

## PM NARENDRA MODI

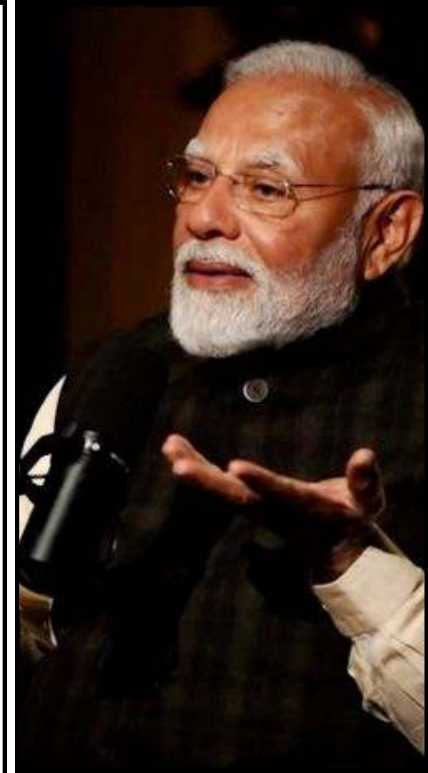
## PRESIDENT TRUMP MORE PREPARED IN SECOND TERM; WE SHARE BOND OF MUTUAL TRUST: PM MODI

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi said he shares a bond of mutual trust with US President Donald Trump and they connect well because they believe in putting their respective national interests above everything else. In a podcast with Lex Fridman, Modi hailed Trump as a man of courage, who took his own decisions, was unwaveringly dedicated to the United States and the same spirit was on display when he was shot at by a gunman on the election campaign trail last year.

The PM said President Trump appeared far more prepared than before in his second term. "He has a clear roadmap in his mind with well-defined steps, each one designed to lead him towards his goals," Modi said on Trump's second term as President.

The PM said he had the chance to meet members of Trump's team during his recent visit to the US. "I truly believe he has put together a strong and capable group. And with such a strong team, I feel they are fully capable of implementing President Trump's vision," Modi said.

He recalled his meetings with Vice President JD Vance, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, Vivek Ramaswamy and Elon Musk. The PM recalled the 'Howdy Modi' community event at the packed NRG Stadium in Houston in September 2019 and how Trump listened to his speech by sitting among the audience. "Now, that's his humility. The President of the United States sitting in the audience while I spoke from the stage – that was a remarkable gesture on his part," Modi said.



## CM MK STALIN

## 'RU' SYMBOL IN STATE BUDGET TO SHOW OUR DETERMINATION FOR LANGUAGE POLICY: TAMIL NADU CM MK STALIN



**Diary Times Desk :** The replacing of the Indian rupee symbol with the Tamil letter 'Ru' in the Budget presented for 2025-26 was to show how determined the ruling DMK was over the language policy, Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and the party president MK Stalin said on Sunday. While he had released the logo for the Budget, "those who don't like Tamil made it a big news," he said in an apparent attack on the BJP.

The CM, in his regular "Ungalil Oruvan" (One among you) video address, also took a jibe at Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman for her criticism on the rupee symbol issue, saying she could respond on the matter but not on Tamil Nadu's plea for funds. "I had released the Budget logo. We had the 'Ru' to show how determined we are in the language policy. But those who don't like Tamil made it a big news," he said.

The Tamil Nadu government replacing the rupee symbol with 'Ru' – the first letter of 'Rubaii' that denotes the national currency in the vernacular language – had kicked up a row with the BJP taking strong exception.

We had pleaded with the Union Government to give funds for 100-day job scheme (MGNREGA), disaster management, and release school education funds. The Union Finance Minister did not respond to the request, but has spoken on this matter," he said. Even she had, in many posts, used the word 'Ru', he claimed. "In English, Rupees is written simply as Rs. That doesn't matter to them, but this seems to be an issue for them. Overall, our Budget was a hit across the nation, as was Tamil," he said.

## CHRISTOPHER LUXON, TULSI GABBARD TO ATTEND THREE-DAY RAISINA DIALOGUE IN DELHI

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the three-day Raisina Dialogue — India's flagship conference on geopolitics and geo-economics — on Monday. New Zealand Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, US Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha are among those attending the 10th edition of the conclave. In a first, a delegation, including a senior security official, from Taiwan is also attending the deliberations, reflecting growing cooperation between the two sides in the last few years, people familiar with the matter said. The Raisina Dialogue is being hosted by the leading think-tank Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). It will witness the participation of representatives from about 125 countries, including ministers, former heads of state and heads of government, military commanders, captains of industry, technology leaders, academics, journalists, scholars on strategic affairs and experts from leading think tanks, the MEA said on Sunday. The Ukrainian foreign minister's visit to India comes as the US is stepping up efforts towards a temporary ceasefire between Ukraine and Russia to end their conflict.



## SUPREME COURT TO HEAR ON MARCH 18 SUO MOTU PROCEEDING INITIATED OVER LOKPAL'S ORDER

**Diary Times Desk :** The Supreme Court will on Tuesday take up a suo motu proceeding against the Lokpal's order asserting its power to investigate complaints of corruption against sitting high court judges. The matter is listed before a three-judge Bench of Justice BR Gavai, Justice Surya Kant and Justice Abhay S Oka, which had on February 20 stayed the Lokpal's January 27 order. Describing the Lokpal's order as "disturbing", the Bench had also issued notice to the Centre, the Lokpal office and the complainant. Three weeks after the Lokpal held that it has power to investigate complaints of corruption against sitting high court judges, the Supreme Court had on February 19 taken suo motu cognisance of the contentious issue. "We make it amply clear that by this order we have decided a singular issue finally—as to whether the judges of the high court established by an Act of Parliament come within the ambit of Section 14 of the Act of 2013, in the affirmative.

## WANTED FOR TERROR ATTACKS IN J&K, LET FOUNDER HAFIZ SAEED'S TRUSTED HANDLER SHOT DEAD IN PAK

**Diary Times Desk :** A top Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) commander, wanted by Indian security agencies for several deadly terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, was eliminated by gunmen in an attack in Pakistan, officials said on Sunday. Zia-ur-Rehman, alias Abu Qatal, alias Nadeem, alias Qatal Sindhi, was gunned down in the Jhelum area of Punjab on Saturday evening. His security guard was also killed, the officials said, quoting information received from the neighbouring country. Considered the most trusted handler of LeT founder and 26/11 Mumbai terror attack mastermind Hafiz Saeed, they said 43-year-old Rehman was the main handler of the terror outfit involved in the planning of various attacks in the Poonch-Rajouri region of Jammu and Kashmir. The officials said Rehman had infiltrated the Jammu region in early 2000 and exfiltrated in 2005. He had a wide network of over ground workers in Poonch and Rajouri through his old contacts, they said. In the various investigations conducted by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) into the gruesome terror incidents in Poonch-Rajouri region, his involvement was found, officials said.



## UTTARAKHAND: BJP MLA DEMANDS BAN ON 'NON-HINDUS' IN KEDARNATH DHAM

**Diary Times Desk :** Ahead of the commencement of the Chardham Yatra, BJP MLA from Kedarnath, Asha Nautiyal, on Sunday demanded a ban on those selling non-vegetarian food and liquor in Kedarnath Dham and alleged that "non-Hindus" are engaged in such activities to bring ill repute to the holy town. In a video statement, Nautiyal said the issue was raised during a recent meeting with local hotel, dhaba owners, and horse-mule operators regarding Yatra preparations. The Uttarakhand unit of the Congress strongly condemned her statement, terming it an attempt to spread hatred. Its senior vice president Suryakant Dhasmana said, "Be it Maha Kumbh, Holi, Jumme ki Namaz, or the Chardham Yatra, the BJP repeatedly targets the minority Muslim community to disrupt communal harmony. This is their national agenda." Nautiyal said that during the meeting, some people informed her that "non-Hindus" are engaged in selling non-vegetarian and liquor. "Those defaming the Dham must be banned," she said.



## YOUR HOROSCOPE 17-03-2025

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.





## HIMACHAL BUDGET 2025: CM SUKHWINDER SINGH SUKHU WILL PRESENT THE BUDGET TODAY, WILL FOCUS ON RURAL ECONOMY

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu will present the third budget of his tenure on Monday. The CM also has the finance portfolio, so as Finance Minister, he will present the budget for the financial year 2025-26 and start his speech at 11 am, which will last for three hours. This budget will be presented in the election year of Panchayati Raj Institutions, so naturally the budget will focus on panchayats and rural economy. The CM has already made it clear that the budget will focus on the rural economy. In the budget, schemes can be brought to strengthen many sectors and sections including agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry, strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions, poor and backward people of rural areas, women. The annual development expenditure is also being fixed in a new form this time. The financial condition of the state is thin. In the next financial year, the revenue deficit grant (RDG) from the Center will also be reduced to Rs 3,257 crore, which was Rs 11,431 crore in the financial year 2020-21. That means it will be a challenge for the government to bridge the revenue deficit of Rs 8,174 crore.



## HIMACHAL : HUSBAND STRANGLED TO DEATH IN LOVE AFFAIR IN KANGRA, HIMACHAL, WOMAN AND LOVER ARRESTED

**Diary Times Desk :** A case of murder of a person has come to light in village Sai Da Lahad of Panchayat Bhranta. The wife and her lover are accused of murder. The deceased has been identified as migrant laborer Ved Prakash (43). According to the police, Ved Prakash returned home drunk, where his wife strangled him to death and then attacked his face and neck with a sharp object. The police have also recovered the call recording of the woman and her lover. It became clear from this that both of them carried out this crime together. The woman Raj Mala and her lover Trilok Kumar were arrested by the police and presented in the court, where they were sent on 5-day remand. According to the police, Ved Prakash, a resident of Badaun, Uttar Pradesh, was living with his family in a rented house in Sai Da Lahad for many years. His family consists of his wife, a daughter and a son. He was addicted to drinking alcohol. It is alleged that his wife had an affair with Trilok, due to which the couple often quarreled. There was a fight on Thursday night also and the woman strangled him to death at night. The police found the wife's activities suspicious in the preliminary investigation.

## HIMACHAL : AUCTION OF LIQUOR SHOPS WILL START FROM MARCH 18, TAX AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT RELEASED THE SCHEDULE

**Diary Times Desk :** Auction of 2100 liquor contracts will start from March 18 in Himachal Pradesh. The Tax and Excise Department has released the district-wise schedule for auction for the financial year 2025-26. A target has been set to raise 2,850 crore revenue from the auction of liquor contracts in the coming financial year. Tenders will open in three districts for four days from March 18 to 21. New businessmen will get liquor contracts from April 1. To compete with neighboring states, the government has decided to keep the quota of foreign liquor open. Under this, no limit will be set for keeping foreign liquor. Although the quota of country liquor will remain fixed, its prices are also likely to remain the same in the year 2025-26. The Tax and Excise Department has released the schedule for auctioning liquor contracts from March 18 to 21 across the state. State Tax and Excise Commissioner Dr. Yunus informed that on March 18, from 11:30 am.

## HIMACHAL: PRATIBHA SINGH WILL BE ON MANDI TOUR FROM MARCH 19, WILL HAVE DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH WORKERS, WILL VISIT ALL DISTRICTS

**Diary Times Desk :** State Congress President Pratibha Singh will visit all the districts of the state to communicate directly with the workers. During this time, she will also hold meetings with local leaders and workers. In the first phase, she will be on a tour of Mandi district from 19 to 22 March. Pratibha Singh said that workers are the backbone of the party. Strengthening them, listening to their problems and resolving them is her main responsibility as the party president. Pratibha Singh will leave for Mandi from Shimla at 11 am on March 19. After attending a private program in Sundernagar, the night stay will be in Mandi. On March 20, Pratibha Singh will hold a meeting with party leaders and workers of Mandi Sadar, Drang, Jogindernagar, Seraj and Balh assembly constituencies in Mandi at 11 am. The night stay will be in Mandi on this day as well. On March 21, she will hold a meeting with party leaders and workers of Sundernagar, Nachan, Sarkaghat, Dharampur and Karsog assembly constituencies in Sundernagar at 11 am. The night stay will be in Sundernagar. On March 22, she will attend the annual awards function of Dreams Group of Institutes in Nachan as the chief guest.

## BUMBER THAKUR: THREE ACCUSED ARRESTED IN BUMBER THAKUR FIRING CASE, INSTAGRAM REELS OF TWO SHOOTERS ALSO WENT VIRAL

**Diary Times Desk :** In the firing incident on the former MLA in Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh, the police has arrested three of the five accused in custody. They have been identified as Ritesh, Manjit Nadda and Rohit Rana. Manjit Nadda and Rohit Rana are accused of getting the race done. At the same time, an Insta video of two accused shooters is also going viral on which a Punjabi song is played. These accused are said to be from Ritauli village of Rohtak, Haryana. They had fired bullets on former MLA Bamber Thakur. Police teams are busy searching for these shooters. Both are said to be wrestlers. At the same time, CCTV footage of the attackers has also been found. In which they are seen coming and going. Let us tell you that on Holi, on Friday, four attackers fired bullets at former Congress MLA Bamber Thakur at his wife's government residence in broad daylight.

## HIMACHAL NEWS: CHIEF ENGINEER OF STATE POWER CORPORATION IS MISSING FOR ABOUT SIX DAYS, WIFE MADE THESE ALLEGATIONS

**Diary Times Desk :** Kiran Negi, wife of the missing Chief Engineer, General Manager Vimal Gupta of the State Power Corporation, has accused the senior officials of mental harassment and misbehavior. She has written a letter to Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu in this regard and appealed to find her husband Vimal Negi who has been missing since March 10. Kiran Negi has also announced a reward of Rs 1 lakh to the person who gives information about her husband. In the letter sent to the Chief Minister, Kiran Negi said that my husband Engineer Vimal Negi, who is currently working in Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited, is missing from Shimla since March 10, 2025. An FIR regarding his missing/missing has been registered at Police Station Sadar Shimla. Vimal Negi has two mobile numbers which have been switched off since March 10. Her husband was last seen near the Kandroun bridge in Ghumarwin.

## HIMACHAL : 219 CRORES WILL BE SPENT ON THE WELFARE OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS, RECORDS WILL BE DIGITAL

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board has approved the release of Rs 219.46 crore for the welfare of construction workers. In the meeting, it was also decided to digitize the records of all beneficiaries to improve and streamline the services. This decision was taken in the 48th meeting of the Board of Directors of the Board held on Saturday under the chairmanship of Board Chairman Nardev Singh Kanwar. Rs 160 crore has been allocated for various social welfare schemes for the beneficiaries of the board. Kanwar said that a provision of Rs 35 crore has been made for setting up a day-boarding school in Dehra, Kangra for the education of children of the board's workers engaged in construction works. Under the Information, Education and Communication initiative, awareness and outreach programs were approved to make the workers aware of various welfare schemes and rights. To increase administrative efficiency, the board approved the repair work of the office in Hamirpur. Board members Ravindra Singh Ravi, Bhupendra Singh, JC Chauhan, Hema Tanwar, Munish Karol, Jyoti Chauhan, Amar Singh were present.

## TAMIL NADU TO GET RS 1,112 CRORE ELECTRONICS MANUFACTURING CLUSTERS

**Diary Times Desk :** The Union government has announced the establishment of two electronics manufacturing clusters in Tamil Nadu, with a combined investment of Rs 1,112 crore. These clusters are set to be developed in Pillaipakkam, Kancheepuram district, and Manalur, Thiruvallur district, aiming to position Tamil Nadu as a pivotal hub in both domestic and international electronics markets. The selection of Pillaipakkam and Manalur for these clusters is strategic, given their proximity to Chennai, a city renowned for its robust industrial infrastructure and skilled workforce. This geographical advantage is expected to attract major investments and foster the growth of ancillary industries, thereby creating numerous employment opportunities in the region. The electronics industry has emerged as India's second-largest export sector, surpassing several traditional industries over the past decade. Tamil Nadu, with its favorable industrial policies and infrastructure, has been instrumental in this growth trajectory.

## NIRMALA SITHARAMAN HAS ALSO USED TAMIL RUPEE SYMBOL: MK STALIN BACKS BUDGET MOVE

**Diary Times Desk :** Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin defended the state's decision to use the Tamil letter for 'ru' in place of the official rupee symbol in its budget for 2025-26, pointing out that Nirmala Sitharaman herself had previously used Tamil letter 'Ru' (rubai in Tamil) instead of 'Re' in English. Interestingly, Nirmala Sitharaman herself has used " instead of " in English," Stalin said. He added that the move reflected the state's commitment to promoting the Tamil language. "To demonstrate our unwavering stance on the language issue, we introduced the Tamil Ru symbol," Stalin said. He criticised those opposing Tamil for turning the move into "a major controversy." Stalin said that despite making "hundreds of requests to the Union Finance Minister for funds for salaries and education," the state had received no response. He noted that many still use 'Rs' instead of 'Re' in English documents without controversy. This comes after Sitharaman lashed out at the DMK government's move, saying it "promoted secessionist sentiments under the pretence of regional pride". In her post on X, the Finance Minister stated that replacing the rupee symbol pointed to a dangerous mindset.

## '9/11, PARLIAMENT ATTACK...': PM MODI ON EVENTS LEADING UP TO 2002 GUJARAT RIOTS



**Diary Times Desk :** The 2002 Sabarmati Express attack in Gujarat's Godhra was a "tragedy of unimaginable magnitude" and the riots that followed this "was tragic for everyone," Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said in an interview with US computer scientist and podcast host Lex Fridman. In a three-hour-long overarching interview, PM Modi was asked about the 2002 riots in Gujarat and what lessons he drew from it. PM Modi pointed out that the riots that took place, contrary to perception, were not the worst that Gujarat has seen. Nor has there been any communal tension in the state since. PM Modi said a fake narrative was spread around the Godhra case. Before 2002, Gujarat had witnessed over 250 riots, and communal violence was frequent. The world had seen a surge in terrorist activities and violence during those times. However, since 2002, not a single case of riots has occurred in Gujarat. He also highlighted that people tried to malign his image after the riots but ultimately, justice prevailed and the courts cleared his name.

## AMID 'THUMKA' ROW, TEJ PRATAP YADAV FINED FOR HELMETLESS SCOOTER RIDE ON HOLI

**Diary Times Desk :** RJD leader Tej Pratap Yadav, son of former Chief Ministers Lalu Prasad and Rabri Devi, was fined on Sunday for violating traffic rules during the Holi celebrations. Tej Pratap was spotted riding a scooty in Patna without wearing a helmet. Upon investigation, it was also found that the vehicle's insurance and pollution certificate had expired. He drove the scooty from Rabri Devi's place, and crossed CM Nitish Kumar's residence, to reach his destination. The Traffic Police issued a challan of Rs 4,000, including Rs 1,000 for not wearing a helmet, Rs 1,000 and Rs 2000 for pollution and insurance certificates expiry. Authorities said traffic rules apply to everyone, regardless of their political stature. The Patna Police have also taken strict action against a constable, Deepak Kumar, who was seen dancing in uniform during a Holi celebration at the instructions of Hasanpur MLA Tej Pratap Yadav.

## "LOVE FOR BHARAT": AMIT SHAH PRAISES, GIFTS GUITAR TO MIZORAM'S "WONDER KID"

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah, during his visit to the Northeast, gifted a guitar to 7-year-old Mizoram prodigy Esther Lalduhawmi Hnamte on Saturday after she performed a heartfelt rendition of Vande Mataram in Aizawl. "Love for Bharat unites us all. Deeply moved to listen to Mizoram's wonder kid Esther Lalduhawmi Hnamte, singing Vande Mataram in Aizawl today. The seven-year-old's love for Bharat Mata poured out into her song, making listening to her a mesmerizing experience," Mr Shah wrote in a post on X. Hnamte, a young singing sensation from Mizoram, first gained nationwide attention in 2020 when a video of her singing 'Maa Tujhe Salaam' went viral. Her powerful voice and patriotic spirit earned her widespread admiration. She received multiple awards from the Mizoram government, including a special appreciation from the Governor. Home Minister Amit Shah is on a three-day visit to Assam since March 14 (Friday). However, on Saturday, March 15, he visited Mizoram, where he attended the land transfer ceremony for the Assam rifles' land being transferred to the Mizoram government.

## JHARKHAND HEATWAVE: 7 DISTRICTS RECORD TEMPERATURES OVER 40 DEGREES CELSIUS

**Diary Times Desk :** Heatwave conditions sizzled Jharkhand with the mercury crossing 40 degrees Celsius in seven districts, officials said on Sunday. Chaibasa in West Singhbhum district registered the state's highest temperature at 41 degrees Celsius, 7.6 notches above the normal, on Saturday, they said. Daltonganj recorded 40.7 degrees Celsius, while the weather station in Bokaro Thermal registered 40.1. Jamshepur in East Singhbhum recorded 40 degrees Celsius, which was 6.4 degrees higher than the normal, while state capital Ranchi registered 37 degrees Celsius, 6.1 notches above the normal. Garhwa, Godda and Pakur also sizzled above 40 degrees Celsius. The mercury is likely to fall from March 19 with the IMD predicting rain and thunderstorms in the region. "A Yellow alert for heatwave has been issued for Seraikela-Kharswan, East Singhbhum, West Singhbhum, Dhanbad and Bokaro for March 16," Ranchi Meteorological Centre's Deputy Director told PTI.

## JAIRAM RAMESH, HIMANTA SPAR OVER CONGRESS LEADER'S ARREST; ASSAM CM SAYS 'INSULT DIRECTED AT DALIT WOMAN'

**Diary Times Desk :** Congress leader Jairam Ramesh and Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma traded barbs on social media after the arrest of Assam Congress spokesperson Reetam Singh in Guwahati. Ramesh called the arrest "worse than atrocious," while Sarma defended the move, citing legal grounds. "The arrest of my young colleague Reetam Singh (@SinghReetam) for a perfectly reasonable social media post is worse than atrocious Mr. Chief Minister @himantabiswa," Ramesh wrote in his post on X. Sarma hit back at Ramesh, accusing Ramesh and the Congress of justifying offensive remarks against a Dalit woman's husband. He also warned of an impending "big revelation" linking a senior Congress leader, Gaurav Gogoi, to ISI and Pakistan. The Assam CM also put a timeline on the supposed revelation. "Sir, this case pertains to a caste-based insult directed at a Dalit woman.





### 59 DEAD, OVER 150 INJURED AFTER MASSIVE FIRE AT MACEDONIA NIGHTCLUB

**Diary Times Desk :** At least 59 people were killed while more than 150 were injured after a fire broke out at a nightclub in North Macedonia during a concert attended by over a thousand people, AP reported quoting the authorities on Sunday. The fateful incident occurred in a discotheque in Kocani, a town around 100 km (60 miles) east of Skopje, where approximately 1,500 people had gathered for a concert. The fire erupted at "Pulse," a nightclub in Kocani, during a performance by DNK, a well-known hip-hop duo in the country. The concert, which began at midnight on Sunday, primarily drew young attendees. Online media outlet SDK reported that the fire started at around 3 am (0200 GMT), citing rescue sources who stated that over 100 people were injured. "This is a difficult and very sad day for Macedonia. The loss of so many young lives is irreparable, and the pain of the families, loved ones and friends is immeasurable," North Macedonia's prime minister, Hristijan Mickoski, wrote on X, formerly Twitter. "The people and the government will do everything in their power to at least slightly alleviate their pain and help them in these most difficult moments."

### TRUMP AND PUTIN EXPECTED TO SPEAK THIS WEEK AS US PUSHES FOR RUSSIA-UKRAINE CEASEFIRE

**Diary Times Desk :** U.S. President Donald Trump is expected to speak with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin this week on ways to end the three-year war in Ukraine, U.S. envoy Steve Witkoff told CNN on Sunday after returning from what he described as a "positive" meeting with Putin in Moscow. "I expect that there will be a call with both presidents this week, and we're also continuing to engage and have conversation with the Ukrainians," said Witkoff, who met with Putin on Thursday night, adding that he thought the talk between Trump and Putin would be "really good and positive." Trump is trying to win Putin's support for a 30-day ceasefire proposal that Ukraine accepted last week, as both sides continued trading heavy aerial strikes through the weekend and Russia moved closer to ejecting Ukrainian forces from their months-old foothold in the western Russian region of Kursk. Trump said in a social media post on Friday that there was "a very good chance that this horrible, bloody war can finally come."

### US ATTACKS ON HOUTHIS WILL BE 'UNRELENTING,' HEGSETH SAYS



**Diary Times Desk :** US military strikes on Yemen's Houthi militants will be "unrelenting" until the group stops shooting at civilian and military vessels in the Red Sea, Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth said on Sunday, a day after President Donald Trump ordered new operations in the Middle East. This campaign is about freedom of navigation and restoring deterrence. The minute the Houthis say, 'We'll stop shooting at your ships, we'll stop shooting at your drones,' this campaign will end," Hegseth said in an interview on Fox News's Sunday Morning Futures. "But until then, it will be unrelenting." On Saturday, Trump said he ordered "decisive and powerful" action against the Houthis. In a post on his social media platform Truth Social he said the group has "choked off shipping in one of the most important Waterways of the World, grinding vast swaths of Global Commerce to a halt." He added attacks on American vessels "will not be tolerated."

### BALOCH INSURGENTS CLAIM 90 KILLED IN ATTACK ON PAKISTANI MILITARY CONVOY

**Diary Times Desk :** At least seven Pakistani soldiers were killed and 21 injured after their convoy, travelling from Quetta to Taftan, was attacked on Sunday. While official sources confirmed seven deaths, the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA) claimed responsibility for the attack, alleging that 90 military personnel had been killed. A statement by a Pakistani official said, "A security forces convoy travelling from Quetta to Taftan was attacked. The convoy, consisting of seven buses and two vehicles, was targeted. One of the buses was hit by a vehicle loaded with IEDs, possibly a suicide attack, while another was targeted by Rocket-Propelled Grenades (RPGs)." Army Aviation helicopters have been deployed to ferry the injured and drones have been launched for surveillance of the area, the official said. According to reports, a vehicle loaded with IEDs collided with one of the military buses. It was, reportedly, a suicide bombing. Noshki Station SHO Zafarullah Sulemani said that.

### US' MARCO RUBIO AND RUSSIA'S SERGEI LAVROV DISCUSS NEXT STEPS ON UKRAINE

**Diary Times Desk :** US Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov spoke on Saturday to discuss the next stage in talks on ending Moscow's war against Ukraine. According to State Department spokeswoman Tammy Bruce, the top diplomats "agreed to continue working towards restoring communication between the United States and Russia." The statement gave no details on when the next round of US-Russia talks, which are being hosted by Saudi Arabia, would begin. Rubio also updated Lavrov on military activity in the Middle East, where US forces carried out deadly strikes Saturday against Houthi rebel targets in Yemen, the statement said. Despite recent tensions between President Donald Trump and his Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelensky, Kyiv has agreed in principle to a US-brokered 30-day unconditional ceasefire if Moscow halts its attacks in eastern Ukraine. Russia's President Vladimir Putin has not however agreed to any truce, instead setting conditions that were beyond what was called for in the US agreement with Ukraine.

### HOSPITALISED POPE FRANCIS ADDRESSES FRAILTY, CALLS BODY 'WEAK'

**Diary Times Desk :** Pope Francis acknowledged being fragile and "facing a period of trial", as he thanked well-wishers Sunday for prayers in a message from hospital, where he has been slowly recovering from pneumonia. The 88-year-old pope, who has weathered his setbacks along with periods of improvement since being hospitalised on February 14, sent a particularly personal message to the faithful that referenced both his faith -- and his frailty. "I am sharing these thoughts with you while I am facing a period of trial, and I join with so many brothers and sisters who are sick: fragile, at this time, like me," wrote the pope in the message published by the Vatican. Our bodies are weak but, even like this, nothing can prevent us from loving, praying, giving ourselves, being for each other, in faith, shining signs of hope," he added in the message marking the second Sunday of Lent, a 40-day period of prayer and reflection leading up to Easter. Sunday was the fifth time in a row the pope's illness had prevented him from personally giving the Angelus prayer, usually delivered to a crowd gathered in St Peter's Square following mass. Although Francis has yet to appear.

### WHAT IS ALIEN ENEMIES ACT, US LAW USED FOR FIRST TIME SINCE WORLD WAR II

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump on Saturday invoked the Alien Enemies Act - a wartime law last used in World War II - to deport individuals linked to Venezuela's Tren de Aragua gang. This was the first use of the act since World War II. Now a federal judge has blocked the deportations. Trump's order designated the Venezuelan gang as an "invading force", but US District Judge James E Boasberg, an Obama appointee, froze deportations for two weeks and set a Friday hearing to review legal challenges. The Alien Enemies Act is a United States federal law enacted in 1798 as part of the Alien and Sedition Acts. This legislation grants the President authority to detain or deport non-citizens from nations considered hostile during times of declared war or invasion. In times of declared war, the president can order the apprehension, restraint, and removal of citizens aged 14 and older from enemy nations residing in the US, based solely on their nationality.



## PUNJAB POLICE TO BRING BACK JAILED MP AMRITPAL'S 7 AIDES FROM ASSAM AFTER NSA DETENTION ENDS

**Diary Times Desk** : The Punjab Police will bring back seven associates of jailed MP and pro-Khalistan activist Amritpal Singh from Assam's Dibrugarh jail after the state government decided not to reinvoke the NSA at the end of their detention period, a top officer said on Sunday. They will be formally arrested in the 2023 Ajnala police station attack incident and face the law, Director-General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav said. Amritpal, the chief of the Waris Punjab De outfit, and his nine associates have been in detention in Assam's Dibrugarh jail under the National Security Act (NSA) since 2023. In 2024, their detention period under the NSA was extended by a year. Moga natives Basant Singh, Bhagwant Singh alias Pradhan Mantri Bajjeke, Gurmeet Singh Gill alias Gurmeet Bukkanwala and Kulwant Singh Dhaliwal alias Kulwant Singh; Gurinderpal Singh Aujja alias Guri Aujja (Phagwara); Harjeet Singh alias Chacha (Amritsar); and Sarabjeet Singh Kalsi alias Daljeet Singh Kalsi (Delhi) will be brought back to Punjab, according to DGP Yadav.



## SPEEDING CAR MOWS DOWN THREE AT NIGHT NAKA ON ZIRAKPUR BORDER

**Diary Times Desk** : Three persons, including a police constable and a Home Guard jawan, were killed when a speeding car crashed into them at a checkpoint on the Chandigarh-Zirakpur barrier around 2 am on Friday. The accused was reportedly in an inebriated condition. Constable Sukhdarshan and Home Guard Rajesh were conducting a night check when they signalled a Baleno car to stop. While both, along with the car driver, identified as Samarth Dua, were standing near the vehicle, a speeding Polo car coming from the Zirakpur side crashed into them. The impact was so severe that the Baleno was flung to nearly 25 metres. The two cops and Dua died on the spot. The naka in charge, ASI Satnam Singh, said the Polo driver accelerated upon seeing the checkpoint, leading to the crash. The police recovered bottles of liquor and snacks from the vehicle.

## ISRO, MOHALI CHIP LAB DEVELOPS 32-BIT MICROPROCESSORS FOR SPACE APPLICATIONS

**Diary Times Desk** : ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre and Semi-Conductor Laboratory (SCL), Mohali, have jointly developed 32-bit microprocessors -- Vikram 3201 and Kalpana 3201-- for space applications, the space agency has said. Vikram 3201 is the first fully Indian-made 32-bit microprocessor qualified for use in the harsh environmental conditions of launch vehicles. The processor was fabricated at the 180nm (nanometer) CMOS (Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor) semiconductor fab of SCL. This processor is an advanced version of the indigenously designed 16-bit Vikram 1601 microprocessor, which has been operating in the avionics system of ISRO's launch vehicles since 2009, ISRO said in a statement released late on Saturday. A "Make-in-India" version of the Vikram 1601 processor was subsequently inducted in 2016 after the 180nm semiconductor fab was established at SCL, the statement said.

## MANN WILL COMPLETE 5 YEARS AS PUNJAB CM; DRUGS, CORRUPTION 'BIGGEST' PROBLEMS, SAYS KEJRIWAL

**Diary Times Desk** : AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal on Sunday asserted that Bhagwant Mann would complete his five-year term as the chief minister of Punjab, trashing opposition parties' claims that he would be removed from the post. However, Kejriwal also said drugs and corruption were the biggest problems in Punjab where the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) under Mann has been in power for the last three years. Kejriwal and Mann offered prayers at the Golden Temple on the completion of three years of the party's government in the state on Sunday. Kejriwal, the former Delhi chief minister, arrived in Amritsar on Saturday after completing a 10-day Vipassana meditation session in Punjab's Hoshiarpur. During the Golden Temple visit, Kejriwal was accompanied by his wife Sunita Kejriwal, and AAP leaders, including minister Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal. The AAP convener along with his wife arrived in Amritsar on Friday and stayed overnight at the Basant Avenue residence of former cabinet minister and president of Chief Khalsa Diwan, MLA Dr Inderbir Singh Nijjar.

## SAMYUKTA KISAN MORCHA TO TAKE OUT MARCH TO PUNJAB ASSEMBLY ON MARCH 26

**Diary Times Desk** : The Samyukta Kisan Morcha on Sunday announced to take out a march to the Punjab Assembly on March 26, days after the police thwarted its attempt to go to Chandigarh for a week-long 'dharna'. A decision in this regard was taken in a meeting held here in which several Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) leaders, including Darshan Pal, Jangveer Singh Chauhan and Binder Singh Golewala, were present. Sharing details of the meeting, the SKM leaders said the farmers will gather at Sector 34 ground in Chandigarh on March 26 and they will move towards the Punjab Assembly from there. The Punjab Government will present the state Budget for 2025-26 in the Assembly on March 26. The budget session has been convened from March 21 till 28. Earlier on March 5, the Punjab Police had thwarted the farmers' attempt to go to Chandigarh on the SKM's call for a week-long 'dharna'. Many farmer leaders had been detained during the protest in support of various demands, including purchase of six crops at minimum support price by the state government. The SKM leaders on Sunday lashed out at Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann for allegedly misleading people. They slammed the AAP leaders, accusing them of spreading "false propoganda" that farmers' demands were related to the Centre only.

## HEALTH WORKERS TO HOLD STATE-LEVEL PROTEST OUTSIDE CM'S RESIDENCE IN KURUKSHETRA ON MARCH 23

**Diary Times Desk** : National Health Mission (NHM) employees under the banner of Swasthya Karamchari Sangh, affiliated with the Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, held a state-level meeting at Brahmin Dharamshala in the city on Sunday. They announced to hold a state-level protest on March 23 outside the CM's residence in Kurukshetra. Prior to this, the NHM employees will submit memorandums to the Deputy Commissioners at district headquarters on March 18 to press their demands. The employees demanded the release of pending dearness allowance for January and July 2024, as per the NHM Service Rules 2018 under the Sixth Pay Commission, along with the benefits of the Seventh Pay Commission, which were approved in principle by former CM Manohar Lal Khattar on November 2, 2021. They also demanded that the strike/agitation periods from 2017 to 2024 should be considered as duty periods, and salaries should be released accordingly. State President Vipin Sharma said that on March 23, thousands of NHM employees will gather at the CM's residence in Kurukshetra to stage a protest and present their demands to the government.

## HARYANA CHIEF SECRETARY REVIEWS PREPARATIONS FOR 'JAL SHAKTI ABHIYAN'

**Diary Times Desk** : Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi today conducted a review meeting with Deputy Commissioners via video conferencing regarding the preparations for the national event on Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain, scheduled to be held on March 22 at Tau Devi Lal Stadium, Panchkula. He issued necessary instructions to ensure the smooth conduct of the event. The Chief Secretary informed that the sixth edition of Jal Shakti Abhiyan - Catch the Rain - will be launched from Panchkula on March 22. Union Minister for Jal Shakti CR Paatil and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini will be the chief guests at the event. He directed Deputy Commissioners to encourage the participation of progressive farmers, women and individuals who have made significant contributions to water conservation. The event aims to promote water conservation and raise awareness about sustainable water management practices. Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi today conducted a review meeting with Deputy Commissioners via video conferencing regarding the preparations for the national event.



## STATE DRUG CONTROLLER NAMED CENTRAL TECHNICAL BOARD MEMBER

**Diary Times Desk :** Dr Manish Kapoor, State Drugs Controller, has been nominated as a member of the prestigious Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB). It is the highest statutory decision-making body of the central drugs regulator. His nomination has been made under clause (ix) of subsection (2) of section 5 of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act 1940 as per a gazette notification issued by the Centre on March 12. Dr Kapoor's appointment is particularly significant as he is the only Drug Controller from any state or Union Territory to have been nominated to this board. The Drug Technical Advisory Board plays a critical role in advising both the central and state governments on technical matters concerning drug regulation across India. This achievement highlights the growing prominence of the state in the healthcare sector and is seen as a significant recognition of Dr Kapoor's dedication and professionalism in the field.

## 5 INJURED IN CAR-CANTER COLLISION IN HIMACHAL PRADESH'S UNA



**Diary Times Desk :** Five people were injured when their car collided with a canter truck near Mini Secretariat Chowk in this Himachal Pradesh district, police said on Sunday. The injured—Ashraf Mohammad, his wife Basa Bibi, Nek Mohammad, his wife Changi Bibi, and Janaib Mohammad—are residents of the district's Dhusara village. The accident occurred around 1:45 am. The driver lost control of the car and it collided with the canter truck, the police said. The police and locals rescued the injured and admitted them to a nearby medical facility. Ashraf and his wife were referred to the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) in Chandigarh.

## 3 ARRESTED FOR ROLE IN BUMBER THAKUR FIRING INCIDENT

**Diary Times Desk :** Three persons have been arrested for being involved in the shooting incident in which former Congress MLA Bumber Thakur was injured. The accused have been identified as Rohit Kumar Rana (29), a resident of Dharot village in Shri Naina Devi Ji Tehsil, Bilaspur; Manjeet Singh Nadda (33), a resident of Binaula village in Bilaspur; and Ritesh Sharma, alias Rishu (24), a resident of Rohin village in Ghumarwin Tehsil, Bilaspur. According to the police, one of the accused, Ritesh, had helped the shooters in fleeing from the crime scene in his vehicle after the latter fired shots outside the residence of Thakur, while the role of other two accused is yet to be determined. Superintendent of Police (SP), Bilaspur, Sandeep Dhawal confirmed the report and said that a case under Section 109 (attempt to murder), 3 (5) (joint criminal liability) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) Act, 2023, and Sections 25, 54, 59 of Arms Act, 1959, had been registered and further investigation is under way.



## SUKHU PROMISES STRINGENT ACTION AGAINST ATTACKERS

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu today visited IGMC, Shimla, to enquire about the well-being of former Congress legislator Bumber Thakur, who sustained gunshot injuries on Friday at Bilaspur. Sukhu assured him that stern action would be taken against those who are responsible for the attack. The CM wished Thakur a speedy recovery. In an informal talk with mediapersons, the CM said that doctors are giving him the best treatment and he is out of danger. He said the police have been directed to take swift action against the perpetrators. "The police conducted raids overnight, leading to the arrest of some suspects linked to the incident," he added. Responding to a question, the CM said that protest is a democratic right of the Opposition, but the Opposition must also cooperate with the government. "The first question is how the drug mafia was allowed to flourish in the state. Due to the earnest efforts of our government, drug cases have dropped by 30 per cent. I have ordered a crackdown on the drug mafia in a recent meeting and the state government will introduce Bills in the ongoing Budget session of the Vidhan Sabha to impose stringent measures against organised crimes and drug networks," said the CM.

## SNOW IN HIGHER REACHES, RAIN IN SEVERAL PARTS OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

**Diary Times Desk :** Isolated places in higher reaches of Himachal Pradesh received snowfall, while moderate rain lashed parts of the state, the Shimla Meteorological office said on Sunday. The wet spell will continue in the hill state till Friday, barring Tuesday, it said. Some areas in the state have witnessed snowfall since Saturday evening. Kothi in Manali received 27.5 cm of snow, Shimla's Khadrula 5 cm, Kinnaur's Kalpa 4 cm and Sangla 3.4 cm while Lahaul and Spiti's Gondla recorded 15 cm of snowfall, Kukumseri 4.8 cm and Keylong 4 cm. Thunderstorms were observed in Shimla, Jubbarhatti, Kangra, Sundernagar and Kullu's Bhunter. Shallow fog reduced visibility to about 800 metres in parts of Mandi district, the weather office said. Several areas in Himachal Pradesh were lashed by rain. Manali recorded 65 mm of rains followed by Bhunter 45.6 mm, Kasol 44 mm, Seobagh 42 mm, Gohar 36mm, Kothi 34 mm, Baggi 32.1 mm, Katula 30.3 mm, Pandoh and Rohru 30 mm each and Bijahi 26.2 mm. Ghagas in Bilaspur received 25.6 mm rain, Sundernagar 24.2 mm, Pooh 22.8 mm, Jubbal 21.4 mm.

## FAIRS PRESERVE CULTURAL HERITAGE, SAYS GOVERNOR

**Diary Times Desk :** Fairs and festivals help in the preservation and promotion of the rich cultural heritage of the area, said Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla on the closing of the national-level Holi Utsav at Sujanpur today. The Governor was accorded a warm welcome to the town by the district administration and the Holi Utsav Committee. He participated in prayers at Murlī Manohar temple in the town and also visited exhibition stalls installed by various departments depicting their achievements, schemes and awareness programmes. Shukla participated in the cultural evening of the 'utsav' and gave prizes to winners of various sports and other activities organised during the four-day event. Capt Ranjit Singh, MLA Sujanpur; Amarjit Singh, Deputy Commissioner; Bhagat Singh Thakur, Superintendent of Police; Sanjit Singh Thakur, Sub-divisional Magistrate; Aprajita Chandel, assistant commissioner to deputy commissioner; Ajmer Singh Thakur, executive officer of municipal committee; were also present on the occasion.



## LEX FRIDMAN PODCAST: WHY IS INDIA A BETTER TEAM THAN PAKISTAN? PM MODI CITES 'A MATCH'

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a free-wheeling conversation with popular American podcaster Lex Fridman, said that he isn't a cricket expert but the result of "a match" showed India is a better team than Pakistan. India defeated Pakistan comprehensively in the recent Champions Trophy. The team went on to win the trophy, defeating New Zealand in a tense final. "I am not an expert, I do not know the technique of this game, only experts can tell you that but just a few days ago, India and Pakistan played a match. The result reveals which team is the better team. That's how we know," Modi told the podcaster. PM Modi added that sports can bring the people of different nations together. "I think sports have the power to energise the entire world. The spirit of sports brings people together across different nations. That's why I would never want to see sports being discredited. I truly believe that sports play a major role in human evolution, they're not just games; they connect people on a deeper level," the PM added. He also responded to a question on who the greatest-ever footballer was. PM Modi said while Diego Maradona was hailed as a hero in the 1980s, Lionel Messi has a massive following in the modern-day game.



## AJINKYA RAHANE FACES REDUNDANCY THREAT AS KKR WARNED OF 'BIGGEST' CONFLICT: 'WILL YOU TELL SUNIL NARINE NOT TO...?'

**Diary Times Desk :** Defending champions Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) have been warned of a major conflict during IPL 2025 after the franchise named veteran India batter Ajinkya Rahane their captain for the impending season. The decision was announced last week when KKR CEO Venky Mysore explained that Rahane's vast experience and "maturity" in handling an "intense" tournament like IPL made him the automatic choice to lead the team. Speaking to ESPNcricinfo with less than a week left before the start of the 18th edition of the league, former KKR batter Aakash Chopra outlined that Rahane will be troubled by 'captain-batter' conflict throughout the season, which could affect KKR. He admitted while he understood the reason behind KKR naming Rahane the skipper, Chopra felt Rahane's only way to contribute to the team would be if he batted in the top order. "For Shreyas Iyer, they've got a domestic middle-order batter, who recently helped his side win the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. He is in good form. But I do understand because KKR's biggest challenge this season is the 'captain-batter' conflict that Rahane will face. For Rahane the batter, the best thing to do is open at Eden Gardens.

## PLAYING HOLI 'CRIME': MOHAMMED SHAMI'S DAUGHTER BECOMES CLERIC'S FRESH TARGET

**Diary Times Desk :** A cleric who had claimed cricketer Mohd Shami committed a sin by not fasting during Ramzan has described the Holi celebrations of the pacer's daughter as "illegal" and "against Shariat". In a video released late on Saturday, All India Muslim Jamaat president Maulana Shahabuddin Razvi said, "She is a small girl ... If she plays Holi without understanding (it), then it is not a crime." "If she is sensible and still plays Holi, then it will be considered against Shariat," he added. Razvi said he had advised Shami to follow the tenets of Islam earlier as well. Despite that, a video was released of his daughter celebrating Holi. "I have appealed to Shami and his family members ... Whatever is not in Shariat, do not let your children do it. Holi is a very big festival for Hindus but Muslims should avoid celebrating Holi. If someone celebrates Holi even after knowing Shariat, it is a crime," he said. He also congratulated the Indian cricket team for its recent victory in the ICC Champions Trophy. "I congratulate Team India's captain, all the players, and Mohammad Shami from the bottom of my heart on their success," he said. Earlier this month, Razvi had said Shami committed a sin by not fasting during the Islamic holy month of Ramzan.

## KKR SIGN CHETAN SAKARIYA AS REPLACEMENT FOR UMRAN MALIK

**Diary Times Desk :** Kolkata Knight Riders have signed left-arm fast bowler Chetan Sakariya as a replacement player for Umrans Malik ahead of the IPL 2025 season. Malik, who was bought by the defending champions for INR 75 lakh, has been ruled out of the season with an as yet unspecified injury. The 27-year-old Sakariya was picked up by KKR ahead of their title-winning season last year but didn't feature in any game of their victorious campaign. Subsequently, he went unsold at the mega auction held late last year before earning his breakthrough now as a replacement player. He has been signed up at a price of INR 75 lakh. Sakariya has played 19 IPL games over three seasons (2021-23) and has taken 20 wickets at an economy of 8.43. He made his debut for Rajasthan Royals before moving to the Delhi Capitals in 2022. In all T20s, he has 65 wickets from 46 games at a healthy economy of 7.69.

## CORBIN BOSCH SERVED LEGAL NOTICE BY PCB FOR BREACH OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATION



**Diary Times Desk :** Corbin Bosch, the 30-year-old South African all-rounder, has been served a legal notice for breach of contractual obligation by the Pakistan Cricket Board, following his withdrawal from the upcoming season of the Pakistan Super League. The all-rounder was picked as a replacement player by the Mumbai Indians for the upcoming IPL 2025 after Lizaad Williams was ruled out of the tournament due to injury. As a result, Bosch withdrew from PSL where he was picked to play for Peshawar Zalmi. "The legal notice was served through his agent, and the player has been asked to justify his actions of withdrawing from his professional and contractual commitments," the Pakistan Cricket Board stated in a release on Sunday. "The PCB management has also outlined the repercussions of his departure from the league and expects his response within the stipulated time frame. The PCB will not make any further comments on the matter." The upcoming season of PSL is set to run from April 11 to May 25, overlapping with the IPL which will run from March 22 to May 25.

## 'INVITED MS DHONI FOR MY 100TH TEST IN DHARAMSALA, WANTED IT TO BE MY LAST': RAVICHANDRAN ASHWIN'S STARTLING REVELATION

**Diary Times Desk :** Ravichandran Ashwin called it quits from international cricket midway during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia in December 2024. The ace spinner's decision raised eyebrows as he retired after the Brisbane Test. However, the 38-year-old has now revealed that he was thinking to bid adieu to the longest format much before. Ashwin played his 100th Test in Dharamsala against England in 2024. The premier off-spinner bagged nine wickets in the landmark Test. To mark this occasion, the BCCI organised a special ceremony in which Ashwin was given a special memento and even gave a speech in front of his teammates. While speaking at an event in Chennai, Ashwin revealed that he wanted to play his 100th Test in Dharamsala as his last and had even invited former India and Chennai Super Kings (CSK) captain MS Dhoni. However, Ashwin revealed that Dhoni was unable to make it to Dharamsala. He also thanked the five-time IPL-winning captain for bringing him back to CSK, where it all began.

