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MARKET	
SENSEX	NIFTY
80364.94	24634.90
-61.52	-19.80
GOLD SILVER	
115,448.00	143,074.00
1,660.00	1,185.00

WEATHER	
Sunrise	6:14 AM
Sunset	6:09 PM
Moonrise	1:43 PM
Moonset	11:52 PM
Today's Prediction	
Maximum	33°C
Minimum	25°C
Tomorrow's Prediction	
Maximum	33°C
Minimum	25°C

Govt hopeful of 'desired results' post LAB's preconditions

■ LAB chairman Thupstan Chhewang and co-chairman Chering Dorjay said the restoration of a "conducive atmosphere" in Ladakh was necessary before resuming dialogue.

The Leh Apex Body (LAB), spearheading the agitation for statehood and constitutional safeguards in Ladakh, on Monday announced suspension of talks with the Centre until a judicial inquiry into the police firing is constituted and all activists, including Sonam Wangchuk, are released unconditionally.



LAB chairman Thupstan Chhewang and co-chairman Chering Dorjay said the restoration of a "conducive atmosphere" in Ladakh was necessary before resuming dialogue. Hardening its stand after the death of four protesters, the LAB said it would still rethink and join the talks on October 6 if the demands of ordering a judicial probe headed by a retired Supreme Court judge and releasing all prisoners were met by the government. "We will urge the Home Ministry and the UT administration to

take steps to address the atmosphere of fear, grief and anger that is there," the two leaders said. "We would continue to welcome the discussion with Leh Apex Body and Kargil Democratic Alliance through the High Powered Committee on Ladakh or any such platform," the statement said, pointing out the past results which had brought development and employment in the region. "The dialogue mechanism...on Ladakh has yielded good results till date in the form of increased reservations to the Scheduled Tribes of Ladakh, providing women's reservation in LAHDCs and protection to local languages. The process of recruitment for 1800 posts in government has already commenced in UT of Ladakh. "We are confident that

continuous dialogue would yield the desired results in the near future," the statement said. Meanwhile, the Leh town remained subdued, with the curfew only briefly relaxed for two hours at 4 PM on Monday. Tourists who travelled to the region are stranded, confined to their hotels, and unable to move or participate in sightseeing, with many expressing disappointment over the closed markets and suspended mobile internet services. The ongoing unrest, which saw widespread violent protests on September 24, has already dealt a fresh blow to Ladakh's tourism industry, which stakeholders say was just recovering from earlier setbacks this season. Chhewang, a two-time former Member of Parliament, said the decision on suspending talks was unanimous and added, "as long as peace is not restored and a

Trump Imposes 100% Tariff on Foreign Movies



New York: The President of the United States, Donald Trump, on Monday announced 100 per cent tariffs on movies made outside the country, in a move likely to impact the Indian film industry. "Our movie-making business has been stolen from the United States of America, by other Countries, just like stealing 'candy from a baby'," Trump posted on Truth Social on Monday. Trump said California has been particularly "hard hit" because of this, blaming democrat Gavin Newsom, the Governor of California, for this loss, calling him "weak and incompetent." "To solve this long term, never ending problem, I will be imposing a 100 per cent Tariff on any and all movies that are made outside of the United States," Trump added.

The decision is likely to impact the Indian film industry which produces movies in several languages. These movies are popular among the Indian diaspora in the US. "The move comes days after the Trump administration imposed tariffs on pharmaceutical products. Starting October 2025, the US will be imposing a 100 per cent tariff on any branded or patented pharmaceutical product, unless a company is building their pharmaceutical manufacturing plant in America, Trump said in a social media post. Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) on Friday said US President Donald Trump's move to impose 100 per cent import tariffs on pharmaceutical drugs from October 1 will impact only patented and branded products, not generic medicines.

Delhi BJP gets permanent address after 45 years

TSN/New Delhi: After a wait of 45 years, the Delhi BJP got its permanent address on DPU Marg on Monday with the unveiling of a five-storied, state-of-the-art building with a touch of south Indian architecture.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the building at a function attended by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J P Nadda, Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, several Union ministers, the party's Delhi unit chief Virendra Sachdeva, senior functionaries and leaders. Leaders of the party said the Delhi BJP Office will start shifting from its current location at Pandit Pant Marg to the new building around Diwali. The Delhi BJP currently operates from its

headquarters at a bungalow near Gurudwara Rakabganj on Pandit Pant Marg in Lutyens' Delhi. "I thank the central leadership for this permanent office of the Delhi BJP that functioned from Ajmeri Gate Chowk, Pant Marg for many years. This soothes the pain felt by the party workers in the absence of a permanent office building," Sachdeva said. The new party office

building incorporates elements of south Indian architecture, featuring high pillars at the entrance and at its facade, BJP leaders said. Located on an 825-square metre plot, the five-storied building comprises 30,000 square feet of built-up area, including the facade, entrance and pillars. It is designed to be environment-friendly and equipped with modern amenities, the party leaders said.

Canada designates Lawrence Bishnoi gang a terrorist entity

Ottawa: Canada on Monday said it has listed the Bishnoi Gang as a terrorist entity for creating a "climate of fear and intimidation". "Acts of violence and terror have no place in Canada, especially those that target specific communities to create a climate of fear and intimidation," an official statement said. The development comes more than a week after National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and his Canadian counterpart Nathalie Drouin held wide-ranging talks in New Delhi.



During their talks, the two sides had agreed to adopt a collaborative approach towards a new chapter in bilateral ties, including working closely to combat terrorism and transnational crimes. "Specific communities have been targeted for terror, violence and intimidation by the Bishnoi Gang. Listing this group of criminal terrorists gives us more powerful and effective tools to confront and put a stop to their crimes," Public Safety Minister Gary Anandasangaree said on Monday. With the addition of the Bishnoi Gang, there

are now 88 terrorist entities listed under the Criminal Code in Canada. A terrorist listing gives the federal government the power to freeze or seize property, vehicles and money, along with giving Canadian law enforcement additional tools to prosecute terrorist offences, including those related to financing, travel and recruit-

ment, according to an official statement. It is a criminal offence for anyone in Canada and Canadians abroad to knowingly deal with property owned or controlled by a terrorist group. It is also an offence to directly or indirectly provide property knowing that it will be used by or benefit a terrorist group. The Criminal Code listing can also be used by immigration and border officials to inform decisions on admissibility to Canada under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act. The Bishnoi Gang, led by Lawrence Bishnoi, is a transnational criminal organisation operating primarily out of India. They have a presence in Canada and are active in areas with significant diaspora communities, the statement said. Agency

Silver hits Rs 1.5 lakh/Kg for first time; gold record Rs 1,19,500/10g

New Delhi: Silver prices on Monday soared by Rs 7,000 to hit an all-time high of Rs 1.5 lakh per kilogram in the national capital, while gold also scaled a fresh peak of Rs 1,19,500 per 10 grams amid strong global trends as investors turned to the safe-haven asset amid concerns over a possible US government shutdown.



According to the All India Sarafa Association, the precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity climbed Rs 1,500 to

touch a lifetime high of Rs 1,19,500 per 10 grams (inclusive of all taxes). It had closed at Rs 1,18,000 per 10

grams on Saturday. In the local bullion market, gold of 99.5 per cent purity also advanced by Rs 1,500 to

hit a fresh peak of Rs 1,18,900 per 10 grams, up from Rs 1,17,400 per 10 grams in the previous session. "In the domestic market, both gold and silver reached new record highs, driven by strong bullish cues from overseas markets," said Saunil Gandhi, Senior Analyst - Commodities at HDFC Securities. So far this year, the yellow metal prices have risen Rs 40,550, or 51.36 per cent, surging from Rs 78,950 per 10 grams on December 31, 2024.

Silver prices, too, witnessed a sharp rally, and climbed Rs 7,000 to touch a record Rs 1,50,000 per kilogram (inclusive of all taxes), extending gains for the fourth straight session. The white metal had ended at Rs 1,43,000 per kg in the previous trade. The white metal prices have skyrocketed by Rs 60,300, or 67.22 per cent, in the current calendar year, rallying from Rs 89,700 per kg on December 31, 2024. Agency

Industrial production grows 4% in August lead by mining sector: Govt data

New Delhi: India's industrial production grew at 4 per cent in August, mainly due to better performance by the mining sector, according to government data released on Monday.



The Index of Industrial Production (IIP) growth rate for July has been revised upwards to 4.3 per cent from the earlier estimate of 3.5 per cent. In August 2024, the IIP recorded flat growth. "With the mining sector growth at 6 per cent, the All India Index of Industrial Production (IIP) recorded a 4 per cent year-on-year growth in

August 2025," the National Statistics Office (NSO) said. The mining sector output in August 2024 had shrunk by 4.3 per cent. The manufacturing sector, which accounts for more than three-fourths of the index, expanded by 3.8 per cent

in August this year, up from 1.2 per cent in the year-ago month. Manufacturing of 'basic metals' and 'motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers' reported a healthy growth of 12.2 per cent and 9.8 per cent, respectively. Agency

Govt hopeful of 'desired results' post LAB's preconditions

CONTD FROM PAGE-1

conducive atmosphere is not created, we will not participate in any talks."

The LAB set clear preconditions for resuming dialogue with the Home Ministry's High Powered Committee, saying that the government must order a judicial probe by a retired Supreme Court judge into the killings and all arrested, including noted Wangechuk, who was detained under the stringent National Security Act (NSA), must be released, besides revoking all cases.

Co-chairman Chering Dorjay warned that unless "right steps" are taken before the October 6 date, the LAB will not reconsider its decision to return to the table.

The leaders of the LAB strongly hit back at recent statements by the administration, which they say have levelled serious and intolerable allegations against the local populace and key figures like Wangechuk.

"The people of Ladakh will never tolerate the 'anti-national' or 'Pakistani agent' tag as they have always shown loyalty to the country," Chhewang said and demanded proof for the accusations, which reportedly suggested that protesters were in the hands of foreign powers and that Wangechuk was involved in "anti-national activities."

The leaders directly blamed the government for the violence and subsequent deaths, alleging that the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) used "excessive force, killing and injuring our people and creating an atmosphere of fear, grief and anger."

Authorities have maintained that the security forces were forced to take action in self-defence as protesters indulged in violence.

The unrest is rooted in the widespread dissatisfaction with the Union Territory status granted in 2019, which the LAB claims failed to meet their expectations for justice.

"We felt that the safeguards provided to us under Article 370 and Article 35A were eroded along with democracy, prompting us to launch a fresh agitation for our genuine rights," Chhewang said.

The movement's core demands include statehood, extension of the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, job reservation, a separate public service commission, and separate Lok Sabha seats.

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Household savings rise with BJP's governance: PM Modi



He accused the Congress government in Himachal Pradesh of indulging in "loot" by hiking the levy on cement soon after GST relief brought its price down, as he hit back at the Opposition for the criticism of his dispensation.

New Delhi **D**issing the Opposition's criticism of his government's GST measures as lies of "bayan bahadur", Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday that the BJP-NDA ushered in a "new model of good governance" and a family will now save nearly Rs 20,000 on its annual household expenditure of Rs 1 lakh compared to the UPA period.

Speaking at the inauguration of Delhi BJP headquarters here, Modi asked party workers to ensure that the benefits of next-generation GST reforms reach people, especially in opposition-led states, asserting that the decision along with the rise in Income Tax exemption, will save citizens Rs 2.5 lakh crore every year.

He accused the Congress government in Himachal Pradesh of indulging in "loot" by hiking the levy on cement soon after GST relief brought its price down, as he hit back at the Opposition for the criticism of his dispensation.

These "bayan bahadur" (those big on making rhetorical statements) are experts in peddling lies every day, he said.

Modi said Rs 25,000 of the Rs 1,00,000 spent by a family every year

on meeting its regular needs used to go to taxes under the Congress-led UPA government, and this figure is now merely Rs 5,000-6,000. A family will now save nearly Rs 20,000, he told BJP workers.

The Opposition has slammed the Modi government, saying it continued to impose high taxes on people for several years since the GST was rolled out in 2017, before rationalising the indirect tax regime recently.

The prime minister said the "BJP-NDA governments have given a new model of 'sushasan' in the country."

"We are moving for-

ward with the mantra of 'vikas bhii, vrisat bhi'. We prioritised the security of the country and the people, we freed the country from scams to give confidence for a decisive fight against corruption," the prime minister said.

"Our governments focussed on delivery and increasing the savings of common people," he said, noting that the Income Tax exemption limit was only Rs 2,00,000 during the UPA rule, while it is Rs 12,00,000 now.

Asking BJP workers to reach out to customers as well as traders for promoting swadeshi, Modi appealed for re-

ducing the country's dependence on foreign goods.

"The less our dependence on foreign products is, the better it will be," he said, reiterating a point the prime minister has been especially vocal about since the US imposed a high tariff of 50 per cent on Indian goods.

"We have to adopt swadeshi to make India self-reliant," he said, calling for making it a movement across the country.

The BJP is in government not for "satta" (power) but 'seva' (service), and its officers keep alive this sentiment, Modi said after inau-

gurating the office and asked party members to ensure that the new building is a place where people's grievances are heard and addressed.

BJP offices are no less than temples for party members, he said, and serve as a strong chain to connect with people and their expectations.

In a speech in which he spelt out the party's Delhi unit journey since the days of Jana Sangh, whose leaders formed the Bharatiya Janata Party in 1980 after merging their organisation with the Janata Party in 1977, and paid tributes to its numerous leading functionaries.

Modi asked BJP workers of the city to celebrate every festival associated with different parts of India in the national capital, noting that people from different states live here. They should join peo-

Goyal becomes Noida Airport chairman

Noida

The 34th board meeting of the Noida International Airport Limited (NIAL) was held in Lucknow on Monday in which Uttar Pradesh secretary SP Goyal was appointed chairman of the company and inducted into the board of directors.

This appointment was accompanied by instructions to complete the airport project within the stipulated time. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Noida Airport on October 31.

During the meeting, Yamuna Authority CEO Rakesh Kumar Singh and former Noida officer Shaileendra Bhatia briefed the chief secretary on the progress of the airport construction. They said that the airport will be completed by October 2025. The remaining work is being rapidly progressed and will be completed on time.

Reviewing the project, the chief secretary emphasised that there should be no delay in the airport's inauguration. Special attention needs to be paid to the airport's connectivity with other cities so that future passengers do not face any difficulties in reaching the airport.

It should be noted



Uttar Pradesh chief secretary SP Goyal

that the NIAL company formed to operate the Noida International Airport project, has other stakeholders including Noida, Greater Noida, and the Yamuna Authorities. The state government, The chief secretary will now serve as the company's chairman. The CEOs of the Noida and Greater Noida authorities joined the meeting via video conferencing.

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby informed that Mrs. Kavita Sharma, W/o Mr. ASHUTOSH KUMAR SHARMA, is selling Residential Unit No. C-1112, on the 10th floor measuring 341.6 sq. ft. Old Padel-1, Sector-4, Vasthali Ghazabad, U.P. (Hereinafter referred to as 'PROPERTY IN QUESTION'). These original papers of the above-mentioned property, i.e.

- Original Allotment Letter issued by M/s. Ansal Housing & Construction Limited in favour of Mr. Kewal Singh Sachdeva in relation to the property in question.
- Original Builder's Agreement executed by M/s. Ansal Housing & Construction Limited in favour of Mr. Kewal Singh Sachdeva in relation to the property in question.
- Original Possession Letter issued by M/s. Ansal Housing & Construction Limited in favour of Mr. Kewal Singh Sachdeva in relation to the property in question.

are missing anywhere. A missing information/NCR to this effect has already been lodged with Delhi Police Citizen Services bearing LR No. 3243806/2025 dated 26.09.2025. It is hereby notified that any person or entity, firm/Company, bank, HUF/member of HUF, financial institution, having any claim any charge, interest or lien or claim on the basis of above documents and/or objection to the same, he/she/they may lodge notification with the undersigned with documentary proof/court judgment within 15 days from the date of this publication on Email: dharmendar.kamti@gmail.com or undersigned, failing which any such claim/objection shall be deemed to be null and void.

Dharmendar Kamti
Advocate
Address: A2162 & 163 Lower Ground Floor, Sardarjag Enclave South Delhi-110029

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that my client Ms. Raj Rani is the owner of Freehold Residential Tenement with rights of Plot bearing No. 53, (Old Plot No. 36), area measuring 72.46 Sq. Mtrs., Part of Khata No. 226, in the area of Village Sandhwa, Kadan, Delhi State Delhi, abadi known as Chokhi No. 2, P. S. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi, vide Relinquishment Deed dt. 22.06.2006 executed by Ms. Prem Wati, Mr. Suraj Prakash, Mr. Pawan Kumar, Ms. Sunita, Ms. Anam and Mr. Praveen Kumar, vide Sub-Registrar, Delhi, Book No. I, Volume No. 1933, on Pages No. 195 to 199 and Document No. 461 dated 18/09/2006 and executed by Mr. Raj Rani in favour of President of India dt. 22.06.2006 in the Sub-Registrar, Delhi, Book No. I, Volume No. 2203, on Pages No. 64 to 67 and Document No. 970, and this case Endorsement will not be done on above mentioned property documents as they have been misplaced to be sold to Mr. Pradeep Sharma and Ms. Neelam Sharma and same to be finalized by WAHRA HOLDINGS FINANCE LTD, Branch Rajendra Place Delhi if anybody has any charge/interest in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present notice. After 07 days and I am aware that in case default with the mortgage property that borrower (Mr. Pradeep Sharma and Ms. Neelam Sharma) is/are responsible.

Krishan Kumar Goswami
Advocate
JBM LAW ASSOCIATES
Office: 101, Badli, 110087, 808, Nand Nagri Delhi-110093

Prisha Mehtani's Arangetram Leaves Delhi Spellbound

TSN/New Delhi

An evening of rhythm, devotion and grace unfolded at Triveni Kala Sangam as young Bharatanatyam exponent Prisha Mehtani, disciple of renowned dancer and vocalist Priya Venkataraman, presented her Arangetram, the debut solo Bharatanatyam recital that marks a milestone in a dancer's journey.

The performance drew over 200 rasikas, art connoisseurs, cultural leaders and members of the dance fraternity. Distinguished guests included Vidushi Rani Khanum, Kathak exponent and guru, and Ravindra Mishra, dance critic, who joined the august gathering to witness the celebration of tradition and artistry.

Keeping alive the sacred guru-shishya parampara, Guru Priya Venkataraman described the Arangetram as "a sacred offering that promotes the traditional form of learning in Bharatanatyam. It signifies an intense dialogue and bonding between the guru and the shishya, rooted in discipline and artistic depth."

Prisha, a Class XII student of Delhi Public School, began her



Bharatanatyam journey at the age of 11. Over the years, she has mastered the nuances of adavas and abhinaya, performing pieces including Pushpanjali, Jatiswaram, Varnam, Adinaye Kanna and Kancha. Her dedication has taken her beyond national borders—at the XIII International Folklore Festival and the 21st Children Ethno Festival 2024 in Bulgaria, she won first place in Classical Dance.

The young dancer, who aspires to pursue a career in science, credits her Bharatanatyam with shaping her discipline and resilience. Her fam-

ily, including parents Aditi and Parash Mehtani and grandmother Sadhna Mehtani, witnessed the milestone performance with pride.

For Guru Priya Venkataraman, who trained under stalwarts such as Saroja Vaidyanathan, A. Lakshman and Brahma Bessell, the evening was also a reaffirmation of tradition. A seasoned performer herself, she has represented Indian classical dance on global stages, including performances before US President Barack Obama and the Royal couple of Bhutan, among several international festivals.

Controll Trailer unveils high-stakes cyber-thriller featuring Thakur Anoop Singh & Rohit Roy



New Delhi

The trailer for the upcoming cyber-crime thriller *Controll* has dropped, giving audiences a first glimpse of a high-stakes battle against digital deception. Set to release on October 10, 2025, the film stars Thakur Anoop Singh as an army officer and Rohit Roy as a formidable, tech-savvy villain.

Inspired by real-life incidents and the growing threat of online fraud, the trailer plunges viewers into the dark underworld of digital scams. Singh's character, Major Abhimanyu Shastri, takes center stage in a gripping confrontation against Roy's mastermind antagonist, promising an intense clash between integrity and malfeasance. The film also boasts a strong ensemble cast including

Priya Anand, Yashpal Sharma, Rajesh Sharma, Karan Singh Chhabra, and Siddharth Banerjee. Rohit Roy described his role as a reflection of contemporary digital threats, emphasizing the global need to combat data misuse and cybercrime. Thakur Anoop Singh credited Pen Studios' Dr. Jayantilal Gada for recognizing the depth of his character and bringing the layered, emotionally-charged story to life.

Directed by Sardar Abbas and produced by Dhaval Gada and Abhay Sinha, *Controll* is presented by Pen Studios under the tagline "Your Data is Their Weapon," promising a timely and gripping cinematic experience that explores the intersection of technology, crime, and human emotion.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for the information of the public at large that my client Kapoor Singh S/o Late Shri Singh, R/o H No. 4-A, Maharsi Dayanand Road, Near Hanuman Mandir, Gopal Nagar, Najafgarh, New Delhi-110043 has severed his connections from her daughter Smt. Rachna W/o Shri Gaurav Kumar and he has disowned her from all his movable and immovable properties with immediate effect. Henceforth my client shall not be responsible for any act, deed or act of his above daughter and anyone dealing with her in any manner shall be liable for the same.

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Advocate
High Court of Delhi
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PUBLIC NOTICE

Known to all my clients Sh. Anoop Gupta S/o Sh. Ram Avtar Gupta R/o House No. - 243, Kh. No.- 679, First Floor, B.L.K.F. Sudarshan Park, Near Balmiki Mandir, VTC Ramshah Nagar, District West Delhi, Delhi-110015 (UID No. 5537899499) Owner of the built up First Floor (Front Side) (Right Side) without roof/terrace Rights in property bearing Plot No. 22 & 23 Area Measuring 80 Sq. Yds. Out of total 10000-01-40-20 Sq. Yds., Out of Khata No. 78/12 & 79/15, Situated in the Revenue Estate of Village Hastal Delhi District Delhi Colony known as CVI Ohnar Phase-III, Utam Nagar, New Delhi-110059, is mentioned here - East, Road 2/P, West Portion of Plot - North Portion of Plot, South: Other's Property. Have original GPA, ATS, in favour of my clients Sh. Anoop Gupta and it is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim/right in the said property then he/she may contact and handover same and appraise his claim to undersigned within 15 days of this publication.

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Chhota Bheem Café set to open in Hyderabad, blending fun, food & family time

TSN/Hyderabad

A new format of entertainment and dining is arriving in the city as Green Gold Animation, creator of the iconic Chhota Bheem, teams up with EBG Group to launch India's first Chhota Bheem themed café. The unique venture combines food, play, and retail into a family-friendly destination designed around India's most beloved home-grown characters.

The first two outlets will open in Hitech City by December 2025, with plans to expand rapidly

across the country and eventually overseas. The cafés will operate in two formats - a compact express model of 25 by 40 feet and a larger full-scale version of 50 by 40 feet. Initially run under a Company-Owned, Company-Operated model, the project will gradually rope in franchise partners while EBG handles branding, training, and operations.

With a target of 300 cafés nationwide, beginning with 50 outlets in 2026, the venture is expected to generate over 250 jobs across culinary,



service, merchandising, and supply-chain roles. The themed spaces will bring the Green

Gold universe to life with interactive play zones, storytelling corners, licensed merchandise, and engaging activities featuring Chhota Bheem, Chutki, Mighty Raju, and other popular characters. Designed to be child-centric, safe, and parent-friendly, the cafés are pitched as venues where families can celebrate occasions while enjoying both fun and healthy dining.

Rajni Chilaka, Founder and CEO of Green Gold Animation, said the initiative reflects how far Chhota Bheem has come

as a cultural phenomenon. "Partnering with EBG Group allows us to extend this universe into a unique, real-world experience where families can bond, play, and create lasting memories together," he said.

Dr. Irfan Khan, Founder and CEO of EBG Group, described the café model as more than a food venture. "By bringing together a beloved IP and our expertise in experiential spaces, we are creating joyful experiences that families will cherish," he said.

AAP workers join Delhi Congress

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee (DPC) president Devender Yadav here on Monday welcomed the leaders and workers of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) into the Congress family by garlanding them with the party scarf here at the party office, Rajiv Bhawan.

Yadav said that after the defeat in the assembly elections, the Aam Aadmi Party is becoming extinct in the city as the workers and leaders of the party are joining the Congress by pledging their loyalty to the Congress' ideology, policies and programmes. He said that the Congress leadership will entrust responsibility to every worker in the party to take forward the fight against the Opposition (Lok Sabha) Rahul Gandhi is being waged to protect democracy, constitution, the rights of the poor and Dalits, and voting rights for all without discrimination.

Among those who joined the Congress from the Aam Aadmi Party were ward 233 corporator Rashid Ali from Subhash Mohalla, Karkardooma court member Sanaf Khan, Reshma Khan, Shubham Panchal, Tanishq Jayant, Rohit Sharma, Shaad Iqra, Firoz Malik, Kanchan Sharma, Samreen Saifi, Tarannam Mirza, Raees Ansari, Arif and workers including Dwarka B block president Javed Yadav from Matiala assembly of west Delhi Lok Sabha constituency, Sahil Rana, Sukhwinder Pal Singh from Tilak Nagar assembly, Sanyogita from Vikas Pur assembly and Umed Singh.

Delhi Cong extends support to municipal workers

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee president Devender Yadav here on Monday assured 'full' support to the anti-malaria and MTS employees of the MCD who are on an hunger strike seeking solutions to their demands.

The employees from 12 wards under the aegis of the Anti-Malaria Eka Karamchhari Union and Nigam Karamchhari Union on Monday staged a protest outside the civic centre against the BJP-ruled MCD.

Yadav said that when the Congress party was in power, it ensured at least six months of work to everyone and made every effort to provide employment round-the-year with the support of the Delhi government. He said that the Congress has always worked to protect the rights to Dalits and backward classes and provided jobs to the unemployed when it was in power.

He further said that the people have lost hope and faith in the BJP and assured the youth that when Congress returns to power, every youth will get employment opportunities and the Congress party will work to fulfil all their demands and will also regularise all temporary employees in the Delhi government and the MCD.

Delhi to celebrate grand Chhath Puja on both banks of the Yamuna: CM Gupta

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has announced that this year's Chhath Puja will take place on both banks of the Yamuna River, aiming to ensure a safe and well-organized festival for all devotees.

The government plans to make special arrangements to facilitate the rituals comfortably. The Chief Minister emphasized that Chhath is about faith, nature, and emotions. She stated that her government is committed to maintaining cleanliness and safety at all locations where the festival is celebrated.

It was clarified that immersion is not part of the Chhath rituals and is prohibited in the Yamuna under current regulations. The festival will be organized from Palla in the north to Okhla in the south, taking into account the growing Purvanchal community.

Chief Minister Gupta held a high-level meeting



Delhi to host grand Chhath Puja along Yamuna, says CM Gupta

to prepare for the festival, attended by cabinet ministers and senior officials. She directed them to upgrade traditional sites like the ITO and Okhla ghats and to maintain cleanliness at all puja sites. Dust control measures, along with security and medical facilities, will be implemented.

The Irrigation Department has been tasked with removing water hyacinth from the Yamuna ahead of the festival, and special lighting arrangements will be made for the convenience of devotees.

In total, Chhath Puja rituals will occur at 929

locations across Delhi, including the Munak Canal and several artificial ponds. The government will ensure full support at all sites and expedite the provision of No Objection Certificates (NOCs) where required. CM Gupta plans to personally inspect the preparations at different sites to guarantee everything is in order.

She highlighted the festival's cultural significance for Purvanchal residents and assured that the government is prepared to celebrate Chhath Puja with devotion and grandeur.

The Chief Minister emphasized that Chhath is about faith, nature, and emotions. She stated that her government is committed to maintaining cleanliness and safety at all locations where the festival is celebrated.

The Chief Minister reminded everyone of their responsibility towards nature and cleanliness, promising that this year's festival will be celebrated safely, cleanly, and magnificently, with all necessary facilities for the devotees.

Delhi Police busts drug racket 3 held

New Delhi:
The Delhi Police busted a drug cartel operating in the national capital and NCR with the arrest of three men, officials said on Monday. The police recovered psychotropic substances worth around Rs 1 crore in the international market, an official said on Monday. The accused have been identified as Tajinderpal Singh alias Happy (30), Vikram Singh Bhadoria (29) and their associate Kundan Singh Bisht alias K.D. (28), he said. "Happy, a native of Amritsar, holds a diploma in nautical engineering and had earlier worked in Malaysia in 2014. After returning to India in 2022 post-pandemic, he reconnected with his former merchant navy associate Surjeet alias Jeeta, who was involved in the illicit trade of Methamphetamine," a senior police officer said. Following Surjeet's arrest in Chandigarh in a narcotics case, the accused continued the drug supply network in Delhi, operating with his associate Vikram, a B.Sc. graduate from Gwalior

working as a cab driver in Delhi. Bisht, a hotel management diploma holder from Uttarakhand, had worked in clubs across Delhi before joining the drug trade during the Covid pandemic. Police said 32 grams of methamphetamine and seven grams of MDMA tablets were seized during the operation. A case under sections of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act has been registered. Acting on a tip-off on September 2, police laid a trap in south Delhi's Vasant Kunj and arrested Happy and Vikram Singh Bhadoria (29) — with 24 grams of methamphetamine, officials said. During their police remand, their associate, Kundan, was also arrested on September 4 in Vasant Kunj. Eight grams of methamphetamine and seven grams of MDMA tablets were recovered from his possession, they said. Further investigation is underway to trace the larger network and its financial links, police added.

Delhi Police conducted "Mega Drug destruction event" in pursuit of a drug-free Delhi by 2027

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
Delhi Police has launched a "Mega Drug Destruction Event" as part of their commitment to achieving a drug-free Delhi by 2027. This initiative is aligned with their strong "Zero-Tolerance Policy" against narcotics, targeting drug smugglers, traffickers, and peddlers. Significant efforts have been made through operations like "Operation Kavach" and various drug detection and seizure programmes.



Delhi Police has launched a "Mega Drug Destruction Event" as part of their commitment to achieving a drug-free Delhi by 2027.

Police have registered 1,674 cases under the NDPS Act in 2025, leading to the arrest of 2,163 traffickers and financial investigations that have seized assets worth over ₹ 21.5 crore. Over the past three years, Delhi Police has destroyed significant amounts of narcotics under the "Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan" (Drug-Free India Campaign), including approximately 2,888 kg, 15,700 kg, 10,631 kg, and others, for a total market value of around ₹ 13,796 crore.

The recent event on 29th September 2025 included the destruction of drugs seized over 50 years, reinforcing the effort to rid the city of narcotics. The event featured the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor of Delhi Vinay Kumar Saxena and the Commissioner of Delhi Police Satish Golcha emphasizing a united commitment to combating drug abuse. Following Supreme Court directives, committees were established to manage the drug destruction process, resulting in a comprehensive list of confiscated drugs for disposal. As part of a nationwide campaign called "Drug Vinshikaran Pakhwada," the Mega Drug Destruction Event destroyed around 1,847 kilograms of drugs with an estimated international market value of ₹ 35 crore. During this, the LG praised the police for their ongoing fight against narcotics, stressing the importance of community effort in achieving a drug-free Delhi. The objectives of this initiative include demonstrating the government's stance against drug crimes, educating the public about the dangers of drug abuse, and building trust in law enforcement. Delhi Police is also utilizing a newly launched "MANAS" portal, allowing citizens to report drug-related information anonymously and receive possible rewards for such contributions.

Traffic snarls hit south Delhi commuters stuck for hours

New Delhi:
Heavy traffic congestion was reported in several parts of south Delhi on Sunday, leaving commuters stuck in a jam for hours. Police said the traffic volume has seen a spike due to the ongoing festive season rush, which included devotees making their way to Durga Puja pandals. The affected areas included Chittaranjan Park, Lajpat Nagar, Kalkaji Road, ITO and stretches along the Outer Ring Road.



Heavy traffic congestion was reported in several parts of south Delhi on Sunday, leaving commuters stuck in a jam for hours.

Special Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Ajay Chaudhary said, "Due to the ongoing festivities, traffic volume in south Delhi has increased significantly." "Devotees heading towards pandals and Durga Puja venues are adding to the rush. Additional personnel have been deployed to manage traffic and ensure smooth movement of vehicles," the officer said. A commuter returning home from the airport said he remained stranded in the traffic for nearly two hours. "I was exhausted after a long flight, and then my car was stuck in the jam for almost two hours," he said. Another traffic police officer said diversions had also been put in place on Sunday to deal with the congestion.

The traffic police issued several advisories, restricting movement between 4 pm and 8 pm on BSZ Marg, IP Marg, JLN Marg, Minto Road, Ranjeet Singh Plover, Mirdard Road and adjoining stretches. "Traffic was barred on DDIJ Marg (between ITO Chowk and Minto Road Red Light) from 4 pm onwards. Commu-

ters have been advised to use public transport and take Chelmsford Road for New Delhi Railway Station while avoiding the Ajmeri Gate side, the advisory stated. Parking has been prohibited on BSZ Marg, IP Marg, DDIJ Marg and Minto Road, with officials warning that vehicles found in violation would be towed and prosecuted, it added. Another commuter, Rajesh Jha, said the situation was "frustrating" as vehicles were "crawling" on the roads. "It took me almost two hours to cover a short distance," he said.

NDMC declares Bapu Dham as 4th "Anupam Colony"

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
The NDMC has declared Bapu Dham, Chanakya Yajuri as its fourth "Anupam Colony" in recognition of the colony's efforts in waste segregation and composting and recycling. NDMC chairman Keshav Chandra formally made this announcement at a programme attended by members of the local residential association and enthusiastic residents of the colony. To mark the occasion, the newly unveiled "Anupam Colony" board was inaugurated within the premises of Bapu Dham. Chandra on the occasion stated that being recognised as the fourth "Anupam Colony" is a proud milestone for us. This achievement has been possible only through the cooperation of our residents, the dedication of our support staff and the proactive assistance of the NDMC. We remain committed to making our colonies a model of sustainable practices in cleanliness, composting and recycling.

DU police review 2025 student union polls

New Delhi:
Delhi University administration and police officials on Monday reviewed the recently concluded students' union polls, highlighting experiences and lessons learned for future elections.



DU police review 2025 student union elections

Unlike previous years, when the walls of North Campus were covered in posters and graffiti, there has been a visible change during this year's elections. The university administration, enforcing the Lyndesh Committee guidelines strictly, has kept the campus free of defacement. The review meeting was chaired by Vice Chancellor Professor Yogesh Singh, who congratulated the Delhi University Students' Union (DUSU) Election Committee and police for the smooth conduct of the elections, an official statement said. "We learned a lot from the experiences of the previous DUSU elections, and this year's experiences will be useful in the successful

conduct of upcoming elections," Singh said, inviting police officers to share their insights and suggestions. During the meeting, DUSU Chief Election Officer Professor Raj Kishore Sharma presented election statistics, noting a four per cent increase in voter turnout compared to last year, with Miranda House recording more than 60 per cent participation. He also noted a rise in None of the Above (NOTA) votes. DUSU Presiding Officer Professor Rajesh Singh described the "Green and Clean Elections" campaign as largely successful. The vice chancellor confirmed that the suggestions shared by police officers and university officials will be implemented to further improve the conduct of future elections. Senior officials of Delhi University, including Dean of Colleges Professor Balram Fani, Director of South Campus Professor Rajni Abbi, Registrar Vikas Gupta, Cultural Council Chairperson Anoop Lather, and Proctor Professor Manoj Kumar were also present during the meeting. The Delhi High Court has expressed displeasure over the use of luxury cars in the polls. Although the polls this year were held under strict measures against defacement of public property and in line with the Lyndesh Committee guidelines, last week, the Delhi High Court expressed displeasure over the use of luxury cars like Bentley, Rolls Royce and Ferrari, and even JCBs, for campaigning in the student body elections. In 2024, counting was withheld by the Delhi High Court until such defacement was cleared.

Youth participation will fulfil resolve of a developed India-2047: Indraj

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:
Ravinder Indraj Singh, the Social Welfare Minister of Delhi, spoke at a program at Aditi College, Delhi University, as part of Sewa Pakhwada. He shared the vision of a Developed India by 2047, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, emphasizing that this goal involves the collective effort of all citizens.



Youth participation key to achieving a developed India by 2047, says Indraj

He highlighted the importance of empowering underprivileged individuals and persons with disabilities to achieve a developed Delhi. During the event, he praised the students who participated in a blood donation camp, calling it a significant service to humanity. He also recognized their innovative science models focusing on water conservation and green initiatives, urging everyone to take care of the environment. He pointed out that India is now a

leader in solar energy production with a capacity of 100 GW. Singh appreciated the creativity in a street play performed by the students, which addressed social issues, and encouraged them to contribute to the Drug-Free India campaign. He urged participation in the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and the "One Tree in Mother's Name" campaign to create a healthier environment. He announced the inauguration of an

Atal Drishti Hostel for visually impaired college-going girls in Timarpur and an Atal Asha Home for persons with mental disabilities in Naraina. He encouraged universities to create drug-free clubs and aim to declare their campuses drug-free as part of the Nasha Mukh Bharat Abhiyan. He assured students that the Delhi Government is committed to providing timely scholarships for SC, ST, and OBC students.

Advt Contact:
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Child dies after iron rod falls from under-construction building in Delhi; 4 held

New Delhi: A five-year-old girl died after an iron rod fell on her head from an under-construction building in Delhi's Jagatpuri Extension, police said on Monday.

The building owner, identified as Nathu Singh (68), a resident of Jagatpuri Extension, along with three labourers employed at the construction site, have been arrested in connection with the case, they said.

The incident occurred at around 11 am on Sunday when the girl was walking through the area while returning from a Durga temple, and an iron rod fell on the girl, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) Prashant Gautam said.

"She sustained severe injuries to her head and right eye after the iron rod, part of a terrace platform intended to hold a water tank, dislodged from a four-story building under construction. She was rushed to GTB Hospital, where she was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for treatment," he added.

Despite medical efforts, the child succumbed to her injuries during treatment. Following the incident, police registered a case under sections 290 (Negligent conduct with respect to pulling down, repairing or constructing buildings, etc) and 125(a) (endangering human life or personal safety of others) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita on the statement of the child's father.

Man wanted in multiple cases including murder arrested in Delhi's Burari

New Delhi: A 36-year-old man wanted in multiple criminal cases, including murder and assault, was arrested in Delhi's Burari area, police said on Monday.

The accused, identified as Anuj Bhatti, a resident of Uttar Pradesh, was nabbed on September 23 in Burari, following a tip-off during routine patrolling, they said. Police recovered a pistol with two live bullets from his possession.

A senior officer said Bhatti was wanted in a case registered at Loni Police Station in Ghaziabad in August 2025, after he allegedly opened fire at a neighbour during a dispute.

"He was also involved in a September 2025 case at Burari, Delhi, where he and an accomplice allegedly beat neighbours, including an elderly man, with rods over a quarrel concerning a motorcycle," a senior police officer said.

Bhatti has a long criminal history. He was allegedly involved in the 2015 murder of a relative in his native village. He was also previously involved in six other cases of murder, attempt-to-murder and arms violations across Delhi and Ghaziabad, the officer said.

Police said the co-accused in the quarrel case, Aman from Baghpat, UP, who has a history of criminal cases, including heinous offences under the Gangster Act, was traced through multiple raids and surrendered on September 25.

Anuj looks after his family, including a brother who is paraplegic and resides in Burari, police said.

Chahal inaugurates generative AI exhibition by students

Staff Reporter
New Delhi:

The New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) took a significant step toward future-ready education on Monday with the inauguration of the generative AI exhibition "The Aces of AI" at Navyug School, Sarojini Nagar. Kuljeet Singh Chahal, Vice Chairperson of NDMC, emphasized that the initiative provides government school students with their first structured exposure to Artificial Intelligence (AI), Virtual Reality (VR), and modern technological tools, in line with the "Double AI" vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi - Artificial Intelligence and Aspirational India.

Addressing attendees, Chahal highlighted the transformative potential of AI in nurturing creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills among the next generation. He said the program is a first-of-its-kind initiative for



Chahal opens student-led generative AI exhibition

NDMC schools, enabling students to experiment with AI technologies and showcase innovations through interactive projects. "This initiative gives government school students a unique opportunity to gain practical AI education. They have learned, experimented, and applied AI to create solutions for real-life problems," he added.

"The exhibition showcased the efforts of over 300 students from Classes 9 to 12 across NDMC and Navyug Schools, who collectively received more than 6,000 hours of training in over 15 modern AI tools, including Machine Learning,

Generative AI, and Virtual Reality Labs. Students presented projects ranging from AI-generated text and images to interactive applications, with the best performers being recognized at the award ceremony.

Chahal noted that the initiative aligns with the National Education Policy 2020, which emphasizes experiential learning and digital literacy, and contributes to the broader vision of Developed India 2047. He underlined the importance of early exposure to emerging technologies to empower students to become global innovators and leaders in the technology space.

NDMC Education Director Ms. Kritika Chaudhary highlighted that the exhibition was organized in collaboration with Homi Lab, India's first Future-Skills Lab, which fosters curiosity, creativity, and innovation through programs on AI, Robotics, and emerging technologies.

Ramlila is a medium to preserve spiritual consciousness and cultural heritage: Gehlot



New Delhi: The 14th Grand Ramlila, organized by the Dwarka Shri Ramlila Society in West Delhi, featured spectacular scenes such as Bali's Killing, Sita's remembrance, and the dialogues between Hanuman and Ravana, culminating in the burning of Lanka.

This event took place on the seventh day of Dwarka Shri Ramlila 2025 and drew thousands of Ram devotees celebrating cultural heritage and spirituality. The performances included emotional and educational stories from the Ramayana, like Sita's abduction and Ram and Hanuman's friendship.

Chairman Akash Rajesh Gehlot and his dedicated team have successfully organized this festival, which blends devotion and drama, aimed at connecting the audience with Indian culture's roots.

Gehlot emphasized that the Ramlila is more than just a religious show; it uses modern technology, elaborate decorations, LED screens, and live music to recreate scenes from the Treta Yuga, making the experience vivid for the audience.

Dr. Alka Garjar, a BJP minister, praised the event for promoting Shri Ram's values and commended the Dwarka Shri Ramlila Society for their efforts.

"The Dwarka Shri Ramlila has become a celebration of devotion, social unity, family values, and cultural awareness, attracting thousands of devotees daily for a unique blend of devotion, knowledge, and entertainment."

India Post releases special postal cover to Commemorate sixty years of Shyam Lal College

TSN/New Delhi:

A special postal cover, commemorating sixty years of Shyam Lal College, was officially released by India Post at a gracious function held at Krishna Nagar Post Office.

The event was organized by India Post and was attended by Delhi Prasad Dash, Senior Superintendent of Post Offices, Delhi East Division, Delhi, Prof. R.P. Tulsian, Governing Body Member of the Shyam Lal College, Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar, Principal, Shyam Lal College, and other distinguished guests.

The release function was presided over by Prof. Rabi Narayan Kar and Delhi Prasad Dash, who unveiled the cover along with a commemorative cancellation that marks the historical importance of the occasion.

In his address, Prof. Kar highlighted the rich history of Shyam Lal College and also said that "Special covers like these are not only collectibles but also enduring symbols of our rich heritage," he noted.

The design of the special cover features Building of the Col-



lege, reflecting the essence of the occasion of Sashitiporthi of the College.

The cover also carries a unique cancellation mark dated [26.09.2025], making it a valuable addition to any philatelic collection.

Attendees praised the initiative and many philatelists expressed keen interest in acquiring the limited-edition cover. The event concluded with a vote of thanks and distribution of the covers to dignitaries and attendees.

The special cover celebrates Sashitiporthi of Shyam Lal College, a prominent College in North east Delhi imparting Higher education since its inception in 1964, the College is a legend and has been a cornerstone of academic excellence, community connect and sensitive towards environment besides providing quality education to students from neighbouring underprivileged communities.

"The College is now among the best institutions in the entire University of Delhi and takes pride in informing that we have been accredited with A++ Grade in the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC). Further, the College has been consistently ranked among the best 100 Colleges under NIRF with current year ranking of 43rd."

CEO Lokesh M inspects market renovations, calls for faster progress

Ajit Kumar
Noida:

Chief Executive Officer Lokesh M conducted an on-site inspection of ongoing renovation projects at Godavari Market in Sector-37 and Brahmputra Market in Sector-29. The visit was aimed at reviewing the progress of works and addressing pending issues affecting both markets. The Authority's Deputy General Manager (Civil), Vijay Rawal, along with senior managers from Work Circle-2 and Electrical Division-3, accompanied the CEO during the inspection.

At Godavari Market, the CEO expressed concern over the slow pace of renovation. He emphasized the need for accelerated work to ensure timely completion. In a firm directive, he ordered that the salary of the junior engineer responsible for delays be withheld until further notice. Additionally, he instructed that the setback boundary wall of the market be painted promptly after plastering.



During the inspection at Brahmputra Market, attention was drawn to the sewer line recently laid in front of the restroom at the back of the market by Water Division-2. CEO Lokesh M directed the team to fill the trench and level the site to ensure safety and smooth movement. He also ordered the closure of the inactive biogas

plant within the market premises.

Further improvements at Brahmputra Market include flooring works, construction of steps at selected locations over the back drain to facilitate movement for vendors and customers, and installation of seating arrangements along the wall adjacent to the drain. The CEO stressed that these en-

hancements are crucial for improving market accessibility and providing a better experience for shoppers and vendors alike.

The inspection underscores the administration's focus on modernizing market infrastructure while addressing delays and ensuring functional improvements for public convenience.

Amit Shah to inaugurate DJB projects worth Rs 1800 crore

New Delhi:

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will inaugurate 20 projects related to the water and sewerage sector on Tuesday from Keshpur sewage treatment plant (STP), officials said.

These projects mostly involve upgradation of existing STPs, laying new sewer lines under the 'Sewa Pakhwara' events, are constructed at a cost of Rs 1800 crore.

The inauguration of mega Okhla STP which was earlier in the list of events, touted to be Asia's largest such facility, has been postponed, officials informed.

According to a Delhi Jal Board (DJB) official, the main inauguration event will take place at Keshpur where the board is augmenting two of its existing STPs at the cost of Rs 504.12 crore. These plants will



serve to the full sewage load of West Delhi catering to approximately 25 lakh households, he said.

Water minister Parvesh Verma has also announced that in the recent board meeting, several projects for setting up decentralised sewage treatment plants (DSTPs) were approved.

"The DSTP projects will be set up on drains and other areas where traditional plants can not be set up. We plan

to connect every household to the sewerage infrastructure network. These DSTPs will benefit approximately 11 lakh people," Verma said.

No objection certificates have been obtained for fifteen DSTPs which will enhance the existing sewage treatment capacity by around 39 million gallons per day (MGD) connecting households in Narela, Bawana and Mundka areas, officials said.

Around 59 residential colonies and 37 villages will be covered under this DSTP project, including Tajpur, Sungenpur, Jaumi, Bhaktawar-pur villages and colonies like Punjab Khor, Jat Khor, Khara Khurd etc.

Earlier this year, the Delhi government announced the setting up of 40 DSTPs planned by the DJB.

In areas where large-scale STPs cannot be constructed due to space limitations, the board plans to install these smaller plants to ensure localised waste management, the government had said.

Currently, the DJB has a sewage treatment capacity of around 600-700 million gallons per day (MGD) across all existing STPs. The government plans to increase this capacity to 1,250 MGD by June 2027.

Greater Noida Authority Triumphs with best stall at UPITS- 2025

Staff Reporter
Greater Noida:

The Greater Noida Authority (GNA) earned top honours at the UP International Trade Show 2025, securing the Best Stall award in Hall-3. The accolade was presented by Uttar Pradesh's Minister of Industrial Development, Nand Gopal Gupta 'Nandi', alongside MSME Minister Rakesh Sachan, ACEO Shri Lakshmi VS accepted the award on behalf of the authority.

Under the strategic guidance of GNA CEO NG Ravi Kumar and the leadership of ACEO Soumya Srivastava, the stall's design received approval from a committee that included ACEO Shri Lakshmi VS and ACEO Prema Singh. The stall, meticulously set up in Hall-3, highlighted Greater Noida's growing infrastructure and ambitious development plans. Among the key features on display were IITGNL's integrat-



ed industrial township, a multimodal logistic hub, and a state-of-the-art multimodal transport hub, reflecting the city's vision for economic and urban growth.

A team of trade fair experts evaluated the exhibits and singled out Greater Noida's stall for its creativity, innovation, and engagement, leading to its recognition as the best in Hall-3. The stall proved especially popular with younger visitors, offering unique attractions such as an anamorphic

lead wall, web standee, diamond lead cube, interactive quiz and puzzle games, an AI-powered selfie booth, a neuro-sensor car, a VR simulator game, and live mug painting sessions.

The UP International Trade Show 2025, which concludes on September 29, saw the Greater Noida Authority's stall emerge as a highlight, drawing both attention and admiration for its blend of technology, interactivity, and futuristic vision for the region.

No talks till normalcy restored in Ladakh: Leh Apex Body

Leh
The Leh Apex Body on Monday announced that it will stay away from talks with the High Powered Committee of the Home Ministry till normalcy is restored in Ladakh.
"We have unanimously agreed that the situation that is prevailing in Ladakh, keeping that in view, as long as peace is not restored in Ladakh, we will not participate in any talks," Chairman of Leh Apex Body Thupten Chhewang said at a press conference here.
"We will urge the Home Ministry, UT administration, and the administration to take steps to address the atmosphere of fear, grief and anger that is there," he said.

Widespread violent protests occurred on September 24 during a shutdown called by the Leh Apex Body (LAB) to advance talks with the Centre on the demands for statehood and extension of the Sixth Schedule to Ladakh.

Four people were killed and scores of others were injured in clashes between protesters and security personnel, while over 50 people were taken into custody for their alleged involvement in rioting. Activist Wangchuk, the main face of the agitation, was also detained under the stringent NSA.

After nearly four months of stalled talks, the Centre had on September 20 extended an invitation to the LAB and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), which have been spearheading the agitation for statehood and extension of the Sixth Schedule to the Union Territory.

J-K LG calls for crackdown on encroachments along water bodies

Jammu
Asserting that climate change is a reality that people should realise, Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Monday called for a crackdown on encroachments along water bodies in the Union Territory and urged people and the administration to create a movement for it.

The LG termed the recent floods in Jammu as a major catastrophe in the region unseen in the past, and said that losses have also been enormous with more than 4,000 houses damaged, over 3,277 kilometres of roads affected and more than 70 major bridges destroyed.

"We exhort the officials to crack down on encroachments along the water bodies. Citizens must report encroachments on natural resources in their respective areas to the authorities. Let us unite to rebuild a stronger, more secure future," the LG further said.

Addressing the 'Swachhata Vijayotsav' organised by the Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj under 'Sewa Parv' here, the LG said, "Along with the administration, I also appeal to the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir that it is their moral responsibility to prevent illegal construction and encroachment around riversbanks and water bodies."

CM Saini launches paperless registration to eliminate corruption in revenue dept

Komal Ramola Chandigarh

Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini inaugurated a suite of digital initiatives aimed at modernizing the state's revenue administration, describing the paperless registration system as a "decisive step against corruption" in the department. By reducing human intervention, the new system is expected to eliminate opportunities for malpractice while also conserving paper, he said.

Speaking at a state-level function at Babain Tehsil in Kurukshetra's Ludwa Assembly Constituency, the Chief Minister launched four key initiatives: the Paperless Registration system, Demarcation Portal, WhatsApp Chatbot, and Revenue Court Case Management System. He also released an information booklet and witnessed the first paperless registry and demarcation process, before planting a sapling at the tehsil premises.

Sh. Saini emphasized that these initiatives,

part of the broader Digital Haryana Programme, are designed to empower citizens by making governance simpler, faster, and more transparent. "Governance means serving the people," he said, adding that the government's priority is to bring services to citizens' doorsteps, reducing the need for repeated office visits.

Under the paperless registration system, citizens will only need to visit the tehsil once for signatures and photographs, ending decades of cumbersome registry procedures. The Demarcation Portal will provide farmers with a permanent, technology-driven solution to land disputes, using advanced GPS and rover technology to ensure accurate and impartial measurements.

The WhatsApp chatbot, named "Bhu-Mitra", will allow citizens to access departmental information and track service requests on their phones, reducing the need for office visits. Meanwhile, the Revenue Court Case Management



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Naib Singh Saini being felicitated with a memento by Haryana Finance Commissioner and Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue and Home Department, Dr. Sumita Misra, during a programme organised in Babain, Kurukshetra district on September 29, 2025.

System will digitize court cases, providing online updates on case status, hearing dates, and orders, which the Chief Minister said will significantly reduce delays in justice. Highlighting the state

government's alignment with national digital initiatives, Sh. Saini reiterated Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Digital India programme, noting that such technology-driven reforms curb corruption and make

public services more accessible. The e-Registration system, introduced in 2021, allows citizens to book property registration appointments in advance. Similarly, Change of Land Use (CLU) permissions and other approvals are now fully online and processed within 30 days, with applicants able to track progress at every stage.

Additional Chief Secretary and Financial Commissioner Dr. Sumita Misra said that launching these initiatives from a small tehsil like Babain sets the stage for reforms across Haryana. She highlighted that targets set during the Budget Session included replacing the century-old rope-based land measurement system and simplifying registration processes, both addressed by the new digital tools.

With these steps, Haryana aims to deliver faster, more transparent, and citizen-centric governance, reflecting a new era of digital administration across the state.

Union minister Savitri Thakur visits flood-affected areas of Punjab's Hoshiarpur



Hoshiarpur
Union Minister of State for Women and Child Development, Savitri Thakur, visited the flood-affected areas of Hoshiarpur district, Punjab, to review the situation there and interact with farmers, small business owners and villagers.

During her visit, she assured the people that the Narendra Modi government at the Centre is fully committed to providing relief and long-term solutions to tackle recurring challenges posed by floods.

Thakur said the Centre has already advanced the 21st installment of PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi on September 26 exclusively for farmers of Punjab, Uttarakhand,

and Himachal Pradesh to provide immediate financial assistance to those affected by floods and landslides. "Our goal is to ensure a permanent and lasting solution to the flood problem," Thakur later told reporters.

The minister also visited the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) Pong dam in Hoshiarpur and paid tributes at the memorial dedicated to labourers who lost their lives during its construction.

She reviewed the dam's structure and power generation system and described the project as a "lifeline" for lakhs of people in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan.

Fortis to invest ₹900 Cr, Mohali set to become Punjab's medical hub



TSN/Mohali

In a landmark move for healthcare in Punjab, Fortis Healthcare has announced a ₹900 crore investment to expand its Mohali campus, adding over 400 new beds and a world-class Centre of Excellence on 13.4 acres. The project is expected to generate more than 2,200 direct jobs and thousands of indirect employment opportunities, reinforcing the state's position as a hub for modern medical care.

Industries Minister Sanjeev Arora highlighted that this expansion aligns with Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann's vision of a "vibrant, healthy, and future-ready" Punjab. The upgraded facility will feature advanced ICU services, cardiology, oncology, organ transplants, robotic surgery, and over 40 super-specialty departments, complementing the existing 375-bed Fortis campus with 194 ICU beds.

Since 2013, Fortis has invested over ₹1,500 crore in Punjab, establishing modern hospitals in Ludhiana, Amritsar, Jalandhar, and Mohali. The government's proactive approach, including the Hospital PPP Act, has encouraged public-private collaboration, improving medical resources, technology, and doctor availability, with benefits reaching citizens through affordable or free healthcare services.

Health Minister Sanjeev Arora said the state is committed to transforming healthcare, and the Mohali expansion will further strengthen Punjab's medical infrastructure, supporting the broader "Sehatmand, Rangla Punjab" vision. The development is expected to enhance medical tourism, position Punjab as North India's leading healthcare center, and provide accessible, high-quality services to residents across the state.

Haryana to lead India's push for self-reliance: CM Saini

TSN/Chandigarh

Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini has announced that the state will play a pivotal role in the national "Self-Sufficient Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan," describing it as a historic step toward realizing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a developed India by 2047. Addressing the media in Chandigarh, the Chief Minister emphasized that the campaign aims to spread the ethos of self-reliance across every village and city in Haryana, with 1.5 million residents expected to actively participate.

The initiative, launched on the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on September 25, will continue until the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on December 25. Saini highlighted that the campaign builds on India's longstanding tradition of Swadeshi, drawing inspiration from figures such as Mahatma Gandhi, and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay, and seeks to advance these values under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

The Chief Minister outlined the three pillars of the campaign:



Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini

Swadeshi, self-language, and self-spirit. Swadeshi emphasizes domestic production and consumption, with India now home to 1.6 lakh startups, ISRO's indigenous semiconductor chip "Vikram-32," and significant growth in mobile manufacturing and exports. Self-language promotes Indian languages and knowledge systems, while self-spirit encourages embracing the country's heritage, design, and aesthetic. Notable achievements include the Khadi and village

industries sector exceeding ₹1.70 lakh crore and over 1,200 district-specific products generating more than ₹2,000 crore in online sales.

Saini underscored that India's self-reliance extends beyond economics. Defense exports have surged 34 times, UPI has gained global recognition, and major ISRO missions—including Mangalyaan, Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, and Gaganyaan—have enhanced India's international standing.

The country is now a leading supplier of generic medicines and vaccines, with

40 percent of medicines in the UK and 25 percent in the UK sourced from India. Renewable energy capacity has expanded significantly, with solar power increasing 39-fold and wind energy doubling. Social empowerment has also progressed, with over 10 crore women supported through self-help groups.

The Chief Minister highlighted cultural and administrative reforms as part of the broader vision of self-reliance, noting changes to historical symbols, national flags, and the justice system as steps toward fostering a self-confident nation. He said Haryana will fully support the campaign through district-level conferences, Rath Yatras, seminars for traders, MSMEs, and college students, and initiatives encouraging the use of locally produced goods and natural farming.

Saini concluded by urging citizens to buy local, adopt self-employment, and actively participate in spreading the spirit of self-reliance, while senior officials and organizers of the Bharat Sankalp Abhiyan were present to witness the announcement.

Punjab DGP chairs law and order review meeting



Chandigarh

Punjab's Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav on Monday chaired a comprehensive law and order meeting with top police officers during which he reviewed ongoing counter-terrorism strategies and dismantling of organised crime networks.

The meeting was attended by Additional DGP of Anti-Gangster Task Force, ADGP of Counter Intelligence, AIG State Special Operation Cell Amritsar, Amritsar Commissioner of Police, DIG Border Range and SSPs of the concerned districts.

"Today in Amritsar, chaired a comprehensive Law and Order Review Meeting with officers of Commissionerate Police Amritsar and Border Range including Amritsar Rural Police, Batala Police, Gurdaspur Police, Pathankot Police and Tarn Taran Police," DGP Yadav said in a post on X.

"Reviewed ongoing counter-terrorism strategies, dismantling of organised crime networks and emerging law and order challenges across the region. Special emphasis was laid on proactive policing and intelligence coordination ahead of the upcoming Festive season 2025," he said.

"The DGP added that officers shared updates on operational preparedness, joint action plans and community engagement measures. The officer said he directed all field units to maintain a high state of vigilance, intensify visible policing and ensure seamless coordination to provide citizens with a safe and secure festive environment."

Punjab govt hikes flood relief, cheques to reach farmers by Oct 15

TSN/Chandigarh

In a major relief announcement for flood-affected farmers and families, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann declared a significant increase in compensation during the second and final day of the special Punjab Assembly session. The government confirmed that compensation cheques will begin reaching beneficiaries from October 15, ensuring timely support ahead of Diwali.

"Before Diwali, we will light lamps of happiness on the faces of Punjabis," the Chief Minister said.



while those with 33-75% loss will get ₹10,000 insurance of ₹5,800. The fields experiencing 75-100% damage, compensation has been set at ₹20,000 per acre, inclusive of ₹6,800 from the SDRF. Additional assistance includes ₹7,200 per acre for sand removal and desilting, ₹47,500 per hectare for wash-away land, ₹1,20,000

for fully damaged houses, and ₹35,100 for partial house damage. The government has already released ₹4.5 crore from the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to drain water in Ferozepur and Fazilka.

Highlighting the central government's inadequate response to the state's flooding crisis, Chief Minister Mann

criticized the BJP-led Centre for releasing only ₹1,600 crore despite Punjab requesting a ₹20,000 crore package. He emphasized that, in spite of this, the state government is committed to delivering timely relief to its citizens.

The Chief Minister also acknowledged the role of the youth, the NDRF, the Indian Army, and social organizations, who played a crucial part in rescue and relief efforts during the floods. The Punjab Assembly session further decided to send the compensation package details to the Prime Minister, Home Minister, and Finance Minister, underlining the state's commitment to rebuilding livelihoods.

Punjab Assembly sees heated exchange between minister Cheema, LoP Bajwa

Chandigarh

The Punjab Assembly on Monday witnessed a heated exchange between Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema and Leader of Opposition Partap Singh Bajwa after Cheema alleged that the Congress leader purchased a piece of land within the 'dhussi bundh' (earthen embankment) area along the Beas river.

Speaker Kulraj Singh Sandhu had to adjourn the House for 10 minutes after both the leaders continued to engage in the verbal duel.

During a discussion on the 'rehabilitation of Punjab' on the concluding day of the assembly session here, Cheema accused Bajwa of buying land in Phullran village in Gurdaspur district.



Cheema claimed that on July 15, 2025, Bajwa purchased 16.10 marlas of land in Phullran in his wife's name for Rs 5.45 lakh.

"What was the need to buy the land just one and half months back? Because he knew that the land would receive sand (after floods) and he would get mining done," alleged Cheema, prompting a sharp reaction from Bajwa.

AI in Education: Transforming learning while balancing risks

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly reshaping education across the globe, offering unprecedented opportunities to address persistent challenges, innovate teaching and learning practices, and accelerate progress toward Sustainable Development Goal 4. UNESCO emphasizes a human-centered approach to AI, advocating for technologies that promote inclusion and equity rather than widen existing educational divides. AI's promise, if realized responsibly, is that all learners can access knowledge, benefit from innovation, and participate fully in the technological revolution.

The potential of AI in education is vast, as highlighted by the CoSN report on K-12 AI adoption. From personalizing learning to supporting curriculum development, AI can redefine how students learn and how teachers teach. Yet, like any emerging technology, it brings risks—bias, inaccurate content, plagiarism, and concerns about online safety—which require careful oversight by educators, policymakers, and technology developers. In this evolving landscape, AI's ability to foster innovative teaching and inclusive learning experiences is balanced by the need for ethical safeguards, thoughtful design, and human oversight.

India, home to over 24 crore schoolchildren, faces a unique set of challenges in delivering quality learning at scale. Large-scale assessments, such as PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development), reveal persistent gaps in foundational skills. For instance, in Grade 3, only 55 percent of students achieved passing marks, and in Grade 9, barely 31 percent could tackle advanced concepts in numbers and fractions. Bridging these gaps requires innovative solutions, and AI offers a promising avenue for personalized, scalable, and equitable education.

The COVID-19 pandemic became an unexpected experiment in digital education in India, revealing both the vulnerabilities and latent potential of the country's education infrastructure. School closures prompted rapid deployment of digital learning platforms such as DIKSHA, WhatsApp classrooms, and video-based lessons. Reports by the Boston Consulting Group in collaboration with state governments of Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan noted that nearly two million households accessed digital education within eight weeks. Many students engaged with content via basic mobile phones, demonstrating that high-quality educational materials could reach underserved communities. In rural Rajasthan, 96 percent of teachers adopted DIKSHA for lesson planning and assessments, while 95 percent of students in grades 9-12 accessed digital textbooks and interactive exercises. These experiences laid the groundwork for AI-driven solutions capable of personalizing learning, enhancing equity, and informing educational governance.

AI enables highly personalized learning experiences, adapting instruction to the learner's pace, level, and prior knowledge. Platforms such as MindCraft, designed for rural students, transcend language and geographic barriers through AI-powered tutors, virtual learning environments, and interactive problem-solving. Natural Language Processing (NLP) tools translate complex English concepts into vernacular languages and provide voice-assisted explanations, bridging gaps for first-generation learners and tribal students. By tailoring content to individual needs, AI ensures that no child is left behind due to language or contextual disadvantages.

For teachers, AI presents a powerful means of reducing administrative burdens and enhancing instructional effectiveness. According to UDISE (Unified District Information System for Education) 2024-25, India has over 100,000 single-teacher schools, where educators often manage multiple grades and subjects while juggling



By Santosh Sharma

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non-instructional duties. AI can automate lesson planning, grading, and performance analysis, potentially saving teachers 20-30 percent of their time, which can be redirected toward student engagement. NCERT-supported research shows that educators using AI-assisted lesson planning tools are better equipped to identify student needs and adapt instruction accordingly. Automated assessments and AI-generated student groupings further streamline classroom management, enabling teachers to focus on pedagogy rather than paperwork.

Assessment and feedback represent another area where AI can drive meaningful change. Traditional assessments are periodic and summative, often providing insights too late to guide interventions. AI-powered tools such as IIT Bombay's TARA (Teacher's Assistant for Reading Assessment) application use speech processing and machine learning to evaluate oral reading fluency. By analyzing metrics like Words Correct Per Minute and expression patterns, TARA identifies reading stages in both English and Hindi, providing timely insights for remediation. Similarly, the ASER Children's Speech Dataset enables large-scale speech-based assessment in regional languages, demonstrating the feasibility of scalable, AI-driven evaluation across diverse linguistic contexts.

AI also supports governance and system monitoring, enabling governments to allocate resources efficiently and identify at-risk schools or regions. Predictive analytics and AI dashboards within

systems such as SDMS-UDISE+ and PM eVidya provide administrators with actionable data on attendance, dropout rates, and resource allocation. For example, Nagaland's Department of School Education uses AI to track teacher attendance via geo-positioning, while Uttar Pradesh's Kitab Vitran App employs QR codes to monitor the distribution of textbooks in real time. Such applications exemplify how AI can enhance accountability, optimize resource use, and guide targeted interventions, though there remains untapped potential for fully leveraging AI in teacher performance evaluation and predictive system monitoring.

Inclusivity is a critical dimension of AI in education, particularly under India's 2020 National Education Policy. Assistive technologies and AI-powered platforms help learners with disabilities and offer multilingual, culturally contextualized support. Tools such as the STAIR app (Screening Tool for Autism Risk using Technology) allow non-specialists to assess autism using mobile devices, while platforms like CognitiveBotics provide interactive AI-powered therapy for children with social or communication challenges. By adapting to diverse learning needs and socio-cultural contexts, AI can contribute to a more equitable and inclusive educational environment.

Despite its transformative potential, AI in education is not without limitations. Infrastructure gaps, uneven access to devices, and digital literacy challenges constrain its reach in rural and low-resource settings. Ethical considerations such as data

privacy, bias audits, and adherence to responsible AI frameworks, including those recommended by NITI Aayog, are essential to safeguard student information and ensure fair implementation. AI must complement, not replace, the human skills and empathy that teachers bring to the classroom. Mobile-based AI interventions may offer scalability, but issues like device sharing, gender disparities, and intermittent connectivity must be addressed to prevent exacerbating inequities.

Recommendations for effective and responsible AI integration emphasize practical design, teacher support, and ethical oversight. AI tools should function offline or in low-bandwidth conditions, be compatible with low-end devices, and support voice or image inputs. Community access points such as gram panchayat halls can provide shared devices and charging stations, prioritizing access for girls and marginalized groups. Teacher capacity-building, through programs like IIT-Madras' "AI for Educators," is crucial to co-design AI tools with practical classroom applications. Ethical safeguards must ensure anonymized data, transparent algorithms, and bias mitigation, aligning AI use with equity and quality goals.

AI's advantages in education are manifold. Personalized learning ensures that each student progresses at their own pace, addressing diverse learning styles. Immersive experiences using AI-powered virtual and augmented reality enhance engagement, motivation, and comprehension. Automated administrative support frees teachers to focus on pedagogy, while intelligent tutoring systems provide individualized guidance, bridging gaps in knowledge and supporting continuous improvement. By enabling data-driven insights, AI allows for timely interventions, elevates academic standards, and supports collaborative learning environments.

Yet, the disadvantages of AI cannot be ignored. Data privacy concerns, technological dependence, and the potential dehumanization of learning pose significant risks. AI cannot replicate the empathy, mentorship, and nuanced understanding that human educators provide. There is also a risk of academic dishonesty, with students potentially exploiting AI for plagiarism or manipulation of assessments. Additionally, concerns about teacher displacement underscore the need for AI to complement, rather than replace, educators, maintaining the vital human element in learning.

As AI continues to evolve, its role in education is poised to expand, offering transformative possibilities for personalized, inclusive, and effective learning. Achieving these benefits requires a balanced approach, integrating technology thoughtfully, supporting teachers, and embedding ethical principles in every aspect of AI deployment. In India, where educational challenges are immense and diverse, AI offers a pathway to scale quality learning, bridge gaps, and ensure that every child has the opportunity to succeed. Harnessed responsibly, AI in education has the potential not only to elevate academic outcomes but also to democratize access to knowledge, creating a future where learning is equitable, engaging, and empowering for all.

The Depth of Noise Pollution Crisis

Monitoring mechanisms have been installed in major cities to curb noise pollution. Despite this, millions of people are still trapped in noise pollution. This is due to governance's neglect of the environment and lack of political will. The National Ambient Noise Monitoring Network (NANMN) scheme, launched in 2021 by the Central Pollution Control Board and Ministry of Environment, was initially aimed at real-time monitoring of noise pollution by setting up seventy mechanical mechanisms across seven major metropolitan areas of the country to enable appropriate policy interventions based on data. But there is no effect of this plan on the ground. The scheme started with thirty-five 'real time monitoring stations' in seven cities across the country. In the second and third phases of the scheme, it was said to be expanded with thirty-five new centres respectively, but by 2021-23 this mechanism reached only eight cities, including Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Lucknow and Bangalore. Oh, however, the ground reality is quite different. In cities like Uttar Pradesh capital Lucknow, the system has remained limited to a passive 'dashboard' where no noise pollution figures are being recorded in real time. No concrete policy action has emerged. In the centres where this mechanism is working properly, there are few initiatives to study data and formulate policies based on it. The recorded sound level in the three major calm areas under this scheme reached 65-70 decibels (A) per day, while the limit set by the World Health Organization is 40-50 decibels. That is, this mechanism has failed to lay the foundation for its original purpose and policy intervention. "Sound pollution in India has been steadily deepening as an invisible crisis, affecting not only human health but also biodiversity. According to the Central Pollution Control Board, sound levels reach an average of 65-75 decibels (A) during daytime in major cities across the country while remaining at 55-65 decibels (A), adversely affecting sleep, stress and heart. A Lancet study found that staying between high sound levels increases the risk of heart disease by twenty percent while decreasing sleep quality by thirty percent. Approximately forty million people living in urban areas are exposed to excessive noise every day. The impact of noise pollution is not lim-



By Vijay Garg

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ited to humans. According to a study by the Indian Wildlife Institute, birds such as common mynas wake up frequently at night due to urban noise which affects their breeding behavior and social communication. Their tone characteristics diminish, affecting their identification and ability to match. The Sound Pollution (Regulation & Control) Act, 1986 exists at a policy level but its implementation is extremely weak. Sound pollution is becoming not just an environmental issue, but a health emergency that needs to be linked with urgent policy, monitoring and public awareness. The Ministry of Environment described

the scheme as a decisive step to tackle noise pollution in cities, but now it raises questions about what is the use of collecting only noise pollution data if it does not translate into public awareness and policy making. When monitoring is limited to recording only and action is absent, it's clear that this mechanism records the echo of noise but takes silence towards a solution. Government monitoring mechanisms on urban noise pollution often remain confined to passive 'dashboards', while actual intervention is needed on the ground. According to a study in Europe, noise pollution is affecting the mental and physical health

of millions of people, increasing high blood pressure, heart disease and sleep disorders. The full back of the National Green Tribunal recently banned the use of loudspeakers and public announcement systems in 'Silence Zone'. The court directed the police and state government to ensure 'identification and compliance of silent zones' in areas surrounding educational institutions, hospitals and courts. The importance of innovation is growing in this context. Innovative 'Yhack' in DPIIT, funded by the Department of Science and Technology takes a citizen-focused approach different from traditional monitoring. It has developed an IoT hardware, which is already installed in the harness circuits of vehicles in six cities. The device records data such as the timing, location, duration of playing horns in real time (short, long multi-horn) and vehicle speed along with statistics like driver's age, education, experience and ha. June, 2022 IOT has completed nine projects in collaboration with government and private entities, collecting more than thirty-two lakh data from over a hundred vehicles. When government mechanisms remain opaque, innovation records the noise of 'hypnotic' vehicles which not only directs policy-making but also builds a solid foundation for behavioural change and public health.

When government mechanisms remain opaque, innovation records the noise of 'hypnotic' vehicles, not only guiding policy-making but also laying a solid foundation for behavioural change and public health. Sound pollution in urban areas of India has remained above the standards set for decades, seriously affecting citizens' mental and physical health. It's not just limited to human life; urban noise is also affecting birds' sleep and breeding behavior, disrupting ecological balance. Oh, this challenge is directly linked to the Sustainable Development Goals, especially health and safe cities. Current monitoring mechanisms often remain inactive or opaque. Even if the monitoring is active, its data are not being used. It is therefore necessary to combine technological innovations with effective policy interventions, urban planning reforms and community awareness in order to relieve urban life of pollution pressures and provide a solid and correct direction for development goals.

India announces two Rs 4,000 crore cross-border rail links with Bhutan

New Delhi: India on Monday announced its joint plan with Bhutan to implement two cross-border rail links of total 80-km length with Bhutanese cities of Samtse and Gelephu at a cost of more than Rs 4,000 crore. The details of the initiative were made public by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri at a media briefing. The two governments have agreed to establish two cross-border rail links to connect Banarhat (West Bengal) to Samtse and Kokrajhar to Gelephu, said Misri. "India and Bhutan share a relationship of exceptional trust, mutual respect and understanding," he said. The agreement for setting up of the rail links was signed during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bhutan last year.

Vaishnaw said the projects will take off from the network of Indian Railways. The investment envisaged at this point is about Rs 4,033 crore, he said.

India is the largest trading partner of Bhutan and most of the trade of Bhutan is done through Indian ports. Therefore it becomes very important to have good, seamless rail connectivity for the Bhutanese economy to grow and for the people to have better access to the global network. That's why this entire project has been taken up," he added.

While Samtse has big industrial potential, Gelephu is a new city which is getting developed.

Providing details of the first 69-km-long line between Kokrajhar and Samtse, Vaishnaw said that there will be six stations between the two cities and the construction of the complete line will involve two important bridges, two viaducts, 29 major bridges, 65 minor bridges, two gradebeds, one road-over-bridge (ROB) and 39 road-under-bridges.

SC agrees to hear plea for permission to perform Urs at dargah in Gwalior

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has agreed to hear a plea challenging an order that refused to allow religious activities, including Urs, at the dargah of Hazrat Sheikh Muhammad Ghaus in Gwalior.

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) declared the dargah as a protected monument in 1962.

The plea challenging a June order of the Madhya Pradesh High Court at Gwalior came up for hearing before a bench of Justices B V Nagarathna and R Mahadevan, which issued notices to the Centre and others seeking their responses in the matter.

"Issue notice to the respondents on the special leave petition as well as on the interim prayer also," the bench said in its September 19 order.

The petitioner has challenged an order of a division bench of the high court which dismissed the appeal against its single judge's order.

The single judge dismissed a plea seeking direction to the authorities to allow the petitioner and others to perform religious activity like Urs and Nazam at the site.

Cong seems to be in 'comatose state' after India's win against Pakistan in Asia Cup: BJP

New Delhi: The BJP on Monday took a swipe at the Congress and its leader Rahul Gandhi, saying the opposition party seems to have gone into a "comatose state" after India's stunning victory against Pakistan in the Asia Cup final.

The Congress leaders seem to be more pained by Pakistan's defeat, and it is just like Operation Sindoor when they "couldn't bring themselves to congratulate the Indian Army for its stupendous strikes", the ruling party said.

India defeated Pakistan by five wickets in the final match on Sunday, clinching its record ninth Asia Cup title.

BJP Rajya Sabha MP and national spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi hailed India's victory against Pakistan and said, "It is unfortunate, though not surprising, that so far no congratulatory message has come from Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi or Priyanka Gandhi." He added.

He said this clearly shows that the Congress is ready to support all kinds of propaganda in favour of Pakistan, be it



International diplomacy or the sports field. "Keep sports separate from politics," the BJP leader told the Congress. "Don't cast a shadow over the stunning performance of the Indian cricketers for whatever frustration, jealousy, hatred or inferiority complex you may have towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi," he added.

Taking on the opposition party, BJP IT department head Amit Malviya said on X, "Not even a single social media post

from the Congress congratulating our national team for thrashing Pakistan three in the tournament and bringing the Asia Cup home.

"It seems India's stunning win against Pakistan in the Asia Cup final has left Rahul Gandhi and the entire Congress in a comatose state."

Malviya further alleged that falsified an Operation Sindoor, when they couldn't bring themselves to congratulate the Indian Army for its stupendous strikes, they now appear to be

waiting for permission from Mohsin Naqvi and their other handlers in Pakistan before joining the nation in celebrating the Indian cricket team's success.

"Once again, Pakistan, Rahul Gandhi, and Congress find themselves on the same side of the divide," he said.

Trivedi cited reported remarks of former Union minister P Chidambaram on the 2008 Mumbai terror attack to hit out at the Congress and its allies in the opposition, saying, "Morey, nam-

Political row erupts over Asia Cup funds for Pahalgam victims



Controversy sparks over Asia Cup funds for Pahalgam victims

New Delhi: The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) raised questions on Monday over the political messaging surrounding India's Asia Cup final against Pakistan and suggested that the revenue generated from the match could be used to support the families of the Pahalgam terror attack victims.

No official response was available from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

AAP's Delhi unit chief Saurabh Bharadwaj shared a video footage showing the Indian cricket team captain shaking hands with his Pakistani counterpart after stepping down from the stage after the Asia Cup final, in contrast to claims circulating online that no such interaction took place.

In a statement issued by the AAP, Bharadwaj claimed that the broadcasting and advertisement revenue from the India-Pakistan Asia Cup final in Dubai on Sunday was estimated at around Rs 600 crore.

He said if this amount is allocated to the families of the 26 victims of the Pahalgam attack, each family could potentially receive anywhere between Rs 19 and Rs 25 crore.

During an interaction with the media, Bharadwaj said the videos allow the public to see the sequence of events before and after the post-match press-conference, adding that such transparency helps in understanding what actually happened.

Opposition parties have targeted the BJP-led Centre over India's

SC revises compensation to over Rs 60 lakh to accident victim kin

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has enhanced the compensation in a two-decade-old motor accident case by awarding over Rs 60 lakh to the family of a 20-year-old youth who was left completely paraplegic and disabled after being run over by a car in 2001.

Shradh Singh, a 20-year-old final-year B Com student, eventually succumbed to illness in 2021 after two decades of immobility. His mother, acting as his legal representative, pursued the appeal before the apex court.

A bench comprising Justices K Vinod Chandran and N V Anjarlia, allowed the plea of his mother.

The victim sustained a fracture of the cervical vertebrae (C4-C5) after a car, driven rashly and negligently, hit the motorcycle on which he was riding pillion.

The accident left him paraplegic with 100 percent permanent disability, confining him to bed for the rest of his life.

The aspirations of the young man were shattered by the accident which left him paraplegic and fighting for breath, which also prompted the parents

India defeated Pakistan by five wickets in the final match on Sunday, clinching its record ninth Asia Cup title.

arguing that some precedents. The High Court appeal's disposal and even if he had not obtained the certificate as a Chartered Accountant, upon confirmation, he could have been employed as an Accountant, receiving an amount of Rs.5,000/- as monthly income in the year 2001, the minimum wages prescribed for a skilled worker was Rs.3,352," the bench said.

One of the major issues before the bench was the reimbursement of medical expenses. The insurance firm contested bills amounting to several lakhs,

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The insurance firm contested bills amounting to several lakhs,

Liberty matters but victims cannot be overlooked says SC

New Delhi: The Supreme Court has observed while protection of individual liberty was important, courts must not turn a "blind eye" to the suffering of the victims.

Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta, therefore, set aside a March 2024 order of the Patna High Court that granted anticipatory bail to two accused in a murder case.

The top court expressed a "sincere concern" with the haste with which the high court dealt with the matter.

"While the scheme of Criminal Procedure Code, 1973 (now Bharatiya Sakshak Samaha Sanhita, 2023) provides concurrent jurisdiction to the high court and sessions court for entertaining applications for anticipatory bail, this court has time and again observed that high court should always encourage exhausting an alternative concurrent remedy before directly interfering itself," the bench said.

The approach, the top court said, balances the interests of all stakeholders, first by giving the aggrieved party a round of challenge be-

fore the high court. The bench said this approach also provides an opportunity to assess the judicial perspective so applied by the sessions court, in concurrent jurisdiction, instead of independently applying its mind from the first go.

The high court failed to record any reason for directly granting anticipatory bail without impleading the complainant as a party, it added.

"While the protection of individual liberty is important, courts must not turn a blind eye to the suffering of the victims. A balance has to be struck between the individual liberty of the accused as well as to secure an environment that is free from any fear in the hearts of victim of the alleged perpetrators," the bench said.

The September 17 order further said though grant of bail was a discretionary exercise, courts must be cautious in exercising discretion judiciously.

In the present case, this discretion was totally uncalled for especially at the stage of anticipatory bail. It is,

demio prospects. While cautious not to assume chartered accountant-level earnings, the bench observed that even as a graduate he could reasonably earn at least Rs 5,000 per month in 2001, compared to the skilled worker wage of Rs 3,352.

It added Rs 14 lakh under heads such as attendant charges, loss of amenities, pain and suffering, loss of marriage prospects and disfigurement, along with Rs 1.22 lakh for medical expenses.

It enhanced the total award to Rs 40.34 lakh with an interest at 9 percent per annum from the date of filing of the claim petition.

In addition, the bench ordered the insurance company to pay Rs 20 lakh towards medical expenses incurred by the parents during the victim's bedridden years.

This amount will not attract interest if paid within four months, failing which it will carry 9 percent annual interest from the date of judgment.

The top court disagreed and referred to the victim's strong ac-

counting for Rs 1 lakh already granted by the High Court. The apex court directed an additional payment of Rs 20 lakh towards medical expenses incurred between 2001 and 2021. On the issue of loss of income, the Motor Accident Tribunal had originally pegged the victim's monthly income at Rs 3,352.

The Delhi High Court increased it to Rs 3,352, citing the absence of a professional qualification at the time of the accident.

The top court disagreed and referred to the victim's strong ac-

Ashwini Vaishnaw launched 7 new trains including 3 Amrit Bharat Express in Bihar

Staff Reporter New Delhi: Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary on Monday launched seven new trains in Bihar, which include three Amrit Bharat Express trains and four passenger trains.

This brings the total number of Amrit Bharat Express services in Bihar to 26 out of 30 available across the country.

The new trains aim to improve connectivity within Bihar and link the state to regions like Telangana, Rajasthan, and Delhi.

One of the notable new trains is the Muzaffarpur-Charlepaali Amrit Bharat Express, which marks the first connection from Muzaffarpur



to South India. Another significant service is the Chhapra-Anand Vihar Amrit Bharat Express, the sixth train from Bihar to Delhi. These modern trains feature advanced safety and comfort options, enhancing travel experiences for pas-

sengers and supporting economic growth in the state through improved tourism, trade, and job opportunities.

At the event, Vaishnaw emphasized the rapid development in Bihar, suggesting that the state is on track to become a leading region in

India. The annual railway budget for Bihar has increased significantly from around ₹1,000 crore before 2014 to about ₹10,000 crore now. Nearly ₹1 lakh crore worth of railway projects are currently underway in the state, including the complete electrification of the

railway network and the addition of 1,899 km of new tracks.

The Amrit Bharat Express signifies a move towards modernization in India's rail system, offering not only fast and affordable travel but also advanced safety features like semi-automatic couplers and fire detection systems. This initiative is part of the larger vision to develop Bihar into a most prosperous state.

The new Amrit Bharat Express trains include services from Darbhanga to Aamer, Muzaffarpur to Hyderabad, and Chapra to Delhi. Additionally, the four new passenger trains, which cater to the regular, public transport needs, are the Patna-Buxor, Jhajha-Danapur, Nawada-Patna, and Patna-Is-lampur trains.

PM Modi urges GST reforms to benefit every citizen

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said that the BJP-NDA governments have given a "new model of good governance" in the country and urged party workers to ensure that the benefits of the next generation GST reforms reach the common citizen.

The BJP is in government not for "satta" (power) but "sewa" (service), and its offices keep alive this sentiment, Modi said after inaugurating the Delhi BJP office.

"The BJP-NDA governments have given a new model of 'sustaan' in the country. We are moving forward with the mantra of 'vikas bhi, viraasat bhi'. We prioritised the security of the country and the people, and we freed the country from scams to give cor-

ruption a decisive fight against corruption," the prime minister said.

"Our governments focused on delivery and increasing the savings of common people," he said.

Launching a scathing attack on the Congress, Modi said when the UPA was in power in 2014, there used to be a tax on an income of over Rs 2 lakh.

"Now, tax is zero even on income of Rs 12 lakh. The same was the case with goods and services tax (GST), before 2017. A common family spent Rs 1 lakh on its daily needs in one year, it had to pay a tax of about Rs 25,000."

"We introduced GST, prices went down, and now, after the next generation GST reforms, that very household has to only give tax of Rs 5,000-6,000."

**Nirbhay Gurjar
Gang member
caught after 23
tears**

Lucknow:
A key member of the notorious Nirbhay Gurjar gang, who had been absconding for 23 years and carried a cash reward of Rs 50,000, was arrested in Agra on Monday, police said.
The accused, identified as Bablu alias Tiger alias Jitendra, was arrested by a police team from Douki in Agra during a checking drive in the Nagla Devhans area, the police said.

An illegal country-made pistol of .315 bore and one live cartridge were allegedly recovered from his possession.

According to the police, the accused had been absconding since 2002 in the abduction of Hariom alias Kalle from the Rathori village under the Pithoura police station in Agra, they said.
During interrogation, Bablu allegedly admitted to being an active member of the gang led by dreaded dacoit Nirbhay Gurjar, who was killed in a police encounter the same year.

**Bohompujan
marks start of
Mathura
circuit house**

Mathura (UP):
A prayer ceremony was performed on Monday for the construction of a new Circuit House being built near the district headquarters here due to frequent VIP and VVIP visits.

BJP MP Hema Malini attended the 'Bohompujan'.

Earlier, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had laid the foundation stone for the project during the Shri Krishna Janmashtami celebrations.
District Magistrate Chandra Prakash Singh said the need for a Circuit House was being felt due to the frequent visits of VVIPs and VIPs to Mathura.
For this purpose, around two hectares of land from the UP Veterinary Science University's agriculture farm has been allotted, and the construction will be undertaken by the UP Raksha Nirman Nigam.

The four-storey building is expected to be completed in 15 months at a cost of Rs 67.40 crore, he said.

According to officials, the facility will include a 70-seater conference hall, a 72-seater dining hall, parking space, a 42-bed dormitory, and Type-II residential quarters.

**Adityanath urges ULBs to strive
to make India developed
by 2047**

TSN/Lucknow:
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday called upon all urban local bodies to strive to build a developed India by 2047.
Adityanath made the remark while addressing via a video link over 13,800 elected representatives, including mayors and chairpersons of 17 municipal corporations, 200 municipal councils, and 545 town panchayats.

He urged every urban body to commit itself to the mission of making its city clean, modern, well-organised, and self-reliant.

Adityanath emphasised that every municipal body must integrate innovation into its action plans and prioritise the modernisation of civic services, while also striving to increase revenue.

He also underlined that urban development should not be confined to infrastructure alone, and must involve the evolution of every city into a model of smart services, green spaces,



CM Adityanath urges ULBs to work towards Viksit Bharat 2047

efficient transportation, and digital accessibility.
"The Panch Pran outlined by the Prime Minister during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav includes pride in our heritage, ending the mindset of slavery, honouring those who safeguard the nation, fostering unity, and fulfilling one's civic duties. If these five principles are adopted at every level of governance, no one can

stop India from becoming a developed nation by 2047," he said, according to a statement.

The chief minister claimed that India witnessed a significant transformation in the past 11 years under Narendra Modi's leadership and emerged as a major global economic force.

"The perception of India in the global arena has changed. Every

sector is experiencing unprecedented success," he said.

Adityanath said before he came to power in UP in 2017, no one wanted to invest in the state, but a turnaround was witnessed since his arrival.

"In 2017, no one wanted to invest in UP due to poor roads, unreliable power supply, and lack of security. Today, UP has the best infrastruc-

Adityanath made the remark while addressing via a video link over 13,800 elected representatives, including mayors and chairpersons of 17 municipal corporations, 200 municipal councils, and 545 town panchayats.

ture in the country with the highest expressway network, improved inter-state connectivity, and four-lane links to every district headquarters," he said.

He said six cities are now connected through metro rail, there is a first inland waterway between Varanasi and Haldia, and the country's first Rapid Rail system was in UP.

"Today, the state has received investment proposals worth Rs 45 lakh crore. Of this, projects worth Rs 15 lakh crore have already been grounded, generating employment opportunities for over 7 lakh youth," he said.

**Rule of law cracking down on
criminals Raj gov't top priorities: CM**



Jaipur:
Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma on Monday said the rule of law and cracking down on criminals are the state government's top priorities, adding that development is possible only in a peaceful and secure environment.
Sharma was addressing the inauguration ceremony of three new police stations, including Narayan Vilas.

The chief minister said his government has taken several revolutionary steps to modernise and strengthen the police system in the state, providing a fear-free environment for the public.

He said this is not merely the inauguration of a police building but also a strong step towards making the state safe for the public. Upon coming to power, his government formed an 'Anti-Gangster

Task Force' and a special investigation team (SIT) to investigate paper leak cases, he added.

Sharma said crime control and maintaining peace and order in the state are his government's priorities. Concrete steps have been taken to improve the level of crime and complaints in the state, resulting in a steady decline in crime rates, he said.

He stressed that there has been a 9.45 per cent reduction in crimes from 2023 to 2025 and a 13.90 per cent reduction in crimes from 2024 to 2025. There has been a 17.80 per cent reduction in cases of Scheduled Caste atrocities and an 18.77 per cent reduction in cases of Scheduled Tribe atrocities. There has also been a 9.24 per cent reduction in cases of atrocities against women, he said.

**Quantum Ideas unlock secrets of
Nature's teamwork at IIT Mandi**

**Rajan Panchhi
Mandi:**

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi have unveiled a groundbreaking explanation for one of nature's enduring mysteries—why birds flock, fish school, and humans coordinate without a leader. The team, led by Director Professor Laxmidhar Behera along with Dr. Jyotirajan Behera and Mayank Chandra, has proposed a quantum-inspired approach that could redefine our understanding of collective behavior.

Published in the Proceedings of the Royal Society A, the study challenges traditional models of collective motion, such as the Viscose model, which rely on agents aligning their movement with immediate neighbors. While conventional models capture some group behaviors, they often fall short in explaining coordination in noisy, delayed, or ambiguous conditions. The IIT Mandi researchers turned to quantum mechanics for answers.

According to the team, each agent's perception does not immediately settle on a single decision. Instead, it exists in a



superposition of possibilities—mirroring how particles exist in quantum physics until measured. This dynamic, entangled perception allows groups to achieve coordination naturally, even in complex environments.

"Our work shows that quantum-inspired ideas can go beyond physics and provide new insights into explaining one of the oldest mysteries of the natural world: the emergence of collective order from local perception," said Professor Behera.

He added that the findings have far-reaching implications, from understanding the brain and cognition to designing next-generation intelligent systems.

The study introduces two new parameters: perception strength, which measures how strongly agents align their perceptual states, and perceptual energy, which gauges the stability of collective perception within a group. By quantifying these factors, scientists can better understand how coordinated behavior emerges in both natural and artificial systems.

This research reflects a growing trend in science: applying quantum concepts to fields beyond physics, bridging biology, cognitive science, and engineering, and offering a unified framework for understanding coordination in nature and machines.

**PM to Inaugurate National
Jamboree, President may attend**

Lucknow:

Uttar Pradesh will host the Diamond Jubilee Grand Finale of the Bharat Scouts and Guides and the 90th National Jamboree in Lucknow from November 23-29, the state government said on Monday.

The groundbreaking ceremony for the "world-class" camp was held at the Defence Expo Ground in Vinayagan Yojana here, featuring traditional rituals and chanting.

Finance Minister Suresh Khanna, Education Ministers Gulab Devi and Sandeep Singh, and President of the state unit of Bharat Scouts and Guides, Mahendra Singh, expressed gratitude to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, calling it a "proud moment" for the state.

Singh outlined that the Jamboree will host 30,000 Scouts and Guides from India, 2,000 international participants, and 3,000 officials and staff, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurating the event and President Droupadi Murmu expected at the closing



ceremony.

According to an official statement, the week-long 'Tent City' will feature 3,500 tents, 1,600 toilets, a 25,000-capacity arena, 64 kitchens, a 100-bed hospital, 15 dispensaries, 100 exhibition stalls, a jamboree market, a global village, adventure and Wi-Fi zones, and a two-day drone show.

The attractions also include the Air Force's Air Agni exhibition, an HAM radio station, and an IT hub. All arrangements follow green and circular economy principles, ensuring safety, sanitation, health, transportation, and environmental balance, it stated.

The Jamboree's theme aligns with Modi's vision: Self-Reliant Swadeshji India, Clean and Developed India, Green and Sustainable India, and Developed Youth-Developed India, the statement said.

The event aims to foster leadership, discipline, self-reliance, national unity, global brotherhood, cultural exchange, and service-minded citizens, it said.

Uttar Pradesh will host this prestigious event after 61 years, highlighting the state's emerging role as a global hub for youth, it added.

**Man daughter
killed son
injured in illegal
firecracker unit
blast**

Fatehpur (UP):

A 55-year-old man and his daughter were killed, and his son was critically injured here on Monday in an explosion at an alleged illegal firecracker unit, police said.

The incident occurred in the Rewadi Khurd village under the Kalyanpur police station area.

Police said Noor Mohammad, who was allegedly manufacturing firecrackers at his residence without a valid licence, and his daughter Tatyaba (20) died on the spot, while his son Ali Sher (28) sustained serious injuries.

Ali was rushed to the district hospital and was later shifted to the Lala Lajpat Rai (LLR) Hospital in Kanpur, they added.

Mohammad held a fireworks licence in his wife Hasina's name, which was under renewal at the time of the incident. Superintendent of Police (SP) Anoop Kumar Singh said.

A preliminary probe revealed lapses in monitoring, which led to prompt action against the erring police personnel, officials said.

**Internet shutdown in Bareilly disrupts
trade banking healthcare services**

Bareilly (UP):

The suspension of internet services in Bareilly over the last three days has severely disrupted business operations, banking services and healthcare systems.

Traders estimate losses to the tune of several hundred crores of rupees.

Business activities -- from those of small-scale retailers to large wholesalers -- have come to a near standstill. Shopping malls have witnessed a significantly reduced footfall.

On Friday, police and locals clashed in Bareilly over denial of permission for a demonstration in support of the ongoing 'I Love Muhammad' campaign.

Police have filed 10 cases on rioting and other charges against 80 named individuals and 2,500 unnamed people. Around 39 people,



including local cleric Tanveer Raza Khan who allegedly called for the demonstration, were arrested on Saturday.

Following the violence, the state home department on Saturday issued an order suspending SMS (short message service), mobile internet and broadband services of all service providers.

According to local traders, those who previously underestimated the importance of internet connectivity have now come to realise its critical role in daily op-

erations. Banking services have been completely disrupted. ATMs lie unused, customers are unable to carry out basic transactions.

HDFC cluster head Arvind Sharma confirmed that the banking system has been impacted and consumers are facing considerable difficulties.

"Earlier traders and elderly individuals could conduct transactions from their homes or business establishments. That is currently not possible," he said.

**Will recommend CBI probe into alleged
paper leak: Uttarakhand CM Dhama**

Dehradun:

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama on Monday met the youths protesting at the Parade Ground here against the alleged paper leak in a graduate level examination last week and assured them that the state will recommend a CBI probe.

He said an SIT under the supervision of a retired High Court judge has already started its investigation into the allegations related to the exam conducted by the Uttarakhand Subordinate Services Selection Commission.

But since the students are still demanding a CBI investigation, the government will recommend it, Dhama said.
"There will be no obstruction in this matter. The government doesn't



want to leave any doubts or suspicions in the minds of the youth," Dhama said.

The government's sole resolve is to ensure a completely transparent examination process, the chief minister said.
Steps taken over the

past four years, including the introduction of the country's toughest anti-cheating (copying) law in the state and the arrest of around a hundred members of the cheating mafia, have been in keeping with that resolve, he said.

The chief minister said that the government has conducted more than 25,000 government recruitments in a transparent manner in the last four years, and there have been no complaints.
The paper leak com-

plaint has been raised in only one case.

Therefore, the government is fully committed to removing all doubts from the minds of the youth, he said.

After listening to the youth's perspective, the chief minister said he was unhappy with the fact that the youths were protesting in the heat during this festive season.

He said he could have had this conversation with them in his office also, but seeing their suffering, he decided to come to the protest site and meet them.

Dhama had said on Sunday that he was ready for any investigation into the alleged paper leak if required, including by the CBI, but the SIT should be allowed to finish its probe first.

Nepal PM Karki says govt committed to timely election

Kathmandu: Nepal's newly-appointed Prime Minister Sushila Karki on Monday said her interim government is committed to holding the general elections on the scheduled time.

Karki, 73, became prime minister on September 12, ending days of political uncertainty after the ouster of Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli following violent protests by a youth-led Gen Z group against his government over corruption and a ban on social media.

In a message on the occasion of Bada Dashain, Karki on Monday assured that the elections for the House of Representatives will be held on time, according to the Himalayan Times newspaper.

Bada Dashain, also known as 'Vijaya Dashami', is one of Nepal's most widely-celebrated Hindu festivals.

Extending her greetings on the occasion, Prime Minister Karki wished peace, happiness, and prosperity to all Nepali brothers and sisters at home and abroad.

In his message, President Ramchandra Paudel appealed for holding the elections on the scheduled date.

China court sentences 11 members of Myanmar-based crime gang to death

Beijing: A Chinese court on Monday convicted 39 members of a Myanmar-based family-run syndicate on multiple charges, sentencing 11 of them to death.

The gang was accused of killing 14 Chinese nationals and injuring six others.

The Wenzhou Intermediate People's Court in China's eastern Zhejiang province found the defendants guilty of 14 offences, such as fraud, intentional killing, and intentional injury.

Sentences were handed down based on each individual's criminal acts, circumstances, and the degree of harm caused to society, the court said.

Eleven people, including ringleaders Ma Myin Shaunt Phin and Ma Thiri Maung, were sentenced to death, state-run China Daily reported.

Five others received death sentences with a two-year reprieve, and 11 were given life imprisonment.



China court sentences 11 Myanmar-based gang members to death

The remaining defendants were sentenced to prison terms ranging from five to 24 years. Several were also fined, had their properties confiscated, or were ordered deported, according to the court.

The court said the criminal group had used

its influence in Myanmar's Kokang region to build an armed faction and commit a range of offences since 2015.

It established scam compounds in the area and collaborated with other gangs that provided funding and armed support. Their activities

included telecom fraud, casino operations, drug trafficking, and organised prostitution.

The syndicate's crimes led to the deaths of 14 Chinese nationals and injuries to six others, with total proceeds from gambling and fraud exceeding 10 billion Yuan

Sentences were handed down based on each individual's criminal acts, circumstances, and the degree of harm caused to society, the court said.

(USD 1.4 billion), the court said.

Over 160 people, including family members of the defendants as well as national lawmakers and political advisers, attended the sentencing. The case had drawn wide public attention since 2023. In November that year, the Wenzhou Public Security Department issued a wanted notice for the group's suspected leaders.

Following law enforcement cooperation between China and Myanmar, three key members were captured and handed over to the Chinese police for investigation, the report said.

In 2024, prosecutors charged the 39 members with multiple crimes, including conducting tele-

Gunmen kill 12 forest guards in Nigeria's northcentral region



Abuja:

At least 12 forest guards have been killed after gunmen attacked a community in northcentral Nigeria, local police said Monday.

No group has immediately claimed responsibility for the killings on Sunday in Oke-Ode, a community in the state of Kwara, police spokesman Adetoun Ejire-Adeyemi said in a statement.

Such attacks are common in Nigeria's north region where local herders and farmers often clash over limited access to land and water. The farmers accuse the herders, mostly of Fulani origin, of grazing their livestock on their farms and destroying their produce. The herders insist that the lands are grazing routes that were first backed by law in 1965, five years after

the country gained its independence.

The bodies of the 12 guards were found by a team of police officers and members of the National Forest Security Service.

"The victims sustained multiple gunshot wounds," Ejire-Adeyemi said, adding that four survivors are being treated in hospital.

AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq, the governor of Kwara, called on the military to "rout the criminals involved in attacks in parts of the state."

He said in a statement: "I urge our brave residents to remain calm and avoid the temptation to turn on ourselves. I equally commend all the forest guards and the local hunters who, though lost five of their compatriots, equally neutralised several of the attackers."

Pakistan reports two new polio cases in Sindh tally reaches 29

Peshawar:

Pakistan has reported two new polio cases in its southwestern Sindh province, taking the total number of cases in the country this year to 29, the National Institute of Health (NIH) said on Monday.

The cases have been reported in Sindh's Badin and Thatta districts, the NIH confirmed in a press release.



"With these two cases, both girls, the total number of polio cases in Pakistan in 2025 has reached 29," the release said.

A total of 18 cases were detected in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, nine in Sindh, and one each in Punjab and the Gilgit-Baltistan region of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.

Earlier, on September 22, a polio virus case was found in Sindh's Hyderabad district. A sub-national polio vaccination campaign was conducted across

88 districts of the country, including Badin and Thatta. "The campaign successfully reached nearly 21 million children under the age of five," it said.

The next nationwide polio vaccination campaign would be held from October 13 to 19, aiming to protect around 45.4 million children under the age of five.

More than 400,000 dedicated frontline polio workers will go door-to-door to ensure that every child is reached, NIH said.

During the campaign, Vitamin A will also be administered alongside the Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) to boost children's immunity levels, added NIH.

The institute said that these campaigns were

aimed at "rapidly boosting children's immunity and strengthening protection as part of Pakistan's ongoing efforts to eradicate polio," encouraging parents and caregivers to ensure their children were vaccinated.

In 2024, the country reported at least 71 polio cases, with the virus detected in around 90 districts.

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BUSINESS

GST reforms set to lift economy: MoS Chaudhary



Indore: The recent GST reforms will spur market consumption and boost the domestic economy, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said on Monday.

He said the impact of these reforms will be known in the next four to six months.

Chaudhary interacted with businessmen, entrepreneurs, and tax experts in Indore regarding the Goods and Services Tax reforms.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi believes that when GST reforms bring additional money into the hands of the common people, it will definitely boost market purchasing and accelerate our economy," he said.

Chaudhary said that though the GST system was introduced in 2017 under the leadership

of PM Modi, efforts for it were going on for 10 years.

"Taking aim at the previous Congress-led UP government, the MoS said, "The then government was not successful in introducing the GST system because people didn't trust that government. The lack of credibility was the reason that the erstwhile government couldn't convince states to adopt the GST system."

He alleged that the business community has faced numerous difficulties due to a tax system riddled with various glitches when the previous government was in power.

"Without providing specific details about taxes, the minister said, "At that time, you (business people) had to pay an average of about 15 per cent in taxes.

DST-FICCI workshop emphasises role of private sector in National S&T Survey 2024 25

TSN/New Delhi:

The Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, together with FICCI, convened a high level workshop to deliberate on the National Survey on Resources Devoted to Scientific & Technological (S&T) Activities, 2024 25. The workshop underlined the indispensable role of the private sector in bolstering India's science, technology and innovation ecosystem through reliable data sharing.

At the outset, stakeholders from government departments, industry, research institutions, and international agencies reiterated that high quality, comprehensive data is foundational for evidence based S&T policy. Dr. Arvind Kumar, Advisor & Head of the National Science, Technology & Management Information System (NSTMIS), DST, called upon industrial organisations to proactively share data, emphasising that stronger response rates and data



integrity are pivotal for the survey's success.

"In advanced economies, the corporate sector contributes 70-75% of gross R&D expenditures; in India, it accounts for about 36.5%," Dr. Kumar remarked, referencing India's current R&D investment of around 0.64% of GDP though R&D expenditure and GDP, in absolute terms have shown a consistent rising trend over the years. In fact India's

Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) has more than doubled—from ₹60,196.8 crore in FY2010 11 to ₹127,381 crore in FY2020 21.

Dr. Kumar further flagged key government initiatives aimed at energising innovation in the private sector, including the proposed ₹1 lakh crore Research, Development & Innovation (RDI) Fund intended to offer long term concessional financing to corporates

and startups engaged in commercial R&D and innovation in priority sectors such as energy transition, AI, robotics, quantum computing, bio manufacturing, medical devices, and digital agriculture. By de-risking early-stage investments and providing patient capital to private firms, the RDI fund attempts to catalyze investment in R&D by industry and thus would increase corporate contribu-

tion in Gross Domestic Expenditure on R&D (GERD).

Shri Vinay Kumar, Head of the Industrial R&D Promotion Programme (IRDP), DSIR (Ministry of Science & Technology), reviewed the government's sustained efforts to promote industrial R&D. He noted that although India has over 300,000 registered firms, only about 40,000 are currently captured in the CMIE database—approximately 19,000 public and 21,000 private enterprises. He urged industry stakeholders to regard data submission as a national responsibility.

Shaileendra Sigdel, Regional Statistical Advisor, UNESCO Institute for Statistics (New Delhi), highlighted structural challenges in data collection in developing countries. He stressed the need for tangible incentives to data providers and adherence to international norms such as the Frascati Manual, warning that poor input data quality produces weak outputs.

Blue- and Grey-Collar wages surge 23%, but inequality remains stark: WorkIndia Report

TSN/New Delhi:

Salaries across India's blue- and grey-collar workforce have surged 23% in just two years. WorkIndia, the nation's largest platform for this segment, unveiled its Salary Report 2025, mapping dramatic shifts in wages, workplace trends, and industry growth between 2023 to 2025.

The report reveals that overall salaries have grown by 23% in just two years, offsetting the rising demand and opportunities for India's blue and grey-collar workforce. Average minimum salaries rose by 9% and average maximum salaries by 13% in 2025 alone. However, the findings also bring to light stark disparities across gender, geography, and industry segments. Male workers witnessed a faster pace of salary growth at 9%, compared to female workers at 6%, highlighting the persistence of gender pay inequality.

Non-metro cities have emerged as growth engines, recording an average 14% increase in salaries, outpacing metro cities where salaries rose by 10%. Full-time employment continued to see steady salary increases of 10-15% each year, while part-time jobs experienced volatility, with a massive 32% jump in 2024 followed by a 12% dip in 2025. Work-from-office roles demonstrated consistent double-digit growth across the period, in contrast to work-from-home roles, which stagnated with no significant gains.

Wonder electricals sets up new PCB venture, eyes 50% growth in BLDC segment

TSN/New Delhi:

Wonder Electricals Ltd., a long-trusted name in the electrical industry, has announced its strategic entry into printed circuit board (PCB) manufacturing with the launch of a new entity, Integrated Motion & Control LLP. The company will hold a majority stake of 51 per cent in the joint venture, which is expected to strengthen its foothold in the energy-efficient appliances segment. The groundwork for

the new unit is already underway, with machinery installation scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2025. Trial runs are planned for November and December, and full-scale commercial production is slated to begin in the fourth quarter. Alongside this, a state-of-the-art factory is being constructed to support the company's expansion into advanced electronic manufacturing. "Through this move, Wonder Electricals aims

to offer innovative and cost-effective solutions for the fan and appliance industry, particularly in the BLDC (brushless di-



rect current) segment. The new facility will be equipped to provide end-to-end hardware and software solutions,

backed by robust research and development capabilities.

Industry analysts view the step as a turning point for the company, predicting significant enhancement of its product portfolio and profitability. While short-term projections point to accelerated growth in margins, the company is confident that long-term prospects remain strong, driven by surging domestic demand and the potential to tap global markets.

In its first phase, production will center on BLDC motor controllers catering to both consumer and industrial applications. These include controllers for ceiling fans, inverter fans, fans with integrated lighting, table and wall fans, induction fans, cooler motors, and industrial circulators. By focusing on such a diverse product mix, the company expects growth of 40 to 50 per cent in the BLDC category in the coming years.

Executives at Wonder Electricals believe the initiative gives the company a strategic advantage, positioning it as a key player in delivering sustainable, energy-efficient solutions. Supported by a highly skilled team and a clear expansion roadmap, the venture is set to push the company further into the forefront of innovation in India's electrical industry, while also opening doors to international opportunities.

Mohsin Naqvi fumes after defeat to India

Dubai: Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chief and the country's Interior Minister who humiliated himself on the word stage when he walked off with the Asia Cup trophy after India refused to accept it from his hands, is now claiming that India has disgraced the spirit of the game.

Singed by a resounding defeat at the hands of India the PCB Chief, Mohsin Naqvi whose X account is withheld in India, responded on the microblogging platform to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's congratulatory post after the game.

"If war was your measure of pride, history already records your humiliating defeat at Pakistan's hands. No cricket match can rewrite that truth. Dragging war into sport only exposes desperation and disgraces the very spirit of the game," said Naqvi.

Earlier PM Modi applauded India's famous win saying, "Operation Sindoore on the games field. Outcome is the same - India wins! Congrats to our cricketers."

Naqvi's lack of understanding of history and facts are clearly exposed and he needs a stern reminder of the number of times Pakistan has had to bow before Indian superiority during conflicts. Starting from 1971 when the Lieutenant General A.A.K. Niazi, commander of Pakistani forces, signed the instrument of Surrender to the Indian Army marking the end of the war, to the Kargil Conflict where the former PM Nawaz Sharif admitted that they were at fault for violating the Lahore declaration.

Winning the award is a very big thing says Abhishek's father

Amritsar: After India's win over Pakistan in the Asia Cup 2025 final on Sunday, Abhishek Sharma's father, Raj Kumar Sharma, praised his son's performance in the tournament, saying that "it is a very big thing" to win the Player of the Tournament award in the recently-concluded competition.

Abhishek had a terrific Asia Cup 2025 as he was awarded the Player of the Tournament for his exceptional batting performance in the competition. The left-hand batter slammed 314 runs in the seven innings at an average of 44.86 and a strike rate of 200 with the help of three half-centuries and was the highest run-getter of the tournament.

Speaking on Abhishek Sharma's performance in the tournament, Raj Kumar Sharma said "We are all very proud and happy that Abhishek Sharma was awarded Man of the Tournament in the Asia Cup. It is a very big thing..."

Kuldeep Yadav, Abhishek Sharma, and Tilak Varma received their individual awards from other dignitaries on stage, while Salman accepted the runners-up cheque from PCB chairman Mohsin Naqvi. The Indian players did not acknowledge Naqvi. The ACC chairman didn't applaud the Indian players who came up to receive their personal accolades.

Asia Cup among toughest tournaments says Suryakumar

Dubai: Following his team's Asia Cup win, Indian T20 skipper Suryakumar Yadav admitted being "tensed" throughout the tournament and called the tournament "one of the toughest ones he has played in a long time" given how much things were going on politically between arch-rivals India and Pakistan before and during the tournament.

Surya-led India continued their dominant run in T20 cricket, handing Pakistan their third loss in the head-to-head encounters between these two sides in the final of the Asia Cup at Dubai on Sunday. It was Tilak Varma's clutch, well-calculated 69, which helped India chase down a modest 147 runs after it was restricted to 20/3 due to an initial spell from Faheem Ashraf.

The tournament was played after the Pahalgaon terror attack in April and the consequent launch of Operation Sindoore by the Indian Armed Forces against Pakistan-sponsored terrorism. Controversies followed right from the first match, when skipper Surya and Shivam Dube refused



Asia Cup is one of the toughest tournaments: Suryakumar

to shake hands with Pakistan players. The win was dedicated to Indian Armed Forces and solidarity with Pahalgaon victims was expressed by Suryakumar. The matter escalated so much that Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) demanded removal of match-referee Andy Pycroft for not letting the handshakes happen and violating the ICC Code of Conduct and 'Spirit of Cricket'. The drama reached its peak after the final, with Team India refusing to

accept the trophy from Asian Cricket Council (ACC) chairperson Mohsin Naqvi, who is also the Interior Minister of Pakistan and PCB's chairperson. In response, Naqvi reportedly took the trophy and medals with him, and India carried out their celebrations without a trophy.

Speaking to Boria Majumdar on Revsportz, Surya admitted that he was so tense that if he had been wearing a heart-rate monitor, it

would have registered a reading of 150-plus beats per minute. "I would not lie, I was extremely tense. If I were wearing a heart-rate monitor, then it would have marked 150-plus [beats a minute]. The game was going up and down, and that further elevated the tension. I asked one of the coaches how they deal with the pressure sitting upfront and witnessing it all the time. I can walk out and walk in from the dressing room, but they cannot.

To which they replied that it is our job to keep the dugout and the dressing room relaxed, so that you guys can go out there and perform. I thought to myself: I wish I could do this too. I myself was walking constantly inside the dressing room after the 11th or 12th over," said the skipper.

The batter went on to admit that it was "one of the toughest tournaments" played in a very long time, and it had more to do with the minimum gaps between games and the great level of competition. "I think it is one of the toughest that I have played in a very long time, although the T20 World Cup was also challenging. I have been a part of the Asia Cups, but I did not play in 2023. This was not always too challenging mentally, because we were ready to take on any team in this tournament. But the games were so quick, one after the other, having minimum gaps. All the teams were giving us a good time on the ground, playing so well, so at the end of the day, it's sweet that we won. But it was one of the toughest, for sure," said the skipper.

Suryakumar hails boys after triple win over Pakistan



Dubai: As India clinched the ninth Asia Cup title after defeating Pakistan in the final of the 2025 edition on Sunday, Men in Blue T20 skipper Suryakumar Yadav lauded his team's performance in the tournament, defeating their arch-rivals thrice in a singular tournament for the first time in the history of the sport.

On three consecutive weekends, India trounced Pakistan as many times and walked away with the title with a five-wicket win in the Asia Cup final in Dubai on Sunday. Firstly, in the group stage (by seven wickets), then in the Super 4s encounter (by six wickets) and lastly in the final of the competition (by five wickets).

While speaking to Boria Majumdar on Revsportz, Suryakumar said, "Yeah, winning 3-0 was excellent. Incredible show from the boys. They delivered what I expected from

them. All the talks that we have had with them - right here in this team room that we are sitting in - have all worked, and I'm very happy. Never played them three times in a single tournament. It was destined to happen."

Sharing his views on the rivalry between India and Pakistan across all competitions, the right-hand batter said, "Talking about it again and again will degrade its real essence. But yes, during the course of the tournament, I think we played good cricket, handled the pressure situations better with the bat and the ball. That's why we won it. I think it spoke volumes. Our main focus was to win matches and play good cricket. It doesn't really matter if the trophy came or not. What matters is that my country is happy and we are celebrating. We have billboards in our name that we are the Asia Cup champions."

Varun Chakravarthy trolls Pakistan after Asia Cup win

Dubai: Mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy took a subtle dig at Pakistan after India's win in the Asia Cup final, their ninth Asia Cup title on Sunday.

In an Instagram post, Chakravarthy shared a picture of himself with an empty cup of tea, captioning it, "Akha duniya ek taraf, aur mera INDIA ek taraf," poking fun at Ahrar Ahmed's celebratory gesture.

The tea cup gesture was seen as a subtle retort to Pakistani social media users who had earlier commented, "Tea is fantastic," referencing the Abhinandan incident.

The reference dates back to an X post by Pakistani journalist and political commentator Anwar Lodhi, who shared a photo of the mannequin of the IAF braveheart, captured on February 27 by Pakistan following a dogfight between the two air forces in which his MIG-21 was shot down in Pakistani-occupied-Kashmir.

Lodhi shared the picture and wrote: "PAF has put a mannequin of Abhi Nandhan on display in the museum. This would be a more interesting display if they could ar-



Varun Chakravarthy's sassy dig at Pakistan after Asia Cup triumph

range a Cup of FANTASTIC tea in his hand."

Abhinandan was later released on March 1 at the Aitari-Wagah border. India's thrilling Asia Cup victory over Pakistan took an unexpected turn when the team refused to accept the trophy from Asian Cricket Council Chairman Mohsin Naqvi, who is also the Pakistan Cricket Board chairman. Despite winning the tournament, Indian

players celebrated without the trophy, instead posing with imaginary trophies on stage.

Captain Suryakumar Yadav later expressed disappointment, saying, "I feel we deserved it. I've never seen a champion team denied a trophy". The BCCI had previously informed the ACC that India wouldn't accept the trophy from Naqvi due to his political role and anti-India remarks.

Chris Woakes announces retirement from international cricket

London: England all-rounder announced his international cricket retirement on Monday, bringing down the curtain on a 14-year-long career which saw him win two World Cup titles and feature in 217 international matches for England. The all-rounder is still open to playing county cricket and franchise cricket in several leagues worldwide.

Woakes announced his decision on his social media, stating, as quoted by the ICC, "The moment has come, and I have decided the time is right for me to retire from international cricket."

He added, "Playing for England was something I aspired to do since I was a kid dreaming in the back garden, and I feel incredibly fortunate to have lived out those dreams. Representing England, wearing the Three Lions and sharing the field with teammates over the last 15 years, many of whom have become lifelong friends, are things I will look back on with the greatest pride."

Woakes also said that making his debut against



England all-rounder Chris Woakes calls time on his international cricket career

Australia back in 2011 "feels like yesterday". "Lifting two World Cups and being part of some amazing Ashes series is something I never thought was possible, and those memories and celebrations with my teammates will stay with me forever. To my Mum and Dad, my wife Amie and our girls Laila and Evie, thank you for your unwavering love, support and sacrifices over the years. None of this would have been possible without you," he continued.

"To the fans, especially the Barmy Army, thank you for the passion, the cheers and the belief. To

my coaches, teammates and everyone behind the scenes - both with England and Warwickshire, who helped me play for my country - your guidance and friendship has meant the world. I look forward to continuing to play county cricket and exploring more franchise opportunities in the near future," he concluded.

Having featured in 217 games for England across all formats of the game since his debut in 2011, Woakes amassed a total of 396 wickets, in addition to 3,705 runs with the willow. Across all formats, he is England's eighth-high-

est wicket-taker of all time.

He was particularly prolific in Tests, scoring 2,034 runs at an average of 25.11, with a century and seven fifties in 62 Tests and 99 innings, and 192 wickets at an average of 29.61, five five-wicket hauls, and a ten-wicket haul. He featured in England's ICC Cricket World Cup 2019 and ICC T20 World Cup 2022 title-winning campaigns.

Woakes was extremely well-known for his excellence in home conditions, taking 148 wickets in 39 Tests at an average of 23.87 and five fifties and a ten-fer and scoring 1,275 runs at an average of 27.71, with a century and six fifties in 59 innings. The 36-year-old last featured for England during their ICC World Test Championship (WTC) campaign, which started with a home series against India earlier this summer. The outing saw a heroic display from Woakes in battling a shoulder dislocation, come out and bat for England on the final day of the fifth Test at The Oval with one arm in a sling.

Suryakumar Yadav praises PM Modi's "front foot" gesture after Asia Cup title win

Dubai: Men in Blue T20 skipper Suryakumar Yadav hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's support and enthusiasm after Team India won their ninth Asia Cup trophy, trouncing Pakistan three times in the tournament, walking away with the title with a five-wicket win in the Asia Cup final in Dubai on Sunday.

After India won the Asia Cup final against Pakistan with a score of 150/5 against Pakistan's 146/10, PM Modi, in a post on X, referenced "Operation Sindoore on the games field", likening India's win to the military operation launched in response to the Pahalgaon terror attack.



Suryakumar Yadav hails PM Modi's 'front foot' gesture after Asia Cup triumph

India's famous win, saying, "Operation Sindoore on the games field. Outcome is the same - India wins! Congrats to our cricketers."

Suryakumar Yadav, appreciating PM Modi's support, said, "It feels good when the country's leader himself bats on the front foot; it felt like he took the strike and

scored runs." He expressed his admiration for PM Modi's leadership, saying the players felt motivated and played freely with the country's leader sup-

porting them. "Operation Sindoore on the games field. It feels good when the country's leader himself bats on the front foot; it felt like he took the strike and scored runs. It was great to see, and when the sir is standing in front, then definitely the players will play freely," said the skipper.

"The most important thing is that the whole country is celebrating. When we go back (to India), it will feel good, and we will get more inspiration and motivation to do well," he added.

India's thrilling Asia Cup victory over Pakistan took an unexpected turn when the team refused to accept the trophy from Asian Cricket Council Chairman Mo-

hsin Naqvi, who is also the Pakistan Cricket Board chairman. Despite winning the tournament, Indian players celebrated without the trophy, instead posing with imaginary trophies on stage.

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Earlier in the day, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chief and the country's Interior Minister, Mohsin Naqvi, who humiliated himself on the world stage when he

walked off with the Asia Cup trophy after India refused to accept it from his hands, is now claiming that India has disgraced the spirit of the game.

Singed by a resounding defeat at the hands of India, PCB Chief Mohsin Naqvi, whose X account is withheld in India, responded on the microblogging platform to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's congratulatory post after the game.

"If war were your measure of pride, history already records your humiliating defeats at Pakistan's hands. No cricket match can rewrite that truth. Dragging war into sport only exposes desperation and disgraces the very spirit of the game," said Naqvi.

Rohan Bopanna and Takeru Yuzuki storm into Japan Open doubles final

Tokyo: Wildcard entrants Rohan Bopanna of India and Takeru Yuzuki of Japan stormed into the Japan Open doubles final on Monday, producing one of the tournament's most thrilling comebacks. The Japan Open Tennis Championships, an ATP 500 event held annually in Tokyo, features top singles and doubles players from around the world. With substantial ranking points and prize money on offer, it is one of the key stops on the ATP Tour and often showcases dramatic matches and rising stars alongside seasoned veterans.

Bopanna, India's doubles stalwart, continues to shine at 45, demonstrating his enduring skill and experience. Partnered with local Takeru Yuzuki, 27, the duo began their campaign in the first round with a 6-3, 6-4 win over Norway's Casper Ruud and Australia's Jordan Thompson. In the quarterfinals, Bopanna and Yuzuki faced the third-seeded Argentine pair of Maximiliano Gonzalez and Andres Molteni. The match was a stern test, going to two tiebreakers, with the wildcard duo prevailing 7-6(5), 7-6(4) at Ariake Coliseum.

In the semifinals, they overcame the top-seeded Americans Glen-Henry Hearn and Evan King in an epic clash. After dropping the first set 4-6, they took the second 6-3 and eventually won a gripping match tiebreak 18-16, saving three match points along the way. The Bopanna-Yuzuki pairing will now face the second-seeded Monegasque-French team of Hugo Nys and Edouard Roger-Vasselin in the ATP 500 final on Tuesday.

For Bopanna, who became the oldest Grand Slam doubles champion at the 2024 Australian Open, this Tokyo run is a highlight of his 2025 season. His partnership with Yuzuki, formed specifically for this home-soil event, underscores his ability to mentor and elevate emerging talent.

Ryder Cup in European hands no matter where they play

FARMINGDALE, N.Y. (AP)

Rory McIlroy still remembers his tears from losing so badly in the Ryder Cup. What stung even more were the words from that Sunday four years ago at Whistling Straits.

The Americans won 19-9, the biggest Ryder Cup blowout ever over Europe. Yes, the gallery was on-site because of travel restrictions from the COVID-19 pandemic. And yes, that was a powerful U.S. team with all 12 playing at a high level. That never seems to happen.

This was a team that was going to change the course of the Ryder Cup.

"I was trying to tell the guys, 'Let's get to 20 points,' because this is going to be the next era of Ryder Cup teams for the U.S. side," Patrick Cantlay said that day.

"If we play like we did



Ryder Cup stays in European hands, no matter where the venue

this week, the score will be the same over there," McIlroy couldn't help but think of those predictions as Europe celebrated its second straight win since that beating, hanging on for a

15-13 victory. He looked around at flags draped around each teammate from their nine countries, all of them mostly proud of the Team Europe emblem on the crest of their shirts. Unseen was

the image of Steve Balistreri stitched in the inside of the shirt so that it touched their hearts. "The comments and what people were saying after Whistling Straits about the decades of American dominance,

we took a lot from that," McIlroy said. "We let that fuel us."

The "American dominance" ended six years after continental Europe was invited to the party, and there is little to suggest that's about to change. Playing on the road against an angry New York crowd that was nasty and disruptive only fueled Europe even more. It set a Ryder Cup record — under the current format that dates to 1979 — by losing only four of the 16 team matches going into Sunday.

No team had ever come back from more than a four-point deficit.

Europe was up by seven. It was close in the end — too close for Europe, until Shane Lowry came through with biggest putt of his life to secure the gold trophy — but this requires a bigger picture.

Hockey India names 33-member senior men's camp squad



Bengaluru: Hockey India on Monday announced a 33-member core probable group for the Senior Men's National Coaching Camp, scheduled to be held at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) Centre in Bengaluru from September 29 to October 15.

The camp marks a crucial build-up for the Indian team as it prepares for the upcoming two major international assignments — the 3rd Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2025, set to be played in Ipoh, Malaysia, from November 22 to 29th, followed by a high-intensity tour of South Africa, as per a Hockey India press release.

Indian players head into this camp on the back of an unbroken run at the Men's Hockey Asia Cup 2024 in Rajgir, where they lifted the trophy and secured a direct

berth for the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup 2026. With confidence high, the focus now shifts to maintaining the winning momentum, ironing out key areas, and building greater depth across all departments.

Speaking ahead of the camp, Indian Men's Hockey Team Chief Coach Craig Fulton said, "Winning the Asia Cup and securing World Cup qualification was an important milestone for us, but it is only the beginning. The players have come back into camp with renewed hunger, and now our focus shifts fully to preparing tactically for the Sultan Azlan Shah tournament. That will be another valuable test before we head straight to South Africa to start World Cup preparations and continue building towards our bigger goals."

The event was graced by several dignitaries, including Mr. Y.K. Gupta, Vice Chairman of Sharda Hospital; Mr. Sandeep Dogra, Group COO of ShardaCare Healthcity; Kamlesh Bahadur, IPS and Commandant of Police Line,

ShardaCare healthcity unites community for heart health on world heart day

Greater Noida:

ShardaCare Healthcity, a leading multispecialty hospital in North India, organised a vibrant community walkathon a day ahead of World Heart Day to raise awareness about heart health. Aligned with this year's global theme, "Don't Skip a Beat," the event emphasized the importance of preventive care, healthy lifestyle choices, and regular check-ups in safeguarding cardiovascular health.

Hosted by popular road jockey RJ Rahul Makin, the walkathon saw enthusiastic participation from over 1,000 people across all age groups, ranging from school students to senior citizens. Participants covered a 3-kilometer route from ShardaCare Healthcity to the adjacent cricket ground, making for a lively and engaging morning.

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ShardaCare invites for heart health on World Heart Day

Greater Noida; Ms. Snehlata, Addl. S.P., Greater Noida; and Surinder Kumar, Deputy Commandant, BSF. Leading cardiologists from ShardaCare Healthcity, including Dr. Shiladitya Roy Choudhury, Dr. Akhil Kumar Rastogi, Dr. Vivek Tandon, Dr. Prasen Mishra, Dr. Shubendu Mohanty, and Dr. Gautam Agarwal, also attended to guide participants on preventive heart care measures. The walkathon was followed by an engaging "Doctors' Talk and interactive games hosted by RJ Rahul Makin, where attendees learned practical tips for maintaining heart health. Participants also ben-

efited from discounted health services, including cardiac check-ups, awareness camps, and consultations with the hospital's team of cardiologists.

Mr. Rishabh Gupta, Managing Director of ShardaCare Healthcity, highlighted the importance of proactive care, saying, "World Heart Day is an opportunity to remind people that heart health should never be neglected. The walkathon is one step forward in uniting the community against the silent epidemic of heart disease, encouraging regular exercise, balanced nutrition, stress management, and timely health screenings."

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 one correct solution.

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

Solution, Sudoku

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

TOP STORY

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TOP STORY

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Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team records 1-0 win over Australia U21

Canberra: The Indian Junior Women's Hockey Team recorded a 1-0 victory over the Australia U21 side in their third match of the ongoing Australia Tour at the National Hockey Centre, Canberra, on Monday. Kanika Swach (32) scored the winning goal for India.

After a tough contest between the two sides in the first half, India finally broke the deadlock courtesy of crucial field goal by Kanika Swach in the opening minutes of the third quarter to claim the win for her side. India had lost two games on the trot against the Australia U21 side earlier, but with this win, the visitors will be looking to ride on the newfound momentum and bounce back in the remaining matches of this tour.

India will next play two matches against Canberra Chill, a club competing in Australia's premier Hockey One League, on September 30th and October 2nd to conclude their Aus-



Indian Junior Women's Hockey edge past Australia U21 with 1-0 win

tralian tour, according to a press release from Hockey India.

Earlier, the Indian junior women's hockey team endured a grueling 0-5 defeat against the Australia U-21 side in its second match of the ongoing Australia Tour at the National Hockey Centre, Canberra, on

Saturday. Makayla Jones (10', 11', 52'), Sami Lowe (38'), and Migalya Howell (50') were the goal scorers for the hosts.

India, who had suffered a narrow 2-3 loss in their opening match on Friday, were eager to bounce back, but Australia showed their attacking intent right

from the start. The hosts struck twice in quick succession through Makayla Jones, who scored field goals in the 10th and 11th minutes, putting India on the back foot early in the contest.

The Indian defence regrouped in the second quarter and tightened its lines to deny Aus-

tralia further opportunities before half-time. The goalkeeper and defenders combined well to withstand sustained pressure. At the same time, India also attempted to push forward with a few attacking forays, although they were unable to convert their chances in the circle.

In the second half, Australia continued to press high and capitalised on their opportunities. Sami Lowe (38') extended the lead with a field goal to make it 3-0. India attempted to respond through quick counterattacks but failed in its attempts.

The fourth quarter saw Australia seal the contest, with Migalya Howell (50') finding the back of the net, before Makayla Jones (52') completed her hat-trick two minutes later to take the game out of India's reach. Despite India's determined effort to hold their structure and test themselves against a physically strong opponent, the hosts proved too clinical on the day.

Chhetri joins national camp to prepare for Singapore match next month

New Delhi: Star Indian forward Sunil Chhetri joined the national men's football team's preparatory camp in Bengaluru ahead of the upcoming AFC Asian Cup qualifier matches against Singapore. In addition to Chhetri, Rahul Bheke and Rohan Singh Naorem joined the training camp. With their inclusion, the total number of players who have reported to the camp has risen to 28. Head coach Khalid Jamil had named 30 prospects for the camp ahead of India's crucial Asian Cup qualifying round matches against Singapore on October 9 (away) and October 14 (home).

However, the camp began on September 20 with only 18 players, as 14, including Chhetri, were not released by their respective clubs. Seven Bengaluru FC players, three from East Bengal, and four from Punjab FC were not released initially. The coach said that he would release the players towards the end of this month.

Under the rules, the clubs are not obligated to release the players early, as the FIFA international match window falls from October 6 to 12, though Jamil would have preferred to train the players together for a longer period.



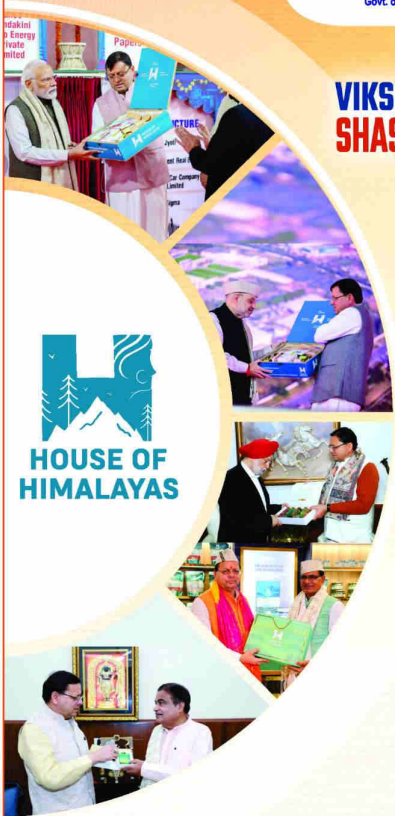
Sunil Chhetri joins national camp ahead of Singapore clash

"Sunil Chhetri, Rahul Bheke, and Rohan Singh Naorem have joined the national training camp today," the All India Football Federation (AIFF) said on X.

The trio will have just a few days of training in the camp before the Indian team's departure for Singapore for the crucial October match. Those players who joined the camp after their start are: Farukh Choudhary, Gupreet Singh Sandhu, Rahim Ali, Mohammed Usain, Franzwer, Nikhil Prabh, Muhammed Shabih, Anwar Ali, and Mahesh

Singh Naorem. Jamil had earlier urged the clubs and the AIFF to find a solution that "balances club and national commitments" through "constructive dialogue," as he did not have enough players—especially in defence—in the initial phase of the camp.

Under the rules, the clubs are not obligated to release the players early, as the FIFA international match window falls from October 6 to 12, though Jamil would have preferred to train the players together for a longer period.



VIKSHIT BHARAT SHASHAKT UTTARAKHAND



Under the bold and visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, we are committed to the idea of inclusive development while harnessing our nation's natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and immense potential. Our foremost aim to make Uttarakhand a model of progress, where every individual can contribute meaningfully to national prosperity and welfare.

Pushkar Singh Dhama
Chief Minister, Uttarakhand

We must make Swadeshi our pride. Adopting it shouldn't be limited to purchasing goods; it is every citizen's duty to proudly promote it. This will strengthen local industries, increase employment, and contribute to the country's economic progress. Every citizen should purchase Swadeshi goods during festivals. This small step can play a significant role in the country's greater progress, and it is every citizen's responsibility to adopt it.

Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

Organic products of Uttarakhand are now the first choice of the world

House of Himalayas Provides global market to local products

Inspired by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Uttarakhand government under the leadership of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama is promoting the advanced products of the hilly areas. Along with this, many initiatives have also been started for their marketing. The launch of 'House of Himalayas' is an important step in this direction. Under this, high quality products of Uttarakhand have been prepared according to the markets of the country and the world. These have emerged as a major brand of products from the hilly region of Uttarakhand.

During the Uttarakhand Global Investors Summit 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'umbrella brand' named 'House of Himalayas' along with other multimillion projects. Now, products manufactured by local groups will be marketed under the unified name 'House of Himalayas', focusing on quality and packaging.

This innovative initiative aims to promote Uttarakhand's local products globally. Known previously as Himadri, Hilans, and Gramya-Shri, these products will now collectively shine under the brand 'House of Himalayas', showcasing the wonders of the region to the world. This step is a significant move to make Uttarakhand's products vocal for

local and take them from local markets to the global stage. Inspired by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Uttarakhand government under the leadership of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama is promoting the advanced products of the hilly areas. Along with this, many initiatives have also been started for their marketing. The launch of

'House of Himalayas' is an important step in this direction. Under this, high quality products of Uttarakhand have been prepared according to the markets of the country and the world. These have emerged as a major brand of products from the hilly region of Uttarakhand.

Superior Quality: The product line-up at the House of Himalayas are truly exceptional, known for their unmatched quality and superior effectiveness. This exceptional distinction sets them apart from mass-produced alternatives available in the market.

Why is the House of Himalayas so special?

The Assurance of Authenticity: Products created under this initiative truly honour an array of traditional methods and authentic experiences. They reach consumers only after going through high-quality standards. Further, certificates are also issued to confirm their premium quality.

A Commitment Towards The Community: Choosing the House of Himalayas means supporting local communities through truly meaningful social initiatives. With every product you purchase, you contribute socially and economically.

The Idea of Open Sourcing: This initiative emphasizes complete transparency in the sourcing of materials and production processes, maintaining consumer trust.

Emphasizing on Ethical Priority: The brand embraces ethical sourcing and improved production practices that are widely appreciated for their integrity.

Enhanced Brand Experience: By including comprehensive product information, attention to every detail, and delivering superior products, the brand ensures a memorable experience for every customer.



ODTP With the One District-Two Product Scheme, Uttarakhand's products are attracting the world

District	Product-1	Product-2
Almora	Ball Mithai	Tweed
Bageshwar	Copper Products	Kiwi Products
Chamoli	Handloom Products	Rose Water
Haridwar	Jaggery	Honey
Champawat	Iron Based Products	Honey
Dehradun	Bakery Products	Mushroom
Rudraprayag	Temple Imitation	Cholai Products
Nainital	Aipan Craft	Fruit Processing
Pauri	Wooden Craft	Herbal Products
Udhamsingh Nagar	Mentha Oil	Moonj Grass Products
Uttarkashi	Red Rice	Apple Products
Pithoragarh	Woolen Carpets	Munsiyari Rajma
Tehri	Paneer	Tehri Nath

Uttarakhand's Crafts & Organic Products from Local to Global

Tourists should spend 5% of their travel spending on local products: Prime Minister

To achieve the goal of self-reliant country Prime Minister Narendra Modi has spoken of Vocal for local. With the aim of promoting local products, One District-One Product Scheme has been started by the Government of India. Uttarakhand Government has taken this scheme forward as "One District Two Products" under the leadership of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama. Programme done in Mana Village near Badrinath Dhamam Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has appealed to the people of the country to spend 5% of their travel spending on Local Products. Due to this tremendous step, a big change will be seen in local economy.



Any region is identified by its local language & products. Efforts should be made to promote them.

Traditional Products of Devbhoomi awarded with special GI Tag

BHOTIYA DAAN OF UTTARAKHAND



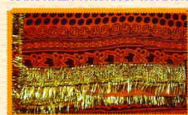
It is a traditional handwoven carpet made by the Bhotiya community in Uttarakhand. These carpets are known for their warmth, durability, and intricate designs.

UTTARAKHAND LIKHAI (WOOD CARVING)



Uttarakhand is famous for its exquisite wood carvings seen in architectural elements, furniture, and decorative items. Skilled artisans intricately carve wood to create beautiful designs and motifs.

RANGWALI PICHORA OF KUMAON



Rangwali Pichora is a traditional craft involving the creation of colorful hand printed/handwoven cotton/silk/woolen shawls. The designs and patterns showcase the rich cultural heritage of the Kumaon region.

UTTARAKHAND THULMA



Thulma blanket are handwoven by the Bhotiya community in Uttarakhand using sheep or yak wool. These blankets are known for their warmth & durability.

NAINITAL MOOMBATTI (CANDLE)



Uttarakhand is known for its artistic candles crafted in various shapes, sizes, and colors. These candles often reflect the region's cultural motifs and symbols.

UTTARAKHAND AIPAN



Aipan is a traditional folk art form involving the creation of intricate geometric patterns using rice paste or chalk. It's usually seen on floors, walls, or courtyards during religious and cultural ceremonies.

Geographical Indication (GI) Crafts Products

A Geographical Indication (GI) is a sign used on products that have a specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are due to that origin. In other words, it is a certification that identifies a product as originating from a particular region, where a given quality, reputation or other characteristic of the product is essentially attributable to its geographic origin.

The following craft products of Uttarakhand have been awarded GI tag by the Office of the Controller General of Patents, Designs and Trademarks, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Government of India:

UTTARAKHAND BITHCU BUTI



Nettle fibre is used to create a range of products, including fabrics, bags, and ropes. The nettle plant is abundant in the region, and its fibre is valued for its strength and eco-friendliness.

UTTARAKHAND RINGAAL CRAFT



Ringaal products are crafted from a type of local grass called 'Ringaal'. Artisans use it to create items like mats, baskets, and ropes due to its strength and flexibility.

CHAMOLI WOODEN RAMAAN MASK



Ramaan masks are carved from wood and used in traditional folk dances and cultural performances. These masks often represent deities, animals, or mythological figures.

UTTARAKHAND TAMTA PRODUCTS



Artisans in Uttarakhand craft various items like utensils, decorative pieces, and religious artifacts using copper. These items are known for their intricate designs and durability.