



The Researchers'

NEWS BOX

At least 14 newborns killed in hospital fire in Pakistan's Islamabad

WORLD.(Agency)

At least 14 newborn babies have died after a fire broke out in the neonatal nursery of the gynaecology ward at the Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences (PIMS) in Islamabad on Wednesday morning, according to rescue officials and local media reports. The fire broke out at around 7 am reportedly after an air-conditioner compressor exploded inside the nursery. Islamabad's Chief Commissioner Sohail Ashraf said an emergency fire call was made just before 7 am local time Wednesday. Rescue teams rushed to the spot and controlled the fire.

In a statement, according to the Dawn, the Islamabad administration said that the fire broke out on the third floor of the Mother and Child Hospital's ward. It said that rescue teams rushed to the scene, with six fire brigade vehicles and four ambulances taking part in the rescue operation.

"The fire was immediately brought under control and the children were immediately shifted to the intensive care unit," it said, adding that 14 babies had died. It said that an inquiry committee headed by the additional deputy commissioner general had been formed to investigate the incident, the report added.

Mark Carney, the former central banker who said 'no' to Trump

MONTREAL.(Agency)

Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney is more seasoned as a banker than a politician but has shown a confident touch in standing up to US President Donald Trump and navigating a trade war that threatens his nation's economy.

"We are masters in our own house," the prime minister said on Saturday, just hours after breaking off trade talks with the United States and ordering his negotiators back to Ottawa. Despite the risks this decision poses to Canada, which is heavily dependent on exports to the US, Carney can boast of broad support, with 76 percent of the public praising his stance toward Washington, according to a weekend poll. "Mark Carney has the means to achieve his ambitions because the country is behind him," says Genevieve Tellier, a professor of political science at the University of Ottawa.

After Washington slapped Canada with 50-percent duties, Canada on Tuesday announced counter-tariffs of its own. Former head of Canada's central bank, Carney, 61, was not known for his charisma -- unlike his flamboyant predecessor Justin Trudeau, from the same Liberal Party -- but has nevertheless managed to kindle a patriotic flame among Canadians weary of American attacks.

South Korea says Russian military planes entered its air defence zone

SEOUL.(Agency)

South Korea said on Wednesday it had scrambled fighter jets in response to Russian military aircraft entering its air defence zone, the second such incursion in weeks. The relationship between the countries has worsened since South Korea joined Western sanctions following Russia's invasion of Ukraine, and since Moscow built stronger ties with North Korea. Seoul's defence ministry said multiple Russian aircraft had entered and then left its air defence identification zone over the East Sea, also called the Sea of Japan. "South Korea's military detected the Russian aircraft before they entered the zone and deployed Air Force fighter jets to prepare for any contingency," it said, without giving details. The Russian aircraft did not violate South Korean airspace, it said.

Iran says Hormuz strait still closed despite transit corridor talks

TEHRAN.(Agency)

Iran and Oman are discussing a temporary transit corridor and mine-clearing for the Strait of Hormuz, but Tehran warned on Wednesday that the vital waterway will not be reopened unless the United States ends the war. Washington has announced fresh sanctions aimed at pressuring Iran into submission, with Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent threatening the Islamic republic with "economic asphyxiation".

During talks in Tehran, foreign ministers from Iran and Oman discussed a "phased framework" that included setting up a "joint temporary navigational corridor through the Strait of Hormuz and an agreement to implement a joint project to clear the Strait of mines," according to a statement.

The two countries, both coastal states bordering the strait, have sought to hammer out a plan to regulate transit through it, as laid out in a June US-Iran memorandum of understanding. Iran's top diplomat Abbas

Araghchi said on Tuesday that the proposed framework is "case in point" showing how his country's "commitment to peace and stability is matched by steadfast diplomacy with our neighbours". Nearly six months after the United States and Israel went to war against Iran, traffic through the Hormuz strait remains largely paralysed, disrupting global oil markets. Tehran has blockaded the crucial waterway -- which normally carries around one fifth of the world's oil and liquefied natural gas exports -- while Washington imposed a naval counter-blockade on Iranian ports. Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Kazem Gharibabadi warned on Wednesday that no military vessel will be allowed to pass through the Hormuz Strait. "We closed the Strait of Hormuz before the United States imposed an economic blockade because the United States failed to fulfil its commitments under the memorandum of understanding," Gharibabadi said, according to state news agency IRNA.

The US and Canada could pull back from an all-out trade war. It's not clear that they will

They've done it before. "If there is political will, there is an off ramp," said former US trade negotiator Wendy Cutler.

WASHINGTON.(Agency)

The US and Canada have ramped up their trade war, hitting each other with steep new tit-for-tat tariffs. Despite the bravado coming from both sides of the border, though, analysts suspect the longtime allies will eventually strike a deal to end a conflict neither really wants.

The prospects for compromise looked bleak Tuesday, with Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney reacting to new

50% US tariffs on certain Canadian goods by responding in kind on about \$20 billion worth of American imports, including steel, dairy products, appliances and farm equipment. "You're at war when you get attacked. We got attacked," Carney, who came to power last year on the promise that he'd stand up to US President Donald Trump, said over the weekend. Doug Ford, Ontario's populist premier, told The Associated Press on Monday that he was ready to escalate even further by cutting off his province's shipments of electricity and critical minerals to the United States.

Soon after, Trump declared his intention to hammer the Canadian auto industry with another set of import taxes if the Canadians don't "fall in line." With the



breakdown threatening to harm one of the world's largest trading relationships and clouding efforts to renew the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement that Trump negotiated during his first term, experts cautioned that there's still time to pull back from the brink of an even bigger trade war. hey've done it before. "If there is political will, there is an off ramp," said

A Montana man killed 8 relatives, including 4 kids, at Sunday dinner, family says

BILLINGS, Mont.(Agency)

A man killed eight of his relatives, including four children, as they gathered for Sunday dinner at a home outside Billings, Montana, weeks after his parents asked him to move out, a family member told The Associated Press. Brad Ireland, whose former wife and two children were among the dead, identified the shooter as 44-year-old Alan Smith. Smith's parents, who were also killed, had asked him to move out, but he returned on Sunday and opened fire, Ireland said. The victims represented four generations of the blended family, ranging from a great-grandmother in her 90s who used a wheelchair to a 7-year-old girl, according to Jennifer Mercer, a

neighbor and family friend who set up an online fundraiser to help cover funeral costs and other expenses, and was authorized to release these details. Gunshots followed by an inferno. Police responded to the home on Sunday evening and heard gunshots coming from out back, just before the house was completely engulfed in flames. Investigators confirmed Tuesday there were eight victims, including four children, and that the suspect had suffered a self-inflicted gunshot wound and later died. The investigation has been complicated by concerns about the structural integrity of the house after the fire burned it to its foundation, said Jeff Stovall, a spokesperson for the Billings Police Department. Firefighters fought the blaze until

around 1 a.m. Monday, according to Billings Fire Department Chief Matt Hoppel. The home is in a subdivision outside of city limits that's not required to have fire hydrants. Efforts to fight the fire were delayed until the site was secure, allowing the blaze to tear through the home. 12-year-old calls 911

Among those killed were Ireland's ex-wife, Megan Ghekiere, and their two children, Owen Ireland, 13, and Chloe Ireland, 7. Also killed were Ghekiere's two stepchildren with her current husband: Landon Ghekiere, 15, and Charlotte Ghekiere, 12.

"The one thing we do know is that Charlotte was the hero," Mercer said. "Charlotte called 911 and she tried to save her family. And that's something the family does want out there.

Low on fuel, Indian Harop accidentally hit Pakistan's Kirana Hills nuke facility during Operation Sindoor: Ex-CDS

Former CDS Anil Chauhan said an Indian Harop loitering munition accidentally struck Pakistan's Kirana Hills after running low on fuel during a failed radar-hunting mission in Operation Sindoor.

World.(Agency)

An Indian Harop loitering munition accidentally struck Pakistan's Kirana Hills near Sargodha during Operation Sindoor after running critically low on fuel, former Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan has said, according to a NDTV report. Speaking at the Vivekananda Centre in New Delhi, Chauhan reportedly clarified that the incident was completely unintentional and that India did not deliberately target Pakistan's nuclear

facilities.

According to Chauhan, the Israeli-designed Harop was deployed in the Sargodha area to locate and destroy Pakistani military radar installations. However, the munition failed to



identify its intended target and continued searching while consuming its available fuel.

The drone eventually ran critically low on fuel. With its flight endurance exhausted, it descended and struck the Kirana Hills area, located

approximately 10 kilometres north of Sargodha. The incident attracted attention because Kirana Hills has been linked to Pakistan's nuclear programme, raising concerns over the potential impact on sensitive infrastructure. Indian officials, however, have maintained that the area was not intentionally targeted.

Chauhan's account is consistent with earlier remarks by Air Marshal A K Bharti, who served as the Indian Air Force's Director General of Air Operations during the conflict. Bharti had also rejected claims that India deliberately targeted Pakistan's nuclear facilities.

Chauhan's remarks offer further clarification on the Kirana Hills incident, stressing that the strike was an unintended consequence of a failed radar-hunting mission rather than a deliberate attack on Pakistan's nuclear infrastructure.

Social media use on the rise among Australian under-16s after ban: data

SYDNEY.(Agency)

Australian under-16s are increasing their use of social media apps such as Instagram and TikTok despite a world-leading ban, data provided by a parental control software company showed Wednesday. Australia implemented legislation barring children from social media platforms in December, with the UK, France and others following suit. Youngsters' use of social media fell across the board when the legal restrictions were first implemented, data from parental control app Qustodio showed. But since then their social media activity has climbed -- even approaching pre-ban levels for some apps. The use of apps TikTok, Instagram and



Snapchat among 10-12 year olds and 13 to 15-year olds was on the rise, data from parental control app Qustodio showed. In the case of video-sharing site TikTok, 25.9 percent of 13-15 year-olds are still using the app -- just over a percentage point lower than before the ban came into force. And use among 10-12 year olds was just 0.06 percentage points below where it was before the ban. "They could be accessing these platforms with VPNs, or obfuscating their ages," Yasmin London, Global Online Safety Expert for Qustodio, said. "But it could really be as simple as they're just accessing these apps because the restrictions aren't working." The data also showed children increasingly turning to messaging platform WhatsApp, which is not affected by the ban. Qustodio said the data was gathered by analysing anonymised monthly social media app usage among Australian children and showed the percentages of kids that had used the app for more than five consecutive minutes at least once in a given month. Australian officials have said the ban is designed to protect children from online bullying and "predatory algorithms". A team of Australia-based researchers in a peer-reviewed study published in June found little evidence to suggest teenagers have turned away from social media as a consequence, however. New Zealand's government also this week said it would introduce legislation that could see firms like Meta fined up to 10 percent of their global revenue if they fail to comply.

More than 50 kidnapped as violent gang attack in Haiti leaves 47 dead

belief that security in the troubled Caribbean country was improving. "This is a major political and security test, for the government, for the police and for the international mission," said Romain Le Cour, head of the Haiti Observatory at the Global



Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime. He said the threat of executing hostages is a trap: If forces don't act, they've failed to protect them; if they do and hostages die, the gangs will blame the state. Kenscoff resident Marc Paul 42, said gangs kidnapped his brother, stepmother, stepfather and two

cousins. He said his 16-year-old niece also was kidnapped and raped but was able to escape and has reunited with him. "I had to run over bodies," he said as he recalled how he fled the attack. "I can't sleep knowing all these people died."

Paul and his family had already lost their home to a previous gang attack in January 2025, but he said it was not as violent as Sunday's attack. Paul was upset about the video the gangs posted: "My brother is probably going to die. A threat posted on social media. A video posted on social media, the gang leader threatened Vladimir Paraison, director of Haiti's National Police. "Paraison, if any of our soldiers are hurt, I will kill all of them," he said, referring to the hostages. The gang member identified himself as Izo 2, a reference to Izo, or Johnson André, one of Haiti's most powerful gang leaders. Le Cour said Izo 2 is also known as "Didi" and leads the armed group in Kenscoff on behalf of and in coordination with Izo and other gang leaders.

Nepal Flash Flood Near Tibet Border: 95 Dead, 105 Indians Among 384 Missing

Kathmandu: A devastating flash flood in Nepal's Bhote Koshi River has left at least 95 people dead and 384 travellers missing, including 105 Indian nationals, after a sudden surge of water swept through the Himalayan nation's Rasuwa district on Wednesday. Shopping For Authentic South Asian Apparel

The preliminary figures released by the Nepal Tourism Board (NTB) include 291 foreign nationals and 93 Nepali citizens. Besides Indians, missing foreign travellers include nationals of Australia, the Netherlands, the United States, Malaysia, the United Kingdom and South Africa. The list is still being verified and could change as authorities establish contact with affected travellers.

The flood struck the Timure and Syapru Besi areas near Nepal's border with Tibet, destroying or severely damag-



ing settlements, roads, bridges and hydropower infrastructure. The sudden torrent also disrupted communications and cut off key routes, making rescue operations difficult.

Death Toll, Missing Persons Rise

Nepali authorities have so far recovered at least eight bodies from Nuwakot and Dhading

districts, according to police officials cited by local media. The toll remains provisional as rescue teams continue searching areas hit by the flood. The disaster has also left security personnel unaccounted for. Twenty-six Nepal Police personnel and seven Armed Police Force personnel are reported missing in Rasu-

wa, while employees of the Rasuwa Customs Office in Timure are also among those whose whereabouts remain unknown. The Nepal Tourism Board has cautioned that the 384 missing-traveller figure is preliminary, with authorities working alongside travel agencies, Tourist Police, guides and



security agencies to verify the status of those affected.

Rescue Operation Intensified

The Nepal Army, Nepal Police and Armed Police Force have launched a large-scale search-and-rescue operation. Multiple helicopters and disaster-response teams have been deployed, although damaged

infrastructure, high water levels and disrupted communications are complicating efforts. Authorities have urged residents living along the Bhote Koshi and downstream river corridors to move to safer, higher ground as flood risks persist.

Cause Under Investigation

The precise trigger for the

sudden flood remains under investigation. Initial reports pointed to a surge entering Nepal from the Tibetan side, while authorities are examining whether a glacier-related event, including an avalanche or glacial lake outburst, may have triggered the disaster. Reuters reported that the affected Himalayan region has

also suffered similar flood events in the past. The disaster has caused extensive damage to Nepal's hydropower infrastructure. Reuters reported that around 430 MW of hydropower capacity was disrupted, underlining the scale of the damage.

PM Balendra Shah Reviews Rescue Efforts

Nepal Prime Minister Balendra Shah chaired an emergency meeting to review the situation and directed authorities to intensify rescue and relief operations. Officials have been asked to maintain heightened vigilance in downstream areas and move displaced residents to safer locations. With hundreds of people still unaccounted for and several communities cut off, authorities fear the casualty figures could rise as rescue teams reach more affected areas.

Nepal Flash Floods:

India Assures Full Support, Sends 10 Tonnes of Relief Aid



New Delhi: India has assured Nepal of all possible humanitarian assistance as devastating flash floods caused deaths, destruction and widespread disruption in the neighbouring country.

President Droupadi Murmu conveyed her sympathies to Nepalese President Ramchandra Paudel and the people of Nepal, expressing solidarity with the country during the crisis. She said India stands ready to support the Nepal Government in rescue and relief operations.

Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan also expressed grief over the loss of lives, extended condolences to bereaved families and prayed for the safe and swift rescue of those missing.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke to Nepal Prime Minister Balendra Shah and conveyed condolences over the loss of lives. Modi said India stands firmly with the people of Nepal and is ready to provide all possible humanitarian assistance, while Indian teams are coordinating closely on rescue and relief efforts.

Meanwhile, the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu issued emergency helplines for Indian nationals affected by the floods. Those requiring assistance can contact +977 985 131 6807 or +977 970 910 7500.

India has also dispatched 10 tonnes of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) material and essential medicines to Nepal to support emergency relief operations.

NTA to Release UGC NET June 2026 Results, Final Answer Key This Week

New Delhi: The National Testing Agency (NTA) is set to release the UGC-NET June 2026 results and final answer keys this week, bringing relief to thousands of candidates awaiting the outcome.

According to the NTA, final answer keys and results for UGC-NET across 84 subjects, along with CSIR-NET and ICAR AIEEA (PG) and AICE (PhD) 2026, will be published on its official website.

The testing agency advised candidates to rely only on official NTA communications and its website for result-related updates and avoid unverified information circulating online.

Candidates will be able to check their results and download the final answer keys once they are officially released.

Bihar on High Alert After Nepal Flood: NDRF Teams Deployed

Patna: Bihar has stepped up its flood preparedness after the devastating flash flood in neighbouring Nepal triggered fears of a sharp rise in water levels in the Gandak River, with authorities placing several districts under heightened vigilance and deploying National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) teams.

The immediate focus is on districts connected to the Gandak river system, including West Champaran, East Champaran, Gopalganj, Saran, Muzaffarpur and Vaishali. District administrations in Sitamarhi and Sheohar have also been directed to maintain close watch on the evolving situation.

NDRF Teams Deployed, Rescue Plans Ready

An NDRF team has been deployed in Gopalganj and Bettiah, while another has been kept on standby in Muzaffarpur. Authorities have also begun preparing for possible evacuations from vulnerable and low-lying areas.

People living in flood-prone parts of Bagaha in West Champaran and Vaishali have



been advised to move to safer locations if necessary. Officials have been instructed to maintain round-the-clock surveillance and keep rescue and relief machinery ready.

The Bihar government has also opened all 36 gates of the Valmikinagar Gandak barrage as a precautionary measure to facilitate the smooth discharge of water. Officials are closely tracking the movement of the flood wave downstream.

Gandak Water Level Under Watch

The concern stems from the flash flood in Nepal's Bhote Koshi River, whose waters feed into the wider river system connected to the Gandak.

Officials have warned of a possible sharp increase in the Gandak's flow in Bihar. According to the Bihar government's flood monitoring data, the Gandak at Dumaria-ghat in Gopalganj had crossed the danger level on Wednesday, while levels at Rewaghat in Muzaffarpur, Hajipur in Vaishali and Bagaha in West Champaran were above their respective warning levels.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister and Water Resources Minister Vijay Kumar Chaudhary said the next few hours were crucial but stressed that there was no reason for panic as authorities were closely monitoring the situation.

Amit Shah Assures Centre's Support

Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke with Bihar Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary over the emerging flood threat and assured the state government of all possible assistance. The Centre has also moved to mobilise disaster-response resources, including the NDRF.

The Bihar chief minister has constituted a high-level team to monitor the situation, while senior officials have been directed to remain on alert and ensure that rescue and relief arrangements can be activated immediately. The developments come as Nepal battles a major flash-flood disaster near its Tibet border. The flooding has caused extensive destruction and raised concerns downstream in India, highlighting the vulnerability of the transboundary river systems linking the Himalayan region with the plains. Authorities have urged residents in vulnerable areas to remain alert, follow official advisories and avoid approaching swollen rivers or low-lying areas until the threat subsides.

CSIR-NAL Unveils 3 Indigenous Gas Turbine Engines for Defence

New Delhi: In a major boost to India's indigenous aerospace and defence capabilities, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research-National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) on Tuesday unveiled three micro and small gas turbine engines developed for specialised defence applications.

The engines—NJ-05, NJ-50 and NJ-100—are designed to deliver 5 kg, 50 kg and 100 kg of thrust, respectively. According to the Ministry of Science and Technology, the propulsion systems are



intended for applications including tactical unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), drone interceptors and compact missile systems.

CSIR Director General and Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Dr N. Kalaiselvi, said the indigenous develop-

ment of such specialised and critical subsystems marks an important milestone in advancing Atmanirbhar Bharat in aerospace engineering. CSIR-NAL Director Dr Abhay A. Pashilkar said the laboratory is evolving as a key integrator for India's expanding drone ecosystem. He underlined the potential of Indian industry and the growing aerospace start-up sector to manufacture the advanced engines at scale for the country's defence requirements.

Shorties

France Closes Karachi Consulate After 5 Decades

Karachi: France is set to permanently close its consulate in Pakistan's Karachi after 50 years of service, outgoing French Ambassador Nicolas Galey has announced.

Speaking at a farewell event in Karachi, Galey said the consulate, which opened in 1976, would shut down following the departure of Consul General Alexis Chahtahtinsky. While a successor will take over his position in Islamabad, the Karachi diplomatic post will not continue.

Galey said he had witnessed Karachi's growth and transformation during his visits and praised Chahtahtinsky for his work in strengthening France's engagement with the city. Despite the closure, he said the Alliance Française would remain France's flagship institution in Karachi, while the Pakistan-France Business Alliance would continue its activities.

Galey, who has spent five years in Pakistan, also expressed sadness at leaving the country.

IICT, Netflix Announce Scholarships for 100 Indian Storytellers

New Delhi: The Indian Institute of Creative Technologies (IICT) and Netflix have announced scholarships for 100 students and working professionals to nurture the next generation of Indian storytellers.

Under the initiative, selected candidates will receive up to 80% financial support for six professional programmes, including two one-year diploma courses and four six-month certificate programmes.

The courses cover Interactive Comics and Sequential Arts, Visual Effects Mastery, Virtual Art Department Content Creation, Media Tech Workflow, Character Animation, and E-Sports and Gaming Management.

The scholarships will be open to eligible students and working professionals across India, strengthening opportunities in the country's growing Animation, Visual Effects, Gaming and Comics (AVGC) ecosystem.

The initiative follows Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with Netflix Co-CEO Ted Sarandos in August, during which Modi highlighted India's rich storytelling tradition and vast creative talent.

The Netflix India Storytelling Initiative was subsequently launched to strengthen India's creative talent pipeline and equip aspiring storytellers with industry-relevant skills, with the broader aim of positioning India as a global hub for content creation.

Emergency Helplines

Indian Embassy in Kathmandu issued emergency helplines for Indian nationals affected by the floods. Those requiring assistance can contact +977 985 131 6807 or +977 970 910 7500.

Yogi's Big Women-Centric Push:

50,000 College Girls to Get Scooties, Free Bus Travel for 60+ Women

Lucknow: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has announced that 50,000 female college students across the state will be provided scooties in October-November, in a major push aimed at promoting girls' education, mobility and self-reliance.

Addressing an event, Yogi said the government's support for daughters should extend from birth through education, with their safety, dignity and overall well-being remaining a key priority. "Our goal is to ensure that daughters pursue education in a fear-free environment and become self-reliant," the Chief Minister said, stressing the need to create greater opportunities for women and girls.

Free Bus Travel for Women Aged 60+

Yogi also launched the 'Lokmata Ahilyabai Matrushakti Yatra', a scheme providing free bus travel to women aged 60



years and above across Uttar Pradesh. Describing the initiative as a tribute to Matru Shakti, the Chief Minister said it would offer elderly women greater convenience, dignity and freedom of movement.

He further stressed the importance of strengthening women's social and economic independence, describing women

as the foundation of society. **Yogi Takes Dig at Opposition**

Taking a swipe at the opposition, Yogi claimed that Uttar Pradesh had earlier witnessed an atmosphere of insecurity, poverty and unrest, but that the situation had changed under the BJP-led "double-engine" government. He said his government has placed daugh-

ters and women at the centre of several welfare initiatives, focusing on their education, safety and empowerment. Highlighting the significance of the initiatives around Raksha Bandhan, Yogi said the measures symbolise the government's commitment to supporting daughters and women at different stages of life.

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India fastest-growing major economy, offers strong investment opportunities: Sitharaman

New Delhi. (Agency)

India is the world's fastest-growing major economy and offers investors a combination of scale, sustained growth, a young population, expanding consumption and rapidly deepening capital markets, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said while pitching the country to Canadian investors.

Addressing prominent members of the Indian business community in Toronto, Sitharaman said India offered Canadian investors with a long-term horizon an investment proposition that was difficult to match.

"India offers a combination that is difficult to match: scale, sustained growth, a young population, expanding consumption and rapidly deepening capital markets," she said. Sitharaman said India's transformation was structural, driven by rapid urbanisation, a growing middle class and world-class digital infrastructure, creating opportunities across virtually .

'Politically motivated': India rejects 'highly malicious' remarks by UN racial discrimination committee

New Delhi. (Agency)

India on Wednesday rejected the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination's observations concerning the country, saying the observations “politically motivated” and “highly malicious”.

In an official statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) noted that it has taken note of the remarks released by the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination following India's 11th periodic review under ICERD, conducted in Geneva on August 11-12.

The MEA clarified that the exercise constituted a routine treaty-body review, in which India participated in a spirit of constructive engagement. It stressed that India's commitment to combating racial discrimination remains firm and unwavering.

Throughout the review process, India underscored its constitutional safeguards, comprehensive legal framework, pluralistic ethos, and continuous efforts directed at safeguarding disadvantaged communities.

"While we will respond to the Committee's observations through the established procedure, the inter-Ministerial delegation, which was led by the Solicitor General of India, Shri Tushar Mehta, had already rejected the sweeping generalisations, unsubstantiated allegations, or tendency to exceed the Convention's mandate during the review meeting," the MEA stated.

"India rejects any politically motivated highly malicious references in the report with all the contempt that it deserves," the ministry added.

No one should engage in 'narrow politics': Mayawati on hijab row

New Delhi. (Agency)

Amid the ongoing hijab controversy, BSP supremo Mayawati on Wednesday called for such disputes to be resolved locally through mutual understanding, cautioning against their use for "narrow politics".

The former Uttar Pradesh chief minister said the Constitution, framed under the leadership of Dr B R Ambedkar, guarantees equal rights to people of all religions and communities."Everyone has the right to live a peaceful and happy life on the basis of the religious scriptures, religious customs and beliefs of all faiths," she said in a post on X, urging people to respect the sanctity of religious beliefs and practices.

On the issue of wearing hijab to schools, Mayawati said, "Instead of giving these matters undue importance and turning them into legal disputes in courts, they should be resolved at the local level through mutual understanding and wisdom between school management and the government and administration."Mayawati said such an approach would ensure that no one gets an opportunity to engage in "narrow politics" under the guise of such disputes.

"The BSP is an Ambedkarite party that guarantees respect for all sections of society and the safety of their lives, property and religion," she said, urging people to refrain from commenting on sensitive matters concerning any religion, religious scriptures or beliefs.Her remarks came days after the Allahabad High Court dismissed a petition filed by a minor student of a private school in Prayagraj seeking permission to wear a hijab with the school uniform.



Build system to spot threat 20 years ahead: Amit Shah's security plan for India

New Delhi (Agency)

At the National Security Strategy Conference, Amit Shah called for a security system that can spot threats 15 to 20 years early. He said stronger coordination, technology and early intervention are essential for India's internal security and 2047 goal.

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah, speaking at the concluding session of the two-day National Security Strategy Conference (NSSC) in New Delhi, said India must build a proactive security system that identifies emerging threats 15 to 20 years in advance and prevents them from turning into major challenges.

He said security policy must not focus only on dealing with existing threats but must study international and national trends and anticipate potential problems before they emerge.Shah said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set the goal of making India a developed country by 2047 and that strong internal security is the first condition for achieving that objective. He said India must maintain a strong and stable security environment if it wants to lead the world across sectors.

FOCUS ON IDENTIFYING FUTURE

CHALLENGES TODAY

Shah said the most important message of the National Security Strategy Conference was that India must make its security system



predictive rather than reactive. He said tackling a problem after it becomes serious proves to be more difficult and costly, while identifying early warning signs and acting on them proves more effective.

He said the NSSC should study international trends over the next 15 to 20 years and determine what new problems could emerge

in the future. Security agencies must then prepare strategies now to prevent those challenges.Shah said the country's responsibility does not end with sustaining today's successes. Security agencies and police forces must also imagine the threats that could emerge in the coming years. He called for institutionalising a security approach based on "identify first, act later".

LESSONS FROM NAXALISM, NARCOTICS AND THE NORTHEAST

Shah said previous governments could have avoided decades of challenges if they had visualised the problems of narcotics, Naxalism and the Northeast during their early stages.

He credited the Centre, state police forces, central agencies and the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) with working together to eliminate challenges in these three major internal security hotspots. He also credited security forces and state police with these successes and said better coordination between the Centre and states can help

Told Vijay Mekedatu dam is in Tamil Nadu's best interest: DK Shivakumar on Cauvery row

Speaking at the India Today Roundtable Karnataka, Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said he told his Tamil Nadu counterpart Vijay that the proposed Mekedatu dam would protect Tamil Nadu's interests and Bengaluru's drinking water needs.

New Delhi/Bengaluru (Agency)

Karnataka Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Wednesday said he told his Tamil Nadu counterpart Vijay that the proposed Mekedatu dam project was in Tamil Nadu's “best interest”, arguing that most of the Cauvery water stored at the project would ultimately be used by the neighbouring state. Speaking at the India Today Roundtable Karnataka, Shivakumar said he had also raised the issue with Vijay during the 31st Southern Zonal Council meeting at Mahabalipuram last week. Notably, this was Shivakumar's first media interview since taking over as Karnataka Chief Minister on June 3.”I

told him (Vijay) very clearly, this dam is only to



protect Tamil Nadu's interest and the drinking water of Bengaluru.” Shivakumar said. He said the Mekedatu project was not primarily

for Karnataka and argued that around 95 per cent of the water stored there would be used for Tamil Nadu. “The Mekedatu project is not for Karnataka. It is for Tamil Nadu. At least 95 per cent of the water, whatever will be stored, will be used only for Tamil Nadu,” he said.Shivakumar said Karnataka would not be able to use the water stored at Mekedatu for irrigation and that only the 10 TMC allocated for Bengaluru's drinking water needs could be drawn.

He said the project would allow excess Cauvery water to be stored instead of flowing into the sea during periods of high inflow. “This is a life-saving for Tamil Nadu, where we want to see that the water which comes out more in important times will not go to the sea,” he said.

PM Modi To Interact With Students Ahead Of National Sports Day

The programme comes as the government seeks to deepen its engagement with young Indians and encourage greater participation in sports, fitness and nation building.

New Delhi. (Agency)

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will interact with students and young people from across India on Thursday through the Khelo India Dialogue, a nationwide programme that places sports, youth leadership and civic participation at the centre of the government's outreach efforts ahead of National Sports Day.

The interaction, organised by Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), will be held through video conferencing at 11 am and is expected to connect with students from two colleges in every district across states and Union Territories.

The programme comes as the government seeks to deepen its engagement with young

Indians and encourage greater participation in sports, fitness and nation building. Officials say the initiative is intended to create a direct platform where students can share ideas and



suggestions on the future of sports and youth development in the country.

A major segment of the event will be the "Yuva Samvaad", during which participants will discuss issues ranging from sports infrastructure and coaching facilities to leadership, volunteering and social responsibility.

According to officials, discussions will focus on improving access to sports facilities, strengthening coaching and sports science support systems, identifying talent for long term athlete development and preparing India for future Olympic ambitions, including the 2036 Games.

Youth leadership is also expected to feature prominently, with conversations around volunteering, governance platforms and the role of young citizens in India's development journey.

Vijay scrapping Parandur a costly call? How badly does Chennai need a second airport?

Tamil Nadu CM C Joseph Vijay has scrapped Parandur as the site for Chennai's second airport and promised an alternative. DMK chief MK Stalin, whose government selected the site, has called the decision an 'irreversible setback'. But how urgently does Chennai need another airport? Will Vijay's decision prove costly?

New Delhi (Agency)

With the Delhi-NCR and the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) now operating their second airports, and the announcement of a second one at Kalyani near Kolkata, Chennai looked set to join the list of Indian urban centres with multiple airports. But Chennai's journey to joining the list is now back at the site-selection stage after Tamil Nadu Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay on Monday scrapped the Parandur project, the proposed site for the city's second airport.It's important to note that the Vijay government has not cancelled the plan for Chennai's second airport. The TVK government has cancelled the site near Parandur (around 70 kilometres south-west

of Chennai), which the previous DMK administration had finalised for the project.



Vijay said the government would look for an alternative site for the proposed greenfield project.

Reacting to the move, former Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin, in a post on X, called the announcement "an irreversible setback for

Tamil Nadu's growth."

"Tamil Nadu's interests cannot be mortgaged for petty political considerations... Taken without foresight, planning or consultation, this decision by the TVK government is a devastating blow to the employment dreams of Tamil Nadu's youth," the DMK supremo said.

By scrapping Parandur after years of planning, clearances and land acquisition, Vijay has effectively sent Chennai's second-airport project back to the drawing board. So, how costly is Vijay's decision to scrap Parandur? And how badly does Chennai need a second airport when decongestion of the existing Chennai International Airport (in the heart of the city in Meenambakkam) is only one part of the argument?

How ancient epics like Odyssey, Mahabharata are reframed for today’s audiences

I finally watched Christopher Nolan’s ‘The Odyssey’. Western cinema stands out in how it brings the ancient world to life on screen. In our movies, even when the story is about Emperor Ashoka or Akbar, they end up singing with the heroine.Both the Greek epics ‘The Odyssey’ and ‘The Iliad’ are usually credited to the poet Homer. ‘The Iliad’ focuses on the anger of the greatest Greek warrior, Achilles, who stops fighting after a dispute with Agamemnon, the king of Mycenae. He only returns to battle after Hector, the Trojan prince, kills his close friend Patroclus, and then Achilles kills Hector. Odysseus also appears in ‘The Iliad’ as a leading strategist. He later becomes the main character in ‘The Odyssey’.

After the war, Odysseus spends more than 10 years trying to get home because he has angered Poseidon, the god of the sea. On his way back to his island of Ithaca and his loyal wife Penelope, he faces monsters, curses, and the schemes of the gods. The film does a great job of taking viewers back to a world from 3,200 years ago. Watching Wolfgang Petersen’s ‘Troy’ (2004) can help you understand the background of the Trojan War.In one flashback, Nolan shows Odysseus, who won the war through trickery, deeply shaken by the massacre in the city and overwhelmed with guilt. He cries because he broke the sacred code of hospitality and trust linked to god Zeus.

This made me think of Yudhishtira in ‘Mahabharat’. After winning the terrible war of Kurukshetra and killing his cousins, Yudhishtira doesn’t celebrate. Instead, he falls into a deep crisis. He is devastated by the destruction and looks at the battlefield, asking himself: ‘What kind of victory is this, when all I have gained is a graveyard?’In fact, in many epics, the real tragedy isn’t losing, but winning. Ashoka also seems to have asked himself a similar question after the Battle of Kalinga.In Thomas Malory’s 1485 romance ‘Le Morte D’Arthur’, King Arthur spends his whole life building the utopian kingdom of Camelot but, eventually, it falls apart because of civil war and his son Mordred’s betrayal.

In Shakespeare’s play ‘Macbeth’, Macbeth kills King Duncan in a plot and takes the Scottish throne. Although this is exactly what he wanted, as soon as he becomes king, he finds no peace. Instead, he feels only guilt, sleepless nights, and mental pain. In Sophocles’ Greek tragedy ‘Antigone’, Creon, the King of Thebes, manages to enforce his law against Antigone. But this victory leads to a series of suicides, including by his son Haemon and his wife Eurydice. By the end, Creon mourns over his family and wishes for death.

In the same way, even though Aurangzeb made the Mughal Empire bigger than ever, looking back during his last days, he saw more failure than success.In Winston Churchill’s only novel, ‘Savrola: A Tale of the Revolution in Laurania’, published in 1900, Savrola leads a democratic revolution in the fictional Republic of Laurania in 1888 and overthrows a dictator. After a night of fierce fighting, he walks up a hill and looks at the destruction. Instead of feeling like a winner, he sighs, ‘This is my work.’

Yet Odysseus’ remorse after the Trojan War is Nolan’s own interpretation. In Homer’s story, Odysseus regards the victory at Troy as a triumph of his courage and ingenuity; there is no comparable sense of moral guilt over the destruction of Troy. Nor does he renounce violence or fundamentally alter his worldview. Nolan has therefore created this moral crisis in his film to explore more deeply the psychological wounds left by war.The 1989 film ‘The Mahabharata’ by British director Peter Brook, too, gives a unique take on an ancient epic. Both directors had the same challenge: making a 3,000-year-old story matter to people today.Brook chose to downplay its supernatural and miraculous parts.

Main Vaapas Nahin Jaunga

I wonder what my parents, who barely survived Partition, would have made of ‘Main Vaapas Aaunga’

It’s been years since I read Fyodor Dostoevsky’s novel, the wonderfully complex ‘The Brothers Karamazov’. Of the many currents in that book, like belief in God, morality, free will and patricide, one tiny part of the classic has overtaken all others to remain embedded in my head.That bit concerns a folktale about a woman who, as a result of her selfish ways, is thrown into a lake of fire in hell. Then an angel remembers that she once gave a beggar an onion from her garden. God tells the angel to hold that onion out to her and pull her out of hell. As she is being pulled away, other sinners grab on to her legs to also try and escape. She kicks them away, shouting: ‘I am to be pulled out, not you. It was my onion, not yours.’ The onion breaks and she falls back. In that breaking onion, in that angry line, in the word ‘my’, there is a world of metaphors, parables and endless lessons.Across history, combinations and challenges have come from variables and from the absence of constants. Patience and resilience, when combined, await opportunity. Then the hammer strikes. A battleground soaked by rain can change the course of events or someone who was blindly trusted can turn out to be a traitor — the past is full of examples like these.Did the British Empire ever think that a thin, loincloth-clad man whose creed was non-violence would catalyse the collapse of the world’s largest, wealthiest and most powerful domain that the planet had known? It happened. Call that ‘Factor X’. The Unknown, the event, the person that no one anticipated, far less predicted.

During the Emergency of the 1970s, when civil liberties had been crushed, my father and uncles, or he and a couple of friends, would huddle and talk. The gist of their conversations was: “Is this what we got Independence for? The only difference seems to be that earlier the colonisers were from another nation, now they are from our own.” This may be a little simplistic, but the kernel of truth is there. This remains to the present day.During the Emergency, a habeas corpus petition filed by Bharti Nayar challenged the illegal detention of her husband, prominent journalist Kuldip Nayar, under the draconian Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA). My father’s friend was a part of the Division Bench of the Delhi High Court that ruled in favour of Nayar, ordering his release and stating that the right to personal liberty and legal procedures under the law still applied despite the proclamation of Emergency. Almost needless to add, the powers that be were rather displeased and the judge was sidelined. The spine showed then was acknowledged at the end of that unhappy period of our democracy.

Much earlier, in another part of the country, around the time of Partition, an uncle joined the RSS for a while. With the



extended family having been slaughtered almost by the score, my mother and her sisters were trained in self-defence and the use of firearms by members of the ‘shakha’. Years apart, one had done his duty as demanded by his profession; the other had been drawn by emotion and by something that had given hope and support in a trying time. Despite contrary perspectives, was either anti-national or seditious? If anything, both were immensely patriotic.

The difference lay in their interpretation and application of the word ‘patriotic’. The meeting ground could only be basic humanity, plain common sense, the rule of law and critically, in what was enshrined in the Constitution. History, like it or not, remembers those with a spine and those without.Despite the horror where it has its roots, there is gentleness in Imtiaz Ali’s film, ‘Main Vaapas Aaunga’. For good reason, the review aggregator, Rotten

Tomatoes, has given it an overall positive review. It has much of what makes a film memorable — a good story, good acting, good musical score and much else. This brings me to why I’ve mentioned it in August, around the anniversary of both Independence and Partition. I wonder what my parents, who barely survived Partition, would have made of this film.I can almost step into my father’s shoes and say that it is unlikely that it would have resonated with him. That has nothing to do with the film, but with views that were shaped by the events of his life — by the years that preceded Partition and by those that followed.His take always was, ‘Main Vaapas Nahin Jaunga’ (I will not go back). For him, that door had closed and events had nailed it shut. At various points, he received opportunities to visit Lahore, where he was born and grew up. His answer was consistent: “Thank you. I have very happy memories. I would like to leave them at that.”

Rethink death sentence in execution review

The question cannot be reduced to how much pain an execution causes or how long it takes. It should be whether the State should continue to take the life of a person it has convicted

The Supreme Court has again upheld hanging as a valid method of executing a death sentence. It also said the method can be reconsidered if evidence of an alternative emerges, while allowing the Centre to explore faster, less painful and dignified methods. The petition was about the manner of execution. But changing the method does not change the nature of punishment. Whether a person is hanged or killed by another method, the result is the same. It is retributive, not reformative, justice. The question cannot be reduced to how much pain an execution causes or how long it takes. It should be whether the State should continue to take the life of a person it has convicted.

India’s judicial record shows why the punishment remains contested. Currently, 574 prisoners are on death row, the highest number since 2016. From 2016 to 2025, sessions courts handed 1,310 death sentences. High courts confirmed 70, commuted 411 to life terms and acquitted 285. Project 39A data says only about one in 20 death sentences between 2000 and 2015 were upheld on appeal.



The overwhelming majority did not survive higher judicial scrutiny.The bigger concern is that death cannot be reversed. In Manoj vs Madhya Pradesh (2022), the Supreme Court laid down mandatory protocols to prevent death sentences from being imposed without proper consideration of mitigating circumstances, a convict’s mental state, background and capacity for reform. If the

justice system requires such careful examination before imposing the death penalty, the risk of irreversible misstep is clear.

The recent Muzaffarnagar episode adds another reason for caution. A trial court judge gave 22 death sentences in 10 cases over four months, raising concerns about judicial temperament and how trial courts respond to pressure in cases involving heinous crimes and strong public pressure.Abolishing the death penalty does not make the criminal justice system pacifist. Serious and atrocious crimes can still be punished with life imprisonment, including without remission where the law permits. The State does not have to take a life to punish a convict. Moreover, the plain truth is that an innocent person executed cannot be brought back. The Supreme Court has left the question of the method of execution open to future evidence. The country should use this moment to discuss the larger issue of whether India needs capital punishment at all.

Touchstones: Our patriotic celebrations

The mood still shines through despite the cynicism, funny memes and muggy weather

So much has happened since I wrote my last column, almost three weeks ago, that even though I try to keep away from commenting on current affairs, I have to reflect on the new trends emerging in public celebrations. Let me begin with my own memories of the Independence Day celebrations in my childhood. Of course, we loved the holiday that came with it but since I studied in a convent run by German nuns, there was no attempt to involve the students in any meaningful way.As day scholars (not boarders), we balanced our lives between that very ‘phoren’ education and the values practised by our family and the rest of the town. My father used to hoist the flag in the lawn of our house and his staff came to participate even though that meant a stiff climb to our Nainital home in the high Ayarpata area. The previous evening, flowers were tucked into the flag to be hoisted in the morning and carefully mounted on the tall flagpole. After it was over, my mother would serve tea and homemade snacks to all those who were there.We watched the whole ceremony (accompanied by children from the neighbouring houses) and after the elders had gone home, we enacted our own version of it. A smaller copy of the high flagpole (often just a crooked branch from a tree) was erected on the other side of the large lawn and we did our own version of the solemn ceremony my father used to preside over. We saluted the flag, sang the National Anthem lustily and marched round and round the lawn, saying ‘left right’.Our patriotism was probably greater than what was on display in the other ceremony and how we loved to pretend we were grown-ups. The previous evening, we all crowded round our ancient radio to hear the President’s message to the nation, delivered by President Dr S Radhakrishnan, surely the most thrilling orator of his time. We weren’t allowed even to speak or get up until it was over. Mind you, this wasn’t just in our home but in every home around



us.The same reverence was accorded to the Prime Minister’s speech from the ramparts of the Red Fort by the one and only Chacha Nehru. No forced shouts of Vande Mataram, just a moving speech heard in rapt attention by the whole nation. There was a difference in that when I compare it to the state-choreographed version of the present times. Is it because we are now older and therefore more cynical, or is there a gradual ebbing away of the spontaneity that marked our celebrations all those years ago? Perhaps that is part of the reason but the muggy, miserable weather when the entire diplomatic corps, the

Army bigwigs and the high officials of the government are expected to be present in formal suits, ties or bandhgalas, wiping their sweaty faces, takes away the joy that should be the primary mood of such an occasion.Later, when I was married and we took part in the official Independence Day celebrations, where my husband had to do what was his duty as a government servant and hoist the flag, the childhood memory refused to go away. The reception at the Governor’s At Home in the evening (or the President’s At Home in Rashtrapati Bhavan when we moved to Delhi) was a nightmare of

another kind. The tea served was often a mishmash of what the historical records from colonial times showed (tea, cakes and sandwiches) alongside chhola bhaturas, samosas, sticky sweets or juicy rasgullas and gulab jamuns that sat uneasily together on one’s plate. A separate enclosure, with a cordoned-off area, was created for the Prime Minister and his Cabinet colleagues, the Chief Justice and important Opposition leaders, and people gawped at them from afar. I can well imagine how uncomfortable it must be for those who were gawped at. I could go on and on but this is not the occasion to dampen the patriotic mood that still shines through despite the cynicism, funny memes and muggy weather. Something stirs one each time one hears the National Anthem, no matter who you are or what your political and ideological position may be. To boycott the ceremony and not attend the reception is just not on.

Moving on, I am relieved that we are finally confronting the trauma suffered during Partition. It has taken almost 75 years for us to acknowledge what a cruel and horrifying effect it had on those who lost loved ones, homes and their land. What is worse, it drove a wedge through the subcontinent that made neighbours into enemies, languages into cultural battles and irretrievably damaged the bonhomie between two faiths. The colonial state and the British have a lot to answer for to all those who they permanently crippled, both culturally and socially.It is thus ironic that their own lands are now facing the problems that they inflicted on their erstwhile territories. Europe and Britain are wondering how to go back to the time when they were racially ‘pure’. Rare is the country in that part of the world that will soon not be overrun by people who will occupy the land they considered ‘theirs’. I may not be alive to see that but I think we in the subcontinent know that story well.

भोजपुरी गजल
दिल आबाद हो गईल
- श्याम कुंवर भारती



नाम तोहार लेके, दिल अब आबाद हो गईल ।
कहलू की केवन पागल , हमार आज हो गईल ।
आसरा लगवली तोहसे ,नजर हमसे फेर लिहलु ।
छुटल न तोहरो आस ,जल दिल खाक हो गईल ।
कहेला लोगवा हमसे, तू खुदा की खिदमत कर ।
अँखिया बसेलु तू हमरा ,भक्ति भस्म राख हो गईल ।
पत्थर पूजेला लोगवा ,मिल जाले सबके राम ।
पिघलल ना दिल तोहरो , दिल अब बरबाद हो गईल ।
स्वाती के बूंद पानी , चितवत रहे चकोर ।
तोहके जोहत मे जिनगी ,तन अब आजाद हो गईल ।
बियवा बोवे किसान ,पक फल अनाज बदे ।
पकल ना हमरो प्यार ,अब खराब हो गईल ।
जइसे पूजेले देवता ,हम तोहरे के पुजली ।
रीझलू ना कबों हमरा, दुशमन सब समाज हो गईल ।

দিগ্ পৰৱৰ্ত্তমান অনুষ্ঠান: গগা ফাল্ল নদীতে ব্যাপক উপস্থিতি শ্রাবী

গগা, যশিৱ: আজ পঢ়ি পৰ ২০২৫-এৱ শ্ৰতিয় দিৱি
গগাৱ পৱশি ফাল্ল নদীৱ তীৱে ঙ্কি ও ঙ্গশিৱে এক গজীৱ
প্ৰদৰ্শনী অনুষ্ঠিৱ ২২। প্ৰায় ৫০,০০০ এও ৱশি ঙ্কু পি
দান ও তৱণ অনুষ্ঠানে অশ্ব নতি এখানে জগা ২ন।
মহুপাঠেৱে ছন্দ, ধূপেৱে সুবাস এৱং পূৰ্ণাৰ্থীদেৱে ত্বদশ্ৰাশী
প্ৰাথনাৱ অঞ্চে পূৱো পৱবিষে মুখৱতি ছনি।
আৱগ্ৰেযত পৱবিষে পূৱোৱ আদেৱে গাৱাৱ জন্ম পশ্চিপণ
কৱননে, কন্যাৱা কৌদেৱে কৌদেৱে আদেৱে পতিমাৱাৱ প্ৰতি
ৱদীয় জ্ঞানাননে, আৱ এক শশ্চি তাৱ প্ৰশাৱ মাযেৱে তৱণ
অপণ কৱে উপস্থিতি গৱাৱ মনকে স্ৰষ্ৰ কৱে দিষিছে।
এই অনুষ্ঠান, যা ২৬ ঙ্গশিৱে গজীৱ অশ্ব, জীৱতি
ও প্ৰশাৱে মধেৱে পৱশি শ্ৰম্ৰকৱে প্ৰতীক, যা প্ৰজ্ঞাৱে
আত্মাৱ শাস্ৰি ও মুক্ৰি আশ্ৰাৱ দযে ৱলে ৱশিাৱ কৱা ২য়।
দীঘ শ্ৰাৱি ও দাৱক তাপ শ্ৰৱেও ঙ্কুৱা আদেৱে আচল নশ্চি
প্ৰদৰ্শন কৱননে।
ৱশিষেজাৱে নশ্চিতি পশ্চিষ্ে জল, তলি ও পশ্চিপণ কৱে
নদীতে পৱশি স্নান কৱননে।
পূৱোৱশিত্ৰো ভাৱগাষ্ট্ৰীশপূৰ্ণ নশ্চিমে শ্ৰম্ৰস্ৰ অনুষ্ঠান
পৱচিননে কৱে পূজামপৱে আধ্যাত্মিক পৱবিষে আৱও ২
শ্চি কৱননে।
গগা, যা গ্ৰন্থশ্বশ-এৱ জুমি ২শ্চিৱে পৱচিতি, পডি পৱৱে
শ্ৰমশ ৱশিষে তাপশ্ব ধাৱণ কৱা।
এ শ্ৰমশ দশেৱে ৱেগাৱকূণি থকে এৱং ৱদিশ্ব থকেও
২জাৱো পূৰ্ণাৰ্থী এখানে আশ্ৰ। স্ৰ্শ্চানীৱ ক্ৰতপৱ
জানশিছে, এই ৱহৱেৱে উপস্থিতি প্ৰত্যাশাৱ অনকে
ওপৱে গশিছে, যা প্ৰাচীন ঙ্গশিৱে প্ৰতি আষ্ট্ৰ শ্ৰ্শ্ৰাৱ
পৱচিাৱক।
এক্ৰজত ঙ্কু ৱননে, “এই ৱীৱশ্চিতি শ্বধুমাৱ একটি
ঙ্গশিৱ নয, ঙ্গি পশ্চিপূৱস্ৰেৱে প্ৰতি ক্ৰত্ৰজ্ঞা প্ৰকাশ এৱং
আমাদেৱে পৱশি ক্ৰত্ৰৱা পানৱে মাধম।”
শ্ৰধাৱাৱ দক্ষি শথন আকাশ যীৱে যীৱে অশ্বকাৱাৱশি ২তে
নাশন, ফাল্লৱ পাড প্ৰদীপৱে আলো নদীতে জগ্ৰে নাগল,
যা চ্ৰিষ্কন শ্ৰৱতি প্ৰতীক ২শ্চিৱে ৱলমল কৱাছনি।

भारत-कनाडा स्वाभाविक साझेदार

दोनों देश के बीच संबंधों में आया बड़ा बदलाव: वित्त मंत्री सीतारमण

एजेंसी टोरंटो। केंद्रीय वित्त मंत्री निर्मला सीतारमण ने कहा कि भारत और कनाडा दुनिया में सबसे स्वाभाविक साझेदार हैं और हाल के समय में दोनों देशों के संबंधों में जबरदस्त बदलाव आया है। केंद्रीय मंत्री सीतारमण मॉल्टावर (कनाडा के समय के अनुसार) को कनाडा की चार दिन की आधिकारिक यात्रा पर टोरंटो पहुंचीं। इस यात्रा का मकसद दोनों देशों के बीच व्यापार, निवेश और वित्तीय सहयोग को मजबूत करना है। टोरंटो में भारतीय मूल के कारोबारी समुदाय के लिए आयोजित एक कार्यक्रम में वित्त मंत्री ने कहा, 'हाल के समय में भारत और कनाडा के आपसी रिश्तों में जबरदस्त बदलाव आया है। इसकी वजह लोकतंत्र और अनेकता जैसे हमारे साझा मूल्य,



समुदाय की तारीफ करते हुए उन्होंने कहा, 'यह एक ऐसा समुदाय है जो कनाडा के बोर्डरूम, बे स्ट्रीट के ट्रेंडिंग प्लेयर और पेंशन फंड की रिस्क कमेटियों में शामिल है। असल में, यह दो जीवंत लोकतंत्रों और इनोवेशन पर आधारित दो अर्थव्यवस्थाओं के बीच एक रणनीतिक पुल का काम करता है।

' उन्होंने जून 2025 में जी7 समिट के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी और उनके कनाडाई समकक्ष मार्क कार्नी के बीच हुई मुलाकात को याद किया और कहा कि उस बैठक में दोनों नेताओं ने 'भविष्य पर केंद्रित रणनीतिक साझेदारी' को फिर से मजबूत करके भारत-कनाडा संबंधों को नए सिरे से शुरू करने पर सहमति जताई थी। उन्होंने आगे कहा, 'इस दिशा में और प्रगति तब हुई जब प्रधानमंत्री कार्नी ने इस साल की शुरुआत में भारत का दौरा किया। इस दौरान सीईपीओ बातचीत औपचारिक रूप से शुरू हुई, कैमेको के साथ 2.6 बिलियन कनाडाई डॉलर का यूरेनियम समझौता हुआ, नई रणनीतिक साझेदारी के लिए 'वसुधैव कुटुम्बकम्' को मुख्य आधार के तौर पर अपनाया गया, और 2030 तक दोनों देशों के बीच

व्यापार को दोगुना से ज्यादा करके 70 बिलियन कनाडाई डॉलर तक पहुंचाने का संयुक्त संकल्प लिया गया। ' उन्होंने आगे कहा, 'हम दोनों जीवंत लोकतंत्र हैं जो कानून के शासन को मानते हैं। हम कॉमनवेल्थ परंपराओं, एक जैसे संसदीय मॉडल और एक ही आधिकारिक भाषा को साझा करते हैं। ज्यादातर भू-राजनीतिक मुद्दों पर हमारी राय एक जैसी है। हम दोनों संयुक्त राष्ट्र-आधारित बहुपक्षवाद, उत्तर-दक्षिण सहयोग और नियमों पर आधारित अंतरराष्ट्रीय व्यवस्था का समर्थन करते हैं। सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि कनाडा और भारत आज की दुनिया के दो ऐसे महान बहु-सांस्कृतिक समाज हैं जो विविधता का सचमुच सम्मान और कद्र करते हैं। और यह एक ऐसा बंधन है जो किसी भी व्यापार समझौते से कहीं ज्यादा गहरा है। '

भारत की आठ-नौ और देशों के समूहों के साथ एफटीए पर

जारी है बातचीत: गोयल दक्षिण-एशियाईऔर प्रवासी

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय वाणिज्य एवं उद्योग मंत्री पीयूष गोयल ने कहा कि भारत कम से कम आठ नौ और देशों के समूहों तथा अलग-अलग देशों के साथ मुक्त व्यापार समझौतों (एफटीए) के लिए वार्ता कर रहा है। इनसे कुल 15 हजार अरब डॉलर की अतिरिक्त सकल घरेलू उत्पाद (जीडीपी) वाली अर्थव्यवस्थाओं तक भारत की पहुंच बनेगी। जापान दौरे पर यहां पहुंचे गोयल ने भारत और जापान के कारोबारी प्रतिनिधियों को संबोधित करते हुए कहा कि भारत का घरेलू बाजार बड़ा है और वह दुनिया के लिए अपने दरवाजे खोल रहा है। पिछले चार वर्षों में भारत ने नौ मुक्त व्यापार समझौते किए हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि भारत के मुक्त व्यापार समझौतों से अंततः वैश्विक व्यापार का करीब 75

फीसदी हिस्सा भारत के लिए खुल जाएगा। गोयल ने बताया कि इससे देश को वैश्विक मूल्य श्रृंखलाओं में भरोसेमंद भागीदार के रूप में स्थापित करने में मदद मिलेगी। उन्होंने कहा कि इन नौ



समझौतों के तहत 38 विकसित देशों समेत कुल 60 हजार अरब डॉलर की जीडीपी वाली अर्थव्यवस्थाएं आती हैं। मंत्री ने कहा कि जापान और कोरिया समेत विभिन्न देशों तथा आसियान क्षेत्र के साथ पहले किए गए व्यापार समझौतों से 10 हजार अरब डॉलर की अतिरिक्त जीडीपी तक पहुंच

बनी है। गोयल ने कहा कि आज भारत 70 हजार अरब डॉलर की अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए तरजीब काजार पहुंच के दरवाजे खोल रहा है। हम कम से कम आठ या नौ अन्य देशों के समूहों या देशों के साथ बातचीत कर रहे हैं, जिससे 15 हजार अरब डॉलर आए जुड़ेंगे। केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्री जापान के चार दिवसीय आधिकारिक दौरे पर हैं। गोयल दोनों देशों के बीच व्यापार और निवेश संबंधों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 200 से अधिक प्रतिनिधियों वाले एक बड़े कारोबारी प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व कर रहे हैं।

और इंडस्ट्रियल इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के क्षेत्रों में भारत के साथ कंपनी के जुड़ाव को और गहरा करने के अवसरों पर चर्चा की। इसके साथ ही उन्होंने टोक्यो इलेक्ट्रॉन लिमिटेड के एक प्रतिनिधिमंडल से मुलाकात की, जिसका नेतृत्व कॉर्पोरेट ऑफिसर और एजीक्यूटिव वाइस प्रेसिडेंट (ग्लोबल सेल्स डिवीजन और इंडिया बिजनेस) ताकेशी ओकुबो कर रहे हैं। इसके अलावा उन्होंने मेडजि सेइका फार्मा कंपनी लिमिटेड के प्रेसिडेंट और रिप्रेजेंटेटिव डायरेक्टर, मिस्टर तोशियाकी नागासातो से मुलाकात की। केंद्रीय वाणिज्य मंत्री जापान के चार दिवसीय आधिकारिक दौरे पर हैं। गोयल दोनों देशों के बीच व्यापार और निवेश संबंधों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 200 से अधिक प्रतिनिधियों वाले एक बड़े कारोबारी प्रतिनिधिमंडल का नेतृत्व कर रहे हैं।

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। फार्मास्युटिकल और बायोटेक्नोलॉजी सेक्टर के लिए काम करने वाली कंपनी सिंबायोटेक फार्मालैब का 1,757 करोड़ का आईपीओ आज सब्सक्रिप्शन के लिए लॉन्च कर

दिया गया। इस आईपीओ में 27 अगस्त तक बोली लगाई जा सकती है। इस्यू की क्लोजिंग के बाद 28 अगस्त को शेयरों का अलॉटमेंट किया जाएगा, जबकि 31 अगस्त को अलॉटेंट शेयर डीमैट अकाउंट में क्रेडिट कर दिए जाएंगे। कंपनी के

शेयर एक सितंबर को बीएसई और एनएसई पर लिस्ट हो सकते हैं। लॉन्चिंग के बाद शाम तीन बजे तक ये आईपीओ 67 प्रतिशत सब्सक्राइब हो चुका था। इस आईपीओ में बोली लगाने के लिए 938 रुपये से लेकर 988 रुपये

प्रति शेयर का प्राइस बैंड तय किया गया है, जबकि लॉट साइज 15 शेयर का है। इस आईपीओ में रिटेल इनवेस्टर्स कम से कम एक लॉट यानी 15 शेयरों के लिए बोली लगा सकते हैं, जिसके लिए उन्हें 14,820 रुपये का निवेश करना

होगा। इसी तरह रिटेल इनवेस्टर 1,92,660 रुपये के निवेश से अधिकतम 13 लॉट में 195 शेयरों के लिए बोली लगा सकते हैं। इस आईपीओ के तहत दो रुपये फेस वैल्यू वाले कुल 1,77,86,442 शेयर जारी किए जा रहे हैं। इनमें लगभग

150 करोड़ रुपये के 15,21,261 नए शेयर जारी किए जा रहे हैं, जबकि लगभग 1,607 करोड़ रुपये के 1,62,65,181 शेयर ऑफर फॉर सेल विंडो के जरिये बेचे जा रहे हैं। इस आईपीओ में क्वालिफाइड इंस्टीट्यूशनल बायर्स (क्यूआईबी)

के लिए 49.91 प्रतिशत हिस्सा रिजर्व किया गया है। इसके अलावा रिटेल इनवेस्टर्स के लिए 34.93 प्रतिशत हिस्सा और नॉन इंस्टीट्यूशनल इनवेस्टर्स (एनआईआई) के लिए 14.97 प्रतिशत हिस्सा रिजर्व है। इसके अलावा

कंपनी के एंग्लोयिज के लिए 0.19 प्रतिशत हिस्से को रिजर्व किया गया है। इस इश्यू के लिए जेएम फार्मेशियल लिमिटेड को बुक रनिंग लीड मैनेजर बनाया गया है, जबकि एम्यूजीएफ इन्टाइम इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड को रजिस्ट्रार बनाया गया है।

रक्षाबंधन पर इस साल देशभर में 30,000 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा का कारोबार होने की उम्मीद : प्रवीन खंडेलवाल

अकेले दिल्ली में यह कारोबार 4 हजार करोड़ रुपए के आसपास रहने की संभावना है।

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली । देशभर में रक्षाबंधन के अवसर पर इस बार 30,000 करोड़ रुपए का कारोबार होने की उम्मीद है। इसमें से अकेले राखी का कारोबार 25,000 करोड़ रुपए का पहुंचने का अनुमान है। यह जानकारी चांदनी चौक से सांसद एवं कॉन्फेडरेशन ऑफ ऑल इंडिया ट्रेडर्स (केट) के राष्ट्रीय महामंत्री प्रवीन खंडेलवाल ने

दी। खंडेलवाल ने कहा कि रक्षाबंधन पर्व में अब केवल चार दिन शेष रहने के साथ ही दिल्ली सहित देशभर के बाजारों में खरीदारी अपने चरम पर पहुंच गई है। दिल्ली के चांदनी चौक, सदर बाजार, करोल बाग, लाजपत नगर, कमला नगर, राजौरी गार्डन, गांधी नगर, विभिन्न स्थानीय बाजारों में ग्राहकों की भारी भीड़ देखने को मिल रही है। कैट को देशभर के व्यापारिक संगठनों से प्राप्त रिपोर्टों के अनुसार, इस वर्ष रक्षाबंधन पर केवल राखियों का कारोबार लगभग 25 हजार करोड़ रुपए तक पहुंचने का अनुमान है, जबकि अकेले दिल्ली में यह कारोबार 4 हजार करोड़ रुपए

के आसपास रहने की संभावना है। यदि उपहार, मिठाइयों, परिधानों, इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स, सजावटी वस्तुओं,



झाई फ्रंट्स, पूजा सामग्री और अन्य त्योहारी उत्पादों को भी शामिल किया जाए तो रक्षाबंधन से संबंधित कुल व्यापार 30 हजार करोड़ रुपए से अधिक होने की संभावना है। खंडेलवाल के मुताबिक, इस

वर्ष पारंपरिक राखियों के साथ-साथ प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की जनकल्याणकारी योजनाओं, भारत की बढ़ती वैश्विक प्रतियक्षा तथा 'विकसित भारत-2047' के संकल्प से प्रेरित राखियां विशेष आकर्षण का केंद्र बनी हुई हैं। विशेष रूप से 'विकसित भारत राखी', 'मोदी गारंटी राखी', 'ब्रह्मोस राखी', 'नारी वंदन राखी', 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत राखी', 'वोकल फॉर लोकल राखी', 'भारत गौरव राखी', 'लखपति दीदी राखी', 'नमामि गंगे राखी', 'राष्ट्र रक्षा सूत्र राखी' और 'अमृतकाल राखी' की मांग लगातार बढ़ रही है।

राखी', 'राष्ट्र रक्षा सूत्र राखी' और 'विकसित भारत राखी' को लेकर आसाधारण उत्साह देखा जा रहा है। वहीं महिलाओं के बीच 'नारी वंदन राखी' तथा 'लखपति दीदी राखी' विशेष लोकप्रिय हो रही हैं, जो महिला सशक्तिकरण और आत्मनिर्भरता का संदेश दे रही हैं। खंडेलवाल के अनुसार, रक्षाबंधन का यह पर्व केवल भाई-बहन के स्नेह का प्रतीक नहीं रह गया है, बल्कि अब यह स्वदेशी, आत्मनिर्भरता, महिला सशक्तिकरण, पर्यावरण संरक्षण और राष्ट्र गौरव का भी उत्सव बन चुका है। स्वदेशी राखियों की बढ़ती मांग से लाखों महिला उद्यमियों, स्वयं सहायता समूहों, कुटीर उद्योगों और स्थानीय कारीगरों को प्रत्यक्ष आर्थिक लाभ

मिल रहा है। खंडेलवाल ने व्यापारियों और उपभोक्ताओं से अपील करते हुए कहा कि आगामी सभी त्योहारों पर भारतीय उत्पादों को प्राथमिकता देकर प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी के 'वोकल फॉर लोकल', 'लोकल फॉर ग्लोबल' और 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' के संकल्प को और अधिक मजबूत बनाएं। उन्होंने कहा, 'आज को स्वदेशी राखी केवल रक्षा सूत्र नहीं, बल्कि विकसित भारत, आत्मनिर्भर भारत, महिला सशक्तिकरण और राष्ट्र गौरव का सशक्त प्रतीक बन चुकी है। प्रत्येक राखी भारतीय कारीगरों के श्रम, भारतीय संस्कृति की समृद्धि और भारत को उज्ज्वल भविष्य का संदेश लेकर आ रही है।

प्रायोरिटी ज्वेल्स का आईपीओ

28 अगस्त को खुलेगा

मूल्य दायरा 190-200 रुपये प्रति शेयर निवेशकरना

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। आपभूषण विनिर्माता कंपनी प्रायोरिटी ज्वेल्स लिमिटेड का आरंभिक सार्वजनिक निगम (आईपीओ) 28 अगस्त को खुलेगा। इसमें निवेश के लिए निवेशक 1 सितंबर तक बोली लगा सकते हैं। इसके लिए मूल्य का दायरा (प्राइस बैंड) 190-200 रुपये प्रति शेयर तय किया गया है। प्रायोरिटी ज्वेल्स लिमिटेड के इस आईपीओ के तहत 45.75 लाख तक के नए शेयर जारी किए जाएंगे। कंपनी के मुताबिक 10 रुपये अंकित मूल्य वाले इस इश्यू में निवेशक न्यूनतम 75 इक्विटी शेयरों के लिए और उसके बाद 75 इक्विटी शेयरों के गुणकों में बोली लगा सकते हैं। इसमें निवेश करने के लिए बड़े (एंकर) निवेशक 27 अगस्त को बोली लगा सकते हैं। कंपनी नए शेयर जारी कर जुटाई गई

राशि का इस्तेमाल कंपनी कर्ज चुकाने और सामान्य कामकाज के लिए करेगी। कंपनी के शेयरों को चार सितंबर को बीएसई और एनएसई पर सूचीबद्ध करने का भी



प्रस्ताव है। उल्लेखनीय है कि 2007 में बनी यह कंपनी हल्के वजन वाली, किफायती एवं हीरे जड़ी सोने और प्लेटिनम की बेहतरीन ज्वेलरी की डिजाइनिंग, मैनुफैक्चरिंग तथा बिक्री का काम करती है। यह कंपनी भारत के साथ-साथ चुनिंदा अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजारों में स्वतंत्र ज्वेलर्स और ज्वेलरी चेन को सीधे अपने उत्पाद बेचती है।

फैसिनेट टेक्सटाइल्स ने निवेशकों को दिया करारा

झटका, डिस्काउंट लिस्टिंग के बाद लगा लोअर सर्किट

आईपीओ निवेशकों को प्रति लॉट 28,960 रुपये का नुकसान निवेशकरना

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। टेक्सटाइल सेक्टर के लिए काम करने वाली कंपनी फैसिनेट टेक्सटाइल्स के शेयरों ने आज स्टॉक मार्केट ने जबरदस्त गिरावट के साथ एंटी कर अपने आईपीओ निवेशकों को जोरदार झटका दिया। आईपीओ के तहत कंपनी के शेयर 151 रुपये के भाव पर जारी किए गए थे। आज एनएसई के एसएमई प्लेटफॉर्म पर इसकी लिस्टिंग 20 प्रतिशत डिस्काउंट के साथ 120.80 रुपये के स्तर पर हुई। लिस्टिंग के बाद बिकवाली का दबाव बन गया, जिसकी वजह से कंपनी के शेयरों के भाव में कमजोरी का रुख बन गया। लगातार हो रही लिवाली के कारण

थोड़ी देर में ही ये शेयर लुढ़क कर 114.80 रुपये के लोअर सर्किट लेवल पर पहुंच गए। इस तरह

23.97 प्रतिशत का नुकसान हो गया। इस आईपीओ में एक लॉट 800 शेयर का था। इस तरह



पहले दिन के कारोबार में ही कंपनी के आईपीओ निवेशकों को प्रति शेयर 36.20 रुपये यानी

आईपीओ निवेशकों को प्रति लॉट कम से कम 28,960 रुपये की घाटे का सामना करना पड़ा।

फैसिनेट टेक्सटाइल्स का 64.83 करोड़ रुपये का आईपीओ 11 से 19 अगस्त के बीच सब्सक्रिप्शन के लिए खुला था। इस आईपीओ को निवेशकों की ओर से फीका रिसर्प्स मिला था, जिसके कारण ये ओवरऑल 1.48 गुना सब्सक्राइब हुआ था। इनमें क्वालिफाइड इंस्टीट्यूशनल बायर्स (क्यूआईबी) के लिए रिजर्व पोर्शन 22.74 गुना सब्सक्राइब हुआ था। इसी तरह नॉन इंस्टीट्यूशनल इनवेस्टर्स (एनआईआई) के लिए रिजर्व पोर्शन में 1.06 गुना सब्सक्रिप्शन आया था। इसके अलावा रिटेल इनवेस्टर्स के लिए रिजर्व पोर्शन 1.37 गुना सब्सक्राइब हो सका था।



Kareena Kapoor

Khan Poses In White Bikini With Saif On His 55th Birthday

Kareena Kapoor Khan gave fans a glimpse of her holiday with Saif Ali Khan on his 55th birthday, but it was her bikini picture with the actor that went viral. The actress shared a series of personal photos from their getaway, including a loved-up picture in which she posed beside Saif in a white bikini. The birthday album offered more than just a couple’s picture. Kareena also shared photos featuring their sons, Taimur and Jeh, along with snapshots from their drives and a fun mirror selfie.

Kareena, 45, paired the pictures with a personal birthday message for Saif. She wrote, “Happy Birthday to my forever ride or die... how boring would life be without you... This insta post pictures are all approved by him, loves it when I post his pictures.”

The white bikini picture showed Kareena and Saif posing together against a rocky backdrop during their getaway. Kareena wore sunglasses with her white bikini, while Saif opted for a white shirt and red shorts.

She also picked a special song to go with the post. Kareena added Dil Dance Maare from their 2008 film Tashan, a fitting choice given that the



couple began their romance while working on the film. The post also gave fans a look at the more private side of their relationship. Along with the bikini picture, Kareena included moments with their children and casual holiday photos.

Fans reacted to the pictures and her birthday message, with many praising Kareena and Saif’s chemistry. Saif’s sister Saba Pataudi joined the birthday wishes in the comments. She wrote, “Happiest Birthday Bhai!! Have an awesome one. Lots of love.” Kareena’s close friend Amrita Arora commented, “Saifuuuuuuuuuu,” while filmmaker Zoya Akhtar wrote, “Happy Birthday Saif.” Rhea Kapoor also wished him, writing, “Happy birthday Saif, we love you.”

Saif and Kareena got married on October 16, 2012, in a private ceremony in Mumbai. The couple are parents to two sons, Taimur Ali Khan and Jehangir Ali Khan, and Kareena often shares glimpses of their family holidays and special moments on social media.

Sunny Deol

Says Pan Masala Brands Approach Him But He Refuses: ‘Mera Zameer Nahi Manta’

Sunny Deol has made it clear that pan masala endorsements are one category of advertising he has no interest in entering. The actor says he has received such offers but has consistently turned them down because promoting the product goes against what he personally believes. Speaking on Shubhankar Mishra’s podcast, Sunny discussed his approach to brand endorsements and



why certain lucrative opportunities simply do not make the cut for him.

Sunny Deol Says He Will Never Endorse Pan Masala

Asked specifically about staying away from pan masala commercials, Sunny said there was no possibility of him changing his stance in the future. “I don’t do pan masala ads and kabhi karunga bhi nahi. I wouldn’t do any of those things. Aatey hai but nahi karunga. I don’t want to do something which I don’t believe in,” he said. The actor added that he does not consider pan masala something worth

promoting, making his position on such advertisements fairly straightforward. “Main in sab cheezon ko manta nahi hoon. I don’t think this is a good thing to promote,” Sunny said.

According to the actor, the same principle has influenced several other professional decisions. He said there have been things he has refused simply because his conscience did not permit him to take them up.

“Kitni cheezein nahi karta because mera zameer nahi manta isliye aur jo karni hoti hai woh kar leta hoon,” he added.

Sunny Wonders Why He Doesn’t Get More Ads

The conversation also turned towards Sunny’s comparatively limited visibility in the advertising space. While several of his contemporaries regularly appear in major brand campaigns, Sunny admitted that he himself does not know why advertisers haven’t approached.



Aamir Khan, Kiran Rao Look Distressed As Son Azad Cries Outside Mumbai Pet Clinic; Video Goes Viral



Aamir Khan was spotted outside a Mumbai pet clinic on Saturday with his former wife Kiran Rao and their son Azad Rao Khan. A video of the family leaving the clinic has since surfaced online, with Azad visibly emotional and Aamir carrying a pet carrier.

The clip has prompted concern among social media users, although neither Aamir nor Kiran has revealed why they visited the clinic or shared any update about their pet.

Azad Rao Khan Seen Crying Outside Pet Clinic

In the video circulating on social media, Aamir and Kiran can be seen walking out of the clinic with Azad. The 14-year-old appears to be crying, while his parents also look visibly concerned. Aamir is seen carrying what appears to be a cat carrier as the family makes its way out. The visuals quickly led to speculation about whether one of the family’s pets was unwell.

“His pet dog or cat is not well, I guess,” one person commented. Another wrote, “Might be some pet lost its life. Sad.”

A third user speculated that the family may have lost a pet and suggested that this was why Azad appeared upset.

However, there is currently no confirmation about what happened. Aamir and Kiran have not issued a statement about the clinic visit, nor have they said that any of their pets has died. The claims circulating online remain speculation based solely on the video.

Aamir Khan’s Batwara 1947 Hits Theatres

The sighting comes shortly after the theatrical release of Aamir’s latest production, Batwara 1947. Directed by Rajkumar Santoshi, the Partition drama is headlined by Sunny Deol and also stars Preity Zinta, Shabana Azmi, Ali Fazal, Karan Deol and Abhimanyu Singh.

Sohail Khan BREAKS Silence On Sudden Weight Loss After Health Concerns: ‘No Ozempic, No Fat Burners’



Sohail Khan’s noticeably slimmer appearance recently became the subject of intense social media chatter, with fans wondering if the actor’s weight loss had anything to do with his health. Some even speculated that he had turned to Ozempic or other weight-loss aids.

The 55-year-old has now addressed those theories and explained what actually happened while he was participating in The Alliance.

Sohail Khan Reveals What Led To His Weight Loss

Speaking to Hindustan Times, Sohail said his physical transformation was partly connected to his experience after entering The Alliance as a wildcard contestant. Since it was his first reality show, adjusting to the environment initially proved difficult.

Sohail admitted that he felt “a bit claustrophobic” during his first few days inside. Things became more challenging when he developed a stomach infection within the first week itself. “A stomach bug added to that in the first week itself of entering the house,” Sohail said.

Despite falling ill so early in his stint, the actor remained on the show for five weeks. He credited the other contestants and the care he received from them for encouraging him to continue.

“I must tell you, the love and concern, not only about my health, but at any given time by contestants, made me stay in for five weeks, though I was unwell in the first itself,” he added.

Sohail Khan Denies Using Ozempic

His illness also forced Sohail to become more careful about his diet. The actor explained that he wanted to continue participating in the challenges rather than allowing his health to interfere with his stint on the reality show.

That meant controlling what he ate while trying to remain active enough to compete. Sohail also spoke fondly about the friendships he developed during the show.

He said he wanted to remain with the “new family and friends” he had found there until the final day and hoped those relationships would now continue for life.

Addressing the speculation around weight-loss medication directly, Sohail made it clear that Ozempic had played no part in his transformation.

“So no Ozempic, no fat burners, I’m only taking pure and loads of love and affection from everyone,” he said.

2 लाख का चेन छीना, घटना CCTV में कैद :कोडरमा में जन्मदिन पर गुरु को भोजन कराने निकली थी महिला ईरिवशा से उतरते वक़्त हुई छिनतई



कोडरमा,एजेंसी। कोडरमा जिले में चेन सैन्यक गिरोह एक बार फिर सक्रिय हो गया है। ताजा घटना तिलैया थाना क्षेत्र के अड्डा बंगला में सामने आई है, जहां ई रिवशा से नीचे उतर रही एक महिला के गले से बाइक सवार दो अपराधियों ने सोने की चेन छीन ली और फरार हो गए। पीड़िता की पहचान संगीता जैन के रूप में हुई है। उन्होंने बताया कि छीनी गई चेन की कीमत लगभग दो लाख रुपए से अधिक थी। यह घटना सीसीटीवी कैमरे में कैद हो गई है।

बेटी के साथ पहुंची थी महिला: संगीता जैन के अनुसार, झुमरी तिलैया में जैन गुरु सुयश सागर जी महाराज का आगमन हुआ है। बुधवार को उनके भोजन की व्यवस्था अड्डा बंगला निवासी अजय जैन के घर पर की गई थी। बुधवार को संगीता जैन का जन्मदिन भी है। इस शुभ अवसर पर उन्होंने गुरुजी को अपने हाथ का बना भोजन कराने का विचार किया। इसी उद्देश्य से वह अपनी बेटी के साथ टोटो में सवार होकर अजय जैन के घर पहुंची थीं।

सैन्यचों का पीछा करने की कोशिश की: जब संगीता जैन अजय जैन के घर के सामने ई रिवशा से उतर रही थीं, तभी सामने से एक बाइक पर सवार दो अज्ञात लोग पहुंचे। मौका पाते ही बाइक पर पीछे बैठे शख्स ने संगीता के गले से चेन छीन ली और दोनों तेजी से फरार हो गए। आसपास मौजूद लोगों और संगीता देवी ने सैन्यचों का पीछा करने की कोशिश की, लेकिन वे भागने में सफल रहे। पीड़िता ने तुरंत तिलैया थाना को घटना की सूचना दी, जिसके बाद पुलिस मौके पर पहुंची और मामले की जांच शुरू कर दी है।

राजधानी रांची के कई हिस्सों में हुई झमाझम बारिश :गुमला, सिमडेगा, खुंटी और पश्चिमी सिंहभूम में भारी बारिश



रांची,एजेंसी। बंगाल की खाड़ी में बने निम्न दबाव और चक्रवाती हवा के असर से झारखंड में बारिश का दौर जारी है। राजधानी रांची के कई हिस्सों में बुधवार को झमाझम बारिश हुई। वहीं, 27 अगस्त को रांची समेत मध्य झारखंड के कई जिलों में भारी बारिश की स्थिति बन सकती है। मौसम विज्ञान केंद्र ने इसके लिए यलो अलर्ट जारी किया है।

आज चार जिलों में भारी बारिश: मौसम विभाग के अनुसार 26 अगस्त यानी आज गुमला, सिमडेगा, खुंटी और पश्चिमी सिंहभूम में भारी बारिश हो सकती है। राज्य के दक्षिण-पश्चिमी हिस्सों में अलग-अलग स्थानों पर भारी बारिश के संकेत हैं। अन्य जिलों में भी बादल छाए रहने और बारिश की गतिविधियां जारी रहने की संभावना है। मौसम विभाग ने ऐसे क्षेत्रों में मौसम पर नजर रखने और सावधानी बरतने की सलाह दी है। 27 अगस्त को चतरा, कोडरमा, हजारीबाग, गिरिडीह, बोकारो, रामगढ़, धनबाद और रांची के कुछ हिस्सों में भारी बारिश हो सकती है। रांची में सामान्य बारिश के बीच अचानक तेज बारिश के दौर आ सकते हैं।

28 से 30 अगस्त तक भी जारी रहेगा अमर: 28 अगस्त को गुमला, सिमडेगा और पश्चिमी सिंहभूम में भारी बारिश की संभावना है। 29 अगस्त को सिमडेगा, पश्चिमी सिंहभूम, सरायकेला-खरसावां और पूर्वी सिंहभूम में भारी बारिश हो सकती है। अन्य जिलों में बादल छाये रहने की संभावना है। मौसम विभाग के पांच दिन के पूर्वानुमान के अनुसार 28 अगस्त के बाद 29 और 30 अगस्त को भी अलग-अलग स्थानों पर भारी बारिश का दौर बना रह सकता है। 26 से 30 अगस्त के बीच गरज-चमक और तेज हवा की स्थिति भी बन सकती है। हवा की गति 30 से 40 किलोमीटर प्रति घंटे तक पहुंचने की संभावना है।

मंगलवार को जमशेदपुर में ज्यादा बारिश: बारिश के दौरान वज्रपात और तेज हवा को देखते हुए लोगों को सतर्क रहने की सलाह दी गयी है। खुले मैदान, पेड़ के नीचे और बिजली के खंभों के आसपास खड़े होने से बचना चाहिए। मंगलवार को राज्य में सबसे अधिक 5.3 मिमी बारिश जमशेदपुर में दर्ज की गई। रांची में 0.7 मिमी बारिश हुई। तापमान पूर्वानुमान के मुताबिक 26 से 28 अगस्त तक रांची का अधिकतम तापमान करीब 29 और न्यूनतम 23 डिग्री के आसपास रह सकता है। यानी आने वाले दिनों में गर्मी से अधिक बारिश, गरज-चमक, तेज हवा और मौसम में अचानक बदलाव असरदार रहेंगे।

एक्स-रे भवन और दवाखाना क्षतिग्रस्त :लंकास्टर अस्पताल

कैपस में भू-धंसान, 2.5 फीट तक धंसी जमीन

गिरिडीह,एजेंसी। सीसीएल गिरिडीह कोलियरी के लंकास्टर अस्पताल परिसर में मंगलवार अलसुबह 4:15 बजे तेज धमके के साथ भू-धंसान हो गया। जमीन 2 से 2.5 फीट नीचे बैठ गई, जिससे आसपास के हिस्से में लंबी दरारें पड़ गईं। भू-धंसान की चपेट में आकर अस्पताल का एक्स-रे भवन व दवाखाना क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया। घटना के समय दोनों भवनों में कोई मौजूद नहीं था, जिससे बड़ा हादसा टल गया। घटना के बाद सीसीएल प्रबंधन ने सुरक्षा के मद्देनजर अस्पताल परिसर में आम आवाजाही रोक दी है। भू-धंसान का असर अस्पताल की ओर जाने वाली सड़क पर पड़ा है। सड़क कई जगह से फट गई है। लोगों ने क्षेत्र का तकनीकी सर्वे व अवैध खनन पर रोक लगाने की मांग की है। अस्पताल से सटी भदुआ पहाड़ी में लंबे समय से अवैध कोयला उत्खनन की शिकायतें मिलती रही हैं। स्थानीय लोगों और अस्पताल कर्मियों का कहना है कि भूमिगत खनन से जमीन के नीचे खोखलापन बढ़ने के कारण भू-धंसान हो सकता है। हालांकि, वास्तविक कारण तकनीकी जांच के बाद ही स्पष्ट होगा।

मेदिनीनगर में युवक को लगी गोली ऑफिस से घर लौटते समय की घटना, एक घंटे बाद अस्पताल पहुंचा , पुलिस ने संदिग्ध माना

पलामू,एजेंसी। पलामू जिला मुख्यालय मेदिनीनगर में मंगलवार रात एक युवक को गोली लगने से सनसनी फैल गई। घटना जेलहाता ओवरब्रिज से सटे डॉ. अरुण शुक्ला अस्पताल रोड पर हुई। गोली युवक के पेट में लगी। घायल युवक करीब एक घंटे बाद इलाज के लिए मेदिनी राय मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल (एमएमसीएच) पहुंचा। घायल की पहचान लेस्लीगंज थाना क्षेत्र के सोनवर्षा गांव निवासी जितेंद्र पासवान (28) के रूप में हुई है। जितेंद्र बैरिया स्थित बाजार समिति के सामने एक आर्किटेक्ट के कार्यालय में काम करता है। मंगलवार रात काम खत्म करने के बाद वह मोटरसाइकिल से अपने घर लौट रहा था। इसी दौरान जेलहाता ओवरब्रिज से सटे डॉ. अरुण शुक्ला अस्पताल रोड पर पहुंचने के बाद वह गोली लगने से घायल हो गया।

सेंट्रल जेल के दूसरे गेट के पास सुनी गोली चलने की आवाज:



जितेंद्र के अनुसार, वह जेलहाता ओवरब्रिज से आगे डॉ. अरुण शुक्ला अस्पताल रोड की ओर मुड़ा था। इसी दौरान सेंट्रल जेल के दूसरे गेट के पास अचानक गोली चलने की आवाज सुनाई दी। रात में अंधेरा होने के कारण वह यह स्पष्ट नहीं कर सका कि गोली किस

परिजनों को घटना की जानकारी दी। इसके बाद परिजन उसे इलाज के लिए अस्पताल ले गये। घटना के करीब एक घंटे बाद वह एमएमसीएच पहुंचा, जहां उसका इलाज शुरू किया गया।

किसी और को निशाना बनाकर चलाई गई होगी गोली: बुधवार सुबह अस्पताल में इलाज के दौरान जितेंद्र ने पुलिस और अन्य लोगों को घटना के संबंध में जानकारी दी। उसने बताया कि घटना के समय उसकी मोटरसाइकिल के आगे कुछ लोग स्कूटी से जा रहे थे। जितेंद्र ने आशंका जतायी कि संभव है कि गोली चलाने वालों ने स्कूटी सवार उन्हीं लोगों को निशाना बनाकर फायरिंग की हो और गोली गलती से उसे लग गयी। हालांकि, गोली किसने चलायी, किस निशाना बनाया गया था और घटना के पीछे क्या कारण है, यह अभी स्पष्ट नहीं हो पाया है। पुलिस मामले के सभी पहलुओं की जांच कर रही है। घटनास्थल के आसपास की परिस्थितियों और युवक के बयान को भी जांच का हिस्सा बनाया गया है।

अस्पताल पहुंचने में देरी से पुलिस को मामला संदिग्ध

पुलिस इस घटना को फिलहाल संदिग्ध मानकर जांच कर रही है। खासकर गोली लगने के बाद घायल युवक के करीब एक घंटे बाद अस्पताल पहुंचने को लेकर पुलिस के मन में सवाल हैं। एसडीपीओ राजेश यादव ने बताया कि घटनास्थल के पास ही अस्पताल है। युवक का घर भी अस्पताल से अधिक दूर नहीं है। ऐसे में गोली लगने के बावजूद करीब एक घंटे बाद एमएमसीएच पहुंचना मामले को संदिग्ध बना रहा है। पुलिस गोली लगने के वास्तविक कारणों की जांच कर रही है। युवक के बयान, घटनास्थल की परिस्थितियों और अन्य उपलब्ध साक्ष्यों के आधार पर मामले की तह तक पहुंचने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है। पुलिस यह पता लगाने का प्रयास कर रही है कि गोलीबारी वास्तव में

महंगाई ने बिगाड़ा रसोई का बजट:महंगी हुई चीनी, मिठाई के दाम बढ़े : 900 रुपए बिकनेवाला काजू कतली अब 1100 रुपए किलो 10 दिनों में चीनी 46-48 रुपए से उछलकर सीधे 68-70 रुपए प्रति किलो पर पहुंची

● गुड़ 55 रुपए से बढ़कर 85 रुपए किलो हुआ

रांची,एजेंसी। रक्षाबंधन से ठीक पहले चीनी और खाद्य तेलों की बढ़ती कीमतों के कारण बाजार में कई मिठाइयों के दाम 100 से 200 रुपए प्रति किलो तक बढ़ गए हैं, वहीं कई दुकानों पर कीमतों में 20% तक का इजाफा हुआ है। 900 रुपए मिलने वाला काजू कतली अब 1100 रुपए किलो मिल रहा है। दरअसल पिछले 10 दिनों के भीतर चीनी की कीमत 68-70 रुपए प्रति किलो पर पहुंच गई है। गुड़ भी 85 रुपए किलो हो गया है। कच्चे माल की बढ़ती लागत के चलते प्रति पीस बिकने वाली लोकप्रिय मिठाइयों की कीमतों में 2 से 3 तक का सीधा इजाफा हुआ है। 10 में मिलने वाला रसगुल्ला अब



12 का हो गया है, जबकि 15 में बिकने वाले गुलाब जामुन, चंद्रकला और मलाई चोप की कीमत बढ़कर 18 प्रति पीस पहुंच गई है।

ग्राहकों पर अतिरिक्त बोझ पड़ेगा: पंजाब स्वीट्स के संचालक आशीष भाटिया ने बताया कि त्योहार के समय मिठाई की कीमत बढ़ाने से ग्राहकों पर अतिरिक्त बोझ पड़ेगा। कच्चे माल

और कीमत बढ़ना मजबूरी होगी। **प्याज सप्ताह भर में 15 चढ़ा, 50 रु. प्रति किलो पहुंचा भाव:** राजधानी में प्याज की कीमतों में अचानक जोरदार तेजी देखने को मिल रही है। महज सात दिनों के भीतर प्याज के दाम 15 रुपए प्रति किलो तक बढ़ गए हैं और अब यह बाजार में 50 रुपए किलो बिक रहा है। मुख्य उत्पादक राज्यों में उत्पादन कम होने और बेमौसम बारिश के चलते बाजार में आवक काफी घट गई है, जिससे कीमतों में यह उछाल आया है। आलू-प्याज विक्रेता संघ के अध्यक्ष मदन साहू ने बताया कि पिछले साल प्याज के दाम काफी कम थे। लागत न निकलने और उचित मूल्य नहीं मिलने के कारण प्रमुख उत्पादक राज्यों महाराष्ट्र और मध्य प्रदेश के किसानों ने इस बार प्याज की बुआई और उत्पादन कम किया।

पिता ने 6 माह के बच्चे को पटककर मार डाला घरेलू विवाद के दौरान आरोपी ने बच्चे को बेड से उठा बाहर फर्श पर पटका, पिता गिरफ्तार

हजारीबाग,एजेंसी। हजारीबाग जिले के कटकमसांडी थाना क्षेत्र में एक पिता ने घरेलू विवाद के दौरान अपने छह वर्षीय बेटे को कथित तौर पर हत्या कर दी। घटना के बाद इलाके में शोक का माहौल है। मृतक बच्चे की पहचान अंश कुमार के रूप में हुई है। बच्चे की मां निराली कुमारी ने कटकमसांडी थाना में आवेदन देकर अपने पति के खिलाफ कार्रवाई की मांग की है। आवेदन के अनुसार, घर में सास के साथ उनके विवाद के दौरान पति आकाश कुमार वहां पहुंचे।

फर्श पर बच्चे को पटक दिया: आरोप है कि आकाश कुमार ने कमरे में बेड पर सो रहे अंश को उठायी और घर के पीछे कुएं के पास ले गए। वहां ढलाई किए हुए फर्श पर बच्चे को पटक दिया। इससे अंश गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गया। निराली कुमारी ने पति से बच्चे को तुरंत अस्पताल ले जाने की गुहार लगाई, लेकिन



वह तैयार नहीं हुए। इसके बाद निराली घायल अंश को लेकर हजारीबाग स्थित शेख भिखारी मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल पहुंचीं। चिकित्सकों ने प्राथमिक उपचार के बाद बच्चे की गंभीर स्थिति को देखते हुए उसे बेहतर इलाज के लिए रिम्स, रांची रेफर कर दिया। हालांकि, रांची पहुंचने से पहले ही अंश की मौत हो गई।

पोस्टमॉर्टम रिपोर्ट का इंतजार: घटना की सूचना मिलने के बाद कटकमसांडी थाना पुलिस ने त्वरित कार्रवाई करते हुए आरोपी पिता आकाश कुमार को गिरफ्तार कर लिया। थाना प्रभारी अनुपम प्रकाश ने बताया कि आरोपी को न्यायिक हिरासत में भेज दिया गया है। पुलिस ने बच्चे के शव को पोस्टमॉर्टम के लिए शेख भिखारी मेडिकल कॉलेज अस्पताल, हजारीबाग भेजा है। पुलिस मामले की जांच में जुटी है और पोस्टमॉर्टम रिपोर्ट आने के बाद मौत के कारणों की स्थिति और स्पष्ट होगी।

बिजली निगम में 65 जेई के भरोसे चल रही व्यवस्था:2017 के बाद अब 3347 पदों पर बहाली की तैयारी

नवंबर तक शुरू हो सकती है नियुक्ति प्रक्रिया, 795 जेई-372 एई की होगी भर्ती

रांची,एजेंसी। रखंड में बिजली व्यवस्था को पटरी पर लाने के लिए लंबे समय से खाली पड़े पदों को भरने की तैयारी तेज कर दी गई है। झारखंड बिजली वितरण निगम लिमिटेड (जेबीवीएनएल) में करीब 3347 पदों पर नियुक्ति की प्रक्रिया नवंबर तक शुरू हो सकती है। इनमें 795 जूनियर इंजीनियर (जेई), 372 सहायक अभियंता (ईई), 180 एकाउंटेंट और लाइनमैन, टेक्निकल असिस्टेंट, सहायक व एसबीओ के पद हैं। वर्ष 2017 के बाद ऊर्जा विकास निगम एवं इनकी अनुषंगी होल्डिंग कंपनी बिजली वितरण निगम, ऊर्जा संरक्षण निगम और ऊर्जा उत्पादन निगम में एक भी नियुक्ति नहीं हुई है। इससे भारी संख्या में इंजीनियरों एवं अन्य



कर्मियों की कमी हो गई है। इसका सीधा असर बिजली आपूर्ति व्यवस्था पर पड़ रही है। पिछले महीने मुख्यमंत्री सह ऊर्जा मंत्री मुख्यमंत्री हेमंत सोरन की समीक्षा बैठक में भी मैनपावर की कमी बाते उठी थीं। इसके बाद मुख्यमंत्री ने नियुक्ति नियमावली बनाकर भर्ती प्रक्रिया शुरू करने का निर्देश दिया था। इसके बाद नियुक्ति नियमावली को अंतिम रूप देने और जरूरी प्रशासनिक मंजूरी की प्रक्रिया चल रही है।

गिरिडीह में सड़क हादसे में टोटो चालक की मौत सोनबाद से यात्री छोड़कर लौट रहा था सुनील, गिरिडीह कॉलेज के पास हुआ हादसा

गिरिडीह,एजेंसी। गिरिडीह के मुफरिसल थाना क्षेत्र के चंदन नगर पुलिस लाइन निवासी टोटो चालक सुनील पासवान की सड़क दुर्घटना में मौत हो गई। हादसा बीती रात बेंगाबाद थाना क्षेत्र में गिरिडीह कॉलेज के समीप हुआ। जानकारी के अनुसार, सुनील पासवान टोटो से सोनबाद में एक यात्री को छोड़ने के बाद गिरिडीह लौट रहे थे। इसी दौरान गिरिडीह कॉलेज के पास तेज रफ्तार चार पहिया वाहन संख्या छ्‍या॥11-५५-0822 ने उनके टोटो को जोरदार टक्कर मार दी।

टक्कर इतनी भीषण थी कि दोनों वाहन बुरी तरह क्षतिग्रस्त हो गया। हादसे में सुनील गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गए। दुर्घटना के बाद मौके पर मौजूद स्थानीय लोगों ने उन्हें तत्काल गिरिडीह सदर



अस्पताल पहुंचाया। यहां चिकित्सकों ने उनकी स्थिति गंभीर देखते हुए प्राथमिक

परिजन उन्हें इलाज के लिए धनबाद ले जा रहे थे, लेकिन रास्ते में ही सुनील ने दम तोड़ दिया।

पत्नी और छह साल की बेटी छोड़ गए सुनील: सुनील की मौत की सूचना मिलते ही उनके परिजन और आसपास के लोग बड़ी संख्या में गिरिडीह सदर अस्पताल पहुंच गए। अचानक हुए हादसे में सुनील की मौत से परिवार में मातम पसर गया। बताया गया कि सुनील अपने पीछे पत्नी और

छह साल की एक पुत्री छोड़ गए हैं। परिवार के लिए यह हादसा बेहद दुखद है। इधर, दुर्घटना की सूचना मिलने के बाद बेंगाबाद थाना पुलिस भी मौके पर पहुंची। पुलिस ने दुर्घटनाग्रस्त टोटो और चार पहिया वाहन को कब्जे में लेकर थाने ले गयी। बताया जा रहा है कि टक्कर के बाद चार पहिया वाहन का चालक मौके पर ही मौजूद था, लेकिन भीड़ का फायदा उठाकर वहां से फरार हो गया।

पुलिसफरार चालक की तलाश की तेज

बेंगाबाद थाना पुलिस ने मामले की जांच शुरू कर दी है। पुलिस दुर्घटना के कारणों का पता लगाने के साथ-साथ फरार चार पहिया वाहन चालक की पहचान और गिरफ्तारी के लिए छानबीन कर रही है। दुर्घटनाग्रस्त दोनों वाहनों को पुलिस ने अपने कब्जे में ले लिया ।

2 killed at NHAI construction sites in J&K



Jammu, Agency: Two workers, aged 25 and 45, died in two separate accidents at NHAI construction sites in Samba and Jammu districts in J&K on Tuesday. "Gotam Sahu, from Bihar, was engaged in laying the pier of a bridge on the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra project in Samba's Jakh, when a concrete structure collapsed suddenly, killing him on the spot. Another worker, also from Bihar, suffered injuries," said NHAI project director Rajiv Kumar.

Officials said Sahu's wife has been given an immediate relief of Rs 5 lakh from the contractor and Rs 5 lakh from the state administration. Another Rs 5 lakh will be credited to her account, they added. In a similar incident, Budhi Singh (45), from Ramban, died after falling from a height at his workplace near Sidhra Tawi Bridge construction site in Jammu on Tuesday, officials said.

"He was rushed to Govt Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Jammu, where doctors declared him dead," an official said.

Hydel project shut-down triggers power crisis in J&K



Srinagar, Agency: Jammu & Kashmir is grappling with power shortages and unscheduled outages after key hydroelectric projects, including the 450MW Baglihar stage I and the Salal project, were shut for silt-flushing operations. Baglihar stage-I in Ramban district has remained non-operational for a week, with accumulated silt at its gates delaying restoration work.

Officials said desilting work at Baglihar stages I and II and the Salal project began on Aug 18. While Baglihar stage II resumed generation on Aug 22, stage I is yet to restart. Salal is expected to resume operations on Tuesday.

The prolonged shut-down has widened the region's power deficit. Jammu & Kashmir's peak electricity demand stands at about 2,500MW in summer and 3,000MW in winter. With both Baglihar units largely unavailable for most of the past week, Jammu & Kashmir faced a shortfall of nearly 900MW. Built on the Chenab river, Baglihar stages I and II are among Jammu & Kashmir's key power sources. Following the disruption, the power department is exploring alternative arrangements to bridge the supply gap. The crisis comes amid criticism of the Omar Abdullah-led govt over rising electricity tariffs. From Sept 1, power consumers in Jammu & Kashmir will face a 6.83% tariff hike.

'Secure, predictable sea lanes indispensable': India urges UN to safeguard key maritime routes

New Delhi, Agency: India has called on the international community to work collectively to safeguard critical sea lanes and maritime infrastructure, saying secure and predictable shipping routes are essential to ensure the uninterrupted movement of food, fertilisers, fuel and other vital commodities amid conflicts and growing disruptions to global supply chains.

Speaking at a UN Security Council high-level open debate on Tuesday on the theme 'Food Under Fire: The Security Council's Role in Mitigating Global and Local Food Crises',

India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Harish Parvathaneni, said regional conflicts were increasingly producing consequences far beyond the immediate theatres of hostilities.

"Secure and predictable maritime trade routes are indispensable for the uninterrupted movement of food, fertilisers, fuel and other essential commodities," Parvathaneni said, underscoring the need to preserve the safety and freedom of navigation for commercial shipping in accordance with international law.

The call comes as conflicts and attacks on key



maritime routes continue to threaten global food and energy supplies. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told the Council that the Strait of Hormuz carries around a fifth of global oil supplies and a third of global fertiliser trade. "Restrictions and closures have driven up

commodity prices, and made availability plummet. And attacks on commercial vessels in the Red Sea are further threatening supply chains for food and other commodities," Guterres said.

Parvathaneni warned that disruptions to commercial shipping during

conflicts could have cascading effects well beyond the affected region, with food-importing developing countries and humanitarian operations bearing a disproportionate burden. "The international community must therefore work collectively to safeguard critical sea lanes and maritime infrastructure, while ensuring that legitimate commercial trade and humanitarian shipments are able to proceed without undue impediment," he said.

India said the immediate priority for the Security Council should be to reduce the humanitarian consequences of

conflicts by facilitating safe, rapid and unimpeded humanitarian access, supporting de-confliction arrangements where appropriate and ensuring that Council measures, including sanctions regimes, do not inadvertently obstruct humanitarian assistance or legitimate food and agricultural trade.

Parvathaneni also called for timely assessments of disruptions to critical supply chains covering food, fertiliser, fuel and humanitarian logistics, drawing on the expertise of the Food and Agriculture Organisation, the World Food Programme and other relevant agencies.

Small island states can serve as labs for innovation and tech: Maldives prez

New Delhi, Agency: Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu called upon Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to pivot away from being framed solely by climate vulnerability and isolation, while also urging global leaders and private sector partners to view island economies as dynamic "laboratories for innovation". Delivering a keynote statement at the opening ceremony of the Small Island Developing States Global



Business Network (SIDS GBN) Forum 2026, Muizzu outlined an economic modernization plan aimed at turning geographic constraints into digital and strategic advantages.

With the global dialogue surrounding small island nations focused on their acute climate risk, geographical

isolation, and structural economic constraints, Muizzu stressed that vulnerability represents only half the story.

"For too long, the story of Small Island Developing States has been told primarily through the lens of vulnerability. The other part is our determination. Our scale can become an advantage. SIDS can serve as laboratories for innovation and incubators for ideas, technologies, and solutions," he said.

Was PoK's Skardu airbase next after Sargodha? Ex-CDS Chauhan reveals why India switched targets

New Delhi, Agency: Did India plan to strike Pakistan-occupied Kashmir's Skardu airbase after targeting Sargodha? Former chief of defence staff General Anil Chauhan has revealed that Indian forces had cleared Skardu in Gilgit-Baltistan as a possible target during Operation Sindoor but had to change plans because of "bad weather".

Chauhan, who was heading the military when Operation Sindoor was carried out, made the remarks while speaking at the Vivekananda International Foundation on Operation Sindoor and its aftermath.

Recalling the counter-error operation, former CDS Chauhan said, "Once the Pakistanis had picked



up the phone and said they wanted to talk at about 10 AM. The Air Chief asked me whether he should strike Sargodha, I said, Go ahead... I said, could you please identify two more targets, so one of the targets he identified was Skardu." "We gave a yes, but after some time, the weather was bad over it and they had to change over to Bholari," he added.

Chauhan also clarified that Indian forces "did not target" Pakistan's Kirana

Hills, an area reportedly linked to a nuclear facility.

He backed Air Marshal AK Bharti, who was the then Director General of Air Operations (DGAO) of the Air Force. Bharti had said on May 12 last year, "We have not hit Kirana hills, whatever is there."

Bharti was responding to questions about reports and social media claims that Indian forces had targeted Kirana Hills during Operation Sindoor.

Chauhan said, "There was a small episode about what Air Marshal Bharti was asked, the Kirana Hills episode. I think I'll clarify this. On occasions, it's been asked whether Kirana Hills were hit; that is where their (Pakistan's) nuclear facilities are."

He said Bharti had

"rightly clarified that we did not target Kirana Hills". Chauhan explained that Indian forces had sent several loitering munitions towards Sargodha before the strikes. Kirana Hills is around 10 km north of Sargodha.

"I can, maybe give a kind of an explanation... Before those strikes, we had sent in a lot of loitering munitions to Sargodha, and Kirana Hills is about 10 km north of Sargodha. So the loitering munition is looking for radars which are in and around Sargodha, and it has a time span, which means it will loiter for about two hours, and once it does not find a target, it comes down and hits somewhere," the former CDS said.

'They had gone towards Sargodha': Ex-Navy officer backs former CDS Anil Chauhan on Kirana Hills remarks

New Delhi, Agency: Former director of naval operations and intelligence commodore Ranjit Rai (Retd.) on Tuesday said former Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan's remarks on Pakistan's Kirana Hills indicated that Operation Sindoor was a "total success", particularly highlighting India's use of loitering munitions during the 87-hour military operation.

Speaking to news agency Media, Rai was reacting to Chauhan's remarks that an Indian loitering munition deployed to search for radars in and around Sargodha in Pakistan "must have" hit an area in the Kirana Hills after



failing to locate its intended target. "He made it absolutely clear that it was a total success (Operation Sindoor)," Rai told Media. He said Chauhan had made it clear that during the 87-hour operation, loitering munitions were deployed and operated around Sargodha.

Rai also pointed to the significance of Kirana Hills, located around 10 kilometres north of Sargodha.

"He disclosed that during the operation, loitering munitions, which are drones, were used. They were loitering 10 miles from Sargodha; they had gone towards Sargodha, but 10 miles from Sargodha is the Khirana Hills. Pakistan has carried out some critical nuclear tests at the Khirana Hills. Underground in Kirana, they have got some nuclear facility. I mean, this is a revolution, telling the world about Operation Sindoor," he said.

Chauhan, speaking at the Vivekananda Centre in New Delhi on Tuesday, said India had sent loitering munitions towards Sargodha to search for radars in and around the area.

He explained that the weapons had a flight time of around two hours and, if they failed to locate a target during that period, would eventually come down and hit an area.

"I think I'll clarify this...at occasions, it's been asked whether Kirana Hills were hit or not, which is where their (Pakistan's) nuclear facilities are... Before those strikes, we had sent in a lot of loitering munitions at Sargodha and Kirana Hills is about 10 kilometres north of Sargodha. So the loitering ammunition is looking for radars which are in and around Sargodha, and it has a lifetime, which means it will loiter for about two hours

and once it does not find a target, it comes down and hits somewhere," Chauhan said.

"It must have come and hit one of those hills. So that could be one of the reasons as to what people asked, because Pakistani media also showed some kind of images in which there was smoke coming out from Kirana Hills," he added.

Chauhan's remarks clarified that Kirana Hills was not deliberately selected as a target during Operation Sindoor. Rather, according to his account, a loitering munition searching for radars around Sargodha may have struck one of the hills after failing to find its intended target.

NMC orders monthly reporting of student suicides by medical colleges

New Delhi, Agency: The National Medical Commission (NMC) has directed medical colleges to maintain updated records of student suicides and unnatural deaths and submit a certified Action Taken Report (ATR) every month, following Supreme Court directions on student mental health and safety. It has also asked institutions to fill vacant faculty and key administrative posts within four months. The commission has marked the compliance exercise "MOST URGENT" and asked institutions to accord it top priority.



The move comes amid a rise in student suicides. An IHBAS presentation by Dr Om Prakash, Professor of Psychiatry and Head, Department of Geriatric Mental Health, citing NCRB data, said 14,488 student deaths by suicide were recorded in 2024, up 4.3% from 13,892 in 2023. The number rose from 8,068 in 2014 to 14,488 in 2024, an increase of around 80% over the decade.

World Lake Day

Why Lakes Are the Lifeblood of Our Planet

A lake may appear to be a quiet body of water surrounded by land, but beneath its calm surface lies a complex world that supports human life, wildlife, agriculture and local economies. From the vast waters of the Great Lakes to the Himalayan lakes, from India's Dal and Chilika to small village ponds, lakes perform functions that are often invisible until they disappear. World Lake Day, observed on 27 August, provides an opportunity to understand why these water bodies matter and why protecting them has become an urgent global responsibility.

The United Nations designated World Lake Day to increase awareness of the importance of lakes and promote their sustainable management. The first World Lake Day was observed in 2025. The date was selected in recognition of the first World Lake Environment Conference, held at Lake Biwa in Japan in 1984.

Lakes are among the planet's most valuable freshwater ecosystems. They provide water for households, agriculture and industry, while also supporting fish, birds, aquatic plants, insects and countless microorganisms. Their ecological importance extends beyond their boundaries. A healthy lake is connected to rivers, wetlands, groundwater,



forests and surrounding landscapes. Damage to one part of this system can eventually affect the entire water cycle.

For millions of people, lakes are also directly connected with livelihoods. Fishing communities depend on them for food and income. Farmers rely on nearby water bodies for irrigation. Tourism around scenic lakes creates employment in transport, hospitality, handicrafts and recreation. In many regions, lakes are deeply connected with cultural and spiritual traditions, making them more than natural resources.

India offers countless examples of this relationship. Dal Lake in Jammu and Kashmir is closely associated with the cultural identity and tourism economy of Srinagar. Chilika Lake in Odisha supports fisheries

and is internationally important for migratory birds. Loktak Lake in Manipur is famous for its floating phumdis, while Vembanad Lake in Kerala is linked with agriculture, fisheries, tourism and the region's distinctive backwater ecosystem. Such lakes demonstrate that water conservation is also a matter of protecting heritage and livelihoods.

Yet lakes around the world are under increasing pressure. Pollution from untreated sewage, agricultural runoff, plastics and industrial waste can dramatically alter water quality. Excess nutrients entering a lake may trigger excessive plant and algae growth, a process known as eutrophication. As aquatic vegetation dies and decomposes, oxygen levels can fall, threatening fish and other organisms.

Urbanisation creates another challenge. As cities expand, natural drainage channels and wetlands are often replaced by roads, buildings and concrete surfaces. Lakes can become dumping grounds or lose their natural connections with surrounding water systems. Encroachment can reduce their storage capacity, increasing the risk of urban flooding during intense rainfall. Climate change is adding another layer of pressure. Rising temperatures can increase evaporation and change the timing and intensity of rainfall. Some lakes are shrinking, while others face sudden flooding. In cold regions, changes in snow and glacier patterns can alter the water supply that feeds lakes. Warmer water can also affect aquatic species and water quality.

The importance of lakes is particularly visible during extreme weather. Healthy lakes and connected wetlands can temporarily store excess water and help reduce the impact of floods. They can also contribute to groundwater recharge and maintain water availability during dry periods. In cities, water bodies can moderate local temperatures and provide valuable green-blue spaces.

India's Lakes: From Sacred Waters to Lifelines of Modern Cities



India's relationship with lakes is as old as its civilisations. Water bodies have traditionally been places of worship, community gathering, agriculture, trade and everyday life. Stepwells, tanks, ponds and lakes were carefully integrated into settlements, reflecting an understanding that water security depended on conservation and community management. Today, as India faces rapid urbanisation, changing rainfall patterns and growing water demand, that relationship has acquired renewed importance.

World Lake Day, observed on 27 August, offers an opportunity to look at India's diverse lakes and the challenges they face. The United Nations established the observance to promote awareness of lakes and encourage their sustainable management. The first World Lake Day was observed in 2025.

India's lakes vary dramatically in origin, size and character. Some were formed through geological processes,

some are connected with rivers and coastal systems, while others are man-made reservoirs or urban water bodies. Together, they contribute to freshwater availability, biodiversity, agriculture, fisheries, tourism and local climate regulation. Among India's best-known lakes is Dal Lake in Srinagar. Its houseboats, shikaras and mountain backdrop have made it one of the country's most recognisable landscapes.

But beyond tourism, Dal Lake is an ecosystem supporting aquatic vegetation, fish and communities whose livelihoods are connected to the water. Its condition is therefore inseparable from the economic and social life of the region. Chilika Lake in Odisha presents another remarkable example.

It is a large brackish-water lagoon supporting fisheries, local livelihoods and rich birdlife. Migratory birds travel thousands of kilometres and depend on suitable wetland habitats during their journeys.



When Lakes Fall Silent: Pollution and Climate Change Threaten Freshwater Ecosystems

A lake can look peaceful even when its ecosystem is under severe stress. Clear skies and a beautiful shoreline may hide polluted water, declining oxygen levels, disappearing species or a shrinking water balance. Around the world, lakes are facing a combination of pressures caused by pollution, excessive water use, land-use change and climate change. World Lake Day brings attention to these threats and the need to respond before damage becomes irreversible. The United Nations describes lakes as vital natural resources that support drinking-water supplies, agriculture, industry, biodiversity, climate regulation and economic activities. At the same time, it warns that lakes face growing pressures from overuse, pollution and climate change.

Pollution is among the most visible threats. Every lake has a natural capacity to absorb and process certain amounts of nutrients and organic matter. But when excessive pollutants enter the system, its ecological balance can collapse. One major source is untreated or inadequately treated wastewater. Sewage introduces nutrients and organic material into lakes, encouraging excessive growth of algae and aquatic plants. When this material decomposes, it consumes oxygen in the water. Fish and other aquatic organisms can then

struggle to survive. Agricultural runoff creates another problem. Fertilisers applied to fields can be carried by rainwater into streams and lakes. Nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus can stimulate algal blooms. Some blooms may produce toxins, while others create oxygen-depleted conditions that damage aquatic life. Plastic pollution is also increasingly common. Bottles, packaging, bags and other waste can accumulate around shorelines and enter aquatic food chains. Even when plastic is not immediately visible, it can fragment into smaller particles and persist in the environment. Industrial pollution can be particularly damaging when hazardous substances enter waterways. Effective environmental regulation, monitoring and wastewater treatment are therefore essential. Preventing pollutants from entering a lake is generally more effective than attempting to clean the entire lake after contamination has occurred. Climate change makes the situation more complicated. Rising temperatures can increase evaporation and alter lake water temperatures. Changes in rainfall can affect inflows, while prolonged drought can reduce water levels. At the other extreme, intense rainfall can wash larger quantities of soil, fertilisers and pollutants into lakes.

Lakes and Communities: Why Protecting Water Means Protecting Livelihoods

For communities living beside lakes, water is not an abstract environmental issue. It is part of everyday life. It may provide drinking water, fish, irrigation, transportation, employment or tourism income. Children may grow up beside the same lake their grandparents depended on. Local festivals may be organised around it. Farmers may watch its water level to understand the coming season. When a lake becomes polluted or dries up, the impact can reach every part of community life.

World Lake Day, observed on 27 August, highlights this close relationship between people and lakes. The United Nations says lakes provide freshwater,



support biodiversity, contribute to climate regulation and create recreational and economic opportunities. Fishing is among the most direct economic connections. Inland and coastal lake fisheries provide food and income for millions of people. When water quality

deteriorates, fish populations can decline. Changes in temperature, oxygen levels and habitat can also affect breeding and migration patterns. For fishing families, environmental degradation can therefore become an economic crisis. Agriculture is similarly

connected to lake health. Water stored in lakes and reservoirs can support irrigation during periods when rainfall is insufficient. But this relationship must be carefully managed.

Excessive extraction can reduce water levels, while agricultural runoff can introduce fertilisers and pesticides into the same water bodies that farmers depend upon.

Tourism provides another major source of employment. Beautiful lakes attract visitors interested in boating, photography, wildlife, adventure and cultural experiences. Hotels, restaurants, transport operators, guides, artisans and small businesses can all benefit.

The Future of Lakes: From Awareness to Action

World Lake Day is a new addition to the global environmental calendar, but the challenge it addresses is centuries old: how can societies use water while ensuring that natural water systems remain healthy for future generations?

Observed annually on 27 August, World Lake Day was established by the United Nations to raise awareness about the importance of lakes and promote their sustainable management. The first observance took place in 2025. The date recalls the first World Lake Environment Conference, held at Lake Biwa in Japan in 1984.

The creation of the observance reflects a growing recognition that lakes need stronger global attention. Lakes provide freshwater, support biodiversity, help regulate local climates, contribute to food security and sustain economic activities. Yet they are increasingly affected by pollution, overuse and climate change.



The question now is how awareness can become action. The first requirement is better knowledge. Every lake has its own characteristics. Its depth, inflows, surrounding land use, biodiversity and water chemistry determine how it responds to human pressure.

Effective conservation therefore cannot rely on one universal formula. Regular monitoring is essential. Water quality should be assessed for pollutants, nutrients and oxygen levels. Changes in water surface area can be tracked through satellite technology.