



Shimla Winter Carnival 2024: Winter Carnival begins in Shimla, 250 women performed Mahanati; CM Sukhu also danced

Himachal News: CM Sukhu said- Doctors will now get full salary instead of 40% in study leave

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said that the state government has decided to give full salary to allopathic doctors for the study leave period of postgraduate courses. They will be considered on duty during the study leave. Earlier, they were given only 40 percent of the total salary during the study leave period. Sukhu said that the government is working with commitment to provide quality medical services. On Monday in Shimla, the CM said that by providing full salary to the doctors during study leave, the government is ensuring quality in their working style, so that better health services are available to the people.

Diary Times Desk : Winter Carnival has started in Himachal Pradesh's capital Shimla from 24 December i.e. today. On the first day on Tuesday, 250 women performed Mahanati on Mall Road. Tourists also danced a lot in this Mahanati. After this, the cultural parade of the Language and Culture Department was held. However, this parade will be organized daily from Mall Road to the Ridge. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu flagged off the Winter Carnival and started the program. At the same time, many ministers including CM Sukhu also performed Nati. After inaugurating the second Winter Carnival on Tuesday at the historic Ridge ground of Shimla, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said that tourists are our guests and they should be welcomed. He said that the government is working to make our state the most developed tourist state in the country. Restaurants, dhabas and other entering points will be open 24 hours so that tourists do not have to wander for food and drinks. The government has also issued a notification on Monday. The Chief Minister said that Shimla has made history by organizing the Winter Carnival. For this, Shimla Municipal Corporation was praised.



Is Allu Arjun Alone To Blame For 'Pushpa 2' Stampede? Witness Says No

Rain lashes parts of Delhi, max temp higher than usual

Agencies : The recent stampede at a Hyderabad movie hall that claimed the life of a woman, is not entirely the fault of Telugu superstar Allu Arjun, the government and the police also had a role to play, an eyewitness of the tragedy has pointed out. Vijay who was at the spot on December 4 during the premiere of 'Pushpa 2: The Rise', explained several aspects of the situation that have not been widely known so far. Speaking to NDTV, Vijay said, "It is not that Allu Arjun is completely at fault. So is the police and so is the government. It is the government who gave permission and who charges Rs 1100 per ticket and what did they give us in return? They gave us lathicharge... Instead of trying to blame each other, everybody has to own up to their mistakes". Close to 3000 people had gathered at the spot for a glimpse of Allu Arjun, whose PR team had made it "obvious" that he would be present for the premiere, he told NDTV.



Agencies : Parts of Delhi witnessed rain on Tuesday evening even as the day temperature remained slightly higher than normal for this time of the season. The city's air quality showed marginal improvement with the AQI at 7 pm recorded at 358, down from 398 in the morning. It remained under the "very poor" category, nevertheless. Several areas in central, south, and east Delhi, witnessed rainfall towards the evening. The maximum temperature was recorded at 20.8 degrees Celsius, which was warmer than usual for the time of the season. Cloudy skies prevailed during the day. Out of the 37 monitoring stations that recorded data, two – Mundka, Nehru Nagar – recorded air quality in the "severe" category, 32 in the "very poor" category and the remaining in the "poor" category.

Afghan staffer of Indian consulate in Jalalabad injured in attack

Agencies : An Afghan staff member of the Indian consulate in Jalalabad on Tuesday was injured when unidentified men opened fire at his vehicle, people familiar with the matter said. India closed the consulate in Jalalabad in 2020, long before the Taliban takeover of Kabul in August 2021. However, the Indian side has retained a small number of local staffers at the consulate, the people said on condition of anonymity. "An incident took place [on Tuesday] involving a local Afghan staff of the Indian consulate in Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar province. The local staff sustained minor injuries in the incident," one of the people cited above said, without giving details. The Indian side is in touch with Afghan authorities and awaiting a report on the incident, the people said.

Asaduddin Owaisi summoned for raising 'Jai Palestine' slogan in Parliament

Agencies : All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi has been summoned for raising the 'Jai Palestine' slogan during the oath-taking ceremony in Parliament. The summons has been issued by a Bareilly court, with the hearing scheduled for January 7, 2025. The legal proceeding against the AIMIM chief has been initiated by Advocate Virendra Gupta. It is alleged that the Hyderabad MP breached both constitutional and legal protocols. On June 25, at the end of his oath in Urdu, Asaduddin Owaisi raised the "Jai Palestine" slogan alongside "Jai MIM, Jai BHIM, Jai Telangana, and Takbeer Allah hu Akbar." Asaduddin Owaisi, who has been representing the Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency in Parliament since 2004, has won the Lok Sabha election from the city for the fifth time. The AIMIM president defeated BJP candidate Madhavi Latha by a large margin in the Hyderabad constituency.

Goa May Face Beef Shortage As Traders Strike Over Vigilante Threats

Agencies : Goa could face beef shortage ahead of Christmas and New Year with meat traders in the state going on a strike to protest against increased harassment by cow vigilante groups. The shut-down started on Monday under the banner of Quraishi Meat Traders Association (QMTA). In a letter to Chief Minister Pramod Sawant, the association claimed there was an increase in attacks from right-wing Hindu organisations on shops which sell beef legally. "The recent attack happened in Margao. We want action against these groups. We need protection from the government," said Abdul Bepari, a QMTA member. Police have failed to take action despite receiving complaints, he said.



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DIARY TIMES

Shimla | Wednesday | 25-12-2024

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Himachal News: Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said – HRTC's income increased by Rs 63.47 crore in eight months

Diary Times Desk : While chairing the review meeting of Himachal Road Transport Corporation (HRTC), Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that the State Government is taking concrete steps to make the Corporation self-reliant and viable. He said that as a result of the efforts of the present State Government and the dedicated services of the workforce of the Corporation, the income of the Corporation has increased by Rs 63.47 crore in the first eight months of this year. Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that the State Government is releasing a grant of about Rs 60 crore every month to the Corporation and for the last two years, the Corporation has been ensuring timely payment of salary and pension to the employees and pensioners. Himachal has limited means of transport, in this situation the Corporation is acting as the lifeline of the State. About five lakh people travel through the buses of the Corporation every day. The Chief Minister said that a target has been set to make Himachal Pradesh the green energy state of the country by March 31, 2026 and to achieve this target, the present State Government is working towards converting HRTC into 'Green HRTC'. He said that the corporation can play an important role in realizing the vision of Green Himachal and preserving the environment of the state for the coming generations. The entire fleet of diesel buses of the corporation is being replaced with e-buses and the state government is committed to strengthen the HRTC. The state government has allocated Rs 327 crore for the purchase of electric buses. Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu also directed for construction of new bus depots to provide better transport facilities.

20 Years Ago, Zoho CEO Tried To Hire Sriram Krishnan, Trump's AI Adviser

Agencies : Zoho CEO Sridhar Vembu tried to hire Indian-American venture capitalist Sriram Krishnan back in 2004, only to find Microsoft had already recruited him. The revelation came as Mr Vembu congratulated Mr Krishnan on his appointment as Senior White House Policy Adviser on Artificial Intelligence under US President-elect Donald Trump. Mr Vembu, in a post on X, said he first came across Sriram Krishnan through his programming blog while he was graduating from SRM University. He described it as one of the early programming blogs from India that impressed him greatly. "I was so impressed I wanted to recruit him, but Microsoft already had recruited him," he revealed. He added that they stayed in touch over the years as Mr Krishnan moved to Silicon Valley and became an entrepreneur. "President Trump has found a great talent for his technology team!" he concluded.

Ex Bureaucrat Ajay Bhalla New Manipur Governor, Mizoram Gets Ex Army Chief VK Singh

Agencies : Former Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla was on Tuesday evening appointed the new Governor of Manipur – where periodic clashes between the Meitei community and the Kuki tribes have simmered for more than a year – replacing Anusuiya Uijey. The President also appointed Governors for four other states. VK Singh, a retired Army Chief and a former minister in the previous Narendra Modi-led government, has been appointed the new Mizoram Governor. There has been a swap of states for Governors of Kerala and Bihar – Arif Mohammed, the Kerala Governor, is now the Governor of Bihar, and Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar, Governor of Bihar, is now in charge of Kerala. The President has accepted the resignation of Raghubar Das as the Governor of Odisha. Dr Hari Babu Kambhampati, Governor of Mizoram, has been appointed as the Governor of Odisha in his place. A governor is the constitutional head of a state and has similar powers and functions at the state level as those of the President of India at the central level. Ajay Kumar Bhalla, now Manipur Governor, is a 1984-batch IAS officer of the Assam-Meghalaya cadre who was appointed the Union Home Secretary in August 2019.

HP High Court: Challenge to the decision to stop one rupee subsidy to industries, next hearing will be on January 2

Diary Times Desk : In the Himachal Pradesh High Court, the decision of a single judge to discontinue the subsidy of one rupee per unit of electricity to large industries has been challenged in a double bench. Retired judge of Orissa High Court and senior advocate S Muralidhar appeared on behalf of the industries. In his arguments, he said that the notification issued by the government on March 3, 2024 is not logical. Under this, the state government had decided to withdraw the subsidy of Rs 1 given to large industries. He told the court that the State Electricity Regulatory Commission has implemented the notification issued by the state government to discontinue the subsidy without thinking. He said that tariff and subsidy are two different issues. Tariff can be revised only once a year, whereas subsidy cannot be changed without tariff revision. The bench of Acting Chief Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan and Justice Satyen Vaidya heard the case. The court asked the government why the decision was taken to stop the subsidy.

Himachal News: Chief Minister Sukhu gave instructions to prepare a comprehensive policy for employment on compassionate grounds

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has directed to prepare a comprehensive policy for employment on compassionate grounds. He said that the present state government is working diligently to settle all pending cases at one go. While reviewing the policy in a high-level meeting held here today, the Chief Minister directed the officials to compile and submit data of applicants for employment on compassionate grounds according to department, age and educational qualification. The Chief Minister directed the officials to submit the required data in the next meeting to be held on January 10, 2025. He said that the state government is adopting a liberal and sympathetic approach to provide employment in the government sector to the persons who lost their family members during service. The state government will take into account all aspects to benefit maximum applicants. He said that the state government is committed to the welfare of dependents by giving preference to widows and orphans in providing employment on compassionate grounds. Thakur Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that the state government has constituted a cabinet sub-committee headed by Education Minister Rohit Thakur to study the cases of compassionate appointments in detail. Technical Education Minister Rajesh Dharmani and AYUSH Minister Yadavindra Goma are members of this sub-committee. Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, Education Minister Rohit Thakur, Principal Secretary Finance Devesh Kumar, Secretaries Dr. Abhishek Jain and Rakesh Kanwar, Special Secretary Finance Rohit Jamwal and other senior officials were present in the meeting.

Display 'International Call' for calls from abroad to curb scams: DoT to telecoms

Agencies : The Department of Telecommunications wants all telecom service providers to display 'international call' on the phone when subscribers receive calls from outside India to curb cyber scams where scammers masquerade as Indian government and its authorities to dupe people in the country, the department said in a press release on Tuesday. Airtel has already started doing this and other telcos are exploring the feasibility of the move. This recommendation was made by a dedicated task force that the DoT had created to address the issue of scam calls originating from outside the country. The DoT said that the number of incoming international calls that are falsely displayed as originating from Indian numbers on caller ID that its new system identified and blocked had dipped from 13.5 million a day in October to about 600,000 a day in December, a drop of 95.6%. For the DoT, this indicates that their new system, launched in October, has "successfully tackled the issue of cyber-crimes that were being conducted through calls that were being made from abroad.



Himachal Snowfall: Snowfall boosts tourism on Christmas, apple horticulture gets a boost; Shimla-Manali buzzing



Diary Times Desk : The fresh snowfall has given wings to tourism. At the same time, snowfall has proved to be a lifesaver for gardening. Tourists who reached Shimla and other tourist places danced amidst the snow. Himachal will be packed with tourists on Christmas in the desire of New Year. Shops will remain open 24 hours for the convenience of tourists. As soon as the information of snowfall was received, the occupancy has increased in many tourist places including Shimla, Manali. Due to this, the tourist places of Himachal Pradesh will remain bustling with tourists in the coming days till the arrival of New Year. Tourism businessmen are excited with the changing mood of the weather. As soon as the weather changed, as soon as snowfall started in many areas including Shimla on Monday, tourists started heading towards Himachal Pradesh. Due to this, the occupancy in hotels has increased. On Monday, 70 percent occupancy was recorded in Shimla, 80 percent in Manali, 60 percent in Dharamshala and 80 percent in hotels in Kasauli and it was continuously increasing. After this, the arrival of tourists is expected to increase.

Himachal: Major reshuffle in Himachal, 93 doctors transferred at once; People of remote areas will get big relief

Diary Times Desk : There has been a major reshuffle in the health department. Transfer orders of 93 medical officers have been issued in the state. The health department has taken this step after the court's orders. Along with the transfer of medical officers, their new posting has also been done. The department has asked them to join duty on new appointment as soon as possible. Actually, people were facing problems due to shortage of doctors in many areas of Himachal Pradesh. In such a situation, a petition was filed in the Himachal High Court in this regard. After this, the court had issued instructions to the health department to make arrangements for doctors. Medical officers have been posted in those health institutions where there were no doctors or where there was a shortage of doctors.

Himachal Snowfall: 'Heavy' snow in Himachal, 70 routes of HRTC affected, problems due to slippery roads; 8 buses stuck

Diary Times Desk : The second snowfall of the season in the district including the capital Shimla has increased the difficulties of the people. On Monday afternoon, 112 roads of Upper Shimla have been blocked due to snowfall. Due to this, about 70 routes of HRTC have been affected. About eight buses coming to the capital from Upper Shimla are stuck at various places. Some buses have been sent via Basantpur for Rampur and Kinnaur. Thousands of people were stranded at various places throughout the day due to snowfall on the roads. Especially due to snowfall in Kufri, Fagu, Narkanda, Khidki and Kharapathar, the movement of vehicles to Rampur, Rohru and Chaupal area has come to a halt. Eight roads are blocked in Shimla rural area, one in the Theog sub-division, one in Chaupal, 6 in Kumarsain and 5 in Dodra Kwar sub-division, 48 in Kotkhai, 7 in Jubbal, 27 in Rohru, two in Kupvi and 7 in Rampur. The administration and the Public Works Department have started the work of restoring the roads, but despite this, there are problems in the movement of vehicles due to slippery roads.

Una Double Murder: Double murder in Una, Himachal, first son shot in land dispute, then father killed

Diary Times Desk : A father and son were shot dead in Lower Bhadasali village on Monday afternoon after a land dispute. The deceased include Lower Bhadasali village head Saroj Devi's husband Sanjeev Kumar (51) and son Ravindra Kumar (26). The shooter has been identified as Deshdeep Jaswal, a resident of Lower Bhadasali. He is a lawyer by profession and practices in Una court. He is absconding since the incident. The SP said that a case has been registered against five people including Deshdeep under murder and Arms Act. According to the police, the land dispute has been going on between the two sides for a long time. There was a fight over land on Monday morning as well. If people are to be believed, there was also a fight between the two sides. When the accused came to know that his father Ramesh Chand was injured in the fight, he returned home. Meanwhile, on the way, he saw the car of the head's son Ravindra Kumar coming. Deshdeep stopped his car, took out a rifle from the trunk and fired a bullet at Ravindra Kumar, which hit his chest. Ravindra was also accompanied by his companion, he ran away and saved his life. On the other hand, when father Sanjeev reached the spot after getting the news of his son Ravindra being shot, the accused shot him as well. The bullet hit Sanjeev's stomach. People took the injured father and son to Una hospital, but the doctors declared them dead.

Himachal: Snowfall in Shimla, Kufri and Dalhousie before Christmas, mountains covered in white sheet of snow

Diary Times Desk : Before Christmas, the mountains of Himachal have been covered in a white sheet of snow with snowfall in the capital Shimla, Kufri and Dalhousie. On Monday, snowfall occurred in many areas of Shimla, Kinnaur, Kullu, Chamba, Lahaul-Spiti districts including the Queen of Mountains. Due to this, more than 30 roads including three national highways have been closed. More than 1000 tourist vehicles are stuck in the fog of Manali. The road connectivity from the capital to Upper Shimla, Manali to Lahaul and Kullu to Anni has been cut off. Shimla city has witnessed snowfall for the second time in the last nine years during December. However, the drought in the plains of Himachal is not over yet.

Weather: Snow on the mountains... Chill due to drizzle in the plains, temperature in Srinagar -8.6°, ice frozen in Dal Lake

Diary Times Desk : The cold increased in entire North India due to snowfall in the mountains and drizzle in many places including the capital. On the third day of Chilla Kalan in Kashmir, Srinagar witnessed snowfall on Monday and the temperature was recorded below zero at many places. The second snowfall of the season before Christmas in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, filled the tourists with enthusiasm. In the plains, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi-NCR, Rajasthan witnessed a drop in temperature with cold winds and rain at some places. In many parts, fog also prevailed in the morning. The rain caused by the effect of western disturbance is considered very beneficial for the crops. Due to cloudy weather throughout the day in Delhi-NCR, Mathura and Meerut.

HPCET 2025 Exam: Dates announced for HPCET exam, B.Tech, MCA and MBA exams will be held in May

Diary Times Desk : The Himachal Pradesh Common Entrance Test (HPCET) 2025 exam date has been released by Himachal Pradesh Technological University (HPTU). Candidates who have filled the application form can check the HPCET 2025 exam date notice through the official website (himtu.ac.in). As per the official notice, the exam for undergraduate (UG) and postgraduate (PG) admissions will be held on May 10, 2025. The HPCET 2025 exam will be conducted in two sessions. Session 1 will be from 9 am to 12:15 pm for UG programmes including Bachelor of Technology (BTech) and Bachelor of Pharmacy (BPharmacy). Session 2 exam will be held from 2 pm to 4 pm for PG programmes including Master of Computer Applications (MCA), Master of Business Administration (MBA), and MBA in Tourism and Hospitality Management (MBA T&HM). The HPCET exam is an objective type test that will be conducted in English. The undergraduate paper will have a total of 150 questions while the postgraduate paper will have 100 questions. Candidates appearing for the UG paper will get 3 hours.



PDP's Mehbooba Mufti slams NC MPs for 'failing' to raise reservation topic in Parliament

Agencies : Srinagar (Jammu and Kashmir) [India], December 24 (ANI): Accusing the National Conference's Members of Parliament of failing to raise the reservation issue in Parliament, Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday stated that rights should be allocated based on population. "We are only saying that rights should be given according to the population. We are not asking to take away anyone's rights. National Conference secured votes in the Lok Sabha elections by promising that their MPs would raise this issue in the House, but they have not discussed it," Mehbooba Mufti told ANI. The PDP chief called for immediate intervention to ensure fair representation for open merit candidates.

American singer Mary Millben praises PM Modi for 'honouring my saviour Jesus Christ'

Agencies : Mary Millben praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for honouring her "saviour" Jesus Christ. Known for her admiration for the Indian leader, the 42-year-old American singer took to social media Tuesday to exchange Christmas greetings with him. Millben, who has performed for four consecutive US Presidents—George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and Joe Biden, lauded PM Modi for honouring Jesus Christ at a Christmas event hosted by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) in Delhi. "Bless you, @PMOIndia. Jesus Christ is the greatest gift and example of love. Thank you #PMModi for honoring my Savior Jesus Christ publicly at the @IndianBishops Christmas Celebration," Millben wrote on X, formerly Twitter. Referring to the prime minister's Christmas greeting, "The teachings of Lord Christ celebrate love, harmony, and brotherhood. It is important that we all work to make this spirit stronger," Millben added, "Your words touched me." The international singer concluded her tweet by extending her Christmas wishes to Indians. "Merry Christmas to all my brothers and sisters in #India," she wrote. This is not the first time that Millben has praised PM Modi. She previously described the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA) as a "true act of democracy," commending him for providing "refuge" to persecuted religious minorities. Millben, who first met the prime minister last year in June.

Anti-Pollution Measures (GRAP-4) Revoked In Delhi As Air Quality Improves



Agencies : Stringent anti-pollution measure GRAP-4 has been revoked in Delhi and the neighbouring region amid a dip in pollution levels. The air quality index or AQI of Delhi has been "continuously improving" since morning, said the committee on GRAP curbs. At 5 PM, the AQI was "very poor" at 364, which is 36 points below the limits decided by the Supreme Court for invoking Stage-4. Curbs under Stages 1, 2 and 3, however, will remain in force to prevent any further worsening of the air quality, said the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM). "Actions under Stage I, II, and III of the revised GRAP shall remain invoked and be implemented, monitored, and reviewed by all the agencies concerned in the entire NCR to ensure that the AQI levels do not slip further," the commission said in its order. Stage-4 curbs under the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) were reimposed, nearly 10 days after the measures were eased to Stage-2, in the national capital and its adjoining areas last week (December 16) when it breached the 400 mark.

5 Soldiers Killed As Army Vehicle Plunges Into 300-Foot Gorge In J&K

Agencies : Five soldiers were killed and several others injured when an Army truck carrying them skidded off the road and plunged into a 300-foot gorge in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch on Tuesday, said officials. The accident, said officials, occurred in the Gharoa area when an Army vehicle was on its way to Banoi in the district. "All ranks of #WhiteKnightCorps extend their deepest condolences on the tragic loss of five brave soldiers in a vehicle accident during operational duty in the #Poonch sector," the 16 Corps, Indian Army.

EC tells Congress: 'No arbitrary deletion or addition of voters in Maharashtra polls'

Agencies : The Election Commission of India on Tuesday said there were no "arbitrary additions or deletions of voters" in the recently concluded Maharashtra assembly elections, PTI reported. The EC statement is in response to Congress, which alleged "arbitrary deletion of voters" and addition of over 10,000 voters in each constituency from the final voter lists. "Inexplicable increase in voting percentages from 5 pm to the final voter percentage.

Crowd Of Fans, Broken Metal Gates: CCTV Clip Of Pushpa 2 Stampede

Agencies : Unseen footage from Hyderabad's Sandhya Theatre - where a stampede December 4, as actor Allu Arjun's 'Pushpa 2: The Rise' was being screened, killed a young mother and critically injured her eight-year-old child - shows the confusion and chaos that prevailed that night. The 14-second clip doesn't have audio but shows a crowd pushing and shoving as they funnel through a doorway. The metal gates on either side are literally torn from their hinges. The ground is littered with pieces of paper and plastic water bottles stomped on by the surging mob. The timestamp on the video is around 9.15 pm, which is 15 minutes before Allu Arjun arrived - unannounced, according to the police - at the theatre. News of the actor's arrival, the cops have alleged, led to the stampede as adoring fans fell over each other to get a glimpse of the actor. In the crush that followed Revathi, 35, was killed and her eight-year-old son, was left critically injured.

"Vegetable Knife For Bypass Surgery": Jagdeep Dhankhar On No-Trust Motion

Agencies : "Never use a vegetable-cutting knife for bypass surgery" - Rajya Sabha Chairperson Jagdeep Dhankhar declared Tuesday, in his first comments since the opposition's motion of no-confidence in his stewardship of the Upper House was junked for procedural irregularities. "Just look at the notice against the Vice President... (as Vice President, Mr Dhankhar is the de facto Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha) ... You'll be shocked.Chandra Shekarji once said, 'Never use a vegetable.

"Fundamentally Flawed Process": Congress On Rights Panel Chief Selection

Agencies : A day after President Droupadi Murmu appointed former Supreme Court judge Justice V Ramasubramanian as National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) chairperson, the main opposition Congress issued a dissent note today and said the selection process was "fundamentally flawed". Rahul Gandhi, the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, and his Rajya Sabha counterpart Mallikarjun Kharge have recorded their dissent "without prejudice to the names of the Chairperson and members approved by the Selection Committee". The two leaders have said the selection committee meeting took place on Wednesday. "It was a pre-determined exercise that ignored the established tradition of mutual consultation and consensus, which is essential in such matters. This departure undermines the principles of fairness and impartiality, which are critical to the credibility of the Selection Committee. Instead of fostering deliberation and ensuring a collective decision, the Committee relied on its numerical majority to finalise the names, disregarding the legitimate concerns and perspectives raised during the meeting," they said in the dissent note.



'Will behead...': Israel's ominous warning to 'Houthi terrorist organisation'

Agencies : After admitting publicly for the first time to killing Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, Israel on Monday warned "the Houthi terrorist organisation" that it would "behead their leaders". Israeli defence minister Israel Katz admitted on Monday that his country killed Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in July in Iran, further risking tensions with Tehran. "These days, when the Houthi terrorist organization is firing missiles at Israel, I want to convey a clear message to them at the beginning of my remarks: We have defeated Hamas, we have defeated Hezbollah, we have blinded Iran's defence systems and damaged the production systems, we have toppled the Assad regime in Syria, we have dealt a severe blow to the axis of evil, and we will also deal a severe blow to the Houthi terrorist organization in Yemen, which remains the last to stand," Katz said.

South Korean Opposition Seeks to Impeach Acting President Han

Agencies : South Korea's main opposition party said it will start impeachment proceedings against Prime Minister and Acting President Han Duck-soo, with a meeting set for this afternoon to discuss the matter. Park Chan-dae, the floor leader of the Democratic Party of Korea, made the comments at a meeting that was broadcast live on Tuesday. The opposition party said Han has indicated at the cabinet meeting that he won't promulgate the special counsel bills that the DP has been pushing for. The bills seek to investigate insurrection charges against embattled President Yoon Suk Yeol and multiple allegations against First Lady Kim Keon Hee. Yoon declared martial law on Dec. 3 to address "anti-state forces," but rescinded it six hours later after parliament voted it down. The move sparked a constitutional crisis and public outrage, leading to Yoon's impeachment. Han has assumed duties as acting president on Dec. 14 after Yoon's impeachment, which is now under review by the Constitutional Court to determine.

How Donald Trump's "Only Two Genders" Reality Is Coming To Life In The United States

Agencies : Approximately 1.3 million adults and 300,000 youths identify as transgender in the United States, and for them, everyday is a ticking time bomb. "With the stroke of my pen, on Day 1, we're going to stop the transgender lunacy," President-elect Donald Trump's words reverberated across Phoenix Convention Center at AmericaFest, Turning Point USA's (TPUSA) annual gathering. About 20,000 rightwing politicians, activists and media figures gathered here, as Trump pledged to bring about the "common-sense revolution" and promised the incoming of the "golden age in America". "I will sign executive orders to end child sexual mutilation, get transgender out of the military and out of our elementary schools and middle schools and high schools," he said at the event. With Trump's ban of transgenders in the military, about 15,000 people will be ousted from their duties from the army. Besides, transgender people will be prohibited to join the military as well.



Mystery Drones Won't Interfere With Santa Claus' Work: US Air Force General



Agencies : Santa Claus has no need to worry about recent mystery drone sightings over New Jersey, a US Air Force general said Tuesday, as an annual tradition of "tracking" Saint Nick swung into action. General Gregory Guillot's reassurances came as the joint US-Canadian North American Aerospace Defense Command reported that Santa and his reindeer were making stops across Asia, including Japan and North Korea. Santa's journey this year comes after weeks of mysterious sightings of alleged drones in New Jersey, sparking worldwide curiosity even as many of the reported sightings were debunked. "Of course we are concerned about drones and anything else in the air," NORAD commander Guillot told Fox News. "But I don't foresee any difficulty at all with drones for Santa this year."

Kathy Hochul faces calls to resign after Guatemalan migrant burns woman alive

Agencies : Kathy Hochul is facing calls to resign after an illegal Guatemalan immigrant set a woman on fire aboard a Brooklyn subway train. Sebastian Zapeta-Calil, 33, has been charged with first- and second-degree murder, and arson. Among those who have called out Hochul is Elon Musk. Hochul triggered an outrage after sharing a post about the improvement in subway safety on the same day the woman was killed. "In March, I took action to make our subways safer for the millions of people who take the trains each day. Since deploying the @NationalGuardNY to support @NYPD and @MTA safety efforts and adding cameras to all subway cars, crime is going down, and ridership is going up," Hochul posted on Instagram. Rep. Ritchie Torres shared Hochul's post, and captioned it, "Two hours ago, Kathy Hochul took a victory lap for making subways "safer."

'I am not a Pakistani', clarifies YouTuber Zara Dar, who quit PhD for OnlyFans

Agencies : YouTuber Zara Dar, who garnered overnight fame, after she announced she was quitting her studies to become an adult content creator on OnlyFans, has issued a clarification, stating that she is not Pakistani, after misinformation about her spread on social media. In a thread of posts on social media platform X, Dar wrote, "After I made a video about why I dropped out of my PhD to pursue OnlyFans full-time, I have been seeing a lot of misinformation on social media, whether intentional or not. I have not given any exclusive interviews yet. So, I would like to clarify the facts here." Among several other misconceptions she tackled the rumour that she was Pakistani and stated that her name "Darcy" which she shortens to Dar makes people mistake her for a different Pakistani beauty influencer named Zara Dar.

Pakistan May Get 40 5th-Gen Stealth Fighter Jets From China Within 2 Years

Agencies : In a game-changing proposition, China is reportedly in talks with Pakistan for Islamabad to procure 40 advanced stealth fighter jets from Beijing. The J-35A is China's most advanced military aircraft. If the deal is finalised, Pakistan will be the first and only country globally to have a squadron of the stealth J-35A multi-role fighter jets outside of China. It will also mark the first export of China's most advanced military aircraft by Beijing. The J-35A is China's second fifth-generation stealth fighter jet. After United States, China is the only other country in the world to have two 5th-gen military aircraft. Pakistan is looking to replace its ageing fleet of US-made F-16s and the French Mirage fighters. As per a report in the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post, which further quotes the Pakistani media, China will deliver all 40 stealth fighter jets in less than two years. China's entire defence industry is already set up for mass production as it does not depend on any other country for any part of the aircraft. The report also states that Pakistan's Air Force has already approved the purchase of these jets. Though there is no confirmation from Beijing, should such a deal materialise, it will provide Pakistan a massive boost to its air defence and has the potential to tilt the regional dynamic as Islamabad will acquire stealth technology.

24-year-old murdered over 'old enmity' in Punjab's Hoshiarpur

Agencies : A 24-year-old shop owner died after being attacked by a group of men with sharp-edged weapons here, police said on Tuesday. The incident took place near the Garhdiwala bus stop at around 10 pm on Monday, they said. Avinash, a resident of Mirzapur village, ran a gift shop in Garhdiwala. He was with his friend, Gagandeep Singh when at least 10 men arrived in two cars and attacked them. After injuring the two, the attackers fled the scene, police said. The duo was taken to the Civil Hospital in Dasuya for treatment. However, Avinash was declared brought dead while Singh received treatment for his injuries, officials said. In a related incident, one of the cars used by the assailants met with an accident near Gondpur village. Five occupants of the car sustained injuries and were also admitted to the Civil Hospital, police said. Sub-Inspector Gushahib Singh, the investigating officer, stated that an FIR has been registered at the Garhdiwala police station under relevant provisions of the law. Police said the accused include Navjot Singh alias Happy of Gondpur, Rishi of Bathlan, Navjeet Singh, Gurpreet Singh, and Gaurav -- all residents of Dadiana Khurd -- along with four to five unidentified accomplices. Preliminary investigations suggest that the attack was the result of an old enmity between the accused and the deceased, police said.



We have to fight unitedly to win this battle, says farmer leader Dallewal

Agencies : Punjab farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, whose fast unto death entered the 29th day on Tuesday, said they had to "fight unitedly to win this battle". Dallewal (70) has been sitting on a hunger strike at the Khanauri border since November 26 to put pressure on the Centre to accept the farmers' demands, including legal guarantee for MSP. Addressing the farmers from the special stage made in view of his deteriorating health, Dallewal expressed heartfelt gratitude to those lending support to the agitation. "I want to tell all of you that I am alright," he said in a frail voice as another farmer leader Abhimanyu Kohar helped him. "We have to win this battle. This battle will be won only if the whole country fights unitedly," Dallewal said and appealed to Punjab's "younger brother Haryana" and other states that "this battle should be fought strongly".

Gangster, 2 aides shot near Panchkula resort

Agencies : A gangster, his 17-year-old nephew and a 22-year-old girl were shot dead by unidentified assailants outside a resort on the Morni road in Panchkula during the wee hours of Monday. Another girl accompanying the three escaped unhurt. Police sources said they suspected an inter-gang rivalry behind the incident. The deceased gangster, Vinit Gahlot, alias Vicky, a resident of Mitrau village, near Najafgarh, Delhi, had cases of murder, dacoity and Arms Act registered against him in Chandigarh, Panchkula and Uttar Pradesh. He was associated with the Manjeet Mahal gang active in Delhi NCR, sources in the police said. According to the FIR registered at the Pinjore police station, around three assailants opened fire at him and his group when they were about to get into their car after attending a birthday party at the resort. The other two deceased have been identified as Tirath, a resident of Najafgarh in Delhi; and Vandana, alias Nia, a resident of Uchana Kalan village in Jind.

Pilibhit encounter: Khalistani terror suspects hailed from poor families

Agencies : The three suspected Khalistani terrorists killed in an encounter in Uttar Pradesh's Pilibhit hailed from poor families, with their kin finding it hard to believe they could be involved in anti-national activities. Accused of being involved in the grenade attack at a police post in Gurdaspur recently, the three were killed in an encounter with police in Pilibhit on Monday. The three suspected members of the Khalistan Zindabad Force (KZF) were identified as Varinder Singh alias Ravi (23) of Agwan in Kalanaur, Gurwinder Singh (25) of Bhaini Bania Mohalla in Kalanaur and Jashanpreet Singh alias Partap Singh (18) of Shur Khurd in Kalanaur. The families of two of the suspects claimed they have no clue how they landed in Uttar Pradesh. Gurwinder's family said he left home last week for Batala in Punjab. His phone was later found switched off, his family told reporters at their home.

Jalandhar rolls out 'red carpet' for Miss Grand International 2024, Rachel Gupta

Agencies : Jalandhar's own Rachel Gupta, who made history by being crowned Miss Grand International 2024 two months ago, returned home to a grand and heartwarming reception. The 20-year-old beauty queen, who clinched the prestigious title on October 25 at the Miss Grand International Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, was greeted with a jubilant roadshow that proudly showcased her victory. Rachel waved the Indian flag while riding in a jeep, adorned in her iconic green-emerald embedded crown, as she made her way through the streets of Urban Estate. The procession along the Garha road was spectacular, with a live band, elephants, horses, and an enthusiastic crowd showering her with flower petals. The residents of Jalandhar filled the streets to show their pride as Rachel smiled and posed for photos. A specially set up stage near PIMS hosted heartfelt tributes, with industrialists, local leaders, family, and friends showering Rachel with accolades for making both the city and the nation proud. "Rachel Gupta's remarkable feat is historic: she is the first Indian ever to wear the coveted Miss Grand International golden crown," said her family members. "This victory aligns her with the legendary Lara Dutta as the Indian with the most international pageant titles". Miss Grand International, one of the world's foremost beauty pageants with a global following of over five million, saw Rachel face off against contestants.

Deadline for transfer of Power Dept assets to pvt firm extended by month

Agencies : The UT Administration has extended the deadline for handing over assets of the Electricity Department to a Kolkata-based private company by almost a month. Earlier, the liabilities were to be transferred by the end of this month. An official stated that all liabilities of the department were likely to be transferred to the private firm by first week of February as documentation and paperwork needed more time. On the other hand, Congress and employees of the department have been protesting against the privatisation of the department. The city Congress had started a seven-day chain hunger strike from December 18, while employees have been staging daily protests since November 7 after the Punjab and Haryana High Court dismissed their petition.

Hooda accuses BJP of insulting Constitution, Ambedkar; Congress workers protest in Rohtak

Agencies : Former Chief Minister and veteran Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda has alleged that the BJP government and its leaders are constantly insulting the Constitution and its maker, Dr BR Ambedkar. Hooda emphasised that the nation will not tolerate such insults, citing the Congress party's role in creating the Constitution under Ambedkar's leadership. Hooda's statement came after Union Home Minister Amit Shah's recent remark on Dr Ambedkar sparked controversy. The Congress has decided to organise protest demonstrations across the nation, with Hooda leading the Baba Saheb Ambedkar Samman March in Rohtak. The protest march, attended by Congress MLAs and workers, submitted a memorandum to the district authorities, condemning Shah's remark as derogatory. The participants included Bharat Bhushan Batra from Rohtak, Shakuntala Khatak from Kalanaur (reserved) and Balram Singh Dangi from Meham. Responding to a question, Hooda said "Apart from being a citizen of the country, I have a personal connection with the Constitution as my father Ranbir Singh Hooda was one of its signatories." BSP workers also organised a protest demonstration against Shah in Jhajjar city, submitting a memorandum to the district authorities. The protest march started from the local office of the Congress at Ambedkar Chowk and concluded at the mini secretariat.

Both ends of Kandaghat tunnel on Solan-Kaithlighat stretch meet

Diary Times Desk : A major breakthrough was achieved in the excavation of the 667 m tunnel at Kandaghat with both its ends meeting today. The tunnel is part of the four-laning project being executed on the Solan-Kaithlighat stretch of the National Highway 5 by ARIF Engineers on behalf of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The original length of the tunnel was 460 m and its construction cost was pegged at Rs 59.80 cr. Its length was, however, increased by 207 m, thus raising its cost by Rs 54.84 crore. This two-lane tunnel will provide passage both to the uphill and downhill traffic. This is the second tunnel to be constructed on the Parwanoo-Solan-Kaithlighat section in the ongoing four-laning work. Presence of a massive water tank had forced the agency to alter the alignment of the tunnel at Kandaghat. The new alignment had not only delayed the work by over a year but it had also increased the project cost by Rs 54.80 crore as additional length of 207 m was added to the tunnel length.

Ensure no illegal mining at Chakki riverbed in Nurpur, Indora: NGT

Diary Times Desk : After receiving the preliminary status report submitted by the Joint Committee on December 8, the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Delhi, has ordered the Deputy Commissioner, Kangra, the Director, Mining Department, and district police authorities to ensure that no illegal riverbed mining was carried out alongside Chakki river in Kandwal-Lodwan-Tipri belt on interstate Nurpur and Indora sub divisions in Kangra district. The NGT had constituted a joint committee comprising DC Kangra, regional officer, Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board, Dharamsala and scientist, regional director, central pollution control board, Chandigarh, as its members after entertaining a petition (complaint) by one Sanjeev Dogra on November 7. The petitioner in his complaint alleged illegal mining being carried out alongside the Chakki river in the Kandwal-Lodhwan-Tipri area which runs parallel to the Punjab border. He also alleged that the illegal mining activities.

Massive rescue operation saves 8,000 tourists stranded in Kullu after snowfall



Diary Times Desk : A major rescue operation was launched in Kullu after around 1,500 vehicles got stranded in snow at Dhundi and the north and south portals of the Atal Tunnel on the Manali-Leh highway. The snowfall caused the road to become dangerously slippery, triggering long traffic jams and leaving many tourists trapped in their vehicles overnight. Many of the stranded tourists were travelling in their own cars or taxis from the plains and were inexperienced in driving on snowy roads. The situation worsened as the snow accumulation increased, blocking traffic and preventing movement. Some tourists were left in their vehicles throughout the night in freezing temperatures, describing the experience as "horrible". DSP Manali KD Sharma said, "The rescue operation, which began at 2 pm, continued through the night, with police personnel working tirelessly in sub-zero temperatures to ensure the safety of the public."

Over 1,000 vehicles stuck amid heavy snowfall in Himachal's Manali

Diary Times Desk : A fresh spell of heavy snow in Himachal Pradesh's Manali on Monday left several vehicles stuck and tourists stranded in their vehicles for hours between Solang and Atal Tunnel, Rohtang. According to officials, over 1,000 vehicles were stuck on the Manali-Leh highway in a long traffic jam, prompting police to launch a rescue operation and shift around 700 tourists to safe places. Most of the stranded vehicles were tourist cars, many of which were not equipped for snowy road conditions. The traffic jam extended from Solang Nallah to Atal tunnel, causing a major disruption. Officials of the district administration along with police were present at the scene to coordinate rescue efforts. The team worked tirelessly throughout the night to evacuate the vehicles, ensuring the safety of all passengers. Majority of the vehicles were evacuated and transported back to Manali from the Lahaul side on Monday late night. Meanwhile, the authorities have advised tourists to travel in 4x4 vehicles, which are designed for snowy roads and are equipped with snow chains for better traction. As many as 177 roads including three national highways were closed.

Shimla, Narkanda get snow ahead of Xmas

Diary Times Desk : Shimla and other parts of the state received a fresh spell of snowfall today, just two days ahead of Christmas. Shimla, in particular, saw snowfall (8 cm) in December after a gap of three years. And the last time it received snowfall so close to Christmas was more than 10 years back in 2013, when it had snowed on December 22-23. Along with the capital city, the entire upper Shimla area, comprising tourist places like Kufri and Narkanda and the apple belt, received good snowfall. While the snowfall has been quite widespread in Shimla district, some places in the districts of Kinnaur and Lahaul and Spiti also saw snowfall. The Lahaul and Spiti district administration has advised tourists to exercise caution and avoid unnecessary travel to the snowbound areas of the district. The roads tourists have been advised to avoid include Kaza-Losar, Kaza-Kibber, Kaza-Komic and Langcha, etc. Fresh snowfall has happened at and around Atal Tunnel as well on the Manali-Leh highway, where police personnel are regulating traffic in bone-chilling temperatures. Following the snow, over 100 roads are shut for traffic in Shimla district alone. Most of the affected roads fall in Kotkhai, Jubbal.

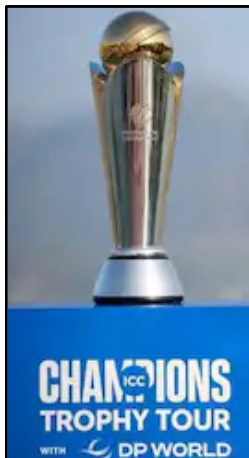
Manali wears white mantle, tourists & hoteliers elated

Diary Times Desk : Tourists had a gala time today in Manali, witnessing the snowflakes and capturing the snow-capped mountains. The day started with overcast weather, followed by light snowfall in the afternoon. The higher altitudes were covered in white mantle, while the lower areas experienced intermittent rainfall, which further lowered the temperature. With the suburbs receiving ample snow, residents are hopeful for more snowfall in the coming days. The town had witnessed first snowfall of the season on December 9. The tourism industry is buzzing with excitement, as the white Christmas is expected to draw more visitors. Local businesses are optimistic about a surge in tourist numbers during the Christmas and New Year period. Last weekend, around 60,000 tourists visited Manali, with hotel occupancy generally surpassing 70 per cent. Hospitality units are offering attractive packages for the holiday season. The local administration also organises bonfires on Mall Road and many tourists enjoy dancing during musical nights held between Christmas and New Year's Eve. Various other events are also planned to entertain the tourists, especially on December 31.



PCB's 1st Reaction On Champions Trophy 2025 Schedule: "Agreement Based On..."

Diary Times Desk : The International Cricket Council (ICC) unveiled the eagerly anticipated schedule for the Champions Trophy 2025 on Tuesday, marking a significant moment for global cricket. With the tournament set to be played in a hybrid format, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) Chairman Mohsin Naqvi expressed his pride and optimism over Pakistan's role as a host. This marks a historic moment for Pakistan, which last hosted a major ICC event during the 1996 World Cup. The Champions Trophy 2025, featuring eight teams, will begin on February 19 with the opening match between hosts Pakistan and New Zealand in Karachi. The event will culminate with the final on March 9, set to be held in Lahore unless India qualifies, in which case it will shift to Dubai. "We are pleased that an agreement has been reached based on the principles of equality and respect, showcasing the spirit of cooperation and collaboration that defines our sport," Naqvi stated, highlighting the importance of this milestone for Pakistan cricket. He further expressed gratitude to the ICC for enabling Pakistan to co-host the tournament alongside Dubai. "Hosting the Champions Trophy is a significant milestone for Pakistan, highlighting our commitment.



Short TAKES

"Not A Job Where She Should Apply": Manu Bhaker's Father On Olympic Medallist's Khel Ratna Snub

Agencies : Manu Bhaker scripted history at the Paris Olympics 2024 as she became the first Indian woman shooter to win an Olympic medal for India. Following her bronze medal win in the women's individual 10m air pistol event, she cemented her place in history by claiming a second bronze medal in the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team event with Sarabjot Singh. However, controversy ensued when she was not considered for the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award.

PV Sindhu Is Every Bit The Gorgeous Sabyasachi Bride In A Crimson Red Lehenga

Agencies : December was officially the South Indian wedding month with popular South Indian brides etching their happily ever afters. Indian badminton champion PV Sindhu was the latest on the list who got married to her long-term boyfriend, Venkata Datta Sai, on December 22. The wedding celebration of the couple was an intimate affair. For the wedding, PV Sindhu wore a champagne-gold Manish Malhotra saree, but what grabbed our attention was her Varmala look. For the Varmala, PV Sindhu opted for a crimson red lehenga by ace designer Sabyasachi Mukherjee. Her lehenga came with a full-sleeved blouse featuring a golden embroidered border, which she teamed with a heavily embellished matching skirt and a dupatta. Her skirt came with golden geometrical patterns all over it, embedded finely with thread and zari work.

She neatly placed her red sheer dupatta with golden polka dot embroidery tucked into her waist. She added layers of gold and diamond jewellery featuring a heavy choker, a pair of statement earrings, and a huge maang teeka. For her makeup, she went for a flawless base, with lots of blush and highlighter, soft, smokey brown lids, mascara-coated lashes, winged eyeliner, and brown nude lips. Keeping her hair tied in a low, sleek bun adorned with a gajra, PV Sindhu looked absolutely ethereal. On the other hand, her husband, Venkata Datta Sai, complemented his lady love and went for a warmer hue and opted for an ivory shade sherwani for the D-day. His sherwani came with an embroidered jacket, which he paired with matching pants from Sabyasachi's groom collection.

"Numbers Don't Really...": Ricky Ponting's Clear Take On Shubman Gill's Away Test Blues

Agencies : Former cricketer Ricky Ponting opened up on India batter Shubman Gill's poor form overseas and said that the 25-year-old needs to back himself a bit more to get results. In 12 Tests this year, Gill has scored 866 runs in 21 innings at an average of 45.52, with three centuries and three fifties each. In the last Gabba Test of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy (BGT), the 25-year-old continued with his poor form and scored just one run from three balls in the first inning. In 12 Tests away from home, Gill has scored 616 runs in 22 innings at an average of 30.80, with one century and two fifties. His best score is 110. However, in 10 Tests in SENA countries, he has scored just 481 runs in 19 innings at a sub-par average of 26.72, with two fifties that came during his debut Test tour in Australia, including the iconic knock of 91 at Brisbane which helped India win the series. Since that knock, in the next 13 innings, he has failed to score even a fifty. Meanwhile, the youngster has a fine home record, with 1,177 runs in 17 matches and 31 innings at an average of 42.03, with four centuries and five fifties and best score of 128. The fourth Border-Gavaskar Trophy Test in Melbourne will begin.

Sam Konstas to debut; Head and Rohit ready to go

Agencies : Much of the intrigue on Tuesday centred around the fitness of two key figures on either side — Australia's Travid Head and India's Rohit Sharma. While Head was hindered by a slight quad strain he sustained during the Brisbane Test, Rohit was dealt a blow on his left knee during training on Sunday. And with the Boxing Day Test starting on Thursday, it was vital to see how they had recovered. First up was Head. The Aussies practised earlier in the day but Head didn't exactly throw himself around during the fielding session and then batted for just 15 minutes in the nets against the throw down specialists. He then had a chat with physio Nick Jones and coach Andrew McDonald before ending his session early. Later in the press conference McDonald cleared the air a bit. "Has he got some things to work through? Yeah, he has," he said. "So that's what you would have seen. There's no concern at the moment. Has he been officially ticked off? I'm not sure. I didn't see the sort of back-end of his training session there, but I'm pretty confident he'll play. "I think he looked good with the bat in hand so obviously skills are in good order. It'll just be basically what risk is associated with that.

"Brain Condition Not Stable": Vinod Kambli's Latest Health Update Is Worrying, Doctor Says, "Planning To..."

Agencies : Dr Vivek Dwivedi, treating former India cricketer Vinod Kambli at Aakriti Hospital in Thane, said on Tuesday that the 52-year-old's brain condition is not stable. Kambli was admitted to the hospital on Saturday evening after experiencing muscle cramps and dizziness at home. Earlier in December, Indian cricket icon Sachin Tendulkar met his childhood friend Vinod Kambli and unveiled a memorial for renowned cricket coach Ramakant Vitthal Achrekar at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Park. In the video of their meeting, Kambli appeared frail, raising concerns about his physical and emotional well-being. Speaking to ANI, Dr Vivek Dwivedi stated that Kambli had a high-grade fever when admitted. The doctor noted that while the former cricketer's vitals are stable, his treatment and physiotherapy are ongoing, and he is expected to be discharged in 2-3 days. "We admitted him on Saturday evening. He was experiencing muscle cramps and dizziness at home. He had a high-grade fever and difficulty walking due to the cramps. Upon investigation, we discovered he had a urine infection, as well as sodium and potassium deficiencies, which caused the cramps. A brain scan revealed old clots, likely from a recent stroke.

