



Smriti Mandhana, Palaash Muchhal groove to 'Tene Leke' at pre-wedding celebrations



Ukraine Western allies meet in Geneva to discuss US peace plan

South Africa in pole position after Muthusamy ton, Jansen 93



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India win inaugural T20 Blind Women's World Cup

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India diversifies export basket as shipments to US decline: SBI research report

No plan to bring Bill on Chandigarh: Centre

A row broke out after Parliament's bulletin showed a proposal to bring Chandigarh under Article 240, which would let the president frame regulations and legislate directly for the Union Territory.

New Delhi
In the line of fire over its move on Chandigarh's administrative structure, the Centre on Sunday said no final decision has been taken on the proposal and asserted that it does not aim to change traditional arrangements between the Union territory and Punjab and Haryana.



The row erupted over a bulletin of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha which showed that the Centre has proposed to include the Union territory of Chandigarh under the ambit of Article 240 of the Constitution, empowering the president to make regulations for the UT and legislate directly. This could pave the way for the appointment of an independent administrator in Chandigarh, similar to when it had an independent chief secretary in the past.

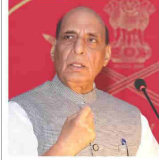
With the development triggering a political storm in Punjab, the Union home ministry said no final decision has been taken on the proposal to "simplify law-making" in Chandigarh, asserting that it does not aim to change traditional arrangements between the Union territory and Punjab and Haryana. Chandigarh is the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana.

CONT'D ON PAGE-2

Bangladesh reaches out to India to extradite Hasina

Dhaka
Bangladesh's interim government has sent an "official letter" to India seeking the extradition of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina after a special tribunal sentenced her to death, a senior adviser said on Sunday.
"The letter was sent the day before yesterday," Foreign Affairs Adviser Md Touhid Hossain was quoted as saying by the state-run BSS news agency.
He, however, did not provide further details. Citing an official source at the foreign ministry, the agency said that the note verbal (official diplomatic letter) was sent through the Bangladesh High Commission in New Delhi. Agency

'Borders not permanent, Sindh may return to India': Rajnath Singh



New Delhi
Sindh region, known as the homeland of the Sindh people, has been a significant part of India's civilisation and was also the centre of the Indus Valley Civilisation. The region became part of Pakistan with the partition in 1947.
Addressing the Sindh Samaj Sammelan Program in Delhi, Rajnath Singh said, "This is Advani's quote. Today, the land of Sindh may not be a part of India, but civilisationally, Sindh will always be a part of India. And as far as land is concerned, borders can change. Who knows, tomorrow Sindh may return to India again."
Rajnath Singh also highlighted the cultural significance of the region in Indian civilisation. Agency

Rahul named captain for SA ODIs; Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma included

New Delhi
Senior batter K L Rahul was on Sunday named India's captain for the upcoming three-match ODI series against South Africa, while veteran all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja returned to the white-ball set-up after an eight-



month hiatus. Rahul was handed the reins of the team after

regular skipper Shubman Gill was ruled out of the series due to a neck injury that he sustained during the first Test against South Africa in Kolkata. Rahul has been given the captaincy with the short-term goal of the South Africa series in mind. Agency

High command will decide: Kharge on Karnataka CM change

New Delhi
As speculation around the chief minister change in Karnataka refuses to die down, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday said that the party high command will decide whatever it is, and he has nothing to say now. The All India Congress



Committee chief stated this, a day after his more

than an hour long meeting with chief minister Siddaramaiah here. "I have nothing to say about the developments that have happened. So you (media) standing here is a waste of your time and I too feel bad. Whatever it is, the high command will do it. There is no need for you to worry more about it,"

Kharge told reporters outside his residence in Bengaluru. The power tussle within the ruling party has intensified, amid speculations about chief minister change in the state, after the Congress government reached the halfway mark of its five-year term on November 20. Agency

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शहीदी दिवस
श्री गुरु तेग बहादुर साहिब जी

ॐ
तिलक जंजू राखा प्रभ ता का ॥
कीनो बडो कलू महि साका ॥

संस्कृत एवम्
दिल्ली सरकार

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री श्री अमित शाह जी गुरु चरणों में शीश नवायेंगे

सोमवार, 24 नवंबर 2025

समागम के मुख्य बिंदु

श्री गुरु तेग बहादुर जी की जीवनी पर लाइट एंड साउंड शो	श्री गुरु तेग बहादुर जी संग्रहालय	कीर्तन दरवार और कवि दरवार
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संगतों के लिए टेंट सिटी एवं लंगर सेवा

समय - शाम 5:45 बजे से | स्थान - लाल किला मैदान, दिल्ली

“ श्री गुरु तेग बहादुर साहिब जी के बलिदान ने भारत की अनेकों पीढ़ियों को अपनी संस्कृति की रक्षा और उसके सम्मान के लिए, जीने और मर-जिटने की प्रेरणा दी - नरेन्द्र मोदी

No plan to bring Bill on Chandigarh: Centre

CONT'D FROM PAGE-1
"The proposal only to simplify the central government's law-making process for the Union territory of Chandigarh is still under consideration with the central government. No final decision has been taken on this proposal," a home ministry spokesperson said in a statement.

Allaying concerns raised by political leaders in Punjab regarding the proposal, the ministry said the proposal in no way seeks to alter Chandigarh's governance or administrative structure, nor does it aim to change "traditional arrangements between Chandigarh and the states of Punjab or Haryana".

A suitable decision will be taken only after adequate consultations with all stakeholders, keeping in mind the interests of Chandigarh. There is no need for any concern on this matter. The central government has no intention of introducing any Bill to this effect in the upcoming Winter session of Parliament," it said.

The move had sparked outrage in Punjab, with the ruling AAP, Congress, and Shiromani Akali Dal criticising the Bharatiya Janata Party-led Centre, accusing the government of attempting to "snatch" Chandigarh from Punjab.

Kejriwal vehemently opposed the Centre's proposed move, calling it a "direct attack" on Punjab's identity and constitutional rights.

"The BJP-led central government's attempt to eliminate Punjab's rights over Chandigarh through constitutional amendment is not part of a simple move, but a direct attack on Punjab's identity and constitutional rights. This mentality of undermining the federal structure and depriving Punjab of its rights is extremely dangerous," Kejriwal said in a post on X.

"Punjab, which has always sacrificed for the nation's security, food, water, and humanity, is today being deprived of its own share. This is not just an administrative decision, but akin to wounding the soul of Punjab."

SIR not reform but imposed oppression: Cong after death of some booth-level officers

New Delhi
The Congress on Sunday targeted the BJP over the death of some booth-level officers engaged in the special intensive revision of electoral rolls in various states, terming the exercise an "imposed oppression" and a "deliberate ploy under which citizens are being harassed".

The deaths of booth-level officers (BLOs) due to unnecessary pressure are being ignored as "collateral damage", the opposition party alleged.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi alleged that chaos has been "created" across the country in the name of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

"The result? Sixteen BLOs have lost their lives in three weeks. Heart attacks, stress, suicide -- SIR is not a reform, it is an imposed oppression," he said in a post in Hindi on X.

The Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha further said the Election Commission of India has created a system where citizens have to sift through thousands of scanned pages of 22-year-old voter lists to find their names.

"The objective is clear: to tire out genuine voters and allow voter fraud to continue unabated," he alleged.

India develops cutting-edge software for the world, but the Election Commission of India is still adamant on creating a jungle of paperwork, Gandhi said.

"If the intentions were clear, the list would be digital, searchable, and machine-readable, and the ECI would have taken its time to focus on transparency and accountability instead of rushing through the work in a 30-day hurry," the former Congress chief claimed.

"SIR is a deliberate ploy under which citizens are being harassed and deaths of BLOs due to unnecessary pressure are being ignored as 'col-



lateral damage," Gandhi said, adding, "This is not a failure, it is a conspiracy; democracy is being sacrificed to protect power."

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge also slammed the BJP over the issue and claimed the "hasty" implementation of the SIR exercise is reminiscent of demonetisation and the

COVID-19 lockdown.

He said the BJP's "vote churning" has now taken a deadly turn.

On X, Kharge shared a media report which claimed that in 19 days, there have been deaths of 16 BLOs during the SIR of the electoral rolls. The workload is forcing BLOs and polling officers to commit suicide, the Congress chief

claimed. "My deepest condolences to every family who has lost a loved one. Based on ground reality, this number is far higher than reported, which is extremely worrying. Who will provide justice to these families?" Kharge posed in his X post in Hindi.

"The BJP is busy enjoying the fruits of stolen power, while the Election Commission is watching as a mute spectator. The hasty, unplanned, forced implementation of SIR is reminiscent of demonetization and the COVID-19 lockdown," he charged.

The BJP's hunger for power is driving instead of collapsing, shredding the Constitution, and weakening democracy through misuse of power, he alleged.

"Enough is enough! If we still don't wake up, no one can save the last pillars of democracy from collapsing. Those who remain silent on SIR and vote theft

are responsible for the deaths of these innocent BLOs. Raise your voice, save democracy!" Kharge said.

A woman working as a Booth Level Officer (BLO) in West Bengal's Nadia district was found hanging at her residence on Saturday, with her family members claiming that she was under considerable SIR work-related stress and died by suicide, police said.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee expressed shock over the BLO's death and said this has become "truly alarming now".

In a "suicide note" shared by the chief minister on social media, the woman held the ECI responsible.

Senior BJP leader Rahul Sinha, however, claimed that the suicide note was 'fake'. Also, two teachers who worked as BLOs for the SIR exercise died of "illness" in Raiganj and Damoh districts of Madhya Pradesh on Friday.

Dalai Lama in 'very good' health making China 'restless' Tibetan leader

Lucknow

The health of the Dalai Lama, who turned 90 this July, continues to be "very good", Penpa Tsering, the leader of the Central Tibetan Administration, said on Sunday, adding that the spiritual leader's longevity was making China "restless".

"They (Chinese) are waiting for the present Dalai Lama to die. But the Dalai Lama keeps saying that he would live another 20 years, maybe till 130 years. His health is very good. So I keep saying that let us see if Communism outlives the Dalai Lama or he outlives Communism," Tsering said shortly after his arrival in Lucknow on a two-day visit.

Timed around his 90th birthday celebrations in Dharamsala, a major hub for the Tibetan diaspora and culture in Himachal Pradesh, the 14th Dalai Lama had put speculation to rest by saying that he does not have a successor, though he didn't make it clear if that would be through reincarnation or emanation.

According to popular Tibetan belief, Dalai Lamas are "reincarnated" after death.

Advt Contact: 9818-799941

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is for the information of general public that my client Smt. Usha Peter Wife of Sh. Late Goodson Peter Presently At: H.No. 94/1, Sector-14, Connaught Place, North Delhi-110086, have discovered and disinherited his son Mr. Sahaj Peter in all manners being disloyal and dishonest towards them. He shall have no right, claim, interest or concern over all movable and immovable properties of my client in any manner whatsoever. My client shall not be held responsible for any of his acts or deeds in any manner whatsoever.

Rahul Kumar Advocate
Ch. No. 729/A, Lawyer's Chambers Western Wing, The Hazrat Courts, Delhi-54. Mobile No. 9910929435

PUBLIC NOTICE

MY CLIENTS KRISHAN LAL, SO JAINA DAS, AND SAROJ RANI MOHTA KRISHAN LAL, SO H. NO. CD-108, SECTOR-14, HAZRAT COURTS, NORTH WEST DELHI-110034, DELHI have sever all relations and severed their son SMT. KAMNA ARORA and her wife SMT. ALISHA ARORA and their daughter ALISHA ARORA from all their movable and immovable properties due to disobedience and out of control and presently not residing with us. My clients will not be held responsible for any of their acts/deeds in future.

NARENDER GABA ADVOCATE
CH. NO. B-14, 137-138, SECTOR-14, HAZRAT COURTS, DELHI-110085. Mobile No. : 851007825

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is given to general public at large that our client MR. PRAKASH SHARMA & MRS. BABLI SHARMA who were purchasing the Plot No. 96 (Part), area measuring 50 Sq. Yds, out of Khirana No. 04 situated at Vishnu Garden, Village Bhatta Hazipur, Pargana Loni, Tehsil and Distt. Ghazibad, U.P. vide virtue of Regd. Ch. No. 114/2009 in favour of Doc. No. 510, (SR-Ghazibad).

Original Sale Deed dated 30/11/1991 as Doc. No. 5268 & Notarized ATP & Will dated 09/02/2009 in respect of the said property has been lost and our client intending to purchase above said property and same is intended to mortgage the same property for the financial assistance from Hinduja Housing Finance Ltd. (HIFL) to comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person(s) having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property please write to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.

Vinayak Law Associates Advocate & Consultants
Office Address: -114, Second Floor, C.T. Road, Karol Bagh, Mohan Nagar Ghazibad, U.P. Mobile No. 8287791054

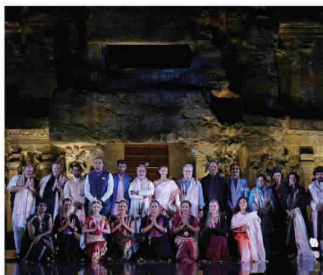
AIKYAM Finale Lights Up Ajanta-Ellora with a Global Salute to UN at 80

Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj

AIKYAM 2025, the three-day cultural celebration hosted by Sopan, concluded today at the UNESCO World Heritage Sites of Ajanta and Ellora with a vibrant tribute to the 80th anniversary of the United Nations.

Set against the dramatic backdrop of the rock-cut caves, the festival brought together artists, historians, diplomats and cultural leaders from around the world for an immersive blend of heritage, performance and global dialogue.

The event drew senior representatives from UNESCO, Maharashtra Tourism and the Municipal Corporation of Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj, along with diplomats from more than 30 countries. Among those present were Maharashtra Tourism Principal Secretary Sanjay Khandare, UNESCO India Director Dr. Timothy Curtis and Municipal Commissioner G. Sureshkhanna. High Commissioners from the



United Kingdom and New Zealand, and the Ambassadors of France, China, Belgium, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, Spain and Thailand were also in attendance, underscoring AIKYAM's message of international unity and responsible cultural engagement.

Khandare said Maharashtra is positioning itself as a leading global cultural destination, with Ajanta and Ellora at the heart of that vision. He described AIKYAM as a reminder of the state's long tradition of connecting faiths and nurturing artistic exchange while reflecting the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam. Sopan Co-Founder Siddhant Mohta said the festival was designed as a transformative cultural experience that brings heritage, performance and dialogue together to strengthen global understanding. He called AIKYAM a confluence of art, culture and spirituality aligned with the UN's founding ideals.

As night fell at the Kai-

Crystal Fortress: A Wake-Up Call, Not Just a Victory

Mitali Chandola

New Delhi
The recent bust of a massive trans-national methamphetamine network under Operation Crystal Fortress is being celebrated as a landmark achievement and rightly so. The joint operation by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and Delhi Police, which led to the seizure of 328 kilograms of high-grade methamphetamine worth ₹292 crore from a house in Delhi's Chhatrapur, is among the capital's largest-ever captures of synthetic drugs. Union Home Minister Amit Shah hailed the effort, calling it a reflection of the government's accelerated dismantling of drug syndicates and a step toward Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a drug-free India.

But beyond the numbers and the applause lies a deeper narrative of scrutiny, continuity and urgency. The seizure is not merely a policing milestone; it is a mirror reflecting an uncomfortable reality: India is no longer just a consumer territory. It is a logistics hub in a growing global narco economy.

Synthetic drugs are the new currency of trans-national crime networks. Unlike opium-based substances, methamphetamine can be manufactured anywhere, silently, without fields, seasons, or harvest. It thrives in apartments, warehouse basements, and rented farmhouses. The Chhatrapur safehouse wasn't an aberration — it was a symptom.

The arrest of two individuals, including a woman from Nagaland, and the identification of an overseas kingpin linked to a previous 82.5 kg cocaine case, reveal a critical truth: India's narcotics challenge is no longer street-level peddling but corporate-level operational sophistication. Couriers, layered handlers, encrypted

communication, international networks — this is organised crime with supply chains.

Operation Crystal Fortress must not become another headline that fades once applause ends. It must become a template — not an exception.

The government's "top-to-bottom and bottom-to-top" strategy is promising, as is the emphasis on multi-agency coordination. However, enforcement alone cannot win this war. Demand reduction, social intelligence, citizen reporting, and rehabilitation must become parallel priorities. The existence of helplines like MANAS (1933) is a start — but awareness must match enforcement.

India stands at an inflection point. Either we build stronger institutions, sharper intelligence, and resilient communities — or we surrender urban skyline lines and border districts to a silent chemical invasion.

Bihar Day Celebrated at International Trade Fair with Vibrant Pavilion Exhibits and Cultural Programmes

New Delhi

Bihar Day was celebrated today at the International Trade Fair at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. The Industry Department of the Government of Bihar and the Bihar Information Centre jointly organised a press conference and a cultural programme at Amphitheatre-1, where folk artists from Bihar performed traditional songs, music, and dances to entertain visitors.

Shri Kundan Kumar (IAS), Resident Commissioner and Investment Commissioner of the Government of Bihar and Managing Director of BIADA, along with Anil Kumar, Joint Secretary of the Industry Department, briefed the media on the state's industrial and investment initiatives. Ved Vriti, Assistant Director of the Bihar Information Centre, moderated the press conference, while senior officials, including Pavilion Director Sanjay Kumar Singh, attended the event.



highlighted that the Bihar Pavilion at the 44th International Trade Fair reflects this year's theme, Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat, and showcases the state's cultural heritage and development achievements. Bihar's folk artisans designed the pavilion, which features replicas of the proposed Sita Mata Temple at Punaura Dham, the Pawapuri Temple, the Mahabodhi Temple, and cultural motifs such as Rajgir's Peace Pagoda and Patna Metro. The

central hall includes an exhibit inspired by the Bihar Museum, attracting significant visitor attention.

Inviting investors to explore opportunities in Bihar, Shri Kumar said that the Bihar Industrial Investment Policy 2025 offers some of India's most attractive incentives. He explained that investors committing ₹100 crore will receive 10 acres of land for a token amount of ₹1,000 crore

will receive 25 acres of free land, and Fortune 500 companies investing ₹200 crore will be allotted 10 acres of land. He added that Bihar also offers competitive subsidies, including GST-linked incentives, positioning the state as a promising destination for industrial and urban development.

The Bihar Pavilion features 65 stalls representing handloom, handicrafts, the Bihar Khadi Board, JEEVIKA, BIADA, the Tourism Department, and private enterprises. It includes stalls from JEEVIKA women's groups, Amrapali Emporium, Sudha Dairy, and displays of rice varieties such as Katerni, Swarn Mansoori, and Sonam, along with other artisanal products. Live folk performances engage visitors, while the food court, "Didi Ki Rasoi," operated by JEEVIKA self-help groups, serves traditional Bihar cuisine. The pavilion highlights women's contributions in line with their theme.

One World One Family Mission celebrated the 100th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba

New Delhi

The One World One Family Mission celebrated the 100th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Sri Sathya Sai Baba with the One World One Family World Cultural Festival 2025, held from August 16 to November 23, 2025, in Sathya Sai Grama.

This unique festival united 100 countries, showcasing diverse cultural expressions through music, art, dance, and community service.

The festival honored 100 humanitarians, over 140 corporate organizations, and more than 45 global leaders in various fields for their contributions to social upliftment and service.

The Mission launched several significant initiatives in nutrition, education, and healthcare, reflecting Bhagwan Baba's message of "Love All, Serve All." Key achievements included the dedication of 126 private healthcare centers and



the upcoming inauguration of the world's largest free private 600-bed hospital, aimed at making healthcare accessible to everyone. The festival concluded with a grand musical performance featuring 450 musicians from 60 countries, a large choir, and members of India's Sai Symphony Orchestra.

Throughout the festival, the theme of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, meaning the world is one family, was empha-

sized, highlighting humanity's unity. Notable spiritual leaders shared wisdom and reinforced the belief that "Unity is Divinity," and "Purity is Enlightenment." The festival also recognized impactful leaders and changemakers from technology, science, and social enterprises who strive to improve the world. Notable awardees included prominent figures such as Sri R. C. Bhargava and Dr. Sudhir Prativastava.

RTI review meeting held

Noida: State Information Commissioner Rakesh Kumar held a review meeting on Sunday regarding the effective implementation of the Right to Information Act 2005 in various departments of the Gautam Buddha Nagar district.

In the meeting held in the auditorium of Gautam Buddha University, the State Information Commissioner said that disposal of the RTI cases is the primary responsibility of all departments. Do not delay in providing the information sought under the Right to Information Act.

He directed that action should be taken on priority basis in cases related to the poor and the oppressed class so that their problems can be resolved. He said that if any application is related to any other department, then it should be transferred to the department concerned within five days and the applicant should also be provided with its information.

The officials concerned from the departments like police, revenue, education, excise, irrigation, electricity to name a few were present in the meeting.

Sports park to be built at Jewar

Noida: The groundbreaking ceremony for the 'Kheelo Yuva Sports Park' was held at Gopalgarh village, Jewar here on Sunday. This village lies adjacent to the Aligarh district and Haryana border.

Jewar MLA Dharendra Singh attended the chief guest. He stated that this sports park, built at a cost of approximately Rs 2 crore, will play a key role in expanding sports facilities in the district and provide modern amenities to the youth.

A large number of villagers and women participated in the aforesaid event. MLA Singh informed that the project has been approved by the District Mineral Trust and its construction will be carried out by the Public Works Department. He stated that the government's aim is to provide high-quality sports facilities in rural areas.

He further said that sports provide personality development, discipline, self-confidence, and opportunities for national advancement. The sports park to be built at Gopalgarh will inject new energy and direction into the youth and women of the region.

The villagers expressed hope that the construction of this sports park would provide better opportunities to hone the region's sporting talent. They believe that this would give the village a new identity in the sports world.

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CM Gupta appeals for overwhelming support to BJP in MCD by-elections

Staff Reporter New Delhi: Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday campaigned extensively in various wards for the Delhi Municipal Corporation by-elections, urging voters to support the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

She highlighted the achievements of her government over the past eight months, emphasizing the focus on improving residents' lives and daily convenience through development initiatives.

During her campaign, the Chief Minister held public meetings and interacted with residents in several wards, including Ashok Vihar, Dwarka-B, Greater Kailash, Vinod Nagar, Naraina, and Sangam Vihar-A.

She called for strong support for BJP candidates and was joined by various party leaders, local dignitaries, and many residents.

In her addresses, Gupta outlined key government accomplishments, particularly in healthcare, with the rollout of the Ayushman Bharat scheme providing significant free treatment for eligible residents.

She also discussed efforts to enhance the business environment by addressing issues like rising school fees and noted ongoing infrastructure improvements, such as better roads, street light-



Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday campaigned extensively in various wards for the Delhi Municipal Corporation by-elections, urging voters to support the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

60 BLOs, 7 supervisors booked for 'negligence' in SIR of voters' list in G B Nagar



Noida: The Gautam Buddha Nagar district administration has taken major action against negligence during the Special Revision (SIR) of the voters' list in the district under section 32 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Under the directives of the Election Commission of India (ECI), a special intensive revision programme of electoral rolls of assembly constituencies is being carried out in the district under the leadership of district magistrate/district election officer Medha Rupam from November 4, 2025 to De-

cerned in the special revision work in the assembly constituency 61-Noida.

At the same time, the sub-district magistrate, Sadar/electoral registration officer lodged an FIR at Ecotech One, Greater Noida police station against 32 BLOs and 1 supervisor for negligence, indifference and disobeying the orders of higher officials concerned in the revision work in the assembly constituency 62-Dadri.

The sub-district magistrate, Dadri/electoral registration officer lodged an FIR at Dadri police station against 11 BLOs and six supervisors for negligence and disobeying the instructions of higher officials

CM Rekha Gupta Urges Voters to Support the Lotus, Highlighting Eight Months of Her Government's Development Work.

ing, sanitation, and public-space beautification.

At events in Wazirpur, Dwarka, and Sangam Vihar, the Chief Minister recognized the essential role of party workers and Panna Pramukhs, describing them as crucial to the campaign's success. She encouraged them to ensure that development efforts reach every household.

Observing strong public turnout and enthusiasm, Gupta expressed confidence in a BJP victory in the elections, saying the support from residents indicates positive outcomes.

She specifically urged voters to choose several named candidates from various wards to continue the government's development journey effectively.

NCB Special Cell seizes 328 Kg Meth in Chhatarpur Bust

New Delhi: The Narcotics Control Bureau and the Special Cell of Delhi Police have busted a transnational methamphetamine cartel with the recovery of 328 kg of the contraband, worth around Rs 262 crore, from a house in Delhi's Chhatarpur, a government statement issued on Sunday said.

The crackdown, named "Operation Crystal Fortress" – a coordinated intelligence-based operation targeting high-volume synthetic drug networks – resulted in the arrest of two individuals, including a woman from Nagaland, on November 20, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) statement said.

Stated to be one of the biggest recoveries of the illicit substance in the national capital, the massive cache of high-quality methamphetamine was unearthed at the residence of the Nagaland-native woman in south Delhi's Chhatarpur, and she was arrested with the support of Nagaland police, the ministry said.

Union Home Minister



Amit Shah has congratulated the joint team of the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) and Delhi Police for busting the transnational methamphetamine cartel and recovering drugs worth Rs 262 crore.

Petrol-diesel delivery vehicles banned in Noida, GreNo

Noida: Petrol-diesel delivery vehicles have been banned in Noida in a decision made regarding delivery services in Noida and Greater Noida.

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has ordered that starting January 1, 2026, no e-commerce or online delivery company will be able to use petrol or diesel-powered vehicles.

The officials concerned clarified that from 2026, only CNG or electric vehicles will be valid for delivery services. Therefore, companies and delivery partners should begin the necessary preparations now to avoid any future inconveniences.

This decision was taken with the aim of improving the city's air quality and reducing pollution levels. As a result of this initiative, the landscape of delivery services in Noida will change and soon, only clean-fuelled vehicles will be seen plugging the roads.

The Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) has ordered that starting January 1, 2026, no e-commerce or online delivery company will be able to use petrol or diesel-powered vehicles.

DPCC expresses concern over vote theft in Ashok Vihar ward

Staff Reporter New Delhi: Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee President Devender Yadav has written a letter to commissioner of Delhi state election commission Vijay Dev expressing concern over the vote theft in Ashok Vihar ward.

Yadav asserted that such deliberate vote theft should be corrected in all the wards of the corporation by-elections with immediate effect from the election disqualification, otherwise we will be forced to take to the streets to protect the rights of the voters.

In the letter, Yadav said that the photograph of the same person in ward No. 65, Ashok Vihar Ward has been put up 93 times in booth No. 11, Wazirpur Industrial Area. Most of the workers live in this area, which simply means that the right to vote of 90 labour voters will be taken away under a conspiracy, which is not only illegal but also against democratic beliefs.

Delhi Speaker Gupta Leads Key Meet Ahead of 75th Constitution Day

Staff Reporter New Delhi: The Delhi Legislative Assembly is making detailed preparations for the 75th Constitution Day Celebrations, to take place on 26 November 2025.

Speaker Vijender Gupta chaired a high-level meeting with senior officials from Delhi Police, Public Works Department, Horticulture Department, and the Assembly Secretariat to review the arrangements. The event will honor the adoption of the Indian Constitution by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949.

A key feature of the celebration will be the unveiling of a Coffee Table Book by Hon'ble Vice President of India, Shri C. P. Radhakrishnan. This book commemorates 100 years since Shri Vithalbhai Patel became the first Indian



Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Sunday chaired a high-level meeting with senior officials from Delhi Police, Public Works Department, Horticulture Department, and the Assembly Secretariat to review the arrangements.

Jackals escape Delhi zoo 1 herded back probe launched

New Delhi: Delhi zoo authorities launched a search operation to locate a few jackals who may have escaped from their enclosures into the forested belt behind the animal exhibits, officials said on Sunday.

Three to four jackals were spotted in the bushy forested area on Saturday morning near the off-display jackal holding zone close to Azimjanj Sarai in Beat No. 10 of the National Zoological Park, they said.

One jackal was successfully herded back into the enclosure on Sunday morning, while teams continued efforts to locate and bring in the remaining animals, they said.

According to a statement issued by the Delhi zoo administration, the trap cages were placed, and staff were deployed to guide the animals back to the holding enclosure.

A tranquillisation team also remains on standby, they added.

One official said the jackals slipped out from the rear side of the enclosure, which opens into a dense forest patch forming the zoo's outer boundary. This ensured there was no threat to visitors, who remained unaware of the situation.

The animals are suspected to have taken advantage of a gap in the fencing at the back of the enclosure. Zoo



Delhi zoo authorities launched a search operation to locate a few jackals who may have escaped from their enclosures into the forested belt behind the animal exhibits, officials said on Sunday.

teams have been deployed across the forested area to locate and secure them, he said.

Zoo authorities formally confirmed the incident on Sunday.

The Joint Director of the National Zoological Park has been asked to conduct an inquiry into the incident and submit a report, the statement said. The section where the breach occurred is now being examined to determine how the animals managed to get through.

Four New Labour Codes: A Historic Reform that Empowers Every Worker

India took a decisive leap on 21 November 2025, one that has been delayed for over seven decades. With the rollout of the four new Labour Codes, the Modi Government has finally swept away the tangled web of 29 outdated, colonial-era laws written in the 1930s to 1950s. Those laws belonged to a different India; not the world's fastest-growing major economy aspiring to become Viksit Bharat by 2047. In one stroke, that old system has been replaced with a modern, unified, pro-worker, pro-industry framework designed for ambition, mobility and dignity. As the Prime Minister often says, "Naye Bharat ka shramik majboor nahi, majboot hai."

For the first time, India's labour landscape speaks one language. Wages now have one national definition, ending decades of confusion that let arbitrary payments and exploitation thrive. This change is a historic reform carried out under the Code on Wages, 2019, which unified four earlier wage-related laws and established a clear, uniform wage framework for the entire country. Minimum wages apply to every worker across sectors, overtime must be paid at double rates, and gender discrimination is illegal: full stop. Even transgender workers stand protected in law. This is the kind of transparent, just framework that workers in the Indian economy deserve. And this, too, is where Modi's governance philosophy comes alive: simple rules, fair outcomes, and a system that treats every worker with respect.

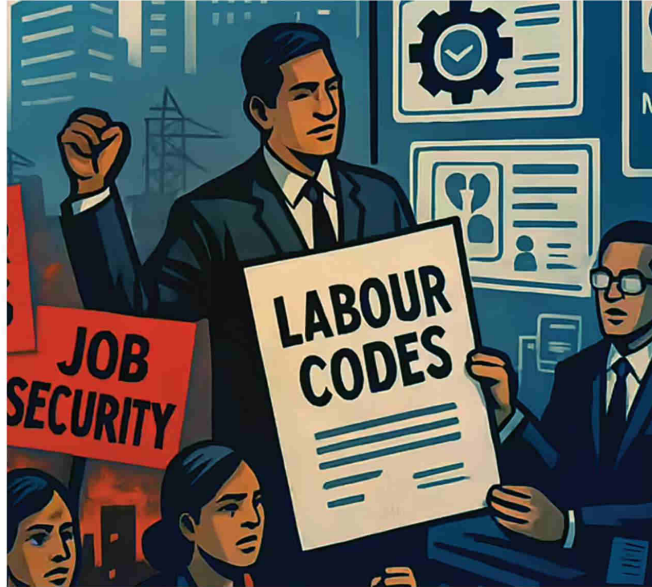
The reforms go far deeper than the headline numbers. The Industrial Relations Code, 2020 makes grievance redressal real: committees must have women members, fixed-term employment now guarantees social security and gratuity without trapping employers in outdated restrictions, and work-from-home finally finds a place in Indian law. Digitalisation ensures fewer disputes and faster justice. Yeh hai asli ease of living aur ease of doing business, working together instead of working at odds.

But perhaps the most transformational change is in the Social Security Code, 2020. India has become one of the first nations to bring gig and platform workers (delivery partners, cab drivers, app-based freelancers) into the formal safety net. A dedicated fund, mandatory contributions from aggregators, universal social-security portability and expanded family definitions for women employees reflect a welfare architecture built for the 21st-century workforce. When a gig worker delivering food at midnight gets legal recognition and future protection, it signals a country whose development model includes everyone, not just the privileged few.



By Kapil Mishra

Delhi Cabinet Minister (L&J)



The gains of reforms are already visible in states that moved early. Gujarat recorded 13.36% GSDP growth between 2022-23 and 2023-24, with manufacturing contributing an impressive 28-30%, well above the national average. Andhra Pradesh's reforms helped add 5.7 lakh organised manufacturing

jobs, the largest jump among all states. Uttar Pradesh added 7.4 lakh workers in organised manufacturing over last 5 years, Rajasthan saw a 13% surge in female workers after allowing women to work night shifts, and Haryana's unemployment rate fell sharply from 9.3% to 3.4%. These are not abstract numbers; they are evidence that when states embrace reforms, rozgar badhta hai, nivesh aata hai, aur parivartan zameen par dikhta hai.

Safety and dignity, long overlooked in Indian labour laws, finally stand front and centre. The new Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 ensures every establishment with ten or more workers must meet modern safety standards, migrant workers receive formal protection, women can work in all sectors including night shifts with proper safeguards, and mandatory health check-ups and appointment letters become the norm. Even a single worker involved in hazardous activity is now covered. The days of "adjust kar lo" workplace culture are over; the law now recognises the inherent dignity of labour.

Politically, this reform marks a clear contrast between PM Modi's governance and decades of stagnation under the previous governments. For years, successive governments promised labour reform but hesitated. Complexities, pressure groups and inertia ensured nothing changed. Modi's government has done what others only debated, aligning India's labour regime with global standards while keeping workers at the centre. This positions the BJP as the genuine champion of the working class: factory floor workers, gig-economy youth, migrant families, women entering new sectors, and MSME employees who have long lived in the shadows of informality. Jo kaam duron ne 70 saal tak nahi kiya, woh kaam Modi sarkar ne ek faisle se kar dikhaaya.

In the end, these Labour Codes are more than administrative reform. They are a shift in national character. For workers, they mean rights without hurdles. For industry, compliance without harassment. For India, they mean productivity, formality and growth, aligned with the standards of nations we aim to compete with, not trails we hope to follow. This is not just an economic reform. It is a civilisational step toward a New India where every worker stands taller, every industry moves faster, and every aspiration finds a fair chance.

Sunil Singh: The Indian-American Entrepreneur Who Built a Pizza Empire in the United States

In the vast landscape of American entrepreneurship, where ambition meets opportunity, few stories shine as brightly as that of Mr. Sunil Singh, an Indian-origin businessman who has risen to become one of the most prominent Papa John's franchise owners in the United States. From humble beginnings to controlling dozens of franchise outlets across the country, Singh's journey reflects the spirit of resilience, discipline, and community commitment that define remarkable immigrant success stories. This Friday, Mr. Singh celebrated his birthday in the United States in the presence of his family, close friends, community members, and long-time employees—a warm and meaningful occasion that also served as a reminder of the extraordinary path he has carved over the past two decades.

Sunil Singh arrived in the United States in the mid-1990s with little more than determination and a dream. Like many newcomers, he worked a series of small jobs to survive—kitchen shifts, fast-food counters, long delivery routes, and other entry-level work that demanded stamina and patience. These early roles, though modest, became the building blocks of his future. They taught him the practical fundamentals of the restaurant business: punctuality, customer service, operational discipline, people management, and the importance of teamwork. He often says that every job teaches something, and no work is ever wasted. Those lessons stayed with him when he finally found his true calling in the food and quick-service restaurant industry.

After years of saving, observing, and learning, Singh made the bold decision in 2002 to purchase his first Papa John's franchise. This was not an easy step for someone with limited capital, but it was a calculated leap backed by discipline, research, and unwavering confidence. The success of his first outlet soon became the foundation for his expansion. Over the next several years, he acquired more franchises across multiple states, growing steadily and strategically. His business philosophy was simple: grow slowly but consistently, reinvest profits, avoid unnecessary loans, train staff well, and maintain strict quality standards. Today, he is counted among the most successful Indian-origin franchise owners in America, controlling dozens of Papa John's outlets and additional businesses such as Tropical Smoothie Café. His enterprises employ hundreds of people and serve thousands of customers each day, making him an important contributor to local economies and a significant presence in the American food service industry.

What makes Sunil Singh stand out is not just the size of his business empire but the values he has infused into it. He is known for his grounded nature, humility, and people-first approach. For him, success is not only about profits but also about relationships. Many of his employees describe him as a leader who respects everyone—be it a new trainee or a senior manager. His emphasis on training, retention, and internal growth has allowed many employees to rise through the ranks. Several long-time workers now



By Dr. Arun Singh

Editor STAR Views and Editorial Advisor Top Story, New Delhi



manage or supervise multiple outlets under his guidance. Singh has also become an important figure in the Indian-American community. He participates in cultural events, supports local organizations, donates food during emergencies, helps with charity drives, and remains connected to diasporic causes. Whether it is contributing meals during community gatherings, supporting schools, or participating in relief efforts for India during crises, his outreach has made him a beloved figure both inside and outside the business world.

Operating a multi-state franchise business is a test of discipline and efficiency. The quick-service restaurant industry demands precision, consistency, and constant adaptation to new technologies and customer expectations. Singh's success comes from his hands-on approach and his ability to implement uniform standards across all outlets. He focuses heavily on staff training, technology upgrades, supply chain

efficiency, and customer satisfaction. As digital ordering systems and delivery apps reshape the food industry, Singh has ensured that his outlets remain ahead by investing in online platforms, efficient delivery systems, and quick, contactless customer service. In an industry that faces tight labor markets, inflation, and operational challenges, Singh's ability to maintain quality while expanding steadily is a testament to his leadership and resilience.

His birthday celebration last Friday reflected everything that defines him. Rather than a grand, extravagant display, it was a heartfelt gathering that included his family, close friends, long-serving employees, and leaders from the Indian-American community. Those who attended spoke warmly about his generosity, mentorship, discipline, and dedication to the people around him. The day was marked not just as a personal milestone but as a celebration of a life that has uplifted many others. Singh himself expressed gratitude to those who supported his journey—from family members who encouraged him to employees who walked with him through every challenge.

For the younger generation of entrepreneurs, especially immigrants starting from scratch, Sunil Singh's journey is a powerful source of inspiration. It demonstrates that success is not determined by where one begins but by how persistently one works toward a goal. His story teaches important lessons: start small, learn deeply, grow steadily, respect every role, reinvest wisely, avoid unnecessary debt, and stay connected to community values. In a world where many businesses rise and fall quickly, Singh's model of slow, steady, disciplined growth stands out as a sustainable roadmap.

As he steps into a new year of life, Sunil Singh remains as ambitious as ever. With changing consumer trends, technological shifts, and new opportunities emerging in the restaurant industry, he is poised to expand further—perhaps by entering new states, strengthening his portfolio, or mentoring more young business aspirants. Yet, at the core of it all, his story will continue to be about perseverance, integrity, and gratitude.

Sunil Singh's rise—from a young immigrant doing odd jobs to a celebrated entrepreneur controlling a major franchise network—embodies the best of the immigrant dream. His life is not only a testament to personal determination but an inspiring blueprint for others who aspire to build something meaningful on foreign soil. His journey is one of ambition, humility, and service, and as he celebrated his birthday this Friday, those around him honored not just a successful businessman but a man whose life continues to inspire countless others across the United States and beyond.

Punjab govt delivers 71 Crores for Villages Honoring Guru Tegh Bahadur

Dhuri (Sangrur)
Under efforts dedicated to the 350th martyrdom day of the ninth martyrdom (Guru) Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann has distributed checks worth 71 crore rupees for the development of 142 villages and cities in the state that received the touch of Guru Sahib Ji's feet.

Today at the check distribution ceremony here, calling it a humble effort of the Punjab government, the Chief Minister said that these efforts are very small compared to Guru Sahib Ji's martyrdom, great life and philosophy but the Punjab government is fulfilling its duty as devotion and respect towards Guru Sahib Ji. He told that these grants will be used for strengthening infrastructure, facilities for the congregation (sangat), beautification of paths leading to the holy places and other necessary development works, so that these villages and cities can be equipped with modern facilities. Bhagwant Singh Mann said that this effort is an important and historic step in the direction of care of Guru Sahib Ji's holy places, their promotion and better facilities for the congregation.

In today's program, checks were handed over to sarpanchs, councillors and other elected people's representatives of villages and cities from Malwa, Doaba and Majha regions.

Mann's historic Invite to Rivals Shows Faith Above Politics

Chandigarh
What Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann has done for the 350th martyrdom anniversary celebration of Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji is truly heart-winning. CM Mann sent invitations to all opposition leaders himself and proved that at the Guru's feet, there is only devotion, not politics. Special invitations were given to Shriomani Akali Dal's Sukhbir Singh Badal, BJP's Sunil Jakhar, and Congress's Raja Warring for this historic event. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann made it clear that this celebration is not for any political gain. He said, "Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji sacrificed himself for humanity and the protection of religion. Today we have all come here, keeping our political identities aside and becoming true servants, to pay respect to Guru Ji's ideals."

The Punjab government has truly prepared at a different level this time. There were no political banners anywhere in the entire event, no show of bureaucracy - just service, dedication, and devotion. Every arrangement was so beautiful and organized that lakhs of devotees did not face any difficulty. It is true that many parties have come to Punjab who have only done politics in the name of religion. But this time, the arrangements that were seen were witnessed for the first time. Where all government officers and ministers were acting as true servants in the langar, helping the devotees.

Rajeshwar Singh steals the spotlight as Honey Singh energises Lucknow

Mitali Chandola Lucknow

What began as a high-voltage musical night in Sarojinagar soon turned into an evening that highlighted the growing connect between politics, youth culture and public outreach. While Yo Yo Honey Singh drew thousands to the Yuva Utsav Sarojinagar at Smriti Upvan on Saturday, it was BJP MLA Rajeshwar Singh who emerged as the unexpected centre of attention.

The crowd erupted when Honey Singh invited Rajeshwar Singh on stage, holding his hand as the two shared a lighthearted moment that quickly became the highlight of the night. The MLA matched steps to the music, drawing loud cheers from the audience. His easy camaraderie with the singer and his comfort on stage added a surprising but welcome twist to the performance.

From the stage, Honey Singh praised Rajeshwar Singh, mentioning their regular morning interactions. The MLA, smiling at the warm acknowledgement, told the crowd, "The energy is the same, the vibe is



the same, the spirit is the same." His presence and interaction with the youth struck a chord, giving the evening a personal touch that resonated beyond the music. Speaking to the gathering, Rajeshwar Singh emphasised the cultural and emotional power of music, noting that whether rap, trance or devotional, every genre has the ability to uplift and connect. He used the moment to reflect on the state's development

under Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, citing modern roads, expanding metro networks and the upcoming state-of-the-art airport as examples of visible progress in Lucknow.

He also acknowledged the broader national initiatives shaping young India, including Skill India, Digital India and Startup India. According to him, these programmes have opened doors for youth to explore new aspirations

and opportunities. He thanked the administration, including the Chief Secretary, DGP, Principal Secretary (Home), Police Commissioner, Lucknow DM and other departments, for ensuring the smooth conduct of the event.

Rajeshwar Singh's own story added depth to the evening. A legislator from Sarojinagar in the 18th Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly, he earlier served as Joint Director of the Enforce-

The crowd erupted when Honey Singh invited Rajeshwar Singh on stage, holding his hand as the two shared a lighthearted moment that quickly became the highlight of the night.

ment Directorate. Born in Lucknow to DIG Ran Bahadur Singh, he studied at Colvin Talwada's College before earning his PhD from Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University. He is married to IPS officer Lakshmi Singh, and they have a daughter. His public image gained wider attention when he appeared as himself in the 2011 film Kya Yahi Sach Hai, which examined corruption and the political-police nexus.

The night ended with the crowd still buzzing, but it was Rajeshwar Singh's easy rapport with the youth and his strong public message that lingered. At an event defined by music, he managed to stand out, turning a star-studded performance into a memorable moment of political connection.

UP Police flag day symbolises glorious tradition of duty bravery: Adityanath

Lucknow

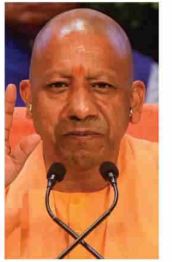
Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath hailed the state police on the occasion of 'UP Police Flag Day', saying the day symbolises the glorious tradition of duty, bravery and dedication to service. UP Director General of Police (DGP) Rajeev Krishna on Sunday pinned the police flag on the chief minister at his official residence at 5, Kalidas Marg.

In a post on X, he said, "On the occasion of 'Police Flag Day', a symbol of the glorious tradition of devotion to duty, valour, and dedication to service, Uttar Pradesh Director General of Police Rajeev Krishna hoisted the Police Colour (flag) in Lucknow today."

Director General of Police of the Economic Offences Wing (EOW), Neera Rawat, pinned the police flag on Governor Anandiben Patel at Raj Bhavan.

The governor said that "Police Flag Day" should not be a mere formality, but an opportunity to review and celebrate the progress, service work, and effective crime control efforts made by the police department throughout the year.

She emphasised the



need to hold regular meetings on security arrangements and training women police officers.

Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya took to X to congratulate the state police on the occasion.

"Heartiest greetings on Police Flag Day to all the personnel of the Uttar Pradesh Police who have continuously contributed to maintaining a peaceful and safe environment in Uttar Pradesh," Maurya said.

Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak said UP Police's vigilance, commitment, and continuous service has strengthened the foundation of trust and a safe environment in the state.

CM Mann inaugurates gallery on Guru Tegh Bahadur's life

Anandpur Sahib

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann Sunday inaugurated a special gallery showcasing the life and legacy of Guru Tegh Bahadur at Virasat-e-Khalsa here.

The Punjab CM said the gallery was a part of the ongoing events to commemorate the 350th martyrdom anniversary of the ninth Sikh Guru at Sri Anandpur Sahib. He said the gallery offers a profound narrative of the Guru's spiritual and worldly journey. The exhibition is thoughtfully divided into five distinct segments: birth and early life, spiritual life, illumination of 'Guruship', path of righteousness and martyrdom, each bringing a pivotal chapter of the Guru's life to the fore, he said.

CM Mann said central to the display are models representing the sacred training of Guru Tegh Bahadur, including a horse, swords, and bow and arrows symbolising his mastery in martial disciplines.

He said historical dioramas featuring the 'beda' (ship) of the devoted Makhana Shah Lubhana, and a powerful installation of a bonfire depicting the supreme sacrifice and steadfast fortitude of Bhai Dyala



are also a key attraction.

CM Mann said the recreated house of Lakh Shah Wanjara also stood as a poignant centre of attraction. He said elaborate pictorials, interwoven with verses of 'Gurbani', beautifully illustrate the Guru's path from his birth to his ultimate martyrdom, creating a "deeply-moving experience" for visitors.

He said it is the need of the hour to apprise people about the supreme sacrifice made by Guru Sahib for humanity and religious tolerance.

The state government also organised a heritage tour for devotees to create awareness about Virasat-e-Khalsa, historic gurdwaras and 'Panj Pyara Park'. The tourism department deputed experts to facilitate the 'Sangat' (devotees) with information about Sikh history in Punjabi, Hindi and English.

Saras Aajeevika Mela Celebrates Artisan Spirit & Women's rising economic power

Komal Ramola Panchkula

Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said the Saras Aajeevika Mela has become a strong link between artisans and buyers while helping drive the country's push for economic self-reliance. Speaking at the closing ceremony at Parade Ground, he urged people to take pride in local products and make them a priority in their purchases, noting that such choices directly strengthen small entrepreneurs and rural artisans.

Before the ceremony, the Chief Minister visited stalls put up by women self-help groups, artisans and craftsmen from across the country. He praised their skill and said their work reflects the vision of an Atmanirbhar Bharat. He encouraged women entrepreneurs to create products that can compete with foreign goods in both quality and craftsmanship.

Saini launched two major digital platforms of the Haryana State Rural Livelihood Mission: the Swapan Digital Gram Bazar Portal and the Sanjha Bazaar Sales Portal. The Swapan platform will allow self-help groups to showcase and sell their products globally, while the Sanjha Bazaar portal will



Haryana Chief Minister, Sh. Nayab Singh Saini felicitating women from self-help groups during the closing ceremony of the Saras Aajeevika Mela-2025 held in Panchkula on November 23, 2025.

streamline market access, stall allocation and real-time sales tracking across all Sanjha Bazaar outlets, including shops, kiosks and mela stalls.

He said the large participation of women at the fair shows how important the Saras Aajeevika Mela has become for women's empowerment. He highlighted the Prime Minister's appreciation of Rohtak's handloom artisans in his Mann Ki Baat address and said the state's rural livelihood mission is helping poor families increase their income and move toward economic independence.

The Chief Minister noted that ten Sanjha Bazaars have already been set up and more are planned so women's handmade products can reach wider markets through both online and offline channels. Under the livelihood mission, 5.98 lakh families have been linked to more than 60,000 self-help groups, receiving soft loans, revolving funds and community investment funds amounting to nearly Rs 548 crore. The government has increased the community investment fund from Rs 50,000 to Rs 1.5 lakh. Women trained in hotel management now run about 380 canteens

across the state.

Saini also spoke about the Drontan Diel scheme, under which women are being trained to operate drones in agriculture and other sectors. Drones have already been distributed to 100 women, and the government aims to create three lakh Lakshmi Drones in Haryana. He said women are central to the state's progress, which is why management of 151 Vita sales centres has been handed over entirely to them.

In his welcome address, Additional Principal Secretary to the Chief Minister and Secretary of the Development and Panchayats Department, Dr Saket Kumar, said the fair not only provides a platform to sell products but also helps women pursue bigger dreams. He said both the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister have taken major steps to support women's entrepreneurship.

Women from self-help groups shared their success stories and thanked the government for giving them opportunities to grow. They said their products are now gaining recognition across India and abroad, and the fair generated strong sales in items like pickles, spices, metal utensils, toys and traditional dishes.

Dhawala's rebellion revives old fault lines in Himachal BJP

TSN/Shimla

Ramesh Dhawala's sharp criticism of his own party and his move to form a separate block in Dehra has reopened memories of past revolts that once shook the Bharatiya Janata Party in Himachal Pradesh. His outburst echoes the turbulence of earlier years when senior leaders broke ranks, splitting the party and hurting its prospects in the Vidhan Sabha elections.

The current developments have drawn comparisons to the formation of the Mitr Mandli, a group of disgruntled BJP leaders from Solan, Hamirpur and Kangra who eventually held

lay the foundation for a bigger rebellion. That wave culminated in 2011 with the launch of HILOPA, a party led by former BJP MP Maheshwar Singh. He was joined by prominent figures including former Transport Minister Mahinder Singh Sofat, former Bijnath legislator Dulo Ram, former Paragpur MLA Naveen Dhiman and former Cabinet Minister Shyama Sharma. All were known loyalists of former Chief Minister Shanta Kumar, whose influence loomed large even as he remained in the background.

Sources say several prominent leaders from Kangra and Hamirpur were initially part of the anti-Dhawala camp but stayed with the BJP after receiving party tickets. HILOPA, financed initially by a senior Solan legislator and later supported by an NRI from Dubai, went on to inflict considerable damage on the ruling BJP

in the 2012 elections. The party won the Kullu seat and weakened BJP candidates in more than seven constituencies. It avoided contesting seats where its sympathizers were fighting on BJP tickets, a calculated strategy to prevent the BJP from returning to power while ensuring the rise of its own loyalists. Dhawala, a known Shanta Kumar confidant who had once helped the BJP form government as an independent in 1998, was counted among them.

Dhawala's latest revolt is being linked to the backing of a senior Kangra leader believed to be quietly working to undermine the BJP. His mentor, the veteran leader from Palampur, continues to cast a shadow over internal equations in a constituency long dominated by the Butail family of the Congress. The seat has rarely slipped from their grip except in a few notable elections, including victories by Chaudhary Sarwan Kumar in 1977 and 1982, Shanta Kumar in 1990 and Parveen Sharma in 2007. Party insiders insist there has always been a tacit understanding between the BJP veteran and the Butail family, an equation that has shaped political outcomes in the region.

This stability in tariffs has wider economic implications. For industries, predictable electricity costs help maintain competitiveness and attract new investments. For small entrepreneurs and middle-class families, it prevents unexpected financial pressure. Farmers benefit from stable irrigation expenses, while low-income households are shielded from rising overheads.



India held by Palestine in AFC U17 Asian Cup 2026 Qualifiers opener in Ahmedabad

Ahmedabad:

India's AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026 Qualifiers campaign began with a 1-1 draw against Palestine in Group D at the EKA Arena in Ahmedabad, as per the official website of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

Shubham Poonia headed the Blue Colts the lead with a 44th-minute header before Palestine substitute Amir Jomah slotted home the equaliser in the 74th minute.

Chinese Taipei and Lebanon played out a goalless draw earlier in the day, meaning four teams are locked at a point apiece after the opening matches, with IR Iran yet to start their campaign. Only the group winners will qualify for the AFC U17 Asian Cup Saudi Arabia 2026.

India, coming off a strong preparation phase that included winning the SAFF U17 Championship 2025 and playing two high-intensity friendlies in China, entered the match with confidence and control.

From the outset, Bibiano Fernandes' boys looked determined to impose their rhythm, circulating the ball calmly through midfielders Dallalmon Ganje, Diamond Singh Thokchom, and Denny Singh Wangkhem, while wingers Azaan Shah Kh and Gunleiba Wangkheirakpam sought to stretch the Palestine backline.

The opening exchanges were steady rather than explosive, with India showing more initiative but struggling to carve clear chances. Palestine, led by captain Ahmed Hamadna, kept their defensive structure tight, forcing India into patient build-up play. Yet as the half wore on, the Blue Colts' confidence grew, and the pressure finally paid off just before the interval.

In the 45th minute, India broke the deadlock. Azaan Shah's corner caused panic for Palestine box, and defender Shubham Poonia reacted instinctively, guiding the ball into the near-post bottom corner to make it 1-0. The goal lifted India and the four-thousand-strong Ahmedabad crowd, sending the team into half-time with momentum.

SA in pole position after Muthusamy ton, Jansen 93

Guwahati:

Guwahati saw a long and testing day for India as South Africa's lower order turned the second Test on its head with a commanding first-innings total of 489. Senuran Muthusamy led the charge with his maiden Test century, while Marco Jansen's blistering 93 pushed the visitors into a position of real control in the two-match series.

Speaking after stumps, Kuldeep Yadav said India had not set a specific target to bowl South Africa out for. Instead, the focus was on patience and discipline on a pitch that offered little help. Kuldeep finished with 4 for 115, the pick of the Indian attack, but admitted that Jansen and Muthusamy's resistance forced India to rethink plans throughout the day.

He said the team knew wickets would not come easily and that sticking to tight lengths and lines was essential. Kuldeep felt his field placements worked well when he was bowling, and although an attacking mindset remained important, he stressed the need to read conditions and understand the game situation. He added that India did not walk in with numbers in mind and simply tried to maintain pressure for as long as possible.

South Africa's resurgence came after they re-



quested at 247 for 6. Muthusamy, who went on to score 109, controlled one end with patience and clarity. At the other, Jansen launched an assault that left India searching for alternatives. The pair added 97 crucial runs, changing the tone of the match. Muthusamy struck 10 fours and two sixes before Siraj finally ended his stay, but by then the damage was done.

Jansen dominated the spinners and looked comfortable against the short ball.

He struck seven sixes and six boundaries in an innings that mixed brute force with smart shot selection. His knock also drew praise from Anil Kumble, who said the tall all-rounder "took the game away from India" during the afternoon session.

Dale Steyn, analysing the day's play on JioStar, felt India stuck with their original bowling plan for too long. He said the Indian bowlers were often too defensive early on, allowing batters to settle with soft singles. According to Steyn, the

straight-at-the-stumps approach that worked in Kolkata proved less effective on a flatter Guwahati surface and India needed to switch to more attacking fields sooner.

Muthusamy, reflecting on his century, called it a special moment to reach three figures in front of a full house. He said the focus was on partnerships and stretching the innings deep into the day. He also praised Jansen's striking, saying he had "the best seat in the house" for

the towering sixes that lit up the afternoon.

His hundred capped a remarkable calendar year for South Africa, with nine different batters scoring centuries, the most they have ever registered in a single year.

With a total close to 500 on the board, South Africa have tightened their grip on the Test and the series. The pressure now shifts to India's batters to respond strongly on a surface that may start showing signs of wear as the match progresses.

Breaking Time

What to do

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

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

Solution, Sudoku

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

TOP STORY

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Renshaw and Jewell lead strong Day 2 show across Shield

Brisbane:

Australian opener Matt Renshaw highlighted Day 2 of the Queensland vs Victoria Sheffield Shield 2025-26 match with a century while Tasmania's Caleb Jewell also put on a

standout performance with a ton against New South Wales. South Australia captain Nathan McSweeney, along with opener Henry Hunt ended the day for South Australia on a high.

In Brisbane, Queensland ended Day 2 on 352/7 leading by 34 runs in reply to Victoria's score of 318/9d in the first innings.

Resuming the day at 0/15, the Queenslanders showed resolve against the Victorian pace attack. While Renshaw scored 112 off 192 balls, Lachlan Heine also contributed with

In Brisbane, Queensland ended Day 2 on 352/7 leading by 34 runs in reply to Victoria's score of 318/9d in the first innings.

a 47-run knock to help the hosts end the day with a lead.

Victorian fast bowler Todd Murphy was the most successful bowler for the visitors as he registered figures of 2/73.

In Sydney, Tasmania posted 196/2 by the end of Day 2 in reply to New South Wales' score of 391/9d in the first innings. Tasmanian opener Caleb Jewell notched up a 102-run innings as Tim Ward (53 not out) and Bradley Hope (8 not out) will continue batting at crease on Day 3.

Dhami congratulates Lakshya Sen on winning Australian Open Super 500 title

Dehradun:

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami spoke to badminton player Lakshya Sen over the phone and extended his heartfelt congratulations and best wishes for winning the Australian Open Super 500 title, as per a statement from the CMO Uttarakhand.

The Chief Minister said that this remarkable achievement by Lakshya Sen is a matter of pride not only for Uttarakhand but for the entire nation. He added that Lakshya's hard work, dedication, and consistent excellence are a source of inspiration for all young people, proving that with determination, discipline and relentless effort, even the toughest goals can be achieved.

The Chief Minister wished Lakshya Sen a



bright future, expressed hope that he would continue to bring glory to the nation and to Deobhoomi Uttarakhand at the international level in the years ahead.

The Indian shuttler was crowned the champion of the men's singles event of the Australian Open Super 500 event after Sen defeated Japan's Yushi Tanaka 21-

15, 21-11 in a one-sided final that lasted just 38 minutes. Lakshya won USD 475,000 after clinching the title.

Facing Tanaka, who won two Super 300 titles this year at the Orleans Masters and the US Open, Lakshya displayed sharp reflexes, brilliant control, and placement throughout the match.

East Bengal bow out of AFC Women's Champions League after defeat to Nasaf

Wuhan:

East Bengal FC were eliminated from the AFC Women's Champions League 2025-26 group stage after suffering a 0-3 defeat to PFC Nasaf of Uzbekistan in their concluding Group B tie on Sunday in Wuhan, as per the official website of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

The win moved the Uzbekistan side to second place with four points, guaranteeing them a spot in the quarter-finals alongside toppers Wuhan Jiangda Women's FC of China PR. East Bengal ended their debut campaign in third place with three points, while IR Iran's Bam Khatoon FC finished at the bottom, also with three points. In the best third-placed teams rankings, Korea Republic's Suwon FC qualified from Group C with four points, alongside Philippines' Stallion Laguna FC with three points. Although the latter were level with East Bengal



on goal difference, the Indian side had fewer goals scored, which knocked them out of the last eight.

The Moshal Girls had earlier defeated Bam Khatoon FC (3-1) and lost to Wuhan Jiangda Women's FC (0-2).

Nasaf controlled the game from the opening whistle, with Nilufar Kudratova driving into the box in the fifth minute but taking just too long to make up her mind, allowing Ano-

ma Opoku to close her down.

The Nasaf captain was more decisive in the 18th minute with the same run into the box, this time picking out Diyorakhon Khabibullaeva for the tap-in.

The goal lifted pressure off the Uzbekistan side as they started to play flowing football with only the crossbar denying efforts from Zarina Mammatkarimova and Gulzoda Amirova.

On the backfoot for much of the first half, East Bengal finally managed a shot on target in the 39th minute, but Fazila Ikwapat's free-kick was well read by Nasaf custodian Maifuna Jonimulova.

Nasaf kept a tight grip on the game after the interval, extending their lead after seven minutes through Zarina Norboeva, who was at the right place at the right time to steer home Lyudmila Kara-

chik's cross.

East Bengal had an opportunity to pull a goal back in the 61st minute after Amnah Nababi played Soumya Guguloth through on goal, but the latter struck the ball straight at Jonimulova.

The bar came to East Bengal's rescue for the third time in the match in the 66th minute after another Karachik's cross after an excellent dribble was flicked on by Khabibullaeva past Elangbam Panthoi Chanu, only to be denied by the woodwork.

Nasaf put the seal on an impressive performance with a third deep into stoppage time, Panthoi saving Karachik's initial attempt but could do nothing to stop Khabibullaeva on the follow-up.

East Bengal's attention will now turn to the inaugural edition of the SAFF Club Women's Championship, scheduled to be held from December 5 to 20 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

India win inaugural T20 Blind Women's World Cup



New Delhi:

India scripted history as they won the inaugural edition of the Women's T20 World Cup for the Blind. India put on an exceptional performance, going undefeated throughout the tournament to claim the title.

India started their campaign with a convincing win over Sri Lanka. Against Australia, India registered a 57-run win after the Aussies failed to chase down the 293-run target.

India overcame the hurdle of Pakistan, chasing down the 136-run target in just 10.2 overs. In the semi-final, India thrashed Australia by nine wickets and sealed the trophy with a one-sided win over Nepal.

ing four boundaries.

Her innings brought India to chase down the target in the 13th over, sealing the title. Apart from her, Karuna K also contributed with a 27-ball 42. Saren's magnificent performance earned her the Player of the Match.

After scripting history, India captain Deepika TC opened up that they are very proud of this win. She added that the entire team worked hard to lift the title.

"We are very proud and it is a huge win. Our entire team worked very hard. It is a very strong team and other teams are afraid of playing with us. We are even ready to play with the men's team," Deepika

TC said after winning the match.

In the T20 World Cup for the Blind, India put on an exceptional performance, going undefeated throughout the tournament to claim the title.

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Israel hits Hezbollah target in rare Beirut strike

Beirut: An Israeli airstrike on Sunday struck Beirut for the first time since June. Its military says it was targeting a Hezbollah militant. The strike, in the south of the capital, comes after Israeli airstrikes over southern Lebanon have intensified in recent weeks. Israel's military did not provide any other details on what it called a precise strike, nor has Hezbollah commented on the incident yet. A large plume of smoke can be seen in the busy Haret Hreik neighbourhood. One video widely circulated on social media shows dozens of people crowded around the area of the strike, which appears to be just next to a building. There was no immediate word about casualties. Israel and the United States have been piling pressure on Lebanon to disarm the powerful militant group. The Lebanese military issued a plan that the government approved in September that would disarm Hezbollah by the end of the year across the country. Israel says Hezbollah is trying to rebuild its military capabilities in southern Lebanon, whereas the Lebanese government has denied those claims.

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BUSINESS

AMFI Honours Surinder Verma for Excellence in Investor Awareness & Education



New Delhi: The Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) honoured Shri Surinder Verma, Chairman of the Citizens Awareness Group, for his outstanding contribution to investor awareness and financial education. The felicitation took place at the SEBI Pavilion, Hall No. 3, Pragati Maidan, during the India International Trade Fair (IITF), in the presence of senior officials, industry representatives, and key stakeholders from the financial sector. AMFI conferred this recognition to acknowledge Shri Verma's sustained efforts in promoting financial literacy and

Ukraine Western allies meet in Geneva to discuss US peace plan

Geneva: Top European and Ukrainian envoys conferred in Geneva on Sunday ahead of talks with US Secretary of State Marco Rubio over President Donald Trump's proposal to end Russia's war on Ukraine. The head of the Ukrainian delegation, presidential chief of staff Andrii Yermak, wrote on social media said that they held their first meeting with the national security advisers from the UK, France and Germany. The allies have rallied around Kyiv in a push to revise the plan, which is seen as favouring Moscow. "The next meeting is with the US delegation. We are in a very constructive mood," Yermak said. "We continue working together to achieve a lasting and just peace for Ukraine." Rubio was expected to join the talks together with Army Secretary Dan Driscoll and Trump's special envoy



Steve Witkoff. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he was waiting for the outcome of the talks. "A positive result is needed for all of us," he said. "Ukrainian and American teams, teams of our European partners, are in close contact, and I very much hope there will be a result. Bloodshed must be stopped, and it must be guaranteed that the war will not be reignited," he wrote in a post on Telegram on Sunday. In a later post, Zelenskyy said that there was an understanding that the US would take into account "a number of elements" in a peace deal that are important for Ukraine, but did not elaborate further. "There have already been brief reports from the team about the re-

sults of the first meetings and conversations," he said. "There is now an understanding that the American proposals may take into account a number of elements based on the Ukrainian vision and are critically important for Ukraine's national interests." "Further work is ongoing to ensure that all elements are truly effective in achieving the main goal our people hope for — ultimately putting an end to the bloodshed and the war." The 28-point blueprint drawn up by the US to end the nearly four-year war has sparked alarm in Kyiv and European capitals. Zelenskyy has said his country could face a stark choice between standing up for its sovereign rights and preserving the American support it needs. The plan acquiesces to many Russian demands that Zelenskyy has categorically rejected on dozens of occasions, including giving up large pieces of territory. The Ukrainian leader has

The head of the Ukrainian delegation, presidential chief of staff Andrii Yermak, wrote on social media said that they held their first meeting with the national security advisers from the UK, France and Germany.

Johannesburg: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday called for a global compact to prevent misuse of artificial intelligence and made a strong pitch for critical technologies to be human-centric, instead of finance-centric. Addressing the third session of the G20 summit here, Modi also said technology applications should be 'global' rather than 'national', and based on 'open source' rather than 'exclusive models'. PM Modi said that this vision has been integrated into India's technology ecosystem, and the same has resulted in significant benefits, be it space applications, AI or digital payments, where it is a world leader. He was addressing the third session of the G20 Summit on the topic "A Fair and a Just Future for All: Critical Minerals, Decent Work, Artificial Intelligence." We must all ensure that AI is used for global good and its misuse is prevented. To do this, we must create a global compact on AI based on certain core principles, including effective human oversight, safety-by-design, transparency, and strict re-

PM Modi at G20 calls for global compact on AI to prevent misuse

restrictions on the use of AI in deepfakes, crime, and terror activities, Modi said. The Prime Minister said AI systems that impact human life, security, or public trust must be responsible and auditable. And most importantly, AI should enhance human capabilities, but the ultimate responsibility for decision-making always remains with humans, he added. Modi said in this age of AI, the approach must rapidly shift from 'Jobs of Today' to 'Capabilities of Tomorrow'. Unlocking talent mobility is essential for rapid innovation. We made progress on this topic at the Delhi G20. We hope that in the next few years, the G20 will develop a global framework for talent mobility, PM Modi said. The Prime Minister outlined India's approach based on equitable access, population-level skilling, and responsible deployment. He said that under the India-AI Mission, accessible high-performance computing capacity is being built with the objective of ensuring that AI benefits reach everyone in the country.

Unfortunate that US did not participate in G20: South African trade minister

Johannesburg: It is unfortunate that the US did not participate in the G20 in Johannesburg this weekend because important matters relating to world trade were discussed, South Africa's Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition Parks Tau said on Sunday. "Tau, asked whether the US would lose out by not attending and



reduce its influence on global trade, said this needed to be judged in the context of what the outcomes of the G20 have been.

"It's been an important discussion around global trade, issues around the World Trade Organisation (WTO), discussion around industrialisation, financing for development, around debt. All those issues are important for the entire world and it is quite unfortunate that their (the US) voice was not coming across at these meetings," Tau said in a media briefing. The minister said discussions with the US around trade would continue. "G20 is a separate process. Of course, I can't pretend that it does not reflect on the issues that have been discussed, but so far it hasn't in any way been negative," he said. Tau said the decisions taken at the Johannes-

burg Summit would be tracked through what countries would be doing after the US takes over the Presidency next month. "We track progress on the number of agreements that we have with various countries on the basis of the principles set out here, the impact on the multilateral system and the positions that will be presented in the UN for resolution at different multilateral platforms," Tau said. He added that there will also be tracking of discussion and the implications around reform at the WTO. "Issues are tracked on the basis of what we put on the table. The obligation is on us as a country to follow up and we are clear that we will follow up," he said.

India diversifies export basket as shipments to US decline: SBI research report

New Delhi: Share of India's merchandise exports to other countries increased as shipments to the US declined since July 2025, indicating diversification of export basket across product categories, according to an SBI research report. India's total merchandise exports during April-September 2025 inched up by 2.9 per cent to USD 220 billion compared to USD 214 billion in the year-ago period, the report said. Cumulative exports to the US also registered a growth of 13 per cent to USD 45 billion in the April-September period from USD 40 billion in the year-ago period, though there could be some front-loading effects to the aftermath, with September figures registering negative year-on-year growth of about 12 per cent, said 'Ecowrap', the SBI's research report.

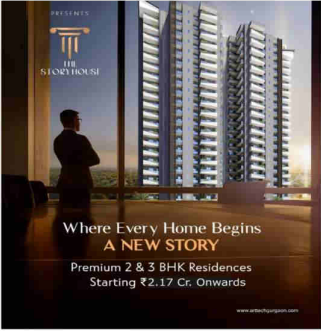


The report further said the share of the US in India's exports has been declining since July 2025, falling to 15 per cent in September, mainly because of a decline in exports of marine products, precious and semi-precious stones, ready-made cotton garments, and cotton fabrics. "Interestingly, the share of India's merchandise exports to other countries during this period has increased significantly, indicating the diversification of our exports basket with the UAE, China, Vietnam, Japan, and Hong Kong, as also Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nigeria being among the top destinations (over FY25) across different product categories," the report said. "So, could it be that some destinations are exporting more to the USA after procuring from India?" it said. According to the report, Australia's share in the US imports of pearls, precious, semi-precious

stones has increased to 9 per cent YTD in January-August 2025 from 2 per cent during the same period in the previous year. Hong Kong, too, registered an increase in share from 1 per cent to 2 per cent to the US during the same period. The SBI research report further said the buoyancy in trade talks reaffirms India's desire to come out of the highest (among Asian peers) tariff structure while enhancing capability building across several loops, with recently concluded LPG deals and strategic defence deals last month, bolstering the fair probability of a mutually amicable, fruitful negotiation. Tariff has impacted India's labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, jewellery, and seafood, particularly shrimp, which operates with a lower margin, the report said. Marico's digital brands cross Rs 1 000 cr ARR mark

Story house brings senior-friendly luxury living to Gurugram

Gurugram: A new residential address in Sector 89A is quietly reshaping the idea of comfort and care in city homes. The Story House, marketed and promoted by Swarnkey Estate LLP, blends luxury, wellness and senior-friendly design in a format that sets it apart in the NCR market. The project features five towers with 323 premium units in 2BHK and 3BHK configurations ranging from 1450 to 1785 sq. ft. The setting has been planned to suit modern families as well as ageing parents, with



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Safety and wellness sit at the core of the development. Each tower rises above a 2-level basement and still structure, easing movement across the complex. An emphasis on clean surroundings, smooth access and thoughtful architecture. Safety and wellness sit at the core of the development. Each tower rises above a 2-level basement and still structure, easing movement across the complex. A network of interlinked basement tunnels provides weather-proof mobility for residents. The project also places strong focus on health support with round-the-clock medical care, including an on-site nurse, physiotherapist, ambulance access and doctor-on-call tie-ups. Every home includes easily reachable panic buttons for quick assistance during emergencies. The design approach supports independent living. Wide lifts with ventilation systems, wheelchair-friendly routes, anti-slip tiles, grab bars and dedicated senior seating zones help older residents navigate the space comfortably while giving younger families the amenities they expect from an upscale development. The community layout encourages a calm and connected lifestyle. Landscaped greens, open balconies, meditation and yoga areas, disciplined housekeeping and multi-layered security add to the sense of ease. The homes use natural light, ventilation and functional layouts to create a balanced living environment. With prices starting at

₹2.17 crore, the project offers a buyer-friendly plan where residents pay 25 per cent upfront and no further amount for 18 months, along with a First Transfer Free benefit. Swarnkey Estate LLP Partner Alok Ahluwalia said the project reflects a future-ready model of community living built around care, comfort and intelligent planning. As Gurugram's residential landscape evolves, The Story House positions itself as a premium, nurturing space for families and seniors seeking a thoughtful urban home.

Beardo, its men's grooming brand, has almost turned profitable, delivering a double-digit EBITDA, and its D2C Wellness brand Plix has achieved break-even, he said. "Our objective is to immediately take it to a mid-single-digit to high single-digit EBITDA," Gupta said, adding that the aim is "to grow well, and at the same time, grow profitably". The company's healthy food brand True Elements and Just Herbs, which operate in Ayurvedic, beauty and personal care, have still not reached the break-even point, he added.

Smriti Mandhana's wedding "indefinitely postponed"

Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana's wedding with singer Palaash Muchhal has been postponed after Mandhana's father experienced symptoms of a heart attack on Sunday.

Smriti's father, Shrinivas Mandhana, was transferred to Sarvhit Hospital and Medical Research Centre in Sangli in the morning.

According to Dr Naman Shah, Director of Sarvhit Hospital, Smriti's father experienced the symptoms of heart attack. He attributed the cause to "physical or



mental stress" due to hectic activities during the wed-

ding season.

While talking to the me-

dia, Dr Naman Shah said, "Srinivas Manandana, Sm-

riti Manandana's father, experienced symptoms of a heart attack around 11:30 after feeling left-sided chest pain. He was immediately transferred to Sarvhit Hospital and Medical Research Centre in Sangli for further assessment. Despite his slightly raised cardiac enzymes, he requires ongoing observation. Our cardiologist, Dr. Rohan Thanedar, has examined him as well. There are no new findings on the echocardiogram. However, he may need continuous ECG monitoring and, if necessary, angiography. Currently, his blood

pressure is slightly elevated, so he needs continuous monitoring...It could be due to physical or mental stress, perhaps because it is wedding season with a lot of hectic activity."

Tuhin Mishra, the Manager of Smriti Mandhana, has informed us that the wedding has been "postponed indefinitely" due to her father's health problems. While talking to the media, Tuhin Mishra said, "Smriti is very clear that she wants her father to recover first and then resume the wedding. It has been indefinitely postponed."

Naga Chaitanya's upcoming film titled 'Vrushakarma', first look poster out



Naga Chaitanya Akkineni's upcoming film has finally got a title. The makers have also released the first character look poster of the actor in the movie.

Directed by Karthik Dandu, Naga Chaitanya's upcoming movie is titled 'Vrushakarma'. The movie is jointly produced by Sukumar Writings and Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra (SVCC). The film's release date has not been announced yet.

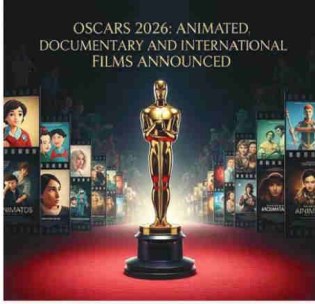
Naga Chaitanya shared the film's title and his first

look poster on his Instagram handle, which was launched by superstar Mahesh Babu today.

The poster offers a glimpse at Naga Chaitanya's character in the movie. He appears to be playing the role of an action hero as per the poster.

Featuring Chaitanya in a rugged, battle-worn appearance, the visual highlights his muscular frame and steely determination as he swings a rod. Adding to the actor's dramatic appearance, a celestial eclipse in the background suggests an ominous, mythical atmosphere in the movie.

Academy announces qualifying documentary, international, animated features



Los Angeles

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has released the complete list of films eligible for the 2026 Oscars in three major categories -- documentary feature, international feature and animated feature, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

According to the Academy, 201 documentary features, 86 international films, and 35 animated titles have qualified for consideration this year. The number of eligible documentaries is among the highest in recent years, second only to the pandemic cycle when rules were temporarily relaxed and 238 titles made the cut.

This year's documentary lineup features several titles that have already gained traction on the festival and awards circuit, including Netflix's 'The Perfect Neighbor' and 'Apocalypse in the Tropics', Apple's 'Come See

Me in the Good Light', and Neon's 'Orwell: 2+2=5'. Films made by well-known names about their own families -- such as HBO's 'My Mom' and 'Jayne' by Mariska Hargitay and Apple's 'Stiller & Meier: Nothing Is Lost' by Ben Stiller -- are also among the qualifiers.

Multiple projects linked to the ongoing Middle East turmoil have also made the list, including Torn: The Israel-Palestine Poster War on New York City Streets, Coexistence, My Ass!, Holding Liat and Put Your Soul on Your Hand and Walk.

One notable omission is 'The Eyes of Ghana', directed by two-time Oscar winner Ben Proudfoot. The film is still without distribution, and a decision has reportedly been made to save it for next awards season. Other expected contenders missing from eligibility include Sofia Coppola's 'Marc by Sofia' and Questlove's 'Sly Lives', according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Gal Gadot recalls suffering "massive brain clot" while eight months pregnant with daughter

Los Angeles

Women's star Gal Gadot suffered a "massive brain clot" when she was eight months pregnant with daughter Ori. The actor recently opened up about the particular health scare that she underwent last year.

"Last year, my life took an unexpected turn. I was eight months pregnant, juggling family, work and everything in-between when I started to feel the kind of headache that makes the



world stop for three weeks," she shared, as quoted by Variety.

Stating that her mother convinced her to get an MRI in February 2024, Gadot added, "Before we even got back home, my phone rang,

Akhanda 2 trailer out: Nandamuri Balakrishna locks horns with Aadhi Pinisetty

The makers have finally released the trailer of Nandamuri Balakrishna starrer 'Akhanda 2'. Boyapati Srinu directs the movie.

Following the massive success of 'Akhanda', fans have been eagerly awaiting the sequel. The movie is set to release in theatres worldwide on December 5.

The two-minute and forty-one-second trailer opened with a group of evil forces, both outside and inside of India, trying to destroy the country's spiritual freedom. It is followed by the introduction of actor Nandamuri



Balakrishna, who plays Akhanda, a protector of Hinduism in the film.

In the sequel, he is set to lock horns with Aadhi Pinisetty, who plays a mystic

and majestically powerful man capable of summoning a demonic skeleton.

The high-octane sequences featuring Nandamuri Balakrishna were among the

highlights of the trailer. The movie is jointly produced by Ram Achanta, Gopi Achanta, and Ishan Saksena, under 14 Reels Plus and IVY Entertainment, respectively.

Directed by Karthik Dandu, Naga Chaitanya's upcoming movie is titled 'Vrushakarma'. The movie is jointly produced by Sukumar Writings and Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra (SVCC). The film's release date has not been announced yet.

Naga Chaitanya shared the film's title and his first



Prabhas, Triptii Dimri starrer 'Spirit' officially goes on floor, Chiranjeevi joins on Day 1

Hyderabad

Filmmaker Sandeep Reddy Vanga's much-awaited film 'Spirit', featuring Prabhas in the lead, has officially gone on the floors.

On Sunday, the makers confirmed the news with pictures from the film's muhurat. Joining the team was megastar Chiranjeevi, who was present for the muhurat puja as the special guest of honour.

"Shoot parambham! India's biggest superstar Prabhas's 'SPIRIT' goes ON FLOORS today! A monumental beginning, produced by Bhushan Kumar and helmed by blockbuster director Sandeep Reddy Vanga, the muhurat puja witnessed the presence of Prabhas, Triptii Dimri, Bhushan Kumar, Sandeep Reddy Vanga, Pranay Reddy Vanga & Shiv Chanana, with Megastar Chiranjeevi joining as the special guest of honour. A historic cinematic journey begins now," read the caption on the post.

Sobhita Dhulipala drops sweet birthday wish for her "lover" Naga Chai-



tanya, Mahesh Babu wishes

Mumbai: Actor Sobhita Dhulipala has shared a romantic wish for her husband, Naga Chaitanya, on his birthday.

In a heartwarming post on Instagram, Sobhita

Naga Chaitanya and Sobhita Dhulipala got married on December 4. The ceremony was held at the iconic Annapurna Studios in Hyderabad in the presence of close friends and family members.

The wedding was a stunning display of Telugu traditions, with rituals performed under the guidance of elders. The festive atmosphere was enriched by heartfelt blessings from family and friends, who gathered to witness this significant moment.

For the special occasion, Sobhita opted for a gold Kanjivaram silk saree with real gold zari, honouring her cultural roots. She elevated her look with temple jewellery. Chay also looked handsome in a traditional white outfit.

Naga Chaitanya was previously married to actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu. They announced their separation on social media in a joint statement in October 2021.

In line with Naga Chaitanya's birthday, the actor's first look from his upcoming film 'Vrushakarma' has been unveiled. Superstar Mahesh Babu extended his warm wishes to Chay and dropped the film's poster and the official title.

"Happy birthday lover," she wrote in the caption. Chay also reacted to the post with a heart emoji.



Smriti Mandhana, Palaash Muchhal groove to 'Tenu Leke' at pre-wedding celebrations

Mumbai

Glimpses from the Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana's pre-wedding festivities have flooded social media platforms ahead of the star batter's wedding with filmmaker and music composer Palaash Muchhal.

Shared by their friends and family members, several pictures and videos show the couple taking part in traditional rituals, swiftly drawing enthusiastic reactions from fans. In one particular moment, Smriti Mandhana and Palaash Muchhal were seen dancing to the Bollywood hit song 'Tenu Leke' at what appeared to be their sanget night. Cricketer Shafali Verma shared a clip from their performance, where the couple playfully grooves to the song, drawing loud cheers from those present.

Later, her teammates Shreyanka Patil, Yastika Bhatia, Jemimah Rodrigues, Arundhati Reddy, and Radha Yadav also joined the celebrations, delivering high-energy performances on songs like 'Uyvi Amma' and 'Cutiepie'.