

BIHAR NEWS

IN BIHAR ASSEMBLY, 'MY FATHER VS YOUR FATHER' SHOWDOWN BETWEEN 2 LEADERS

Diary Times Desk : Bihar assembly saw a sharp exchange between Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary and Leader of the Opposition, Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Tejashwi Yadav today, that speedily dropped to the level of pointing fingers at each other's fathers. While Mr Yadav alluded to the language used by the Deputy Chief Minister's father at rallies, the former retaliated with, 'Your father robbed the state... He sent me to jail'.

While talking about the government led by his father Lalu Yadav and how much better it was in comparison to the current one, Tejashwi Yadav veered towards the Deputy Chief Minister, citing his and his father's takedowns on Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, who is now his boss. The government is a wreck, the system is useless, the Chief Minister is tired and defeated and the common man is wandering around helpless... Even if this government stays on for 40 years, it will keep making the same allegations as before 2005," he said.

Then taking a jibe at Samrat Choudhary, Mr Yadav said, "Earlier Samrat ji used to abuse the BJP. What happened now?" "Samrat Choudhary is sitting here. I do not want to name his father. But his father's language at BJP rallies and the language he used for the Chief Minister - You also think about the language he used for the son of Nitish Kumar. You also were present on the occasion... Did your father not use abusive words for the Chief Minister? Stand up and deny it if you can," he said.

As the BJP MLAs broke out in a storm of protest, Mr Choudhury hit back. "What did your father say? He looted Bihar. He looted the poor. He robbed the whole state". "I have been to jail. Lalu Prasad sent me to jail. It was only under the leadership of Nitish Kumar..." -- he had only got that far when Mr Yadav cut across: "From which party did you win the last time? It was our party. After that you are fated to lose".

"Do you consider yourself a king?" Mr Choudhury scoffed. "At least I have not used any abusive word," the Leader of the Opposition shot back.



CM YOGI NEWS

YOGI ADITYANATH ON WHY KUMBH STAMPEDE WAS NOT "EXCESSIVELY HIGHLIGHTED"



Diary Times Desk : Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Monday said his government acted swiftly to control the situation after the January 29 stampede at the Maha Kumbh in Prayagraj, ensuring timely medical aid for victims while preventing widespread panic.

Addressing a gathering of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) and Indian Postal Service officials in Lucknow, Yogi Adityanath said, "We did not allow the incident to be excessively highlighted as eight crore devotees and sadhus were present in Prayagraj and the Kumbh Mela area at the time and panic could have worsened the situation." At least 30 people were killed and 60 others injured in the stampede at the Sangam ghat on Mauni Amavasya, a key bathing day of the Maha Kumbh.

Yogi Adityanath noted that apart from millions of devotees, seers and sadhus from 13 Akhadhas were also scheduled to take the ritualistic 'Amrit Snan' (holy dip) that morning. He explained that two major challenges often arise in such events -- determining the bathing order among the Akharas, which has historically led to disputes, and ensuring the ritual proceeds smoothly at the scheduled time of 4 AM.

Despite the tragedy, all Akhadhas were prepared to go ahead with the 'snan', but the administration intervened to postpone the event. "I personally requested them to delay the ritual to manage the situation," Yogi Adityanath said, adding that officials closely monitored the crowd, evacuated the Sangam area by noon, and ensured the 'snan' resumed by 2:30 PM. He underscored the importance of effective crisis management, stating, "In difficult situations, many people panic and give up, but we must develop the strength to make firm decisions with patience and control."

The chief minister also emphasised the importance of effective coordination among stakeholders, including devotees, sadhus and administrative officials.

MAHARASHTRA MINISTER MUNDE RESIGNS AFTER AIDE NAMED MASTERMIND IN SARPANCH MURDER

Diary Times Desk : Maharashtra minister Dhananjay Munde on Tuesday resigned from the state cabinet, days after his close aide Walmik Karad was named as the mastermind in the Beed sarpanch murder case. "Dhananjay Munde has submitted his resignation. I have accepted it and forwarded it to Governor C P Radhakrishnan," Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis told reporters at Vidhan Bhawan. The resignation followed a vociferous demand by the opposition for Munde's removal from the cabinet. Fadnavis held a late-night meeting with Deputy CM and NCP chief Ajit Pawar on Monday, along with senior NCP leaders, including Munde, to discuss the issue. The Opposition demand for Munde's resignation intensified after gory photos and court chargesheet details related to the killing of Massajog village sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh surfaced, revealing the brutalities committed before the murder. Meanwhile, Munde said he resigned as the Maharashtra cabinet minister after listening to his conscience and also for medical reasons. In a post on X, Munde also said he was deeply saddened after seeing photographs related to the gruesome murder of Santosh Deshmukh, the sarpanch of Massajog village in Beed district.



KANNADA ACTRESS RANYA RAO ARRESTED AT BENGALURU AIRPORT FOR POSSESSING 14.8 KG OF GOLD

Diary Times Desk : The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence arrested Kannada actress Ranya Rao at Bengaluru International Airport after she was found in possession of 14.8 kg of gold, officials said on Tuesday. Following her arrest on Monday night, she was presented before an economic offences court, which remanded her to 14 days in judicial custody, they added. According to officials, Rao had arrived from Dubai on an Emirates flight and had been under surveillance due to her frequent international travel. Investigators revealed that she had allegedly smuggled the gold by wearing a significant portion of it and concealing gold bars in her clothing. Authorities grew suspicious after noticing that she had travelled to Dubai four times in 15 days, prompting a targeted operation upon her return. Preliminary investigations suggest that the actress may have attempted to use her connections to bypass customs checks.

FUEL CELLS DEVELOPED TO PROVIDE GREEN, UNINTERRUPTED POWER BACKUP FOR TELECOM TOWERS



Diary Times Desk : An innovative hydrogen fuel cell-based backup power solution has been developed for telecom towers that can ensure seamless connectivity for subscribers while promoting clean energy. India has more than a million telecom towers, with tens of thousands located in remote areas where maintaining 24x7 operations is challenging due to limited grid access. Traditionally, diesel generators have been used as backup power sources, but they are expensive and contribute significantly to carbon emissions. A Proton Exchange Membrane (PEM) type fuel cell that has been developed by the Centre for Fuel Cell Technology at the International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials, is an efficient and clean energy solution for powering telecom towers, particularly as a backup during grid outages. According to information shared by the Ministry of Science and Technology, these fuel cells provide reliable electricity with quick start-up times and operate at relatively low temperatures, making them a viable alternative to diesel generators.

CHHATRASAL STADIUM MURDER CASE: DELHI HIGH COURT GRANTS BAIL TO WRESTLER SUSHIL KUMAR

Diary Times Desk : The Delhi High Court on Tuesday granted bail to Olympic wrestler Sushil Kumar in the murder case of former junior national wrestling champion Sagar Dhankar at Chhatrasal Stadium in the national capital. Justice Sanjeev Narula granted the relief to Kumar and directed him to furnish a personal bond of Rs 50,000 with two sureties of the like amount. Kumar, and others, are accused of fatally assaulting Dhankar in May 2021 over an alleged property dispute. Two of Dhankar's friends were also injured in the assault. According to the postmortem report, Dhankar suffered cerebral damage from the impact of a blunt object. Advocates RS Malik and Sumeet Shokeen, representing Kumar, said the wrestler was in jail for the last three-and-a-half years and the prosecution had cited 222 witnesses whereas only 31 were examined so far. All the material witnesses have already been examined, the counsel added. While the prosecution opposed the plea, Malik argued trial would take a long time to conclude and Kumar ought to be granted the reprieve on the ground of delay.



YOUR HOROSCOPE
 05-03-2025

<p>Aries Today, you will meet old friends, which will refresh old memories. Employed people may be fired from the job due to heavy arguments with colleagues in the workplace. People doing business should thank God for getting financial benefits from the advice of their spouse. Due to irritation in the eyes, you should consult an ophthalmologist.</p>	<p>Taurus Today you will get success as your long pending legal proceedings will come in your favor. There will be an atmosphere of happiness in the family as employed people will get progress in their workplace. People doing business should make a budget and spend the money in order to get financial benefits. Housewives should change their food according to health and season.</p>
<p>Gemini Today you should include yoga and meditation in your daily routine. For employed people, your responsibilities may increase due to promotion in the workplace. People doing business may suffer financial loss from any unknown person today. There may be difficulty in walking due to nerve pain problems.</p>	<p>Cancer Today you will get relief from all your problems due to sudden financial gain. Employed people may have to get scolded by their boss due to being hasty in the workplace. People doing business may face increased difficulties in business due to arguments with business partners. As the problem of foot pain increases, you must consult a specialist doctor.</p>
<p>Leo Today, you should offer water to Lord Shiva to avoid difficulties. A heated argument with HR in the workplace will spoil your whole day. Businessmen have to exercise patience, there are chances of improvement in business. Today, you may face stomach and pancreas problems due to eating too much fried food.</p>	<p>Virgo Today you should take special control over your speech and behavior. People in employment will get success in the workplace with the help of friends. People doing business will get financial gain due to some special offer, your financial condition will be strengthened. Old diseases of elders in the house may emerge.</p>
<p>Libra Today is going to be a busy day for you. Employed people will get a chance to work with senior officers due to advancement in their professional field. People doing business should avoid exchanging money with any unknown person today. Pregnant women may have to face problems due to changing weather.</p>	<p>Scorpio Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employed people may have to face mental problems due to extra workload in the workplace. People doing business may have to travel abroad in connection with business expansion. Diabetic patients should get themselves checked by a doctor in case of any problem today.</p>
<p>Sagittarius Today you should take all important decisions of your career thoughtfully. Employed people may have to face some problems due to the start of a new job in the workplace. Due to financial gain for business people, you can invest in a new business. Problems like leg pain and headache may bother you.</p>	<p>Capricorn Today you can invest especially in land and buildings. Employed people may have to travel long distances due to office work, due to which your health may deteriorate. People doing business may face difficulties in repaying business loans due to loss of money. High BP and cholesterol problems will increase the problems of your spouse.</p>
<p>Aquarius Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employees will be suspended due to indiscipline in the workplace. People doing business should solve all the problems of their customers in time. Due to worsening weather, problems related to cold and cough may increase in the family.</p>	<p>Pisces Today your interest in creative work will especially increase. Employed people may be given an important project by their boss to handle important projects in the workplace. People doing business should control their speech and behavior with their customers. You should walk carefully on the road, problems may arise due to injury.</p>



JAIRAM THAKUR: LEADER OF OPPOSITION SAID- LAW AND ORDER HAS TAKEN A TURN IN HIMACHAL PRADESH, 18 MURDERS IN TWO MONTHS

Diary Times Desk : Former Chief Minister and Leader of Opposition Jairam has said that law and order has collapsed in the state and cases of murder and rape are coming to light every day. In the first two months of the year 2025, 18 murder cases have been reported and more than a dozen cases of rape have come to light. These figures indicate that the head of the government is only concerned about his chair and it seems that maintaining law and order is not his priority at all. This is a matter of concern and the BJP will raise this issue loudly in the assembly session. After welcoming Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at the helipad, who arrived in Mandi to conclude the International Shivratri Festival, Leader of Opposition and former Chief Minister Jairam said in a conversation with journalists that the Congress leaders have not given a good message by making political statements in a religious event like Shivratri. One should refrain from talking about politics in fairs and festivals, but Congress leaders have started a new tradition of coming here and cursing me for the last few years.



WOMEN AND YOUTH GROUPS WILL BE COMPENSATED FOR FOREST CONSERVATION, FOREST FRIENDS WILL SOON GET APPOINTMENT LETTERS

Diary Times Desk : While reviewing various schemes and projects of the Forest Department on Tuesday, Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu directed to ensure the participation of Mahila Mandals, Yuvak Mandals, Self Help Groups and Panchayats to expand and protect the forest area in the state. They will be given proper compensation for providing services in forest conservation and the state government has allocated Rs 100 crore in this regard. Apart from this, they will be encouraged by providing incentives after five years on the basis of survival percentage of plants. He directed to plant 60 percent fruit and fodder species in the forest area so that the requirements of wild animals are available in the forest itself. This will protect the crops of farmers from damage caused by animals. He directed the department to focus on its basic responsibilities of plantation and afforestation and assured to provide adequate staff.

HP CONGRESS NEWS: COORDINATION COMMITTEE WILL BE FORMED BEFORE THE NEW EXECUTIVE OF CONGRESS, RAJNI WILL SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE HIGH COMMAND

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh Congress in-charge Rajni Patil reached Delhi on Monday and submitted the report of Himachal to the high command. It is possible that now soon the process of formation of new executive in the state will be expedited. Patil, who came to Shimla on a two-day visit to the state, had said that a coordination committee would be formed to maintain better harmony between the government and the organization. A coordination committee will be formed before the formation of the executive. In such a situation, there is a discussion that the coordination committee can be formed within a day or two. After this, after discussing with all the senior leaders, the process of formation of the executive will start. Last week at the state Congress headquarters Rajiv Bhawan Shimla, Patil has held separate meetings with all the former office bearers.

SHIMLA: HIMACHAL UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEES ANGRY OVER NOT GETTING SALARY, PROTESTED OUTSIDE ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING

Diary Times Desk : The teachers and non-teaching staff of Himachal Pradesh University Shimla have not been paid their salary for the month of February till the afternoon of 4th March. Due to this, the non-teaching staff of the university protested against this careless attitude of the government and the university administration outside the administrative building for the second consecutive day on Tuesday. The non-teaching staff of the university said that this is the first time that the salary has not come to the accounts of the university employees on the 1st. Regarding this matter, the University Non-Teaching Staff Union sent a memorandum to the Vice Chancellor. The Non-Teaching Staff Union President Rajesh Thakur and other officials of the executive have also sent a copy of this memorandum to the Registrar and Finance Officer of the University. It has been said that for the first time the university employees have had to wait for their salary. The salary of February has not been given to the university employees till 3rd March. There is anger among all the employees of the university regarding this delay.

HP FOURLANE: CONSTRUCTION OF NAUNI-BHARADIGHAT FOURLANE WILL START SOON, WORK COULD NOT START DUE TO LACK OF PERMISSION FROM THE FOREST MINISTRY

Diary Times Desk : The way for the construction of the Nauni-Bharadighat four-lane project is going to be cleared soon. For about a year, this project has been stalled due to lack of permission from the Union Forest Ministry, but now the ministry is likely to give the green signal. Recently, in the Regional Empowered Committee (REC) meeting in Chandigarh, all the objections of the Forest Department related to the project have been resolved. Himachal Pradesh officials of the National Highways Authority of India participated in the meeting. All the objections lodged by the Union Forest Ministry were discussed in the meeting and now the formal process of getting its permission from Delhi has started. It is likely that this project will get approval in the next one or two weeks. The tender of Rs 640 crore for this four-lane project of about 17.5 km was given to Gabar Company in March 2024. Construction work could not start due to lack of permission from the Union Forest Ministry. NHAI had sent back the file twice due to objections lodged by the Union Forest Ministry, but now all these objections have been resolved.

HP RAIN WATER: HIMACHAL WILL KEEP TRACK OF RAIN WATER, WATER INFORMATION CENTER WILL BE ESTABLISHED

Diary Times Desk : Rain water will be accounted for in the state. There will also be a complete account of how much water was obtained from melting snow. On the instructions of the Central Government, State Water Information Center will be established in Himachal Pradesh. A notification regarding this was issued in the gazette. Water Information Center will be established in the state under the MoU signed in January 2023 between National Water Informatics Center, Ministry of Water Resources, Government of India and Government of Himachal Pradesh. The purpose of its establishment is to collect basic information for the management and development of water resources, so that it can help in scientific studies to be done in view of challenges like climate change in future. The purpose of setting up the center is to prepare a database regarding water, update it, make it available on demand of Central Government or other agencies. For the Water Information Center, under the leadership of the Superintending Engineer, one executive engineer, senior hydro-geologist, assistant engineer, senior scientific officer, software developer, computer programmer, senior GIS expert, accountant, in addition to two junior engineers, GIS expert and data entry operator will be deployed.

HIMACHAL NEWS: POLICE TEAM CAUGHT A YOUNG MAN AND A WOMAN WITH 25 GRAMS OF CHITTA

Diary Times Desk : In the area of police subdivision Rampur, under the leadership of special team in-charge Gaurav Jishtu, a young man and a woman have been caught with 25 grams of chitta. When the police team was present in Kudidhar/Nirath, a vehicle number TH24HP7712N parked on the side of the road was checked on the basis of suspicion. During checking the vehicle, 26.68 grams of chitta/heroin has been recovered from the possession of Sohan Lal resident of village Saloha post office Teban tehsil Karsog district Mandi age 25 years and Geeta Shrestha resident of village Takoli post office Panarsa tehsil Ot district Mandi age 25 years. Subdivisional police officer Rampur Naresh Sharma confirmed the case and said that a case has been registered against Sohan Lal and Geeta Shrestha.

REMOVE AURANGZEB'S GRAVE FROM MAHARASHTRA: BJP'S NAVNEET RANA STEPS UP ATTACK

Diary Times Desk : BJP leader and former Member of Parliament Navneet Rana has called for the removal of Aurangzeb's grave from Maharashtra as she attacked Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Abu Azmi for praising the Mughal ruler. In a video message, Rana said that people like Abu Azmi should go to the theatres and watch the recently released movie 'Chhava' to see the kind of treatment and torture meted out by Aurangzeb to Maharashtra's king Sambhaji Maharaj. In her video, Rana also urged the Maharashtra government to "uproot" Aurangzeb's grave. "People who love Aurangzeb should decorate his grave in their homes," she also said. "The state in which you are elected to sit in the Assembly for five years was ruled by Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and Chhatrapati Sambhaji Maharaj. People like you should watch 'Chhava' movie to see what Aurangzeb did with our king," Rana said in her video. "I want to request Maharashtra government that the way Aurangabad's name was changed and kept after our God Sambhaji Maharaj, Aurangzeb's grave should also be demolished. People who love Aurangzeb should decorate his grave in their homes."

HIGH COURT AGREES TO REFER TO SAMBHAL MOSQUE AS 'DISPUTED STRUCTURE': REPORT

Diary Times Desk : The Allahabad High Court on Tuesday agreed to refer to the Sambhal Jama Masjid as a "disputed site" while hearing a petition from the mosque management committee seeking permission to whitewash the Mughal-era structure, legal news outlet LiveLaw reported. The court also instructed the stenographer to refer to the Shahi Masjid as a "disputed structure" following a demand from the Hindu side. The ownership of the 16th-century monument became a legal matter after a complaint alleged that a Hindu temple, Harihar Mandir, was demolished by Babur to construct the mosque. A court-ordered survey triggered large-scale violence in Sambhal, as a sizeable crowd opposed the move in November last year. The High Court was hearing a petition filed by the mosque committee seeking permission to carry out whitewashing of the structure, opposing an Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) report that stated there was no need for whitewashing at this time. Advocate Hari Shankar Jain challenged the committee's claim that it was responsible.

"I AM NOT GOD": DK SHIVAKUMAR OVER 'NUT, BOLT' COMMENT ON KARNATAKA ACTORS



Diary Times Desk : Following the uproar over his "nuts and bolts" comment on Karnataka actors, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar stated on Tuesday that he is "not a God" and will rectify his comments, in case he has done anything wrong. This comes after the Karnataka Deputy CM slammed the film fraternity at the inauguration of the Bengaluru International Film Festival, for low turnout of the actors and said he knows "how to tighten the nuts and bolts" of these actors. "We may not be right and polished...let me rectify it. I am not God, so if I have done anything wrong, I will rectify it, but I am speaking in the best interest of the (film) industry. I am also from the industry...I have an interest in this industry," DK Shivakumar told reporters here. "We conducted the International Film Festival in Bengaluru, and next year, I am planning to organise IFFA (International Indian Film Academy Awards) in Bengaluru," he added. DK Shivakumar's remarks drew a lot of flak from the Bharatiya Janata Party, which accused the Deputy CM of 'threatening' actors.

CALLING SOMEONE 'MIYAN-TIYAN', 'PAKISTANI' NOT AN OFFENCE: SUPREME COURT

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled that calling someone 'Miyani-Tiyani' or 'Pakistani' may be in poor taste but does not amount to an offence of hurting religious sentiments. A bench of Justices BV Nagarathna and Satish Chandra Sharma made the observation while closing a case against a man accused of calling a government servant 'Pakistani'. The complaint was filed by an Urdu translator and an acting clerk in Jharkhand. According to the complainant, when he visited the accused to furnish information about a Right to Information (RTI) application, the latter abused him by referring to his religion and used criminal force to prevent the discharge of his official duties. This led to a first information report against the man for offences under Sections 298 (hurting religious sentiments), 504, and 353 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant).

'MY CHILD IS INNOCENT': MOTHER OF MAN ACCUSED OF PLOTTING AYODHYA TERROR ATTACK

Diary Times Desk : The family of Abdul Rehman - the 19-year-old arrested Sunday and accused of trying to detonate grenades at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, a terror attack sources said was planned by Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence - has insisted their son is being "falsely implicated", possibly by his 'friends'. Rehman's mother told news agency ANI, "My child is nothing like this. He has never done anything like this... all of this is a lie. He only operates a battery-powered rickshaw." "Police did not tell us anything... they just took him (and my husband) away," she said, "All I would like to say is, 'please, bring my child back to me. He has not done anything wrong'. "He was ill and had a hole in his heart... he had an operation after collecting the money through donations. We (her husband and she) have just one son and three daughters. We do not have anyone else," the tearful mother, sitting outside her family home in Ayodhya's Milkipur, said.



PUNJAB CAN'T BE 'DHARNA' STATE: BHAGWANT MANN AS FARMERS DETAINED AHEAD OF STIR

Diary Times Desk : Tensions are running high in Punjab as the ruling AAP government and farmer unions locked horns in a growing political standoff ahead of the 'Chandigarh Chalo' protests organised by the Sanyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) on March 5. A day after Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann walked out of a SKM meeting, farmer leaders on Tuesday said that the state police detained several protesters in a midnight raid ahead of their planned demonstrations in Chandigarh. The SKM is an umbrella group of 37 farmers' unions. Confirming the incident, Mann told reporters that he walked out of the meeting when SKM leaders mentioned plans to protest from March 5 onwards. "Yes, I left the meeting, and we will detain them as well...Won't allow farmers to sit on tracks and roads," Mann said. Mann further revealed that he had asked farmers to call off the strikes, stating that the state could not be held to ransom.

BEATEN WITH RODS, URINATED ON: TORTURE KILLING THAT FORCED MINISTER'S EXIT

Diary Times Desk : On December 9, Santosh Deshmukh, the sarpanch of a village in Maharashtra's Beed, was kidnapped, tortured for hours and left for dead. The investigation following his murder revealed that he was beaten with a rod and subjected to unspeakable brutality. Nearly three months on, state minister Dhananjay Munde has resigned amid outrage over the killing that allegedly involved his top aide. The probe found that Santosh Deshmukh had tried to stop an extortion attempt targeting a windmill energy firm operating in the region and the mastermind of his killing was Mr Munde's aide Walmik Karad. Avaada, a Mumbai-based green energy company, had been working on a project in Beed's Massajog village. Beed and adjoining districts have seen an economic boost over the past few years due to the wind energy sector. But local criminals have sensed an opportunity in this boost.

TRUMP THREATENS TO CUT FEDERAL FUNDING OVER 'ILLEGAL PROTESTS' IN SCHOOLS

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has warned that federal funding will be withdrawn from schools, colleges, and universities that permit "illegal protests". The statement, made on his Truth Social platform, is the latest in a series of threats to cut financial support to educational institutions over issues such as race and gender studies, transgender participation in sports, and Covid-19 vaccine mandates. "All Federal Funding will STOP for any College, School, or University that allows illegal protests," Trump wrote. He further warned that "agitators" would face imprisonment or deportation, while American students involved could face permanent expulsion or arrest, depending on the severity of the offence. Trump has repeatedly expressed his desire to overhaul the US education system, including defunding the Department of Education and shifting control over curricula to individual states. His latest remarks follow a wave of student-led demonstrations on university campuses, particularly protests against Israel's military actions in Gaza, which have sparked accusations of anti-Semitism.

6 KILLED AFTER 2 EXPLOSIVE-LADEN CARS CRASH INTO PAK MILITARY COMPOUND

Diary Times Desk : At least six Pakistani civilians were killed in a suicide attack by a military group that drove two explosive-laden cars into an army compound on Tuesday evening, police told AFP. "So far at least six civilians have been killed in both attacks, including three children," a senior police official Pakistan's northwestern Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province said, on condition of anonymity. Suicide bombers rammed two explosives-laden vehicles into the entrance gate of Bannu Cantonment, triggering massive explosions... after which multiple militants attempted to storm the compound, a senior district police official said on condition of anonymity. "Security forces present at the scene engaged them in a gunfight. Initial reports confirm that four militants have been killed," he added. Bannu, a district in Pakistan's turbulent Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

READY TO WORK UNDER TRUMP'S STRONG LEADERSHIP: ZELENSKY AFTER US PAUSES AID



Diary Times Desk : Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Tuesday said he is ready to work under US President Donald Trump's "strong leadership" to achieve peace as the country continues to be at war with Russia. Commenting hours after Trump paused US assistance to Ukraine, Zelenskyy also said that his country is ready to come to the negotiating table as soon as possible. "None of us wants an endless war. Ukraine is ready to come to the negotiating table as soon as possible to bring lasting peace closer. Nobody wants peace more than Ukrainians. My team and I stand ready to work under President Trump's strong leadership to get a peace that lasts," Zelenskyy tweeted. On Monday, the Trump administration halted military assistance to Ukraine in an attempt to pressure Zelenskyy into negotiations to end the war with Russia. The White House had said that the order will remain in effect until Ukraine demonstrates a commitment to peace negotiations.

SERBIAN OPPOSITION SETS OFF FLARES, USES "TEAR GAS" IN PARLIAMENT

Diary Times Desk : Serbian opposition lawmakers lit flares and discharged suspected tear gas during the opening day of the spring session of parliament on Tuesday, in a sign of support for ongoing anti-corruption protests. Footage shared online showed opposition members holding colourful flares and throwing what appeared to be smoke canisters as the session began to review the legislative agenda. A live video feed showed parliamentary speaker Ana Brnabic lambasting the opposition's protest and the alleged use of "tear gas" in the assembly. "Your colour revolution has failed, and this country will live, this country will work and this country will continue to win," she told them. Serbia has been rocked for months by student-led anti-corruption protests following the fatal collapse of a train station roof last year that killed 15 people.

SINGAPORE CONSIDERING CANING FOR FINANCIAL SCAMMERS; TO TACKLE MALICIOUS WEBSITES

Diary Times Desk : Singapore will consider caning financial scammers in certain cases, in recognition of the serious harm they cause, Minister of State for Home Affairs and Social and Family Development Sun Xueling said in Parliament on Tuesday. The Minister was responding to a suggestion from MP Tan Wu Meng in her speech laying out the Ministry of Home Affairs' (MHA) spending plans for the year ahead. Tan had earlier called for mandatory caning for financial scammers in egregious cases. "We must send a clear message to financial scammers, the syndicates and those who abet them: If you mess with our people, make off with the life savings of Singaporeans, scam Singaporeans, we must do everything in our power to teach the financial scammers a lesson they won't forget," Channel News Asia quoted Tan as saying. Sun agreed with the need for stiff and deterrent sentences against those who facilitate scams. After the recent introduction of new guidelines by a sentencing advisory panel, jail terms have generally been imposed for offences which facilitate scams, going as high as 19 months in one case, she noted.

INFANTS AS YOUNG AS ONE AMONG VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN SUDAN: UNICEF

Diary Times Desk : The UN children's agency UNICEF said on Tuesday that children under five, including infants, are among the victims of sexual violence in the war between Sudan's army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). A database compiled by Sudan-based groups aiding sexual violence survivors recorded 221 child cases since last year, the UN agency reported. Among them, 16 were under five years old, including four infants aged one, while about one-third of the victims were male. The database covers cases from across Sudan, though aid workers and rights groups believe it captures only a small portion, as stigma, fear of reprisals, and limited access to medical care hinder reporting. Some survivors cited by UNICEF reported pregnancies due to the assaults, leading to rejection by their families and further struggles. One woman, who was held captive with other women and girls, recalled, "After nine at night, someone opens the door, carrying a whip, selects one of the girls, and takes her to another room. I could hear the little girl crying.

EGYPT PROPOSES \$53 BILLION GAZA RECONSTRUCTION PLAN: DRAFT

Diary Times Desk : Egypt has proposed a \$53 billion plan to rebuild Gaza over five years, focusing on emergency relief, infrastructure restoration and long-term economic development, according to a draft document seen by AFP. The proposal, set to be discussed at an extraordinary Arab summit in Cairo later on Tuesday, counters a plan floated by US President Donald Trump last month to assume control of war-torn Gaza and displace its Palestinian population, including to Egypt and Jordan. Palestinians, along with Arab states and many of Israel and the United States' partners, have condemned Trump's proposal, rejecting any efforts to expel Gazans. The draft plan, shared by a diplomatic source with AFP, outlines two phases: an early recovery phase and a reconstruction phase. The early recovery phase, expected to last six months and cost \$3 billion, would focus on "removing mines and unexploded ordnance, clearing debris and providing temporary housing".



'JOIN WORK OR FACE SUSPENSION': PUNJAB ISSUES ULTIMATUM TO STRIKING TEHSILDARS

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab government has issued a warning to striking officers, demanding they return to work immediately or face suspension. This warning, issued by the Additional Chief Secretary of Revenue to all state revenue officers, follows an earlier warning from Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, who condemned the tehsildars strike "in favour of their corrupt colleagues." The tehsildars have gone on mass casual leave until Friday, protesting the Vigilance Bureau's actions against some of their members. Mann emphasised his government's strict stance against corruption, stating, "To prevent inconvenience to the public, other tehsil officers are being given the responsibility of all tehsil work so that people's business is not disrupted. Enjoy your collective holiday, tehsildars. However, the people will decide when and where you rejoin after this holiday". Mann personally visited tehsil offices in Kharar and Fatehgarh Sahib to ensure the strike was not causing public inconvenience. Earlier in the day, following the CM's instructions, kanungos and PCS officers in the district were assigned the tehsildars' duties.



487 HARYANA PRIMARY SCHOOLS HAVE NO TEACHER, 294 WITHOUT STUDENTS

Diary Times Desk : A rationalisation exercise carried out by the Haryana Elementary Education Department has revealed that 487 government primary schools in the state are operating without a single teacher while 294 schools have no student enrolled during the current academic session. The data indicates that even after reallocation of teaching posts, there is a tentative shortage of 2,262 teachers in government primary schools. The student-teacher ratio stands at approximately 28:1, with 7,18,964 students enrolled in 8,185 government schools having 25,762 teachers. However, the government has cut down on 5,313 teaching posts in the rationalisation exercise for primary schools. The total number of teaching posts has been brought down from 37,487 to 32,174. A senior official, however, clarified that these posts had not been abolished but had merely been rationalised for more effective allocation in the next academic session. Yamunanagar has the highest number of schools without a teacher (79) followed by Panchkula (45) and Kurukshetra (34). Similarly, Yamunanagar has the highest number of schools without a student (32), followed by Ambala (22) and Hisar (17).

CONGRESS WORKER STRANGLED WITH WIRE OF MOBILE CHARGER BY 'FRIEND': POLICE

Diary Times Desk : The local police on Monday claimed that Congress worker Himani Narwal (29) was strangled to death by her "friend" by using a wire of cell phone charger at her house in Vijay Nagar locality here on February 28. "The crime followed a scuffle between them over some issue. The accused, identified as Sachin (30) alias Dhillu of Kherpur village (Jhajjar), has been arrested from Mundaka area in Delhi. He is married and has two children. Sachin runs a mobile repair shop in Kanaunda village of Jhajjar district," KK Rao, Additional Director General of Police, Rohtak Range, told mediapersons here on Monday. Himani's body was found stuffed in a suitcase at Sampla town, about 25 km away from the district headquarters, on March 1. She was pursuing LLB from a local college and had been residing alone at her residence in Vijay Nagar here. Her mother Savita and younger brother Jatin live in Delhi. Sharing the crime story behind the brutal murder, Rao said the accused was in contact with the woman.

CHB GETS 6K APPLICATIONS FOR 372 UNITS OF SEC 53 PROJECT

Diary Times Desk : The Chandigarh Housing Board (CHB) has received an overwhelming response to its demand survey for the proposed self-financing housing scheme in Sector 53 here, which was put on hold by the Administration in 2023. According to officials, nearly 6,300 applications have been received so far. The survey, which started on February 22, concluded tonight. Nearly 1,000 applications were received for units specified for economically weaker sections (EWS) and the remaining were for HIG and MIG units, officials said, adding that nearly 70 per cent applications were received for HIG units. The CHB was considering launching the scheme only after receiving adequate response from interested eligible persons as well as obtaining requisite approvals. For taking part in the demand survey, an applicant had to deposit an amount of Rs 10,000 each for HIG and MIG units and Rs 5,000 for EWS units as confirmation of their interest in the scheme. The amount will be adjusted in the earnest money deposit (EMD) after the launch of the scheme.

'UNSUCCESSFUL' LIPOSUCTION PLAINT: PATIENT DOESN'T HAVE AUTHORITY TO DICTATE TERMS OF TREATMENT TO DOCTOR: CONSUMER PANEL

Diary Times Desk : "The patient does not have the authority to dictate the terms of treatment. It is well established in medical ethics and practice that the treating physician is guided by medical protocols, ethics and the expectations and requirements of the patient, within the boundaries of accepted standards of care." While observing this, the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission has dismissed a complaint filed against a doctor for medical negligence. The state commission said that the patient had failed to produce any concrete and substantial evidence to substantiate the allegations of medical negligence or deficiency in service on the part of the appellant. The state commission has pronounced the decision on an appeal filed by Dr Deepak Kalia of Novena Clinic in Chandigarh.

SUPREME COURT ORDERS BIKRAM SINGH MAJITHIA TO APPEAR BEFORE SIT IN DRUGS CASE PROBE

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Tuesday directed Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) leader Bikram Singh Majithia to appear before the special investigation team (SIT), probing a drugs case against him. A bench led by Justices JK Maheshwari ordered Majithia to appear at the SIT headquarters in Patiala around 11 am on March 17. The order came after the Punjab Government said Majithia was refusing to cooperate in the probe. "The authorities may interrogate him and complete the investigation," the bench said, adding that he will appear on March 18 as well at the same time, if needed. The bench posted the matter for further hearing on March 24. Majithia — brother-in-law of SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal and brother of former Union Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal — was booked on the basis of a 2018 report of the anti-drug special task force (STF) looking into a drug racket in the state. The Punjab Government has challenged the August 10, 2022 order of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, following which Majithia was released from the Patiala jail after spending more than five months in the drug case.

PUNJAB POLICE INSPECT 164 PHARMACEUTICAL SHOPS IN THEIR DRIVE AGAINST DRUGS

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab Police on Tuesday inspected as many as 164 pharmaceutical shops to ensure they were not selling intoxicant tablets or any other habit-forming drugs, and were adhering to the prescribed norms and regulations regarding the sale of medicines. The inspection was conducted in six districts, including Hoshiarpur, SBS Nagar, Jalandhar Rural, Commissionerate Jalandhar, Kapurthala and Rupnagar. Divulging details, Special DGP Law and Order Arpit Shukla said that over 250 police teams, comprising over 1,900 police personnel under the supervision of 101 gazetted officers, have conducted raids across the state and checked as many as 627 suspicious persons during the day-long operation. Apart from this, the police teams have continued its cordon and search operation against drugs and conducted raids at 524 locations on Tuesday leading to the arrest of 69 drug smugglers after registration of 53 FIRs across the state. With this, the number of total drug smugglers arrested has reached to 472 in just four days. The raids have resulted in recovery of 1.5 kg heroin, 100 grams opium, 7,610 intoxicant tablets/pills/injections and Rs 1.33 lakh drug money from the possession of arrested drug smugglers. CM Bhagwant Singh Mann had last week asked the Commissioners of Police, Deputy Commissioners.

SUKHU SENDS OFF ATHLETES TO SPECIAL OLYMPICS IN ITALY

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today gave a warm send-off to special athletes and coaches who have been selected for the Special Olympics World Winter Games being organised at Turin in Italy from March 7 to 16. He said that 24 athletes and coaches out of the 49-member Indian contingent for this prestigious event were from Himachal. These athletes would take part in various events such as skiing, snowboarding, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and floor ball, he added. Sukhu expressed hope that the contingent would perform well in the games and bring laurels to the country as well as the state. "The state government is extending all possible assistance to the budding players so that they can compete and excel in national and international sports competitions," he said. "The state government will honour the medallists of the championships. The government has significantly enhanced the prize money for the medal winners in international events to promote sports activities among the youth so that they do not fall prey to drug abuse," he added.

NORMS EASED, MULTI-STOREY BUILDINGS COME UP ALONG PARWANOO-SOLAN HIGHWAY

Diary Times Desk : A number of multi-storey buildings have come up along the Parwanoo-Kumarhatti-Solan highway after norms were relaxed for realty projects about a year ago. Even as the Solan area lies in the high-risk zone IV that is prone to severe earthquakes, high-rise buildings extending up to eight storeys are coming up all along the highway after introduction of these norms. "A housing project can be raised up to 21 m height and since one storey covers about 3 m, a builder can easily raise six to seven storeys even on vertically fragile hill tops apart from the valleys," informed a realtor from Dharampur. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has restricted the height of buildings to two-and-a-half storey in the neighbouring Kasauli Planning Area. One wonders how a multi-storey building erected on the highway is considered safe when height of another erected meters away in the Kasauli Planning Area has been curtailed to two and.

711 LOCAL TOURISTS, 7 FOREIGNERS EVACUATED FROM SPITI VALLEY

Diary Times Desk : As many as 718 tourists, including seven foreigners, have been evacuated from the Spiti valley to Kinnaur in the past two days, according to Deputy Commissioner, Lahaul and Spiti, Rahul Kumar. These tourists were stranded in Spiti since February 26 due to heavy snowfall. The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) managed to restore road connectivity from Kaza to Kinnaur, enabling the evacuation process. Fresh snowfall in Lahaul today further complicated snow-clearing operations. Traffic movement had been completely halted across the valley since February 26 with major routes remaining blocked. The blocked roads included the Manali-Leh highway between Manali and Keylong, Sansari-Killar-Thirot-Tandi road connecting the Lahaul valley to the Pangti region of Chamba district and the Keylong-Darcha road. The disruption in road connectivity has affected transportation services badly in the district. Besides, the district has been facing significant power outage since February 26. While power was restored in Keylong two days ago, other areas remained without electricity, impacting daily life. The disruption in power supply also affected telecommunication services across the region, making it difficult for people to stay connected.



MILD SNOWFALL IN CHAMBA, KULLU & KINNAUR, ALERT ISSUED FOR TODAY

Diary Times Desk : Isolated places and higher reaches of Chamba, Kullu, and Kinnaur districts recorded mild snowfall on Monday, the local Met office said. It issued an 'orange' warning for light to moderate snowfall at a few places, with one or two intense spells in Lahaul and Spiti and Kinnaur districts tomorrow. It also warned of snowfall in the higher reaches of Shimla, Chamba, Mandi, Kullu, and Kangra districts. Kalpa in Kinnaur district recorded 1 cm of snow. There were also reports of snowfall in Manali and adjoining areas and Pangti in Chamba. The Met office issued rainfall warning for a few places in Hamirpur, Sirmour, Solan and parts of Shimla, Chamba, Mandi, Kangra and Kullu districts. Following the snowfall warning, the police in Lahaul and Spiti issued an advisory, asking people to stay away from sensitive areas and avoid unnecessary travel. The Mandi administration advised the public to avoid travelling to higher reaches. Meanwhile, hundreds of roads in the state were closed due to landslides and flashfloods in the past few days and the work to restore them was underway. The Himachal Pradesh School Education Board had decided to postpone annual examinations for Class VIII to XII, scheduled to begin tomorrow, in the snow-hit areas of Pangti in Chamba district and Lahaul.

CABINET APPROVES CREATION, FILLING OF 145 POSTS IN CIVIC ORGANISATIONS

Diary Times Desk : The Cabinet, under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today, decided to create and fill 145 posts of different categories, including 66 in newly upgraded municipal corporations, three in newly upgraded municipal councils, 70 in newly created nagar panchayats and six in the Directorate of Urban Development Department. It was some time ago that the government had upgraded many urban local bodies. It gave approval for the creation and filling of two posts of senior resident doctor in the Department of Gastroenterology at the Atal Institute of Medical Super Specialties at Chamiyana in Shimla district. The Cabinet approved the draft Governor's address to be delivered on the inaugural day of the eighth session of the Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha commencing on March 10. The 15-day budget session will commence on March 10 with the address by Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, highlighting the welfare schemes and flagship programmes of the government. It will conclude on March 28. The Cabinet also gave approval to the tabling of the Report of the Comptroller.

CENTRE EXTREMELY SUPPORTIVE OF STATE GOVT: BJP GEN SECRETARY CHUGH

Diary Times Desk : BJP national general secretary Tarun Chugh today stated that the Central Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was extremely supportive of the state government. Chugh, while addressing mediapersons here, lauded the Central Government's support for the state, contrasting it with the lack of appreciation from the state government. He also participated in a seminar with intellectuals. He accused Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu of being preoccupied with trivial matters while Prime Minister Narendra Modi was focused on the nation's development. Chugh alleged that despite the Central Government's financial assistance, the Congress government failed to express any gratitude. He added that in times of disaster, the Congress government disbursed funds received from the Centre but did not spend even one rupee from its own coffers. He described the Union budget as a "game-changer" and asserted that it would help fulfil the vision of a developed India. The budget, he said, focused on the uplift of the poor, youth, farmers and women. He highlighted key initiatives such as target of constructing seven crore houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana of which three crore had already been built and the announcement of Rs 5 lakh coverage for senior citizens under the Ayushman Bharat Yojana, benefiting 55 crore people.



KOHLI'S 84 SENDS INDIA INTO CHAMPIONS TROPHY FINAL

Diary Times Desk : Dubai will host the final of the Champions Trophy, and India will be in it, after proving their edge over a weakened Australia side in an absorbing first semi-final. Their win wasn't achieved without a fight, however, and Australia may yet look back on several moments that could have moved the contest in other, tantalising directions. In the end, India's quality and experience made the telling difference, and the member of their line-up who most embodies those words was a central figure. Virat Kohli had made one of his trademark chase-controlling hundreds earlier in the tournament, against Pakistan, and seemed set for another here, only for an uncharacteristic attempt at a big hit to cut his innings short at 84. By then, however, he had passed 8000 runs in ODI chases, and whittled this one down to a more-than-manageable 40 off 44 balls. They only needed 33 of those balls, as KL Rahul and Hardik Pandya all but sealed the deal before the latter departed with India one hit away. And as in a similar chase during the Chennai World Cup clash between these sides in 2023, it was Rahul who finished things off, this time with a six over long-on off Glenn Maxwell.



TEAM INDIA WEAR BLACK ARMBANDS DURING CHAMPIONS TROPHY 2025 SEMIFINAL IN BIG TRIBUTE FOR...

Diary Times Desk : The Indian cricket team stars were seen wearing black armbands during the Champions Trophy 2025 semifinal against Australia in Dubai on Tuesday. The armbands were worn in honour of Padmakar Shivalkar who died at the age of 84 in Mumbai. Shivalkar was a massive name in India's domestic circuit and he played a big role in Bombay's Ranji Trophy dominance. He was part of the Bombay side that won nine Ranji Trophy titles between 1965-66 to 1976-77. A lot of former cricketers paid tribute to Shivalkar after his death and the BCCI also decided to pay tribute with the black armbands on the players' jerseys. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) expressed deep sorrow over the demise of former Ranji Trophy star and a stalwart of Mumbai cricket Padmar Shivalkar, who passed away due to age-related issues on Monday. Shivalkar's name is etched in the annals of the Ranji Trophy, where he enjoyed an illustrious career spanning over two decades. In 124 first-class matches, he claimed an astonishing 589 wickets at a remarkable average of 19.69. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) deeply mourns the unfortunate demise of Shri Padmakar Shivalkar, who passed away on March 3, 2025.

CONGRESS LEADER WHO FAT-SHAMED ROHIT SHARMA HAS A KANGANA RANAUT QUESTION

Diary Times Desk : In no mood to lie low after her remarks on Team India captain Rohit Sharma sparked a massive row, Congress spokesperson Shama Mohamed has dug out a 2021 tweet by actor Kangana Ranaut -- now a BJP MP -- in which she had criticised the ace cricketer. Tagging Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, who had criticised her remarks, Ms Mohamed asked what he had to say about Kangana Ranaut's tweet. In her 2021 tweet, the actor hit out at Rohit Sharma over his post at the height of the 2020-21 farmers' protest against three now-scraped laws. Using a crass word for Rohit Sharma, Ms Ranaut said, "Why all these cricketers sounding like dhobi ka kutta na ghar ka na ghat ka, why would farmers be against laws which are revolutionary for their well being. These are terrorists creating ruckus... say that na itna darr lagta hai?" She later deleted the tweet. The Congress spokesperson's response came after Mr Mandaviya said the Opposition party "should leave sportspersons alone as they are fully capable of handling their professional lives". Remarks made by leaders from these parties, indulging in body shaming and questioning an athlete's place in the team, are not only deeply shameful but also outright pathetic.

"THOSE THINGS DON'T MATTER...": VIRAT KOHLI BLUNT AFTER OUTPLAYING AUSTRALIA IN CHAMPIONS TROPHY SEMI-FINAL

Diary Times Desk : Virat Kohli was grit personified in the India vs Australia Champions Trophy semi-final in Dubai on Tuesday. With India chasing 265 on a tricky wicket, Virat Kohli curbed his attacking instinct as he scored 84 off 98 balls. His innings included only five fours and no sixes. Virat Kohli's strike-rate of 85.71 may not tell the whole story as he stitched crucial stands with Shreyas Iyer, Axar Patel and KL Rahul to take India closer to the target. Ultimately, India chased down the target of 265 in 48.1 overs. Kohli's fluent effort included 56 singles and four twos, indicating his exemplary fitness level. After the win, Virat Kohli said he played like the way he starred against Pakistan, where he scored a ton on the final ball of India's innings. "It was pretty similar to the other day against Pakistan as well. For me it is about understanding the basics and preparing my game accordingly.. just rotating strike because on this pitch partnerships are the most important thing. My only effort that day and today was to string in enough partnerships. The time that I got out the plan was to get 20 more and try and finish it off in a couple of overs. Usually that's the template I follow but sometimes you can't execute what you want to Virat Kohli said after the match-winning knock," Kohli said after the match-winning knock.



NEW DELHI TO HOST FIDE WORLD CUP THIS YEAR

Diary Times Desk : The Fide Chess World Cup will be held in New Delhi later this year, Hindustan Times has reliably learnt. The October 31-November 27 event will mark the return of big-ticket chess to India, since the country hosted the Olympiad in 2022. India previously hosted a Fide World Cup over two decades ago. Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand won that edition held in Hyderabad in 2002. One of Fide's flagship competitions, it is a knockout tournament held once every two years and will have 206 players. New Delhi, this paper understands, was picked as host since it offers travel accessibility to players from across the world. "Direct flights from most global locations was one of the factors why Delhi made for a perfect choice. Also, logistics might be easier to manage, and since it's the national capital, it might help with the buzz around the event," a source told HT. It is learnt that Bharat Mandapam or Yashobhoomi could be the venue. Spread over 123 acres in the heart of the capital, Bharat Mandapam is one of the country's largest convention centres. The venue played host to the G20 Leaders' Summit in 2023 and could be seen as the preferred venue for the Chess World Cup.

"IN 2021...": SURYAKUMAR YADAV REVEALS SECRET BEHIND VARUN CHAKRAVARTHY'S SUCCESS

Diary Times Desk : India's T20I captain Suryakumar Yadav on Tuesday said mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy has been a different player since his comeback to international cricket, for he has become mentally tougher and plays with a smile on his face. Chakravarthy returned excellent figures of 5/42 in India's convincing victory over New Zealand in Dubai on Sunday, which helped the team to top their group on way to the semifinals of the tournament. "The way he left in 2021 and the way he has come back, there are two different Varun Chakravarthys," Suryakumar, the brand ambassador of Moha, told the media here at an event. "He has become a little tough mentally, yet he is smiling a lot and taking everything in his stride irrespective of what happens on the field which is very good from a cricketer's point of view." The selection of Chakravarthy, who did not feature in the first two group matches, proved to be a masterstroke. "I am really happy for him. He deserves everything (for) what he has been doing and all the recognition for what has been happening with him.