

On Congress Attacks Over Manmohan Singh Funeral, JP Nadda's 'Super PM' Swipe



Agencies : In a significant escalation of the row over the choice of Dr Manmohan Singh's cremation site, senior Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra attacked the BJP-ruled government at the Centre and accused it of "insulting" the memory of the two-term Prime Minister and not thinking beyond "politics and narrow-mindedness". Leading a no-holds-barred counterattack, BJP president JP Nadda said the Congress and Rahul Gandhi were playing "cheap politics" in Mr Singh's name and accused the party of not doing justice to any leader who was not from the Nehru-Gandhi family. Dr Singh, who died at the age of 92 on Thursday, was cremated at the Nigambodh Ghat in Delhi with full state honours on Saturday. A day before the funeral, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge had written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and, citing Dr Singh's stature and his contributions to the country, requested that the last rites be conducted in a place where a memorial could also be built in his name. As the controversy over the memorial gathered steam, the Centre issued a release ahead of the funeral stating that Union Home Minister Amit Shah had said a place would be allocated for Dr Singh's memorial and the cremation should take place in the meantime.

Contribution to PM CARES Fund falls to Rs 912 crore in 2022-23

Agencies : The total voluntary contribution to the PM CARES Fund fell to Rs 912 crore in the fiscal year 2022-23, its lowest since the public charitable trust was created in March 2020 following the COVID-19 outbreak. A study of the audited statements on the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund website shows that the voluntary contribution peaked at Rs 7,184 crore in 2020-21 and then fell to Rs 1,938 crore in 2021-22, before declining further in 2022-23 as the Covid threat receded after 2021. The fiscal 2022-23 is the last year for which the statement is available on the website. Foreign contribution has seen a sharper decline.

All-Woman Team To Probe Anna University Rape, Survivor To Get Compensation

Agencies : The Madras High Court on Saturday directed constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the alleged sexual assault of a woman student in the Anna University campus here recently. All three members of the SIT will be women IPS officers. The court also directed the state government to pay the victim a compensation of Rs 25 lakh. A bench of Justice S M Subramaniam and Justice V Lakshminarayan gave the order while hearing a plea for transferring the probe into the matter to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The bench further said the survivor's studies should not be affected. Anna University should not charge any fees from her. The woman was sexually assaulted in the campus of the premier technical varsity recently, prompting widespread outrage from opposition parties and the civil society. One person has been arrested so far in connection with the incident.



Worker dies, another injured after being hit by actor's speeding car in Mumbai

Agencies : One worker was killed and another seriously injured after they were hit by Marathi actor Urmila Kothare's car in Kandivali area of Mumbai in the wee hours of Saturday, police said. The actor and her driver were also injured in the accident, an official said. The incident took place when Kothare was returning home after finishing her shoot, he said. "Kothare's car hit two labourers who were engaged in Metro rail work under the Poisar Metro station in Kandivali east shortly after midnight. While labourer died, another was seriously injured. The actor and her driver were also injured in the accident. But they were saved as the airbags opened at the right time," the official of the Samta Nagar police station said. As per the preliminary information, the driver lost control over the speeding vehicle, due to which it hit the victims working on roadside, he said.

Drone show to mark the opening and conclusion of Mahakumbh 2025

Agencies : Uttar Pradesh government is planning for a drone show, showcasing mythological tales linked to the Mahakumbh and Prayagraj during the Mahakumbh. The show will feature 2,000 drones and light up the skies over Sangam Nose, marking the grand opening and conclusion of the world-famous religious gathering. "A fleet of around 2,000 illuminated drones will bring to life the legendary tales of 'Prayag Mahatmyam' and the Mahakumbh. The spectacular show will depict iconic events like the mythical Samudra Manthan [ocean churning] and the emergence of the Amrit Kalash [nectar pot], creating a magical visual narrative in the evening skies," Aparajita Singh, district tourism officer, Prayagraj, said. The show will also highlight the religious and spiritual significance of Prayagraj, offering a unique experience.

Local TV journalist suffers bullet injury amid militant firing in Manipur

Agencies : A journalist with a local TV channel was injured Saturday as armed men, suspected to be Kuki militants, continued to attack Meitei villages in Imphal East district for the second day. The journalist, identified as Leimapokpam Kabichandra, was covering the firefight when he was hit by a bullet at around 7.30 am. The video journalist was rushed to a private hospital in Imphal with a bullet injury on his left thigh. Additional forces comprising state police and Central forces reached the scene and engaged in a gunbattle with the armed men who fired from the hillsides. The security forces then launched a joint search operation. However, there was no arrest report. Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh condemned the attack as cowardly and unprovoked. "Strongly condemn the indiscriminate firing by Kuki militants at Sanasabi and Thamnepokpi in Imphal East, which injured civilians and security personnel. This cowardly and unprovoked attack on innocent lives.

Massive search under way in Imphal East for armed men involved in recent incidents of shooting

Agencies : A massive search was started in Manipur's Imphal East district on Saturday evening for the armed men who were involved in the recent incidents of shooting at Thamnepokpi and Sanasabi, police said. Combined teams of police, Army, CRPF and BSF were conducting the search in Yaingangpokpi and the surrounding hill areas, they said. "The operations will continue till the area is clear of armed miscreants," they said in a statement. However, a team of security forces was stopped near Saibol village by tribal women and asked to go back. They had to return from there, officials said. Meanwhile, a huge cache of arms.



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Himachal News: Fire broke out in a house, 31-year-old youth burnt alive; Fire broke out late at night in Barghwar Panchayat of Kangra

Diary Times Desk : A young man was burnt alive in a house fire. But his burning was discovered only after the fire was extinguished. This tragic incident took place in ward number five of Panchayat Badghwar under police station Bhavarna. The police have registered a case and handed over the body to the family after conducting the post-mortem. According to the information, at around 11:45 pm on Friday night, Manju Bala of ward number 5 informed Pradhan Sonia Banta over the phone that a fire had broken out in the slate-roofed house adjacent to her house. After this, the Pradhan informed the police. After a lot of hard work, the fire was brought under control with the help of fire brigade personnel and local people. Bantu Kumar, one of the two brothers living inside the house, was outside the house before the fire broke out. He is a little mentally ill. When he made noise, the villagers gathered and started helping the police and administration in extinguishing the fire. But no one paid attention to the younger brother. Everyone was thinking that the younger brother must have also come out of the house after the fire broke out.



Himachal News: Jalori tunnel will be built from Bhargol to Shoja, two from Ani side, 5.5 km approach road will be built from Banjar

Diary Times Desk : The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has approved the final alignment of the Jalori Tunnel. The length of this tunnel to be built from Bhargol to Shoja will be 4.2 km (4,160 m). For this, a 2 km (2,124 m) approach road will be built from Ani and 5.5 km (5,476 m) from Banjar. While the distance from Jalori to Kullu will be reduced by 8 km due to the construction of the tunnel, the people of Ani and Nirmand subdivisions will remain connected to the district headquarters Kullu throughout the year. Public Works Department Minister Vikramaditya Singh had requested Union Minister Nitin Gadkari to expedite the completion of the Jalori Tunnel. The alignment that has been approved will not cause any harm to the Saroyulsar Lake, located at a distance of 6 km from the Jalori pass, situated at an altitude of 10,000 feet.

Himachal Shiv Mandir Demolish: Bulldozer ran on 60 year old temple, people protested

Diary Times Desk : As per the High Court order, a years old Shiv temple which was under encroachment in Kuthera (Ubak) area on Sujampur to Thural highway in Hamirpur district was demolished on Friday. This action was taken by the Public Works Department in the presence of administration and police after a complaint by a person. Along with the temple, the balcony of a person's house was also demolished. This balcony of the house was also coming under the scope of encroachment. As soon as the Public Works Department reached with the administration and police to demolish the temple, the villagers started protesting. The villagers came out on the road in protest against the demolition of the temple. They said that this temple is about 60 years old and is a symbol of faith of the people of the area. Earlier there were only idols here, but people had built this temple with mutual cooperation. The villagers even said that if the temple has been demolished then the entire area will be investigated and those who have done any construction on government land should also be removed. The villagers said that the temple should not be removed in this way. Before demolishing the temple associated with faith, the Public Works Department had taken the help of the Police Department to escape the situation. The Tehsildar also reached the spot to calm the anger of the villagers.

Govt insulted ex-PM Manmohan Singh by holding last rites at Nigambodh Ghat, not at dedicated place: Congress

Agencies : The Congress on Saturday accused the Centre of insulting Manmohan Singh, the country's first Sikh prime minister, by carrying out his last rites at the Nigambodh Ghat instead of a designated spot that could later become his memorial. The opposition party had written to the Centre for identifying a designated place for Singh's last rites, where a memorial could be set up for him. As politics over the matter erupted, the Centre said a decision to set up a memorial has already been taken and a trust would be formed to identify the place soon. Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi said the great son of Mother India and the first prime minister from the Sikh community has been "totally insulted" by the BJP-led Centre by performing his last rites at the Nigambodh Ghat on Saturday. He said Singh was the prime minister for 10 years, the country became an economic superpower during his tenure and his policies are still the support system for the poor and backward classes.

UP CM Yogi Adityanath pushes for cow-based natural farming to boost farmers' income

Agencies : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Saturday said that adopting cow-based natural farming can help farmers significantly enhance their incomes, saving them Rs 10,000 to Rs 12,000 per acre. In a recent event, the chief minister emphasised the benefits of cow-based natural farming and noted that if a majority of the state's farmers adopt natural farming, the cumulative savings would be enormous. "Cow-based farming goes beyond spiritual and cultural values. It offers multiple advantages, such as reduced agricultural costs, conservation and promotion of cattle, and long-term improvements in soil, water, and human health," Adityanath said. Notably, farming primarily relies on seeds and fertilisers, which are major expenses. Uttar Pradesh produces only about half of the seeds it requires, sourcing the rest from other states, especially from southern India, at a significant cost to the government. Regarding fertilisers, India spends a large amount of foreign currency on imports. According to the central government data, about 15 to 20 per cent of the most in-demand urea is still supplied through imports. For phosphatic fertilisers and potash, India remains heavily dependent on foreign imports. Being an agriculture-based country, India's demand often leads exporting nations to increase prices. Data shows that in 2023-2024, India imported urea worth Rs 2,127 crore, excluding other fertilisers. According to the experts, adopting cow-based natural farming could be a key and effective way to save valuable foreign currency for both the state and the nation. Given its agricultural traditions, Uttar Pradesh holds immense potential for this practice as the state 2.78 crore farmers and around 2 crore cattle. Cow Service Commission chairman Shyam Bihari Gupta said that if every farmer keeps just one cow, several issues could be resolved naturally.

Himachal Weather: Snowfall in many areas including Kufri, Narkanda and Dalhousie, 1500 vehicles stranded; wheat gets a new lease of life

Diary Times Desk : After two days of sunshine, snowfall has started again in Himachal. On Friday, snowfall occurred in many areas including Kufri, Narkanda and Dalhousie. Due to fresh rain and snowfall, 136 roads including three national highways in the state have again been blocked. Due to snowfall in Narkanda, the road connectivity of upper Shimla with the capital has been cut off again. Snowfall occurred in Mandali late in the evening. Due to snowfall in Solanganala and surrounding areas, Atal Tunnel Rohtang has been closed for traffic. Tourists have been banned from going beyond Solanganala. More than 1,500 vehicles are stuck between Solanganala and Palchan, the police is rescuing them. Due to snowfall, 65 transformers have stopped working, due to which there is no electricity in many areas. 18 water schemes have been affected again. Snowfall has started on the mountains of Shimla, Kullu, Kangra, Lahaul-Spiti, Kinnaur, Chamba and Sirmaur on Friday amid the weather department's warning of two days of heavy rain and snowfall. Snowfall is also occurring on the Dhauladhar hills in Dharamshala.



Himachal News: Sanwara toll on Kalka-Shimla NH sold for Rs 47 lakh, nine companies had filled online tenders



Diary Times Desk : The first Sanwara toll plaza of Kalka-Shimla National Highway-5 has been sold for Rs 47 lakh more than the previous time. Now the new company will start the work of toll collection from January 11. Till now, Ashima Road Carrier Company is collecting toll from Sanwara toll. After the completion of the last tender period, the auction was done again by the National Highway Authority Shimla. Now the toll plaza company has opened a bid of Rs 40.62 crore and the tender has been awarded to Ashish Agarwal Company. Nine companies participated in the tender. In this, the first two companies quoted higher rates. But only one company was selected. This company quoted the highest rates. Whereas last time Ashima Road Carrier Company had taken the tender for Sanwara toll plaza for Rs 40.15 crore. Now the formalities are being completed between the new company and NHA. Note that this highway is the most important. There is a lot of movement of tourists from here. In such a situation, the prices are increasing every time. However, now new companies have started filling the tender.

Flight Ticket Hike: Coming from Delhi to Dharamshala is cheap and going is expensive on New Year, know how much the fare is

Diary Times Desk : Coming to Dharamshala from Delhi on New Year is cheaper, while going to Delhi is expensive. When a passenger flies from Delhi on March 31, he will have to pay a fare ranging from Rs 3,380 to Rs 6,449. But, on return from Dharamshala on January 1, he will have to pay Rs 15 to 25 thousand as air fare. Passengers will have to pay this huge air fare on January 1 and 2, while after this the passengers will be charged the fare as usual. According to the information, on January 27, on the air ticket booking site, two flights each of Spice Jet and Indigo will arrive from Delhi to Dharamshala on January 31. During this time, passengers will be charged Rs 3,380 to Rs 6,449 as air fare. While on return on January 1, two flights will be available to go to Delhi. In these flights available for Delhi on January 1, the airfare from Dharamshala to Delhi is being shown as Rs 12,534 to Rs 15,332. There will be two flights from Delhi to Dharamshala, the fares for these will range from Rs 3,785 to Rs 5,243. The airfare from Delhi to Dharamshala on January 2 is Rs 4,961 to Rs 7,169. The fare from Dharamshala to Delhi on January 2 is Rs 12,534 to Rs 25,204. Due to the short runway, some seats in the plane taking off from Dharamshala are kept empty so that the plane can take off successfully.

HP Rajya Chayan Aayog: Job opportunity in Himachal Pradesh in the new year; 1423 posts will be filled in 80 post codes

Diary Times Desk : The youth who have been waiting for government recruitments for two years are hopeful of new employment in the new year. The results of most of the examinations that were under investigation due to the paper leak case have been declared. Only five examinations are left, for which a decision is yet to be taken at the government level. Now new recruitment examinations are expected to start soon through the single window system. At the same time, the recruitment process for 1,423 posts under 80 post codes is also expected to move forward in the new year. This will be a big relief for thousands of youth of the state who have been waiting for recruitments for two years. The state government is also preparing to give at least two years relaxation in the maximum age limit to the eligible candidates for the recruitments advertised during the period.

Manmohan Singh: When Dhumal went to meet Manmohan Singh, Manmohan himself opened the door of PMO office, former CM shared memories

Diary Times Desk : The biggest surprise of my life was that when the door of the room opened, Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh himself was standing in front of me. He made me sit with great love and said Prem Ji, my party has lost, but I am happy that you have become the Chief Minister. Former Chief Minister Prem Kumar Dhumal recalled his memories with former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in this way. Dhumal said that when he became the Chief Minister for the second time in 2007, he went to Delhi after taking oath. On 31 December, when he asked for time to meet the Prime Minister, the PMO office informed that only 2-3 minutes of time is available. When he reached the Prime Minister's office to meet him, he himself opened the door and made him sit with respect. Various topics were discussed for a long time.

Himachal Weather: Long traffic jam in Solanganala, vehicles kept crawling in Manali; Know what will be the weather on New Year

Diary Times Desk : After snowfall, the fun in the snow proved costly for the tourists. There is a long jam in Solanganala and Palchan area since Friday evening. Police conducted a rescue operation for 12 hours at night and brought about two thousand vehicles safely to Manali, but on Saturday tourists rushed to Solanganala in four by four vehicles. Due to which there was a jam again. According to Meteorological Center Shimla, heavy snowfall and rain can occur in many areas of the state on Saturday as well. Orange alert has been issued for thunderstorm, lightning and cold wave in lower and middle areas. There is a yellow alert on 29th and again an orange alert for cold wave on 30th. There will be fog in Mandi and Bilaspur on 29th and 30th December. On January 1, the weather will be clear in the plains and middle mountain areas. There are chances of rain and snowfall only in one or two high mountain areas. National Highway 503 from Mubarakpur to Ranital has been obstructed due to the fall of a mango tree. The movement of vehicles on the highway has been completely closed for about an hour.

Himachal Snowfall: Tourists flocked to Himachal to see snowfall, highways jammed due to increase in number of vehicles

Diary Times Desk : After the fresh snowfall, the number of tourists has suddenly increased in Himachal. Thousands of tourists have come to Shimla and Manali to enjoy the thrill of snowfall. On the weekend, the occupancy in Shimla, Dalhousie and Kasauli has reached 90 percent, while in Manali it has reached 80 percent. On Friday, due to the increasing crowd of tourist vehicles, there was a jam on the Kalka-Shimla highway. Many tourist vehicles got stuck amid snowfall in Shimla and Manali. Tourist vehicles started reaching Shimla from Friday morning itself. After the city parking got packed in the afternoon, there was a jam situation on the city roads. In Manali too, a large number of tourist vehicles continued to reach throughout the day. After the snowfall started, the occupancy in Dalhousie, a tourist destination in Chamba, has reached 90 percent.

Shimla News: Water again entered the stalls decorated on the Ridge, the mayor reached the spot; demand for reduction of rent

Diary Times Desk : Rainwater again entered the stalls set up for the Winter Carnival at the historic Ridge Ground of the capital. This damaged the goods of many shopkeepers. After the complaint, Mayor Surendra Chauhan himself reached the spot on Saturday afternoon and heard the complaints of the shopkeepers. The shopkeepers showed the water that had entered the shops to the mayor and said that a lot of their goods had been damaged. Due to the rain, the entire place is becoming a pond, due to which the business has also come to a standstill. Here the businessmen of the city and women of the self-help group have set up stalls. The shopkeepers demanded from the mayor that the rent of the stalls be reduced. After the complaints of the shopkeepers, the mayor immediately called the corporation team to the spot and got the water cleaned. However, due to rain, water accumulated again in the premises. Businessman Gaurav Nagpal said that about one lakh rupees have been spent on setting up the stalls here.

Sexual assault case in U.P's Auraiya: Father, grandpa, uncle face DNA test

Agencies : Following the arrest of a grandfather, father, and uncle in Auraiya for the alleged sexual assault of a 14-year-old girl, police have initiated DNA testing to determine paternity regarding the victim's pregnancy. The girl, currently two months pregnant, reported her ongoing abuse to the police after confiding in a relative. She underwent a medical examination at the district hospital on Saturday, where her statement was recorded regarding the harassment and abuse she endured for several months. Following her escape from home, she has been placed under protective custody at her aunt's residence.

Additional superintendent of police, Auraiya, Alok Mishra confirmed that blood samples from all three accused—grandfather, 70, father, 45, and uncle, 27, have been collected for DNA analysis. This step is crucial as the victim has named them as her assailants, and authorities aim to identify which individual is responsible for the pregnancy.

Major power outage in Kashmir after snowfall, restoration expected by evening: Omar Abdullah

Agencies : Kashmir valley is grappling with widespread power outages since heavy snowfall disrupted services last night, leaving many areas in darkness. Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, who also holds the portfolio of PDD, has said that he is monitoring the situation. In a post on X, Abdullah said: "In Kashmir region, 41 feeders at 33 KV level and 739 feeders at 11kv level are down. None at 132kv or 220 level. Restoration work is underway and more than 90% feeders are expected to be up and functional by evening today. I'm in regular touch with the PDD team to monitor the situation."

Akasa Air Pilots Training Officials Suspended by DGCA Over Violations

Agencies : The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has suspended two key executives at Akasa Air (QP) for six months following significant pilot training violations discovered during a regulatory audit. The suspension affects both the director of operations and the director of training, requiring immediate replacement of these positions at the airline. The regulatory action stems from Akasa Air's failure to maintain compliance.

'Deceptive politics': BJP slams Rahul Gandhi over X post on Manmohan Singh



Agencies : The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Saturday hit back at Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for "politicising former prime minister Manmohan Singh's death". "The kind of deceptive politics Congress has engaged in, especially Rahul Gandhi, is unfortunate. Just an hour ago, Rahul Gandhi tweeted accusing the BJP of disrespecting former PM Manmohan Singh by conducting his last rites at Nigam Bodh Ghat. On a day of mourning, I believe Congress should have refrained from this kind of politics," said BJP MP Sambit Patra. This comes hours after Rahul Gandhi, who is also the LoP in the Lok Sabha, slammed the Modi government for the manner in which the last rites of former prime minister Manmohan Singh were performed. In an X post, Gandhi, who often addresses the former PM as his 'mentor' expressed his discontent over the decision to perform Manmohan Singh's final rites at Nigambodh Ghat, a public cremation ground in north Delhi.

Lt Governor Orders Probe Into AAP's Schemes, Arvind Kejriwal Poses Question

Agencies : Delhi Lt Governor VK Saxena today ordered investigations into allegations concerning the Aam Aadmi Party's schemes ahead of the assembly elections scheduled for next year. The Lt Governor's office has issued separate directives to the Delhi Chief Secretary and Commissioner of Police, based on complaints raised by Congress leader Sandeep Dikshit. AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal termed the allegations against his party as "fake" and posed a question: "What will they investigate?" The allegations include claims about fraudulent collection of personal data under the guise of AAP's Mahila Samman Yojana.

Sandhya 70mm victim's husband to withdraw case against Allu Arjun; Cops say not possible

Agencies : The unfortunate stampede that took place during Pushpa 2's premiere at the Sandhya 70mm theater on December 4 had resulted in the tragic death of a 35-year-old woman named Revathi, while her 13-year-old son Sritej, a die-hard fan of Allu Arjun, continues to battle for his life. The Chikkadpally Police had earlier arrested Pushpa 2 star Allu Arjun, Sandhya 70mm management, and Allu Arjun's bouncers based on the complaint filed by Revathi's husband Bhaskar. The actor, who spent a night.

Army evacuates tourists stranded in Gulmarg amid heavy snowfall

Agencies : The Chinar Warriors of the Indian Army responded to a distress call from the civil administration to evacuate tourists stranded in Gulmarg district of the territory, the Chinar Corps said on Saturday. The tourists and civilians were stranded due to unprecedented heavy snowfall in Gulmarg and the subsequent closure of the road to Tanmarg. The army personnel evacuated 68 civilians, comprising 30 men and women each and eight children, and provided meals, shelter and medication to 137 tourists. In another incident, the Chinar Corps evacuated a pregnant woman from Kulgam district amid the heavy snowfall. The rescue team provided immediate medical assistance and shifted the woman from Munad village to the Government Hospital in Yaripora. On Friday, chief minister Omar Abdullah said that around 2,000 vehicles were stuck at Qazigund in Anantnag district following the valley's first snowfall of the season.

BRS Leader KTR Summioned By Probe Agency In Formula E Racing Case

Agencies : The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has summoned BRS leader and former Telangana minister KT Rama Rao in connection with alleged financial irregularities linked to the Formula E race held in Hyderabad in February 2023. Senior IAS officer Arvind Kumar and former Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) chief engineer BLN Reddy have also been summoned in the same case. KTR has been summoned on January 7, while Mr Kumar and Mr Reddy are scheduled for questioning on January 2 and 3.

Supreme Court sets December 31 deadline for Punjab govt to persuade Jagjit Singh Dallewal to end fast

Agencies : The Supreme Court on Saturday ordered the Punjab government to persuade farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal to shift to a hospital by December 31. A vacation bench of Justices Surya Kant and Sudhanshu Dhulia pulled up the AAP-led government for allowing the situation to escalate. Jagjit Singh Dallewal has been on an indefinite fast at the Khanauri border since November 26 to press the Centre to accept farmers' demands, including a legal guarantee of minimum support prices for crops. The Punjab government expressed helplessness today before the bench, claiming it has faced huge resistance from protesting farmers. It said the farmers had encircled Dallewal, preventing the authorities from taking him to a hospital. Punjab advocate general Gurminder Singh told the bench that a team of experts visited the protest site and tried to persuade Dallewal to shift to the hospital and get medical help but he refused.



Bodycam Footage Shows New York Prisoner Beaten By Officers Before Death

Agencies : A bodycam footage released on Friday shows the correctional officers at a New York prison facility beating a handcuffed inmate, who died the following day. Robert Brooks, 43, was declared dead at a hospital on December 10, a day after the incident at the Marcy Correctional Facility in New York. New York Attorney General Letitia James, who is currently investigating the case, made the December 9 body camera footage public on Friday. After an internal review, New York Governor Kathy Hochul ordered the firing of 13 officers and a prison nurse for their alleged involvement in the assault, BBC reported. Hochul noted she was "outraged and horrified" by the videos of Brooks' "senseless killing". Letitia James' office has opened an investigation, while the union representing state prison workers has termed the footage as "incomprehensible".

Donald Trump says only he can 'save' TikTok from a ban

Agencies : One of the world's most popular apps — TikTok — faces an imminent ban in the US, unless it manages to divest its business. TikTok has found a vociferous supporter in none other than US president-elect Donald Trump. In an amicus brief filed to the Supreme Court, Trump made strong arguments on why he remains the only hope for the social media platform. "President Trump opposes banning TikTok in the United States at this juncture, and seeks the ability to resolve the issues at hand through political means once he takes office," Trump's lawyers told the Supreme Court. In the brief filed, Trump's lawyers mention that "President Trump alone possesses the consummate dealmaking expertise, the electoral mandate, and the political will to negotiate a resolution to save the platform while addressing the national security concerns expressed by the Government." Trump further argued in the brief that he currently has 14.7 million followers on TikTok with whom he actively communicates. This allows him "to evaluate TikTok's importance as a unique medium for freedom of expression, including core political speech."

Days After Azerbaijan Plane Crashed In Russian Airspace, Putin's Apology



Agencies : Russia's Vladimir Putin on Saturday apologised to Ilham Aliyev, the president of Azerbaijan, for a "tragic incident" which happened in Russian airspace involving an Azerbaijan Airlines passenger plane that crashed on Wednesday. Flight J2-8243 crashed on Wednesday in a ball of fire near the city of Aktau in Kazakhstan after diverting from southern Russia where Ukrainian drones were reported to be attacking several cities. At least 38 people were killed while 29 survived. "(President) Vladimir Putin apologised for the tragic incident that occurred in Russian airspace and once again expressed his deep and sincere condolences to the families of the victims and wished a speedy recovery to the injured," the Kremlin said in a statement. "It was noted in the conversation that the Azerbaijani passenger aircraft, which was travelling according to its schedule, repeatedly tried to land at Grozny airport. At that time, Grozny, Mozdok and Vladikavkaz were being attacked by Ukrainian unmanned aerial vehicles, and Russian air defense systems repelled these attacks," the Kremlin said.

"F**k Yourself": Elon Musk's Reply To MAGA Supporter As H-1B Visa Debate Intensifies

Agencies : Elon Musk has given his not-so-polite verdict amid the ongoing online debate surrounding H-1B visa and immigration reform. In a fiery exchange with an alleged Donald Trump supporter, the Tesla boss dropped the 'F-word' as the conversation around the immigration policy continues to divide the GOP lawmakers and Republican voters. The billionaire was responding to a clip of him shared on X (formerly Twitter), where he discussed the limits of education with the upshot being that one should not "optimise something that shouldn't exist". However, after a user named Steve Mackey used Mr Musk's words to push the anti-H-1B rhetoric.

Slovakia Threatens Ukraine With Power Cuts if Gas Flows Halt

Agencies : Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico threatened to cut off back up power supplies to Ukraine if Kyiv stops transporting Russian gas to Central Europe. "After January 1, we will assess the situation and potential reciprocal measures against Ukraine," Fico said in a video posted on Facebook on Friday evening. "If necessary, we will stop supplying electricity that Ukraine urgently needs during network outages." Russian gas that flows through Ukraine to Europe will halt at the end of the year when the current deal expires if an alternative can't be found. Slovakia is one of the biggest remaining buyers and has been cranking up the pressure on Ukraine to find a solution. Fico threatened to retaliate if Volodymyr Zelenskiy doesn't give him what he wants and the comments on Friday are his strongest warning yet.

2 Security Personnel Killed, 11 Injured In Anti-Terror Operation In Pak

Agencies : Two security personnel were killed and 11 others injured during an anti-terror operation in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, police said. The operation took place at Mulla Said Banda area of Bajaur district on Friday. Two security personnel died and 11 others, including an officer of Major rank, were injured in the clashes with terrorists, the police said here have been casualties amongst the militants also, however, the exact toll is not immediately known, security officials said.

Homelessness In US Hits New Record, 23 In Every 10,000 Without A Home: Report

Agencies : The number of people in the United States experiencing homelessness reached a new record this year, with lingering inflation and high housing prices among likely drivers, a government report said Friday. An estimated 771,480 people were homeless on a single night in January 2024, rising 18 percent from 2023, said the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in an annual assessment. This translates to about 23 in every 10,000 people in the country, home to the world's biggest economy. The uptick came as households felt the pressure from housing costs, with the median rent for January 2024 being 20 percent higher than that in January 2021.

China's dual power play: A 6th-gen fighter jet, world's 'largest' dam near India

Agencies : On the 131st birth anniversary (December 26) of Mao Zedong, hailed as the 'Father of Modern China' for his role in leading the Red Army during the Chinese Civil War, Beijing made two mega announcements underlining its strategic ambitions, with serious potential impacts for India. First, the much-sSpeculated sixth-generation fighter jet was unveiled, signalling China's huge leap in military capabilities and air dominance, and heightening pressures on India to quickly modernise and beef up its air prowess. With tensions already high along the Line of Actual Control (LAC), the jet could widen the strategic gap between the two nations. Second, China announced plans for a \$137 billion dam on the Brahmaputra river near the Indian border. The dam, touted as the world's largest, raises serious water-security concerns for India. The Brahmaputra is the lifeline of millions in northeastern India, and unilateral control of its waters by China could give it the upper hand during times of conflict. The dam poses environmental and seismic risks as well since it will come up in an ecologically sensitive region.



Shift farmer leader Dallewal to hospital or face contempt: Supreme Court tells Punjab Chief Secy, DGP



Agencies : The Supreme Court on Saturday warned Punjab Chief Secretary KAP Sinha and Director-General of Police Gaurav Yadav that it would frame charges of contempt of court against them if its order on shifting farmers' leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal to a hospital was not complied with. "It's a contempt case and the next step is known. Why shouldn't there be charges against the Chief Secretary and the DGP? Why should charges be not framed? This is the logical flow of a contempt matter," a Vacation Bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia told the two senior officers who were virtually present during the hearing. Dallewal has been on a fast-unto-death at the Khanauri border point between Punjab and Haryana since November 26 to press for the acceptance of farmers' demands. Punjab Advocate General Gurminder Singh told the Bench that "Mr Dallewal is refusing hospital and the farmers present there also are not allowing it... There is a risk that there may be collateral damage of life and property on both sides—farmers and the police, if he is taken to hospital."

Mercury dips as hail lashes city, more rain likely today

Agencies : Intermittent rain led to a drop of more than 8 degrees in the maximum temperature today. Many parts of the city, including Sectors 22 and 36, turned white with hail in the evening. The Chandigarh Meteorological Department recorded 12.3 mm rainfall till 8.30 pm. On December 23, the city received 3.1mm rainfall, which brought down the maximum temperature by 9.5 degrees. The city experienced first winter rainfall on December 8. The department has predicted rain tomorrow as well. "Partly cloudy sky with thundery development or rain on December 28 and mainly clear sky with dense fog is likely on December 29," stated the department today. Sky will be mainly clear from December 30 to January 1 over the tricity. According to the department, the maximum temperature in the city was recorded at 15.9° Celsius, which was 3.9 degrees below normal. The average maximum temperature in the city dropped by 8.2 degrees compared to 24.1° Celsius yesterday.

Mining mafia assault raiding team at Punhana village

Agencies : While the state authorities continue to turn a blind eye to illegal mining in the Aravallis, a team of mining officials was attacked allegedly by mining mafia who even managed to take away an impounded JCB. The incident was reported at Hathan Gaon village in Punhana, where a team led by mining officer Shah Alam had gone for a raid. According to the police, the team had rushed to the spot after receiving a tip-off about ongoing illegal mining. "The miners got a whiff of it and came down the hill and parked their JCB outside a house in the village. The team followed them and impounded the machine. It was then that over a dozen men and women came out of their houses and attacked the officials. The accused fled with the JCB. We have registered an FIR and raids are on to nab the accused," said Jasvir Singh, SHO of Bichhore police station. The police, who have named 12 people in the FIR, including women.

Punjab farmers call for 'Kisan Mahapanchayat' on January 4

Agencies : Farmers, on a warpath against the Centre, on Saturday called for a "Kisan Mahapanchayat" at the Khanauri protest site on January 4. Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha had earlier given a call for a Punjab bandh on December 30. The steps come amid the Supreme Court coming down heavily on the Punjab government for not shifting farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal, who has been fasting for over a month, to a hospital. SKM (Non-political) leader Kaka Singh Kotra, said the 70-year-old has been on an indefinite hunger strike, which entered its 33rd day on Saturday. "On January 4 at Khanauri, we will hold a big Kisan Mahapanchayat in which farmers from various states will participate," Kotra told reporters at Khanauri protest site.

2 held for recent grenade attack on Islamabad police station in Amritsar

Agencies : The State Special Operation Cell (SSOC) has arrested two persons for allegedly carrying out a grenade attack at Islamabad police station in Amritsar, officials said on Saturday. The attack was carried out in the early hours of December 17, though no one was injured in the incident. "Gurjeet Singh from Dande in Amritsar and Baljit Singh from Chhapa in Tarn Taran have been arrested. The arrested persons carried out a grenade attack on Islamabad Police Station on December 17, 2024," Punjab Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said in a post on X. The DGP added they were part of trans border narco-terror module being operated by controllers from abroad.

Potato farmers in Doaba enjoy a profitable season

Agencies : Having sold and emptied all old stocks in the stores and getting Rs 900 to Rs 1200 for each sack weighing 50 kg, the potato farmers of Doaba region have had a good season so far. The farmers have said that the early varieties of the crop including Kufri Pukhraj were fetching them a remunerative price and that the growth of other varieties currently sown in the fields, including 302, was reasonably good this time. Potato king of the region Jang Bahadur S Sangha said, "We have been very fortunate as the weather has been very favourable. It remained sunny and there has been no frost. Varieties like Kufri Uday have been fetching Rs 850 to Rs 1,050 for 50 kg which is a good price." Harjaap S Sangha, a prominent potato farmer of the region, said, "Our previous potato stocks in stores got emptied in October.

Toxic kilns polluting Aravallis; wildlife and locals suffer

Agencies : While illegal mining in the Aravallis is a significant concern, the region has now become a hub for illegal scrap kilns. Along the Rajasthan-Haryana border, over a dozen portable kilns operate in the open, burning vehicle scrap, especially rubber tyres, to create flattened sheets for brick kiln owners. The brick kilns use these sheets as a fuel. These kilns emit toxic fumes, leading to severe health issues among locals and displacing wildlife from the area. The problem is most pronounced in Tauru block, near villages like Nurpur. While talking to The Tribune, villagers expressed frustration at the inaction of authorities despite repeated complaints. "These men operate atop the hills where vegetation is thickest. They bring vehicle scrap from across the NCR and burn it here illegally. When we approach Haryana authorities, they claim it's Rajasthan's responsibility and vice-versa. Neither the pollution department nor forest authorities have taken any action. This mafia is dangerous, and we are now too scared to confront them," said a panchayat member from Nurpur.

Key accused held in blackbuck poaching, protests intensify

Agencies : The arrest of Mohammad Salam, the key accused in the blackbuck poaching case, has brought some relief to the ongoing protests led by animal lovers and the Akhil Bharat Jeev Raksha Bishnoi Sabha in Jandwala Bishnoian village. Despite the arrest, the Sabha has vowed to continue its agitation until all individuals involved in this and other poaching cases are apprehended. For the past four days, the Sabha had warned of staging a mourning assembly outside the Superintendent of Police's office if no action was taken. Responding to the pressure, police teams acted swiftly and arrested Salam, a resident of 8LLLW Hanumangarh, Rajasthan. Superintendent of Police Siddhant Jain said the arrest was made possible through a special team formed under the leadership of DSPs Sandeep Dhanakhar (Kalanwali) and Kapil Ahlawat. The team included officers from the CIA, Anti-Narcotics Cell, Cyber Cell and various district police stations. "The investigation is ongoing, and we are interrogating the accused to identify others involved and recover the weapons used in the crime," Jain said. Meanwhile, the Bishnoi Sabha.

Long-term lease of tourism units to outsiders opposed

Diary Times Desk : Local beneficiaries of the tourism industry are concerned over a growing trend of giving long-term property leases to people from other states, which defies the purpose of the HP Land Reforms and Tenancy Act designed to protect the state's land and people. Many businessmen from other states have taken tourism units on lease in the suburbs of Manali, Parbati valley and Banjar areas. Aditya, a tourism entrepreneur of the Banjar valley, says that while tourist hubs like Manali and Kasol have long been impacted, emerging destinations such as the Tirthan valley, Jibhi, Shoja and Bahu are now being overtaken. Locals fear that without the intervention of the government, these pristine areas will soon lose their cultural identity and environmental integrity. Tourism beneficiary Chandan says that outsiders are increasingly taking properties on lease for extended periods, effectively exploiting the law. He alleges, "Many of these agreements are unregistered and lack proper documentation, thus allowing lessees to conduct commercial activities unchecked."

For possessing 6,000 tablets, 2 get 15-yr RI



Diary Times Desk : District and Sessions Judge Arvind Malhotra today sentenced two youths to 15-year rigorous imprisonment and imposed a fine of Rs 1.5 lakh each for possessing 6,000 sedative tablets of Lomotil. The youths, Safi Mohhamed and Pankaj Kumar, are residents of Baddi. Sanjay Pandit, District Attorney, said that a police team headed by Inspector Mohinder Singh of the Special Investigation Unit had received information on March 7, 2022 that the duo was selling intoxicating tablets in a utility vehicle near a cow shelter at Bhud barrier. As many as 6,000 Lomotil tablets were seized during the search of the vehicle. The tablets contained diphenoxylate salt which falls under the NDPS Act and have a sedative impact. Lomotil is used for acute diarrhoea but is often misused as a sedative.

Heavy snowfall in Solang Nala on Manali-Leh highway traps over 5,000 tourists



Diary Times Desk : Heavy snowfall in Lahaul valley and Manali region on Friday caused a major disruption on the Manali-Leh highway, as around 1,200 vehicles, including tourist cars and buses, got stuck in Solang Nala of Kullu district. According to local police reports, approximately over 5,000 tourists were among the stranded travellers. The snowstorm, which began early in the morning, caused an abrupt halt to traffic movement, leaving vehicles trapped in the region's steep and treacherous terrains. The authorities swiftly began rescue operations, deploying teams from the Kullu Police department to help the travellers. The rescue operation focused on ensuring the safety of the tourists and other passengers who had been stuck for several hours in the region. Police officials confirmed that all stranded vehicles were safely evacuated, and the travellers were transported to a secure location in Manali, away from the snow-hit areas last night.

Middleman held in connection with bribery case involving ED officer:

CBI

Diary Times Desk : The CBI arrested an alleged middleman on Saturday in connection with a bribery case, in which an assistant director of the ED is under the scanner, officials said. The officer managed to give a slip to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) during a trap operation on Sunday (December 22) and is yet to join the investigation, while his brother has been arrested by the federal agency, the officials added. The CBI arrested "middleman" Neeraj on Saturday and produced him before a special court that sent him to the agency's custody for a day, they said. The assistant director of the Enforcement Directorate (ED) posted at Shimla and his brother, a senior manager in the Punjab National Bank in Delhi, had allegedly gone to a location near Chandigarh to receive bribe money from a businessman, who is facing a case lodged under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), the officials said. The businessman filed a complaint with the CBI about alleged extortion, based on which the Chandigarh unit of the agency planned the trap operation where the complainant was asked to give a bribe of Rs 55 lakh in cash to the officer.

Higher reaches receive snowfall, more forecast for next two days

Diary Times Desk : The state received another spell of snowfall and rainfall today. While it snowed intermittently at higher altitudes in Shimla, Kinnaur, Kullu, Mandi and Lahaul and Spiti districts since afternoon, several areas in the low and mid hills received light rainfall. The maximum temperatures dropped considerably at several places over the past 24 hours across the state. As per the weather department, light to moderate rainfall/snowfall is likely at many places in Shimla, Kullu and Mandi districts until December 29. In Kinnaur and Lahaul and Spiti districts, many places are likely to receive light to moderate snowfall, along with a few spells of heavy snowfall. While Shimla saw intermittent light drizzle throughout the day, some places like Narkanda and Kharapathar in upper Shimla received light snowfall in the afternoon. The Chandigarh-Shimla National Highway-5 is blocked at Narkanda and traffic has been diverted to the Luhri-Sunni road. At Narkanda, an HRTC bus skidded and hit a pick-up truck parked along the road. Meanwhile, Mandi, Kullu and Lahaul-Spiti districts recorded substantial snowfall at higher altitudes.

Renukaji dam project promises economic growth to HP, water security to Delhi

Diary Times Desk : The ambitious Renukaji Dam project, envisioned on the Giri river 48 years ago, is poised to emerge as a game-changer, transcending decades of delays. This landmark initiative promises to resolve Delhi's chronic water shortage while promising sustainable power generation to Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. In addition to its functional benefits, the dam exemplifies the rare synergy in federal cooperation and political resolve. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone of this Rs 6,946 crore project on December 27, 2021. With 95 per cent of procedural hurdles already cleared, global tenders will be floated for the project soon. The project cost, factoring a 5 per cent annual escalation, has surged to Rs 8,262 crore. The project is expected to be completed by 2030 and operations to commence in 2032. The project's progress is critical for Delhi and other areas. Originally slated to showcase progress before the Assembly elections in Delhi next year, procedural delays have pushed the construction timeline by five or six months. However, intervention by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) can help expedite design approvals and issuance of tenders. Both BJP and AAP aim to leverage the dam's progress as an electoral trump card in the national capital.



Nitish Kumar Reddy Rewarded With Massive Cash Prize From Andhra Cricket Association

Agencies : The Andhra Cricket Association (ACA) on Saturday announced a cash award of Rs 25 lakh for young Nitish Reddy, acknowledging his maiden Test century effort, which was crucial to India's fightback in the Boxing Day Test in Melbourne. The 21-year-old Reddy scored a resilient unbeaten 105 to steer India to 358 for nine on the third day of the fourth Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground. "It is a fortunate day and a happiest moment for the Andhra Cricket Association. We are very happy that a boy from Andhra has been picked for the Test format and international T20 format. As an honour, on behalf of the Andhra Cricket Association, Rs 25 lakh prize money is being given to Nitish Kumar Reddy," (ACA) President Kesineni Sivanath said. Reddy, who has been a standout performer in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, showed his grit again in the fourth Test, sharing a crucial 127-run partnership with Washington Sundar (50 off 162 balls). Reddy's remarkable innings was praised by cricketing legends with Sunil Gavaskar describing it as one of the greatest Test knocks in India's Test history.



'I'm Out': Disqualified From Chess Event For Wearing Jeans, World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen's F-Word Rant

Agencies : Chess World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen endured an ugly exit from the World Rapid Chess Championship in New York City, as he was disqualified by FIDE for not following the required dress code for the tournament. Carlsen had shown up in jeans, which was not part of the dress code, and after refusing to change immediately, Carlsen was disqualified for "repeated violations". In an interview after the disqualification, Carlsen let his displeasure be known, even going on an expletive-filled rant regarding the rule and the principle. In an interview with Take Take Take, Carlsen's displeasure was quite evident. "I had a good sleep, I had a nice lunch, but I barely had time to go to my room and change my clothes. I did not even change my shoes, honestly I did not even think about the jeans," Carlsen said. Carlsen stated that he had been asked to change after the third round, and was handed an initial USD 200 fine, but his request to change the next day had been denied. That's when he was disqualified. "At that point, it became a matter of principle for me," Carlsen said.

'Stupid, stupid, stupid' - Gavaskar criticises Pant's shot selection

Agencies : Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar has criticised Rishabh Pant's unorthodox shot, which led to his dismissal on the third morning of the MCG Test between Australia and India. Pant looked fluent as he got to 28 off 37 balls after Ravindra Jadeja and he resumed India's reply from the overnight 164 for 5, and the two of them had nearly seen through the first hour of play. That's when Pant attempted a scoop from outside off to the leg side off Scott Boland, but handed a straightforward catch to deep third off the leading edge. "I think earlier on, when there had been no fielders around, that's when he's attempted these shots, that is understandable because you're taking a very good chance," Gavaskar said on Star Sports during the lunch break. "That [the shot] was supposed to go to the leg side, that went to the off side, it actually tells you maybe [there was] a little bit of bad luck involved, but terrible selection of a shot to play at that particular point with two fielders down at deep square-leg and deep point." Pant had tried an identical shot on the previous ball too, in the 56th over, off Boland, but had inside-edged it on to his body as he lost his balance. He connected only slightly better the next ball, hit the ground again, but holed out to Nathan Lyon.

'Rohit Sharma is finished': India captain told to 'retire', hand over leadership to Bumrah as fans lose patience

Agencies : Rohit Sharma's return as an opener did not bear the desired result at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) as the right-handed batter once again registered a single-digit score in the series. Rohit, 37, lasted just five balls in the first innings of the fourth Test against Australia and departed after scoring just 3 runs. The Indian captain has come under severe scrutiny and criticism for his below-par returns in Tests. As expected, netizens are not pleased with Rohit's performance, and his latest dismissal has sparked a plethora of reactions on social media. In his last 14 innings, Rohit Sharma has managed just 152 runs. After missing the Border-Gavaskar Trophy opener in Perth, Rohit has registered scores of 3,6,10 and 3. In the absence of Rohit, Jasprit Bumrah led India in the first Test, which the visitors won by 295 runs. Rohit Sharma's lack of runs and his captaincy are both being questioned. In the Melbourne Test, the management went in with three all-rounders (Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, and Nitish Kumar Reddy).



Short TAKES

Jacob Duffy the slayer as Sri Lanka suffer horror collapse

Agencies : It was a heist for the ages in Mount Maunganui as New Zealand secured an eight-run win in the first T20, and with it took a 1-0 lead in the three-match series. But more importantly it was a lesson in fight from the hosts, one the visitors would do well to take note of. For much of the game it had looked Sri Lanka's to lose. The first instance was when New Zealand were reeling on 65 for 5 midway through their innings, and the second when Sri Lanka were cruising after a 121-run opening stand needing just 52 off 40 deliveries. On both occasions New Zealand fought back, and hard - initially through a 105-run stand between Daryl Mitchell and Michael Bracewell to post a competitive 172 for 8, and then finally through a late strangle that saw Sri Lanka lose eight wickets for 38 runs after being in total control of proceedings. Jacob Duffy was at the heart of the collapse with a three-wicket 14th over, as he set the wheels in motion for a sterling New Zealand comeback - which also earned him the player of the match award. Sri Lanka though will be at a loss for words in attempting to explain how they let this game slip.

Jasprit Bumrah says he could've dismissed Konstas '6-7 times' in first two overs: 'I've played T20s for past 12 years'

Agencies : Jasprit Bumrah has opened up about his encounter with Australian debutant Sam Konstas on Day 1 of the ongoing Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG), revealing that the 19-year-old's unorthodox style didn't faze him. Konstas, who took on Bumrah's pace attack aggressively, struck the Indian pacer for two sixes in the opening hours of the match, despite struggling initially. Bumrah, speaking to the host broadcaster on Day 3, shared his experience facing the debutant, acknowledging that his style was not unfamiliar to him due to his extensive T20 career. "I have experienced heaps of it. I have played T20s for the last 12 years of my life. Interesting batsman," Bumrah said, reflecting on his encounters with aggressive hitters in the shortest format. "I always felt that I was in the game, I never felt that I was far away from taking his wicket, maybe even 6-7 times.