



Kangana Ranaut hails Centre's "next-gen" GST reforms



China silent on US H-1B visa hike says doors open for global talent

Rishabh Pant set to miss India's two home Tests against West Indies



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MARKET	
SENSEX	NIFTY
82159.97	25202.35
-466.26	-124.70
GOLD SILVER	
112,161.00	133,422.00
2,314.00	3,584.00

WEATHER	
Sunrise	6:10 AM
Sunset	6:18 PM
Moonrise	7:20 AM
Moonset	6:57 PM
Today's Prediction	
Maximum	Minimum
35°C	26°C
Tomorrow's Prediction	
35°C	26°C

GST changes reduce cost of daily essentials

Tax rates of 5, 12, 18, and 28 per cent have been clubbed into two rates of 5 per cent and 18 per cent, resulting in a reduced price of 99 per cent of daily-use items

New Delhi
Few lower GST rates kicked in from Monday, resulting in a slashing of prices of as many as 375 items ranging from toothpaste and shampoo to cars and television sets, a move seen as an attempt to boost consumption to cushion an economy facing tariff headwinds.

Tax rates of 5, 12, 18, and 28 per cent have been clubbed into two rates of 5 per cent and 18 per cent, resulting in a reduced price of 99 per cent of daily-use items.

FMCG, car companies, electronics manufacturers and pharma companies have lowered prices. As many as 375 items, including groceries, agri-equipment, clothing, medicines and automobiles, have got cheaper.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited the busy Laxmi Nagar market in the national capital and interacted with a stationery shop owner.

"The shopkeeper



shared that Next-Gen GST rate cuts on many stationery items have reduced prices, benefiting students and parents," the Finance Minister's Office said in an X post.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has termed the reform as 'GST Bachat Utsav' and said that, along with the Income Tax exemption hike to Rs 12 lakh announced

in the Budget, the total household savings would be Rs 2.5 lakh crore.

"Your household expenses will reduce and it will be easier to fulfil aspirations such as building a home, purchasing a vehicle, purchasing appliances, eating out or planning a family vacation," the Prime Minister said in an open letter.

As per government estimates, there would be a saving of 13 per cent in the household bills for groceries and daily essentials, while a small car buyer could save around Rs 70,000.

Stationery, clothing, footwear and medicines purchases would bring in savings in the range of 7-12 per cent, while the savings would go up to 18 per cent in the case of individual health and life insurance policies, which have been exempt from GST.

There would be a savings of Rs 40,000 on the purchase of tractors up to 1,800 cc. GST rate has been cut to 5 per cent on tractors from the earlier 12-18 per cent.

IN CASE OF BIKES/SCOOTERS (UP TO 350 CC) PURCHASE, SAVINGS WOULD BE Rs 8,000, WHILE IN TV (ABOVE 32 INCHES), THERE WOULD BE SAVINGS OF Rs 3,500. AIR-CONDITIONER PURCHASE WOULD RESULT IN A SAVING OF Rs 2,800 AS THE GST RATE OF THESE ITEMS HAS BEEN SLASHED FROM 28 PER CENT TO 18 PER CENT. **CONT'D ON PAGE-2**

2 top Naxals with bounty of Rs 80 lakh killed in Chhattisgarh

Narayanpur
Two top Maoist leaders carrying a bounty of Rs 40 lakh each in Chhattisgarh were killed in an encounter with security personnel in the state's Narayanpur district on Monday, police officials said.

The two have been identified as Raju Dada alias Katta Ramachandra Reddy (63) and Kosa Dada alias Kadari Satyanarayana Reddy (67), both Central Committee members of the outlawed Communist Party of India (Maoists), they said.

The gun battle broke out this morning in the forest of Abhujmaad, adjoining Maharashtra, when security forces were out on a search operation based on inputs about the movement of senior cadres in the region, Narayanpur Superintendent of Police Robinson Guria said.



Intermittent exchange of fire continued for several hours before the bodies of two male cadres were recovered from the spot, he said.

From the encounter site, forces recovered one AK-47 rifle, one IN-SAS rifle, one BGL (barrel grenade launcher), a huge cache of explosives, Maoist literature and other daily-use materials, he said.

Advertisement
Raju Dada alias Katta Ramachandra Reddy and Kosa Dada alias Kadari Satyanarayana Reddy were natives of Karimnagar in Telangana active in 'Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee' of the outlawed movement (which handles Maoist activities in Bastar region) for over three decades, he said.

Trump's H-1B visa shock sends IT stocks falling by up to 5 per cent

New Delhi
IT stocks dropped on Monday, with Infobeans Technologies tumbling nearly 9 per cent and Hexaware falling 7 per cent, amid concerns over the steep hike in US H-1B visa fees.

Shares of Infobeans Technologies fell 8.93 per cent, Hexaware Technologies tumbled 7.08 per cent, IIT Mindtree tanked 4.54 per cent, Persistent Systems dropped 4.19 per cent, and Tech Mahindra declined 3.20 per cent on the BSE.

The stock of Tata Consultancy Services slipped 2.02 per cent, Infosys edged lower by 2.61 per cent, Wipro declined 2.25 per cent, and HCL Tech went down 1.84 per cent.

Together, these firms faced a combined erosion of Rs 83,994.45



crore from market valuation in a single day.

The BSE IT index declined 2.73 per cent to 34,988.20.

The correction was led by IT stocks as investor sentiment turned cautious after US President Donald Trump imposed a USD 100,000 fee on new H-1B visa applications, a move expected to disrupt India's USD 283 billion IT outsourcing

Trump on Friday signed a proclamation raising the fee on the visas used by companies to hire workers, including from India, to live and work in the US.

The H-1B visa fee of USD 100,000 would be applicable only to new applicants, a White House official clarified on Saturday.

Notably, Indian tech professionals account for the bulk of H-1Bs - over 70 per cent plus.

"IT was the biggest drag, tumbling 3 per cent after the US sharply raised the one-time H-1B visa fee to USD 100,000. This rattled sentiment in a sector that had only recently shown signs of recovery," Siddhartha Khemka, Head of Research - Wealth Management at Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, said.

Agency

SC grants bail to 5 RSS workers in SDPI leader's murder case

New Delhi
The Supreme Court on Monday said antecedents cannot constitute a ground to deny bail and granted the relief to five RSS workers accused of killing SDPI leader K S Shan in Kerala's Alappuzha district in December 2021.

A bench comprising Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih referred to the chargesheet and observed that 141 witnesses were to be examined and the trial would take some time to conclude. "Our attention was also invited to the status report filed by the state, to indicate the various criminal antecedents of the appellants. Suffice



it to say, however, that such antecedents by themselves cannot constitute a ground for denial of bail," the bench said.

"The top court set aside the order of the Kerala High Court cancelling

bail to the accused - Abhimaneu, Athul, Sanand, Vishnu and Dhaneesh.

"Bearing in mind that the appellants since grant of bail have not been involved in any similar or other offence, we prefer to lean in fa-

vor of liberty rather than its curtailment. Accordingly, while setting aside the impugned order, the appellants' liberty is not curtailed subject to imposition of certain stringent conditions," the bench said.

The top court said the golden rule of bail jurisprudence "bail is the rule and jail an exception" cannot be ignored.

"Taking back the appellants in custody for no better reason than that the sessions court should not have been swayed by omission of the Public Prosecutor to raise any objection to grant of bail should not operate to the appellants' prejudice, more so when two years have passed in the interregnum," the bench said.

Imposing a number of conditions, the top court ordered the accused not to enter the limits of district Alappuzha, except when their presence was required for trial.

Agency

Russia will complete delivery of S-400 missile systems to India in 2026

Moscow
Under the USD 5.43 billion deal signed with India in 2018, Russia will complete deliveries of the S-400 Triumph air defence systems next year, according to a media report on Monday.

"Russia will complete the contract to supply India with five S-400 Triumph air defence systems in 2026. Four of these systems have been delivered to date, and the fifth will be delivered next year," a defence source was quoted as saying by the state-run TASS news agency.

According to earlier media reports, the USD



5.43 billion (Rs 40,000 crore) deal was formally signed on October 5, 2018, ignoring the threat of US sanctions.

In March 2021, US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin discussed India's planned purchase of Russia's S-400 air missile system and

HIGHLIGHT
The USD 5.43 billion deal was formally signed on October 5, 2018, ignoring the threat of US sanctions

warned that the purchase of S-400 could trigger CAATSA sanctions.

So far, the US has not invoked the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) signed by President Donald Trump in his first term as the S-400 deal has not been formally completed. Agency

GST changes reduce cost of daily essentials

CONT'D FROM PAGE 1

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said that the Next-Gen GST reforms are a testament to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "steely resolve" to serve the poor, youth, farmers and women.

Meanwhile, opposition-led states slammed the Centre for taking all "undue credit" for the GST rate cut, saying it is the states who will have to suffer revenue loss.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday accused the Centre of having passed the financial burden to states after lowering GST and taking "undue credit" for it.

"It was I who had asked for withdrawing the additional GST burden (on people), and the Centre should not take undue credit for it. The Centre won't have to spend a single paisa. Every state will have to find ways to tide over the revenue loss," Banerjee said.

Advf Contact: 9816-799941

Haryana CM Saini unveils 557 projects worth Rs 117 Crore in Sonipat

Shiv Kumar New Delhi: Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini inaugurated 557 development projects worth approximately Rs 117 crore in Sonipat on the first day of Navratri, marking a significant push for rural development and women empowerment across the state. The inauguration took place at Deebanbhu Chhotu Ram University of Science & Technology (DCRUST), Murthal, where the Chief Minister presided as the chief guest.

The projects unveiled included 72 women cultural centres, 90 indoor gyms, 69 yoga and exercise centres, 101 roads under the Mukhyamantri Kisan Khet Sadak Yojana, and street lighting in 225 villages. In addition, CM Saini inaugurated women's health camps under the 'Swasth Nari-Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan' and the 8th Poshan Maah. He also extended greetings to the people of Haryana on



Navratri and Maharaja Agrasen Jayanti. Addressing the gathering, CM Saini emphasized that the projects symbolize the government's commitment to inclusive development and the empowerment of women, stating that cultural centres would

provide platforms for women to showcase their talents and organize local cultural programs. With the recent inauguration of 131 cultural centres during the Teej Festival, Haryana now has a total of 203 such centres. Highlighting health

and fitness, CM Saini said the government is working to make wellness accessible to all citizens. The newly opened gyms and yoga centres are part of an ongoing effort to promote a culture of fitness in line with the Prime Minister's Fit India Movement. So far,

Highlighting health and fitness, CM Saini said the government is working to make wellness accessible to all citizens.

892 yoga and exercise centres have been set up, and plans are underway to establish gyms in every village.

On rural infrastructure, CM Saini underscored the government's focus on improving village life. Streetlights have been installed in 695 villages, and 'kachehi' streets in 588 Gram Panchayats have been paved at a cost of Rs 237.64 crore. Under the Mukhyamantri Kisan Khet Sadak Yojana, 101 new roads were inaugurated. The Chief Minister reaffirmed the state's commitment to self-reliant villages and robust Panchayati Raj institutions, echoing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision under the Gram Uday initiative. CM Saini also highlighted the benefits of recent GST reforms, which

provide exemptions on essential items and are expected to increase savings for the common people.

Development and Panchayat Department Secretary Dr. Saket Kumar said Haryana is taking a leading role in rural development, with e-libraries, gyms, and streetlights transforming village life.

Several beneficiaries were felicitated during the event, including individuals under the Ayushman Vay Vandana scheme and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission, as well as local leaders recognized for their contributions to community welfare. The programme was attended by key state leaders, MLAs, municipal officials, and university representatives.

Online betting ED attaches Dubai assets bank deposits worth Rs 307 crore

New Delhi:

Land, villas and flats in Dubai and bank deposits in India worth Rs 307 crore have been attached under the anti-money laundering law in an online betting and broadcasting case linked to a platform named Fairplay, the ED said on Monday.

The money laundering case stems from an FIR filed by the Cyber wing of the Mumbai Police. The complaint was registered on the basis of a communication sent by Viacom18 Media against Fairplay and others, alleging revenue loss of more than Rs 100 crore to the former company due to violation of the Information Technology (IT) and Copyright Act.

Subsequently, many other FIRs against various entities, including Fairplay and its associates, for "illegal" online betting were tagged together for investigation, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) said in a statement.

A provisional order was issued under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) on September 19 to attach land, villas and flats located in Dubai and bank deposits kept in India. These properties are worth Rs 307.16 crore, it said.

The ED said "proceeds of crime" (POC) in this case are estimated to be worth several hundred crores of rupees.

Probe found, it said, that a man named Krish Laxmichand Shah was the "key" person behind Fairplay, and he had registered various companies, such as Play Ventures N V and Dutch Antilles Management N V at Curacao, Fair Play Sport LLC, Fairplay Management DMCC at Dubai and Play Ventures Holding Limited at Malta for operating the said online platform.

Fairplay is primarily being operated by Shah from Dubai with the help of his associates, such as Anil Kumar Daddani and others. Shah, his family members and his associates have "acquired" various movable and immovable assets either in their names or in the name of their relatives/related entities in the UAE, as per the ED.

The agency has conducted four rounds of raids in this case last year, arrested two persons named Chintan Shah and Chirag Shah in this case in February.

Deepika Padukone Champions Hair Care the Dabur Amla Way

New Delhi:

Dabur Amla Hair Oil, India's leading hair oil brand, has launched a campaign titled "Hair Washing Se Pehle, Dabur Amla Wali Oiling Ji," featuring its brand ambassador, Deepika Padukone. The campaign is designed to revive the time-tested practice of pre-wash oiling, positioning it as a vital and modern ritual for today's fast-paced consumers.

In an era of quick fixes, the campaign encourages young Indians to embrace a small yet meaningful change by making oiling before shampoo a non-negotiable step in their hair care routine. The core message blends tradition and science, supported by a catchy jingle featuring Deepika Padukone that reinforces the ritual in a memorable way across all touchpoints.

"With this campaign, we are not just driving awareness—we are driving a behavioral change.

In an era of quick fixes, the campaign encourages young Indians to embrace a small yet meaningful change by making oiling before shampoo a non-negotiable step in their hair care routine.

Oiling before hair wash is a simple shift but one with long-term benefits for hair health," said Abhishek Jugran, Executive Director-Marketing, Dabur India Ltd. "By combining cultural insight, scientific efficacy, and a memorable jingle, we have made Dabur Amla Hair Oil relevant for today's generation while staying true to its legacy of trust and Mazbooti which has made Dabur Amla the World's No. 1 Hair Oil."

Ankur Kumar, Head of Marketing, Hair Care, Dabur India Ltd, added, "This campaign reminds consumers of a time-tested haircare ritual that generations have trusted.

With Deepika Padukone as the face of this campaign, Dabur Amla reinforces that oiling is not optional—it is the essential, foundational step for truly healthy hair. Oiling with Dabur Amla before every wash is the simplest yet most powerful step towards stronger, longer, and thicker hair."

The campaign was conceptualized and executed in partnership with Ogilvy North. "Our goal was to make Dabur Amla Oil relevant to the new generation by understanding their existing behaviors and positioning the product as a natural fit within their daily routines, rather than simply preaching its benefits," said Prakash Nair, President of Ogilvy North.

The brand's mission is to make oiling with Dabur Amla more frequent and relevant for today's youth. The campaign's message is being amplified through a comprehensive and integrated media plan.

Coimbatore:

The grand finale of Isha Gramotsavam 2025, billed as Bharat's largest rural sports festival, unfolded yesterday at the iconic 112-ft Adiyogi at the Isha Yoga Center in Coimbatore.

Union Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, addressing the gathering, said, "Every rural game represents not just the village, but the whole of Bharat. This is the soul of Isha Gramotsavam, showing us the journey from village to world." He added that he had come to the event to learn from Sadhguru how such a large-scale celebration was organised, praising both its magnitude and reach.

The 17th edition of the festival spanned two months across 183 locations, drawing 63,220 participants, including a record 12,000 women players. For the first time, Odisha joined the lineup alongside Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tel-



angana, and Puducherry. A total of 5,472 teams representing more than 35,000 villages took part, underlining the scale of the initiative.

The finale brought together an impressive lineup of guests, including Sadhguru, Union Minister Mandaviya, Olympic badminton star

Saina Nehwal, Chess Grandmaster Vaishali Rameshbabu, and para-Olympian Bhavina Patel.

Moved by the talent on display, the Sports Minister expressed interest in formal collaboration with Isha Foundation to help identify and nurture rural talent.

Sadhguru, addressing the crowd, set a bold vision for the future: "It is my commitment that by 2028, Isha Gramotsavam must be in all the 28 states of the country. It's not about the sport but essential to reignite, rekindle a different level of life in rural India."

Social Welfare Minister Invites Delhiites to 1st Grand 'Sanatan Sanskaram Rameela Utsav

Staff Reporter

New Delhi:

Delhi's Minister for Social Welfare, Ravinder Indraj Singh, has invited residents to the first "Sanatan Sanskaram Rameela Utsav," taking place from 22 September to 2 October 2025 at the DDA Rameela Ground in Rohini.

Formal invites have also been sent to key government officials, including Union Ministers and Delhi's Chief Minister.

The theme of this year's Rameela is "From Tradition to Future," aimed at connecting the youth with their cultural values and heritage. The festival will emphasise social topics like promoting a drug-free lifestyle and environmental conservation and sustainability.



Over 100 artists will perform on a large stage featuring advanced lighting and technology. Highlights of the event include the Ram Baraat, Maharas Night, and a special performance by singer Shibani Kashyap during Dandia Night. The event will also focus on spreading the traditions of Sanatan Dharma and Lord Shri Ram's ideals. He encouraged all families in Delhi to attend the Sanatan Sanskaram Rameela Utsav and participate in this celebration of Indian culture and community awareness.

Ravinder Indraj Singh expressed his hopes that this festival will help celebrate and

spread the traditions of Sanatan Dharma and Lord Shri Ram's ideals. He encouraged all families in Delhi to attend the Sanatan Sanskaram Rameela Utsav and participate in this celebration of Indian culture and community awareness.

Afghan boy lands in Delhi by hiding in plane's landing gear

New Delhi:

A 13-year-old Afghan boy's "curiosity" brought him to Delhi from Afghanistan after he somehow managed to get inside the landing gear compartment of an aircraft that took off from Kabul, official sources said on Monday.

The incident was reported around 11 am on Sunday when KAM airlines flight number BQ-4401 reached the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport after a 2-hour journey. The teenager was, however, repatriated to Afghanistan on Sunday itself, on the same flight, sources said.

The airline authorities reported to the airport security control room about a 13-year-old boy who was found roaming near the flight after it touched down, they said.

The boy, a native of Kunduz city, was apprehended by the airline



personnel and handed over to the Central Industrial Security Force personnel, who brought him to Terminal 3 of the airport for questioning. He told the officials that he sneaked into the Kabul airport and somehow managed to get inside the rear central landing gear compartment of the said aircraft. He said he did this out of curiosity, the sources said.

After quizzing, the Afghan boy was sent back by the same flight that departed around 12:30 pm, they said.

Security officials of the KAM airline carried out a security check of the landing gear compartment and found a small red-coloured speaker, apparently carried by this boy.

The aircraft was declared safe after a thorough inspection and anti-sabotage checks, they said.

PUBLIC NOTICE



It is for general information that my dear SUDHA DEVI W/O SHI BRAHM PRAKASH R/O- RZ-408, Gali No.04, Palam Colony, Raj Nagar, Part-2, Post office- Raj Nagar, Dist. South West Delhi, Delhi-110077, declare that name of her and her husband, has been wrongly written as SUMANTRA DEVI W/O SHIBRAHM PRAKASH in her documents i.e. Adhaar card, PAN card, Voter Card etc. That her actual name and her husband's name is SUDHA DEVI W/O SHIBRAHM PRAKASH, is respectively which may be amended accordingly.

It is certified that my client has complied with other legal requirements in this connection

YOGESH VIDYAKAR
ADVOCATE
C/O NO. 55, LAWYER'S CHAMBERS BLOCK, DWARKA COURT COMPLEX, SECTOR-16
NEW DELHI-110075
Mobile: 84759282

NEWS IN BRIEF

Noida airport to become country's first paperless airport

Noida
The Noida International Airport will be the country's first paperless airport. The airport will be completely digital. Passengers' entry will be allowed through facial recognition.

The Digi Yatra system is being implemented at the Noida airport, enabling passengers to complete every process, from check-in to security checks and boarding, without the need for paperwork or queues. A single facial recognition will allow passengers to pass through all gates, eliminating the need to repeatedly show boarding passes or ID cards.

Wipro and ICAD Holding Company have been appointed as systems integrators to implement this project. The airport will utilise cutting-edge technologies such as face scanning, automated bag drop, and real-time data tracking.

Once Digi Yatra is implemented, passengers will no longer need to stand in line at the airport. Everything from entry gates to boarding gates will be automated and contactless. This will save passengers time and make their travel safer.

The security of Noida airport has now been handed over to the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF). The responsibility was handed over at an induction ceremony held on Monday in the presence of Yamuna International Airport Private Limited and the district administration. 1,030 CISF personnel have been deployed for security.

The first phase of the Noida airport is nearly complete and will be inaugurated on October 30. Once operational, India will join a select group of countries with a fully digital airport.

Protesting farmers meet DM

Noida
The Bharatiya Kisan Union (Lokshakti)'s indefinite strike at Raunija village, Greater Noida, continued for the 55th day on Monday. The protest is being led by the organisation's national president Master Shyraj.

A delegation of the farmer leaders arrived at the district headquarters. They met with Gautam Buddha Nagar district magistrate Medha Roopam and raised their concerns. The farmer leaders highlighted the shortage of fertilizers and seeds. They also discussed issues related to the electricity department.

The delegation of the farmer leaders also raised the issue of unregulated water exploitation by the JBM University in sector 22/E of the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority.

According to the sources, no meaningful dialogue has taken place with the farmers in 55 days. This has caused dissatisfaction among the farmers. They alleged that the problems of farmers in Gautam Buddha Nagar district are being ignored.

Delhi markets celebrate GST reforms as CM Gupta receives floral welcome

Staff Reporter
New Delhi
Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday attended the 'GST Bachat Utsav' (GST Savings Festival) at Totaram Market in North Delhi's Trilokpur on September 22, 2025.

She highlighted that the NextGen GST reforms, under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership, are benefiting Delhi's residents. Prices of many essential items have dropped, creating excitement among both consumers and shopkeepers.

Accompanied by local MP Praveen Khandelwal and MLA Tilakram Gupta, the CM toured the market, where attendees celebrated by showering flowers on the



leaders. She presented the message 'Make Every Home Swadeshi' through posters at

each shop and encouraged the public to choose domestic products, emphasizing

that this initiative is beneficial for citizens. With Diwali approaching, the festive

mood is vibrant, and people are expressing gratitude to Prime Minister Modi for these reforms.

Rekha Gupta noted that the NextGen GST benefits are reaching housewives, traders, and consumers, enhancing their satisfaction. She mentioned that upcoming GST refunds for traders will be delivered quickly, offering immediate financial relief. This is viewed as a historic gift from the Prime Minister ahead of Diwali. The CM detailed that policies like zero GST on health and life insurance and an 18% cap on vehicle GST will positively impact 1.4 billion citizens, especially middle-class families.

During Navratri, Gupta expressed her commitment

to serve the citizens of Delhi while stating that these GST reforms are a revolutionary step to improve living standards and lessen the financial burden on consumers, ultimately strengthening the nation's economy. She plans to modernize Delhi's transport, launch new housing projects, and establish electric vehicle charging stations.

The CM underlined that the GST reforms will enhance both business and family life, reaffirming the government's priority to support people in all situations. Traders and citizens are excited about the Prime Minister's decisions, viewing them as a significant gift this Diwali.

Sood launches first Aadhaar Enrolment Camps for Children in Delhi Schools

Staff Reporter
New Delhi

In a landmark step aimed at simplifying identity access for students, Delhi Education Minister Ashish Sood today inaugurated the first-ever Aadhaar enrolment camp for children at Sarvodaya Co-educational Senior Secondary School, Poshangipur, Janakpuri.

This is the first time such a facility has been made available at the constituency level in Delhi Government schools.

Speaking at the occasion, Sood said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the Delhi Government is committed to ensuring that Aadhaar enrolment becomes easier and more accessible for children. He highlighted that by setting up these camps inside schools, the government is directly reaching out to families, saving parents and children the trouble of visiting external enrolment centres.

"This initiative will bring convenience to both parents and children while also saving time. It will ensure that



every child's identity is secure and accessible, paving the way for hassle-free access to education and identity-related schemes," the Minister said.

Through these school-level enrolment camps, children will now be able to complete the Aadhaar registration process within their own campuses in a simple and streamlined manner. Officials explained that this step will also improve coverage and reduce delays in providing benefits linked to Aadhaar.

Sood further underlined that Aadhaar plays a critical role in enabling students to

access scholarships, welfare benefits, and other educational facilities. With enrolment now available within school premises, he added, all students studying in Delhi will be able to benefit without additional burden on their families.

Parents and teachers present at the inauguration appreciated the government's move, describing it as a people-centric measure. Many said the initiative reflects the administration's effort to combine governance with on-ground convenience, ensuring that children's needs are placed at the centre of policy implementation.

Three e-charging stations ready for first time in Gr. Noida

Noida

Greater Noida has added another milestone as for the first time, three e-charging stations are ready here.

These stations have been built near City Park, GNIOI in Knowledge Park, and near Sharda University. These charging stations have also facilitated the charging of electric vehicles which are going to participate in the UP International Trade Show. These three charging stations have been permanently installed, allowing electric vehicles to be charged even after the trade show.

Due to the lack of e-charging stations in Greater Noida, electric vehicle owners were facing difficulties in charging their vehicles. A large number of electric buses were deployed at the trade show to transport passengers to their destinations. Charging these buses posed a challenge.

Greater Noida Authority CEO N.G. Ravi Kumar directed the officials concerned to make the charging stations ready before the start of the aforesaid trade show.



Under the supervision of ACEO Prema Singh, the authority's urban services department, in collaboration with NPCL, initiated work on e-charging stations at three locations. These three charging stations are now complete.

Vehicle charging has begun at all three charging stations, located in Greater Noida's City Park, GNIOI in Knowledge Park, and near Sharda University. Now, vehicle owners purchasing electric vehicles in Greater Noida, as well as electric buses and other vehicles attending the trade show, have access to charging facilities. This will promote use of electric vehicles in Greater Noida. ACEO Prema Singh has stated that additional charging stations will be constructed as needed.

CM Gupta participates in 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar' Campaign at AIIMS

Staff Reporter
New Delhi

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday participated in the 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar' (Healthy Woman, Empowered Family) campaign at AIIMS, Delhi.

She emphasized the importance of women's empowerment for the development of families, society, and the nation. The campaign, launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 17, aims to provide women with free health check-ups through over one hundred thousand health camps across the country.

Gupta noted the ongoing success of the health camp at AIIMS since its beginning, benefiting thousands of women each day. She expressed gratitude to the Prime Minister for recognizing the crucial role women play in society and highlighted the government's

efforts to make healthcare more affordable by reducing GST rates on vital medicines and medical devices, especially aiding homemakers and middle-class families.

Gupta echoed the Prime Minister's message, urging all women to visit health camps for check-ups and stressing the need for women to prioritize their health.

She pointed out that many women in affluent families also face health issues, making this campaign particularly important. Additionally, she mentioned the National Nutrition Month initiative, which encourages healthier eating. She concluded by calling for women's participation in health camps, stating that a healthy woman is essential for an empowered family and a developed nation.



Delhi Govt. allows Loudspeakers till midnight under Modi-Gupta leadership



Diksha
New Delhi

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, the Delhi Government has granted a special relaxation for the use of loudspeakers and public address systems till midnight during the festive season.

The order, valid from September 22 to October 3, applies to Ramlila, Durga Puja, Dussehra and related religious events, subject to compliance with Noise Pollution Rules.

The Lieutenant Governor today approved the government's request to extend the permissible time by two hours, from 10 PM to 12 midnight. Officials underlined that organisers must adhere to the 45 dB(A) night-time residential noise standard, ensuring festivities do

not compromise public health and peace. The decision follows repeated appeals from cultural and religious committees for a limited, time-bound relaxation. Authorities stressed that the move respects cultural traditions while maintaining necessary

safeguards. Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa, who also heads the government's Durga Puja Committee, said the decision came after "long-standing requests of Ramlila Committees." He added that multiple coordination meetings with District Magistrates, local representatives, and agencies including MCD, PWD, Forest and Horticulture were held to ensure smooth arrangements at venues.

"Under the Chief Minister's guidance, all facilities are being ensured so that people can celebrate without difficulty," Sirsa stated. The move reflects the government's effort to balance governance with tradition, while also sending a political message of cultural sensitivity and responsiveness ahead of the festive calendar.

The order, valid from September 22 to October 3, applies to Ramlila, Durga Puja, Dussehra and related religious events, subject to compliance with Noise Pollution Rules.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public notice is given to the general public that my client namely Mohd Asif S/o Shaikat Ali and Smt. Gulzar Begum W/o Mohd Asif both R/o 1834, La Darwaza, Sirki Wala, La Kuan, Delhi-110006, had earlier severed their all relations with their son namely Mohd Usama S/o Mohd Asif 1834, La Darwaza, Sirki Wala, La Kuan, Delhi-110006, my abovementioned client had also disowned him from all their movable and immovable properties through public notice dated 30.7.2025 in news paper Vrat Vaidhava and Top Story, but now from the present public notice my clients are withdrawing their earlier public notice dated 30.7.2025, and now Mohd Usama S/o Mohd Asif is residing with my abovementioned client happily and peacefully, and he (Mohd Usama) has all the rights in the all movable and immovable properties of my abovementioned clients namely Mohd Asif and Smt. Gulzar Begum as per law.

Mohd Waseem Khan
Advocate
Chamber No.618, western wing, Tis Hazari Courts Delhi-110054

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that my clients Mr. Krishan Chander, son of Mr. Bahadur Rander, and Mrs. Shanti Devi, wife of Mr. Krishan Chander, residents of RZ-17-B, Gali No. 10, Durga Park, Palam Village, South West Delhi-110045, have disowned and debarred their Son Mr. Ram Kumar Kohli, son of Mr. Krishan Chander, from all their movable and immovable properties, including the property bearing number RZ-17-B, Gali No. 10, Durga Park, Palam Village, South West Delhi-110045 They have also severed all relations with him as he is no longer under their control or guidance. Anyone dealing with Mr. Ram Kumar Kohli shall do so at his/her own risk and responsibility. My clients shall have no concern, liability, or connection with him henceforth during his lifetime.

Additionally, if any police complaint is filed or any financial transaction is carried out by Mr. Ram Kumar Kohli, the family members should not be harassed or held responsible in any manner. All family ties and relationships with him are hereby terminated.

RAHUL GAUR
ADVOCATE
DELHI HIGH COURT
OFFICE: CHAMBER NO-532, LAWYERS CHAMBERS, DWARKA COURT COMPLEX, NEW DELHI-110075

PUBLIC NOTICE

My clients SH. MURARI S/O SH. Pheli Ram, R/O. RZD-30, NIHAL VIHAR, NANGLI, DELHI-110041, and his wife SMT. MAYA W/O. SH. MURARI, R/O. RZD-30, NIHAL VIHAR, NANGLI, DELHI-110041, have severed all their relations and debarred their Son namely Rahul S/O. MURARI, R/O. RZD-30, NIHAL VIHAR, NANGLI, DELHI-110041, from all their movable and immovable properties due to his misconduct/misdeeds. My clients shall not be responsible for his any acts in future.

KUNAL CHAUHAN
ADVOCATE
DELHI HIGH COURT
Ch. No.1118, LAWYERS CHAMBER BLOCK, ROHINI COURTS, DELHI-110085

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Tender Notice
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (e-Procurement Systems)

NT No.	322391
Name of Work and its location	Tender for "Outsourcing of Disassembly and assembly line of Engine shop including painting, damper testing and coach towing and lifting at PCC."
Approx. Cost of Work	Rs.59,28,684.28/- including GST (Rs. Five Core Ninety-Seven Lakh Twenty-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Eighty-Four and Paise Twenty-Eight only)
Earliest Money	Rs.4,48,700/-
Completion Period of Work	24 months from date of LOA
Cost of Tender document on cashless post	NIL
Date and Time for submission of tender and opening of tender	Upto 15:00 hrs. on 13.10.2025
Website particulars, notice board location	Above tender available on [REPS] site i.e. www.nreps.gov.in
Tender No.:	322391 Dated: 23.09.2025
29/10/2025	

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Delhi CM lays foundation stone of multi-level Hari Nagar electric bus depot

New Delhi
Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Monday laid the foundation stone for the Multi-Level Electric Bus Depot of DTC at Hari Nagar and stressed that it is the foundation of a greener and more efficient Delhi as part of the ongoing 'Sewa Pakhwada' to commemorate the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

She hailed the project as a "milestone in DTC's history" and noted that the depot will redefine working conditions for DTC employees while providing world-class facilities for commuters.

The project is estimated to cost Rs. 120 crore and is expected to be completed within 24 months.

"With this depot, capable of housing around 400 electric buses and equipped with state-of-the-art charging infrastructure, our government reaffirms its commitment to clean, efficient, and sustainable mobility. This project is not just a bus depot — it is the foundation of a greener, more efficient Delhi," she said.

The chief minister underlined that the facility is being developed as a financially



self-sustainable model. Around 2 lakh sq. ft. of retail and commercial space will be integrated into the complex, generating revenue to offset project expenses, said an official statement. Additional features include 324 car parking slots, 104 two-wheeler spaces in the basement, 26,257 sq. ft. for DTC offices and dormitories, and a modern commercial hub comprising malls and office space.

Highlighting the project's green credentials, she said the depot will install a 500 KW rooftop solar power plant, a 170 KLD sewage

treatment plant, and a rainwater harvesting system to recharge groundwater.

Energy-efficient aluminium louvres will maximise natural light and ventilation, while LED panels will enhance the facade. Designed to achieve a GRIHA 3-star rating, the facility will stand as a benchmark for sustainable infrastructure in the capital.

"Our priority is to ensure last-mile connectivity in Delhi and to expand the electric bus fleet from 3,000 to 6,000 in the coming year," she added.

Acknowledging the chal-

lenges faced by DTC employees during the transition to electric buses, including pension and employment-related concerns, she assured that the government is working on long-term solutions.

Referring to the Shadipur Depot project, she announced that residential colonies are being developed to provide housing for DTC families, ensuring better living conditions for employees.

She also drew a sharp contrast with the previous government, which she said left DTC in financial distress and neglected employee welfare.

"Where past governments neglected the life of Delhi, we are reviving it. Our vision is not just to repair what was broken, but to build stronger, greener, and future-ready systems. This depot is proof that with the right intent and planning, DTC can once again be the pride of Delhi," she said.

The chief minister reiterated that the Delhi government is preparing to introduce a comprehensive people-centric Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy that will integrate e-buses, metro connectivity, and last-mile transport into a seamless system.

Hitting out at former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal, she said, "Some leaders spend more time watching my speeches and gestures than focusing on Delhi's real problems. But our government is clear — we are here to solve issues, not to play politics."

Gupta reiterated her resolve to serve the people of Delhi. "You may think I am a woman Chief Minister and try to mislead me, but through this platform, on the first day of Navratri, with the power of Ma Durga, I want to say — I am a

daughter of Delhi. I am not afraid of anyone," she said.

"The responsibility I have taken, to work for Delhi and serve the people of Delhi, no matter what happens, I will fulfil them — 24/7, 365 days. I will see it through entirely," she added.

Transport minister Pankaj Singh said the Hari Nagar depot will be able to accommodate 384 electric buses, compared to the 230 CNG buses it currently handles.

It will feature 81 advanced EV charging stations capable of fully charging a bus in just 40 minutes. The multi-level structure — spanning one basement and three upper floors — will provide nearly 7.4 lakh square feet of built-up space and will be supported by a dedicated 33 KV electrical sub-station.

Delhi cabinet minister Ashish Sood congratulated the DTC workforce and underlined the depot's long-term importance. He highlighted that the project would make Delhi a frontrunner in electric mobility globally.

"Many of us must have seen the condition of Hari Nagar Depot — just a month ago, its walls were broken and crumbling.

CISF takes over Noida airport security

Noida
 The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took over the security of the Noida International Airport (NIA) from Monday.

This move is seen as a significant milestone in the airport's preparations before it begins commercial operations. CISF special DG (Airports) Praveer Ranjan, IG Senthil Avudai Krishna R, NIAL CEO Rakesh Kumar Singh, airport COO Kiran Jain and other officials concerned were present on the occasion.

The Noida Airport has become the 70th airport in the country to be entrusted with the security of the CISF. The force's aviation security group (ASG) and airport sector (APS) will now handle responsibilities such as perimeter and access control, passenger and baggage screening, terminal and landside security, deployment of Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs), and coordination with local agencies.

In the first phase, 1,047 CISF personnel will be deployed, headed by a Chief Aerodrome Security Officer (CASO). The number of security forces will be increased with the increase in passenger numbers and flights.

CISF special DG Praveer Ranjan said that the CISF is proud to be handling the se-

In the first phase, 1,047 CISF personnel will be deployed, headed by a Chief Aerodrome Security Officer (CASO). The number of security forces will be increased with the increase in passenger numbers and flights.

curity of the Noida International Airport. We will ensure security as per international standards and will maintain vigilance at every level to ensure the safety of passengers and the airport.

Meanwhile, Airport COO Kiran Jain said that the CISF's involvement is a crucial part of our preparations. Security is of paramount importance to provide a world-class experience to our passengers.

The Noida International Airport is being developed as a world-class aviation hub for the national capital region and Western Uttar Pradesh. Its operations are handled by the Yamuna International Airport Private Limited (YIAPL), a subsidiary of Zurich Airport International AG.

Delhi records high of 35.3 deg C clear sky likely on Tuesday

New Delhi
 The national capital on Monday recorded a maximum temperature of 35.3 degrees Celsius, 0.9 degree above the season's average, the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

The city recorded a minimum temperature of 24.2 degrees Celsius, 0.5 notch below the season's average, while the humidity level oscillated between 74 per cent and 57 per cent during the day, the IMD said.

The weather department has predicted clear sky for Tuesday, with maximum and minimum temperatures likely to settle around 34 degrees Celsius and 24 degrees Celsius, respectively.

The average air quality in the past 24 hours was recorded in the 'moderate' category with an Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 135 at 4 pm. Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data showed.

Monsoon likely to withdraw from Delhi by Thursday

New Delhi
 The monsoon is expected to withdraw from Delhi within the next two days, marking the end of a season in which the capital logged above-normal rainfall since May.

The IMD said dry north-westerly winds are prevailing and no rain has been recorded in the past several days, conditions that favour the withdrawal of the seasonal rains.

"With no moisture and no forecast of rainfall, the withdrawal criteria are likely to be met by Thursday," said Mahesh Palawat, vice president at private forecaster Skymet.

Although the city received rain on only eight days this month, September's total has already touched 136.1 mm, higher than the monthly normal of 123.5 mm.

This continues a trend of surplus rainfall since May. The capital saw its wettest May on record with 186.4 mm, followed by an excess of 45 per cent in June, 24 per cent in July and a 72 per cent surplus in August, the wettest in 15 years.

Overall, Delhi has received 902.6 mm of rainfall this



monsoon — about 35 per cent above the long-period average of 640.4 mm.

With the withdrawal likely this week, clear skies and dry conditions are expected in Delhi and the NCR. Daytime temperatures are forecast to hover between 34 to 36 degrees Celsius, a notch above normal.

Meanwhile, the capital's air quality remained in the 'moderate' category for the tenth day in a row with an AQI of 127.

Early signs of stubble burning have also been reported, with Punjab recording 56 farm fires and Haryana three this month, according to the Indian Agricultural Research Institute.

GST reforms take center stage: FM Sitharaman engages traders in Laxmi Nagar

Ravi Dalmia
New Delhi

East Delhi witnessed a bustling exchange between the government and local traders as Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman visited Laxmi Nagar following the rollout of the new GST reforms. The visit coincided with the first day of Navratri, a festival that saw the Finance Minister personally interacting with shopkeepers and staff, handing out flowers, and engaging in conversations that were later captured in a widely circulated video.

Sitharaman, accompanied by Union Minister of State and East Delhi MP Harsh Malhotra, MLA Abhay Verma, local municipal councillors, and market traders, emphasized the government's focus on citizen-centric policies. She referenced Prime Minister Narendra Modi's message, "Nagrik Devo Bhava," highlighting that respecting citizens and serving



their interests remains a priority. She urged shopkeepers to treat their customers with equal respect, the pandemic, she said that recent directives from the Prime Minister enabled the swift implementation of further reforms within a month, which were subsequently approved by the GST Council.

Under the revised system, 375 commonly used items now attract lower taxes. The previous multiple slabs of 5%, 12%, 18%, and 28% have been streamlined into just two — 5% and 18% — with the majority of goods falling under the 5% category. This change is expected to reduce daily expenses for ordinary citizens significantly.

Sitharaman also highlighted that incomes up to ₹12 lakh have been fully exempted from taxes and underscored the importance of collective effort to achieve India's goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

East Delhi MP Harsh Malhotra echoed the Finance Minister's sentiment, reinforcing the significance of the reforms. He described the new GST framework as a landmark step, noting that from kitchenware to electronics, millions of items have received tax relief. He emphasized that the simplified two-slab system is a major improvement, making compliance easier for businesses while providing tangible benefits to consumers.

The visit marked a blend of governance and personal engagement, demonstrating the government's push to connect with traders and citizens while highlighting the practical impact of GST reforms on everyday life.

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Sharda Hospital hosts AyuSharda 2025 to celebrate seven years of Ayushman Bharat

Greater Noida
 Sharda Hospital, a NABH-accredited super specialty hospital in Greater Noida, is set to host AyuSharda 2025 on September 23–24, commemorating seven years of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY) and promoting seamless access to its benefits. The two-day national conference and advanced workshop will bring together senior healthcare professionals, administrators, policy experts, and government representatives to exchange knowledge and tackle operational challenges in implementing the scheme.



By highlighting the crucial role of private hospitals in delivering accessible and affordable care, the event underscores Sharda Hospital's commitment to patient-centric healthcare aligned with the Government of India's vision.

The conference is structured to provide hospitals with practical insights for

effective AB-PMJAY implementation. Day one will feature sessions on Ayushman Bharat fundamentals, digital health integration, ethical issues in free healthcare, and the role of private hospitals, alongside a CME on respiratory diseases and a cultural evening. Day two will focus on operational workflows, including card creation, effective verification, claim processing, grievance redressal, live demonstrations, and a virtual tour of Ayushman Bharat care at Sharda Hospital, concluding with participant feedback and certification.

"At Sharda Hospital, we believe healthcare should be inclusive and accessible to all. Over the last seven years, Ayushman Bharat has transformed the lives of millions of Indians approach healthcare, and we are proud to be among its earliest partners," said Mr. P.K. Gupta, Chairman, Sharda Hospital. "Through the AyuSharda Conference, we aim to share best practices and build capacity for future challenges in healthcare delivery—whether

in digital integration, specialized treatment pathways, or patient-focused innovations. This platform reinforces our commitment to strengthening India's health ecosystem in line with the Government's vision of affordable, equitable healthcare for all."

Dr. (Brigadier) Ram Murti Sharma, Medical Superintendent, added, "The Ayushman Bharat scheme has immense potential to bridge healthcare gaps for vulnerable communities. At Sharda Hospital, we have treated thousands of beneficiaries across oncology, nephrology, general surgery, and respiratory medicine. With AyuSharda 2025, we aim to provide hands-on learning from card creation to claim processing—and foster dialogue on workforce capacity, ethical concerns, and public-private collaboration, ensuring hospitals are better prepared to offer high-quality, dignified care to every beneficiary."

Construction starts on crucial Rajnagar Extension Link Road to NPR, promising relief from traffic woes

Ghaziabad
 Construction has officially begun on a key 900-meter road connecting the long-pending service road in Rajnagar Extension to the Northern Peripheral Road (NPR), a move expected to ease traffic congestion for thousands of residents. The foundation stone was laid today by Muradnagar MLA Mr. Ajit Pal Tyagi in a traditional coconut-breaking ceremony, marking the start of the project. The event saw the presence of the Ghaziabad Development Authority's Chief Engineer, Executive Engineer, other officials, and local farmers whose land will be utilized for the construction.

Speaking at the ceremony, GDA Vice President Mr. Atul Vats expressed optimism that the ₹15 crore project would significantly benefit the local population. The new road will also connect to the 45-meter-wide road adjacent to Lokmanya Tilak Inter College, enhancing connectivity in the area.

Speaking at the ceremony, GDA Vice President Mr. Atul Vats expressed optimism that the ₹15 crore project would significantly benefit the local population. The new road will also connect to the 45-meter-wide road adjacent to Lokmanya Tilak Inter College, enhancing connectivity in the area.

In tandem with this development, GDA has already initiated widening work on the road linking the Rajnagar Extension roundabout to the City Forest, as well as a three-kilometer stretch of the Outer Ring Road. Both roads, currently 45 meters wide, are being expanded to 60 meters. A Total Station Survey has been completed, with the report expected shortly. Once the widening

is finished, smoother traffic flow is anticipated, supporting the Authority's broader Harandipuram development plan.

The GDA has also invested in strengthening other roads under the Urban Development Fund, with an estimated outlay of ₹60 crore. Recent improvements include the completion of an 18-meter-wide road in front of AK Children Society in Rajnagar Extension, alongside upgrades to zonal roads connecting GD Goenka School to the stadium, Ajnara Society, and other key residential areas.

Officials note that these projects are expected not only to improve traffic movement but also to reduce dust-related air pollution, enhancing the quality of life for local residents. The combination of new construction and road strengthening signals a significant step forward in the city's urban development efforts.

Nagaland teachers' agitation seeking regularisation of service enters 11th day

Kohima
The agitation launched by the 2016 batch of Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan (RMSA) teachers in Nagaland demanding scale pay and regularisation of service entered its eleventh day on Monday.

The protest, which initially began on September 1, involves 367 teachers from 133 government schools across the state. This is the second phase of their agitation.

The protesting teachers, camping outside the State Civil Secretariat, have been holding placards and banners, and shouting slogans demanding early justice.

They are demanding scale pay, regularisation, and induction into the state cadre, a benefit already granted to their counterparts of the 2010 and 2013 batches.

The first phase was a pen-down strike from August 25, during which the teachers criticised the government for not implementing the high court's 2022 order, which was subsequently upheld by the Supreme Court in May this year.

The government has repeatedly appealed to the agitating teachers to exercise patience, pointing out that the matter is sub judice with a review petition currently pending in court.

As part of efforts to break the deadlock, the Department of School Education also proposed constituting a committee that would include representatives of the Nagaland RMSA Teachers Association (NRM-SATA)-2016 to examine their demands.

However, the proposal was rejected by the teachers.

On Friday, Advisor for School Education and SCERT, Kekhriehoulie Yhome, personally visited the protest site in Kohima in an attempt to convince the teachers to return to their classrooms.

'Sabka saath sabka vikas' policy guided by Maharaja Agrasen's principles: Saini

Komal Ramola
Chandigarh

The Agarwal community has always rendered great services to the society, nation and humanity as a whole, Haryana Chief Minister Navab Singh Saini said on Monday.

He said the Haryana government as well as the Centre are following the path of Maharaja Agrasen, the legendary king considered to be the progenitor of the Agarwal community, and working on the principle of 'sabka saath, sabka vikas' (with all, for development of all).

Inspired by Maharaja Agrasen's inclusive and far-sighted vision, the state government is endeavouring to make every individual self-reliant through its schemes, he said.

Saini was addressing a gathering at Maharaja Agrasen Jayanti, organised in Panchkula under a Haryana government scheme to honour saints and great personalities and disseminate their ideas.

He also extended Navratri greetings to people on the occasion.

Referring to the community's glorious history, the chief minister said it has always rendered great services not only to the society and the nation, but to the humanity as a whole.

Listing eminent personalities from the community, he said the contribution of its members could be seen in whichever field one looks, and especially in trade and industry.

In the last few years, the Haryana government has taken several impor-



tant steps to create a favourable environment for industry and trade, and due to these efforts, the state has become the first choice for investors from India and abroad, Saini said.

To resolve traders' issues, the Haryana Vyapari Kalyan Board has been established.

The government has named the Hisar airport after Maharaja Agrasen so that future generations would remember

his ideals and principles, he said.

Saini said the Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms are being implemented across the country from Monday, bringing special enthusiasm to the trading community.

The Agarwal community will send a letter of thanks to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for these reforms, he said.

At its recent meeting, the GST Council has

decided to simplify the tax structure and reduce rates on several common goods and services from September 22, which is the first day of Navratri. The GST will now be a two-tier structure, wherein a majority of goods and services will attract the lower 5 and 18 per cent tax. A 40 per cent tax will be levied on ultra luxury items, while tobacco and related products will continue to be in the 28 per cent plus cess category.

Saini said an online e-refund facility has been created for traders.

In the field of taxation, facilities like e-registration, e-payment of tax, e-filing of returns, e-tendering, and issuance of C-Form online have been started.

Under the Chief Minister's Urban Ownership Scheme, the ownership rights of municipal shops and houses that have been on rent, lease or licence fee for more than 20 years have been given to the persons occupying them.

The e-Way Bill Yojana has been launched for inter-state movement of goods to convenience traders.

Under the scheme, all 65 lakh families in the state will be entitled to cashless health insurance of Rs 10 lakh at government as well as empanelled private hospitals.

Punjab is the lone state in the country to have such a large mass health cover, Mann earlier said.

Mann also said a medical college will be set up in Sangrur to impart quality health services to the people.

He slammed the Shimroni Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee for denying land for the construction of the college, saying that the body was merely a puppet in the hands of the Badal family and all its actions are "dictated" by them.

The SGPCC would have certainly given the land if the Badal family had wished to construct a college, he said.

Three involved in cross-border supply of illegal weapons nabbed

Chandigarh

In an intelligence-led operation, Amritsar Commissionerate Police has dismantled an organised arms and hawala network and apprehended three operatives involved in cross-border illegal weapons supply, an official said on Monday.

Three sophisticated weapons and Rs 2.5 lakh hawala money have been recovered, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said.

Preliminary investigation reveals, the arrested accused were in contact with Pakistan-based handlers via social media to procure and circulate illegal weapons with an intent to disturb peace and harmony in the state," the DGP said in a post on X.

An FIR was registered at Police Station Gate Hakima, Amritsar.

Further investigation is underway to unearth the entire network and identify cross-border linkages, he said.

Meanwhile, according to an official statement later, the DGP said those arrested have been identified as Amarjeet Singh alias Bau (22), a resident of Majhi Meo in Amritsar; Manbir

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No consultation on October 6 talks hunger strike to continue: Leh Apex Body

Leh

The Leh Apex Body (LAB) announced on Monday that its leaders would not end their hunger strike until their demands of statehood and inclusion of Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution are met.

They demanded an immediate meeting with the central government, warning that public patience is wearing thin.

The Home Ministry has announced that talks with the Ladakh delegation will be held on October 6 for the next round of discussions.

During an online press conference, LAB co-chairman, Chering Dorje said they had informed the government that they could not end their hunger strike until an agreement was reached.

"Our protest is peaceful, but people are getting impatient. The situation may get out of our hands... The talks have already been delayed," Dorje said.

The Home Ministry has announced that talks with the Ladakh delegation will be held on October 6 for the next round of discussions.

"We have informed the government that we cannot end the hunger strike until some agreement is reached," he said.

Climate activist and educator Sonam Wangchuk said the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) had made a promise to include Ladakh under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, and stressed that the promise should be fulfilled before the upcoming 11th Council polls.

"If they fulfil their promise, Ladakh will vote for them and make them victorious. They will benefit the most, and vice versa. So we hope they will hold meaningful talks," Wangchuk said.

Registrations for Rs 10 lakh health cover to begin from Sep 23 in Punjab

Chandigarh

Registrations for a state scheme for cashless medical treatment of up to Rs 10 lakh will begin on September 23 in Tarn Taran and Barnala, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann said on Monday.

The Mukh Mantri Sehat Yojana is meant to cover all families in Punjab and got the cabinet approval on July 10.

Addressing a press conference here, Mann said, "Our priority is health, education and infrastructure. In three years, we opened 881 Aam Aadmi Clinics, which will increase to 1,000 in the coming time."

As far as footfall goes, 1.80 crore people have got themselves checked and treated in these clinics, he said.

Mann, a few weeks ago, announced a Rs 10 lakh 'Sehat Bima' for the state's residents.

He said the registration for the scheme will begin from Barnala and Tarn Taran districts



from September 23 and will go on for at least 10 days.

Registration camps have been set up at around 128 places in each of these districts.

Mann termed the scheme historic and first-of-its-kind in Punjab.

"We have kept the process simple. People just

need to bring documents like an Aadhaar card and a voter ID with them for the registration," Mann said.

All government employees, ASHA workers, and anganwadi workers will be included in the scheme, he said.

People enrolled on the insurance will be given a health card.

Mann said that over 2,000 health procedures and surgeries will be covered.

Under the scheme, all 65 lakh families in the state will be entitled to cashless health insurance of Rs 10 lakh at government as well as empanelled private hospitals.

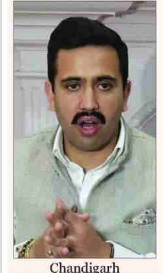
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The SGPCC would have certainly given the land if the Badal family had wished to construct a college, he said.

HP Minister Vikramaditya Singh marries Panjab University assistant professor



Chandigarh
Himachal Pradesh Minister Vikramaditya Singh here on Monday tied this nuptial knot with Panjab University assistant professor Anrean Kaur.

"It is the beginning of a new chapter in my life," the 35-year-old Public Works Department minister told reporters after the wedding rituals were held in a Gurdwara here.

This is the second marriage of Vikramaditya, who belongs to the royal family of the erstwhile princely state of Bushahr in Shimla district. He is the son of six-time chief minister, late Virbhadra Singh, and Himachal Congress president Pratibha Singh.

Vikramaditya was earlier married to a woman hailing from an erstwhile Rajasthan Royal family. They divorced last year after tying the knot in 2019.

Meanwhile, on Monday, the wedding ceremony in Chandigarh was attended by Singh's close relatives and friends.

Wearing a bright orange and pink turban and a pastel pink 'sherwani', Vikramaditya, the second-time MLA from Shimla Rural, carried a ceremonial sword while Anrean, who was accompanied at the wedding by her parents, was seen wearing an embroidered 'lehenga'.

After the rituals, the couple headed to Shimla.

Speaking briefly to reporters here after getting married, Vikramaditya expressed deep gratitude at the blessings received from everyone on the occasion.

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Kurukshetra emerges as global religious and tourism hub: Haryana Tourism Minister



Chandigarh
Kurukshetra is gaining worldwide recognition for its religious and tourism significance, said Haryana Tourism Minister Dr. Arvind Sharma. The minister emphasized that along with this sacred land, all regions of Haryana are witnessing comprehensive development, with several tourism-focused projects underway in Kurukshetra.

Dr. Sharma visited the Shakteshwar Maa Bhadrakali Temple on the first day of Navratri

to offer prayers, performing the traditional puja and seeking the blessings of the Goddess. Extending greetings for Navratri, Dussehra, Diwali, and other festivals, he urged citizens to visit the temple to seek divine blessings for peace, prosperity, and happiness. He noted that devotees often find their wishes fulfilled after receiving the Goddess's blessings.

Highlighting Kurukshetra's unique identity, Dr. Sharma said the city is renowned not

only within India but also internationally for its religious and tourist attractions. Under the leadership of Chief Minister Navab Singh Saini, Haryana is undergoing all-round development, with initiatives aimed at establishing the state as a prominent tourism hub. He also noted that numerous welfare schemes for farmers, labourers, women, employees, and senior citizens have been effectively implemented during the government's tenure.

Punjab 2.47 lakh people treated in special health campaign post floods

Chandigarh

Health Minister Balbir Singh on Monday said the Punjab government's ongoing 'special health campaign' in flood-affected areas has shown remarkable results with medical teams established health camps across all 2,303 targeted villages, conducting as many as 2,47,958 OPD consultations.

"This massive effort enabled prompt treatment of 31,717 fever cases, 7,832 diarrhoea cases, 36,119 skin infections and 16,884 eye infections, preventing these conditions from escalating into larger outbreaks," Singh said.

The health minister, acting on the direction from Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, had a week ago ordered a massive mobilization of the state's direct medical fraternity, including the deployment of all available resources, including government



doctors, private volunteers, Ayurveda medical officers, and MBBS interns, and spearheaded a 'Special Health Campaign' in 2,303 flood-affected villages.

Releasing the cumulative data from September 14 till date, Singh stated that the strategic focus on preemptive action has yielded significant results, with only five malaria cases detected despite extensive door-to-door screening of over 7 lakh house-

holds by over 20,000 Accredited Social Health Activists workers. The health teams have also distributed 2.27 lakh essential health kits, he said.

"These numbers represent a successful containment of health disaster. Where major outbreaks were anticipated, our preemptive strategy has created a strong health shield around our communities," Singh said.

of malaria cases and effective management of other ailments demonstrate that our three-pronged approach is working effectively on ground," he further stated.

Similarly, intensive vector-control drives have covered 6.22 lakh households for mosquito breeding, finding and destroying breeding sites in 11,582 houses. As a critical preventive measure, preemptive larvicide was sprayed at 1.43 lakh houses, and extensive fumigation was carried out in all the flood-affected villages to break the disease transmission cycle, the minister said.

Meanwhile, Punjab Revenue, Rehabilitation and Disaster Management Minister Hardeep Singh Mundian said the flood situation in the state continues to stabilise as more affected families are returning to their homes.

Amrit Bharat and the New Map of Mobility

The Amrit Bharat Express is more than a train; it's a symbol of a new, optimistic, and interconnected Bihar. For decades, Bihar's story has been one of relentless movement - students heading out for exams, workers riding overnight to work, families crossing states for pilgrimages and weddings. The trains carried these journeys—but too often with overcrowded coaches, slow connections, and long queues.

That picture is changing. The Amrit Bharat Express puts Bihar at the center of India's rail revitalization. It's a people's train - priced close to legacy mail/express fares, yet dramatically better on comfort and safety. Coaches ride steadier; berths and seats feel new; bio-vacuum toilets are cleaner; charging points and upgraded safety systems are standard; and a pantry car keeps long routes practical. For everyday Biharis traveling to Delhi, Mumbai, Lucknow, Amritsar, or Bengaluru, this feels like dignity on rails - modern, affordable, and reliable.

A Train for the People: Comfort, Dignity, and Affordability

Unlike premium services that are financially out of reach for many, the Amrit Bharat is truly a people's train. It is designed to be pocket-friendly for the average Bihar, bringing a modern touch to their travels to major cities like

Delhi or Mumbai.

- **Affordable Modernity:** Sleeper class fares are only marginally higher than older mail trains, but the upgrade in comfort is immense.
- **Enhanced Experience:** Passengers benefit from a smoother ride, better seating, modern bio-vacuum toilets, and convenient charging plugs.
- **Safety and Convenience:** The trains also feature updated safety systems and a pantry car, ensuring a secure and comfortable journey.

For the people of Bihar, this new service is a source of pride, bridging the gap between affordability and modern travel. (may insert a good photograph of interior with following caption)

Modern amenities like improved seating and charging plugs offer adignified travel experience at an affordable price.

Bihar: The Heart of a National Network

Bihar isn't merely participating - it's leading. Of the first wave of 14 Amrit Bharat services launched nationally, 10 touch Bihar - evidence of the state's central role in India's mobility map. Patna, Darbhanga, Saharsa, Sitamarhi, Gaya, and Motihari are now more tightly stitched to the country's commercial and cultural hubs. Consider the Jogbani-Erode Express: a 3,129-km arc from Bihar's northeast corner to Tamil Nadu's industrial belt - more than a route, it's a corridor of opportunity for migrants, students, and families.

The extensive network of Amrit Bharat trains originating from or passing through Bihar includes:

- 15557/15558: Darbhanga - Anand Vihar Terminal (New Delhi)
- 15567/15568: Bapudham Motihari - Anand Vihar



By Amrendra Kr Chandra

IRSME (Retd.), Ex-Principal Chief Mechanical Engineer (Northern Railway), Ex-Principal Exec. Director, Railway Board



- | | |
|---|--|
| Terminal (New Delhi) | • 15561/15562: Darbhanga - Gomti Nagar (Lucknow) |
| • 14047/14048: Sitamarhi - Delhi | • 16601/16602: Jogbani - Erode |
| • 22361/22362: Rajendranagar Terminal (Patna) - New Delhi | • 13433/13434: Malda Town - SMVT Bengaluru (passes through Bihar) |
| • 13697/13698: Gaya - Delhi | • 13435/13436: Malda Town - Gomti Nagar (Lucknow) (passes through Bihar) |
| • 11015/11016: Saharsa - Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (Mumbai) | |
| • 14627/14628: Saharsa - Chheharta (Amritsar) | |
- These services powerfully demonstrate the state's enhanced connectivity. For migrant workers, stu-

dents, and families, these trains are more than just transport; they are a bridge to opportunities and ambitions.

An Engine for Economic Growth and Local Prosperity

The impact of the Amrit Bharat Express extends far beyond passenger convenience, acting as an economic lifeblood for communities across the state.

- **Market Access for Farmers and Traders:** Built-in parcel vans allow farmers and small traders to send their produce, textiles, and handicrafts to larger markets efficiently.
- **Showcasing Local Artisans:** The Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, running in parallel, is giving local artisans new platforms to showcase products like Madhubani paintings, Bhagalpuri silk, and local sweets.
- **Boosting Local Economies:** With increased passenger footfall at stations, local businesses—from rickshaw pullers and tea sellers to small shops—are already seeing a rise in business.

Unlocking Bihar's Untapped Tourism Potential

Tourism, a sector with immense unexplored potential in Bihar, is poised for a major revival. The new services are making the state's rich cultural and historical sites more accessible to both domestic and international tourists.

- **The Buddhist Circuit:** The new Gaya-Delhi service places Bodhi Gaya, the holiest site in Buddhism, just an overnight journey from the nation's capital. This will make it easier for tourists to visit other key sites like Nalanda.
- **The Ramayana Circuit:** The train service to Sitamarhi, the birthplace of Sita, reinforces the popular Ramayana Circuit for pilgrims.
- **Cultural Exchange:** Just as Biharis can now more easily visit the Golden Temple in Amritsar or the ghats of Haridwar, people from those regions can now explore the cultural treasures of Bihar in return.

A State in Motion, A Future in Sight

Most of all, Amrit Bharat changes mood and momentum. For years Bihar was cast as an infrastructure outlier. Now, it's a hub of rail modernization—nudging youth toward new opportunities, reuniting families more often, and plugging villages into national markets. Each departure from Saharsa or Motihari carries more than passengers; it carries a promise of upward mobility.

Steel on track, then, is more than transport—it's transformation. In Bihar, Amrit Bharat isn't just a train. It's the on-ramp to a new era of growth where modern, inclusive, and pocket-friendly railways help people chase livelihoods, nurture tourism, and stitch dreams to destinations.

Why Students must Look Beyond the NEET Rank during the Counselling

A look at hidden factors that students must consider during the medical counselling process.

Each year, thousands of NEET hopefuls make life-defining choices based on their rank in the exam. Although the rank matters, letting it be the sole criterion for selecting a medical college or course is not correct. There are several factors that should be taken into account to make more informed, well-rounded choices. Here are some of the points to keep in mind

State Quotas: This is one of the most under-utilised factors in counselling. Most students only consider the All India Rank (AIR) without looking at how domicile status affects their chances. State counselling sessions tend to have lower cutoff ranks than All India Quota (AIQ), particularly in states with fewer applicants or newer institutions. If a student is eligible according to a specific state's domicile conditions, it can considerably enhance chances of admission.

Bond and service obligations: Some government colleges, particularly those in rural or underserved regions, have a mandatory service requirement that will require the student to work at a government hospital for a specific period, with substantial penalties if he/she defaults. Therefore, before signing up for a college, the student has to review the bond term, service location and penalty charges. A good seat may have long-term restrictions that the student may not be ready for.

Infrastructure and quality: A college that takes students with high ranks does not mean it offers world-class facilities or faculty. Consult current students, search for NMC inspection reports, or read third-party reviews to know the reality before considering a college.

Fees and living costs: Tuition fees can be high in private and recognised universities. Many students also fail to factor in the costs of living in a city like



By Vijay Garg

Retired Principal educational columnist
Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR
Malout (Punjab)



Bengaluru or Mumbai. The total cost - tuition, hostel, and other fees, food, transport, and other living expenses - must be calculated in total before deciding on a college. A government college in a smaller city may be a wiser decision over an expensive private college in a big town.

Clinical exposure: This is the building block of medical studies and institutions affiliated with well-known hospitals provide greater exposure to learning diagnostic and patient management skills. Choose institutions where students have daily exposure to patients, high patient inflow, and exposure to varied medical cases.

Opportunities for future specialisation: Some colleges are known to foster research, PG preparation, or for specialities like surgery, paediatrics, or psychiatry. So, consider long-term goals in making a decision. Those aiming for a PG in a competitive field should look for a college with a strong academic culture and good support. Talk to mentors or alumni to know which colleges have excelled in PG exams such as NEET PG or INI-CET.

Language and culture: Being in a state without knowing the local language can be challenging, not just in terms of academics but also while doing clinical postings and interacting with patients. If you're considering a college in a state other than your own, ensure you are willing to learn the local language quickly.

Remember, the NEET rank is an admission ticket, not the whole story. Selecting a good college involves academic, financial, social, and career considerations. So, construct a customised counselling plan that takes into account hidden but significant variables.

Rahul, Kharge to attend CWC meeting in Patna on Sep 24

Patna
Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and senior party leader Rahul Gandhi will be present at its working committee meeting here on September 24. AICC Bihar in-charge Krishna Allavaru said on Monday.

During a press conference here, Allavaru asserted that Congress was fighting "the second war of Independence" in Bihar, a reason why the meeting has been scheduled in the state.

Assembly polls are due in Bihar this year.
At the CWC (Congress Working Committee) meeting, we will be having AICC president Kharge and Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi. All other CWC members have also been invited. Chief ministers of Congress-ruled states are also expected," Allavaru said.

The Congress leader alleged that the ruling BJP at the Centre was involved in "vote theft", and Prime Minister Narendra Modi was "like a student who does not



study hard, but takes recourse to unfair means for doing well in examinations".
Asserting that Bihar, where Gandhi recently took out an over 1,300-km Voter Adhikar Yatra, had become "the centre of national politics", Allavaru said, "We are fighting the second war of Independence in the state, a reason why the CWC meeting is being held here."

In reply to another query, he said talks on seat-sharing

are being held on a positive note in the INDIA bloc.
"We will soon come out with a viable formula. On the other hand, we find the BJP-led NDA in disarray," the Congress leader said.
Asked whether RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav will be named as the chief ministerial candidate of the INDIA bloc with a stamp of approval from the Congress, Allavaru said, "At an appropriate time, all alliance partners will sit to-

gether and decide".
Speaking at the same press conference, state Congress president Rajesh Kumar said, "It is a historic moment for us that Sadaqat Ashram, where people like Mahatma Gandhi, Rajendra Prasad and Jawaharlal Nehru have held deliberations, is getting a chance to host the CWC meeting."
Kumar also touched upon the historical importance of Sadaqat Ashram, "con-

structed on 20 acres of land" donated by renowned freedom fighter Maulana Mazahul Haq.
Meanwhile, Union Minister Chirag Paswan insisted that the decision to hold the CWC meeting in Patna was "pressure politics" on the part of Congress, which was locked in a "battle for supremacy" with RJD.
The Hajipur MP frowned upon parallels being drawn with the CWC meeting held in Telangana two years ago and the Congress winning the assembly polls a year later.

"In Telangana, at least, they were the principal opposition party. What do they stand to gain in Bihar? They may hold any number of meetings here without making any impact," said Paswan.
"However, I would like to add that the Congress is the oldest party in the country. It should show the courage to go it alone in the upcoming polls. It has nothing to lose in Bihar. Even we had dared to contest the 2020 elections without being part of any coalition," he added.

Greywater reuse can save up to 40 pc of water says Jal Shakti ministry

New Delhi
The Ministry of Jal Shakti on Monday said that effective management and reuse of greywater could save up to 30-40 per cent of water consumption.

Greywater is wastewater generated from kitchens, baths and laundries.
The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) held a virtual workshop on 'Greywater Management and Reuse' as part of the run-up to the Sujalam Bharat Summit, scheduled for November-end under the chairmanship of Union Jal Shakti Minister C R Paati.

Senior ministry officials, state nodal officers, sector experts and development partners attended the workshop, which featured presentations from Punjab, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana and Jharkhand, along with WaterAid India. The states shared community-led models and innovations at the national workshop.

The models which were highlighted ranged from decentralised reuse technologies to panchayat-led initiatives designed to strengthen climate resilience and ensure water



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the larger context of Sujalam Bharat," said Archana Varma, Additional Secretary and Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin, stressed that community solutions must be both technically sound and sustainable. "Our efforts must focus on systems that are climate-resilient and responsive to local needs," he said.

Kamal Kishore Soan, Additional Secretary and Mission Director, Jal Jeevan Mission and Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin, stressed that community solutions must be both technically sound and sustainable. "Our efforts must focus on systems that are climate-resilient and responsive to local needs," he said.

Varma said greywater management was not only about cleanliness but also about public health and climate adaptation.

Gen Chauhan highlights tech-driven defense future

New Delhi
Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) Gen Anil Chauhan on Monday highlighted the changing nature of modern warfare driven by convergence across kinetic and non-kinetic domains which, he said, necessitated advanced and integrated technological solutions.

CDS Gen Chauhan was addressing a tri-services symposium here, aiming to synergise the services-academia research and development ecosystem for the development of niche technologies critical to national defence.
He emphasised the critical role of academia, start-ups and industry in developing indigenous capabilities across platforms, weapons, networks and doctrines to meet future operational demand, the defence ministry said in a statement.

He also called for a whole-of-nation approach, urging academia to scale innovation and commit to making India a "global leader in next-generation defence technologies".

In his address, the CDS highlighted the changing nature of modern warfare, driven by convergence across kinetic and non-kinetic domains, necessitating advanced and integrated technological solutions, it said.

The inaugural edition of the Tri-Services Academia Technology Symposium (T-SATS) was held at the Manekshaw Centre at Delhi Cantonment, synergising the services-academia R&D ecosystem for development of niche and futuristic technologies tailored for the Indian armed forces, the ministry said.
The symposium was inaugurated by Gen Chauhan.

The event witnessed participation from directors and heads of departments of academic and premier R&D institutions, along with students from 62 institutes including IISc, IITs, IIITs and private technology institutes.
The CDS also inaugurated a technology exhibition showcasing 43 selected innovative exhibits by academia.

No redemption post-auction notice, SC declares

New Delhi
The Supreme Court on Monday held borrowers cannot redeem property after publication of auction notice as purchasers acquire indefeasible rights once sale certificate is issued by creditor banks and financial institutions under the SARFAESI Act.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and R Mahadevan ruled the fact that the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act (SARFAESI Act) was enacted in 2002 to protect banks and financial, but certain ambiguities in its Section 13(8) and a few rules had prolonged litigations.
The top court also held that the 2016 amendment to Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act, which extinguishes a borrower's right of redemption once the secured creditor publishes an auction notice, will apply even to loans taken before the amendment came into force if the default occurred after September 1, 2016.

Writing 140-page judgement, Justice Pardiwala said, "We humbly urge the Ministry of Finance to take a serious look at these provisions and bring about necessary changes, before it is too late in the day."

Supreme Court acquits 3 in murder case of policeman over loan repayment

New Delhi
The Supreme Court on Monday acquitted three persons in the murder case of a policeman over a loan dispute, calling the evidence "sketchy" and witnesses "totally unreliable".

A bench of Justices K V Viswanathan and K Vinod Chandran said the motive and the crime itself was not at all proved and there was no circumstance leading to the culpability of the accused.
The bench noted among the trio was the wife of another police officer and his brother and brother-in-law. The default in repayment of a loan by the policeman was stated to have resulted in his murder.

The bench said two prosecution witnesses, who were alleged to be eye-witnesses, turned completely hostile.

The bench went on, "It has been almost twenty-three years since the SARFAESI Act has remained in force. It is indeed very sad to note that even after these many years procedural issues such as the one involved in the case at hand, have continued to plague the legislation."

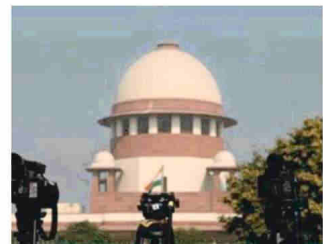
The bench noted it came across "glaring anomaly" in respect of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act and Rule(s) 8 and 9 of the SARFAESI Rules.
"We are, however, at our wit's end to note how the ill-wording of Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act has resulted in a glaring inconsistency between the aforesaid provision and the SARFAESI Rules framed in lieu thereof. It is unfortunate that the ambiguities within the statutory provisions of the SARFAESI Act and Rules thereunder have left the interests of secured creditors and auction purchasers high and dry. The interpretative deadlock between the provision and the rules has single handedly resulted in a huge mess..." it said.

The top court directed a copy of its verdict to be shared with all high courts besides the principal secretaries of the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Law & Justice.

Referring to amended provision, the bench said, "It extinguishes" the right of redemption of the borrower in the event he fails to repay his dues and redeem the asset before publication of the auction notice.
It said SARFAESI Rules do not speak of any distinct notice of sale that is required to be issued by the secured creditor for the transfer of the secured asset by way of lease, assignment or sale.

It said SARFAESI Act was brought into force with the object of providing expeditious procedures for recovery of large debts in NPAs.
"The SARFAESI Act intends to provide a remedy in respect of pre-existing loans and the interpretation that it would apply only to future debts would defeat the very purpose of that law, which was to reduce non-performing assets," it said.

The contention of borrowers that their right of redemption has to be construed in accordance with the date of when the loan was obtained is completely misconceived, it said.
It also made clear that if any third party rights have been created over the secured asset, the same would be non-existent in view of this judgment.



"We are at a loss to understand how the high court and the trial court made an observation that though they were declared hostile, there was credible material in their evidence pointing to the culpability of the accused, which could be relied upon," it said.
The top court delivered its verdict on an appeal filed by

the three accused challenging a February 2013 order of the Karnataka High Court. The high court dismissed their appeal against a trial court order which convicted them for the offence of murder and sentenced them to life imprisonment.
The apex court noted the incident happened in March 2006 when the accused

Global net tightens around Menaria Family after Kampala seeks Interpol action

New Delhi
The international legal battle surrounding the Menaria family has taken a dramatic turn after Kampala's National Crime Bureau formally requested assistance from its counterparts in New Delhi, Nairobi, and Bern to trace and arrest three key suspects: Vishnu Menaria, his father Mukesh Kumar Menaria, and his uncle Rajmal Menaria.

The move follows the issuance of international arrest warrants linked to allegations that the Menarias deliberately misled Ugandan authorities by filing a false complaint against 26-year-old Vasundhara Oswal, Executive Director of PRO Industries and daughter of industrialist Pankaj Oswal. According to investigators, the Menarias claimed that Mukesh had been captured, murdered, and disposed of by Vasundhara. Acting on this fabricated complaint, Ugandan police arrested and detained her, triggering global outrage and its said.

Subsequent investigations, however, revealed that the allegations were baseless. Mukesh Menaria

Acting on this fabricated complaint, Ugandan police arrested and detained her, triggering global outrage and calls from international human rights groups for her release.

was later found alive, arrested in Tanzania while in possession of stolen jewellery. With the charges against Vasundhara dismissed, Ugandan authorities opened a new case - Kira Road CRB 835/25 - against the Menarias for providing false information to law enforcement that directly led to her wrongful imprisonment.

The episode drew the attention of international human rights counsel Cherie Blair CBE, KC of Omnia Strategy, who had previously urged the United Nations to intervene. Blair condemned Vasundhara's arrest as "a clear case of arbitrary detention" and described the prosecution as "flawed

from the start." She reiterated that the Menarias' actions not only collapsed under scrutiny but also stood in breach of international human rights obligations.

While Kampala escalated its pursuit of the Menarias through Interpol channels, their legal troubles in India have intensified. On July 23, 2025, Delhi Police registered FIR 0237, naming Vishnu Menaria as the prime accused in an incident involving Radhika Oswal, wife of billionaire industrialist Pankaj Oswal. The FIR, filed under Sections 78, 351(3), 74, and 320 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) 2023, alleges criminal intimidation, stalking, threats to life, assault, and outraging the modesty of a woman.

According to the complaint, the confrontation occurred following a hearing at Saket Court in a loan default case under Section 11318 involving a USD 200,000 loan taken by Mukesh Menaria during his employment as a cook at the Oswal residence. Vishnu and his mother were guarantors on the loan. After the hearing, Vishnu, accompanied by his maternal

uncle and associates, allegedly followed Mrs. Oswal's car, trailed her to a private residence, forced entry, and threatened her unless the loan recovery case was withdrawn.

Adding to the mounting charges, Vishnu is also a defendant in a defamation suit in India, Case No. SC DJ/3426/2024, which accuses him of spreading false narratives that directly contributed to Vasundhara Oswal's arbitrary detention in Uganda.

"This development underscores how far the Menarias have gone in their attempts to harass and intimidate the Oswal family," said Kamlesh Agrawal, counsel representing the Oswals, welcoming the fresh FIR and international coordination efforts.

With Kampala's NCB driving cross-border operation, Delhi Police pressing forward with criminal proceedings, and a Look-Out Circular now open against Vishnu Menaria, enforcement agencies across multiple jurisdictions appear to be aligning in what officials describe as a zero-tolerance approach to fabricated complaints, harassment, and extortion.

Nitish launches projects worth over Rs 10 000 cr in Patna

Patna
Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Monday launched projects worth Rs 10,000 crore in the state capital Patna.

The projects were of the Road Construction, and Urban Development and Housing departments.

The CM laid the foundation for the construction of the 35.65-km extension of J P Ganga Path Project from Digha area in Patna to Kailwar.

The foundation was laid for the construction of the 58.47-km Dhorata-English Mo-Aasugan Road covering Banka, Munger and Bhagalpur districts at a cost of Rs 650 crore and a 21.3-km bridge on Huzhai-Aurai Road in Matiafarpur district at a cost of Rs 814.22 crore, the statement said.

Besides, the foundation stone was laid for the construction of 32.26-km Ara-Ekauma-Khaira-Sahar Path

to alleviate the traffic congestion on the Danapur-Chitwan-Maner Road. The CM directed officials to ensure timely completion of the extension of the J P Ganga Path to Kailwar."

The CM also laid the foundation stone for five other road projects in various districts, with a total length of 225.475 km and costing Rs 2,900 crore.

The foundation was laid for the construction of the 58.47-km Dhorata-English Mo-Aasugan Road covering Banka, Munger and Bhagalpur districts at a cost of Rs 650 crore and a 21.3-km bridge on Huzhai-Aurai Road in Matiafarpur district at a cost of Rs 814.22 crore, the statement said.

Besides, the foundation stone was laid for the construction of 32.26-km Ara-Ekauma-Khaira-Sahar Path

in Bhojpur district at a cost of Rs 373.26 crore, 72.8-km Chhapra-Manjhi-Darouli-Ghuthni Path at a cost of Rs 701.26 crore and 41.25-km Banganga-Jethia-Galhot Path, covering Nawada, Nalanda and Gaya districts, at a cost of Rs 361.32 crore.

In another event in Patna, the CM laid the foundation stone for 1,300 schemes costing Rs 769.63 crore in 33 districts of Bihar under the Comprehensive Urban Development Scheme.

The chief minister also laid the foundation stone for the restoration and reconstruction of various roads within the Patna Municipal Corporation area at a cost of Rs 124.44 crore and the construction of six mechanised garbage transfer stations for solid waste management at a cost of Rs 69.97 crore, the statement said.

Second postmortem of Zubeen Garg's body on Tuesday morning; Assam CM



Guwahati

A second postmortem of singer Zubeen Garg's body will be conducted on Tuesday morning at the Gauhati Medical College Hospital (GMCH) following demands from certain sections of Assam people. Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said on Monday.

The first autopsy was conducted in Singapore where Garg died by drowning on September 19. His last rites will be performed on the outskirts of Guwahati on Tuesday with full state honours.

Sarma said that after the post-mortem examination at GMCH, his journey to the cremation ground will begin at 9.30 am, two hours after the earlier-announced time.

"The second postmortem is not a demand from the public but from certain fringe elements and we have decided to conduct it with his wife's consent," the chief minister said at a press conference here.

"We do not want to create any controversy over Zubeen, so this decision was taken," he said.

The CM said that he personally was not interested in "cutting up his body" as he is a "die-hard Zubeen fan" but when a section, even if they are in a minority, demands it, my personal wish does not matter. This is democracy."

After the Singapore doctors had conducted the postmortem, "I don't think it was necessary for another postmortem as they have more technical expertise but there should not be any scope for any section to indulge in any kind of politics over Zubeen," Sarma said.

The postmortem will be conducted by a team of doctors from GMCH and AIIMS, Guwahati.

"It will take around two hours in the morning and so his final journey will begin at 9.30 am instead of the earlier scheduled time of 7.30 am," the CM said.

Garg (52) died while swimming in the sea on September 19 in Singapore where he had gone to attend the North East India Festival (NEIF).

'Cheating mafia' conspiring to defame Uttarakhand govt will not be spared: Dharam

Dehradun Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dharam on Monday said "cheating mafia" conspiring to defame the Uttarakhand government will not be spared under any circumstances.

At an event here, the Chief Minister said that people upset with the government's strict anti-cheating laws are trying to defame the government.

Dharam said the alleged leak of three pages of a question paper in the Uttarakhand Subordinate Services Selection Commission (UKSSSC) graduate-level examination was a conspiracy to defame the state government.

"A similar attempt was made on Sunday as well, even though this is not a case of paper leak," he said.

The CM said that some cheating mafia and coaching mafia are conspiring to defame the government and it will be exposed soon.

He said that the culprits will not be spared under any circumstances.

Dharam stated that when he assumed office as Chief Minister on July 4, 2021, there were approximately 22,000 vacant positions in various departments, but due to the government's efforts, more than 25,000 young people have secured government jobs.

Not a single case of cheating has been reported in any of these examinations, he claimed.

The chief minister stated that the government enacted strict anti-cheating laws to prevent disruptions in the recruitment process, but some individuals, frustrated by this, began attempting to defame the government.

After photos of three pages of the question paper for the graduate-level examination conducted by the Commission for various departments went viral on social media on Sunday, Dehradun Senior Superintendent of Police Ajay Singh stated that preliminary investigations have not found any organised gang involvement in the matter.

However, he acknowledged that someone from an examination center sent photos of some of the question paper questions.

He stated that the accused involved in this case have been identified and strong evidence has been obtained against them.

The SSP stated that social activist Bobby Panwar is also under suspicion in the case, who allegedly posted screenshots of the question papers on social media without any official confirmation or verification of the information, seeking to sensationalize the examination system.

Meanwhile, Commission Chairman Ganesh Singh Martolia also denied the matter as a 'paper leak' case, but said that the public disclosure of some pages of the question paper was a matter of concern.

Martolia also stated that mobile jammers have been installed at all examination centers, so it is surprising even to the Commission how some of the question papers became public.

He stated that the Commission has therefore requested the Dehradun SSP and the Special Task Force (STF) to conduct a detailed investigation into the matter.

Police arrested two



Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dharam

accused - Hakam Singh and his associate Pankaj Gaur - on Saturday for allegedly luring candidates with the promise of passing the exam for Rs 12-15 lakh.

Hakam Singh, a resident of Uttarakashi district, was arrested a few years ago on similar charges.

Meanwhile, the Congress members protested and burned effigies of the Dharam government over this incident.

State Congress President Karan Mahara called this another major betrayal by the Dharam government of the future of millions of youth who have been waiting for government jobs for years.

"The Dharam government had enacted the Uttarakhand Competitive Examination (Measures for Prevention and Control of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act, calling it the country's most stringent anti-cheating law. But today, all the Dharam government's claims have proven hollow and empty rhetoric," he said.

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Emotional send-off for three officers at Agra Police lines



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Modi Govt's next Gen GST reforms bring relief to citizens: Rakesh Jamwal

Rajan Panchhi MANDI

The Modi government's implementation of Next Gen GST reforms marks a historic step in India's tax system, making it simpler, transparent, and more citizen-friendly. Bharatiya Janata Party State Chief Spokesperson and Sundernagar MIA Rakesh Jamwal said on Monday. Speaking at a press conference at the Raj Mahal Hotel, Jamwal described the reforms as not just an economic measure but a social initiative benefiting farmers, students, traders, industries, and consumers alike.

He recalled that the "One Nation, One



Tax" promise, fulfilled in 2017, had already transformed India's tax framework, ushering in a new era of economic independence. The decisions taken at the GST Council meeting on September 3, 2024, have further simplified the system, making daily life

more affordable for the common citizen. Jamwal highlighted that these reforms will directly ease the financial burden on families across the country.

Focusing on Himachal Pradesh, he noted that the state benefits significantly from GST, re-

ceiving Rs. 9,375 crore from GST and IGT in 2023-24, alongside Rs. 24,317 crore in grants-in-aid from the central government, accounting for nearly half of the state's total budget. He added that any complaints from the Congress government regarding losses reflect misgovernance rather than any lapse on the part of the central government.

Jamwal expressed confidence that the Next Gen GST reforms will become a symbol of India's economic strength, contributing to the country's journey toward self-reliance and long-term development.

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Nepal's PM Karki expands interim cabinet 4 new ministers sworn in

Kathmandu: Nepal's newly-appointed Prime Minister Sushila Karki on Monday inducted four new ministers into her interim cabinet, raising its strength to eight.

President Ramchandra Poudel administered the oath of office to former Justice Anil Kumar Sinha, National Innovation Centre founder Jagadish Pun, journalist Mahabir Pun, and expert Madan Pariyar at a ceremony held at the presidential office, Sheela Niwas.

With the inclusion of four new ministers, the strength of the Karki-led Council of Ministers has reached eight. The Prime Minister has kept several important portfolios with her.

Sinha is the Minister for Industry, Commerce and Supplies, while Kharel is the Minister for Communication and Information Technology. Pariyar is the Minister for Agriculture and Livestock Development, while Pun is the Minister for Education and Science and Technology.

The ministers assumed office soon after taking oath.

Nepal's constitution allows the Council of Ministers to have up to 25 members, including the Prime Minister. However, Karki recently suggested that her interim cabinet might have only 11 members.

On Sunday, the President's Office announced that five new ministers would take the oath on Monday. However, Sangita Kaula Mishra was later dropped due to her controversial background.

China silent on US H-1B visa hike says doors open for global talent

Beijing: China on Monday commented on US President Donald Trump's move to impose a hefty USD 100,000 fee for H-1B visas, but at the same time invited global professionals to work in the country as it prepares to roll out a new employment visa next month.

On Friday, the Trump administration announced a one-time USD 100,000 fee on H-1B visas.

"We have no comment on the US's visa policy," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media briefing here when asked about Trump's decision.

But at the same time, he invited global professionals to work in China.

"In a globalised world, cross-border flow of talents is instrumental in global technological and economic advancement," he said.

"China welcomes talents from various sectors and fields across the



China plays it cool on US H-1B visa hike, highlights its doors are open for global talent

world to come and find their footing in China for the progress of humanity and career success," he said.

Indians account for nearly 71 per cent (over 2.8 lakh) of all H-1B visas, followed by Chinese professionals with around 11.7 per cent or over 46,600.

While the US tightens its visa regime, China last month announced a new work permit called the K-Visa under which qualified professionals from across the world can come to the country and explore work opportunities.

The K-Visa, set to take effect from Oct 1,

is aimed at attracting young science and technology talent and does not require a domestic employer or entity to issue an invitation.

According to the state-run Xinhua news agency, the new visa category was approved by the State Council and signed into law by Premier Li

"We have no comment on the US's visa policy," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media briefing here when asked about Trump's decision.

Qiang last month as part of amendments to China's entry and exit regulations.

China's silence on the H-1B issue comes against the backdrop of trade negotiations with the US, where student and work visas are also under discussion.

Last week, Trump and President Xi Jinping spoke over the phone, during which they reportedly agreed to the US takeover of the popular Chinese app TikTok.

The US and Chinese trade negotiators concluded their fourth round of talks in Spain last week to reach a trade deal on tariffs.

As per the decision, China will add the K-Visa category to its existing

US lawmakers visiting China seek to improve military cooperation



Beijing: The United States wants to improve military-to-military ties with China, a US lawmaker leading a bipartisan congressional delegation said Monday at a meeting with China's defence minister in Beijing.

The visit is the first from the House of Representatives to China since 2019, and comes as tensions have risen between the two countries over trade, technology and opposing views on global conflicts. A group of US senators visited Beijing in 2023.

The current delegation is led by Rep Adam Smith, a Democrat on the House Armed Services Committee. The group met with Chinese Defence Minister Dong Jun and separately, with Vice Premier He Lifeng, after holding talks with Premier Li Qiang on

Sunday. "We want to open up better the lines of communication between our two countries in general, in particular between our defence (structures)," Smith told Dong ahead of their meeting.

He added that he believed both China and the US wanted to uphold global peace and security, which made it important for the sides to maintain open communication lines.

"And we have disagreements, without question, but I think it makes it all the more important that we have open discussions about how to resolve those differences," he added.

Dong said the lawmakers' visit "shows a good phase in strengthening China-US communications, which is the right thing to do".

24 killed in blast at TTP compound in northwest Pak

Peshawar: At least 24 people, including women and children, were killed and several others injured on Monday when explosive materials stored at a compound owned by the Pakistani Taliban exploded in northwest Pakistan, police said.

The residents, however, claimed that air strikes hit the compound in Tirah Valley's Matur Dara



area in Khyber district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, bordering Afghanistan.

No official statement has been issued by the government regarding the tragedy.

Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf party's provincial branch claimed that the "jet bombing" in the Tirah Valley destroyed five houses. It said that 20 bodies have been recovered from the rubble.

The local administration denied the claims about aerial strikes by the

Pakistani fighter jets on the compound, saying the explosives used in bomb making exploded, causing the death of 24 people, including 14 militants.

At least 10 civilians, including women and children, were killed, along with 14 militants in the explosion, Station House Officer, Tirah police Station, Zafar Khan said.

The compound had been home to a large

number of local militant leaders and operatives, including dozens of Afghan fighters. It was regarded as a hub for the production of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and sniper training.

The locals have announced the closure of Bara Bazaar, demanding accountability and protection.

Protesters accused government authorities of

failing to ensure the safety of citizens and called upon elected representatives to play an active role in addressing the community's grievances.

Mohammad Iqbal Khan Afridi, Member of the National Assembly from Khyber, expressed grief in a video message, saying the women and children were among those killed in the "shelling by jets."

BUSINESS

Countdown begins for MetLife's Hack4Job India 2025

New Delhi:

With just days to go, the buzz is building around MetLife's Hack4Job India 2025 coding challenge, set to take place on September 27 at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre. The in-person hackathon is drawing more than 10,000 registered participants, making it one of the most anticipated tech events of the year.

The challenge is open to professionals worldwide, with opportunities focused on MetLife's technology centers in Hyderabad and Pune. Participants include experts in data engineering, software development, SDET, Scrum Masters, and other specialized domains. Competing in teams, they will tackle real-world, industry-relevant problems, aiming to deliver innovative solutions. Along with prizes such as top tech gadgets, standout performers will earn direct interview opportunities with MetLife's Global Technology team.

"At MetLife, we are harnessing the power of AI, data, and cloud-native solutions to solve

The challenge is open to professionals worldwide, with opportunities focused on MetLife's technology centers in Hyderabad and Pune. Participants include experts in data engineering, software development, SDET, Scrum Masters, and other specialized domains.

real-world challenges and reimagine the future of the financial services industry," said Ashish K Srivastava, Managing Director, MetLife Global Capability Center. "Hack4Job India 2025 is an exciting platform for exceptional talent to demonstrate their capabilities, network with like-minded peers, and potentially launch a rewarding career delivering contemporary technology solutions with us."

The countdown is on, and for many aspiring technologists, Hack4Job India 2025 could be the first step toward a transformative career.

India's Plastic Industry on track for \$44.6 Billion by 2030, exports to double by 2027

TSN/Mumbai: India's plastic industry is entering a new phase of growth, with the domestic market projected to expand from its current valuation of USD 26.61 billion in 2025 to USD 44.59 billion by 2030. This trajectory represents a healthy compound annual growth rate of 10.88%. Exports are also gaining momentum, expected to double to USD 25 billion by 2027 from USD 12.5 billion recorded in FY 2024-25.

Speaking at the launch of the Plastindia 2026 campaign, Ravish Kamath, President of the Plastindia Foundation, highlighted the drivers behind this surge. "Large-scale infrastructure programs and accelerating consumer demand across packaging, automotive, construction, and electronics are fueling growth. Packaging alone, driven by the boom in e-commerce, holds a 42% share, underscoring plastics' critical role in modern commerce. Western India, particu-



larly Gujarat and Maharashtra, remains the consumption epicenter thanks to their strong petrochemical clusters," he said.

The campaign for Plastindia 2026, one of the country's most significant industry exhibitions, was formally launched by Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta.

The event, organized by the Plastindia Foundation, brings together leading associations, organizations, and institutions connected with the plastics sector.

Exports, a vital barometer of the industry's global competitiveness, continue to show resilience. "India's plastic exports reached USD

10.34 billion in early 2025, covering products such as plastic films, industrial parts, and specialty polymers. This demonstrates the robust global demand for Indian plastics and our manufacturing capabilities. North India, particularly the Delhi-NCR region, contributes about 23% of

Speaking at the launch of the Plastindia 2026 campaign, Ravish Kamath, President of the Plastindia Foundation, highlighted the drivers behind this surge.

national consumption, further cementing its role as a major hub," Kamath noted.

Plastindia 2026 is being positioned not just as an industry showcase, but as a statement of intent. Alok Tibrewala, Chairman of the National Executive Committee of Plastindia 2026, emphasized its commitment to sustainability and innovation. "Plastindia 2026 will be a zero-waste exhibition, presenting a responsible and globally competitive Indian plastics industry aligned with the Swachh Bharat Mission. The exhibition will highlight India's emergence as a global leader, with a focus on innovation, sustainability, and digital transformation," he said.

Hughes Systique Expands with New Office in Dehradun

Shimla: Hughes Systique Corporation (HSC), a global provider of software solutions and digital engineering services, has expanded its presence in India with the launch of a new office in Dehradun, the capital city of Uttarakhand.

The new facility, located at Iksana Workspaces in the Chrysler Tech Centre on Sahasrtrahara Road, marks HSC's fourth office in India. Designed to fos-



ter collaboration and creativity, the office

features modern ergonomic spaces, lush out-

door green zones overlooking the hills, and a

contemporary cafeteria offering a balance of productivity and relaxation.

HSC said the move reflects its commitment to serving customers in the defense sector while tapping into the region's largely under-covered talent pool. By expanding to Dehradun, the company aims to empower local engineers and strengthen its diversity goals by integrating fresh perspectives and innovative

ideas from the area.

The inauguration was attended by senior leaders including Ajay Gupta, SVP - Global Sales & Marketing; Manoj Mishra and Prabhat Kumar Sahoo, both AVPs - Engineering; Sanjeev Dossajh, AVP - Administration; Sanjoy Sarkar, Sr. Director - Sales & BD; and Managing Director Vinod Sood.

Speaking on the occasion, Sood said, "The inauguration of the Dehradun facility is

not just a proud moment for us but is also testament to the value of customer centricity that we hold so dear since our inception days. This will allow us to work in complete cohesion with our customers in the defense space and also contribute towards making Bharat truly Atmanirbhar with the aspirational engineers of Uttarakhand and the northern region powering it."

DSM Fresh Food Limited's IPO to open on Sept. 26

New Delhi:

DSM Fresh Food Limited ("Company"), established in 2015, operates under the brand name Zappfresh and is one of the leading omnichannel retailer (Online B2C and offline B2B) of fresh meat and ready to cook/ eat products (chicken, mutton and seafood).

Zappfresh was founded with a vision to transform India's highly fragmented meat retail sector and operates on an integrated supply chain model encompassing sourcing, processing, cold storage, and distribution.

This ensures high-quality, hygienic, and fresh meat delivery to both retail consumers and HoReCa (Hotel, Restaurant, Catering) partners. The Company proposes to launch its Initial Public Offering ("IPO" or the "Offer"), scheduled to open on Friday, September 26, 2025, and close on Tuesday, September 30, 2025, with a price band of Rs. 96 - Rs. 101 per equity share of face value Rs. 10 each ("Equity Shares"). The Anchor Investor Bid/Issue Period will be held on Thursday, September 25, 2025, one working day prior to the Issue opening date. Initial Public Offering up to 59,06,400 Equity Shares of Rs. 10/- each ("Equity Shares") DSM Fresh Food Limited ("DSM" or the "Company") at issue price band of Rs. 96 - Rs. 101/- per equity share ("The Issue"). Out of the issue, 3,31,200 Equity Shares aggregating to Rs. 334.51 Lakhs will be reserved for subscription by Market Maker ("Market Maker Reservation Portion").

Abhishek Sharma reveals secret behind 'L' celebration

Dubai: Flamboyant opener Abhishek Sharma spilt the beans about the hidden secret behind his 'L' celebration and how skipper Suryakumar Yadav reminded him of his father Raj Kumar Sharma, during his 74-run blitzkrieg which inspired India to a six-wicket victory against arch-rival Pakistan in the Super Fours clash at the ongoing Asia Cup in Dubai.

Abhishek wreaked havoc at the Dubai International Stadium by bringing the bunder down with his relentless onslaught. During India's pursuit of the 172-run target, the young southpaw dismantled Pakistan's pace attack with ruthless aggression. He left carriage by conjuring 74 runs from a mere 36 deliveries at a whopping strike rate of 189.74, to clear India's way to glory.

He switched through gears to meet the demands of the situation. His stellar exploits came to an end after he dismissed his shot on Abhishek Ahmed's spinning delivery to Haris Rauf. During his entertaining knock, Abhishek revealed that Suryakumar sent him instructions on a couple of occasions to push for a single, a moment that turned back the clock and reminded him of his father.

"Today I remembered my dad because of the way you were standing and saying take one run, he used to do the same, sitting in front of the sight screen. That's where I pay the most attention to. I am used to it, and you asked me two to three times to push for a single," Abhishek told Suryakumar in a candid chat in a video posted by the BCCI.

Pakistan management protests over Fakhar Zaman's dismissal against India

Dubai: Pakistan's team management has formally raised concerns over Fakhar Zaman's highly debated dismissal during their six-wicket defeat against arch-rival India in the Super Fours fixture at the ongoing Asia Cup in Dubai on Sunday, according to Samaa TV.

After Pakistan was put to bat by India, Fakhar was promoted to the opening slot and toyed with the Indian field by breeling in back-to-back fours off pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah in the second over. However, his exploits were cut short by Hardik Pandya's moment of brilliance in the next over.

The Indian all-rounder rolled his fingers and bowled an off-cutter to induce a thick edge off Fakhar, which flew to wicketkeeper Sanju Samson. The on-field umpires were unsure about the legality of the catch and sent it upstairs for confirmation. Fakhar hung around the umpires while the third umpire, Ruchira Palliyaguruge, checked different angles and confirmed Samson had legally taken the catch.

On Monday, Samaa TV reported that Pakistan's team management has alleged that the third umpire failed to review the evidence properly. Pakistan's team manager, Naveed Akram Cheema, has written an email to the match referee and umpires, questioning the decision-making process that led to Fakhar being declared out.

Bayuma ruled out with calf injury; de Kock back in white-ball squads for South Africa

New Delhi: South Africa's Test captain Temba Bavuma has been ruled out of the team's first assignment in their World Test Championship (WTC) title defence, against Pakistan, after suffering a calf strain. Bavuma picked up the injury during the recent white-ball tour of England and is expected to be sidelined for six to eight weeks. In his absence, Aiden Markram will lead the Test side, as per ESPNcricinfo.

The squad has also seen a recall for off-spinner Simon Harmer, who last played a Test in March 2023. He joins Senuran Muthusamy and Preenelan Subrayen in the spin attack. First-class spinner Keshav Maharaj is recovering from a groin injury sustained in England, will only be available for the second Test.

In another big development, wicketkeeper-batter Quinton de Kock has reversed his retirement from ODI cricket and has been named in both the ODI and T20I squads for the Pakistan tour. De Kock's last international appearance was in the T20 World Cup final in Barbados in June 2024.

South Africa have



Bavuma sidelined with calf injury, de Kock returns to boost SA white-ball squads

opted to rest most of their all-format players, barring Corbin Bosch and Dewald Brevis, for the white-ball leg of the Pakistan tour. David Miller will captain the T20I squad, while Matthew Breetzke will lead the ODI squad.

Ahead of the Pakistan Tests, South Africa will also play a T20I in Namibia to inaugurate the new stadium in Windhoek. That fixture will feature a second-string squad led by Donovan Ferreira, which includes de Kock, Nandre Burger, Gerald Coetzee, Reeza Hendricks, Lhuan-dre Pretorius, and Rivaldo Moonsamy. Ferreira has also

earned a place in the ODI squad to face Pakistan, alongside Burger, Coetzee and de Kock. Left-arm spinners George Linde and Bjorn Fortuin have been brought back into the mix, legspinner Ngaba Peter has also been included. Notably, Tabraiz Shamsi, who declined a national contract, has been left out, as has pacer Anrich Nortje, who has also not signed a deal.

The Test squad retains most of the core that clinched the WTC mace against Australia in June. Brevis, Subrayen and Zubayr Hamza are the fresh additions, while there is no space

for Dane Paterson or Lungi Ngidi, who has been included in the white-ball squads. Kagiso Rabada, Marco Jansen and Wiaan Mulder lead the pace unit.

"Tamba's calf strain will unfortunately keep him sidelined for six to eight weeks, but the focus is on giving him the best chance to be fully ready for the India tour in November," Proteas head coach Shukri Conrad said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

"Naturally, we are disappointed not to have Temba available. He has been such an important leader and batter for us in the Test

side, and his presence on and off the field will be missed," he noted.

"At the same time, the majority of the Test squad have experience of playing in the subcontinent and understand the demands that come with it, so I'm confident they will embrace the challenge. Pakistan is one of the tougher places to tour, and with spin-friendly conditions expected and Keshav only available from the second game, it was important to have an experienced campaigner like Simon in the squad to provide extra depth in the spin department," he added.

De Kock's comeback follows months of speculation about his international future. While he never formally retired from T20Is, he had not been picked since the 2024 T20 World Cup and his long-term commitment was unclear. Head coach Shukri Conrad confirmed that discussions with the wicketkeeper-batter have now ensured his availability for the national team again.

"Quinton's return to the white-ball space is a major boost for us," he said, as quoted from ESPNcricinfo.

Ponting suggests moving Travis Head to No.3 batting position in Ashes



New Delhi: Former Australia captain Ricky Ponting believes vice-captain Travis Head's aggressive approach could give Australia early momentum against England's pace attack in the upcoming home Ashes series.

Looking to keep hold of the urn and carry on in their ICC World Test Championship 2025-27 campaign, Ponting also feels the move would create space for all-rounders Cameron Green and Beau Webster to bat together in the middle order, according to ICC website.

"The way England play their cricket, to have someone like Travis Head coming in at No.3 and be able to put some pressure back on the likes of Jofra Archer and Mark Wood and these guys, that's another way they could look at it if they really want to get on the front foot and try and dominate England

through this Ashes summer," Ponting told radio station SEN on Monday, according to ICC website.

Head has established himself at No.5 in recent years, scoring 3963 runs at an average of 41.71 with nine centuries across 60 Tests. His strike rate of close to 70 has made him one of Australia's most game-aware and attacking batters in the middle order.

The left-hand batter also boasts impressive numbers against England at home, with 357 runs coming across four Tests in the Ashes 2021-22 edition, and a total of 910 runs across 13 matches across all venues.

However, Ponting believes a promotion could unlock even greater impact, just as it did during his own career when he shifted from No.6 to No.3 during the 2001 Ashes, going on to score over 10,000 runs in that position.

KL Rahul joins Goa Guardians as co-owner in Prime Volleyball League

Panaji: Indian cricketer KL Rahul has joined the ownership group of the Goa Guardians ahead of Season 4 of the Prime Volleyball League (PVL), marking a new chapter for Indian volleyball.

Now, for the first time as Co-Owner of a professional sports team, Rahul wants to give volleyball there recognition it deserves. "This feels like a full circle moment for me. PVL is a turning point for the sport in India."

"The bigger picture is to give volleyball the spotlight and screen time so that more people can watch it and love this sport. I am thrilled to join the Goa Guardians not just as a supporter, but as a co-owner. Volleyball has always been a sport I enjoyed, and I'm excited to lend my voice and play my part in growing the sport in our country," he said, according to a press release.

The Goa Guardians, debuting in Season 4 this October, will compete alongside top franchises in a high-energy format designed for television and digital audiences. KL Rahul believes Goa's vibrant sporting culture makes it the perfect base to inspire new talent.



KL Rahul enters volleyball court. Joins Goa Guardians as co-owner in PVL.

Welcoming him, Raju Chekuri, Principal Owner, Goa Guardians & Founder, Neterich, said: "We are delighted to have KL Rahul join our ownership group. His passion for volleyball and belief in its potential will help us build a franchise that inspires fans and empowers athletes. Volleyball is one of the most played sports in the world, and with the right platform, it can become India's next Olympic success story."

Raj Chekuri, Managing Director, Goa Guardians, added: "It means a lot to have KL along with us, and we wouldn't have a better person join us on this journey. He truly

shares our ambition of making India a dominant force in global sport. His involvement will help raise volleyball's profile and create opportunities for the next generation of athletes nationwide."

Joy Bhattacharjya, CEO, Volleyball League, said, "KL Rahul's support adds immense value to what we are building toward; the dream of seeing India compete in volleyball at the Olympic Games. His presence will attract more fans and accelerate the growth of the sport in India."

The matches of PVL will be streamed on their YouTube channel from October 2 to 26, 2025.

Trinbago Knight Riders script history with their fifth CPL title

Georgetown: Trinbago Knight Riders scripted history by clinching their fifth Caribbean Premier League (CPL) title with a thrilling three-wicket win over Guyana Amazon Warriors in a tense, low-scoring final in Providence on Sunday.

Akeal Hosein was the Player of the Match in the final, courtesy his contributions with bat and ball. The all-rounder bagged figures of 2/26 before hitting the winning runs for his side, scoring a six and five off seven deliveries while chasing a target of 131. Saurabh Netravalkar also made significant contributions, registering figures of 3/25, as per a CPL press release.

The night also belonged to Kieron Pollard, who extended his legacy with a record 18th T20 title. The experienced all-rounder delivered under pressure with a crucial hand in the chase, scoring 21 off 12 balls. He also amassed 383 runs in the tournament in 11 innings at an average of over 54 and a strike rate of above 174 with three half-centuries (his best season as a bat-



Trinbago Knight Riders Script history with their 5th CPL title

ter in the CPL), earning the 'Player of the Tournament' award for his timely contributions.

In his typical style, Pollard shared his feelings in the post-match interview, saying, "It means a lot. There are three countries where we have played (this season), and the feeling is boring now. You have a guy who has represented the entire Caribbean, putting them on the map in a particular format. Yet, we do not appreciate him. I am not bitter, but

I feel sorry, not for myself. God has given me the opportunity to represent my country and my family. I do it because I love the sport, and this means a lot - being five-time champions. Player of the Tournament and a winner at 38 years old. It means a lot."

Sunil Narine, another legendary West Indian in the TKR squad, also chipped in with a vital cameo with the bat in the final. Scoring 22 runs off 17 balls, he played a key supporting role in stabilising the innings in the run chase for his side.

The triumph also marked a significant moment for captain Nicholas Pooran, who clinched his maiden trophy as captain. To make the moment even more special, he achieved the feat at the same ground where he made his T20 debut. Pooran led the way for his side with 426 runs in the tournament, and was ably supported by Colin Munro (416 runs) and Alex Hales (386 runs).

Rishabh Pant set to miss India's two home Tests against West Indies

New Delhi: India's pugnacious wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant is set to miss the two-match home Test series against West Indies, commencing in Ahmedabad from October 2, according to ESPNcricinfo.

India's selection meeting will take place on September 24. According to ESPNcricinfo, the Ajit Agarkar-led selection panel will name a 15-player squad, two fewer than the squad for the 3-0 series defeat against New Zealand in October 2024, the last home series India played.

Pant, who served as Test captain Shubman Gill's deputy during the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy in Eng-



Big blow for Team India: Rishabh Pant set to miss two home Tests vs West Indies

land this year, suffered a fractured left foot on the opening day of the fourth Test in Man-

chester, Tamil Nadu's N Jagadeesan was named

According to ESPNcricinfo, Pant has been undergoing strength and conditioning. He is awaiting further updates from the BCCI medical team before he can resume batting and keeping.

Pant's replacement in the squad for the final Test at the Oval.

According to ESPNcricinfo, Pant has been undergoing strength and conditioning. He is awaiting further updates from the BCCI medical team before he can resume batting and keeping. As of now, there is no firm timeline drawn for his re-

turn to on-field action. After the West Indies series, India will travel to Australia for a white-ball series, which will commence on October 19.

In Pant's absence, Dhruv Jurel is expected to keep the wickets for India against the Caribbean side. He manned the gloves for India's last two Tests against England. Jurel is currently a part of the India A squad for the multi-day game against Australia A in Lucknow. Jagadeesan, who opened for India A, swapped keeping duties with Jurel, and could be selected as the back-up if the selectors opt to choose a second specialist wicketkeeper.

According to ESPNcricinfo, the selectors

are also mulling over the inclusion of Nitish Kumar Reddy and Devdutt Padikkal for the Test series. Padikkal made 150 for India A against Australia A in the first four-day game in Lucknow. He has played two Tests for India.

Reddy, a promising all-rounder, toured Australia and England with India. He has seven Test caps to his name. He was in contention to make a comeback in the first game against Australia A, after sustaining a knee injury in England. However, he wasn't included in the final XI. Both players have been included in the squad for the second four-day game, which begins on Tuesday in Lucknow.

India beat Pakistan 3-2 in highly charged SAFF U17 Championship game

New Delhi: India maintained their stranglehold over arch-rivals Pakistan across sports as the country's football team notched a 3-2 victory in a highly-charged SAFF U17 Championship match here on Monday in which losing team member Muhammad Abdullah's controversial celebration attracted attention. In the game that rendered inconsequential after both teams qualified for the semifinals, India took the lead in the 21st minute through Dullamoun Gangte.

Pakistan drew level in the 43rd minute when a penalty was converted by Abdullah, after which, he ran to the corner, sat down, and, in a unique celebration with his teammates, seemed to be drinking tea.

But that mocking celebration backfired on Pakistan as they had to eat the humble pie with India stamping their superiority in actual play. Abdullah's celebration, though, became a talking point after the match. Gunleba Wangkenrakpan restored India's lead in the 69th minute, only for Hama Yasir to equalise for Pakistan seven minutes later. Rahan Ahmed, then, stepped up to score the match-winning goal for India in the 73rd minute.

Abdullah's controversial celebration came only a day after Pakistan cricketers Hans Rauf and Shaikeez Parham made provocative gestures during their Asia Cup Super six match against India in Dubai on Sunday.

India won the Asia Cup game by six wickets, before their younger footballing counterparts got the better of Pakistan at the Racecourse International Stadium in the Sri Lanka capital.

The Indian football team's breakthrough came in the 21st minute. Danny Singh Wangkenheer was the first to mark before delivering a pinpoint ball into the path of Dullamoun Gangte. With time and space, Gangte rifled home a strike, giving India the lead.

New Delhi: Usain Bolt, the eight-time Olympic gold medalist, world record holder, and global sporting icon will trade his running spikes for football boots in a one-of-a-kind spectacle in Mumbai on October 1. Taking centre stage, the fastest man on earth will light up the pitch in an exclusive football showcase alongside top teams and players, as per a release from PUMA.

Featuring footballers, Bollywood personalities, and other prominent figures, the match promises to be a spectacle like no other. Adding to the excitement, Bolt will represent both Bengaluru FC and Mumbai City FC, playing one half each, bringing fans from both camps together in a grand celebration of sport, entertainment, and community, with PUMA uniting its two partner football clubs on the same stage.

Karthik Balagopalan, managing director,

Sachin Yadav tries to outdo himself against Neeraj Chopra

New Delhi: Following his breakthrough fourth-place finish at the recently-concluded World Athletics Championships in Tokyo, where he featured alongside Neeraj Chopra in the men's javelin throw competition, Indian javelin thrower Sachin Yadav said that he was "competing with himself" during the competition and felt really bad about the superstar athlete finishing eighth in his world title defence.

During the men's javelin event recently during the World Championships in Tokyo, Sachin impressed with a fourth-place finish and best throw of 86.27 m, his personal best throw. He was even in contention for a medal at one point. However, it was a tough day at the office for Neeraj, who could register an underwhelming best throw of 84.03 m



Sachin Yadav pushes limits in clash with Neeraj Chopra

during his title defence to finish eighth, ending his streak of top-two finishes lasting 26 events.

Sachin said about his performance, "I feel very happy with my performance. It was not like I beat Neeraj, he was injured. He was injured

and could have thrown better. I competed with myself. It was not like I was trying to outdo someone; I was trying to compete with myself and outdo myself."

The 25-year-old admitted that it felt "weird" to him witnessing Neeraj

not being at the podium and even called him, and Neeraj took his rare setback in a sporting way.

"I felt weird. It was the first time I saw him out of the podium since I started playing. I felt bad. I called him and told him that I felt bad

that you were not on the podium. He told me that it is okay, it is sports, ups and downs happen," he said.

Recently in a media interview, Neeraj's former coach Uwe Hahn, who is the only one to throw the javelin beyond 100 m with a throw of 104.80 m had said that "Sachin could throw upto 95 m and dominate the sport like him and Jan Zelemy (Neeraj's current coach)."

Speaking on the same, Sachin said, "If such a massive thrower is saying this about me, it is a matter of pride. I am trying to do my best."

On his preparations for the Asian Games taking place in Japan next year, Sachin said that nothing has been decided, and his coach and federation will plan it.

Sachin admitted that the competition in the Indian javelin scene is growing.

Penesta Open National Tennis Championship kicks off on September 29 at DLTA



Senia Mirza, and Rituja Bhosele.

New Delhi: The 30th Penesta Open National Tennis Championship begins on September 29 at the DLTA Complex, New Delhi, as per a release from Penesta Open National Tennis Championship.

The Penesta Open is India's largest domestic tennis championship, drawing top contenders from across the country. As the only comprehensive national championship covering Men, Women, and U-18/U-16/U-14 (Boys & Girls) categories, the tournament has seen participation from leading Indian stars over the years, including Rohan Bopanna, Somdev Devvarman, Yuki Bhambri,

Senia Mirza, and Rituja Bhosele.

Speaking on the 30-year milestone, Ajay S Shirram, chairman & senior managing director and Vikram Shirram, vice chairman & managing director, DCM Shirram Ltd., said: "We are proud to celebrate the 30th edition of the Penesta Open National Tennis Championship, an enduring platform for Indian tennis. Our focus has been consistent: identify promise early, back it with opportunity, and help athletes scale from national performance to global ambition," as quoted from a release by Penesta Open National Tennis Championship.

Darsh had earlier dominated the CSEB North Zone Championship in Sonapat, where he clinched five gold medals. His consistent performance there earned him a spot in the Nationals, and he lived up to expectations by making it to the podium against the best swimmers from across India and abroad.

Speaking on his achievement, Dr. Jitinder Tokas, Head Coach of

SFIA's Darsh Singh Wins His First National Medal

New Delhi:

Darsh Singh, a promising 15-year-old swimmer from Haryana and a Class X student at Eicher School, Faridabad, achieved a career milestone by winning his first National Medal in the 200m Butterfly at the CSEB National Swimming Championship held from September 17-21 at MD, University Swimming Pool, Rohtak. 252 teams and 614 participants from nine zones across India and abroad representing CSEB schools in Dubai, Qatar, and Oman joined the competition, making it a truly prestigious event.

Darsh had earlier dominated the CSEB North Zone Championship in Sonapat, where he clinched five gold medals. His consistent performance there earned him a spot in the Nationals, and he lived up to expectations by making it to the podium against the best swimmers from across India and abroad.

Speaking on his achievement, Dr. Jitinder Tokas, Head Coach of



Darsh Singh celebrates his national medal for SFIA

Swim for India Academy (SFIA), said: "This medal is not only Darsh's success but also the success of our training system and teamwork at SFIA. We have been focusing on building athletes who understand technique, underwater skills, and strength training both in and out of the pool. Darsh has shown that when you combine discipline with passion, results follow."

Coach Dr. Tokas added: "At the academy, our long-term goal is clear-developing swimmers who can compete at the highest level, whether it's the Commonwealth

Games, World Championship or the Olympics. Winning at the National stage is just the beginning, and medals like these give us confidence that with patience and persistence, we can prepare swimmers to represent India on the world stage."

The academy has been training intensively with a renewed focus on technical preparation and all-round conditioning. The team is now preparing for the National School Games, to be held in Delhi later this year, where they aim to continue their strong run.

Breaking Time

What to do

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digit 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only correct solution.

		8	6	7	4			
7	6			2		1	8	
	4	9				6		
	5			9		4		
	2	1		8	7			
1	4			8				
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5	2	7				8	4	
	1	8		4	3			

Solution, Sudoku

4	5	1	9	3	8	7	6	2
8	7	6	2	1	4	5	9	3
9	3	2	6	7	5	4	1	8
3	6	4	5	9	1	8	2	7
5	2	7	4	8	6	9	3	1
1	9	8	3	2	7	6	4	5
7	8	3	1	6	9	2	5	4
6	1	5	7	4	2	3	8	9
2	4	9	8	5	3	1	7	6

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Sprint king Usain Bolt to dazzle on football field as he visits India to thrill his fans

New Delhi: Usain Bolt, the eight-time Olympic gold medalist, world record holder, and global sporting icon will trade his running spikes for football boots in a one-of-a-kind spectacle in Mumbai on October 1. Taking centre stage, the fastest man on earth will light up the pitch in an exclusive football showcase alongside top teams and players, as per a release from PUMA.

Featuring footballers, Bollywood personalities, and other prominent figures, the match promises to be a spectacle like no other. Adding to the excitement, Bolt will represent both Bengaluru FC and Mumbai City FC, playing one half each, bringing fans from both camps together in a grand celebration of sport, entertainment, and community, with PUMA uniting its two partner football clubs on the same stage.

Karthik Balagopalan, managing director,



From track to turf! Usain Bolt sets to electrify India with football magic

PUMA India, said "At PUMA, we believe sport has the power to inspire and unite communities. Football is one of the most popular sports among the youth of India, and bringing Usain Bolt -- our global ambassador and one of the

greatest icons in world sport -- to play here is our way of celebrating that momentum. Bolt is excited and looking forward to taking the pitch in Mumbai, and this unique showcase with Bengaluru FC and Mumbai City FC

is designed to fuel the passion of young fans while reinforcing our long-term commitment to the growth of football in India," as quoted from a release by PUMA.

Beyond the track, Usain Bolt has always car-

Pranavi, Hitaashee are tied for 47th place in La Sella Open on LET

Alicante: Pranavi Urs and Hitaashee Bakshi were tied for 47th place with one more round to go in the 2025 La Sella Open. Pranavi carded an even par 72, while Hitaashee shot 1-over 73.

Pranavi had two birdies and two bogeys all on the back nine of the course and between the 13th and the 18th.

Hitaashee had four birdies, but she also gave away three bogeys and a double bogey on Par-5 ninth.

The other Indians, Diksha Dagar, Twiss Malik, Avani Prashanth, Ridhima Dilwari and Vani Kapoor had missed the halfway cut.

Canada's Anna Huang continued her fine form at the 2025 La Sella Open, producing a round of 69 (-3) on day three to hold a three-stroke lead heading into the final day. The 16-year-old has held the lead since the start of the tournament and began well with a birdie on the 11th hole at La Sella Golf Resort. Huang sits at the top of the leaderboard with a score of 17-under-par.



Pranavi and Hitaashee battle for 47th in La Sella Open

Huang, who is in her rookie season on the Ladies European Tour (LET), made another birdie on the ninth before back-to-back birdies on 11 and 12.

After back-to-back bogey-free rounds, the teenager dropped her first shot of the week on her 15 - she had not made a bogey in her previous 62 holes in competition on the LET.

If she were to win on the LET on Sunday, Huang would join an elite club of players to win on Tour before their 17th birthday - the last

player to do so was Germany's Chiara Neja at the Aramo Team Series - Riyadh in 2022.

France's Nastasia Nadaud sits in second place on 14-under-par after carding a round of 69 (-3) on day two. Ireland's Lauren Walsh is in solo third place on the leaderboard after a bogey-free round of 66 (-6).

Three players are in a share of fourth place with Australia's Maddison Hinson-Tokchar, Slovenia's Pia Babnik and Singapore's Shannon Tan all on nine-under-par.



Rukmini Vasanth opens up about her character in 'Kantara: Chapter 1'

Mumbai
Rukmini Vasanth will be seen donning the role of Princess Kanakavathi in Kantara: Chapter 1. Sharing her experience working in the film, Rukmini, in a press note, said, "For me, Princess Kanakavathi has been one of the most special journeys of my life. It wasn't just about looking regal—it was more about carrying a piece of our land, our folklore, and our faith in every movement. I think that's why the trailer feels so powerful, because it's the spirit of an entire culture shining through the glimpses. Kanakavathi is royal, yes, but she is also human and vulnerable. I had to surrender to her grace, but also to her grit. I can't wait for people to meet her in theatres."



Meanwhile, on Monday,

the trailer of Kantara: Chapter 1, which stars Rishab Shetty in the lead role, was unveiled.

The trailer opens with a focus on a child's character, who tries to understand the mystery behind the disappearance of his father. It further progresses to shed light on the backstory - "a legend."

In the trailer, a village is shown being tormented by a ruthless king, 'Kulasekara', when they are blessed with an angel of God to protect humankind. With this,

Rishab Shetty enters as the lead protagonist, fighting the enemies as he fearlessly takes a stand for the villagers.

Amid a fierce clash with Kulasekara, the trailer also offers a glimpse into the blooming romance between Rishab and Rukmini.

Kangana Ranaut hails Centre's "next-gen" GST reforms

A Mandi actor and Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MP Kangana Ranaut has come out in support of the Centre's Goods and Services Tax (GST) reforms.

The actor described the reforms as a "landmark decision" and a major step toward the goal of 'Viksit Bharat'.

"We are trying to bring awareness about the next-gen reforms, which are meant for the convenience of the public. It is the time to become 'Swadeshi' and show support for the hard work," she said. Kangana voiced the need for S the people of the country to stand tall in unity. The actor and Mandi MP also reflected on how the GST reforms could benefit the state of Himachal Pradesh.

"Himachal has a lot of potential. If we could blend khadi and cotton while working with workers across different states, this would reach global markets. I feel Ayurveda should be promoted here; the Ayurveda herbs found here can be used to make chemical-free soaps

and cosmetics. If we get the Centre's help, there can be organic industries," she said.

Kangana mentioned the potential of the younger generation, adding, "We just need to come together. We have to take care of being independent."

In another interaction with the media, she reiterated the significance of the GST reforms for the traders and business units. "We want the reforms to be celebrated as a savings festival across the country. We have come forward with the message of Swadeshi to take our country even further. People must know about self-dependence," she said.

Earlier today, Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the rationalisation of GST, calling it a "double bonanza" given to the people during the season of festivals.

"From today, next generation GST reforms have been implemented, and GST Bachat Utsav has started. On the occasion of festivals, the people have gotten a double bonanza," the Prime Minister said while addressing a public event in Itanagar.



Soha, Saba pay moving tributes to their "abba" Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi on death anniversary

Mumbai
Honouring their late father and cricketer Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi on his death anniversary, Soha Ali Khan and Saba Pataudi penned heartwarming notes on their respective social media handles.

Soha shared a series of pictures in fond memory of her "abba".

One picture captured her seated next to a framed photograph of her late father, Mansoor Ali Khan Pataudi, where a candle and flowers were placed on a table. She also shared a picture of a handwritten card made by her daughter, Inaaya.

"Today and always My Abba," Soha captioned the



post. Saba expressed that she feels fortunate to be able to walk in her father's footsteps.

"MY Abba in my heart Always n forever. Remembering you...today and can't

believe the years gone by. I can feel your presence watching over me, guiding and protective. Love you.

Miss you. Qu'ran khwai and sadga in your honor. Its a ritual I will always do. You made me mutawalli. I am blessed to follow in your footsteps. And make you proud! We have done a lot of work and been awarded the 1st prize for our efforts and contributions. You'd be happy to see that and know very chuffed too," Saba posted.

Mansoor, who was popularly known as Tiger, passed away on September 22, 2011, after battling a severe lung infection. He was 70 when he breathed his last. He was the Indian team's youngest captain at the age of 21. His father, the Nawab of Bhopal, Iftikhar Ali Khan Pataudi, was also a famous cricketer.



Pawan Kalyan locks horns with Emraan Hashmi in this crime drama

Hyderabad
The makers of Pawan Kalyan and Emraan Hashmi starrer 'OG' have finally released the trailer of the film, offering a glimpse into high-octane action drama revolving around the fictional gangster Ojas Gambheera.

Written and directed by Sujeth, the film also stars Arjun Das, Priyanka Arul Mohan, Sriya Reddy and Prakash Raj in prominent roles.

The Telugu language trailer introduces the volatile Mumbai, which is engulfed in gang wars, leading to violence and chaos in the city. At the centre lies Emraan Hashmi's character, who is on the wanted list of the police and appears to be the main culprit for the rising violence in the city.

As the trailer progresses, Pawan's character is introduced as the one who holds the power to curb the unbridled violence in the state. In the video, the actor was seen swinging a samurai sword, his ultimate weapon, to slit throats and limbs of the goons. He was also seen firing an automatic gun in a hotel, signifying his power in the film.

The movie is jointly produced by DVV Danayaya and Kalyan Dasari under the banner of DVV Entertainment.

Bollywood glamour lights up Agra ramp



Agra
Agra witnessed a dazzling evening on Sunday as the city of the Taj hosted a grand cultural fashion show, "Fashion with a Filmy Touch - Bollywood Beats," at Hotel Clarks Shiraz. The event brought together a vibrant mix of glamour, tradition, and cinematic flair, drawing audiences into a celebration of fashion and culture. The show opened with a lamp-lighting ceremony by chief guests Beena Lawania, Sakshi Nijhawan, Dr. Pankaj Mahendru, Dr. Renuka Dang, and Dr. Nikhil Chaturvedi. The highlight of the evening

was Bollywood actress Reeva Arora, who turned showstopper with her striking ramp walk, winning hearts and adding a true Bollywood sparkle to the night. Expressing her delight, Arora said, "Walking the ramp on the land of Agra has been a very special experience for me. The fusion of tradition and modernity seen in this fashion show is truly remarkable. I was deeply impressed by the beauty of Indian attire and the local culture. I am happy that this platform is giving new models the opportunity to fulfill their dreams." Models from Delhi, Mumbai, Noida, Chandigarh, and Bangalore showcased stunning traditional ensembles, weaving together Indian values, culture, and heritage on the ramp. Local artists also joined, adding a regional touch that underscored the show's cultural essence. Anil Shrivastava, Director of Bollywood Beats Pride Award, announced that participating models would receive opportunities in upcoming music video albums and shows. He also revealed plans for a Bollywood film in the Braj language, aiming to provide a global platform for local talent and promote Braj culture.

Mohanlal starrer 'Drishyam 3' shooting begins, actor shares photos from pooja ceremony

Thiruvananthapuram
The makers have finally started the shooting of Mohanlal starrer 'Drishyam 3' on Monday.

'Drishyam 3' is the much-awaited sequel in the Drishyam franchise, which has experienced immense success in the cinema industry, leading to several remakes in the Bollywood and South film industries.

Taking to his Instagram handle, actor Mohanlal shared the photos from the pooja ceremony, a ritual to mark the beginning of the film's shoot.

The inaugural function was marked by a traditional lamp-lighting and pooja. Director Jeethu Joseph and producer Antony Perumbavoor joined Mohanlal at the event.

In the snaps, Mohanlal was seen holding a clapboard of the film, followed by the traditional lamp



lighting and pooja with the cast and crew of the movie. The film is helmed by Jeethu Joseph while Mo-

Georgekutty in 'Drishyam' franchise. The first installment of the franchise was released in 2013.

While sharing the photos, the actor wrote, "Bringing Georgekutty's world alive once again. Today marks the beginning of Drishyam 3 with the Pooja."

'Drishyam' franchise follows the struggle of Georgekutty and his family, who come under suspicion when the son of the Inspector General (IG) of Police goes missing.

The film's massive success led to hit remakes in multiple languages: in Kannada as Drishya (2014), starring Ravichandran; in Telugu as Drushyam (2014), starring Venkatesh; in Tamil as Papanasam (2015), starring Kamal Haasan; in Hindi as Drishyam (2015), starring Ajay Devgn; and in Sinhala as Dharmayuddhaya (2017), starring Jackson Anthony.