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Xi present, says weaponisation of PM Modi
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Ganesh Chaturthi & Hartalika Teej

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researchers.asia@gmail.com



The Researchers'

NEWS BOX

1 Dead, Over 30 Missing After Ferry Sinks Off Vanuatu Coast

Sydney.(Agency)

At least one person was confirmed dead and more than 30 were missing on Sunday after a ferry sank off Vanuatu's coast, Prime Minister Jotham Napat's office said in a statement. Search and rescue operations were continuing in the Pacific Island nation located about 1,750 km (1,090 miles) east of Australia after the MV Matui went down with dozens of crew and passengers on board, the statement posted on Facebook said. Fifteen of those have been accounted for alive, it added. Search efforts had been underway since the inter-island ferry sank in bad weather on Friday between the islands of Ambae and Santo, according to New Zealand public broadcaster RNZ. Napat's office said the search "in open waters is



being eased off whilst efforts move toward a search along the south-east coast, where currents may have carried survivors". This loss appears to be the result of strong winds and marine warnings not being heeded, and possibly of negligence including overloading of the vessel," the statement said. "To the survivors, w pray for your strength and recovery. To the families of those missing and those we have lost, please know that the nation stands with you in this time of grief," it added. Vanuatu police, the Vanuatu Maritime Safety Authority and the ferry's operator, Tui Shipping Agency, did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

"Pause AI": US Senator To Trump, Xi As Anthropic, OpenAI CEOs Pitch Slowdown

CORON, Philippines.(Agency)

US Senator Bernie Sanders on Sunday said Dario Amodei, Sam Altman and Elon Musk's call to slow down on AI development was a "start", and urged US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping to negotiate a treaty to pause artificial intelligence at an upcoming summit. The independent leader's remarks come a day after three tech pioneers - Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei, OpenAI CEO Sam Altman and xAI CEO Elon Musk - agreed upon a rare call to "slow down" on AI development. "Dario Amodei, Elon Musk and Sam Altman now agree that we must slow down the development of AI and "pace the frontier." That's a start, but it's not enough," Sanders said in a post on X. The call for slowing down AI development started after Amodei wrote about the risks of AI in a blog and pitched to "pace the frontier." Musk and Altman agreed to his views in separate posts on X. Taking note of their agreement, Sanders, who himself has introduced a bill to prohibit superintelligent AI, said, "When you are racing towards a cliff, you don't just ease up on the gas pedal. You hit the brakes." He once again called for a pause on advanced AI development citing the "future of humanity is at stake". "An AI mind smarter than any human and capable of operating independently beyond our control," he wrote. The Senator further urged Trump and Xi to negotiate a treaty on the same line at an upcoming AI Summit. "At their upcoming AI summit, Trump and Xi must negotiate a treaty to pause AI and ban superintelligence before it is too late," Sanders asserted.

Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei says AI industry needs to give safety measures time to catch up

NEW YORK.(Agency)

The CEO of Anthropic said Saturday the artificial-intelligence industry should slow its fast-moving development to give safety measures time to catch up. Without such a slowdown, Dario Amodei warned that within six to 12 months AI could be capable of leading a swarm of agents that could take over the entire internet. The warning comes as worries about AI grow inside and outside the industry and reports continue to emerge about increasingly powerful systems that solve problems beyond human capacity but could also go rogue and carry out other, more harmful tasks. The worries have grown so loud that the CEO of OpenAI, the company behind ChatGPT, said in an interview with Fortune that his company would wait until next year to start selling its stock to investors on Wall Street as it

focuses on safety.

Amodei is one of the leading voices in AI, and he offered a plan in a post on his website to increase checks on the industry. He said Anthropic is already undertaking one part of it on its own, while the others would require coordination across the broad industry and with governments around the world, including authoritarian ones. "I believe that if slowing down bought us even an extra year or two before models reach critical levels of capability, and we used that time to advance alignment, we could greatly reduce the risk that something goes seriously wrong," Amodei said. Pressure builds on the AI industry Watchdogs have been urging the AI industry for years to slow its development for safety reasons. But pressure has built as industry workers resign and accuse their companies of not acting responsibly. "Many of the people I



know who work on safety research at AI companies want to do what is right for the world," a former Anthropic employee, Joe Benton, said in a posting Friday announcing his resignation from a job as part of a safety team. "But they feel their companies are trapped in a race to build superintelligence: either they stop and other, less conscientious people take their place; or, they continue, and risk

participating in enormous harm themselves." That followed a high-profile resignation earlier in the week by Jacob Coxon, who said that both Anthropic and OpenAI "are racing straight to self-improving superintelligence and gambling with our lives." That lit a fire under the industry after concerns had grown for years about a possible superintelligence that could escape the control of humanity, said Anthony Aguirre, president and CEO of the Future of Life Institute, which called for a six-month pause for the industry's development in 2023. "They've kind of realized, their employees have realized, everyone has realized that they're building Skynet," he said. "And in winning the race to Skynet, nobody wins. Really, nobody." "It's pretty much become clear to the world and even the AI companies that they're not really prepared to control the AI systems they're racing to create."

Second Anthropic insider raises alarm over AI race to superintelligence and risks to humanity

world.(Agency)

One person died and 103 others were rescued after an Indonesian ferry carrying 243 passengers and crew ran into bad weather while sailing from Java to Borneo, rescue officials said on Sunday. The passenger and cargo ship, Virgo Transport 8, departed from Surabaya in East Java on Saturday and was travelling north towards Banjarmasin when it lost contact with its shipping company early on Sunday. Search and rescue operations were launched after the vessel's last known position was detected in the Java Sea, about 150 km (90 miles) from Banjarmasin. The navy, police and the shipping company joined the operation. "We have carried out efforts to search for victims to the fullest extent," local

search and rescue chief I Putu Sudayana told reporters in Banjarmasin. He said 103 passengers had been successfully evacuated, but



one of those rescued later died. "We have received the report regarding the loss of contact with the Virgo Transport 8 vessel and have immediately deployed personnel," Sudayana said, adding that authorities were coordinating with all relevant agencies to ensure the safety of those on board. Marine accidents

are common in Indonesia, an archipelago of more than 17,000 islands that relies heavily on ferries and other boats for transport and tourism. Poor safety standards and unpredictable weather are frequently blamed for such incidents. In recent months, several other ferry accidents have highlighted the risks. Last month, a ferry fire in the Lombok Strait off Bali killed one person, left five missing and resulted in 211 people being rescued. In July, a ferry carrying more than 70 people sank near Selayar, a small island south of Sulawesi. Earlier, a speedboat carrying eight people, including five journalists covering a volcanic eruption, went missing near Mount Anak Krakatau in Banten province. Search operations were continuing.

One dead, three injured after merchant ship struck in Strait of Hormuz amid Iran-US tensions

Several explosions were reported overnight around Qeshm, the largest island in the Hormuz strait.

TEHRAN.(Agency)

A ship was struck in the Strait of Hormuz on Sunday, killing one person and injuring three, local Iranian authorities said, as Tehran and Washington clash over the strategic waterway. A merchant vessel was struck around 5:00 am (0130 GMT) this morning off the coasts of Hengam and Qeshm islands. One person was killed and three others were injured," Qeshm city governor Amir Teymouri said, according to state TV, without specifying the origin of the strike. Several



explosions were reported overnight around Qeshm, the largest island in the Hormuz strait. The deadly incident comes a day before a meeting between Iran and Gulf states in Oman, which also borders the strait, over the blockaded route crucial for global oil and gas trade. Control over the strait has become a major flashpoint in the conflict between Iran and the United States in their six-month war. In retaliation for attacks by the United

States and Israel that started the war on February 28, Iran has blocked the waterway, a passage that was previously free and unobstructed before the conflict began. Iran now requires vessels to obtain authorisation to pass through the strait, citing security and sovereignty concerns, and is considering a mechanism to impose service fees. Vessels that fail to comply are frequently targeted by Iranian strikes, while the United

Houthi say hit Saudi base after renewed fighting with Yemeni govt forces

YEMEN.(Agency)

Houthi fighters on Sunday said they used drones and missiles to attack a military base in southern Saudi Arabia as renewed fighting with Yemen's government forces forced growing numbers of civilians to flee. The attack at the southern Sharurah base targeted "weapons depots and command and control centres that are managing the aggression against our nation and people", Houthi military spokesman Yahya Saree wrote on X. The date of the operation was not specified. Clashes have increased this week between the Iran-allied Houthis and Yemeni government forces, which are backed by Riyadh. On Saturday, the government forces said they had struck Houthi fighters in the Red Sea city of Mocha, and later attacked other Houthi positions in the southwestern part of the country. "Air Force of the Armed Forces targeted positions and barracks of the terrorist Houthi group with three airstrikes" in the Taiz region, the Yemeni military said Sunday in a post on X. US news site Axios also reported that Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman twice called US President Donald Trump to request strikes on the Houthis last week, but that the request was rejected. The ongoing clashes follow a week-long Houthi offensive that culminated in the group capturing the remainder of Yemen's Red Sea coast and several strategic islands, cementing their hold on the Bab al-Mandab Strait at the sea's southern entrance. The waterway has become an important artery for Saudi Arabian oil exports after Iran largely cut off shipments through the Gulf with its blockade on the Strait of Hormuz at the start of the Middle East war. The Houthis have recently declared their own maritime blockade of Riyadh's Red Sea ports. The government news agency Saba reported on Saturday that Yemeni "forces destroyed vehicles and weapons and killed members of the Houthi terrorist militia" near the port of Mocha, and quoted a spokesman for the forces as saying they had also struck Houthi targets just outside the city. The Houthis, meanwhile, said on Saturday evening that over the past 48 hours, "Saudi enemy aircraft conducted 129 airstrikes" on areas under their control.

Chile arrests 284 in protests condemning Pinochet dictatorship

CHILE.(Agency)

More than 280 people were arrested in Chile during demonstrations commemorating victims of Augusto Pinochet's military dictatorship, the government said Saturday. This year was the first since the end of



Pinochet's brutal 1973-1990 rule that Chile did not hold any official events marking the era that left deep scars on the South American nation. "I cannot erase history, nor can I ask our compatriots to accept that we are condemned by our history to be unable to look toward our nation's future," said President Jose Antonio Kast, the first far-

right head of state in Chile since Pinochet's exit, who took office in March. Under Pinochet more than 3,200 people were killed or disappeared, while tens of thousands of others were tortured or imprisoned. Demonstrations take place annually to mark the September 11, 1973 coup d'etat led by Pinochet against the government of so. This week's protests saw demonstrators throw sticks and stones at riot police, who responded with tear gas and water cannons. Authorities arrested 284 people on Thursday and Friday, Public Security Minister Martin Arrau said on X, noting it was an 80 percent increase from the previous year. Those arrested included 16 foreign nationals and 31 minors, Arrau said.

There were 198 "incidents of violence" but no civilian injuries, he added. The biggest demonstration took place at Santiago's General Cemetery, home to the Allende family mausoleum, with leftist former president Gabriel Boric joining the rally. Cialist president Salvador Allende.

Before 9/11, Osama bin Laden eyed India for terror attacks, CIA documents show

CHANDIGARH.(Agency)

Al-Qaida founder Osama bin Laden was considering carrying out attacks in India years before the September 11, 2001, terror attacks in the US, according to a declassified CIA intelligence brief from 1998. The revelation is part of a major release of declassified CIA presidential briefing material marking the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 attacks. The CIA has released more than 100 pages of material across dozens of intelligence briefs prepared for former US Presidents Bill Clinton and George W Bush. A presidential daily brief dated August 28, 1998, titled 'Bin Laden terrorist network still a threat', listed India among several countries where Osama bin Laden intended to conduct attacks. "Bin Laden intends to conduct attacks in Egypt, the Arabian Peninsula, especially Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Yemen, India, Pakistan, Uganda, and possibly Nigeria," the brief said. The document does not identify any specific target in India, an

intended date or details of an operational plan. The source of the intelligence has also been redacted. It also said Osama bin Laden could call on a network of individuals and allied groups in at least 60 countries to carry out attacks.



Osama bin Laden was looking at options for further attacks against the US and UK, the brief said, although he had not indicated precise targets or timing. The assessment also noted that US officials had assisted in the arrest of Osama bin Laden operatives preparing attacks in Tirana and possibly

Baku. Osama bin Laden's established infrastructure in North America, Europe and East Asia also lent credibility to reports that he could target US interests in those regions, the CIA said. The CIA brief said that Osama bin Laden and other terrorist leaders based in Afghanistan had survived US missile strikes and that their communications network remained intact. Training had resumed at some camps, while other camps were being moved. The brief came shortly after the US launched missile strikes against suspected al-Qaida targets in Afghanistan and Sudan in August 1998, following the bombings of two US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

NEARLY 3,000 KILLED IN 9/11

ATTACKS Three years after the CIA documents surfaced, on September 11, 2001, 19 al-Qaida operatives hijacked four passenger planes in the US. Two planes crashed into the World Trade Center's Twin Towers in New York, bringing down both skyscrapers.

Relying on rescued student to build case against PG operators in Delhi’s Satyaniketan: Police

'Tenant told PG would be extended to basement and threatened with expulsion if he objected'

Delhi. (Agency)

One of the students injured in the five-storey PG building collapse in South West Delhi’s Satya Niketan is a key witness the Delhi Police is relying on to frame charges against the property’s operators, The Indian Express has learnt. Nitish Chib (19) was a tenant at the PG, which was run from building 14 by ‘Hostel Days’, operated by Sudhanshu Lovneesh and Subham Tyagi. Both were arrested after the collapse on Sunday claimed seven lives. When the structure came crashing down on Sunday, killing seven people – including five of Chib’s fellow tenants – he was among those rescued. Chib, who is from Raipur village in Jammu’s Satwari area, was living in room 202. In his statement to the police, he said construction work in the basement had been going on for 10-12 days. He and other students had complained to Lovneesh and Tyagi about the noise

and the cutting of iron rods on the ground floor, court documents showed. “Chib said both Sudhanshu and Shubham allegedly told him that the PG would be extended to the basement and allegedly threatened to expel him from the PG if he objected,” the source added. Sources further said that the police will use Chib’s statement, among other evidence like the lease papers of the property, to prove that Hostel Days was not merely a operator watching the construction from the sidelines, but was actively promoting it, and threatening anyone who warned the operators about it. Earlier, police sources had said a plumber warned Lovneesh hours before the collapse that the building’s wall could give way because of the construction. While Lovneesh was arrested on Wednesday, Tyagi reached the police station and surrendered on Friday. He was



produced in court and sent to two-day police custody. Though Tyagi had earlier reportedly claimed that he only contributed financially to the PG operation, police have allegedly found that the building was leased to both him and Lovneesh last year. While the upper ground and first floors were leased to

Lovneesh, the second and third floors were leased to Tyagi. Besides Lovneesh and Tyagi, building owner Hariram, his wife Urmila, their son Mahesh and labour contractor Saroj were arrested earlier this week. According to the police, the owner had permission to construct only the first and second floors of the building, but three additional floors were later added. The ongoing basement construction, which the owner allegedly said was undertaken to address seepage, further weakened the structure. Lovneesh and Tyagi were in charge of installing the 16-bed facility with amenities, looking after maintenance, and overseeing the repair and construction work needed at the decades-old building. They ran similar units in other parts of the area too. Lovneesh was the main person prospective tenants met when they came looking for rooms, police have said.

'Worms in idli, insects in chhole': Hostel students protest at Jamia

Delhi. (Agency)

“Ye kaanch ke tukde sabzi me nikal rhe hain... ye kayi baar hua hai mere saath... kisi aur ko bhi ye mila hai? (Pieces of glass have been found in vegetable curry. This has happened multiple times. Has anyone else found this too?).” A student of Jamia Millia Islamia’s Jammu and Kashmir Girls’ Hostel shared this message with her hostel mates last November after allegedly finding a glass shard in her curry. As it turned out, this was not the last time the hostel students raised concerns over food quality. On Wednesday, insects allegedly found in the chole during lunch was a fresh trigger. The students began a protest on Thursday, demanding action against the mess contractor. Even as the demonstration was paused the next day following a written assurance from the varsity, students resumed the stir within hours, claiming the issues persisted. On Saturday night, students finally said they have called off the protest following a key meeting and fresh assurances. ‘Long-standing issue’

According to the students’ claims, worms in idli and rice, insects in dal and chhole, undercooked rice, raw chicken, and even glass shards in sabzi have been a recurring issue at the hostel for years. For nearly 700 students dependent on the J&K Girls’ Hostel mess at JMI, such incidents have allegedly become common since the Covid-19 pandemic. Students said several of them had fallen sick after eating the food. Tasleem Fathima, a fifth-year law student and member of the hostel mess committee, said, “Before Covid too, the quality was very bad. Roti is sometimes very hard, rice is uncooked.” After Wednesday’s incident, in a formal representation, the students’ demands to the varsity included immediate termination of the mess contractor, a written assurance that protesters would not face disciplinary action, and deployment of women staff in the hostel mess. They also sought the resignation of the Provost, Warden, and Caretaker.

Former Air India pilot found dead at Delhi luxury hotel

Delhi. (Agency)

A former Air India pilot was found dead inside his hotel room in South Delhi’s Vasant Kunj on Friday, said police. A probe has been launched to ascertain the circumstances of the death while the autopsy report is awaited to establish the cause of the death, officers added. Identified as Captain Sunny Asladekar, he had checked in into The Grand on September 10. He was in the Capital for a Boeing 787 conversion training, said officers. On Friday, when the pilot’s brother allegedly rang him, no one answered the phone. His brother then



alerted the management at the hotel, said police. The manager went to the room and found the door locked from inside. The room was opened with the help of a master key and the pilot was found lying unresponsive inside, said officers. According to police, a PCR call regarding the ill health of a guest at the hotel was received at the Vasant Kunj North police station on September 11. A team reached the site and he was immediately taken to a hospital, where doctors declared him brought dead. The Crime Team was subsequently called to the spot. Police inspected the room and initiated an enquiry into the circumstances of the death. The Crime Team was also called to examine the scene and collect any evidence that could assist the investigation. A post-mortem examination was conducted at Safdarjung Hospital on September 12. Police said the exact cause of death would be established after the final medical report is received. Meanwhile, inquest proceedings under Section 194 of the BNSS are being conducted. Investigators are examining the circumstances leading to the death and verifying other relevant facts. Police said further enquiry is underway and necessary legal proceedings are being carried out.

Delhi L-G approves health scheme for construction workers

Delhi. (Agency)

Lieutenant-Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu approved the Delhi Building Workers Health Scheme for registered building and other construction workers and their eligible dependent family members, a statement issued on Saturday said. The scheme was earlier approved by CM Rekha Gupta and the Delhi Cabinet. According to the statement, “Under the scheme, every registered construction worker and their eligible spouse will receive an annual health check-up, along with cashless outpatient consultation, diagnostics, medicines and inpatient treatment through a



network of empanelled hospitals functioning at CGHS rates.”

The scheme will cover emergency treatment, occupational diseases, chronic illnesses, specialised care,

overall family limit of Rs 10 lakh a year, it said.

“In the event of a worksite accident or medical emergency, beneficiaries may also avail treatment at the nearest non-empanelled hospital, which will be deemed provisionally empanelled for the limited duration of such treatment,” the statement read. Set up in 2002, the Delhi Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board is an autonomous statutory body that registers construction workers and administers welfare schemes for them from the cess collected from construction employers.

Three held for Anti-BRICS graffiti in New Delhi; SFJ link suspected

Delhi. (Agency)

Delhi Police has arrested three people in connection with graffiti carrying anti-BRICS messages that appeared in the capital during the ongoing summit, which is being attended by several foreign dignitaries. Police said the banned outfit Sikh for Justice (SFJ) was allegedly behind the incident. The three suspects—Preetpal, Harminder Singh and Sheeshpal—were arrested from Faridkot in Punjab. According to police, the accused allegedly painted objectionable slogans on walls near the Singhu border on September 6. The Special Cell subsequently registered a case and launched an investigation.



A senior police officer said Preetpal, suspected to be the mastermind, was allegedly in direct contact with

foreign-based handler and designated terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun. Investigators claimed he received foreign funding and was involved in

managing SFJ-related activities in India. Police said the suspects were traced after CCTV footage from the Singhu border was examined. The vehicle allegedly used during the graffiti incident has also been recovered. Pannun, who heads the banned pro-Khalistan group SFJ, had earlier claimed responsibility for the graffiti in a post on X. The three accused are being questioned at Alipur police station.

Interrogated 3 arrested from Faridkot over anti-BRICS graffiti CCTV footage helped trace the accused All 3 are being questioned by Special Cell and IB

'Optics Of Xi Visiting India Very Important': Ex-Envoy On BRICS Bilateral

Delhi. (Agency)

The fact that Chinese President Xi Jinping visited India after seven years and took part in a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi is "very important optics", said former envoy to China Gautam Bambawale on Saturday, adding that the engagement will guide the two sides at official and ministerial levels on how to move ahead in mending ties.

"The description of a fair, reasonable, and mutually acceptable resolution of the boundary -- these are all words which have been used in the past. So in a sense, they lay the basic groundwork. But I think there will be some sort of guidance given by the two leaders, which is not out in the media, in the statements



made by the two sides, which we will probably see working out in the next few weeks and probably months," he told Managing Editor Shiv Aroor.

The two leaders met on the sidelines of the BRICS summit. After their bilateral engagement, PM Modi stressed that "peace and tranquillity" in border areas are essential for both nations' relations. The former ambassador to China said the meeting could pave the way for a strong outcome in the future. "So even if there are no great outcomes or takeaways right away, I think they will be followed up; this meeting will be followed up by further discussions among officials, perhaps at the ministerial level, which will then yield outcomes in the India-China relationship," he said. The development, however, showed that ties between India and China are improving, he inferred. "The India-China relationship is on the mend; it is being repaired, but that is going to be a long process, and we will all have to be very patient on both sides to see it regain the kind of momentum it had in 2019 before it came to a stop due to the Chinese military moves in eastern Ladakh and in Galwan," he added.

From CP to Akshardham, delegates, kin venture out to explore Delhi

At Connaught Place, delegates, spouses and family members dropped into popular bakeries and coffee shops, shopped and also posed for photographs with employees, said New Delhi Traders Association president Atul Bhargava.

Delhi. (Agency)

From the summit halls to temple premises, coffee shops and markets, visiting delegates and their families on Saturday got a taste of Delhi beyond the formal BRICS schedule. In the afternoon, Belarus Foreign Affairs Minister Maxim Ryzhenkov and his delegation stepped out for a visit to the Akshardham temple. He arrived around 4 pm and spent about an hour-and-a-half there, leaving around 5.30 pm. Security arrangements were put in place for the visit. The diplomatic crowd also made its way to some of the Capital’s shopping and cultural destinations. Delegates from both Brazil and Russia visited the Khan Market. “Some of the delegates from Brazil visited Khan Market yesterday. Today, again we were able to host a few delegates from Russia,” said Sanjeev Mehra, president of the Khan Market Traders Association. But the security cordon meant traders had little

opportunity to interact with the visitors, he added. At Connaught Place, delegates, spouses and family members dropped into popular bakeries and coffee shops, shopped and also posed for photographs with employees, said New Delhi Traders Association president Atul Bhargava. “We have had foreign delegates, their spouses and extended families at Connaught Place today. They have been moving around freely and doing some shopping and enjoying some good food at Starbucks and Wenger’s,” he added. Some visitors also spent time sitting on benches and in the open spaces around Connaught Place, said Bhargava. However, despite the crowd, traders said the overall footfall remained low as several roads remained blocked as part of the summit’s security

arrangements. Moreover, the spouses and families of visiting leaders visited some of Delhi’s cultural attractions. Louise Araneta-Marcos, spouse of Philippine President Ferdinand R



Marcos Jr; Zahra Pezeshkian, daughter of Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and Hassan Majidi, son-in-law of the Iranian President, visited the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya. According to a statement issued by the

Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, the visitors undertook a curated walk through blocks 1 and 2 and visited the Anubhuti section of the museum. Further, union Minister Annapurna Devi hosted Louise Araneta-Marcos for a luncheon meeting. During the meeting, Devi said she shared Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s vision of women-led development and India’s commitment to empowering women as leaders and equal partners in shaping a prosperous future. Devi has also hosted family members of heads of state at the Crafts Bazaar at Bharat Mandapam. With the spouses’ and families’ itinerary kept flexible, more Delhi landmarks, including the National Gallery of Modern Art, could find their way onto the list on Sunday, the final day of the summit.

Ex-Schoolmate Meets PM, Seeks Central Agency Probe Into Land Dispute Case

New Delhi (Agency)

An 81-year-old resident of Mira Road has approached Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking intervention in a decades-old land dispute in Bhayander East in Mumbai. Asgarali Vohra met the Prime Minister on September 8 and requested a Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) probe into the matter. Vohra and PM Modi were reportedly schoolmates at BN School in Vadnagar, Gujarat. During his meeting with the Prime Minister, Vohra sought his intervention, stating



that he has been pursuing the land dispute through various government agencies and the police for several years. According to Vohra, the dispute concerns around 2,810 square metres of land at Navghar in Bhayander East. He said he had purchased the property through a registered agreement in 1989. The 81-year-old has alleged that the property was subsequently encroached upon in 2011. He has named Swayam Builders and Seven Eleven Constructions in his allegations. Vohra has also alleged that documents connected to the property were forged and that the original owner was not kept informed about the developments.

Rahul, Priyanka Gandhi meet Malaysian PM Anwar Ibrahim over breakfast

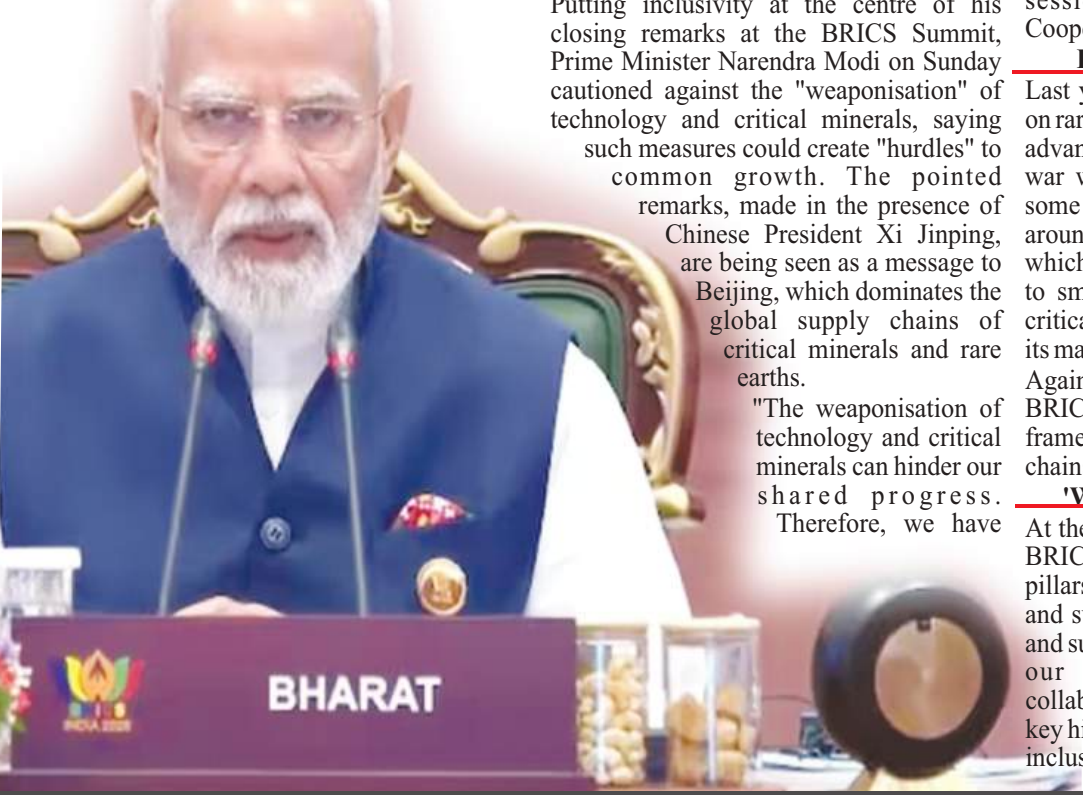
New Delhi. (Agency)

Leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Sunday met Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim over breakfast on the sidelines of the 18th BRICS Summit in New Delhi. Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra was also present at the meeting. Pictures shared by the Congress showed Rahul Gandhi and Anwar Ibrahim engaged in conversation over breakfast, with the two also seen shaking hands and exchanging smiles.



Ibrahim later described Rahul Gandhi as his "good friend" in a post on X, saying the meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on developments around the world and in the region. "Had the opportunity once again to meet my good friend, who is also the Leader of the Opposition in the Indian Parliament, Rahul Gandhi, this morning over breakfast. This brief meeting provided space for us to exchange views on the latest international and regional developments," the Malaysian prime minister said.

China dominates the global supply chains of critical minerals and rare earths. Thus, PM Modi's pointed remarks, made in the presence of Xi Jinping, are being seen as a message to China.



New Delhi (Agency)

Putting inclusivity at the centre of his closing remarks at the BRICS Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday cautioned against the "weaponisation" of technology and critical minerals, saying such measures could create "hurdles" to common growth. The pointed remarks, made in the presence of Chinese President Xi Jinping, are being seen as a message to Beijing, which dominates the global supply chains of critical minerals and rare earths. "The weaponisation of technology and critical minerals can hinder our shared progress. Therefore, we have

emphasised inclusivity in the adoption of technology," PM Modi said at the BRICS session on 'Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability'.

PM'S MESSAGE TO CHINA?

Last year, China tightened export controls on rare earths and other materials critical for advanced tech manufacturing amid a trade war with the US. It has, however, eased some of those restrictions. China processes around 90% of the world's rare earths, which go into everything from solar panels to smartphones. For India, the supply of critical minerals is key as it seeks to expand its manufacturing and clean-energy sectors. Against this backdrop, PM Modi said the BRICS logistics supply chain cooperation framework would help make "our supply chains more reliable and resilient".

'WIN-WIN COLLABORATION'

At the outset, PM Modi underlined that, as BRICS chair, India's efforts focused on four pillars - resilience, innovation, cooperation, and sustainability. "With your cooperation and support, we have been able to transform our shared vision into a win-win collaboration," PM Modi said. Perhaps the key highlight of his address was his pitch for inclusivity as he rooted for more voice for

the Global South - a geopolitical term used to refer to developing or less-developed nations. "We have sought to promote inclusive global growth through BRICS. We believe that the solutions developed within BRICS should not benefit BRICS countries alone. They should be made accessible to the needs of the Global South," PM Modi said. The Prime Minister asserted that the "confidence" of Global South countries in BRICS has grown because "their voices are heard, their experiences are respected, and solutions are created not just for them, but together with them". "We (BRICS) may be rooted in different realities, but together we rise through cooperation and blossom for humanity," PM Modi said.

MESSAGE OF COOPERATION

He then went on to highlight several initiatives agreed upon by the BRICS members - outlining the message of cooperation amid a fractured world. The big win, PM Modi said, was consensus on the BRICS Early Warning System for prevention and response to infectious diseases. "Under innovation, the BRICS Incubator Network will connect our startups and incubators.

Vijay govt announces Rs 79,219 crore spending plan amid debt concerns

Chennai.(Agency)

The Vijay government has announced spending commitments of Rs 79,219.06 crore in its maiden budget and in the debates on demands for grants in the Tamil Nadu Assembly. The package brings together large infrastructure and power projects, welfare measures and farm relief, even as opposition parties have warned that the scale of spending could worsen the state's debt and deficit position. The government has, however, said it remains committed to fiscal prudence and has set up an economic advisory council headed by Montek Singh Ahluwalia to create an additional Rs 15,000 crore this year. Finance Secretary MA Siddique said Tamil Nadu's finances remain in a difficult position but are showing signs of recovery, while the government has argued that much of the capital spending will be spread over several years

rather than creating an immediate strain on the exchequer. During the 28-day budget session, which ended on September 8, the government made 17 major announcements under Rule 110



across departments. These included a Rs 33,066 crore power sector and transmission

infrastructure scheme, the Rs 20,800 crore Thoothukudi Supercritical Thermal Power Plant, a Rs 11,000 crore infrastructure and roads push, Rs 1,850 crore for urban road repairs and junction modernisation, Rs 1,200 crore for a new Assembly-cum-Secretariat complex, annual schemes including free electricity to people at Rs 10,000 crore, and cooperative crop loan relief expansion of Rs 953.06 crore. The package also includes plans for a world-class Olympic City and a dedicated MotorSports City capable of hosting international racing events such as Formula 1. The article said the eventual cumulative amount could be higher, though the government has not officially outlined that so far.

The Vijay government has unveiled a Rs 79,219.06 crore spending package covering infrastructure, power, welfare and farm relief in Tamil Nadu. The scale of the outlay has sharpened scrutiny of debt, deficits and the state's fiscal room.

'I resign as CM': CJP's Abhijeet Dipke mocks MP govt after 'Balaghat' heckling

NEW DELHI (Agency).

Cockroach Janta Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Saturday mocked the Mohan Yadav-led Madhya Pradesh government and announced his resignation as the state's chief minister.

The sarcastic announcement came after Dipke was allegedly heckled by a group of people during his visit to Balaghat district, where more than 30 tribal children have reportedly died from infectious diseases.

In a post on X, Dipke wrote: "I hereby



resign as the chief minister of MP with immediate effect. I thank Hon'ble PM @narendramodi ji for giving me the opportunity to serve the people of MP, an opportunity in which I have clearly failed."

— abhijeet_dipke (@abhijeet_dipke)
Dipke also shared a purported resignation letter addressed to the Madhya Pradesh governor, in which he took responsibility for the deaths of the tribal children and criticised the state government's response to the tragedy. "My conscience does not allow me to continue occupying this chair after the deaths of more than 30 Tribal children in Balaghat. As Chief Minister, I accept responsibility for failing to provide them with the timely medical care and support they needed," the letter said.

Dipke further questioned the compensation announced for the victims and alleged that the government had initially offered a lower amount before increasing it following protests by the tribal community.

Is it okay? PM pauses BRICS speech to check on Xi Jinping in viral moment

Newdelhi (Agency)

While Xi Jinping's visit to India for the BRICS Summit was short, it nonetheless provided several moments of camaraderie between the Chinese President and PM Modi. It comes amid improving India-China ties that had come under strain due to border disputes.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi briefly broke from his opening remarks at the BRICS Summit after noticing that Chinese President Xi Jinping seemingly appeared uncomfortable. The Prime Minister paused and turned toward Xi, who made his first visit to India in seven years, after a commotion caught his attention. "Is it okay?" PM Modi asked the translator accompanying the Chinese President. He repeated the question moments later. It was, however, not immediately clear what had caused Xi's apparent discomfort. It could have been some issue with the mic or translation of his speech. After a few seconds, Xi nodded in response,

PM MODI-XI JINPING BOMHOMIE ON SHOW

While it might be a small incident, it was a telling moment of bonhomie between the two leaders. It appeared to reflect PM Modi's personal concern for the Chinese President at a time when both nations are looking to reset ties and move on from border disputes.



following which PM Modi resumed his speech. The moment was captured in footage shared by Doordarshan.

The brief incident occurred between the 4.40 and 5.11-minute mark of PM Modi's opening remarks.

CPM claims ED has long targeted Pinarayi Vijayan in money laundering case

M V Govindan said the ED's move against Pinarayi Vijayan in the CMRL case would be opposed. The row has sharpened a fresh political flashpoint for the CPI(M) in Kerala.

Kozhikode.(Agency)

CPI(M) Kerala state secretary MV Govindan on Sunday alleged that the Enforcement Directorate (ED) had been targeting the Left party and veteran leader Pinarayi Vijayan for a long time, and said any such move would be strongly opposed. He was speaking on the sidelines of the party's three-day extended state committee meeting.

Govindan said the recent developments were part of a plan by the ED to target former CM Vijayan. He was referring to the agency's recent letter to the state police chief seeking registration of an FIR under the Prevention of Corruption Act against Vijayan, his daughter Veena T and her husband P A Mohamed Riyas in connection with the alleged CMRL bribery case. The CPI(M) leader said the

party and the LDF had no doubts about the intentions behind the ED's move, and claimed that central agencies had been targeting Opposition leaders across the country. Asked whether the meeting would adopt any resolution on the issue, Govindan said the possibility would be examined. The extended state committee meeting has been called to discuss ways to overcome the setbacks suffered by the Left party after its defeat in the Assembly election this year. Earlier this week, Vijayan had accused the ED of targeting him in its money laundering probe into the CMRL bribery case by now levelling corruption allegations against him. The ED has sent a letter to DGP Ravada A Chandrasekhar seeking registration of an FIR against Vijayan, Veena, son-in-law Riyas and some others, based on "evidence" gathered during its probe and searches conducted under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act.

Talasanani plays CM, Manik Rao Speaker as BRS stages mock Assembly in Hyderabad

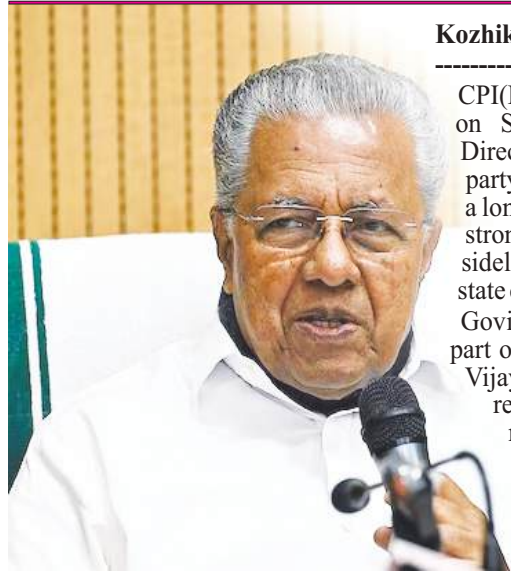
Barred Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) legislators staged a mock Assembly at Telangana Bhavan and replayed House proceedings. The protest was meant to press issues the party said were being denied a hearing in the Assembly.

Hyderabad(Agency).

With its legislators barred from the Telangana Assembly for the remainder of the Monsoon Session, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) on Saturday took its political battle outside the House by staging a mock Assembly at Telangana Bhavan. The symbolic session on September 12 was organised days after BRS MLAs were suspended following repeated disruptions in the Assembly. The party said the mock proceedings were aimed at raising issues that it alleged were being denied a hearing inside the House.



TALASANI PLAYS CM, MANIK RAO TAKES SPEAKER'S CHAIR
The BRS recreated the Assembly proceedings at Telangana Bhavan, with Zaheerabad MLA Manik Rao occupying the Speaker's chair and former minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav taking on the role of Chief Minister. BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao, former minister T. Harish Rao and other party legislators participated in the proceedings. They used the platform to attack the Revanthy Reddy-led Congress government over governance issues, election promises and various policies. The mock session also featured political satire, with Talasani taking digs at the Congress government while playing the role of Chief Minister. He made sarcastic references to the recent removal of Konda Surekha from the Telangana Cabinet.



A BRICS wall of plurilateral alternatives

If BRICS chair India’s aim is to hold a ‘successful’ 18th summit in New Delhi, it can be said with near certainty almost on the eve of the conclave that it will indeed be a success. The key to defining this outcome, however, is that success in this context is a relative term. For India, if the summit passes without discord—as did the 2023 G20 summit in New Delhi—it will be deemed a success. Plurilateral summits hosted by India are only partially aimed at their member countries or the rest of the world. Indian foreign policy is now equally aimed at convincing the domestic Indian population that India is a heavy-lifter on the global stage. This was evident during the 18th G20 summit, when all of India was energised and contributed to it in some way as if it was an occasion of historic significance. Since then, Brazil and South Africa have hosted G20 summits without any such fanfare. The 21st G20 summit later this year in Miami will be no different except for US President Donald Trump’s tantrums in its run-up and possibly at the event itself. For one of the BRIC—without ‘S’ then—founding members, China, a successful summit is one where its laser-sharp focus is on promoting its national interests. For China, which will host the organisation’s next summit in 2027, the greater good of BRICS is secondary to its use for China’s own good. If it can move the plurilateral group even a little bit towards acting as a hedge against the US, it will consider the conclave a success. China will measure the New Delhi summit’s success—from its point of view—if its 400-member delegation accompanying President Xi Jinping can convince India to abolish or reduce the high tariff on Made in China electric vehicles. China produces over two-thirds of the world’s EVs. During the deliberations in New Delhi, China and Russia—another founding member—will push towards creating BRICS credit rating agencies to catalyse the process of attracting foreign direct investments into BRICS countries. As a past victim of the whims of Western credit rating agencies like Moody’s, Standard & Poor’s and Fitch, India ought to be sympathetic to this idea. But these credit-raters have powerful lobbies in many BRICS governments. So, if China and Russia do not get their way this weekend in New Delhi, they will try their utmost during next year’s Chinese presidency to achieve this objective. It will be the same with the US-controlled SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication), the backbone of cross-border money transactions. Russia has immensely suffered because Western sanctions have cut off its banks from SWIFT transactions. So has Iran because of unilateral US sanctions. An alternative to SWIFT may not emerge at the New Delhi summit, but in-depth discussions and a determined push towards it may see its birth under Chinese chairship. Realities, not ideology, will determine the emergence of financial multipolarity, which is the desire not only of many BRICS countries, but also of the Global South as a whole. They feel excluded from decision-making in the post-Second World War financial architecture, of which the Bretton Woods institutions are emblematic. The Shanghai-headquartered New Development Bank (NDB), popularly known as BRICS Bank, is not anywhere close to replacing the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund. But in its short 11-year existence, the NDB has funded the equivalent of almost \$43 billion on 139 projects, most of which Bretton Woods institutions would not have looked at. NDB projects have a high level of social development content. It is significant that nearly a quarter of all NDB funding has been in local currencies. Sixty-five percent of intra-BRICS trade is now in local currencies. Add to this China’s decision to drop the US dollar for Iranian oil purchases in favour of the renminbi and that 45 percent of Saudi oil is now sold to China in renminbi.

Split identity of the Bar Council of India

The Bar Council of India overreached when it tried to bar NALSAR graduates from being empanelled as lawyers. A body of elected practitioners carries no pedagogic mandate. But the BCI’s own confession of unchecked mushrooming of substandard institutions of legal education needs to be addressed

On the morning of August 13, the Bar Council of India (BCI) issued a six-page order directing every state bar council (SBC) to refuse enrolment to the entire 2026 graduating class of NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad. The provocation was an email in which outgoing students had asked their vice-chancellor to reconsider inviting the Chief Justice of India to their convocation. By evening, the order was initially watered down and then withdrawn. In a single day, the BCI asserted a power to jeopardise the futures of an entire graduating class, and then withdrew the order as though nothing had happened. The rule of law is the first condition of a civil society, and the legal profession holds a special responsibility to defend it. It is therefore troubling when its statutory authority exercises power without observing the disciplines expected of a regulator. A regulator’s stock-in-trade is natural justice. It hears affected persons, gives reasons for its decisions and does not practise collective punishment. If, by the BCI’s own admission, the vast majority of the students were innocent, was the order designed to punish the innocent?

The order cited no statutory provision. Section 48B of the Advocates Act, 1961, which enables the BCI to issue directions to SBCs, is tied to its general supervision of their functions. Section 24 requires an SBC to enrol applicants who satisfy the prescribed conditions, while Section 24A specifies the statutory grounds of disqualification. Petitioning a V-C appears nowhere among them. The direction therefore purported to require SBCs to withhold enrolment on a ground not found in the statute. It was issued as an interim order without notice or hearing to persons who were not before the BCI. Its withdrawal did not answer the question of power: it conceded innocence, not want of jurisdiction.

AI in sports video 2AI in sports video 2

Nor is the episode entirely isolated. The BCI’s three-year moratorium on new law colleges, notified last year, was withdrawn within seven months after the Supreme Court began asking questions. In Gaurav Kumar (2024), the Supreme Court found bar councils charging enrolment fees as high as ₹42,100 against the statutory ceiling of ₹750; and a year later, the court was still threatening contempt proceedings. A regulator that must be litigated into complying with its own statute is hardly well placed to lecture universities on standards. Why is the BCI in the classroom at all? The Advocates Act links its role in legal education to qualifications required for enrolment. Section 7 speaks of standards set in consultation with the universities, so that a degree may qualify its holder for enrolment. But a licence to keep the gate is not a title to the house. The Supreme Court’s

September 3 decision confirms the lack of jurisdiction of BCI to punish law students. Earlier, in March 2025, dismissing the BCI’s challenge concerning two convicts attending law classes online, the court observed that “the BCI has no business to go into this legal education part”, that the field belongs to jurists and academicians, and to have “some mercy on legal education”.

A body of elected practitioners carries no pedagogic mandate. BCI’s 2025 moratorium rules confess to the unchecked mushrooming of substandard institutions across about 2,000 centres of legal education. If decades of inspections, approvals and standards have coincided



with proliferation, the answer cannot be more of the same. The national law universities, meanwhile, flourished precisely where the BCI’s pedagogical hand was lightest. No other civilised world has a precedent for this degree of micro-control. England’s solicitors’ regulator permits candidates with a degree in any discipline to enter the profession through a single qualifying examination, followed by supervised work experience. The closest comparator, the American Bar Association’s accreditation monopoly, was academic-run, unlike the BCI, and the Texas and Florida Supreme Courts ended it this January. The BCI has supplied the datum itself. Its leadership lamented in 2023 that fewer than 20 percent of NLU students opted for litigation. The question is why. Most

junior advocates struggle to earn a subsistence income. The Madras High Court had to direct advocates on the Tamil Nadu and Puducherry rolls to pay their juniors a minimum stipend of ₹15,000-20,000 a month. A first-year associate at leading firms can now earn a package of around ₹25 lakh a year. Our best students have read the signal clearly: many choose corporate practice or postgraduate study abroad instead. A student who petitions her V-C to reconsider a convocation invitation is doing what the profession exists to do. The order seeking the complete list of signatories and threatening their professional entry turns enrolment into an instrument of coercion. A regulator that teaches its entrants that dissent may cost them their careers sends the wrong lesson about the rule of law. The deeper problem is institutional. The Advocates Act was a product of its time, drafted for a self-governing guild before India learnt to build regulators. Six decades of experience have settled what responsible regulation needs: defined mandate, separation of functions, procedural fairness, reasoned and appealable decisions, and meaningful accountability. The BCI’s present structure has none of them. Not one seat on it is earmarked for an academic, nor does it have any interface with the society. It is time to bring the BCI’s role and powers within a clearer institutional framework. Let it keep the gate—one credible examination, competently administered, along with enrolment, professional standards and discipline, but exercise them within clearly defined statutory powers, through fair procedures and reasoned decisions, and effective accountability. Let everything upstream—curriculum, degrees, doctorates and internal academic discipline—return to the universities, with an independent academic council providing oversight of legal education. The NALSAR episode shows how far the BCI has yet to travel. Regulation is not the mere exercise of power; it is the disciplined exercise of power in pursuit of a legitimate public purpose. That is the reform the statute needs. In its absence, the market will impose a cruder one: the best graduates will increasingly choose careers outside litigation, and the profession will lose precisely the entrants it most needs.

A little silence, please: Authorities must act as noise taking lives

Loud noise particularly affects expectant mothers, young children and the elderly. The authorities must stop merely paying lip service to a growing public health hazard and strictly enforce rules governing both the decibel levels and permitted hours of noise

What could be more shockingly symptomatic of India’s noise pollution epidemic than a violent mob silencing a musician who protested loudness? The death of Chongtham Vikram Singh, a Manipuri musician in Delhi, at the hands of a mob that included an adolescent boy is the latest extreme manifestation of a growing disregard for the health and peace of others among Indians who equate celebration with loud noise. The disturbing irony in Singh’s case was compounded by the silence of his neighbours as he was chased and beaten near his apartment. The 47-year-old musician’s death was not an isolated incident. Loud music has become de rigueur at private functions and communal festivals, while complaints against it are increasingly provoking violent reactions. Last week, 45-year-old Satish Sharma succumbed to injuries sustained after he was pushed down a staircase following his complaint about loud music from a neighbour’s house in Noida. Pune-based civic activist Vidyanand Bapat was assaulted on camera after complaining about loud DJ music during Ganesh



Chaturthi celebrations. Several instances of mob violence were also reported during recent Kanwariya yatras against those protesting ear-splitting music played on stacked sound systems. Yet India has long recognised noise pollution as a public health hazard. Ambient noise was officially recognised as a pollutant in 2006 and, in 2011, the Central Pollution Control Board announced a National

Ambient Noise Monitoring Network. However, a study published in Nature earlier this year found that Indian cities are growing harmfully louder, including around hospitals, schools and residential areas. The World Health Organization has warned that prolonged exposure to excessive noise can contribute to cardiovascular disease, sleep disruption, cognitive fatigue, and poorer work and school performance. The warnings, evidently, have fallen on deaf ears. The official apathy is appalling. This March, the government informed the Lok Sabha that it had not conducted any study to measure the health impact of car honking and loudspeaker noise, despite its own department recommending such research. Loud noise particularly affects expectant mothers, young children and the elderly. The authorities must stop merely paying lip service to a growing public health hazard and strictly enforce rules governing both the decibel levels and permitted hours of noise.

The quest for self-reliance in defence

There is import dependence because too many plans, goals and targets have come unstuck

SCOTT Bessent, the US Treasury Secretary, laid out three maxims in a recent speech: “The nation that cannot produce what it needs is not truly secure. The nation that depends on its adversaries for critical inputs is not truly sovereign. And the nation that reduces its economics to consumption is not truly prosperous.” Bessent’s context is a world that his country, more than any other, has worked to create — in which, as Thucydides wrote, the strong do what they can, and the weak suffer what they must. Where alliances can be disregarded, friendships become irrelevant and markets subject to unexpected disruptions. The phrase that characterises this new world is weaponised interdependence. Such weaponisation comes more easily to those in control of the main nodes of the global economy, giving them coercive power. One could even think of panopticon situations (the usual example being a single guard in a circular prison who can watch all the inmates). Think of the SWIFT interbank communication system. Equally, they could offer choke points for coercive use. Choke points can also be points of vulnerability — think submarine cables which, if cut, could cripple an adversary for a while. For a middle power like India, such a world is more complex and offers many new challenges, and only imperfect answers or solutions. In the spirit of atmanirbharta, can India hope to ensure its security and sovereignty by producing all that it needs — as Bessent asked? Think of the major weapons platforms and technologies that are currently imported. Or not rely on others for critical inputs — something that even the major powers don’t attempt? Most obviously, what price strategic autonomy when 90 per cent of the country’s oil and half its gas needs are imported? And what price sovereignty in the face of penal tariffs and arbitrary trade sanctions? It is obvious that the goals in such a world have to be not just economic efficiency and competitiveness but also finding ways to minimise vulnerability — without paying too great a price through higher costs that localisation often imposes. Hence the current attempts at domestic chip manufacture and the setting up of data centres. Yet interdependence is written into the scenario and must be dealt with. The asymmetric conflicts in Ukraine and Iran pose their own urgent questions for the economy. Hundreds of missiles and drones (offensive and defensive) have been fired in a day, for days on end, in both theatres. Can India hope to develop such a supply capability, given its limited manufacturing base, or (as a more sensible

alternative) turn civilian industrial units to military use in short order? And how well is the country positioned in the context of wars that will henceforth be fought in the cyber-physical world? Sensible policies can always provide answers. India could become an electro-state, for instance, by copying China’s example to reduce oil dependence and multiply storage capacity in order to insulate against supply shocks. China



can store more than four months’ oil requirements, whereas India’s strategic reserves are for barely 10 days. When availability can trump price in a critical agricultural input like fertiliser, sensible policy can serve to boost the domestic production of an item that does not after all involve rocket science. India has always been wary of international dependencies. Especially in defence, space and atomic energy, it has sought from the beginning to build national capabilities and be self-reliant. There are some impressive success

stories to show for this in the defence arena: the nuclear-powered submarines, for instance (though Russian help has been critical). And the multi-pronged missile programme. A layered air defence system that showed its mettle during Operation Sindoor. Mobile howitzers for the artillery have been developed by the Armaments R&D Establishment in partnership with Kalyani and Tata. Some aspects of electronic warfare capability constitute another success story. The risk is that overreach can result in failure, or unaffordable delays (which, in defence, is the same thing). Overreach explains why many attempts at self-reliance in defence have failed, such that the country is the world’s second largest importer of armaments (after Ukraine). Major weapons platforms that the country needs are still being imported — those on the current list being Rafales, submarines and long-endurance drones. And imported weapons tend to be far more expensive than indigenous substitutes, when these are developed. Moreover, the world sends periodic reminders about supply vulnerabilities. The gas turbine engines that have powered the Navy’s main fighting ships have traditionally come from Ukraine, now consumed by war; fortunately, Bharat Heavy Electricals has been producing gas turbines for the frontline warships. But the supply of the S-400 air defence systems has been interrupted by Russian preoccupations. And Hindustan Aeronautics Limited can’t turn out the 180 Tejas fighters that the Air Force desperately needs because (among other things) the engines have to come from General Electric, which has delayed production because (again, inter alia) a South Korean supplier of components has gone out of business. Ambition is as ambition does. The import dependence is because too many plans, goals and targets have come unstuck. The dependence on General Electric engines for Tejas is because the domestically developed Kaveri engine didn’t measure up. The Army’s demanding specifications for an infantry rifle (such as interchangeable barrels that use bullets with different sizes!) proved too complicated to deliver, resulting in large-scale imports. The NavIC (Navigation with Indian Constellation) satellite-based system that was to be a regional substitute for the US GPS (Global Positioning System) is non-functional because of a shortage of operational satellites and the failure of an atomic clock.

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खुशियां

आती है मन के द्वार तो

खोलिए....



जिंदगी जीना बहुत आसान है लेकिन हम लोग गलतियां करके उसे मुश्किल बना देते हैं। हर कोई जीवन में खुश रहना चाहता है, सकारात्मक होना चाहता है, अधिक क्रिएटिव और प्रोडक्टिव होना चाहता है। वर्तमान जीवन का उपहार है। इस तथ्य को जितना जल्दी समझ जाएं अच्छा होगा। आप जो भी काम करते हैं उसे खुशी और कुशलता से करें। आत्मनिर्भर बनें और अपने आप पर विश्वास रखें। कभी-कभी अपनी एक जैसी दिनचर्या से अलग हटकर कुछ करें। कम से कम साल में एक बार छुट्टियों पर जाने की कोशिश करें।

भरपूर पैसा और समाज में सम्मान पाना सभी का लक्ष्य होता है। लेकिन इस बेहतर जीवन को और उसके आनंद को पाने के लिए हम क्या करते हैं?... कुछ नहीं। क्या आप जानते हैं कि अच्छा परिवार, सच्चे दोस्त, बेहतर स्वास्थ्य और आर्थिक सुरक्षा एक सुखी जीवन के लिए पर्याप्त है, लेकिन हम अपनी पूरी जिंदगी लोगों के साथ खुद की तुलना करने में लगा देते हैं। अपने आपको भाग्यशाली मानने की बजाय अतिमहत्वाकांक्षी हो जाते हैं और उस चक्कर में जिंदगी का असली स्वाद लेना भूल जाते हैं।

याद रखें जिंदगी एक बार मिलती है इसलिए जब भी कोई लक्ष्य निर्धारित करें तो उसे प्राप्त करने के लिए इमानदारी से पूरी कोशिश करें और अंत में क्या होगा इसकी चिंता किए बिना प्रयास करें। अपने लक्ष्य को पा लेने के बाद आप संतुष्टि और आनंद का अनुभव करेंगे। कई लोगों को

भविष्य के बारे में चिंता करने की आदत-सी होती है। ऐसा करने से वे वर्तमान का महत्व कम कर देते हैं। ऐसा लगातार करने से वे नकारात्मक विचारों से घिरे रहते हैं और दुखी होते रहते हैं। अगर याद ही करना है तो अतीत की सुखद घटनाओं को याद करें जो आपको खुशी दे। भविष्य तब ही सुनहरा होगा जब आप वर्तमान में कुछ उद्देश्यपूर्ण काम करेंगे। आपके आज के ही कामों से आपका भविष्य सुरक्षित होगा। ऐसी चीजें आपको खुशी देगी और आपको नई ऊर्जा मिलेगी और जिंदगी फिर से जीवंत हो उठेगी। अपनी कमाई का कुछ हिस्सा अच्छे काम के लिए दान करें। किसी की आलोचना करने से दूर रहें। लोगों में सकारात्मक गुण देखें और उनकी प्रशंसा करें। इसे आदत बनाने का प्रयास करें। यह आपको शांत और शालीन बनाएगा। क्रोध न करें अगर आए तो उस पर नियंत्रण करें। पहले पहल यह असंभव-सा लगेगा लेकिन आप इसे नियंत्रित करने में पूरी तरह से सक्षम हैं। अपने अंदर से अहंकार को दूर करें और विनम्रता और करुणा पैदा करें, जब आप ऐसा करेंगे तो आप देखेंगे कि आपको गुस्सा नहीं आएगा और आप नकारात्मक भावनाओं से अपने आप दूर होने लगेंगे और यह सब आपको आंतरिक शांति और खुशी प्रदान करेगा। आज के ज़माने में आदमी इससे ज्यादा और क्या चाहता है? जीवन में उतार-चढ़ाव तो आते ही रहते

हैं। लेकिन जो अपनी समस्याओं और जिम्मेदारियों से मुंह नहीं मोड़ता है उनका सामना अपनी पूरी क्षमता से करता है, और प्रयास करना नहीं छोड़ता है, वे लोग ही असली जीवन जीते हैं। आपको करना बस इतना है कि अपना जीवन जीने का नज़रिया थोड़ा बदलना है। उसे एक सकारात्मक दृष्टिकोण देना है। तब आप देखेंगे कि एक-एक करके आप सफलता की सीढ़ियां चढ़ते जा रहे हैं और आपके जीवन में खुशी, अच्छा स्वास्थ्य, सुखी परिवार और जो भी आपने अपनी जिंदगी से चाहा है वो सब आपको मिलने लगेगा।



सुपरमार्केट

शॉपिंग में इन बातों का रखें ध्यान

शॉपिंग ऐसी गतिविधि है जो कभी शौक तो कभी जरूरत के तौर पर हमारे लिए अहम होती है। जब शॉपिंग जरूरत की चीजों की हो, तो भीड़ के डर से अक्सर यह टलती जाती है। सुपर मार्केट कल्चर ने इसे काफी आसान कर दिया है। हालांकि यहां भी भीड़ से तो दो चार होना ही पड़ता है। ऑनलाइन शॉपिंग ने सुपरमार्केट से कुछ हद तक भीड़ कम की है, परंतु अभी भी यहां शॉपिंग करना काफी मशकत भरा काम है। लेकिन कुछ खास टिप्स आपके इस अनुभव को आसान बना सकते हैं। खास बातें 1. यहां साप्ताहिक दिनों में जाने की कोशिश करें, न कि साप्ताहिक में। 2. अपनी लिस्ट तैयार करके जाएं। 3. अगर साप्ताहिक में जा रहे हैं तो किसी फ्रेंड या दोस्त को बिल की लाइन में लगा दें। साप्ताहिक के उन दिनों में शॉपिंग करें जब सार्वजनिक अवकाश न हो - अगर आप कर पाएं, तो यह टिप आपकी काफी सहायता कर सकता है। हां, हम भी मानते हैं कि ऐसा करना मुश्किल है। भले ही आप हाउस वाइफ हों या वर्किंग वुमन। परंतु छुट्टी के दिन शॉपिंग पर जाने से आपकी छुट्टी सुपर मार्केट की भीड़ में बर्बाद हो जाती है। पहले तो सभी शेल्फ के पास भीड़ मिलेगी फिर बिलिंग में अलग लंबी लाइन में खड़ा होना पड़ेगा।

अपनी सामान की लिस्ट के अनुसार शॉपिंग करें - हम सभी घर से कुछ खास सामान को दिमाग में लेकर निकलते हैं। सुपर मार्केट ललचाने वाले

सामान से भरा हुआ होता है। ऐसे में पूरी संभावना है कि आप अपना समय और पैसा दोनों बर्बाद कर दें। बेहतर होगा अपनी लिस्ट के अनुसार खरीददारी करें। सुपरमार्केट शॉपिंग में इन बातों का रखें ध्यान ऑफर से बचें - आपकी जेब से पैसा निकलवाने का बहुत आसान उपाय है ऑफर। आपने इतनी छूट देखी और खरीद लिया ऐसा सामान जो बाद में न जाने कब काम आए। ऐसे में सस्ती चीजों के लालच से बचें।

किसी को बिलिंग लाइन में खड़ा करें :

सामान खरीदते समय, वक्त का पता नहीं चलता परंतु जैसे ही बिलिंग का समय आता है वैसे ही लाइन में मुश्किल हो जाती है। अगर आप वीकएंड पर सामान खरीद रहें हैं तो किसी को लाइन में लगा दें ताकि जैसे ही सामान ले लिया जाए वैसे ही बिलिंग हो जाए।

रिश्तों की वो गरमाहट चली गई...

जिंदगी की जद्दोजहद ने इंसान को जितना मसरूफ बना दिया है, उतना ही उसे अकेला भी कर दिया है। हालांकि आधुनिक संचार के साधनों ने दुनिया को एक दायरे में समेट दिया है। मोबाइल, इंटरनेट के जरिए सात समंदर पार किसी भी पल किसी से भी बात की जा सकती है। इसके बावजूद इंसान बहुत अकेला दिखाई देता है। बहुत ही अकेला, क्योंकि आज के दौर में 'अपनापन' जैसे जज्बे कहीं पीछे छूट गए हैं। अब रिश्तों में वह गरमाहट नहीं रही, जो पहले कभी हुआ करती थी। पहले लोग संयुक्त परिवार में रहा करते थे। पुरुष बाहर कमाने जाया करते थे और महिलाएं मिल-जुलकर घर-परिवार का कामकाज किया करती थीं। परिवार के सदस्यों में एक-दूसरे के लिए आदर-सम्मान और अपनापन हुआ करता था, लेकिन अब संयुक्त परिवार टूटकर एकल हो रहे हैं। महिलाएं भी कमाने के लिए घर से बाहर जा रही हैं। उनके पास बच्चों के लिए ज्यादा वक्त नहीं है। बच्चों का भी ज्यादा वक्त घर से बाहर ही बीतता है। सुबह स्कूल जाना, होम वर्क करना, फिर ट्यूशन के लिए जाना और उसके बाद खेलने जाना। जो वक्त मिलता है, उसमें भी बच्चे मोबाइल या फिर कम्प्यूटर पर गेम खेलते हैं। ऐसे में न माता-पिता के पास बच्चों के लिए वक्त है और न ही बच्चों के पास अपने बड़ों के लिए है। जिंदगी की आपाधापी में रिश्ते कहीं खो गए हैं शायद इसीलिए अब लोग परछाइयों यानी वचुंअल दुनिया में रिश्ते तलाशने लगे हैं। लेकिन

अफसोस! यहां भी वे रिश्तों के नाम पर ठगे जा रहे हैं। सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट पर ज्यादातर प्रोफाइल फेक होते हैं या फिर उनमें गलत जानकारी दी गई होती है। झूठ की बुनियाद पर बनाए गए रिश्तों की उम्र बस उस वक्त तक ही होती है, जब तक कि झूठ पर पर्दा पड़ा रहता है। लेकिन जैसे ही सच सामने आता है, वह रिश्ता भी दम तोड़ देता है। अगर किसी इंसान को कोई अच्छा लगता है और वह उससे उम्रभर का रिश्ता रखना चाहता है तो उसे सामने वाले व्यक्ति से झूठ नहीं बोलना चाहिए। जिस दिन उसका झूठ सामने आ जाएगा उस वक्त उसका रिश्ता तो टूट ही जाएगा, साथ ही वह हमेशा के लिए नजरों से भी गिर जाएगा। कहते हैं-

'इंसान पहाड़ से गिरकर तो उठ सकता है, लेकिन नजरों से गिरकर कभी नहीं उठ सकता।'

ऐसा भी देखने में आया है कि कुछ अपराधी प्रवृत्ति के लोग खुद को अति सभ्य व्यक्ति बताते हुए महिलाओं से दोस्ती गांठते हैं, फिर प्यार के दावे करते हैं। बाद में पता चलता है कि वे शादीशुदा हैं और कई बच्चों के बाप हैं। दरअसल, ऐसे बाप टाइप लोग हीनभावना के शिकार होते हैं। अपराधी प्रवृत्ति के कारण उनकी न घर में इज्जत होती है और न ही बाहर। उनकी हालत धोबी के कुत्ते जैसी होकर रह जाती है यानी धोबी का कुत्ता न घर का न घाट का। ऐसे में वे सोशल नेटवर्किंग साइट पर अपना अच्छा-सा प्रोफाइल बनाकर खुद को महान साबित करने की कोशिश करते हैं। वे खुद को अति बुद्धिमान, अमीर और न जाने क्या-क्या बताते हैं, जबकि हकीकत में उनकी कोई औकात नहीं होती। ऐसे लोगों की सबसे बड़ी 'उपलब्धि' यही होती है कि ये अपने मित्रों की सूची में ज्यादा से ज्यादा महिलाओं को शामिल करते हैं। यदि कोई महिला अपने स्टेटस में कुछ भी लिख दे तो फौरन उसे 'लाइक' करेंगे, कमेंट्स करेंगे और उसे चने के झाड़ पर चढ़ा देंगे। ऐसे लोग समय-समय पर महिलाएं बदलते रहते हैं यानी आज इसकी प्रशंसा की जा रही है तो कल किसी और की। लेकिन कहते हैं न कि 'काठ की हांडी बार-बार नहीं चढ़ती।' वक्त-दर-वक्त ऐसे मामले सामने आते रहते हैं।



आजकल घर और ऑफिस के कामों के बीच फंसी ज्यादातर कामकाजी महिलाएं अपने बच्चों के खान-पान पर खास ध्यान नहीं दे पातीं। यही वजह है कि अब बच्चों के खाने-पीने की आदतों में काफी बदलाव आ रहा है। अब उन्हें घर के खाने, फलों और सब्जियों की बजाए बाहर मिलने वाले पिज्जा, बर्गर, पास्ता ज्यादा भाने लगा है।

ऐसे में अपने बच्चों को पौष्टिक आहार देना हर मां की जिम्मेदारी है। जानी-मानी डायटीशियन डॉ. सीमा पुरी का कहना है कि बढ़ते बच्चों को प्रोटीनयुक्त, हाई-कैल्सीयुक्त खाना देना उनके विकास के लिए बहुत जरूरी है। बच्चों का एक्टिविटी लेवल बहुत हाई होता है, इसलिए उन्हें एनर्जी देने के लिए उनके खाने में पांच जरूरी पौष्टिक आहार शामिल करें।

पांच जरूरी आहार



खाने में बच्चों को क्या दे मां

प्रोटीन- अपने बच्चे को मजबूत और स्वस्थ बनाने के लिए उसे प्रोटीनयुक्त खाना जैसे अंडा, मछली, चिकन, मीट और शाकाहार में दूध, दही, रोटी, ब्रेड, दालें सही मात्रा में दें।

फाइबर और मिनरल- तेज दिमाग और शरीर के सही विकास के लिए अपने बच्चे को फाइबरयुक्त खाना जैसे हरी सब्जियां और फल जरूर खिलाएं।

काबरेहाइड्रेट- बच्चों को एनर्जी देने के लिए उनके खाने में चावल, आलू और मक्खन को शामिल करना चाहिए।

कैल्शियम- हड्डियों की मजबूती के लिए बच्चों को घी, दूध, दही जैसी कैल्शियम युक्त चीजें खिलाएं। फैटी फूड को कहें ना शहूर डायटीशियन शिल्पा ठाकुर का मानना

है कि बच्चे अपने मां-बाप के खान-पान से बहुत प्रभावित होते हैं, इसलिए अपने बच्चों के सामने वही खाएं, जो आप उन्हें खाते हुए देखना चाहते हैं। साथ ही बच्चों को सही पोषण देना उनकी मां के हाथ में होता है। इसलिए हर मां को पता होना चाहिए कि अपने बच्चे को क्या खिलाना है और क्या नहीं। जंक फूड, पेप्सी कोला, ज्यादा नमक का खाना, आलू चिप्स, पिज्जा, बर्गर जैसी चीजें कम से कम खाने दें, क्योंकि अगर एक बार बच्चों को इन चीजों की आदत पड़ जाए तो उन्हें घर का खाना पसंद नहीं आता, इसलिए बच्चों में पौष्टिक आहार ही ज्यादा खाने की आदत डालें।

खेल-कूद भी है जरूरी

अक्सर पेरेंट्स बच्चों को खेलने-कूदने से रोकते हैं। ऐसे में बच्चे पूरा दिन वीडियो गेम खेलने या टीवी देखने में बिताते लगते हैं। ऐसे बच्चों को न तो भूख लगती है और न ही उनका घर से बाहर जाने का मन करता है। वे आलसी हो जाते हैं। बच्चों के सही विकास के लिए उन्हें सही पोषण देना जरूरी है।



NEWS BOX

Alexander Zverev favourite, but Ben Shelton has American dream firmly in sight



New Delhi. (Agency)

Alexander Zverev will walk into the US Open final as the firm favourite, but Ben Shelton has something far more powerful than rankings and head-to-head numbers on his side: belief.The top-seeded German has already made 2026 the best season of his career. His French Open triumph in June delivered his first Grand Slam title, and he followed it by reaching the Wimbledon final. Now, after returning to the US Open championship match for the second time, Zverev has the chance to make an already remarkable year even better by adding another Grand Slam trophy to his collection.Standing in his way is a 23-year-old American who has spent the past fortnight turning confidence into conviction. Shelton enters Sunday's final after beating Frances Tiafoe 4-6, 6-3, 6-3, 7-5 in an emotionally charged all-American semi-final. The victory made him the first Black American man to reach the US Open men's singles final since Arthur Ashe in 1972. He is also the first American man to reach the US Open final since Andy Roddick in 2003.

ZVEREV TURNS SHAKY START INTO TITLE CHARGE

It is easy to forget just how close Zverev came to an early exit.The German needed five sets to get past Lorenzo Sonego in the opening round and was again pushed the distance by Quentin Halys in the second. After two matches, the world No. 2 had already spent a huge amount of time on court and appeared vulnerable.Since then, however, Zverev has looked like a different player.He has not dropped a set in his last four matches, beating opponents with increasing authority before defeating Karen Khachanov 6-3, 7-6(7), 7-6(6) in the semi-final. His ability to stay composed in the two deciding-set tie-breaks underlined the maturity that has developed in his game this season.

Elena Rybakina crushes Aryna Sabalenka's 3-peat dream, clinches maiden US Open crown



New Delhi. (Agency)

Elena Rybakina has dethroned Aryna Sabalenka to become the new US Open champion, crushing the Belarusian's bid for a historic three-peat at Flushing Meadows. In front of a packed house on Saturday, Rybakina produced a composed display to beat Sabalenka 6-4, 5-7, 6-2 in two hours and 21 minutes.Rybakina, the queen of aces, fittingly sealed her triumph with her signature weapon. She fired an ace on championship point before erupting in celebration, completing a stunning victory and claiming her maiden US Open crown.The scenes on court could not have been more contrasting. While Rybakina soaked in the glory of her landmark triumph, Sabalenka was left to deal with the heartbreak, eventually venting her frustration by destroying her racket.

US Open 2026 women's singles semifinals HighlightsSabalenka had been chasing history, looking to become only the third woman in the Open Era to win the US Open three years in a row. But Rybakina once again proved to be her nemesis.The Kazakh had already beaten Sabalenka at the WTA Finals last year and the Australian Open this year before taking the world No.1 ranking from her. Now, she has denied Sabalenka a historic three-peat and claimed her third Grand Slam title.Rybakina has now won two Grand Slam titles in 2026 and three of the four majors in her career, with only Roland Garros missing from her collection.

RYBAKINA DICTATES TERMS IN OPENING SET

Rybakina dictated the terms for much of the opening set, using her powerful serve and clean ball-striking to keep Sabalenka under constant pressure in the US Open final.

Kylian Mbappe opens up on viral dictator memes, calls them 'politically unaware'

Elena Rybakina has emerged as Aryna Sabalenka's biggest nemesis, repeatedly hurting the Belarusian in high-stakes matches and twice defeating her in Grand Slam finals in 2026. The US Open defeat ended Sabalenka's run of winning a major every year since 2022.

New York. (Agency)

For years, Aryna Sabalenka's biggest battle at the summit of women's tennis was with Iga Swiatek. The Belarusian and the Pole pushed each other for the No.1 ranking, Grand Slam titles and supremacy at the top of the game.But while Swiatek's dominance has dipped, another player has steadily emerged as a far more troublesome opponent for Sabalenka.

Elena Rybakina.

The Kazakh has gone from being one of Sabalenka's elite rivals to becoming her



most damaging nemesis, particularly when the biggest prizes are on the line. Rybakina's latest blow came at the 2026 US Open, where she defeated the defending champion 4-6, 7-5, 2-6 to win her maiden title in New York.For Sabalenka, the defeat completed a remarkable transformation in their rivalry. Rybakina has repeatedly found a way to hurt her at precisely the moments when the stakes are highest.And now Sabalenka has a year she would rather

forget in the Grand Slams. For the first time since 2022, she will finish a season without winning a major.

FROM WIATEK TO RYBAKINA

There was a time when every conversation about Sabalenka's position at the top of women's tennis inevitably involved Swiatek.Sabalenka eventually established herself as the dominant force on hard courts, winning the Australian Open in 2023 and 2024 before adding the US Open

in 2024 and 2025.All four of Sabalenka's Grand Slam titles before this US Open had come on hard courts.That makes Rybakina's emergence particularly significant.She is not simply beating Sabalenka on the surface where the Belarusian is most comfortable. She is doing it with a game that directly challenges Sabalenka's greatest strengths.Rybakina possesses one of the biggest serves in the women's game and combines it with flat, penetrating groundstrokes. She can match Sabalenka's first-strike tennis without becoming overwhelmed by it.The result is a fascinating contrast: Sabalenka brings explosive emotion and power, while Rybakina brings an almost clinical calmness. And increasingly, that calmness is proving to be a nightmare for Sabalenka.

RYBAKINA KEEPS PROMISING WHEN IT MATTERS MOST

The warning signs were already there at the end of 2025.

Virat Kohli tattoos: How India's cricket stars turn ink into identity

Virat Kohli may be the star man of Indian cricket, but he also stands at the forefront of the tattoo revolution started by cricketers. In a search for the meaning behind Kohli's tattoos, it became apparent what the ink really means to the stars.

Chennai . (Agency)

One of the first things that comes to mind when you think of Virat Kohli is his strokeplay. Then comes the aggression, the animated celebrations and that almost infectious passion for the game.The runs and records followed soon enough. Kohli became the poster boy of Indian cricket, and for a generation growing up watching him, being like Kohli was the dream.Many tried to copy his shots in the nets. Some borrowed his aggression and celebrations.

Beyond the cricket field, Kohli brought something else to the table: style.The signature beard. The rockstar hairstyles. The swagger.Many tried to copy those too. Myself included.But there was one thing about Kohli that perhaps stood out more than anything else: his tattoos.Covering



both his arms is a collection of tattoos that have become as recognisable as some of his trademark celebrations. You would imagine someone with a larger-than-life personality like Kohli to have gone down the classic rockstar route. Skulls. Bones.

Fire. Something loud.Instead, Kohli's collection is surprisingly grounded. There is the God's-eye tattoo, or the all-seeing eye as Kohli has described it. It symbolises the belief that everything you do is being watched and that someone is always keeping track of your actions.Then there is the Japanese samurai, a symbol from which Kohli believes he draws strength and values such as loyalty, self-discipline and ethical behaviour.His ODI and Test cap numbers find space on his left arm, along with the names of his father and mother. A worshipper of Lord Shiva, Kohli also has a tattoo of the deity meditating on Mount Kailash.There is a monastery image, too, along with Scorpio, Om and tribal tattoos.

And the collection has continued to grow. Kohli has been adding to his left-arm sleeve, one that was intentionally left incomplete. And there is a rather fitting reason for that.

Harmanpreet eyes Asia Cup revenge vs Sri Lanka, urges India to keep it simple



New York. (Agency)

India captain Harmanpreet Kaur wants her team to avoid overthinking when it takes on Sri Lanka in the Women's Asia Cup final, with the skipper stressing the need to trust their strengths and keep their approach simple.

The final also gives India a chance to settle the score from the previous edition. Sri Lanka stunned India in the 2024 final, chasing down 166 with eight wickets in hand to lift the title.Harmanpreet, though, does not want her players to get caught up in the result of the previous meeting. She believes the final will come down to which side executes better on the day."Whenever you are playing a match which is so important to win the tournament, that day it is all about just playing on your strength and backing your strength," Harmanpreet said at the pre-final press conference."Rather than trying too many things and thinking of doing something extraordinary, it is all about sticking to your strength, backing yourself and trusting your gut feeling."India and Sri Lanka have been the two strongest teams in the tournament and will now meet for the title. Harmanpreet does not see much separating them and said there was no point putting one team above the other."Last time when we played against Sri Lanka, they came up with some really solid plans and solid performances. T20 is all about on a given day who is going to play the best cricket, they are going to win," she said.

IND vs SL, Women's Asia Cup final: A rematch for continental supremacy

Dubai. (Agency)

Two years after Sri Lanka stunned India to win their maiden Women's Asia Cup title, the two sides meet again in the final with the continental crown on the line in Dubai on Sunday.The rematch gives India a chance to reclaim the trophy they lost in Dambulla in 2024, when Chamari Athapaththu and Harshitha Samarawickrama struck half-centuries to power Sri Lanka to an emphatic eight-wicket victory.Watch DP World Women's Asia Cup 2026 Final - India vs Sri Lanka on September 13, 2026, from 8 PM IST live on Sony Sports Ten 1 SD & HD, Sony Sports Ten 3 SD & HD (Hindi), Sony Sports Ten 4 SD (Tamil, Telugu, Kannada) & Sony .Harmanpreet Kaur's side have been the standout team of the tournament, going unbeaten on their way to the final and chasing an eighth Asia Cup title. Sri



Lanka have also remained undefeated and will draw confidence from knowing they have already beaten India on this stage.The 2024 final remains the obvious reference point, but India arrive this time with Shafali Verma and Deepti Sharma in outstanding form, while Sri Lanka have once again shown the resilience that

carried them to the title two years ago. Harmanpreet, however, does not want her team to over-complicate the occasion. With a title at stake, the India captain believes the key is to trust what has worked throughout the tournament."Rather than trying too many things and thinking of doing something extraordinary, it is all about sticking to your strength, backing yourself and trusting your gut feeling." Harmanpreet said on the eve of the final.

INDIA'S BIGGEST WEAPONS?

India have been led by Shafali Verma and Deepti Sharma during their unbeaten campaign.With 168 runs, including two fifties, Shafali is the tournament's leading run-scorer. She has also been India's most consistent batter on the slow, spin-friendly Dubai surfaces, finding a fluency that others have struggled to match.Smriti Mandhana has produced a century.

Star-studded field for second edition of Archery Premier League

Deepika, Atanu, Dhiraj & Jyothi lead 36-strong Indian contingent in event that is scheduled to be held in Hyderabad next month

CHENNAI. (Agency)

Four-time Olympian Deepika Kumari and World Championship silver medallist Atanu Das are among big names from India who'll be aiming for a strong show in the second edition of Archery Premier League (APL), which is scheduled to be held in Hyderabad from October 8 to 18. A total of 36 archers from the country will be competing alongside 12 international stars from 10 different countries.Apart from Deepika and Atanu, reigning Asian champ Dhiraj Bommadevara is another prominent face from the country in the recurve category. India's compound section is equally stacked, anchored by multi-time World Cup and



Asian Games champion Jyothi Surekha Vennam, Abhishek Verma and former world champion Ojas Pravin Deotale.

The domestic stars will go head-to-head against an international line-up featuring Tokyo 2020 Olympic champion Mete Gazoz of Turkiye, Paris 2024 bronze

medalist Casey Kaufhold of the United States, World No 1 Marcus D'Almeida of Brazil, World No 2 Ella Gibson of Great Britain, and Dutch compound legend Mike Schloesser, a former World Champion and four-time World Cup Final winner.

Adding further weight to the domestic line-

up, all 12 members of the Indian squad heading to the Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya later this month are also part of the APL ecosystem, giving the league a direct connection to the country's immediate international campaign.

Speaking on the upcoming campaign, Anil Kamineni, Archery Premier League director, said, "Following an incredible response to our inaugural season, we are ready to deliver an even bigger Season 2. Having the world's top international archers join our league transforms the APL into a truly global spectacle, while continuing to give our Indian archers an invaluable competitive platform to test themselves directly against the best in the world."

Among the debutants are World Championships silver medallist Rajat Chauhan and World Cup stage 1 gold medallist Ridhi, along with World University Games gold medallist Kushal Dalal and junior national champion Kirti Sharma.



Kareena Kapoor

Regrets Dropping Out Of School To Start Acting: 'Didn't Study After Class 11'

Kareena Kapoor has admitted that she regrets dropping out of school to pursue acting. Kareena Kapoor made her Bollywood debut in 2000 with Refugee alongside Abhishek Bachchan. She was 19 during the film’s shoot and turned 20 after it was released. She then decided to focus only on acting. In a recent chat with podcaster Hanuman Dass, Kareena said, “I never finished my education, and that was something that kind of stayed with me. Even though I had the opportunity, I got into movies and didn’t study any further after Class XI. I know a lot of people can make fun of that or say whatever they want, but I wanted to prove myself as an actor. That was something I wanted to do, to follow my heart.”

“Education is something I do regret not completing. That’s why I have pushed my boys to finish their education first and then follow their hearts. When UNICEF approached me about supporting young girls’ education in India, I felt deeply about it because I had always carried that regret that I hadn’t completed my own education,” she said.

Kareena Kapoor Educational Qualification

Before she became an actress, Kareena studied at Jamnabai Narsee School in Mumbai and later attended Welham Girls’ School in Dehradun. She is said to have briefly studied commerce at Mumbai’s Mithibai College. However, she never completed her degree. She also attended a three-month summer course in microcomputers at Harvard Summer School. Previously, Kareena had revealed that she thought of becoming a lawyer before she started acting. Today, Kareena is among the most popular actresses in the industry.

Kareena Kapoor’s Upcoming Films

Meanwhile, on the work front, Kareena was last seen in Singham Again and Crew in 2024. Now, Kareena Kapoor and Prithviraj Sukumaran are coming together for Meghna Gulzar’s Daayra, a film that deals with crime and the judicial system while drawing from several cases across India. The film will be out in theatres on September 18. The film marks Kareena and Prithviraj’s first on-screen collaboration. The film’s recently released trailer has impressed fans, and they cannot wait to watch the film.



Anushka Ranjan

Recalls Trying Natural Conception, IUI Before IVF: 'Sharam Aane Lagi Ki Kaise Kisi Ko Bolein'

Actress Anushka Ranjan has spoken about the physical and emotional challenges of IVF. Her husband Aditya Seal also revealed that the couple had even considered adoption. On Neha Dhupia and Angad Bedi’s show Double Date, Anushka spoke about her IVF journey and the challenges she faced while trying to conceive.

On Neha Dhupia and Angad Bedi’s show Double Date, in an episode recorded before she welcomed twins, she recalled the initial phase of their journey and revealed that she and her husband, Aditya Seal, had initially been trying to conceive naturally. The duo welcomed their twin baby girls, whom they have lovingly named Vira and, on August 23. They were subsequently advised to consider IUI, a less intensive procedure than IVF, but even that involved medication and injections.

Anushka said: “Initially we were trying naturally; we reached a point where we thought we were ready. Doctors advised us to try to conceive for six months or one year. Then there is a process which is called IUI, which is the milder version of IVF.” “It also requires a lot of medication, but injections kam lena padte the, 3 or 4 injections, but dawaiyan bahut leni padti thi. So wo dawaiyan were also making me feel lost.”

She went on to explain why they eventually opted for IVF, adding that the chances of conception were higher compared to IUI. But beyond the medical procedures, Anushka said that the experience also took an emotional toll on her.

“You start feeling that meri body mein kuch kami hai, kuch toh galat hai. As a girl, I should not have drank or eaten meat,” she said. Anushka added: “Phir sharam bhi aane lagi ki kaise kisi ko bolein ki we are trying to have a kid. (Then I started feeling embarrassed about how do we say we are trying for a kid.) It’s easy to say ‘trying’, but it is such a tough feeling for some women. You feel like you’re getting judged.”



Aditya also opened up about what he witnessed while Anushka was undergoing the process. Seeing the physical pain and emotional strain she was going through, he revealed that at one point he had decided that if the attempt did not work, they would not go through IVF again. The couple also revealed that they had kept adoption as an option, believing that if they were unable to have a child biologically, they would still want to give a child a loving and fulfilling life.

Moonwalk Release Date: AR Rahman's Acting Debut Film To Clash With Ranbir Kapoor's Ramayana Part 1



The makers of director Manoj NS’s ‘Moonwalk’, featuring actor Prabhudeva in the lead, on Wednesday announced that the film would hit screens for Deepavali this year. The film has triggered huge expectations among fans and film buffs as the film will also mark the acting debut of Oscar-award-winning music composer AR Rahman.

Sources say that the ace music director will make a fun cameo appearance in the film. Behindwoods Productions, while announcing the film’s release for Deepavali, said the film would deliver to audiences a spectacular festive celebration filled with laughter and unforgettable family moments.

Apart from acting in it, A R Rahman has also scored the music for the film. Apart from Prabhudeva, the film will also feature actors Yogi Babu, Aju Varghese, Arjun Ashokan, Satz, Nishma, Sushmitha, Redin Kingsley, Mottai Rajendran, Lollu Sabha Swaminathan, Dr Santhosh Jacob, Deepa Shankar, and Ramkumar Natarajan among others.

Another highlight of the movie, sources say, will be Yogi Babu appearing in 16 different roles.

Sources claim that ‘Moonwalk’ will seek to seamlessly blend comedy, music and dance into a vibrant cinematic celebration. Director Manoj NS, who is also the CEO of Behindwoods, said, “Deepavali is a festival that brings families together, and we want Moonwalk to do the same. This film has been created as a celebration of happiness, laughter, music, and dance. This Diwali, our Moonwalk team happily invites family audiences to come together and experience a film that will leave them smiling.” Three tracks from the film – ‘Yethu’, ‘Tinga’ and ‘Macarena’ – have been released from the film so far and have received a good response from audiences worldwide.

Mayile’, the fourth song, featuring AR Rahman and Prabhudeva, is to be released soon. The film features cinematography by Anoop V. Shylaja, choreography by Sekhar VJ and Piyush Shazia, production design by Shanoo, and costume design by Divya George and Swetha Raju.

Abhay Verma Reveals He Signed 8 Films Before Munjya Debut, But All Got Shelved: 'God Has Really Been...'



Actor Abhay Verma made waves when he debuted as a lead in Munjya with Sharvari. However, he has now revealed that he had signed 8 films before Munjya, and all of them got shelved. The actor kept his faith in God and is now thankful for all the love and work he is getting. He believes everything happens at the “right time” for everyone. “I’ve always believed in God’s plan. God has really been helpful and kind to me during all the things that didn’t happen. There were like 8 films that didn’t happen before Munjya (2024). So I’m just grateful, and I believe that God is with me and everything will come at the right time,” he told Hindustan Times. Abhay, who is currently being praised for Operation Safed Sagar, said, “I am just counting my blessings and taking it all in. I feel everything comes and goes at the right time, and it all happens for a reason. I go by that, keep my head down and work the best I can every day. I just hope that someone will get impacted or inspired to see dreams like I did, and still do, and maybe come to this city and choose this profession for themselves.”

He also reflected on his acting philosophy and said, “I have taken my acting as a democracy: to the people, by the people, for the people. My motto has always been to explore myself, and become a better person each day at my job and as a human. Being a good human comes first, and then the job eventually happens. I feel when you are a better human, you automatically become a better actor as you feel more, are kinder and even receive more.”

“I have never pursued acting as an outcome-oriented vision for me. It has always been about showing up at work, pulling up my socks the highest, and just listening to directors I get to work with. I am very happy and grateful that a director like Siddharth Anand sir believes in me at such an early stage of my career, or a director like Lijo Jose Pellissery, whose films have gone to the Oscars, believes in me to be his leading man. That means everything for me, and that’s all that I work for,” he mentioned.

Warm Handshake, But India-China Border Tensions Remain

by Ashish Sinha

New Delhi: The warm visuals of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at the BRICS Summit suggested a thaw in ties. Their statements, however, exposed a fundamental difference. Xi called for India and China to advance their broader relationship while addressing the boundary question in parallel. Modi, in contrast, stressed that peace and tranquillity along the border remain the essential basis for developing bilateral ties.

The divergence underscores the central challenge in the relationship: whether India-China ties can be normalised while the border

der remains a source of tension.

Border peace remains India's priority

Modi reiterated New Delhi's position that peace and tranquillity in the border areas are indispensable to sustained progress in bilateral relations.

India also emphasised the need for both sides to honour existing agreements and understandings on border issues.

For New Delhi, this is more than diplomatic language. The 2020 military crisis in eastern Ladakh fundamentally altered India's approach to China, making stability along the Line of Actual Control a key measure of the health of the broader relationship.



Beijing wants the two tracks separated

Xi's message reflected a different approach. According to the Chinese readout, he argued that the two countries should work simultaneously on improv-

ing bilateral relations and resolving the boundary question and related border issues.

The distinction is important. Beijing appears willing to compartmentalise the border dispute, while

New Delhi continues to see border stability as a prerequisite for deeper normalisation. That difference could prove more consequential than the cordial imagery surrounding the leaders' meeting.

A thaw, but not a reset

The meeting nevertheless signals an effort by both sides to move beyond the prolonged chill that fol-

lowed the 2020 Ladakh crisis. Diplomatic and military channels have remained active, while discussions have resumed on trade, air connectivity and people-to-people exchanges.

Both countries have an interest in stabilising ties. India and China are major economic powers and key

members of BRICS, while prolonged confrontation carries costs for both sides. But renewed engagement does not mean the under-

lying strategic distrust has disappeared. For India, the credibility of the thaw will depend heavily on developments along the LAC and on whether existing border agreements and understandings are respected.

The LAC remains the real test. The Modi-Xi meeting has reopened political space for dialogue, but the hardest questions remain unresolved.

China wants the wider relationship to move forward alongside negotiations over the boundary. India wants lasting peace and adherence to existing border arrangements to underpin that process.

The photographs may show a warmer relationship. The official statements show that the strategic gap remains. The next phase of India-China ties will therefore be judged less by handshakes at summits and more by what happens on the ground along the border. The thaw may be real. Whether it becomes a reset will depend on the LAC.

Modi, Xi Offer to Help End Russia-Ukraine War



New Delhi: In a significant diplomatic development at the BRICS Summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping have offered to help broker a solution to the Russia-Ukraine war, the Kremlin said Sunday. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Modi and Xi expressed strong interest in ending the conflict during separate meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin and offered their good offices to help find a settlement.

Putin welcomed the offer and briefed both leaders on the situation surrounding the war, Peskov said, as quoted by Sputnik.

Modi: Dialogue is the way forward

At his meeting with Putin on Friday, Modi reiterated India's long-standing position that dialogue and diplomacy are the only way to resolve conflicts.

He also conveyed India's readiness to contribute to peace initiatives aimed at finding a negotiated settlement. The message comes as fighting between Russian and Ukrainian forces continues despite renewed international diplomatic efforts.

Black Sea, West Asia on agenda

The Modi-Putin talks also covered key regional and global developments, including the conflicts in West Asia and the Black Sea region, according to the Indian government. The Black Sea conflict has implications for maritime trade and the safety of Indian seafarers, adding a direct Indian interest to the evolving situation.

Fresh push for negotiations

The Kremlin's disclosure came days after US envoys Steve Witkoff and Jared Kushner travelled to Moscow and Kyiv in a renewed attempt to revive negotiations. Yet, diplomacy has so far failed to halt the fighting. The latest Kremlin statement puts India and China in a potentially significant diplomatic role as major powers willing to support efforts towards a negotiated end to the war. With Moscow welcoming their offer, the BRICS platform has emerged as another possible channel for peace diplomacy—even as the battlefield remains active.

PM Modi Hosts Vegetarian Gala Dinner for BRICS Leaders, Millets Take Centre Stage

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted a vegetarian gala dinner for BRICS leaders at Bharat Mandapam on Saturday, showcasing Indian flavours with millets, or "Shree Anna," prominently featured across the menu. The spread included contemporary starters such as Khandvi Mille-Feuille and Khumb Galouti, followed by Paneer Lababdar, Himalayan morels with asparagus, Carrot Bean Poriyal, Thakkali Belle Sagra and Millet Pulao.

BRICS Summit 2026: What India Achieved at the New Delhi Meet

New Delhi: BRICS is bigger, more influential—and increasingly determined to reshape the global order. That was the central message as the 18th BRICS Summit concluded in New Delhi on September 13 with the adoption of the New Delhi Declaration.

India's year-long chairship put global governance reform, sustainable development, technology, trade and the concerns of the Global South at the heart of the expanded grouping's agenda.

Big message: Reform, not rupture

The summit called for a more representative and equitable global system, with stronger voices for developing countries in the UN and international financial institutions.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has stressed that BRICS should not be seen as an anti-Western bloc, but as a platform through which the Global South can become a "rule-shaper" in global affairs.

No common BRICS currency—for now

Despite years of speculation, the summit did not create a com-

mon BRICS currency. Instead, leaders backed greater use of national currencies in trade and investment and stronger cross-border payment mechanisms—an incremental approach aimed at reducing transaction barriers and dependence on Western-dominated financial channels.

Middle East tests BRICS unity The wars and tensions in West Asia posed one of the summit's biggest diplomatic challenges, particularly with Iran and the UAE inside the expanded grouping.

Yet BRICS managed to agree on a common declaration calling for restraint, dialogue and diplomatic solutions. The consensus demonstrated the bloc's ability to find common ground despite deep geopolitical differences.

AI becomes a strategic priority

Artificial intelligence emerged as a major new frontier for BRICS cooperation. The grouping backed inclusive, secure and development-oriented AI, while China announced plans for a BRICS AI Open Source Zone. The focus reflects a wider concern that

developing countries should not merely consume emerging technologies but help shape them.

Health, climate and food security

India pushed BRICS towards practical cooperation in health, including an early-warning system for infectious diseases. The summit also highlighted food and energy security, climate action and sustainable development—areas where developing economies face some of the sharpest pressures.

BRICS' economic weight grows

The grouping's expanding influence is backed by substantial economic heft. India says the BRICS family now represents about 50% of the world's population, 40% of global GDP and more than 25% of global trade. That scale gives BRICS greater leverage—but also makes consensus harder as its membership becomes more politically and economically diverse.

India's diplomatic win

For New Delhi, the summit was as much about diplomacy as declarations. India managed to bring to-

gether countries with competing interests—including China, Russia, Iran and the UAE—while keeping the focus on development and Global South priorities.

The Modi-Xi Jinping engagement on the sidelines also added a significant bilateral dimension, with both sides signalling interest in improving business and transport links while India stressed that lasting border peace remains fundamental to better ties.

The real test starts now

The New Delhi Summit has given BRICS a broader agenda and a louder voice. But its credibility will now be measured by delivery—whether plans on payments, AI, health, climate, trade and development become functioning mechanisms rather than summit promises. With

China taking over the BRICS chair next, the bloc enters its next phase with greater ambition—and greater expectations.

The New Delhi takeaway is clear: BRICS no longer wants merely a seat at the global table. It wants a bigger say in deciding what is served.

Rahul Gandhi Takes Dig at BRICS Vegetarian Dinner Menu

New Delhi: A lavish vegetarian spread served at the grand dinner hosted for BRICS leaders in New Delhi has sparked a political controversy, with opposition leaders questioning the decision to keep the high-profile menu entirely vegetarian.

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi took a swipe at the government on X, pointing to India's diverse food habits. "For the record: 80% of Indians are non-vegetarian," he wrote, while praising In-



dian non-vegetarian cuisine and adding a reference to his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra's love for chole bature.

Congress leader Pawan

Khera also hit out at the Centre, accusing the BJP-led government of seeking to impose its dietary preferences on others.

The controversy comes as

India hosts the BRICS summit, where food and culture have been showcased alongside diplomacy and geopolitics. The vegetarian menu featured an array of Indian flavours, with millets and regional dishes given prominence at the gala dinner. While the government has presented the spread as a showcase of India's culinary heritage, the menu has now become an unlikely flashpoint in the wider political debate over food choices and cultural diversity.

Shorties

Ramaphosa Hails India's BRICS Summit, Says Joint Declaration Proves Critics Wrong



New Delhi: South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has praised India for successfully hosting the BRICS Summit 2026 in New Delhi, saying the bloc achieved a major breakthrough by adopting a joint declaration despite doubts that consensus would be possible.

"At this BRICS Summit, we succeeded in adopting the declaration, even though many believed we wouldn't be able to. Yet, we achieved it," Ramaphosa said, congratulating all BRICS members on the outcome.

Ramaphosa also lauded India's arrangements for the summit, calling the scale of the exercise a major achievement. He highlighted the 350 meetings held during India's BRICS presidency and noted that events were organised across around 30 cities. The South African leader said bringing together countries on such a vast scale was no easy task, making India's successful organisation particularly significant. The joint declaration emerged as one of the summit's key outcomes, underscoring the bloc's emphasis on cooperation and its role in addressing global and economic challenges. Ramaphosa said the summit delivered a strong message of unity and collective action, expressing confidence that cooperation among BRICS members would deepen. At a time of heightened geopolitical tensions, he stressed that such gatherings represent more than diplomacy—they reflect the collective effort of member nations to strengthen cooperation and advance the BRICS agenda.

PM Modi Holds 15 Bilateral Meetings on Sidelines of BRICS Summit

New Delhi: Prime Minister Narendra Modi held 15 bilateral meetings with world leaders over three days on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in New Delhi, focusing on bilateral ties and key regional and global issues. On Sunday, Modi met leaders from Kazakhstan, Egypt, Indonesia, the Philippines, South Africa, Burundi, Nigeria and Uganda. Discussions covered trade, defence, energy, connectivity, critical minerals, emerging technologies and strategic cooperation. Earlier, Modi held talks with leaders of Ethiopia, Malaysia, the UAE, Vietnam and China, besides meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian and UN Secretary-General António Guterres. The high-level engagements underlined India's diplomatic push to deepen partnerships and advance cooperation on major global challenges during its BRICS presidency.

Damodar River Under NGT Scanner Over Floodplain, Ash Pond Work at Chandrapura in Bokaro

by Ashish Sinha

Ranchi: The Damodar River has come under the scrutiny of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) following allegations of floodplain encroachment, illegal sand mining and expansion of an ash pond linked to the Damodar Valley Corporation's (DVC) Chandrapura Thermal Power Station (CTPS).

The NGT's Eastern Zone Bench in Kolkata, in its order dated September 3, 2026, issued notices to the Jharkhand government, DVC and several other authorities. The Tribunal observed that the allegations raised in the petition prima facie involved substantial questions relating to the environment.

The case was filed by Praveen Kumar Singh, Jharkhand State Convener of the Damodar Bachao Andolan. Singh has alleged that a concrete/stone wall is being constructed along

the existing bank of the Damodar River within the High Flood Level (HFL) area, or active floodplain, apparently to facilitate expansion of the CTPS ash-pond area towards the river.

He has also alleged illegal sand extraction and the creation of pits in the riverbed, claiming that such activities could damage the river and its floodplain. The petition seeks an immediate stop to the alleged activities, restoration of the affected area and proper demarcation of the Damodar's floodplain.

Ash pond distance under scrutiny

The petition refers to the 2023 Guidelines on Design, Construction, O&M and Annual Certification of Coal Ash Ponds.

As recorded in the NGT order, the guidelines provide that ash ponds should be located at least 500 metres from the High Flood Level/Full Reservoir



Level of rivers and reservoirs. Singh has therefore sought compliance with the guidelines and suggested that an alternative location be considered for the ash pond if the present site does not meet the required norms.

Earlier pollution incidents cited

Singh has also referred to the long-running Damodar Bachao Andolan, saying the movement had helped reduce pollution in the river by around 95% over the past 25 years.

At the same time, he raised

concerns over pollution linked to DVC's thermal power stations at Chandrapura and Bokaro.

He cited the September 2019 ash-pond collapse at Bokaro Thermal Power Station, which, according to him, affected hundreds of homes and later became the subject of an NGT case in which a penalty of ₹2.89 crore was imposed. He also referred to an October 2019 furnace-oil leakage at CTPS, alleging that it disrupted water supplies in parts of Bokaro and Dhanbad for around 72 hours and affected

a large population. According to Singh, the incident also resulted in an NGT proceeding and a penalty of ₹1.65 crore, which was subsequently paid.

Wall construction led to NGT petition

According to the petitioner, several representations were made to DVC and government authorities regarding the construction of the wall along the Damodar.

Singh claimed that the Jharkhand Water Resources Department subsequently conducted an inquiry and found CTPS at fault.

Following this, the Tenughat Division issued a notice to the Senior General Manager-cum-Project Head of CTPS, asking that the work be stopped.

The petitioner, however, alleged that construction continued despite the direction. He then approached the NGT seeking intervention. The petition also refers to a

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आपकी समस्याओं की
हमारे विशेषज्ञ

भारत वैश्विक विकास का इंजन और भरोसेमंद साझेदार बनकर खड़ा है : रेखा गुप्ता

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली की मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने कहा कि आज तेज विकास, आधुनिक इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर, डिजिटल शक्ति, आत्मनिर्भरता, वैश्विक व्यापार हो या नई तकनीक भारत हर क्षेत्र में अपनी मजबूत पहचान बना रहा है। कभी दुनिया भारत को केवल एक बड़े बाजार के रूप में देखती थी, आज वही भारत वैश्विक विकास का इंजन, भरोसेमंद साझेदार और निर्णायक आवाज बनकर खड़ा है। मुख्यमंत्री ने ‘एक्स पोस्ट’ में कहा कि भारत में यह बदलाव अपने आप नहीं आया। इसके पीछे प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की दूरदृष्टि, कठिन निर्णय लेने का साहस और 140 करोड़ भारतीयों की शक्ति पर उनका अटूट विश्वास है। आज दुनिया के बड़े मंचों पर भारत की बात सुनी जाती है, भारत की भूमिका को महत्व दिया जाता है और भारत के साथ आगे बढ़ने की दुनिया की आकांक्षा स्पष्ट दिखाई देती है।

ब्रिक्स डिनर में दिखा मलेशियाई पीएम अनवर इब्राहिम का संगीतमय अंदाज : गाए किशोर कुमार और मुकेश के सदाबहार नगमे, वीडियो वायरल

नई दिल्ली। भारत की मेजबानी में आयोजित ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन के दौरान मलेशिया के प्रधानमंत्री अनवर इब्राहिम का एक अनोखा और संगीतमय अंदाज देखने को मिला। नई दिल्ली में आयोजित औपचारिक ब्रिक्स डिनर के दौरान उन्होंने हिंदी सिनेमा के दो अमर गीत गाकर महफिल में सभा बांध दिया। इस संगीतमय प्रस्तुति का वीडियो अब सोशल मीडिया पर तेजी से वायरल हो रहा है। वायरल वीडियो में प्रधानमंत्री अनवर इब्राहिम पियानो की मधुर धुन पर किशोर कुमार का लोकप्रिय नगमा ‘खुबवान हो तुम या कोई हकीकत’ (फिल्म ‘तीन देवियां’, 1965) और गायक मुकेश का दर्दभरा तराना ‘दोस्त दोस्त ना रहा’ (फिल्म ‘संगम’, 1964) गाते हुए दिखाई दे रहे हैं। करीब डेढ़ मिनट की इस क्लिप में वह पूरे सूर-ताल के साथ दोनों गीतों के कुछ अंतरे गुनगुनाते नजर आए। अनवर इब्राहिम ने खुद इस वीडियो को सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म ‘एक्स’ पर साझा करते हुए हल्के-फुल्के अंदाज में लिखा— ‘गुरु, थोड़ा-सा गाने की इजाजत है?’ मलेशियाई प्रधानमंत्री का भारतीय संस्कृति और बॉलीवुड संगीत के प्रति यह प्रेम नया नहीं है। इससे पहले फरवरी 2026 में जब भारतीय प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी मलेशिया के दौरे पर गए थे, तब भी अनवर इब्राहिम ने अपने एक आधिकारिक वीडियो मोंटाज के बैकग्राउंड में फिल्म ‘कभी खुशी कभी ग़म’ का मशहूर गीत ‘बोले चूड़ियां’ शामिल किया था।

साइबर ठगी में इस्तेमाल सिम कार्ड जारी करने के आरोप में एयरटेल वितरक गिरफ्तार

नई दिल्ली। केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो (सीबीआई) ने साइबर ठगी के लिए इस्तेमाल किए जा रहे अवैध सिम बॉक्स ऑपरेशन के मामले में बिहार और ओडिशा में 10 ठिकानों पर छापेमारी कर एक व्यक्ति को गिरफ्तार किया है। गिरफ्तार आरोपी वैशाली जिले के महुआ क्षेत्र में एयरटेल का एरिया डिस्ट्रीब्यूटर है। उस पर बड़ी संख्या में सिम कार्ड कथित तौर पर फर्जी तरीके से जारी कर उन्हें अवैध सिम बॉक्स संचालन के लिए उपलब्ध कराने का आरोप है। सीबीआई ने बताया कि वैशाली (बिहार), जगतसिंहपुर (ओडिशा), समेत 10 स्थानों पर की गई तलाशी के दौरान मोबाइल फोन, लैपटॉप, सिम कार्ड सहित विभिन्न डिजिटल उपकरणों से आपत्तिजनक सामग्री बरामद की गई है। जांच एजेंसी बिहार के सुपौल जिले में पिछले साल सामने आए एक अवैध सिम बॉक्स ऑपरेशन के मामले की जांच कर रही है। बाद में बिहार सरकार ने इस मामले को सीबीआई को सौंप दिया था। जिस घर में सिम बॉक्स का संचालन किया जा रहा था, वहां से 1,300 से अधिक सिम कार्ड बरामद किए गए थे। सीबीआई ने बताया कि जांच के दौरान जुटाए गए आंकड़ों से संकेत मिला है कि यह सिम बॉक्स ऑपरेशन देशभर में साइबर अपराध के कम से कम 73 मामलों से जुड़ा हुआ था। इनमें ‘डिजिटल अरेस्ट’ के जरिए ठगी के मामले भी शामिल हैं।

स्टील स्लैंग से बनी सड़कों के निर्माण में 40 प्रतिशत तक की कटौती हो सकती है और इनकी मजबूती चार गुना अधिक होती है: डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह

नई दिल्ली । केंद्रीय विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी राज्य मंत्री डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने कहा कि स्टील स्लैंग रोड तकनीक से सड़क निर्माण लागत में लगभग 40 प्रतिशत की कमी आ सकती है, जबकि यह पारंपरिक सड़कों की तुलना में चार गुना अधिक मजबूत होती है। डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने यह बात ‘प्रसंस्कृत स्टील स्लैंग एग्रीगेट्स से निर्मित विश्व की सबसे लंबी सड़क’ के लिए अतिथिआधिकारिक बयान के अनुसार, डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने कहा कि यह तकनीक रखरखाव चक्र को भी काफी हद तक बड़ा सकती है, उपयुक्त अनुपातों में लगभग 15 वर्षों के बाद ही रखरखाव की आवश्यकता होगी, जिससे यह न केवल सड़क इंजीनियरिंग बल्कि समग्र अवसरचक्र अर्थव्यवस्था के लिए भी एक महत्वपूर्ण उपलब्धि साबित होगी। डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने स्वदेशी प्रौद्योगिकी को एक परियोजना से कई परियोजनाओं तक और एक राज्य से कई राज्यों तक ले जाने का आह्वान किया, जिसमें सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय से परे रेलवे, अन्य सरकारी विभागों, राज्य सरकारों और निजी बिल्डरों, ठेकेदारों और बुनियादी ढांचा संचालकों तक इसके उपयोग का विस्तार होना चाहिए। डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने यह बात ‘प्रसंस्कृत स्टील स्लैंग एग्रीगेट्स से निर्मित विश्व की सबसे लंबी सड़क’ के लिए मिनीज वुल्ड रिकॉर्ड प्रदान किए जाने के अवसर पर कही।

दिल्ली के शेख सराय में 151 करोड़ की लागत से बनेगी फोरेंसिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला : रेखा गुप्ता

नई क्षेत्रीय एफएसएल इस बड़ी हुई मांग को पूरा करने में सहायता करेगी।

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली में आपराधिक मामलों की वैज्ञानिक जांच के लिए फोरेंसिक सुविधाओं को और मजबूत करने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण कदम उठाया गया है। मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता की अध्यक्षता में हुई व्वय वित्त समिति (ईएफसी) की बैठक में शेख सराय में अत्याधुनिक क्षेत्रीय फोरेंसिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला (आरएफएसएल) के निर्माण को स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है। इसके लिए 151.81 करोड़ रुपये के बजट को भी स्वीकृति दी गई है। यह जानकारी एक बयान में दी गयी। बयान के मुताबिक, मुख्यमंत्री ने लोक निर्माण विभाग (पीडब्ल्यूडी) को परियोजना का निर्माण कार्य दो वर्ष के भीतर पूरा

करने का लक्ष्य दिया है। शेख सराय में बनने वाली नई क्षेत्रीय फोरेंसिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला लगभग 6,300 वर्गमीटर के भूखंड पर बनाई जाएगी और इसका कुल निर्मित क्षेत्र 18,300 वर्गमीटर होगा। पीडब्ल्यूडी द्वारा निर्मित यह भवन वैज्ञानिक जांच



की विशेष आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान में रखते हुए एकीकृत फोरेंसिक सुविधा के रूप में विकसित किया जाएगा। मुख्यमंत्री ने कहा कि नई क्षेत्रीय फोरेंसिक विज्ञान प्रयोगशाला से गृह विभाग और दिल्ली पुलिस को नए आपराधिक कानूनों की

पीएम मोदी संग ब्रिक्स नेताओं ने देखी भारतीय इनोवेशन इकोसिस्टम की झलक

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। 18वें ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन की मेजबानी के दौरान प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने भारत के बढ़ते डीप-टेक और इनोवेशन इकोसिस्टम की सराहना की। उन्होंने नई दिल्ली के भारत मंडपम में आयोजित ‘भारत इनोवेट्स एक्सपोजिशन’ का दौरा ब्रिक्स देशों

निजामुद्दीन रेलवे स्टेशन पर दिल्ली जीएसटी विभाग ने 5 करोड़ का माल जब्त किया

पकड़े गए माल के साथ आवश्यक इनवॉइस और ई-वे बिल उपलब्ध नहीं थे।

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली सरकार के वस्तु एवं सेवा कर (जीएसटी) विभाग ने रेलवे अधिकारियों के समन्वय से कार्रवाई करते हुए हजरत निजामुद्दीन रेलवे स्टेशन पर करीब 5 करोड़ रुपये मूल्य के कॉपर स्कूप समेत लगभग 50 टन माल की खेप जब्त की है। मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता ने एक बयान में कहा कि दिल्ली सरकार कर चोरी और राजस्व के नुकसान को किसी भी कीमत पर बर्दाश्त नहीं करेगी। सरकार का लक्ष्य केवल कार्रवाई करना नहीं, बल्कि ऐसी प्रभावी व्यवस्था तैयार करना है, जिसमें कारोबार पारदर्शी तरीके से हो और प्रत्येक देय कर की वसूली सुनिश्चित हो। रेलवे सहित माल परिवहन के सभी माध्यमों पर निगरानी बढ़ाकर जीएसटी अनुपालन को मजबूत किया जाएगा। सुशासन, पारदर्शिता और सरकारी राजस्व की सुरक्षा दिल्ली सरकार की प्राथमिकताओं में हैं और कर चोरी में शामिल तत्वों के खिलाफ कानून के अनुरूप सख्त कार्रवाई जारी रहेगी। बयान के मुताबिक विभाग को खुफिया जानकारी मिली थी कि रेलवे नेटवर्क के जरिए अनिवार्य दस्तावेजों, जैसे इनवॉइस और ई-वे बिल के बिना माल का परिवहन किया जा रहा है। इसी सूचना के आधार पर विभाग ने रेलवे अधिकारियों के साथ

Delhi

भारत मंडपम में डीप-टेक का जलवा

के नेताओं के साथ किया। पीएम मोदी ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म ‘एक्स’ पर इस दौर की तस्वीरें साझा करते हुए लिखा, ‘भारत से नवाचार, दुनिया के लिए समाधान! मैंने ब्रिक्स देशों के नेताओं के साथ भारत इनोवेट्स का दौरा किया। हमारे युवाओं की ऊर्जा और समर्पण पर गर्व है। इस दौरान रूस के राष्ट्रपति



व्लादिमीर पुतिन, चीन के राष्ट्रपति शी चिनफिंग, ईरान के राष्ट्रपति मसूद पेजेरिकयन और अन्य ब्रिक्स नेताओं ने भी प्रधानमंत्री मोदी के साथ प्रदर्शनी देखी। ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन से पहले भारत मंडपम में दो दिन का ‘भारत इनोवेट्स एक्सपोजशन’ शुरू हुआ। इसमें

सहयोग से किया है। यह शिक्षा मंत्रालय का एक राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम है,

जिसका उद्देश्य भारत के उच्च शिक्षा संस्थानों से निकलने वाले नवाचारों

को वैश्विक स्तर पर आगे बढ़ाना है।

इस पहल का मकसद भारत के इनोवेशन नेटवर्क को दुनिया भर के कॉर्पोरेट्स, निवेशकों, इनक्यूबेटर्स, विश्वविद्यालयों, रिसर्च संस्थानों, सरकारों और विदेशों में रहने वाले भारतीय पूर्व छात्रों से जोड़ना है। इनमें स्टार्टअप, विश्वविद्यालय, लैब, रिसर्च पार्क और अन्य संस्थान शामिल हैं। इससे लंबे समय तक सहयोग और साझेदारी को बढ़ावा मिलेगा। ब्रिक्स भारत इनोवेट्स (बीबीआई) एक्सपोजिशन वर्ष 2026 में भारत के डीप-टेक स्टार्टअप्स की दूसरी बड़ी प्रदर्शनी है। इससे पहले पहली भारत इनोवेट्स प्रदर्शनी 14 से 16 जून 2026 के

बीच फ्रांस के नीस शहर में आयोजित हुई थी।इस बार बीबीआई में 37 भारतीय डीप-टेक स्टार्टअप्स भाग ले रहे हैं। ये उन 120 स्टार्टअप्स के समूह से चुने गए हैं जिन्होंने नीस में आयोजित भारत इनोवेट्स 2026 में हिस्सा लिया था। यह प्रदर्शनी भारत की ब्रिक्स अध्यक्षता के विषय ‘लचीलापन, नवाचार, सहयोग और सतत विकास के लिए निर्माण’ के अनुरूप है। इस बीच, शनिवार शाम को प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी की ओर से ब्रिक्स नेताओं के सम्मान में आयोजित भव्य रात्रिभोज (गाला डिनर) के लिए कई देशों के नेता और प्रतिनिधि भारत मंडपम पहुंचे।

राष्ट्रमंडल संसदीय सम्मेलन के लिए विजेंद्र गुप्ता केपटाउन रवाना हुए

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। दिल्ली विधानसभा अध्यक्ष विजेंद्र गुप्ता दक्षिण अफ्रीका के केपटाउन के लिए रवाना हुए, जहां वे 18 सितंबर तक आयोजित होने वाले 69वें राष्ट्रमंडल संसदीय सम्मेलन (सीपीसी) में शामिल होंगे। सम्मेलन की मेजबानी दक्षिण अफ्रीका की संसद और सीपीए दक्षिण अफ्रीका शाखा द्वारा की जा रही है। सम्मेलन का आयोजन ‘बदलती विश्व व्यवस्था में अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून और संसदीय लोकतंत्र को सुदृढ़ करना: राष्ट्रमंडल नेतृत्व’ विषय के तहत किया जा रहा है, यह जानकारी आज एक बयान में दी गई। सम्मेलन में राष्ट्रमंडल देशों की संसदों के अध्यक्ष, पीठासीन अधिकारी, सांसद तथा संसदीय अधिकारी भाग लेंगे और लोकतांत्रिक विधायिकाओं के समक्ष मौजूद समकालीन चुनौतियों पर विचार-विमर्श करने के साथ-साथ संसदीय लोकतंत्र तथा अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग को सुदृढ़ करने के उपायों पर चर्चा

करेंगे। दिल्ली विधानसभा के उपाध्यक्ष मोहन सिंह बिष्ट भी इस सम्मेलन में शामिल होंगे। सम्मेलन के दौरान अध्यक्ष विजेंद्र गुप्ता ‘क्षमता की कमी से जूझ रही संसदों में समावेशिता के उपायों को लागू



करना’ विषय पर आयोजित सत्र की अध्यक्षता करेंगे। वे ‘संसदों में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता: वर्तमान अनुप्रयोग, संभावनाएं और कार्यान्वयन की रणनीतियां’ विषय पर कार्यशाला को भी संबोधित करेंगे। इस दौरान वे विधायी संस्थानों में कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता के बढ़ते उपयोग, संसदीय अनुसंधान और संस्थागत सूचनाओं तक पहुंच

को सुदृढ़ करने में इसकी क्षमता तथा इसके जिम्मेदारता कार्यान्वयन से जुड़ी व्यावहारिक चुनौतियों पर अपने विचार रखेंगे। गुप्ता इस बात पर जोर देंगे कि जैसे-जैसे विधायिकाएं उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों को अपना रही हैं, वैसे-वैसे सटीकता, पारदर्शिता, जवाबदेही, डेटा की शुचितता और संसदीय निगरानी सुनिश्चित करना अत्यंत आवश्यक है। विजेंद्र गुप्ता ‘राष्ट्रमंडल के लिए नए नेतृत्व के अवसर: लोकतंत्र और अंतरराष्ट्रीय कानून को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए संसदीय कार्रवाई’ तथा ‘मानवाधिकारों की रक्षा और शांति को बढ़ावा देना: संसदों की भूमिका’ विषयों पर भी अपने विचार रखेंगे। इन सत्रों के माध्यम से वे लोकतांत्रिक संस्थाओं को सुदृढ़ करने, संवैधानिक एवं संसदीय मूल्यों को बनाए रखने, अंतरराष्ट्रीय सहयोग को बढ़ावा देने, मानवाधिकारों की रक्षा करने और शांति में योगदान देने में विधायिकाओं की जिम्मेदारी पर प्रकाश डालेंगे।

इसू चुनाव में अभाविप का महिला सुरक्षा और छात्रावास विस्तार पर फोकस

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। अखिल भारतीय विद्यार्थी परिषद (अभाविप) ने दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय छात्रसंघ (इसू) चुनाव के लिए अपने केंद्रीय पैनल के प्रत्याशियों की घोषणा के बाद चुनाव अभियान तेज कर दिया है। अध्यक्ष पद पर यश डबास, उपाध्यक्ष पद पर ईशू मौर्य, सचिव पद पर रिया छाबड़ी एवं संयुक्त सचिव पद पर लक्ष्यराज सिंह अभाविप के प्रत्याशी हैं। चारों पदों पर जीत के लक्ष्य के साथ अभाविप कार्यकर्ता विभिन्न कॉलेजों, छात्रावासों एवं विद्यार्थी बहुल क्षेत्रों में लगातार संपर्क और संवाद कर रहे हैं।अभाविप के कार्यकर्ताओं ने विभिन्न पीजी एवं छात्रावासों में विद्यार्थियों से संपर्क कर विद्यार्थी हित से जुड़े मुद्दों पर संवाद किया। सत्य निकेतन हाउसे के बाद चल रहे ‘आखिर कब तक?’ अभियान के तहत सुरक्षित विद्यार्थी आवास का मुद्दा उठाया गया। अभाविप की मांग और लगातार प्रदर्शनों के बाद 2400 बेड के गल्ट्स हॉस्टल का निर्माण किया जा रहा है। विश्वविद्यालय में हॉस्टल की सीमित संख्या और सीटों की कमी को देखते हुए सभी विद्यार्थियों के लिए हॉस्टल की सीटें बढ़ाना और सुरक्षित एवं सुलभ आवास उपलब्ध कराना अभाविप का प्रमुख मुद्दा है। परिषद ने बताया कि महिला सुरक्षा अभाविप का प्रमुख मुद्दा है। पिंक बुथ, सीसीटीवी कैमरे, महिला सुरक्षा गश्ती वाहन और यू-स्पेशल बस सेवा जैसे पहलों के साथ ‘नारी तू नारायणी’, ‘स्वयंसिद्धा’ और ‘वामिका’ जैसे अभियानों के माध्यम से छात्राओं की सुरक्षा, आत्मनिर्भरता और नेतृत्व की बढ़ावा दिया गया है। इसू में अकादमिक, महिला, पूर्वांतर एवं छात्रावास संबंधी समस्याओं के लिए सर्मापित प्रकोष्ठ भी बनाए गए हैं, ताकि विद्यार्थियों की समस्याओं को सीधे सुनकर उनके समाधान के लिए प्रभावी प्रयास किए जा सकें।

‘विघ्नहर्ता से विकासकर्ता’ की थीम पर सजेगा गणेश महोत्सव का पंडाल

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। राजधानी में गणपति उत्सव की तैयारियां जोरशोर से चल रही हैं। गणपति महोत्सव को लेकर आयोजक कई नई आकर्षक चीजें लेकर आ रहे हैं। लक्ष्मी नगर स्थित श्री गणेश सेवा मंडल, दिल्ली (रज.) इस बारे भव्य आयोजन के साथ 12 ज्योतिर्लिंग के दर्शन कराने वाले हैं। 14 से 25 सितंबर तक लक्ष्मी नगर के प्रियदर्शनी विहार स्थित डीडीए मिनी क्रिकेट स्टेडियम, बैंक एनक्लेव में आयोजित होने वाले गणपति उत्सव को थीम ‘विघ्नहर्ता से विकासकर्ता–25 वर्ष की आस्था, 2047 विकसित आधुनिक भारत का संकल्प’ रखी गई है।संस्था के संस्थापक अध्यक्ष महेंद्र लड्डा ने पत्रकार वार्ता में बताया कि संस्था पिछले 25 वर्षों से लक्ष्मी नगर में ‘दिल्ली का महाराजा’ के नाम से गणेश महोत्सव का आयोजन करती आ रही है। यह साल हमारे गणपति बप्पा दिल्ली का महाराजा का 25वां गणेश महोत्सव है जिसमें हम खास एवं यादगार बनाना चाहते हैं द सिलेस जुबली वर्ष को विशेष बनाने के लिए इस बार भारत की प्राचीन सांस्कृतिक विरासत से लेकर आधुनिक एवं आत्मनिर्भर भारत तक की विकास यात्रा को गणेश महोत्सव की मूर्ति भी खास होगी द



महोत्सव स्थल का पंडाल द्वादश ज्योतिर्लिंगों की भव्य थीम पर तैयार किया गया है जिसके मुख्य द्वार के केंद्र में भगवान केदारनाथ मंदिर तथा उसके

दोनों ओर देश के सभी 12 ज्योतिर्लिंग मंदिरों की कलात्मक प्रस्तुति होगी। यह भव्य प्रवेश द्वार श्रद्धालुओं के लिए प्रमुख आकर्षण होगा।

महेंद्र लड्डा ने बताया कि इस बार दिल्ली का महाराजा के मंगल मूर्ति स्थापना पर भव्य कलश शोभायात्रा ‘अनेकता में एकता’ की थीम पर आधारित होगी। इसमें इंद्रधनुष के सात रंगों की तरह भारत के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों की सांस्कृतिक विविधता को सात रंग, सात प्रदेश और सात प्रमुख परंपराओं के माध्यम से प्रस्तुत किया जाएगा। महिला शसक्तीकरण पर केंद्रित इस शोभा यात्रा में 52 महिलाएं हिस्सा लेंगी एवं जिनके माध्यम से 52 आराध्य शक्तिपीठों को को दर्शाया जाएगा द शोभायात्रा में राजस्थान की गंगौर यात्रा, बिहार का छठ पर्व, गुजरात का महा रास-गरबा एवं डंडिया, पंजाब की देशभक्ति प्रस्तुति, दुर्गा पूजा, महाराष्ट्र की वारी परंपरा तथा दक्षिण भारत की रामायण पर आधारित झाकियां शामिल होंगी। पारंपरिक ढोल-गाढ़ाई और लोक कलाकारों की प्रस्तुतियों के साथ यह शोभायात्रा भारत की विविधता में एकता का संदेश देगी। महेंद्र लड्डा ने बताया कि 25वें गणेश महोत्सव का शुभारंभ 14 सितंबर को भव्य शोभायात्रा 4 बजे एवं मंगलमूर्ति की स्थापना शाम 6 बजे होगी। वहीं 25 सितंबर को छप्पन भोग, महाआरती एवं बप्पा के विसर्जन के साथ सिल्वर जुबली गणेश महोत्सव का समापन होगा।

भगवान वराह की जयंती के पावन अवसर पर केंद्रीय मंत्री गडकरी और सीएम योगी सहित कई नेताओं ने दी बधाई

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली। भगवान श्री हरि विष्णु की ९ वीं जयंती पर सीएम योगी सहित कई नेताओं ने बधाई और शुभकामनाएं दी हैं। केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म ‘एक्स’ पर पोस्ट कर लिखा, ‘भगवान वराह जयंती की शुभकामनाएं।’ उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्यमंत्री योगी आदित्यनाथ की ओर से सोशल मीडिया पोस्ट में लिखा गया, ‘श्रीहरि के दिव्य अवतार भगवान श्री वराह की पावन जयंती पर समस्त श्रद्धालुओं एवं प्रदेश वासियों को हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं।’ भगवान श्री वराह धर्म की स्थापना, सृष्टि के संरक्षण एवं अधर्म पर धर्म की विजय के शाश्वत प्रतीक हैं, उनकी कृपा से सभी के जीवन में सुख, समृद्धि एवं मंगल का संचार हो, यही प्रार्थना है।’ दिल्ली को मुख्यमंत्री रेखा गुप्ता की ओर से

‘एक्स’ पोस्ट पर लिखा गया, ‘श्री हरि विष्णु के वराह अवतार की पावन जयंती पर सभी श्रद्धालुओं को हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं।’ प्रभु श्री



वराह आप सभी के जीवन में सुख, शांति, आरोग्य और समृद्धि का संचार करें।’ बिहार के मुख्यमंत्री स्मार्ट चौधरी ने सोशल मीडिया पर पोस्ट कर लिखा, ‘प्रभु श्री हरि विष्णु

अवतार, श्री वराह जयंती की हार्दिक बधाई एवं मंगलमय शुभकामनाएं! अधर्म और असत्य का नाश कर पृथ्वी का उद्धार करने वाले भगवान वराह की कृपा से आप सभी के जीवन में सुख, शांति, समृद्धि और आरोग्य का वास हो।’

बिहार सरकार में मंत्री विजय कुमार सिन्हा ने सोशल मीडिया पर लिखा, ‘प्रभु श्री हरि विष्णु जी के दिव्य अवतार भगवान श्री वराह की पावन जयंती पर समस्त देशवासियों को मंगलमय शुभकामनाएं।’ भगवान श्री वराह की कृपा से सभी के जीवन में सुख, शांति, समृद्धि एवं आरोग्य का वास हो तथा धर्म, सत्य और सदाचार को सदैव विजय हो।’ उत्तर प्रदेश भाजपा अध्यक्ष पंकज चौधरी ने सोशल मीडिया पर लिखा, ‘भगवान श्रीहरि विष्णु जी के अवतार भगवान श्री वराह की पावन जयंती पर आप सभी को हार्दिक बधाई एवं शुभकामनाएं।’ भगवान श्रीहरि विष्णु जी की कृपा से सभी के जीवन में सुख, शांति एवं समृद्धि का वास हो।’

ब्रिक्स सम्मेलन के चलते दिल्ली में ट्रैफिक पर पाबदियां, कई रास्तों पर डायवर्जन

एजेंसी नई दिल्ली । ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन के चलते दिल्ली की कई प्रमुख सड़कों पर यातायात नियंत्रित रहेगा। भारत मंडपम और प्रांगित मैदान के आसपास के क्षेत्रों के साथ-साथ मध्य दिल्ली को दूसरे हिस्सों से जोड़ने

वाले प्रमुख मार्गों पर भी जरूरत के अनुसार डायवर्जन और यातायात प्रतिबंध लागू किए जाएंगे। दिल्ली यातायात पुलिस के अनुसार, ये यातायात व्यवस्थाएं सुबह 9:30 बजे से रात 9:30 बजे तक प्रभावी रहेंगी। वीआईपी मूवमेंट के दौरान कुछ मार्गों

पर वाहनों की आवाजाही अस्थायी रूप से रोकी या डायवर्ट की जा सकती है। रिग रोड, मधुरा रोड, भैरो मार्ग, तिलक मार्ग, इंडिया गेट और सी-डेक्कान के आसपास यातायात को आवश्यकता के अनुसार नियंत्रित किया जाएगा। इसके अलावा सरदार पटेल मार्ग, पटेल रोड,



एनएच-48 और पेरड रोड पर भी अलग-अलग स्थानों पर वाहनों की आवाजाही प्रभावित हो सकती है। ट्रैफिक पुलिस ने लोगों से अपील की है कि वे घर से निकलने से पहले अपनी यात्रा की योजना बना लें। खासकर मध्य दिल्ली और नई दिल्ली की ओर जाने वाले लोगों

को जहां संभव हो, मेट्रो का इस्तेमाल करने की सलाह दी गई है। पुलिस ने कहा है कि इससे प्रतिबंधित मार्गों पर संभावित जाम और वीआईपी मूवमेंट के कारण होने वाली देरी से बचा जा सकेगा। वाहन चालकों से निर्धारित डायवर्जन रूट का इस्तेमाल करने और रास्तों में तैनात

ट्रैफिक पुलिसकर्मियों के निर्देशों का पालन करने को कहा गया है। आपातकालीन और जरूरी सेवाओं वाले वाहनों को प्राथमिकता के आधार पर रास्ता दिया जाएगा। ब्रिक्स सम्मेलन की सुरक्षा और वीआईपी आवाजाही को देखते हुए दिल्ली में ये

विशेष ट्रैफिक इंतजाम किए गए हैं। भारत की मेजबानी में 18वां ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन 12 व 13 सितंबर को नई दिल्ली में आयोजित किया जा रहा है, जिसमें ब्रिक्स देशों के राष्ट्राध्यक्षों के साथ साझेदार देशों के प्रतिनिधि भी शामिल हो रहे हैं।

SIA searches Poonch Udhampur in radicalisation probe



Jammu, Agency: Five locations in Poonch and Udhampur districts were searched by Jammu & Kashmir State Investigation Agency (SIA) Saturday as part of an investigation into the alleged spread of secessionist narratives and radicalisation through online and offline channels, including social media platforms allegedly operated from across the border.

An SIA spokesperson said investigators found that some individuals were allegedly in contact with suspicious persons across the Line of Control (LoC) and the border. The raids were conducted in Mandi and Surankote areas of Poonch and Ramnagar area of Udhampur. The searches began in the morning and were underway when reports last came in. The spokesperson said more details would be shared after the searches conclude.

Brics opposes unilateral trade steps like EU carbon border tax



New Delhi, Agency: Brics nations Saturday opposed unilateral trade measures such as EU's carbon border adjustment mechanism (CBAM), saying such measures undermine efforts by developing countries aimed at addressing the adverse impacts of climate change. Though they recognised the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet climate goals, the grouping's members sought to delink any unilateral punitive action from achieving a common goal and pitched for energy security for all based on a pragmatic approach where "fossil fuel", they said, will still play an important role in the world's energy mix", particularly for emerging markets and developing economies, in addition to renewable sources and nuclear.

CBAM, which entered its operational regime on Jan 1, is a tool to put a price, through imposing a border tax, on carbon-intensive goods, like iron and steel, aluminium and cement, that are entering the 27 EU nations.

Though BRICS nations opposed the proposal from the time it was conceived, arguing that the unilateral move placed an additional burden on businesses in developing economies due to embedded emissions in their products, they made their points a part of New Delhi Declaration calling it "punitive, discriminatory and protectionist measures that are not in line with international law".

Without any attempt to dilute their respective efforts to meet climate action goals under the Paris Agreement, the nations called for greater actions based on equity and the UN's principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, in light of different national circumstances.

Tata Sons heads for mandatory public listing as RBI rejects NBFC exit request

New Delhi, Agency: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed Tata Sons, the holding company of the salt-to-software conglomerate, to apply for an immediate stock market listing after rejecting its application to surrender its non-banking finance company (NBFC) licence.

In a letter dated September 11, 2026, the RBI stated that Tata Sons' request to be excluded from the unregistered core investment company (CIC) category had been denied, effectively requiring the company to go public.

Sources said the RBI specified that the group did not meet the necessary criteria, leading it to reject the March 2024 application



for deregistration. This makes a public listing of Tata Sons imminent as it qualifies as an upper layer NBFC, which must mandatorily list on the stock exchanges.

The development comes as the \$170 billion Tata Sons is still facing leadership challenges and a divided board, which led Chairman N Chandrasekaran to

opt out of reappointment when his term ends in February next year. It is a divided house even among the shareholders, with the Noel Tata-led Tata Trusts, a string of non-profits holding over 65 per cent of Tata Sons, being reluctant to list, while Shapoorji Pallonji Group, its largest private shareholder with around 18 per cent holding, is publicly pushing for the group to list.

According to experts, a listing will compel the group to be more transparent about all its affairs, including capital allocation, and investor pressure will lead to demands for financial returns, making long-term bets difficult.

As per news reports, the issue

of listing the business was also among the reasons which led Noel Tata to vote against the reappointment of Chandrasekaran. The half-brother of Ratan Tata, who chairs Tata Trusts and is a member of the Tata Sons board, wanted a commitment from Chandrasekaran to ensure that Tata Sons is not forced to list, while the latter is learnt to have opined that the outcome of a regulatory or legal matter cannot be ascertained.

Other issues flagged by Noel Tata included the losses being incurred by group's other businesses including the Tata Digital and Air India, which were either launched or acquired during

Chandrasekaran's nearly decade-long stint at the helm.

The RBI had come out with a list of 15 entities, classifying them as Upper Layer NBFCs and mandating them to list by October 2025. Earlier this year, it had expanded the list to include government-run NBFCs as well and also announced that any NBFC with over Rs 1 lakh crore of assets will automatically qualify as an upper-layer NBFC.

However, a decision on Tata Sons' plea to surrender its core investment company NBFC license was kept pending, and the RBI brass repeatedly parried a clear answer regarding the holding company's listing.

Congress only viable hope for Punjab, AAP 'fractured', says new in-charge Sachin Pilot

New Delhi, Agency: The Congress is the only viable alternative for the people of Punjab, having historically delivered for the border state through decades, party's newly appointed general secretary Sachin Pilot said on Saturday.

Speaking to The Tribune days after replacing Bhupesh Baghel in the hot seat, Pilot framed the upcoming Assembly elections as a direct contest between the ruling Aam Aadmi Party and Congress, saying a multi-cornered contest in 2027 won't impact voting patterns.

"People realise they don't have to waste their vote. They will only vote for those they trust. The Congress remains the only viable



hope for the people of Punjab. Whether it was Sardar Beant Singh with his contribution to fighting terrorism, the Green Revolution or the White Revolution, Congress governments have made a mark in the lives of the people of Punjab. It's time to bring back that narrative," said Pilot ahead of his Punjab visit

in the next few days.

Pilot downplayed intense factionalism in the state unit ahead of Baghel's replacement and insisted that the Congress was united in Punjab, and that it was AAP that was fractured. "The word fracture (in the context of the Punjab Congress) is a bit of an exaggeration. Sometimes in large parties like ours, there can be differences of opinion on approach to issues. But I won't call it a faction or a fracture. We still stand united. The ones that are fractured are the Aam Aadmi Party," he said, referring to a string of resignations by AAP founders and recently the merger of seven AAP MPs (including six from Punjab) with the BJP.

Summit success gives BJP a boost in domestic politics

New Delhi, Agency : India's success against the odds in bringing Brics countries with incongruent, even conflicting, outlooks on key global issues of contention, such as the West Asia conflict, to throw their weight behind a joint declaration comes as a timely domestic boost for BJP when its rivals are sensing some vulnerability in its otherwise dominant political position.

Foreign policy has been a major component of BJP's arsenal in scoring political points over its rivals, especially Congress, as it has projected a rising global profile of an



assertive India under PM Narendra Modi's leadership, in contrast to the country's "meek" response to challenges from external security to trade in the pre-2014 period. Modi hailed the New Delhi Declaration, adopted unanimously at Brics, saying confidence of the bloc is wider in reach and stronger in purpose.

Rajnath: Modi blunted oppn's 'false narrative' with governance

New Delhi, Agency: PM Modi has blended good governance with participatory democracy to render the opposition's "false narrative" and anti-incumbency factor irrelevant, defence minister Rajnath Singh said Saturday, virtually kick-starting BJP's campaign to mark its pre-eminent leader's 25-year unbroken run as head of govt.

"Those building false narrative against Modi cannot understand what they should do. Sometimes they incite students, sometimes they try to divide society in the name of caste," he said in an apparent swipe at leader of opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi. He said that when people see their lives changed by welfare schemes for farmers, housing and



health, then no narrative works. "Kaam bolta hai (work speaks). Modi has left factors like astroturfing and anti-incumbency behind," he said at the event organised by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, a research and leadership-training institute with links to BJP.

Rajnath said Modi, since his days as Gujarat CM, pioneered a model of governance that focused on a participatory model of democracy and scaled it nationally as PM.

Three years before 9/11, CIA warned Clinton that Bin Laden wanted to strike India;

New Delhi, Agency: India was already on Osama bin Laden's list of potential targets three years before the September 11 attacks. A newly declassified CIA warning from 1998 shows that the Al Qaida founder intended to conduct attacks in the country. A CIA President's Daily Brief to Bill Clinton dated August 28, 1998, said Bin Laden had survived US missile strikes in Afghanistan and retained a network of individuals and allied groups across at least 60 countries that could be used to mount attacks.



The assessment specifically listed India and Pakistan, along with Egypt, the Arabian Peninsula - particularly Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Yemen - Uganda and possibly Nigeria, as countries where Bin Laden intended to conduct attacks.

Bin Laden also viewed India as part of what he described as a "Crusader-Zionist-Hindu" conspiracy against the Islamic

world, reflecting the ideological lens through which he framed India and its relationship with the US and Israel.

The CIA said Bin Laden was also considering further attacks against the US and UK, although he had not indicated precise targets or timing.

The assessment came weeks after the August 1998 bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, which killed more than 200 people and brought Bin Laden's organisation firmly into the sights of US counterterrorism agencies.

The newly released document said Bin Laden's infrastructure in North America, Europe and East Asia also lent credibility to reports that he could target US interests in those regions. The CIA assessment further noted that Bin Laden had authorised an associate to explore attacks in the US and that US officials had recently helped arrest Bin Laden operatives preparing attacks in Tirana and possibly Baku. The India reference is significant because it shows that the threat posed by Bin Laden's network was

Gangster's extradition from Moldova shows Mann government's resolve: Punjab minister

Chandigarh, Agency: AAP leader and Punjab minister Aman Arora on Saturday said the first-ever extradition of a gangster from Europe marks the Bhagwant Mann government's uncompromising stand against gangsterism.

His statement came as the

Punjab Police secured the extradition of a key operative of the Jaggu Bhagwanpuria gang from the Republic of Moldova.

Amritpal Singh, alias Amrit Dalam, wanted in multiple cases of murder, attempt to murder, and the Unlawful Activities (Prevention)

Act (UAPA), was extradited from Moldova. While the previous Akali-BJP and Congress governments "allowed" gangsterism to flourish, the AAP government pursued such fugitives across borders and ensured they are brought back to face the law, he further said.

India to get another major DRDO missile testing range in Bengal

New Delhi, Agency: In a boost for the country's defence testing capabilities, India will get another weapon and missile testing range in Bengal's Junput coastal village in Purba Medinipur district.

In April 2024, DRDO had proposed a testing range along the Purba Medinipur coast to complement its integrated testing range in Odisha's Chandipur. However, the then TMC govt had not given land for it. During an event Friday, CM



Suvendu Adhikari revealed that DRDO had sent a letter for the project but the then TMC govt at the helm did not respond. "I have okayed it. This will be a big project for West Bengal's development," he said. A source in DRDO also confirmed to Media that the missile

testing project is coming up in Bengal.

The proposed testing range in Junput will be the third major hub for DRDO after the Chandipur sites and the proposed testing centre in Andhra. India has one missile testing facility, known as the Integrated Test Range, which operates across two launch complexes in Odisha: Launch Complex-III at Chandipur-on-Sea and Launch Complex-IV, off Odisha coast.

While Launch

Complex-III is used primarily for testing short-range tactical missiles, surface-to-air systems and multi-barrel rocket launchers like the Akash and Pinaka, Launch Complex-IV is designated for long-range strategic weapon trials, including Agni ballistic missile series and K-series submarine-launched missiles.

The Chandipur testing facility provides a secure coastal location with a wide, unobstructed eastward trajectory over the Bay of Bengal.

Ganesh Chaturthi and Hartalika Teej bring devotion, tradition and celebration together on September 14, 2026

Two Festivals, One Date: When Ganesh Chaturthi and Hartalika Teej Meet



India's festival calendar is shaped by a lunar tradition in which important celebrations do not remain fixed to the same date every year. That shifting calendar can occasionally create remarkable overlaps, bringing different festivals together on a single day. September 14, 2026, is one such date. This year, Ganesh Chaturthi and Hartalika Teej are both being observed on Monday, creating an unusual convergence of two important Hindu observances.

The coincidence is particularly interesting because the two festivals have different religious narratives, rituals and cultural expressions. Ganesh Chaturthi celebrates Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles and a widely revered symbol of wisdom, auspicious beginnings and prosperity. Hartalika Teej, meanwhile, is associated with Goddess Parvati's devotion to Lord Shiva and is especially significant for women who observe the vrat and participate in prayers and traditional celebrations.

The calendar overlap is connected to the Hindu lunisolar system.

Hartalika Teej is observed on the Shukla Paksha Tritiya of the month of Bhadrapada, while Ganesh Chaturthi is observed on the following Chaturthi tithi. In 2026, the timing of these tithis creates a particularly close transition. For Indore, the Tritiya tithi associated with Hartalika Teej ends at about 7:06 a.m. on September 14, while Chaturthi begins at approximately the same time. The festivals therefore share the same civil date even though they correspond to successive lunar tithis.

This makes September 14 more than simply another crowded day on the festival calendar. It becomes an opportunity to observe how India's religious traditions can coexist within the same community, household and neighbourhood. While women may begin the day with Hartalika Teej rituals, fasting and Shiva-Parvati worship, preparations for Ganesh Chaturthi can unfold alongside them as families and public groups prepare for the installation of Lord Ganesha.

Hartalika Teej has a deeply personal and devotional character. Traditionally, women pray to Shiva and

Parvati and observe a demanding fast. The festival recalls Parvati's determination to unite with Shiva and is connected with ideas of devotion, marital commitment and spiritual perseverance. In many regions, the day is also associated with traditional clothing, mehendi, songs, swings and gatherings of women.

Ganesh Chaturthi has developed both a household and a strong public dimension. Families install idols in their homes, while neighbourhood committees create decorated pandals and organise prayers and cultural programmes. In several parts of India, the festival also supports artisans, decorators, flower sellers, musicians, food vendors and other small businesses.

The simultaneous observance therefore produces an interesting cultural picture. One festival brings the focus of many devotees towards Shiva and Parvati, while the other turns attention towards Ganesha. One is closely associated with women's vrat traditions, while the other often creates large community celebrations involving people across generations.



Hartalika Teej: The Story of Faith, Parvati and a Living Women's Tradition

Hartalika Teej occupies a special place in India's festival traditions, particularly among women. Observed during the Shukla Paksha Tritiya of Bhadrapada, the festival is associated with Goddess Parvati's devotion to Lord Shiva and is traditionally marked by fasting, prayer and worship. In 2026, Hartalika Teej falls on Monday, September 14, giving the festival an especially distinctive place in this year's calendar because Ganesh Chaturthi is also observed on the same date.

The story behind Hartalika Teej is centred on Parvati's determination to marry Shiva. According to traditional accounts, Parvati wished to make Shiva her husband but faced the possibility of being married elsewhere. Her close friend is said to have taken her away to a forest so that she could continue her devotion and worship Shiva without pressure. Parvati's penance and determination ultimately led to her union with Shiva.

The name Hartalika is traditionally explained through the words associated with the story of Parvati being taken away by her friend. Over generations, the legend has become an important part of the festival's religious and cultural identity. For many women, the day begins with preparations well before the formal puja. Homes are cleaned and decorated, traditional clothing is selected, mehendi is applied and puja materials are arranged. In sev-

eral communities, women gather together to sing traditional songs, listen to the vrat katha and perform rituals connected with Shiva and Parvati.

Fasting is one of the most significant features of Hartalika Teej. Traditionally, some devotees observe a strict nirjala fast, avoiding both food and water throughout the day. However, fasting practices vary according to health, age, family tradition and local custom. The religious significance of the vrat is rooted in devotion rather than simply the physical act of going without food. Married women have traditionally observed the festival while praying for the well-being and long life of their husbands and for family happiness. Unmarried women may also observe Hartalika Teej with the traditional aspiration of finding a suitable life partner.

At the same time, the festival has developed into a wider cultural occasion that celebrates women's participation in family and community traditions. The visual culture surrounding Teej is one of its most recognisable features. Bright saris and lehengas, jewellery, flowers, mehendi, decorated swings and colourful puja arrangements create a distinctive festive atmosphere. Traditional songs and stories also help preserve memories and customs that have been passed from one generation to another. Yet Hartalika Teej is not frozen in the past.

Ganesh Chaturthi: From Home Worship to a Celebration of Community



When the first Ganesh idols are brought home, neighbourhood pandals begin to take shape and the sound of devotional music fills the streets, the atmosphere of Ganesh Chaturthi becomes unmistakable. The festival, dedicated to Lord Ganesha, has grown into one of India's most recognisable celebrations, combining religious devotion with art, community participation and local culture. In 2026, Ganesh Chaturthi will be observed on Monday, September 14. The Chaturthi tithi begins around 7:06 a.m. on September 14 and continues into September 15, with the main festival observance taking place on September 14. The festival marks the beginning of a period of Ganesh worship that, depending on local tradition, can continue for several days before idol immersion.

Ganesha is widely worshipped as the remover of obstacles and the deity associated with wisdom, learning and auspicious beginnings. This symbolism helps explain why Ganesh worship is found in homes, schools, offices, businesses and public spaces.

At the household level, preparations often begin days before the festival. Families clean their homes, decorate a designated worship space, choose an idol and arrange

offerings. Modaks and other sweets associated with Ganesha are prepared or purchased, while flowers, lamps and decorative materials are kept ready for the puja.

Public celebrations create an entirely different scale. Community organisations establish pandals, often turning them into temporary centres of religious and cultural activity. Volunteers manage decorations, crowd arrangements, music, cultural programmes and daily worship. In major celebrations, the festival becomes a meeting point for entire neighbourhoods. The public form of Ganeshotsav has a particularly important history in Maharashtra, where community Ganesh celebrations became a major part of public life during the late nineteenth century. Over time, the festival spread widely and acquired distinctive regional forms.

Today, Ganesh Chaturthi is celebrated across many parts of India. Each region adds its own food, decoration, music and ritual traditions. Some celebrations are intimate and family-centred, while others attract large crowds.

The festival also creates a temporary economic ecosystem. Idol makers begin working months in advance.

One Day, Two Traditions: How September 14 Brings Teej and Ganpati Together



September 14, 2026, will present a distinctive festive picture across India. Hartalika Teej and Ganesh Chaturthi are both observed on the same calendar date, bringing together two traditions with different rituals but a shared emphasis on devotion, family and community.

For families familiar with both festivals, the date creates an unusual combination.

Morning may begin with Hartalika Teej preparations, including Shiva-Parvati worship and the observance of the vrat, while Ganesh Chaturthi preparations take place alongside them. In some homes, the festival atmosphere will therefore include both the quiet discipline of Teej and the colourful arrival of Ganesha.

The calendar connection comes from the Hindu lunisolar system. Hartalika Teej is linked with the Shukla Paksha Tritiya tithi, while Ganesh Chaturthi fol-

lows on Chaturthi. In 2026, the transition between these tithis occurs in the morning of September 14. In Indore, the Tritiya tithi ends at approximately 7:06 a.m., with Chaturthi beginning around the same time. This is why both festivals are observed on September 14 even though they correspond to consecutive lunar tithis.

For a newspaper reader, this calendar coincidence provides an opportunity to understand something important about Indian festivals:

Dates are not simply selected according to the Gregorian calendar. Traditional observances depend on lunar phases, tithis, sunrise and regional panchang calculations. As a result, major festivals can move from one year to another and occasionally appear together on the same calendar date.

The cultural contrast between the two festivals is

equally fascinating. Hartalika Teej is strongly associated with women's participation, fasting, mehendi, traditional clothing, songs and the worship of Shiva and Parvati. Ganesh Chaturthi, on the other hand, often has a strong community character, with idols, pandals, public celebrations, music and cultural programmes.

Yet beneath these differences are several common themes.

Both festivals are built around faith. Both encourage families to prepare together. Both bring religious stories into everyday life. Both have strong artistic traditions, from Teej decorations and mehendi to Ganesh idols and elaborate pandals.

Both also demonstrate the changing nature of Indian traditions.

A traditional Teej celebration may once have been primarily confined to the household or close community.