





# Indian Chronicle

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## Politicians wreaking havoc should be duly punished

The viral video of Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Gaikwad assaulting a canteen contractor over the quality of food served at the Akashwani MLA's residence in Mumbai has once again highlighted a disturbing trend: the growing sense of entitlement and impunity among India's political class. This is not merely the case of a bad-tempered politician reacting to a subpar meal. Rather, it is emblematic of a larger, systemic issue—our elected representatives increasingly behave as if they are above the law, accountable to no one, and exempt from basic norms of civil conduct. Incidents like this are not new or confined to Maharashtra. Across the country, similar instances of politicians, particularly lawmakers and local leaders, displaying high-handedness, using foul language, threatening public servants, or even resorting to physical violence, have become alarmingly frequent. From manhandling government employees to obstructing official duties, such behaviour erodes public trust and undermines the very institutions that these politicians are supposed to uphold and strengthen. The real concern lies in the culture of impunity that emboldens such behavior. Why did Gaikwad not complain to the authorities or follow the protocol available to him as an elected representative? Why resort to violence when peaceful and procedural mechanisms exist to address such grievances? The answer is simple and disturbing: because he could, because there are rarely any consequences when lawmakers act lawlessly. This sends a dangerous message—that elected office confers not just power, but the right to abuse it. When a legislator behaves in such a manner and faces no serious disciplinary action from his party or the legislature,

## OPPO India Launches Second Edition of Photography Awards Powered by Lumo on the Theme ‘Super Every Moment’



Hyderabad:OPPO India has launched the second edition of its Photography Awards powered by LUMO. Formerly known as the imagine IF Photography Awards, LUMO represents OPPO's renewed vision to push the boundaries of mobile imaging and visual storytelling in India.

Sushant Vashistha, Head of Product & Digital Marketing at OPPO India, said, “LUMO is our ode to creativity—a platform where every image tells a story, and every story becomes a moment of magic. The first edition, imagine IF, received thousands of stunning submissions from across India. It laid the foundation for this year's competition, powered by LUMO. This season, we aim to celebrate not just the outcome but the creative journey behind every powerful visual, powered by OPPO's imaging technology.”

OPPO, in collaboration with Discovery, launches the ‘Super Culture Moment’ category within Culture in a Shot Marketing Initiative. All participants for this year's Photography Awards are encouraged to capture India's vibrant cultural diversity using OPPO's cutting-edge photography features/capabilities. Vikram Channa, VP at Warner Bros Discovery, and editorial chief for content production for Southeast Asia, joins the competition's jury panel alongside acclaimed photographer Joseph Radhik. The competition welcomes entries from Indian citizens aged 18 and above, across nine distinctive categories: Super Snap, Youth, Live, Me, Vibe, Story, Connection, Culture and Environments. Participants must submit a title and a 60–150-word description for each photograph, explaining what the image symbolises. An expert jury panel will evaluate entries in Round 1 and shortlist 50 finalists. In Round 2, the finalists will take on a creative challenge using the OPPO Find X8 Pro smartphone. The jury, led by Joseph Radhik and Vikram Channa, will then select the winners based on creativity, impact, and storytelling. For more information, visit <https://lumo.oppo.com/in/Commenting> on the initiative, Joseph Radhik said, “As a photographer, I constantly strive to push creative boundaries and inspire others to do the same. The OPPO India Photography Awards 2025 represent a bold step in celebrating imagination and innovation in mobile photography. I urge young creators to capture the extraordinary, imagine the impossible, and leave behind a legacy of inspiration.”

## Department of Official Language to Host ‘Dakshin Samvad’ Golden Jubilee Celebration in Hyderabad



10th July 2025, The Department of Official Language, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, is pleased to announce the Golden Jubilee Celebration, marking 50 years since its establishment on 26 June 1975. Following the grand inaugural event held in New Delhi on 26 June 2025, the next major celebration in the series—“Dakshin Samvad”—will be held on Friday, 11 July 2025, at the GMC Balayogi Indoor Stadium, Gachibowli, Hyderabad.

To brief the media on the details of this historic event, Dr. Meenakshi Jolly, Joint Secretary, Department of Official Language, addressed a press conference today at CGO Towers, outlining the objectives, key highlights, and the dignitaries expected to attend. Smt Shruti Patil, IIS, Additional Director General, PIB Hyderabad, curated and facilitated the press conference. Addressing the media Dr. Jolly informed that the Hon'ble Union Minister of Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, will be the Chief Guest of the event. Other distinguished Special Guests for this event include Shri Harivansh, Hon'ble Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Shri Nityanand Rai, Hon'ble Minister of State for Home Affairs, Shri Pawan Kalyan, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, she added. Dr. Jolly also shared that senior officials, scholars, and language enthusiasts from across southern India—including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, and Puducherry—will participate in large numbers. As part of the celebrations, winners of the sports competitions organized for the Golden Jubilee year will be felicitated, reflecting the Department's dedication to both linguistic promotion and



cultural engagement, she added. \*Background:\*

India is divided into A, B, and C regions based on the usage of Hindi in official work. To support the effective implementation of the official language policy, Town Official Language Implementation Committees (TOLICs) have been established nationwide. The “Dakshin Samvad” event is more than a celebration—it is a tribute to five decades of progress in official language implementation and a recognition of South India's active role in strengthening the linguistic unity of the country.

The central theme of the event is to promote dialogue and cooperation among Indian languages, where Hindi serves as a medium of coordination—not as a replacement—but as a bridge in India's rich multilingual fabric.

## MLA Koram Kanakaiah Leads Vanamahotsavam, Urges Citizens to Plant Fruit and Shade-Giving Trees“



“Rayala Kishore, Yellandu Constituency, July 9, Indian Chronicle: “As part of the Telangana State Government's prestigious Vanamahotsavam initiative, Yellandu MLA Koram Kanakaiah participated in a large-scale tree plantation drive held on Wednesday at Rompedu village, Yellandu mandal. The event was organized in collaboration with the Forest Department, local officials, and enthusiastic participation from students and residents. “Speaking on the occasion, MLA Koram Kanakaiah emphasized the importance of planting shade-

giving and fruit-bearing trees. He called on every household to plant such trees in front of their homes and take personal responsibility for their protection and care until they fully grow and bear fruit. “> “Greenery is the path to a healthier, safer environment. Every citizen must contribute to this effort,” said MLA Kanakaiah. “The MLA highlighted the commitment of the Congress-led Telangana government under Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, which has set an ambitious goal of planting 18 crore saplings across the state. He encouraged citizens and officials alike to achieve 100% participation in the plantation program and contribute to the protection of the ecosystem. “He also noted that greenery is the key to preventing environmental degradation and building a healthy society for future generations. “Participants in the event included: Yellandu Agricultural Market Committee Chairman Banothu Rambabu, Former Vice Chairman of Yellandu Mandal Parishad Mandala Ramu, Yellandu Congress Party Mandal President Puli Saidulu, Yellandu DSP Chandrabhanu, SI Srinivas Reddy, Forest Department Officers FDO Karunakar Chari, FRO Chalapathi Rao, Forest Department staff, students, village elders, and party cadre, among others.”

## Travel with your life How do the roads Travel like this?“

“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09.. “Indian chronicles” “The road that passes through the villages of Wankidi Mandal, Indani, Tejapur, Naveguda, Kiridi, and Gad Jangam in the center of the Komuram Bheem district is full of potholes and water, causing difficulties for travelers. It is not clear which pothole is causing the problem. Motorists are facing great difficulties. The Bharatiya Janata Party Youth Alliance DYFI Komuram Bheem District Secretary Godisela Karthik has urged the government and the authorities in the district to repair this road immediately.”



## Farmers Should Not Be Deceived by Middlemen

Rachakonda Police Commissioner G. Sudheer Babu



Hyderabad:Rachakonda Police Commissioner G. Sudheer Babu visited the ATC in Begarikancha village. He inspected the arrangements made for the distribution of plots to farmers of Pharma City and reviewed the security measures in place. He personally examined the help desks and grievance counters. Speaking on the occasion, Commissioner Sudheer Babu advised farmers that the plot distribution process should be transparent and urged them not to fall prey to middlemen. He checked the grievance register to identify any issues and instructed farmers to bring any problems to the attention of the authorities, emphasizing that they should not be deceived by middlemen. He also stated that strict security arrangements have been made to ensure peace and order without any disruptions. Later, he interacted with some farmers to gather their opinions. The program was attended by Maheshwaram DCP Sunitha Reddy, Additional DCP Satyanarayana, Ibrahimpatnam ACP KPV Raju, Hyderabad Green Pharma City Inspector Likki Krishnam Raju, and police station staff.

## Police She Team conducts awareness program on drugs and eve teasing at Asifabad Ashram Boys High School“



“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09, Indian chronicles.. “Asifabad She Team organized an awareness program today at Ashram Boys High School in Asifabad Mandal Center. Speaking on the occasion, She Team members.. “She Team members Swapna, Rajani and Dinesh explained to the students about eve teasing, social media harassment, trafficking of women, child marriage, child labour, good touch, bad touch, cyber crimes, etc. SI Satish participated as the chief guest and advised women students to be careful while using social media like Facebook, WhatsApp and Instagram. Facebook, WhatsApp and Instagram and to take personal safety measures while posting photos and videos. He said that if anyone knows about the cultivation or consumption of marijuana, they should contact the police immediately and the details of those who provide such details will be kept confidential. He said that if any women, students or children are being harassed, or if anyone else is being harassed, they should contact the police and inform the Asifabad She Team number 8712670564, “SI Satish Asifabad Town, School Headmaster K.Karnu, School Teachers and She Team staff Swapna Rajini Dinesh participated in this program...

## Chief Minister's Relief Fund cheque handed over““



Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09.. “Indian chronicles” “Asifabad Congress Party Mandal President Masade Charan and former Asifabad MPP Bommana Balesh Goud handed over the Chief Minister's Relief Fund cheque on Wednesday at the DCC President's office in Asifabad district headquarters, as per the instructions of DCC President Kokkirla Vishwa Prasad Rao. Senior Congress Party leaders Mahesh Goud, Congress Party Minority Working President Kalim and others participated in the program.

## BRAOU postpones BLISc Examinations

Hyderabad, July 10 (NSS): The Dr B.R Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) postponed the Bachelor of Library and Information Science (BLISc) Examinations, which are scheduled from July 12 to 16 are postponed due to administrative reasons.

## ASP Chittaranjan IPS distributed drugs urine testing kits to Asifabad Sub- Division Police officers

“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09.. “Indian chronicles” “As per the orders of Komuram Bheem Asifabad District SP Kantil Patil IPS, as part of drug control, Asifabad ASP Chittaranjan IPS provided 100 drug urine testing kits to Asifabad Sub- Division Police officers at the District Police Headquarters office. Using these kits, if anyone is suspected of using drugs, they can be identified through urine test, and the ASP instructed the police officers to register cases against such people and take legal action.



## Make the play My Journey with Buddha a success.“



“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..“Indian chronicles”“Leaders of Dalit organizations have urged the people of the mandal to participate in the Telugu play titled My Journey with Buddha, which will be held at the Nee Munde Prahlad Function Hall in Wankidi Mandal Center on Today, to make it a success. Everyone should watch this play to learn more about the path of peace given by Bhagwan Buddha to the world, and the path that Buddha told all humanity, “No war, peace is a kiss,” will be shown in a new perspective, said Ashok Mahulkar, District President of Bharatiya Boudha Mahasabha, Durgam Sandeep, District In-charge of Samata Sainik Dal, and Durgam Durgaji, President of Ambedkar Sangam. Former

DGP Anjaneya Reddy from Hyderabad, Lataraja Foundation, Abhyudaya Arts Academy were the chief guests of the program. from Hyderabad are former DGP Anjaneya Reddy, Lataraja Foundation, Abhyudaya Arts Academy Hyderabad Chairman K.K Raja, State President of Bharatiya Boudha Mahasabha, Professor Parandhamulu, and some others.

Buddhist Association Presidents Shyam Rao Lahuji Durge, Rajeshwar Upre, Varsha Vas Committee President Panduji Jade, Sangha leaders Jayant Kumar, Roshan Upre, Pratap, Manoj, Jayaram, Durgam Deepak, Swagat, Maruti, Indrajit, Chunarkar Laddu, Sudarshan and others participated in this program.

## One person dies after getting shocked while hunting with electric wires““



Case registered against five people after it came to light late““Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..“Indian chronicles”“Sub-Inspector Prashanth said that a case has been registered and investigation is underway against Poosam Kesava Rao, Mandore Buriya Mahesh, Madavi Bheem Rao, Madavi Bheem Rao and Arka Mahesh, who were responsible for the death of Tirupati, a husband of Atram Sangeetha of Navedari village in Wankidi mandal, based on a complaint filed by them seeking legal action. According to the details given by the Sub-Inspector, the above-mentioned 5 persons took Tirupati from her house to a nearby forest on January 29, saying that they had gone hunting for wild animals. While setting electric traps for wild animals in the forest, Tirupati died due to electric shock. Kesava Rao, Mahesh, Bheem Rao, Ramesh and Bheemavalu said that if the matter comes to light, they will come to their rescue. replied that they did not know. Sangeeta's husband Tirupati was sometimes mentally unstable and would not come home for two days, so the family members searched for Tirupati. On January 31, when Tirupati's decomposed body was found on a hill, the family members believed that she must have died naturally and performed the cremation rites as per their custom. On July 07, based on Sangeeta's complaint, a case was registered against 5 people and they were sent to remand, the SI said.”[

## Manthani Reverberates with Spiritual Splendour on Guru Purnima.““



— Eminent Gurus Honoured in a Divine Confluence of Devotion and Dharma.““P. S. Ashokan“Indian Chronicle“Manthani, July 10““On the sacred occasion of Guru Purnima, the temple town of Manthani transformed into a sanctum of spiritual vibrance, as devotees gathered to pay reverence to the eternal torchbearers of wisdom—spiritual gurus. In an atmosphere imbued with sanctity and veneration, illustrious spiritual luminaries Brahmashri Marupaka Satyanarayana Sharma and Brahmashri Kollarapu Venkata Rajam Sharma were ceremoniously felicitated for their unwavering dedication to Sanatana Dharma and scriptural enlightenment.““The event was orchestrated with grandeur during the ongoing Bhagavata Saptaha Jnana Yagna, held at the ancestral residence of the late Mahavadi Sarojini Devi and Maharani Narasayya Sir, in the sacred environs of Thammicheruvu Katta, Manthani.“Distinguished cricket commentators Mahavadi Sudheer and Mahavadi Vijay spearheaded the felicitation, acknowledging the timeless role of gurus in shaping moral and spiritual consciousness.““Prominent dignitaries graced the occasion, including High Court Advocate Rangi Nagesh, Retired Income Tax Officer Gulukota Madhukar, and Veteran Educator Palli Satyanarayana, who reflected on the invaluable cultural and spiritual capital passed down by the gurus. shishya tradition.““Essence of Guru Purnima – A Day of Supreme Spiritual Significance““The sacred Ashadha Purnima, also revered as Vyasa Purnima, holds divine eminence as the birth anniversary of Sage Veda Vyasa, the architect of the Vedas and compiler of the Mahabharata. Across Bharat, this celestial day is commemorated as Guru Purnima, where disciples express gratitude to their spiritual preceptors—the living embodiments of divine wisdom.““As enshrined in scriptures:“> “Gurur Brahma Gurur Vishnuh Gurur Devo Maheshwaraha,“Guruh Saakshaat Parabrahma Tasmai Shri Gurave Namaha“““It is believed that on this day, worshipping the guru invokes Ashtaishwaryas—the eightfold spiritual and material blessings. It also heralds the commencement of Chaturmasya Deeksha, a revered phase where ascetics reside in one place, intensifying their penance and disseminating spiritual knowledge.““A Puranic Testament to the Grace of the Guru““Ancient lore from the Puranas narrates the moving

saga of Vedanidhi and Vedavati, a devout Brahmin couple from Varanasi, engulfed in sorrow due to childlessness. Despite observing numerous vows and fasts, solace eluded them.““Providence smiled upon them when Vedanidhi beheld Sage Vyasa, incognito as a mendicant on the banks of the Ganga. Overcome with reverence, he prostrated at the sage's feet, beseeching his grace. Moved by his unswerving devotion, Vyasa accepted his invitation to partake in Pitru Karya at his humble abode.““With utmost piety, the couple served the sage, performed rituals with sanctity, and sought the boon of progeny. Deeply pleased, Vyasa Mahamuni blessed them with the promise of ten radiant and dharmic sons, a boon that soon bore fruit. Their unwavering faith not only fulfilled their worldly yearning but also granted them liberation—Vishnu Sayujya—in their final moments.““Conclusion: The Eternal Light of the Guru““The Guru is not merely a teacher, but a dispeller of darkness, a revealer of truth, and the divine bridge between the seeker and salvation. Guru Purnima is a clarion call to every seeker to reconnect with the roots of dharma, surrender at the feet of wisdom, and rise toward inner illumination.“

## tribal youth, that on Today District Committee....Meeting .

“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..“Indian chronicle““This is to inform all the tribal leaders of Wankidi Mandal, Patel Dewar, Rai Center elders, tribal elders, employment associations, tribal people's representatives, tribal youth, that on Today, 11-07-2025, there will be an election for the new committee of the Wankidi Mandal Adivasi Rights Struggle Committee, Tudungbe Mandal..... This election process will be held under the auspices of the Tudungbe District Committee..... Therefore, we request all the tribals of the mandal to attend the new Tudungbe election meeting and participate in the election of the new committee...like this“Pendor Maruti Tudungeb District Chief Secretary Kumram Bheem“

## It's time to hand over the responsibility of Telangana cricket to the TCA "“““\*

"Only the Telangana Cricket Association (TCA) has the strength to rebuild Telangana cricket!"\*\*\*\*\* Dr. Pesaru Vijayachander Reddy, State Treasurer, Telangana Cricket Association (TCA)““Warangal, July 10 (Indian Chronicle):““In the wake of the arrest of Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) President Jagannathan Rao in a high-profile corruption case involving misappropriation of hundreds of crores of BCCI funds, Dr. Pesaru Vijayachander Reddy, State Treasurer of the Telangana Cricket Association (TCA), has demanded a full legal investigation and appropriate punishment. He has also urged the State Government and the BCCI to immediately hand over the responsibility of Telangana cricket to the TCA to ensure its proper direction and transparent governance.““For years, Telangana cricket has been destroyed at the hands of corrupt administrators. If we truly want to prevent such a situation from repeating, the control of cricket must rest with an organization that comes from the people—and that is TCA," Dr. Reddy asserted.““Since the formation of Telangana State, the TCA has emerged as the only organization working sincerely for the development of cricket, especially in rural areas. Over the last 15 years, the TCA has played a crucial role in reshaping the cricketing landscape of the state. It has trained over 12,000 players across all formats and has made exemplary contributions by promoting women's cricket as well. By offering training at the school level across districts, TCA has created a path for young talent to reach the professional level.““Dr. Reddy stated that the TCA is actively implementing a special strategy to develop cricketing careers of children in every district. "We are already conducting exclusive training programs for coaches and have prepared a comprehensive plan to de-



velop infrastructure including stadiums, practice pitches, and net facilities in each district," he added. "TCA has got a comprehensive action plan to develop cricket in Telangana across every district," he affirmed.““Referring to the HCA, Dr. Reddy criticized it for continuously ignoring orders from the Supreme Court and High Courts, while interfering in district cricket with no reforms. The association has failed to maintain transparent accounts or conduct forensic audits for the past five years, and has pushed Telangana's Ranji Trophy team to the bottom with its mismanagement, he said.“

"In this context, Dr. Reddy demanded that the responsibility for cricket administration across all Telangana districts be handed over entirely to the TCA. He declared that the HCA has no moral right or legal authority to continue. "Despite clear directions from the Supreme Court and Bombay High Court, and corresponding instructions from BCCI, the HCA has shown utter disregard—this amounts to contempt of court," he warned.

## Encroachments under the guise of development“

"For whom is Asifabad changing?"“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 10..“Indian chronicles““In the constructions going on in the name of development in the town of Asifabad, which has become the district headquarters, private profits are seen more than public benefits. The investigation undertaken by the Vigilance Department on Monday has once again highlighted this aspect. Commercial buildings and apartments built without permits on agency lands are now being counted through questions.““Land grabbing in the name of development..?“After becoming a municipality, land prices around Asifabad increased rapidly. Some people took this as an "Real estate companies are buying up the lands of rural people and selling them in the form of unauthorized ventures. They are also turning agency lands upside down, thereby violating the rights of local tribals."The regime has become questionable...“Not only is all this happening right

in front of the eyes of the authorities, but their silence has also created a situation that is conducive to the mafia. While businesses are running under benami names, the lands that should be for the people are actually not reaching the rightful owners.““Questions from people...““Is the development the responsibility of these buildings or the people? Who is supporting these constructions that are taking place without permits? Why has the government machinery remained inactive for a long time? What are the irregularities happening on tribal lands?

An investigation is now underway into the silent regime and the flourishing mafia. But not only these investigations, the question of what action has been taken on the allegations made in the past is becoming more acute. There are doubts among the people that Asifabad, which should have become a development hub, has become a profit center for some.“

## Awareness program for the prevention of drug abuse for the students of Chaitanya Junior and Degree Cb ollege, Asifabad““



Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..“Indian chronicle““Awareness program for the prevention of drug abuse for the students of Chaitanya Junior and Degree College, Asifabad“Drug Prevention Awareness Conference Thursday, the conference organized in the college for the students of Sri Chaitanya Junior and Degree College to eradicate drugs, to prevent the youth from getting addicted to drugs, about the losses that will happen if they get addicted, and what kind of punishments will be given if they commit a crime. Asifabad Circle Inspector of Police Sri Ravinder, Sub Inspector of Police Satish, Bharosa Team SS Tirumala, C Team Swapna Madam, and College Principal Srinivas, Principal Mohan, College faculty, students,



Bharosa Team Coordinator“Jeevita, and ANM Vijayalakshmi participated in the conference.“

## Journalists are a bridge to the government



Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..“Indian chronicles““Asifabad: District Collector Venkatesh Dotre said that journalists act as a bridge between the government and the people. The newly elected members of the Asifabad Division Electronic Media Executive Committee met the Collector on Wednesday. On the occasion, the problems of the journalists were brought to the attention of the Collector, and he responded positively. The Collector asked them to bring any problems in the district to his attention. Asifabad Division Electronic Media President and General Secretaries Saikumar, Sadashiv, Vice President V. Santosh, Treasurer Charan, Publicity Secretary Vijay, along with journalists and Chunarankar Srikanth, Minesh participated in this program.“End

ies of the Asifabad Division Electronic“Media Executive Committee met the Collector on Wednesday. On the occasion, the problems of journalists were brought to the attention of the Collector, and he responded positively. The Collector asked them to bring any problems in the district to his attention. Asifabad Division Electronic Media President and General Secretaries Saikumar, Sadashiv, Vice President V. Santosh, Treasurer Charan, Publicity Secretary Vijay, along with journalists and Chunarankar Srikanth, Minesh participated in this program.“End



# Education Has the Power to Transform Lives, Says TUDA Chairman Dollars Diwakar Reddy



“July 10 Indian Chronicle Rayalaseema co-ordinator”TUDA Chairman Dollars Diwakar Reddy emphasized that students can achieve great heights in life through determination and hard work. He made these remarks at a grand mega parents’ meeting held on Thursday at Sri Sarvepalli Radhakrishna Municipal Corporation High School in Korlagunta, Tirupati.“As the chief guest, Mr. Diwakar Reddy planted saplings and watered them on the school premises. He then addressed the students and their parents, lauding government schools for offering modern facilities and high educational standards comparable to corporate schools. He highlighted the significant priority given to public education by the young leader and State Education Minister Lokesh Babu.“Mr. Diwakar Reddy pointed out the benefits provided in government schools, including quality midday meals under the Dokka Seethamma scheme, free books, free uniforms, and shoes. He also mentioned that ₹13,000 has been deposited for each student’s mother under the “Amma Vodi” scheme. He asserted that no other



state in the country is developing public education to this extent. He shared his personal experience of studying in a government school and achieving his current position.“He encouraged students to excel not only in academics but also in sports and extracurricular activities. He stated that students educated in government schools are better equipped to face life’s challenges. He urged them to look up to their teachers as role models to reach greater heights.“Furthermore, Mr. Diwakar Reddy announced plans to introduce chess training in all government schools soon to enhance students’ intellectual abilities, a matter he has already discussed with Education Minister Lokesh Babu. He assured that TUDA, along with his personal support, would provide assistance to government schools.“On this occasion, the school faculty and parents honored TUDA Chairman Dollars Diwakar Reddy.“The event saw the participation of School Headmaster Ravichandran, In-charge Headmaster Ravikumar, School Chairman Vani, In-charge Chairman Rahamathulla, teachers, students, and their parents.

# Public welfare is our goal, says Asifabad MLA at district level Disha Committee meeting“



“Asifabad, Collector’s Office”“We are committed to the development of Komuram Bhim district,says Asifabad MLA”Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..”Indian chronicle”“Thursday, the quarterly meeting of the District Level Direction Committee was held at the office of the District Collector of Komuram Bheem Asifabad under the chairmanship of Adilabad Member of Parliament Godam



Nagesh.Collector Venkatesh Dhotre, P.O. Khushbu Gupta, Additional Collectors Deepak Tiwari, David, Sub Collector Shraddha Shukla, D.F.O.DRDO Datta Rao, along with Honorable Asifabad MLA Smt. Kova Lakshmi were present.MLA Kova Lakshmi spoke on this occasion.He reiterated that the role of the Disha Committee is crucial in bringing the schemes of the central government closer to the people and that the government should be committed to the development of the district. He instructed the officials to prioritize proper utilization of funds and transparency. He reviewed the implementation of the schemes of the central and state governments. He advised the officials to ensure that the welfare schemes are properly delivered to the people and to complete the pending works as soon as possible.The MLA made it clear that the goal of the work will be public better services to the people. MLA Kova Lakshmi said that she will provide her full support for the progress of the district.District officials from various departments participated in this program.”[17:48, 10/7/2025] +91 99485 55073: End..

# “TPCC in- charge MP Anil Kumar Yadav meets with joint Adilabad district leaders“



Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July

09..”Indian chronicle”“Minister Vivek Venkata Swamy and MLC Dande Vitthal participated in the meeting”“A meeting of district leaders was held at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad on Wednesday under the chairmanship of TPCC joint Adilabad district in- charge Rajya Sabha member Mandadi Anil Kumar Yadav. In this meeting, everyone should work together on strengthening the party in the joint Adilabad district, preparing for the upcoming local body elections, undertaking the formation of committees from the village level to the district level, and completing the institutional structure immediately.”structure immediately.State Library Chairman Riyaz, TPCC Vice President Atram Suguna, TPCC General Secretary Naresh Jadhav, Asifabad DCC Vishwa Prasad, and others participated in the meeting.”End...

# Flood water on low- level bridge in Dubbaguda“



“Jade Srinivas Kumrambheem (Asifabad) Bureau July 09..”Indian chronicle”“The Dubbaguda stream is flowing rapidly in Wankidi mandal since Wednesday night due to incessant rain. Flood water is flowing from the level bridge



near Dubbaguda village,disrupting the movement of farmers going for cultivation work. If the situation continues,there is a possibility that flood water will flow heavily from above and the movement of many villages will be disrupted.

# Press conference was organized under the auspices of the BCP forum.“

“Khammam Bureau, July 10, Indian Chronicle.”“On Thursday, at the Khammam Press Club, a press conference was organized under the auspices of the BCPF (BC Public Representatives Forum). The event saw the participation of state-level leaders from the MPTCs Association and the State Sarpanches Association. The press conference was addressed by Gadila Kumar Goud, President of the State MPTCs Association. Devi Ravinder, State Working President; Survi Yadayya, President of the Sarpanches JAC and Praneel Chander, General Secretary of the State Sarpanches Association. They unveiled a poster and addressed the media during a meeting held with MPTCs, sarpanches, and local councillors in Khammam district. They stated As the state cabinet meeting is being held today, July 10th, they reminded the government about the Kamareddy Declaration made before the elections, which promised to legally ensure 42% reservation for BCs in local body elections. They accused the ruling party of using BC votes to come to power and then stalling the implementation of this promise, effectively betraying the BCs. Therefore, they demanded that local body elections should only be conducted after legally implementing the 42% reservation. Key Demands, Ensure legal implementation of 42% BC reservations before conducting local body elections. Conduct a comprehensive population survey for the BC communities. Within the 33% women’s reservation, ensure proportional representation for BC women. If the government attempts to conduct elections through G.O.s (government orders) while renegeing on its promises, they are warned of facing the anger of the BC communities. 42% of



the positions in State Corporations’ Chairmanships should be allocated to BCs. If the government does not implement these demands, they will organize a massive protest with participation from BC public representatives and citizens across all political parties and organizations. This protest will be held on the 15th of this month at Indira Park with 10,000 BC individuals ranging from ward members to MLAs and MPs taking part. They warned that failure to act could lead to a broader people’s movement akin to a general strike. Prominent state leaders who participated in the event included Gadila Kumar Goud, Praneel Chander, Survi Yadayya Goud, Devi Ravinder, Suppa Prakash, Valluri Veeresh, Naveen Sagar and Rajesh, among others.

# A permanent judge should be appointed for the agency's civil mobilecourt. Bhadrachalam Bar President Kota Devadanam

Shaik Sharief, July 10, Indian Chronicle: Bhadrachalam Bar Association President Kota Devadanam said that a permanent judge should be appointed for the agency’s civil mobile court. Speaking at the Bar Association’s executive committee meeting on Thursday, Kota Devadanam said that the appointment of a permanent magistrate for the mobile court, which has been set up to resolve civil cases in 28 mandals, should be done immediately, the budget should be sanctioned, and the Assistant Government Pleader post, which has been vacant since last year, should be filled. The financial scope of the case, which has been 5000 for almost 100 years, should be equal to the Junior Civil Judge Court. 20,00,00/- He said that the post of Additional Judicial Magistrate, which has not been filled since the beginning, should be filled. This proposal was unanimously approved by Vice President Sunnam Ramesh, General Secretary Pusala Srinivasa Chari, Joint Secretary Mrs. Basam Sarada Reddy, Treasurer Perala Nagaraju, Library Secretary Chanda Hanumantha Rao, Women’s Advocate Representative Pulusu Taruni, and Executive Committee members K Srimannarayana, Dannana Ramu, Arunasri, MV Rama, Sadhanapalli Satish, Singam Sridhar, Dhanasiri Narasimha Murthy, Bhaskar Rao, and M Sandhyarani.



# Special Aadhaar Camps in Bhadradri District: Additional Collector D. Venugopal““

“Rayala Kishore, Yellandu Constituency, July 10, Indian Chronicle:”“The mega Aadhaar camp organized at the District Collector’s office (IDOC) received overwhelming public response, said District Additional Collector D. Venugopal, expressing satisfaction. He stated that the special Aadhaar camps, which offer services such as Aadhaar enrollment, address changes, and linkage updates, were widely utilized by the public.”“To ensure that people across the district do not face any inconvenience and for their convenience, Aadhaar camps will be conducted in every mandal headquarters. Due to the large turnout for Aadhaar updates and corrections, a scheduled Aadhaar camp will be organized in each mandal, he said.”“The special Aadhaar camp schedule for each mandal is as follows.”“The Additional Collector informed that Aadhaar camps will be conducted on different dates in 23 mandals of the district.”“On July 10 and 11, Aadhaar services will be provided at the Navabharat, IDOC Meeting Hall in the Collector’s Office for the following

mandals:”“Kothagudem, Palwancha, Lakshmidvipalli, Chunchupalli, Sujathanagar, Julurupadu, Chandrugonda”“On July 14, 15, and 16:”“For Bhadrachalam, Burgampahad, Charla, and Dummugudem mandals, camps will be held at the Bhadrachalam RDO office.”“For Yellandu, Tekulapalli, Allapalli, and Gundala mandals, camps will be held at the Yellandu Municipal Office.”“On July 15, 16, and 17:”“For Dummipeta, Mulakalapalli, Annapureddypalli, and Aswapuram mandals, camps will be conducted at the Dummipeta MPDO office.”“For Manuguru, Aswapuram, Pinapaka, and Karakagudem mandals, camps will be held at the Manuguru MPDO office.”“He further added that necessary Aadhaar kits will be made available at each center to deliver services efficiently. The Additional Collector clarified that Aadhaar camps will be conducted continuously across the district until the public’s Aadhaar-related issues are resolved.”End

# Eatala urges people to protect human values

Hyderabad, July 10 MP Eatala Rajender today responded in his own style over the many events taking place in the society on the occasion of Guru Puja Day. He urged people to protect human values in society. He attended the Guru Puja program organized by the Bharatiya Janata Party unit of Medchal Urban District as the chief guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Eatala Rajender said the Indian culture and traditions were an example for the world. “We all worship Vyas Maharishi on the occasion of Guru Puja. There is no training without a Guru. A Guru is the one who dispels darkness and gives light. A Guru is the one who provides enlightenment. A Guru is the one who guides. It is necessary to remember the gurus, who brought us to this level and be grateful to them. Back then, there were no corporate schools. There were studies in ashrams. Today, there is no respect for the guru. There are those, who give names to the gurus,” he said.

He said in the past, values were considered more important than income, but now money and possessions had become the focal point and added that many unheard of and unseen incidents were happening in the society now. There should be people-oriented politics instead of power-oriented politics. The leader we elect should be someone who is capable of doing so. If an engineer fails, the bridge collapses, but if a politician fails, the society collapses. People with such sensitivity should enter politics. A politician is like a teacher who guides the society. Only when he walks on the right path will the society be calm. I urge people to be alert when choosing that politician,” he said. In the program organized under the auspices of Gopu Ramana Reddy, the party District Incharge Mallareddy, Avadesh Mishra, Pandey, Corporators Meena Upender Reddy, Navajeevan Reddy, senior leaders VK Mahesh, Narayana Reddy, Manik Reddy, Pittala Nagesh and others participated.

# TGMBCDC providing Skill Development Training Programme

Hyderabad, July 10 Telangana Most Backward Classes Development Corporation (TGMBCDC), Hyderabad is providing Skill Development Training Programme for livelihood to MBC unemployed youth/graduate will be given various skills (Soft Skills Training, Personality Development, Resane Building, Communication Foundation, Mock Interviews, Self-Confidence Building & Mental Wellbeing Training) free training in Hyderabad. This training will be given for (04) days. During the training, the candidates will be provided with traveling allowance, food and accommodation facilities.Qualifications: Age between 21 to 30 years, Educational Qualification Any Degree, Aadhaar

Card, Caste Certificate (MBC belongs to 36 castes only) and Income Certificate (Rural up to Rs 1.50 lakh and Urban up to Rs 2 lakh).The candidates have applied through online website tgbmrms.cgg.gov.in from June 28 to July 12 (15 days) and attach the relevant documents to the application form to be submitted at District BC Development Office in their respective Districts by July 14, 2025 at 5 pm. It has been requested that such training should be utilized by the MBC unemployed youth/graduate of the Districts State for better employment and they can contact the office of District BC Development Officer for more details, stated Chief Executive Officer TGMBCDC, Hyderabad. (NSS)



## Wanted gangster Romil Vohra killed in encounter near Delhi-Haryana border



GNS News Agency, July 10

A sharpshooter wanted in multiple criminal cases in Haryana, including on the charge of murdering a liquor baron in Kurukshetra, was killed in a police encounter near the Delhi-Haryana border Tuesday morning. The police said the accused, identified as Romil Vohra, who had a reward of Rs 3.10 lakh on him announced by the Haryana government, sustained multiple gunshot injuries in the joint operation by the Delhi Police Special Cell and the Haryana Police's Special Task Force (STF). Two policemen also sustained injuries in the encounter that took place in the Kishangarh area of South Delhi.

"Monday late night, information was received from the STF of Haryana Police that Vohra was possibly going to commit a crime in Delhi. In response, a joint team from the Haryana STF and the Special Cell took action. Today (Tuesday), near the Haryana-Delhi border, a joint police team had an encounter with Vohra, in which one sub-inspector each from the Delhi and Haryana Police was shot, and in retaliatory action, Vohra was shot. He was sent to a nearby hospital for treatment, where he was declared dead," said

Pramod Singh Kushwaha, Additional Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) of the Delhi Police. Over the past two months, Vohra, a resident of Yamunanagar in Haryana, had emerged as one of the most wanted criminals in Haryana due to his involvement in a series of killings. He was also wanted in Delhi in connection with an Arms Act case registered by the Delhi Police Special Cell. The violent crimes in Haryana had earlier been claimed by gangster Virender Pratap alias Kala Rana, who was extradited from Thailand, and his brother Surya Pratap alias Noni Rana, who is currently based abroad. According to the police, Vohra was a shooter of the Kala Rana-Noni Rani gang that had earlier claimed responsibility for the murder of liquor baron Shantanu, which occurred on June 13. The Haryana BJP took to social media to share details of the operation. In a post on X, the party stated that Vohra had been wanted in connection with a triple murder case in Yamunanagar as well as the recent killing of liquor baron Shantanu in Kurukshetra district. The liquor contractor was shot dead from point-blank range by two assailants on the national highway in Shahbad of Kurukshetra, while he was on his way to Chandigarh. Shantanu was a resident of Matan village in Jhajjar district, Haryana. Shantanu had recently purchased 18 liquor vends worth approximately Rs 19 crore and had been operating in Shahabad and nearby areas for the last few years. "The murder, prima-facie, appears to be the result of an old rivalry or a dispute in the liquor trade. We are also verifying the extortion angle," an officer had stated earlier. On June 17, Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini chaired a high-level review meeting to assess the law-and-order situation in the state and the ongoing excise auctions in Haryana. He declared that maintaining a robust law and order is the priority of the government, and issued stern directives to the state home department to launch a 'high-octane drive' against criminals across Haryana.

## To preserve Bengaluru's green spaces, forest department recovers 120-acre city property worth 4,000 crore

GNS News Agency, July 10

**bengaluru green spaces** According to the forest department, a total of 248 acres of forest encroachments have been cleared in Bengaluru in the last two years, with a market value of over 8,000 crore. As part of efforts to preserve green spaces in rapidly expanding Bengaluru, the Karnataka forest department has claimed to have recovered 120 acres of forest land worth over 74,000 crore through an operation carried out in the eastern part of the city on Monday.

The forest department said in a statement that on the instructions of Forest, Ecology and Environment Minister Eshwar Khandre, "120 acres of forest land encroachment has been cleared in Survey No. 1 of Kadugodi Plantation, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk." The forest department team cleared encroachments on the Kadugodi plantation forest land with the help of security provided by the Bengaluru police and reclaimed the land by marking the boundaries and planting saplings of local varieties, the statement added.

"The market value of the forest land acquired today is estimated to be over 74,000 crore," the forest department said, adding that the operation was conducted on Khandre's directions that "breathing spaces should be protected and forest land encroachment should be cleared as per the rules". According to the forest department, a total of 248 acres of forest encroachments have been cleared in Bengaluru in the last two years, with a market value of over 78,000 crore. "Bengaluru has developed in all four directions. In this rapid development, many settlements have come up, and lakhs of plants and trees have been cut down. If the green cover deteriorates, the next generation will have to face severe difficulties. The forest department is working to



protect the breathing spaces," Khandre said. Earlier this week, Khandre launched the second phase of development work of B Channasandra Lake in Kasturinagar, where part of the lake was restored by residents after it was cleared of encroachment by the forest authorities. He has suggested that steps be taken to convert the lakes belonging to the forest department into forest land in the revenue department records. "The role of locals in the development of Kasturi Nagar B Channasandra Lake is important. The public must join hands with the government to save government property. As soon as the Kasturi Nagar Welfare Development Association complained in February, we gave written instructions to clear the encroached forest land," the minister said. Khandre also said that out of 19.17 acres of land in Survey No 64 of Banaswadi village, KR Puram Hobli, North Bengaluru, 13.27 acres belong to the forest department, but nearly seven acres are being used for other purposes, and action is being taken. "The existing 6 acres 26 guntas of land has been cleared of silt, a compound has been laid, and saplings have been planted to protect it," he added.

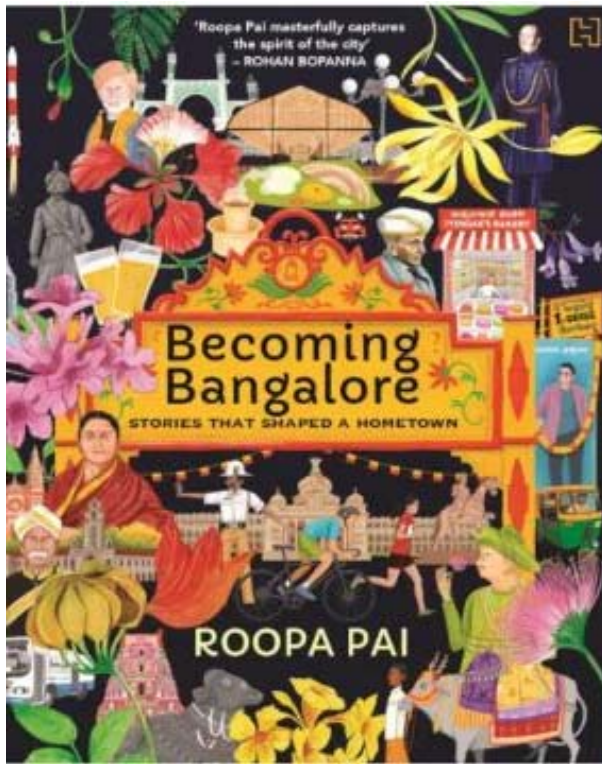
to the report being submitted in a sealed cover, arguing that it would be in the public interest for these to be kept open. The argument was opposed by Advocate General Shashikiran Shetty. Previously, RCB Marketing head Nikhil Sosale was arrested along with three others from DNA. They have been released on interim bail based on a June 12 order, with the Karnataka High Court raising questions regarding the procedure and the presence of materials to implicate them.

## Crime Branch to probe Faridabad murder case, police remand of victim's father-in-law extended

GNS News Agency, July 10

**Faridabad** The woman's father-in-law, who was arrested on June 20-- has been extended to three days from Monday, even as the husband of the deceased is absconding, a police spokesperson said. The investigation of the murder case of a 25-year-old woman, whose decomposed body was found buried in a pit in Faridabad, has been handed over to the Crime Branch-DLF, the Haryana Police stated. The remand of the main accused, Bhoop Singh — the woman's father-in-law, who was arrested on June 20— has been extended to three days from Monday, even as the husband of the deceased is absconding, a police spokesperson said. Singh was arrested on the same day the police recovered the decomposed remains of the victim, Tannu Rajput, two months after she had reportedly gone missing. Bhoop Singh, 54, had allegedly murdered Rajput and dumped the body in a pit in front of their house in Faridabad's Roshan Nagar, reportedly over a dowry dispute. The police initially registered a case based on a complaint by the woman's husband, Akash Singh, 28, at the Naveen Nagar police post on April 25, stating that his wife had gone missing. However, the police intensified the investigation following suspicions that Tannu's in-laws were involved in her disappearance. After Rajput's body was recovered, additional charges of murder and destruction of evidence were added to the case. Initial investigations revealed that Tannu Rajput and Arun Singh were married in June 2023, and domestic disputes have persisted since then.

## Roopa Pai on 'Becoming Bangalore...', a tribute to her hometown, captured in print



GNS News Agency, July 10 Prompted by readers who expressed interest in reading all the columns in one place, the idea of a book began to take shape, says Pai, who pitched the idea to publishing group Hachette India, which usually partners with her on books for children. Prompted by readers who expressed interest in reading all the columns in one place, the idea of a book began to take shape, says Pai, who pitched the idea to publishing group Hachette India, which usually partners with her on books for children.

Many books explore the history, culture, or overlooked facets of Bengaluru. But in terms of its breadth, eclectic range of knowledge, and accessibility, Roopa Pai's *Becoming Bangalore: Stories That Shaped A Hometown* is a standout. Spanning 75 different articles, the book, launched this January, offers glimpses into almost every chapter of Bengaluru's history — from the Vidhana Soudha and the

humble vegetable locally known as 'chow chow' to the city's lesser-known connection to Chhatrapati Shivaji. Each section comes with a personalised introduction by the writer—and contributions from readers who share their memories and musings. Speaking to The Indian Express, Pai says that the foundation of the book began in 2021 with a fortnightly column on the city written for the Hindustan Times. Pai, the founder of Bangalore Walks, which conducts guided walks, says, "For a long time, I had been sending people links on WhatsApp to read the column. I realised it was something that people enjoyed reading as it came in small, concentrated bites." Prompted by readers who expressed interest in reading all the columns in one place, the idea of a book began to take shape, says Pai, who pitched the idea to publishing group Hachette India, which usually partners with her on books for children. It was not an easy task, says Pai. "You start thinking, it is already written, so how long could it take? But I ended up writing 25,000 words more than the columns themselves in little bites, which had to be punchy and intriguing enough for people to want to read," she explains. Another concern was on how to format the book. The subjects did not lend themselves well to classification by topic, and the columns were not restricted to a particular time or space. After a great deal of back and forth, Pai had a brainwave. "What defines Bangalore is its flowering seasons — which flowers are in bloom in which season," she says. The key dates in each column were then chosen to connect to a specific flowering season, like the gulmohar flowering from March to May. An intense editing process followed, and 75 columns were chosen.

"Online, it is impossible to tell how many people have viewed it, which ones went viral. When people not on the mailing list say they have read the column that someone sent to them, you know that it has gone beyond the usual reach. But now (with the book) I find that a lot of young people have enjoyed it... a lot of people who have said they want to read this out to their dad or mom, as they would enjoy it. It has brought up a lot of nostalgia for people from the city, and a lot of wonder from people who are outside," says Pai. "People are always trying to find out what it is about Bangalore that draws them... it is difficult to pin down the magic. That is why everyone says the weather; otherwise, they don't know what to say. The weather is just the backdrop. But would you go and live in another city with great weather if it did not have everything else?" she asks.

## PGI issues show-cause notice to parking contractor over 2-wheeler overcharging

GNS News Agency, July 10

The Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh, has issued a show-cause notice to its parking contractor after receiving complaints that attendants were overcharging two-wheeler visitors at the public paid parking lot.

"The authorities have already taken up the issue of overcharging for parking fees. The concerned contractor has been issued a show-cause notice regarding the termination of the contract and blacklisting, and has been given one week to respond," a PGIMER spokesperson said. According to the displayed rate list, the official parking fee for two-wheelers is Rs 5. However, several visitors said they were charged Rs 10. "They asked for Rs 10 even though it's written Rs 5 on the board," said Manjit who had come to visit a relative in the Emergency ward. Satpal Singh who was exiting the lot added, "Who will argue with them for Rs 5 or Rs 10? We're already under stress at the hospital." A parking attendant working the 7 am to 1 pm shift admitted that he often receives Rs 10 from people who either do not have Rs 5 change or do not insist on the balance being returned. "Many people either don't ask for



change or hand over Rs 10 without insisting on Rs 5 back," he said. He also confessed to issuing four-wheeler parking receipts, where Rs 10 is printed, to two-wheeler users, saying, "It happens during the rush." Visitors said the staff returns the balance only when asked, otherwise pocketing the excess. The attendant further claimed the rate is Rs 10 if a two-wheeler is parked for over eight hours, though this condition is not mentioned on the rate board. The institute has warned of strict action if the contractor fails to provide a satisfactory response within the stipulated time.

## Kamalpreet Singh of Kapurthala commissioned as Flying Officer in Royal Australian Air Force



A former student of Central and Army Schools in Kapurthala, and an engineering graduate from DAVIET, Jalandhar, Kamalpreet worked at the Goindwal Power Plant in Punjab before migrating to Australia on a work permit in 2017. After working in a company as an engineer for over seven years, he attained permanent residency and Australian citizenship around two years ago. He completed the rigorous Initial Officer Course at the Officer Training School in Sale, Victoria, and qualified for an officer's role in the Australian military last week.

Kamalpreet Singh Kamalpreet Singh with his parents Sewa Singh and Amarjeet Kaur and other relatives on the occasion of his induction in the Australian Air Force. While speaking to The Indian Express Tuesday, Kamalpreet Singh said, "This commission continues the proud tradition of military service in our family. I am honoured to serve and contribute to the safety and security of my adopted country." "I now begin my military career with the Royal Australian Air Force, representing not only my city and family, but also the broader Indian community in Australia," said Kamalpreet.

Kamalpreet has followed the footsteps of his father and great-grandfather, who served in the Indian Army. His elder brother, Sarabjit Singh, has been serving in the New South Wales Police Force for the past 10 years.

Royal Australian Air Force officer Kamalpreet's ap-

pointment has been widely celebrated in Kapurthala, with residents expressing pride in his achievement. Kamalpreet's father, Sewa Singh, a resident of Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Nagar in Kapurthala, expressed pride in his son's accomplishments. He said Kamalpreet had shown a strong interest in military service since childhood. He migrated to Australia, but he never gave up, and has now fulfilled a long-held dream by joining the Australian air force. "The family has received an outpouring of congratulations from friends, relatives, and community members," he said while speaking to Kamalpreet's appointment has been widely celebrated in Kapurthala, with residents expressing pride in his achievement. His success highlights the increasing role and recognition of people of Indian origin in global defence services, particularly in areas that demand high standards of physical and mental excellence.

## NSUI protests 'inactive' study centres at Pune university

The National Students Union of India (NSUI) held a protest on Monday against two allegedly 'inactive' study centres at the Savitribai Phule Pune University, the Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Chair and the Mahatma Phule Chair. The study centres established in honour of Maharashtra social reformers Annabhau Sathe and Mahatma Jyotirao Phule have been closed for the past several months, the NSUI alleged, adding that the books and statues here are covered with dust. Rats and snakes had also been spotted at the centres, the NSUI further claimed. "When spaces built to honour Bahujaan thought are locked, it is not just doors that are shut—it is the future of resistance, memory, and justice that is being silenced," Siddhant Jambhulkar, NSUI member, said.

NSUI protesters threatened to break the locked doors of the study centres and clean them up if the university administration did not take appropriate action to restart the centres. However, Dr Sunil Bhandage, head of the Lokshahir Annabhau Sathe Chair, refuted the allegation that the study centre was non-functional. "The study centre is functional and is conducting events as well... just that the office that is currently located at is not functional and is disorderly."



GNS News Agency, July 10

The Karnataka High Court on Monday appointed Senior Advocate S Susheela as an "amicus curiae" or "friend of the court" to assist the court in the suo motu case regarding the recent stampede near Bengaluru's Chinnaswamy cricket stadium that claimed 11 lives. The case was heard by a Division Bench comprising acting Chief Justice Kameswar Rao and Justice C M Joshi. The amicus curiae is expected to assist the court in coming to a conclusion on the sealing of the report, with the matter set to be heard again on July 1. The court ordered, "Given that the court had taken suo motu cognizance of the incident... we deem it important to appoint an amicus curiae to assist the court with regard to this petition. Accordingly, we appoint Smt S Susheela, Senior Advocate." The court further directed the registry to furnish the amicus with the writ petition copy, documents, interlocutory applications, reports, and newspaper clippings forming a part of the record.

Previously, the Karnataka High Court had sought a report from the State Government on nine questions regarding the tragedy that occurred during Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) IPL victory celebrations in Bengaluru on June 4. The questions included: "When and who has taken the decision to hold the victory celebration and in what manner?"; whether "any permission was sought to organise the event?"; and "Whether any SOP (Standard Operating Procedure) has been formulated to manage a crowd of 50,000 and above in any sports event and celebrations of this nature?"

The report was submitted to the court in a sealed cover last Tuesday. Royal Challengers Bengaluru, the Karnataka State Cricket Association, and the event management company DNA have also been impleaded as respondents in the case. Counsels representing other parties had objected



## Faridabad police arrest 2 men from Delhi in Rs 93 lakh share market fraud case



GNS News Agency, July 10

The Cyber Central Police Station team in Faridabad Monday arrested two people from Delhi in connection with a share market fraud case involving Rs 93.51 lakh. The accused were produced before a court on Tuesday and sent to judicial custody. The arrested men were identified as Ankit, a resident of Gori Gama village of Vaishali district in Bihar who resides at TC Camp near Pacific Mall at Rajouri Garden in West Delhi, and Amit Kumar, a resident of Raghubeer Nagar in West Delhi. Ankit drives an e-rickshaw, while Amit works at a footwear shop.

According to a police spokesperson, a resident of

Ozone Park Apartment in Sector 86, Faridabad, had lodged a complaint alleging that on July 1 last year he was added to a WhatsApp group where fraudsters provided 'investment tips'. The complainant said they convinced him to open a demat account with 'DAIWA SECURITIES AI Smart Demat' for pre-market trading and investments in the US market. The person initially invested Rs 10,000 to test the account and withdrew Rs 1,000, gaining confidence in the scheme. Subsequently, he invested a total of Rs 93.51 lakh, the complaint said. However, communication with the fraudsters soon ceased, leading him to realise that he had been cheated.

Acting on the complaint, the police team arrested the two men. Investigations revealed that Ankit, the account holder, provided his bank account to Amit, who further passed it on to others involved in the scam. Around Rs 8 lakh of the defrauded amount was traced to Ankit's account. In April, the Faridabad police had arrested 11 women and a man allegedly involved in a fake call centre operation that defrauded victims of at least Rs 35 lakh across multiple states by pretending to provide credit card services. The accused were caught from the call centre which had been operating from Janakpuri in West Delhi since March 2024. The case came to light following the registration of a complaint by a 29-year-old resident of Shyam Colony in Ballabhgarh near Faridabad on March 12.

## Uddhav Sena accuses NCP MLA Sunil Shelke of mining royalty evasion worth thousands of crores of rupees

GNS News Agency, July 10

The Shiv Sena (UBT) Wednesday alleged that Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) MLA Sunil Shelke has caused a loss worth thousands of crores of rupees to the state exchequer by not paying the royalty for quarrying activities in his constituency, Maval. In a letter to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, Sena (UBT) spokesperson Sanjay Raut urged him to stop the blatant 'loot' by the MLA belonging to Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's NCP. "Sunil Shelke, without taking any permission from the government, has indulged in digging and collecting minerals from quarries. However, he has failed to pay any royalty to the government," Raut alleged, adding that Shelke has cheated the government.

As per the Maharashtra Minor Mineral Extraction (Development and Regulation) Rules, 2013, every lessee is required to pay royalty on minerals such as sand, gravel, and murrum mined from the leased area at rates specified by the government from time to time. Raut said Shelke and his brother had made an application in 2023 to the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) to receive land compensation for the land acquired by the government. "Accordingly, they were given an alternative land in return," he said. "Since Shelke has deprived the government of royalty worth thousands of crores (of rupees), how is the government going to compensate for it? The chief



minister should issue a directive in this regard," Raut said. "The government has several times acquired fertile and irrigated land from farmers. But has never compensated them with a piece of land in return. Why were the MLA and his family then given the land as compensation?" asked Raut. Shelke, who is attending the Monsoon Session of the Maharashtra Legislative Assembly, has not responded to Raut's allegations. Shelke won from Maval for the first time in the 2019 polls as part of the undivided NCP, defeating two-time BJP MLA Bala Bhegade. He retained the seat in the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly polls, beating the nearest rival, Babu Jaywantrao Bhegade, who contested as an Independent.

## Consumer court directs Rs 1.5 lakh compensation to be paid to the woman by Britannia, chemist shop

GNS News Agency, July 10

A consumer court in Mumbai has ordered Rs 1.5 lakh compensation to a woman who found a live worm in a pack of Britannia biscuits. South Mumbai District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, in its order on June 27, directed Britannia Industries Ltd and the chemist shop in Churchgate from where the woman had bought the packet of biscuits in 2019, to jointly pay the compensation and Rs 25,000 in litigation costs for mental agony, harassment and physical discomfort caused to her.

"The sale of a contaminated biscuit is a grave breach of consumer trust and statutory duties under the Food Safety laws and Consumer Protection laws," the commission said. The woman, a Mira Road resident, had approached the commission with a complaint under the Consumer Protection Act, stating that she had purchased a packet of Good Day biscuits from the chemist shop located at Churchgate station. After she ate a few biscuits, she found a live worm in one of the biscuits, leading to nausea, vomiting and mental distress, she told the commission. She preserved the biscuit and approached the Municipal Food Laboratory of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), which in a report in August 2019, confirmed the presence of extraneous matter.

The woman issued a legal notice to the manufacturer



but received no compensation, following which she approached the commission. Britannia Industries denied liability, stating that the complainant had not produced the wrapper or batch number to establish linkage to their manufacturing unit and maintained that highest quality standards are adhered to by it. The chemist shop, Ashok M. Shah, also denied receiving any complaint and said that they only sell sealed products from manufacturers. The commission said that a live worm was found which is a 'clear indication of contamination and defect'. The food analyst report from the BMC also confirmed the same and it was not challenged by the company, the commission said.

## Symptoms cited to meet ailing father 'common for almost every senior citizen': Mumbai court denies interim bail for Elgaar Parishad accused



Ramesh Gaichor has been in jail since 2020 over alleged Maoist affiliation in the Elgaar Parishad case and sought interim bail for two weeks to meet his father.

GNS News Agency, July 10

A special court in Mumbai Tuesday denied interim bail for two weeks sought by an accused in the Elgaar Parishad case, citing that symptoms suffered by his father are "quite common for almost every senior citizen". Singer-performer Ramesh Gaichor has been behind bars since 2020 over alleged Maoist affiliation. He sought temporary bail, citing that he wants to meet his father and be with him, given the latter's age and medical condition. The court said that while his father was admitted to a hospital, he had been discharged

and that the medical officer observed nothing serious. "Besides weakness, breathlessness, loss of appetite, hyper acidity, chest pain, there is nothing serious mentioned in the doctor's order-sheet. All these symptoms are quite common for almost every senior citizen. Even they are common in many young men. None of the certificates reveals that the physical condition of the father of the applicant/accused is serious, so as to require him to immediately visit his father," Special Judge C S Baviskar said in his order. The court stated that in the past, accused in the same case have been granted interim bail on humanitarian grounds, such as to attend exams or study, but only after reasonable cause was established.

"Perhaps, this somewhat liberal approach and earlier orders of this court prompted this applicant/accused to move this application, without much serious cause," it said, adding that the plea was filed "for the sake of filing" and "to take a chance to persuade the court on emotional ground". The case concerns alleged inflammatory speeches made at the Elgar Parishad conclave in Pune on December 31, 2017. These speeches allegedly incited violence the next day near the Koregaon-Bhima war memorial on the outskirts of the city. Gaichor and 15 others were arrested in the case, where the National Investigation Agency (NIA) claimed that the accused were members of the banned Communist Party of India (Maoist). While one of the accused, Stan Swampy, passed away pending trial, nine are now out of jail, while six remain in custody, including Mahesh Raut, who was granted bail by the Bombay High Court in September 2023.

## Sukhbir Badal, senior Akali leaders detained ahead of Majithia's court appearance



GNS News Agency, July 10

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) president and former Punjab deputy chief minister Sukhbir Singh Badal and several senior party leaders were detained by the Punjab Police in Mohali Wednesday near Burail Jail ahead of his address at a workers rally in the city.

While the Akali leadership maintained their visit was "purely spiritual", the police pointed to heightened security

concerns due to the court appearance of senior Akali leader and Badal's brother-in-law, Bikram Singh Majithia, who was scheduled to be produced at the Mohali Court Complex after a seven-day Vigilance Bureau remand. Among those accompanying Badal were former minister Sikander Singh Maluka, party spokesperson Parambans Singh Bunty Romana, Youth Akali Dal President Sarabjit Singh Jhinjer, Mohali Halka Incharge Parvinder Singh Sohana, and dozens of party workers. Their convoy was intercepted by the police near Gurdwara Amb Sahib. Despite Badal's insistence that they were only going "to pay respects at the gurdwara", all leaders were swiftly taken into custody and transported in waiting police buses and taken to the Phase 11 Police Station, and shifted to Chandigarh. Meanwhile, security restrictions were put in place at the Mohali District court, with access even denied to court staff. Reports suggested nearly 20 court employees were barred from entry despite showing valid ID cards. The Punjab Vigilance Bureau arrested Majithia on June 25 over money laundering allegations involving Rs 540 crore of "drug money". He was sent to a seven-day Vigilance Bureau remand on June 26.

## Delhi gets DGCA nod for first cloud seeding trials to tackle air pollution; 'historic achievement', says Minister Manjinder Sirsa

GNS News Agency, July 10

Delhi has become the first state in India to receive final clearance from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) for conducting cloud seeding trials aimed at reducing pollution, according to officials in the Environment Department. Environment Minister Manjinder Singh Sirsa announced the development on Tuesday, calling it a "historic achievement" and a major step forward in Delhi's fight against air pollution. Cloud seeding has been spoken about for years but never implemented, Sirsa said. The method involves dispersing hygroscopic particles like sodium chloride below the cloud layer to encourage rainfall and help wash out pollutants from the atmosphere. The trials, originally planned for early July, will now be held between August 30 and September 10, over areas including Alipur, Bawana, Rohini, Burari, Pavi Sadakpur and the Kundli border. "For ten years, it remained only on paper. We took it up, secured all approvals including from the DGCA, and now Delhi will finally witness cloud seeding," he said. The aircraft to be used for the operation is a Cessna 206-H (VT-IIT), operated by the Department of Aerospace Engineering at IIT Kanpur. It is fully fitted with cloud seeding equipment and will be manned by a trained crew with prior experience in similar missions. Sirsa added that while the original window approved by the DGCA was July 4 to 11, experts from the India Meteorological Department and the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology, Pune, advised postponing the exercise. The experts cited that weather conditions during that time were not ideal for cloud seeding.

Based on their recommendation, IIT Kanpur and the Delhi government requested a revised schedule, now approved for the end of August to early September, the minister explained. The DGCA's permission comes with strict conditions. The flights must be conducted under Visual Flight Rules (VFR), with full visibility of terrain at all times. Use of aerial photography or videography is banned during operations, and the aircraft must stay within approved airspace. Operators must also coordinate closely with Air



Traffic Control, report any abnormal incidents, and ensure that all activities are properly documented. Sirsa said the effort is part of the larger Environment Action Plan 2025, which aims to prepare Delhi for the winter season when air quality typically worsens. "These trials will give us critical data to fine-tune and scale up cloud seeding efforts later in the year. Our aim is to create a cleaner winter for Delhiites," he said.

He also pointed out that Delhi is the only city where both the Supreme Court and the National Green Tribunal had to intervene due to the poor air quality. "That pressure was a result of inaction in the past. Today, under the leadership of Chief Minister Rekha Gupta and inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a Viksit Delhi, we're changing that. We're not waiting for court orders — we're taking action," he said. Taking a jibe at previous governments, Sirsa said, "They spent a decade writing letters. We secured approvals within four months after several rounds of meetings. The aircraft is ready, the equipment is in place, and the pilots are trained." To help assess the success of the initiative and explore the possibility of wider implementation in the future, the data from the trials would be shared with central pollution control authorities, scientific agencies, and the courts, Sirsa said.

## No disgruntlement in Karnataka Congress, no need for discord with Siddaramaiah at helm: Shivakumar

GNS News Agency, July 10

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Wednesday asserted that there is no disgruntlement within the ruling Congress and when Siddaramaiah is there as the CM, there is no need for any discord on the leadership issue. Shivakumar, who is also the state Congress president, while making it clear that party discipline is important, said that he has not asked anyone to make him the CM, and warned that notices will be issued to leaders who make public statements on the leadership change issue. On Tuesday, he issued a show cause notice to Ramanagara MLA H A Iqbal Hussain, who has been making statements that Shivakumar should become the CM. "I have given notice to him. Will have to give notice to others too. Discipline is important. I have not asked anyone to take my name, to make me CM.

There is no need for it. When the CM (Siddaramaiah) is there, there is no need for any discord," Shivakumar told reporters. Responding to a question that MLAs supporting him are demanding that Shivakumar should be made the CM, citing his hardwork for the party, he said, "Everyone has worked hard. Hundreds of people like me have worked hard. Am I alone? Lakhs of party workers have worked hard. We have to think about them first." Meanwhile, Congress General Secretary in-charge of Karnataka Randeep Singh Surjewala continued his one-on-one meetings with party MLAs for the third consecutive day. Responding to a question about whether Surjewala's meetings will bring down disgruntlement in the party, Shivakumar said, "There is no disgruntlement in the party. He (Surjewala) is fixing accountability on matters related to party and the organisation and



how to prepare for elections from now itself." Recent comments by some party leaders have once again led to speculation about a leadership change in Karnataka later this year. There have been talks within political circles, especially within the ruling Congress, for some time now about the chief minister change later this year, citing power-sharing agreement involving Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar. But such talks had taken a backseat for some time, after strong instructions from the party high command. There was stiff competition between Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar for the chief minister's post after the declaration of Assembly election results in May 2023, and the Congress had managed to convince the latter and made him the Deputy CM. There were some reports at the time that a compromise had been reached based on a "rotational chief minister formula," according to which Shivakumar will become CM after two-and-a-half years, but they have not been officially confirmed by the party.

## Delhi HC upholds injunction order stopping luggage-maker VIP from using 'Carlton' mark

GNS News Agency, July 10

A division bench of the Delhi High Court on Tuesday dismissed appeals challenging an injunction order against Indian luggage manufacturer VIP Industries from using the mark 'Carlton'. A division bench of Justices C Hari Shankar and Ajay Digaupl upheld a single judge's order of July 17, 2023, ruling that Carlton Shoes Limited (CSL) had "goodwill of the CARLTON mark, as used by it in India, prior to the commencement of user of the CARLTON mark by VIP in 2006".

A single judge order of July 17, 2023, dealing with cross suits of infringement by Carlton Shoes Ltd (CSL), incorporated in UK in 1992, and VIP Industries had enjoined VIP from using the 'Carlton' mark in respect of goods covered by Class 18 and had rejected VIP's application for a similar injunction against CSL. Class 18 pertains to leather and imitations of leather, and goods made of these materials, and

not included in other classes. In 2019, VIP had issued a legal notice to CSL, objecting to the use of 'Carlton' for bags, which VIP claimed to have been using for its bags and suitcases and other such items since 2006. VIP had contended that it had been using the 'Carlton' mark for luggage, or travel luggage, and enjoyed the goodwill in the said mark for over 15 years, whereas CSL had never used the 'Carlton' mark for luggage till 2019. It was argued that the goodwill earned by CSL in the 'Carlton' mark, by then, was only with respect to its use for footwear, and the goodwill earned by CSL by such use would not entitle them to maintain an action for passing off against VIP, even though there were some stray sales, by CSL, of Carlton purses and handbags. Both CSL and VIP possess registrations of the mark 'Carlton' in Class 18. The bench, deciding the appeals, framed the legal question: whether goodwill, for the purposes of determining a 'passing off' action, is of a mark, or of a mark in respect of particular goods or category



# Trump urges Hamas to accept 'final proposal' for 60-day Gaza ceasefire



WASHINGTON, - U.S. President Donald Trump urged Iran-backed Hamas militants on Tuesday to agree to what he called a "final proposal" for a 60-day ceasefire with Israel in Gaza that will be delivered by mediating officials from Qatar and Egypt.In a social media post, Trump said his representatives had a "long and productive" meeting with Israeli officials about Gaza. The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.He did not identify his representatives but U.S. special envoy Steve Witkoff, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Vice President JD Vance had been due to meet Ron Dermer, a senior adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Trump said Israel has agreed to the conditions to finalize a 60-day ceasefire, "during which time we will work with all parties to end the War." He said representatives for Qatar and Egypt will deliver "this final proposal" to Hamas."I hope, for the good of the Middle East, that Hamas takes this Deal, because it will not get better — IT WILL ONLY GET WORSE. Thank you for your attention to this matter!"

# Dalai Lama says he will be reincarnated, Trust will identify successor

GNS News Agency, july10  
DHARAMSHALA, India,The elderly Dalai Lama assured his followers on Wednesday that upon his death he would be reincarnated as the next spiritual leader of Tibetan Buddhism and spelt out a succession process that sets up a renewed clash with China. The eagerly awaited statement, made days before the frail Nobel peace laureate turns 90, puts to rest speculation, started by the Dalai Lama himself, that he may be the last of Tibet's spiritual leaders, ending a line that stretches back centuries. The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.Speaking during a week of celebrations in the northern Indian hill town of Dharamshala to mark his birthday, the Dalai Lama said a non-profit institution he has set up will have the sole authority to identify his reincarnation, countering China's insistence that it will choose his successor.

Beijing reiterated on Wednesday that it had to approve the reincarnation and that it had to be done in China through a centuries-old ritual. Beijing views the Dalai Lama, who fled to India from Tibet in 1959 after a failed uprising against Chinese rule, as a separatist. The Dalai Lama has said his successor will be born outside China and urged his followers to reject anyone chosen by Beijing. In previous years, he had also said it was possible that there might be no successor at all."I am affirming that the institution of the Dalai Lama will continue," the Dalai Lama said in a video message, setting off claps and cheers from more than 100 monks in maroon robes who had gathered in a library in Dharamshala. The event was also attended by journalists from around the world and long-time supporters including Hollywood star Richard Gere, who sat in the audience in a hall that had ornate paintings of the Buddha and photographs of the Dalai Lama on the walls.He added that the Gaden Phodrang Trust, the non-profit organisation that he set up to maintain and support the tradition and institution of the Dalai Lama, has the sole authority to recognise his reincarnation in consultation with the heads of Tibetan Buddhist traditions."They should accordingly carry out the procedures of search and recognition in accordance with past tradition ... no one else has any such authority to interfere in this matter," the Dalai Lama said. Tibetan tradition holds that the soul of a senior Buddhist monk is reincarnated in the body of a child upon his death.Born as Lhamo Dhondup on July 6, 1935, to a farming family in what is now Qinghai province, the 14th Dalai Lama was identified as such a reincarnation when he was just two years old by a search party on the basis of several signs, such as a vision revealed to a senior monk, the Dalai Lama's website says.He is now regarded as one of the world's most influential religious figures, with a following extending well beyond Buddhism, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1989. The Dalai Lama

# Hamas says it's ready for a ceasefire but wants a complete end to the war in Gaza

GNS News Agency, july10  
Hamas suggested that it was open to a ceasefire agreement with Israel but stopped short of accepting a U.S.-backed proposal announced by U.S. President Donald Trump hours earlier, insisting on its longstanding position that any deal bring an end to the war in Gaza.Mr. Trump said Tuesday (July 1, 2025) that Israel had agreed on terms for a 60-day ceasefire in Gaza and urged Hamas to accept the deal before conditions worsen. The U.S. leader has been increasing pressure on the Israeli government and Hamas to broker a ceasefire, and hostage agreement and bring about an end to the war.Mr. Trump said the 60-day period would be used to work toward ending the war — something Israel says it won't accept until Hamas is defeated. He said that a deal might come together as soon as next week. But Hamas' response, which emphasised its demand that the war end, raised questions about whether the latest offer could materialise into an actual pause in fighting.Hamas official Taher al-Nunu said that the militant group was "ready and serious regarding reaching an agreement."He said Hamas was "ready to accept any initiative that clearly leads to the complete end to the war."A Hamas delegation is expected to meet with Egyptian and Qatari mediators in Cairo on Wednesday (July 2, 2025) to discuss the proposal, according to an Egyptian official. The official spoke on condition of anonymity, because he wasn't authorised to discuss the talks with the media. Throughout the nearly 21-month-long war, ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas have repeatedly faltered over whether the war should end as part of any deal.Hamas has said that it's willing to free the remaining 50 hostages. less then half of whom are said to be

he said.Trump told reporters earlier in the day that he is hopeful that a ceasefire-for-hostages agreement can be achieved next week between Israel and Hamas militants in Gaza. He is set to meet Netanyahu at the White House on Monday.

in Gaza under any deal to end the war, while Israel says it can only end if Hamas is disarmed and dismantled. Hamas refuses to lay down its arms.The war in Gaza was triggered when Hamas-led militants attacked Israel on October 7, 2023, killing 1,200 people and taking 251 hostages, according to Israeli tallies.Item 1 of 2 U.S. President Donald Trump meets with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu in the Oval Office at the White House in Washington, U.S., April 7, 2025. The two sides have shown little sign of a readiness to budge from their entrenched positions.

The U.S. has proposed a 60-day ceasefire and the release of half the hostages in exchange for Palestinian prisoners and the remains of other Palestinians.Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar said earlier this week Israel has agreed to a U.S.-proposed 60-day ceasefire and hostage deal, and put the onus on Hamas.Trump and his aides appear to be seeking to use any momentum from U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran nuclear sites, as well as a ceasefire that took hold last week in that conflict, to secure a lasting truce in the war in Gaza.Trump told reporters during a visit to Florida that he would be "very firm" with Netanyahu on the need for a speedy Gaza ceasefire while noting that the Israeli leader wants one as well."We hope it's going to happen. And we're looking forward to it happening sometime next week," he told reporters. "We want to get the hostages out."Gaza's health ministry says Israel's post-Oct. 7 military assault has killed over 56,000 Palestinians. The assault has also caused a hunger crisis, internally displaced Gaza's entire population and prompted accusations of genocide at the International Court of Justice and of war crimes at the International Criminal Court. Israel denies the accusations.



was in good health and has not given any written instructions yet on the succession, said Samdhong Rinpoche, a senior official of the Gaden Phodrang Trust.He told reporters in Dharamshala that the successor can be of any gender and that their nationality would not be restricted to Tibet.

Penpa Tsering, leader of the Central Tibetan Administration, the Tibetan government-in-exile in India, said the Dalai Lama would be open to visiting Tibet if his health permits and if there were no restrictions from China, which would mark his first visit to the country since 1959."It's entirely dependent on China and the Chinese government," he said, adding that Beijing had put a condition that if the Dalai Lama visits, he should stay back."His holiness' response is 'If I get to go to Tibet and China, I will go, but I will not live there, because there is no freedom there'. This is also connected with the reincarnation where his holiness says 'I will be born in a free world'", Tsering said.Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning said the country's leaders had the right to approve the Dalai Lama's successor, as a legacy from imperial times, and that China practices a policy of freedom of religious belief.A selection ritual, in which the names of possible reincarnations are drawn from a golden urn, dates to 1793, during the Qing dynasty.

"The child reincarnation of a major Living Buddha such as the Dalai Lama and the Panchen Lama needs to be identified through lot-drawing from a golden urn and approval by the central government," Mao said at a regular news conference.Tsering, the leader of the government-in-exile, said the U.S. had lifted some restrictions on funds for Tibetans in exile and that the Tibetan government was also looking for alternate sources of funding. The United States, which faces rising competition from China for global dominance, has repeatedly said it is committed to advancing the human rights of Tibetans. U.S. lawmakers have previously said they would not allow China to influence the choice of the Dalai Lama's successor.

alive, in exchange for a complete Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and an end to the war.Israel says it will only agree to end the war if Hamas surrenders, disarms and exiles itself, something the group refuses to do.An Israeli official said that the latest proposal calls for a 60-day deal that would include a partial Israeli withdrawal from Gaza and a surge in humanitarian aid to the territory. The mediators and the U.S. would provide assurances about talks on an end to the war, but Israel isn't committing to that as part of the latest proposal, the official said.The official wasn't authorised to discuss the details of the proposed deal with the media, so spoke on condition of anonymity.It wasn't clear how many hostages would be freed as part of the agreement, but previous proposals have called for the release of about 10.Israel has yet to publicly comment on Mr. Trump's announcement. On Monday (June 30, 2025), Mr. Trump is set to host Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu for talks at the White House, days after Ron Dermer, a senior Netanyahu adviser, held discussions with top U.S. officials about Gaza, Iran and other matters."I hope, for the good of the Middle East, that Hamas takes this Deal, because it will not get better — IT WILL ONLY GET WORSE," he said.Mr. Trump's warning may find a sceptical audience with Hamas. Even before the expiration of the war's longest ceasefire in March, Mr. Trump has repeatedly issued dramatic ultimatums to pressure Hamas to agree to longer pauses in the fighting that would see the release of more hostages and a return of more aid to Gaza's civilian populace.Still, Mr. Trump views the current moment as a potential turning point in the brutal conflict that has left more than 56,000 dead in the Palestinian territory.

# Trump tours Florida immigration lockup and jokes about escapees having to run from alligators



GNS News Agency, july10

President Donald Trump toured a new immigration detention centre surrounded by alligator-filled swamps in the Florida Everglades, suggesting it could be a model for future lockups nationwide as his administration races to expand the infrastructure necessary for increasing deportations.Mr. Trump said he'd like to see similar facilities in "really, many states" and raised the prospect of also deporting U.S. citizens. He even endorsed having Florida National Guard forces possibly serve as immigration judges to ensure migrants are ejected from the country even faster."Pretty soon, this facility will handle the most menacing migrants, some of the most vicious people on the planet," Mr. Trump said of the Florida site known as "Alligator Alcatraz."

The President said the moniker is "very appropriate because I looked outside and that's not a place I want to go hiking anytime soon.""The only way out, really, is deportation," Mr. Trump added.Hundreds of protesters converged outside the site — a remote airstrip with tents and trailers. They waved signs calling for the humane treatment of migrants as well as the protection of the expansive preserve that is home to a few Native American tribes and many endangered animal species. The White House has delighted in the area's remoteness — about 50 miles (80 kilometres) west of Miami — and the fact that it is teeming with pythons and alligators. It hopes to convey a message to detainees and the rest of the world that repercussions will be severe if the immigration laws of the United States are not followed.Before arriving, Mr. Trump even joked of migrants being held there, "We're going to teach them how to run away from an alligator if they escape prison."

"Don't run in a straight line. Run like this," Mr. Trump said, as he moved his hand in a zigzag motion. "And you know what? Your chances go up about 1%." Alligator experts suggest it is better to dash in one direction in the rare situation when the reptile gives chase, according to a website run by the University of Florida.Mr. Trump on his tour walked through medical facilities and other parts of the detention centre, then held a lengthy roundtable where Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and assorted state and federal officials heaped him with praise.Authorities originally suggested it could house up to 5,000 detainees upon completion, but Mr. DeSantis said it would actually hold around 3,000, with some starting to arrive Wednesday.The centre was built in eight days over 10 miles (16 kilometres) of Everglades. It features more than 200 security cameras, 28,000-plus feet (8,500 metres) of barbed wire and 400 security personnel.Mr. Trump dismissed concerns about the impact on delicate ecosystems, saying that since the airstrip was already there, authorities wouldn't have to be "dropping dirt."I don't think you've done anything to the Everglades," Mr. Trump said. "I think you're just enhancing it."Other, though, are appalled, including Phyllis Andrews, a retired teacher who drove from Naples, Florida, to protest Mr. Trump's visit and called migrants "fine people.""They do not deserve to be incarcerated here," Andrews

# UK to acquire 15 more F-35B fighter jets despite Kerala grounding incident

GNS News Agency, july10

Even as an F-35B fighter jet of the United Kingdom (UK) remains grounded at the Thiruvananthapuram international airport in Kerala, raising concerns over the operational ability of the jet, the UK government has decided to procure 15 more F-35B jets as part of enhancing its national security.A press release issued by the UK government said that in the first phase, the UK will procure 12 new F-35A fighter jets and join NATO's dual-capable aircraft nuclear mission in a major boost for national security.As part of the second phase procurement plans of 27 aircraft, the UK government will purchase a combination of 12 F-35A and 15 F-35B variants, with options on further purchases examined in the Defence Investment Plan.

The UK has a declared "a headmark" (planned acquisition) of 138 aircraft through the life of the F-35 programme, said the statement. The purchase represents the biggest strengthening of the UK's nuclear posture in a generation. The UK will deploy the jets as part of NATO's nuclear Dual Capable Aircraft mission, strengthening NATO's nuclear deterrence posture, it added.Meanwhile, Ben Obese-Jecty, the Conservative MP for Huntingdon, raised the issue of the grounded F-35B in Kerala in the House of Commons on 30 June. Earlier, in an 'X' post, he said: "for over two weeks, one of our F-35B jets has been stranded at Thiruvananthapuram airport in India, unable to fly back to the Prince of Wales Carrier Strike Group. I challenged the government over what they're doing to return the aircraft, and crucially, ensure its tech is secure."

In the House of Commons, he sought the response of the UK government on questions such as "What steps are the government taking to recover the plane, how much longer will that take, and how will the government ensure the security of protected technologies on the jet while it is in

# Snake on plane delays flight in Australia

GNS News Agency, july10

Melbourne: An Australian domestic flight was delayed for two hours after a stowaway snake was found in the plane's cargo hold, officials said on Wednesday. The snake was found on Tuesday as passengers were boarding Virgin Australia Flight VA337 at Melbourne Airport bound for Brisbane, according to snake catcher Mark Pelley. The snake turned out to be a harmless 2-foot green tree snake. But Pelly said he thought it could be venomous when he approached it in the darkened hold."It wasn't until after I caught the snake that I realised that it wasn't venomous. Until that point, it looked very dangerous to me," Pelley said.Most of the world's most venomous snakes are native to Australia.When Pelley entered the cargo hold, the snake was half hidden behind a panel and could have dis-

said.Some Trump supporters showed up near the detention centre as well, including Enrique Tarrio, a former leader of the Proud Boys whom Mr. Trump pardoned for his conviction related to the Jan. 6, 2021, assault on the U.S. Capitol. He suggested Trump won last year's election because voters wanted "mass deportation" and "retribution."Crackdowns on the U.S.-Mexico border and harsh immigration policies have long been a centrepiece of Mr. Trump's political brand. During his first term, Mr. Trump denied reports that he floated the idea of building a moat filled with alligators at the southern border.Mr. Trump has more recently suggested that his administration could re-open Alcatraz, the notorious island prison off San Francisco. The White House similarly promoted the political shock value of sending some immigrants awaiting deportation to a detention lockup in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, and others to a megaprison in El Salvador.His administration has vowed that mass deportations are coming, even if some of those notions are impractical. Transforming Alcatraz from a tourist attraction into a prison would be very costly, and Guantánamo Bay is being used less often than administration officials originally envisioned.

Mr. Trump also mused Tuesday about deporting dangerous people born in the United States, like ones who "knife you when you're walking down the street" or who kill people from behind with a baseball bat."They're not new to our country. They're old to our country. Many of them were born in our country. I think we ought to get them the hell out of here, too," Mr. Trump said. "So maybe that'll be the next job that we'll work on together."Alluding to his criminal indictments during President Joe Biden's administration, Mr. Trump said of the detention facility, "Biden wanted me here," using an expletive to describe his predecessor.Florida plans to offer up members of the National Guard to be "deputized" and assist immigration judges as a way to loosen another chokepoint in the country's long-overburdened immigration court system. Guard personnel could provide security along the perimeter and entry control points and help staff the site, officials say.The detention center has an estimated annual cost of \$450 million, but state officials say at least some of that will be covered by the Federal Emergency Management Agency — which is best known for responding to hurricanes and other natural disasters.During his tour, Mr. Trump greeted around 20 FEMA employees and construction workers and bonded with Mr. DeSantis, who once bitterly challenged him for the 2024 Republican presidential nomination."We have blood that seems to match pretty well," Mr. Trump said of Florida's governor. When Mr. DeSantis suggested that members of the Guard could ease immigration judges' workloads, Mr. Trump offered, "He didn't even have to ask me. He has my approval."A spokesperson for the Guard said that its members aren't currently tasked with detention or enforcement operations and that doing so would require training from federal authorities.Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem, who was also on the tour, said immigrants arriving to the site could still ot to "self-deport" and board flights to their home countries rather than being held in it. She said she hoped "my phone rings off the hook" with other states looking to follow Florida's lead and open similar sites.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detainees are generally held for reasons like entering the country illegally or overstaying a visa. They are either waiting for ICE to put them on the next flight or bus ride home, or they're fighting their removal in immigration court.As of mid-June, ICE detention facilities held more than 56,000 immigrants, the most since 2019.During his visit, Mr. Trump was informed that the sweeping tax cut and spending bill the White House has championed had cleared the Senate, drawing applause. He suggested his being in Florida, rather than helping promote the bill in Washington, underscored how important immigration was as an issue.



the hangar and out of view?"To this, Minister for the Armed Forces Luke Pollard responded that though grounded, the aircraft remains under close UK control, with RAF personnel guarding it around the clock, while emphasising that the security of the jet is "in good hands because Royal Air Force crew are with it at all times."The fifth-generation combat jet, famous for its short take-off and vertical landing capabilities, has remained grounded at the Thiruvananthapuram airport since June 14 after it made an emergency landing. Though the landing was made following the adverse weather conditions in the Indian Ocean, it could not take off from here after serious engineering issues developed.The UK authorities are of the view that the fighter jet would be brought back to the active service of the Royal Air Force once the maintenance and repair of the aircraft are completed in Kerala along with the mandatory safety checks. An expert team from the UK would arrive in Kerala soon to rectify the glitches.Earlier, the UK government sources told The Hindu that the UK authorities would not provide details on repair and maintenance matters or on private discussions with the Government of India.

appeared deeper into the plane. Pelley said he told an aircraft engineer and airline staff that they would have to evacuate the aircraft if the snake disappeared inside the plane."I said to them if I don't get this in one shot, it's going to sneak through the panels and you're going to have to evacuate the plane because at that stage I did not know what kind of snake it was," Pelley said. "But thankfully, I got it on the first try and captured it," Pelley added. "If I didn't get it that first time, the engineers and I would be pulling apart a (Boeing) 737 looking for a snake still right now."Pelley said he had taken 30 minutes to drive to the airport and was then delayed by security before he could reach the airliner. An airline official said the flight was delayed around two hours.Because the snake is native to the Brisbane region, Pelley suspects it came aboard inside a passenger's luggage .



# Sinhalese migrated from South India, mixed heavily with Adivasi post-migration: genome study



GNS News Agency, July 10

Analyses of whole-genome sequence data of urban Sinhalese and two indigenous Adivasi clans in Sri Lanka, which live in geographically separated regions in the country, shed light on the migratory history of these populations and their genetic relationship to each other and to many Indian populations. The study, published recently in the journal *Current Biology*, found that Sinhalese and Adivasi are genetically closest to each other and to South Indians, but at a regional and fine-scale level, the two Adivasi clans are genetically distinct. For the study, whole genomes of 35 urban Sinhalese individuals and 19 individuals from two indigenous Adivasi clans were sequenced. Of the 19 genomes of Adivasi clans that were sequenced, five were from Interior Adivasi and 14 were from Coastal Adivasi. The sampling and data generation became possible due to the outreach efforts of Sri Lankan collaborator Ruwandi Ranasinghe, from the University of Colombo. In addition, the whole genome data of 35 Sri Lankan Tamils sampled in the U.K., which were already sequenced as part of the 1,000 Genomes Project, were included in the analyses.

Sinhalese chronicles and previous genetic studies had proposed that Sinhalese had migrated from northern or north-west India around 500 BC, though their exact origins and migratory history are still debated. That Sinhalese speak an Indo-European language, Sinhala, whose present-day distribution lies primarily in northern India further supports the idea of their migration from northern India. But the current study contradicts the findings of the previous studies from a genetic perspective. "The genetic ancestries and their proportions in the Adivasi and Sinhalese are most similar to Dravidian speaking populations who live in Southern India today," Niraj Rai of Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), Lucknow, and one of the corresponding authors of the paper, said.

"Even among South Indian populations, we find that the Sinhalese are genetically closest to those communities that have higher proportions of the so-called ASI or Ancestral South Indian ancestry," Maanasa Raghavan, assistant professor at the University of Chicago and a corresponding author of the study, said. "In contrast to many North Indians, these populations generally have lower levels of a genetic ancestry related to ancient groups from the Eurasian Steppe, proposed to have carried Indo-European languages into South Asia and that are today spoken widely in northern regions of India." But how does one reconcile the fact that Sinhalese speak a language that is classified as Indo-European, which today is spoken mostly in North India? The authors explained that genes do not reflect linguistic affinities and that biological and cultural evolution can have different trajectories. They have speculated that this genetic-linguistic discordance may have been caused by the Sinhalese population having migrated from somewhere in North India geographically, but genetically speaking, the migration may have come from a group that resembles more South Indian Dravidian speakers today. An alternative explanation is that a small group of Sinhalese, perhaps representing the elite, might have migrated to Sri Lanka and transmitted the language but not genes. "If the Sinhalese were derived from a North Indian genetic cluster with higher Steppe-related ancestry, mixing had to have happened with ASI populations to dilute their genetic ancestries and pull them genetically closer to South Indian populations in our analyses. More anthropological studies are needed to fully understand these differing genetic and cultural affinities of the Sinhalese," Raghavan said. Support from anthropological studies: The time of formation of the Sinhalese genetic pool was dated in the study to about 3,000 years ago, falling within the range of dates displayed broadly by Indian and other Sri Lankan populations and around the time of the proposed migration date of the Sinhalese in the chronicles (500 BC). "The date our analysis reveals is interesting. It implies that the Sinhalese ancestors migrated to Sri Lanka fairly close in time to the dynamic genetic mixing

# New evidence of a matrilineal society in neolithic China

Evidence from two Neolithic cemeteries on China's eastern coast, reported recently by researchers at Peking University in Beijing in *Nature*, showed that some communities were organised in matrilineal clans 4,750-4,500 years ago. Scientists are still debating whether any early human societies were matrilineal. Numerous genetic studies have concluded ancient societies were patriarchal. Some of the rare exceptions include the Chaco Canyon dynasty in North America (800-1300 BC) and some Celtic communities in Germany (616-200 BC). The new evidence came from analysing skeletal remains retrieved from cemeteries used for around 250 years, spanning at least 10 generations. The findings challenge scientists' assumptions about traditional societies.

Most of an individual's genome (DNA) is inherited equally from each parent. But around 0.0005% is inherited only from the mother. This is the mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). Sperm cells don't normally transmit mitochondria. The non-mtDNA is located in the cell's nucleus. Nuclear DNA contains two genome sets and is organised in 23 pairs of chromosomes. One chromosome of each pair is inherited via the father's sperm and the other via the mother's egg. The sex chromosomes, X and Y, define one pair. Both males and females inherit an X chromosome from the mother. Females receive their second X from the father, whereas males receive the Y chromosome that carries the maleness-determining gene. The Y chromosome carries about 1% of the nuclear DNA. Since the Y is transmitted by a father to all of his sons, it is patrilineally inherited. Thus, sequence information from mtDNA and Y-chromosome is used to trace maternal and paternal lineages, respectively. The researchers found all individuals buried in each cemetery had the same mtDNA but the mtDNA in the two cemeteries was different. In contrast, the Y chromosomes recovered from the male remains were diverse, meaning in each cemetery the burials were determined solely by matrilineal affinity.

Analyses of the rest of the genome revealed frequent intermarriages between relatively distantly related individuals

events that were occurring about 2,000-4,000 years ago in India that created the ANI-ASI genetic spectrum we see in today's populations," Rai explained.

Sinhalese chronicles also say that when Sinhalese migrated from India to Sri Lanka about 3,000 years ago, Adivasi were already living in Sri Lanka. This is also supported by anthropological studies that propose that Adivasi are descended from early hunter-gatherers in the region. The Adivasi are in fact traditionally hunter-gatherers and the Indigenous peoples of Sri Lanka. "At a broad scale, Adivasi today look genetically very similar to the Sinhalese and Sri Lankan Tamil. This must mean that the Sinhalese, Sri Lankan Tamils, or other groups migrating from South India must have met the Adivasi, mixed with them heavily, and contributed to what is the present-day genetic structure of the Adivasi," Raghavan said.

Sinhalese and Adivasi are close to each other and share broad-level genetic similarities, but on a fine-scale demographic resolution, the study found that the two Adivasi clans are a bit different from the Sinhalese. The Adivasi have slightly higher levels of ancient hunter-gatherer ancestry than the Sinhalese and Sri Lankan Tamils, and have maintained smaller population sizes over the course of their history, both of which support their traditional hunting and gathering lifestyle. The Adivasi genomes also display signatures of endogamy, which appear as long stretches of DNA inherited from a common ancestor. The study further reports that a consequence of the low population size and endogamy is that the genetic diversity in the Adivasi is lower than the urban populations, which may have an impact on their health and disease status.

While both Adivasi clans maintained lower population sizes compared to the Sinhalese and Sri Lankan Tamils, the authors found that the Interior Adivasi clan seemed to have undergone a stronger reduction in their population size compared to the Coastal Adivasi, leading to a greater loss of their genetic diversity. "We find the two Adivasi clans — the Coastal Adivasi and the Interior Adivasi — also have some differences in their genetic ancestry arising due to distinct geographic separation between them," Rai said. This, according to Raghavan, indicates that the Interior Adivasi clan must have undergone stronger pressures, perhaps societal or environmental, to keep the population size lower compared to their Coastal counterparts. Explaining how the two Adivasi clans are more similar to each other, but still have genetic differences at a fine scale, she said that this basically means that at some point in time, due to geographic separation, the genetic and lifestyle attributes of the two clans started to drift apart.

In fact, the fragmented nature of the Adivasi clans also impacted the study sampling strategy. While 35 individuals representing the two large groups — Sinhalese and Sri Lankan Tamils — have been included in the analyses, the numbers for the two Adivasi populations were small: five from among the interior Adivasi and 14 from among the Coastal Adivasi. Though it would be ideal to keep matched sample sizes of different populations for genetic analyses, the reason for including only small numbers for the two Adivasi clans was because the Adivasi communities today are very fragmented. "Historical, anthropological, as well as our genetic results all suggest that these communities live in small sizes and practice endogamy," Raghavan said. "Because of endogamy, a lot of these individuals tend to be quite related to one another. Having really high relatedness in a group impacts the genetic analyses because then everybody's going to look like each other. So that's why our sample sizes were lower for the two Adivasi clans." Despite the number of individuals representing the two Adivasi clans being small, the researchers were able to recapture the entire population history of these two groups. The study was able to address the questions that the researchers set out to do despite the Adivasi sample sizes being small, according to Raghavan.

"Since every individual's genome is a mosaic of their ancestor's genomes, even a small number of individuals can represent their population's genetic histories. Moreover, we didn't find any genetic outliers within the Adivasi clans. So, all the sampled individuals fit into the model that we propose," Rai clarified. "This is the first time that high-resolution genome data have been sequenced from multiple populations in Sri Lanka, including the Indigenous Adivasi and urban Sinhalese, to understand the deeply rooted ancestries and their population histories," Rai added. Broadly, the study has important implications for how humans moved across South Asia and highlights the high degree of interconnectedness between India and Sri Lanka over millennia.



als across the two matrilineal clans, such as second or third cousins. Two particular individuals interred in different cemeteries, N01 and S32, were a paternal aunt-nephew pair or a niece-paternal uncle pair. Their mtDNA was consistent with where they were buried. This adherence to matrilineal burial was also evident in two pairs of first-cousins. Each geographical locale has a characteristic ratio of the 87Sr isotope to that of the 86Sr isotope, depending on the mineral composition of the local soil. The ratio in teeth indicates the individual's childhood location while that in bones their adulthood location. If the ratios in teeth and bone differ, the individual may have migrated. The bones and teeth of the remains had the same Sr ratio as local wild plants, meaning the individuals were born and resided throughout their lives in the same geography. Similarly, the ratio of carbon isotopes 13C to 12C indicated a diet dominated by corn, sorghum, millet, sugarcane and switch-grass. The researchers concluded the population practiced millet-based agriculture and raised pigs for meat. Males and females had the same diet. The findings exemplify how anthropology and archaeology are furthered by studying genomes and isotopes. Agriculture, animal domestication, and settled communities began in the Neolithic period. That cemeteries from this time were organised around matrilineal clans suggests the existence of a matrilineal society in early human history.

# Akhilesh Yadav, the Ambedkarite



During the 2022 Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, the Dalit bangle makers in Firozabad, a traditional bastion of the Samajwadi Party (SP), said that they trusted the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) more because they had suffered at the hands of the Yadavs. "During SP rule, our women were forcibly denied ration shop queues. It was much like how our leader (Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati) was assaulted by SP goons in the State guest house (in 1995)," said an artisan. The distrust was deep despite the SP and the BSP having come together for the 2019 general elections. Cut to November 2024. Ahead of the bypolls, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav addressed rallies in western U.P. In each rally, he would underline his Other Backward Classes (OBC) identity. He would mention how after he lost power in 2017 and vacated the official residence of the Chief Minister in Lucknow, the BJP cleansed the premises with Gangajal as an act of purification. He would then speak about the Kannauj incident in 2024 where BJP workers washed the precincts of a temple after he visited it to offer prayers during his Lok Sabha election campaign. By narrating these incidents, Mr. Yadav would align his identity with the Dalits, who have historically been treated as "impure" by the so-called upper castes.

Recently, Mr. Yadav raised his voice against the assault of two Yadav priests in Etawah, another SP stronghold. The BJP accused him of giving the incident a casteist spin. However, it was this tweak in his politics that won him 43 seats alongside the Congress in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. Political analysts say that the change in Mr. Yadav's world view was evident from 2018 when B.R. Ambedkar

prominently appeared in the party's poll literature. Soon after, a bust of Ambedkar appeared at the party office in Lucknow, and Babasahib Vahini, a party-affiliated outfit, was formed to reach out to Dalits. This crystallised into the PDA (a Hindi acronym for backwards, Dalits, and minorities) formula that has been paying electoral dividends. The order of groups may be different, but this is not significantly different from Kanshi Ram's Bahujan (majority people) politics and differs from Ms. Mayawati's focus on Sarvajan (all people) politics.

This strategy reflected in ticket distribution in 2024. The party shed its Muslim-Yadav tag while selecting candidates and successfully played the Dalit and OBC card. By focusing on Kurmi, Shakya, Maurya, and Nishad candidates and fielding two Dalits from general seats, Mr. Yadav disturbed the caste calculus of the BJP. That the desertion of established caste leaders such as Swami Prasad Maurya did not impact the party's performance indicates that the most backward communities believed in Mr. Yadav. Political observers say that with the BSP losing direction, Mr. Yadav is aiming to replace Ms. Mayawati in the Dalit mind. A party insider says that after the election results, when people saw that 'judenge toh jeetenge (united we win)' was possible, they wouldn't buy the slogan of the BJP, 'batoge toh katoge (divided you will fall)'. Instead of hitting the streets, Mr. Yadav has motivated the cadre to hold PDA panchayats in villages across the State to highlight the strength of unity and the failure of the 'double engine' BJP government. "We are trying to drill the idea that the ideologies of Ram Manohar Lohia and Ambedkar can fulfil the dreams of the country and of our ancestors," said a senior party member.

Mr. Yadav is often poetic in Parliament when he criticises the government about the Waqf Act or the deaths at the Kumbh Mela. However, he lets his displeasure be known when journalists try to corner him as a dynast or a privileged politician and accuses them of being soft on the government. With the family feud settled in his favour, one of the most significant changes in Mr. Yadav's public behaviour is that he no longer gives the impression of being an insecure politician. Despite unsavoury statements made by some Congress leaders from U.P., Mr. Yadav remains committed to the INDIA bloc. With Azam Khan out of the picture, the partnership with the Congress helps him outsource Muslim issues to the grand old party. A section of young leaders in the SP feels that with the polls only 18 months away, Mr. Yadav should launch a padayatra like Rahul Gandhi did. They fear that without the active participation of grassroots leaders, PDA meetings could just become photo ops.

# Amid concerns over sudden deaths in Karnataka's Hassan, Centre says no links with COVID-19 vaccines



In the wake of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah linking heart-related deaths in Hassan district to COVID-19 vaccine, the Union Health Ministry on Wednesday (July 2, 2025) said extensive studies by ICMR and AIIMS have conclusively established no linkages between COVID-19 vaccines and sudden deaths. Mr. Siddaramaiah on Tuesday (July 1, 2025) said "hasty approval and distribution" of the COVID-19 vaccine to the public could also be a reason for these deaths. He urged everyone to visit the nearest health centre immediately for a check-up if they have symptoms such as chest pain or difficulty breathing, and not to ignore these signs. The Union Health Ministry said the matter of sudden unexplained deaths has been investigated through several agencies in the country and these studies have conclusively established that there is no direct link between COVID-19 vaccination and reports of sudden deaths. Studies by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) affirm that COVID-19 vaccines in India are safe and effective, with extremely rare instances of serious side effects, it said. Sudden cardiac deaths can result from a wide range of factors, including genetics, lifestyle, pre-existing conditions, and post-COVID-19 complications, the Ministry said in a statement. The ICMR and NCDC have been working together to understand the causes behind sudden unexplained deaths, especially in young adults between the ages of 18 and 45 years.

To explore this, two complementary studies were undertaken using different research approaches — one based on past data and another involving real-time investigation. The first study conducted by ICMR's National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE) was titled "Factors associated with unexplained sudden deaths among adults aged 18-45 years in India - a multi-centric matched case control study." This study was carried out from May to August 2023 across 47 tertiary care hospitals in 19 States and Union Territories, the statement said. It looked at individuals who appeared to be healthy but died suddenly between October 2021 and March 2023.

The findings have conclusively showed that COVID-19 vaccination does not increase the risk of unexplained sudden deaths in young adults. The second study titled "Establishing the cause in sudden unexplained deaths in young" is currently being conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, with funding and in collaboration with ICMR. This is a prospective study aimed at determining the common causes of sudden deaths in young adults. Early analysis of data from the study indicates that heart attacks or myocardial infarction (MI) continue to be the leading cause of sudden death in this age group, the statement said. Importantly, no major changes in

the pattern of causes have been observed when compared with previous years. In majority of the unexplained death cases, genetic mutations have been identified as a possible cause of these deaths. The final results will be shared once the study is complete.

Together, these two studies offer a more comprehensive understanding of sudden unexplained deaths in young adults in India. It has also been found that COVID-19 vaccination does not appear to increase the risk, whereas, the role of underlying health issues, genetic predisposition and risky lifestyle choices does play a role in unexplained sudden deaths, the statement said. "Scientific experts have reiterated that statements linking Covid vaccination to sudden deaths are false and misleading, and are not supported by scientific consensus," the statement said. Speculative claims without conclusive evidence risk undermining public confidence in vaccines, which have played a crucial role in saving millions of lives during the pandemic, it said. Such unfounded reports and claims could strongly contribute to vaccine hesitancy in the country, thereby adversely impacting public health. The government remains committed to evidence-based public health research to protect the well-being of its citizens, the statement said.

The Karnataka Chief Minister had said more than 20 people have died due to heart attacks in the past month alone in just one district of Hassan. In the past month alone, in just one district of Hassan, more than twenty people have died due to heart attacks. The government is taking this matter very seriously. To identify the exact cause of these series of deaths and to find solutions, a committee of experts has been... — Siddaramaiah (@siddaramaiah) July 1, 2025 The government is taking this matter very seriously. To identify the exact cause of these series of deaths and to find solutions, a committee of experts has been formed under the leadership of Dr Ravindranath, Director of Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences and Research, and they have been instructed to submit a study report within 10 days," he said in a post on X.

# K Murali, an outstanding scientist, appointed Director of DLRL, Hyd

Hyderabad: K Murali, an outstanding scientist, has been appointed as the Director of Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL-DRDO) on July 1. He has taken over from N Srinivas Rao, a distinguished scientist who superannuated on June 30.

DLRL is a premier Lab in the field of Electronics Warfare Systems and has delivered Integrated EW Systems to the Tri-services during past six decades. Murali had graduated in Bachelor of Science in Osmania University, Hyderabad in 1988 and obtained M Sc in Computer Science Engineering from University of Mysore, Karnataka in 1990. He joined DRDO as Scientist-B in Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL), Hyderabad and has been serving the laboratory at various levels towards design, development, productionisation and successful installation of a number of Electronic Warfare Systems, RF Seekers and Counter Drone Systems for the Armed Forces. In addition to this, he has steered and coordinated futuristic research and development activities with academia and industry partners, a press release said.





# When a DNA analysis reveals a closely guarded family secret...



The Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics (CDFD) is a government laboratory in Hyderabad. It provides DNA-based investigative services to the police, the judiciary, and to hospitals that offer organ transplant procedures. Recently, the CDFD handled the case of a family in which the father offered to donate an organ to his ailing son. CDFD technicians generated DNA profiles of the donor, the patient, and also the patient's mother. While the DNA profiles of the mother and the son were consistent with their claimed mother-son relationship, those of the father and his son were not. The DNA showed that the woman's husband was not the actual father of the patient but a close paternal relative, possibly a brother of the actual father. These findings didn't preclude the organ transplant procedure but by revealing the practice of levirate they created a potentially awkward situation for the family. Levirate is the custom in some families in which a woman who is widowed or one whose husband is mentally or physically incapacitated has children fathered by her husband's brother. Understandably, the family would prefer to keep such knowledge private. The report from the CDFD was meant to tell doctors they could proceed with the transplant operation because the donor and the recipient belonged to the same family. But by explicitly revealing the woman's husband was not her son's father, it created the risk of an unwanted breach of the family's privacy.

What are DNA profiles?

Every cell in our body has a nucleus that contains two copies of each of the 23 chromosomes, numbered 1 to 23. This 1-23 lump is our genome. One chromosome of each pair is inherited via the mother's egg and the other via the father's sperm. When we make our own reproductive cells — eggs or sperm — each egg or sperm receives only one chromosome from a pair, i.e. one genome set. When a sperm cell and an egg fuse, they create a cell with two genome sets. This cell, called the zygote, divides to produce all the other cells of the baby. Every chromosome contains a single DNA molecule that runs from end to end. A DNA molecule has two strands. Each strand is a long, linear sequence of four chemicals: adenine (A), cytosine (C), guanine (G), and thymidine (T). The As on one strand form bonds with the Ts on the other, while Gs bond with the Cs. The As, Cs, Gs, and Ts on one strand are called the DNA's

bases and the A-T and G-C combinations are the DNA's base-pairs. The largest chromosome in humans, chromosome 1, has more than 240 million base-pairs; the shortest, chromosome 21, has more than 40 million. The 23 chromosomes together have 3.2 billion base-pairs. The DNA profile of a person is simply the number of times the simple sequences are repeated in the STR loci. This number can be found by first creating lots of copies of DNA from a sample (using the polymerase chain reaction, PCR), then segregating the DNA fragments by size using a technique called capillary gel electrophoresis. It is sensitive enough to both accurately and precisely establish the number of repeats in an STR. For example, the table below shows the number of repeats of the father, the mother, and the son in the case illustrated above — i.e. their DNA profiles. According to the table, the mother's versions of locus D18S51 had 14 and 15 repeats, while the son's versions had 15 and 17 repeats. But the father's versions of D18S51 had 14 and 14. The son received his 15-repeat version from his mother and the 17-repeat version from his father. But the woman's husband didn't have a 17-repeat variant, so this man couldn't be the actual father. Likewise, for three other STR loci, the son received paternal variants that were absent from the donor. The son and the man still had identical Y-chromosome profiles, plus identical variants in 19 of the 23 non-Y STR loci. This indicated that the woman's husband is closely related to the biological father — possibly a brother. Thus the marriage is levirate.

Projit Bihari Mukharji, a historian of science at the University of Pennsylvania and Ashoka University in Haryana, ably discussed the practice of levirate marriage in India in his 2022 book 'Brown Skins, White Coats Race Science in India, 1920-66'. Mukharji cited the pioneering anthropologist and writer Irawati Karve (1905-1970) when he wrote that she spoke "of the three debts that any Hindu man owed and upon the repayment of which his ultimate liberation depended. These debts were respectively to the gods, the sages, and the ancestors. Each of these ... required the making of regular offerings. These offerings could only be made by a son. Hence, the function of a son was the making of ancestral offerings, rather than the maintenance of a biological or genetic lineage." This pushed families to explore all possible ways, including levirate, to beget a son. Mukharji added that families are reluctant "to divulge information ... not simply ... by a modern desire to avert scandal. Rather, it was because, within an older customary framework of kinship, 'descent' itself worked differently and to other ends. ... The refusal ... to share sexual information was tacitly rooted in a more radical refusal to accept a narrowly biologised notion of inheritance." Unfortunately, in the end, DNA analysis appears to have allowed the "narrow biologised notion of inheritance" to win for no reason other than that DNA just doesn't know when to shut up. And if this isn't a problem enough, consider what it could mean for the laws we have — or don't — to protect our genetic privacy.

# 'Indo-Pacific is of growing strategic importance and is the centre of gravity for world economic growth'

French Ambassador for the Indo-Pacific, Marc Abensour, who is on a visit to India to attend a conference of France's ambassadors to the Indian Ocean and Indo-Pacific nations in Delhi, made a stopover at Bengaluru where he took time off to speak to The Hindu on a wide range of topics from France's friendship with India to China's dominance in the Indo-Pacific region. Within the Indo-Pacific strategy, we have developed a privileged partnership with India. I have come on a regular basis to engage further with our India colleagues on how we can partner together across the Indo-Pacific and this time for the first time we had a meeting of all French ambassadors posted in countries around the Indian Ocean which was attended by colleagues posted in Eastern Africa, the Middle East countries and South Asia. It was the first time we had this opportunity to confront our analysis, assessment, ideas, and initiatives and see how we could push forward our Indian Ocean agenda. It is very useful to have a perspective within the conceptual framework of our Indo-Pacific strategy. I am saying this mainly because of two things: you have two dimensions within the Indo-Pacific strategy. The first dimension is you change perspective. You do not think in terms of geographical region, or sub-region but you think of flows, maritime flows, undersea cables, internet flows, sand-hipping flows for trade. You think in terms of connectivity flows... it changes perspective. The second dimension is that within the Indo-Pacific strategy we also try to provide solutions to the challenges posed by the growing assertiveness of China. So we think it is a very useful vehicle to see how we can partner with some countries within the Indo-Pacific on a wide range of areas which can be security, defence, fight against climate change, protection of biodiversity, sustainable management of oceans, the green transition, digital transition and on fight against infectious diseases. I think in all these areas we have a shared interest which is to reduce dependencies and increase our resilience and we can only do that by building networks of partnerships.

Is this your first visit to Bengaluru and what are your views?

This is the first time I am visiting Bengaluru. I was very much interested to come to Bengaluru because I was told it is the strategic city in India for tech ecosystem and it is a very vibrant ecosystem. I know that there are many start-ups working on space technologies for maritime surveillance, for the observation of climate change, also that there have been specific solutions which have been developed in the maritime domain. So I was also very much interested to get some inputs and insights on what is going on that can be used within our cooperation between France and India. As you know we have a shared roadmap on the Indo-Pacific between France and India when Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited France in July 2023 and on that occasion, our two countries adopted this roadmap on how we could partner together. So this is why it was important to me to not only share with our Indian colleagues from the Indian administration about what are the strategic orientations but also come and see whether there are any practical solutions we can build on. It is very important we translate our converging assessment of our strategic priorities into concrete cooperation. To me, it is a process to ensure also greater ownership by all the different stakeholders including private companies, startups, researchers scientists and so on. I know I am staying here less than two days. It is my first experience here in Bengaluru to test and explore what can be done in the future.

How does France see itself in the Indo-Pacific regions



where China has a dominance?

To us it is important because we are a resident nation of the Indo-Pacific region. We have overseas territories in the Indian Ocean and some islands in the South Pole and also in the Pacific Ocean. Overall it is the second largest Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) in the world after the U.S. and around two million French citizens are living in the Indo-Pacific region. Some are permanent residents and others are expatriates because it is a region where you have a lot of economic dynamism. It attracts a lot of French citizens and we also have military footprints with five military commands. Overall we have around 8000 troops and we also have military bases in U.A.E. and also in Djibouti. In addition, we also deploy on a regular basis our Navy assets and our Air Forces for joint exercises with India and other countries. We consider that the Indo-Pacific is of growing strategic importance. It is the centre of gravity for world economic growth, we also see that it is a region with some tensions and you have well known spots of tensions that could be the south China Sea, the Taiwan Straits, the border between India and China, the Korean Peninsula. At the same time we also see intensification of strategic competition between US and China in a region you know have well defined security architecture so there is a deficit of security architecture and because of this there are some worrying factors and this is why we are present through our security forces in the region. On one hand a way to send a strategic signal to our competitors and also contribute to the stability and peace in the region and therefore France is a security provider in the Indo-Pacific.

How do you interact with China?

The objective is to deal with China and also provide solutions for the challenges posed by the growing assertiveness of China. In our case, we are following the E.U. strategy on China which is based on three pillars: partnership, economic competition and systemic rivalry. If I have to sum up, on the one hand, we want to preserve the dialogue with China to address international crises and global issues which can include Iran, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the situation in the South China Sea and others. We are also keen on the willingness to create a level playing field in terms of economic competition with China and this is sometimes characterised as de-risking without decoupling... If I have to characterise our approach in the Indo-Pacific strategy, it is mainly to avoid any kind of confrontational approach to China. So we are opposed to any kind of initiatives that can lead to any kind of anti-China coalition. We think it is not what we should aim at. We are also very clear that there is no equi distance between China and the U.S.. We are the U.S.'s close ally and at the same time we are very clear that we are not aligned with the U.S... We are also engaged with the U.S. in specific dialogue on the Indo-Pacific and we think that the comparative advantage between France and the US is actually positive.

# Proudhon's theory of mutualism: a critique of capitalism and authoritarianism



Mutualism is an economic and social theory that emphasises voluntary cooperation, reciprocity, and the fair exchange of goods and services. It advocates for a society where individuals and communities engage in cooperative ownership, decentralising and collectively managing productive resources like land or tools for the benefit of all. Such systems would be free from central authority and capitalist exploitation. While property itself is not inherently exploitative in this theory, ownership of tools or land is acceptable, provided it does not lead to exploitation of others. Unlike capitalism, which profits from labour exploitation, mutualism envisions a system where individuals and communities own resources for personal and collective benefit. It also promotes the idea of workers controlling the means of production through cooperatives or other voluntary associations, ensuring that production is driven by need, not profit. This model seeks to eliminate hierarchical power structures and promote equality and fairness in economic relations.

Origins of the theoryThe term "mutualism" was coined by French philosopher Pierre-Joseph Proudhon in the mid-19th century as part of his broader critique of capitalism and authoritarianism. While Proudhon is often remembered for his declaration, "Property is theft!" in his seminal work What is Property? (1840), his philosophy was more complex. Mutualism was not a call for the outright abolition of property but for its reimagining into a system that serves collective well-being and fairness. Proudhon was influenced by a secret society of weavers, known as the 'Mutualists', who he encountered during his time in Lyon in 1843. These workers advocated for worker-led cooperative production, envisioning a society where factories and resources could be run by associations of workers. They believed in transforming society through peaceful economic action rather than violent revolution, challenging the centralised political traditions of Jacobinism. Deeply inspired by their ideas, Proudhon adopted the term "mutualism" as a tribute to these working-class visionaries. His adaptation of their ideals sought to build a decentralised society where cooperation and reciprocity replaced exploitation and domination. Mutualism and property

Proudhon's approach to property is central to mutualist philosophy. While he condemned capitalist property for enabling exploitation and monopolisation, he did not call for the complete elimination of ownership. Instead, he distinguished between "property," which allowed control over others, and "possession," where individuals could use resources for personal benefit without infringing on others' freedoms. This distinction is crucial to understanding mutualism, as it emphasises a form of ownership based on usage rather than accumulation and profit. Mutualism rejected property rights imposed by the state that perpetuated inequality and exploitation. It advocated for a decentralised system of voluntary and equitable exchanges rooted in reciprocity. Mechanisms like worker cooperatives and shared resources were central to aligning ownership with fairness and collective well-being. By balancing individual freedom with collective solidarity, Proudhon's theory sought to challenge the entrenched hierarchies of both capitalism and the state. Mutualism and anarchismRejecting state-enforced

# Sudhir Mungantiwar at Idea Exchange: 'We will raise Ladki Bahin grant to Rs 2,100. If we don't, we will be criticised across the nation'

Sudhir Mungantiwar, senior BJP leader from Maharashtra, on what worked for the party in the Assembly polls, power-sharing with allies and the future of Sharad Pawar and Uddhav Thackeray. The session was moderated by Senior Editor Shubhangi Khapre. Shubhangi Khapre: Did you anticipate the Mahayuti win in Maharashtra because, after the Lok Sabha results, the BJP cadre seemed demoralised? Would you attribute it to Hindutva, OBC (Other Backward Castes) vote consolidation or the Maratha factor? Usually, Lok Sabha results are analysed according to seats. We analysed it through votes. We (BJP and allies, including Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party) got 2,48,50,000 votes while the Mahavikas Aghadi (MVA, an alliance of Congress, Shiv Sena-Uddhav Balasaheb Thackeray and Sharad Pawar's Nationalist Congress Party and others) got 2.5 crore votes. There was a difference of 1.5 lakh votes. In Mumbai, we got 26 lakh votes and the MVA got 24 lakh votes but it was not distributed properly. Once it came to our notice, we formulated several schemes and ensured they reached the beneficiaries.

We implemented several schemes like the Ladki Bahin Yojana, free electricity up to 7.5 horsepower for farmers, the Mukhyamantri Teerth Darshan Yojana for the elderly and the Ladla Bhai Yojana for 10 lakh youth. I have been an MLA for the last 30 years and have seen the speed with which each government works. Often, the announcements we make in the Budget aren't implemented until December, or even until the next Budget. But the speciality of the current Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and the two deputy Chief Ministers, Devendra Fadnavis (BJP) and Ajit Pawar, was that they got to work immediately after the election results. After the Lok Sabha debacle, the BJP cadres were determined to win, just like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj would be determined and win every battle. The Ladki Bahin Yojana, under which money was transferred directly into the accounts of 2.42 crore women and girls, worked for us and they acknowledged that by giving us their mandate. There was total commitment and focus from the BJP's central leadership with Home Minister Amit Shah sending Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and BJP's national general secretary Shiv Prakash. Then there was Fadnavis himself on the ground. Our aim was never to just win the elections; we wanted to win people's hearts. In the coming days, we have to work with that perspective. When I met Fadnavis last night (Thursday), we didn't discuss who would be the CM. We talked about how Maharashtra, as the economic engine of the country, could contribute to its financial growth. We have to work for development over the next five years and will succeed. Shubhangi Khapre: The BJP focussed a

property rights, mutualism also connects closely with anarchism, particularly in the debate between individualist and social anarchism. Individual anarchists emphasise personal autonomy and freedom, focusing on the liberation of the individual from state control, while social anarchists advocate for the collective management of resources and the organisation of society to promote equality and fairness. Proudhon's work occupies a unique space between these two schools of thought.

While some early anarchists saw mutualism as a form of individualist anarchism, emphasising personal freedom and the right to possess one's tools and land, others interpreted it as a more socialist form of anarchism, in which mutual cooperation and the collective management of resources were key. The tension between these interpretations arose from Proudhon's view that the state, by its very nature, was coercive and counterproductive to the freedom of the individual. However, Proudhon was not opposed to all forms of collective organisation. He argued that a mutualist society could be organised without a state, based on cooperative principles where people freely enter into contracts and mutual exchanges, thus blending both individual freedom and collective responsibility. The collective and the individualThe emphasis on cooperative associations, mutual credit systems, and workers' control over production demonstrates the connection between mutualism and the collective. These ideas aim to foster economic and social environments based on mutual aid and cooperation, rather than competition and exploitation. Mutualism is also inherently tied to the human need for cooperation. By organising society and the economy on the basis of shared interests and reciprocity, mutualism seeks to build a society where individuals are free to pursue their own interests while maintaining a sense of community and mutual respect.

In General Labour History of Africa: Workers, Employers and Governments, 20th-21st Centuries, Stefano Bellucci and Andreas Eckert discuss how traditional African societies embodied mutualistic principles. In these communities, communal land ownership and collective labour were the norms, with resources shared and production aimed at the collective good. This reflects mutualism's focus on reciprocity and equitable distribution. The chapter on African mutualism contrasts it with neoliberalism, noting that mutualism promotes shared ownership, fair compensation, and cooperation, while neoliberalism fosters inequality. It also explores the role of governments in either supporting or hindering mutualistic practices across the continent. Mutualism was also seen as a form of libertarian socialism, balancing individual freedom with collective well-being. It offered a radical alternative to both capitalism and state socialism, promoting voluntary cooperation and mutual respect without centralised power or hierarchy. Critiques of the theoryWhile mutualism holds significant revolutionary potential, it has faced critiques on several fronts. One major critique is that its reliance on small-scale property ownership may not sufficiently challenge the capitalist system's broader structural inequalities. Critics argue that mutualism fails to address the concentration of wealth and power that is intrinsic to modern capitalist economies. Furthermore, some question the feasibility of creating an egalitarian society based on voluntary cooperation, suggesting that it may be too idealistic or difficult to implement on a large scale. Marxist critics contend that mutualism does not sufficiently address the core issues of capitalism, such as exploitation and inequality, and fails to dismantle capitalist relations of production. They argue that Proudhon's defence of small property owners and opposition to collectivism overlooks the realities of class struggle, where small producers are squeezed out by larger corporations. Despite these criticisms, mutualism remains a radical theory that offers an alternative to both capitalist exploitation and authoritarianism. While it may not have fully resolved the challenges of inequality and exploitation, it continues to be a significant concept in the history of anarchist and socialist thought.

lot on consolidating the OBC vote. How much did that affect this election? The Marathas also voted for us. Maratha MLA Babanrao Lonikar won from Partur. So it isn't true that only a certain caste group supported us. Even Muslims voted for us in some seats. We lost the Lok Sabha election because we didn't look at our vote distribution. We took care of that this time. Shubhangi Khapre: Did the campaign slogans like 'Batenge toh katenge' or 'Ek hain toh safe hain' have an impact?

I don't think it influenced the voter much because this slogan has been in use since the time of Chanakya. It was used by Shivaji Maharaj, Maharana Pratap, Rani Laxmibai and even Mahatma Gandhi. This was a slogan to guide and take us forward. We might have got some votes because of it but saying that it helped us win isn't true. ON THE CONGRESS PITCH | They (the Congress) know the politics of winning and not the politics of development. Therefore, it was obvious they would lose this election. Their narrative that quotas would be discontinued didn't work

Shubhangi Khapre: Did it help in Hindu vote consolidation?

I don't think so. Everyone — Muslims and Sikhs — voted for us. Where did the 2.48 crore Lok Sabha votes come from?

Sandeep Singh: There has been a 15 per cent gap in the vote share vis-a-vis the MVA, which is quite abnormal. What do you attribute that to? Would say the arrogance of the Opposition. It destroys a person. What was the difference between Lord Ram and Ravan? Ravan was arrogant about his knowledge. Lord Ram knew what that could do. After the Lok Sabha elections, the Congress was filled with hubris. Its narrative that reservations would be discontinued — Congress leader Rahul Gandhi himself said so in the US — simply did not work. Besides, who is responsible for inequality in this country? The Congress governed this country for 55 years. According to the 2011 census, 6.5 crore people were living without a house. Between 1960 and 2014, national highways in Maharashtra grew from 2,000 km to 4,500 km, a paltry increase of 2,500 km. In 10 years, the national highways spanned 19,000 km, an increase of 15,000 km. They know the politics of winning and not the politics of development. It was obvious they would lose this election.

Sandeep Singh: How did Rahul Gandhi's campaign play out?

There is a limit to lying. Despite being such a senior leader, you don't know that the Constitution cannot be changed by anyone. Therefore, even BR Ambedkar once said, "



# What India is hoping for on US deal: Up to 20% tariff differential vis-a-vis China rate



As the India–US trade talks enter their final decisive phase in Washington DC, policy makers here hope that three implicit assumptions of New Delhi materialise, the most important being a steady differential between the US tariffs on China and India.Despite US President Donald Trump’s vacillations on trade policy, the government is confident that the administration in Washington DC will maintain a differential of 10-20 per cent in tariffs between China and countries such as India.

“The deal needs to be clinched precisely for this gap to be maintained,” an official said. The official said the US is driving hard for market access in politically sensitive sectors such as agriculture and dairy, and there are strong red lines here. But a section of officials also reckon it is important to ensure a good differential between the US tariffs on India and China, for which a deal is vital.“The question is whether the Indian negotiators would have to settle for a limited early- harvest type of deal, or would they have to turn away from the negotiations for now, let the July 9 deadline pass, and then rebuild efforts to bridge the gaps. A full-scale deal looks out of the question for now,” another official with experience of trade negotiations said.

Second, there is now a realisation that cutting tariffs across segments, especially intermediate goods, might be a net positive for India. New Delhi did back out at the last minute from signing the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (a trade deal among Asia-Pacific countries including China) given the sensitivities of agri livelihoods. But there is greater receptiveness now within India’s policy circles to cut tariffs on some industrial goods, including automobiles, and some agri products of interest to the Americans such as apples, almonds, walnuts, avocados and spirits. There is also more openness on the GM (genetically modified) foods issue too. Also, India has headroom to import more from the US, especially in three sectors – crude, defence equipment and nuclear, to manage Trump’s constant references to the trade gap.Third, there is a growing view that the baseline tariffs are here to stay. So, effectively, what India would be negotiating for is a rate between

10 per cent and 26 per cent. Prior to Trump’s taking over in January, the effective US duty on India was just 4 per cent, and there were virtually no non-tariff barriers.What is more consequential today is the effective duty on Chinese products on a landed basis across US ports in commodity categories where Indian producers are reasonably competitive. The net tariff differential with India, and how that curve continues to move, is of particular interest here, given the belief that Washington DC would ensure a reasonable tariff differential between China and India.Officials said a 20 per cent differential is expected to tide over some of India’s structural downsides — infrastructural bottlenecks, logistics woes, high interest cost, the cost of doing business, corruption, etc.

On the face of it, Trump’s announcement of 55 per cent tariffs on China on June 14 could theoretically mean a nearly 30 percentage point difference with respect to the 26 per cent on India. But there are a few caveats: for the Trump administration, whose tariff proposals generally have had a half life of less than 10 days, it is not clear how long the new tariffs announced on China after the latest round of talks between the two sides in London would last. Also, in the talks earlier in Geneva in May that led to a temporary truce, US tariffs on Chinese products were brought down to 30 per cent from 145 per cent and Beijing slashed levies on US imports to 10 per cent, while promising to lift barriers on critical mineral exports.While in a social media post, Trump claimed the US would impose tariffs on Chinese goods of 55 per cent, the catch here is that the figure included tariffs put in place during Trump’s first term. So, while the 55 per cent tariff on imported Chinese goods might seem to retain a reasonable differential over the tariffs imposed by the US on India, this figure of 55 per cent crucially, includes a 25 per cent pre-existing tariff that was imposed by Trump in his first term, and that the Biden administration persisted with. The remaining components of this 55 per cent tariff are the 10 per cent baseline “reciprocal” tariff and the 20 per cent tariff imposed initially by the Trump administration on China citing fentanyl trafficking.So, the real tariff calculation on China should ideally exclude the 25 per cent pre-existing tariff, which pretty much negates the impression of a big tariff difference with India; at least for now.The upside for India is that the trade deal under discussion with the US, which New Delhi is working to clinch before July 9, could see a further drop in tariffs from the current 26 per cent to closer to 10 per cent. The problem, though, is that China’s leverage in its trade discussions with the US could mean a further downward revision in tariffs from the effective 30 per cent that was arrived upon at the Geneva talks. Though the details of the deal were still unclear, analysts predicted China seems to have gained the upper-hand after China’s rare earth restrictions prompted US carmakers, including Ford Motor and Chrysler, to cut production.

# SBI to classify Reliance Communication loan account as fraud, report Anil Ambani’s name to RBI

The State Bank of India (SBI), India’s largest lender, has decided to classify the loan account of the bankrupt telecom firm Reliance Communications as “fraudulent” and report the name of Anil Ambani, former Director of the company, to the Reserve Bank of India, citing suspected irregularities in the account, the company revealed on Tuesday.In a regulatory filing to the exchanges, the company said “the loan account of the company (is) to be classified as fraud” by SBI. The disclosure included a letter dated June 23 from SBI outlining the rationale behind its decision.

“We have taken cognisance of the responses (wherever received) to our SCN (show-cause notice) and after due examination of the same it is concluded that sufficient reasons have not been provided by the respondent, to explain the non-adherence to the agreed terms and conditions of the loan documents or the irregularities observed in the conduct of the account of Reliance Communications to the satisfaction of the bank,” the bank said in a letter to the company on June 23.“Accordingly, Fraud Identification Committee of the bank has decided to classify the loan account of Reliance Communication as fraud for the reasons mentioned in the enclosed order,” the bank said.“The bank shall be taking further course of action to report the account of Reliance Communication and names of Anil Ambani, director of the company, at material time, to the Reserve Bank of India as per the directions contained in the RBI Master Directions/ Circulars issued from time to time, in this regard,” SBI said.

According to Reliance Communications, the company is undergoing corporate insolvency resolution process (CIRP) under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. A resolution plan has been approved by the committee of creditors of the company in accordance with the Code and is presently awaiting approval of the National Company Law Tribunal, Mumbai Bench.“The credit facilities/loans referred



to in the letter from SBI dated June 23, 2025 (received on June 30, 2025) pertain to the period prior to the CIRP of the company (as identified within the letter), and are required in terms of the Code, to be necessarily resolved as a part of a resolution plan or in liquidation, as the case may be,” the company clarified.“Further, during the CIRP, the company is protected from the institution/ continuation of any suits/proceedings against the company, including the execution of any judgement, decree or order in any court of law, tribunal, arbitration panel or other authority in light of Section 14(1)(a) of the Code,” Reliance Communications said.“To that extent, it may be noted that by virtue of the protection made available under Section 32A of the Code, upon the approval of the resolution plan in respect of the company by the NCLT, the company shall be deemed to have immunity against any liability for any purported offences committed by the company prior to the commencement of the CIRP (including any liability which may arise as a result of any unlawful transactions identified in the forensic audit report),” the company said.“Further, under Section 238 of the Code, the provisions of the Code override anything inconsistent contained in any other law,” it said.

# From ticketing, PNR check to food on train, Indian Railways introduces one-stop solution for all passenger services

From ticketing, enquiry, PNR enquiry food on train to Rail madad services, Indian Railways have introduced a new app, RailOne, to provide a one-stop solution for all passenger services. Minister for Railways Ashwini Vaishnaw on Tuesday launched the app on 40th Foundation Day of Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS). CRIS is the technological wing of Indian Railways and has created Rail one app, along with all the other applications that are being used for Railways services.The app integrates redressal services which were spread in different apps and provide it on a single platform for reserved, unreserved and platform ticket bookings, live train tracking, Grievance redressal mechanism through Rail Madad, PNR enquiry and e-catering.Along with this, the app will show the coach position of the train at every platform, users can give feedback of the services through it and can file for refund in case of train cancellation etc. However, the freight related enquiries are not yet available in the app.

Why was RailOne app introduced?

Earlier, passengers had to use different apps for different services such as UTS for unreserved ticketing, Rail Connect for reserved tickets, Rail Madad app for grievance redressal, NTES app for train running status, an IRCTC app for food services etc.Officials said that the unreserved and platform tickets will be available at a 3 per cent discount rate on the app. The user can use their existing user credentials of RailConnect or UTSonMobile App to register on RailOne. With this, users will not have to carry several



Officials said that the unreserved and platform tickets will be available at a 3 per cent discount rate on the app.

applications for different services of IR.“The existing app will continue working. Those apps have not been discontinued. But since these apps have been merged with RailOne, it will be better to use it to avoid additional device space and the burden of remembering several passwords,” said a senior official of the Ministry of Railways.The facility of R-Wallet (Railway e-wallet) is also available in the app for ticket bookings. The login option through numeric mPIN and biometric has been provided. One can login as Guest through mobile number/OTP for enquiry purpose only.

# Can sunscreen and perfume use cause cancer? Find out why people are falling for this social media chatter



Do you now have to think twice before using sunscreen or perfume? Influencer-driven conversations indicate that both these skin products contain cancer-causing substances and chemicals — known as endocrine disruptors — that disrupt the body’s hormones, potentially triggering a range of adverse health effects.Endocrine disruptors are believed to increase the risk of certain cancers, particularly those that are hormone-sensitive, like breast, uterine and prostate cancers. By disrupting the body’s natural hormone systems, they can trigger abnormal cell growth and tumours.“However, current scientific evidence does not support a clear link between these ingredients and hormone disruption or cancer in humans,” says Dr DM Mahajan, dermatologist at Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Delhi. “Contamination with substances like benzene, a known carcinogen, has been detected in some sunscreens, but this has been rare, unintentional and usually addressed by regulatory agencies,” he adds.

Are sunscreen or perfume endocrine disruptors and can they cause cancer?

Concerns about sunscreen and perfume ingredients as endocrine disruptors have arisen from social media claims. Some sunscreen chemicals, such as oxybenzone and octinoxate, are absorbed by the body, prompting research into their effects on hormones and cancer risk. However, current scientific evidence does not support a clear

link between these ingredients and hormone disruption or cancer in humans.

What are the myths associated with sunscreen and perfume?

Social media often exaggerates or misrepresents the risks associated with sunscreens and perfumes. While it is true that some products have been found to contain trace amounts of harmful chemicals, the levels found are generally too low to pose significant health risks for consumers when used as directed. Most scientific reviews and health authorities agree that the benefits of sunscreen in preventing skin cancer far outweigh the unproven risks of chemical exposure. Similarly, while perfumes can contain many chemicals, including some with potential toxicity, the concentrations used are not considered hazardous in everyday use.

How should you choose your sunscreen and what should you check on the label?

When choosing a sunscreen, look for broad-spectrum protection, which shields against both UVA and UVB rays, and an SPF rating that suits your needs. If you are concerned about chemical filters, mineral-based sunscreens containing zinc oxide or titanium dioxide are generally recognized as safe and effective. Avoid products that have been recalled or flagged for contamination, and always check expiration dates and water resistance on the label to ensure effective protection.

How should you choose perfumes?

To minimize potential risks from perfumes, look for products that fully disclose their ingredients and avoid those listing only generic terms like “fragrance” or “parfum,” which can hide dozens of undisclosed chemicals. Opt for brands that prioritize transparency or use natural essential oils. If you have sensitivities or concerns about hormone disruptors and carcinogens, choose fragrance-free or hypoallergenic options, and avoid applying perfume directly to your skin. While the overall risk from perfume use is low, being informed and selective can help reduce unnecessary exposure to potentially harmful substances.

# How a brain implant and AI can help a paralysed person speak and sing short melodies

Many neurological diseases can disrupt the connection between the brain and the muscles that allow us to speak, including the jaw, lips and tongue. But researchers at the University of California, Davis, have now developed a brain-computer interface that quickly translates brain activity into audible words on a computer. Which means that people who’ve lost the ability to speak from paralysis or disease can engage in natural conversations.How does this work? The interface uses electrodes, either implanted directly on the brain’s surface or placed on the scalp, which decode electrical activity in the brain related to speech. It interprets signals associated with attempted or imagined speech, then translates them into usable outputs like text or synthesized speech in real time via a computer. The latest study, on how this technology helped a man ‘speak’ flexibly and expressively through a computer, was published recently in the scientific journal, Nature.

“The brain-computer interface described in this study is the first-of-its-kind as it translates brain activity directly into expressive voice within milliseconds, giving the participant full control over not only what they speak but also how they speak. This has not been achieved before,” says first author Maitreyee Wairagkar, who is a project scientist at the UC Davis Neuroprosthetics Lab.Assistive communication devices such as eye-trackers and speller boards that are currently available to people with speech loss are slow and tedious to use. “A brain-computer interface offers a potential solution to restore communication by bypassing the damaged pathways of the nervous system and directly intercepting this information from the brain,” say researchers.

How the next generation of brain-computer interface can reconstruct voice

According to Wairagkar, previous BCI studies deciphered brain activity and vocalised them into words on the computer. “But speech is more than just words – not only what we say but also how we say it determines the meaning of what we want to convey. We change our intonation to express different emotions – all these nuanced aspects of speech are not captured by text-based communication tech-



nologies. Moreover communication via text is slow whereas our speech is fast and allows real-time conversations. The next generation brain-computer interface can modulate and even ‘sing’ short simple melodies,” says Wairagkar.The study was conducted on a patient of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), also known as motor neuron disease. It is a neurodegenerative disease that gradually weakens the muscles and leads to paralysis. So patients are unable to move or speak. Their cognition or the ability to process the world around them, however, remains intact throughout the disease, which means that even if they want to speak or move, they are unable to do so due to the paralysis caused by ALS.

In this trial, four microelectrode arrays (devices containing multiple microscopic electrodes, in this case 256) were surgically placed in the area of the ALS patient’s brain that controls the movement of his vocal tract, which in turn enables speech. Researchers then developed a brain-computer interface that translated his brain activity directly into voice, using artificial intelligence algorithms. It enabled him to speak expressively through a computer in real-time.To train the artificial intelligence algorithms, researchers first asked the participant to speak the sentences displayed on the screen, so that they knew what he was trying to say. “Then we trained these algorithms to map the brain activity patterns to the sounds he was trying to make with each word,” Wairagkar explains.

# ICMR rules out Covid-19 link in young heart attack deaths, says lifestyle, previous conditions are triggers

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) have conclusively established that there is no direct link between COVID-19 vaccination and the reports of sudden deaths of young people in the country.The report assumes significance in the light of concerns over 18 heart attack cases in Karnataka’s Hassan district within a one-month period, particularly among the young. The ICMR-NCDC studies affirm that COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective with extremely rare instances of serious side effects. They say that COVID-19 vaccination does not appear to increase the risk and that the sudden cardiac deaths could have resulted from a wide range of factors, including genetics, lifestyle choices, and pre-existing conditions.Don’t overlook lifestyle triggers, especially smoking

Dr Ranjan Shetty, lead cardiologist and medical director at Sparsh Hospitals, Bengaluru, says that of all the risk factors, smoking and high blood pressure because of work stress are mostly responsible. “Family history, cholesterol, obesity, diabetes, and alcohol are other triggers. Cigarette-smoking harms the entire cardiovascular system as it changes blood chemistry, thickens blood vessels. This causes the heart to race and the blood pressure to rise, accelerates blood clot and plaque formation. There is no benefit from cutting down cigarettes, you just have to give it up,” he says. He also warns that second-hand smoke poses the same risk to a non-smoker as it does to a smoker.

The other big factors, he says, are poor sleep and high blood pressure. “The body doesn’t rest, the stress hormones are active, there is inflammation and high blood pressure. This in turn damages blood vessel walls, allowing for tears that dislodge unstable or even smaller plaques and encourage blood clots to form over them. To make matters worse,



young people then subject their weakened arteries to gym workouts without proper sleep. That’s why we are hearing of young heart attacks more,” says Dr Shetty.

What were the studies about?

The ICMR and NCDC have been working together to understand the causes behind sudden unexplained deaths, especially in young adults between the ages of 18 and 45 years. To explore this, two complementary studies were undertaken using different research approaches—one based on past data and another involving real-time investigation. The first study, conducted by ICMR’s National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), was carried out from May to August 2023 across 47 tertiary care hospitals in 19 states and Union Territories. It looked at individuals who appeared to be healthy but died suddenly between October 2021 and March 2023. The findings have conclusively shown that COVID-19 vaccination does not increase the risk of unexplained sudden death in young adults.The second study, titled “Establishing the cause in sudden unexplained deaths in young,” is currently being conducted by AIIMS, Newstatement.



# ‘You sit out the best bowler in the world after 7-day break’: Ravi Shastri slams Gambhir, Gill for resting Jasprit Bumrah in Edgbaston Test



GNS News Agency, july10

IND vs ENG: Ravi Shastri questioned the decision to leave out Jasprit Bumrah for the Edgbaston Test.IND vs ENG: Ravi Shastri questioned the decision to leave out Jasprit Bumrah for the Edgbaston Test. (BCCI/X)Former India head coach Ravi Shastri has slammed the team management for resting pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah for the second Test against England which began in Edgbaston on Wednesday due to workload management.

When asked by former England batter Michael Atherton at the toss, skipper Shubman Gill said that though Bumrah was fit, the management believed that the speedster will be of more importance during the third Test at Lord's, starting July 10."Just to manage his workload. We did get a good break and this is an important match for us. But the third Test being at Lord's, we think there'll be more in that pitch so we'll use him there," Gill said as India unveiled three changes to the line-up. Seamer Akash Deep was roped in to replace Bumrah while Washington Sundar and Nitish Kumar Reddy replaced Shardul Thakur and Sai

Sudharsan.Shastri did not approve of India's idea to rest a fully-fit Bumrah for a crucial match after a run of poor results in Test cricket since October 2024. In their last nine Tests, India have won only one match, making it their worst run in whites in over a decade. Holding captain Shubman Gill and head coach Gautam Gambhir accountable for the decision on the broadcast, Shastri said there "no ifs and but's" about Bumrah resting for this match. While Bumrah and the management had iterated that he would be in contention to play at best three matches due to his workload, Shastri said it shouldn't up to the pacer to pick and choose which matches he would play.

"This is a very important match, they've had a week off. I'm little surprised Bumrah is not playing this game. It should be taken out of the player's hand. It should be the captain and the head coach that should decide who should be playing the 11. This is an important game in the context of the series, he should be playing this game more than anything else. Lord's can come later. This is the important game where you have to counter-punch almost straightaway."Play this one. Make it 1-1 and then give him the option: you want to rest at Lord's, rest at Lord's. You think he'll rest at Lord's? No chance if you win this."If you look at the run, India has had, this becomes a very, very important test match. You've lost three against New Zealand, you've lost three against Australia. You've lost the first Test match here and you want to get back to winning ways. You have the best fast bowler in the world, and you make him sit out after seven days of rest, it's something very hard to believe," lamented Shastri.Bumrah was the pick of the India bowlers in the Leeds Test, claiming his 14th five-wicket haul in the first innings of the match where he also became the first Asian bowler to record 150 SENA wickets.

# Why didn't India play Jasprit Bumrah and Kuldeep Yadav? It is their defensive mindset

GNS News Agency, july10

India vs England 2nd Test jasprit Bumrah Kuldeep YadavSo as reported by The Indian Express, India made three changes. Akash Deep for pacer Jasprit Bumrah, Washington Sundar for Sai Sudharsan and Nitish Reddy for Shardul Thakur.Surprised by the non-selection of Kuldeep Yadav in the team, former England captain Michael Atherton reminded the Indian captain Shubman Gill of an embarrassing statistic at the toss. "Hasn't he played just 8 Tests in 15 years?", checked Atherton. Gill, a decision-maker for the last two Tests, cleared his position. "It was very tempting to play him but considering our lack of runs down the order, we needed batsmen."So as reported by The Indian Express, India made three changes. Akash Deep for pacer Jasprit Bumrah, Washington Sundar for Sai Sudharsan and Nitish Reddy for Shardul Thakur.

The large-scale chopping and changing didn't go down well with the pundits. England captain Nasser Hussain said it was a "panic reaction" since India hadn't done that badly in the first Test. There were multiple centuries and they were in the game for four and half days.Gill gave the team's logic: "Bumrah didn't play because we wanted to manage his workload. We did get a good break and this is an important match for us. But the third Test being at Lord's, we think there'll be more in that pitch so we'll use him there."Gill wasn't on the same page as the former India coach Ravi Shastri. "The decision is baffling. If he is fit to play, he should. There was a week between the two Tests, this is virtually a must win game to be in the series, Bumrah is your premier fast bowler. No ifs and but's he should have played. The head coach (Gautam Gambhir) and captain should have made the decision and they should have asked him to play," he said from the commentary box.The Indian dressing



room, meanwhile, seemed to be on a different drift. By packing the sides with players who can bat, India looked to have entered the Test with a defensive mindset. Down 0-1 in the series and Bumrah expected to return for the third Test at Lord's, India weren't looking to land a counter punch this quickly.By bolstering the batting department, they seemed to be looking to bat longer and avoid a draw. To hold on at Edgbaston and go for a win at Lord's.If India were trying to level the series, they could have included the two specialists – Kuldeep and the left-arm pacer Arshdeep Singh. Both would have provided variety and a new dimension to the Indian attack. They would certainly be better wicket-taking options than the two all-rounders, Washington and Reddy.Much before the toss, there were enough signals that helped to predict the playing XI. Bumrah was seen having a chat with his replacement and apprentice Akash Deep. Mohammed Siraj had a hand around Thakur's shoulder as they were walking to the central square to have one last look at the pitch. Sai Sudarshan was seen doing catching practice with the rest of the team.

# ‘Barking up the wrong tree if they play Washington over Kuldeep in Edgbaston’: Aakash Chopra slams India’s all-rounder obsession



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In a defensive reaction to their lower-order collapses during the Leeds Test loss to England last week, India are expected to play three all-rounders to beef up the batting at the expensive of specialist bowlers. Former India opener Aakash Chopra has said that the all-rounder obsession for Team India, especially in a match where they are likely to go ahead without Jasprit Bumrah, who could be rested for workload management.The Indian Express had reported that India are likely to exclude Sai Sudharsan and Shardul Thakur to bring all-rounders Washington Sundar and Nitish Kumar Reddy. Meanwhile, Akash Deep is set to replace Bumrah for the Test, beginning in Birmingham on Wednesday.

"As per reports from Edgbaston, only two fast bowlers will play, who will be Prasidh Krishna and Mohammed Siraj. Two spinners will play, in which Ravindra Jadeja is confirmed, and there are extremely bright chances of Washington Sundar playing, and Nitish Kumar Reddy can play in place of Shardul Thakur, which means Nitish at No. 7, Jadeja at No. 8, and it could be possibly Washington at No. 9," Chopra said.'Barking up the wrong tree'Chopra added that India's approach to Test cricket will be heading in the wrong direction if they prefer their spin-bowling all-rounder Washington, over the left-arm wrist-spin angle that Kuldeep Yadav provides.

"Is it a good thought process? I concur slightly less with it. I feel you should play Kuldeep Yadav, and if you are still unable to play Kuldeep Yadav, it will be an absolute travesty. If we are going towards Washi, and just with the thinking that who bats better, then we are just barking at the wrong tree," he added."We might take 20 wickets and win

the match, but we won't do right in terms of philosophy. If we are still unable to show the courage to play Kuldeep, then this team is going in a slightly different direction, which is perhaps not the right direction. We got burnt in BGT (in Australia)," he said.Kuldeep was considered a sure-shot option for India, especially in the Tests that Bumrah won't play, due to his attacking prowess and England's relatively poor record against wrist-spinners. The Bazballers have averaged only 30.50 against the leg-spinners since 2022, with Kuldeep snapping up 19 wickets at a strike rate of 36.Former India off-spinner R Ashwin also stated that the upcoming Test would reveal if captain Shubman Gill and head coach Gautam Gambhir are really committed to pick 20 wickets to win a Test."There is a serious question of Gambhir and Gill's commitment to take 210 wickets. This Test will show us. If you are seriously committed, Kuldeep gets a look-in," Ashwin said on his YouTube channel."Kuldeep Yadav has to play. If there is not much grass, Kuldeep has to play. Drop anyone you want, but Kuldeep has to play. If he does play, the England tail also won't score much runs. Kuldeep would help you win 2-3 Tests in the series as he would create problems."

# Divyanshi stuns China’s Qihi to win Asian Youth title

Hyderabad: Second seed Divyanshi Bhowmick scripted a memorable triumph, defeating China's Zhu Qihi 4-2 to clinch the gold medal in the under-15 girls' singles at the 29th Asian Youth Championships 2024, held at Tashkent's Humo Arena.

With this stunning win—her second against a Chinese opponent in the knockout stage—Divyanshi not only crowned herself Asian champion but also secured a direct berth for the World Youth Championships in Romania in November. Her gold medal capped India's impressive campaign at the championships, which ended with a haul of one gold, one silver, and two bronze medals.After edging past Liu Ziling in a hard-fought seven-game semifinal, a confident Divyanshi started strong against Qihi, taking the first game on her third game point. She maintained her momentum to go up 2-1, though Qihi bounced back to level.

# ‘Absolutely love watching him play’: England skipper Ben Stokes sings praises for Rishabh Pant



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England captain and all-rounder sung praises for flamboyant India wicket-keeper batter Rishabh Pant and said he 'loves the way the Indian takes it on, in all formats of the game.'"Even though he's my opposition, I absolutely love watching Rishabh play cricket," Stokes said in the pre-match press conference on the eve of the second Test at Edgbaston in Birmingham on Tuesday."I love the way he takes it on, in all formats of the game. He got stick in his

time, but when you let that type of talent be free, that's what can happen like last week, credit to him for two hundreds in the game," added Stokes.Stokes admits Pant is a dangerous player, but he believes England will have opportunities to get him out every time he bats."We know we're going to get our chances, with the way Rishabh plays. So yeah, it's one of them. On a different day, it could have looked a little bit different if one of those had gone straight up and into hands, but yeah, (he is) a very dangerous player. We know what he brings to the Indian team but I really enjoy watching Rishabh play cricket," said Stokes.Pant became only the second wicketkeeper in Test history to score hundreds in both innings of a match against England at Headingley. The left-hander lit up the Test with scores of 134 in the first innings and 118 in the second and was well supported by centuries from Yashasvi Jaiswal, skipper Shubman Gill and KL Rahul. Yet, even the mountain of runs wasn't enough to deny England a stunning win.Centuries from England vice captain Ollie Pope, opener Ben Duckett and a stunning 99 from Harry Brook ensured the home team stayed in the contest and eventually won the Leeds Test by five wickets in the final session of Day 5.

# ‘India’s need more important than Jasprit Bumrah’s wish to play at Lord’s’: Former ENG batter says star pacer must play Edgbaston Test

GNS News Agency, july10

Former England batter Mark Butcher could not wrap his around the probability of India's seam spearhead Jasprit Bumrah missing the second Test of the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy at Edgbaston, starting Butcher felt that Bumrah has had an adequate break since India's series-opening five-wicket defeat to England in Headingley last week and said the team's requirement was more important than the pacer's wish to return to play at the iconic Lord's Cricket Ground in the third Test, scheduled to begin next week on June 10.

"Bumrah is going to be a huge talking point as to whether or not this is one of his three Test matches. I think it has to be, it absolutely has to be. Six-day break after Headingley, 1-0 down, he plays. I know he wants to play at Lord's but the needs of the team and the series are more important than his wish to play a Test at Lord's," Butcher said on the Wisden Cricket Weekly Podcast."And who knows, he might get through this one okay and be fine for Lord's, and then you take your chances at the back-end," Butcher added.Bumrah was head and shoulders above his bowling peers at Leeds when he claimed a superb first-innings five-wicket haul while the rest of the pacers were slammed left and right by England batters. While he went wicketless in the last innings, Bumrah's pace partner Prasidh Krishna ended the match with woeful figures of 5/ 224, his 6.40 economy the worst of all pacers in history to have conceded as many runs in a match.Butcher said that it was imperative that India consider bringing in a left-arm pacer or spin option in Arshdeep Singh or Kuldeep Yadav to



replace Prasidh."First and foremost, depending on what you've got in your squad, you try and pick bowlers that the opposition – England, with their shot-making preference – would like the least. What they would very much enjoy are mid to low eighties seam bowlers. What they would enjoy much less than that is left-arm leg spin, if you have one – and India do have one. That would be the starting point," said Butcher.

"A left-arm swing bowler is also perhaps an option. If Arshdeep [Singh] comes in, I think Prasidh Krishna was found wanting.... If you can manage it, you go Siraj, Bumrah, Arshdeep, Kuldeep, Jadeja, and you take the cards where they fall with your batting. Simply because – I said it at the time during the first Test match – I couldn't see how Shardul was going to make enough runs to make up for his lack of potency with the ball," he added.

# ‘Commentary became a diss about bowlers’: R Ashwin questions why India batters aren’t scoring ‘daddy hundreds’



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Former India off-spinner R Ashwin has slammed critics for taking a swipe only at the bowlers after the harrowing defeat to England in the first Test when Shubman Gill's side failed to defend a 370-run total in the fourth innings at Leeds. Ashwin, who retired as India's most successful World Test Championship wicket-taker last year, said that experts and commentators immediately turned their focus only on the bowlers, while the batters failed to shore up India's totals to above-average scores on batting-friendly wickets.India became the first side to lose a Test despite witnessing five individual centuries in the match across both innings, where the side suffered lower-order collapses. Captain Shubman Gill's 147 was the highest score of the five centuries India tallied while putting up 471 and 364-run totals."Once 370 was chased down (in the first Test), I thought the commentary became a diss about the Indian bowlers. I felt that the narrative built was pointing towards

how Indian bowlers failed to win the match. But with a little homework, many would have realised that in England, scores have been consistently chased down in 4th innings," Ashwin said on his YouTube channel.

'Where are the daddy hundreds?' "Batters should take up responsibility. I know batsmen are making runs. Yes, we had five centuries, but where are the daddy hundreds? We have to resign to the fact that there would be no contribution (with the bat) from the lower order. Our fast bowlers cannot bat, they cannot muster runs," Ashwin added.Ashwin also underlined the fact that India's bowlers, behind Jasprit Bumrah, must look at emphasising control and economy rather than focus on wicket-taking at the expense of runs."In Tests, I think maidens are quite underrated. Ideally, I would be okay with Bumrah going for a higher economy rate, but others should go low. I saw a show where someone said Siraj was unlucky to not be among wickets. I do agree he bowled well in the second innings, but the economy rate, you can't let go and hope that things fall in place. In Tests, you have to build your bowling gradually from Day 1, and the rewards will come in the final innings," Ashwin highlighted."If you give away a lot of runs in the first innings, you tend to get conservative to stem the flow, and you won't get wickets in this approach. If I was Morkel, I would tell the other bowlers not to do much since Bumrah is there. As the old saying goes, bowl three maidens, and you will get a wicket. Don't you think a wicket would fall after three maidens in a row against this England side? Against this side, if you are giving two runs an over, it is as good as bowling a maiden," he added.

# How Wimbledon 2025 is now officially off to the most upset-filled start in Open Era as Gauff, Zverev, Pegula head out

On Monday, there were signs that this was not normal. On Tuesday, it became official. Wimbledon 2025 is now statistically off to the craziest start in the history of Grand Slams in the Open Era as more seeds – and really high ones at that – stumbled on the second day in London at SW 19. With the exits of second seed Coco Gauff, and third seeds Jessica Pegula and Alexander Zverev among others, a total of EIGHT top-10 seeded players have been eliminated across the men's and women's singles draws in the opening Round.Here's a look at the Top-10 Seeds knocked out in opening round: Women's singles – Coco Gauff [2], Jessica Pegula [3], Qinwen Zheng [5], Paula Badosa [9]; Men's singles – Alexander Zverev [3], Lorenzo Musetti [7], Holger Rune [8], Daniil Medvedev [9]According to Opta, this is now the highest tally for top-10 seeds knocked out in the first round in a single Grand Slam event in the Open Era. In the men's singles draw, a total of 13 of the men's seeds have fallen at the first hurdle – a Wimbledon record since 32 seeds were introduced in 2001. In the women's singles draw, a total of nine seeds have been sent home

already.American second seed Coco Gauff, chasing a French Open-Wimbledon double after her Paris triumph, was the day's most surprising casualty, losing 7-6(3) 6-1 to Ukraine's Dayana Yastremska as the sun set on a sultry day. Yastremska, who also dabbles in music and dropped two singles during the pandemic ("Thousands of Me," followed by a dance bop number, titled "Favorite Track"), was too good for the French Open champion.Gauff, on a surface where she famously announced herself by beating Venus Williams at 15 but struggled since, looked uncomfortable under the roof on Court One and failed to find any serving rhythm as she succumbed 7-6(3) 6-1 to Ukrainian world No 42. Gauff was eager to give her big-hitting opponent credit for the win but said she would probably change her tactics in future during the three weeks between Roland Garros and Wimbledon."I just feel like the surface I maybe could have used more matches. It's like finding the puzzle," the American said. "It's a quick turnaround, so I think just trying to learn on whether it's better to train more and maybe play Bad Homburg or Eastbourne.



