



**Centuries from Jurel, Jadeja propel India to 286-run lead over West Indies**

**Aung San Suu Kyi's son appeals to China's Xi to secure her release from Myanmar jail**

**We all should stand together for a safer digital world: Rani Mukerji**

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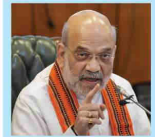
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**3 DELHI**  
Delhi govt officials must upgrade skills to serve people better: Gupta



**5 CHANDIGARH**  
India's dairy sector grew by 70 pc in past 11 yrs: Amit Shah



**6 SPORTS**  
India U23 men to play two friendlies against Indonesia in Jakarta



**7 BUSINESS**  
RBI Allows Non-Residents to Invest in Corporate Debt

MARKET	
SENSEX	NIFTY
81207.17	24894.25
223.86	57.95
GOLD	SILVER
118,150.00	146,064.00
562.00	1,344.00

WEATHER	
Sunrise	6:16 AM
Sunset	6:05 PM
Moonrise	4:21 PM
Moonset	4:02 AM
Today's Prediction	
Maximum	Minimum
33°C	25°C
Tomorrow's Prediction	
34°C	23°C

## Modi won't bow down to foreign pressure: Putin on US tariffs

The Russian president was speaking at the international Valdai discussion forum of security and geopolitical experts from 140 countries, including from India, at the Black Sea resort of Sochi in South Russia

**Moscow**  
Russian President Vladimir Putin has ordered to devise measures, including buying more agricultural products and medicines from India, to soften the trade imbalance with India due to heavy crude import by New Delhi.

Putin's announcement comes weeks ahead of his visit to India in early December for an annual summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Russian president was speaking at the international Valdai discussion forum of security and geopolitical experts from 140 countries, including from India, at the Black Sea resort of Sochi in South Russia late Thursday evening. "The losses faced by India due to punitive US tariffs would be balanced by crude imports from Russia, plus it will gain prestige as a sovereign nation," Putin said.

He was referring to the



Russian President Vladimir Putin

additional 25 per cent tariff imposed by President Donald Trump on New Delhi as a penalty for its purchases of Russian oil, taking the total levies imposed on India by the US to 50 per cent. Putin said that to remove the trade imbalance, Russia may buy more agricultural products and medicines from India. "More agricultural products may be purchased from India. Certain steps can be undertaken from our side for medicinal products, pharmaceuticals," Putin stated. The President said he had instructed the

Russian government to think of proposals to be made to 'Indian friends and counterparts on the most promising areas of cooperation and how Russia can smoothen the imbalance in trade and other areas', according to state-run news agency TASS. Putin noted the vast

potential for economic cooperation between Russia and India but acknowledged the need to resolve specific issues to fully unlock these opportunities. For comparison, he said, the trade turnover between Russia and India is about \$63 billion, and \$50 billion with Belarus. "At the same time, the population is 1.5 billion in India and 10 million in Belarus. It obviously does not correspond to our potential opportunities," Putin stressed. "We need to solve the whole range of tasks to unlock our opportunities and potential advantages," Putin said, identifying financing, logistics and payment bottlenecks as key concerns. Putin also underlined that Russia had never had any problems or interstate tensions with India. Never, and noted that both the countries always took actions keeping in view the respective sensitivities.

## Pakistan must answer for PoK rights violations: India

**New Delhi**  
India on Friday slammed Pakistan for its crackdown on protesters in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) and said the neighbouring country must be held accountable for its "horrific" human rights violations. At least 10 people were killed and many injured during the protests and violent clashes in PoK in the last few days.

The protesters are demanding basic rights, justice and an end to what they described as systemic oppression. "We have seen reports on protests in several areas of Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir, including brutalities by Pakistani forces on innocent civilians," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randeep Jaiswal said. "Pakistan must be held accountable for its horrific human rights violations," he said. Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh have always been and will remain an "integral part" of India, Jaiswal said. On Friday, a group of negotiators deputed by Pakistan's federal government held talks with representatives of Jammu Kashmir Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC). The talks between the JAAC and representatives of the federal and PoK governments broke down last week. Agency



Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randeep Jaiswal

## Destroyed at least a dozen Pak jets, including F-16s: IAF chief

**New Delhi**  
At least a dozen Pakistani military aircraft including F-16 jets were destroyed or damaged in Indian strikes during Operation Sindoor, Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh said on Friday while describing Islamabad's claim of India's losses as "fanciful stories". The Air Chief Marshal said that Indian action also damaged several military infrastructure in Pakistan that included hangars in at least four places, command and control centres in two sites and runways in two places.

Air Chief Marshal Singh was addressing a press conference days ahead of the annual Air Force Day. On reports that various terror groups are relocating their bases in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province following Op-



Chief of Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A P Singh

eration Sindoor, he said it was expected and that the Indian Air Force has the capability to go deep inside to hit their hideouts with absolutely accurate targeting. "We can destroy them and their hideouts. So, our options have not changed. Our options will remain the same in this matter," he said. Air Chief Marshal Singh also gave clear indication that India may procure additional batches of S-400 air defence missile systems after their performance during the operation. To questions, he also provided details of Pakistan's losses during Operation Sindoor citing intelligence reports and evidence collected through electronic surveillance. "What we have gathered from the intelligence report is that because of these strikes,

CONTD ON PAGE-2

## Be ready, opportunity may come soon: COAS tells troops

**New Delhi**  
In a stern warning to Pakistan, Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi said on Friday that the neighbouring country should stop sponsoring terrorism on its soil if it wants to retain its place on the world map.

The Chief of Army Staff (CoAS) also said the restraint shown by New Delhi during Operation Sindoor would not be repeated in case of a future military conflict and urged Indian soldiers to remain poised for action. "India, as a country, is fully prepared this time. And this time, it will not show the restraint that it showed during Operation Sindoor 1.0. This time we will take a step forward and act in a manner that will make Pakistan think whether it wants to remain on the world map or not,"



Army chief General Upendra Dwivedi

General Dwivedi said in a sternly-worded address to soldiers at Anupgarh in Rajasthan's Sriganaganagar district. He asserted that if Pakistan wants to retain its place on the world map, it will have to stop state-sponsored terrorism. The Army chief told

the soldiers to stay prepared. "Keep yourselves fully prepared now, if god wants, the opportunity will come soon," he said. General Dwivedi said India has given evidence to the world of the presence of terrorist hideouts in Pakistan during Operation Sindoor. Had

**HIGHLIGHT**  
The Chief of Army Staff (CoAS) also said the restraint shown by New Delhi during Operation Sindoor would not be repeated in case of a future military conflict and urged Indian soldiers to remain poised for action.

India not unearthed this evidence, Pakistan would have hidden all of it, he said. The Army chief said the entire world stood with India when it launched Operation Sindoor in the wake of the April 22 Pahalgam attack. He said the Indian military hit nine targets inside Pakistan during Operation Sindoor, of which seven were hit by the Army and two by the Air Force. Agency

## 'No contact since his arrest', says Wangchuk's wife moves Supreme Court

**New Delhi**  
Climate activist Sonam Wangchuk's wife Gitanjali J Angmo has filed a plea in the Supreme Court challenging his detention under the National Security Act and seeking his immediate release. Wangchuk was detained under the stringent National Security Act (NSA) on September 26, two days after protests demanding statehood and Sixth Schedule status for Ladakh left four people dead and 90 injured in the Union territory. He is lodged in Jodhpur jail in Rajast-



Sonam Wangchuk's wife Gitanjali J Angmo

han. Angmo, in her plea filed through senior lawyer Vivek Tankha and

**HIGHLIGHT**  
Angmo, in her plea filed through senior lawyer Vivek Tankha and lawyer Sarvam Ritam Khare, has also questioned the decision to invoke the NSA against Wangchuk.

Wangchuk. Filing the habeas corpus (bring the person) writ, the spouse of the detained activist has sought urgent listing of the petition and a direction to the Ladakh union territory administra-

tion to "produce Sonam Wangchuk before this Hon'ble Court forthwith." It also sought immediate access to the detainee, and quashing of the preventive detention order. The plea, which has made the union Ministry of Home Affairs, the Ladakh UT administration, deputy commissioner of Leh and Jodhpur jail superintendent as parties, has also sought a direction to them to "allow immediate access of the petitioner to her husband, both telephonic and in person". Agency

## Madras HC constitutes SIT to probe Karur stampede

**Chennai**  
The Madras High Court on Friday formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the September 27 stampede at the political rally of actor and TVK founder Vijay, on a day when two senior party leaders' anticipatory bail petitions were rejected by the High Court which also found fault with the party and the police over the incident that killed 41 persons and injured over 60. The principal bench of the HC here also dismissed a BJP leader's plea seeking a CBI probe into the incident, and directed her to approach the Madurai bench. Chief Minister M K Stalin and the ruling DMK trained their guns against the BJP and Vijay, respectively. While Stalin accused BJP of trying to gain political mileage over the deadly incident, his party DMK slammed



relected her to approach the Madurai bench. Chief Minister M K Stalin and the ruling DMK trained their guns against the BJP and Vijay, respectively. While Stalin accused BJP of trying to gain political mileage over the deadly incident, his party DMK slammed

Vijay for his alleged "arrogance, hunger for money, publicity mania and the desire for chair." It said his challenge to the state government to arrest him for the stampede was aimed at diverting attention away from the deaths of as many as 41 persons. Agency

Destroyed at least a dozen Pak jets, including F-16s: IAF chief

CONTD FROM PAGE-1  
radars at least four places, command and control centres at two places, runways at two places and then three of their hangars in three different stations have been damaged," he said.

In hangars as well as on tarmac, we have signs of damage to one C-130 class of aircraft, one AEW&C (Airborne Early Warning & Control) class of aircraft and at least four to five fighter aircraft, most likely F-16, he said.

"This is what our system tells us," he said.

He, however, did not divulge details of losses suffered by India.

Agency

# Railway Board Chairman engages passengers in Amrit Samvaad at New Delhi Station

New Delhi/ Gorkhapatra

In a move to strengthen citizen participation and promote a modern, passenger-friendly railway network, Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board, Satish Kumar, took part in Amrit Samvaad at New Delhi Railway Station. The initiative, launched under Special Campaign 5.0, aims to provide a direct platform for dialogue between railway authorities and passengers, gathering feedback to further enhance the travel experience.

Guided by the principles of Panch Pran as outlined by the Prime Minister and inspired by the successful Rail Chaulpaal held last year, Amrit Samvaad is part of the Ministry of Railways' broader vision for station modernization during the Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign 2025. The event also celebrated creativity among young citizens, with



on the recent improvements at the station. In recognition of outstanding contributions, Kumar awarded eight Safai Mitras for their exemplary performance during the Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign 2025. The event also celebrated creativity among young citizens, with

three students being honored for their winning paintings on the theme of cleanliness. The initiative highlights the extensive enhancements being undertaken under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme. Stations have seen upgraded waiting halls and toilets, modernized lifts and escalators, advanced passenger information systems, free Wi-Fi, and One Station One Product kiosks. Additionally, landscaping, aesthetic upgrades, and improved facilities for differently-abled passengers have further transformed the travel experience.

Amrit Samvaad will continue at Amrit station across other major stations across India from 2 October to 31 October, reinforcing the Ministry of Railways' commitment to creating a modern, accessible, and citizen-friendly railway network during the transformative Amrit Kaal.

In recognition of outstanding contributions, Kumar awarded eight Safai Mitras for their exemplary performance during the Swachhta Hi Sewa Campaign 2025.

Beyond showcasing completed improvements, Amrit Samvaad will serve as a platform to gather suggestions for further development. Passengers are encouraged to provide feedback on better integration with city transport, additional amenities, sustainable solutions, and personalized facilities to improve overall convenience.

# Punjab farmers embrace Tech with Unnat Kisan App

Chandigarh:

In a move that blends technology with grassroots convenience, the Punjab government has rolled out the 'Unnat Kisan' mobile app, offering farmers a one-stop solution for crop residue management (CRM), Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Gurbet Singh Khudian announced that more than 85,000 CRM machines across the state have now been mapped on the platform, allowing farmers to book equipment from the comfort of their homes with just a click.

Every machine available on the app has been geo-tagged according to the cultivable area, enabling real-time monitoring of availability and usage. Officials say this transparent system will save time, reduce costs, and make the entire stubble management process more scientific and farmer-friendly.

To back this digital initiative, the state has deployed over 5,000 Village Level Facilitators and Cluster Officers,

tasked with providing on-ground support, monitoring machine availability, and ensuring the scheme benefits every farmer. Private machine owners can also register their equipment on the app, widening access and encouraging cooperation at the village level. Farmers who may not be tech-savvy will not be left behind, as facilitators can make bookings on their behalf.

The app comes equipped with a real-time dashboard that tracks machines and field officers' activities, bringing transparency and accountability into the system. According to the Agriculture Department, this digital monitoring is already proving vital during the harvest season, ensuring quicker problem resolution and better use of resources. Khudian emphasized that under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, the government aims to make Punjab's agriculture modern, scientific, and sustainable.

# Ashwini Vaishnav & Japanese Minister H.E. Hiromasa Nakano visit Surat HSR site



Surat: Japan's Minister H. E. Hiromasa Nakano arrived at Surat airport and received a traditional Garba welcome. He, along with India's Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav, visited the Surat High-Speed Rail (HSR) construction site.

They reviewed important project components, including the track laying and adjustment facility. Both ministers were pleased with the quality standards and the fast construction pace, showcasing the strong cooperation between India and Japan on this project.

# Amrita Scholars Shine Globally in Stanford's 2025 Top 2% Scientists List



New Delhi: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeeth has once again earned international acclaim, with 37 of its faculty members featured in Stanford University's 2025 list of the world's top 2% scientists. This marks the sixth consecutive year that Amrita researchers have secured a place on the prestigious global ranking, underscoring the university's sustained commitment to scientific excellence and innovation.

The Stanford-Elsevier database, widely regarded as a benchmark for global scientific achievement, evaluates researchers using rigorous metrics such as H-index, citations, and composite impact indicators. It highlights scientists whose work has made significant contributions to knowledge and societal advancement. This year's recognition reflects both long-term and recent research impact. Thirteen Amrita faculty members were acknowledged for their career-long contributions, while 36 faculty members were recognized for their single-year impact from 2024 to 2025. A select group of twelve scholars achieved dual recognition, appearing in both categories for their sustained excellence over time.

# Mirage of migration: NIA uncovers India's 'Dunki' trafficking network

Mitali New Delhi:

The alluring promise of opportunities abroad has once again been revealed as a deadly trap for India's youth. The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed a fresh chargesheet in the high-profile 'dunki' human trafficking case, exposing a sophisticated syndicate that exploits ambition and destroys lives.

The investigation focuses on two key figures: Sunny, a resident of Dharamshala and former operative in Mexico, and Delhi-based hawala operator Shubham Sandhal. Sunny, acting as a "donkar," allegedly orchestrated illegal border crossings, exposing victims to detention and exploitation abroad while families in India were left in fear and debt. Even after returning to India, Sunny is accused of continuing coordination through

hawala networks. Shubham, according to NIA findings, managed the financial side, funneling payments from desperate families through international hawala and shadow banking networks. These transactions, reportedly sustained the broader syndicate led by prime accused Gagandeep Singh, also known as Golu.

The case sheds light on a troubling trafficking ecosystem in India. Deceptive travel agents, porous financial networks, and regulatory blind spots allow such operations to flourish. Many victims, primarily from rural and semi-urban areas, are lured by promises of jobs in the US or Canada, only to find themselves trapped in an elaborate scam. Local touts masquerading as visa consultants often serve as the entry point into these criminal networks.

# Tarang 2.0 - An iMpower Initiative: 'Colors of Dreams, With Children' Art Exhibition

New Delhi:

M3M Foundation is proud to present "Tarang 2.0," an art exhibition celebrating creativity under the theme "Colors of Dreams, With Children." This special showcase brings to life the imagination and artistic expression of children from the families of migrant workers. The exhibition will be held from 04 to 09 October 2025, daily from 11:00 AM to 7:00 PM (including Sunday), at the All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society (AIFACS), 1 Rafi Marg, New Delhi.

This year, the exhibition will feature 70 unique paintings created by 28 young artists, aged 9 to 16 years, from iMpower Clubs in Gurugram. Each artwork is a reflection of their dreams, emotions, and lived experiences, painted with innocence, sincerity, and a unique perspective of the world around them. The iMpower program by M3M Foundation works to integrate children of migrant worker families into mainstream education while nurturing their talents through art, sports, and creative learning opportunities.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Payal Kanodia, Trustee of M3M Foundation, said "Tarang 2.0 is not just an exhibition—it is an effort to bring children's dreams to life. We are proud that 28 children, through their 70 paintings, have shown us that no matter the circumstances, imagination and aspirations always soar high. Our aim is to give these children a platform where their talent and hard work are recognized and celebrated by society."

This edition will showcase paintings inspired by rural life, folk art, Madhubani traditions, nature's beauty, and imaginative themes—offering visitors a glimpse into vibrant colors and the depth of young minds. The exhibition will also be graced by distinguished personalities from the world of art and social development, further encouraging the young artists.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large is hereby informed that my client Shri Raj Kishu S/O Late Shri H.N. Kishu has passed away. My client's wife is Smt. Sumitra W/o Shri Raj Kishu, both House No 2107, 1st Floor, Kani Bagh, Shakurbasti, North West, Delhi-110068. My client has several all his relationships with their son and daughter-in-law namely Mr. Kishu and Mrs. Anusha Sharma, and have inherited from him all their movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them shall be dealing at his/her own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be liable for any acts and deeds of the said persons in future. I.e., after the publication of this notice.

UDIT GUPTA Advocate A-1, Gandhi Square, Vajpa, Conj. Opp. Hansraj College, Delhi-110007. Phone: +91-9999829858

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that Mr. Dev Pal Singh is the absolute owner of Plot No. 19, measuring 120 Sq. Yds., comprised in Scheme No. 10/13/2, situated at Mauza Ghendri, District Faridabad, Haryana. The Original Sale Deed dated 10/03/1999, duly registered as Document No. 7812 dated 10/03/1999, has been misplaced by Mr. Dev Pal Singh. An FIR regarding the loss of the aforesaid document has already been lodged vide LR No. 325 7214/2025. Dated 03/10/2025. Any person, entity, or authority in possession of, or having knowledge about, the aforesaid documents is hereby requested to return them immediately. In the event that an unauthorized person is found to be in possession of, or attempts to misuse, these documents in any manner, strict legal action will be taken under the applicable laws.

For any information, kindly contact Advocate Lavika Gupta at +91 9971170801, within seven (7) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Lavika Gupta Chamber No. P-44, Post Office Lane, Near Central Hall, T-10 Hazari Court, Delhi-110054. Mob: 9971170800

## PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that My Clients Sh. Rajkumar (Aadhar: 4651-5752-9726) & Smt. Rakhi Singh (Aadhar: 8554-8625-7162) both R/o 2647/196, 2nd Floor, Anand Nagar A, near Tota Ram Bazar, T. Nagar, Delhi 110035 have severed all their relations & connections with their son Sh. Manish Singh (Aadhar: 93602423162) & his wife Smt. Kanika (Aadhar: 8122518422) henceforth and accordingly my clients' deburred their above named Son & Daughter in Law from the below mentioned address, falling into any type of dealings with my Clients above named son/daughter in Law, but he/she do so at his own risks & consequences.

VIRBOR GUPTA, ADVOCATE 651, LAWYER'S CHAMBER Western Wing, T. Hazari Delhi-110007. Mob No. 9319162687

## PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Satish Kumar S/O Dharmraj Kishu R/o H.N. Kishu has passed away. My client's wife is Smt. Sumitra W/o Shri Raj Kishu, both House No 2107, 1st Floor, Kani Bagh, Shakurbasti, North West, Delhi-110068. My client has several all his relationships with their son and daughter-in-law namely Mr. Kishu and Mrs. Anusha Sharma, and have inherited from him all their movable and immovable properties. Anybody dealing with them shall be dealing at his/her own risk and consequences and my clients shall not be liable for any acts and deeds of the said persons in future. I.e., after the publication of this notice.

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## FOR ADVERTISING IN TOP STORY PLEASE CONTACT: 9818799941

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is known to all that my client Smt. Sunita W/o Raju R/o RZ-673/135, Gali no 19A, Sadh Nagar Part 2, Palam Colony, Palam Village Delhi-110075 has divorced & deserted her son namely Jai Kishor residing at same address from her all movable and immovable properties, and all her relations from her son. Any personal deals with him in whatsoever manner can deal with his or her own risk, cost and consequences. My client will not be responsible for the same.

Yash Mundal & Associates Advocate Chamber 317, Dwarka Distt. New Delhi-110045. Contact: 7550380408

## PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby informed to the public at large that I, Mrs. Geeta Devi W/o Sh. Kishan and Smt. Kishu W/o Sh. Jagjit Singh R/o Block-102, Maharan Enclave, Hissail, West Uttar Nagar-110059, do here by solemnly affirm and state that I have divorced my son Mr. Aakash Kumar S/o Sh. Kishan and daughter-in-law Mrs. Monika W/o Mr. Aakash Kumar S/o Sh. Kishan and Smt. Kishu W/o Sh. Jagjit Singh R/o Block-102, Maharan Enclave, Hissail, West Uttar Nagar-110059, do here by solemnly affirm and state that I have divorced my son Mr. Aakash Kumar S/o Sh. Kishan and daughter-in-law Mrs. Monika W/o Mr. Aakash Kumar S/o Sh. Kishan and Smt. Kishu W/o Sh. Jagjit Singh R/o Block-102, Maharan Enclave, Hissail, West Uttar Nagar-110059, do here by solemnly affirm and state that I have divorced my son Mr. Aakash Kumar S/o Sh. Kishan and daughter-in-law Mrs. Monika W/o Mr. Aakash Kumar S/o Sh. Kishan and Smt. Kishu W/o Sh. 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**New Kendriya Vidyalaya to Open in Trans-Yamuna Delhi**

**Staff Reporter**  
New Delhi:  
A new Kendriya Vidyalaya will open in Khajuri Khas, Trans-Yamuna area of Delhi, providing government employees and local residents access to quality education. Chief Minister Rekha Gupta announced that the Delhi government has given land for the school, which is being established by the Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS). She expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his support in setting up Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country, emphasizing the importance of education for the future of children. The new school will start with classes from Grade 1 to Grade 5, initially having one section for each grade. Necessary arrangements for land and infrastructure have been completed, and the school has KVS approval. It will operate under the Civil Sector, with plans for future expansion.

CM Gupta highlighted that there are currently 46 Kendriya Vidyalayas in Delhi. She reiterated the Prime Minister's belief that quality education is vital for a self-reliant India and should promote holistic development beyond just textbooks. Modi's vision of equal opportunity and resources for all children is being achieved through these schools, marking a significant step towards inclusive development in education.

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**Noida Authority to simplify e-tendering process**

**Staff Reporter**  
New Delhi:  
The Noida Authority in its board meeting here on Friday taking many other decisions also decided to simplify the e-tendering system.

The 219th board meeting was chaired by Noida Authority chairman and Industrial Development Commissioner Deepak Kumar. The meeting was attended by senior officials of the authorities including CEO Lokesh M. The meeting was informed that 35 of the authority's 57 projects have deposited 25% of the required amount, resulting in a recovery of approximately ₹556 crore.

However, 10 projects have not made payments despite having agreed to do so. The authority clarified that no project will be given additional deadlines in the future. Furthermore, to make the work of various departments more transparent, the e-tendering system will be simplified and made more effective.

It was also decided to maintain transparency in project monitoring and payment processes. It was decided that residential plots lying vacant for more than 12 years will be cancelled. Meanwhile, partially constructed plots will be given a six-month extension to complete construction.

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**9810-799941**

**Delhi govt officials must upgrade skills to serve people better, says CM Gupta**

**Staff Reporter**  
New Delhi:  
Delhi Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Friday said government officials must constantly upgrade themselves with the latest techniques and technology to work efficiently and address people's problems sensitively.

Addressing a two-day training programme for tehsildars and sub-registrars of the revenue department, Gupta said training is an important part of life for officials as well as political leaders. "There has not been any system of training of officials under the Delhi government. The tehsildars and sub-registrars will be able to serve people more efficiently after this training," she said.

The government also issued directions for the training of senior officials, the chief minister said while launching the training programme. "It is imperative to equip officials with the latest systems and techniques for better governance and redressing public grievances," Gupta emphasised.

Asserting that sensitivity is an important part of training, Gupta urged the officials to stay connected with people and resolve their problems.



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

Public conduct of officials defines the identity of a government, Gupta said, expecting the trainees to bring energy, discipline and transparency into the official machinery.

Delhi government is determined to strengthen digitisation, improve transparency, modernise offices and act firmly against corruption, so that every citizen can access revenue services without any fear, bias, or unnecessary difficulty, she said.

The chief minister also said that unlike some other states, Delhi does not have an ex-cadre system for tehsildars and

sub-registrars, which makes initial training vital for the new appointees. The programme will not only help them understand the complexities of their roles but also equip them to simplify processes for the citizens and ensure a clean and corruption-free administration, the chief minister said.

The action followed strict instructions from GDA Vice-Chairman to intensify measures against unauthorized colonies and illegal constructions across the city.

Officials said encroachments around the Judo showroom and VVIP Mall had turned footpaths and road portions into makeshift parking zones, regularly causing traffic jams. These illegal structures were razed during the drive.

Unauthorized vendors and shopkeepers occupying the 24, 30, and 40-meter-wide roads were also evicted.

In front of Rajnagar

Residency, restaurants and shops that had extended their setups illegally using iron angles were demolished. One liquor outlet in the same stretch was sealed. On the 45-meter-wide road, another large liquor shop spread over nearly 400 square meters, operated by Ashok Chaudhary with fabricated angles and girders, was also sealed.

Officials reported that some people attempted to obstruct

the operation, but timely police intervention ensured the drive was completed smoothly. Police personnel from the local station, along with authority officials and enforcement staff, remained on site throughout.

The GDA said such campaigns will continue in coming days and appealed to residents and shopkeepers to voluntarily remove any unauthorized construction before enforcement action is taken.

Enquiries revealed that Oha, who was riding a bike, was on his way towards the ESIC red light when he was hit by a DTC bus coming from the Tehkhand side and heading in the same direction.

He fell and came under the right rear tyre of the vehicle, a senior police officer said.

The driver of the bus, identified as Rama Kant, a resident of Mohan Baba Nagar in Badarpur, was apprehended from the spot, police said.

Police said they received a PCR call around 2.50 pm regarding a fatal accident in front of the Tehkhand bus depot, Okhla Phase-1. Police reached the spot and found the victim's body lying on the road near a damaged motorcycle.

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**Greater Noida-Faridabad connectivity to gain momentum**

**Staff Reporter**  
Noida:  
The project connecting Greater Noida and Faridabad is set to begin next month. The Manjhawali bridge over the Yamuna River is almost complete, but traffic has not yet resumed due to incomplete road construction on the Greater Noida side.

Now, work on the new road and widening it from Atta Gujran village to Manjhawali Bridge, within the Gautam Buddha Nagar district, is set to begin. The Uttar Pradesh government approved a budget of ₹65.50 crore for this project in August. About 6,888 hectare of land in four villages has been acquired for road widening and new road construction.

The Public Works Department (PWD) has been entrusted with the responsibility. Executive Engineer Kanchan stated that the process of selecting a company is underway and construction will begin next month. The total length of this road is 4.99 km and the new 1.7 km will

connect directly to the Manjhawali Bridge. The existing 3.29 km will be widened to four lanes. The entire four-lane road will facilitate the movement of both heavy vehicles and general traffic. In fact, this bridge over the Yamuna near Manjhawali village on the Haryana border is already complete. It will be opened to the public as soon as the road towards Greater Noida is completed.

The foundation stone for the bridge was laid by Union Road and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari in 2014. After the construction of this road, a direct and fast route will be available from Greater Noida, Noida and Delhi to Faridabad.

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**GreNo Authority to restore Dadri railway road**



Noida:  
The Greater Noida (GreNo) Authority has undertaken the task of restoring the Dadri railway road. It will soon issue the tender process. Work is likely to begin next month.

The Greater Noida Authority constructed the railway road in Dadri 19 years ago, but over time, the condition of the road got deteriorated. Due to frequent traffic jams, people were demanding its restoration. Dadri MLA Tejpal Nagar requested the officials concerned of the Greater Noida Authority to construct a 2.10 km long road in Dadri. A team from the engineering department visited the site and prepared an estimate. According to the es-

timate, the existing road has been damaged and has potholes. Its construction will cost ₹6.06 crore. A 20-centimeter concrete layer will be laid on top of it, spanning 2,100 meter. The drains on both sides are made of bricks and are broken in several places. The drains are to be made of RCC. A 4,200-meter drain is to be constructed on both sides of the road, costing ₹4.96 crore. A divider is to be built in the middle of the road, which is already broken. In this way, an estimate of Rs 18 crore has been prepared to complete all the work.

The construction of the road will provide relief from traffic jams. Due to the dilapidated condition of the road, vehicles move at a slow

er speed, causing frequent traffic jams. The construction of drains will improve drainage and prevent waterlogging during the rainy season.

As soon as the Greater Noida Authority receives financial approval and funds for the construction of roads, dividers, and footpaths, a tender will be issued. The Greater Noida Authority regarding this. A tender will be issued soon and work will begin, said Dadri MLA Tejpal Nagar.

Due to the dilapidated condition of the road, people have been demanding its repair for a long time. They have spoken to the Greater Noida Authority regarding this. A tender will be issued soon and work will begin, said Dadri MLA Tejpal Nagar.

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**Encroachment falls in Rajnagar Extension as Authority cracks down**

**Staff Reporter**  
Ghaziabad:  
The Ghaziabad Development Authority (GDA) on Friday launched a major anti-encroachment drive in Rajnagar Extension, clearing large-scale illegal occupations on roads and footpaths and sealing two liquor shops operating without authorization.

The operation, led by the Enforcement Zone-1 team under the supervision of its in-charge, was carried out with strong police backing. The action followed strict instructions from GDA Vice-Chairman to intensify measures against unauthorized colonies and illegal constructions across the city.

Officials said encroachments around the Judo showroom and VVIP Mall had turned footpaths and road portions into makeshift parking zones, regularly causing traffic jams. These illegal structures were razed during the drive.

Unauthorized vendors and shopkeepers occupying the 24, 30, and 40-meter-wide roads were also evicted.

In front of Rajnagar

Residency, restaurants and shops that had extended their setups illegally using iron angles were demolished. One liquor outlet in the same stretch was sealed. On the 45-meter-wide road, another large liquor shop spread over nearly 400 square meters, operated by Ashok Chaudhary with fabricated angles and girders, was also sealed.

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the operation, but timely police intervention ensured the drive was completed smoothly. Police personnel from the local station, along with authority officials and enforcement staff, remained on site throughout.

The GDA said such campaigns will continue in coming days and appealed to residents and shopkeepers to voluntarily remove any unauthorized construction before enforcement action is taken.

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He fell and came under the right rear tyre of the vehicle, a senior police officer said.

The driver of the bus, identified as Rama Kant, a resident of Mohan Baba Nagar in Badarpur, was apprehended from the spot, police said.

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Residency, restaurants and shops that had extended their setups illegally using iron angles were demolished. One liquor outlet in the same stretch was sealed. On the 45-meter-wide road, another large liquor shop spread over nearly 400 square meters, operated by Ashok Chaudhary with fabricated angles and girders, was also sealed.

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**MCD's Inaction vs. Govt's Zero Tolerance to Inefficiency**

**Staff Reporter**  
New Delhi:  
The Education Department of the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) continues to operate with a disturbing lack of accountability and disregard for service rules, routinely denying employees their rightful dues.

Its officers fail to distinguish between regular promotion, which carries financial benefits and a stop-gap arrangement in the form of Look After Charge (LAC), given to clear out departmental work in the wake of staff shortages.

A striking example is that of a teacher from the Rohini Zone, with an exceptional 30+ year career and recipient of Best Teacher Awards at the Zonal, Nigam and State levels. Her 3rd MACP, due in January 2021, was delayed for over four years and eventually granted in 2025, but only from March 2023, with her pay wrongly fixed at a lower level deliberately,

thereby denying her rightful benefits. Despite escalating the matter from the ADE to the Commissioner and even to the Chief Minister's Office, no action has been taken. Alarmingly, even letters from the CMO have been ignored and filed away without any Action Taken Report by the Education Department of Rohini Zone.

This appears to be part of a systemic practice - sending a clear message to MCD staff: Pay "Suvidha Shulk" or struggle endlessly, even for rightful claims. The tragedy extends far beyond this one teacher. As staff waste precious time navigating bureaucratic hurdles, it is ultimately the students, especially those from underprivileged backgrounds, who suffer - as teaching and learning take a backseat.

Despite facing an acute shortage of teachers, many have

been posted to Zones and HQ for administrative work, for which they are neither competent nor trained.

With no clerical or IT support available in MCD schools, teachers are burdened with all kinds of non-teaching work - leaving them with little or no time to teach the poor students for whom they were primarily appointed.

The administration is indulging in a criminal wastage of teachers' time and talent, forcing them to trace files and respond to frivolous objections - time that could otherwise be spent on meaningful developmental activities to enhance students' learning outcomes and future prospects.

It is time for the CMO, MHA, or even the PMO to intervene and demonstrate that the promise of "Zero Tolerance to Inefficiency and Corruption" is more than just a slogan.

**Delhi Cong slams Gupta govt's move to teach RSS history in schools**

**Staff Reporter**  
New Delhi:  
Delhi Pradesh Congress Committee president Devender Yadav here on Friday said that it was a retrograde and dangerous move by the BJP government in Delhi to teach the 100-year history of the RSS in schools.

Yadav said that what kind of RSS history would be taught in schools as RSS had colluded with the British and Mohammad Ali Jinnah to divide the country to create Pakistan. Yadav said that had the RSS ideology been implemented in the country, the country would not have been able to setup great temples of learning like the IITs (Indian Institute of Technology), the IIMS (Indian Institute of Management), the AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences) and the ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) but the Congress government took the initiative to es-



tablish these great centres of learning to pilot the country into the orbit of development and progress.

Yadav said that the Rekha Gupta government's move to teach RSS history will ruin the future of school children in Delhi and also the reputation of city schools to make them narrow minded citizens which would be destructive not only for the future of the children, but also for the future of the nation.

He said that poisoning the young mind in their formative years with a dangerous narrative was the most destructive strategy. Yadav said that it was strange that the RSS, which conspired to murder Gandhiji, was now trying to regain its lost credibility by paying homage to the father of the nation on Gandhi Jayanti though such acts would not clean the blood stained reputation of the communal outfit.

# H-1B Visa Crisis – A Crisis Which Can Turn Into an Opportunity



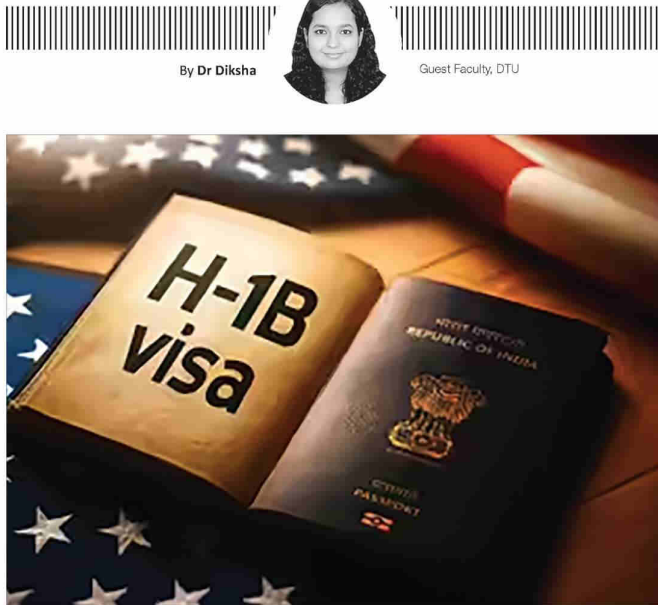
By Dr Diksha

Guest Faculty, DTU

**A**fter months of uncertainty and heightened tensions over higher tariffs imposed on India for its purchase of Russian oil, relations between India and the United States appeared to be worsening. Strong statements from Washington accused New Delhi of enabling Moscow's war in Ukraine, with some even going so far as to call it "Modi's war." India was branded a "laundromat" for Russia, and controversial remarks sought to stir divisions by suggesting that certain communities were profiting from the crisis. However, a tweet by former U.S. President Donald Trump praising the warm ties between the two nations, followed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's equally positive response, briefly raised hopes of a thaw in bilateral relations.

Just as talks for a trade deal seemed to gain some positive momentum, Trump announced a hefty fee of around \$9,000 for H-1B visa applicants, a move that took India by surprise given that Indians constitute nearly 70-75% of H-1B visa holders. The sudden decision initially created panic in the Indian IT industry, with fears of a slowdown and confusion as U.S.-based multinational companies advised Indian employees to prepare for immediate compliance. It was later clarified that the fee would apply only to new applicants as a one-time payment, but the measure was still seen as an attempt to pressure India's booming services sector after months of disagreements. Tensions had already risen over trade negotiations, with the U.S. pressing India to open its agriculture and dairy markets, and additional sanctions were imposed over India's continued purchase of discounted Russian oil.

In response, Union Ministers and Prime Minister Modi urged citizens to strengthen the domestic economy by purchasing more Swadeshi goods and using home-grown apps such as Zoho. Modi highlighted that his long-standing vision of Make in India and Atmanirbhar Bharat was precisely aimed at reducing over-reliance on a single country and protecting



India from strategic vulnerabilities. Since independence, self-reliance has been India's guiding mantra, and Modi once again turned a crisis into an opportunity by motivating people to trust the immense potential of the Indian market. He stressed that promoting domestic products and digital platforms would not only shield India from external pressure but also ensure data sovereignty by keeping sensitive information within the country. A stronger domestic IT ecosystem would pave the way for policy support, greater customisation for Indian users through multilingual applications and a deeper push towards the Digital India programme. This would enhance digital literacy, narrow the digital divide, and empower citizens in an era where AI skills and digital competence are becoming increasingly vital.

Despite initial apprehensions about the H-1B visa move and its possible negative impact on India's IT industry, reports suggest that several multinational companies are now planning to expand or relocate their Global Capability Centres (GCCs) to India. This trend is expected to give a significant boost to India's IT sector while fostering an environment of innovation, research and skill development. In the long run, it could transform India into not only a hub for IT services but also a global centre for R&D, creativity and technological leadership.

In conclusion, the recent developments underscore both opportunities and risks in the India-U.S. relationship. On one hand, external pressures have renewed India's drive for self-reliance and digital expansion. On the other, uncertainty in U.S. policy ranging from tariffs to visa rules poses challenges for long-term planning in India's services sector. The path forward will require careful balancing: building stronger domestic capabilities, diversifying trade partnerships, while also keeping diplomatic channels open to safeguard the benefits of India-U.S. cooperation in technology, investment and global governance.

## India's EV Future Hinges on Critical Mineral Security



By Santosh Sharma

The writer is a senior journalist and research scholar

**T**he global automotive landscape is undergoing one of its most profound transformations in decades. The shift from internal combustion engines (ICE) to electric vehicles (EVs) is not merely a technological evolution; it is a strategic, environmental, and industrial pivot with far-reaching implications. While EVs promise reduced carbon emissions and cleaner urban air, the underlying reality is that they are fundamentally dependent on a narrow set of critical minerals. Unlike traditional vehicles, whose supply chains revolve around steel, aluminum, and petroleum, EVs rely heavily on lithium, cobalt, nickel, manganese, graphite, and rare earth elements (REEs). These minerals power lithium-ion batteries, motors, and electronics, forming the backbone of electric mobility, yet their supply comes with significant geopolitical, economic, and environmental vulnerabilities.

Globally, the dependence on critical minerals is stark. Lithium, a core component of battery cathodes, has seen demand projections rise exponentially, expected to grow five to seven times by 2030, primarily driven by EV adoption. Australia, Chile, and China dominate production, with India yet to establish commercial-scale mining, though promising reserves have been identified in Jammu & Kashmir and Karnataka. Cobalt, critical for battery stability and energy density, is largely sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo, a region plagued by political instability and ethical concerns, including child labor. Nickel, essential for high-energy batteries, faces similar supply challenges, with Indonesia, the Philippines, and Russia accounting for the bulk of production. Graphite, used in almost all battery anodes, is overwhelmingly controlled by China, both in mining and refining. Finally, rare earth elements like neodymium and dysprosium, vital for EV motors, are dominated by Chinese supply chains, which have historically demonstrated the potential to disrupt global markets through export restrictions.

India's domestic mineral landscape presents both opportunities and challenges. Lithium reserves in the Reasi district of Jammu & Kashmir are estimated at 5.9 million tonnes, while graphite deposits have been identified in Jharkhand, Arunachal Pradesh, and Odisha. Small reserves of nickel, cobalt, and manganese exist in Odisha, Jharkhand, and Karnataka. However, these discoveries remain largely at the exploration stage. Mining in ecologically sensitive and politically complex regions, coupled with limited domestic refining capacity, means that India remains heavily reliant on imports. Over 90 percent of lithium carbonate and cobalt sulfate is sourced from China, South Korea, Japan, and Hong Kong, leaving domestic EV manufacturers exposed to volatile global prices—lithium carbonate prices, for instance, surged over 400 percent between 2020 and 2022.

The strategic vulnerability of relying on imported critical minerals is magnified by geopolitical risks. China's dominance in processing gives it leverage even over minerals mined elsewhere. Resource nationalism in Indonesia and Chile has led to stricter export policies, while the DRC's political instability threatens cobalt supply. Without direct stakes in global mines, India must compete with stronger players like China, the European Union, and the United States, all of whom have recognized the strategic importance of controlling both upstream mining and downstream processing.



In response, alternative materials and technologies offer pathways to reduce dependence. Sodium-ion batteries, leveraging abundant domestic sodium reserves, promise lower cost and higher safety, though at a trade-off in energy density. Lithium iron phosphate (LFP) batteries eliminate the need for cobalt and nickel and are already being adopted in mass-market EVs such as the Tata Nexon. Solid-state batteries, still under development, could revolutionize energy density and safety while reducing reliance on critical minerals. Battery recycling and urban mining provide a parallel route to security, with Indian startups such as Attero and Lohum pioneering closed-loop systems capable of recovering up to 95 percent of lithium, cobalt, and nickel, potentially meeting a quarter of domestic demand by 2030. Additionally, alternative motor technologies, including induction and switched reluctance motors, could mitigate the reliance on rare earth elements. Research at IITs and DRDO labs focuses on developing REE-free motors suitable for Indian conditions.

Environmental and social considerations also underscore the urgency of strategic mineral management. Lithium extraction is water-intensive, threatening arid ecosystems such as Chile's Atacama Desert. Cobalt mining in the DRC is linked with child labor and hazardous conditions, while nickel laterite mining in Indonesia endangers rainforest biodiversity. Recycling emerges as a more sustainable solution, not only reducing pressure on virgin mines but also cutting the carbon footprint of battery manufacturing by up to 40 percent. Urban mining, through recovery of metals from spent electronics and EV batteries, could position India at the forefront of a circular economy model.

India's strategic pathway for securing critical minerals must be multi-pronged. In the short term, bilateral agreements with lithium-rich countries such as Chile, Argentina, and Australia are essential, alongside the establishment of domestic refining capacity and the scaling of battery recycling industries. Over the medium term, operationalizing domestic lithium mines in Jammu & Kashmir, advancing sodium-ion and solid-state battery R&D, and transitioning to cobalt-free chemistries will be critical. Long-term strategies should aim for mineral independence through comprehensive recycling, indigenous processing capabilities, and circular supply chains, ultimately positioning India as a global hub for green mineral refining.

## India hub of cardiovascular, Cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases'



By Vijay Garg

is Retired Principal Educational columnist Eminent Educationist street kour Chand MHR Malout Punjab)

**I**ndia is witnessing a worrying rise in non-communicable diseases (NCDs) like cardiovascular diseases, cancers, diabetes, and chronic respiratory diseases

### How huge is India's NCD burden?

They account for about 63% of all deaths in India, but this number alone doesn't capture the real crisis. What truly matters is the share of these deaths that occur between the ages of 30 and 70 - what the WHO defines as premature mortality.

In India, NCDs are cutting lives short during the most productive years, when people are most needed by their families, communities, and the economy. That is where the focus must lie: reducing premature mortality from NCDs. Globally, countries have committed under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3.4 to reduce premature NCD mortality by one-third by 2030.

India has a long way to go. Currently, around 25-26% of NCD deaths in India occur in the 30-70 age group. By comparison, the figure is roughly 23% in Brazil, while in developed nations such as the Nordic countries or the United States, it is closer to 10-15%.

These numbers underline why India cannot simply compare itself to global averages. The challenge is not just about how many people die of NCDs, but when they die. Preventing early deaths is the real public health priority because no family, no society, and no economy can afford to lose people in their prime.

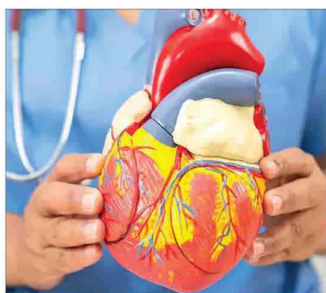
### How serious is the situation?

India is witnessing a worrying rise in NCDs among young adults - a trend that makes routine preventive check-ups and early health promotion more important than ever. Among NCDs, cardiovascular diseases and diabetes are increasing most rapidly. Diabetes in particular is appearing earlier in life, with an estimated 8-10 lakh children in India living with type 1 diabetes.

While the absolute numbers are still small, the upward trend is unmistakable, and it is a red flag we cannot ignore. The real concern lies in how rapidly the NCD burden has grown in just a decade. Intervention must begin early, across the life course. Health promotion shouldn't wait until adulthood. It must start with pregnant women, children, and adolescents and continue throughout life.

India now faces a triple burden: under-nutrition, multiple micronutrient deficiencies, and growing rates of overweight and obesity. Alarmingly, obesity has already overtaken underweight as a leading nutritional issue. If India does not act decisively through health promotion, prevention, and timely management; these cases will continue to rise. The path forward lies in early detection, stronger health literacy, and healthier environments so that India's young people can grow up protected from the lifelong burden of NCDs.

India has a National Program for Prevention and Control of NCD (NP-NC). Should its ambit be expanded to include children?



The focus today is moving earlier, towards child-centric health promotion and prevention. With government leadership and support from UNICEF and other experts, India is exploring ways to start early screening in schools.

The urgency is clear. Changing lifestyles, poor diets, and rising consumption of processed foods are fueling health risks. The next frontier for India's NCD strategy is therefore not just treatment but health literacy and responsible communication. Building awareness from a young age, through schools, families, and communities, will be key to ensuring healthier choices, stronger prevention, and a lifetime of protection against NCDs.

### What steps must India take to reduce the NCD burden?

India has a proven track record in public health, whether it was eradicating polio or delivering COVID-19 vaccinations at scale, with speed and safety. Despite conspiracy theories that have challenged vaccines globally, India has consistently treated immunisation as one of the highest-return public health investments. Now, the government is preparing to roll out the HPV vaccine and bring together various child-focused NCD initiatives under one umbrella. This integrated approach will allow for early screening, prevention, and management of NCDs in children.

Healthy food is not always available or affordable, while processed foods dominate store shelves and advertising. Cultural perceptions also shape choices—for example, exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months is one of the simplest and most powerful protections against NCD risk, yet formula feeding is often mistakenly seen as more aspirational.

Nutrition labels (front-of-pack labelling) that are simple, bold, and color-coded—like those used in Singapore—help consumers, including children and families with low literacy, make healthier choices at a glance. India can benefit from adopting an equally clear system. By starting early, India can not only prevent disease but also secure a healthier, more productive future for its next generation.

India sets sights on ending naxalism by 2026

Mitali Rainur

India is gearing up for a decisive push against the decades-old Naxal insurgency, with top police officials set to gather in Chhattisgarh this November for the 60th DGP-IGP conference. The meeting will focus on an ambitious target: the complete elimination of the Maoist movement by March 31, 2026.

For over half a century, Naxalism has gripped India's tribal heartlands, draining resources, claiming lives, and stalling development. Despite repeated government claims of success, the insurgency has persisted, at times fading and at others resurging. Security forces now claim to hold a strategic advantage, but analysts caution that military action alone cannot extinguish an ideology rooted in alienation, poverty, and mistrust of the State.

Sunam gets Dussehra gift: ₹15 Cr clean water project inaugurated

TSN/Sunam

On the festive occasion of Dussehra, the city of Sunam received a transformative gift as the Punjab Government, led by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, inaugurated a ₹15.22 crore clean water supply project aimed at solving the city's decades-old drinking water issues. The project, launched today by Cabinet Minister Aman Arora, promises to bring safe and reliable water directly to households across the city.

The initiative includes the installation of a 34-kilometer-long pipeline, which will deliver clean water to 1,472 households, and the construction of a 20 lakh liter water tank to ensure a continuous supply. For many families who previously relied on distant sources or purchased water at high costs, the project marks a significant improvement in daily life. Contaminated water, which often led to illnesses, will now be a thing of the past, benefiting children, the elderly, and the wider community.

Addressing the gathering, Aman Arora highlighted that the project reflects the government's commitment to providing essential services and implementing permanent solutions for citizens. "Under Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, the government is focused on fulfilling promises and improving the lives of every household," he said, emphasizing that the initiative is a tangible example of development-oriented governance.

Local residents welcomed the project enthusiastically, calling it a timely gift that brings hope and progress to Sunam. The launch on Dussehra adds symbolic significance, marking a victory over the longstanding challenges of water scarcity. With this project, the Mann Government has not only delivered on its promise but also reinforced its commitment to enhancing basic amenities and building trust with the people of Punjab.

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# India's dairy sector grew by 70 pc in past 11 yrs: Amit Shah

Komal Ramola

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said India has made significant strides in the dairy sector over the past 11 years, noting that it has grown by 70 per cent during this period and is now the fastest-growing sector in the world.

He said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, India's dairy sector has expanded by 70 per cent in terms of capacity. In the world, India's dairy sector is the fastest-growing, Shah said after inaugurating the newly constructed Sabar Dairy Plant facility in Industrial Model Township here, as part of efforts to promote the cooperative sector.

The plant, valued at Rs 325 crore, is expected to generate direct and indirect employment. The newly inaugurated Sabar Dairy plant here is the country's largest production facility for curd, buttermilk, and yogurt, with a daily capacity of 150 metric tonnes of curd, 3 lakh litres of buttermilk, 10 lakh litres of yogurt, and 10 metric tonnes of sweets.

Gujarat-headquartered Sabarkantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union is known as Sabar Dairy.

Shah, who also holds the cooperation portfolio, said that over the past four years, this Ministry, in collaboration with all state governments, has laid a strong foundation for the cooperative system. "I want to assure you that by 2029, not even one Panchayat will be there in the country which will not have a cooperative Samiti," Shah said.

Shah said the number of milch animals has increased from 86 million in 2014-2015 to 112 million in 2024-2025. Milk production has increased from 146 million tonnes to 239 million tonnes, he said.

As many as eight crore farmers are connected with the dairy sector, and the per capita milk availability, which was earlier 124 grams, is now 474 grams, said Shah.

During the last 11 years, a lot of changes have taken place in the dairy sector because of which farmers have become prosperous, he further said, while adding that India has emerged as the top milk producer in the world.

Shah also mentioned about the White Revolution 2.0 initiative and said that by 2028-29, milk procurement by dairy cooperatives is expected to reach 1,007 lakh kg per day from current levels.

When there is an increase in the milk production under the cooperative sector, its profit goes directly to farmers engaged in the dairy sector, he said.

In the last one year, around 32,000 cooperatives have been registered, he further said.



Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday inaugurated the newly constructed Sabar Dairy Plant facility in Industrial Model Township here, as part of efforts to promote the cooperative sector.



Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri presided over the 20th Foundation Day celebrations of Vijay Memorial College of Education in Barsu, Balh Assembly constituency, on Thursday. The event saw Agnihotri inaugurate a new college unit, lay the foundation stone for a hostel, and light the ceremonial lamp to mark the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, the Deputy Chief Minister highlighted the role of private education in promoting learning, particularly in rural areas. He credited recent improvements in the education sector for placing Himachal Pradesh among the top five states nationally. Agnihotri also announced that the state government plans to fill 13,000 teaching positions to further strengthen education in the state.

The Deputy Chief Minister praised the achievements of students who excelled in various courses and encouraged all students to pursue their goals with discipline, hard work, and dedication. He also announced a grant of ₹31,000 from his discretionary fund to students who performed cultural programs during the celebrations.

Earlier, Agnihotri planted a tree on the college campus as part of the event. Gaurav Marwah, Chairman of Vijay Memorial College of Education, expressed gratitude to the Deputy Chief Minister for the detailed day's program, emphasizing the college's commitment to providing quality education and opportunities for students in the region.

The event underscored the state's focus on education and the collaborative role of public and private institutions in shaping the future of Himachal Pradesh's youth.

# Congress Launches 'Vote Chor Gaddi Chhod' Campaign in Shimla



Rajman Panchhi, Congress leader, speaking at a campaign event in Shimla.

The Congress party in Himachal Pradesh on Friday kicked off its "Vote Chor Gaddi Chhod" campaign in Shimla, aiming to galvanize public support ahead of upcoming initiatives. The campaign, spearheaded nationally by senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, will see active participation from party workers, including the Mahila Congress, Youth Congress, NSUI, Seva Dal, and other affiliates.

Addressing reporters at the Raj Mahal Hotel on Friday, Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, who has been appointed as the state convener of the campaign, said he is engaging with party members across Himachal Pradesh to ensure the campaign's success. Agnihotri revealed that the party aims to collect one lakh signatures in the state by October 15 and announced plans to install a statue of former Chief Minister Virbhadr Singh at the Ridge Maidan on October 31, marking the campaign's conclusion.

He also clarified that the Congress will refrain from influencing the Panchayat Raj elections, noting that these local polls often see party members contesting against each other, and favoritism could create conflict within the party ranks.

The campaign is expected to generate significant public engagement as it highlights the party's broader political messaging and organizational outreach in the state.

# Haryana's dairy sector set for boost as Sabar Dairy expands in Rohtak



Shiv Kumar, Chief Minister, inaugurating the Sabar Dairy (Amul plant) in Rohtak.

The expansion of Sabar Dairy (Amul plant) at IMT Rohtak is poised to transform Haryana's dairy landscape, providing a major boost to rural employment and the state's economy, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said on Friday.

Addressing the gathering at the inauguration of the plant's second phase by Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, the Chief Minister emphasized that Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mantra of "Sakshar Samridhi" (Prosperity through Cooperation) has given fresh momentum to India's cooperative movement. He highlighted the establishment of the Ministry of Cooperation in 2021 and the National Cooperation Policy 2025 as key milestones in strengthening this sector.

Sh. Saini said that Amul is more than just a dairy brand; it symbolizes the strength of India's cooperative movement. The modernized Rohtak facility, which first began operations in January 2015, has now undergone a Rs. 325 crore expansion and emerged as the country's largest unit for curd, buttermilk, and yogurt production. This, he noted, will help meet the growing dairy demand of Delhi-NCR and northern India while generating thousands of employment opportunities for local youth.

The Chief Minister also highlighted the government's support for farmers, including loan interest waivers via cooperative societies, timely supply of high-quality seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides by HAFED, and assured payments of Rs. 400 per quintal to sugarcane farmers through the state-run Sugarcane Federation. Haryana currently ranks third nationally in milk production, with per capita availability at 1105 grams per day and an annual output of 122.2 lakh tonnes. He added that cooperative members benefit from insurance schemes and scholarships for their children, as well as marriage grants for daughters of cooperative society members.

Urging collective efforts to strengthen the cooperative movement, Sh. Saini expressed his gratitude to Union Minister Amit Shah, calling the inauguration an inspiring moment for everyone present. The event was attended by Union Ministers of State Rao Indrajit Singh and Krishan Pal Gurjar, Haryana Cooperation Minister Dr. Arvind Sharma, BJP State President Sh. Mohan Lal Kaushik, Gujarat Minister Sh. Bhikunji Chaturshinji Parmar, MPs, and top officials of Sabar Dairy and Amul.

UP gov committed to bringing prosperity in people's lives: Adityanath

Gorakhpur: Uttar Pradesh government is committed to bringing prosperity in the lives of the people of the state, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said here on Friday.

According to an official statement, despite being engaged for four consecutive days in rituals and festivities of Shardiya Navratri and Vijaydashami, the chief minister on Friday morning held a Janata Darshan at the Gorakhnath temple, where he met people, heard their concerns, and instructed officials to ensure swift and satisfactory resolutions. Interacting with nearly 200 people seated at Mahant Digvijaynath Smriti Bhawan, Adityanath personally reached out to each petitioner, he said.

# Hospital staff attack on DJ workers sparks outrage in Agra

Akash Jain

Agra

Tension gripped the Trans Yamuna area late last night after a violent clash broke out near Shah Hospital in Kalindi Vihar. The hospital owner, identified as Dr. Praveen Sisodia, and his staff allegedly assaulted workers of a DJ vehicle with sticks and iron rods, leaving one man with a fractured hand and another with serious head injuries.

The incident occurred around 1:30 a.m. when DJ operator Nitroam Singh and his team were checking the wiring of their system before leaving for a booking at Rajghat on the Ganga. Singh said he tried to explain to the hospital staff that the music should be switched off once the check was complete. However, the situation escalated when Dr. Sisodia and his staff reportedly intoxicated, attacked them with weapons.

A video of the assault has surfaced on social media showing the hospital owner and his staff striking the DJ workers repeatedly. The footage has fueled anger among locals and raised questions about the role of the police.

The victims have lodged a written complaint at the Trans Yamuna police station, but no action has been taken so far. Singh alleges that he is being threatened to withdraw his complaint and that groups of young men have been loitering outside his home, intimidating his family.

His family has appealed to the district administration for protection and justice. Meanwhile, the video of the brutal assault continues to circulate widely, putting pressure on the authorities to act.

# Corruption Exposed in Punjab's Ayurvedic Education System: Parminder Bhatti

Chandigarh:

Social activist Parminder Kumar Bhatti has exposed the rampant corruption in Punjab's Ayurvedic education system. He alleges that Sanjeev Goyal, the Registrar (additional charge) of Guru Ravidas Ayurvedic University, has held this position for the past eight years, despite lacking the necessary educational qualifications. Bhatti stated that this individual has become a significant threat to Punjab's Ayurvedic education system.

Notably, Sanjeev Goyal reached the retirement age in June 2020 but continues to serve while receiving a government salary. Bhatti claimed that contrary to government directives, he has succeeded in remaining in this position, which constitutes a violation of regulations. The Congress and now the Aam Aadmi Party governments in the state have also failed to find a permanent registrar for this position.

**The Dark Truth of Sanjeev Goyal: Continuing as Registrar Despite Retirement: Parminder Bhatti**

Bhatti noted that Sanjeev Goyal has exploited his position to facilitate his son and daughter-in-law in pursuing a PhD in Ayurvedic. Additionally, he is providing protection to fake doctors trading in Tom and Smita medicines, who sell Ayurvedic drugs. Bhatti remarked, "If their answer sheets are examined, cases of collective cheating will also emerge."

The situation of key institutions such as the Ayurvedic and Unani Medical Systems Board and Guru Ravidas Ayurvedic University is alarming. According

to Ketan Sharma, Punjab government ministers and senior officials are unable to take any action in this matter, highlighting the significant influence of Sanjeev Goyal.

It was also revealed that Sanjeev Goyal has amassed substantial wealth during his tenure. Recently, he purchased an 8 crore INR house in Chandigarh's Sector 40-B and possesses a multi-acre industrial plot in Mohali. Additionally, he has engaged in contracts worth millions in the gray market.

The social activist stated that the person hidden behind the facade is providing protection to unqualified doctors actively involved in the trade of Ayurvedic medicines, while there is no adherence to a proper medical education system in the state.

Bhatti posed several important questions to the government, such as

why Sanjeev Goyal is being treated so favorably despite being retired? Is there no other qualified individual in Punjab capable of managing these institutions? He raised the question of whether the rules against the re-appointment of retired employees do not apply to Sanjeev Goyal.

This incident has not only brought the Punjab Ayurvedic education system into question but also permanently affirms how crucial transparency and accountability are in government jobs. If such irregularities are not halted, they could have a widespread negative impact on the state's medical education and health system.

In the coming times, it will be crucial to see what steps the government takes regarding this issue and whether solid action will be taken against Sanjeev Goyal, which could lead to improvements in Punjab's education system.

# “Election Commission’s Bias Is BJP’s Shield, But Time Will Turn: Imran Masood”



**By Dr. Anil Kumar Singh**  
Editorial Advisor, Top Story;  
Editor, STAR Views; Former  
Executive Editor Aaj Tak/ABP  
News/STAR News; Author of  
The Prime Minister: Discourses  
in Indian Polity (2025), Bihar:  
Chaos to Chaos (2013), Military  
and Media (2007)



**DR. ANIL SINGH**  
Editor, STAR Views & Editorial  
Advisor, Top Story

**IMRAN MASOOD**  
Congress leader and Member of  
Parliament from Saharanpur

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Imran Masood Sahib, welcome to this special program of STAR Views. You are a senior leader of the Congress Party, Member of Parliament from Saharanpur, and have been active in Uttar Pradesh politics for decades. Let me ask you directly—do you really think Uttar Pradesh can break free from the fear created by Yogi Adityanath’s bulldozer politics? Or has fear now become the accepted governance model of BJP?

**A Imran Masood:** Fear has no place in democracy. Any government that rules by intimidation and bulldozers is sowing the seeds of its own downfall. You cannot bulldoze dissent, bulldoze minorities, and bulldoze political opponents, and expect democracy to survive. History shows—when leaders govern through fear rather than justice, the end comes faster than they imagine. Yogi’s politics of bulldozers may scare some temporarily, but ultimately it will backfire.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** But in reality, bulldozer politics has created an image of strength for BJP. Isn’t Congress still too weak on the ground in Uttar Pradesh to counter this narrative, despite Priyanka Gandhi’s campaigns?

**A Imran Masood:** I disagree. Yes, Congress was weak organizationally, but that phase is behind us. Today, we have built a grassroots structure—at every 30 booths, a mandal president is in place. Both committees are

being finalized. By the next two months, we will have around 3.5 million workers directly engaged with the Congress in Uttar Pradesh. Priyanka Gandhi started a narrative, Rahul Gandhi strengthened it, and now we are institutionalizing it at the booth level. The BJP has underestimated this organizational rebuilding.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Let’s be honest—Rahul Gandhi worked hard in Uttar Pradesh, but the Samajwadi Party reaped the benefits. Isn’t Congress still fighting a losing battle, while SP continues to dominate the opposition space?

**A Imran Masood:** This is a superficial reading. Yes, the SP benefited in the last election, but Rahul Gandhi’s leadership created that momentum. Without Rahul Gandhi, the INDIA alliance would not have stood a chance. Now, in this alliance, the Congress is regaining ground. And let me be clear—Rahul Gandhi is not just another opposition leader. He is the storm of change. His Parliamentary speeches on China, on Pakistan, on the GST disaster—all have been vindicated by reality. The Samajwadi Party may have gained once, but the real archi-

tect of opposition resurgence is Rahul Gandhi.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Minority votes in UP have historically been with the Samajwadi Party. Now with Azam Khan out on bail, do you really think minorities—particularly Muslims—will shift towards Congress, or will Azam Khan again consolidate them for SP?

**A Imran Masood:** Azam Khan has faced injustice, and no one denies that. But the truth is stark: today, India’s Muslims see no savior except Rahul Gandhi. The community understands one thing—only Rahul Gandhi has the courage to speak for them in Parliament, to expose the government’s failures, and to fight openly for their dignity. Muslims respect Azam Khan, but their faith for the future lies with Rahul Gandhi.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** You call Rahul Gandhi the storm of change. But tell me frankly—can Rahul Gandhi really be a Prime Ministerial candidate against Narendra Modi? Modi has built a larger-than-life image, both at home and abroad. What makes you think Rahul can counter that?

**A Imran Masood:** Modi’s image is a media creation, not a reflection of reality. The so-called Operation Sindoor that Modi flaunts—what did it achieve? It made Pakistan more visible on the world stage! Today, Pakistan is being entertained by the UN, welcomed by the US, courted by Saudi Arabia and Russia. Who is responsible for this? Modi’s failed diplomacy. And look at GST—Rahul Gandhi warned it would hurt small businesses. Modi ignored him, imposed it, collected 55 lakh crore, and later rolled it back half-heartedly, destroying lakhs of traders. Who was proven right? Rahul Gandhi. Leadership is not about propaganda; it is about foresight. And Rahul Gandhi has shown foresight time and again.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Yet despite all this, the opposition fails to translate issues into electoral victories. Isn’t the truth that the opposition is ineffective, while BJP keeps winning?

**A Imran Masood:** The opposition has exposed every issue—be it GST, unemployment, or foreign policy failures. The real problem is the Election Commission. Rahul Gandhi has already shown how the EC oper-

In an exclusive conversation with Top Story, senior Congress leader and Member of Parliament from Saharanpur, Imran Masood launched a scathing attack on the Modi government, accusing it of running democracy through intimidation, bulldozer politics, and biased electoral machinery. He declared that Rahul Gandhi is the only storm of change in Indian politics and asserted that the BJP’s dominance is unsustainable in the face of growing discontent. In this candid discussion with Dr. Anil Singh, Masood opened up on Uttar Pradesh politics, minority consolidation, foreign policy failures, and the road ahead for Congress and the INDIA alliance.

ates with bias. If elections are not free and fair, if evidence of manipulation is ignored, then naturally BJP wins. This is why we demand Supreme Court supervision over elections. Democracy cannot survive if the referee itself is compromised.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Let me push you harder. If everything is manipulated, if the EC is biased, if democracy is compromised, then why should people believe that Congress can ever return to power?

**A Imran Masood:** Because the tide of time always turns. People are not blind. The suffering of youth, farmers, traders, women—everyone is real. LPG was 414 in 2014, today it’s over 1000. Unemployment is at record highs. Farmers are on the streets. Sooner or later, truth breaks through propaganda. And when it does, the BJP will face the same fate as every arrogant regime in history.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Let’s talk foreign policy. Trump has repeatedly insulted India, yet the Modi government boasts about its global stature. Isn’t this proof that Modi’s foreign policy is collapsing?

**A Imran Masood:** 100% collapse. Look at our neighborhood. Which neighbor is a friend to today? Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh—all relations strained. China is openly hostile. Pakistan has gained global attention. And we are left isolated. This is Modi’s foreign policy failure. Foreign policy requires consistency and credibility. Modi has shown neither.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** If Modi’s foreign policy is a disaster, what

should have been done differently?

**A Imran Masood:** First, we should have stood by Palestine from the beginning, not after 65,000 deaths. We should have reciprocated when Iran supported us on Kashmir at the UN. We should have balanced ties rather than chasing photo-op wins. Leaders who were never our natural allies. Diplomacy is not about theatrics; it is about building trust and consistency. Modi’s government has failed on both counts.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** Yet, despite failures—economic, social, foreign policy—the BJP keeps winning state after state. How do you explain that?

**A Imran Masood:** I explain it in one word: Election Commission. When we present evidence against EC, BJP spokespersons reply on its behalf. This collusion is visible to everyone. But the cycle of time is changing. The people’s patience is not endless.

**Q Dr. Anil Singh:** So what’s the way forward for India’s democracy? If EC is biased and judiciary remains passive, is there any hope left?

**A Imran Masood:** Hope is eternal. The people of India are waking up. The Supreme Court must act as the guardian of the Constitution. And Rahul Gandhi’s leadership is galvanizing people like never before. The BJP’s propaganda machine may still function, but the truth is marching forward.

**Dr. Anil Singh:** Imran Sahib, thank you for speaking so candidly with Top Story.

## CRICKET

Hyderabad to host India’s first-ever FIP Silver Padel tournament

Hyderabad  
The Indian Padel Federation (IPF) will host the first-ever FIP Silver Hyderabad 2025, a landmark event set to transform India’s sporting calendar.

With a record prize pool of Rs 15,00,000, the highest ever for padel in India, the tournament will feature both Men’s and Women’s categories, showcasing international stars alongside India’s rising talent. FIP Silver—part of the official International Padel Federation (FIP) tour, as per a release from IPF.

The marquee event will be held from October 12 to 15 and will be played at the KPGBA, Hyderabad, which features three world-class Meorset padel courts, recognised globally as the finest in quality and performance.

Advit Contact:  
9818-799941

## Centuries from Jurel, Jadeja propel India to 286-run lead over West Indies

Ahmedabad  
Majestic centuries from Dhruv Jurel and Ravindra Jadeja helped India to secure a lead of 286 runs at stumps on day 2 of the first Test against the West Indies at Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad.

At the end of Day 2, India was 448/5 in 128 overs, with Jadeja (104\*) and Washington Sundar (9\*) unbeaten on the crease.

Jadeja brought up his hundred in the 126th over, the third century for India in the innings after KL Rahul and Jurel. Jadeja celebrated his hundred with an aggressive sword style.

Khary Pierre scalped his maiden Test wicket before stumps on Day 2, removing Jurel for 125 off 210 balls.

The duo added 206 runs for the fifth wicket. India started the third session at 326/4, with Dhruv Jurel (68\*) and Ravindra Jadeja (50\*) unbeaten on the crease.



and Ravindra Jadeja are forming a terrific partnership.

The pair showcased remarkable resilience, each scoring half-centuries that exasperated the opposing bowlers with their composed and skillful batting.

At drinks in the final session, India was 364/4 in 111 overs, with Jadeja (68\*) and Jurel (88\*). In the 112th over, the duo of Jadeja and Jurel completed a 150-run stand after Jadeja slammed a four off Roston Chase towards the

vacant deep square-leg fence.

Jurel brought up his maiden Test century after smashing a four towards deep mid-wicket off Chase. He took 190 balls to reach three figures.

Jurel became the 12th Indian wicketkeeper/batter to score a Test century; five of those players have scored their maiden hundred against West Indies (Vijay Manjrekar, Ferooq Engineer, Ajay Ratra, Wridhiman Saha, and now Jurel).

Jurel and Jadeja started dealing in boundaries as India crossed the 400-run mark in the 120th over.

India went five down after losing Jurel for 125, and Washington Sundar joined Jadeja in the middle.

Earlier in the day, an attacking century partnership between half-centurions Jadeja and Jurel helped India secure a lead of 164 runs at the end of the second session.

At the end of the second session, India was

Jadeja brought up his hundred in the 126th over, the third century for India in the innings after KL Rahul and Jurel. Jadeja celebrated his hundred with an aggressive sword style.

326/4, with Jurel (68\*) and Jadeja (50\*) unbeaten.

Rahul could not add more to his tally, handing an easy catch to Justin Greaves at extra-cover, giving Jurel Warrican his wicket in the first over post-Lunch. India was 218/4, with the batter gone for a 197-ball 100, including 12 boundaries.

The Ravindra Jadeja-Jurel partnership started off aggressively, with the duo getting three sixes within a space of eight balls between the 71st and 72nd overs, with Jadeja running down the pitch to dispatch two sixes against Warrican over long-on and mid-on.

Agency

England rout South Africa with emphatic 10-wicket win



Guwahati  
England announced itself in the ongoing Women’s World Cup with a statement 10-wicket win over South Africa on Friday at the Barsapara Cricket Stadium in Guwahati.

While facing England’s spirited bowling attack, South Africa was skittled out on 69 after being put to bat in the first innings. Linsey Smith, in her first World Cup, was the standout with the ball, rolling them for a paltry double-digit total of 69. South Africa lived a nightmare with 10 batters returning to the dugout with single-digit scores. They remained clueless about dealing with the ball’s swing, and their reckless shot selection rubbed salt on their existing wounds.

In pursuit of a trivial 70-run target, England dismantled South Africa’s bowling attack with Tammy Beaumont and Amy Jones adopting a

calm approach to kick off their campaign with a victory. Beaumont and Jones remained wary of the swinging deliveries and punished the loose ones. Beaumont and Jones gunned down the target in 14.1 overs, sealing a 10-wicket win and returning unbeaten with scores of 21(35) and 40(50), respectively.

Earlier in the short-lived contest, the England women’s team blew away South Africa, rolling them for a paltry double-digit total of 69. South Africa lived a nightmare with 10 batters returning to the dugout with single-digit scores. They remained clueless about dealing with the ball’s swing, and their reckless shot selection rubbed salt on their existing wounds.

### Afghan FM Muttaqi to visit Russia next week

Moscow: Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi will visit Moscow next week to attend a meeting on Afghanistan reconciliation and regional cooperation, the Russian Foreign Ministry has said.

In a regular briefing on Thursday, Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said that Muttaqi will also hold bilateral talks with his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov on the sidelines of the event.

"The seventh meeting of the Moscow Format consultations on Afghanistan will be held in Moscow on October 7, bringing together special representatives and senior officials from Afghanistan, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, China, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan," she said.

She added that a delegation from Belarus has also been invited as a guest.

Zakharova said Afghanistan will be represented by Foreign Minister Muttaqi, who will hold a separate meeting with Foreign Minister Lavrov on the sidelines of the event.

The meeting on Afghanistan is to be inaugurated by Lavrov.

At the in-camera meeting, priority will be given to promoting Afghan national reconciliation and expanding practical cooperation between regional states and Kabul in the political, economic, counter-terrorism, and anti-drug fields.

### BUSINESS

#### Revolt Motors appoints Raghava Rao as Chief Business Officer

Staff Writer  
New Delhi:

Revolt Motors, India's No.1 electric motorcycle brand and a wholly owned subsidiary of RattanIndia Enterprises Limited, is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Raghava Rao as Chief Business Officer (CBO). This appointment marks a significant step in strengthening Revolt's leadership team as the company advances its ambition of becoming the No.1 electric vehicle company in India.

Mr. Rao is a seasoned industry leader with over 25 years of diverse experience across the automotive sector, spanning two-wheelers, tractors, three-wheelers, and commercial vehicles. His expertise lies in channel sales, customer support, customer experience, and market insights, with a proven track record of driving business growth and customer success.

Before joining Revolt Motors, Mr. Rao held senior leadership positions at Kinetic Engineering Ltd, Bajaj Auto, Tata Motors, Piaggio Vehicles, and TI Clean Mobility (Montra Electric). His rich experience in business

## Aung San Suu Kyi's son appeals to China's Xi to secure her release from Myanmar jail

Beijing: Myanmar's imprisoned pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi's son Kim Aris has appealed to Chinese President Xi Jinping to put pressure on the Junta to release his mother from jail.

The 48-year-old British-born, who stayed away from politics, has been appealing to the world leaders recently to help with the release of his 80-year-old jailed mother, who reportedly suffered from heart problems.

"I appeal to President Xi Jinping to call for her release and to do more to put pressure on the junta ... to make sure that those who should be freed are freed," Aris has been quoted as saying by the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post on Friday.

"China has been calling for May May's (Suu Kyi's) release, according to my sources," he said, using the Burmese term for mother.

He said he believed that Chinese officials "want to



Suu Kyi's son urges Xi Jinping to help secure her release from Myanmar jail

see her as much as anyone else and they have been asking for access".

Chinese officials "have not been given access to her, as far as I am aware, just as nobody else has", he added.

Aris invited anyone outside the prison to try to see her, "then at

least someone could confirm she is alive".

"I worry all the time that my mother might die in prison. The conditions in prison are horrendous," he said.

Suu Kyi, 80, has spent a total of 19 years in detention since 1989, first under house arrest and now

in solitary confinement in prison. She is the recipient of the 1991 Nobel Peace Prize.

She served as State Counsellor of Myanmar and Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2016 to 2021 after winning the elections, and continued Myanmar's close ties with

The 48-year-old British-born, who stayed away from politics, has been appealing to the world leaders recently to help with the release of his 80-year-old jailed mother, who reportedly suffered from heart problems.

#### China.

She was arrested and ousted from power by yet another military coup in 2021, after which she continued to languish in prison.

Aris said he believed Suu Kyi had "a better relationship with China" than junta leader Min Aung Hlaing, who led the coup against his mother and her ruling National League for Democracy (NLD) party.

"My mother and the NLD ... had a good, productive working relationship with China before the coup," Aris said. "She was trying to develop that relationship ... [which] she realised was very significant for her country."

### 2 killed 36 injured in passenger bus accident in Nepal



Kathmandu:

Two people including a child were killed and 36 others injured on Friday in a bus accident in Nepal's Madhesh province, police said.

The accident occurred in the Bardibas municipality of Mahottari district when the passenger bus was heading towards Kathmandu from Kayamara.

The passengers were returning to Kathmandu after celebrating Vijaya Dashami festival.

An octogenarian and 10-year-old child were killed in the accident while 36 others were injured, police said, adding that those injured are undergoing treatment at different hospitals in Bardibas.

The reason for the accident is not known yet.

Meanwhile, the District Administration Office Kathmandu has

urged commuters not to enter or travel out of Kathmandu by road at night from October 3 to 6 as it has received information from the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology about heavy rainfall starting Friday.

Kathmandu's Assistant Chief District Officer Ashok Kumar Bhandari warned of the possibility of disaster-related incidents such as floods, landslides, and soil erosion in risk-prone areas, and asked residents to avoid travelling, and exercise caution and vigilance.

The Prime Minister's Office also issued a notice warning about floods and landslides following heavy rain in five out of seven provinces including Koshi, Madhes, Bagmati, Gandaki and Lumbini for four days starting Friday.

## Russia targets Ukraine's natural gas facilities in biggest attack of war

Kyiv:

Russia launched its biggest attack of the war overnight against natural gas facilities run by Ukraine's state-owned Naftogaz Group, officials said on Friday.

Russia fired a total of 381 drones and 35 missiles in Ukraine, according to Ukraine's air force. In what officials were an attempt to wreck the Ukrainian power grid



ahead of winter and wear down public appetite for the 3-year-old

conflict. "This is deliberate terror against civilian fa-

cilities that provide gas extraction and processing for the normal life of people," Serhii Koretskyi, chief executive of Ukraine's state-owned gas company Naftogaz, said in a statement. "It has no military purpose. This is yet another act of Russian malice aimed solely at disrupting the heating season and depriving Ukrainians of warmth in winter."

Russia aimed 35 missiles, many of them ballistic, and 60 drones at Naftogaz's gas extraction and processing facilities in the northeast Kharkiv and central Poltava regions, some of which sustained critical damage, Koretskyi said.

Russia's Ministry of Defence said its forces launched a mass strike using drones and guided weapons against

Ukraine's military-industrial complex and the gas and energy infrastructure that supports it. "All designated targets were hit," it said in a statement.

As winter has approached each year since Russia's February 2022 invasion of its neighbour, Russian forces have blasted Ukraine's power grid. Ukraine says it is an attempt to weap-

onise winter by denying civilians heat, light and running water.

Russia has recently escalated its strikes on the power grid, as well as on Ukraine's rail network, which is essential for military transport.

"Russia is terrorising civilians and trying to disrupt the heating season," Ukraine's Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko said in a statement.

## RBI Allows Non-Residents to Invest in Corporate Debt

Mumbai:

The Reserve Bank on Friday allowed persons residing outside the country to invest in corporate debt securities through Special Rupee Vostro Accounts.

Earlier, such entities were only permitted to invest their rupee surplus balance in accounts in central government securities, including treasury bills.

"It has now been decided to also permit investment of these balances in non-convertible debentures/bonds and commercial papers issued by an Indian company," the RBI said.

Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) are dedicated accounts to deepen settlement of trade in Indian rupees.

The investments will be subject to the investment limit and stipulations specified for FPI (foreign portfolio investors) in-



vestments under the general route, and there will also be other conditions, the central bank said.

The change in rules to allow the investments in corporate debt is applicable with immediate effect, it added.

Meanwhile, the Reserve Bank has also announced the draft on rationalising regulations pertaining to external commercial borrowing (ECB) in-

### RBI rationalizes norms for Foreign Entities

Mumbai:

The Reserve Bank on Friday proposed to rationalise norms for establishment of a branch or office in the country by entities resident outside India.

In this regard, the central bank has issued "Draft Foreign Exchange Management (Establishment in India of a branch or office) Regulations, 2025".

"The draft proposals offer greater operational freedom by shifting from prescriptive to a principle-based framework, which is expected to result in greater operational freedom," the RBI said.

Further, the eligibility criteria for establishment of a place of business in India are proposed to be relaxed, it added.

Regarding opening a branch or office in India, the draft said an Entity Resident Outside India (EROI) should submit an application in a specified form to a bank, who may grant approval as per these proposed regulations.

Post approval and opening of an account for the branch or office, the bank would report establishment of such office to the Reserve Bank of India.

"The RBI shall allot a Unique Identification Number (UIN) to the branch or office on the basis of the data submitted by the designated bank," said the draft on which the RBI has sought stakeholders comments/feedback by October 24, 2025.

Further, an application for establishing a branch or office in India would require prior approval of Government of India if the EROI is a person resident in Pakistan, or is a partnership, or is owned or controlled by the government of a foreign country.

## Govt asks agencies to Comply with GFR Rules

New Delhi:

The government on Friday directed renewable energy (RE) agencies to invite fresh bids for clean power projects that were issued in haste to circumvent the ALMM guidelines for cells.

It is observed that recently a few government agencies in renewable energy sector in August issued bids with less window for bid submission, as low as seven days for pro-

cedurement.

"This seems to have been issued clearly to circumvent the Approved List of Models & Manufacturers (ALMM) for cells mandate," the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy said in a notification.

The ministry further said any existing bid with short bidding timelines, which have been issued without complying with the ex-



isting GFR (General Financial Rules) and CVC regulations may be scrapped, if re-

quired and new bids may be issued with full compliance to the extant provisions".

MNRE said all Renewable Energy Implementing Agencies (REIAs)/PSUs/other government tender issuing agencies are required to strictly adhere to the rules issued by the Ministry of Finance and Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), time to time, in matters related to public pro-

cedurement for maintaining financial propriety and transparency.

All agencies must strictly comply with existing rules and regulations when issuing bids procurement.

The ALMM is a mechanism to ensure the reliability of a producer, for protecting consumer interests, while ensuring a larger energy security of the country. The government introduced the ALMM or-

der (List I) in 2019 for solar modules to boost the manufacturing and usage of made-in-India solar panels.

It was made mandatory to source PV modules from models and manufacturers included in the ALMM List I.

Later with amendments to the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM), the government included cells to the list as well.

# We all should stand together for a safer digital world: Rani Mukerji



Mumbai Actor Rani Mukerji emphasised the importance of cybersecurity, particularly in an era marked by extensive use of digital platforms.

On Friday, she attended the inauguration ceremony of Cyber Awareness Month 2025 at State Police Headquarters in Mumbai.

Addressing the event, Rani said, "I am truly humbled and honoured to be part of the inauguration of Cyber Awareness Month. Over the years, through my films, I have had the privilege to portray women who fight against injustice and protect the vulnerable. In fact, today, I have rushed here from the shooting Mardaani 3 so it all feels very surreal right now. This initiative taken by the Maharashtra Police is applaudable."

"Today, cybercrimes—especially those against women and children—are silently rising within our homes. As a woman, and as a mother, I understand how crucial awareness is. When families know how to stay safe and where to seek help, real protection begins. I would like to also thank the honourable Chief Minister sir (Devendra Fadnavis), honourable

ACS Sir (Iqbal Singh Chahal) and respected DGP ma'am (Rashmi Shukla), for guidance and leadership in prioritising this crucial mission of cyber safety," she highlighted.

Noting the importance of the helpline numbers by the government that ensure better safety in the state, Rani said, "The dial 1930 and dial 1945 helplines are a blessing to all the citizen. As an actor, I may bring stories to life on screen. But as a woman, as a mother and as a citizen, I feel it is our collective responsibility to ensure that no child cries in silence, no woman feels unsafe and no family loses peace of mind because of cyber crime."

"Let us pledge today to stay alert, speak up, and stand together for a safer digital world," she concluded.

Rani, who plays a cop in her franchise 'Mardaani', joined Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis, Director General of Police (Maharashtra State), Rashmi Shukla, Iqbal Singh Chahal (IPS), Additional Chief Secretary, Home Department, Government of Maharashtra, and Akshay Kumar among others at the event.

# Kriti Sanon wraps Sicily schedule of 'Cocktail 2', shares BTS pics

Mumbai Actor Kriti Sanon has wrapped shooting for the Sicily schedule of her upcoming film 'Cocktail 2'.

The actress shared behind-the-scenes moments from the sets, giving her fans a peek into the fun-filled days of the shoot.

Kriti, on Friday, took to her Instagram to share a series of pictures with the cast and crew, including director Homi Adajania. Along with the photos, she wrote, "Ciao my Bellas. And just like that we've wrapped #TheSicilianChapter of #Cocktail2. Sunshine, rain and ending with a beautiful Rainbow."

The film also stars Shahid Kapoor and Rashmika Mandanna in important roles. Cocktail 2 is a sequel to Cocktail, which released in 2012 and featured Saif Ali Khan, Deepika Padukone, and Diana Penty.

Apart from Cocktail 2, Kriti will also be seen in Tere Ishk Mein, co-starring Dhanush.

On October 3, the teaser for the upcoming film was released giving fans a glimpse into the a love story of rebels.

Billed as the spiritual sequel to Dhanush and Sonam Kapoor starer 'Raanjhanaa', 'Tere Ishk Mein' is directed by Anand L Rai, while the music is composed by



AR Rahman. The two-minute and four-second teaser opened with the Haldi ceremony of Kriti Sanon, which was gatecrashed by Dhanush. 'Tere Ishk Mein' is

produced under the banners of Gulshan Kumar, T-Series, and Colour Yellow Productions. Producers include Anand L Rai, Himanshu Sharma, Bhushan Kumar, and Krishan Kumar.

## Tyla to perform at Indian Sneaker Festival



Mumbai The new edition of Indian Sneaker Festival (ISF) will take place in Mumbai this December. As part of the two-day festivities, festival-goers will get to enjoy electrifying performances from headliners such as Grammy-winning Afrobeats sensation Tyla, American rap superstar Lil Yachty, Belgian techno queen Charlotte de Witte and superstar DJ and producer Alok, who will premiere his visionary 'Keep Art Human' project, read a press note. Excited about the gig, Tyla in a press note said, "I'm thrilled to be part of the Indian Sneaker Festival. It's incredible to see such a vibrant landscape dedicated to sneaker and street culture in India. I look forward to connecting with all my fans in India for the very first time."

Lil Yachty added, "I look forward to performing in India and celebrating creativity, community and culture with everyone at the Indian Sneaker Festival. This is my first time in the country, and I'm stoked!" Nikunj Duggal, Co-Founder, Indian Sneaker Festival opened up about what audience can expect from the upcoming edition. He stated, "The Indian Sneaker Festival emerged from a vision to unify India's sneaker and streetwear community. Over the past six years, our growth has been extraordinary, making the introduction of ISF to Mumbai audiences a natural progression for us. The inaugural edition signifies more than just expansion; it paves the way for a new cultural cornerstone in the city, combining music, fashion, food, art and community under one roof. This festival represents the biggest cultural weekend for Gen Z and young millennials in India, setting a new standard for live events. Following the Mumbai debut, we will also present our Delhi edition on the 20th and 21st of December 2025, further solidifying our national presence."

## Nagarjuna Akkineni participates in Alai Balai festivities in Hyderabad

Hyderabad Veteran actor Nagarjuna Akkineni on Friday participated in Alai Balai festivities in Hyderabad. Nagarjuna, dressed in an ethnic kurta, was spotted greeting the audience with a smile.

A while ago, TPCC chief, Bomma Mahesh Kumar Goud emphasised the importance of Alai Balai 2025. He said, "One of the greatest programmes organised by Bandaru Dattatreya. Although he represents the BJP, he is a man of all hearts... This festival unites people across the state irrespective of political party, religion, or caste."

Founded in 2005 by Bandaru Dattatreya, the event has grown into a vibrant platform celebrating Telangana's rich cultural heritage, showcasing traditional music, dance, cuisine, and crafts.

## Three Generations Unite on Stage at 17th Dussehra Mahotsav

New Delhi The 17th Dussehra Mahotsav, organized by the Golden Star Club at Amrit Puri B, East of Kailash, was celebrated with devotional zeal, cultural splendor, and community participation. The highlight of this year's celebration was the unique three-generation participation in the traditional Ramleela, culminating in the grand Ravana Dahan.

Veteran performer Mr. Anil Rajput Gaur, who once played Tadka in the year 2000, returned to the stage in 2025 as Kumbhkaran. His younger son carried forward the family legacy by portraying an Aghori Baba, while his elder brother's son, Mukesh, also joined in the same role. Together, they showcased how cultural traditions can thrive when passed on through generations.

The powerful roles of Ravana and Meghnath



were enacted by Lucky and Karan, adding grandeur to the performances. The evening reached its emotional high when the towering effigy of Ravana was set ablaze amidst resounding chants of "Jai Shri Ram", symbolizing the eternal victory of righteousness over evil.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr. Anil Rajput Gaur said, "It gives me immense pride to see my family across three generations actively participating in Ramleela. This is how traditions

live on—not just through stories, but through active involvement of the young."

Municipal Councillor Mr. Rajpal Singh attended the festivities, commending the Golden Star Club for keeping Delhi's cultural spirit alive. Club President Mr. Sunil Vashisht, Director General Mr. Vikas Jain, Mr. Harjinder Singh Sodhi, Mr. Veeru Sahni, Mr. Rakesh Pal and other members contributed to making the evening memorable.

To encourage young

talent, awards were presented to all participants by Mr. Sunil Vashisht, Mr. Deepak Rajput, Mr. Rocky Sahni, and Mr. Gaurav Sethi. They underlined that cultural engagement alongside academics helps children grow into confident and responsible citizens.

The evening concluded with fireworks, laughter, and applause as the community celebrated not only the victory of good over evil, but also the beautiful continuity of tradition across three generations.

## Peaky Blinders set to return with sequel series



Washington 'Peaky Blinders' is making its way back with a new story and a new generation of Shelleys. According to Variety, Netflix has officially ordered a sequel series to Steven Knight's hit show, set in 1953 Britain.

The project will consist of two seasons, with six episodes, each one hour long. While the cast is being kept secret, fans can expect Cillian Murphy, the original Tommy Shelby, to return as an executive producer.

The sequel will be produced by Kudos and Garion Drama, the teams behind the original Peaky Blinders. Filming for the sequel will take place in Birmingham at Digheth Loc Studios, the same city where the original story was set.

According to Variety, writer and creator Steven Knight, while sharing his excitement, said, "I'm thrilled to be announcing this new chapter in the Peaky Blinders story. Once again, it will be rooted in Birmingham and will tell the story of a city rising from the ashes of the Birmingham Blitz. The new generation of Shelleys has taken the wheel, and it will be a hell of a ride."

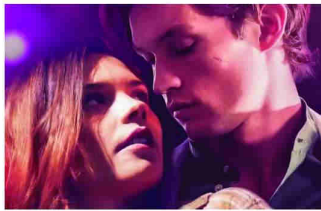
Fans of the franchise have more to look forward to beyond the series, as there is also an upcoming film expected to be released soon. A film titled The Immortal Man is expected to arrive in early 2026. Written by Knight and directed by Tom Harper, it will feature Cillian Murphy, along with Stephen Graham, Rebecca Ferguson, Tim Roth, and Barry Keoghan.

## 'Maxton Hall-The World Between Us' season 2 gets trailer

Washington The upcoming second season of 'Maxton Hall - The World Between Us' is set to premiere on Prime Video this November. The trailer for the upcoming season was unveiled on Thursday, October 2, during its Retreat event in Ibiza, where fans celebrated the international success of the series.

The show has been one of Prime Video's biggest international hits, becoming its most-watched International Original and topping charts in more than 120 countries after the release of Season 1.

The new season will launch on November 7, 2025, with the first three episodes available



on the same day. The remaining episodes will drop weekly, leading up to the finale on November 28.

Based on Save You, the second book in Mona Kasten's best-selling series, Season 2 continues the story of Ruby (Harriet Herbig-Matten) and James

(Damian Hardung). After a romantic high point in Oxford, their lives take a sharp turn when tragedy strikes James' family. Ruby, hurt and heartbroken, struggles to return to her old life but finds it impossible to forget James, especially as he tries to win her back.

## Rajpal Yadav remembers Mahatma Gandhi's teachings, calls "self-confidence"

New Delhi Bollywood actor Rajpal Yadav stated the importance of "hard work" and "self-confidence" in life while drawing inspiration from Mahatma Gandhi's life at the poster launch of the film 'Cash M Cash'.

The film 'Cash M Cash' is directed by Ajit Sinha and stars Aham Sharma, Adarsh Barik and Pallavi Sharma among the lead cast.

According to the makers, the movie poster showcases a unique perspective on Mahatma Gandhi's Charkha, symbolising self-reliance and cultural heritage.

The poster launch of the film was also attended by the popular Bollywood actor Rajpal Yadav,



former Union Minister and BJP leader Vijay Goel and Delhi Minister Kapil Mishra.

At the sidelines of the event, Rajpal Yadav recalled the learnings of Mahatma Gandhi while talking to the media.