

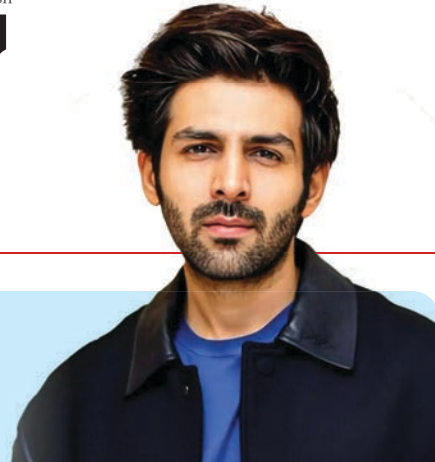


26 000 govt jobs created in last 4 years in Uttarakhand: CM Dhami



US urges ASEAN to be firm in countering China in South China Sea

Kartik Aaryan begins shooting for 'Naagzilla', shares first pic



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WEATHER

Sunrise 5:24 AM
Sunset 7:22 PM
Moonrise 10:08 PM
Moonset 8:45 AM

Today's Prediction
Maximum 34°C Minimum 27°C
Tomorrow's Prediction
34°C 28°C

MARKET

SENSEX	NIFTY
81118.60	24718.60
-573.38	-169.60
GOLD	SILVER
100,143.00	106,415.00
1,751.00	530.00

Indo-Pacific must remain open and free says Rajnath Singh

India's engagement with ASEAN rests on shared belief that the Indo-Pacific should remain free: Defence Minister

New Delhi: India's emphasis on rule of law and freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific is not against any country, but to safeguard interests of all stakeholders, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh said on Saturday amid mounting global concerns over China's aggressive military posturing in the region.

In an address at a conclave of defence ministers of ASEAN member states and the bloc's dialogue partners in Kuala Lumpur, Singh said India believes that the Indo-Pacific should remain open, inclusive, and free from any form of "coercion".

He also pitched for an approach of "collective security" to ensure sovereignty of every nation in the region.

"India's emphasis on the rule of law, particularly the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), and its advocacy for freedom of navigation and overflight in the Indo-Pacific, are not directed against



any country but are meant to safeguard the collective interests of all regional stakeholders," he said.

His remarks came amid consistent demands by several ASEAN member states as well as democratic nations for adherence to UNCLOS in the face of Beijing's increasing military muscle flexing in the contested South China Sea.

In his speech at the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus) conclave,

Singh said India's strategic engagement with ASEAN is not transactional but long-term and principle-driven, and it rests on a shared belief that the region should remain open, inclusive, and free from "coercion".

"The security of the future will not depend solely on military capabilities, but on the management of shared resources, the security of digital and physical infrastructure, and a collective response to humanitarian crises," he said.

Singh said the ADMM-Plus can be that bridge to connect strategic dialogue to practical outcomes and take the region forward towards peace and shared prosperity.

"India views its role in this framework through the lens of a spirit of partnership and cooperation. Our approach is not transactional, but rather long-term and principle-driven," he said.

"We believe that the Indo-Pacific should remain open, inclusive, and free from any form of coercion," he noted.

The ADMM-Plus is a platform comprising 11-nation ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) and its eight dialogue partners -- India, China, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russia and the United States.

"Let us all together reaffirm our commitment to safeguarding and strengthening the ASEAN-led, inclusive regional security architecture, which has served our region so admirably," Singh said.

He said India is ready to enhance cooperation in all areas of mutual interests, promote dialogue, and ensure peace and stability through robust regional mechanisms.

"The experience of the past 15 years teaches us some things in a clear manner, namely that inclusive cooperation is effective; regional ownership brings legitimacy, and collective security strengthens everyone's individual sovereignty," he said. Agency

Need population policy soon to address 'demographic imbalance': RSS

New Delhi: Organiser Weekly, a Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)-linked magazine, has stressed the need to introduce a comprehensive national population control policy, pointing to a "demographic imbalance" emerging in certain areas of the country with "significant Muslim population growth."

An editorial published in the magazine's latest edition also flagged concerns over "regional imbalances" in terms of population and pitched for policy intervention, saying states from the west and south were doing "relatively better" in implementing population control measures but they "fear losing a few seats" in Parliament if the base population was changed after the Census.

"Despite stabilising



the population at the national level, it is not the same in all religions and regions. There is a significant Muslim population growth in certain areas, especially bordering districts," the editorial noted.

Frontier states such as West Bengal, Bihar, Assam and Uttarakhand are witnessing "unnatural" population growth due to "illegal migration" across the borders, it claimed.

"In a democracy, when

numbers are critical regarding representation and demography decides the destiny, we must be even more cautious of this trend," the editorial said.

"Politicians like Rahul Gandhi can afford to insult Hindu sentiments now and then. (West Bengal Chief Minister) Mamata (Banerjee) can play the blatant Muslim card even to accept the atrocities on women by the Islamists, and Dravidian parties can take

pride in abusing Sanatan Dharma only because of their confidence in the consolidation of the so-called minority vote bank developed with the population imbalance," it charged.

"Learning from the horrors of the Partition and what is happening with the politically correct but socially and culturally incorrect migration from West Asian and African countries, we have to address this issue urgently, as pointed out by various Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) resolutions and judicial pronouncements," it added.

The editorial further noted that regional imbalance was another "critical dimension" that would impact the delimitation process of parliamentary constituencies in the future. Agency

No role of India in stopping Nepali citizen from travelling to Berlin: MHA



Mitali Chandola New Delhi:

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has clarified that Indian immigration authorities had no involvement in the recent case involving a Nepali citizen, Ms. Shambhavi Adhikari, who was stopped at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) while en route to Berlin. The ministry said that reports portraying the incident as an act of bias or discrimination against Nepali citizens were "incorrect and misleading."

According to an official statement issued by the MHA, Ms. Adhikari, a citizen of Nepal, was travelling from Kathmandu to Berlin with a transit halt in New Delhi. She arrived

in Delhi on an Air India flight and was scheduled to board a connecting Qatar Airways flight to Germany. However, she was denied boarding for the onward journey and was subsequently flown back to Kathmandu.

The MHA clarified that this decision was made by the airline concerned and not by Indian authorities. "It was the airline which decided not to let her undertake her onward travel to Germany considering her visa validity and flew her back to Kathmandu," the statement read. The ministry further noted that such actions are typically taken in accordance with the destination country's visa and entry requirements. Agency

ISRO to launch heaviest satellite aboard 'Bahubali' rocket

Sriharikota:

The 24-hour countdown for the launch of over 4,000 kg communication satellite CMS-03 commenced at this spaceport on Saturday, ISRO said.

The satellite weighing about 4,410 kg will be the heaviest to be launched from the Indian soil and into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO), the space agency said.

The spacecraft will travel onboard a LVM3-M5 rocket, dubbed as 'Bahubali' for its heavy-lift capability.

The launch vehicle has been fully assembled and integrated with the spacecraft and it has been moved to the second launch pad here for taking up pre-launch operations, the Bengaluru-headquartered space agency said on Saturday.

Later in a social media post, ISRO said, "Countdown commences!! Final preparations complete and the countdown for LVM3-M5 (mission) has officially begun at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota."

"All systems are GO as we move closer to liftoff," the space agency said in its update.

The 43.5 metre tall rocket is scheduled for a 5.26 pm liftoff on November 2.

LVM3- (Launch Vehicle Mark-3) is the new heavy lift launch vehicle of ISRO and is used for placing 4,000 kg spacecraft in GTO in a cost-effective manner, ISRO said.

This three stage launch vehicle with two solid motor strap-ons (S200), a liquid propellant core stage (L110) and a cryogenic stage (C25) gives ISRO full self-reliance in launching heavier communication satellites that weigh up to 4,000 kg in GTO. Agency

Day not far when India will be free from Maoist and terror: PM Modi

Raipur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the number of Maoist-affected districts has fallen to three from 125 in the last 11 years, and the "day is not far" when the whole of Chhattisgarh and the country will be freed from the Naxal menace.

Speaking at 'Chhattisgarh Rajat Mahotsav', the 25th anniversary celebration of the formation of Chhattisgarh in Nava Raipur, he hailed the state's growth journey and said the seed sown 25 years ago has



grown into a "vat vriksh" (banyan tree) of development. He was "deeply satis-

fied" that Chhattisgarh was breaking free from the clutches of Naxal violence which had caused immense suffering to the state for over five decades, the prime minister said.

"For 50 years, the people here suffered unbearable pain (because of Naxalism). Those who show off the Constitution and shed crocodile tears in the name of social justice have committed injustice to you for vested interests," he said.

Maoist ideology deprived tribal regions of basic facilities, the PM said. CONTD ON PAGE-2

Lucknow earns UNESCO recognition for culinary heritage

Lucknow:

From the silken softness of Galouti kebabs to the intoxicating aroma of Awadhi biryani and the cloud-like nothingness of Makhani Malai, the notes of Lucknow's cuisine are many, each more delectable than the last, and now recognised by UNESCO.

Reaffirming a widely acknowledged matter of fact, Lucknow has officially been inducted into UNESCO's Creative Cities Network (CCN), under the 'Gastronomy' category, marking a global acknowledgement of its culinary her-



itage. UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay on Friday designated 58 cities as new members of the CCN, which now includes 408

cities across more than 100 countries, "for their commitment to championing creativity as a driver of sustainable urban development". Agency

Day not far when India will be free from Maoist and terror: PM Modi

CONTD FROM PAGE-1
"For years, tribal villages lacked roads, schools and hospitals. The existing ones were blown up with bombs. Doctors and teachers were killed. Those who ruled the country for decades abandoned you while they enjoyed life in their air-conditioned offices," Modi said.

He could not just stand by and watch his tribal brothers and sisters being destroyed by violence, he further said.

"I could not (hear to) see mothers crying for their children. In 2014, when you gave us the opportunity, we resolved to free India from Maoist terror. Today the results are before the nation," Modi said.

Eleven years ago, 125 districts across India were affected by Maoist extremism, but today the number has declined to only three, he said.

"I guarantee that the day is not far when the corner of Chhattisgarh and India will be completely free from Maoist terror," the prime minister added.

In the past few months, dozens of Maoists, including many carrying rewards of lakhs and crores of rupees on their heads, have surrendered across the country, Modi noted.

"In Kanker, more than 20 Naxalites laid down arms recently. Earlier in October, over 200 Maoists surrendered in Bastar. They have now accepted the Indian Constitution and chosen the path of peace," he said.

Where once there was the fear of guns and bombs, the situation has changed, the PM said.

Electricity reached Chikapalli village of Bijapur for the first time in 70 years, while a school opened for the first time since Independence at Rekawaya village in Abujmahad region, he said.

Lucknow earns UNESCO recognition for culinary heritage

CONTD FROM PAGE-1
The United Nations in India in a post on X said, "From mouth-watering Galouti Kabab to Awadhi Biryani, delectable Chaat and Golgappe, desserts like Makhan Malai and so much more -- Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh is a haven for food, enriched in centuries-old traditions."

Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed to people all over the world to visit Lucknow to discover the city's uniqueness.

Modi said Lucknow is synonymous with vibrant culture, at the core of which is a great culinary culture.

"I am glad that UNESCO has recognised this aspect of Lucknow and I call upon people from around the world to visit Lucknow and discover its uniqueness," the prime minister wrote on X.

He was responding to a post by Union Minister of Culture Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, who said that it is "a recognition of its distinguished culinary heritage and invaluable contribution to India's rich gastronomic traditions".

Lucknow's food has always represented a paradise for gourmands, whether they slurp up its aromatic gravies or savour the silken delicacies.

Read Nehru-Patel correspondence; Kharge to Modi on PM's remarks on Kashmir's accession

New Delhi:

Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge countered Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday over his claim that Jawaharlal Nehru was not in favour of Kashmir's accession to India and challenged him to read the correspondence between Nehru and Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel on the issue, and review the Constituent Assembly discussions of the time.

In a long post in Hindi on X, Kharge also alleged that it was the leaders of the Hindu Mahasabha and Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and later, the Jan Sangh, who made statements that Kashmir should be declared an independent country.

Modi launched a sharp attack on Nehru, the country's first prime minister, on Friday, claiming that he prevented Patel from fully integrating Kashmir into the Indian Union.

Addressing the national celebrations in Gujarat's Ekta Nagar to mark Patel's 150th birth anniversary, Modi said the subsequent "mistake" on Kashmir, resulting from Nehru's wish not being fulfilled, led to decades of turmoil and bloodshed in the region.

Countering Modi, Kharge claimed



that Vinayak Damodar Savarkar and M S Golwalkar were both guests of Kashmir's Maharaja Hari Singh, and the Hindu Mahasabha had announced its support for an independent Kashmir, instead of its accession to India.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi's statement that Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru did not want Kashmir's accession to India is utterly false and reprehensible," Kharge said in his post.

He claimed that during the process of Jammu and Kashmir's accession, Nehru was in touch with Sheikh Abdullah, while Patel was in contact with Hari Singh, and they were persuading the two Kashmiri leaders that integration with India was in the interest of the people of the region.

Kharge also claimed that Patel's private secretary, V Shankar, who himself had supported the former during the negotiations for Jammu and Kashmir's accession, compiled a book of correspondence between Patel and other leaders, titled "Selected Correspondence of Sardar Patel".

"In the first volume of this book, V Shankar clearly wrote that both Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel were equally interested in the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India. The book itself contains a compilation of at least 50 letters regarding the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India. If Pandit Nehru had not been involved in the process of Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India,

would there have been so much correspondence between Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru during that time?" he asked.

The Congress chief also claimed that about a month before the tribal invasion in Jammu and Kashmir in the last week of October 1947, Nehru wrote a letter to Patel on September 27, explicitly stating that Pakistan was planning to attack the region in the guise of tribesmen.

"In this letter, Pandit Nehru detailed Pakistan's conspiracy and strategy. Pandit Nehru also said that fighting in Jammu and Kashmir would become difficult after the onset of winter, so the accession of the state to India should be expedited immediately.

"Immediately after this letter, on October 2, 1947, Sardar Patel wrote to the maharaja of Jammu Kashmir, urging him to accede to India as soon as possible," Kharge claimed.

He said on October 5, 1947, Nehru once again emphasised to Patel the urgent need for Jammu and Kashmir's accession to India.

"Unfortunately, despite the persuasions of Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel, the maharaja of Jammu Kashmir could not take an immediate decision and before the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to India could take place, Pakistan launched the tribal invasion," he said.

Kharge said Shankar clearly wrote that getting Jammu and Kashmir to accede to India was one of Patel's achievements through Article 370 of the Constitution.

"It was through Article 370 that Pandit Nehru and Sardar Patel built a bridge between Jammu and Kashmir and India. There was such deep closeness between Nehruji and Sardar Patel that on the day Article 370 was passed in the Constituent Assembly, Pandit Nehru was in the US and Sardar Patel had it passed in the Constituent Assembly under his own direction.

"Defying international pressure, Pandit Nehru ensured Kashmir's

accession to India. Pandit Nehru had also clarified in the Constituent Assembly that not only for cultural reasons, but also considering the international scenario -- since Jammu and Kashmir shares borders with several countries -- the accession of Jammu and Kashmir to the Indian Union was the most beneficial option," Kharge said.

He also claimed that in the book, "Poornahuti", written by Mahatma Gandhi's private secretary Pyarelal, it is mentioned that Mohammad Ali Jinnah used to say that as long as Nehru was India's prime minister and Sheikh Abdullah was the leader of the Kashmiri people, the people of Kashmir could never support Pakistan under any circumstances.

"Narendra Modiji, I challenge you to read the correspondence between Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru from that time, and review the discussions that took place in the Constituent Assembly at that time.

"You will also learn that Balraj Madhok, a prominent leader associated with the Hindu Mahasabha, RSS and later, the Jan Sangh, openly stated that they wanted to make Kashmir an independent nation," he claimed.

Reawakening Humanity



New Delhi:

It is a universally acknowledged truth that the eternal cycle of time—Kaal Chakra—is divided into four eras, known as the Yugas: Satyug, Tretayug, Dwaparayug, and Kaliyug. With each successive Yuga, humanity has witnessed a decline in virtues, moral strength, and collective consciousness. Today, in the final phase of Kaliyug, human behavior and societal values have reached their lowest ebb.

Humans who once realized that they themselves are the true Masters, capable of achieving anything, have now become entangled in the web of their own self-imposed limitations—bound by their own ego, ignorance, and immoral tendencies. Misguided by man-made Guru-Chela relationship and other different types of prevalent bhakti-bhav presently in vogue, humanity has drifted far away from its true and virtuous nature.

The erosion of moral values has brought immense suffering to mankind. Confused by superficial devotion (Bal Avastha ki Bhakti) and trapped in various physical, mental, and spiritual afflictions, people struggle merely to survive by hook and crook—forgetting their true divine self.

Recognizing the present dismal state of society there is an urgent need for moral and spiritual rejuvenation, Satyug Darshan Trust (Regd.), Faridabad, have started a world-wide mission to reawaken human values among the society by making them fully aware about the Satyugian Culture as mentioned in the holy book of "Satvastu Ka Kudarati Granth".

At the heart of this noble mission is the School of Equanimity and Even-Sightedness (Dhyanaksh), located at Satyug Darshan Vasundhara, Greater Faridabad. The School has launched a free

transformative initiative to guide individuals—especially the younger generation—away from the path of moral decay and toward a life rooted on the principles of Equanimity and Even-Sightedness.

All of us will agree that this gesture will help all human beings on a world level adopt the path of selflessness, righteousness and truthfulness. Here all of us will agree that this "Bhav-Savbhav Parivartan Kranti" will definitely help to build a harmonious society.

As part of this mission, the School of Equanimity and Even-Sightedness established at Faridabad has wholeheartedly opened its doors to everyone, welcoming all to visit its campus—free of cost—and experience divinity up close. Visitors are encouraged to walk the path of contentment, patience, truthfulness, righteousness, equanimity, selflessness, and benevolence, thereby embracing the Satyugian Culture.

With the mission of reinstating Satyugian culture in society, through upliftment of natural disposition, temperament of the society, the School of Equanimity and Even-Sightedness has introduced free online classes and workshops open to all. Everyone is encouraged to join and learn the Science of Inner Dimensions, a journey toward self-realization.

In an age where society—especially the younger generation—faces confusion and lack of direction, these classes are instilling vital moral and human values essential for becoming noble individuals. Through a systematic curriculum, meticulous planning, and the guidance of experienced teachers, these classes have already reached thousands of people worldwide, helping them discover true purpose and direction in life.

No matter how big one becomes he shouldn't forget his culture CJI

Kaushambi (UP):

Chief Justice of India B R Gavai on Saturday said that one should remain connected to one's soil and that no matter how big an individual becomes, he should never forget his culture.

Gavai said the opportunity he got as a judge to provide socio-economic justice to people was better than any riches.

He was speaking at the annual function of Maheshwari Prasad Inter College in Uttar Pradesh's Kaushambi district. Currently a government-funded Inter College, the institute was founded as a primary school in 1966 by Devendra Nath, the father of Supreme Court Justice Vikram Nath.

Addressing students, the CJI said, "One should not break the connection with one's soil. No matter how big an individual becomes, he should not forget his culture."

Gavai said that before becoming a judge, he was a lawyer with a good practice. But the opportunity he had as a judge to provide socio-economic justice to the citizens of the country was better than earning crores of rupees.

He urged the students to take inspiration from great personalities visiting the college. "You are the future of the country. How India will be tomorrow depends on you. You are fortunate that you are born in the land of Buddha," said CJI Gavai, who is the first Buddhist to hold the office.

He said he has come to the programme not as the Chief Justice of India,



but as "an elder brother of Justice Vikram Nath" as the two of them share a close bond.

"I had wanted to visit this college long ago, but (Justice) Vikram Nath said he will take me here when I become the CJI. After 15 months and seven days, when Justice Vikram Nath becomes the Chief Justice of India, I will come to this school's programme without even being invited," said Gavai, who was accompanied by wife Tejaswini Gavai.

A student from an eco-

nomic weaker family presented a hand-drawn portrait of the CJI, on which he expressed great delight. Later, the school's management committee announced Rs 11,000 financial assistance to the student.

Gavai said the institute's founder, late Devendra Nath Srivastava, had "planted a small sapling by opening a small school in Alam Chand village to connect the children of backward classes and Dalits in the area to the mainstream of education, which has today become a huge banyan tree."

Allahabad High Court Chief Justice Arun Bhansali, who was a special guest at the programme, said the college was a bridge to send rural talents into the country's mainstream. "Education is not just a means to get a job, education teaches you to differentiate between right and wrong," Bhansali said, adding that technology should be used only for positive works.

He also asked teachers to encourage the students to ask questions in the class.

Maitreyi College Launches Centre to Revive Indian Knowledge Traditions

New Delhi:

Maitreyi College, University of Delhi, has set up the Vidushi Arundhati Centre for Indian Knowledge Systems (VAC-IKS), a major academic initiative to revive and integrate India's intellectual and cultural heritage into modern higher education. Established with the approval of the College Governing Body, the Centre aligns with the vision of the Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) Division of the Ministry of Education and reflects the holistic spirit of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

Designed as an advanced interdisciplinary centre for study and re-



search, VAC-IKS aims to cultivate an environment where India's classical traditions are studied as evolving, dynamic systems that continue to engage with present-day challenges. The initiative highlights the academic leadership of Principal Prof. Haritma Chopra, who has consistently advocated for blending

India's philosophical, ethical, and scientific thought with contemporary education. Prof. Chopra will serve as Director of the Centre, with Prof. Jyoti Singh as Associate Director and Dr. Pramod Kumar Singh as Coordinator, Convener, and Nodal Officer. Faculty members from across departments will contrib-

ute to the Centre's programmes, ensuring interdisciplinary collaboration and intellectual growth.

The Centre will explore diverse fields such as Vedic and Upanishadic literature, classical philosophies, aesthetics, scientific traditions, and Indian perspectives on ethics, consciousness, community, and well-being. It will also address contemporary themes like emotional resilience, sustainable development, environmental responsibility, and value-based leadership through the lens of Indian thought.

Emphasizing experiential and text-based learning, VAC-IKS will encourage students and

India to host maritime information sharing workshop from Nov 3-5

New Delhi:

Maritime security practitioners from 30 countries are set to assemble in India from November 3-5 as part of a key event that catalyses coordinated responses to transnational maritime threats such as piracy, drug smuggling and other incidents disrupting global maritime commerce.

The Gurugram-based Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) will host the third edition of the Maritime Information Sharing Workshop (MISW) from November 3-5, officials said on Saturday.

The workshop is a high-fidelity table-top exercise, simulating real-world maritime threats and fostering syndicate-based contingency planning, they said.

The delegates will engage in collaborative response frameworks, reinforcing the value of shared situational awareness and coordinated action, the Indian Navy said in a statement.

With the theme 'Enhancing Real-Time Coordination and Information Sharing Across the Indian Ocean Region', the MISW 2025 is poised to be a pivotal international platform dedicated to fortifying the collaborative framework essential for safeguarding the world's most vital sea lanes, a Navy spokesperson said.

Govt dedicated to resolving public grievances: CM Yogi

Gorakhpur:

During his visit to Gorakhpur, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath interacted with the public during the Janata Darshan on Saturday morning, patiently hearing their grievances. He reaffirmed his government's commitment to addressing people's problems, stressing that injustice will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

The Chief Minister directed officials to ensure that every eligible person benefits from welfare schemes, to take strict action against land grabbers and criminals, and to deliver justice without discrimination.

Due to adverse weather conditions, the Janata Darshan was held in the auditorium of the Mahant Digvijaynath Smriti Bhawan at the Gorakhnath Temple. Around 200 people attended the session, with a large number of women presenting their concerns.

researchers to engage with primary texts and interpretive dialogue, fostering knowledge as lived wisdom rather than mere information.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Chopra described the Indian Knowledge Tradition as a "living stream of consciousness that guides human beings toward truth, balance, compassion, and responsibility." She said the Centre aims to create an academic space where science and philosophy, reason and sensitivity, and innovation and heritage thrive together, upholding the Indian ideal of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam—the world as one family.

NEWS IN BRIEF

22-year-old dies after his car rams into truck

New Delhi
A 22-year-old man died after the car he was driving rammed into a stationary truck on the Salimgarh flyover in central Delhi early on Saturday, police said.

A PCR call regarding the accident was received at the IP Estate police station on Saturday morning. A police team rushed to the spot and found two vehicles, a truck and a car, involved in the collision, they said.

"The injured person had already been taken to LNJP Hospital for treatment, where he was later declared dead. The deceased was identified as Rudra Pratap, resident of Noida, Uttar Pradesh," a senior police officer said.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the truck had developed a puncture and was stationary on the flyover when the car, driven by Rudra Pratap, crashed into it from behind, the officer said.

Police said a case under Sections 281 (Rash driving) and 106(1) (Causing death by negligence) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and relevant provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act has been registered.

The investigation is underway to ascertain the exact sequence of events leading to the crash, and the truck driver is being questioned, officials added.

Delhi Police reunite 75 missing persons under 'Operation Milap'

New Delhi
The Delhi Police has traced and reunited 75 missing people, including 28 missing or kidnapped children, with their families in October under its special initiative 'Operation Milap', an official said on Saturday.

The traced people include 28 children and 47 adults who were reported missing from various parts of the district between October 1 and October 31.

Acting promptly on reports of missing and kidnapped persons, the local police launched extensive and coordinated search operations, they said.

"The search teams checked CCTV footage, circulated photographs of the missing persons at bus stands, railway stations, auto and e-rickshaw stands, and carried out door-to-door enquiries. Drivers, conductors and local vendors were questioned to gather any leads about the movement of the missing individuals. Local informers were also engaged, and records of nearby police stations and hospitals were examined," a senior police officer said.

Delhi Police busts fake job racket arrests 5 for cheating over 100 job seekers

New Delhi
Five people including the mastermind of a fraudulent job placement racket operating from Kotla Mubarakpur area here have been arrested for allegedly duping over Rs 15 lakh from people by promising them employment in reputed companies, police said on Saturday.

According to a Delhi Police officer, the racket, which was being run by the mastermind Tariq Khan and his associates including — Kapil, his wife Tannu, Adiba and Shahana alias Zoya — duped more than 100 people.

The gang opened a fake placement agency named 'Skill Innovation Solution'

Sirsa reviews anti-pollution drive at Anand Vihar amid Delhi's winter action push

New Delhi
The Delhi government has stepped up its winter action plan to tackle pollution across the city, with enhanced monitoring and on-ground action at 13 identified pollution hotspots.

Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa on Saturday inspected the Anand Vihar area, one of the city's most polluted zones, to review ongoing dust control, traffic management and road repair measures, an official statement said.

Sirsa also visited the Delhi Pollution Control Committee's (DPCC) Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Station near the Anand Vihar Metro Station.

During the inspection, he



directed officials to deploy additional traffic personnel to decongest roads, ensure buses halt only at designated bays, and operate movable anti-smog guns and mist sprayers during peak

hours. The minister took note of a long-pending patch of unpaved road at the entrance of the Anand Vihar bus terminal, which, he said, had been neglected for years due to the

presence of trees.

Calling it "a classic example of bureaucratic neglect by previous governments," Sirsa instructed officials to begin tree transplantation immediately and pave the

stretch to ease congestion and curb dust emissions.

"This key road stretch at Anand Vihar has been closed for decades. Our government will now ensure it is opened for public commute, easing congestion and reducing local dust pollution. Delhi is witnessing real, measurable progress in pollution control and infrastructure improvement," Sirsa said.

According to the statement, officials from the Public Works Department (PWD), Transport Department and DPCC have been asked to expedite repair of broken pavements and unpaved stretches contributing to road dust.

The minister also stressed the need for stricter on-ground enforcement and

continuous monitoring at all hotspot locations.

"Each hotspot has unique challenges, and our teams are addressing them scientifically. Be it road dust, traffic management, or industrial emissions, we are ensuring strict compliance and targeted interventions," Sirsa said. He added that similar review inspections are being planned at other critical hotspots, including Ashok Vihar and Punjabi Bagh, as part of the government's ongoing winter pollution control campaign.

"The proactive teamwork between civic bodies, enforcement agencies, and the public is yielding results. We are determined to make Delhi's air cleaner and the environment healthier for all citizens," the minister said.

Delhi's air quality deteriorates slips into 'very poor' category

New Delhi
Delhi's air quality worsened on Saturday, slipping into the 'very poor' category, with an overall Air Quality Index (AQI) reading of 303 compared to 218 recorded the day before.

According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the city's average Air Quality Index stood at 303 at 4 pm, indicating a sharp decline in air quality.

Wazirpur reported the highest pollution level in the city with an AQI of 383, placing it in the 'very poor' category, according to data on the CPCB's Sameer app.

Out of 38 monitoring stations in the national capital, 26 recorded air quality in the 'very poor' category (above 300), while the remaining stations fell in the 'poor' category (below 300).

Jealous rage turns deadly in Noida: Man kills wife's lover, arrested with friend

Amar Saini
Noida
A love affair ended in bloodshed in Garhi Chaukhandi village under Phase-3 police station limits, where a man allegedly slit the throat of his wife's lover, killing him on the spot. Police have arrested the accused husband and his friend along with the murder weapon.

According to the police, the accused, Amit Kumar, originally from Nojalpur village in Aligarh, was living in a rented room in lane number 9 of Garhi Chaukhandi with his wife Ruby and their three children. In the same lane, Rahul, a native of Jewar, also lived in a rented room. Rahul's family resides in Jewar, but he stayed in Noida for work. Both Rahul and Ruby were employed as cleaners in the same factory, while Amit



worked elsewhere. Over time, Rahul grew close to the family, often accompanying Ruby to and from work and even sharing meals at her home.

On Friday night around 8:30 p.m., Rahul, reportedly intoxicated, arrived at Amit's home and began creating a disturbance. Amit's son and other tenants pushed him out and locked the gate. Later, when Amit and Ruby returned from the market, they found

Rahul outside again, shouting and trying to enter. He somehow managed to get inside, and soon after, chaos erupted. Moments later, Rahul was found lying in a pool of blood inside the premises. Amit and Ruby rushed him to a nearby hospital on a motorcycle, but doctors declared him dead on arrival. Police investigations revealed that Amit had attacked Rahul with a knife in a fit of rage, fatally injuring him.

Noida marks 'Traffic Month' with focus on wrong-side driving and speed control

Amar Saini
Noida
The month of November will be observed as "Traffic Month" in Noida, with the police launching a comprehensive awareness drive to promote safer driving habits and reduce road accidents. The initiative began with an awareness program held at the Police Commissionerate Office in Sector-108, where a large number of students, local residents, and representatives of social organizations took part.

The event aimed to transform road safety into a public movement, encouraging citizens to adopt responsible behavior on the roads. Police officials emphasized the importance of wearing helmets and seat belts, avoiding over-speeding, and remaining alert while crossing



or driving on busy stretches.

A street play performed during the event became the highlight of the day, delivering a strong emotional message about the devastating consequences of even minor negligence on the road. The performance struck a chord with the audience, underlining that a moment's carelessness can

result in lifelong regret.

Speaking on the occasion, Additional Police Commissioner (Law and Order) Rajeev Narayan Mishra said the campaign is not limited to enforcement but is aimed at changing people's mindset. "We want citizens to voluntarily follow traffic rules and understand that safety is a shared responsibility," he said.

The Police Commissioner also directed traffic personnel to stay vigilant during the smog and fog season, when poor visibility often leads to sudden accidents. This year's awareness campaign will focus on two major issues—wrong-side driving and over-speeding—which have emerged as leading causes of serious mishaps in the city.

To spread the message further, police officials distributed pamphlets, stickers, and road safety brochures to commuters. The department announced that similar awareness activities and road safety campaigns will continue throughout the year to ensure that the message of safe driving reaches every section of society.

Traffic restricted near Red Fort Chandni Chowk due to cultural events Delhi Police

New Delhi
The Delhi Traffic Police on Saturday issued an advisory for commuters, warning of traffic restrictions and diversions in some areas until 10 pm, due to an event at the Red Fort and the Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra.

A large gathering was organised at the Red Fort, where the Delhi government's education and culture departments hosted an event to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, as well as the Delhi Foundation Day.

The Lord Jagannath Rath Yatra also commenced from the Red Fort around noon, with a large number of devotees participating in the procession. A heavy footfall along



Netaji Subhash Marg and adjoining areas throughout the day was anticipated, it said.

"To ensure smooth traffic flow, pedestrian safety, and public convenience, traffic arrangements, restrictions, and diversions will remain in force on Saturday from 12 noon to 10

pm," the advisory said.

Buses and commercial vehicles coming from the Daryaganj side were diverted from the T-point at Subhash Marg towards Shanti Van, while vehicles from GPO and Kodia Pul heading to the Red Fort were rerouted towards Ring Road via Chhatta Rail

Chowk. Additional diversions may be imposed at Shanti Van Chowk, Delhi Gate Chowk, and GPO Chowk depending on traffic conditions, police said.

Commuters visiting Chandni Chowk and nearby markets have been urged to park only at designated parking lots such as ASI Parking (Nishad Raj Marg), Dangle Maidan Parking (SPM Marg), Omaxe Mall Parking (HC Sen Road), and Aadi Maidan Parking.

"No e-rickshaws, auto-rickshaws, or cycle rickshaws will be permitted beyond Chhatta Rail Chowk and the T-point at Subhash Marg," the advisory said, adding that pedestrians should use footpaths and designated crossings only.

Delhi Police busts fake job racket arrests 5 for cheating over 100 job seekers

New Delhi
Five people including the mastermind of a fraudulent job placement racket operating from Kotla Mubarakpur area here have been arrested for allegedly duping over Rs 15 lakh from people by promising them employment in reputed companies, police said on Saturday.

According to a Delhi Police officer, the racket, which was being run by the mastermind Tariq Khan and his associates including — Kapil, his wife Tannu, Adiba and Shahana alias Zoya — duped more than 100 people.

The gang opened a fake placement agency named 'Skill Innovation Solution' and lured unsuspecting job aspirants by offering them employment opportunities through prominent recruit-

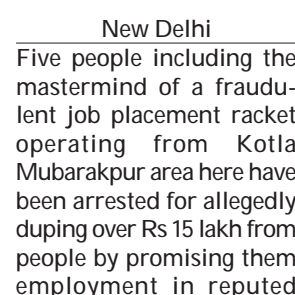
ment websites.

The case came to light after a woman, Manisha, from Shalimar Garden, lodged a complaint alleging that she had been defrauded of Rs 24,000 by a man, Amardeep.

In September, Amardeep contacted her claiming that her profile had been shortlisted by a multinational firm and she was called to the Kotla Mubarakpur office for an interview, police said.

Later the accused induced her to transfer the money through an online payment application on the pretext of securing a job. No offer or refund followed, police said.

During investigation, it was found that the racket had cheated more than 100 people using similar modus operandi, Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Ankit Chauhan said.



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Delhi Celebrates Its Foundation Day with 'Meri Dilli Mera Desh - Unity in Diversity' at Red Fort

Diksha
New Delhi
The historic Red Fort came alive with colour, culture, and celebration as the Delhi Government marked Delhi's Foundation Day with a grand event titled "Meri Dilli Mera Desh - Unity in Diversity."

The vibrant programme showcased the capital's rich cultural tapestry, diverse culinary traditions, and glorious heritage, uniting Delhiites in a shared sense of pride and belonging. The celebration was graced by Lieutenant Governor V. K. Saxena, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, Education Minister Ashish Sood, and Tourism Minister Kapil Mishra, along



with several dignitaries and citizens. Organized jointly by the Department of Education and Sports and the Delhi Tourism and Transportation Development Corporation (DTTDC), the event celebrated Delhi's evolution as a symbol of India's unity and coexistence.

Education Minister Ashish Sood said the event sought to revive the soul of Delhi — its spirit of unity, resilience, and inclusivity. He recalled how, in 1947, Delhi embraced families displaced by Partition, embodying Sardar Patel's assurance that "Delhi is yours too." Sood added that Delhi continues to mirror the

essence of every region of India — from Punjab to Odisha and Maharashtra — making it the true capital of unity in diversity.

The evening featured a Food Festival and Heritage Walk highlighting Delhi's culinary and architectural richness. Students of the Directorate of Education presented multi-cuisine delicacies, promoting entrepreneurship and cultural expression.

The highlight of the night was an impressive projection mapping show on the Red Fort walls, narrating Delhi's history through light and sound, followed by a stirring musical performance by B Praak.

Delhi man posts video on social media firing in air arrested

New Delhi
A 22-year-old man was arrested after he allegedly posted a video on social media of him firing in the air "to become famous", police said on Saturday.

According to police, the man's father has also been arrested and the weapon, which was registered under his father's name, was seized after it was found that its licence expired earlier in October.

During patrol in the Shastri Nagar area on October 30, a police team received information about a video circulating on various social media platforms showing a man opening fire in the area.

Based on the video, a shop was raided and the accused, Sumit, who is a resident of the area, was arrested. During interrogation, he revealed that he assisted his father, Mukesh Kumar, in running a catering business and sweet shop in the locality, police added.

He also told police that on Diwali, he took out his father's licensed pistol from a drawer, fired two rounds in the air to record a video and later uploaded the video on social media "to become famous", an officer said.

Mukesh Kumar (42), was also arrested during the investigation, he said.

"He produced his arms licence, which was found to have expired on October 1. The licensed pistol was recovered from their residence," the officer added.

A case under relevant sections of the Arms Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita was registered and further investigation is underway, police said.

Bihar's Progress Under NDA Will Continue, Says Piyush Goyal at Patna Press Meet

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, today addressed a high-voltage press conference at Hotel Chanakya in Patna, where he delivered a spirited defence of the Nitish Kumar-led NDA government and presented a strong appeal for continuity of governance in Bihar. The event, held in the heart of the state capital, was packed with energy and political symbolism, as Goyal spoke passionately about Bihar's transformation under the combined leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar. He cautioned the people of Bihar against the dangers of voting for the Mahagathbandhan, warning that such a decision would plunge the state back into the dark days of "Jungle Raj" and undo years of hard-earned progress.

In his address, Piyush Goyal said Bihar has emerged as a symbol of responsible governance, stability, and growth under the NDA's stewardship. He praised Chief Minister Nitish Kumar as a visionary who, with the strong support of the central government, has rebuilt a state once synonymous with lawlessness and corruption. "Bihar today stands tall because of the discipline and direction that Nitish ji has brought. The people have seen the difference between the politics of performance and the politics of promise. The NDA believes in service, not slogans," Goyal said emphatically, drawing thunderous applause from the audience.

The Minister detailed how the NDA's governance model has touched every section of society — from farmers to students, women to workers. He cited the expansion of roads, bridges, electricity, and drinking water networks, the spread of digital education, and the rise of industrial activity as evidence of Bihar's progress. "The Centre and the state have worked hand in hand. Bihar has received unprecedented investment in infrastructure, education, railways, and energy. Projects that were once dreams are now realities — from new airports to industrial corridors, from food parks to textile hubs. This partnership between Patna and Delhi has changed the image of Bihar before the world," he said.

While appreciating Nitish Kumar's "clean and capable" administration, Goyal simultaneously launched a sharp attack on the opposition alliance, describing the Mahagathbandhan as a "coalition of convenience" with no vision for Bihar's future. He said that a vote for the



By Dr. Anil Singh

Editor – STAR Views, Editorial Advisor – Top Story



RJD-Congress alliance would mean a return to crime corruption, and chaos. "The people of Bihar know what the Jungle Raj means — it means extortion, fear, and backwardness. The same forces who once looted the state are now trying to wear the mask of change. But people cannot forget that under their rule, Bihar was known for kidnappings, collapse of education, and the exodus of youth. Today, the same dynastic forces, led by Lalu Yadav and Rahul Gandhi, want to bring back that darkness. Bihar cannot and will not go back," Goyal said firmly.

He accused the opposition of exploiting the sentiments of the youth with hollow assurances and deceptive slogans. "The Mahagathbandhan talks about jobs, but it never created an environment for employment. It was under the NDA that new opportunities arose — industrial clusters, MSME networks, skill development

programs, and entrepreneurship initiatives. The youth of Bihar no longer need to leave their homes in search of work. From Gaya to Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga to Bhagalpur, new industries are rising, powered by both state and central initiatives," he asserted.

Goyal went on to highlight the reforms undertaken by his ministry to boost Bihar's economy and promote self-reliance. He said that under Prime Minister Modi's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, Bihar has emerged as a key centre for food processing, textiles, and renewable energy projects. "Our focus is on empowering local industries, not just attracting big investors. We are encouraging start-ups, artisans, and micro-entrepreneurs to take Bihar forward. Every small enterprise here represents the strength of India's growth story," he said.

Speaking on law and order, Goyal emphasized that peace and stability were the cornerstones of Bihar's development and credited the Nitish Kumar government for restoring confidence among the people. "There was a time when parents feared sending their children out after dark, when businessmen hesitated to invest, and when common citizens lived in fear. That fear is gone. Bihar has seen a silent revolution — one of peace, productivity, and purpose. The NDA has delivered this transformation, and it must not be reversed," he said, reminding the audience that governance, not political theatrics, defines leadership.

In a powerful appeal to the people of Bihar, Goyal said the coming election was not merely a political contest but a decision about the future of the state. "This is a choice between progress and paralysis, between stability and chaos, between the leadership of Modi and Nitish on one side, and the failed politics of the past on the other. The NDA represents discipline, development, and dignity. The Mahagathbandhan represents division, deceit, and dynastic ambition. Bihar must decide what kind of future it wants," he declared.

The Minister's words resonated with confidence in the NDA's vision and its track record. He spoke about how Modi's government had given Bihar its rightful place in India's growth story through continuous central support. "Under Modi ji's leadership, Bihar has received record funds for development projects — railways, roads, airports, irrigation, and education. No previous government gave Bihar what Modi ji has given. The result is visible: villages are connected, women are empowered, and youth are hopeful," he said.

The setting of the press conference itself carried significance. Hotel Chanakya, a familiar venue for Bihar's political activity since the 1990s, became the stage where Goyal projected the NDA's unity and confidence. Surrounded by party leaders, ministers, and local representatives, he presented himself not merely as a national minister but as a messenger of the Centre's faith in Bihar's potential. His remarks were strategic and emotive — blending statistics with sentiments, achievements with aspirations, and politics with persuasion.

Observers see this event as a defining moment in the NDA's campaign narrative. Coming at a time when the election atmosphere is heating up, Goyal's statements reinforced the BJP's faith in Nitish Kumar's leadership and highlighted the alliance's cohesive approach. By contrasting the "politics of performance" with the "politics of opportunism," he effectively drew a line between the NDA's model of governance and the opposition's record of chaos. His repeated invocation of "Jungle Raj" was a deliberate reminder of the trauma that many Biharis associate with the pre-2005 era, particularly among the middle class and business communities that now form a critical voter base.

In conclusion, Piyush Goyal's address in Patna was not just a routine political interaction — it was a decisive reaffirmation of the NDA's developmental roadmap and a compelling call to the people of Bihar to protect the progress achieved over the past decade. His speech captured both the pride of Bihar's resurgence and the anxiety of its possible reversal. With passion and precision, he summed up the NDA's message to the electorate: "Do not let Bihar slip back into the past. Support the government that works, not the one that only talks. This is the time to stand with Nitish Kumar and Narendra Modi for a stronger, safer, and self-reliant Bihar."

Code of Conduct and Ethical Framework in the Indian Army

The Indian Army, one of the most disciplined and respected institutions in the world, derives its strength not only from its training and weaponry but also from its unwavering moral compass and ethical conduct. The Army's code of conduct is founded upon honour, duty, integrity, and loyalty—values that define every soldier's identity and guide every action in peace or war. Rooted in India's ancient traditions of righteousness (Dharma) and refined through centuries of military heritage, this ethical framework ensures that soldiers remain true to their oath of service, uphold human dignity, and act with courage, honesty, and selflessness.

The Foundation of Ethics in the Indian Army: The ethical framework of the Indian Army is built on the concept of "Service Before Self", which emphasizes the collective good over individual interest. Every soldier is taught that character is the foundation of courage, and discipline is the foundation of victory.

The Army's ethics are influenced by:

- Historical traditions of Dharma Yuddha (righteous warfare) from the Mahabharata and Ramayana, where moral conduct in battle was as vital as military victory.
- Constitutional values of the Republic of India, ensuring loyalty to the nation, the people, and the democratic system.
- Universal principles of military professionalism, honour, and human rights.

Thus, ethics in the Indian Army represent a blend of national culture, moral philosophy, and professional responsibility.

The Code of Conduct: Principles and Ideals: The Indian Army's Code of Conduct lays down the expected behaviour of every soldier—officer or enlisted—under all circumstances. It covers personal integrity, discipline, treatment of subordinates, relations with civilians, and conduct in operations.

The key principles include:

- Loyalty to the Nation: The Indian soldier's highest duty is loyalty to the Constitution and the Republic of India. Political neutrality, obedience to lawful orders, and dedication to national security are paramount.
- Discipline and Obedience: Discipline forms the backbone of the Army. Soldiers are required to obey lawful orders promptly and uphold the chain of command without hesitation. Discipline ensures unity and effectiveness, even under extreme stress.
- Integrity and Honesty: Truthfulness in all actions—administrative, operational, or personal—is essential. Misrepresentation, corruption, or misuse of authority are viewed as betrayals of the soldier's oath.
- Courage and Self-Sacrifice: Soldiers are expected to act with courage and selflessness, placing the mission and comrades above personal safety. The spirit of sacrifice forms the soul of soldiering.
- Respect for Human Dignity: Every individual—comrade, civilian, or enemy prisoner—must be treated with fairness and respect. Cruelty, torture, or humiliation are forbidden, even in war.
- Accountability and Honour: Soldiers must accept



By Dr. T.C. Rao, Ph D, Veteran, Military Historian

responsibility for their actions and preserve the honour of their regiment and the Army. Personal conduct reflects not only on the individual but on the entire institution.

- Commitment to Service: Soldiers must remain dedicated to duty, regardless of hardship, reward, or recognition. Commitment to service is considered the purest expression of patriotism.

The Ethical Pyramid: Character, Competence, and Commitment: The Indian Army's ethical system can be visualized as a three-tier pyramid comprising:

- Character: The moral and emotional foundation — honesty, empathy, and courage to do what is right.
- Competence: Professional mastery, tactical knowledge, and constant learning to perform effectively.
- Commitment: Dedication to the mission, comrades, and national interest above personal considerations.

This framework ensures that ethical behaviour is not separate from operational excellence—it is integral to it.

Ethical Leadership: The Role of Commanders: Leadership in the Indian Army is inseparable from ethics. The Army expects its officers to "lead by example", demonstrating integrity in decision-making and compassion in command.

An ethical leader in the Army must:

- Inspire trust through personal conduct.
 - Balance mission objectives with the welfare of subordinates.
 - Take responsibility for mistakes and share credit for success.
 - Show moral courage to stand up for what is right, even against pressure or popular opinion.
- Commanders are trained to be moral anchors—upholding justice, equality, and transparency while maintaining discipline and efficiency.

Ethics in Combat and War Conduct: Even in warfare, where violence is inevitable, the Indian Army adheres to strict moral codes aligned with international law and humanitarian principles.

The Indian Army's operational ethics emphasize:

- Fighting only legitimate combatants.
- Avoiding harm to civilians and civilian property.

- Treating prisoners of war humanely and respecting the wounded.

- Protecting cultural and religious sites.

- Upholding the Geneva Conventions and Indian military law.

This ethical restraint differentiates the Indian soldier from aggressors and reflects the Army's motto: "Service Before Self, Honour Above All."

Civil-Military Relations and Ethical Responsibility: The Indian Army's apolitical and disciplined nature is a product of its ethical commitment to constitutional authority. Soldiers serve the government of the day without political bias, ensuring democratic stability.

In civil-military interactions, soldiers are expected to maintain respect for civilians, uphold the rule of law, and assist during emergencies—floods, earthquakes, pandemics—without prejudice or exploitation. This trust between citizens and the Army forms the backbone of national unity.

Training and Institutional Mechanisms for Ethical Conduct: Ethics are not merely taught in classrooms; they are ingrained through daily practice and regimental culture.

Key training and institutional features include:

- Code of Conduct Instruction: Ethical behaviour is integrated into curricula at the Indian Military Academy (IMA), Officers Training Academy (OTA), and National Defence Academy (NDA).
- Regimental Traditions: Ceremonies, mottos, and war cries reinforce honour, loyalty, and esprit de corps.
- Military Law and Discipline: The Army Act and Army Rules enforce ethical standards, with strict penalties for misconduct.
- Counselling and Mentorship: Senior officers serve as mentors, ensuring ethical maturity and accountability among subordinates.

These mechanisms create an ecosystem where ethics are lived values, not just written principles.

Modern Challenges to Military Ethics: In the modern world, the ethical landscape of the Army faces new complexities:

- Information Warfare and Social Media: Misuse of digital platforms can undermine discipline or security.
- Hybrid Conflicts: Distinguishing combatants from civilians in insurgencies challenges traditional

rules of engagement.

- Political Polarization: Maintaining apolitical integrity amidst societal division is essential.

- Corruption and Materialism: The growing lure of personal gain threatens institutional purity.

- Technology and AI Warfare: Ethical dilemmas arise over autonomous weapons and collateral damage.

To address these, the Army constantly revises its ethical training, reinforcing that technological progress must always be guided by human conscience.

The Soldier's Creed: A Living Manifesto of Ethics: Every Indian soldier is guided by an unwritten creed that encapsulates his ethical identity:

- "The safety, honour, and welfare of your country come first, always and every time."
- "The honour, welfare, and comfort of the men you command come next."
- "Your own ease, comfort, and safety come last, always and every time."

This timeless credo, taught in military academies and lived on the battlefield, defines what it means to be a soldier of the Indian Army. It is not merely a motto—it is a way of life.

The Way Forward: Strengthening the Ethical Core: As warfare becomes more complex and technology-driven, the importance of moral discipline only increases. The future of the Indian Army's ethical framework lies in:

- Continuous Ethical Education: Regular refresher courses on military ethics, cyber conduct, and human rights.
- Moral Leadership Programs: Focusing on integrity-based decision-making at all command levels.
- Enhanced Transparency and Accountability: Promoting fairness in promotions, procurement, and discipline.
- Integration with AI Ethics: Ensuring that automation and machine learning in warfare remain under ethical human control.

The Army's ability to maintain its moral superiority will continue to define its credibility and effectiveness.

The Indian Army's code of conduct and ethical framework are the pillars of its strength and reputation. In an era of rapid technological and societal change, these timeless values ensure that the Army remains a force of honour, justice, and humanity.

A soldier's weapon may change, but his conscience must remain unwavering. The Indian Army's enduring commitment to discipline, integrity, and compassion ensures that it continues to be not only the guardian of India's borders but also the custodian of its moral conscience.

Haryana women get a festive gift on statehood Day

Komal Ramola
Chandigarh

Women across Haryana celebrated a special moment on Haryana Day as Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini digitally released financial assistance to over 5.22 lakh women under the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana. Through direct bank transfer, Rs 2,100 each was credited to 5,22,162 eligible women beneficiaries, amounting to a total disbursement of Rs 109 crore 65 lakh 40 thousand 200.

The initiative, described as a step toward self-reliance and social upliftment, embodies Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision and Chief Minister Saini's commitment to empowering women through transparent governance.



The scheme, officials said, is part of the state government's broader push toward inclusive and digital welfare delivery.

Addressing a press conference on the occasion, the Chief Minister said the Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi

mobile app was launched on September 25, coinciding with the 109th birth anniversary of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. "Till midnight of October 31, 6,97,697 women had successfully registered through the app, including 6,51,529

married and 46,168 unmarried women," he said. The popularity of the scheme has grown rapidly. In the 24 hours between midnight of October 30 and October 31 alone, 37,735 new applications were received, underscoring the

widespread public response.

Explaining the eligibility criteria, the Chief Minister said that women aged 23 years or above from families with an annual income below Rs 1 lakh are entitled to the benefit. A notable feature of the scheme is that all eligible women within a single household can apply individually. The process is entirely online, transparent, and accessible through the Lado Lakshmi mobile app, allowing applicants to register from anywhere at any time.

Once an application is submitted, verification is completed within 24 to 48 hours. Applicants receive an SMS prompting them to log in and upload a live photograph, after which instant e-KYC verification is conducted through the Aadhaar database. The

SEWA Department then issues a beneficiary ID.

As of October 31 midnight, out of 6,97,697 total applicants, 5,22,162 women were verified as eligible and received congratulatory messages. Of these, 3,96,983 had completed Aadhaar KYC, while 1,75,179 were still in the process. On Friday, Rs 2,100 was transferred directly to the accounts of all verified beneficiaries.

The Chief Minister urged women whose KYC verification remains incomplete to finish the process soon, assuring them that their financial assistance would be credited immediately upon verification.

Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi, Chief Principal Secretary to CM Rajesh Khullar, Additional Chief Secretary and Financial Commissioner (Revenue &

Disaster Management) Dr. Sumita Misra, Additional Chief Secretary (Social Justice, Empowerment, Scheduled Castes, Backward Classes Welfare & Antyodaya) G. Anupama, Director General (Information, Public Relations, Languages & Culture) K. M. Pandurang, Deputy Principal Secretary to CM and Special Secretary (Revenue & Disaster Management) Yash Pal, Director (SEWA Department) Prashant Panwar, and Media Secretary to CM Praveen Atrey were also present on the occasion.

The Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana, officials said, continues to strengthen Haryana's social fabric by promoting financial inclusion and empowering women to contribute more actively to the state's progress.

Man Sentenced to Eight Years in Jail for Possession of Charas

Following the recovery, a case (No. 191/2017) was registered against Kanhaiya Lal under Section 20 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act at Sundernagar Police Station.

Rajan Punchhi
Mandi

The court of the Additional District and Sessions Judge-cum-Special Judge, Sundernagar, has sentenced Kanhaiya Lal, a resident of Paudakothi in Mandi district, to eight years of rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of ₹80,000 for possession of Charas.

According to A.D.A. Vinay Verma, the case dates back to October 4, 2017, when a police team was conducting routine checks at Maloh Scissors Turn in Sundernagar around 2 p.m. The accused, who was walking from Maloh, was stopped and searched. During the search, the police recovered 922 grams of Charas from his possession.

Following the recovery, a case (No. 191/2017) was registered against Kanhaiya Lal under Section 20 of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act at Sundernagar Police Station. The investigation was carried out by ASI Ram Prakash, who later submitted the challan in court.

After examining the testimonies of ten witnesses and hearing arguments from both the prosecution and the defense, the court found the accused guilty. The Special Judge sentenced Kanhaiya Lal to eight years of rigorous imprisonment along with a fine of ₹80,000. In case of failure to pay the fine, he will have to undergo an additional two years of imprisonment.

The judgment underscores the firm stance of the judiciary against narcotics offenses in the region.

Haryana goes fully digital with paperless registry system

New Delhi

On the 60th Foundation Day of Haryana, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini unveiled a landmark step in the state's journey toward digital governance—the launch of a paperless registry system across all districts. The move, described as a "historic leap toward transparency and efficiency," promises to save citizens' time and resources while curbing opportunities for corruption.

The Chief Minister launched the system digitally during a press conference at Haryana Niwas in Chandigarh. Sharing details of the initiative, he said the paperless registry was first piloted in Ladwa tehsil of Kurukshetra district on September 29. Following its success, the system has now been rolled out statewide. Between September 29 and October 31, a total of 917 paperless registries have already been completed, signaling strong adoption and smooth functioning.

Explaining the benefits, Saini said the system would finally free citizens from the cumbersome and time-consuming paperwork that had defined the registry process for decades. "People will



now be able to complete most of the procedures from their homes," he said. "They will only need to visit the tehsil once for photo verification."

He emphasized that the initiative reflects the state government's commitment to good governance, transparency, and citizen convenience. By cutting down manual paperwork, the paperless registry is expected to minimize procedural delays and seal loopholes that once allowed corruption to thrive.

The Chief Minister described the digital registry as a transformative step toward modernizing land records and administrative processes. "This reform will not only bring relief to people but also ensure that government services are faster, cleaner, and more accessible," he said.

The launch event was attended by several senior of-

icials and ministers, including Tourism Minister Arvind Sharma, Health Minister Arti Singh Rao, Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi, Chief Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister Rajesh Khullar, Additional Chief Secretary (Home) Dr. Sumita Misra, Additional Chief Secretary (Social Justice and Empowerment) G. Anupama, Director General of Information, Public Relations, Languages and Culture Department K.M. Pandurang, Special Secretary (Revenue) Yash Pal, and Media Secretary to the Chief Minister Praveen Atrey.

The introduction of the paperless registry marks yet another milestone in Haryana's ongoing digital transformation, reinforcing the government's vision of a smarter, transparent, and citizen-friendly administration.

Haryana marks 60 glorious years with grand celebration in Panchkula

Shiv Kumar
New Delhi

Haryana celebrated its 60th Foundation Day with a state-level function held in Panchkula, where Governor Prof. Ashim Kumar Ghosh lauded the state's remarkable journey of growth and prosperity. He credited the visionary leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini for Haryana's achievements in healthcare, education, industry, investment, and infrastructure.

The Governor said the state government has worked in full coordination under the principle of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, aur Sabka Prayas," fulfilling the expectations of every section of society and moving steadily toward the vision of Viksit Bharat, Viksit Haryana.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Ghosh extended warm greetings to the people of Haryana and said the state's success story is built on the determination and enterprise of its people. Before the event, the Governor, accompanied by his wife and First Lady Smt. Mitra Ghosh and Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, inaugurated an



exhibition highlighting Haryana's culture and heritage. Tourism and Heritage Minister Dr. Arvind Sharma, Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Shyam Singh Rana, and former Speaker Gian Chand Gupta were also present.

Impressed by the cultural presentations, the Governor said Haryana's traditions and values remain vibrant and well-preserved. Reflecting on the state's journey since its formation in 1966, he noted that Haryana, with just 1.34 percent of India's area and 2.09 percent of its population, contributes 3.6 percent to the national GDP. The state's per capita income has risen from Rs 343 in 1966 to Rs 3.53 lakh today,

while exports have jumped from Rs 4.5 crore to over Rs 2.75 lakh crore.

Haryana, he said, has become a model of progress by procuring 24 crops at MSP, offering the highest sugarcane price in India at Rs 415 per quintal, and providing a monthly social security pension of Rs 3,200. He also highlighted the state's achievements in women's empowerment, noting that 50 percent representation for women in Panchayati Raj institutions has set an example for others.

Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini honoured the Governor by presenting him with a traditional turban, a shawl, and a symbolic memento representing

Haryana's growth in agriculture, sports, and women's empowerment. The Governor also inaugurated the filmed version of the State Song, which was formally adopted on March 28, 2025.

Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi, in his welcome address, said Haryana has proven its early critics wrong by emerging as one of India's most prosperous states. He recalled that when Haryana was carved out of Punjab in 1966, its first budget stood at just Rs 19.30 crore. Today, it earns more revenue than many larger states, thanks to the determination and resilience of its people.

Rastogi said Haryana is progressing through a trinity of agriculture, industry, and technology, and has set a benchmark in digital governance through transparent administration and quick online services. He expressed pride that the state now has its own official song, symbolizing its cultural identity.

Senior administrative and police officers, schoolchildren, and citizens attended the event in large numbers, celebrating six decades of Haryana's growth, pride, and people's power.

Dudhwa Tiger Reserve reopens for the tourist season

Lakhimpur Kheri (UP)

The Dudhwa Tiger Reserve (DTR) in Uttar Pradesh reopened its gates for tourists on Saturday following the period of routine annual closure which began June 15.

This year, Dudhwa reopened for tourists on November 1, marking an earlier start from the usual date of November 15.

Addressing an event to mark the commencement of the tourist season, Uttar Pradesh Minister of State for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change, Dr Arun Kumar Saxena hailed the early reopening of the forest reserve as a "Diwali gift" to tourists from Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Mandi's Inderjeet Shines on 'I Pop Star', Wins Hearts Nationwide

Rajan Punchhi
Mandi

Mandi's young singing sensation, Inderjeet, is making waves once again—this time on the national stage of Amazon's reality show I Pop Star. After earning massive appreciation on social media for his soulful track "Khayal Na Aaya," Inderjeet has captured hearts with a powerful performance in the show's third round, known as the Flex and Fail round.

Currently performing under Team Captain Parmish Verma, Inderjeet continues to impress both judges and audiences with his exceptional voice and versatility. His journey on the show has brought immense pride to his hometown and



to his alma mater, DAV Centenary Public School, Jawahar Nagar, Mandi, where he studied until Class 12. The school's Principal, Mr. K.S. Guleria, expressed his joy at his former student's success. "Inderjeet has always been a

promising student with a deep love for music. He has been passionate about singing since childhood and has won several titles on platforms like Voice of Himachal, Voice of Mandi, Zee TV Sa Re Ga Ma Pa, and Voice of Himalaya,"

he said.

Inderjeet's music teacher, Mr. Tarun Pandit, also shared his pride, recalling their long-standing bond. "Inderjeet has trained under me since he was a child. Even today, whenever he visits Mandi, he makes it a point to meet me first for blessings. He often calls to discuss music and seek guidance, even during the ongoing show," Pandit said.

Inderjeet's growing recognition on I Pop Star has turned him into a symbol of inspiration for young artists across Himachal Pradesh. His journey reflects not only his dedication and talent but also the cultural richness and artistic spirit of Mandi.

Rajkumar Chahar Leads India on Global Stage in Moscow

Akash Jain
Agra

Member of Parliament from Fatehpur Sikri, Rajkumar Chahar, represented India at the prestigious Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA) held in Moscow, showcasing the country's rich culture, democratic values, and global vision before representatives from across Asia.

The assembly brought together lawmakers, diplomats, and officials from several nations including Russia, Iran, Turkey, China, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Indonesia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Bahrain, the UAE, Jordan, and Mongolia. Against this diverse backdrop, MP Chahar's address stood out for its emphasis on India's civilizational wisdom and its message of global unity.

Speaking at the forum, Chahar said that India today stands as a global leader not just in economic growth and technology but also as a symbol of peace, tradition, and the philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam—the belief that "the world is one family." He noted that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India has taken significant steps toward promoting world peace, sustainable development, and the welfare of hu-



manity. Highlighting India's cultural strength and democratic fabric, he said the nation's "unity in diversity" and spirit of universal brotherhood continue to inspire the world. "India has always upheld the message of global fraternity, and that remains our greatest strength," he added.

Chahar also underscored India's growing soft power, referring to yoga, Ayurveda, spirituality, education, and cultural heritage as vital contributors to international goodwill. He pointed out that India's progress is not limited to its domestic achievements but has also played a key role in advancing global cooperation and inclusive growth.

On the sidelines of the assembly, MP Chahar engaged with representatives from various countries to discuss expanding partnerships in

trade, education, and cultural exchange. He said India's increasing global presence reflects Prime Minister Modi's vision of "One Earth, One Family, One Future," and that the nation remains committed to shaping a peaceful and prosperous Asia.

As the assembly concluded, Chahar delivered India's message of commitment to peace, stability, and collective progress. "We aspire to make Asia a hub of cooperation, development, and cultural unity," he said, reiterating India's belief in shared prosperity.

For Chahar, representing India at this global platform was a moment of immense pride. He said the experience deepened his appreciation for India's culture and traditions and gave him the opportunity to present them with dignity and conviction before the world.

26 000 govt jobs created in last 4 years in Uttarakhand: CM Dharam

Dehradun

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dharam on Saturday claimed 26,000 government jobs were created in the state in the last four years, and the figure will reach at least 36,000 by next year.

Dharam shared the numbers at a press conference here held to mark the beginning of the silver ju-

bilee celebrations of the establishment of Uttarakhand.

"A few exams have been conducted, the results of which are yet to be declared. Adding all this, 10,000-12,000 more recruitments will be made within the next year," he said.

Dharam said that since Uttarakhand will complete

25 years of its establishment on November 9, this is the right time to highlight the state's achievements.

He said Uttarakhand became the first state in the country to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), and brought about strong land laws, anti-forced conversion laws, anti-riot laws, and anti-counterfeiting

laws.

The state ensures 10 per cent reservation in government jobs for the kin of those who fought for statehood, and 30 per cent reservation for women, he said.

The chief minister said that since the 2023 Global Investors Summit, investments worth over Rs 1 lakh crore have been made in

the state, and a venture fund of Rs 200 crore has been created for startups.

He said that since the state's formation, the size of the economy has grown 26-fold and per capita income has increased 17-fold.

In the financial year 2025-26, a budget of over Rs 1 lakh crore was presented for the first time in the state's history.

Two teams, one redemption: India, SA chase closure in World Cup final

New Delhi

Harmanpreet Kaur-led Team India is all set to play country's third-ever ICC Women's World Cup clash after eight years, with the two-time runners-up witnessing major improvements across some aspects of their game over these last few years.

The cricketing world will finally get to witness a brand new world champion of women's ODI cricket, when Team India takes on South Africa, the latter being the first-time finalists at DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai on Sunday. Team India will be having some fond memories at this venue in their mind, as a gem of a knock from Jemimah Rodrigues and another big match step-up from skipper Harmanpreet Kaur helped India chase down 339 runs against Australia, the best-ever run-chase in knock-out matches across men's and women's ODI World Cups.

Here, we dive into some aspects across which India has witnessed a powerful wind of change:

Mandhana-Pratika provide stability at the top

The Smriti Mandhana-Pratika Rawal pair has been nothing short of a revolution



at the top for Women in Blue during this tournament. Mandhana has been the second-highest run-getter this tournament, striking her 389 runs in eight innings well at an above 102 strike rate and an average of 55.57, including a century and two fifties. She has the most runs by a women's batter in ODIs in a calendar year with 1,317 runs in 22 matches at an average of 62.71, strike rate of over 111, five centuries and fifties each.

Rawal has also been the fourth-highest run-getter with 308 runs in six innings at an average of 51.33, with her strike rate of 77.77, providing Smriti the stability and calm to unleash her

chaos. She has a century and fifty each.

The Indian opening pair has scored the most runs (722), next to South Africa's (682), which has primarily been a one-woman show by skipper Laura Wolvaardt. Their batting average is the second-best in the tournament, at 51.57, trailing only Australia's 58.81.

This average is miles better than 35.13 put by Smriti and Punam Raut during the 2017 edition, when India previously reached finals and 35.78 during the 2022 edition.

This rise is also witnessed against Australia, England, South Africa, New Zealand, with an average of 57.40, as

compared to 36.05 in the 2017 edition and 27.8 in the 2022 edition.

Also, the strike rate by Indian top two this tournament is 89.57, the third-highest next to South Africa (96.05) and Australia (116.57).

The strike rate by Indian openers for this edition is much higher than the 2017 edition, 75.58 and the 2022 edition, 80.80.

The Indian openers have not shied from displaying their fearless SENA nations either in this tournament, with a strike rate of 97.36, which outclasses 81.03 in the 2017 edition and 74.34 in the 2022 edition.

*The marked intent of the

middle-order gives Team India an edge

For years, the women's team relied on their top-order batters to deliver in ODIs, often fumbling match-winning situations and turning them into embarrassing losses.

India's middle-order has often bailed them out from difficult situations this time around. India's four-to-seven batters have averaged 26.73 in this tournament, the third-highest and not much behind Australia (39.50) and NZ (38.42).

This is not better than 2022's batting average of 28.16 and 30.09, but the improvement is the high-risk game India has gone for. As compared to strike rate of 76.93 in 2022 and 84.71 in 2017, India's strike rate amongst the middle-order batters has gone up to a massive 92.20, second-highest amongst all teams this tournament below Australia (102.44).

The Indian middle-order no longer puts down their weapons when the SENA threat looks them in the eyes. This tournament, they have averaged 29.53 at a strike rate of 98-plus against them, despite three big losses to South Africa, Australia and England. The 'panic button' does not seem to exist anymore.

No bigger motivation than this, the whole team is charged up: Harmanpreet

Navi Mumbai

Ahead of her side's ICC Women's World Cup final against South Africa, Indian skipper Harmanpreet Kaur said there is no motivation bigger than playing the title clash and the whole team is "charged up".

With three-time runners-up India and first-time finalists South Africa taking to the field in the final at DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai, the world could finally witness a brand new champion of women's ODI Cricket.

Ahead of the match in the pre-match presser, Harmanpreet said, "I think when you are at a stage like this, playing the final match of the World Cup, I do not think there can be a bigger motivation than this. The entire team is fully charged up. They are standing with each other and are giving each other prayers and blessings. I think that shows how much this team is with each other and how ready we are for this match."

"Now it is only about giving your best, strategy and everything. It is not that we have reached the final and we have to do all this today. We have been doing this from last two years. Knowing that India is going to host the World Cup and what conditions are going to be there. So we have prepared all that from the beginning. Now it is only about giving your 100 per cent and being there for the team," she added.

Harmanpreet, who was visibly in tears following India's win over Australia in the semifinal, chasing a record-breaking 339 run target on the back of knocks from her (89) and Jemimah Rodrigues (127*), the skipper admitted that she is indeed "very emotional" and cries a lot.

"So it is not like I cry only after losing. I have cried a lot after winning too. Maybe yesterday you have seen me on television. But my teammates have seen me in the dressing room many times - on small occasions, whenever we have done well. I am the first person to cry," she added.

Harmanpreet said that beating a big team like Australia, which has dominated the world stage was very special to the entire team.

"I always tell my team that you do not need to control your emotions. If you feel like crying, cry. I think you don't need to stop. At the same time, just keep enjoying. I think



With three-time runners-up India and first-time finalists South Africa taking to the field in the final at DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai, the world could finally witness a brand new champion of women's ODI Cricket.

there is no bigger achievement or thing for us. Tomorrow is a special day and we will go with the same mindset," he concluded.

Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, Harmanpreet Kaur(c), Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh(w), Amanjot Kaur, Radha Yadav, Kranti Gaud, Shree Charani, Renuka Singh Thakur, Sneha Rana, Harleen Deol, Arundhati Reddy, Uma Chetry South Africa Women Squad: Laura Wolvaardt(c), Tazmin Brits, Anneke Bosch, Sune Luus, Marizanne Kapp, Sinalo Jaftha(w), Annerie Dercksen, Chloe Tryon, Nadine de Klerk, Ayabonga Khaka, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Masabata Klaas, Tumi Sekhukhune, Nondumiso Shangase, Karabo Meso.

Steve Smith says he always evaluates his innings

Melbourne

Star Australian batter Steve Smith has spoken about dealing with his mistakes, saying that he gets "pretty angry at himself" if he does something wrong.

Smith was speaking in an interview to Fox Cricket. During the interview, he recalled getting dismissed leg-before-wicket by Indian superstar pacer Jasprit Bumrah during the first Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy at Perth. As the series progressed, the batter improved on his flaws, overcame his form slump and managed to score 314 runs in nine innings, with two centuries at Melbourne and Brisbane.

"I think back to last year at Perth, I got one from Bumrah, hit me on the pad," Smith recalled.

"I remember quite a lot of people actually saying, 'Geez, look at the position Steve's in here. What is he doing? I look back at the numbers and it deviated like two-and-a-half degrees. And I am like, 'If I am hitting that, I am actually doing something horribly wrong.' Just for me, knowing that I am doing the right things and then trusting it, that it is going to work over a long period," he continued.

Smith said he always evaluates his innings and might also punish himself for having done something wrong.

"If I do something wrong, I get pretty angry at myself. Generally that night, I will punish myself. I might punish myself by going and doing a few runs on the treadmill or something like that. I always evaluate my innings and what I could have done, should have done, did wrong," he said.

"You have got to be honest with yourself. When I make a mistake and it is a stupid one that I know that I should not make, that is when I get angry at myself," he concluded.

In six Tests this year, Smith has scored 515 runs in 10 innings at an average of 51.50, with two centuries and two fifties and best score of 141.

Rajeev Shukla hails increase in Women's World Cup prize money by ICC

Mumbai

The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) vice-president Rajeev Shukla has hailed the International Cricket Council's (ICC) decision in September to raise prize money for the ICC Women's World Cup and hoped that India will lift the title in the final tomorrow.

This World Cup carries a record total prize money of 13.88 million US Dollars, more than that of the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023, with the winner's purse worth 4.48 million dollars.

Speaking to ANI about the increase in prize money, Shukla said, ICC President Jay Shah took a good step. "The prize money has been increased drastically. This will also be a great encouragement for all the women's teams that are playing. When men's cricket grew, the ICC benefited, and it helped them expand cricket. So, if India's women's cricket grows, international women's cricket will be massively benefited," he added.

Shukla recalled Jay Shah's stint as BCCI secretary when match fees earned by



women's team was brought on par with men's team and Women's Premier League (WPL) turned into reality. The first edition of WPL was held in 2023.

"It (WPL) generated Rs 4,669 crore of revenue. This was a major achievement. Its media rights were given at Rs 851 crore. For sponsorship, we found good team sponsors... We started U-15 tournament. This brought fresh players to light. The prize money for U-19 and others was Rs five crore and Rs two crore... As a result of the encouragement, women

players started coming up in large numbers to play cricket. We gave them the best coaches, team management and facilities. As a result, we are in the World Cup finals today. We beat Australia and New Zealand. We defeated top teams of the world. I am hopeful that in tomorrow's match, we will win and be World Cup Champions. Best wishes to our women players," he said. India will take on South Africa in the World Cup final on Sunday.

Squads: India Women Squad: Shafali Verma, Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Ro-

drigues, Harmanpreet Kaur(c), Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh(w), Amanjot Kaur, Radha Yadav, Kranti Gaud, Shree Charani, Renuka Singh Thakur, Sneha Rana, Harleen Deol, Arundhati Reddy, Uma Chetry South Africa Women Squad: Laura Wolvaardt(c), Tazmin Brits, Anneke Bosch, Sune Luus, Marizanne Kapp, Sinalo Jaftha(w), Annerie Dercksen, Chloe Tryon, Nadine de Klerk, Ayabonga Khaka, Nonkululeko Mlaba, Masabata Klaas, Tumi Sekhukhune, Nondumiso Shangase, Karabo Meso.

BFI felicitates Indian boxers for landmark performance at Asian Youth Games in Bahrain

New Delhi

India's young boxing champions, fresh off a historic showing at the 3rd Asian Youth Games in Bahrain, were felicitated in the national capital on Saturday for their achievements in Manama.

The ceremony was attended by Minister for Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs and former Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju, the Chief Guest, along with Boxing Federation of India (BFI) president Ajay Singh and BFI secretary general Pramod Kumar, who celebrated the performances and the glorious feat.

The standout performance marked India's best-ever showing in youth boxing at the continental stage, with the team clinching a total of seven medals -- four



gold, two silver, and one bronze, the highest medal tally by any Indian discipline at the Games.

The champions who brought pride to the nation included Khushi Chand (46kg), Ahaana Sharma (50kg), Chandrika Bhoreshi Pujari (54kg), and Anshika (+80kg), who each captured gold medals. Harnoor Kaur (66kg) and Lanchenba Singh Moibungkhongbam (50kg) secured silver, while Anant Deshmukh (66kg) added a

bronze, rounding off a stellar campaign for the Indian contingent.

Rijiju congratulated the young pugilists for their achievement.

"It is a matter of great happiness to be here and witness the champions of the Youth Asian Boxing Championships. Boxing in Asia is among the toughest in the world, and winning medals here is as challenging and prestigious as doing so at the global level.

Alex Ross to lead Australia in Hong Kong Sixes 2025

Hong Kong

Australia have announced a potent squad for the upcoming Hong Kong Sixes 2025, which will be played from November 7 to November 9, 2025, at Tin Kwong Road Recreation Ground.

Alex Ross, the 33-year-old middle-order batter and right-arm off-break bowler, will lead the side. He brings experience and stability to the Australian squad.

Ben McDermott comes to the Sixes after being in the Australian T20 squad that played against India in front of over 80,000 fans. Ben is a powerful top-order batsman and wicketkeeper. He made his Australian debut in 2021 and has since scored one ODI century and one fifty, showcasing his explosive stroke play, as per a release.

Chris Green, a skilled off-spinner and dynamic all-rounder, has played one

match for Australia and gained global recognition in T20 leagues for his consistency and impressive performances across franchises.

Andrew Tye, known for his mastery of the knuckleball, is a specialist death bowler and a capable lower-order hitter who adds depth to any T20 side. Remarkably, he began his professional cricket journey at 26 and made his T20I debut for Australia three years later.

Rajneesh Chopra, Co-Founder of Arivaa Sports, the event's Commercial Partner, stated, "Australia has long set the benchmark for excellence in world cricket, and their presence at the Hong Kong Sixes only elevates the tournament's competitive edge. Their relentless drive, athleticism, and winning mindset perfectly capture the spirit of this fast-paced format."

Breaking Time Sudoku

What to do

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

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

Solution, Sudoku

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

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Latest remains returned from Gaza not bodies of hostages Israel says

Jerusalem: The remains of three people handed over by Hamas to the Red Cross this week do not belong to any of the hostages, Israel said Saturday, the latest setback that could undermine a US-brokered ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas war.

The handover followed Israel's return on Friday of the bodies of 30 Palestinians to Gaza. That completed an exchange after militants earlier this week turned over remains of two hostages, a sign that the tense Israel-Hamas ceasefire agreement was edging forward.

The unidentified remains of the three people were returned on late Friday to Israel, where they were being examined overnight. At the time, a military official warned that Israeli intelligence suggested they did not belong to any of the hostages taken by Palestinian militants during the Oct. 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel that sparked the war. The Israeli official spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to talk to the media.

Advt Contact :
9818-799941

BUSINESS

Coal India Production Drops in October



New Delhi: State-owned CIL on Saturday said its production declined 9.8 per cent to 56.4 million tonnes (MT) in October. The company's production was 62.5 MT in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal year.

However, no reasons were given by the company for the drop in production.

Coal India Ltd's (CIL's) subsidiaries, which registered a drop in production during the month include Bharat Coking Coal Ltd (BCCL), South Eastern Coalfields Ltd (SECL) and Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL).

CIL's production

US urges ASEAN to be firm in countering China in South China Sea

Kuala Lumpur: US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth on Saturday urged Southeast Asian nations to stand firm and strengthen their maritime forces to counter China's increasingly "destabilising" actions in the South China Sea.

Speaking at a meeting in Malaysia with his counterparts from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, Hegseth reiterated US concern over what he called China's aggression in the disputed waters that intensified in recent months, citing incidents such as the ramming of vessels and the use of water cannons.

The South China Sea remains one of Asia's most volatile flashpoints. Beijing claims almost the entire region, while ASEAN members, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei also claim ownership of coastal areas and features. The Philippines, a key US ally, has had frequent clashes with China's maritime fleet.



US urges ASEAN to stand firm against China in South China Sea

Manila has repeatedly urged a stronger regional response, but ASEAN has traditionally sought to balance caution with economic ties to Beijing, the region's largest trading partner.

Hegseth criticised Beijing's recent declaration of Scarborough Shoal, which China forcefully seized

from the Philippines in 2012, as a "nature reserve." "You don't put platforms on nature reserves," he said, describing China's activities on the uninhabited shoal. He told the meeting it was "yet another attempt to coerce new and expanded territorial and maritime claims at your expense."

Hegseth said China's provocative actions challenged and threatened territorial sovereignty in the region. While stressing that Washington values continued dialogue with Beijing, Hegseth said the US will monitor China's behaviour closely. "China's sweeping territorial and maritime

The South China Sea remains one of Asia's most volatile flashpoints. Beijing claims almost the entire region, while ASEAN members, the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei also claim ownership of coastal areas and features.

claims in the South China Sea fly in the face of their commitments to resolve disputes peacefully," he said. "We seek peace. We do not seek conflict. But we must ensure that China is not seeking to dominate you or anybody else."

Hegseth urged ASEAN to hasten the conclusion of a Code of Conduct that the bloc is negotiating with China to govern behaviour at sea. But he said the bloc should also strengthen its capability, including enhanced joint surveillance and rapid-response tools to deter provocations.

Nearly 40 000 Afghan refugees leave Pakistan's Balochistan province

Karachi: More than two years after Pakistan started a crackdown against Afghan nationals, nearly 40,000 of them have left Balochistan capital Quetta, a top provincial official has said.

Since October 2023, when Pakistan asked all the foreign nationals, including Afghan illegal immigrants, to leave voluntarily or face deportation, the deadline has been extended multiple times.

Pakistan hosts over 1.7 million registered Afghan refugees, with many more living without documentation. The government recently launched yet another repatriation drive, citing security and economic concerns, prompting thousands of Afghans to return to their home country.

The authorities have fastened the deportation measures by ordering the closure of around 54 Afghan refugee camps across the country.

Quetta Commissioner Mir Ullah Badhani

said that most of the Afghans who have returned home were living in the Afghan Basti (town) on the Eastern bypass of Quetta for the last 35-40 years and had constructed quarters and buildings for residence and businesses.

Feroze Shah, a resident of Qadirabad, as the basti is known, said it was occupied mostly by poor people who were forced to leave or were leaving for Afghanistan, uncertain of their future and were without any proper belongings.

"Over the past two years, hundreds of thousands of Afghan refugees have been expelled from different parts of Pakistan, some of whom are our relatives or belong to our tribes," he said.

"Now the influx has grown because winter will soon start in Afghanistan, and people want to cross over so that they can settle down and find places to stay before peak cold," he added.

American Hindu group asks VP Vance to 'engage with Hinduism'

New York: As US Vice President JD Vance continues to face criticism over his comments on his inter-religious marriage with Second Lady Usha Vance, a Hindu organisation has said that as a Christian public figure, it is "reasonable" for him to acknowledge the positive impact of Hinduism and "engage with Hinduism."



Vance is facing criticism over his comments regarding his interfaith marriage after saying he eventually hopes that

his wife Usha, who grew up in a Hindu household "is somehow moved by the same thing that I

was moved in by church." "With respect @JD-Vance, if your wife encouraged you to re-engage with your faith, why not reciprocate that and engage with Hinduism too?" Hindu American Foundation (HAF) said in a post on X Friday.

"You are the VP. It's more than reasonable (and well within precedent) for a Christian public figure such as yourself to acknowledge the positive impact of Hinduism on Hindus and the rights of Hindus to practice," the Foundation said.

Hitting back at his critics, Vance on Friday said it was his wife who encouraged him to re-engage with Christianity. "My wife -- as I said at the TPUSA -- is the most amazing blessing I have in my life. She herself

encouraged me to re-engage with my faith many years ago," he said.

"She is not a Christian and has no plans to convert, but like many people in an interfaith marriage--or any interfaith relationship--I hope she may one day see things as I do. Regardless, I'll continue to love and support her and talk to her about faith and life and everything else, be-

cause she's my wife," he said.

Responding to Vance's remark, the Hindu American Foundation (HAF) issued a statement on Friday calling on him to engage with "Hinduism too" and said: "Hinduism doesn't share the need to wish your spouse to come around to see things as you do in terms of religion."

Rs 2 000 notes worth Rs 5 817 cr still in circulation: RBI

Mumbai: The high-value Rs 2,000 notes worth Rs 5,817 crore are still in circulation, according to the Reserve Bank data released on Saturday.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had announced the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes from circulation on May 19, 2023.

Rs 2,000 banknotes continue to be legal tender.

In a statement, the central bank said the total value of Rs 2,000



The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had announced the withdrawal of Rs 2,000 denomination banknotes from circulation on May 19, 2023.

banknotes in circulation, which was Rs 3.56 lakh crore at the close of business on May 19, 2023, when the withdrawal of the currency was announced, has declined to Rs 5,817 crore at the close of business on October 31, 2025. "Thus, 98.37 per

cent of the Rs 2,000 banknotes in circulation as on May 19, 2023, has since been returned," it said.

The facility for exchange of the Rs 2,000 banknotes is available at the 19 issue offices of the RBI since May 19, 2023.

From October 9, 2023, RBI issue offices are also accepting Rs 2,000 banknotes from individuals/entities for deposit into their bank accounts.

Further, the public can send Rs 2,000 banknotes through In-

dia Post from any post office within the country, to any of the RBI issue offices for credit to their bank accounts.

The issue offices are in Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Belapur, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Jammu, Kanpur, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Patna, and Thiruvananthapuram.

The RBI periodically publishes the status of withdrawal of Rs 2,000 banknotes.

Gadkari targets 5 Lakh jobs in Vidarbha, Industry backs the vision

Nagpur: Union minister Nitin Gadkari on Saturday set the target of creating five lakh jobs in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra in the next five years before a local industry body.

He said although the target was challenging, it was achievable.

Gadkari was addressing a gathering at the launch of 'Nagpur Skill Centre', a skill development initiative of the Association for Industrial Development (AID) in collaboration with Nagpur Municipal Corporation, Tata STRIVE - a skill development initiative of Tata Trusts, and Vidarbha Global Foundation.

"We have set the target of creating five lakh jobs in the next five years. Five thousand youths from every assembly constituency in Vidarbha will get skill training at the Nagpur Skill Centre," said Gadkari, who



is the mentor of AID.

"Although the target of skill training and creating five lakh jobs in five years is huge, it is achievable," the Minister for Road Transport and Highways said.

He gave the examples of various projects that

provided jobs on a large scale, including the Multi-modal International Cargo Hub and Airport at Nagpur (MIHAN), which he said generated one lakh employment opportunities.

Gadkari said that other than manufacturing and

industrial sectors, tourism, hospitality, mining, handloom, handicrafts and agriculture have the potential to provide a huge number of jobs to the youth

He suggested the Nagpur Skill Centre to start courses to provide train-

"We have set the target of creating five lakh jobs in the next five years. Five thousand youths from every assembly constituency in Vidarbha will get skill training at the Nagpur Skill Centre," said Gadkari, who is the mentor of AID.

ing to people in rural areas so that they do not require to migrate to cities for jobs.

Meanwhile, Tata STRIVE Chief Operating Officer (COO) Ameya Vanjari said in a release that industry-linked training for jobs will be provided to the youth.

Tata STRIVE helps hundreds of youth find employment, and over 2.5 million students have benefitted from its programmes in the past 11 years. The Nagpur Skill Centre will be the 41st centre in India, he said.

GST registration in 3 Days for Small Businesses

New Delhi: Small and low-risk businesses will get GST registration within 3 working days as the GST department rolls out a simplified GST registration scheme for small and medium businesses from Saturday.

Small and low-risk businesses applicants whom the Goods and Services Tax (GST) system identifies based on data analysis, or those applicants who self-assess that their output tax liability will not exceed Rs 2.5 lakh per month (inclusive of CGST, SGST/UTGST and IGST) will be able to opt for the scheme.

The GST Council, comprising Centre and state finance ministers had in its September 3 meeting approved the simplified registration scheme.

The scheme will provide for voluntary opting into and withdrawal from the scheme.

Speaking at the CGST building inauguration at Ghaziabad, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said that the simplified GST registration scheme from November 1 is expected to benefit 96 per cent of new applicants.

"Task of the field formation is to operationalise it and ensure that there are no friction in the process," Sitharaman had said.

The minister had also asked CBIC to set up a dedicated help desk at GST Seva Kendras for GST registration to facilitate taxpayers in the application process.

Over 1.54 crore businesses are currently registered under GST.

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Kartik Aaryan begins shooting for 'Naagzilla', shares first pic

Mumbai
Bollywood actor Kartik Aaryan, who has a packed schedule ahead, has started working on his next film 'Naagzilla.'

Taking to Instagram, Kartik shared a picture holding a clapboard marking the start of the shoot. The clapboard featured the movie's title and director Mrighdeep Singh Lamba's name. In the picture, the actor looked relaxed in a plain white shirt. He shared his excitement for the project with a caption that read: "1 Year of #BhoolBhulaiyaa3

Har Har Mahadev 14th August 2026." The

Kartik will also be seen opposite Ananya Panday in 'Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri,' which will hit theatres on New Year's Eve. Besides Kartik and Ananya, the film also features Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta.

movie is set to hit theatres on August 14, 2026, just a day before India's Independence Day.

Kartik will also be seen opposite Ananya Panday in 'Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri,' which will hit theatres on New Year's Eve. Besides Kartik and Ananya, the film also features Jackie Shroff and Neena Gupta. The movie, directed by Sameer Vidwans, marks Kartik Aaryan's second collaboration with the director, following their work on Satyaprem Ki Katha. It is

produced under the banner of Dharma Productions. 'Tu Meri Main Tera Main Tera Tu Meri' was previously scheduled to release on February 13, 2026, coinciding with Valentine's Day. However, fans are now set to re-

ceive an early release on December 31.



Manish Malhotra sends early birthday wishes to Shah Rukh Khan

Mumbai
Birthday wishes have started coming in early for the Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, who is set to turn a year older on Sunday, November 2.

ACE fashion designer Manish Malhotra extended his warm wishes to SRK, calling him the "most stylish and the fittest."

Manish Malhotra shared a string of pictures, showing the 'Jawan' star in stunning ensembles from the designer himself. SRK, who can be seen sporting a dapper suit, kurtas, and sherwanis, exuded his usual charm.

"The one and only @iamsrk. Happy Birthday best of wishes for you always from your PRE Birthday today to your Big Birthday Tomorrow... most stylish and the fittest and the Best everywhere .. from the 90s to know you are the same person always ... admiration and love always," Manish Malhotra wrote in the caption.

Shah Rukh Khan will celebrate his 60th birthday on

November 2, with fans already flooding social media platforms with nostalgic posts and greetings.

Ahead of his birthday, adding to the fervour is the announcement of a special film festival, organised by PVR Cinemas, to mark SRK's six-decade milestone.

The festival, which began on October 31, has witnessed some of his most iconic films light up cinema screens across India once again, giving audiences a chance to relive memorable cinematic moments.

It's not just the fans, but SRK himself has been thrilled about the festival dedicated to him.

Taking to Instagram, the superstar dropped a heartfelt yet nostalgic reaction. "Some of my previous films are coming back to the theatres. The man in them hasn't changed much - just the hair... and a little more handsome. The Shah Rukh Khan Film Festival begins on 31st October! In select theatres across India, in association with PVR INOX," he wrote.



Amber Heard posts adorable Halloween pics with her "Minnies"



ning the show."

Following the birth, Amber took to her Instagram to announce the happy news with her fans and also shared how special this year's Mother's Day was for her.

Washington
This year, Halloween was a bit more special for Amber Heard as it was her first as a mother of three.

The actress, on Friday, took to her Instagram account to share a series of family pictures and gave fans a glimpse into her festive celebration with her little kids.

The pictures show Amber dressed as a witch, complete with a pointed hat, as she posed with her 5-month-old twins, Ocean and Agnes, and her 4-year-old daughter, Oonagh Paige.

The proud mom carried her twins, one wearing a pumpkin hat and the other a spider hat, while little Oonagh stood beside her, dressed in a matching witch costume with striped tights and an orange sash.

"Halloweening with my minnies," Heard wrote in her caption. The Halloween post comes months after the Aquaman star welcomed her twins earlier this year. Back in May, her spokesperson confirmed to PEOPLE, "Amber is delighted to welcome the twins and complete her family. Mama and babies are enjoying every minute. And Oonagh is happily run-

Anāvarṇa – Exploring The Layers', a Bharatanatyam recital by Anandita Narayanan

New Delhi
N atya Vriksha presented Anāvarṇa – Exploring The Layers, a Bharatanatyam recital by Anandita Narayanan, disciple of Padmashri Geeta Chandran, on Saturday, 1st November 2025, at 6.30 pm at Triveni Kala Sangam, Mandi House, New Delhi. Entry was open to all on a first-come-first-serve basis.

Anāvarṇa marked Anandita's continuing journey as a solo performer, an exploration of the many layers that shaped her Bharatanatyam: literature, abhinaya, rhythm, and the quiet silences within. Through this recital, she shared her belief that dance could be a quiet inward jour-



ney, a way of listening, feeling, and unfolding. The evening began with an Allaripu in Sankeerna Gathi, followed by a Varnam – Sarojākṣīro (Raag Kambhoji, Talam Adi), and an Ālvar Pasuram set in a Ragamalika of four ragas. Anandita concluded with a Tillana in

Rageshri (Adi Talam), a composition of Late Shri Lalgudi G. Jayaraman. When considering her preparations Anandita remarked, "Each solo recital offered new learnings. The varnam Sarojākṣīro, for example, gave insight into language, literature and abhi-

naya at a different level. I learned to listen to my body, feel the music, and let the movement breathe on its own. I was grateful to Akka (Guru Geeta Chandran) for her guidance, and for inviting me to pause and appreciate everything presented in the art."



Tahira Kashyap pens sweet note for Ayushmann Khurrana on their 'legal' anniversary

Mumbai
It's a special day for Ayushmann Khurrana and Tahira Kashyap as the couple celebrates their "legal" wedding anniversary today.

To mark 17 years of marriage, Tahira, on Saturday, took to her Instagram account to walk down memory lane and penned an adorable note for her husband, with a touch of her sense of humor, as she called it their "legal anniversary."

Tahira shared two pictures on Instagram, one of which was a beautiful throwback from their wedding day. Along with the photos,



she wrote, "Happy 'legal' Anniversary! We got legally married (as we called it) 17 years ago today! In this world of chaos and order, ups and downs, you are my constant, and it feels like you always have been, since

lifetimes. You bring out the best in me, even in the worst of times -- something no one else could do, and perhaps no one else ever will. Umm, forever."

Meanwhile, on the professional front, Ayushmann

is enjoying the success of his recent film 'Thamma,' which also stars Rashmika Mandanna. The film, featuring Nawazuddin Siddiqui as the antagonist, has been performing well at the box office since its Diwali release.

Created under the Maddock Films banner, Thamma is the fifth film in the Maddock Horror Comedy Universe, following Stree, Roohi, Bhedya, and Munjya. The story revolves around Ayushmann's character, who turns into a vampire and falls in love with Rashmika's character, leading to a "bloody love story" full of twists.