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'Chor hai tera chacha': Priyanka Gandhi slapped boy who teased her in school after Emergency

NEW DELHI. (Agency).

Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said she slapped a boy in school after he teased her following the Emergency, saying, "Chor hai tera chacha (Your uncle is a thief)".

She narrated the incident during a conversation with her mother Sonia Gandhi and her brother Rahul Gandhi, a video of which was shared by them on social media platforms on Tuesday."After the Emergency, when dadi (Indira Gandhi) lost the election, we moved to a different house. I remember there was a lot of tension," Priyanka Gandhi says in the video.

Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi reminisce about their first day at school after Indira Gandhi lost the election in 1977."I remember a little boy coming and telling me, 'Tera chacha (Sanjay Gandhi) jail mein hai, chor hai tera chacha'. So I slapped him; he started crying and went to the teacher, and I got a scolding," Priyanka Gandhi recalls in the video of her conversation with her mother and brother.Rahul Gandhi says he and his sister were different in school. The siblings playfully tease each other in the video, with Priyanka Gandhi recalling that she was a prefect in school."There was a difference because she (Priyanka) was not rebellious. She would follow the rules; she would be sweet.

Stay away from drugs: PM to youth

New Delhi.(Agency).

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday wished that the youth of the country be free from any kind of addiction, saying that when youngsters come under the influence of drugs, the dreams of their families get shattered.

After attending a Shabad Kirtan recital at Delhi Lok Niwas on the eve of Parkash Purab, the birth anniversary of the first Sikh Guru, Sri Guru Nanak Dev, Modi also said that the spirit of 'Sarbat Da Bhala'—wishing well-being for all—becomes even more



important for peace in every part of the world, for every family to be safe, and for every person to have the opportunity to live with dignity. The Prime Minister said the entire Sikh tradition has been synonymous with the spirit of sacrificing everything for the nation and its culture."May every young person in the country be free from addiction. May they fulfil their dreams. May they study hard, move forward, and bring pride to their families and their country. Families have a very important role to play in this effort," he said, adding that when a youth comes under the influence of drugs, dreams of the families get shattered.

Savarkar family threatens legal action against Sonia Gandhi over memoir remarks

Satyaki Savarkar has sent Sonia Gandhi a legal notice over alleged defamatory remarks about VD Savarkar in her memoir, demanding an unconditional apology and corrections within 15 days or face legal action.

Pune. (Agency).

Vinayak Damodar Savarkar's grandnephew, Satyaki Savarkar, has issued a legal notice to Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, demanding an unconditional apology and correction of what he has described as factually inaccurate and defamatory remarks about the Hindutva ideologue in her memoir, Belonging: A Journey of Love.Alleging that the remarks present a distorted portrayal of his ancestor, he has given her 15 days to comply with the demands or face legal action before the Pune District Court.The legal notice objects to remarks on pages 201 and 443 of the book, alleging that they are factually inaccurate, historically misleading and prejudicial to VD Savarkar's reputation and legacy.On page 201, Sonia Gandhi wrote that while Congress freedom fighters were facing assaults and imprisonment under British rule, senior RSS ideologues such as Savarkar were "writing mercy petitions to their colonial masters and their members were colluding with the British authorities as informers".Another passage, on page 443, describes Savarkar as the founder of the ideology of Hindutva and says his vision



viewed India primarily as a nation where Hindus were supreme. "That ideology dismisses the delineation of the country and the rights of its citizens set down in the Constitution as ideas opposed to the ethos of Hindu civilisation, ideas they dismiss as being derived from Western countries with fundamentally alien values," the book said.Satyaki Savarkar's advocate, Sangram Kolhatkar, claimed that the statements in the book contained incorrect information about Savarkar and amounted to defamation. He added that the immediate focus was on defamation, while further research was underway to examine whether other legal provisions could also be invoked."At present, the focus is on defamation, specifically, the defamation of Veer Savarkar. We are currently conducting further research, as other legal provisions may also be applicable. We will initiate further action accordingly," he said.

The notice argued that the passage creates the impression that Savarkar was associated with or responsible for informing on or collaborating with British authorities against Indian freedom fighters. It disputed this implication, maintaining that it was unsupported by the historical context in which Savarkar's imprisonment.

Shashi Tharoor rejects Kerala Congress factionalism, seeks new KPCC chief

Shashi Tharoor urged the Congress leadership to appoint a new KPCC chief. His remarks underscored renewed concerns over factionalism and unity within the Kerala unit.

Thiruvananthapuram.(Agency)

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Tuesday said all constituent parties were represented in the UDF government and that a system was in place to consider their views before decisions were taken, news agency Press Trust of India reported.Tharoor said he had raised the issue of appointing a new Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) chief with the party's national leadership and hoped a decision would be taken soon. He also said he did not belong to any group within the Congress.

"Ever since I have been a part of politics, I have believed that when we are part of a party, then there should be no groupism. I am not Congress I or A; I am Congress U, where 'U' stands for united," the Thiruvananthapuram



MP told reporters, according to PTI.The Congress in Kerala has traditionally had two prominent factions: the I Group led by K Karunakaran and the A Group led by A K Antony.After Antony moved to national politics, Oommen Chandy took over the leadership of the A Group. Following Karunakaran's exit from the Congress in 2005, Ramesh Chennithala emerged as a prominent leader of the I Group.Factional activities in the Kerala Congress had remained relatively subdued for some time. However, factional politics appeared to be resurfacing after the recent elections.Tharoor made the remarks in Thiruvananthapuram while responding to questions about alleged infighting, claims that the alliance government's decisions were not being discussed with everyone, factional affiliations within the party, and the demand for a KPCC chief who was not part of the administration. State Electricity Minister Sunny Joseph is currently the KPCC chief.

Tharoor reiterated that he did not belong to any faction and said the Congress leadership was considering the issue of appointing.

Congress questions JP Nadda as report flags Gujarat's high anaemia burden

New Delhi.(Agency).

The Congress on Tuesday cited a Union Health Ministry report showing a high prevalence of anaemia in Gujarat between 2023 and 2025 and questioned Union Health Minister JP Nadda over its findings, news agency Press Trust of India reported.

Congress general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh said the report, titled "Anaemia and Micronutrient Deficiencies Across the Life Course in India", had been released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.Ramesh said on X that anaemia affected 61.4 per cent of adolescent girls aged 10 to 19, 63.8 per cent of adult women aged 20 to 59, and 66.2 per cent of women of reproductive age aged 15 to 49 in Gujarat



during 2023-25."Only Chhattisgarh fared worse. The corresponding figures for the best performing state Kerala were 21.4 per cent, 28 per cent and 29.1 per cent, no doubt high but nowhere near the levels prevailing in Gujarat, which for some years has been propagated as a model state by the prime minister and his cheerleaders," Ramesh said.He added that Gujarat had the highest prevalence of anaemia among children aged 12 to 59 months, at 56.5 per cent, while Kerala recorded the lowest, at 14.5 per cent. "Will the genial Union Health Minister survive the release of this damning report?" Ramesh asked.According to PTI, the Indian Council of Medical Research's SAMPADA survey, released on Monday, found that the prevalence of anaemia in India was lower than that reported in previous national surveys. Severe anaemia accounted for less than 2 per cent of cases across most age groups.SAMPADA, or the Survey for Assessment of Markers of Population Health, Activity, Diet and Anthropometry, was conducted during 2023-25. It covered more than two lakh people from over 81,000 households across 183 districts.

Congress targets PM Modi over Jewar airport renaming, recalls Nehru's refusal to name projects after him

New Delhi.(Agency).

The Congress on Tuesday criticised the Uttar Pradesh government's decision to rename the Noida International Airport at Jewar after Prime Minister Narendra Modi, citing instances when former prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru had refused proposals to name public projects after him.Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said the Jewar airport, inaugurated by Modi on March 28, 2026, had been renamed the Narendra Modi International Airport, Noida-Jewar despite sluggish passenger traffic.In a post on X, Ramesh said the airport's Phase-I spans over 3,000 acres acquired amid controversy, with an investment of more than Rs 30,000 crore. He, however, pointed out that the airport had yet to see a single scheduled international flight."This has not prevented the airport being renamed as the Narendra Modi International Airport Noida-Jewar," he said.Referring to the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad, Ramesh asked what would be named after the prime minister next."There was a different time when in January 1949 the Prime Minister of India refused to have the Fateh Maidan in Hyderabad named after him and in December 1956 he had also put a stop to the proposal to rename the Banihal Tunnel in J&K in his honour," Ramesh said.

He also cited former Union Education Minister MC Chagla's autobiography, Roses in December, to highlight Nehru's opposition to such proposals. According to Ramesh, Chagla had wanted the proposed second university in Delhi to be named after Nehru in the early 1960s, but the then prime minister promptly vetoed the suggestion.In October, the Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved a proposal to rename the Noida International Airport at Jewar as the Narendra Modi International Airport, Noida-Jewar.

CM warns of action if old Delhi public spaces are encroached again

NEW DELHI(Agency).

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday warned that officials will face strict action if roads, footpaths and other public spaces cleared of encroachments in Chandni Chowk and the vicinity are occupied again, directing the MCD and police to maintain continuous surveillance.

Gupta had earlier held a review meeting with senior officials of the Indraprastha Heritage Redevelopment Corporation (IVPN), MCD, Delhi Police and other departments.The warning comes after the MCD, with the assistance of Delhi Police, conducted an anti-encroachment drive during the weekend at several locations, including Pul Mithai, Peeli Kothi, Rani Avantika Chowk, and Tis Hazari.The CM said merely removing illegal occupation from public spaces would not be sufficient unless departments ensured that the cleared areas remained free of encroachments. "Removing encroachments alone is not enough; officials must also ensure that they do not return," Gupta said, directing the civic body and police to keep the cleared locations under close watch."Any



negligence, indifference or failure on the part of any department in dealing with encroachments will invite strict action against the officials concerned," she warned.

SP has no place for Dalits in poll panels despite its PDA politics: Lalji Prasad Nirmal

New Delhi(Agency).

Dr Lalji Prasad Nirmal, a Dalit thinker and Member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council, has launched a sharp attack on the Samajwadi Party's PDA (Backward, Dalit and Minorities) politics.Accusing SP chief Akhilesh Yadav of politically marginalising Dalits, the BJP MLC said that the reality of the opposition party, which raises the slogan of "PDA," is reflected in its organisational decisions.Akhilesh, who advocates Dalit participation and rights on public platforms, sidelines the Dalit community when it comes to providing them a share in organisational and political decision-making, Dr Nirmal alleged.He said, "The Samajwadi Party has constituted a four-member committee for seat-sharing with the INDIA alliance, but not a single Dalit representative has been included in it. This, in itself, raises a major question about the party's PDA politics."Dr Nirmal also questioned whether there is no capable leader in the Dalit community who



can play a role in important decisions concerning the SP's proposed alliance with the Congress for the upcoming Uttar Pradesh Assembly polls, or whether the role of Dalits in the regional party is limited only to casting votes during elections.He stated, "There is a clear difference between the Samajwadi Party's words and actions. Dalit representation in the Legislative Council during the SP government's tenure from 2012 to 2017, as well as Dalit participation in the party's important decision-making forums, should also be reviewed.

Social justice is not achieved merely through slogans and electoral equations; rather, it is demonstrated through genuine participation in power, organisation and the decision-making process."Dr Nirmal challenged Akhilesh to clarify whether Dalits would be given leadership and decision-making rights under his PDA model or merely be used for electoral gains.He said, "The Dalit community would no longer be satisfied with assurances. It wants respect, representation and genuine participation in leadership."

Air quality stays 'poor' in Noida, Ghaziabad

Noida.(Agency)

The air quality deteriorated in Noida and Ghaziabad slightly on Monday but remained in the 'poor' category. The air quality index (AQI) slipped to 221 and 241 from Sunday's 214 and 225, respectively. Greater Noida saw more deterioration as AQI shifted to 239 from 190 in the 'moderate' range the day before. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD) and the Air Quality Early Warning System for Delhi, a dip in temperature resulted in the accumulation of pollutants at the levels near the surface.
Noida's Sector 62 station saw the worst AQI in the city at 321 in the 'very poor' range, followed by Sector 39 (273) and Sector 125 (204) in the 'poor' zone. Sector 116 and Sector 150 both recorded an AQI of 197, followed by Sector 110 (178) and Sector 1 (175), all in the 'moderate' zone.In Greater Noida, all seven stations recorded 'poor' AQI. Gautam Buddha University had the worst AQI at 292, followed by Shiv Nadar University (266), Knowledge Park V (253), Ghodi Bachheda (237), Gaur Yamuna City (221), Rauni (202) and Knowledge Park III (201).
In Ghaziabad, Ved Vihar station was in the 'very poor' zone at 310, followed by Wave City (260), Vasundhara (234), Dasna Dehat (232), Sanjay Nagar (231), New Tehsil Loni (228) and Indrapuram (213).

100-bed girls' hostel to open in Jewar next year

Noida.(Agency)

A 100-bed Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV) residential hostel for girls in Jewar's R&R Colony is nearing completion and is expected to open in the next academic session. The state govt has sanctioned Rs 2 crore for the project, of which Rs 1.5 crore has been spent.
According to officials, the facility will initially accommodate girls studying in classes 1 to 8, while plans are underway to extend residential facilities to students of classes 9 to 12 at a later stage. Once operational, the hostel will provide accommodation to girls, allowing them to continue their education while staying on the campus.The district coordinator for girls' education said construction work was in its final stages and the department was targeting Dec for completion."The residential building is expected to be completed by Dec, following which arrangements will be made to accommodate students from the next academic session.

Ghaziabad court sentences 78-year-old 2 years in jail for molesting girl in 2010

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

A 78-year-old man was sentenced to two years in prison for using criminal force to outrage the modesty of a minor in 2010. As the offence predated the introduction of the Pocso Act, he was prosecuted under Section 354 of the IPC. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 2,000.The court, however, acquitted him of the charges under the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act after finding that the girl was a customer at his shop and that he had no prior idea about her caste background.Judge Jeetendra Mishra said granting the convict probation was considered due to his age and clarified that the term already spent in custody will be adjusted against the sentence.
On April 16, 2010, an FIR was registered after the girl's father filed a complaint alleging that his 12-year-old daughter had gone to a neighbourhood shop to buy some items and, while there, the shopkeeper had dragged her inside and molested her. When she raised the alarm during the attack, some passersby heard and came to help, at which point the shopkeeper fled the scene. A case was registered under Section 354 of the IPC and Section .

Auto driver held for raising pro-Pakistan slogans in Faridabad

Gurgaon.(Agency)



A 50-year-old auto driver was arrested in Faridabad on Sunday for allegedly shouting slogans in support of Pakistan, ISI and al-Qaida after a dispute over water pipeline repairs outside his house escalated into a confrontation with a neighbour. A video of the incident, recorded by a passerby, shows the man repeatedly raising the slogans even as residents, including an elderly neighbour and a female relative, try to stop him.The accused, Anoj Kumar Sharma, lives in Sector 3. Police said labourers were repairing a water pipeline outside his house when Sharma objected to the work and allegedly began abusing them. The disagreement then spilled over into an argument with Charan Singh, general secretary of a local senior citizens' club.During the confrontation, Sharma allegedly began shouting slogans such as "Pakistan zindabad", "ISI zindabad" and "Hindustan murdabad". A passerby took out his phone and recorded the exchange. In the video, Sharma is seen challenging the person filming him and telling him to continue recording, while claiming that no action would be taken against him.
The man behind the camera is heard warning him, "You are finished now, old man." An elderly neighbour, seated outside a nearby house, also scolds Sharma and asks him to stop. A female relative tries to intervene, urging him to go inside. However, Sharma allegedly continues shouting the slogans despite repeated attempts by those present to restrain him.Singh subsequently lodged a complaint, following which Sharma was arrested on Sunday.
An FIR was registered at Sector 3 police station under Section 196(1) of BNS, which deals with promoting enmity between groups on grounds including religion, race, place of birth, residence or language, and acts prejudicial to the maintenance of harmony. The provision carries a maximum punishment of three years' imprisonment, a fine, or both.Police, however, said their initial inquiry had not revealed any suspicious activity linked to Sharma. "Appropriate action will be taken against him if any suspicious activity comes to light," an investigating officer said.

A week after smoking zone on MG Road sparks debate, MCG declares all public spaces as no-smoking zones

Gurgaon.(Ajency)



MCG on Monday issued an order declaring all public places under its jurisdiction as no-smoking zones, reiterating a ban on smoking in public spaces under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), 2003 and the Prohibition of Smoking in Public Places Rules, 2008.
MCG commissioner Pankaj said smoking and consuming tobacco at markets, bus stops, public transport facilities, parks, green belts and all four MCG offices will attract fines of up to Rs 200, as notified under Section 21 of COTPA.Officials have been given 15 days to install 'no smoking' signboards across prominent public places and told to take action against people littering public spaces with cigarette and bidi butts or spitting out tobacco. Repeated violations may also result in action under Section 309 of the Haryana Municipal Corporation Act, 1994 (prohibition of nuisances).The MCG chief said joint commissioners and the chief medical officer have been told to monitor enforcement in their respective areas.
"The initiative is aimed at improving public health and cleanliness across the city, highlighting the health risks related to passive smoking, particularly in children, women and senior citizens," MCG commissioner said.The move comes a week after a video showing a designated smoking zone set up on a city road triggered debate on social media over whether it was a good move to create such spaces in a city already struggling with air pollution. The smoking zone was established by GMDA on MG Road.

City's minimum temperature drops 2°C, IMD forecasts further fall over next five days

Noida.(Ajency)

The city recorded a minimum temperature of 11.8°C on Monday, a sharp drop of 2°C from the previous day, as night temperatures continued to dip across Haryana. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast a further fall of 2-3°C in minimum temperatures over the next five days.According to IMD's minimum temperature observations at 8.30 am on Monday, NorthCap University automatic weather station (AWS) in Gurgaon recorded 11.8°C, among the sharper declines reported across the state.Haryana's average minimum temperature fell by 0.4°C compared to the previous day, though it remained near normal, IMD said. Narnaul recorded the lowest minimum in the state at 9°C, followed by



8.9°C at Balasmand AWS station in Hisar.The weather department has forecast dry conditions across Haryana for the next seven days, with no rainfall expected. Shallow to moderate fog is likely at isolated places during morning and late-night hours.IMD attributed the prevailing conditions to a western disturbance, present as a trough in the middle tropospheric westerlies, with its axis around 5.8 km above mean sea level and extending north of latitude 32°N.Minimum temperatures are expected to decline gradually over the next five days, bringing colder nights, while maximum temperatures are likely to remain largely unchanged.
Chandigarh recorded the state's highest maximum temperature at 27.8°C on Saturday, which was within the normal range.

Truck driver dies after tractor takes sudden turn, rams his vehicle near Delhi-Gurgaon border

Gurgaon.(Ajency)

A truck driver died after a tractor-trolley allegedly took a sudden turn onto the wrong side of the road, cutting across his vehicle's path near Dhanchiri Camp, close to the Delhi-Gurgaon border, early on Sunday. The truck rammed into the trolley, leaving the 45-year-old driver with serious injuries to his leg and abdomen. The tractor driver allegedly abandoned the vehicle and fled.
The deceased, Shivnath Yadav, was driving a Swaraj Mazda truck belonging to Manish Logistics, with his younger brother, Vishwanath Yadav, travelling alongside him.
The brothers were on their way from Shahdara in Delhi to Bilaspur when the accident occurred around 5am.According to Vishwanath's complaint, the truck had crossed the Rajokri border flyover and was approaching Dhanchiri Camp when a tractor-trolley coming from the opposite direction suddenly turned towards the wrong side without signalling. The manoeuvre brought the trolley directly into the truck's path, leaving Shivnath unable to avoid the collision.The impact left Shivnath with injuries to his right leg and abdomen, which struck the steering wheel. With the help of passersby, Vishwanath arranged an ambulance and took him to Civil Hospital in Sector 10.
Doctors referred him to Safdarjung Hospital in Delhi, but as his condition deteriorated, Vishwanath and a family acquaintance, Shyam Kishore Yadav, admitted him to Aastha Hospital in Sector 10A.When his condition failed to improve, the family brought him back to Civil Hospital, where doctors declared him dead. The truck was also extensively damaged.The tractor driver had fled after the crash, but Vishwanath noted down the vehicle's registration number, UP23AB /8577. He approached DLF Phase 3 police station on Monday and filed a written complaint. An FIR was registered under sections 106 (causing death by negligence), 281 (rash driving) and 324(4) (mischief) of BNS.

Shiv Murti-Ambience Mall flyover plan may be ready in a month

Gurgaon.(Agency)

National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) is likely to finalise within a month the detailed project report (DPR) for a 2.7km flyover between Shiv Murti in Delhi and Ambience Mall in Gurgaon. The three-lane elevated link could ease the daily crawl on NH-8 by giving vehicles coming from Dwarka Expressway a dedicated route into the NCR city instead of forcing them to merge with already congested highway traffic.Today, vehicles emerging from the three-lane right-turn underpass at the Dwarka Expressway interchange near Shiv Murti have to join the same carriageway as traffic already heading from Delhi towards Gurgaon. During rush hours, the merge slows traffic to a crawl and builds queues, delaying even commuters who are not coming from Dwarka Expressway.
The proposed corridor is designed to remove this bottleneck. Vehicles coming out of the underpass will be channelled onto the elevated road instead of joining the main carriageway. Traffic already on NH-8 will continue below and will not be able to access the flyover. The two streams will therefore have separate routes, reducing the need for vehicles to cut across one another at the interchange. This is expected to improve movement for both Dwarka Expressway users and motorists already on the highway.NHAI's traffic assessment rated this stretch, including its service road, at level of "Service F" during peak hours — the lowest grade, indicating severe congestion. Traffic at the interchange has increased since Dwarka Expressway opened, adding pressure to a heavily loaded section of NH-8.

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Couple, son crossing DME on foot crushed by car

Ghaziabad.(Agency)

A couple and their 21-year-old son were killed after an SUV hit them while they were jaywalking across Delhi-Meerut Expressway near Bagu in the Crossings Republik area on Monday morning.
Police said Harlal (55) and his wife Guddo (50), residents of Mathura, were flung several feet in the air after the crash and landed on the road. They died on the spot. Their son, Tejveer, was flung towards the central divider and suffered severe injuries. A highway police patrol unit took the three to the district hospital, but doctors declared the couple dead. Tejveer was referred to Max Hospital in Vaishali, but he succumbed during treatment.According to police, the family were in Ghaziabad to attend a relative's wedding in Bagu colony on the weekend. Around 10.30 am on Monday, they left for Mathura, hoping to catch a train from Ghaziabad rail station in Palwal.When they reached the DME, they attempted to cross the expressway near Vijay Nagar bypass as sections of the jersey barriers had been removed to facilitate the construction of a foot overbridge pillar. As they were crossing the Meerut-Delhi carriageway, a Scorpio approaching from the Dasna side hit the three.NHAI is building a foot overbridge between Vijay Nagar and Krishan Babu Nagar to prevent jaywalking. However, police said pedestrians frequently use the gaps between the concrete blocks, placed about three feet apart to facilitate construction, to cross the expressway and



reach NH-9 to catch buses.Wave City ACP Priyashree Pal said the Scorpio had been seized, but cops were yet to track the driver. No complaint has been filed so far. Eyewitnesses claimed the driver initially stopped but fled soon after, abandoning the vehicle, which was also damaged in the crash.Relatives said Tejveer, a daily wage labourer, is survived by his wife, who is four months pregnant. The couple had tied the knot just eight months ago. Harlal was an agricultural worker.

SC asks Centre to spell out stand on law against marriages between close blood relatives

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday asked the Centre to spell out its stand on the desirability of bringing in a law on marriages between those closely related by blood, saying it only wanted to sensitise the government on the issue. A bench of CJI Surya Kant, Justice Joymalya Bagchi and Justice V Mohana noted that the court can't regulate such 'consanguineous marriages' as it fell exclusively within the domain of the legislature. "We are issuing notice for the limited purpose of impressing upon the Union of India to consider the desirability of bringing in suitable legislation, or to ensure wide publicity through different channels, including a proper curriculum…," the bench said, adding, "We will not direct them. We will only sensitise them." Maintaining that marriage is a matter of personal choice and one should be able to take an informed decision regarding one's marriage, the bench said issues raised in the petition required public awareness. The PIL sought a direction to the authorities to frame and implement interim guidelines mandating premarital genetic counselling and voluntary genetic screening in districts and regions identified as having a high prevalence of 'consanguineous marriages', with a view to safeguard the health and welfare of prospective spouses and offspring, and to prevent avoidable genetic disorders. Pending a statutory revision, the Centre should take immediate and phased interim measures aimed at gradual and systematic elimination or curtailment of 'consanguineous marriages' from society, the PIL demanded. The counsel for petitioner Charvi S — a law student from Bengaluru — said the issue involved inter-generational equity and people should be informed about adverse consequences of such



marriages through wide publicity. Suggesting safeguards such as counselling, risk disclosure, medically advised screening, and certification, the petitioner submitted that "Without these safeguards, such practices are beyond the authority granted by Articles 14 and 21 of the Indian Constitution." Charvi wanted the top court to examine if the law should continue to permit a practice that exposed children to foreseeable and avoidable genetic harm simply because social custom permitted it. The petitioner, who is suffering from 40 per cent visual impairment, is an "offspring of a first-cousin marriage, which was conducted in accordance with an age-old traditional practice in her community". Under the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, marriages between 'sapinda' relationships and between those falling under degrees of prohibited relationship are prohibited, unless allowed by custom. Under the Act, a sapinda relationship bars marriage within a set number of generations from a common ancestor (five on the father's side, three on the mother's side), while degrees of prohibited relationship bar marriages with specific close blood and marriage relatives (such as siblings, lineal ascendants etc.). The petitioner wanted the top court to "declare or alternatively interpret Section 5(iv) and Section 5(v) of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955 (which talk about 'sapinda' relationship and degrees of prohibited relationship) to emphasise that the exceptions for marriage within prohibited or 'sapinda' relationships should always be carried out with prior public health safeguards". Citing certain recent medical studies, the petitioner submitted that 'consanguineous marriages' significantly increase homozygosity, which raises the likelihood of recessive genetic conditions, congenital malformations, sensory impairments, developmental disabilities, infant deaths, and other negative outcomes in children. Noting that such practice was followed mostly in the rural areas where people marry their cousins within the family without being aware of the consequences, the counsel said certain safeguards should be provided as it was spreading. "The issue is not about criticising specific community practices or devaluing people with disabilities. It reflects the State's constitutional responsibility to prevent foreseeable, serious, and avoidable harm to children," the petitioner submitted.

IAF personnel to undergo specialised yoga instructor training under 'Yoga Setu'

New Delhi: In a move to strengthen the physical and mental fitness of its personnel, the Indian Air Force (IAF) has partnered with the Central Sanskrit University to train Agniveervayu personnel as certified yoga instructors under its 'Yoga Setu' initiative. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the two institutions to conduct a Yoga Instructor (Level-1) certification course through online, computer-based training. The programme aims to equip personnel with skills in yoga practices while promoting mental resilience, concentration and self-discipline. The specialised course will cover yogasanas, pranayama, meditation, stress management, yoga philosophy and yogic diet. The initiative is intended to help personnel maintain mental balance and enhance operational efficiency while dealing with challenging situations. Speaking at the MoU signing ceremony, Central Sanskrit University Vice-Chancellor Prof Shrinivasa Varakhedi described the partnership as a meaningful collaboration between two national institutions, highlighting the role of yoga in connecting their respective areas of work. He observed that while the IAF safeguards the country by remaining vigilant in the skies, the university works towards preserving and promoting India's knowledge traditions, with yoga providing a common platform for the two institutions.Buy Maps Quoting the verses 'Samatvam yoga uchyate' (Equanimity is called yoga) and 'Yogah karmasu kaushalam' (Yoga is skill in action) from the Shrimad Bhagavad Gita, Varakhedi emphasised that yoga was not limited to physical exercise but was a holistic way of life that promoted mental balance, self-restraint and excellence in action. He said the objective was not merely to award certificates to personnel but also to develop them as ambassadors of yoga, who could take its message to their workplaces, families and society.

NAME CHANGE

I, SIMA KHATUN W/O MOHAMMAD VAJIR R/O House Number - B-97, Rajput Mohalla, Village, Gokal Puri, Gokal Puri, North East Delhi, Delhi - 110094 have changed the name of my minor Son MOHAMMAD GUFRAN aged 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as GUFRAN.

PUBLIC NOTICE

REGARDING LOSS / MISPLACEMENT OF ORIGINAL PROPERTY DOCUMENTS

Under instructions from and on behalf of my client Sh.Daulat Ram@ Rakesh S/o Late Sh. Tej Ram resident of WZ-D-139, Third Floor, Maya Apartment Raj Nagar-2, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110077, the undersigned Advocate, hereby give this public notice to the general public that my client has lost/misplaced the original Sale Deed pertaining to the property situated at WZ-D-139, Third Floor, Maya Apartment Raj Nagar-2, Palam Colony, New Delhi-110077. The general public is hereby cautioned not to enter into any transaction, agreement, arrangement or dealing on the basis of the aforesaid lost/misplaced original documents. Any person dealing with or attempting to misuse the said documents shall do so entirely at their own risk, cost and consequences, and my client shall not be responsible for any such unauthorized or fraudulent transaction. This notice is being published in the interest of the general public and to safeguard my client's rights and interests in respect of the aforesaid property.

PRATAP SINGH Advocate
DELHI HIGH COURT
CHAMBER:- K-84,
Enr.No. D/906/2020
Residence:- H-306, Raj
Near Gate No.2, Tis Hazari
M. 9205424829

LOST & FOUND

I,mrs. Annapoorny bala Subramanian resident of E-82, Seema Apartment plot- 7, sector 11, Dwarka, Delhi, has lost/misplaced the original relinquishment deed of property B-202 Yamuna Apartment Alaknanda New Delhi 110019. A complaint regarding the same has been lodged with Delhi Police vide LR No: 791617/2026. If found by anyone, please contact the undersigned. **Annapoorny**

NAME CHANGE

I, ANUJ BINDAL S/o Prem Chand R/o Ward No.8, Behind Shiv Mandir, Adarsh Colony, Hodal, Palwal, Haryana-121106, have changed my name from ANUJ BINDAL to ANUJ KUMAR BINDAL permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I, RITU AGRAWAL W/o Anuj Kumar Bindal R/o Ward No.8, Behind Shiv Mandir, Adarsh Colony, Hodal, Palwal, Haryana-121106, have changed my name from RITU AGRAWAL to RITU AGGARWAL permanently.

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as RAMESH CHAND GUPTA S/O PARMA NAND AGGARWAL R/O 130 Kapil Vihar Shakur Basti Saraswati Vihar North West Delhi Delhi-110034 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as VINAY AGGARWAL.

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as PUNAM SHARMA W/O RAKESH SHARMA R/O X-1677, gali no.13, rajgarh colony, Gandhi nagar, new delhi-110031 , have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as POONAM.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is hereby given to the general public that our client of Ms. Babita D/o Mr. Sitaram is the owner and in possession of a Freehold Residential Vacant Residential Plot No. 92, area measuring 73.15 Sq. Yds., i.e., 61.16 Sq. Mtrs., out of Khasra No. 849, Situated in the area of Village Chhapraula, Pargana & Tehsil Dadri, District Gautam Budh Nagar Uttar Pradesh. Our client acquired the said property by virtue of a Sale Deed dated 27.09.2023, Vide Doc. No. 40277, in Book No. I, Vol. No. 24872, on Pages No. 85-106, in the office of SR- Dadri., In the chain of documents, (1) Original GPA executed by Mr. Ramanand Sharma S/o Mr. Harvansh in favour of Mr. Yashveer Yadav S/o Mr. Charan Singh Yadav in respect of entire property. & (2) Original Sale Deed dated 16.02.2015 executed by Mr. Yashveer Yadav as attorney Mr. Ramanand in favour of Mr. Surendra Singh duly regd. Vide Doc. No. 3330, in Book No. I, Vol. No. 7914, on Pages No. 393-412, in the office of SR- Dadri., Are not available, 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 same property sold to be Mrs. Mamta Devi W/o Mr. Dharam Vir Singh and the said property to be financed / mortgaged with Tata Capital Housing Finance Ltd., Branch: Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh. 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
1/566-A, Ground Floor,
Sector-1, Vaishali,
Ghaziabad, Uttar
Pradesh-201010.
Contact at
09958871432

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to public at large on behalf of my **Mr. Satender Kumar** in respect of **Vacant Residential Plot No. 24, 25 and 26, area measuring 150 sq. yards i.e, 125.41 Sq. meter, out of area 0.0843 Hc. out of Khasra no. 2287, Situated in Narender Nagar Colony Nikat Shiv Vatika Colony Ward No. 7, Kasba Dadri Pargana & Tehsil Dadri, District Goutam Bhudh Nagar, U.P** claiming to have undisputed ownership. Now my client intends to avail loan facility and in which **SMFG India Home Finance Company Limited** will provide the financial assistance If any person(s) has/have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property may please contact us within Seven days from the date of this notice on the number & address mentioned herein below, failing which my client(s) shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever.

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

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Mrs. Sanju Devi is intending to purchase Plot No. 44, admeasuring 100 Sq. Yds., out of Khata No. 00131, Khasra No. 517Mi, situated in the area of Village Tusyana, in the colony known as Shyam Vihar, Pargana and Tehsil Dadri, District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, from Mr. Narendra Singh. That Mr. Narendra Singh had purchased the aforesaid property from Mrs. Rubi vide Sale Deed dated 21.01.2026, registered as Document No. 3681. However, the original Sale Deed dated 12.08.2024, registered as Document No. 41946, in Book No. 1, Volume No. 28325, on Pages No. 343 to 366, dated 12.08.2024, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Dadri, forming part of the chain of title documents, has been lost/misplaced and is not traceable despite all possible efforts. In this regard, an online FIR bearing LR No. 20260001212877 was registered on 13.11.2026 at Police Station: Police Computer Center, Technical Services HQ, Lucknow, regarding the loss of the aforesaid original Sale Deed. The proposed purchase of the aforesaid property is being financed by Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited, Branch: Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh. If any person(s) objection & regarding subject property, then kindly may submit his/her objection within 15 days from the date of the Notice in writing. The said objection may be kindly sent to the undersigned by way of the Registered Post on the address given below and by E-mail. failing which, the claim as per aforesaid shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.

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

NAME CHANGE

I, ALSABA D/O MOHAMMAD SHAMSHAD R/o 726-A GALI NO-10 RAJIV GANDHI NAGAR NEW MUSTAFABAD GOKAL PURI DELHI-110094, have changed my name to ALSABA ANSARI for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I Badailey S/o Abdul Hakim, R/o House,NO: E- 49/ B - 306,Gali No.2, Janata Majdoor Colony, Seelampur, PO:Seelampur, DIST: North East Delhi - 110053 have changed my name to Baddule for all future.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to the public at large that my client Sh. Rajesh S/O Shri Sangram Singh R/O House No-29 Shri Krishna Marg Gopal Nagar, Surakhpur Road, Najafgarh, South West Delhi, New Delhi-110043, have debarred and disowned his son Shri Hemant Kumar from his movable and immovable properties and other assets, with immediate effect due to of the family disputes between his son and Daughter-in-law (Bhawna) behaviour and out of control and severed all his relations with them. If anybody deals in any manner with the above- named persons then they shall do at his/her own risks and consequences. My Client shall not be held liable or responsible for the same in any manner and have no concern/relations with the above- named persons in their life time in future. Shri Rajesh kumar and his other family members have no concern or relations with his son and Daugher-in-law and not be liable for any mishappning or civil/criminal matter.

MOHIT DHANKHAR Advocate
Office: Chamber No. 409B,Dwarka
District Court, Sector-10
New Delhi.
Mob: 9910955745

NAME CHANGE

I, ABHIJEET R/o HOUSE NUMBER-8, 1ST FLOOR, SANJAY NAGAR, GULABI BAGH, MALKA GANJ, DELHI-110007 have changed my name to ABHIJEET KAPOOR.

NAME CHANGE

I, KAMALA DEVI R/o HOUSE NUMBER-8, 1ST FLOOR, SANJAY NAGAR, GULABI BAGH, MALKA GANJ, DELHI-110007 have changed my name to KAMLA DEVI.

NAME CHANGE

I, Ritesh, son of Suresh, resident of Bass Khurd (98), PO: Bass, Distt: Hisar, Haryana-125042, have changed my name to Ritesh Mor for all purposes

NAME CHANGE

I, MD ANAS S/O MD YUSUF R/o D 179 first floor back side old no-48 nale wala road new ashok nagar vasundhara enclave delhi-110096 have changed my name to MOHD ANAS for all future purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is hereby given to the general public that our client Mr. Satish alias Satish Wadhwani S/o Mr. Gopal Dass Wadhwani is the owner and in possession of a Freehold Residential Entire Third Floor, With Roof Rights, area measuring 50 Sq. yards, i.e., 41.8 Sq. Meters, out of Khasra No. 163, Built on Property Bearing Municipal No. L-261, situated at Shastri Nagar, in the Village of Neemri, Delhi., Our client acquired the said property by virtue of Relinquishment Deed Dated 18.11.2026 As Doc. No. 2026/78/I/1168, in Book No. 01, Vol. No. 110, Page No. 103-110, on Dated 18.11.2026, SR- Sadar Bazar.., in the chain documents below mentioned documents not available i.e. (1) SMC of Late Mrs. Sonia W/o Late Mr. Satish Wadhwani, died on 22.02.2026., 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 to be financed/mortgaged with Piramal Finance Ltd., Branch: Pitampura New Delhi. 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
1/566-A, Ground Floor,
Sector-1, Vaishali,
Ghaziabad, Uttar
Pradesh-201010.
Contact at
09958871432

E-AUCTION PROGRAMME FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER/2026 OF GSD PANDU DEPOT

The e-auction schedule for Sale of Scrap Lot through e-auction under the jurisdiction of GSD Pandu depot for the month of **December/2026** has been **fixed** as per following details:-

SN	Month/Year	Auction Schedule No.	Auction Start Date/Time
1	DECEMBER/ 2026	GSDPNO26N2719	08-12-2026/11:00:00
2		GSDPNO26N2720	22-12-2026/11:00:00

Interested bidders are advised to bid through IREPS website **(www.ireps.gov.in)** for registration, training, participation in e-auction.

Dy. Chief Materials Manager, Pandu
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

E-AUCTION PROGRAMME FOR SALE OF RAILWAY SCRAP MATERIAL

The e-auction schedule for Sale of Scrap Lot through e-auction under the jurisdiction of Rangiya Division depot for the month of **December/2026** has been **fixed** as per following details:-

SN	Month/Year	Auction Schedule No.	Auction Start Date/Time
1	December /2026	NFRRNY30N202619	09-12-2026 / 11:00:00
2		NFRRNY30N202620	23-12-2026 / 11:00:00

Interested Bidders are advised to bid through IREPS website (www.ireps.gov.in) for registration, training, participation in e-auction.

Dy. Chief Materials Manager/Pandu
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers with a smile

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

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

6 arrested in India-US operation targeting 'drug trafficking network'

New Delhi: Six people were arrested in a joint operation by the NCB and the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) against a transnational drug trafficking network allegedly involved in the illegal supply of psychotropic substances and opioid medicines to consumers across America, a statement said on Friday. The statement issued by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) said that as part of the action, codenamed 'Operation Monsoon Thunder', the federal agency raided locations in Hyderabad, Delhi, Kolkata and Lucknow between November 4 and 13.

NAME CHANGE

I, No-15787924A, Rank-HAV (OCC), Name-ZAREKAR ADINATH NAVNATH residing at ZAREKAR VASTI, VTC-DONGARGAN, DIST-AHILYANAGAR, MAHARASHTRA-414601, have changed my mother's name from ZAREKAR PARIGA to PARIGA NAVNATH ZAREKAR for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/11/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, M HUSSAIN, S/O MD TALHA, R/o WARD NO-06, JALKAURA, KHAGARIA, BIHAR-851204 have changed my name to MOHD HUSSAIN for all future purposes

NAME CHANGE

I hitherto known as SWEETY D/O VIJAY KUMAR R/O P-32, C/1, Near Dear Park, Dilshad Garden, Jhilmil, East Delhi, Delhi-110095 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as RIDHI.

NAME CHANGE

I, PRAMI KT mother of Army No –2619212K, Rank –NK, Name –ARUN K, residing at HOUSE-KUZHIKKARAN KUZHIYIL, VPO-NANMINDA, TEHSIL & DIST-KOZHIKODE, KERALA-673613, have changed my name from PRAMI KT to PREMI for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 24/11/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, Kajal, daughter of Subhash, resident of House No.45/12A, VTC: Bahri (Part) (389), PO: Kurukshetra, Dist: Kurukshetra, Haryana-136118, have changed my name to Kajal Kashyap for all purposes

NAME CHANGE

I, hitherto known as MOHD SHOAIB S/O ISLAMUDDIN R/O 1193, RAKAB GANJ ASAF ALI ROAD,BEHIND DELITE CINEMA,TURKMAN GATE-110002 have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as SHOAIB AHMED. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this connection.

NAME CHANGE

I SADIQA PARVEEN DAUGHTER OF LATE HAMID ALI R/O.HOUSE NO-1, STREET NO-1, MAIN CHOWK KARDAMPURI, GOKALPURI, NORTH EAST, DELHI-110094 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME SADHIKA PARVEEN FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

NAME CHANGE

I MARYOOB JAHAN WIFE OF LATE MOHD SYEDHAMID R/O.HOUSE NO-1, STREET NO-1, MAIN CHOWK KARDAMPURI, GOKALPURI, NORTH EAST, DELHI-110094 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME MARGUB JAHA FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE AND HAVE CHANGED MY HUSBAND NAME LATE HAMID ALI FOR ALL FUTURE PURPOSE

NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my client Mr. Naveen Kumar Gupta was the owner of One Shop on Ground floor bearing Pvt. No. 4521/13, having its area 14.63, sq. Mtrs. without roof rights, Part of Built-up Property bearing Mpl no. 4521, situated at Main Road, Pahari Dhiraj, Delhi-110006. Initially, Sh. Lakhmi Chand was the owner of the Said Property as per revenue record. Then Regd. WILL 21.06.1932 executed by Sh. Lakhmi Chand in favour of Sh. Amar Chand Jain adopted son of Sh. Lakhmi Chand Jain Unfortunately, Sh. Lakhmi Chand died on July 1934 and as per Regd. WILL dated 21.06.1932, Sh. Amar Chand Jain became the owner of the Said Property and Other Properties. Then, Sh. Amar Chand Jain put the Property in Sh. Amar Chand Jain (HUF) through its Karta Sh. Amar Chand Jain. Then Sale deed dated 28.04.1999 executed by Sh. Amar Chand Jain (HUF) through its Karta Sh. Amar Chand Jain in favour of (1) Sh. Deepak Jian (having 25% Undivided Share) (2) Sh. Atul Jain (having 25% Undivided Share) (3) Mr. Naveen Kumar Gupta (having 50% Undivided Share) Doc no. 794, Vol no. 74, Page no. 41-55, SRO- Delhi. Finally, Release deed dated 19.10.2020 executed by (1) Mr. Deepak Jain (2) Mr. Atul Jian in favour of Mr. Naveen Kumar Gupta who further intend to mortgage said immovable property for bonafide requirements to Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited Whosoever is having any objection to the said sale and mortgage or anyone has claim or right in the property shall contact the undersigned with the objection within 07 days failing which it shall be presumed that there stands no objections or no litigation or Dispute over the Said Property.

NEW DELHI
DATE: 24/11/2025

PRAGYA BHUSHAN ADVOCATE
Enrl. No. D/721/02
Office: L-27,GF, Kailash Colony, New Delhi-48
Mob.: 9968006418

E-AUCTION IS INVITED FOR LEASING OF SLRs OVER LUMDING DIVISION

E-Auction for the contract of leasing of SLRs for 03 years in trains originating from Lumding Division has been invited. **Auction Catalogue No.: Lease-LMG-36-26**. **Rate Unit:** Per Trip Licensing Fee. **Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots)** : At **11:00** hrs. on **07-12-2026**.

Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Lot End Date & Time
AA/1	55669-SLR-F1-SCL-SANG-26-5 (Parcel-SLR)	11:30 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/2	15621-SLR-F1-KYQ-ANVT-25-1 (Parcel-SLR)	11:40 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/3	15617-SLR-F2-GHY-DLCR-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	11:50 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/4	13126-SLR-F1-SANG-KOAA-25-1 (Parcel-SLR)	12:00 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/5	13182-SLR-F1-SHTT-KOAA-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	12:10 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/6	15617-SLR-R1-GHY-DLCR-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	12:20 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/7	15603-SLR-F1-GHY-LEDO-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	12:30 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/8	14037-SLR-F1-SCL-NDLS-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	12:40 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/9	15617-SLR-F1-GHY-DLCR-26-1 (Parcel-SLR)	12:50 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/10	22449-SLR-F1-GHY-NDLS-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	13:00 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/11	15610-SLR-F1-SANG-GHY-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	13:10 hrs. on 07-12-26
AA/12	12505-SLR-F1-KYQ-ANVT-26-2 (Parcel-SLR)	13:20 hrs. on 07-12-26

Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Successive lots closing interval 10 minutes. Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Lot-wise closing time can be viewed in e-auction module of IREPS. **Note** : Prospective bidder are requested to visit e-Auction leasing module on IREPS website **www.ireps.gov.in** for more details.

Sr. DCM, Lumding
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

NAME CHANGE

I, REVANURU RAMANAMMA, mother of No. - 15431922K, Rank-HAV/ N ASST, Name- REVANURU VISWANATH, residing at VPO-C KOTHAPALLI, TEHSIL & PS-HAJIPET, DIST–KADAPA, ANDHRA PRADESH-516163, have changed my name from REVANURU RAMANAMMA to REVANURU RAVANAMMA for all future purposes vide Affidavit Dated 24/11/2026 before Notary Public, Delhi.

NAME CHANGE

I, JAVED, S/O RIYAZUDDIN, R/o H NO-140, CHATTA LAL MIAN, DELHI GATE, DELHI-110002 have changed my name to MOHAMMAD JAVED QURESHI for all future purposes.

NAME CHANGE

I, No-15746707P Rank-L/NK Name-RATHVA LAXMANBHAI DESHINGBHAI residing at VILL-JOGPURA (DUNGAR), PO-KADVAD, TEH-JETPUR PAVI, DIST-CHHOTAUDEPUR, GUJRAT-391160, have changed my wife's name from RATHVA SUMITRABEN LAXMNBHAI to RATHVA SUMITRABEN LAXMANBHAI for all future purposes vide Affidavit dated 24/11/2026 before Notary Public Delhi.

Public Notice

It is for general information that I, KRISHNA BARUI, S/O BIMAL BARUI, R/O-DAIRY NO-29, MASOODPUR, DAIRY FARM, VASANT KUNJ, VASANT KUNJ, SOUTH, WEST DELHI, DELHI-110070, declare that name of my mother has been wrongly written as KAMLA in my 10th and 12th class educational documents. The actual name of my mother is KAMLA BARUI respectively, which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform you that Mr. Ram Kumar Singh intends to purchase a Residential Double-Storey House, having a land area measuring 167 Sq. Meters, out of Khasra No. 407 Min, situated at Lal Sadak, Near Shiv Mandir, Village Indergarhi Majra Dasna, Pargana Dasna, Tehsil & District Ghaziabad, U.P., from Mr. Dinesh Sharma. The original owner of the said property was Mr. Niyamat, who sold the same to (1) Mr. Kailash Chand and (2) Mr. Chander Shekhar vide Sale Deed dated 05.01.1984. Subsequently, Mr. Chander Shekhar @ Shekhar Saini, and legal heirs of Late Mr. Kailash Chand Saini, namely (1) Mrs. Yashoda Saini (Wife), (2) Mr. Prem Kishan Saini (Son), and (3) Mr. Ankit Saini (Son), sold the said property to Mr. Dinesh Sharma vide two Separate Sale Deed dated 28.03.2024 & Sale Deed Dated 16.07.2026. It is pertinent to mention that Mr. Kailash Chand Saini expired on 07.08.2021, leaving behind the following legal heirs: (1) Mrs. Yashoda Saini (Wife), (2) Mr. Prem Kishan Saini (Son), and (3) Mr. Ankit Saini (Son). Further, in the available property chain documents, the Death Certificate and SMC of Mrs. Asharfi W/o Mr. Balwant Singh Saini, as well as the mutation records reflecting the names of (1) Mrs. Yashoda Saini W/o Late Mr. Kailash Chand Saini, (2) Mr. Prem Kishan Saini S/o Late Mr. Kailash Chand Saini, and (3) Mr. Ankit Saini S/o Late Mr. Kailash Chand Saini, consequent upon the death of Mr. Kailash Chand Saini, & mutation records reflecting the names of Mr. Dinesh Sharma in respect of the said property, are not available. The said property is stated to be free from all encumbrances, liens, charges, mortgages and other third-party claims. The physical possession of the property is presently with Mr. Dinesh Sharma. The proposed purchase of the aforesaid property by Mr. Ram Kumar Singh is to be financed by DCB Bank Limited, Branch: Ghaziabad, U.P.
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

5.3-magnitude earthquake hits Nepal near Sikkim border, tremors felt in India, China

World.(Agency).

An earthquake of magnitude 5.3 struck Nepal on Tuesday morning, with its epicentre located near the country's eastern region close to the Sikkim border, according to the National Centre for Seismology (NCS).The earthquake occurred at 7:02 am IST at a depth of 20 km. The NCS placed the epicentre at latitude 27.855° N and longitude 87.909° E.Preliminary reports indicated that tremors may have been felt across parts of Nepal, India, Bhutan, Bangladesh and China.The NCS shared the earthquake details on social media, urging people to refer to its official earthquake monitoring platform for further information.The tremors were reported from eastern Nepal, close to the Sikkim border, raising the possibility of their being felt in neighbouring regions of India and other countries.Further details regarding the impact of the earthquake are awaited.Earthquake tremors were also felt in Bihar's Samastipur, Bihar, with the shaking reportedly lasting for nearly two seconds.Residents reportedly felt the ground shake briefly, although many took some time to realise that it was an earthquake as the tremors occurred early in the morning.

South Korea issues air raid alert, scrambles fighter jets after Russian 'breach'

World.(Agency).

South Korea's military said it scrambled Air Force fighter jets on Tuesday after "multiple" Russian military planes entered the Air Defense Identification Zone off its east coast before exiting the area.South Korea's military was tracking the Russian aircraft as they were approaching the zone and the fighter jets conducted "tactical maneuvers" to prevent any incident, the office of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement.There was no intrusion of South Korea's airspace by the Russian aircraft, it said.An air defense identification zone is an area set by countries to help identify and respond to any aircraft that may be approaching their airspace.Earlier, South Korea's safety ministry issued an evacuation warning for Ulleung island off the east coast, saying a Russian aircraft had entered the country's airspace.The warning was lifted three minutes later.A warning of a possible North Korean aircraft near the Ulleung area was briefly issued by the local government in error, Yonhap news agency said.

Chinese official sentenced to death for passing 35 state secrets

World.(Agency)

A Chinese official has been sentenced to death for spying for a foreign country after allegedly providing 35 pieces of classified information in exchange for more than 1 million yuan (around USD 1,50,000), a government-linked publisher said on Monday.According to a statement by Gold Wall Press, a publishing company associated with China's National Administration of State Secrets Protection, the convicted official, identified only by his surname Ma, was recruited by a foreign intelligence agency while working overseas.The statement said Ma signed a cooperation agreement containing clauses on "confidentiality" and "loyalty" and received fixed monthly payments from the foreign agency. In total, he provided 35 pieces of information classified as national secrets and received payments worth more than 1 million yuan. Gold Wall Press said an intelligence operative identified as "Kailin" frequently met Ma and attempted to build a closer relationship with him, citing an interest in learning Chinese. Kailin later introduced Ma to another colleague, who allegedly threatened to report his previous disclosures to Chinese authorities if he refused.

Thousands march against Asim Munir's split-Sindh plan, demand independent Sindhudesh

Thousands of Sindhi nationalists took to the streets in Karachi against Pakistan's province-splitting plan, criticising Army chief Asim Munir of conspiring to divide their homeland. Sindhi outfits have also threatened an economic blockade of Punjab and renewed the demand for an independent Sindhudesh.

World.(Agency).

Loaded on colourfully painted Pakistani buses and sporting traditional Sindhi ajrak scarves and caps, thousands of Sindhi nationalists took to the streets of Pakistan's commercial capital, Karachi, against the proposed division of Sindh, a move by the Asim Munir-led military establishment to carve new provinces out of the existing ones. Sindhi nationalist outfit Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSMM) threatened an economic blockade of Punjab, Pakistan's most populous and politically powerful province, even as its members chanted pro-Sindhudesh slogans, saying Sindh's integrity was "non-negotiable".Not just in Karachi, protests have erupted across Sindh. Nationalist outfits and their leaders have accused Pakistan Army chief, Field Marshal Asim Munir, and the Punjab-dominated establishment of "conspiring to fragment their homeland". With more protests lined up and rival camps planning simultaneous rallies, fears of a confrontation on Karachi's streets are growing.Protests in Sindh erupted after Munir's aide and Pakistan's Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi floated the proposal of creation of new provinces in Pakistan. Opposition to the proposal intensified after Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari, the chief of the Sindh-centric Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP), warned the Shehbaz Sharif-led federal government, of which his party is a part, against any attempt to divide Sindh. He said the move could result in people of Sindh taking up arms and bloodshed on the streets of Karachi and Hyderabad.While Pakistan currently has four provinces, Planning Minister Ahsan Iqbal has spoken of increasing their number to between 12 and 15. Defence Minister Khawaja Asif said on November 22 that the discussions on a



referendum could take concrete shape by the end of 2026.Sindhi nationalists argue that Sindh is not just a province or an administrative unit of Pakistan. It's their historical homeland with a distinct civilisation, language and cultural identity that predates the creation of Pakistan.

The fresh demand for an independent Sindhudesh comes less than a year after pro-independence demonstrations during Sindhi Culture Day on December 7, 2025, reportedly led to clashes with security personnel in Karachi.Sindhudesh is a proposed independent secular homeland for the Sindhi people, a demand championed by nationalist leader GM Syed in the aftermath of Bangladesh's creation in 1971, seeking Sindh's separation from Pakistan.

SINDHI NATIONALISTS HIT STREETS, PROTESTS SPREAD ACROSS SINDH

Thousands of demonstrators carrying red flags marched through Karachi on Sunday (November 22) under the banner of the Jeay Sindh Rahbar Committee (JSRC), a coalition of four Sindhi nationalist parties, Pakistani newspaper Business Recorder reported.The march was led by Jeay Sindh Mahaz chairman Riaz Ali Chandio, Niaz Kalani and other nationalist leaders. Lawyers and civil society representatives also joined the demonstrations.

Why Sheikh Hasina picked December 16 for her Bangladesh return

World.(Agency)

Weeks after teasing her return to Bangladesh, deposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has finally set a date - December 16. The day marks Bangladesh's liberation from Pakistan, with India's help, and is celebrated as Bijoy Dibosh or Victory Day. While the date appears carefully chosen, as Hasina looks to turn her return into a political statement, the road home appears thorny for Bangladesh's longest-serving prime minister.Hasina's impending return, two years since she fled to India following a bloody student-led uprising, has coincided with an unparalleled rise in political violence across the country. An energised Awami League cadre has held massive protests across Bangladesh against the Tarique Rahman government's bid to thwart her return, resulting in clashes, looting and arson. Over the past week, several leaders of the banned Awami League have been arrested. Residences of several leaders have also been set on fire.



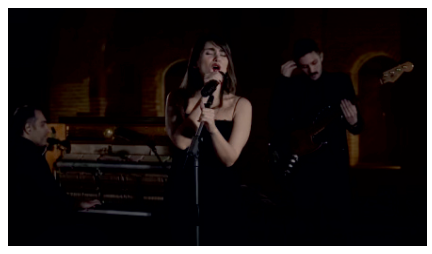
WHY SHEIKH HASINA CHOSE DECEMBER 16?

Against this backdrop, Hasina, 80, has set a date for her homecoming. It is being seen as her last-ditch effort to return to Bangladesh politics.This despite knowing very well that she might be arrested on landing in Bangladesh, where she faces a death sentence after being convicted in absentia for alleged crimes against humanity during the 2024 protests. The violence left over 1,000 dead.Choosing December 16 is likely a calculated attempt to maximise attention. It is a date that comes loaded with history.Victory Day is Bangladesh's most emotionally charged national occasion. It was on December 16, 1971, that Pakistan surrendered to the joint forces of the Indian Army and the Mukti Bahini, paving the way for the birth of Bangladesh.A possible return on that day is likely to put Hasina at the centre of the national conversation.Hasina had hinted at a December return months earlier. In August, she told reporters that December.

Iranian singer lashed 74 times for performing without hijab in 2024

World.(Agency)

A well-known singer and four members of her team have been lashed dozens of times in Iran in connection with a performance that garnered more than a million views on YouTube, according to local media reports citing her lawyer.All of them received 74 lashes each, Emtedad website reported, citing her lawyer, Mostafa Nili.Parastoo Ahmadi, 29, was handed the punishment in June, along with four musicians and four members of her crew, over a concert she posted online in December 2024.The video showed her singing a series of powerful and mournful songs to an empty audience on a dimly lit stage,



with a large Persian carpet as its only decoration, in the grounds of a traditional caravanserai complex.The performance featured musicians dressed in black, with Ahmadi wearing a sleeveless, long, strappy gown and deep red lipstick — defying restrictions in Iran, where women are prohibited from singing in public.They are also required to dress modestly and wear a headscarf. Ahmadi, who appeared without one, was seen performing alongside male musicians, in a striking departure from Iran's gender norms."The sentence of 74 lashes imposed on Parastoo Ahmadi and four members of the production team behind her concert video was carried out today (Monday)," Tehran-based ISNA news agency quoted Nili as saying.The news was also carried by Shargh, a reformist newspaper. It remained unclear what happened to the other four people sentenced in June.Ahmadi and her team were tried on charges of "offending public decency" and "complicity in the production, transmission.

Rape survivor Gisele Pelicot 'shocked' after her nude images used to promote book

World.(Agency).

Gisele Pelicot said on Monday she was "deeply shocked" that nude photographs of her had been used without her consent to promote a psychoanalyst's essay on the concept of coercive control.Pelicot, 73, became a global icon in the fight against sexual violence in 2024 during the trial that saw her former husband convicted of drugging and raping her, as well as recruiting 49 other men to rape her while unconscious."I am deeply shocked that images from the most intimate part of my private life are being displayed and exploited for commercial purposes," Pelicot told broadcaster BFMTV."I refuse to let my privacy become an advertising tool." She said she would pursue legal action against Tinbad publishing house and the author.

"Today I find myself once again humiliated, exposed and hurt," she said. "As if the ordeal of the trial had not been enough."To promote an essay titled "Emprises, les impasses d'une success story (Forms of Control: The Pitfalls of a Success Story), Tinbad sent some media nude photographs and graphic videos of Pelicot that her husband had taken, according to French weekly Le Canard Enchaine.AFP did not receive a copy of the book, written by psychoanalyst Sabine Prokhoris, nor any of its promotional materials. Tinbad apologised, describing the episode as an "unfortunate communication error."The publisher maintained that it had not sent "any images of rape or any pornographic videos" to the press, while not denying that nude photographs had been distributed.Prokhoris said she placed "full responsibility" for the "inappropriate" promotional campaign on her publisher. She said that her book's subject was "not the so-called Pelicot affair but a critical examination of the notion of psychological control and domination."According to the book's back-cover blurb, the essay calls for readers to "think freely" about the notion of coercive control, described as "a cornerstone of #MeToo orthodoxy.""These psychological situations, fundamentally ambiguous in nature, involve each of the parties in an equally responsible, though not symmetrical, way," it said.

Jensen Huang played the Trump card. Nvidia folded

World.(Agency)

Jensen Huang had run out of luck. But he had one last card up his sleeve. And it had Donald Trump's name on it.Eleven days after stepping down as Nvidia's chief executive, Huang is back in the job. The company's board, which had ruled out his return just days ago, has now reversed its decision. The turnaround came after the US President personally backed Huang's reinstatement and spoke to the board about bringing him back.Trump has been quite open about his role in the comeback. Speaking to CNBC, the US President said he had spoken to Huang and members of Nvidia's board, and described his intervention as "very important"."The board decided to do what we wanted them to do," Trump said.There is also a potentially lucrative side to Trump's involvement in the Nvidia saga. The US President's own Nvidia holdings could have gained anywhere between $1.3 million and $15 million on Monday, when the company's shares surged 31.48% following Huang's return, according to an estimate by the Financial Times.It is not often that a US President gets involved so directly in a company's CEO succession. But Nvidia is no ordinary company. Its chips are at the heart of the global AI race, and Huang's departure had sent shockwaves through the technology industry and financial markets.



NVIDIA BOARD'S DRAMATIC U-TURN

The reversal is all the more striking because Nvidia's board had appeared to have made up its mind.On November 17, chairman Harvey Jones told investors that the board did not intend to reinstate Huang. Chief financial officer Colette Kress had taken over as interim CEO, and the company was looking for a permanent successor.Huang, however, had left the door open. In a statement last week, he said he would be honoured to return if the board decided it was in the company's best interests. He had also received backing from employees, investors and prominent technology figures, including Elon Musk.Trump joined that chorus. On Sunday, he publicly urged Nvidia's board to rehire Huang, calling it the best thing for both the company and the US. Vice-President JD Vance also pressed board members to bring him back, according to the Associated Press.Nvidia said it had held a series of discussions and meetings with Huang and was satisfied with his candour and ability to lead the company. It also said it had received input from senior levels of the US government and, based on that input, was confident that Huang's reinstatement posed no national security risk.

Crude bombs go off in Hasina's hometown in Bangladesh, 30 injured in clashes

World.(Agency)

Clashes broke out at two locations in Gopalganj, the hometown of ousted Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, on Monday after arguments surrounding processions organised by the Awami League and its affiliated organisations, whose activities are banned.At least 30 people were injured, while crude bombs exploded and 12 shops were vandalised during the incidents.The clashes took place in the Launch Ghat area and near Gopalganj Cricket Stadium in the district town, as well as in Dakshin Hiran village of Kotalipara upazila, on Monday evening and night.The incidents came amid heightened political tensions in Bangladesh, with Awami League supporters taking to the streets in Hasina's home district despite the ban on the party's activities.



CLASHES ERUPT AFTER DISPUTE DURING AWAMI LEAGUE PROCESSION

According to local sources, Awami League activists and supporters brought out a procession from the Launch Ghat area of Gopalganj town on Monday afternoon.An altercation reportedly broke out after the procession between a youth from Ghosherchar village and several youths from Charmanikdah village over standing beside party leaders at a rally.The dispute subsequently escalated into clashes between residents of the two villages in the evening.

The groups engaged in chases and counter-chases using locally made weapons on a road adjacent to Gopalganj Cricket Stadium.Four crude bombs reportedly exploded during the clashes, while at least seven flower shops were vandalised.At least 20 people were injured in the incident.Five people with serious injuries were reportedly admitted to Gopalganj Medical College Hospital, while others received primary treatment.Dr Niaz Mahmud, assistant director of Gopalganj Medical College Hospital, told the local sources that several people injured in the clash were brought to the hospital in the evening. Some left after receiving initial treatment, while others remained admitted.Inspector Md Sirajul Islam, investigation officer at Gopalganj Sadar Police Station, said police had received preliminary information about the incident but no complaint had been filed.

Telangana, Andhra fail to reach consensus on Krishna river water sharing

HYDERABAD.(Agency)

The meeting of the three-member committee of the Krishna River Management Board (KRMB) on Monday remained inconclusive, with the committee deferring a decision on the allocation of drinking water between Telangana and Andhra Pradesh for the next three months.Heated arguments broke out between officials of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana over drinking water indents, forcing the committee to adjourn its morning meeting for some time.

The committee reconvened in the evening, but the officials failed to reach a consensus, prompting them to defer the decision on water allocation.Andhra Pradesh sought 19 tmcft of water, including 10 tmcft for the Krishna delta system, while Telangana sought 21 tmcft to meet its drinking water requirements until February 2027.

Arguing that Andhra Pradesh was a lower riparian state, the state's officials sought water for the Krishna delta system. However, Telangana Engineer-in-Chief OV Ramesh Babu objected to the demand.Ramesh Babu said that the Nagarjunasagar project (NSP) currently had a total available water storage of 45 tmcft.

Keralam lost 80 per cent of its paddy cover over five decades

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM. (Agency)

Over the past five decades, Keralam has witnessed a drastic decline in paddy fields, which shrank from the combined size of Palakkad and Idukki districts to less than that of Kasaragod district.The area under paddy cultivation fell from 8.76 lakh hectares in 1975-76 to 1.77 lakh hectares in 2024-25, a drop of about 80%, according to the 'Agricultural Statistics 2024-25' released by the department of economics and statistics recently. The report also shows why farmers are moving away — paddy gives the lowest return among major crops.

After meeting all costs, a hectare of autumn paddy gave a farmer about Rs 12,500 in 2024-25. In comparison, a coconut farmer got Rs 78,000, while it was Rs 3 lakh for tapioca and Rs 3.60 lakh for banana growers.Meanwhile, the total cropped area in the state fell by 15.6% — from 29.81 lakh hectares in 1975-76 to 25.15 lakh hectares 2024-25, according to the department's reports. Paddy's share in the total area dropped from 29.4% to just 7% during the period."Though the decline in paddy area is clear over the long term, yield has held up in recent times," said Prof C Veeramani, Director of the Centre for Development Studies."The main reason for farmers giving up paddy is that they do not get remunerative prices," he said.

The curious cases of missing temple valuables in Keralam

KOCHI.(Agency)

Even the gods seem to have been left in the dark, as gold and silver valuables 'disappear' from several temples under the Cochin Devaswom Board without a trace. With one incident following another, investigations into the missing valuables have repeatedly failed to identify those responsible, raising serious questions about the safety of temple assets and accountability within the board, which manages 406 temples across Central Keralam.One of the cases dates back to 2008, when 663mg of gold went missing from the top portion (makudam) of the kolam of the deity at Sree Poornathrayeesha temple in Tripunithura.As per the board registry, the makudam weighed 954.663g, but when weighed in 2008, 663mg was found missing. Eighteen years later, the case stays unresolved, with no clarity on who took the gold or what happened to it.

The incident remains a telling example of how temple valuables can disappear without anyone being held accountable. In the latest incident, six silver pots, total weighing 2.5kg, reportedly went missing from Sree Krishna Swamy temple at South Chittoor in Kochi this month. Five of the pots weigh 300g each, while the sixth weighs one kilogram.

Fourfold increase in arm licences in Ludhiana city, amid scrutiny over approval process in Punjab

Chandigarh.(Agency)

As Punjab grapples with gun violence and amid concerns over alleged irregularities and corruption in how the arms approvals were being granted, data exclusively accessed by The Indian Express has revealed that the number of licences issued by the Ludhiana Police Commissionerate increased fourfold from around 400 each in 2023 and 2024 to over 1,600 in 2025 and 2026.According to the data from the Ludhiana Police Commissionerate's Arms License Unit, 422 licences were issued in 2023 and 496 in 2024, which exponentially increased to 1,644 licences in 2025 and further to 1,972 in 2026 (until October).The Ludhiana Police Commissionerate, currently led by Commissioner Swapan Sharma, is the primary issuing authority for arms licences in Ludhiana City. Sharma joined as Ludhiana Commissioner on March 29, 2025.The month-wise data for new arms licences revealed that while in 2023 and 2024, just 30-40 licences were issued a month on an average, it jumped to 140 and 160 licences in 2025 and 2026, respectively. Over 200 new licences were issued every month from January to April, and August-September this year before being put on hold.

Incidentally, 203 licences were issued in July 2025 after the Ludhiana West constituency (entirely under commissionerate) went for a bypoll in June 2025 and Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP's) Sanjeev Arora won (elevated as a minister and currently in jail in an alleged money laundering case). Another 197 were issued in September that year, 200 in October and 228 in November 2025.In 2026, the numbers only increased further. As many as 256 licences were issued in January this year, followed by 208 in February and 281 in March. Another 255 were issued in April, 173 in May, 250 in August, 263 in September and 83 in October before the issuance of new licences was put on hold across the state on September 2 due to concerns over alleged irregularities, corruption, and legal lapses in how approvals were being granted.

On the contrary, in 2023 and 2024, just 422 licences were issued in the entire 2023 and 496 in 2024. From 2023 to 2024, the Ludhiana Police Commissionerate was led by three IPS officers from time to time: Mandeep Singh Sidhu, Kuldeep Singh Chahal and Nilabh Kishore.In 2023, the highest 212 licences were issued in January,



however in all remaining 11 months, the figure did not cross 52. In 2024, the highest number of licences, 122, were issued in September, but in the remaining 11 months, the figure did not cross 100.Ludhiana City has witnessed a spate of firing incidents this year, mostly over minor tiffs over issues such as road rage, vehicle parking, celebratory/group clash at weddings/parties, arguments/suspicion over personal relationships etc. Several of such incidents were executed using a licensed weapon.After the killing of Rahul Sharma, son of the city's famous eatery owner, in Ludhiana on October 21 allegedly from his friend's licensed weapon, former Union minister and BJP leader Ravneet Singh Bittu also raised a question on the increasing number of gun licence holders in the city.Sharing the social media post of a man who flaunted copies of arm licences on Instagram, Bittu wrote: "It is the books, employment and industries that should be promoted, but here in Punjab, the government is promoting and advertising issuance of arm licences. Is this the badlaav brought by the Aam Aadmi Party".A senior officer from the Ludhiana Police Commissionerate's Arms License Unit said that most applicants write "self-protection" or "pursuing shooting as a sport" as reasons in the licence form. It is only after due police verification and submission of dope test reports that licences are issued, the officer said.

Lured with money, medical & educational support: 10 arrested in Amethi over 'conversion' campaign

The group has also been active in Uttarakhand, Punjab, Jharkhand, Odisha and Tamil Nadu, say police

Lucknow.(Agency)

Ten persons, including four women, were arrested in Uttar Pradesh's Amethi district on charges of attempting to persuade people from economically disadvantaged backgrounds to convert to Christianity by luring them with financial assistance, medical care and educational support, police said.The accused, identified as three couples and a father-daughter duo from UP, Maharashtra and Odisha, particularly targeted members of the Dalit community, the police claimed.

Those arrested are Rajkumar, alias Joel (50) and his wife Suryakala, alias Martha (47) of Amethi; Kanhaiya Bind, alias Samson (46) from UP's Azamgarh; Srinivasan Daniel (58) and his daughter Divya Daniel (30), and Royal Rodrigues (53) and his wife Rita Rodrigues (50), all residents of Maharashtra; Mahipal Singh Bind, alias William (45) and his wife Elvina Williams (40), and Prakash Rao (42) of Odisha, those investigating the matter said.A case has been registered against them under Sections 3 and 5(1) of the Uttar Pradesh Prohibition of Unlawful Conversion of Religion Act, the police said, adding that four books related to religious conversion were



recovered from their possession.

Amethi Superintendent of Police (SP) Saravanan T said the group has been active for at least six years, having facilitated conversions in the past, and is linked with an organisation called the Revival Church which is registered in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

The police are also examining the financial transactions of the accused to ascertain the source of funds. "We will write to the Income Tax Department seeking a scrutiny of the financial transactions of the Revival Church," the SP said.According to the police, the accused travelled across the country to deliver religious sermons to propagate their beliefs, and have also been active in Uttarakhand, Punjab, Jharkhand, Odisha and Tamil Nadu.

The investigators said they received information that a group was allegedly approaching members of the Scheduled Caste community at Amethi's Sindurva village and persuading them for mass conversions with promises of money and other incentives.

Acting on the information, police on Monday conducted a search at a house where 20-25 people had gathered as part of a two-day programme before arresting the accused.The group had previously facilitated some religious conversions in Amethi through Rajkumar, alias Joel, one of the arrested accused, the police said.

Industries, Hyderbad face Singur supply cutoff from December 20

SANGAREDDY/HYDERABAD.(Agency)

Drinking water supply from the Singur project to Hyderabad and bulk water supply to industries in Sangareddy district are likely to stop after December 20, as the reservoir's storage dwindles. Officials said the remaining 1.99 tmcft could sustain supplies only until then, provided the water was used judiciously.The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) is making alternative arrangements to bring an additional 40 million gallons per day (MGD) of Godavari water to the city.The diversion is expected to ease the shortage in areas dependent on Singur-Manjeera sources, particularly western Hyderabad, and support industries and pollution-affected villages in Patancheru.Major institutions and industries in Sangareddy district, including IIT Hyderabad, the Ordnance Factory, Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) and BHEL, depend on dedicated pipelines for their water requirements.

After Singur supplies stop, Godavari water is expected to be diverted to these institutions and industries and to pollution-affected villages in Patancheru.Other areas may have to depend on tankers, said Ramakrishna, General Manager of the Manjeera Reservoir, Sangareddy Division.The government has initially permitted 20 MGD of Godavari water for Patancheru and agreed to increase the supply to 40 MGD if required, Ramakrishna said.

A similar situation arose in 2019, when the Singur project dried up, exposing the foundation stone and remnants of villages submerged during the reservoir's construction. Godavari water brought from Yellampally to Hyderabad was then diverted to Patancheru through a dedicated pipeline.Officials attributed the current shortage to the lack of substantial inflows into the Manjeera catchment, including from upstream Karnataka. In 2025, nearly 300 tmcft of floodwater reached Singur, but most of it was released downstream as part of project safety measures.Only 16 tmcft was retained, before another 8 tmcft was released ahead of the resumption of works. Officials had expected rainfall to replenish the reservoir by around 4 tmcft and help meet summer requirements.

Two lionesses die after being hit by train, 2nd such incident in Gujarat in 10 days

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

A passenger train hit two lionesses crossing the tracks late Monday evening near Rajkot, killing them on the spot in a railway section which was considered safe for the big cats. This is the second such incident and the third lioness killed in the state in 10 days.On November 14, a lioness was killed after being hit by a train in Junagadh district, in the first such accident after 2024."Two lions (lionesses) have died after being hit by a train



going from Porbandar to Bhavnagar near Jetpur. The area falls under Rajkot Social Forestry division, " Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Head of the Forest Force Jaipal Singh said.The lionesses between 2-3 years old were trying to cross the tracks when they were run over by the Bhavnagar-Porbandar passenger train (59560) in a section near Jetpur which has never seen such an incident, said Singh.Singh said the forest department had seen "no possibility" of such an incident on this section although routine tracking was being done there."Only one group (of 6-7 lions) was living in this region and normal tracking was being done. We did not expect such an accident, " Singh said."Now, we will increase vigilance in this region on the lines of Amreli and Porbandar (and other regions) with the help of more (lion) trackers, " Singh added.

In August, while hearing a petition, the state government had submitted to the Gujarat High Court that between April and July 2026, lions had been diverted from near the railway tracks 1,104 times. The government also said that 70 railway trackers had been deployed and around 1,356 caution orders were issued during the period.Deputy Conservator of Forests Yuvrajsinh Zala said that they have recovered the bodies of the lions and sent them for postmortem.Before the November 14 incident, there were two incidents in quick succession, leading to the deaths of two adults and two lion cubs within a week in July 2024.As late as August Conservator of Forest, Junagadh, Ram Ratan Nala, had told the court, "After 19 lions were fatally hit by trains between 2014 and 2024, the Gujarat government has deployed technology alongside traditional safeguards and diverted lions 6682 times from railway tracks running through the Asiatic Lion landscape spread majorly over Junagadh, Gir-Somnath, Amreli and Porbandar districts.

Money laundering probe: ED summons AAP's Moga, Dharamkot MLAs, 8 others

Ludhiana(Agency)

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned two AAP MLAs, Devinderjeet Singh Laddi Dhose from Dharamkot and Amandeep Kaur Arora from Moga, and eight others in connection with its probe into a money laundering case against her.Eight persons include some serving and retired Punjab government officials and Arora's family members.The ED summoned the Moga MLA and her husband Rakesh Arora to depose at its Chandigarh Zonal-1 Office for questioning on November 26 and 25, respectively.On November 4, the ED had searched seven properties of the Moga MLA in connection with fraudulent acquisition of government and institutionalised properties and misappropriation of public funds. In a statement issued subsequently, the ED alleged that she and her husband facilitated the siphoning of compensation funds the government gave to locals in Moga district whose land was acquired for constructing a highway.

The ED probe stems from the alleged fraudulent mutation of government land acquired for National Highway No 754A acquired in Andraman village of Dharamkot and "wrongful" disbursement of compensation worth at least Rs 1.06 crore for which an FIR was also registered by Moga police at the Dharamkot police station on June 16, 2024. The ED, in a statement, had said that it was also probing "several other properties that were transferred to Moga MLA's relatives by



manipulating revenue records".According ED sources, the Moga MLA is the principal beneficiary of alleged fraudulent acquisition and transfer of Government, Municipal Corporation, Market Committee and Church Trust properties through relatives and associates. Her husband has been summoned for his alleged involvement in fraudulent property transactions, handling of unaccounted funds and financial affairs of Aashirwaad Hospital.

The Trump-Xi-Putin trilateral and India's strategic challenges

Three Presidents — United States' Donald Trump, China's Xi Jinping and Russia's Vladimir Putin — held a historic meeting at Shenzhen on the sidelines of the APEC summit. The world's most powerful men set up this trilateral for themselves because they have the capacity to change the world more than anyone else. None of them allowed ideology to come in the way of their independent pursuit of national interest, writes Editor-in-Chief Jyoti Malhotra in her weekly column The Great Game (Lessons from the Shenzhen trilateral). Where does India stand in this entire gamut of international relations? Does it mean for India to never forget that foreign policy is deeply tied to domestic politics, and if the PM recognises that India's role as a regional power is being stymied by India's hardline positions, then change is bound to come sooner than later, she writes.

platform fails to expeditiously remove or disable access to unlawful material.

There is a classic case involving Facebook that should become a guiding principle. After the February 2020 northeast Delhi riots, the Delhi Assembly's Committee on Peace and Harmony summoned Ajit Mohan, the then Meta India head, as a witness. Facebook challenged the summons under Article 32. Among its arguments was that, being merely an intermediary, it could not be compelled to appear. However, in July 2021, the challenge was dismissed by the Supreme Court.

Despite its limited global economic engagement, Moscow has been invited to the Shenzhen high table. The equation between Trump's America and Putin's Russia has caused much concern in Europe, writes senior journalist Sanjaya Baru in his Edit article Russia in a sweet spot. Both Trump and Xi have their reasons to court him, he writes. Russia is in a sweet spot, so to speak, without carrying the weight of the other two. Trump has left Europe to its own devices, it has to learn to deal with both Russia and China on its own. More salt would be rubbed into its wounds when Putin lands in the US for the G20 Summit next month. The emerging relationship between the US and China has consequences for Asia too, including India, which has been handed a lollipop with a long-delayed meeting of Quad leaders in Manila.

On the other hand is the bone of contention between China and the US — Taiwan, whose 'silicon shield' status seems to have weakened after Jensen Huang resigned as Nvidia's CEO. For Taiwan, his departure means the loss of its most important informal link with Washington, writes Roger C Liu from the National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan, in his Op-Ed article How US can limit Nvidia damage. The US should settle the China espionage question in open hearings instead of through leaks. It should consult its partners before new export rules are fixed. And it should give Taiwan a formal seat in arrangements such as PaxSilica so that the relationship no longer depends on one executive's personal network. Meanwhile, India is caught in the crosshairs: Its IndiaAI Mission relies largely on Nvidia; the country's first commercial chip

How India turned the tide on poverty

The government chose the path of ensuring that development reached those who needed it most

A year ago, during my visit to Kiphire, an aspirational district in the remote hills of Nagaland, I interacted with tribal women from local self-help groups (SHGs). Among them was Esther, a Lakhpati Didi, who proudly spoke of her millet-based products reaching customers online, far beyond Nagaland. What stayed with me was their confidence in a better future. I encouraged them to dream bigger and become Crorepati Didis. Their stories reflected a transformation reaching India's remotest corners, where geographical and economic challenges have long constrained opportunities, yet aspirations for a better tomorrow are growing.When the World Bank released its Poverty & Equity Brief on India last month, my interaction in Kiphire came back to me. The report showed that nearly 50 crore Indians had moved out of poverty between 2011 and 2023, while extreme poverty has been almost eradicated. These figures captured the transformation I had witnessed first-hand. It was not always so. For over six decades after Independence, eradicating mass poverty remained an unfulfilled promise. Even in the early 2010s, India was portrayed abroad as a home of enduring destitution, lagging in sanitation, nutrition, clean cooking fuel and banking. The prevailing prescription was simply to put money into the hands of the poor, and poverty would take care of itself.The last decade has overturned that belief. Under PM Narendra Modi's leadership, India has witnessed a fundamental shift from temporary relief to removing the barriers that perpetuate poverty. Guided by Antyodaya, the welfare of the last person in the line, our government chose the harder path of addressing deprivation, household by household, ensuring that development reached those who needed it most.



Targeted, focused & tailored Garibi is not merely a shortage of income or wages. A household without a secure roof, safe water, sanitation or healthcare remains vulnerable even when its income rises. One illness can wipe out savings and push a family back into poverty. Our government, therefore, made every intervention targeted at those who needed it, focused on measurable outcomes and tailored to the deprivation it was meant to remove.

There was no magic wand. Each scheme required careful identification of beneficiaries, effective delivery and follow-up until the last household was reached. PM Modi has painstakingly monitored implementation, intervened at critical junctures to resolve bottlenecks, ensured follow-ups and encouraged the use of technology to track delivery. This sustained attention has helped translate policy into tangible improvements in people's lives.

Health and dignity begin at home A family cannot climb out of poverty while illness and the daily burden of fetching water keep pulling it back. Under Swachh Bharat, access to household toilets has improved sanitation and helped avert an estimated 60,000-70,000 infant deaths a year. Jal Jeevan Mission has expanded rural tap water connections from about 3 crore households in 2019 to nearly 16 crore, sparing women and girls the long walk for water and reducing exposure to waterborne diseases. Ujjwala Yojana has enabled cleaner, smokeless kitchens, while PM Awas Yojana has provided the security and dignity of pucca homes. Ayushman Bharat, offering cashless hospital care, has strengthened financial protection against medical expenses. Together, they act as insurance against the shocks that once pushed families back into poverty, while lowering household expenditure and freeing time for work.

From a bank account to an enterprise Protection keeps families from slipping back into poverty; to rise further, they need opportunities to earn. For crores of people, that journey began with a bank account. Once, it was accepted that only 15 paise of every rupee sent from the exchequer reached the intended citizen. Direct Benefit Transfer has changed that. Over 59 crore Jan Dhan accounts enable benefits to reach recipients directly, without middlemen. Technology has made this possible at an unprecedented scale. A bank account also provides a safe place for savings and helps establish a financial record, opening doors to formal credit. For those without property, access to the first loan can be life-changing. Two months ago, during an interaction with MUDRA beneficiaries, I met Sushmita Gharai from West Bengal. She lost her father during the Covid pandemic, and her family's printing business subsequently collapsed. With no land or gold as security, a collateral-free MUDRA loan helped her restart the press. Today, she employs eight people, twice her initial workforce, and plans to expand into digital printing. What stayed with me was her determination to rebuild and grow. Her story reflects the aspirations of countless young Indians whose ambition exceeds their financial means. Under MUDRA, 60 crore loan accounts have been sanctioned, about two-thirds to women, while PM SVANidhi and PM Vishwakarma support street vendors and traditional artisans. Women have led this transformation. Ten crore rural women participate in SHGs that, through the DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana–National Rural Livelihoods Mission) and other programmes, have become platforms for savings, skills, credit and entrepreneurship. Over 3.7 crore women have become Lakhpati Didis, with some going on to become Crorepati Didis. Others, trained as Namo Drone Didis, now provide drone-spraying services to farmers. Women once excluded from economic opportunity are building enterprises and livelihoods of their own.

The Sankalp for Viksit Bharat

For generations, poverty was treated as something India could manage but never end. What appeared unimaginable a decade ago has now been achieved through years of steady work on the ground.

Yet this is no time to rest; the road to Viksit Bharat by 2047 brings its own challenges. The next phase builds on this progress to lift the remaining people at the bottom of the ladder out of poverty, while ensuring that those who have already risen keep advancing and never slip back. The protection offered via various measures must now be complemented by even wider access to finance, markets and the digital economy. The government is building closer links between academia and industry through employment-linked incentives, internships and apprenticeships, while investment in infrastructure is connecting the country as never before. Opportunity cannot remain the preserve of a few. The Prime Minister has said that Viksit Bharat, like freedom, is a commitment that every Indian must live by. Having achieved in 10 years what remained unfulfilled for six decades, India can face the next 20 with confidence. With the resolve of 140 crore Indians.

The Decade India Turned the Tide on Poverty

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Targeted, Focused and Tailored

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Health and Dignity Begin at Home

A family cannot climb out of poverty while illness and the daily burden of fetching water keep pulling it back. Under Swachh Bharat, access to household toilets has improved sanitation and helped avert an estimated 60,000-70,000 infant deaths a year. Jal Jeevan Mission has expanded rural tap-water connections from about 3 crore households in 2019 to nearly 16 crore, sparing women and girls the long walk for water and reducing exposure to waterborne diseases.

Bureaucrats, faujis and politicians

Never ever underestimate a politician or try to outsmart him

It is a general assumption that bureaucrats lead dull and boring lives, flitting from one file to another like a bottle fly, jumping from one posting to another like a grass-hopper, chanting hosannas to the presiding political deity, and finally retiring with a fat pension and an enlarged prostate. This is not true, barring of course the pension and the prostate. We lead pretty exciting lives, what with scams, wolfing down peanuts at international conferences, honey traps, back-stabbing colleagues and devising ingenious ways to secure post-retirement sinecures. What is regarded as a shortcoming in government functioning — frequent transfers — is actually the source of the greatest excitement, as with every move we come into contact with a whole host of new characters and encounter new situations. The armed forces and the IAS share an enigmatic and equivocal relationship. They grudge the IAS its hold on power, status and higher pay-scales. The IAS is envious of the Army's cheap liquor and the fact that they can play golf and call it outdoor training. But let's admit it — we in the IAS do lack the old world courtesies that are ingrained into most Army officers, and their gallant approach towards ladies. Army officers, for example, don't have "affairs" with colleagues' wives; they "steal their affections". Such Kipling-esque notions of gallantry make them look down upon the IAS in terms of social accomplishments. Now, Shimla is one town where the Army and the IAS cannot help rubbing shoulders, whether it be on the Mall, or in the Amateur Dramatic Club (ADC), which is a misnomer since its pivot is not the theatre but the bar, or at the Annandale Golf Club which belongs to the Army and where IAS golfers are ranked just below the caddies in protocol, or in Bishop Cotton School (BCS), where both IAS and Army wives teach in between their kitty party engagements. And so it was that my wife Neerja, who taught in BCS for many years, became very friendly with the wife of a Colonel (let's call her Asha). The armed forces and the IAS share an enigmatic and equivocal relationship. They grudge the IAS its hold on power, status and higher pay-scales. The IAS is envious of the Army's cheap liquor and the fact that they can play golf and call it outdoor training. But let's admit it — we in the IAS do lack the old world courtesies that are ingrained into most Army officers, and their gallant approach towards ladies. Army officers, for example, don't have "affairs" with colleagues' wives; they "steal their affections". Such Kipling-esque notions of gallantry make them look down upon the IAS in terms of social accomplishments.Now, Shimla is one town where the Army and the IAS cannot help rubbing shoulders, whether it be on the Mall, or in the Amateur Dramatic Club (ADC), which is a misnomer since its pivot is not the theatre but the bar, or at the Annandale Golf Club which belongs to the Army and where IAS golfers are ranked just below the caddies in protocol, or in Bishop Cotton School (BCS), where both IAS and Army wives teach in between their kitty party engagements. And so it was that my wife Neerja, who taught in BCS for many years, became very friendly with the wife of a Colonel (let's call her Asha). The Colonel and Asha had a beautiful tan Labrador bitch named Biscuit and they were looking to mate her. I was the equally proud owner of a magnificent Golden Retriever named Brutus who had also come of age to sow his wild oats. An alliance was obvious and Neerja and I decided to broach the subject, though it's usually the girl's side that is supposed to initiate the negotiations. "Asha," I remarked one evening when we were sitting around having a drink at the Headmaster's lodge, "why don't we mate Biscuit with Brutus?



They'd have beautiful puppies." Asha dropped her glass, followed by silence. The Colonel quietly left the room for a tactical toilet break. Asha looked at me in the manner of a Major General transfixing a Havildar, and declared in a parade-ground tone: "But that's impossible! Biscuit is an Army dog, how could we possibly mate her with a civilian dog?" We're still great friends but as a matter of prudent policy, we've decided to let sleeping dogs lie. Brutus, of course, died a celibate in the style of one of those BAPS monks at the Eiffel Tower. After more than 35 years in government, I am convinced that politicians are the ultimate commandos. They can outsmart bureaucrats any time, notwithstanding 'Yes Minister'. I discovered this the hard way. In the late '80s. I was posted as the Managing Director of the Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC). My Minister (he is not with us any more, unfortunately) was a polished legislator with more than 40 years' experience of the bull ring. He really was a gem of a man and exhibited none of the hypocrisies which are second nature to Indian politicians. He could (and did) drink bus drivers under the dashboard, loved music and poetry, was a mesmerising raconteur, and had more than a roving eye (and hands) for pretty women. We got along famously till I dismissed 10 drivers for drunken driving. Most of them were from the Minister's constituency and therefore I was verbally ordered to reinstate them. Having some Mangal Pandey blood in my veins (so I'm told), I refused. The Minister then asked the drivers to file appeals against my dismissal orders with him (he was the chairman of the HRTC Board), and in that capacity accepted the appeals and ordered their reinstatement. I told him that his orders were invalid since appeals lay before the full Board and not the chairman.

He invited me to his office, offered me tea and biscuits, and politely asked me to bring the matter to the Board. I advised him against this, stating that I would have to explain in detail the reasons for each dismissal (all the dismissed drivers were serial offenders), and would give my firm recommendation that retaining the drivers would be endangering the lives of passengers in future.

He looked at me, and asked me in a quiet tone: "Why don't you just accept my original order on their appeals and reinstate them?" "The Rules don't permit you to admit an appeal against my orders," I replied.

Five killed as SUV rams into stationary tanker on Andhra Pradesh highway

VIZIANAGARAM.(Agency)

Five people were killed when a Mahindra Thar SUV rammed into a stationary tanker lorry on National Highway-16 near Sundarapeta village in Bhogapuram mandal on Tuesday.The deceased were identified as Vakalapudi Srinu (42), his wife Kusuma Ranjani, Borra Satish, his wife Smruthi, and Kondapu Suribabu. All were belonged to Tagarapuvalasa, Madhurawada and Bheemunipatnam of Visakhapatnam district.The victims were returning to Visakhapatnam after visiting the Sri Mukhalingeswara Swamy temple at Srimukhalingam in Srikakulam district when the accident occurred. On receiving information from locals, Bhogapuram police rushed to the spot and launched a rescue operation to retrieve the occupants from the mangled SUV.According to the police, the tanker lorry was travelling from Srikakulam towards Visakhapatnam and had been parked on the roadside near Bhogapuram after its driver temporarily stepped away. The Mahindra Thar, bearing registration number AP 40 KL 0007, was heading towards Visakhapatnam when it crashed into the stationary tanker.Four occupants died on the spot, while another sustained critical injuries and was taken to the Community Health Centre at Sundarapeta. However, he later succumbed to his injuries, taking the death toll to five.Preliminary investigations suggest that the SUV driver may have fallen asleep at the wheel, leading to the crash.

Devagiri sees rush on last Monday of Kartik month

BERHAMPUR.(Agency)

he historic Devagiri hill shrine in Kalyansinghpur block of Rayagada district witnessed a massive congregation of devotees on the last Monday of the holy month of Kartik.Hundreds of devotees from Odisha and neighbouring states thronged the Panchamukhi Swastik shrine to offer prayers at the sacred Shiva Linga enshrined inside a natural rock cave atop the hill.Devotees undertook the 554-step ascent barefoot to reach the cave shrine and seek the blessings of Lord Shiva.

After offering prayers at the cave shrine, many devotees explored the water bodies and other natural attractions spread across the hilltop.

Beyond its religious significance, Devagiri Hill is known for its fascinating natural formations and perennial water bodies. One of its major attractions is Unakoti Kunda, which reportedly remains filled with water throughout the year. The hill also houses several other water bodies known as Ganga, Jamuna, Dhoba and Dhobuni.

NIT-Rourkela develops electrochemcial tech to recover fertiliser from urine

ROURKELA.(Agency)

Researchers at the NIT-Rourkela (NIT-R) have developed an electrochemical process to recover struvite, a phosphate mineral used as a slow-release fertiliser, from human urine.The technology offers a sustainable solution to challenges such as waste disposal and resource conservation. It does not require the addition of external chemicals and is compact, modular and suitable for decentralised nutrient recovery.

The research, co-authored by associate professors P Balasubramanian and Sivaraman J, assistant professor Bikash Chandra Maharaj, and research scholar Alisha Zaffar of the department of Biotechnology and Medical Engineering, has been published in the Journal of Water Process Engineering.Notably, Phosphorus is one of the three essential components of nitrogen-phosphorus-potassium (NPK) fertilisers, which are widely used in agriculture to promote plant growth and improve soil fertility. However, manufacturing these fertilisers is expensive and energy-intensive.One of the conventional methods explored for recovering nutrients from urine is chemical precipitation, which involves adding chemicals to separate and collect nutrients in solid form.

High at a concert? Mumbai Police's new van can detect drug users on the spot

Equipped with oral fluid testing kits and forensic devices, the mobile unit will conduct random checks on concertgoers, identify suspected narcotics and help police trace drug suppliers.

Kolkata (Agency)

With Mumbai Police deploying its newly introduced Anti-Narcotics Investigation and Forensic Van outside concerts, drug testing is set to move from police stations and laboratories to the gates of music festivals and other large public gatherings.In its first deployment at a concert at Mahalaxmi Race Course on Sunday, the van screened 55 people, of whom 12 tested positive for drug consumption, 11 for cannabis and one for cocaine. But how exactly does the mobile unit work, what can it detect, and how will it help the police investigate drug-related offences?

How will people be tested?

The van is equipped with a Dräger DrugTest device, which uses an oral fluid sample to screen a person for consumption of drugs. A swab is used to collect a sample from the person's mouth, which is then analysed by the testing device.Unlike a conventional breathalyser used to detect alcohol consumption, the device tests for narcotic substances through oral fluid and does not require a blood sample. The screening process takes around five minutes, according to police officials.The device can screen for multiple categories of drugs. During its first deployment, the police detected people who had allegedly consumed cannabis and cocaine.



How will the police identify drugs found in a person's possession?

Apart from testing individuals, the van is equipped to identify suspected narcotic substances recovered during police operations.It carries two handheld devices, TruNarc and Gemini, which use laser-based technology to identify the chemical composition of suspected substances, including those kept inside packets, without having to open them.TruNarc has a database of 1,325 narcotic substances and their precursors, while Gemini has a library of around 15,000 substances, including narcotics, precursor chemicals, hazardous substances, and explosives.The devices can help officers obtain an initial identification of suspected drugs on the spot, allowing investigators to proceed with evidence collection and further examination.

What happens after a person tests positive?

The on-the-spot drug test is intended to help police identify suspected drug consumption and initiate further legal action. A positive screening result, however, is not by itself a substitute for the evidentiary and forensic procedures required in an investigation.Police can document the circumstances, collect relevant samples and other evidence, and proceed under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, wherever applicable.

Protests over GSPL gas pipeline in Ahmedabad village turns violent

AAP's Youth Wing president among seven arrested; party plans Kisan Mahapanchayat in Dholka on November 29

Ahmedabad.(Agency)

The Ahmedabad Rural Police on Sunday received four-day remand of seven persons arrested on charges of attempt to murder, rioting and obstruction of public officials after a protest against the laying of a gas pipeline by a public sector company in Saragwala village in Ahmedabad turned violent on November 21.Saragwala village is located just 2.5 km from the ancient Lothal Harappan civilization archeological site in Ahmedabad and close to the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) coming up in the area.One of the seven persons arrested in the case is Brijraj Raju Solanki, Youth Wing President of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).A police statement said, "Work on laying a gas pipeline by Gujarat State Petronet Limited (GSPL) is underway in Saragwala village in Dholka taluka. In anticipation of protests by local farmers – who are demanding compensation—the Ahmedabad Rural Police had deployed security personnel to maintain the law and order situation. On November 21, between 5 pm and 5:30 pm, the situation escalated when certain individuals incited a crowd against the pipeline laying on the outskirts of Saragwala village."

The complaint at Koth police station, which has been "deemed sensitive in nature", said: "Members of the crowd attacked GSPL employees using pickaxes, shovels, and stones. They also damaged a company vehicle by shattering its windows. During the incident, police officers and personnel were also subjected to stone-pelting, resulting in injuries to some personnel. The police took necessary action and brought the situation under control."



Speaking to The Indian Express, DySP Prakash Prajapati of Dholka Division said, "GSPL had begun its works before monsoon and then halted it during the rains. The company resumed its work recently, which invokes protests. Talks are also underway between the various parties regarding the laying of pipelines through the fields. The police have been giving protection for the works."DySP Prajapati added, "On November 21, Brijraj Solanki arrived there and addressed a gathering, without police permission. Solanki and others began filling up the ditches dug by the GSPL team. After 5 pm, the protestors stood in front of the bulldozer and a standoff ensued. We then decided to detain them but he incited the other protestors, leading to the people causing damage to the GSPL and police vehicles and they manhandled the GSPL staff."DySP Prajapati said that the police brought the situation under control and booked Solanki, seven others and a mob of 50 for attempt to murder, rioting, unlawful assembly, and assault on public servants.

Those arrested include Brijraj Raju Solanki of Bhavnagar, Suresh Kana Makwana, Vikram Narshi Rathod, Ramji Ganda Makwana, Thakarshi Lalji Makwana, Pratap Magan Solanki, and Babu Parshottam Solanki. On Sunday, all the seven accused were produced before a court which sent them to police remand till November 26.Koth Police launched a probe and were trying to identify other people involved in the violence, he said.Meanwhile, the AAP accused the BJP government in the state of suppressing the protest using police force.A statement from AAP's Gujarat Kisan Morcha President Pravin Ram said, "At Saragwala village in Dholka taluka, the BJP government and its police administration have subjected farmers from the Koli community to repression, and serious charges such as "'attempt to murder' have been filed against seven persons, including Brijraj Solanki, a young AAP leader from the Koli community."

Pay no bar for temporary faculty seeking higher posts, says AP HC

VIJAYAWADA.(Agency)

The Andhra Pradesh High Court has come to the relief of contractual, ad hoc and temporary faculty members aspiring for Associate Professor posts in State universities, ruling that their applications cannot be rejected merely because they were not paid salaries equivalent to those of regular Assistant Professors.

Justice Nyapathy Vijay, while delivering a common judgment on a batch of petitions, observed that rejecting the applications of candidates despite their eight years of quality teaching experience, solely on the ground that they had not received salaries prescribed by the University Grants Commission (UGC), was unjustified.

NFR General Manager reviews railway safety and infrastructure development in Tinsukia Division

The Sikh Times

Maligaon, 24th November: Shri Vivek Khare, General Manager of Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) successfully concluded his two days visit to Tinsukia Division after conducting comprehensive inspections of major and minor bridges as well as various railway stations. The visit focused on reviewing operational safety, infrastructure maintenance, passenger amenities and the progress of ongoing construction work. The Divisional Railway Manager, Tinsukia along with senior officials from NFR Headquarters and the division, accompanied the General Manager throughout the inspection. During the bridge inspections, Shri Khare reviewed their condition and maintenance arrangements with particular emphasis on structural safety and operational reliability. The review focused on regular monitoring and timely upkeep of bridge infrastructure to support the safe movement of passenger and freight trains. The visit continued the inspection programme undertaken on 23rd November, which covered coaching maintenance facilities at Dibrugarh, passenger amenities at Dibrugarh and Silapathar stations, Bogibeel Bridge and ongoing track renewal works. Through regular inspections and progress reviews, NFR continues to strengthen railway safety, improve maintenance practices and advance infrastructure development. These efforts support its commitment to reliable rail services and enhanced connectivity across the Northeast.

Eight injured after 'dismantled' body spray containers catch fire in Gujarat; 3 critical



Ahmedabad.(Agency)

Eight people, four of whom are children, suffered burns from a flash fire that erupted when they were dismantling body spray containers that could be sold for scrap, in Bhavnagar city on Monday, police said.Three of them were severely injured. One, Dalpat Devipujak, was said to have suffered 95% burns and was fighting for his life in the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) of Sir Takhtasinhji General Hospital. All eight people are relatives.

The incident took place in Lane number 3 of Mill Ni Chali in the Kumbharwada area.Chief Fire Officer (CFO) Pradyumansinh Jadeja said the extended family members were taking apart body spray cans when the flash fire erupted in the closed space of their hut.All were then taken to Sir Takhtasinhji General Hospital. Speaking to The Indian Express, Dr Kairavi Desai, the Medical Superintendent, said, "Among the eight, two are men, two are women, and four others are minors—three boys and a girl. They are all under treatment." Dr Desai said, "Dalpat Devipujak is most injured—over 95% of his body has suffered burns and is in critical condition in the ICU. Both women, Kanchan and Kamu, also have 50-55% burns. All the other patients have burns of lesser degrees."On how the flash fire might have originated, Inspector RB Chauhan, the in-charge of Bortalav police station, said, "The relatives were working in an enclosed space where they were dismantling body spray cans, including those that had expired but still had compressed liquid in them. There was a stove nearby on which they were making tea. Resultantly, a flash fire injured all of them but did not spread to other homes in the area."

India's core sector growth hits 31-month high of 10.9% in October

New Delhi: India's core sector growth accelerated to a 31-month high of 10.9 per cent in October, up from 8.2 per cent in September, with six of the nine industries monitored by the index recording an expansion. Iron ore output led the growth, rising 26.4 per cent year-on-year in October, compared with 18.4 per cent in September. Coal production increased 23.1 per cent, while electricity generation registered a sharp 21.6 per cent rise. Cement production grew 15.4 per cent during the month, while steel output increased 7.3 per cent. Refinery products recorded a relatively modest growth of 3.4 per cent. However, the expansion was partly offset by continued weakness in some sectors. Fertiliser production declined 12.2 per cent year-on-year, while natural gas output fell 7.6 per cent and crude oil production dropped 4.1 per cent. The Index of Core Industries (ICI) tracks the performance of nine major infrastructure sectors, including iron ore, with 2022-23 as its base year. Iron ore recorded the highest growth among the nine sectors in October, followed by coal and electricity. The Trade Ministry had initially estimated September's core sector growth at 7.9 per cent, but the figure was subsequently revised upwards to 8.2 per cent. The October figures indicate a sharp acceleration in core sector activity, although the contraction in crude oil, natural gas and fertiliser production points to uneven growth across industries.

SUPPLY AND ERECTION WORKS AT MALIGAON

E-Tender Notice No. EL-92-TRD-Tender-26-27-01 Dated: 18-11-2026. Works tenders through "E" Tendering system for and on behalf of the President of India are invited for the works as detailed below:- **Name of work:** Supply and Erection of 160 sq.mm jumper in place of 105 sq.mm jumper as per Railway Board's latest guidelines and provision of OHE spare materials in all Divisions of N.F. Railway. **Tender Value:** ₹12,30,82,181.24/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹24,61,700/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** At **15.00** hrs. on **11-12-2026**. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Principal Chief Electrical Engineer, Maligaon

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Serving Customers With A Smile

SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION WORKS AT MALDA TOWN

E-Tender Notice No. TRS-MLDT-14-26-27 Dated: 20-11-2026. Works tenders through "E" Tendering system for and on behalf of the President of India are invited for the works as detailed below:- **Name of work:** Supply and Installation of GI shrouded type DSL system 4 bar, 315 A at Diesel Locomotive Shed, Malda. **Tender Value:** ₹4,80,260/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹9,600/-. **Date & Time of closing of tender:** At **15.00** hrs. on **14-12-2026**. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website **www.ireps.gov.in**

Sr. DME/DSL/Malda Town

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Serving Customers With A Smile

COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

Tender No.: C-LMG-10-2026; Dated: 20-11-2026. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: **Name of work:** Comprehensive Annual Maintenance Contract for (PMS) Parcel Management System equipment i.e Thin Client (set- with monitor, Keyboard and mouse), Electronic Weighment Machine, PW Bill Printer (24 pin 80 column), Bar Code Printer, Hand Held Terminal (HHT), Hand Held Terminal Mini Printer, UPS (065KVA) BPE BP1200 provided at Kamakhya (KYQ), Guwahati (GHY), Hojai (HJI), Lanka (LKA), Lumding (LMG), Dimapur (DMV), New Haflong (NHLG), Badarpur (BPB), Silchar (SCL), Dharmanagar (DMR), Agartala (AGTL), Sairang (SANG), Karimganj (KXJ) parcel stations over Lumding Division for a period of 02 years. **Advertised Value :** ₹42,30,512.84; **Earnest Money:** ₹84,600.00. **E-Tender will be closed at** 15:00 hrs. on 14-12-2026. For details of please visit **www.ireps.gov.in**.

Sr. DCM, Lumding

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

"Serving Customers with a smile"

City borders to get barrier-free tolls

Delhi.(Agency)

Commuters entering the capital may soon get relief from long traffic jams at its borders, as preparations are underway to introduce a Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) toll collection system at entry points.

The agencies expect the new system to eliminate long queues at toll plazas and ensure smoother traffic movement along the borders. Trials have already begun at several locations, and the project is expected to be completed soon.Multi-Lane Free Flow (MLFF) tolling is a barrier-less electronic toll collection system that allows vehicles to pass through tolling points without stopping. The toll is automatically deducted from the FASTag using high-performance Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) readers and AI-enabled Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) cameras installed on overhead gantries. These technologies identify the FASTag and vehicle registration number while the vehicle is in motion.In a conversation with this newspaper, Union Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways Harsh Malhotra said vehicles would be able to pass through toll plazas at speeds of up to 80 kmph without stopping, as the toll would be deducted electronically.He added that motorists with insufficient FASTag balances would receive notifications and be given a 24-hour window to pay the toll. Failure to pay within the stipulated period would attract a penalty.

Malhotra said the system was already operational on the Urban Extension Road-II (UER-II) in Delhi, while the Badarpur-Faridabad toll plaza would soon adopt it. Nearly 18 toll plazas across the country are already operating under the system. "Following the court's directions, the MCD has accelerated efforts to implement the new system," he said.

MCD plans five-fold penalty for toll tax evasion by commercial vehicles

Delhi.(Agency)

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has proposed stricter toll-tax enforcement for commercial vehicles entering the national capital, including a penalty five times the applicable toll tax for wrongful passage and detention over unpaid dues.In the draft Delhi Municipal Corporation (Toll Tax) Amendment Bye-Laws, 2026, the civic body has invited public objections and suggestions till November 30, 5 pm. The amendments seek technology-based collection, detection of evasion and recovery of unpaid dues.Commercial vehicles found entering Delhi without paying toll would face a penalty five times the basic toll tax, besides unpaid toll and recovery charges. Each wrongful passage would be treated as a separate violation.The draft provides a 72-hour window for payment after notice. Notices could be sent through portals, SMS, email and messaging apps. Failure to pay could lead to a warrant of distress and recovery proceedings. The proposed system envisages automatic number plate recognition (ANPR), RFID readers, FASTag-compatible technology, cameras, sensors and multi-lane free-flow toll collection to detect vehicles without stopping them.

Vehicles with unpaid dues or warrants could be intercepted anywhere in Delhi and detained or impounded if dues are not paid immediately. Registered owners would primarily be liable, while drivers, operators and others could also be liable.Repeated defaulters could face enhanced scrutiny, priority interception, blacklisting and suspension or denial of toll-related passes and facilities. Proposed rates range from Rs 100 for taxis, tempos and Tata-407-type vehicles to Rs 2,000 for trucks with four or more axles. Rates may rise 5% annually, subject to Corporation approval.Existing toll rates will remain unchanged. Exemptions for ambulances, fire-fighting, police, specified government vehicles with red and amber lights, defence vehicles and hearses will continue.

Vijay govt's big Karthigai Deepam plan: 750 BJP leaders under house arrest, over 5,000 cops deployed

Delhi.(Agency)

A festival of lights in Tamil Nadu has turned into a major political and law-and-order test for Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay. With the Supreme Court permitting the lighting of the Karthigai Deepam at the Deepathoon atop Thiruparankundram hill for November 24, the state government is preparing for a tense Tuesday in Madurai. BJP leaders have alleged that party functionaries, including state president Nainar Nagenthran, have been placed under house arrest to prevent them from reaching the hill, even as the government has deployed over 5,600 police personnel and imposed prohibitory orders across the district.



The question now is whether the ceremonial lamp will be lit at the disputed pillar without triggering a fresh communal confrontation.The scale of the security deployment by the TVK government is significant. According to an official release cited by PTI, 5,618 police personnel, led by 12 Superintendents of Police from southern districts, were deployed on Tuesday. More than 70 CCTV cameras have also been installed, while bomb disposal squads have been conducting checks at sensitive locations.CM Vijay on Monday held discussions with senior legal and police officials at the state Secretariat in Chennai to deliberate on the next course of action. Law Minister R Nirmal Kumar, Advocate General Vijay Narayan and Director General of Police Mahesh Kumar Aggarwal attended the meeting.

PROHIBITORY ORDERS IN PLACE, BJP LEADERS UNDER HOUSE ARREST

The security measures extend beyond the hill. Madurai District Collector Nishanth Krishna imposed prohibitory orders across the district under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), restricting assemblies, demonstrations, processions and public meetings.

The order also prohibits people from climbing Thiruparankundram hill and remains in force from 9 pm on Monday until 10 am on November 25.The restrictions followed police intelligence inputs warning of possible mobilisation by members of two communities from Madurai and other districts, raising fears of confrontation and a breach of public tranquillity.However, the order provides exemptions for authorised religious ceremonies and rituals conducted by the Thiruparankundram temple administration. It also specifically exempts activities undertaken in pursuance of the Supreme Court's November 20 order, besides protecting existing religious observances, lawful activities and access to the dargah and other institutions on the hill, subject to police regulation.

Meanwhile, BJP Tamil Nadu IT and Social Media wing state secretary SaktheKrishnaan alleged that several party leaders and Hindu Munnani functionaries had been placed under house arrest or prevented from travelling to Thiruparankundram.

NGT seeks agencies' reply on Aravalli waste dumping

Delhi.(Agency)

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has taken suo motu cognisance of reports of municipal waste being dumped in Aravalli hills and forest area near Bhankri village in Faridabad and sought responses from government agencies.A bench headed by NGT chairperson Justice Prakash Srivastava, along with expert members, expressed concern over reports alleging that Municipal Corporation of Faridabad vehicles were transporting waste to the area and dumping it in the green zone.

The tribunal noted that the Bhankri area forms part of an ecologically important hill system that supports vegetation and wildlife and plays a vital role in



groundwater recharge.It said the alleged activity could violate several environmental laws, including the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, and the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The Haryana State Pollution Control Board, Central Pollution Control Board and District Forest Officer, Faridabad, have been directed to file affidavits at least a week before the next hearing on March 3.

Inquiry committee constituted

The tribunal constituted a committee to probe alleged large-scale illegal mining in Mankawas village, Charkhi Dadri district, and extraction below the groundwater level, which could damage underground aquifers in the Aravallis.

Crime against Hindu faith: Why excavators at Sheshnag Lake stirred row in J&K

A viral video showing excavators and heavy machinery at work near Sheshnag Lake, located along the Amarnath Yatra route in Kashmir, has sparked a massive row in J&K. Apart from ecological concerns, the issue has also taken a religious turn.

Delhi.(Agency)

A video showing excavators and heavy machinery at work near Sheshnag Lake, which is located along the Amarnath Yatra route in Kashmir, has sparked a massive uproar in Jammu and Kashmir. Activists and Kashmiri leaders have warned that construction activity near such a high-risk glacial lake could damage the fragile Himalayan ecosystem and potentially lead to a Nepal-like disaster. While the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has clarified that all safeguards were being followed, it has done little to douse the fire.Sheshnag Lake, located at 11,780 feet in Kashmir's Anantnag, is among the 14 officially identified high-risk glacial lakes in J&K for GLOF (glacial lake outburst flood) potential. A GLOF occurs when a lake formed by melting glaciers suddenly bursts, releasing huge amounts of water downstream. Apart from ecological concerns, the issue has also taken a religious turn.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SHESHNAG LAKE

Sheshnag Lake is revered as a sacred site in Hinduism. It is believed to be the place where Lord Shiva left behind the serpents that adorned his body before proceeding towards the Amarnath cave to narrate the Amar Katha (secret of immortality) to Goddess Parvati.The name Sheshnag is also associated with the divine serpent Shesha, known as Ananta. It is depicted in Hindu mythology as the cosmic serpent on whom Lord Vishnu rests. Over decades, the lake has become an important halt for pilgrims travelling to the Amarnath cave.

WHAT IS THE CONTROVERSY?

The controversy started when the video was shared by an Instagram account by the name 'Neeraj_excavator-lover'. The undated video shows excavated soil being dumped along the lake's shoreline by heavy earthmovers.



Amid the outrage, the user has since deleted the video.There is no motorable road directly to Sheshnag Lake. The paved road ends at Chandanwari near Pahalgam. One has to trek for around 18-20 km to reach the lake. The Amarnath cave is 18 km away from Sheshnag.Government officials told The Indian Express that the excavation was part of efforts to widen and stabilise the existing track connecting Chandanwari to the Amarnath cave shrine.Environmentalists have pointed out that Sheshnag, an alpine lake, is located in a sensitive glacial ecosystem. For most of the year, it remains snow-covered. The glacier-fed lake is surrounded by loose deposits of rocks, stones, gravel, sand and fine soil. This makes it particularly vulnerable to disturbances caused by heavy machinery.

BRO CLARIFIES AMID OUTRAGE

The BRO, which is responsible for maintaining strategic roads in border regions, clarified amid the backlash that it was carrying out post-Amarnath Yatra works in compliance with environmental safeguards.

MCD's 50 per cent waste segregation figure unverified; Rs 5 crore audit to establish actual rate

Delhi.(Agency)

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has acknowledged that its reported waste segregation rate of around 50% remains unverified, as the figure is based on self-reporting and is not measured at transfer stations, where actual segregation levels can be assessed.The civic body has floated a Rs 5.09-crore tender to appoint an agency for an independent assessment across all 12 zones and 250 wards. Within 90 days, it will assess segregation, collection, transportation, processing and disposal.The tender comes days after the MCD Standing Committee approved graded penalties, ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 1.5 lakh, for violations under the Solid Waste Management Bye-Laws 2026.Earlier, MCD told the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that it was recording 60% segregation at source in December 2025 and aimed to achieve 85% by February 2026, 90% by August 2026 and 100% by January 2027. The Delhi Economic Survey 2026 put segregation in MCD areas at 59%, with full segregation targeted by January 2027.With just over a month left for the target, the acknowledgment that the figures are unverified raises questions about the status of segregation and waste management.Records cover transfer stations and waste-to-energy capacity, but there is no audited, GIS-referenced dataset for all zones. The GPS system does not generate reports, while bulk waste generator registers lack processing detailsThe agency will audit 320 fixed compactor transfer stations, secondary collection points and active dhalaos. It will count incoming waste on at least three randomly selected days and weigh it using portable weighing pads. Waste will be classified as wet, dry, sanitary, special-care or mixed, with segregation and purity assessed.The exercise will include household surveys of at least 1% of households or 150 per ward, whichever is higher, and commercial establishments. Bulk waste generators producing 100 kg or more daily will be checked for waste generation, segregation, on-site processing and disposal.The audit will assess door-to-door collection, garbage-vulnerable points, routes, infrastructure and private concessionaires, and measure legacy waste at Ghazipur, Bhalswa and Okhla dumpsites through drone surveys.Findings will be used to prepare .



Traffic snarls hit Dwarka near IGIA amid Yashobhoomi event

Delhi.(Agency)

Serpentine queues of vehicles, prolonged traffic snarls and mounting anxiety among airport-bound commuters marked traffic conditions across several parts of the capital on Monday, while VIP movement in central Delhi added to traffic snarls across adjoining crossings.

In Lutyens' Delhi and adjoining central areas, commuters reported traffic being blocked for several minutes, resulting in vehicles idling at intersections and queues building up across adjoining crossings. Heavy traffic was also reported on roads around the area, including Khan Market.The worst congestion was reported on roads connecting Dwarka to the airport, with commuters flagging long queues inside the Dwarka Motorway tunnel, near Yashobhoomi and around Sector 21 Metro station. Several stretches were reported to be heavily choked, with motorists saying they had remained stuck for more than 30 minutes.The motorists took to social media, posting pictures while complaining about the traffic issue in the area. One of the users mentioned the huge traffic jam at the Sector 21 metro station junction and how the traffic piled up till Dwarka expressway and National Highway-48.Another requested the traffic police to deploy staff in the area for regulating traffic movement. "Utterly heavy traffic jam and chaos at Yashobhumi roundabout from RTO towards Dwarka underpass. Complete traffic mismanagement. Kindly get it cleared ASAP," said an user.The situation was particularly concerning for airport-bound commuters, with heavy traffic also reported on the National Highway-19 tollway towards



the airport and the stretch from Dhaula Kuan to Brar Square.

According to a Delhi Police advisory, the CPHI India 2026 Exhibition is scheduled to be held at Yashobhoomi, India International Convention and Expo Centre (IICC), from November 23 to 25 between 10 am and 6 pm. The statement said that approximately 8,000-10,000 visitors are expected to attend the exhibition daily.

Brentford routs 10-man Everton 4-0 in Premier League to mar David Moyes' record-breaking

London.(Agency)

Keane Lewis-Potter scored with two deflected shots in the first half as Brentford hammered 10-man Everton 4-0 to climb into sixth place in the Premier League.The double by Lewis-Potter had put Brentford in full control even before Everton captain James Tarkowski was sent off shortly before the halftime break after a VAR review for his high challenge on Yehor Yarmoliuk.Vitaly Janelt added the third with a 30-meter strike in the 67th before a late goal by Fabio Carvalho rounded off the win for the home side, which moved one point and three places above Everton.Everton manager David Moyes was marking a club record 593rd game in charge, breaking the mark held by Harry Catterick, but was given little reason to celebrate.Lewis-Potters first after 23 minutes took a big deflection up and over Jordan Pickford and his second, through a packed penalty box, also changed direction after hitting Thierno Barry on the way in.

Tarkowski then saw his first red card in 351 Premier League appearances for the veteran defender and the introduction of Jack Grealish at halftime his first Everton appearance since he was dropped for breaching disciplinary rules a month ago had little effect.Moyes promised fans a more solid approach in next weekend's derby at home to Liverpool.“We didn't play well enough and Brentford did, so we have no complaints and they thoroughly deserved to win,” Moyes said.

“The performance was way below the standards we've set and the way we've been playing recently. We just didn't play well enough tonight, but hopefully we can put that right."

Gukesh vs Sindarov at a heritage library: Why this World Championship is unique

New Delhi.(Agency)

There will be no roaring crowds, giant screens or the usual sporting arena atmosphere when D Gukesh and Javokhir Sindarov begin their battle for the World Chess Championship in Geneva. Instead, the two grandmasters will find themselves surrounded by centuries of human thought, in a place where some of the world's most treasured books and manuscripts have found a home.

The 2026 World Championship will be held at the Fondation Martin Bodmer, a heritage library and museum in Cologny, on the outskirts of Geneva, Switzerland. Perched on a hillside overlooking Lake Geneva and the city, the institution houses one of the finest private collections of literary and historical documents in the world. It is an unusual setting for a sporting contest, but one that brings together two pursuits that have long shared an association with intellectual achievement.Founded in 1971, the Fondation Martin Bodmer houses around 150,000 documents in nearly 120 languages. Its collection, known as the Bibliotheca Bodmeriana, includes hundreds of papyri, Western and Eastern medieval manuscripts, rare engravings and thousands of pages of handwritten manuscripts. In 2015, the collection was inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register, an initiative dedicated to preserving humanity's documentary heritage. The museum itself is an underground structure designed by celebrated Swiss architect Mario Botta and has welcomed visitors since 2003.The foundation also has a connection with chess through its literary collection. Several works assembled by its founder, Martin Bodmer, were devoted to or closely linked to the game. The institution's director, Jacques Berchtold, said hosting the World Championship resonated with the legacy of the founder, bringing sporting excellence, culture and history together.

David Warner was reluctant to share Sandpapergate blame in 2018, claims new report

A fresh investigation has revealed how David Warner initially resisted taking responsibility for the 2018 Sandpapergate scandal, prompting a confrontation with Mitchell Marsh, who refused to let Cameron Bancroft shoulder the blame alone.

New Delhi.(Agency)

Former Australia vice-captain David Warner was reluctant to accept responsibility for the 2018 ball-tampering scandal in Cape Town, with all-rounder Mitchell Marsh eventually confronting him over allowing Cameron Bancroft to shoulder the blame, according to an investigation by Australian sports broadcaster Sports Entertainment Network (SEN).In a detailed report published on Monday, SEN journalist Gerard Whateley has shed new light on the divisions within the Australian dressing room in the aftermath of the infamous Sandpapergate scandal, which resulted in 12-month bans for Warner and then captain Steve Smith, while Bancroft received a nine-month suspension.



According to Whateley's report, Warner initially saw little reason to take responsibility for the scandal when the Australian players first gathered to discuss how to respond to the controversy. He had not yet been implicated in the incident and was reportedly unwilling to share the blame.The situation changed during a subsequent players' meeting at the team hotel in Cape Town, where all-rounder Marsh confronted Warner over his reluctance to step forward.A source quoted in the SEN investigation described the contrasting positions of the three players at the centre of the controversy, with Bancroft prepared to accept the blame, Smith willing to share it, while Warner initially appeared unwilling to get involved.

"You had Bangers trying to eat the whole grenade. You had Steve with good intent trying to halve that. And you had Davey whistling his way down the corridor," the source told SEN.The source added that Marsh, nicknamed Bison, was particularly forceful in confronting Warner."Much to Davey's chagrin, he was forced into stepping up and sharing the blame. 'You can't dodge this one mate, we're not having Bangers take the fall for you'," the source recalled Marsh telling Warner.Warner's reported response was equally revealing."I'll take the blame but I'm not taking the full brunt of it," he reportedly told Marsh.The meeting, according to Whateley, was the last occasion on which the Australian players came together as a team during the Cape Town tour.

SANDPAPERGATE ERUPTS AGAIN

The fresh revelations come amid renewed scrutiny of Australia's handling of the scandal, eight years after Bancroft was caught on television cameras using sandpaper to alter the condition of the ball during the third Test against South Africa.

Priyansh Arya unleashes carnage, smashes 181 to set new Indian T20 record

Indore.(Agency)

Priyansh Arya produced a breathtaking batting display in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy on Tuesday, smashing 181 off just 68 balls to script history against Tamil Nadu in Indore.The Delhi captain became the highest individual scorer by an Indian in T20 cricket and registered the second-highest individual score in men's T20 history. His extraordinary innings also saw him equal the record for the most sixes in a men's T20 innings.Arya's assault was built around 19 sixes and seven fours, with the left-handed opener scoring at a strike rate of 266.17. He fell just seven runs short of the world record of 188 not out, held by South Africa's Lhuan-dre Gilbert Pretorius, who achieved the feat in the CSA Pro20 Cup last month.The 25-year-old's remarkable contribution powered Delhi to 275 for five, equalling the joint third-highest total in Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy history.

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ARYA TOPS INDIAN RECORDS

Arya's 181 took him past several established records in Indian cricket. His innings eclipsed Kiran Navgire's 162 off 76 balls, scored in the Women's Senior T20 Trophy in 2021, to become the highest individual score by an Indian in T20 cricket.He also moved past KL



Rahul's record for the highest individual score by an Indian in men's T20 cricket. Rahul had scored an unbeaten 152 off 67 balls for Delhi Capitals against Punjab Kings in April this year.The Delhi captain also surpassed Tilak Varma's previous Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy record of 151 not out against Meghalaya in November 2024.Arya's 181 is now the highest individual score in the tournament's history.

JOINS FINN ALLEN

Arya's 19 sixes were another major highlight of an innings dominated by clean hitting and relentless aggression.

Months after Cape Town, Australia allegedly planned another ball-tampering attempt

New Delhi.(Agency)

Australia's efforts to put the ball-tampering scandal behind them were seemingly tested just months after the events in Cape Town, with fresh allegations suggesting that old habits had not disappeared from the dressing room.

A new investigation by journalist Gerard Whateley for the Australian outlet, SEN, has alleged that Australian players discussed using mints to alter the condition of the ball during the first Test against Pakistan in Dubai in October 2018. The incident reportedly prompted intervention from then captain Tim Paine and head coach Justin Langer, who were determined to ensure the team did not become embroiled in another controversy.The revelations come nearly eight years after Cameron Bancroft was caught using sandpaper on the ball during the Cape Town Test against South Africa. The incident led to lengthy suspensions for Bancroft, Steve Smith and David Warner, and triggered a major overhaul of Australia's cricketing leadership.

According to Whateley's investigation, the Dubai episode unfolded when Australia were struggling to extract movement from the ball during Pakistan's first innings. A player allegedly raised the possibility of using mints, asking, "Who's got the mints? Who's doing the ball today?"The suggestion was reportedly met with an angry response from another member of the team, who questioned why Australia would risk repeating such behaviour so soon after Cape Town.

Despite the objection, a substitute fielder was allegedly sent to the dressing room to collect mints. Paine, however, recognised what was happening and gestured for the player to return without bringing them onto the field.

LANGER'S DRESSING-ROOM REACTION

The incident did not end there. Whateley's investigation claims Langer confronted the players after the day's proceedings, making his displeasure clear through a dramatic demonstration involving a baggy green cap.The former Australia



opener allegedly wiped the cap against his backside to convey how the players' actions were damaging the team's reputation.Australia had been particularly cautious about appearances following the Cape Town scandal. The team had reportedly agreed that players would not carry mints or lollies onto the field, including during drinks breaks.Paine also addressed members of the support staff, several of whom had been part of the South African tour, assuring them that he would not permit the use of mints or lollies to manipulate the ball under his leadership.

ICC stands firm on saliva ban despite Shubman Gill's plea after Wellington Test

The ICC has no plans to review its saliva ban despite Shubman Gill's criticism after India's drawn first Test against New Zealand. The governing body remains firm on health and cricketing grounds, despite the IPL lifting the restriction in 2025.

New Delhi.(Agency)

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has decided to continue its ban on using saliva to shine cricket balls, with no immediate plans to reconsider the restriction despite calls from India captain Shubman Gill.An ICC source told India Today that the governing body remains firm on its position, citing health and fairness concerns. The decision comes after Gill questioned the continued ban following India's drawn first Test against New Zealand at the Basin Reserve in Wellington.Gill had complained that the Kookaburra ball was getting soft too early and suggested that allowing players to use saliva could have helped bowlers in the batting-friendly conditions.The ban was first introduced in 2020 as a precautionary measure during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect players and match officials. It was subsequently made a permanent part of the ICC's playing conditions.The restriction is also aligned with the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) Laws of Cricket, under which applying saliva is treated as an unfair method of altering the ball's condition.One of the concerns surrounding the use of saliva is the difficulty in monitoring how it is applied. Players could potentially



combine it with substances such as sweets, chewing gum and mints to alter the ball, making regulation more challenging.The ICC also continues to view saliva as a potential health risk to players and match officials.There is no indication that the matter was discussed at the ICC meetings in Bali earlier this month. Any future change to the playing conditions would need to be proposed by a member through the relevant ICC committee before being considered by the ICC Board.

GILL QUESTIONS CONTINUED BAN

Gill brought the issue back into focus after India failed to bowl out New Zealand on the final day of the Wellington Test, with the draw costing the visitors an opportunity to collect crucial World Test Championship points."I don't understand why we haven't been allowed to shine the ball yet -- we are way past Covid times. There was a rule that you can't put saliva on the ball to make it shine. It's been seven-eight years and I still don't understand why they are not allowing it," Gill had said.

The Indian captain's comments came amid concerns over the Kookaburra ball losing its hardness and making life difficult for the bowlers on a largely unresponsive surface.Interestingly, the Indian Premier League has already moved away from the restriction. Although the IPL is a domestic competition, it lifted the saliva ban ahead of the 2025 season.

Ishan Kishan on MS Dhoni's retirement: Few players have given so much to the country

Patna.(Agency)

For Ishan Kishan, MS Dhoni has always been more than just another Indian cricketer. Growing up in Jharkhand, the young wicketkeeper-batter watched the Ranchi-born legend become one of the biggest names in world cricket, dreaming of following a similar path. Years later, Kishan finds himself reflecting on the end of Dhoni's remarkable IPL playing career, with a sense of admiration for everything his childhood idol has given to Indian cricket.Reacting to Dhoni's retirement from the Indian Premier League (IPL), Kishan said the former India captain had earned the right to decide when he wanted to walk away. While admitting that the announcement would leave fans and fellow cricketers disappointed, he felt the focus should be on celebrating Dhoni's contribution rather than mourning his absence."He has taken retirement, I know, the time had come for him, he felt it was the right time," Kishan said while speaking to reporters in Patna on Monday.The India wicketkeeper-batter added that Dhoni's biggest contribution was not limited to the trophies he won or the records he created.

His influence on young cricketers and the inspiration he provided to an entire generation were equally significant."The most important thing is that we all understand how much he has given to this country, how he played, how much he has inspired all the young players," Kishan said."Obviously everyone felt bad when he took it, but we will get to see all those people on the ground, we will see them on TV. So there is a lot of happiness because of what he has done for the country. Perhaps very few players have been able to do that," he added.

FROM RANCHI TO INDIA

The connection between the two wicketkeeper-batters goes back to Kishan's formative years in Jharkhand. Born in Patna, Kishan moved to Ranchi as a youngster to pursue his cricketing ambitions and went on to represent Jharkhand in domestic cricket, much like Dhoni.

Tata Steel to buy controlling stake in APL Apollo

The acquisition, one of the steelmaker's biggest domestic deals, would make Tata Steel the majority shareholder in the Noida-based APL Apollo Tubes.

NEW DELHI. (Agency)

A day after announcing the sale of two of its businesses — tubes and pipes business and Tata Steel Colours Pvt Ltd (TSCL) — to APL Apollo in an all-cash deal worth ₹Rs 28,000 crore, Tata Steel on Monday announced that it would acquire a controlling stake in APL Apollo Tubes. The two-part deal, involving a promoter stake purchase and an open offer, could cost it up to ₹Rs 32,266 crore. The acquisition, one of the steelmaker's biggest domestic deals, would make Tata Steel the majority shareholder in the Noida-based APL Apollo Tubes.Tata Steel's board met early on Monday and approved a share purchase agreement with S Gupta Holding Pvt Ltd, a member of APL Apollo's promoter group, to acquire up to Rs 7.39 crore shares at ₹Rs 2,100 apiece. This represents about 26.38% of APL Apollo's expanded voting share capital and would involve a cash outlay of up to ₹Rs 15,510.61 crore.The agreement was signed on the same day. The acquisition will take place in three tranches. The first tranche, involving about 9.91% or 2.77 crore shares worth approximately ₹Rs 5,825 crore, was scheduled to be executed through a block deal during Monday's morning trading session. The shares will be held in an escrow demat account, and Tata Steel will not exercise voting rights on them while they remain in escrow.

The second tranche, representing 11.90%, will be transferred off-market after the necessary regulatory approvals and fulfilment of other conditions. The price for this tranche may be adjusted for any dividends declared before the transaction closes. The remaining 4.57% is to be transferred by March 31, 2028.The acquisition triggers a mandatory open offer under SEBI's takeover regulations. Tata Steel will offer to purchase up to Rs 7.28 crore shares, or 26% of the company's equity, from public shareholders at ₹2,301.40 apiece. This is about 9.6% higher than the price being paid to the promoter group. If fully subscribed, the open offer would cost ₹Rs 16,755.66 crore and take Tata Steel's stake in APL Apollo to about 52.38%.Following completion of the transactions, Tata Steel will become a promoter of APL Apollo. The selling promoter, other promoters and the remaining members of the promoter group plan to move into the public shareholder category, subject to SEBI's requirements for reclassification.

Adani Airports Holdings raises Rs 2,790 cr from 360 One Asset

New Delhi. (Agency)

Adani Airport Holdings, the largest private airports operator, has entered into a definitive agreement with domestic fund 360 One Alternates Asset Management to raise Rs 2,790 crore ($300 mn, taking its total equity raise to Rs 12,500 crore or about $1.35 bn so far.In a statement, the company said it had the first round of binding agreement for $1 bn in primary equity capital from a consortium of Alpha Wave Global, Premji Invest, Temasek,



and BlackRock-managed funds, at a pre-money equity valuation of $18 bn.With the latest round, total equity raise now stands at $1.35 bn. Upon completion, the investors will, in aggregate, hold around 7.01% in the company, the statement said, without offering a break up of either investment or the stake holding.The first round represents one of the largest primary equity investments from financial institutions in the airports sector, it claimed.Under the agreement, 360 One Asset will subscribe to new shares in the company on the same terms and valuation as the initial investors, implying a pre-money equity valuation of $18 bn.

Tata Sons board meet postponed to Nov 30

New Delhi. (Agency)

Tata Sons board meeting, scheduled for November 26, has been posponed to November 30, reportedly after promoter group chairman Noel Tata sought more timing saying the mandatory seven-day notice was not served. Sources told The Financial Standard on Monday that the postponement of the meeting was necessitated after Noel in a letter dated this Sunday to company secretary Suprakash Mukhopadhyay raised concerns about the mandatory seven-day notice period for a board meeting not being followed, as the agenda was put up only four days in advance.Late last month Noel had sought the minutes and the video recordings of the September 17 board meeting that gave a new five-year term to chairman N Chandrasekaran against a veto vote by Noel, and also deciding to take the company public as mandated by RBI, which again was vetoed by him. Mukhopadhyay had refused to share the minutes and video recordings, as demanded by Noel in the first letter shot of late last month, saying there is no provision to record the meeting.The agenda for the November 26 meeting, according to sources, included a decision on going ahead of the RBI-mandated listing of Tata Sons, and refusal to discus/accept Noel's proposal to restructure the holding company to avoid an IPO

India to grow 7% in FY27, El Nino to push inflation up: S&P Global

KOCHI: (Agency)

IS&P Global Ratings expects India's GDP to grow 7% in both FY27 and FY28, keeping the country among the fastest-growing economies in the Asia-Pacific region in 2027. However, El Nino conditions, uneven monsoon patterns, and higher input costs are likely to push food prices higher and add to inflationary pressures. In its Economic Outlook for Asia-Pacific, the rating agency said it expects Vietnam and India to be the region's fastest-growing economies in 2027. It said high energy prices will remain the biggest macroeconomic headwind and the global AI build-out the largest tailwind, though both forces are expected to ease somewhat next year.The agency said it expects India's GDP growth to be 7% in the current as well as next fiscal year. "During the June and September quarters, growth was driven by strong goods exports, public-sector investment, and household consumption, with the latter fuelled by buoyant credit growth," S&P said.

S&P said while export of goods has benefited from higher commodity prices, it has also been supported by trade diversification and India's increasing integration into global supply chains, with the strength visible in electronic and engineering goods and chemicals.Deficient summer rainfall, lower reservoir levels, and persistent El Nino conditions could weigh on current agricultural output. The agency expects inflation to average 5.3% in FY27It expects a 25-bps RBI policy rate hike in December and another in early 2027. Inflation is projected to ease to 4.7% in FY28. India's retail inflation stood at 6.1% in October, above the RBI's upper tolerance limit of 6%. (With inputs from agencies)

BALCO laboratory gets BIS recognition under Laboratory Recognition Scheme

HONG KONG: (Agency)

Asian stocks advanced after a rally on Wall Street as Jensen Huang returned as Nvidia's CEO, while U.S. futures edged higher and oil prices fell.Taiwan's Taiex led gains in Asian markets, climbing more than 9%, driven by gains of nearly 10% for chip-related stocks Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Co. and Mediatek..The Kospi in Seoul advanced 6.5% to 5,014.41 as Samsung Electronics rose 7.5% and SK Hynix gained 8.6%.Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 rose 3.9% to 58,654.40.

Computer chip equipment maker Tokyo Electron climbed 10.5% and testing equipment maker Advantest surged 14.1%."We are seeing a reaction to the rally in US tech stocks overnight on the announcement that Jensen Huang is returning to NVIDIA as the CEO," said Neil Newman, managing director and head of strategy at Astris Advisory Japan.

"It is obviously a big surprise and a knock-on effect will be through Asia," Newman said. In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng edged 0.2% higher to 22,432.45, while the Shanghai Composite index was up 0.7% to 3,563.58.Australia's S&P/ASX 200 rose 1.7% to 8,718.80. Nvidia led a thunderous rally Monday on Wall Street, where the S&P 500 surged 4.7% and recovered just over half its brutal loss from last week, one of the worst since the 2008 financial crisis. The Nasdaq composite jumped 6.5%, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up nearly 3%.Even before Wall Street opened for the day, trading in the futures market suggested U.S. stocks were set to halt the seven-day losing streak that had dragged the S&P 500 more than 10% below its all-time high set last month.Then came the bombshell about Huang's return to Nvidia, even though its board is still investigating whether he was the target of a foreign spy and created any national-security concerns.

Nvidia's stock surged 31.5% and finished just shy of its best day since 2000, close to when the dot-com bubble peaked. That followed its plunge of nearly 23% last week.How AI-related stocks do matters incredibly for workers' 401(k) accounts because Nvidia and other chip stocks have grown into some of Wall Street's largest and most influential.Monday's rebound for the S&P 500 was its best day since April of 2025.

SpiceJet staff hunt for jobs amid widening crisis

NEW DELHI:(Agency)

SpiceJet employees said they are exploring opportunities at other airlines amid uncertainty over their future, as the carrier faces mass cancellations and a shrinking fleet. Speaking to Financial Standard, at least half a dozen current SpiceJet employees, including pilots and cabin crew, complained of delayed salaries and a lack of communication from top management. "Salaries have been delayed for the past many months, forcing us to explore opportunities outside the airline. If the airline manages to raise funds and clear our dues, it will be a big relief" said a 40-year old pilot at the airline on the condition of anonymity.Another senior pilot said that their earnings have reduced drastically given they are flying fewer hours. "A large component of our salaries is linked to the number of hours we fly. Mass cancellations, however, have reduced this," he added. A New Delhi-stationed female cabin crew member said that salaries have been inconsistent and irregular for the past many months. "Our financial condition has taken a severe hit over the past 3-4 months. We are struggling to pay our rents and clear our EMIs.We have been applying at



other airlines," she said while requesting not to be named. Other SpiceJet employees also complained about struggling to make ends meet and harsh working conditions.An email sent to SpiceJet seeking response on delayed employees' salaries remained unanswered till the time of filing this copy.Besides salary delays, SpiceJet has faced recurring delays in employee salaries, provident fund (EPFO) deposits, and tax (TDS) remittances amid a severe liquidity crunch. The airline reported 4,894 permanent employees out of a total workforce of 6,484 in its FY25 annual report. However, due to mass flight cancellations, a significant chunk of its employee base is on rest mode.While some of the staff feel that the airline will survive the turbulent time, some also fear meeting the fate of Jet Airways, GoFirst and Kingfisher Airlines, whose closures took away the jobs of thousands of employees in the sector.Hit by mounting losses, multiple litigations and unpaid dues, SpiceJet is struggling to keep operations afloat, cancelling anywhere between 50-70% of its scheduled flights as it is left with only five aircraft.

Auto sales hit record figures despite high base; PVs lag

New Delhi. (Agency)

Retail auto sales during the 42-day festive season of 2026 hit a fresh high of 55.25 lakh units, up 2.21% year-on-year, with all segments except passenger vehicles (PVs) reporting growth. The performance is significant as it came on a high base set by GST 2.0 during the previous festive seaso.Two-wheeler sales rose 3.67% to 43.13 lakh units, while commercial vehicle sales grew 7.13% to 1.56 lakh units. Three-wheeler sales increased 5.32% to 1.94 lakh units, and tractor sales edged up 2.24% to 1.04 lakh units. Construction equipment recorded the highest growth, surging 26.06% to 10,452 units. However, passenger vehicle sales declined 7.16% to 7.49 lakh units.The 42-day festive period runs from the first day of Navratri to 15 days after Dhanteras, accounting for the time lag in vehicle registrations. This year, it covered Oct 11-Nov 21. FADA president Sai Giridhar said the 2026 festive season would



be remembered as the year Indian auto retail set a record on top of a record. Over two years, sales rose 23.95% against the 2024 festive season, which he described as a clean base. This showed that the demand boost unleashed by the government's GST 2.0 reforms had not only held but deepened, he added. "What makes this season special is how it was won. The festive opened quietly through Navratri, when the shadow of last year's towering base was at its longest; but as Dhanteras and Deepawali arrived, demand found its stride and built into a powerful crescendo.

The turnaround is written in the numbers —the passenger vehicle segment that was down over 18% at the Navratri stage closed the full festive season with its deficit more than halved, and the overall market swung from negative at Navratri into positive territory," said Giridhar.Electric vehicles (EVs) led the demand momentum, with retail sales surging 52.62% to cross five lakh units in a single festive season for the first time. Electric two-wheelers rose 61.10% and electric passenger vehicles 72.91%."This season reaffirms a simple truth: the fundamentals of Indian auto retail are strong and broadening. Affordability anchored by GST 2.0, a resilient Bharat-led consumer, an expanding multi-powertrain choice, and the aspiration of a young, confident India are together carrying the sector to new heights," Giridhar said.

Are markets open or closed today for Guru Nanak Jayanti? Check NSE, BSE holiday list

New Delhi. (Agency)

Stock markets have got a breather after Monday's sharp sell-off, with the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) closed today, Tuesday, November 24, on account of Prakash Gurpurb Sri Guru Nanak Dev, also known as Guru Nanak Jayanti. So, if you are wondering whether the stock market is open today, there will be no trading in the equity and equity derivatives segments on the NSE and BSE. Trading in securities lending and borrowing (SLB), currency derivatives and interest rate derivatives will also remain suspended for the day. The commodity derivatives segment on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) will remain closed during the morning session, from 9 am to 5 pm. Trading will resume during the evening session, from 5 pm to 11:30 pm/11:55 pm.Normal trading on the NSE and BSE will resume on Wednesday, November 25.

HOW MANY STOCK MARKET HOLIDAYS ARE LEFT IN 2026?

There is only one more scheduled stock market holiday left in 2026 after today. The NSE and BSE will remain closed on Friday, December 25, on account of Christmas.This means November 24 is the second-last trading holiday of the calendar year. Investors should also remember that regular weekend closures are separate from the exchange-declared trading holidays.

The market holiday comes after benchmark indices witnessed heavy selling on Monday. The Sensex fell to 82,435.99, while the Nifty closed around 25,349, with both indices declining more than 1.5%.Ajit Mishra, SVP – Research, Religare Broking, said markets witnessed sharp profit-booking after a four-week rally."After an initial uptick, the benchmark indices gradually drifted lower as the session progressed and eventually settled near the day's lows on the monthly expiry day," Mishra said.He added that metal, banking and financial services stocks led the decline. Banking shares saw selling after their strong performance over the preceding four weeks, while metal stocks were weighed down by softer global commodity prices and a stronger US dollar.The broader market also remained under pressure, with midcap and smallcap indices declining. However, IT and realty stocks managed to end the session in positive territory.

Mishra said sentiment was subdued amid a sharp sell-off across global markets, particularly in US and Asian technology stocks, driven by concerns over AI-related valuations, the US interest-rate outlook and rising global risk aversion.Despite the correction, he said foreign investor inflows, which have exceeded $13 billion so far in November, continue to support the broader domestic market backdrop.**GLOBAL MARKETS RALLY; NVIDIA IN FOCUS**

While Indian stock markets are closed today, global equities have staged a strong recovery after the recent sell-off in technology stocks.

Asian markets rallied on Tuesday, following a sharp rebound on Wall Street. According to Reuters, MSCI's Asia-Pacific index excluding Japan rose 4.6%, its biggest one-day gain since July 31. South Korea's Kospi climbed 7.5%, Taiwan's market gained 9.1%, while Japan's Nikkei advanced 4.5%

.Composite surged 6.5%, the S&P 500 gained 4.7% and the Dow Jones rose 3%.Nvidia was at the centre of the rebound. Its shares jumped 31.5% on Monday, adding nearly $1 trillion to its market value, as the return of CEO Jensen Huang revived investor interest in artificial intelligence-linked stocks.The sharp gains have put Nvidia and other technology stocks back in focus ahead of the next US trading session. The positive momentum in global technology shares could support sentiment, although the recent volatility and concerns around AI valuations remain important risks.Mishra said the Nifty is likely to find support in the 25,000–25,300 range, while the 25,650–25,800 zone could act as an immediate resistance band.He advised investors to avoid aggressive fresh exposure amid heightened volatility and use any consolidation to selectively accumulate quality stocks."Banking and financials may take a breather following their sharp rally, while other rate-sensitive sectors such as auto and realty are likely to continue offering buying opportunities, alongside the pharma and healthcare basket," he said.

Shraddha Kapoor



Surprises Fans At Shreya Ghoshal's Bengaluru Concert, Sings Aashiqui 2 Song

Aashiqui 2 fans had a special moment in Bengaluru on Sunday as Shraddha Kapoor joined Shreya Ghoshal on stage during her concert. The actor was at the singer's Unstoppable India Tour show, which had a few surprise guests, including Badshah.Shreya started her tour in Bengaluru on November 22. During the concert, she sang Ji Ji Re Ji from Shraddha's upcoming film Eetha. Shraddha walked on stage and danced to the song as Shreya performed. She wore a white saree and was seen enjoying the moment.Shraddha also got a chance to sing with Shreya. The singer encouraged her to perform Sun Raha Hai Na Tu from Aashiqui 2. Shraddha seemed shy at first but soon started singing after fans cheered for her.The audience loved the moment and cheered loudly as the two shared the stage. Shreya appeared impressed by Shraddha's



singing, and they hugged after the performance. Fans also started calling Shraddha Aarohi, the character she played in Aashiqui 2.

Shraddha played Aarohi Keshav Shirke in Mohit Suri's 2013 film Aashiqui 2. Her character was a young singer who wanted to make it big in the music industry. The film also became a big turning point in Shraddha's career.After Bengaluru, Shreya will perform in Guwahati on December 19. She will then visit Kolkata, Bhubaneswar, Vizag, Jaipur, Delhi, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, Kochi, Pune, Chennai and Mumbai. The tour will end in Indore on April 3, 2027.Meanwhile, Shraddha will next be seen in Eetha, directed by Laxman Utekar. The film is based on the life of Tamasha and Lavani artist Vithabai Bhau Mang Narayangaonkar, with Shraddha playing the lead role. The film also stars Randeep Hooda, Mohammed Zeeshan Ayyub, Siddharth Jadhav, Ishtiyak Khan and Anant Joshi. It will also feature one of Nana Patekar's final screen appearances following his death on October 8, 2026.Eetha will release in theatres on December 4.

Kangana Ranaut Visits Taj Mahal In Agra With Family, Interacts With Fans Amid Tight Security



Politician and actress Kangana Ranaut visited the iconic Taj Mahal in Agra on Sunday, drawing attention from visitors and fans present at the historic monument.The actress-politician arrived at the monument amid tight security. During her visit, she was seen interacting with visitors and posing for photographs with fans who had gathered to catch a glimpse of her. Several visitors took the opportunity to click pictures with her, making her visit a memorable moment for those present at the monument.On the film front, the first-look poster of Kangana Ranaut-starrer 'Scary Picture' was released by actor-producer Rana Daggubati. It is produced by veteran producer Suresh Babu under Suresh Productions, who is now set to explore the horror genre.



Directed by acclaimed Telugu filmmaker Ravi Babu, 'Scary Picture' marks his Hindi feature film directorial debut. Known for his work in the horror genre, Ravi Babu has previously directed Telugu films such as 'Anasuya' and 'Avunu'.The film also marks an important step in Rana Daggubati's vision to build a dedicated ecosystem for horror filmmaking in India. Further details about the film's plot, remaining cast and Kangana Ranaut's role are yet to be revealed. The makers have teased the film's release in 2027.

King Choreographers On Ranveer 'Hyping' Deepika During Tu Mil Jaaye Shoot: 'We Saw Their Love



Earlier this year, a leaked picture from the sets of King in Cape Town showed Ranveer Singh holding daughter Dua while Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone filmed the track, Tu Mil Jaaye. Deepika, reportedly, was 5-months pregnant when she filmed the romantic dance number. And upon release, the track emerged as a chartbuster, becoming one of the fastest songs to reach the 100-million-play milestone on YouTube, globally.As Ed Sheeran, Arijit Singh and Madhubanti Bagchi's vocals coupled with Shah Rukh and Deepika's scintillating chemistry continue to capture the imagination of many, choreographer duo Piyush Bhagat and Shazia Samji exclusively speaks to News18 and spills the beans on shooting for Tu Mil Jaaye with Ranveer accompanying the lead actors and cheering for his superstar wife.

"Ranveer was on set for a few days. He's a sweetheart. He has been kind to us since day one. We're manifesting a song with him now. But yes, it was super fun having all these great actors on set together. You can imagine the kind of energy we had around us! We got to see a lot of love and support between the husband-wife duo. Each time Deepika was performing, Ranveer was hyping her up. And his energy is infectious," Shazia says.

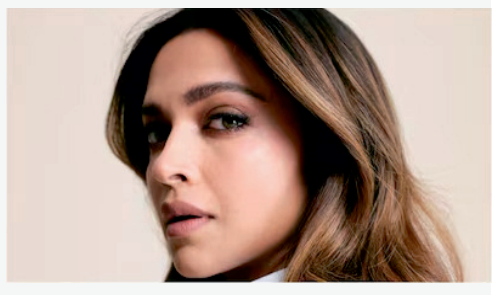
Piyush reveals that there were multiple requests made to Ranveer to make a cameo in the music video. "He was fully enjoying the shoot. Bahot saari masti bhi hoti thi. We would all tell Ranveer ki ek shot tu bhi de de. It was like a family get-together. In fact, Ranveer was there even when Shah Rukh sir and Deepika were rehearsing for the song. Ranveer made it fun, happy and light for everyone," he remarks.Interestingly, Tu Mil Jaaye marks their second collaboration with Deepika after Fighter's Heer Aasmani. That's why she didn't shy away from sharing advise with them on how to approach Shah Rukh. "Initially, she didn't know that we're choreographing Tu Mil Jaaye.

Deepika Padukone



Struggled To Play A Maid, Sweep Floor In Acting Class, Says Anupam Kher: 'She Was In Tears'

Deepika Padukone was left frustrated and nearly in tears during an acting exercise at Anupam Kher's acting school, where she struggled to convincingly play a house help. The actor recalled the incident at a panel discussion at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa on Sunday, explaining how the exercise helped her understand the importance of practising the craft.Before making her Bollywood debut opposite Shah Rukh Khan in Farah Khan's Om Shanti Om (2007), Deepika completed a three-month acting course at Anupam Kher's school, Actor Prepares, in Mumbai. She was already a well-known model when she joined the second batch.Anupam recalled that Deepika was used to doing things in a polished manner, which sometimes made her performances look less convincing. He said, "Deepika Padukone was our student in the second batch. She was a well-known model. Farah decided to cast her in the film with Shah Rukh Khan. It was a 3-month course. Because Deepika was a model and came from a very educated background, she was very prim and proper. She would do everything properly. She used to pick up the cup of tea with that style. Sometimes, there was no believability."



Anupam Kher Asked Deepika Padukone To Play A Maid

Anupam then described an exercise in which he asked Deepika to act as a maid sweeping the floor. He felt she was performing the task with too much charm, so he brought his housemaid into the classroom to demonstrate how the same job was done naturally."One day, I was taking the class and told her to play a maid, who has to just sweep the floor. She was doing that also with a charm. Then, I called my home maid and asked her to sweep the floor. She did it with total conviction," he said.The exercise did not end there. Anupam told Deepika that they would keep practising until he found her performance believable. He said she became frustrated and was almost in tears, but eventually managed to perform the task as he expected."I told Deepika that we would be doing this exercise till I believe you are actually doing it. She was frustrated initially, and almost had tears in her eyes. But, she did it and she thanked me. You have to do it. You have to constantly practice, and yet be street smart to get work," Anupam concluded.Deepika went on to make her acting debut in Om Shanti Om, starring opposite Shah Rukh Khan.

Here's why you should avoid

Washing your hair at night



We have always found ourselves drenched in sweat and dirt after a hectic day at the office. But, impromptu plans are always there to make up for the day. However, having a greasy hair section instantly brings down your morale and lands you in a debate with yourself answering the popular question, "Should I wash my hair in the morning or at night?"

There have been many arguments and debates on this question with people thinking to save time, but unknowingly they are damaging their stands and promoting hair fall. Yes, you heard it right. Let's learn more about why one should avoid washing their hair at night.

Weakens the protective barrier

Washing your hair at night means going to bed with wet hair or damp hair which is a fragile state. Because of the action of water, the keratin scales of our roots that protect our hair shaft simply loosens up and weakens the protective barrier making our hair porous and more sensitive to any damage caused.

Increase in dandruff issues

Taking wet hair to bed increases the humid level of the scalp which can cause irritation, redness, and dry scalp issues as well which would encourage the development of white flakes and dandruff at night.



Increase in hair fall

We always face issues of detangling after shampoo which bids goodbye to our hair volume and requires a day to settle down. Because of wet hair in bed, you will have a porous hair fibre and the pillow rubbing issue therefore increases the chances of tangle and hair breakage promoting hair fall in the morning.

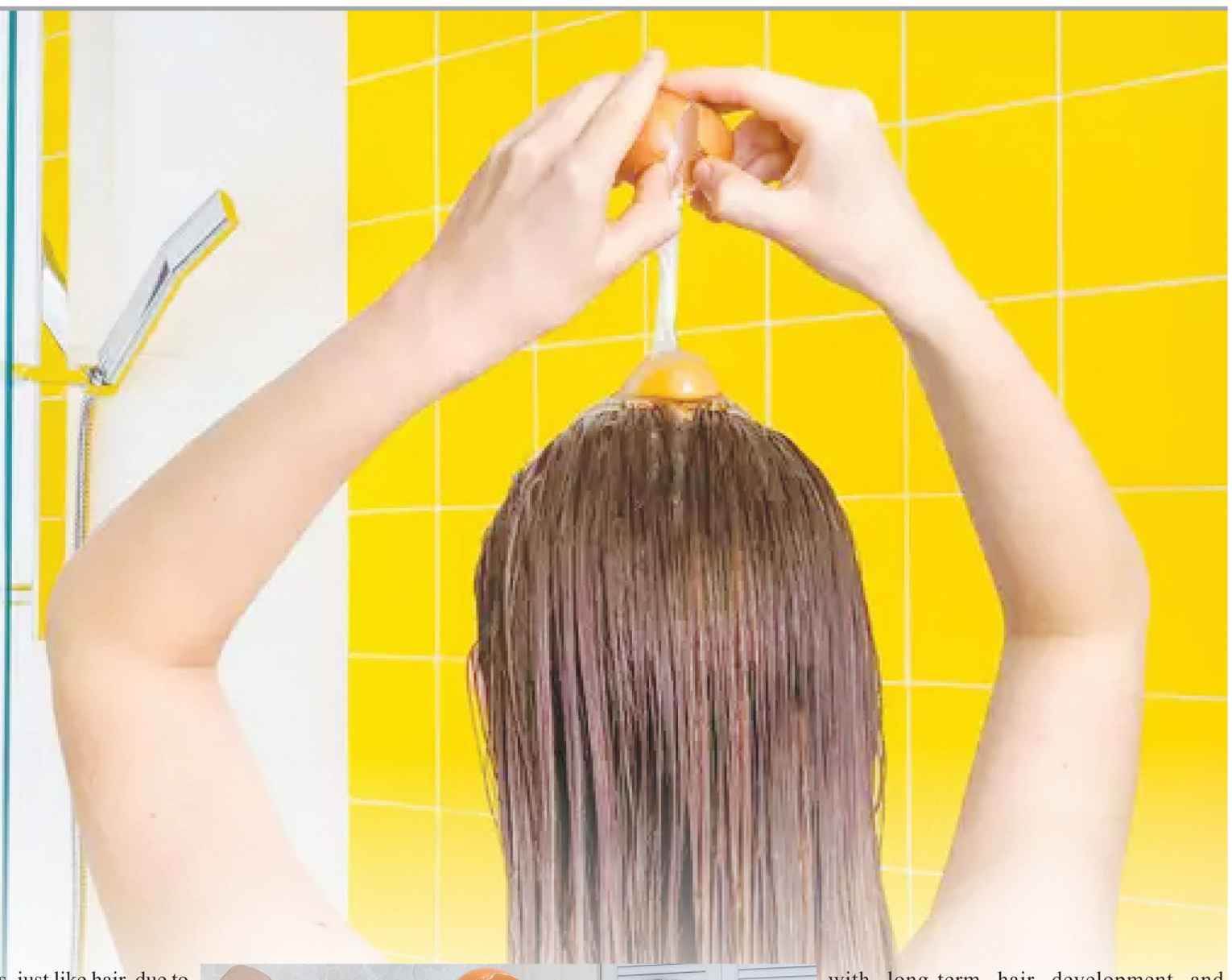
Greasy hair quality in the morning

If you think you would get your volume back in the morning with a clean and breathable scalp then it's a big no. Your hair will tend to grease overnight because of the increased humidity and wet strands, making it sticky and heavy the following morning.

Bottom line

Hurried mornings might justify at times washing your locks at night but always think over the consequences rather than convenience. Not only does it trigger damage to your hair strands and scalp, but it can also lead to instant illness with a spot of breeding yeast and fungal infection as well. As these small creatures breed in warmth and moisture, and you're offering one, try to get into the bed after blow drying your hair or wait till your hair naturally dries up at night and then let the silk or satin pillowcase make your hair strands comfortable and carefree.

Eating egg vs applying egg Which is best for your hair?



Eggs are one of those fabulous food/beauty combinations that people use interchangeably as add-ins for food or applied right to the hair. Containing proteins, vitamins, and minerals, eggs are said to have a lot of benefits towards general health and hair health. When it comes to boosting the quality and growth of your hair, a lot of people ask whether or not it is better to consume eggs or apply them topically to your hair for the best effect. Let's discuss both options to help you come to a conclusion which method may have been the best for you.

Comparing eating vs applying eggs for hair health

How eggs work for hair from the inside (Eating)

When eggs are taken, the body extracts all nutrients found and distributes them throughout the entire system to individual follicles at the scalp, which aid in strengthening and growing hair over time. In this case, therefore, when you take eggs regularly, it makes sure that your body is always loaded up with all the bits it needs to keep on making hair. Furthermore, the health of skin and nails improves, just like hair, due to similar nutrient input from eggs.

However, results may appear slower in hair health while consuming eggs since they take time to appear because they act from within the body.

A well-balanced diet incorporating good amounts of proteins, fats, vitamins, and minerals is crucial for healthy, long-term hair health.

How eggs work for hair from the outside (Applying)

The advantage of employing eggs with your hair is that their application is nearly immediate and is directed towards the outer health of the hair. Thus, the protein within the egg temporarily smoothes out and closes the cuticle, giving your hair a shiny look while making it feel softer to the touch. Fats from the yolk moisturize deeply, whereas egg whites help cleanse and purify the scalp.

Topical egg treatments will act quickly because the treatment applies directly to the scalp and hair.



However, the effect is also not long-lasting; hence hair may need to be treated over and over again for hair to appear lengthy and beautiful as if with envy.

Which method is better?

Rather, to deliver both topically and internally the nourishment necessary for hair health, you should consume and apply eggs. In this manner, taking eggs gives your hair internal nourishment that will help with long-term hair development and strength, whereas application helps your hair in the short run by treating it for hair health. This way, you are dealing with both the internal and external influences of hair health.

Both egg eating and egg application have some specific advantages for your hair, and the final choice would depend upon what you want to achieve for your hair. The basis of egg eating lies in the fact that it keeps your body healthy in the long term, provided with all proteins, vitamins, and minerals that promote growth and strength of the hair strands. Egg application to your hair provides short-term results, such as glowing shine and softness and fewer breakages in hair.

Eggs can either be added to your diet and hair maskings or even within some conditioners, providing the best of both worlds with regards to optimal hair health. You can consume eggs or apply them to your hair, or even do both. In all cases, you are nourishing healthy hair with healthy beauty.