



Actor Govinda discharged from hospital after suffering "fatigue"

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| MARKET | |
|------------|------------|
| SENSEX | NIFTY |
| 84466.51 | 25875.80 |
| 595.19 | 180.85 |
| GOLD | SILVER |
| 126,219.00 | 161,277.00 |
| 2,306.00 | 6,590.00 |

| WEATHER | |
|----------|----------|
| Sunrise | 6:42 AM |
| Sunset | 5:29 PM |
| Moonrise | 12:23 AM |
| Moonset | 1:41 PM |

| Today's Prediction | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Maximum | 26°C |
| Minimum | 13°C |
| Tomorrow's Prediction | |
| Maximum | 26°C |
| Minimum | 14°C |

Phase-II of SIR Over 37 crore enumeration forms distributed so far

New Delhi More than 37 crore or 72.66 per cent of enumeration forms have been distributed to electors in 12 states and Union territories so far as part of the Special Intensive Revision exercise being undertaken by the Election Commission.

The ambitious voters list clean-up exercise in nine states and three UTs will cover nearly 51 crore electors.

In a bulletin issued on Wednesday, the poll authority said that for more than 7.66 crore electors in West Bengal, 6.80 crore or 88.8

Govt terms car explosion near Red Fort as 'terrorist incident'

A Union Cabinet meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi upon his return from Bhutan, reaffirmed India's unwavering commitment to a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

New Delhi The government on Wednesday termed the car explosion outside Red Fort as a "terrorist incident" and directed investigating agencies to deal with the case with "utmost urgency and professionalism" to bring the perpetrators and their sponsors to justice without delay.

A Union Cabinet meeting, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi upon his return from Bhutan, reaffirmed India's unwavering commitment to a policy of zero tolerance towards terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Observing a two-minute silence in honour of the innocent lives lost in the terrorist incident, the Cabinet adopted a resolution expressing profound grief over the loss of lives in the terrorist incident and said the situation continues to be "closely monitored" at the highest levels of the government.

The prime minister visited the Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Hospital to



PM met with the victims of the Delhi blast at LNJP Hospital, in New Delhi on November 12, 2025.

meet the injured soon after he returned from a two-day visit to Bhutan. He also chaired a meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Security.

The meeting comes two days after an explosives-laden car detonated outside Red Fort, killing 12 people. On the same day, eight persons, including three doctors were arrested when an

inter-state "white-collar" terror module was busted.

"The Cabinet directs that the investigation into the incident be pursued with the utmost urgency and professionalism so that the perpetrators, their collaborators, and their sponsors are identified and brought to justice without delay. The sit-

uation continues to be closely monitored at the highest levels of the government," the resolution said.

Terming the car explosion as a "senseless act of violence", the Union Cabinet condemned this dastardly and cowardly act, and conveyed its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families.

It also prayed for the

speedy recovery of all those injured, and appreciated the prompt efforts of the medical personnel and emergency responders, who have been providing care and support to the victims.

"The Cabinet also recorded its appreciation for the statements of solidarity and support from many governments around the world," I&B Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said reading out the Cabinet resolution.

The Cabinet also appreciated the timely and coordinated response of the authorities, security agencies, and citizens who acted with courage and compassion in the face of adversity.

"Their dedication and sense of duty are deeply commendable," it said.

The Cabinet also reaffirmed the government's steadfast resolve to safeguard the lives and well-being of all Indians, consistent with its enduring commitment to national security and the safety of every citizen.

It also prayed for the

Delhi blast suspects did multiple recces; target was R-Day



New Delhi An analysis of dump data retrieved from the mobile phone of Dr Muzammil Ganaie, who was arrested after police busted a white-collar terror module recently, showed that he conducted multiple reconnaissance of the Red Fort area in January this year, officials said.

Police said they suspect these recces were part of a larger conspiracy to target the historic monument on Republic Day, but were foiled due to intensified patrolling in the area at the time.

During investigation, it was found that two of the key suspects, Dr Umar, who was driving the Hyundai i20 car that exploded, and Muzammil, had travelled to Turkey. Sources said the investigators have found

Turkish immigration stamps in their passports and are examining whether the two met any foreign based handler during their trip.

Delhi Police also sounded an alert across all police stations, posts, and border checkpoints in the city to trace a red Ford EcoSport car suspected to be linked to the Red Fort blast case, sources said.

The alert was issued after the investigation revealed that other suspects, already connected to the Hyundai i20 used in the explosion, were also in possession of another red-coloured car.

Hours after police busted the terror module with links to proscribed Jaish-e-Mohammed and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind, and arrested eight people including three

SC to hear Shiv Sena symbol dispute pleas on Jan 21

New Delhi The Supreme Court on Wednesday fixed January 21 for hearing pleas filed by the Uddhav Thackeray-led faction of the Shiv Sena against the Election Commission's order allotting the 'bow and arrow' symbol to Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led faction.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi said that it will start hearing arguments from January 21 on the Shiv Sena symbol dispute. The bench will then hear arguments on a similar dispute concerning the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) on January 22, as there are several overlapping issues involved in both matters, it said.

The top court also fixed three hours for hearing arguments from each faction of the political parties.

Senior advocate



Devadatt Kamat, appearing for Udhav faction, said that matters require urgent hearing as there are local body polls in the state. Justice Kant said political parties are always in election mode in India as they are contesting national elections, state polls or even local body polls.

Senior advocates Mukul Rohatgi and Neeraj Kishan Kaul appeared for the Shinde faction.

Axis My India predicts neck-and-neck Bihar contest

New Delhi Two fresh exit polls on Wednesday pointed to an NDA victory in Bihar with Axis My India showing a clear edge for the ruling alliance and Today's Chanakya forecasting a big win for it over the Mahagathbandhan.

Both the exit polls forecast a disappointing electoral debut for Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj.

The Axis My India Exit Poll predicted that the NDA would be ahead of the Mahagathbandhan in Bihar but the RJD would emerge as the single-largest party when results for the Assembly polls are announced on Friday.

Axis My India predicted the NDA to win between 121-141 seats, and the Mahagathbandhan 98-118 seats.

It gave 0-2 seats to the



Chairman and Managing Director Axis My India Pradeep Gupta

Jan Suraj.

Today's Chanakya forecast that while the BJP and its allies would get 160 seats (with a plus-minus margin of error of 12 seats), the RJD and its allies would bag 77 seats (with a plus-minus margin of error of 12 seats).

It forecast that the BJP and its allies would bag

44 per cent (plus-minus 3 per cent) vote share and the RJD and its allies would get 38 per cent (plus-minus 3 per cent) votes.

The projections come a day after all major exit polls predicted a return of the NDA government in Bihar with a big victory over the Mahagathbandhan.

HIGHLIGHT
The Axis My India Exit Poll predicted that the NDA would be ahead of the Mahagathbandhan in Bihar but the RJD would emerge as the single-largest party when results for the Assembly polls

All exit polls have unanimously forecast a poor electoral debut for Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraj.

In its party-wise break-up, Axis My India predicted that the RJD would be the single-largest party getting between 67-76 seats, followed by the JD(U) at 56-62 seats, BJP 50-56 seats, Congress 17-21 seats, Vikassheel Insaan Party 3-5 seats, and Left parties 10-14 seats.

The details of the plan have been pieced together after interrogation of the eight people arrested for their alleged links to the interstate 'white collar' Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terror module centred in Faridabad and conversations with their family, friends and neighbours, the officials said.

Dr Umar planned a big blast in Delhi close to Babri anniv



New Delhi/Srinagar Dr Umar Nabi who was driving the explosives-laden car that blew up near the Red Fort had planned a powerful blast timed around the Babri Masjid demolition anniversary on December 6, officials said on Wednesday.

The details of the plan have been pieced together after interrogation of the eight people arrested for their alleged links to the interstate 'white collar' Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) terror module centred in Faridabad and conversations with their family, friends and neighbours, the officials said.

Umar, a 28-year-old doctor based in south Kashmir's Pulwama district believed to have been killed in the November 10 Red Fort blast in which 12 people lost their lives, has emerged as key in the terror network spanning Kashmir, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh.

His plan fell apart with the arrest of Dr Muzammil Ahmad Ganaie alias MUSAIB, who taught at Faridabad's Al Falah university and from whose room 360 kg of ammonium nitrate was found. It is believed that

Trump defends H-1B visa, says US needs global talent

New York In what is seen as a U-turn, US President Donald Trump appeared to defend the H-1B visa programme to bring talent from across the world, saying a foreign investor cannot pull people off an unemployment line, who haven't worked in five years, and start making missiles.

"I agree but you also do have to bring in talent," Trump said, responding to a question in an interview with Laura Ingraham on Fox News on whether the H-1B visa issue will not be a big priority for his administration and if one wants to raise wages for



American workers as the country cannot be flooded with hundreds of thousands of foreign workers.

When Ingraham noted that "we have plenty of

talent", Trump said, "No, you don't, no, you don't. You don't have certain talents. And people have to learn."

"You can't take people off an unemployment line, and say, 'I'm going to put you into a factory, we're going to make missiles'," Trump added.

"In Georgia, they raised because they wanted illegal immigrants. They had people from South Korea that made batteries (is) very complicated. It's not an easy thing, and very dangerous. A lot of explosions, lot of problems," he said.

"They had, like 500-

Axis My India predicts neck-and-neck Bihar contest

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According to the exit poll, the NDA would get a vote share percentage of 43 per cent, Mahagathbandhan 41 per cent, and the Jan Suraj 4 per cent.

It also claimed that while 34 per cent people want to see RJD's Tejashwi Yadav as the chief minister, 22 per cent want incumbent Nitish Kumar (JD-U) to remain at the helm.

The exit poll also gave a gender-wise break-up of vote share. It projected that while the NDA would get 41 per cent male and 45 per cent female votes, the Mahagathbandhan would get 42 per cent male and 40 per cent female votes.

The Bihar polls were conducted in two phases on November 6 and 11, and the results will be announced on November 14.

While the Matriz Exit Poll forecast the NDA likely getting between 147-167 seats, the Mahagathbandhan 70-90, and the Jan Suraj between 0-2 seats, Dainik Bhaskar predicted 145-160 seats for the NDA and 73-91 for the Mahagathbandhan.

The People's Insight predicted 133-148 seats for the NDA, 87-102 for the Mahagathbandhan and 0-2 for Jan Suraj.

The People's Pulse gave 133-159 seats to the NDA, 75-101 to the Mahagathbandhan, and 0-5 to Prashant Kishore's party.

Ministry of Railways Sanctions Ferozepur-Patti Rail Link Project (25.72 km): Bittu

Staff Reporter
New Delhi

The Ministry of Railways has approved the Ferozepur-Patti Rail Link Project, spanning 25.72 km, with an estimated cost of ₹764.19 crore. This includes ₹166 crore for land acquisition by the Railways.

Union Minister S. Ravneet Singh Bittu highlighted the project's strategic and economic benefits, reducing the distance between Ferozepur and Amritsar from 196 km to about 100 km, and shortening the rail link will connect Malwa and Majha regions in Punjab, improving mobility and logistics.

Bittu expressed gratitude towards Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah, and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for this significant contribution to Punjab.

The new rail line will provide direct access to Jalandhar-Ferozepur and Patti-Khemkaran routes, important for defense movement, as it passes through strategically significant areas.

In addition to strategic advantages, the project is expected to offer socio-economic benefits for nearly 10 lakh people and create about 2.5 lakh jobs. It will accommodate 2,500-3,500 daily passengers, enhancing trade, reducing transportation costs, and improving access to markets. The link will connect Amritsar, a major hub, to Ferozepur and revive a historic route from before Partition.

Supreme Court raps professor arrested for anti-India remarks

New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Wednesday came down heavily on a professor at a college in Assam arrested for making anti-India and obscene social media posts, and called him "a threat to young girls" and a "pervert" who should not be allowed to enter the educational institution.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joyymalya Bagchi, which refused to grant interim bail to Md Joynal Abedin, who was a professor at Gossaigaon College in Kokrajhar district, said that he has a habit of stalking and making obscene remarks to women online and cannot be released from jail easily.

"You are in the habit of harassing women on social media and making obscene remarks. You are a perverted man and a threat to young girls in college."



"What kind of professor are you? You are a shame to the word Professor. You should not be allowed to enter the college," the bench made scathing remarks against him.

He apologised for the post for which he was arrested and as soon as he realised that his social media post was against the interest of the country, he had deleted it.

He submitted that the chargesheet has been filed in the case but the trial in the case could not proceed as there is no judicial officer in Gossaigaon court for around six months.

"You are in the habit of harassing women on social media and making obscene remarks. You are a perverted man and a threat to young girls in college."

habit of making several offensive posts on social media.

The bench, which perused his social media posts, was shocked to see the language of the content and said that he is of a "dirty mind" and a "threat to the society".

"Should we ask you to read out what has been written here, so that everyone understands what the post is?" the bench asked the counsel.

The counsel for the petitioner said the accused has apologised and has lost his job for the act he has committed.

any condition and he will abide by it. Please grant him bail as the chargesheet has been filed in the case," the counsel submitted.

The top court, while noting that Abedin was arrested on May 16, asked the counsel for the state to seek instructions on whether there is no judicial officer in the Gossaigaon court.

It requested the Gauhati High Court chief justice to look into the matter and depute a judicial officer at Gossaigaon court or transfer the case of Abedin to the sessions court in Kokrajhar district.

"We will look into the possibility of interim bail later," the bench told his counsel.

Abedin, who is a resident of Gossaigaon, had allegedly made anti-India posts in May for which he was initially detained and later arrested.

Cyber slavery emerges as modern human trafficking

Mitali Chandola
New Delhi

In a chilling reminder of how the dark web of cybercrime is expanding beyond keyboards into human lives, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has arrested two men—Soyal Akhtar and Mohit Giri—for trafficking Indian citizens into cybercrime scam compounds in Myanmar. These agents stand accused of luring people with false promises of lucrative foreign jobs, only to deliver them into modern-day digital slavery.

The CBI has registered two cases under human trafficking and wrongful confinement—offences that could lead to life imprisonment. The arrests followed the Government of India's coordinated effort to rescue several Indians trapped in these scam hubs across Myanmar. During the probe, investigators discovered that the accused had facilitated the movement of



victims from Rajasthan and Gujarat, routing them through Thailand before delivering them to cybercrime enclaves run by international syndicates.

Once inside these compounds, victims were stripped of their passports, confined, and beaten into submission. Their new "jobs" involved running online scams—digital arrest rackets, investment frauds, and romance scams—that drained victims worldwide of their money and trust. For many of these trafficked

individuals, escape was almost impossible.

Officials describe the environment as one of total control—high-tech prisons where fear and surveillance coexist with servers and screens. Victims, mostly young Indians in search of overseas opportunities, found themselves forced to commit crimes at gunpoint, their identities reduced to tools in global cyber fraud networks.

"This is not just cybercrime—it's cyber slavery," a senior CBI officer said. "People are being traded as assets, not just

data. It's human trafficking for the digital age."

The CBI's investigation has also revealed a disturbing trend: social media job offers, online ads, and unauthorised placement agents are being used as bait to recruit victims. As India's youth population increasingly seeks digital or overseas careers, they are becoming easy prey for traffickers exploiting both ambition and unemployment.

The agency has urged citizens to verify any foreign employment offers through official channels and to be wary of agents promising "quick jobs abroad."

The arrests mark a crucial step in India's fight against this hybrid menace—where technology, crime, and human exploitation intersect. But experts warn that until awareness reaches every aspirant looking for a better future, the shadows of cyber slavery will continue to grow deeper—and deadlier.

Hoax bomb email triggers panic at Delhi Airport

Mitali Chandola
New Delhi

A major security scare gripped the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport in Delhi on Tuesday evening after a bomb threat email was received, naming multiple airports including Delhi, Chennai, and Goa. The alert led to swift security action at Terminal 3 (T3), one of India's busiest aviation hubs, before being declared a hoax after extensive searches.

According to officials, a call to the fire control room was received around 4 PM, reporting a possible explosive at T3. The message had originated from an email sent to IndiGo Airlines' grievance portal, threatening blasts at several airports. The Delhi Police immediately activated the bomb disposal squads, along with the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), and launched a full-scale evacuation and search operation.

For over two hours, flight operations faced brief disruptions as

teams combed through passenger areas, baggage sections, and aircraft bays using sniffer dogs and explosive detection devices. No suspicious object was found.

"After thorough checking, nothing objectionable was recovered. The threat was found to be fake," confirmed a senior Delhi Police official, adding that cyber units are tracing the source of the email.

Following Delhi's alert, security checks were intensified at Chennai, Goa, and Mumbai airports as a precautionary measure. Airlines also issued advisories urging passengers to cooperate with enhanced screening.

Officials said that even though the threat was false, it underscores growing concerns about digital security breaches and hoax communications that can cause large-scale panic and disrupt critical operations.

The investigation into the sender and the motive behind the email is ongoing.

Bhutan's king PM top ministers greeted PM Modi reflecting warmth in ties

New Delhi

Bhutan's King Jigme Khesar Namgyal Wangchuck, Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay and his entire cabinet welcomed Prime Minister Narendra Modi at various points of his just-concluded visit to the Himalayan nation, with officials terming the gesture as a symbol of enduring friendship.

Modi concluded on Wednesday his two-day visit to Bhutan, where he joined the 70th birthday celebrations of the fourth king Jigme Singye Wangchuck, inaugurated a 1,020-MW hydel project built with Indian assistance and attended the Global Peace Prayer Festival.

Close to 30 senior dignitaries, including ministers, secretaries and members of the Privy Council, participated in the ceremonies, reflecting the remarkable warmth, respect and enduring depth of the India-Bhutan partnership, the officials said.

Prime Minister Modi was received at Paro International Airport on Tuesday by his Bhutanese counterpart Tshering Tobgay along with senior members of the Royal Government.

Six ministers and senior officials, including the foreign minister, finance minister and Bhutan's Ambassador to India, formally welcomed the prime minister.

A traditional Grand Chipdrel Procession, symbolising an auspicious welcome in Bhutanese culture, greeted Prime Minister Modi when he alighted from the aircraft.

The procession was led by the health minister, the deputy chairman of the Privy Council and the education secretary.

Members of the Bhutanese cabinet, senior bureaucrats and heads of diplomatic and UN missions joined the welcome, underlining the ceremonial grandeur of the occasion, the officials said.

At the historic Tashichhodzong Palace, Prime Minister Modi was received by Bhutan's King.

Manoranjan Sasmal
Bhubaneswar

The Nuapada by-election in Odisha has taken a controversial turn after the Congress made serious allegations of vote rigging and misuse of official machinery. As the first phase of polling began, the party claimed that votes cast in favor of the Congress were being diverted to the BJP through manipulation of Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs).

Odisha Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) Vice President and former MLA Lalatendu Mohapatra accused both the BJP and the ruling Biju Janata Dal (BJD) of deceiving the public with hollow promises for over two decades.

"For 26 years, the BJP and BJD have misled the people. Now, sensing the growing support for Congress candidate and son of the soil Ghasiram Majhi, the BJP is resorting to unfair means to win the election," Mohapatra said while addressing reporters.

According to the Congress, several irregularities occurred during the first phase of polling. In booth number 339 of Dumerbahal, money was allegedly distributed among voters to secure votes for the BJP. The party further claimed that when a Congress worker's wife protested and lodged a complaint, she was attacked—even in the presence of police officers.

Congress Alleges EVM Tampering and Vote Rigging in Nuapada By-Election

Manoranjan Sasmal
Bhubaneswar

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Mohapatra alleged that while the Election Commission had ordered all outside political workers to leave the district before the silence period, BJP min-

isters, MLAs, and party workers continued to move freely in the constituency, openly distributing cash to influence voters. "Despite these blatant violations of the model code of conduct, the administration and district election officer remained silent spectators," he said.

In another serious claim, the Congress alleged that the EVM machines were malfunctioning in a way that votes cast for the Congress were being registered in favor of the BJP. "When the Congress but-

ton was pressed, the BJP light came on," Mohapatra said, adding that this was verified at booth number 250. The party has called this a direct attack on the integrity of the democratic process.

The Congress also reported that BJP workers were seen transporting voters to polling booths in tractors marked with BJP symbols—another clear breach of election rules. In one incident at Jitmitra High School, a woman voter was reportedly turned away after discovering that her vote had already been cast by someone else. Her complaints, according to witnesses, were ignored by polling officials.

Adding to the list of alleged violations, the Congress claimed that pamphlets and "chirukuttis" carrying images of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Chief Minister, and BJP candidates were being distributed inside polling booths. The party argued that such actions directly influence voters and compromise the fairness of the election.

Pearl Global sustains strong growth in H1FY26

New Delhi

Pearl Global Industries Limited (PGL), the largest listed garment exporter in India, reported strong financial results for the first half of the fiscal year 2026, with revenues exceeding INR 2,500 crore, totaling INR 2,541 crore, which reflects a 12.7% year-on-year growth.

This growth was primarily fueled by sales of high-value products in Vietnam and Indonesia. The adjusted EBITDA (Earnings Before Interest, Taxes, Depreciation, and Amortization) increased to INR 236 crore, marking an 18.4% rise year-on-year, and the adjusted EBITDA margin improved to 9.3%. When excluding certain costs, the adjusted EBITDA margin stands at 10.6%. The profit after tax (PAT) for the first half grew to INR 138 crore, up 17% from the previous year.

In the second quarter of fiscal year 2026, PGL's revenue was INR 1,313 crore, up 9.2% from the same period last year. The adjusted EBITDA for this quarter, excluding employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) expenses, was INR 122 crore, a 23.6% growth year-on-year, with a margin of 9.3%. When excluding specific costs, the adjusted EBITDA margin is at 10.1%. PAT for Q2 increased to INR 72 crore, which is a significant 29.4% increase year-on-year.

The standalone results for the first half of FY26 showed revenue at INR 531 crore, with an adjusted EBITDA of INR 30 crore, up 7.7% year-on-year, yielding an adjusted EBITDA margin of 5.7%. For Q2, standalone revenue was INR 264 crore, with an adjusted EBITDA of INR 11 crore and a PAT of INR 12 crore, compared to INR 12 crore the previous year.

Advt Contact:
9818-799941

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Smt. Nilarika Gogoi, Wife of Sh. Amit Vasishtha, D/o Sh. Bhupen Gogoi, aged about 29 years, R/o 661, Opposite Bodoland Guest House, Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati, Assam, who is the legally wedded wife of Sh. Amit Vasishtha, Son of Sh. Vinod Vasishtha, resident of 48, Village Bolewa (271), District Gujgram, Haryana.

This notice is hereby issued for public at large that I, Smt. Nilarika Gogoi, Wife of Sh. Amit Vasishtha, D/o Sh. Bhupen Gogoi, presently residing at House No. 661, Opposite Bodoland Guest House, Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati, District Kamrup, Assam, who is the legally wedded wife of Sh. Amit Vasishtha, Son of Sh. Vinod Vasishtha, resident of 48, Village Bolewa (271), District Gujgram, Haryana.

I state that Sh. Amit Vasishtha has purchased a plot of land bearing Plot No. 134, pocket G, sector 16, Yamuna Expressway Area, Gautam budh Nagar, UP, in his name and in the joint name of mine and I categorically states that I have no concern or involvement in respect of the said property or any transaction, document, agreement, commitment, or representation connected thereto.

I further, have reason to believe that my husband may have engaged in some transactions to re-sell the aforesaid property to some people and he has also obtained my signatures on certain documents, the nature, terms, and legal consequences of which were never disclosed or explained to me. I do not have any knowledge, consent, control, or involvement in such acts or dealings.

Therefore, in order to protect my legal and proprietary interests, I, from my own free will, disown, disinherit, and completely severed all domestic, financial, civil, and social relations with Sh. Amit Vasishtha. Consequently, the said Sh. Amit Vasishtha shall have no right, title, claim, or interest in any of my movable or immovable properties.

Accordingly, the general public is hereby cautioned that I shall not, henceforth, be responsible or liable for any acts, dealings, omissions, representations, obligations, debts, offences, or transactions of the said Sh. Amit Vasishtha, whether past, present, or future. Any person, natural or juridical, dealing with him shall do so entirely at his/her own risk and responsibility.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Noida Authority seals three towers, 10 shops of Granite Gate

Noida
The Noida Authority has sealed three towers and 10 shops of Granite Gate Private Limited for not depositing the dues. The builder has dues of Rs 702.59 crore from January 11, 2019 to June 2025. This project is on plot number GH-5 in sector-110 of Noida. There are a total of 31 towers in the project in which 4018 units are approved. The authority stated that despite repeated notices, the builder failed to deposit the outstanding amount. Furthermore, construction work continued even after the approved map expired, violating the terms of the lease deed. This violated the terms of the lease deed.

Three towers had previously been sealed for this reason. The authority stated that the developer had applied for re-validation of the map in February 2024, to which the authority issued a list of objections. In compliance with High Court orders, the authority's CEO conducted a hearing with the regulatory professional (RP) appointed for the project.

The RP was notified by June 13, 2025. Consequently, the total outstanding amount from January 11, 2019, to June 30, 2025, the date the Corporate Solvency Regulation process began, is ₹702.59 crore. Furthermore, the allottee was instructed not to commence construction at the site until the maps are validated.

Water supply remains disrupted

Noida
Water supply was disrupted in the Royal Galaxy Society in Gaur City 2, Greater Noida West on Wednesday morning, causing inconvenience to residents.

However, the water problem was resolved in the afternoon after residents complained. Mayank, who lives in the society, said that the drinking water started running out in the society at 5 am on Wednesday. The water left in the underground tank was used for some time. That too got finished after some time.

Due to the water shortage, people complained to the builder management. After receiving continuous complaints, the said builder management issued a notice. It was told to use water carefully. Due to shortage, the water supply was not running properly. After people protested, the water problem was resolved at 3 pm and the water supply started running adequately.

Delhi man dupes customers employer of Rs 44 lakh using fake company held

New Delhi
The Delhi Police has arrested a 36-year-old man who allegedly duped customers and his employer of over Rs 44 lakh by creating a fake entity and collecting payments in a bogus bank account, an official said on Wednesday.

The accused, Yudhish Chand, who worked as a sales executive with a private automobile company in the Shalimar Bagh branch, allegedly forged delivery orders and finance papers to cheat multiple customers, he said.

According to police, Chand created a fictitious company named Galaxy Cars to misrepresent it as

Delhi Govt. Includes Veerangana Jhalkari Bai Koli in Commemoration Scheme

Diksha New Delhi
The Delhi Government has approved the inclusion of Veerangana Jhalkari Bai Koli—one of the iconic figures of India's freedom struggle—in its 'Scheme for Commemoration of Birth and Death Anniversaries of Eminent Personalities'.

The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, attended by Cabinet Ministers and senior officials.

The scheme, implemented by the Department for the Welfare of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes, extends



financial support to registered NGOs for organising commemorative events honouring national figures. With the latest inclu-

The decision was taken at a Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Rekha Gupta, attended by Cabinet Ministers and senior officials.

sion, Jhalkari Bai Koli joins the distinguished list of personalities already recognised under the scheme, including Dr B.R. Ambedkar, Sant Ravidas, Maharishi Valmiki, Sant Kabir, Sant Gadge Maharaj and Sant Durbal Nath.

Chief Minister Rekha Gupta said, "Veerangana Jhalkari Bai Koli embodies the indomitable courage and spirit of India's freedom struggle. Her inclusion is a significant step towards acknowledging her immense contribution to the nation."

Under the scheme, NGOs can receive grants of up to ₹50,000 per event for commemorating the anniversaries of these eminent figures.

The Chief Minister added that this decision reinforces the government's commitment to celebrating the legacy of those who shaped India's social and historical fabric.

Delhi IT Minister calls for unified digital services

Staff Reporter New Delhi
Delhi's IT Minister Dr. Pankaj Kumar Singh on Wednesday conducted a review meeting focused on advancing the digital transformation of the IT Department.

The meeting aimed to develop a unified and citizen-friendly governance framework that improves service delivery and enhances co-operation among departments.

The IT Department shared insights gained from studying digital reforms in states like Haryana, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra, planning further visits to learn from their successful models.

Minister Singh emphasized the commitment to making Delhi a role model for digital governance in India. By integrating various government departments and leveraging technology, the goal is to improve trans-



parency, citizen empowerment, and overall efficiency. A key aspect of this digital transformation is the creation of a centralized IT framework that combines data, schemes, and services, ensuring citizens are well-informed about welfare programs.

Several major projects were reviewed, including the Unified Data Hub (UDH), Common Service Center (CSC) Integration, Digital Asset Management Information System (DAMIS), and Earnest Mon-

launched soon. DAMIS seeks to create a digital record of all government assets, improving transparency and coordination across departments. The software is already in use and has been shared with departments like MCD, Transport, and Revenue for testing.

To improve the tendering process, the IT Department is also integrating EMD functionality into the e-Procurement Portal. This will allow for digital verification of payments, speeding up transactions and eliminating the need for physical documents.

These efforts represent a significant step toward building a transparent, accountable, and digitally empowered government in Delhi. Guided by Chief Minister Smt. Rekha Gupta, the Delhi Government is determined to lead in digital governance and public service innovation.

2 held over stabbing case linked to inter-group rivalry

New Delhi
The Delhi Police has arrested two persons, including a juvenile, in connection with an attempt to murder case arising from inter-group rivalry in Bharat Nagar, an official said on Wednesday.

The incident came to light when Ajay Mariyapa and Arun were stabbed on October 31 at around 9 pm, the official said.

The accused have been identified as Bharat alias Micky, 25, a resident of Samaypur Badli, and a 16-year-old juvenile. Both had absconded after committing the crime.

According to the police, on November 11, a team of Northern Range-I Crime Branch received a tip-off about the accused's whereabouts in Rohini. Following this, the team apprehended them, the official said.

Delhi to build modern sports grounds for young talent



Staff Reporter New Delhi

Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Wednesday announced plans to develop modern sports grounds in government schools throughout the city.

This initiative aims to provide early sports training for children, helping them excel in sports at national and international events. The Chief Minister held a meeting to review the plan, urging officials to create a detailed blueprint for these developments.

To enhance Delhi's sports ecosystem, the government will work with respected sports academies, signing agreements for training in sports like cricket, boxing, taekwondo, football, and swimming. These academies will receive access to sports facilities and administrative support for running training programs.

The Chief Minister emphasized that receiving professional coaching at a young age encourages children to pursue their sports ambitions while promoting important values such as teamwork and leadership. The Education Department is assessing 799 school buildings to identify suitable locations for the new sports grounds or multipurpose auditoriums. In schools with ample space, modern sports facilities will be built, while those with less space will have multipurpose auditoriums or mini sports arenas. The government plans to prioritize rural schools to

This initiative aims to provide early sports training for children, helping them excel in sports at national and international events. The Chief Minister held a meeting to review the plan, urging officials to create a detailed blueprint for these developments.

provide equal opportunities for aspiring athletes across Delhi.

Furthermore, the Chief Minister mentioned the possibility of constructing swimming pools in some schools to offer foundational training in various sports. She assured that sufficient funds would be allocated for this project, which will be implemented quickly.

Promoting sports remains a top priority for the Delhi Government. Attractive incentives for athletes who win medals include rewards of ₹7 crores for Olympic gold medalists, ₹5 crores for silver medalists, and ₹3 crores for bronze medalists. Promising athletes will also receive financial support and government job opportunities.

The Chief Minister expressed her commitment to creating a world-class sports environment, including professional coaching and well-equipped facilities.

CM Gupta held a public hearing, Jan Sunwai, at Mukhyamantri Jan Seva Sadan

Staff Reporter New Delhi
Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Wednesday held a public hearing, Jan Sunwai, at the Mukhyamantri Jan Seva Sadan, where she listened to citizens' complaints and suggestions.

She emphasized that good governance relies on public dialogue and stated that resolving issues is a top priority for the government.

The Chief Minister instructed officials to address grievances quickly and sensitively, ensuring that citizens receive their rights and access to public services without delay.

During the event, she engaged personally with the attendees, promising to respond to their concerns swiftly. Gupta high-



lighted the importance of bridging the gap between the government and the public, making governance more transparent and accountable through active involvement from citizens.

She reiterated that listening to people's needs and providing solutions is essential for democracy.

The Jan Sunwai initiative is part of the Delhi Government's efforts to promote public participation and work towards sustainable solutions for citizens' problems.

The Chief Minister believes this approach strengthens the government's commitment to good governance.

Toxic air continues to grip Delhi AQI 'severe' at 418 amid spike in farm fires

New Delhi
The national capital continued to breathe toxic air on Wednesday with pollution levels remaining 'severe' for the second straight day at 418, as stubble-burning in the neighbouring regions contributed most to Delhi's foul air.

Delhi's Air Quality Index (AQI) remained 'severe' with the 24-hour average recorded at 418 at 4 pm, according to Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) data.

A 'severe' AQI poses serious health risks even to healthy individuals, and can affect those with existing respiratory or cardiac conditions badly.



According to the Decision Support System (DSS) data, stubble-burning contributed 22.4 per cent to Delhi's PM2.5 concentration on Wednesday – the highest share from farm fires recorded so far this winter.

The share of pollution

transported from outside the city stood at 15.5 per cent, the DSS data showed.

Delhi recorded its first 'severe' air quality day of the season on Tuesday, with the overall AQI reaching 428. The air quality, which had been 'very poor' for several

days, deteriorated further due to stagnant weather conditions and local emissions.

The CPCB classifies an AQI between 0 and 50 as 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor', and 401-500 'severe'.

For Thursday, stubble-burning is projected to contribute around 10.1 per cent to Delhi's PM2.5 levels, while transport-related emissions are expected to increase slightly to 19.3 per cent, according to DSS projections. Satellite-based data showed 312 farm fire incidents in Punjab, 72 in Haryana, and 322 in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday.

PUBLIC NOTICE
It is to the public at large that my client Sh. Vijay Shankar Prasad and his wife Mrs. Suman Devi both R/o H.No. K-680 Mangolpuri, Mangolpuri N Block, North West Delhi-110083, have debarred and disowned their son namely Mr. Vivek S/o Sh. Vijay Shankar Prasad, R/o H.No. K-680 Mangolpuri, Mangolpuri N Block, North West Delhi-110083, from our movable and immovable properties and other assets, with immediate effect due to their disrespectful behavior and out of control and severed all their relations with them. If anybody deals in any manner with the above named persons, he/she shall do at his/her own risks and consequences. My clients i.e. Sh. Vijay Shankar Prasad and his wife Mrs. Suman Devi shall not be held liable or responsible for the same in any manner and have no concern / relations with the above named persons in their life time in future.
(SUMIT KADYAN)
Advocate
Chamber No. 720,
Lawyers Chamber Block,
Dwarka Courts, Delhi – 110075.

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform to public at large that my clients Shakil Khan S/o Assaruddin Khan, R/o D-23/24, Sitapuri, Gali No. 11, New Delhi-110045 have severed all relationship from their sons namely Adil Khan and Vakil Khan and disowned and debarred them from all their moveable and immovable properties as they have become disobedient, bad behavior, conduct and they are out of control of my above said client and my client has nothing to do with them. My client shall not be responsible for their acts, deeds. If any person deals with them then they will be doing that at their own risk, cost and consequences.
VIJAY THAKUR
ADVOCATE
Ch. no.607, First Floor Western wing, TIS HAZARI COURT, DELHI

PUBLIC NOTICE
"General public at large is hereby informed that my clients Sh. Satpal S/O Sh. Karan Singh & his wife Smt. Suman, both R/o H.NO-1/3, Village- Hiran kudna, Delhi-110041, have severed their all relations from their son Mr.Sourabh Sehrawat and have disowned him from all their moveable & immovable properties as their son is leading life beyond control and they do not have any control over his any act, behave & deeds. So any person dealing with aforesaid Mr.Sourabh Sehrawat shall be doing so at his own risks, costs and consequences and my aforesaid clients shall not be held responsible for any acts, deeds, behave & conducts of their son in any manner, whatsoever.
RAKESH BENIWAL
Advocate
Ch. No. 1007, 10th Floor,
Lawyer's Chamber Block Rohini Court Complex, Delhi-110085

PUBLIC NOTICE
I, Smt. Kailash Gulia, W/o Late Sh. Ratan Singh Gulia (Retd. Air Force Officer) Aged 61 Years, Senior Citizen, R/o House No. D-209, Patel Garden, Gali No. 6, Kakrola Mor, Near Dwarka Mor, New Delhi 110078, hereby declare that I have disowned and debarred my son Sh. Sudhir Gulia and daughter-in-law Smt. Manu Nain from all my moveable and immovable properties for their disobedient and abusive behaviour. They shall have no right, title, or claim in any of my properties henceforth. The public is cautioned not to deal with them in relation to my property.
ANJALI VASHIST
(ADVOCATE)
DELHI HIGH COURT & DISTRICT COURTS
ADDRESS: CHAMBER NO. 553, DWARKA COURT COMPLEX, SECTOR-10, DWARKA, NEW DELHI-110075

Sardar@150 Unity March Inspires Youth towards Nationalism and Self-Reliance

Ravi Dalmiya
New Delhi

To mark the 150th birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Government of India has launched a nationwide campaign aimed at rekindling the spirit of unity, self-reliance, and nationalism among the youth. Addressing a press conference at the BJP Shahdara District Office, Union Minister of State Harsh Malhotra announced that a series of marches under the SARDAR@150 Unity March initiative will be organized across the East Delhi Lok Sabha constituency.

These marches—planned from Vikas Marg to Karkardooma Chowk in Laxmi Nagar, from Chhachi Building Hanuman Chowk in Krishna Nagar, and in Mandawali—are part of a broader movement to inspire citizens to adopt Sardar Patel's ideals of national integration and collective progress.

Malhotra highlighted that the National Integration



March, launched under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, seeks to strengthen the foundation of a self-reliant India. "Sardar Patel was not only the Iron Man of India but also a symbol of unity, self-reliance, and determination. Modern India continues to progress on the path envisioned by him," he said.

Reflecting on the Prime Minister's leadership, the minister noted that under Narendra Modi, India has moved steadily toward realizing the vision of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat—a united and prosperous nation. "The world today recognizes and values Prime Minister Modi's globally beneficial vision and decisive

leadership. His call for Vocal for Local and Aatmanirbhar Bharat has redefined the meaning of national contribution," Malhotra added.

The initiative, he explained, is inspired by the belief that nation-building is a shared responsibility. The campaign invites people of all ages to participate, re-

mindings that "the nation gives us everything; we too must give something back." The youth, referred to as the Amrit Peedhi, are being encouraged to take the lead in shaping India's self-reliant future by promoting indigenous industries and products.

The SARDAR@150 Unity March, launched on October 6, 2025, by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in collaboration with My Bharat, will also feature a 152-kilometer foot march from Karsad to the Statue of Unity in Kevadia, Gujarat. Along this route, 150 halts will host exhibitions on Viksit Bharat and India's cultural heritage. Each evening will include Sardar Gatha storytelling sessions, focusing on Patel's life and his historic role in uniting over 560 princely states.

The celebrations will also engage students and youth through essay writing, quizzes, drawing competitions, and discussions promoting national unity, social

harmony, and self-reliance.

Malhotra recalled that on October 31, 2018, Prime Minister Modi inaugurated the Statue of Unity—the world's tallest statue at 182 meters—and declared the day as National Unity Day. He further stated that Sardar Patel's vision of a unified India found new expression with the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35A in 2019.

The press conference was attended by BJP leaders including District In-Charge Dr. Anil Gupta, Shahdara District President Deepak Gaba, Mayur Vihar District President Vijender Dhama, Shahdara District Spokesperson Advocate Bharat Gaur, Gaurav Kapoor, Atul Singh, and Media Cell member Vineet Jain. Through this initiative, the government aims not just to pay tribute to Sardar Patel's legacy but to renew India's collective commitment to unity, progress, and self-reliance—values that continue to define the nation's journey forward.

Noida Authority toughens stand against Illegal farmhouses

Noida

Amid increasing illegal construction, Noida Authority CEO Dr. Lokesh M. has written a letter to district magistrate Medha Rupam recommending strict action against such activities.

To curb the ever-increasing illegal construction in Noida, the Noida Authority is preparing to take significant action. Farmhouses and illegal colonies rapidly sprouting in the floodplains of the Hindon and Yamuna rivers are now likely to be bulldozed.

The CEO wrote in the letter that those who have encroached upon the floodplain by constructing farmhouses or plotting land should be identified as land mafia. Instructions have been given to form a joint team of the police, irrigation department and the Noida Authority, headed by the SDM, at the tehsil level to take action.

The letter states that if the floodplain is not pro-

TECTED as a green development zone, unplanned settlements and haphazard construction will flourish, impacting the city's balanced development. Besides, green cover will decrease and the risk of flooding will increase during the rainy season.

More than 2,000 farmhouses exist in the Yamuna floodplain. A 2022 survey found approximately 1,000 completed farmhouses and 500 under construction. Since then, the number has doubled. Similarly, a network of illegal colonies and housing has sprung up along the Hindon River from Chhijarsa to Bahalpur.

As news of the CEO's tough stance spread, farmhouse owners in the sub-merged area were alarmed. In many places, people began removing illegal constructions on their own. In Nai Basti village of Dadri tehsil, a land mafia owner, fearing bulldozer action, began removing his own encroachments.

Mini buses parked at Noida, GreNo depots to hit roads soon

Noida

The new mini buses parked at the Noida and Greater Noida depots for two months are likely to hit roads soon.

According to officials concerned, the technical issues are being resolved. The buses will start plying for Ghaziabad and Greater Noida from this week itself.

The Noida and Greater Noida depots received ten new mini buses. Eight of these buses were given to the Noida depot and two to the Greater Noida depot. These buses parked at both depots are gathering dust, but have not been started yet.

Manoj Kumar, regional manager of the Uttar Pradesh Transport Corporation, Gautam Buddha Nagar, stated that due to some technical issues, bus services have not been operational. Correspondence is underway with headquarters regarding this matter. Work is underway to resolve these technical issues. Efforts are underway to ensure that passengers begin receiving bus services as soon as possible.

He stated that buses will be operational this week. There are 305 buses in both the Noida and Greater Noida depots. Of these, 188 are in the Noida depot and the remaining in the Greater Noida depot. Both depots provide bus services to several cities including Agra, Mathura, Meerut, Etah, Kasganj, Banday, Lucknow, Bareilly, Saharanpur, Bijnor, Haridwar, Kotdwar, Dehradun to name a few.

There was a plan to run 44 seater mini buses on the rural routes of the district. Later this plan was changed and it was planned to run buses of private operators on contract for the rural routes. Tenders were floated for this, but later this process was cancelled.

Screen Time Invites Diabetes: 40% of OPD Patients Found Diabetic

Staff Reporter
New Delhi

The rise in diabetes cases among people, particularly in Delhi-NCR, is linked to increased screen time, poor lifestyle choices, pollution, and the aftermath of COVID-19.

Experts noted that the average person now spends three to four hours daily on screens, leading to obesity and insulin resistance, thus raising the risk of diabetes. It was highlighted at a press conference held at Yatharth Hospital, Model Town that diabetes is no longer restricted to older adults; it is increasingly affecting younger populations, including women.

Senior specialists including Dr. Rajeev Gupta (Senior Director & HOD, Internal Medicine), Dr. Sanjay Gupta (Senior Director, Internal Medicine), and Dr. Anil Gomber (Senior Consultant, Internal Medicine & Diabetologist) revealed that approximately 90% of diabetes



cases are related to lifestyle habits. Many patients visiting the hospital are aged 40 to 60, but there is also a concerning trend of diabetes among young adults and even children. About 40% of outpatient department (OPD) patients are diabetic, with a small percentage being young adults and children. The rising pollution in the region, along with unhealthy living habits, plays a significant role in this growing health issue.

Research indicates that Type-2 diabetes is becoming common even in those under 25 years, with notable prevalence in adolescent boys and girls. Many individuals who appear lean may still have

high internal fat, making them susceptible to diabetes complications. Regular health check-ups and screenings are imperative as diabetes often develops without noticeable symptoms.

Long-term air pollution exposure is another factor that increases diabetes risk, particularly in areas with high PM2.5 levels like Delhi-NCR. Increased pollution can elevate blood sugar levels, leading to higher diabetes rates.

Furthermore, gestational diabetes poses risks for mothers and their children, potentially leading to future health issues like obesity and Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS).

Delhi Police hosts 'Cyber-Samvad' workshop to combat online crimes targeting children

Staff Reporter
New Delhi

In a joint effort to strengthen digital safety awareness in schools, Delhi Police, in collaboration with the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) and the Directorate of Education, organized a special workshop titled "Cyber-SAMVAD" at the Adarsh Auditorium, Police Headquarters. The event focused on cybercrimes against children and aimed to equip school teachers with knowledge to identify and prevent such offences.

Around 350 computer teachers from various Delhi schools attended the session, which sought to transform educators into cyber safety ambassadors within their institutions. The workshop began with a moment of silence in remembrance of the victims of a recent car blast.

Additional Commissioner of Police and PRO, San-



jay Tyagi, IPS, welcomed the participants and acknowledged the collaboration between Delhi Police and the Directorate of Education in promoting digital safety awareness.

Chief Guest Devesh Chandra Srivastava, IPS, Special CP (Crime & PMMC), emphasized the crucial role of teachers in fostering a secure online

environment for students. He underlined the growing challenges of cyberbullying and exposure to harmful content and urged teachers to remain vigilant about early signs of drug abuse or online exploitation among children. He also encouraged them to report such cases promptly through official helplines.

The workshop featured expert-led technical sessions designed to provide practical tools and insights. In the first session, Rajneesh Gupta discussed emerging patterns in cyber fraud and shared simple yet effective preventive measures under the principle "Stop, Think, Take Action." The second session, conducted by Nishant Kumar, highlighted various government initiatives and safety schemes to help individuals safeguard themselves and their students against digital threats.

Concluding the event, Delhi Police officer Vineet Kumar extended a vote of thanks to all participants and partners. The Cyber-Samvad initiative, officials said, represents a vital collaboration between law enforcement and educational institutions aimed at building a safer and more informed digital ecosystem for children.

Gautam Buddh Nagar Police Launch Real-Time Speed Limit Feature on Google Maps

Amar Saini
Noida

In a landmark move to make roads safer, the Gautam Buddh Nagar Police has partnered with Google India to launch a first-of-its-kind initiative that will display real-time speed limits on Google Maps. The project, introduced under the "Vision Safe Road" mission, is the brainchild of Police Commissioner Laxmi Singh and aims to curb road accidents caused by overspeeding.

The initiative makes Gautam Buddh Nagar the first district in the country where Google Maps will show speed limits based on the type of road and vehicle category. Drivers navigating city routes will now be able to see both their current



speed and the maximum permissible limit on their screens, allowing them to adjust their driving in real time. The feature will also alert motorists before they cross the limit, serving as a proactive warning system to prevent violations.

Launching the project, Commissioner Laxmi Singh said that overspeeding re-

mains one of the most significant causes of road accidents, and the initiative will play a vital role in raising public awareness while promoting responsible driving behavior. "Technology can be a powerful tool in saving lives, and this partnership with Google brings us closer to achieving safer roads for everyone," she

added. Director General of Police Rajeev Krishna lauded the Gautam Buddh Nagar Police for adopting innovative methods to improve public safety. He called the collaboration with Google India a "progressive and practical approach" to accident prevention.

The "Vision Safe Road: An Extra Mile for Accident Mitigation" program integrates road safety data with technology to provide live speed limit updates for heavy, medium, light, and two-wheeler vehicles across key city corridors. Officials believe the feature will help reduce speeding incidents, improve compliance with traffic norms, and set a new benchmark for smart policing across India.

after the Mumbai terrorist attacks in 2008 then UPA government's Home Minister Shivraj Patel had resigned, but Amit Shah continues in power non-chalantly even after the Pahalgam massacre of 26 innocent lives by Pak terrorists. This was a massive intelligence failure for which Amit Shah should have been made accountable.

added. Director General of Police Rajeev Krishna lauded the Gautam Buddh Nagar Police for adopting innovative methods to improve public safety. He called the collaboration with Google India a "progressive and practical approach" to accident prevention.

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Road push gains pace in Rajnagar Extension as GDA VC reviews projects

Shiv Kumar
Ghaziabad

The Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA) has stepped up efforts to complete long-pending infrastructure projects in Rajnagar Extension, with Vice-Chairman Nand Kishore Kalal personally inspecting ongoing road construction works on Tuesday.

During the visit, Mr. Kalal assessed the progress of several key road projects, including the vital stretch connecting Agarwal Heights to Bhatta No. 5. He examined the challenges faced in completing 18-meter and 24-meter wide roads and instructed officials to prioritize quality, transparency, and timely completion of all development works.

Emphasizing the need for maintaining construction standards, the Vice-Chairman also suggested corrective measures to improve work execution on the ground. He further directed that regular water sprinkling be carried out on unpaved roads to control dust and minimize pollution, ensuring relief for local residents affected by ongoing construction activity.

Officials informed Mr. Kalal that several projects, delayed for years, have now



Emphasizing the need for maintaining construction standards, the Vice-Chairman also suggested corrective measures to improve work execution on the ground.

regained momentum. The stalled Agarwal Heights-Bhatta No. 5 road project has resumed and is advancing at a fast pace. Following the Vice-Chairman's directives, the construction division has accelerated work related to land clearance, demarcation, and removal of encroachments along the proposed road alignment.

Teams from the Civil Engineering and Land Acquisition sections have com-

pleted site demarcation and initiated measures to clear obstacles in the path of development. Local residents have been cautioned against encroaching on government land, with the Authority making it clear that any obstruction to public works will invite strict action. Once completed, the new roads are expected to greatly enhance connectivity within Rajnagar Extension, reduce traffic congestion, and provide tangible benefits to residents through smoother movement and improved civic infrastructure.

The inspection, according to officials, reflects the GDA's renewed focus on delivering long-delayed projects with accountability and efficiency, bringing long-awaited relief to thousands of commuters and homeowners in the rapidly expanding township.

Amit Shah should resign owning responsibility for Red Fort blast: Delhi Cong

Staff Reporter
New Delhi

Delhi Congress president Devender Yadav here on Wednesday said that Home Minister Amit Shah should forthwith tender his resignation as he has lost the moral and ethical rights to remain in power after the deadly bomb blast near the Red Fort metro station.

The security agencies

which are under the direct control of the Home Minister, failed to spot the terrorist who roamed around the heart of the capital including Connaught Place before heading towards the Red Fort metro station to create mayhem and bloodshed, he added.

He said that Shah should have quit after 26 innocent tourists were killed in the Pahalgam terrorist at-

tack, Pulwama attack and several other security breaches in Jammu and Kashmir over the past few years, but he has clung to his post like a limpet.

He said that the Rs 10 lakh compensation announced by CM Rekha Gupta for each of the family of the dead and Rs 5 lakh each for the permanently disabled and Rs 2 lakh each for the seriously

injured were peanuts, which will not in any manner compensate for the massive losses suffered by several families.

He said that Delhi Congress had demanded a compensation of Rs 50 lakh each for the families of the deceased even though any amount of money would not heal the pain of the families of the bomb blast victims. He said that

Punjab 2 gangsters held after gunfight in Mohali

Chandigarh
Police arrested two criminals linked to foreign-based gangster Goldy Dhillon of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang after a gun battle on Ghaghar bridge on the Ambala-Dera Bassi highway, a top officer said on Wednesday.

The arrests were made by the Punjab Police's Anti-Gangster Task Force (AGTF) in a joint operation with the SAS Nagar Police.

Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said the two were identified as Sharanjit Singh, a resident of Motemajra in Mohali, who is presently living in Tangori village, and Aman Kumar, a native of Khijargarh in Zirakpur, Mohali.

Two .32 bore pistols and 10 live cartridges were recovered from their possession, he said. The officer said Sharanjeet and Aman were allegedly involved in a shooting in Rajpura last month. They were allegedly tasked by Goldy Dhillon to target a businessman in Punjab, he said.

Additional Director General of Police, AGTF, Promod Ban said Dhillon was also the mastermind behind the broad daylight killing of an Indian-origin industrialist of British Columbia in Abbotsford in October.

Deputy Inspector General, AGTF, Gurmeet Singh Chauhan, said both gangsters have a criminal history, with Aman booked in two FIRs under the Arms Act.

Senior Superintendent of Police Harmandeep Hans said the police were tipped off about the movement of the two

Crime Branch team reach Dr Muzammil's residence for probe

Faridabad
A team of Haryana Police Crime Branch on Wednesday reached the residence of Dr Muzammil, to probe the case in which he was arrested in connection with the 360 kg of possible ammonium nitrate, an assault rifle and other ammunition recovered in Faridabad on November 10.

Earlier, a team of Haryana Police also visited the Al-Falah University in Faridabad, where Dr Muzammil used to teach.

Meanwhile, the Al-Falah University on Wednesday denied connection with Dr Muzammil Ahmad Ganai and Dr Adeel Rather, who were arrested in connection with the 360 kgs of explosives recovered in Faridabad.

Issuing a statement, University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Bhupinder Kaur Anand, said that the University has no connection with the accused apart from them working in their official capacities, and no questionable chemical or material is being used or stored within the University premises.

Saini felicitates World Cup Star Shafali Verma with Rs 1.50 Crore Award

Shiv Kumar
New Delhi

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini on Wednesday honoured cricketer Shafali Verma, a member of the 2025 World Cup-winning Indian Women's Cricket Team, with a cheque of Rs 1.50 crore and a Grade-A gradation certificate for her stellar performance. The Haryana State Commission for Women also appointed her as its Brand Ambassador in recognition of her contribution to sports.

The Chief Minister presented the award to Shafali at his residence, Sant Kabir Kutir, in Chandigarh. The ceremony was attended by Urban Local Bodies Minister Vipul Goel, Shafali's family members, including her grandfather, father, and brother, along with senior state officials. The Chief Minister felicitated the young cricketer with a memento and a shawl.

Congratulating her and her family, Saini said Haryana continues



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini presenting a dummy cheque of the prize money to Shafali Verma, a player from the World Cup-winning Indian women's cricket team, at his residence in Chandigarh on November 12, 2025. BJP State President, Sh. Mohan Lal Kaushik is also seen in the picture.

to be a powerhouse of sports, with its daughters consistently bringing pride to the nation on international platforms. He lauded Shafali's key role in India's World Cup triumph, calling her a shining example of determination and talent.

Describing her as an inspiration for the youth, Saini said the state government is committed

to supporting sports-persons through various initiatives. He noted that around 2,000 sports nurseries have been established across Haryana to nurture talent from the grassroots level. He also spoke about ongoing campaigns, including marathons and cyclothons, aimed at keeping youth away from drugs and encouraging healthy lifestyles.

During the event, the Chief Minister interacted with Shafali about her recent meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Expressing her gratitude to the state government, Shafali said winning the World Cup was a dream come true. "This victory is not just ours; it belongs to every woman cricketer," she said. She praised the

The Chief Minister presented the award to Shafali at his residence, Sant Kabir Kutir, in Chandigarh. The ceremony was attended by Urban Local Bodies Minister Vipul Goel, Shafali's family members, including her grandfather, father, and brother, along with senior state officials.

sporting culture of Haryana, adding that the state's soil naturally produces champions.

Meeting the Chief Minister, she said, had boosted her confidence even further. She encouraged young people to work hard, believe in themselves, and make their parents proud.

Also present at the event were Principal Secretary, Sports Department, Navdeep Singh Virk; Director General Sanjeev Verma; and other senior officials.

High Court rejects PIL for CBI probe in IPS officer case

Chandigarh

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has dismissed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) seeking a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the alleged suicide of IPS officer Y. Purnan Kumar, terming the plea as lacking merit and not in line with the 2010 PIL Rules.

The matter came up for hearing on Wednesday, at which the Chandigarh Police informed the court that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) had already been constituted on October 10 to investigate the case.

Senior Advocate Amit Jhanji, representing the UT Chandigarh Administration, told the bench that the petitioner, a Ludhiana resident, had filed the plea after reading about the officer's death in newspapers, calling it "a publicity stunt." He added that an FIR in the matter had already been registered on October 9.

The matter came up for hearing on Wednesday, at which the Chandigarh Police informed the court that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) had already been constituted on October 10 to investigate the case.

The petitioner's counsel, Advocate Vinit, argued that even after a month, there was no clarity on the progress of the SIT's investigation. He further claimed that despite 13-14 officers being named in the FIR, no action had been initiated against them.

Responding to this, Senior Advocate Jhanji informed the court that the SIT had already examined 22 witnesses, all of whose statements were videographed, and that CCTV footage and relevant evidence were in police custody.

Satluj's sharpshooter pushkar strikes gold again

Komal Ramola
Panchkula

Pushkar, a Class 10 (Frost) student of Satluj Public School, has brought laurels to the institution with a series of outstanding performances in shooting championships across Haryana and North India. Known for his discipline, focus and determination, Pushkar has proved that consistent effort and dedication can turn any goal into reality.

In 2025, Pushkar displayed exceptional form, winning multiple gold, silver and bronze medals in prestigious tournaments. He clinched top honours at the Haryana State Shooting Championship, the Haryana Inter-School Championship and the CBSE National Shooting Championship. He also secured a bronze medal at the



CBSE North Zone event, stood first at the Haryana Khel Mahakumbh district level and qualified for the state-level competition. Adding to his achievements, he finished as runner-up and gold medallist at the 27th Punjab & Haryana

Salvo Cup. With his unwavering focus and confidence on every shot, Pushkar has not only proven his marksmanship but also emerged as a symbol of perseverance for his peers. His journey reflects the spirit of excel-

lence that defines Satluj Public School.

Congratulating the young champion, Mr. Rikrit Sirai, Managing Director of Satluj Group of Schools, said, "Pushkar's golden achievements prove that discipline, ambition and determination are the hallmarks of every Suttlejian. His success reminds us that real victory comes only to those who have the courage to move beyond the ordinary."

Pushkar's remarkable success has filled the entire Satluj family—teachers, parents and students alike—with immense pride. Once again, Satluj Public School has demonstrated that its students go far beyond academics, bringing honour to the school and the nation through their excellence in every field.

Punjab govt sends first Pilgrimage convoy to Golden Temple

Dhuri (Sangrur)

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Monday flagged off the first batch of buses carrying devotees to Amritsar under the Chief Minister's Pilgrimage Scheme, aimed at enabling elderly citizens to visit revered religious sites.

Addressing the devotees before departure, the Chief Minister said the journey has been dedicated to the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, the ninth Sikh Guru. He noted that the scheme, which began on October 29 from village Bardhwal, has seen devotees selected transparently through a draw. Mann described the initiative as a humble step by his government to promote social and religious harmony across Punjab by helping citizens fulfill their spiritual aspirations.

He said the program holds special significance for elderly residents who had long desired to visit holy places but were unable to do so



due to financial or physical constraints. Under the scheme, devotees will visit sacred and historic sites in Amritsar including Sri Harmandir Sahib, Durgiana Temple, Bhagwan Valmiki pilgrimage site, Jallianwala Bagh, and the Partition Museum. The Chief Minister emphasized that the initiative is inclusive, open to people from all castes, religions, income groups, and regions.

Highlighting the arrangements, Mann said the state government has ensured free facilities for all participants, includ-

ing AC buses, accommodation in air-conditioned hotels, and meals during the three-day, two-night pilgrimage. Only devotees aged 50 and above are eligible, and voter ID cards are required for registration. Each bus will be accompanied by an assistant to guide passengers and a medical team to provide immediate care in case of emergencies. At the conclusion of the journey, prasad will be distributed to all devotees.

Calling Punjab the sacred land of Gurus, saints, and martyrs who taught the values of

brotherhood and unity, the Chief Minister said he feels blessed to be able to serve people through such a noble cause. He added that the scheme aligns with the teachings of the Sikh Gurus, who preached harmony, compassion, and peace.

Mann said many people had been unable to visit holy places across the country, and the state government now plans to expand the scheme to cover various religious destinations both within Punjab and beyond. He urged devotees to take part in the religious gatherings and commemorative events being organized across districts and at Sri Anandpur Sahib to mark the martyrdom anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji.

He added that a detailed schedule of successive gatherings and programs has been drawn up to celebrate the historic occasion, reaffirming the government's commitment to upholding Punjab's spiritual and cultural legacy.

Haryana on high alert after Delhi car blast, says DGP OP Singh

Panchkula

Haryana Director General of Police (DGP) O.P. Singh on Wednesday described the car blast in Delhi as "extremely unfortunate" and said the state is operating on a high-alert protocol with thousands of police personnel deployed across Haryana.

Speaking from Panchkula, DGP Singh stated that the response involves exhaustive checks of suspected hideouts, parking areas, unclaimed vehicles and luggage, as well as other standard security protocols to prevent any further incidents. "You might think it's easy to say, 'Go to the ground.' High alert means thousands of hours, thousands of personnel, and we're fully engaged, along with other agencies," he said.

DGP Singh reaffirmed the Haryana Police's commitment to remain vigilant and work closely with central and local agencies. He reiterated that all

Haryana DGP writes to Centre state govt urging prompt rectification of accident-prone spots

Chandigarh

In a step towards improving road safety in Haryana, Director General of Police O P Singh has written a letter to both the central and state governments, urging prompt rectification of the identified accident-prone locations across the state, according to a statement here on Wednesday.

The Director General of Police (DGP) has addressed this letter to V Umashankar, Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), and Anurag Aggarwal, Additional Chief Secretary, Public Works (Buildings and Roads) Department, Haryana government.

In the letter, Singh mentioned that a joint analysis conducted by the Haryana Police and the transport department revealed several 'black spots' across the state where five or more road accidents have occurred within a short span of time.

Between 2019-20 and 2023-24, 474 black spots were identified, out of which 223 sites have been rectified, while 251 locations remain pend-



ing for improvement. He further noted that delays in engineering interventions such as road repairs, installation of signage, construction of service roads, traffic-calming measures, and improved lighting arrangements continue to cause frequent accidents and unnecessary loss of lives.

The DGP, according to the statement, has requested that the ministry and the PWD department issue necessary directions to their Project Implementing Units and the National Highways Authority of India to ensure the timely and quality rectification of all pending black spots.

Red Fort blast Red car suspected to be linked to accused seized in Faridabad

Chandigarh

A red Ford EcoSport car suspected to be linked to the Delhi Red Fort blast case has been traced and seized in Faridabad district's Khandawali, police said.

When asked if the EcoSport car has been traced, a Faridabad police spokesperson confirmed over the phone, saying, "Yes, it has been found in Khandawali village".

Earlier, the Delhi Police sounded an alert across all police stations, posts, and border checkpoints in the national capital to trace the red Ford EcoSport car.

The alert was issued after the investigation revealed that other suspects, already connected to the Hyundai i20 used in the explosion, were also in possession of another red-coloured car.

At least five teams of Delhi Police were deployed to locate the vehicle, while neighbouring Uttar Pradesh and Haryana Police had also been alerted to maintain heightened vigilance and assist in the search.

Sources said the red Ford EcoSport is registered in the name of Dr Umar Un Nabi, who was allegedly driving the car before the blast occurred.

The car's registration details were circulated to all border units, and the information has also been shared with the UP and Haryana Police to intensify the search.

The vehicle was suspected to have been used by Umar for reconnaissance activities. Meanwhile, the search and combing operation by the Faridabad police continued on Wednesday.

The police teams led by ACP crime Varun Dahiya visited the Al-Falah University and the residence of Dr Muzammil Ganaie, one of the prime suspects arrested in connection with the white-collar terror module busted recently, in the university premises, police said.

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Job crisis: India's IT sector faces a wave of layoffs

The growing influence of artificial intelligence is bringing profound structural changes to India's information technology industry, but is the country's workforce prepared?

India's information technology (IT) sector has long been a key pillar of the country's economic growth. It is not only the largest source of service exports but also provides high-paying employment to millions of educated youth. However, in recent years, it has been experiencing a profound upheaval. Tata Consultancy Services' (TCS) planned cut of approximately 20,000 jobs in 2024-25 has shaken the entire industry. This is not just a single company's administrative decision, but a sign of a broader structural transformation underway in the Indian IT sector.

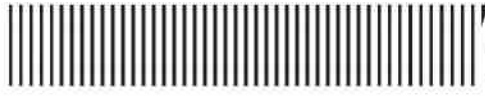
This change is being driven by the rapid expansion of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning, and automated systems. Tasks that once required hundreds of employees are now being accomplished in minutes by automated technology. Tasks like software development, testing, and customer service are now being performed more efficiently by "agentive AI" systems. This has increased company productivity but reduced the need for human labor—and this is the primary reason for these silent layoffs.

Companies like TCS, Infosys, Wipro, and Cognizant are now moving away from the old "outsourcing" model and toward a "value-based digital services" model. This shift is directly impacting middle-level employees, whose skills are limited to traditional technologies. They are unable to adapt to new AI-based systems. This skill mismatch is the root cause of this crisis.

AI-based tools have rendered middle management and support roles in the software industry virtually irrelevant. Where large teams were once required for "ERP management" or "system maintenance," these tasks are now handled by a few programs and cloud automation systems. For companies, this is a cost-cutting tool, but for millions of employees, it has become a source of insecurity.

This trend isn't limited to India. Technology industries in the US and Europe are also undergoing significant changes due to budget cuts and trade protectionism. Foreign clients now seek technology-based solutions rather than human labor-intensive services. Furthermore, H-1B visa fee hikes and local hiring policies in the US have made it difficult for Indian companies to hire employees abroad. All of this is forcing companies to reduce their domestic workforce as well.

India's top five IT companies are projecting approximately 50,000 job losses between 2023 and 2025. Companies attribute this to "improved work efficiency," but the reality is that human resources are being reduced. This is not only an economic challenge but also a social concern, as the IT sector employs the country's most educated and organized segment.



By Priyanka Saurabh



Research Scholar in Political Science, Poet, freelance journalist and columnist



Still, this change can't be entirely negative. Every technological revolution brings with it opportunities. Artificial intelligence has opened up new fields—such as data science, cloud engineering, cybersecurity, and AI model building. The question isn't that jobs are disappearing, but that old skills are becoming irrelevant and new skills are becoming increasingly in demand.

Now there is a need for the government, industry and education sector to make coordinated efforts together.

First, a nationwide "digital retraining campaign" must be launched. TCS itself has provided basic AI training to 550,000 employees and enrolled 100,000

in advanced training. If this model is replicated in other companies and government schemes, a large number of professionals could be reskilled.

Secondly, technical education institutions must fundamentally change their curriculum. No longer just programming or networking, but topics like AI ethics, product thinking, data analytics, and creative problem-solving must be part of education. By incorporating these subjects under the New Education Policy (NEP), youth can be prepared for the technologies of the future.

Third, social security structures must be strengthened. Employees facing layoffs should be provided with severance packages, retraining subsidies, and

mental health support. Most private sector employees in India are outside any formal protection system. Therefore, the government should launch initiatives such as the "Digital Employment Security Fund" or the "Techno-Employee Insurance Scheme."

Fourth, large-scale skill training centers should be established through a public-private partnership (PPP) model. Ed-tech companies, NASSCOM, and state governments should jointly launch regional training missions to teach new skills to unemployed technical professionals.

Fifth, innovation and the start-up culture must be further encouraged. Promoting AI-based product development and deep-tech entrepreneurship can create new jobs. The government should better coordinate the "Start-up India" and "Digital India" initiatives. If India can transform its youth into "job creators" rather than "job seekers," this crisis can be turned into an opportunity.

Additionally, companies must inject sensitivity into their human resources policies. Practices like "silent layoffs" or "forced terminations" undermine employee morale. Technological advancement is meaningful only when it maintains a balance with human values.

India currently has a unique opportunity. We have the world's largest young technical workforce. If this workforce is trained with the right direction and skills, India will not only remain a hub for IT services but can also play a leading role in the global era of artificial intelligence. To this end, a long-term "National Digital Skills Mission 2030" should be outlined.

Events like the TCS layoffs remind us that sustainability in the technological age is only possible through continuous learning and adaptation. In the coming decade, only those companies that value human skills—such as judgment, creativity, and ethical thinking—in addition to technical proficiency will succeed.

India's IT sector has built its global reputation on quality, innovation, and trust. This trust can only be maintained if the industry views its employees as partners, not just "resources." It's time for the government to formulate a "Technology Employment Policy" that balances both innovation and security.

Technological revolutions always present societies with two choices—either to evolve with them or be crushed under them. It's time for India to adapt to this change. If the country can handle this challenge with vision and policy coordination, this period of retrenchment can become a new opportunity for the future.

The Growing Web of Misleading Drug Promotions: An Analysis

In the evolving world of pharmaceuticals, a complex and pervasive network of drug promotions has emerged—one that increasingly blurs the line between informative marketing and outright deception. What begins as a well-intentioned effort to raise awareness of a new therapy can slip, often subtly, into territory where patients, physicians and the health-care system itself are placed at risk. In its most troubling forms, this "growing web" of misleading drug advertisements has become a significant threat to public health, to the trust between patient and physician, and to the very economics of healthcare.

The digital age has altered the terrain in which these promotions operate. No longer confined to print ads in medical journals, or to television commercials, many drug-promotions now inhabit social media, influencer posts, tele-medicine platforms, online clinics, and a host of new digital formats. Traditional regulatory systems, designed with broadcast or print media in mind, are being challenged to keep pace. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA)'s Office of Prescription Drug Promotion (OPDP) is tasked with ensuring that prescription-drug promotion is "truthful, balanced and accurately communicated."

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Yet the sheer volume and pace of digital content means that misleading messages often reach consumers long before regulators can respond. In September 2025, the FDA announced sweeping reforms and many enforcement letters after acknowledging that its prior moderation had been too lax.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

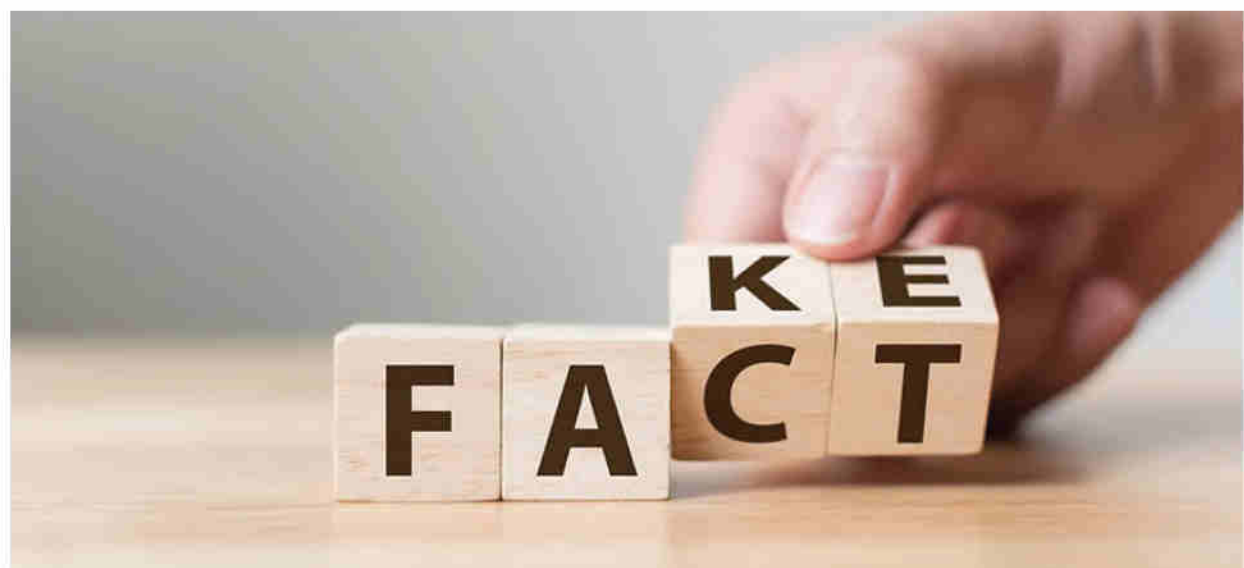
Because of these shifts, the boundary between "information" and "advertising" is increasingly blurred. Social-media posts by influencers may look like personal endorsements, but in some cases are paid promotions of prescription medications—yet without proper disclosures or full risk-information. At the same time, digital platforms allow content to spread globally, with minimal geo-regulation. New actors also have entered the field: tele-medicine platforms and startup clinics increasingly market prescription drugs (such as stimulants or obesity-therapies) directly to consumers online, sometimes with little regulatory oversight or verification of claims. These developments raise urgent questions about how patients perceive drug benefits and risks, how physicians respond to patient demands influenced by such marketing, and how healthcare costs are driven upward by inappropriate medication use.



By Dr. Satyavan Saurabh



Poet, freelance journalist and columnist, All India Radio and TV panelist



Several recurring tactics underlie misleading drug promotions, tactics that undermine informed decision-making. One of the most common is the omission or downplaying of risk. In many advertisements a "fair balance" between stated benefit and potential harm is absent; side-effect profiles, contraindications, or long-term safety issues may be buried in fine print, linked only by a website, or simply omitted altogether. Another frequent approach is overstating efficacy or benefits: some ads promote drugs as "miracle cures," or imply use in conditions that are not approved by regulatory authorities ("off-label" promotion). Firms may cherry-pick favourable trial results, or present study data in a misleading way, giving the impression of stronger evidence than actually exists. Finally, some marketing targets vulnerable populations—those with serious illnesses such as cancer, or conditions with limited therapeutic options—where the promise of benefit may be disproportionately emphasised and risks downplayed.

The consequences of this web of drug promotions are far-reaching and serious. From a patient-health

perspective, misleading promotion can encourage self-medication or lead to pressure on the physician to prescribe expensive, brand-name drugs that may be inappropriate for the individual's condition. When patients believe that the "next miracle drug" is being advertised to solve their condition, they may bypass non-pharmacological options, or forego asking critical questions about alternative therapies, cost-effective generics, or long-term safety. From a systemic perspective, these practices erode trust between patients and physicians: when a doctor advises against a drug that a patient has seen heavily advertised, the conversation may become contentious, scepticism may rise, and adherence may suffer. Finally, the economic impact is significant. Aggressive marketing creates demand for newer, more expensive drugs, sometimes with marginal incremental benefit, thereby contributing to rising healthcare costs for patients, payers, and society at large.

To address this multifaceted challenge, a comprehensive strategy is needed—one that brings together regulators, healthcare professionals, and consumers.

First, stronger regulation and enforcement are essential. The FDA's recent announcement indicates a renewed commitment: closing regulatory loopholes (such as the "adequate provision" rule that permitted broadcast ads to omit full risk-information provided a website or phone number was included), ramping up surveillance of digital platforms, and utilising artificial-intelligence tools to monitor ad content.

Regulatory authorities must act more swiftly and proactively, ensuring misleading ads are pulled down before extensive harm occurs.

Second, professionals in healthcare—physicians, nurses, pharmacists—must become more aware of how marketing influences patient demand and how to critically assess promotional content. Programs such as the OPDP's "Bad Ad" initiative encourage healthcare professionals to report suspected false or misleading prescription-drug promotions.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

When doctors and pharmacists can identify marketing distortions and engage patients in honest conversations about drug benefits and risks, the imbalance created by promotional hype can be mitigated.

Third, improving consumer health literacy is crucial. Patients should be equipped to question online drug promotions, aware that not all information is balanced, and encouraged to ask their physicians about cost-effective alternatives, generic options, and non-drug approaches. Public awareness campaigns can highlight how to evaluate online health claims, what proper risk-benefit information should look like, and how to recognise paid endorsements or influencer posts.

In sum, the growth of deceptive or misleading drug promotions in the digital age represents a critical public-health challenge. The ability of pharmaceutical marketers to reach consumers directly, at scale and speed, means that mis- or dis-information can spread far more rapidly than corrective action can respond. For organizations, physicians and patients alike, staying alert to this evolving environment is key. It is only by ensuring that medical decisions are grounded in accurate, balanced, scientifically-sound information—not hype, not half-truths, not polished marketing—that we protect the integrity of treatment, the trust in our healthcare systems, and the safety and wellbeing of patients.

Supreme Court asks AG, bar body for preventive measures

■ The bench was hearing a plea of the SCBA seeking contempt action against advocate Kishore, who attempted to hurl the shoe towards the CJI on October 6 during court proceedings.

New Delhi

The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked the attorney general (AG) and the apex court's Bar body to give suggestions to prevent recurrence of incidents like attempted shoe hurling at Chief Justice of India B R Gavai in court premises.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joyymalya Bagchi, which had shown its reluctance in initiating criminal contempt proceedings against 71-year-old lawyer Rakesh Kishore who attempted to throw a shoe at the CJI, said the court will look into whatever needs to be done.

Justice Kant told counsels appearing for the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) to give their suggestions as the court would look to formulate pan-India preventive guidelines.



"Just think of giving three-four suggestions on how to prevent such incidents in places like court premises and bar rooms, etc. All of you please give suggestions.

"Whatever requires to be done, we will see on the next date. We will request the attorney general also to give his suggestions in this regard," Justice Kant said, while adjourning the matter.

The bench was hearing a plea of the SCBA seeking

contempt action against advocate Kishore, who attempted to hurl the shoe towards the CJI on October 6 during court proceedings. On October 27, the apex court refused to initiate contempt action against a lawyer and said it will consider laying down guidelines to prevent such incidents.

Noting that the CJI himself had refused to proceed against Kishore, the top court had said shouting slo-

gans in court and hurling shoes are clear cases of contempt of court but it all depends on the judge concerned under the law whether to proceed or not.

It had said that issuing a contempt notice would only give undue importance to the lawyer who had hurled the shoe towards the CJI and would increase the shelf life of the incident, underscoring that the incident should be allowed to die its own natural death.

Observing that though the conduct of Kishore "amounted to serious and grave criminal contempt which cannot be pardoned", the top court had wondered whether it should exercise its jurisdiction when the CJI has already shown leniency in pursuing the matter.

On October 16, the top court said the right to free speech and expression can-

not be exercised at the cost of others' dignity and integrity as it cautioned about the dangers of "unregulated" social media, observing that incidents like the recent incident in the top court are nothing but "money-spinning ventures".

Kishore's act prompted the Bar Council of India (BCI) to suspend his licence with immediate effect.

The CJI, who remained unfazed during and after the unprecedented incident during the court proceedings, asked the court officials and the security personnel present inside the courtroom to "just ignore" it and to let off the errant lawyer with a warning.

The incident had sparked widespread condemnation. Prime Minister Narendra Modi while condemning the incident also spoke to the CJI.

Navy Chief Admiral Tripathi begins 6-day trip to US

New Delhi

Navy Chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi on Wednesday embarked on a six-day visit to the US to boost bilateral naval ties with a larger aim to ensure a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific.

The Navy Chief's visit to the US comes amid continuing strain in ties between New Delhi and Washington after US President Donald Trump slapped a 50 per cent tariff on Indian goods in August.

The Indian Navy said Admiral Tripathi will hold talks with senior officials at the US Department of War and will meet Commander of the US Indo-Pacific Command Admiral Samuel J Paparo and Commander of US Pacific Fleet Admiral Stephen T Koehler.

"These interactions will provide an opportunity to review ongoing maritime cooperation, enhance operational-level linkages, and strengthen mechanisms for information sharing and maritime domain awareness between the two navies," it said.

The Navy said Admiral Tripathi's visit aims to further strengthen the robust and enduring maritime partnership between the Indian Navy and the US Navy.

"The visit by the Chief of Naval Staff underscores the Indian Navy's commitment to deepening cooperation with the US Navy towards realising the vision of a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based Indo-Pacific," it said in a statement.

India and the US share a long-standing maritime partnership rooted in mutual trust, and shared values, it said.

Admiral Tripathi, during his November 12-17 trip, will also visit prominent American naval institutions and operational commands of the US Navy.

"Discussions are expected to focus on shared maritime priorities in the Indo-Pacific, collaboration within multilateral frameworks such as Milan, and the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) initiatives," the Navy said.

Milan is a biennial mul-

tilateral naval exercise hosted by the Indian Navy.

The next edition of Milan will be held in February and over 50 navies are expected to participate in it.

The CMF is a multinational naval partnership of over 40 nations that promotes maritime security.

The Navy chief's visit to the US comes at a time when navies of India, the US, Australia and Japan are carrying out the annual Malabar exercise in the Northern Pacific.

The annual wargame includes both sea and harbor phases with a focus on expanding cooperation in the Indo-Pacific that has been witnessing growing military muscle flexing by China.

The Malabar exercise began in 1992 as a bilateral naval drill between the US and Indian Navy.

Over the years, it has evolved into a key four-nation exercise aimed at enhancing interoperability, fostering mutual understanding, and addressing shared maritime challenges.

BJP hits out at Congress over Red Fort blast links

New Delhi

The BJP on Wednesday accused the Congress of extending "soft support" to those involved in the Red Fort blast after Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah sought to know the "reason" behind terrorist attacks in the country "during elections".

BJP Karnataka unit president B Y Vijayendra termed the remarks of Siddaramaiah and other Congress leaders on the incident "irresponsible, insensitive and low-level politics".

This came after Siddaramaiah in a post on X asked, "What is the reason for terrorist attacks in the country during elections?"

Hitting back, BJP national spokesperson Pradeep Bhandari accused the Congress of playing vote bank politics.

"Congress is back to giving soft support to Red Fort Blast accused for vote bank politics," Bhandari charged in a post on X.

"Rahul Gandhi's Congress always compromises with national interest," he added.

Congress general secretary K C Venugopal said Union Home Minister Amit Shah should take moral responsibility for the blast near the Red Fort in New Delhi.

While talking to reporters in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday, he accused Shah of a "serious security failure".

"When the Mumbai blast happened, when the UP was in power, the then Home Minister resigned, taking moral responsibility for security. The opposition demanded his resignation, owing to moral responsibility for the security failure," Venugopal said.

Speaking to reporters in Bengaluru, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge termed the blast a "failure of the government" and demanded that the perpetrators of the terrorist act be given exemplary punishment so that it acts as a deterrent. "The culprits must be punished severely so that others should be afraid of doing it," he said, adding that his party would raise the issue in Parliament during the Winter session next month.

Bihar polls: EVMs kept under tight security ahead of counting

Patna

The electronic voting machines (EVMs), in which the electoral fate of the Bihar assembly election candidates have been sealed, were kept under tight security in strong rooms, the ECI said on Wednesday.

Votes will be counted on Friday in 46 centres across the 38 districts of Bihar.

The EVMs and VVPATs used in the polling have been sealed inside strong rooms, which are under a two-tier security cover, the ECI said in a statement.

"While the inner security of the premises has been assigned to Central Armed Paramilitary Forces (CAPF), district police have been deployed to maintain outer security. Furthermore, 24x7



CCTV surveillance and other security provisions have been put in place," it said.

A control room has also been set up within every strong room campus, where senior officials will be on duty.

All district election officers and returning officers of the assembly constituencies concerned have been directed to inspect the strong rooms daily, the statement

said. EVMs and VVPATs that were found defective during the mock poll, as well as other unused machines, have been stored separately, it said.

The two-phase polling for the assembly elections was held on November 6 and 11. Bihar has registered an unprecedented voter turnout of 66.91 per cent in the history of state polls since 1951.

Acharya Pawan Tripathi elevated as Mumbai BJP General Secretary amid key party revamp

Staff Reporter
New Delhi/Mumbai

In a major organizational reshuffle ahead of the crucial Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) elections, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has appointed Acharya Pawan Tripathi, the treasurer of the Siddhivinayak Temple Trust, as the new General Secretary of the Mumbai BJP.

Acharya Tripathi, widely recognized for his Hindu nationalist outlook and grassroots social involvement, is seen as a bridge between the party's core ideological base and the city's large North Indian community. Party insiders view his elevation as a strategic step aimed at consolidating support among North Indian



voters, who hold significant influence in Mumbai's political landscape.

Originally from Gorakhpur district in Uttar Pradesh, Acharya Tripathi has been a long-time resident of Mumbai. Over the years, he has been actively involved in religious, social, and educational initiatives. A scholar of Hindu scriptures, he has

Acharya Tripathi, widely recognized for his Hindu nationalist outlook and grassroots social involvement, is seen as a bridge between the party's core ideological base and the city's large North Indian community.

been associated with the Sanyas Ashram in Mumbai, where he has mentored thousands of students in Sanskrit and traditional philosophy. His dual role as a religious teacher and community leader has earned him respect across diverse sec-

tions of society.

Alongside Tripathi, the BJP has also appointed Rajesh Shirwadkar, Ganesh Khaparkar, and Shweta Parulekar as General Secretaries of the Mumbai unit. The new appointments are part of a larger organizational strategy to strengthen the city unit and prepare for the BMC elections scheduled for January 2026 — a contest the BJP considers crucial to reaffirm its dominance in Mumbai's civic politics.

Party sources indicated that the restructuring reflects the leadership's focus on balancing regional representation and grassroots mobilization as it eyes a strong performance in the upcoming polls.

Bharat Solar Yatra unveils official website for clean energy mission

TSN/New Delhi

As India continues its march toward a sustainable and energy-secure future, the Bharat Solar Yatra—a nationwide awareness movement dedicated to promoting solar energy—achieved a key milestone today with the launch of its official website.

The launch event was attended by Mr. Arun Kumar Tripathi, Former Director General, National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) and Chief Scientist & Advisor, MNRE; Mr. Purushotam Pandey, Founder of Bharat Solar Yatra; Mr. Charanjeet Singh, Founder & CEO, InterTech Earthing Solutions; and Naresh Piplani, CEO Perfect Impact Designing & Pvt Ltd.

Flagged off on August 15, 2025, from Ayodhya on India's 79th Independence Day, now the second leg of Yatra will commence on November 16, 2025 and will cover Rajasthan, its next major destination. Covering over 25,000 kilometres in 180 days, the Yatra will travel across the nation, engaging citizens, institutions, and local administrations to accelerate the shift toward solar energy adoption.

The mission highlights key government programs—PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, PM-KUSUM, and PM eDrive Yojana—by simplifying access to subsidies, financing, and installation best prac-



tices. Through live demonstrations, workshops, and digital tools, it aims to make solar adoption practical and achievable for every Indian household.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Purushotam Pandey, Founder of Bharat Solar Yatra, said, "The launch of this website is a crucial step in taking the message of solar power directly to the people. This platform makes solar knowledge accessible to every citizen—helping them understand schemes, installations, and benefits in simple, actionable ways. The Bharat Solar Yatra is not just about awareness; it's about enabling participation in India's green revolution."

Mr. Arun Kumar Tripathi said, "This website will act as a bridge between people and India's solar mission. It stands for transparency, participation, and progress, the core values driving India's clean energy journey." Also present during the

launch, Mr. Charanjeet Singh, Founder & CEO, InterTech Earthing Solutions, played a key role in bringing the website initiative to life. His organization's decades-long expertise in electrical safety, grounding, and sustainable energy systems aligns closely with the Yatra's mission of promoting clean, safe, and reliable solar adoption across Bharat.

"Safety and sustainability go hand in hand," said Mr. Charanjeet Singh. "Supporting the Bharat Solar Yatra reflects our belief that clean energy must be built on a foundation of safety, trust, and innovation. Together, we aim to build a safer, greener Bharat for generations to come."

The newly launched website, www.solarawareness.in, will serve as the mission's digital hub—offering citizens access to live Yatra tracking, solar installation guidance, scheme details, educational mate-

rials, and expert insights. It also features inspiring stories and interactive tools, fostering community engagement and collective participation in India's clean energy movement. Embodying the spirit of "Solar Awareness – Lighting the Path to a Sustainable Future," the platform aims to educate and empower citizens to make informed energy choices—reducing dependence on fossil fuels, lowering electricity costs, and contributing to a greener, self-reliant Bharat.

The Bharat Solar Yatra stands as a collective effort uniting policy, technology, and people. With leadership from Mr. Purushotam Pandey, guidance from Mr. Arun Kumar Tripathi, and safety expertise from InterTech, the mission embodies India's commitment to becoming a global leader in sustainable, secure, and citizen-driven energy transformation.

SC directs HCs to launch verdict dashboards

New Delhi

To enhance transparency and accountability, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed all the high courts in the country to create a dashboard on their websites giving details of judgements reserved after January 31, verdicts pronounced, and the date of uploading on their platforms.

A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joyymalya Bagchi, which has taken a critical view of several high courts, including the Jharkhand High Court, not delivering verdicts in both criminal and civil cases for years together after hearing the final arguments and reserving their decisions, said this data should be in public domain.

"Let everyone know how many judgements were reserved, in how many cases orders were passed and on which date the decision was uploaded on the high court website," Justice Kant said.

Concurring with Justice Kant, Justice Bagchi said, "Creating a dashboard or a separate window on the high court's website will show the accountability of the judiciary towards the people".

The top court was hearing a batch of pleas of which one, filed initially by several death row and life convicts through advocate Fauzia Shakil, complained to the top court that the Jharkhand High Court did not deliver judgements for couple of years on their appeals against conviction and sentence, after hearing



the final arguments and reserving the decisions.

However, immediately after the apex court's nudge, the Jharkhand High Court delivered the verdicts in their matter and most of them were acquitted of their charges.

Similarly, other convicts lodged in different jails of Jharkhand also approached the top court seeking similar directions.

The bench then expanded the scope of the litigation and sought details of such cases from all the high courts, where judgements were not pronounced for months even after reserving the decisions.

On Wednesday, Shakil, appointed amicus curiae in the matter, pointed out that seven high courts have not submitted their details, while the rest have submitted their reports and the data is being compiled.

The bench took serious note of the submissions, and directed the high courts of Allahabad, Punjab and Haryana, Patna, Jammu-Kashmir and Ladakh, Kerala, Telangana, and Gauhati to file their reports within two weeks or their registrar general will be physically present on the next date of hearing.

It also asked the high courts to give their sugges-

tions on improving dissemination of information to the general public, so that pan-India guidelines can be formulated.

It also asked them to highlight their concerns or apprehensions or difficulties, if any, on release of such information on judgements delivered to the general public.

Justice Kant observed that the data to be displayed on the websites will not be person or case specific and would only give the total number of cases in which judgements were reserved from January 31 onwards till October 31, 2025, number of cases in which judgements were delivered during the period, and on which date the verdicts were uploaded on the high court's website.

On September 22, the top court lamented some high court judges being unable to "deliver on their tasks" and called for their "performance evaluation". The top court said though it did not want to act like a "school principal" for the high court judges, but there ought to be a self-management system to ensure "files don't pile up on their desks".

It stressed on "performance evaluation" but underlined the question of parameters and guidelines guiding the process.

Justice Kant had pointed out that some judges have the habit of adjourning cases unnecessarily, and said it could be dangerous for the image of the judges as has been the case with some of them in the past.

STF nabs two with 197 live turtles in Etawah

Etawah (UP):

The Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force (STF) has arrested two members of an inter-state wildlife smuggling gang and recovered 197 live turtles from their possession in Etawah district, officials said on Wednesday.

The arrests were made on Tuesday. Those arrested were identified as Rakesh Kashyap, a resident of Bareilly district, and Mukeshwala, of Udhm Singh Nagar district, Uttarakhnad, the STF statement issued here said.

Acting on specific intelligence inputs regarding the smuggling of internationally banned turtle species, the STF team laid a trap near Nagla Karnai on the Kusmara-Saurikh road under Kishni police station limits in Mainpuri district around 11:30 pm on Tuesday.

During the check, the team intercepted a silver car and recovered 197 live turtles packed in five jute sacks.

Two of the occupants, identified as Ashok and Kalicharan, both residents of Uttarakhnad, managed to escape, officials said.

During interrogation, the arrested accused revealed that they had been collecting turtles from Etawah, Mainpuri, and Firozabad districts at low prices and transporting them to Sitaraganj, Uttarakhnad, to sell them at higher rates.

The seized turtles and the arrested accused have been handed over to the Forest Department, Mainpuri Division, for further legal action under relevant sections of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Indian Forest Act.

Air India Express bomb threat turns out hoax

Varanasi:

A bomb threat to an Air India Express flight from Mumbai to Varanasi that landed at the Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport here on Wednesday has turned out to be a hoax, police said.

According to Gomti Zone police, the Air Traffic Control (ATC) in Kolkata informed the Varanasi ATC around 3:58 pm about a possible bomb threat to flight IX-1023 coming from Mumbai.

Following the alert, security agencies at the Varanasi airport were put on high alert before the flight with 182 passengers on board landed safely at 4:19 pm, officials said.

The CISF and airport security teams conducted an intensive search operation and frisking of passengers after the plane landed as part of standard protocol, they said.

"No suspicious object or activity was found during the inspection," a senior police officer said.

Earlier, an Air India Express spokesperson said in a statement, "One of our flights to Varanasi received a security threat. In line with protocol, the government-appointed Bomb Threat Assessment Committee was immediately alerted, and all necessary security procedures promptly initiated.

"The flight landed safely, and all guests disembarked. The aircraft will be released for operations once all mandated security checks are completed."

Delhi blast proves that educated people can be extremists too: Himanta

Guwahati:

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday said that it has been proved by the Delhi blast that educated people can be extremists too.

Several doctors have been suspected of being involved in the explosion that ripped through a slow-moving car near Delhi's Red Fort area, killing 12 people and injuring several others, on Monday.

"It is no longer true that educated people cannot be extremists. But if they get involved in such activities, they can be more dangerous and if they become doctors, they can be even more dangerous," the chief minister said on the sidelines of a programme here.

Apparently referring to Muslims, Sarma said that it was often discussed in the assembly that people from certain communities did not receive education, and so they were drawn into or



used for such subversive activities.

But it has been now proved wrong that education cannot be a guarantee against such activities, the CM said.

"The Delhi blast has proved that it is not the illiterate but the educated who have carried out jihad, and a section in Assam, instead of con-

demning the incident, have posted emojis or posts welcoming the incident to make the situation worse in the state," he asserted.

This shows that people do not change with education and "those who do not sing Vande Mataram can never be Indians and cannot consider the nation as their moth-

er," Sarma claimed.

Muslims refrain from singing 'Vande Mataram' as it deifies the motherland as a Hindu goddess, which is seen as a violation of the Islamic principle of monotheism.

"If their intent is bad, then even if they are educated, they will make better bombs and try to

"It is no longer true that educated people cannot be extremists. But if they get involved in such activities, they can be more dangerous and if they become doctors, they can be even more dangerous," the chief minister said on the sidelines of a programme here.

divide the nation," Sarma said.

In Assam, the situation is very difficult as the percentage of people from these communities is very high and they enter the state to carry out subversive activities, the CM alleged.

"Assam has to be constantly alert for a long time, and if it (blasts) happen here, it will be big," he added.

The chief minister said that he had issued instructions to the police to arrest those who have welcomed blasts in their social media posts.

Oppn parties to contest Assam Assembly polls unitedly: Gaurav

Guwahati:

Making a pitch for a tough battle ahead against the ruling BJP-led alliance, Assam Congress president Gaurav Gogoi on Wednesday announced that at least eight opposition parties have decided to unitedly contest the state assembly elections due next year.

The elections to the 126-member assembly are likely to take place in March-April of next year.

"We (opposition parties) had a threadbare discussion on various topics. To free the people of Assam from the BJP's torture and CM Himanta Biswa Sarma's injustice, we all are united. We will contest the 2026 assembly elections together. This was the main decision of today's meeting," Gogoi told reporters.

There are other issues, which will be informed to the public gradually in the coming days, he added.

In the meeting convened by Congress, CPI(M), Rajior Dal, Assam Jatiya Parishad (AJP), CPI, CPI(ML), Jatiya Dal-Asom (JDA) and Karbi Anglong-based All Party Hill Leaders Conference (APHLC) joined hands to fight the assembly elections from a com-

mon platform. Commenting on the meeting, Rajior Dal MLA Akhil Gogoi told PTI that going forward, all the opposition parties will have a coordinated approach on all major issues.

"In the coming Winter Session of the Assembly, all the opposition parties will raise their voice unitedly. We will be together on every platform," he added.

It was decided in the meeting all individual parties to finalise their agenda in the coming few days and meet again within this month to start deliberations on the common manifesto of the opposition parties, Gogoi said.

"In this opposition unity, AIUFD will not be a part at all. It is equally a communal party like the BJP. This opposition al-



liance is strictly against any form of communalism," he added.

AJP president Lurinjyoti Gogoi said the meeting was a success and there will be a unified fight against the BJP in the upcoming Assembly elections.

"We will move forward and fight strongly against the BJP. We are looking for the love and blessings of the people of Assam," he said in a post on Facebook.

Presently, the ruling BJP's strength in the 126-member Assam Assembly is 64, while its allies AGP has nine MLAs, UPPL has seven and BPF has three members. In the opposition camp, the Congress' strength is 26, AIUFD has 15 members and CPI(M) has one MLA. There is one Independent legislator also.

Akhilesh slams govt over Delhi blast alleges intelligence failure

Lucknow:

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday questioned the government over the recent blast in Delhi, alleging intelligence failure and demanding accountability from concerned departments.

Speaking to reporters here, Yadav said, "We heard the statement of Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Bhutan, where he assured that action will be taken against the accused. But the question remains, why are intelligence failures happening repeatedly? Who is responsible for such lapses?"

He said that the government should either take strict action against officials responsible for the failures or strengthen the intelligence system to prevent such incidents



in the future.

Commenting on the recent exit polls for the Bihar Assembly elections, Yadav alleged that they were being conducted with the intention of discouraging opposition workers.

"Exit polls are being done to demoralise us as per an agenda. We have urged our workers to stay alert," he said.

As per a press statement, addressing the state executive meeting of the Samajwadi Party at the party headquarters here, Yadav said the party has launched the 'PDA Prahari' initiative to ensure that every eligible voter's name is included in the voter list and that no vote is unfairly deleted.

"The purpose of PDA

Prahari is to make sure that every person's vote is registered. The party has resolved not to be afraid of SIR and to stand firm. The more responsibly our workers act, the more people's names we will be able to include in the list," he said.

Yadav alleged that the BJP government is deliberately creating confusion to distract people and opposition parties from questioning its failures.

"The BJP wants the opposition and the public to remain entangled in voter lists and SIR issues so that people don't raise questions about governance lapses," he said.

He accused government officials of working to secure votes for the BJP while troubling opposition supporters.

Rajan Pundhi Mandi:

The District Sports Council of Mandi is set to enhance sports infrastructure and strengthen its coaching system, particularly at the Paddle Ground, as announced during a meeting chaired by Deputy Commissioner and Council Chairman, Apoorv Devgan, on Tuesday.

Held in the video conference room of the Deputy Commissioner's office, the meeting focused on improving sports facilities across the district and reviewing ongoing and proposed development projects. Devgan highlighted that athletes from Mandi have brought laurels to the region by setting records in various sports disciplines. He emphasized that the Council remains committed to nurturing talent by providing better training and facilities.

"The coaching mechanism at the Paddle Ground will be strengthened to give players more structured and professional guidance," Devgan said. He added that improving infrastructure remains a top priority to ensure young athletes have access to world-



class amenities.

During the meeting, discussions were also held on increasing the income of the District Sports Council. Devgan directed officials to take strict action against individuals found subletting Council-owned shops. To promote energy efficiency, a 7-kilowatt solar plant will be installed on the roof of the badminton hall. Faulty solar lights at the Paddle Ground will be repaired immediately, and an estimate for the repair of the badminton field will be prepared.

The Deputy Commissioner also instructed the department to explore installing high-mast lights at the Paddle

MP CM virtually inaugurates 3 Compressed Bio-Gas plants developed in state

Bhopal:

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav virtually inaugurated three newly established Compressed Bio Gas (CBG) plants by Reliance Green Energy Company in Bhopal, Indore and Satna via Video Conferencing from CM residence office on Wednesday, according to an official release.

Addressing the occasion, CM Yadav said that these state-of-the-art compressed bio gas plants symbolise partnership and progress, converting waste into energy. He emphasised that Madhya Pradesh has very fertile land, and energy production via CBG plants will help reduce incidents such as stubble burning in the state.

The CM highlighted, "We are preparing the energy of the future in Madhya Pradesh."

The Chief Minister further added that green energy is the need of the hour. Through integrated energy production methods, it state and the country

are moving towards a clean, green and bright future.

He also highlighted that with private partnership and cooperation, Madhya Pradesh will be made a hub for green energy.

The release further stated that the Chief Minister performed Bhoomi Poojan for these three CBG plants in 2023-24 and inaugurated them now. The company has established a total of six plants in the state, with three inaugurated on Wednesday. Plants in Jabalpur, Balaghat and Sehore are under rapid construction.

The company has invested approximately Rs 700 crores in these six plants, which have a combined production capacity of 45,000 tons per year. The operation of these plants is expected to reduce annual carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 17,000 tons, providing strong evidence of government efforts toward environmental protection, it added.

Coaching at Paddle Ground to Get Major Boost: Apoorv Devgan

Ground to allow evening and night practice sessions. The proposal to lay a synthetic track for players was discussed in detail, along with plans to construct spectator stands at the pavilion in collaboration with private organizations.

It was also clarified that anyone seeking to use the Paddle Ground for a training academy must obtain prior permission from the Sports Council, pay a monthly fee, and comply with all prescribed terms and conditions.

The meeting approved the income and expenditure for the financial year 2024-25 and discussed the projected budget for 2025-26. Various ongo-

ing welfare schemes for athletes under the Council will continue in the current fiscal year.

District Youth Services and Sports Officer Kavita Thakur conducted the proceedings. Additional Deputy Commissioner Gursimar Singh, SDM Sadar Mandi Rupinder Kaur, DSP, and Council members including Dinesh Kumar, Sukhdev Thakur, Anil Sen, Hemant Raj Vaidya, District Wrestling Association President Sanjay Kumar Yadav, and Judo Association Mandi General Secretary Joginder Singh Azad attended the meeting along with other government and non-government representatives.

BL Santosh meets Manipur BJP MLAs over govt formation

Imphal:

Senior BJP leader BL Santosh on Wednesday held a meeting with party legislators of Manipur, in which deliberations happened on forming a government in the state.

Santosh, the BJP's general secretary (organisation), held the meeting at the party office in Imphal. The BJP's northeast coordinator, Sambit Patra, was also present in the meeting, which saw the participation of over 20 MLAs.

Following the meeting, former CM N Biren Singh said matters related to internally displaced persons and the formation of a popular government were discussed.

"The central leaders responded very positively," he said.

BJP MLA Sapam Ranjan Singh said the



meeting focused on strengthening the party's organisational structure in the state.

"The meeting was focused on strengthening the organisation, and to make it stronger than it was," he said.

MLA Tongbram Robindro said the meeting deliberated "on coming back (to power) in the 2027 assembly elections".

"We discussed what

measures need to be taken to achieve that. The MLAs need to go back to their respective constituencies and work with the people," he said.

"The central leaders know the public sentiment as well as the expectations of the public. We also know some people are not happy with us," he said, when asked about discussions related to government formation.

At least 37 dead after passenger bus falls into ravine in Peru

Lima (Peru): A passenger bus fell into a deep ravine early Wednesday after crashing with another vehicle in southern Peru, killing at least 37 people and injuring 13 more, authorities said.

The health manager of the Arequipa region, Walther Oporto, said to local radio RPP that the bus hit a pickup truck and it went off a road on a curve, falling more than 200 metres (more than 650 feet) to the banks of the Ocoña river. The bus had departed from the city of Chala, a mining area also in southern Peru, and was heading to the city of Arequipa.

Fatal bus accidents are not uncommon in Peru. The cause of Wednesday's accident was not clear, but authorities have said in the past that reckless driving and excessive speed are behind many of these events.

In August, a bus overturned on a highway and 10 people died. In July, another bus traveling from Lima to Peru's Amazon region also overturned, leaving at least 18 people dead and 48 injured.

In January at least six people died and 32 were injured when a bus fell into a river.

India reaffirms unwavering support to Bhutan's 13th five-year-plan

Thimphu: India on Wednesday reaffirmed its "unwavering" support to Bhutan's 13th five-year-plan as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with former king Jigme Singye Wangchuck and joined Bhutanese leadership to attend the Kalachakra initiation ceremony, hosted as part of the Global Peace Prayer Festival.

Following the meeting, Modi lauded Singye's contribution in further cementing India-Bhutan ties and said the discussions focused on bilateral cooperation in areas of energy, trade, technology and connectivity.

"Discussed cooperation in energy, trade, technology and connectivity. Lauded the progress in the Gelephu Mindfulness City Project, which aligns with our Act East Policy," Modi said on social media.

In the morning, Modi inaugurated the "Kalachakra Wheel of Time Empowerment" at the Global Peace Prayer



Festival that was attended by top Bhutanese leadership, including Bhutan King Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck and Singye.

"This is an important ritual with great cultural significance for Buddhists around the world. The Kalachakra Empowerment is a part of the ongoing Global Peace Prayer Festival, which

has brought together devotees and scholars of Buddhism to Bhutan," Modi said on 'X'.

Before leaving for New Delhi, Modi said the outcomes from his visit in sectors such as energy, healthcare and connectivity will "add momentum to our bilateral partnership".

In a special gesture, King Jigme Khesar came

to the airport to see off Modi.

As Modi wrapped up his two-day trip to Bhutan, the Ministry of External Affairs said the prime minister reaffirmed India's unwavering support to Bhutan's 13th five-year-plan (2024-2029), including the economic stimulus programme, emphasising New Del-

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hi's commitment to actively assisting the neighbouring country in achieving its key development priorities and advancing sustainable growth across sectors.

"The Bhutanese side appreciated India's assistance for Bhutan's 13th five-year-plan period for various projects under implementation across Bhutan and their contribution to the country's development," it said.

India has already committed to providing Rs 10,000 crore for Bhutan's 13th five-year-plan.

UK Cabinet minister denies plotting to oust embattled leader Starmer



London: A senior member of the British government on Wednesday denied he's plotting to oust Prime Minister Keir Starmer, in a sign of deep anxiety in the Labour Party over its dire poll ratings less than 18 months after a landslide election victory.

Health Secretary Wes Streeting said talk of a leadership challenge coming from Labour officials and lawmakers is "self-defeating and self-destructive." He spoke after aides to the prime minister preemptively told British media outlets that Starmer would fight any leadership challenge.

"It's a totally self-defeating briefing, not least because it's not true," he told Sky News. He said,

"whoever's been briefing this has been watching too much Celebrity Traitors," referring to the hit reality TV show that pits faithful members of a group against conniving enemies within.

The 42-year-old health secretary is one of the government's most effective communicators and is widely tipped as a future party leader.

In the House of Commons, Starmer rejected a claim by Conservative leader Kemi Badenoch that there is "a toxic culture in Downing Street," with the government embroiled in "civil war."

"This is a united team," Starmer said, to guffaws from opposition lawmakers. He said Streeting is "doing a great job, as is the whole of my Cabinet."

Pakistan's National Assembly passes 27th Constitutional Amendment Bill

Islamabad: Pakistan's National Assembly on Wednesday passed the controversial 27th Constitutional Amendment Bill with a two-thirds majority during a ruckus-marred session, aiming to create a new position of the Chief of Defence Forces and set up a constitutional court.

The bill, which had stirred controversy for weeks, was presented in

the National Assembly by Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar on Tuesday, a day after the Senate approved the key legislation.

The National Assembly on Wednesday approved all 59 clauses of the 27th Constitutional Amendment Bill amid opposition's boycott, completing the clause-by-clause voting process. Jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-

e-Insaf party members tore up copies of the bill and threw them towards the PM's chair.

National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq said the bill received 234 votes in favour and four against.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) chief Nawaz Sharif and Pakistan People's Party Chairman Bilawal Bhutto-Zardari

attended the lower house session.

The amendment was passed following a two-day-long debate. However, opposition led by Pakistan Tehreek-i-Insaf boycotted the proceedings.

Law Minister Tarar described constitutional reform as an "evolutionary process" undertaken with careful deliberation. He said the draft had been

thoroughly reviewed and discussed with bar councils and bar associations across the country.

The bill now needs the assent of President Asif Ali Zardari to become effective, which is expected to be granted later tonight.

Under the amendment bill, the President will appoint the Army Chief and the Chief of Defence Force on the advice of the

Prime Minister. It also proposes that the post of Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee will expire on November 27, 2025.

The Chief of Army Staff, who will also be the Chief of Defence Forces, will appoint the head of the National Strategic Command in consultation with the Prime Minister, and the head of the Nation-

al Strategic Command will be from the Pakistan Army.

The government will be able to promote individuals from the armed forces to the ranks of Field Marshal, Marshal of the Air Force and Admiral of the Fleet. The rank and privileges of Field Marshal will be for life, meaning that Field Marshals will remain Field Marshals for life.

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BUSINESS

Sonam Bajwa Shines with FEM's New 7-Step Facial Kits for Instant Glow

New Delhi: FEM, one of India's most trusted skincare brands under Dabur India Ltd., has launched two innovative single-use facial kits—FEM Niacinamide Glass Glow Facial Kit and FEM Hyaluronic Lumi Bright Facial Kit—marking a bold move in the brand's evolution from classic skincare to ritualistic beauty. The new range will be endorsed by popular actress Sonam Bajwa, who joins FEM as the official face of the campaign.

Designed as Complete At-Home Glow Rituals, the new facial kits aim to redefine convenience and efficacy in skincare. Unlike traditional 5-step facial offerings, FEM's latest launch introduces a 7-step regimen that includes a serum and sunscreen, offering users a more holistic skincare experience.

The FEM Niacinamide Glass Glow Facial Kit, infused with 24K Gold and Niacinamide, promises an illuminating, tone-evening effect for a luxurious glass-like glow. The FEM Hyaluronic Lumi Bright Facial Kit, enriched with Pure Dia-

mond, Hyaluronic Acid, and Red Algae, focuses on deep hydration and brightness, delivering a radiant, "Lumi Bright" finish in just one use.

Abhishek Jugran, Executive Vice President - Marketing at Dabur India Ltd., said the launch marks a pivotal moment for the company's beauty portfolio. "This is Dabur's first-ever digital-led launch, reflecting our commitment to innovation and digital transformation. FEM has always been synonymous with glow and transformation, and this new range takes that promise forward for a new generation seeking easy, indulgent, and effective skincare," he said.

To promote the new collection, FEM has unveiled a 360-degree digital-first campaign led by Sonam Bajwa. The campaign also features Miss Universe India Manika Vishwakarma and top beauty creators, combining digital films, expert tutorials, and influencer storytelling to showcase FEM's new-age beauty philosophy—Redefining Glow.

FinMin asks banks to boost MSME, Agri Credit

New Delhi: The finance ministry on Wednesday asked state-owned banks to focus on accelerating credit to MSMEs and the agriculture sector while sustaining growth in low-cost deposits and strengthening risk management.

Department of Financial Services (DFS) Secretary M Nagaraju while chairing a review meeting urged banks to further strengthen risk management, underwriting practices, and operational resilience to sustain profitability in an evolving financial environment.

Addressing CEOs of public sector banks here, he asked them to sustain financial discipline, deepen customer-centricity, and lead India's banking transformation with prudence, innovation and inclusion as guiding principles, a ministry statement said.

During the meeting, Public Sector Banks (PSBs) also showcased advancements in digital banking and mobile app services.



Nagaraju emphasised that digital banking must remain inclusive and secure, urging banks to enhance cyber resilience, ensure oper-

ational continuity and improve the quality and timeliness of grievance redressal.

He encouraged banks for adoption of responsible AI and data analytics to improve customer service delivery.

Banks were advised to strengthen implementation of PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, PM Vidya Lakshmi Yojana, PM Vishwakarma Yojana, and JanSamarth digital lending initiatives, with emphasis on reducing application turnaround time and expand-

ing assisted journeys through Business Correspondents and SLBC coordination, it said.

The Secretary also reviewed performance under financial inclusion programmes such as PMJDY, PMJJBY, PMSBY, APY, PMMY and PM SVANidhi, and emphasised the importance of the ongoing "Aapki Poonji, Aapka Adhikar" campaign, it said.

Directions were given to the CEOs to ensure seamless implementation, enhance public awareness of the inte-

grated unclaimed asset portal and intensify outreach in underserved and aspirational districts.

On the asset quality front, it was noted that PSBs continued to register improvement in recoveries. The National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL) has acquired debt aggregating Rs 1.62 lakh crore and achieved significant recoveries during the first half of the year.

Banks were advised to leverage digital plat-

Nagaraju emphasised that digital banking must remain inclusive and secure, urging banks to enhance cyber resilience, ensure operational continuity and improve the quality and timeliness of grievance redressal.

forms such as BAANK-NET for faster and transparent resolutions and to maintain focus on strengthening early warning systems, it said.

In alignment with the government's vision of Viksit Bharat by 2047, PSBs presented progress under sectors such as renewable energy, green infrastructure, food processing, tourism and data centres.

Banks were encouraged to scale up credit in these sectors, adopt sustainable financing practices and enhance preparedness for the transition to the Expected Credit Loss (ECL) framework through robust models and data-driven provisioning, it said.

PSBs reported a net profit of Rs 93,675 crore during H1 FY 2025-26, reflecting steady year-on-year growth.

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Preserving traditional seeds: Chouhan

New Delhi: Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Wednesday stressed on the need to strike a balance between preserving traditional seeds and promoting new high-yielding varieties.

The minister participated in 'Plant Genome Saviour Awards Ceremony', celebrating the Silver Jubilee of the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV & FRA) Act, 2001 and the 21st Foundation Day of the PPV & FRA, held here, according to an official statement.

Chouhan commended the authority for its achievements over the past two decades.

"Many indigenous crop varieties are vital for nutrition and ecological balance," he said.

The minister said that several traditional varieties were on the verge of extinction, and it was through the dedication of farmers that these seeds have been preserved.

Under the PPV & FRA Act, the government provides financial incentives of up to Rs 15 lakh to promote the conservation of seed varieties.

"Seed is the biggest capital of a farmer. It is our fundamental right. While promoting new and high-yielding varieties is essential, preserving traditional seeds is equally important. There must be a balance between the two," Chouhan said.

Chouhan said that new suggestions received from various stakeholders will be considered and incorporated into future amendments of the PPV & FRA Act, wherever necessary.

IRF hails Haryana DGP's move on road safety

TSN/Gurugram: International Road Federation (IRF) global road safety body working for better and safer roads worldwide has welcomed the Haryana Director General of Police O P Singh's written advisory to all police commissioners, superintendents, SHOs, and traffic in-charges across the state, directing them to take urgent and coor-



ordinated action to reduce road accidents and fatalities in the state.

"As per provisional accidents data of Union Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) during the year 2024 state witnessed about 9,806 road

accidents and 4,689 fatalities. While as per Haryana DGP nearly 4000 deaths have been reported due to road accidents till October this year, a matter of grave concern. DGP O P Singh's directive to officers to identify accident-prone and blind-spot areas in their jurisdictions, analyse causes, and implement corrective measures is a wel-

come sign to reduce accidents in the state" said Mr K K Kapila, President Emeritus, International Road Federation (IRF).

"International Road Federation (IRF) has been fighting to reduce fatal road accidents in the country. IRF welcomes DGP's directive ensuring that no vehicles especially trucks and trailers are left parked on the road for long, and

if one is, place reflective tape and warning lights to make it visible from a distance. Ministry of road Transport and Highways (MoRTH) in 2018 made it mandatory for all goods carrying vehicles especially trucks to affix reflective tapes for providing them better night time visibility and as safeguard against road accidents," said Mr Kapila

As per Motor Vehicle Act it is mandatory use of retro-reflective tapes in various colours on heavy trucks as this will give strong signals to other road users due to increased visibility. Use of reflective tapes in trucks help reduce accidents and reduce the risk of collisions as better visibility means fewer crashes and fewer fatalities," said Mr Kapila.

As per Motor Vehicle Act it is mandatory use of retro-reflective tapes in various colours on heavy trucks as this will give strong signals to other road users due to increased visibility. Use of reflective tapes in trucks help reduce accidents and reduce the risk of collisions as better visibility means fewer crashes and fewer fatalities," said Mr Kapila.

Dhruv Jurel says no rivalry with Rishabh Pant

Kolkata:

India's wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel clarified that there is "no competition" between him and Rishabh Pant, and emphasised that the aim is to "win games" for India, ahead of the First Test against South Africa starting from Friday at Kolkata's Eden Gardens.

Jurel, who came as a replacement for Pant, has been in sublime form in red-ball cricket, registered his maiden century during the Home Test series against the West Indies at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium.

Speaking on JioStar, Jurel said, "There is no competition between me and Rishabh bhai. Both of us are playing for India, and whoever plays, the motive is the same: to make India win. If he plays, I am happy. If I play, I am happy. If we play together, that would be even better. The only focus is the team."

"It is going to be a very exciting battle. Both teams have strong fast-bowling attacks. Whether it's Rabada and Marco Jansen from their side, or Bumrah bhai from ours, there's quality all around," he said. Speaking about getting his maiden Test ton against the Windies, Jurel said that he "felt on Cloud seven."

"As a cricketer, the best feeling is feeling accomplished that you did something for your team and they won" he said.

Jurel scored 911 runs in eight matches and 14 innings at a massive average of 91.10, including four centuries and four fifties and a best score of 140.

Andrew Strauss picks England's first choice number three for Ashes

New Delhi:

Former England top-order batter Andrew Strauss has advocated for Ollie Pope to beat out the tough competition from Jacob Bethell to retain the number three spot against Australia in the Ashes, scheduled to commence on November 21 in Perth.

Pope, 27, has represented England in 67 Tests at an average of 35.36. However, his average increases to 41.60 when he comes out to bat at number three. The dilemma around Pope's selection arises from his last tour down under. Pope's shambolic tour concluded with 67 runs across his six innings.

Bethell has been identified as a long-term solution for the number three, courtesy of the form and talent he has exhibited at the age of 22. Despite his promising talent, Pope notched his first ton during an ODI against South Africa earlier this year.

"I think you've got to go with Pope, personally. It's just such a massive ask for Bethell to come into bat in foreign conditions. He's a lovely looking player, there's no doubt about it, but he just doesn't have that record yet," Strauss, the last victorious touring England captain to Australia, in 2010/11, said on the Sky Sports Cricket Podcast.

"He will be walking out to bat in the middle of this cauldron of an Ashes series, and will, deep down, not be fully confident in his ability to do it. I just think it's a huge ask for him. Pope has shown vulnerabilities, especially on the last tour of Australia, but I think you've got to give him the first shot at it," he added.

Keshav Maharaj calls India tour among toughest

Kolkata:

South Africa spinner Keshav Maharaj acknowledged the difficulty of touring India, calling it "probably the toughest tour" on the Proteas calendar.

He also stated that the team is determined to overcome the challenge and clinch a rare series win on Indian soil.

With the golden generation of South Africa players now long gone, the next generation have shown their prowess of late and were highlighted by the inaugural success in the ICC World Test Championship Final against Australia at Lord's earlier this year.

The reigning champions continued their resurgence when splitting a pair of Test results against Pakistan last month to start the new World Test Championship cycle and now get set for their next big test when they travel to India for a two-match series commencing on Friday.

Tours to India haven't been greeted with



much success for South Africa of late, and you have to go back to Nagpur in February of 2010 to find the most recent Test victory over India away from home, and that side featured a host of Proteas legends in the ilk of Graeme Smith, Hashim Amla, AB de Villiers, Jacques Kallis and Dale Steyn.

The current playing group have shown a strong determination in being able to replicate the great South African sides of the past, and veteran spinner Keshav

Maharaj is confident the tide is turning and a Test victory in India can arrive during this tour.

"It's probably one of the toughest tours, if not the toughest tour, in the Proteas calendar through various generations that have come. There's a real hunger and desire within the camp to obviously beat India in India," Maharaj said, as quoted by ICC.

"As a unit, we feel like it's one of our biggest tests. Whenever someone needs to put their hand up, it's shared

amongst the group wholeheartedly. It will be a wonderful opportunity to grade ourselves, to see how far we've come. Slowly but surely, we started to conquer other parts of the subcontinent. I feel like this is one assignment that we really, really want to take," the spinner added.

Maharaj collected nine wickets when winning the Player of the Match award during South Africa's most recent Test appearance in Pakistan, with fellow spinner Senuran Muthusamy

named Player of the Series for his 11 scalps and 106 runs across the two red-ball contests.

The pair are expected to play a major role in the Proteas' plight in India alongside another spinner, Simon Harmer, although Maharaj believes the conditions his side will face this time on the subcontinent may have something in them for all different types of bowlers.

"I think it will be good wickets that deteriorate as the game goes on. I think if you watched a bit of the West Indies series, now that India played against the West Indies at home, it was good wickets that went, you know, almost to day four and five. I do believe that the narrative is changing in terms of getting wickets. You want to give yourself the best chance when you're in home conditions, so maybe it's felt that let's play on good cricket wickets and let the game deteriorate as it goes on," the 35-year-old noted.

Venkatesh Prasad set to contest KSCA president post

Bengaluru:

Former India cricketer Venkatesh Prasad, who is contesting for the post of President in the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) elections, said his focus would be on rebuilding infrastructure, improving facilities, and bringing back international matches to the state.

With Venkatesh Prasad at the helm, team Game Changers announced their candidates for the upcoming Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) scheduled for November 30th.

Speaking on contesting for the post of President in the KSCA elections, the former pacer told the media, "...It's a responsibility to give it back to the association, youngsters...The infrastructure, dressing rooms, and facilities are in shambles. We need to develop it and give more opportunities to bring more grounds into our fold and organise the game in a structured way, which is what we are planning to do, and the most important thing is to get back the international matches...We want to revive that glory..."

Indian cricket icons Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath were also present

at the announcement, lending their strong support and encouragement for Venkatesh Prasad's vision for Karnataka Cricket, as per a release from KSCA.

Speaking about the need for change, Kumble said, "What's important is that we've all gathered here for cricket. Hats off to Venky for initiating this whole process. We're here because we feel Karnataka cricket is suffering, and we want to make a difference."

Echoing a similar sentiment, Srinath emphasised the need for change and accountability within the association.

"One of the words I've coined is backseat driving syndrome, and that has to stop. When the KSCA has dignity and respect, there's no need for anyone to control things from behind. It's time for the focus to return to cricket and to those who serve the game with integrity," the fast bowler said.

Also in the fray are former India and Karnataka cricketer Sujith Somasundar for Vice President, Vinay Mruthyunjaya for Secretary, A.V. Shashidhar for Joint Secretary, and B.N. Madhukar for Treasurer.

Laura Wolvaardt named ICC Women's Player of the Month for October 2025

New Delhi:

South Africa captain Laura Wolvaardt has been named as the ICC Women's Player of the Month for October 2025 for her exceptional leadership and outstanding performances with the bat. She was the highest run-getter at the Women's Cricket World Cup.

Wolvaardt played eight ODIs in October at the Women's World Cup, amassing 470 runs at a stunning average of 67.14 and an impressive strike rate of 97.91.

The right-hander said it was an incredible thrill to claim the monthly award for October.

"It's an honour to win this award following the team's World Cup performances in India, as part of a historic event for women's cricket. The tournament featured outstanding matches and remarkable displays, which makes this recognition especially meaningful," she said, as quoted from the official website of ICC.

"While winning the tournament would have been ideal, we take pride in our victories and the unbreakable spirit we showed, while remaining confident that an ICC



World Cup title is within reach," she added.

"I appreciate everyone's support, and I will always strive to make you proud on the field," she noted.

After a shaky start to their World Cup campaign, where South Africa were bowled out for just 69 against England, they bounced back strongly with a win over New Zealand.

The Proteas' true strength was on display in the third game against hosts India, where they produced a remarkable performance to secure a three-wicket victory.

Wolvaardt's composed 70 off 111 balls laid the foundation, followed by Nadine de Klerk's clutch finish that sealed South

Africa's second win of the tournament.

The runs kept flowing from the South African captain's bat, with a steady 31 in their next match against Bangladesh, followed by an unbeaten 60* in a 125-run opening stand with Tazmin Brits. A third half-century of the tournament came in the form of a quickfire 90 off 82 balls against Pakistan.

The crowning knock of Wolvaardt's World Cup campaign came in the semi-final against England.

In the crunch encounter against their old foes, Wolvaardt smashed 169 runs in 143 balls, helping South Africa set a whopping target of 320.

SA coach Conrad says India Tests as tough as WTC final

Kolkata:

South Africa's head coach, Shukri Conrad, has described the upcoming two Tests in India as the "biggest challenge", ranking the series alongside the World Test Championship final against Australia.

South Africa, the World Test champions, will engage in an enticing battle with India on Friday, as Test cricket returns to Eden Gardens after six years. Conrad emphasised the intricate task that lies ahead of them by drawing a stark comparison between their WTC victory over Australia and the two Tests in India.

"Look, India, a tough challenge anywhere in the world, and when you come to an iconic venue



like Eden Gardens, it just makes it even tougher. I don't think you can compare the quality of the sides we played against. India, in India, and this will be our biggest challenge, certainly in my 20th match," Conrad said while speaking to reporters on Wednesday.

"I don't think there's been a bigger challenge. Yes, we had the final

against Australia that we won, which was massive. I compare this series and this match to that final. That's how big it is for us," Conrad added.

Before heading to India, the Proteas toured Pakistan and managed a 1-1 Test series draw on the rank-turners of Gaddafi and Rawalpindi. South Africa's spin troupe, Simon Harmer (13

wickets in two Tests), Senuran Muthusamy (11 in two Tests) and Keshav Maharaj (9 in one Test), bamboozled Pakistan batters with their ball-tweaking skills to make a strong impression before touring India.

The surface of the famed Eden Gardens is expected to come in the assistance of pacers and spinners. With India possessing Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravindra Jadeja, and Washington Sundar, South Africa's quest will be much more difficult.

Conrad believes the Proteas' batting unit's familiarity with sub-continent conditions and the depth of their spin attack should be enough to trouble India's star-studded lineup.

Kolkata:

Ahead of India's opening Test against South Africa, assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate said he would be "very surprised" if both wicketkeeper-batters Dhruv Jurel and Rishabh Pant feature in the side this week.

Jurel has made a strong case for selection in India's playing XI after he slammed back-to-back centuries against South Africa A in the second unofficial Test at Bengaluru. The South Africa series is scheduled to begin on November 14 at Eden Gardens in Kolkata.

Jurel, in the first innings of the second unofficial Test against South Africa A, smashed an unbeaten 132 off 175 balls, smashing 12 fours and four sixes, followed by another century in the second innings, reaching the milestone off 159 balls.

Speaking about Jurel's inclusion in the playing XI, Ten Doeschate said at the pre-match press conference, "I would be very surprised if you don't see Dhruv and Rishabh playing in this Test this week. Given the



way Dhruv has gone in the last six months, and scoring two hundreds in Bengaluru last week, he is certain to play this week."

Jurel had impressed earlier this year during the Test series against the West Indies, scoring 175 runs in three innings, including a hundred, at an average of 87.50. He was also the fourth-highest run scorer in the series and the only lower-order batter to feature in the top five list.

Since the Australia A tour of India in September earlier this year, Jurel has slammed 1,059 runs in nine matches, averaging over 81,

with four centuries and six fifties in all of red-ball cricket. Jurel has amassed 430 runs in seven Tests, including a century and a fifty at an average of 47.77.

Furthermore, the Dutchmen emphasised the importance of team strategy over individual development, while explaining the possible exclusion of all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy from the upcoming fixture.

"I said strategy comes first. The primary thing is to set out a strategy to win the game. If you can accommodate giving guys a chance for development, that comes in. Our position hasn't

changed on Nitish. He didn't get much game time in Australia. But given the importance of this series and the conditions we think we're going to face, he might miss out this week," the 45-year-old added.

The two-match Test series between India and ICC World Test Champions South Africa will commence on November 14, with the first Test at the Eden Gardens in Kolkata. The second Test will take place at ACA Stadium in Guwahati.

In the white-ball leg, Proteas will also play three ODIs and five T20Is, starting from November 30

Temba Bavuma is out best player: South Africa head coach Conrad

Kolkata:

South Africa head coach Shukri Conrad classified captain Temba Bavuma as the "best player" in the Proteas setup ahead of the two home Tests in India, scheduled to commence on Friday at Kolkata's Eden Gardens.

Bavuma missed South Africa's trip to Pakistan for two Tests last month due to a strained calf, which ended the series level at 1-1. Bavuma has been instrumental in South Africa's success, scoring 911 runs in 10 Tests at an average of 56.93 since 2023. Conrad believes the return of their premier batter will bolster their squad and increase their chances of creating history in India.

"Yeah, Temba for us, he's our best player. It's as simple as that, which makes winning a Test match in Pakistan so much better for us that we were able to do it



without our best player. So a lot of feel-good, a lot of confidence. And if you take the last, what, two years maybe, he's been one of the best players in the world," Conrad said while speaking to reporters on Wednesday.

Bavuma returned to the on-field action during South Africa A team's second unofficial Test against India A earlier this month. In the first innings, Bavuma floundered on his

first ball against Akash Deep and returned with a golden duck.

In the second innings, during South Africa A's pursuit of a daunting 417-run target on the final day, Bavuma played a vital role with a 101-ball 59 to steer the visitors to a 5-wicket triumph. With Bavuma finding his purple patch, Conrad highlighted the importance for the 35-year-old to spend some time on the crease before the series.

BFI and ACG launch India Basketball League and training hub

Bengaluru:

Following their landmark partnership announced in June, the Basketball Federation of India (BFI) and ACG Sports Pvt Ltd on Wednesday unveiled India's first dedicated, year-round, residential basketball High Performance Centre in Bengaluru.

The launch of the IBL High Performance Centre (HPC) is a precursor to the inaugural season of the India Basketball League (IBL) to be held in 2026, marking a transformative milestone built on a 15-year commitment by ACG Sports to excellence, infrastructure, and athlete development, as per a release from BFI. The HPC, located at the Lakshyan Academy, is the nation's first basketball facility dedicated entirely to elite player development. Operating year-round as a fully residential campus, the HPC is designed to cultivate world-class athletes capable of competing on the global stage while serving as the cornerstone of the IBL's ambition to elevate Indian basketball. The facility sets new standards, boasting personnel and infrastructure that rival those of the world's premier basketball academies. At its heart are three FIBA-standard courts, complemented by a state-of-the-art strength and conditioning gymnasium and world-standard 25-metre swimming pool.

The HPC's integrated approach to high-performance basketball development will bring together a sports health department equipped with advanced biomechanics analysis technology, alongside dedicated nutrition, physiotherapy, and mental conditioning capabilities—all under one roof to ensure holistic athlete development, as per a release from BFI. Further, the HPC will champion a "phygital" approach to seamlessly merge physical training with cutting-edge digital analytics to maximise every aspect of athlete development. Advanced wearable technology will track real-time biometrics, movement patterns, and performance metrics, while smart court systems with integrated cameras and sensors will capture every nuance of training and gameplay.

Mandaviya praises new sports at KIUG Rajasthan

Jaipur:

In a grand event at the historical Amer Fort in Jaipur on Wednesday, the Sports Authority of India (SAI), in association with the Government of Rajasthan and the Rajasthan State Sports Council (RSSC), launched the official logo, mascots, torch, jerseys and anthem for the Khelo India University Games Rajasthan 2025 (KIUG Rajasthan 2025).

The Games' mascots, Khamma and Ghani, were unveiled by Rajasthan Sports Minister Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore. The state's official animal inspires the mascots -- the camel -- and the traditional greeting "Khamma Ghani". They embody Rajasthan's warmth, resilience and hospitality, welcoming athletes from every corner of India.



Mandaviya applauds inclusion of new sports at KIUG Rajasthan

The Khelo India University Games Rajasthan 2025, scheduled to take place from November 24 to December 5, will be held across seven cities -- Jaipur, Udaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Ajmer, Bharatpur and Bikaner. This marks the first time

Rajasthan will host the Khelo India University Games, a flagship event of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports that showcases India's finest university athletes.

Over 7,000 athletes from nearly 200 universities will compete in 24

disciplines, including 23 medal sports and one demonstration event. New inclusions this year are canoeing, kayaking, cycling, and beach volleyball -- reflecting the growing diversity and ambition of Indian university sport.

In a message, the Union minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Mansukh Mandaviya, said, as quoted from a press release by SAI Media, "In keeping with our promise to create more opportunities for athletes from different sports, I am happy to see a bigger and fuller games programme. This year, we introduced two new Khelo India events - the Beach Games in Diu and the Water Sports Festival at the Dal Lake in Srinagar. The addition of canoeing and kayaking in KIUG is a classic example of continuity and providing more opportunities to those athletes who want to excel in this sport. Anywhere in the world, beach volleyball is the most attractive event, and I am sure sports fans in Rajasthan will enjoy this sport very much."

Arjun, Praggnanandhaa, Harikrishna head to tiebreak at FIDE World Cup

Panaji:

GM Arjun Erigaisi and GM R Praggnanandhaa played out solid draws while P Harikrishna saved the day after finding himself in a difficult position to head into a tiebreak in the fourth round of the FIDE World Cup 2025 here on Wednesday, as per a release from FIDE.

Arjun accepted a draw after 36 moves against the experienced GM Peter Leko of Hungary with white pieces, Praggnanandhaa split the point after 30 moves against GM Daniil Dubov while Harikrishna also drew after 38 moves.

GM Jose Eduardo Martinez Alcantara, who has won with black pieces on Tuesday, became the first player to advance to the round of 16 after he went for a threefold repetition and takes a draw against GM Alexey Sarana in 20 moves. He will now face the winner of the match between GM P Harikrishna and GM Nils Grandelius of Sweden.

Also advancing to the next round was two-time champion GM Levon Aronian after he drew the

second game in 35 moves with black against GM Radoslaw Wojtaszek.

Among the five Indians in fray in the fourth round, all eyes were on Arjun and Praggnanandhaa on the top boards.

Arjun opted for the Nimzo Indian opening with white against Leko and looked like he was prepared quite well as he gained time on the clock after 16 moves. But the Hungarian defended resolutely and the highest ranked Indian opted to trade queens on the 20th move after thinking for 26 moves. He tried to push ahead thereafter but could not find a breakthrough.

"I am getting more and more in my preparations and I wasn't really afraid (of Arjun's opening line). I knew that this by that I played is quite solid and there cannot be any miracle in this position. But over the board when Arjun is blitzing all his moves, I know that there is always some pressure. But it was more or less equal all the time," said Leko after the match, as quoted from a release by FIDE.

Billie Jean King Cup heroes inspire Karnataka youth

Bengaluru:

India's leading tennis players took time out of their preparations for the 2025 Billie Jean King Cup Play-offs to engage with Karnataka's emerging tennis talent in a special meet-and-greet session. The event took place at the SM Krishna Tennis Stadium in Bengaluru ahead of the Play-offs, scheduled to be held from November 14 to 16, as per a release from the Billie Jean King Cup.

The interaction brought together Sahaja Yamalappalli, Shivali Bhamidipati, Ankita Raina, Riya Bhatia, and Prarthana Thambore, who are part of Team India for the Playoffs, with budding tennis stars from Karnataka. The session featured an exchange of questions, experiences and advice as the country's top players shared insights from their journeys on the professional circuit.

Prarthana Thambore spoke about the importance of routine and repetition.

"It's not about do-



ing something new in a high-pressure moment. It's about trusting what you've done hundreds of times before. You practice the same drill repeatedly, and when you've repeated it enough, it becomes second nature," she said, as quoted from a release by Billie Jean King Cup.

Echoing these sentiments, Ankita Raina added, "You can't just wake up one morning, meditate once and expect it to work. It's about having a system, doing the same things repeatedly, and building that discipline. That's what helps you stay ground-

ed and handle pressure better."

Adding to the discussion, Riya Bhatia shared a refreshing perspective on dealing with nerves.

"It's good to be nervous. Even after playing hundreds of matches, we still feel it. Nerves mean you care; it's about using that energy in a positive way," she said.

Among those in attendance were 16-year-olds Meghana G.D, Adira Badri Prasad, Aditi Khanapuri and 14-year-old Chowdhury. The young players expressed their excitement after interacting with the national team.

Deaflympics 2025: Shuttler Jerlin Jayaratchagan to be India's flag bearer in Tokyo

New Delhi:

Jerlin Jayaratchagan, who has won three gold medals at the Deaflympics, will be India's flagbearer at the upcoming Summer Games in Tokyo from November 15-26. India is sending a record 111-member contingent to the Deaflympics, as per a release from the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

The Indian contingent was given a warm send-off by the Secretary of Sports, Hari Ranjan Rao, at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Wednesday. The official kit of the Indian contingent was also revealed. The first batch of Indians will leave for Tokyo on Thursday.

Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports, Mansukh Mandaviya, in a message to the Indian contingent, said, "India's rapid progress in global events for special athletes is something to be proud of. As part of our endeavour to promote inclusivity and foster healthy outreach through sports, we are extremely happy to send



the biggest-ever Indian squad to the Deaflympics," as quoted from a release by SAI.

"Every year our medal count has been increasing and I am very sure that we will even do better than Brazil. But as I always say, it's not about how many medals we win. It's about competing with the best and giving your 100%. I wish each athlete and the support staff good luck," he added.

India will take part in 11 disciplines - athletics, badminton, golf, judo, karate, shooting, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, wrestling and

Games of the Deaf in Washington. With the establishment of AISCD in 1965 and recognition from the Government of India in 1969, we've been striving to empower deaf athletes. As we gear up for the 25th Deaflympics, we're proud to showcase India's talent and spirit on the global stage," said G Suresh Kumar, the secretary-general of the All India Sports Council for the Deaf.

Three-time gold medalist Jerlin will be India's flag-bearer at Deaflympics 2025. Tokyo will be Jerlin's third Deaflympics. The Madurai girl played her first Deaflympics in 2017 when she was 13. Jerlin went on to create history at the 2021 Summer Deaflympics (held in 2022 in Brazil) by winning three gold medals in women's singles, mixed doubles in Badminton, and the team event. Her outstanding achievements earned her the prestigious Arjuna Award in 2022, making her

the first Indian woman Deaflympian to receive this honour.

"Being chosen as the flagbearer is a moment of great pride and emotion for me. This is my third Deaflympics, but the first time I'll be leading my country with the flag -- it feels truly special. It represents years of hard work, dedication, and the honour of carrying not just the flag, but the dreams of every athlete on our team. I'm deeply grateful for this opportunity," said Jerlin.

India will be hoping to win medals from shooting range, again. There will be a lot of expectation from rifle shooter Dhanush Srikanth from Hyderabad.

"I feel very happy that I can represent my country at the Deaflympics for the second time. The last Deaflympics were good for me as I was able to win two gold medals for India. I hope to do my best to repeat the performance this time around too," said the 23-year-old Dhanush.

Samrat Rana credits parents for ISSF World C'ship gold

New Delhi:

Indian shooter Samrat Rana, who made history by bagging the 10 m air pistol gold at the ISSF World Championship in Cairo on Monday, spoke on how his journey as a shooter started when his father took him to a shooting range at the age of three and built him a makeshift range of his in their house's backyard, where he would hone his skills.

Samrat's medal was historic as he was the first Indian to secure an individual gold medal at the senior level in an Olympic-category pistol event. It was a dream that witnessed everything from a makeshift shooting range in his backyard to arenas all over the world with top-class facilities, and was his family's collective triumph in many ways.

A day later, teaming up with Esha Singh, he secured a silver in the mixed team category.

His beginnings were humble as his father, Ashok Rana, took the

Breaking Time

What to do

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

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Solution, Sudoku

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Samrat Rana dedicates ISSF World C'ship gold to his parents

first step in his son's journey within the sport by building him a makeshift facility in their backyard.

"I was three when my father first took me to a shooting range," Samrat told Olympics.com. "Since then, the sound of a shot hitting the target has been music to me," he added.

During these days, badminton was something he cherished as a pastime, and shooting was his passion, collectively nurtured by his parents. His father

was his first source of guidance in the sport at a technical level, and his mother kept him grounded through all the highs and lows.

"Dad gave me everything I needed as a shooter," Samrat smiled. "But it was my mother who kept me strong mentally. She never let me lose focus," he said.

His first prize was a car that he won at the National Open Championship back in 2019, and he also earned a silver medal in the Khelo India Games.

Actor Govinda discharged from hospital after suffering "fatigue"

Mumbai
Actor Govinda has been discharged from the CritiCare Asia Multi-specialty Hospital in Juhu after he was admitted earlier on Wednesday. After the discharge, the actor talked to the media and shared an update on his health. The actor said that he suffered "fatigue" due to hard work.



While talking to the media, he said, "I did a lot of

hard work. I suffered fatigue. I used to do Yog

Pranayama, but to build personality, I did heavy ex-

ercise. I feel it is good to do yoga pranayama. I have

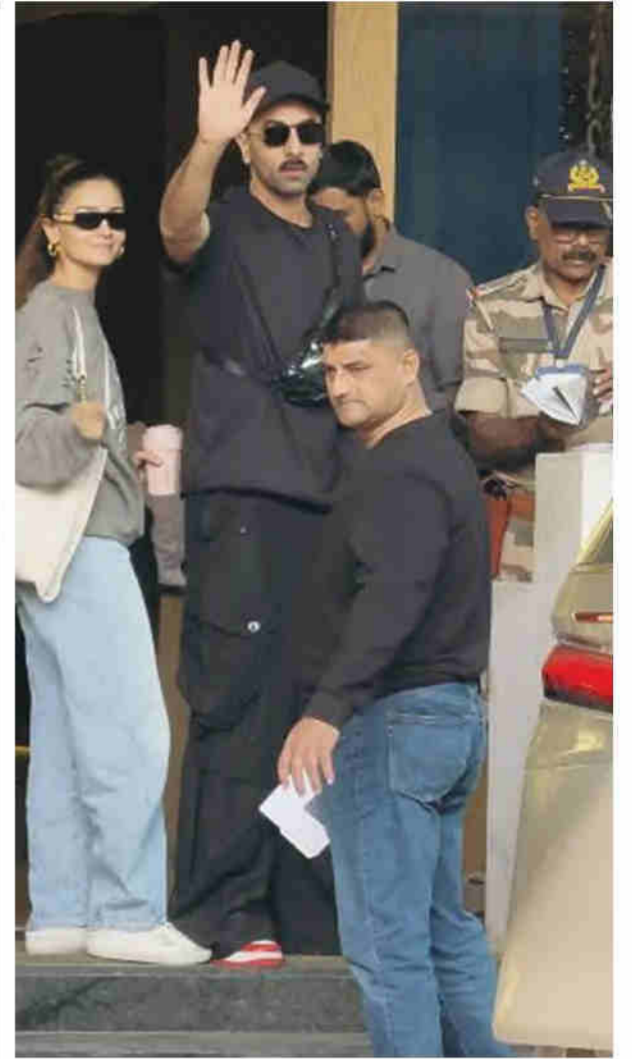
taken the medicines."

This is the second time that the 'Partner' actor has been hospitalised in recent months. In October last year, Govinda was rushed to the CritiCare Hospital after he sustained a bullet injury on the leg from his revolver.

The incident took place during the wee hours when Govinda's licensed revolver accidentally discharged while he was putting it back in the cupboard, accord-

ing to Mumbai Police.

He was preparing to leave for Kolkata at the time. Earlier this year, actor Govinda revealed that he is all set to return to the screen with a new concept-based show titled 'Lane Den-It's All About Business'. Known for his unmatched energy, comic timing, and mass appeal, Govinda will now be seen exploring the world of entrepreneurship and trade in a refreshing new avatar.



Idris Elba returning for new 'Luther' movie

Washington
Actor and rapper Idris Elba is returning for Luther's next film after the standalone movie - Luther: The Fallen Sun (2023). The actor, who headlined the series in the 2010s, dominated TV screens as Detective John Luther.

Hollywood Reporter. Dermot Crowley will also appear in the new thriller, directed by Jamie Payne, a member of the Luther family who helmed episodes of the series, as well as Fallen Sun.

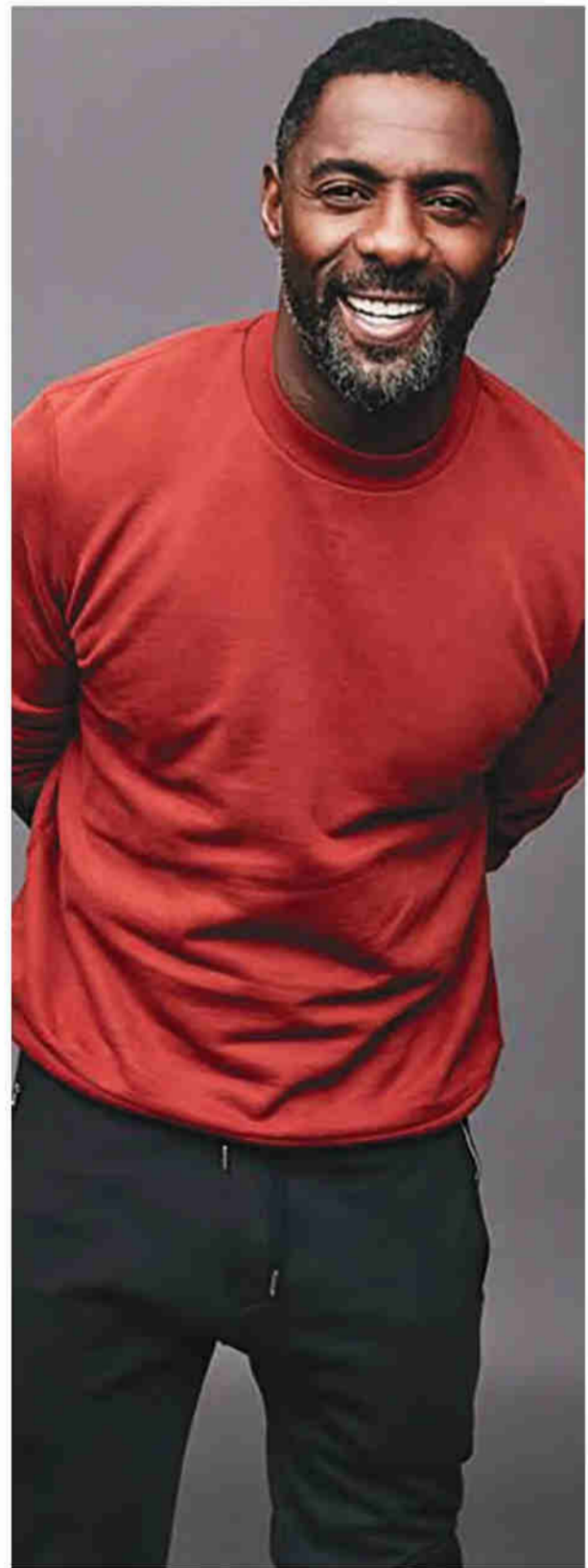
"Neil has yet again created a wonderfully dark tale to bring us all back together," said Payne in a statement.

After the series secured OTT rights with Netflix, Luther gained popularity and became one of the most-streamed series in the country.

"It's a true joy to be back on the streets of Lutherland with the supreme talents that are Idris Elba and Dermot Crowley. I am also thrilled to be reunited with the brilliant and dangerous Alice Morgan, played by the extraordinarily talented Ruth Wilson," according to The Hollywood Reporter.

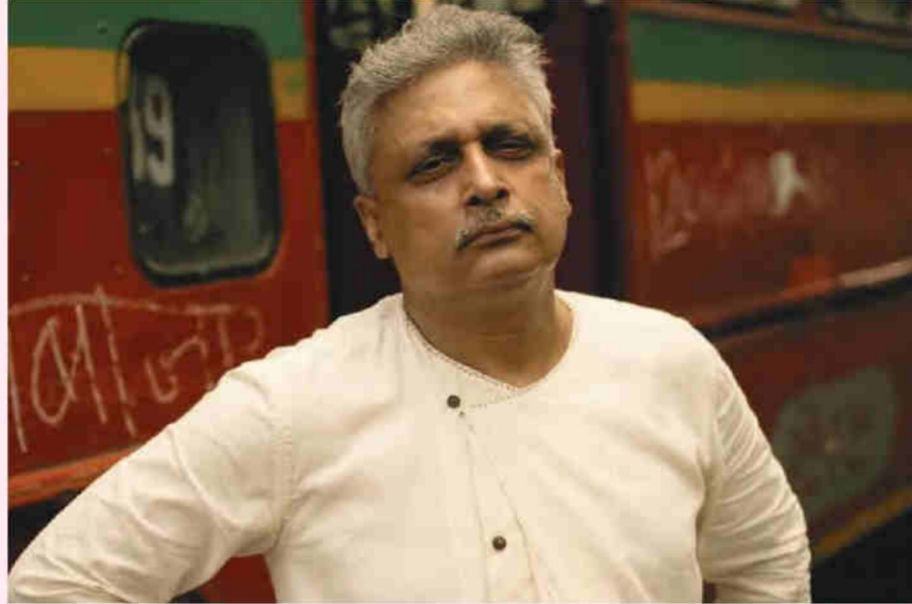
After running for over five seasons as a web series, Luther got converted into a movie in 2023. The same is now being expanded, and the news is confirmed in 2025.

Wilson played Alice Morgan, a psychopathic murdering research doctor who went toe-to-toe with Luther in the first season, only to evolve into a co-dependent relationship. She co-starred in three of the show's five seasons, as per the outlet.



Actor Piyush Mishra cancels Gurugram show after Delhi car blast

Mumbai
Actor Piyush Mishra has cancelled his upcoming Gurugram show following the tragic blast near Delhi's Red Fort metro station that claimed eight lives on Monday, November 10. The event was originally scheduled for November 15.



On Wednesday, the actor took to Instagram to make the announcement. In the post, he shared that the decision was made out of respect for the victims and to prioritise safety in the current situation.

read.

"Our Gurugram show on November 15 has been cancelled for now, following the unfortunate incident at Red Fort, Delhi. We stand with the city in this difficult time and will announce a new date once safety protocols permit. iNK'laab jiN-daabaad jy hind," his post

At least eight people were killed near the Red Fort Metro Station on Monday evening after a blast occurred in a Hyundai i20 car.

Earlier in the day, Prime Minister Modi visited the LNJP Hospital and met with those injured in the blast in

Delhi. PM Modi drove directly to LNJP Hospital after returning from a two-day visit to Bhutan. He interacted with the injured and inquired about their health. During his visit, the Prime Minister was briefed by senior officials and doctors about the condition of the victims and the treatment

being provided. Meanwhile, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has formed a "dedicated and comprehensive" investigation team to probe the Delhi car terror incident, which was carried out by a Jaish-e-Mohammad module uncovered by Indian agencies, top sources said.

Ranbir, Alia spotted at airport; greet paps

Mumbai
Bollywood couple Ranbir Kapoor and Alia Bhatt were spotted at the Mumbai airport.

bir will play Lord Ram in Nitesh Tiwari's much-awaited two-part epic Ramayana. He was also seen in the Netflix show The Ba*ds of Bollywood in a cameo role.

Dressed in casuals, the duo greeted paps with a smile as they were clicked heading out of the city. Both even waved at the shutterbugs.

Interestingly, the husband-wife jodi will also be seen headlining Sanjay Leela Bhansali's directorial 'Love and War', which also stars Vicky Kaushal.

Meanwhile, on the work front, 'Alia' will be seen in 'Alpha'. Directed by Shiv Rawail, 'Alpha' is set to be a notable addition to Yash Raj Films' acclaimed spy universe and is scheduled for release on December 25.

The film was officially announced in January 2024. The original announcement on Instagram read, "We bring you Sanjay Leela Bhansali's epic saga 'Love & War.' See you at the movies." It came with the signatures of the lead trio: Ranbir Kapoor, Alia Bhatt, and Vicky Kaushal.

On the other hand, Ran-

Amitabh Bachchan showcases his driving skills as he steps out in city in luxurious car



Mumbai
Megastar Amitabh Bachchan stepped out in the city on

Wednesday evening, and what truly caught everyone's attention was his driving mode.

The 'Agnepath' star was spotted behind the wheel of his luxurious BMW in Juhu, flashing a warm smile and waving at the paparazzi from his window.

At 83, if driving in style isn't cool, then what is?

Meanwhile, on the work front, Amitabh Bachchan is currently busy hosting the 17th season of Kaun Banega Crorepati (KBC).

Recently, Punjabi actor-singer Diljit Dosanjh appeared on the show, where he not only took part in a quiz but also enthralled the audience on the sets with his fun-filled conversations and, of course, his songs.

In one of the promos, Diljit Dosanjh was seen humbly touching Amitabh Bachchan's feet to seek his blessings, to which Big B responded with a warm, heartfelt hug.

One of the most endearing moments came when Bachchan lovingly called

Diljit "Punjab de putra" (son of Punjab).

"Punjab de putra Diljit Dosanjh ka main hardik abhinandan karta hun," Amitabh Bachchan said.

Big B took over hosting duties for the quiz show in 2000 and has since become its enduring face, with only one brief hiatus.

In 2006, Shah Rukh Khan stepped in to host the show's third season, but Bachchan soon returned to reclaim the chair, continuing his iconic association with the show ever since.



Kylie Jenner reacts to breakup rumours with Timothee Chalamet

Washington

Media personality Kylie Jenner is shutting down the rumours that she and Timothee Chalamet have parted ways, according to Page Six. She "liked" an Instagram video posted by Chalamet just hours after reports of their alleged split surfaced. "MARTY SUUUUUUUUU-UPREME," the 'Dune' actor captioned the post featuring a trailer for his upcoming film, "Marty Supreme," according to Page Six.

Jenner cleared all the rumours by giving Chalamet's post a thumbs up, showing fans that they are on good terms, according to Page Six.

They also sparked split speculation after Chalamet was nowhere to be seen at the star-studded 70th birthday party for Kylie's mom, Kris Jenner, this weekend, as per Page Six.

However, multiple sources told People that Jenner and Timothee are still together and doing "great."

Eddie Murphy talks about his 50-year career, life in new documentary

Washington
Actor and comedian Eddie Murphy opened up about his 50-year career and how his life has changed with time.

Eddie said, "My most important blessing is that I love myself," the legendary comedian and movie star said in an interview, according to People.

"I've always loved myself, always been my biggest fan. That's at the core of all of the decisions that you make. Some people go through their

whole lives and get to the end and say, 'I finally love myself.' I started out that way."

Next year marks the somewhat reclusive icon's 50th year in show business, "In a business where people come and go, most people don't get 50 years," he said, according to People.

Murphy first broke through in the 1980s as a young stand-out in stand-up and on Saturday Night Live, before kicking off a string of early box-office successes, including 48 hrs, Trading Places, and Bev-

erly Hills Cop. The ensuing decades brought more hits, including The Nutty Professor, Dreamgirls, and Shrek, as well as a few flops, such as The Adventures of Pluto Nash.

Talking about his latest Netflix documentary, 'Being Eddie', he noted, "Being Eddie is a great thing," he said. "It's just a unique life that I've had."

"I'm sure it affected me a bunch of different ways," he said of losing the man he had seen fighting with his mom from his earliest days.

