON GIRDER BRIDGES (B.G.) WITH COMPLETE FITTINGS EXCLUDING ERC (FOR TRACK CIRCUITED AREA) (SPECIFICATION, DRAWING AND ITEM DETAILS AS MENTIONED IN SET DOCUMENTS ARE APPLICABLE) DRG: (RDSO) RDSO/T-9779 TO RDSO/T-9789 ALT NIL SPEC: (RDSO) Specs for ZTLF system, (RDSO) T-55-2025 Revision-01-SET DOC: SET Document FOR RT-9779 to RT-9789 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: NA, Stages:0] [UAVM Linking: Item : 3100515, ZERO TOE LOAD FASTENING (ZTLF) SYSTEM] Item Type: Goods (Supply), Qty - 2000 Set for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam), P. L. No. - 60111458003.

SN. 3: Tender No. 50/26/5178/OT/126/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 05-11-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** (1) Supply of 6 quad cable copper conductor Polyethylene insulated Aluminium Screened 0.9 mm dia armoured underground jelly filled cable as per RDSO spec. IRS: TC 30/2005 (Ver.1) with amdt. 5 or latest. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] UAVM Item ref. (Item Id: 3100047-QUAD CABLES for S&T INSTALLATIONS, Sub Item Id: 3100047001 - Underground Railway Jelly Filled Telecom Quad Cables For Signaling And Telecom Installations) Qty- 6.00 Kilometre for SSE/TELE/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam) PL No- 400714360010. (2) Supply of 6 quad cable copper conductor Polyethylene insulated Aluminium Screened 0.9 mm dia armoured underground jelly filled cable as per RDSO spec. IRS: TC 30/2005 (Ver.1) with amdt. 5 or latest. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] UAVM Item ref. (Item Id: 3100047-QUAD CABLES for S&T INSTALLATIONS, Sub Item Id: 3100047001 - Underground Railway Jelly Filled Telecom Quad Cables For Signaling And Telecom Installations) Qty- 60.00 Kilometre for SSE/TELE/Lumding, NFR (Assam) PL No- 539800181008.

SN. 4: Tender No. 61/26/5276/OT/127/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 30-09-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** COMPOSITE GROOVED RUBBER SOLE PLATE (CGRSP) FOR 60 KG UIC RAIL WITH 6.2 MM THICKNESS DRG: (RDSO) RDSO/T-6618 SPEC: (RDSO) T- 55-2025 Revision-01. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: RITES NON-TPI, Stage Insp: NA, Stages:0] [UAVM Linking: Item : 3100584, RAIL PADS Sub Item: CGRSP] Item Type: Goods (Supply), Qty - 1500000 Nos. for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam), P.L. No. - 60110089001.

SN. 5: Tender No. 10/26/3798/OT/128/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 12-10-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Element filter & DLW part No. 17452168 to EMD part No. 8470903, MP.TP-50, Rev-0.01, July-2013. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency:TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages:0] [UAVM Linking: Item: 2201070, Element Filter for EMD locomotives] Item Type: Goods (Supply), (i) Qty- 1350 Nos. for Siliguri Jn. DIESEL DEPOT, NFR (West Bengal) (ii) 609 Nos. for NGC DEPOT, NFR (Assam), P.L. No. - 17452168.

SN. 6: Tender No. 61/25/5483A/OT/129/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 12-10-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** COMPOSITE GROOVED RUBBER SOLE PLATE (CGRSP) - 10MM THICKNESS FOR USE WITH WIDER PSC SLEEPER TO DRAWING NO. RDSO/T-8746 SUITABLE TO RAILS 60 KG(UIC) / 60E1 & 52 KG DRG: (RDSO) RDSO/T-8747 ALT-1 SPEC: (RDSO) T- 55-2025 Revision-01 [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: RITES NON-TPI, Stage Insp: NA, Stages:0] [UAVM Linking:Item : 3100584, RAIL PADS Sub Item: CGRSP] Item Type: Goods (Supply), Qty- 1500000 Nos. for SSE/P.Way/TD/ Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam), P.L. No. - 60110089002.

SN. 7: Tender No. 61/26/0103RC/OT/130/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 05-10-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** 1 YEAR RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF TWSEJ (ASSEMBLY) FOR THICK WEB SWITCH EXPANSION JOINT (TWSEJ) (UP TO 100 MM PERMISSIBLE MOVEMENT AT EACH END) TO RDSO/T-8822 Ail.04 FOR LWR B.G. (1673 MM) FOR 60E1 RAIL ON PSC SLEEPERS INCLUDING ALL FITTINGS EXCLUDING SLEEPERS & NCRGRSP (DRAWING AND ITEM DETAILS AS MENTIONED IN SET DOCUMENTS ARE APPLICABLE) AS PER RDSO SPECIFICATION IRS/T-10-2025. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery ] [Quantity Tolerance (+/-): 5 %age, Item Category : Normal, Total PO value variation Permitted: Max 8 lacs ] [ Rate of supply 82 units per Month , Commencement Time Allowed -1 Day ] UAVM Item ref. ( Item Id :- 3100582 - THICK WEB SWITCHES, THICK WEB SEJ & END FORGING, Sub Item Id:-3100582002 - THICK WEB SEJ ) Qty- 978.00 Set for SSE/P.Way/TD/Bongaigaon, As per tender Conditions. P.L. No.- 60060244002.

SN. 8: Tender No. 30/26/1163/OT/131/2026-27; Closing/ Opening Date: 08-10-2026

**Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty:** Foot rest/ Step complete mounting RCF Drawing No.- LW41106, Alt-b with latest alteration, Mat. Spec.-: As per drawing with latest revision and amendments. [ Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency:TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages:0] [UAVM Linking:] Item Type: Goods (Supply), (i) Qty- 1615 Nos. for DIBRUGARH TOWN WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty- 1039 Nos. for PNO GSD, NFR (Assam), (iii) Qty- 99 Nos. for KATHIHAR GSD, NFR (Bihar), (iv) Qty- 85 Nos. for NEW JALPAIGURI GSD, NFR (West Bengal), (v) Qty- 1059 Nos. for NEW BONGAIGAON WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam) P.L.No - 33680735.

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



NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY  
"Serving Customers with a smile"

PCMM/ Maligaon



# US envoy Sergio Gor offers prayers at Mumbai's Lalbaugcha Raja on Ganesh Chaturthi

US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor visited Mumbai's Lalbaugcha Raja pandal and offered prayers during Ganesh Chaturthi. He described the celebrations as an extraordinary display of faith, energy and community.

**Delhi. (Agency)**

US Ambassador to India Sergio Gor joined thousands of devotees in celebrating Ganesh Chaturthi in Mumbai on Monday. He visited the iconic Lalbaugcha Raja pandal and offered prayers to Lord Ganesha. Gor, who visited the famous pandal during the 10-day festival, described the experience as extraordinary and urged those who have never witnessed the celebration to experience it for themselves. The US envoy said the atmosphere at Lalbaugcha Raja was unlike anything he had experienced, pointing to the scale, energy and sense of community surrounding the celebrations.

"It's absolutely incredible. I'm honoured to be here. It's great to be invited. I think everybody should come here and see this, because there aren't many places that are this vibrant. The energy is incredible. It's hard to describe if you're not here. So if you've not been here, come," he said.

**GOR SHARES GANESH CHATURTHI MESSAGE**

Gor also took to X to share his experience of visiting the pandal, describing the celebrations as a vibrant expression of faith and community. "Delighted to visit Mumbai Cha Raja and Lalbaugcha Raja. A truly vibrant expression of faith and community that



pandals to welcome Lord Ganesha. The streets of Mumbai have been filled with celebrations, devotional music and chants of "Ganpati Bappa Morya" as devotees seek the blessings of Lord Ganesha.

**LALBAUGCHA RAJA AT CENTRE OF MUMBAI FESTIVITIES**

Lalbaugcha Raja remains one of Mumbai's most recognisable Ganesh idols and has become a defining symbol of the city's Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations. According to ANI, the idol is associated with the Lalbaugcha Raja Sarvajanik Ganeshotsav Mandal at Putlabai Chawl. The mandal was established in 1934 and has since grown into a major part of Mumbai's annual

Ganesh festival. The idol's tradition has also been closely associated with the Kambli family, which has been involved in maintaining it for more than eight decades. Every year, large crowds of devotees make their way to the pandal to seek blessings, making Lalbaugcha Raja one of the most visited Ganesh idols in the city. Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated across Maharashtra and several other parts of India. The festival begins on the fourth day of the Hindu lunisolar month of Bhadrapada and culminates with Anant Chaturdashi. Devotees install idols of Lord Ganesha in homes and community pandals before offering prayers and taking part in cultural and religious celebrations.

## Lights, camera, seva: Delhi students to create reels on nation-building

**Delhi. (Agency)**

Students in Delhi’s government schools will create short videos as part of a new Directorate of Education initiative under the “Meri Seva, Mera Sankalp” competition. The exercise is a key component of the month-long “Sewa Sankalp Abhiyan”, to be held from September 17 to October 17 across government schools in the national capital. Schools have been asked to encourage students to create reels on themes including acts of kindness, community service, environmental responsibility and their vision for a “Viksit Bharat @2047”. The initiative reflects an effort to engage students through short-form digital storytelling rather than conventional formats such as essays. The themes listed in a circular include “Jan Bhagidari” or people’s participation in nation-building, respect for public property and national symbols, innovative ideas for social good, inspiring stories of individuals or communities contributing to society, acts of kindness and compassion, community service, and helping the elderly, persons in need and vulnerable sections of society. Alongside the reel-making competition, schools will also organise drawing and speech competitions under the broader theme of “25 Crore Children’s Dreams of India”. These activities will encourage students to reflect on 25 years of public service, welfare initiatives and nation-building. Officials said in the circular dated September 14 that the campaign was designed to move beyond passive learning. By asking students to document everyday acts such as helping the elderly, promoting cleanliness and participating in community welfare, the initiative seeks to translate ideas of citizenship and service into lived experiences.

## Delhi Mayor Pravesh Wahi inspects wards 51, 53 of North-West zone under cleanliness campaign

**Delhi. (Agency)**

Delhi Mayor Pravesh Wahi, continuing the series of inspections under the 'Delhi Ko Koode Se Azadi' campaign, inspected Wards 51 and 53 of the North-West Zone on Monday to assess the sanitation arrangements. The Mayor also reviewed the construction work of compactors being installed at 'Garbage Vulnerable Points'.

Dharmveer Sharma, Vice Chairman of MCD’s Works Committee and Councillor of Ward 53, Anshul Sirohi, Deputy Commissioner, North-West Zone along with senior officials and staff of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi were present during the inspection. Wahi expressed deep displeasure upon seeing a heap of garbage near the Kali Mata Temple on the Outer Ring Road. He ordered strict action against the concerned official and the imposition of a heavy fine on the concessionaire. The Mayor also appealed to citizens to pay special attention to cleanliness after organizing Bhandaras at temples or to request MCD officials for assistance regarding cleanup.

He also stated that no negligence regarding Delhi's sanitation system would be tolerated and instructed Municipal Corporation of Delhi officials to work continuously at the grassroots level to strengthen waste management at the ward level and ensure timely waste disposal and maintain cleanliness in public spaces.

The Mayor inspected a compactor currently under construction near Safeda Wala Park in Ward No. 51, North-West zone and directed officials to complete the construction work as soon as possible. Subsequently, the Mayor inspected the E and F Block of Prashant Vihar and reviewed the ongoing development works. He also directed officials to remove encroachments from the roads. Expressing dissatisfaction with the area's sanitation the Mayor ordered immediate improvements to the cleanliness system.

Further, he also inspected a compactor under construction in Rohini Sector-3 and instructed officials to make it operational at the earliest. He stated that the Municipal Corporation plans to install compactor machines at 'Garbage Vulnerable Points' to ensure proper waste disposal and appealed to citizens to segregate household waste at the source before disposal, noting that by keeping such small details in mind they could assist the Corporation.

## Because I'm a woman: Kerala vlogger posts SOS from Afghanistan after 'arrest'

**Delhi. (Agency)**

A popular woman travel vlogger from Kerala, who has been travelling across Afghanistan and posting videos from the country, on Monday claimed that she was "arrested" by the "Mujahideen" in Bamyan and sought help in contacting the Indian embassy. However, nearly three hours after posting an SOS, the vlogger said she was allowed to leave after reaching a settlement with Taliban members.

In a post on her Facebook page, 'Backpacker Arunima' shared what she described as a translation of an official communication, according to which she had been arrested by the mujahideen in Afghanistan. The message showed, "You were arrested by the Mujahideen just now because you do not have an official letter."

Sharing the communication, seeking help to contact the Indian embassy, Arunina wrote, "I am in trouble in Afghanistan. I am in Bamyan".



provide any update on the alleged arrest.

In a subsequent detailed social media post, however, Arunima said she had been released by the Mujahideen and explained what she said had happened between her SOS message and her release.

"According to the law of this country, a woman cannot travel alone," the authorities in Bamyan told her, claiming that she had violated the law and would be arrested, the vlogger said.

"The 'crime' I had committed was travelling alone as a woman in a country where women are not allowed to travel alone. A permit is required for every province. I hadn't obtained those permits because they would not issue them to a woman travelling alone," she explained.

## India, New Zealand plan first bilateral exercise in 2027, boost maritime ties

**Delhi. (Agency)**

Navy Chief Admiral Krishna Swaminathan held substantive talks with his New Zealand counterpart during a visit to the island nation aimed at deepening maritime cooperation and strengthening professional and operational links between the two navies, officials said on Monday.

The discussions with Rear Admiral Garin Golding, Chief of Royal New Zealand Navy, focused on expanding practical cooperation, increasing operational engagement and improving maritime information sharing.

Adm Swaminathan began his visit to Australia and New Zealand on September 9 and first travelled to



Australia to bolster bilateral naval cooperation.

A spokesperson for the Indian Navy said, "Building upon the India-New Zealand Maritime Security Cooperation Arrangement, the two chiefs exchanged views on enhancing the partnership between the two navies, advancing operational engagement, including a maiden bilateral naval exercise in 2027, and exploring ways to ensure better maritime information exchange."

The Indian Navy said the visit was "aimed at further strengthening maritime cooperation and enhancing professional and operational linkages between the Indian Navy and the Royal New Zealand Navy".

The visit to New Zealand began with a traditional Maori Powhiri for Adm Swaminathan at Te Taua Moana Marae, at HMNZS Philomel, Devonport Naval Base, Auckland. The Indian Navy said the Powhiri, a traditional Maori welcome, was a powerful expression of 'manaakitanga', or respect and welcome, and was followed by a ceremonial guard of honour by the Royal New Zealand Navy at HMNZS Philomel, the 'Home of the Navy'.

## Air India CEO summoned after 3 Italians skip immigration check at Delhi airport

**Delhi. (Agency)**

Three Italian passengers boarded a flight from Delhi to Munich without completing immigration formalities at the airport earlier this month, prompting the Union Civil Aviation Ministry to issue a show-cause notice to Air India and seek an explanation from CEO Tewolde Gebremariam over the major procedural lapses.

The three passengers had travelled from Amritsar to Delhi on an Air India flight on September 4 and were subsequently booked on a Lufthansa flight to Munich. However, instead of completing immigration in Delhi before taking the international flight, they were taken to the international transfer area and proceeded to board the Lufthansa flight, sources said.

In the wake of the incident, the Union

Home Ministry has called a meeting of officials and stakeholders today to discuss what it has described as a “serious security and immigration related lapse”.

The meeting, chaired by Home Secretary Govind Mohan, will be attended by Air India Group Head P Balaji, senior officials from the Civil Aviation Ministry, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Immigration, the Delhi Airport CEO and other stakeholders, according to sources.

**AIR INDIA TO FACE 9 QUESTIONS OVER LAPSE**

The Civil Aviation Ministry has sought a written response from Air India on nine grounds related to the violations. The airline has been given seven days, until September 19, to explain why

immigration area and complete the prescribed immigration process.

The Ministry has also sought an explanation on why an onward boarding pass for the Lufthansa flight was issued at Amritsar when the Hub-and-Spoke standard operating procedure does not provide for issuing such a boarding pass at the spoke airport.

Air India has additionally been asked to explain the role of the designated airline Nodal Officer and the supervisory mechanism in place when the incident occurred. Air India has not commented on the incident.

**HUB-AND-SPOKE POLICY**

The Home Ministry has asked the Civil Aviation Ministry to prepare a presentation on incidents involving violations of the Hub-and-Spoke policy.





NEWS BOX

Ben Shelton not taking any time off after US Open final loss



New Delhi. (Agency)

Ben Shelton is wasting little time getting back on court after his run to the US Open final, with the American set to represent his country in the Davis Cup this week. Shelton was named in the US Davis Cup team on Monday for their second-round qualifying tie against the Czech Republic in Prague. He will then join Team World for the Laver Cup in London the following weekend.The 22-year-old lost to Alexander Zverev in his first Grand Slam final on Sunday. Despite the defeat, Shelton moved up to a career-high No. 4 in the ATP rankings on Monday. The Davis Cup appearance will be Shelton's second for the United States and his first since the 2024 finals.Learner Tien, Martin Damm, Christian Harrison and Austin Krajicek were also named in the US team. Taylor Fritz and Tommy Paul withdrew from the squad.Tien reached the fourth round of the US Open, while Damm pushed eventual semifinalist Frances Tiafoe to five sets in the first round. The 20-year-old Tien and 22-year-old Damm will make their first Davis Cup appearances.The US will face the Czech Republic on Friday and Saturday in a best-of-five tie on an indoor hard court at Prague's O2 Arena. Jakub Mensik, Jiri Lehecka, Tomas Machac and Vit Koprivka have been named in the Czech squad.The winner will advance to the Davis Cup Finals in Bologna, Italy, in November. Shelton will then head to London for the Laver Cup, where he will represent Team World. Zverev, who defeated Shelton in the US Open final, will represent Team Europe. Several other leading players will also feature in Davis Cup ties this week, including Alex de Minaur for Australia, Stefanos Tsitsipas for Greece and Casper Ruud for Norway.

AFG vs IND 2nd T20I: Sooryavanshi may have to wait as India seek another Delhi rout



New Delhi. (Agency)

In familiar conditions, India produced a near-perfect performance against Afghanistan in the first of a three-match T20I series in Delhi on Sunday. It was a much-needed confidence boost for the Men in Blue, who had assembled a full-strength squad for the first time since the T20 World Cup, with the Asian Games now just weeks away.The second T20I between Afghanistan and India will be played from 7:30 pm IST on Tuesday. Sony Liv will provide TV coverage, while FanCode will offer livestreaming of the match in India.After restricting Afghanistan to 156 in 20 overs, India rode on Abhishek Sharma's blistering 32-ball 82 to chase down the target in just 13.4 overs and seal a seven-wicket win.Barring the fifth-bowling option, which was shared by Nitish Kumar Reddy and Shivam Dube, India were in cruise control throughout the contest.There has been very little turnaround time for Afghanistan, with the second T20I to be played at the same venue on Tuesday. Before the series, Afghanistan had seen an opportunity in their familiarity with the conditions, hoping it would add fuel to their bid to beat India in a T20I series for the first time. However, the batting-friendly conditions at the Arun Jaitley Stadium, Afghanistan's designated home ground for the series, did little to aid their cause in the opener.Afghanistan's biggest strength, their spin-bowling group led by Rashid Khan, was nullified as the quartet of Rashid, Mohammad Nabi, Noor Ahmed and Mujeeb Ur Rahman found very little assistance from the surface.

Monaco striker Brunner facing ban over throat-slitting goal celebration

Brunner said after the game he did not intend to show disrespect and that he was sorry if his gesture had hurt anyone. He added his gesture had been “clumsy” and that he “should not have done it”

PARIS. (Agency)

Monaco striker Paris Brunner is facing a ban after being referred to the disciplinary body of the French league for celebrating a goal with a throat-slitting gesture. The German player, who leveled with a superb long-range strike in Saturday's 1-1

draw against Strasbourg as Monaco remained unbeaten this season in Ligue 1, has apologized for the controversial celebration.The National Council for Ethics and Professional Conduct, an independent body within French soccer, said in a statement on Monday that “players must behave courteously and respectfully towards their opponents, as well as towards their supporters.”It recalled that “passion for football” must be controlled and that individuals involved in the game have a duty to set an example through their behavior. Brunner said after the game he did not intend to show disrespect and that he was sorry if his gesture had hurt anyone. He added his gesture had been “clumsy” and that he “should not have done it”

The council replied by saying, “While these apologies are welcome, they do not erase



the reality of the gesture, which is liable to constitute a breach of the obligations of respect, setting an example and self-

control.” Brunner has been in excellent form this season, scoring three goals in four matches.

Wrestler Antim Panghal hungry for Asian Games, Olympic medal: No jalebi till LA 2028

New Delhi. (Agency)

For the last three years, Antim Panghal has stayed away from jalebi, her favourite sweet. The 22-year-old wrestler has made a promise to herself that she will finally have one after the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.The wait is part of a larger sacrifice for a wrestler whose immediate focus is the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, but whose biggest ambition is to win an Olympic medal in Los Angeles.“I have not had it for three years now. I will eat it in 2028 (after LA28). I really want to eat it. But I will not eat it now. Whenever I go home, my mother prepares Kadhi and Churma for me,” Antim told Times Now in an interview.Before she can think about Los Angeles, Antim has an important target in Japan. She will compete in the 53kg category at the Asian Games, hoping to improve on the bronze medal she won in

Hangzhou in 2023.“I will give my 100 per cent. Last time, I was a junior. But this time, I have to compete as a senior,” she said.Her Asian Games campaign will also



be an important part of a much bigger Olympic plan. The World Championships in October will be one of Antim's biggest tests before the Olympic qualification cycle begins in February 2027.“I have to qualify for the Olympics next year. I have to give my best in the World Championships,” she said.

ANTIM'S ASIAN GAMES TARGET

Antim secured her place in India's Asian Games squad after beating Meenakshi Goyat in the 53kg selection bout in New Delhi. Meenakshi had earlier stunned Vinesh Phogat in the semi-final before Antim stopped her from completing the upset run.The field in Japan will be tough, with Antim expecting the biggest challenges to come from the traditional Asian wrestling powerhouses. “We will do our best. But most of the challenges will come from Japan, China and North Korea,” she said.Antim also spent time training at Nippon University in Japan last year, an experience that could help her settle into the conditions when she returns for the Asian Games.

ANTIM PANGHAL'S RISE IN INDIAN WRESTLING

Antim took up wrestling in 2017 after being encouraged by her elder sister, a kabaddi player, in Bhagana village in Haryana's Hisar district.

Rumesh Pathirage's 90m-plus javelins broken in flight right before Asian Games

New Delhi. (Agency)

Star javelin thrower Rumesh Pathirage's three prized javelins have been damaged in transit, just days before the Asian Games. The Sri Lankan, who has landed three separate 90m+ throws this season, revealed that all the javelins used for those national record-breaking throws were damaged while being transported by Turkish Airlines.The Commonwealth Games and Diamond League winner was returning to Sri Lanka from Hungary after his victory at the World Athletics Ultimate Championships when his javelins were damaged in transit. Rumesh took to Instagram to reveal the incident, posting photographs of the broken equipment. The javelins were found damaged after he landed in Sri Lanka, prompting a complaint to be

lodged with the airlineAll three javelins I used for over 90 throws have been damaged. It might have been a mistake by



the airline, but that's how it is. It's not a big issue. I'll move on," the Sri Lankan javelin star said..The damage comes at an unfortunate time for Rumesh, who has

been one of the standout athletes in world javelin this season. The 23 year old has won the Commonwealth Games, the Diamond League Final and the World Athletics Ultimate Championships in 2026.He has also thrown beyond 90 metres three times this season, with all three of those throws coming with the javelins that were damaged during the journey back to Sri Lanka.WHY ARE THE JAVELINS IMPORTANT? Javelins used by elite athletes are highly specialised pieces of equipment, with throwers often developing a preference for particular models and setups. Damage to competition javelins can therefore disrupt both training and preparations for a major event. Rumesh's javelins are manufactured by Javel Inn Ltd., the Hungarian company behind Nemeth Javelins.

As Pakistan spirals in WTC, Babar Azam returns to domestic cricket for first time in 7 years



New York. (Agency)

Pakistan Test captain Babar Azam is set to return to the country's domestic red-ball cricket for the first time in seven years. The development, reported by The Dawn, comes in the aftermath of Pakistan's tumultuous outing in the three-match Test series against England, where they suffered a 3-0 whitewash. Babar's own batting in the Test format has been under scrutiny for several years. He averaged just 22, 20 and 31 in Tests across the 2023, 2024 and 2025 calendar years, respectively.Despite his prolonged struggles in the format, Babar has not returned to domestic first-class cricket since 2019. His last appearance came when he led Central Punjab to the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy title, beating Northern by an innings and 16 runs in the final on December 30, 2019. Now, almost seven years later, Babar is set to return to the domestic red-ball circuit with Oil and Gas Development Company Limited (OGDCL) in the ongoing President's Trophy Grade-I.The department's sports head Farah Batool confirmed to The Dawn that Babar will join the OGDCL squad after returning to Pakistan from the UK on September 16. “Babar will arrive back in Pakistan from the UK on Sept 16 and will join the OGDCL squad the next day,” Farah said. “His kit has been ordered.”Babar's involvement may not begin immediately, however. OGDCL are currently playing Pakistan Television in their President's Trophy opener in Islamabad. They will then face Kingsmen Academy in Peshawar from September 18, followed by a fixture against Khan Research Laboratories (KRL) from September 24.

After public embarrassment, Hockey India calls emergency meeting to resolve infighting

New Delhi. (Agency)

Hockey India has called an emergency Executive Board meeting on September 18 as the federation looks to resolve the differences among its top officials following a series of controversies in recent weeks. The meeting, to be held at the Hockey India office in New Delhi, has been called by secretary Bhola Nath Singh on the direction of president Dilip Tirkey. The rift between the two officials came into the open following the controversy over the change in the colour of the Indian teams' jerseys from blue to saffron ahead of the recently concluded FIH World Cup.Tirkey had said that the change was made without his knowledge and without the approval of the Hockey India Executive Board. He subsequently issued a show-cause notice to

Hockey India Director General Cdr R K Srivastava and stripped him of his powers with immediate effect. The notice listed eight charges against Srivastava, with the jersey controversy among the key issues. Srivastava has been given four weeks to respond.Bhola Nath's email to the Executive Board members, a copy of which is with PTI, said the 119th Executive Board meeting will be held at 3pm on September 18. RESTRUCTURING OF HOCKEY INDIALEAGUE One of the most important items on the agenda will be the future of the Hockey India League, which has struggled amid disagreements over its administration. Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya met Tirkey and HIL franchise owners on Monday and asked them to prepare a

roadmap for the men's and women's leagues. A five-member panel has been tasked with working on a proposed governance and



financial model.Franchise owners have also pushed for a greater role in the running of the league, with dissatisfaction over the way the competition has been managed by Hockey India.The proposal being discussed includes turning the HIL into a joint venture between Hockey India and the franchise owners. The plan calls for a separate company, HIL Pvt

Ltd, with Hockey India holding 40 per cent equity and the franchises collectively holding the remaining 60 per cent. Another proposal is to create a new Governing Council for the league. It would have a chairman and two members from Hockey India, along with two representatives from each franchise, and would oversee the administration of the HIL.The restructuring of the league could therefore be one of the biggest decisions to emerge from the September 18 meeting. ELECTIONS ALSO ON AGENDA The Executive Board will also discuss the Hockey India elections, including the appointment of an Electoral Officer to oversee the process.The meeting will also consider and approve the federation's balance sheet and income and expenditure accounts for the 2025-26 financial year.



## Rupee falls 30 paise to 95.84 against US dollar in early trade

MUMBAI. (Agency)

The rupee depreciated 30 paise to 95.84 against the US dollar in early trade on Tuesday on elevated Brent crude oil prices and heightened Middle East tensions. With Brent crude touching USD 106 per barrel, increased dollar demand from oil importers raised concerns over India's external balance and inflation, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.84 against the US dollar, registering a loss of 30 paise from its previous close. On Friday, the rupee had settled at 95.54 against the American currency. Forex and equity markets were closed on Monday on account of Ganesh Chaturthi. The surge in crude oil prices and heightened tensions in the Middle East have increased safe-haven demand for the dollar and pushed US Treasury yields higher, said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director, Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at 99.60 higher by 0.21 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading higher by 1.19 per cent at USD 106.94 per barrel in futures trade, amid escalating US-Iran tensions and fears of disruption to oil flows through the Strait of Hormuz. The Sensex climbed 233.66 points to 75,022.37 in early trade while Nifty rose 63.85 points to 23,462.30. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 930.90 crore on a net basis on Friday, according to exchange data.

## AI to reshape IT career ladder, promotions to hinge on skills: Tech Mahindra

New Delhi. (Agency)

Artificial intelligence is forcing Indian IT companies to rethink the traditional career ladder, with promotions increasingly likely to be based on skills and demonstrated capability rather than years of experience, according to Tech Mahindra Chief People Officer Richard Lobo.

As AI enables individual engineers to deliver work that previously required several people, companies will need to shift the way they assess employee contribution, productivity and performance, Lobo said. "Promotions will become less about tenure and more about demonstrated capability," he said, adding that companies would increasingly recognise specialised and relevant skills while rewarding both individual contribution and team outcomes. At Tech Mahindra, the approach is to balance individual and team performance while factoring skills into compensation, Lobo said.

AI is also expected to reduce management layers, although this would not necessarily make organisations uniformly flatter. Managers are likely to oversee larger and more diverse teams, while managing both people and AI-enabled digital labour. "The manager of the future will need to work with digital labour alongside humans," Lobo said. Managers will also be expected to coach employees, build organisational culture, enable continuous learning and drive business outcomes. This could result in fewer management layers, but broader mandates and greater accountability for those who remain in managerial roles. It is also prompting companies to reconsider traditional talent pyramids in favour of more flexible, skills-based structures.

## Tata Trusts may challenge RBI listing directive, seek lifting of SRTT board meeting stay

New Delhi. (Agency)

Tata Trusts, which controls Tata Sons, the holding company of the Tata group, with a 66.6% stake, is preparing to mount two legal challenges — one against the Reserve Bank of India's September 11 directive asking Tata Sons to go public immediately, and another seeking a direction to the charity commissioner to lift the stay on the Sir Ratan Tata Trust (SRTT), the second-largest trust with a 23.57% stake in Tata Sons, from holding its board meetings. The RBI action came after it sat on Tata Sons' application to surrender its NBFC-CIC (core investment company) licence for 30 months. The application was filed in March 2024. The directive has put Tata Sons chairman Noel Tata in a difficult position. Unless the stay on SRTT's board meetings is lifted, the board's cannot take key decisions, including on the succession of Tata Sons chairman N Chandrasekaran and the proposed IPO. Under Tata Sons' bylaws, decisions of the board have to be unanimous. There is also urgency to mount a legal challenge as the Tata Sons board is scheduled to meet on September 17, with three critical issues converging at the same time — the IPO, uncertainty over who will succeed Chandra and the continuing governance impasse at SRTT.

"Given the urgency of the situation, both the trusts and Tata Sons are of the view that only a legal challenge can give them time and freedom to run their affairs. They are likely to move the Bombay High Court later this week with a joint writ petition to set aside the RBI directive on listing and another petition by the trusts to direct the charity commissioner to vacate the stay, as its amended rules are being applied retrospectively," two people aware of the thinking at the trusts told TNIE on September 16. The stay on SRTT's board meetings was imposed by the charity commissioner in early May after an advocate petitioned that, under the September 2025 amended rules governing public charitable trusts.

# Insolvency rules to change following Subhash Chandra's haircut: IBBI to make 4 changes

Subhash Chandra's haircut of 99.97% startled the nation as his repayment plan envisaged a return of Rs 6.25 crore against claims of Rs 22,006.57 crore. Following that astounding example, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India or IBBI proposed four changes to the insolvency process for personal guarantors. These include preventing related parties from voting, investigating suspicious transactions, mandatory valuation of the guarantor's assets as well as maintaining a detailed record of creditor decisions.

Kolkata. (Agency)

Subhash Chandra's haircut of 99.97% startled the nation as his repayment plan envisaged a return of Rs 6.25 crore against claims of Rs 22,006.57 crore. A single-member NCLT bench approved Subhash Chandra's repayment plan. Following that astounding example, the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has proposed four changes to strengthen the bankruptcy process related to personal guarantors. Significantly, these changes could impact both companies and their personal guarantors. The proposals aim to provide greater protection to banks and other borrowers. The IBBI has sought public comments on these changes by October 3. These changes include rules related to voting, asset values, and transaction verification. Motion to abstain from voting

The IBBI has proposed that related parties associated with the guarantor should not have the right to vote on the repayment plan. The current regulations



prohibit associates from voting, but the definition of an associate is narrower than that of a related party. Therefore, certain entities over which the guarantor may have influence can vote. The new proposal aims to address this shortcoming and strengthen the protection of interests of lending institutions.

### Transactions will be scrutinised

Under the new proposal, the resolution professional will also be required to investigate the guarantor's past transactions. This will include undervalued transactions, such as selling assets at a low price. Preferred transactions and loans with high interest rates may also be investigated. The information revealed in the investigation will be presented to the creditors before voting. Any legal action will require their approval.

### Value of the property

IBBI has also proposed that the guarantor's assets be valued. A registered valuer will determine the fair value and realizable value of the property. The fair value will estimate the fair value of the property, while the realisable value will determine the amount that could be realised if the property was sold.

## Sensex, Nifty rise at open as IT stocks rally; HDFC Bank gains over 2%

New Delhi. (Agency)

Benchmark indices opened higher on Tuesday, helped by a sharp rally in IT stocks and gains in heavyweight HDFC Bank. The recovery comes after the Sensex and Nifty suffered five consecutive weekly losses, although elevated crude oil prices and high global bond yields continued to cap gains. At 9:27 am, the BSE Sensex was up 243.82 points, or 0.33%, at 75,025.58. The index had opened at 75,369.63. The Nifty 50 gained 61.25 points, or 0.26%, to 23,459.35 after opening at 23,576.15. The IT sector led the early gains, with the Nifty IT index rising 4.79%. HCLTech was the biggest Sensex gainer, rising 6.06%, while Infosys gained 5.30%, Tech Mahindra rose 5.23% and TCS advanced 4.91%.

The gains came as concerns over a slowdown in the pace of AI

development eased some of the fears around the disruption that artificial intelligence could cause to traditional Indian IT services



companies. IT stocks have been among the market's major laggards over the past year as investors worried that new AI tools could reduce demand for conventional software development and outsourcing services. A slower pace of AI development could give traditional IT companies more time to adapt their businesses, integrate

AI into their services and protect existing revenue streams. This is particularly relevant for Indian IT companies, whose businesses remain largely linked to traditional technology services rather than being dependent on pure-play AI products. HDFC Bank was another major support for the benchmarks, gaining 2.32%. The country's largest private-sector lender is in focus after submitting two candidates to the Reserve Bank of India for the position of CEO, formally starting the succession process for Sashidhar Jagdishan, whose term ends on October 26. However, te gains remained selective. The Nifty 100 rose 0.17%, while Nifty 200 gained 0.09% and Nifty 500 rose 0.03%. Mid- and small-cap stocks were weaker, with the Nifty Midcap 50 down 0.14%, Midcap 100 down 0.21% and Smallcap 100 down 0.28%.

## Construction cost up 25% since West Asia war began: NAREDCO president Parveen Jain



New Delhi. (Agency)

Construction costs in the real estate sector have risen by 25% since the West Asia war began in February, said NAREDCO president Parveen Jain. Speaking to TNIE, Jain said, "The input cost of construction has gone up by 25% because all raw material prices have increased in the last six months. Copper has seen a price rise of 60% in the past six months. Even if things return to normal in the next few months or the US-Iran war stops, it will take

another three months for supplies to normalise."

He, however, said there was little possibility of residential property prices rising further as housing prices had already increased. "The revision or changes in residential properties in the real estate sector are already reflected in the current market value. Any change in prices is not possible at least this year," Jain said. He added that his company, Tulip Group, had been seeing slower demand this year compared with last year.

Jain said most real estate companies in the country were bullish on India's real estate growth. "In India, there is always a shortage in supply compared to the overall demand. There is robust demand for residential properties and we are short of supply. The real estate industry is bullish on India for the next 10-15 years." The concern, however, is that short-term crises such as the West Asia war are hindering growth and making the overall outlook somewhat uncertain. "However, we have to deal with such crises if we want to grow," he said. Jain also said several real estate bodies had urged the government to provide land at subsidised rates or acquire land under the PPP model so that developers could build affordable housing, as land is a major component of development costs.

## 4% of global oil supply at risk as drone-hit Saudi pipeline faces weeks-long outage

New Delhi. (Agency)

A new threat to global oil supplies is emerging from Saudi Arabia, where a crucial pipeline could remain largely shut for weeks after an attack, while Houthi advances threaten another major shipping corridor already strained by the wider conflict in the Middle East. The East-West Pipeline, a 1,200-kilometre route connecting Saudi Arabia's oil-producing areas on the Gulf coast with the Red Sea port of Yanbu, was shut after a drone attack that Riyadh blamed on Iranian-backed militias. According to two regional officials cited by The Associated Press, repairs could take three to five weeks, although the pipeline may continue operating partially during the repair work. The outage threatens another major blow to global oil supplies at a time when shipping through the Strait of Hormuz has already been severely disrupted by the war between the US and Iran.

### SAUDI EXPORT ROUTE FACES WEEKS-LONG DISRUPTION

Saudi Arabia has enough oil stored at the Red Sea port of Yanbu to maintain exports for only about five to seven days if the pipeline remains shut, news agency Reuters reported. After that, as much as 4 per cent of global oil supply could be put at risk, adding to millions of barrels a day already affected by disruption around Hormuz. Saudi Arabia has not provided a detailed assessment of the pipeline damage or said when normal operations will resume. According to AP, sources estimate that repairs could take three to five weeks, particularly because a major pumping facility was damaged. One official told AP that the pipeline could continue to operate partially during repairs, although it remains unThe scale of the potential disruption is significant. According to Rystad Energy, the pipeline had been carrying a weekly average of between 2.6 million and 4 million barrels of crude a day since late August. A complete halt would therefore remove a substantial volume from the market. Brent crude reached \$109, with Rystad saying the price movement was "a clear signal that the market is increasingly pricing in a significant loss of supply". clear how much oil could still flow through it.

### HOUTH ADVANCE CLOSES ANOTHER OIL ROUTE

The pipeline crisis is unfolding alongside a major Houthi advance along Yemen's Red Sea coast.

# UPI payments above Rs 2,000 may no longer be free: What you need to know

The government has kept UPI payments up to Rs 2,000 free while allowing room for charges on higher merchant transactions. The final impact will depend on NPCI's framework, with RuPay debit card payments still protected.

New Delhi

The government's latest clarification on UPI charges has kept small digital payments free, but it has also opened the door for banks and payment companies to levy fees on larger transactions made through the Unified Payments Interface. A notification issued by the Department

of Financial Services on Monday specified that UPI transactions of up to Rs 2,000 will not attract charges from banks or system providers. Payments made using debit cards powered by RuPay will also remain free of such charges. The move is huge because it effectively creates a threshold beyond which merchant charges on UPI could be introduced. A detailed operational directive on the proposed merchant discount rate (MDR) is expected from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), reported The Economic Times. So, while consumers making UPI payments are not being asked to pay a new fee, merchants could eventually face charges when they accept larger UPI payments.

**WHAT HAS THE GOVERNMENT ACTUALLY SAID?** The government notification does not itself announce a new MDR rate.

Instead, it specifies that UPI transactions up to Rs 2,000 and RuPay-powered debit card payments cannot be charged by banks or system providers. The notification says no bank or system



provider can impose a charge, directly or indirectly, on a person making or receiving a payment through the specified electronic modes. This distinction is important. The government has not yet announced how much merchants would be charged for larger

UPI transactions. The detailed operational framework is expected to be issued by NPCI. The rates would be decided by the "UPI and services steering committee", headed by NPCI along with other stakeholders, as per the report.

### WHY IS RS 2,000 BENCHMARK IMPORTANT?

UPI has operated without an MDR since January 2020, when the government changed the rules to make UPI payments free and encourage digital payments. The new notification effectively draws a line at Rs 2,000 for UPI. Payments up to that amount will remain protected from charges, while larger transactions could potentially become subject to an MDR once the operational framework is finalised. This does not mean merchants will immediately start paying a fee on every UPI transaction above Rs 2,000.





'Ladkiya Mar Rahi Hai Shaadi Karne Ke Liye':

# Sonali Kulkarni

## On Aamir Khan Playing A Father In Dangal

Sonali Kulkarni played Salman Khan’s mother in Bharat, and the actress is younger than Bollywood’s Bhaijaan. When asked if she feels women tend to get older roles quite early while men continue to play young heroes, she told News18 Showsha that times have changed and now many male actors are shedding the larger-than-life hero image. She cited Aamir Khan and Saif Ali Khan’s examples.

Recalling a time when women used to stop getting heroine roles after marriage, Kulkarni said, “There was a time when we used to discuss how women don’t get heroine roles once they marry. Do you hear that nowadays? No. Because I think the audience has proved that just like heroes get married, heroines can also get married. They can also have children. They can have families.”

She further continued and, while sharing how content from across the world is being viewed in the country and how there are different mediums to show talent, Sonali added, “In this scenario, I don’t think we have room to complain that girls are getting different roles. I feel pity for those people who claim that they just want to be a hero. I don’t think any actor is that narrow-minded today. Whether a male actor or a female actor, they want to explore their talent.”

She then cited her Dil Chahta Hai co-stars, Saif Ali Khan and Aamir Khan, and discussed how they are taking up challenging roles. “We have such versatile actors. I don’t think any actor will say that he wants to look young. If we talk about Saif Ali Khan, he is maturing like a fine wine; he isn’t fearing taking up the role of a young dad who is in love,” Sonali said.

The actress further continued, “Aamir Khan is the epitome of experimenting. I don’t think anyone has the courage to do what he has done in Dangal. Aamir Khan jiske poster lagte hain, ladkiyan bekarar hain, mar rahi hain shaadi karne ke liye. He is presenting himself as the father of 3-4 daughters without any prosthetic; then he is my hero. (Aamir Khan, whose posters are put up everywhere, has girls going crazy for him, dying to marry him. He is presenting himself as the father of three or four daughters without any prosthetics; then he is my hero). He is grinding himself fearlessly.”

Sonali concluded, “I don’t think any good actor is stuck in this competition where they want to look young. They are flaunting their talent. They are flaunting their command over acting. By all means, they don’t fear their age.”



# Shehnaaz Gill

## Says ‘Acha Hua’ As She Reacts To Shelved Film With John Abraham, Riteish Deshmukh

Shehnaaz Gill has spoken about 100%, the Sajid Khan film that was announced nearly four years ago but was eventually shelved. The project was supposed to feature Shehnaaz alongside John Abraham, Riteish Deshmukh and Nora Fatehi.

Looking back at the film now, Shehnaaz says she does not spend much time worrying about projects that fail to materialise. In fact, she believes there are times when something not happening may ultimately be for the better.

### Shehnaaz Gill On 100% Getting Shelved

Speaking to Hindustan Times about 100%, Shehnaaz said she does not take such developments too seriously and has made peace with the film not being made.

“Main utna serious leti nahin hun in cheezon ko. Mujhe aisa lagta hai ki nahin hui acha hua, kyunki kuch cheezein nahin banne mein hi bhalai hoti hai,” she said.

The actor also shared why she now prefers not to speak about a project until it is completely ready. According to Shehnaaz, plans can change at any point, and announcing something too early can create expectations among audiences.

“Jitni der tak tumhara project pura ban ke ready nahi ho jata hai, tab tak baat na karo uski kyunki kabhi bhi kuch bhi ho jata hai. Mujhe pata hai kal ko nahin hua to log sawaal kareng

aur main unko jawab kya dunggi. Logon ki umeedein bhi ban jati hain, to main wo todna nahin chahti,” Shehnaaz added.

In English, Shehnaaz explained that she does not take these situations too seriously and feels that sometimes it is better when certain things do not happen. She also said that one should avoid speaking about a project before it is completely ready because circumstances



can change unexpectedly.

Shehnaaz added that when a project is announced, people begin expecting it to happen. If it subsequently falls through, questions follow, and she does not want to disappoint people after raising their hopes. 100% was announced around four years ago with Sajid Khan attached as director. The planned film had an ensemble cast comprising Shehnaaz Gill, John Abraham, Riteish Deshmukh and Nora Fatehi.

## 'Not Directed At Salman Khan': Amaal Mallik Clarifies Comment On 'Main Hoon Hero Tera' Song Credit



Amaal Mallik has called out Salman Khan Films over missing credits for Main Hoon Hero Tera, the song he composed for the 2015 film Hero. The composer questioned why his name and that of lyricist Kumar were not mentioned in a post celebrating 11 years of the film.

The post shared by Salman Khan Films featured Salman Khan performing Main Hoon Hero Tera. Amaal reacted in the comments and made it clear that his complaint was about the film’s social media team and the way the song’s creators were being credited, not about Salman Khan himself.

### Amaal Mallik Calls Out Missing Music Credits

Amaal said he was frustrated to see the composer and lyricist left out of the post. “Whoever is handling the social media of @skfilmsofficial, I love the audacity you have shown by leaving out the composer and the lyricist of the song,” Amaal wrote. He then spoke about the work that goes into making a song and questioned why the creators are sometimes ignored when their work is celebrated. “The song that is created with the pain, blood, sweat and tears of a music composer and his lyricist, and is celebrated without the creators being respected or even mentioned,” he added.

Amaal also asked the team to give proper credit to the people behind the song. “Learn to do the basics,” he wrote, while also asking that his comment not be deleted and that Salman Khan be allowed to see it.

### Armaan Malik Sang The Original Version

Main Hoon Hero Tera was composed by Amaal Mallik, with lyrics by Kumar and vocals by Amaal’s brother Armaan Malik. Salman Khan later recorded his own version of the song.

The credit issue came up again when Salman Khan Films shared the anniversary post featuring Salman performing the track, leading Amaal to question the absence of the song’s original creators from the post.

### Amaal Says Music Credit Fight Is Decades Old

Amaal later addressed the matter through an Instagram Story on Sunday. He said the fight for proper music credits has continued for decades and that he speaks up because he feels artistes are often not recognised at the right time. “Who wants to keep this drama and get into controversies? I have to do it because no one else talks on time, and this fight has been on for over four-five decades! It has always been for music and credits,” he wrote.

## Neena Gupta Told Masaba ‘Sorry’ That She Had To Grow Up Without Father Viv Richards: ‘It Is My Fault’



Neena Gupta has spoken again about raising her daughter Masaba Gupta as a single mother and said she would not advise anyone to choose single parenthood unless they truly wanted it. The actor said the experience was extremely difficult and affected her “body”, “soul” and finances, while also saying she believes it was important to be honest with Masaba about her family from a young age.

### Neena Gupta On Single Motherhood

Speaking to Zoom, Neena said she would not encourage others to follow the path she took. “I would not propagate it. I have always said, ‘Don’t do it because I did it.’ It is very difficult, and it is not fair on the child. I will still say that,” she said.

Neena said her opinion has nothing to do with social judgement. She feels single parenthood can be difficult emotionally, physically and financially. “It is not because of judgement. It is very tough on your body, your soul and your finances, and it is not good for your child. So, that is why I will not tell anybody to go that way. Unless they want to, it is their choice,” she added.

### She Told Masaba The Truth About Her Father

Neena Gupta said she decided early on that Masaba should know the truth about her family rather than hear it from other people. She explained that she told her daughter about her father slowly, as she grew older and asked questions. “Under the circumstances in which I had my baby, it was very important for me to tell her the truth. I systematically, slowly and gradually told her the truth whenever she asked me, in such a way that she didn’t even hate her father,” Neena said. She also wanted Masaba to have a relationship with her father without carrying anger towards him. “I made her like her father. I told her why and what had happened as she grew up. So, there was no malice or anger towards me because I told her the truth.



# Get fuller looking Eyebrows with these tips



Can your Beauty salon harm you?



If you're planning on some post party indulgence, here's why you should think twiceIf you're planning on some post party indulgence, here's why you should think twice

The quickest way to pamper yourself is to indulge at the salon. However, a recent study claims that a simple fish pedicure that involves tiny toothless carp nibbling away at dead skin could spread deadly infection and disease. And that's just the tip of the proverbial iceberg. So, if you have intentions of stopping by the salon for a beauty treatment, read on.

Skin-tillating? ...not at all! If you have a weak immune system, or condition like diabetes and psoriasis in particular, experts advise you to stay away from your local beauty parlour. They warn of the dangers of contracting Hepatitis C from the use of unsterile scissors (through a nick during a haircut or even a manicure). A website even reports how American singer Paula Abdul suffered a long and painful thumb infection she picked up at a Los Angeles nail salon and

testified before legislators in support of a bill to increase nail salon health standards.

"If a person is already infected with a bacterial or fungal infection and warts or molluscum (viral) and bleeds into the water in the tank, then there definitely is a very chance this could be passed to another client, either via the fish or contaminated tank water; if this not taken care of it can be harmful," says skin expert Dr Krupa Amonkar. In addition, there is a danger of contracting the Hepatitis c virus from unsterile scissors either through a nick during a haircut or during a slip that draws blood in a manicure. A website reports how singer and American Idol judge Paula Abdul suffered long, painful thumb infection that she apparently picked up at a Los Angeles nail salon and testified before legislators in support

of a bill to increase nail-salon health standards. Mike Comins, chairman of the British Association of Cosmetic Doctors, says: "Hepatitis C is a robust virus that can live outside the body for quite a long time and may not display any symptoms at all. It can linger for decades, increasing your risk of cirrhosis and liver cancer. It's very contagious and not routinely tested for." Adds skin doctor Rita Shah, "One has to be careful. If the instruments are not sterilised properly, there's a risk they could spread blood-borne infections." Hair and now! Ever thought a simple blow dry could nix it for you? That's apparently that case.

You can actually suffer 'asphyxiation' from a Brazilian Blowdry as a major ingredient in the straightening treatment dubbed the Brazilian, or permanent, blowdry is said to be formaldehyde. And inspite of certain restrictions on the amount of the chemical that can be used, and new formaldehyde-free formulations, certain firms are still selling products that can cause breathing difficulties and other unpleasant side-effects. That's a scare, not counting smaller woes like head lice from dirty brushes! And don't forget hot wax has the potential to be seriously dangerous if it's not handled properly or even a stroke from a washbasin! If you have managed to just end up to with a crick in your neck and shoulder after a shampoo, count your blessings. Research indicates that the position in which you have to hold your neck while being shampooed over a basin could, in a few cases result in a stroke, known as Beauty Salon Stroke Syndrome. The result can be dizziness, facial numbness, and even a blood clot in the brain. This is especially dangerous for those with high blood pressure. The warning signs are out, next time you might want to do a re-think before your hairdo or manicure.

There must have been days when you've realised that you are not only losing out hair on your scalp but on your eyebrows as well! Since eyebrows shape your face, it is important for them to be healthy and strong. Here are a few things that you must keep in mind.

- Use natural products**  
Rubbing a little coconut or olive oil works the best for your eyebrows. Says beautician and makeup artist Puja Taluja, "Every night before you go to bed, take it a little oil on your palms and rub them hard so that the oil warms a bit. Apply this evenly on your brows and massage it for a while. Keep this on for the whole night." Oil will make your brows healthier and in a few days, you will notice that they have become fuller.
- Find the right shade of colour**  
When you fill your eyebrows with a shadow or a pencil, always choose a colour that is closest to your natural brow colour. For example, if your brows are dark brown, choose a shade of coffee to fill in. But if you cannot find the exact colour, always go for a shade lighter. This will make your brows look as natural as possible.
- Fill them with a pencil colour**  
If you have extremely thin brows, it is always best to fill it in with a brow shadow for a soft and natural look. To do this, use an angled brush (if you are using a shadow) or a pencil colour and apply it on your brows, without straying too far from your natural hair line. If you have a bigger spot to be filled, it is best to use an eyebrow pencil. Apply thin and light strokes in the direction that your hair grows.
- Do not use tweezers too often**



Tweezing your eyebrows more often will make them thin. If you have unwanted hair growth and wish to get rid of that, it is always best to go in for a threading than tweezing and taking out that hair. Says beautician Tasneem Subzwari, "Your eyebrows normally takes about six to eight weeks to grow fully. Thus wait for it to grow completely, rather than forcefully taking it out because that will damage your hair growth and in turn make it thinner."

- Hair gel can work wonders too**  
At times applying hair gel on your brows will make your brows thicker as well as make them look well-groomed as well. But do not apply this on an every day basis. Adds Taluja, "If you apply a hair gel on daily it will make your brows sticky and thereby making the roots weak. Stick to applying this at least once in a fortnight."
- Box - Shape them perfectly**
  - Use a concealer that is as close to your natural skin colour and apply this on the inner area of your brows.
  - Pick an eyebrow pencil and fill in your brows perfectly.
  - Take an angular brush and comb your brows properly.

## Young women are colouring their hair grey!



Pop stars Rihanna and Lady Gaga, singer Kelly Osbourne, reality TV star Kylie Jenner are among the many young women, who have been spotted with grey hair. And we're not talking about a few odd pesky strands; they're going the whole hog and dyeing their hair in this stale shade of silver! Closer home, designer Nandita Mahtani has been known to proudly sport grey streaks. Why is this dull hue becoming such a rage amongst young women?

**Grey is the new black**  
Stylist Uday Shirali believes granny chic beauty is a reflection of the carefree attitude that young women have today. "The confidence of sporting grey hair makes one look sexy. Feminine dye colours like pink, purple, blonde, magenta, cherry are done to death; grey is a welcome change. Also, there is the constant pressure to look different. So women who like experimenting

and have access to high-end beauty products and salon services are not afraid to move away from conventional trends and try something path-breaking." why it will suit Indian women "The silver streaks would look more enhanced and beautiful on black hair that most

*Vintage style granny chic fashion like thick-rimmed glasses, floral tea dresses, frumpy cardigans and kitten heels have featured heavily on the catwalks for many seasons. Taking a cue from this popular sartorial style, we now have celebrities who have extended this trend to beauty as well.*



India n girls have. This is a great look to pull off, if you are in your twenties and thirties," says Shraddha Naik, hairstylist. The key to sporting the trend right -If you're going grey on your hair, you have to complement it with the right make-up. Wear your lips in bright shades of hot pink and fiery red. Match the grey tones in your hair by going for smokey eyes. -To lend a whimsical touch to your grey locks, add a purple or red tinge to

the tips o f your hair. -Flowing waves or a bob work best for grey hair. -Says Dr Amrapali Patil, "Since dyeing is a chemical process, your hair will require regular maintenance, like conditioning treatments and frequent touch-ups. Also, hair colour fades over time and looks dull, so avoid washing your hair frequently. Be careful in chlorine-treated swimming pools, as chlorine can cause the hair colour to change."