

## CHHATTISGARH ENCOUNTER

## MAOIST WITH RS 25 LAKH BOUNTY AMONG 17 KILLED IN CHHATTISGARH ENCOUNTER

**Diary Times Desk :** In a major success for security forces, a high-ranking commander was among 17 Maoists killed in an encounter in Chhattisgarh's Sukma district on Saturday. The Maoist commander who was killed is Jagdish alias Budhra, who carried a bounty of Rs 25 lakh and was a key accused in a 2013 attack in Chhattisgarh in which at least 25 people, including the state Congress chief and other party leaders, were killed.

Police officials said the encounter took place in the morning after security forces launched an operation based on intelligence inputs about Maoist presence in the Kerlapal area of Sukma district. A joint team comprising the District Reserve Guard (DRG) and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) engaged in a fierce gun battle with the Maoists.

Officials said 17 bodies of Maoists have been recovered so far. "Two DRG personnel also sustained injuries but their condition is stable and they are out of danger," said an official.

Security forces have seized a large cache of weapons from the encounter site, including AK-47 rifles, self-loading rifles, INSAS and .303 rifles, rocket launchers, BGL launchers, and explosives. The identification process of the killed Maoists is underway. Maoist commander Jagdish aka Budhra, who was also killed in the attack, was in charge of the Darbha division. He was a key accused in the deadly 2013 Jhiram Valley attack by Maoists, which resulted in the deaths of at least 25 security personnel and Congress leaders, including the party's then Chhattisgarh chief Nand Kumar Patel.



## SABARMATI ASHRAM

## MAHATMA GANDHI'S GREAT-GRANDSON MOVES SUPREME COURT AGAINST SABARMATI ASHRAM REDEVELOPMENT

**Diary Times Desk :** Mahatma Gandhi's great grandson Tushar Gandhi has moved the Supreme Court challenging the Gujarat High Court's 2022 judgment upholding the State government's Sabarmati Ashram redevelopment project.

As per the plea, the ₹1,200 crore project will erase the ashram's simplicity and turn it into a state-controlled monument far removed from Gandhian values.

The petitioner has alleged that the project is a betrayal of Gandhian legacy and the State's vision seeks to "alter the topography" of the original ashram and reshape it into a modernised campus with museums, amphitheatres, and food courts have no place in the Gandhian thought.

"The proposed project will alter the topography of the century-old ashram to the tune of Rs.1,200-crore and corrupt its ethos. The project has purportedly identified over 40 congruent buildings which will be preserved while the rest of them, roughly 200, will be destroyed or rebuilt," the petition states.

According to the petition, the current plan will also displace resident Harijan families and bypass Gandhian trusts that have historically overseen the precinct. The project further intends to hand over the redevelopment work to a government-dominated body headed by the Chief Minister and senior bureaucrats.

This effectively "constitutes an insidious attempt to take over the memorial by the government." The petition has highlighted Gandhi's own words from a 1933 letter addressed to Ghanshyamdas Birla where he had made his intentions clear of transferring the ashram land to the Harijan Sevak Sangh.





## 18 NAXALS KILLED, FOUR SECURITY PERSONNEL INJURED IN TWIN ENCOUNTERS IN CHHATTISGARH

**Diary Times Desk :** Security forces gunned down 18 Naxals, including 11 women, in twin encounters in Chhattisgarh's Sukma and Bijapur districts in the Bastar region on Saturday, recording a major success in the mission to eradicate Naxalism before March 31, 2026. The encounters occurred on the eve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's scheduled visit to Chhattisgarh. Four jawans were injured as security teams inflicted major damage on Naxals, killing 17 cadres, including a high-ranking Maoist, identified as Kuhdami Jagdish, carrying a reward of Rs 25 lakh on his head, in Sukma, police said. He was wanted in more than a dozen deadly Naxal incidents, including the 2013 Jhiram Valley attack that left several Congress leaders dead. Another encounter was reported from the neighbouring Bijapur district where one Naxal was killed, a police officer said. Among the four injured security personnel, three belong to the District Reserve Guard (DRG), a unit of the state police, while the fourth is from the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), they said. Union Home Minister Amit Shah hailed the Sukma encounter, saying those carrying weapons and resorting to violence cannot bring change but peace and development can.



## SC MANDATES PRELIMINARY INQUIRY BEFORE FIR IN FREE SPEECH-RELATED CASES

**Diary Times Desk :** As police often book individuals for alleged objectionable exercise of free speech and expression, the Supreme Court has mandated preliminary enquiry before registration of FIRs, if the offences alleged are punishable with imprisonment between three to seven years. A Bench led by Justice AS Oka – which on Friday quashed a Gujarat Police FIR against Congress MP Imran Pratapgarhi for allegedly posting a clip of a provocative poem on a social media platform – sought to emphasize the fact that Article 19(2) of the Constitution—that authorises the state to impose “reasonable restrictions” on free speech on certain grounds—carves out an exception to the fundamental right guaranteed under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution. “If there is a law covered by clause (2), its operation remains unaffected by sub-clause (a) of clause (1). We must remember that laws covered by clause (2) are protected by way of an exception provided.

## CASH AT JUDGE'S HOUSE: ALLAHABAD HC LAWYERS SUSPEND STRIKE TILL INQUIRY REPORT COMES



**Diary Times Desk :** Lawyers of the Allahabad High Court, agitating since Tuesday against the transfer of Delhi High Court judge Yashwant Varma to the Allahabad High Court, suspended their strike on Saturday till the report of an investigation against the judge comes. The lawyers said they have also decided not to attend Justice Varma's oath-taking ceremony. After a meeting of the executive committee of the high court's bar association here, its president Anil Tiwari told reporters, “We have decided to suspend the strike till the report of the investigation against Justice Varma comes.” He clarified that the strike has not been called off. “We will wait for the three-member inquiry committee's decision. We request the chief justice of India to make the report of the committee public. As soon as we get the report, we will have a meeting and take a decision accordingly,” he added. Tiwari also said the lawyers will not attend Justice Varma's oath-taking ceremony. “He took the same oath in Delhi.... All judicial work has been withdrawn from Justice Varma till the investigation report comes. We do not want to harm litigants by continuing the strike further. In such a situation, we are suspending the strike,” he said.

## YOUR HOROSCOPE 30-03-2025

<p><b>Aries</b>          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><b>Taurus</b>          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><b>Gemini</b>          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><b>Cancer</b>          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><b>Leo</b>          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><b>Virgo</b>          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><b>Libra</b>          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><b>Scorpio</b>          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><b>Sagittarius</b>          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><b>Capricorn</b>          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><b>Aquarius</b>          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><b>Pisces</b>          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>

## 'PROGRESSING BIHAR' TURNED INTO 'SINKING BIHAR' UNDER LALU'S RULE, SAYS BJP CHIEF NADDA

**Diary Times Desk :** BJP national president JP Nadda on Saturday launched a scathing attack at RJD chief Lalu Yadav, saying that progress of the state of Bihar hampered during the latter's rule. “Lalu's rule turned a progressing Bihar into a sinking Bihar. There was a time when stepping out after 5 pm became difficult, but under the NDA government, Bihar has reached new heights of development,” Nadda said while addressing the “Ek Bharat-Shreshtha Bharat Sneh Milan Samaroh” organised on the occasion of Bihar Diwas at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in Delhi. The BJP president recalled his childhood and teenage years spent in Bihar, mentioning how he had witnessed the construction of Gandhi Setu over the Ganges – a project that took decades to complete. “Today, Bihar has a Marine Drive along the Ganga river, and a newly built bridge over it. The state has also seen a vast expansion of road and rail networks,” he said. Nadda highlighted that when the NDA government came to power in Bihar in 2005, the rural road network in the state was only 384 km long, whereas today, Bihar has over 1,12,000 km of roads.





## DRUG ALERT: SAMPLES OF 103 MEDICINES INCLUDING 38 MADE IN HIMACHAL FAILED

**Diary Times Desk :** 103 medicines in the country including 38 made in Himachal have not met the standards. This has been revealed in the drug alert issued in March. In this, samples of 24 medicine companies of Solan, 13 of Sirmaur and one of Una have failed. Notices will be sent to them and the stock of medicines will be recalled from the market. In the state, medicines for acidity, sore throat, BP, asthma, heart attack, fungal infection, tonsils, piles, arthritis, asthma, sugar, cough with phlegm, fever, migraine, chest pain and deficiency of nutrients have not met the standards. On the other hand, State Drug Controller Manish Kapoor said that administrative action will be taken by the department against the medicine companies whose samples have failed. Action will be taken against these companies under the Drug and Cosmetic Act and notices will also be issued to them. 47 samples taken by CDSCO (Central Drugs Standard Control Organization) across the country failed. This includes 21 samples from Himachal. Six samples of acidity, asthma, eye irritation and low blood pressure medicines of Martin & Brown located in Kishanpura, Baddi failed. Pelo Peridol for mental illness of SBS Biotech Company located in Kala Amb of Sirmaur, Presscup SP Syrup for sore throat of Three B Healthcare.



## HIMACHAL WEATHER: WEATHER IS FORECAST TO REMAIN CLEAR IN HIMACHAL FOR A WEEK, TEMPERATURE LIKELY TO RISE

**Diary Times Desk :** The weather is forecast to remain clear in Himachal Pradesh for a week. The state capital Shimla and other parts are sunny today. According to the Meteorological Center Shimla, the weather will remain dry in all parts of the state from March 29 to April 4. At the same time, the minimum temperature is likely to increase gradually by 2-5 degrees Celsius in many parts of the state during the next 4-5 days. At the same time, the maximum temperature is likely to increase gradually by 2-4 degrees Celsius in many parts during the next 4-5 days. From March 1 to March 29, 31 percent less rainfall than normal has been recorded in the state. 108.8 mm of rain was considered normal for this period, but in reality only 75.6 mm of rain fell. Bilaspur received 34 per cent less rain than normal, Chamba 57, Hamirpur 36, Kangra 38, Kinnaur 36, Lahaul-Spiti 42, Sirmour 26, Solan 39 and Una district received 60 per cent less rain. However, Kullu received 23 per cent more rain than normal, Mandi 10 per cent.

## HIMACHAL: TELANGANA GOVERNMENT WILL SET UP TWO HYDRO PROJECTS IN LAHAUL-SPITI, MOU SIGNED

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh on Saturday signed MoUs with the Telangana government for the 400 MW Seli and 120 MW Miyar hydropower projects to be set up in Lahaul-Spiti district. This is the first time in the history of the state that such a partnership has been initiated and this step will prove to be a milestone in harnessing the immense hydropower potential of the state. These MoUs were signed by Energy Secretary Rakesh Kanwar on behalf of the state government and Principal Secretary Energy Sandeep Kumar Sultania on behalf of the Telangana government in the presence of Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu and Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu. Both these projects will be built on the Chenab river at an estimated cost of Rs 6,200 crore and will create about 5,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities. As per the MoU, the Telangana government has paid Rs 26 crore as advance premium amount. After the start of these projects, the state will be given 12 percent of the total power generation for the first 12 years, 18 percent for the next 18 years and 30 percent free power for the last 10 years. After the completion of the period of 40 years, the Telangana government will hand over both these projects to the state.

## NOW GREEN FEE WILL BE IMPOSED ON VEHICLES COMING FROM OTHER STATES TO SHIMLA, MUNICIPAL CORPORATION PASSED A NEW PROPOSAL

**Diary Times Desk :** Vehicles from outside states coming to Himachal Pradesh's capital Shimla will now have to pay green fee on entering the city. In the monthly meeting of the Municipal Corporation chaired by Mayor Surendra Chauhan, the proposal to start collecting green fee from outside vehicles has been approved. Now the final approval on this will be given by the government. The special thing is that this fee will not be collected from electric vehicles. The Municipal Corporation has been planning to collect green fee since 2015. But for the last ten years, the government has not approved it. This time the corporation has prepared a new proposal. According to this, not only has the corporation reduced the rates of green fee, but it has also prepared a new plan for its collection.

## BRCC RECRUITMENT EXAM: WRITTEN RECRUITMENT EXAM WILL BE HELD ON THIS DAY AT PORTMORE SCHOOL FOR 282 POSTS OF BRCC

**Diary Times Desk :** The date and centre of the recruitment exam for 282 posts of Block Resource Centre Coordinator (BRCC) being organised by Samagra Shiksha has been decided. Government Senior Secondary School Portmore Shimla has been made the exam centre for the exam. The exam will be conducted on 6th April at 11:00 am. The exam date and centre were changed due to the busy schedule of teachers in school exams. Earlier this exam was to be held on 23rd March. On the request of teachers, a new date and centre of the exam has been decided. Portmore School Shimla has been decided as the centre for the written exam of BRCC. The written exam will be held at 11:00 am. It will be mandatory for all the candidates to be present at the exam centre by 10:00 am. The roll numbers of all the candidates have been issued, if anyone is not allotted a roll number, then he can contact on the phone number given on the official website of Samagra Shiksha. It will be mandatory for the candidates to bring their certificates on the day of the exam.

## HIMACHAL: THERE WILL BE NO HOLIDAYS IN SCHOOLS HAVING SUMMER VACATIONS FROM 1ST TO 4TH APRIL

**Diary Times Desk :** There will be no holidays from 1 to 4 April in the schools having summer vacation in Himachal Pradesh. The Directorate of Higher Education has issued a notification in this regard on Saturday. The new academic session will start in these schools from 1 April. For the past few days, there was talk on social media that there will be no holidays in these schools from 1 to 4 April. On Saturday, the Directorate has put an end to these talks and issued a notification that there will be no holidays. The Directorate said that due to the change in the schedule of holidays in government schools for the academic session 2025-26, now there will be no break from 1 to 4 April after the examination results. In this regard, Director of Higher Education Dr. Office orders have been issued by Amarjeet Kumar Sharma.

## MC SHIMLA: APPROVAL GIVEN TO INCREASE PROPERTY TAX, MAKING CERTIFICATE IS ALSO EXPENSIVE, WILL HAVE TO PAY THIS MUCH MORE

**Diary Times Desk :** Shimla city dwellers will now have to loosen their pockets more to pay property tax. The Municipal Corporation House has approved the proposal to increase tax from April 1 in the capital. Apart from this, getting birth and death certificates will also be expensive now. Its fee has also been increased up to ten times. The proposal to increase property tax was discussed in the monthly meeting of the Municipal Corporation chaired by Mayor Surendra Chauhan. The corporation administration said that on the instructions of the Center, the tax should be increased every year according to the development rate of the state. But in the year 2023, the Municipal Corporation House had decided that this increase would be four percent every year. Due to this, the tax was increased by four percent each in the years 2023 and 2024, but to ensure that the grants received from the Center do not stop, the tax will have to be increased according to the development rate, that is, the decision of the previous House to increase the tax by four percent every year will have to be changed. The House approved this proposal. With the approval of the House, now there is a set increase of six to seven percent in the tax in the city. The state's growth rate is around seven percent, so the tax will also be increased by the same amount.

## "BLACKEST DAY": ALLAHABAD HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION ON JUDGE'S TRANSFER

**Diary Times Desk :** The president of Allahabad High Court, Anil Tiwari, on Saturday criticised the transfer of Justice Yashwant Varma to the Allahabad High Court, calling it as the "blackest day in the Indian judicial system." The Bar association is set to have a meeting today evening at 4 PM with senior advocates amidst their indefinite protest over the transfer. Justice Yashwant Varma was transferred from the Delhi HC to Allahabad amidst the controversy surrounding allegations of unaccounted cash discovered at his residence in New Delhi on March 14, following a fire at his residence. However, Justice Varma denied any involvement, asserting that neither he nor his family members had placed the cash in the storeroom. "March 28 (2025) is the blackest day in the Indian Judicial system. A man who is facing charges of corruption is going to take oath in Allahabad High Court," the Bar association president told ANI. Justice Varma took oath as judge in the Allahabad bench yesterday, with the Bar association announcing a boycott on the oath taking, and questioned whether Justice Varma could "live up to his oath." Moreover, the Bar association has decided to close down the affidavit centre. "Today, a common man is asking this question about the person who couldn't live up to his oath in Delhi, will he do so here in Allahabad?... What will happen to public faith? We boycott this oath, and we will not be a part of that."

## WAQF BILL SHOULD BE CALLED 'LOOTERS (AMENDMENT) LAW': ASADUDDIN OWAIISI

**Diary Times Desk :** AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi on Saturday criticised the ruling Central government over the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, alleging it should be called a 'looters (amendment) law' as the BJP-led regime wants to take away waqf properties. "The BJP and NDA governments are doing the work of looters. They want to snatch away waqf properties," Owaisi was quoted as saying by PTI. "Why are you removing the survey commissioner (as per the proposed bill)? It is the senior-most officer's post. This is all for looting. It should not be called Waqf (Amendment) but 'looters (amendment) law," he added. Referring to Union home minister Amit Shah's reported remarks that one cannot approach courts against the waqf tribunal, Owaisi alleged that Shah was "lying", according to PTI. The AIMIM chief said there are several tribunals, including the Income Tax tribunal and railway claims tribunal and review petitions can be filed against."

## "YOU KNOW PM MODI WAS...": DONALD TRUMP REPLIES TO INDIA TARIFF QUESTION



**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump presented a positive front on tariff talks between Washington and India, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a "very smart man". Prime Minister Modi was here just recently. And we've always been very good friends. India is one of the highest tariffing nations in the world. It's brutal. He (Modi) is a very smart man and a great friend of mine actually and we had very good talks. I think it's going to work out very well between India and our country very, very well," Trump said. His statement comes day after he declared a 25 per cent tariff on all imported vehicles entering the United States. The tariffs, set to take effect on April 2, will impact nearly half of all vehicles sold in the United States, including American brands assembled overseas. Among the various occasions when Trump highlighted India's high tariffs was in February when he announced reciprocal tariffs. "We will soon impose reciprocal tariffs- they charge us, we charge them. Whatever a company or a country, such as India or China, charges, we want to be fair, hence, reciprocal," he had said.

## MORE TROUBLE FOR STAND-UP COMEDIAN KUNAL KAMRA OVER EKNATH SHINDE PARODY

**Diary Times Desk :** Three separate cases have been filed against Stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra at Khar police station over his alleged controversial remarks about Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde. One of the complaints was filed by the Mayor of Jalgaon city, while the other two complaints came from a hotelier and a businessman from Nashik, as per the Mumbai Police. Khar police have called Kamra twice for questioning, but he has not yet appeared for the investigation. Earlier, the Madras High Court on Friday granted interim anticipatory bail to Kunal Kamra in connection with multiple FIRs lodged against him. Justice Sunder Mohan ordered interim anticipatory bail until April 7 with conditions. Kunal Kamra had approached the Madras High Court to seek transit anticipatory bail, claiming he has been receiving many threats following his recent satirical comments. On March 27, the Mumbai police asked the comedian to appear on March 31 at Khar police station.

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## PANJAB UNIVERSITY STUDENT STABBED TO DEATH DURING CLASH AT MUSIC CONCERT

**Diary Times Desk :** A 22-year-old student, among four students who were stabbed by some unidentified persons at a concert held at Panjab University's South Campus, succumbed to his injuries on Saturday, said police. The incident occurred during the concert of Haryanvi singer Masoom Sharma on Friday night. The student has been identified as Aditya Thakur, a second year student of computer science engineering at the University Institute of Engineering and Technology. Meanwhile, many Panjab University students held a protest against the police and PU authorities following the death of the student. They blamed some outsiders for attacking the students. Police said an FIR has been lodged in the matter and efforts were on to trace the assailants. A purported video surfacing on social media showed that a student was bleeding profusely and lying on the ground as he was stabbed in his thigh. During the concert, some students were attacked with knives.

## ON CAMERA, NOIDA SCHOOL TEACHER THRASHES SPECIAL NEEDS CHILD, CASE FILED

**Diary Times Desk :** A case has been filed against a teacher from a Noida school for allegedly losing his temper at a special needs child and repeatedly hitting him because he couldn't follow along with a lesson and answer questions. The parents of the boy filed a first information report (FIR) on Saturday stating that their 10-year-old son has been studying in Green Ribbon International School in Noida Sector 55 and when they had got him admitted there, they were assured he would get the special attention he needs and be kept safe. They said they found out through a video circulated on a school WhatsApp group that a teacher, Anil Kumar, had thrashed their son, subjected him to "grossly inhuman treatment" and harassed him "physically and mentally". The incident, they said, amounts to a "crime against humanity". The video shows Mr Kumar sitting with the boy and getting him to do what appears to be a 'match-the-following' exercise with objects and activities.

### "OUR GPUS ARE MELTING": SAM ALTMAN SAYS OPENAI TO LIMIT CHATGPT IMAGE GENERATION REQUESTS

**Diary Times Desk :** OpenAI CEO Sam Altman has said that a temporary rate limits on image generation will be introduced as their GPU -- graphics processing units -- are "melting". This came after OpenAI's latest and most advanced AI model, GPT-4o, which comes with an integrated image generator, brought about a revolution of sorts on social media, with millions using it to produce Studio Ghibli-inspired pictures. OpenAI called its latest model the "most advanced image generator yet," but the massive usage has left the company's GPUs "melting," Mr Altman noted on X. "It's super fun seeing people love images in chatgpt. But our GPUs are melting. We are going to temporarily introduce some rate limits while we work on making it more efficient. Hopefully won't be long! Chatgpt free tier will get 3 generations per day soon," Mr Altman said. In a subsequent post, he said the company was "refusing some generations that should be allowed," adding that the same was being fixed "as fast we can." The rate limits were not specified by Mr Altman but he assured users that this "hopefully" won't stay for a long time since the company is trying to improve its efficiency to handle the requests.

### "F-1 VISA REVOKED": WHY US IS ASKING HUNDREDS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO SELF-DEPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** Hundreds of international students studying in the US have received emails from the US Department of State (DOS), telling them to self-deport as their F-1 visas (student visas) have been revoked owing to campus activism. The crackdown is not limited to students who physically participated in campus activism, but people who shared or even liked 'anti-national' posts have reportedly also been targeted in these emails. Some Indian students may also be at the receiving end of such emails, for something as innocuous as sharing a social media post, The Times Of India reported, quoting Immigration attorneys who confirmed the development. According to the latest Open Doors report, of the 1.1 million international students studying in the US in 2023-24, 3.31 lakh are Indian students. The diktat followed US Secretary of State Marco Rubio's announcement about the revocation.

### UKRAINE WILL NOT CONSIDER US' \$66 BILLION AS LOAN: ZELENSKY'S SHOCKING STATEMENT

**Diary Times Desk :** President Volodymyr Zelensky at a news conference on Friday said that Ukraine does not recognize the United States' military aid as loans. The 47-year-old revealed that Kyiv received a draft of a new agreement from the US regarding critical minerals, which is 'completely different from the previous framework document'. Zelensky added: "We are grateful for the support, but this is not a credit, and we will not allow it." In a press release published on March 12, the US Department of State had confirmed that Washington has provided \$66.5 billion in military assistance to Ukraine since Russia launched its full-scale invasion in 2022. It further added that \$69.2 billion in military assistance has been provided since 2014. "We have now used the emergency Presidential Drawdown Authority on 55 occasions since August 2021 to provide Ukraine military assistance totaling approximately \$31.7 billion from DoD stockpiles," the Marco Rubio-led department said.



### VANCE SCOLDS DENMARK DURING GREENLAND TRIP



**Diary Times Desk :** US Vice-President JD Vance has accused Denmark of leaving Greenland vulnerable to alleged incursions by China and Russia, as he asked its people to "cut a deal" with the US. Speaking during a visit to the Arctic island, Vance minimised recent threats by US President Donald Trump to take over the island by force. Instead, he urged Greenlanders to sever ties with Denmark, which has owned the island for more than 300 years, saying it had not invested enough to protect the semi-autonomous territory. An overwhelming majority of Greenlanders oppose the idea of annexation, a poll indicated in January. Greenland's prime minister has said the US visit showed a "lack of respect". The visit has also prompted sharp criticism from Denmark. Lars Lokke Rasmussen, the Scandinavian nation's foreign minister, said Danes were "open to criticism" but "do not appreciate the tone in which it is being delivered", in a video message addressed to "American friends". He noted the US's military presence in Greenland had shrunk from 17 bases in 1945 to one housing around 200 soldiers, adding: "We can do more, much more, within the framework we have today... Let us do it together."

### LAKSHMI MITTAL MAY LEAVE UK OVER TAX LAW CHANGE: REPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** Steel tycoon Lakshmi Mittal is contemplating relocating from the UK due to the Labour government's recent decision to eliminate the "non-dom" tax regime, a report in the Financial Times stated. Mittal, a key figure in the business world, has been residing in the UK for almost three decades. The reported reason for his potential departure is the government's decision to discontinue tax exemptions for specific foreign income and gains. It comes after the UK government decided to abolish a policy that allowed certain residents to avoid paying taxes in the UK on their foreign income and gains. "He is exploring his options and will take a final decision over the course of this year," Mittal's friend told FT. "There is a good chance he will cease to be a UK tax resident." Mittal, a self-made billionaire.

### "YOU KNOW PM MODI WAS...": DONALD TRUMP REPLIES TO INDIA TARIFF QUESTION

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump presented a positive front on tariff talks between Washington and India, adding that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a "very smart man". "Prime Minister Modi was here just recently. And we've always been very good friends. India is one of the highest tariffing nations in the world. It's brutal. He (Modi) is a very smart man and a great friend of mine actually and we had very good talks. I think it's going to work out very well between India and our country very, very well," Trump said. His statement comes day after he declared a 25 per cent tariff on all imported vehicles entering the United States. The tariffs, set to take effect on April 2, will impact nearly half of all vehicles sold in the United States, including American brands assembled overseas. Among the various occasions when Trump highlighted India's high tariffs was in February when he announced reciprocal tariffs. "We will soon impose reciprocal tariffs- they charge us, we charge them. Whatever a company or a country, such as India or China, charges, we want to be fair, hence, reciprocal," he had said.

### INDIA-US TRADE TALKS CONCLUDE, SECTOR EXPERT-LEVEL ROUND TO START SOON

**Diary Times Desk :** The department of commerce on Saturday said that India and the United States (US) have "broadly" come to an understanding on the next steps of the proposed bilateral trade agreement (BTA), even as the threat of the US's reciprocal tariffs from April 2 looms. Both countries concluded a four-day round of discussions on the proposed trade deal on Saturday. Over the coming weeks, sectoral expert level engagements under the BTA will begin. These engagements, which will be conducted virtually, are expected to pave the way for an in-person 'early negotiating round', an official statement said on Saturday. "Sectoral expert-level engagements under the BTA will start virtually in the coming weeks and pave the path for an early negotiating round in person. During these discussions the two sides also had a productive exchange of views on deepening bilateral cooperation in priority areas including increasing market access, reducing tariff and non-tariff barriers and deepening supply chain integration in a mutually beneficial manner," the statement said. Assistant US Trade Representative (USTR) for South and Central Asia Brendan Lynch, along with a team.

## DALLEWAL HAS NOT BROKEN HIS FAST-UNTO-DEATH, PUNJAB GOVT MISLEADING JUDICIARY, PUBLIC: FARM ACTIVIST

**Diary Times Desk** : Tensions continue to rise between the state government and protesting farmers as conflicting reports emerge regarding the health and fasting status of farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal. After being released from jail, the farmer leaders accused the government of misinformation. While the state government informed the Supreme Court that Dallewal had ended his 123-day-long hunger strike, the Sanyukit Kisan Morcha (SKM Non-Political) strongly refuted this claim. According to SKM leaders, Dallewal persisted with his fast, abstaining from water since March 19 in protest against the arrest of fellow farmer leaders and the heavy-handed police crackdown at Shambhu and Khanauri Morchas. Sukhjot Singh Hardeo Jhande maintained that the government was spreading a misinformation campaign to mislead the public and judiciary in particular. "We will state facts before the court. After evicting and arresting farmers from Shambhu and Khanauri borders, the government is spreading misinformation campaigns as anger against the ruling regime is growing in rural areas." Hardeo Jhande said that Dallewal started his hunger strike on November 26 and was only consuming water. On January 18, after much persuasion and a proposal of the central government for talks, Dallewal had agreed to take medical assistance.



## BILL PASSED TO CONTROL BRAHMACHARI'S GURUGRAM ASHRAM, CONGRESS PROTESTS

**Diary Times Desk** : Amid protests from the Opposition Congress, the Haryana Assembly today passed a Bill to take over the management and control of the late Yoga Guru Dharendra Brahmachari's Aparna Ashram Society in Gurugram. As soon as Industries Minister Rao Narbir Singh introduced the Bill, senior Congress MLA BB Batra opposed it, calling it "illegal" and against constitutional provisions. "As the Aparna Ashram Society is registered in New Delhi, the Haryana Government has no locus standi to take over its assets," Batra said. Former CM Bhupinder Singh Hooda supported him, arguing that there was no need for a special Bill since the state government had existing legal provisions to take control of the ashram. However, Rao Narbir Singh defended the Bill, citing a long-standing legal dispute between two factions of the society. "The state government is only taking over the management of the ashram as the warring factions were involved in multiple litigations and were illegally trying to sell its 24-acre land in Gurugram, valued at hundreds of crores," he said. Dismissing Congress' objections, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said the Bill did not violate any Central law.

## HIGH COURT DIRECTS HARYANA DGP TO FILE AFFIDAVIT ON COPS NOT DEPOSING IN DRUG CASES

**Diary Times Desk** : The Punjab and Haryana High Court has directed the Director-General of Police, Haryana, to file an affidavit explaining the repeated failure of prosecution witnesses, particularly police personnel, to appear before the trial court in cases under the NDPS Act. The court has expressed concern over the systemic delays caused by such absences, which infringe upon the fundamental right to a speedy trial as guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. "A Co-ordinate Bench of this Court has previously taken note of a distressing pattern in the State of Punjab, where trials under the NDPS Act have been repeatedly delayed due to the non-appearance of prosecution witnesses. However, this issue is not confined to Punjab alone. A similar but a more pronounced trend has also emerged in the State of Haryana, where the repeated failure of prosecution witnesses to appear before the trial court has led to unwarranted delays in the adjudication of cases. Such systemic lapses not only obstruct the course.

## CHANDIGARH DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL OFFICER CHALLENGES SUSPENSION EXTENSION IN DELHI HIGH COURT

**Diary Times Desk** : MM Dhonchak, Presiding Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal (DRT)-2, Chandigarh, has approached the Division Bench of Delhi High Court against the judgment of a Single Judge, challenging the Union of India's order dated November 5, 2024, extending his suspension for another 180 days. In his appeal, he submitted that the Single Judge failed to take note of the fact that the case against the appellant hinged upon the charge of alleged rude behaviour towards the advocates. Surprisingly, there was a stoic silence with regard to the details of the said rude behaviour, the victims of the same, its timing, and witnesses in whose presence it allegedly took place. The other trumped-up charge was about slowing down the pace of recovery of debts. It was notwithstanding that the disposal of the cases by the appellant, as per the very record of the respondent itself, was more than that of seven Tribunals put together.

## CLASS 8 STUDENT IN FARIDABAD FAILS ONE SUBJECT, HANGS SELF

**Diary Times Desk** : A Class 8 student of a private school allegedly hanged himself after failing one subject, police in this Haryana district said on Saturday. They said the boy, a resident of the Sector 31 area, had failed the social science paper. The exam results were declared on Friday and he had become stressed after that. Upon returning from school, the boy locked himself in his first-floor room. His mother went to check on him when he did not come out till late in the evening. Finding the door locked, she looked into the room from the back and found the boy hanging, they added. Neighbours gathered when she raised an alarm and informed the police. "No suicide note was found in the room. However, according to his relatives, he was under stress after failing one subject. We are investigating all the aspects," Sector 31 SHO Surendra Singh said. The boy was his parents' only child, the police said.

## SGPC SEEKS SUGGESTIONS ON FORMING RULES FOR APPOINTMENT, RETIREMENT OF AKAL TAKHT JATHEDAR

**Diary Times Desk** : SGPC chief Harjinder Singh Dhani on Saturday appealed to all Sikh organisations to send their suggestions on forming rules for appointment and retirement of the Akal Takht jathedar. He appealed to the Sikh bodies, including Damdami Taksal, Nihang Singh jathebandis, global Sikh institutions, Singh Sabhas, diwans, societies, scholars and intellectuals, residing in India and abroad to send suggestions regarding the qualifications, appointment, jurisdiction, responsibilities and retirement rules of the jathedar (head priest). Dhani said the Sikh community has long demanded that service rules be established for position of the jathedar, considering the respect and significance of this role. In light of this, a resolution for its approval in principle was passed during SGPC's budget related general house meeting held on Friday. According to the sentiment of this resolution, the opinion of all Sikh organisations, institutions and intellectuals are crucial regarding the appointment, tenure and retirement of the jathedar. Therefore, suggestions should be sent to the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) by April 20 so that a collective consensus of the community can be formed for the formulation of service rules.

## IT'S FOR EVERYONE TO REALISE HOW ONE SUFFERS: JUSTICE NIRMAL YADAV ON 17-YEAR ORDEAL

**Diary Times Desk** : "It's for everyone to realise how one suffers," said Justice Nirmal Yadav, reflecting on 17 years of prolonged agony following her acquittal in the cash-at-judge's-door case. Her brother, former Haryana Minister Captain Ajay Yadav, welcomed the verdict, stating that it had restored her honour after years of "agony and humiliation." He emphasised that the prolonged legal battle and the accompanying media trial had deeply affected her, but the judiciary had ultimately upheld justice in her case. "My sister's honour has been vindicated by the court's order. She had an unblemished career, having served in the district judiciary, then as the Registrar General of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, and finally as a judge of the High Court. This case not only brought immense distress but also curtailed her judicial career," he said. Justice Nirmal Yadav was acquitted by a CBI court in Chandigarh in a case linked to the 2008 incident where a bag containing Rs 15 lakh in cash was mistakenly delivered to another judge's residence. The case had drawn significant media attention, with allegations of judicial impropriety and corruption. Captain Yadav expressed gratitude to the judiciary for ensuring that justice prevailed despite.

## SHIMLA MC TO ALLOCATE LAND FOR WINE SHOPS TO BOOST REVENUE

**Diary Times Desk :** The Municipal Corporation (MC) of Shimla has decided to request the state government to include properties with a floor area ratio (FAR) of less than 400m in the Shimla Development Plan. This proposal was discussed during the MC's monthly general house meeting, chaired by Mayor Surender Chauhan. The Mayor emphasised that the move aims to benefit residents with smaller land areas, as numerous such cases remain unresolved. "Many property owners with less than 500m of FAR are awaiting inclusion. We will urge the government to address this issue in the development plan," he stated. In another key decision, the MC resolved to allocate land for wine shops to boost revenue. A formal request will be made to the Excise Department, and the MC plans to construct fabricated structures for rental use. Mayor Chauhan added that councillors have been instructed to identify suitable land in their respective wards for these structures. Additionally, councillors raised concerns over the town's irregular drinking water supply, which has been causing significant inconvenience to residents.

## PREPARE LIST OF COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES IN KHAJJJAR: DC

**Diary Times Desk :** Deputy Commissioner and Chairman of the Special Area Development Authority (SADA), Mukesh Repaswal, on Thursday directed officials to prepare a detailed list of all commercial properties in Khajjiar. The directive came during a review meeting of SADA-Khajjiar, which was presided over by the Deputy Commissioner. Repaswal instructed the concerned officials to compile a record of all commercial establishments, including hotels, restaurants and homestays, within the jurisdiction of SADA-Khajjiar. He also emphasised the need for local officials from the Town and Country Planning Department, in collaboration with the Revenue Department, to explore potential revenue sources for the authority. Further, the Deputy Commissioner directed the Assistant Engineer of the Public Works Department to ensure the necessary repairs and maintenance of the drainage systems along the main access road to Khajjiar.

## VOICE OF AMERICA, RADIO FREE ASIA SHUT DOWN OPERATIONS IN HIMACHAL'S DHARAMSALA

**Diary Times Desk :** Voice of America (VOA) closes down operations in Dharamsala, Radio Free Asia to follow suit by April-end. The Tibetan community in exile and the Association of Tibetan journalists have expressed concern over VOA shutting down its operations in Dharamsala, the seat of the Tibetan government in exile. Besides VOA, Radio Free Asia is also set to close down its operations in Dharamsala in April, according to sources. These US-government-funded media outlets served as vital sources of information regarding the state of Tibetans in Tibet for Tibetan media outlets in exile. During the 17th Tibetan Parliament-in-Exile's ongoing budget session, Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) President Penpa Tsering informed the house that all VOA central headquarters staff have been placed on administrative leave, while regional reporters, including those in Dharamsala, have terminated operations. Similarly, Radio Free Asia's central staff have been furloughed, with its regional staff being supported through reserved funds until the end of April.



## HIMACHAL MLAS GET 24% HIKE IN SALARY, ALLOWANCES

**Diary Times Desk :** The Himachal Pradesh Vidhan Sabha today passed three Bills proposing a 24 per cent increase in the salaries and allowances of the Chief Minister, Ministers, Speaker, Deputy Speaker and legislators while linking the revision to price index. The hike, implemented after a gap of nine years, is expected to cost the state exchequer about Rs 24 crore. The pension of former MLAs has been raised too. With the salary revision now being linked to the price index, there will be an automatic hike every five years. An annual expenditure of about Rs 22 crore is expected to be incurred on the hiked salary and pension of MLAs and former legislators, Rs 2 crore for Cabinet members and Rs 35 lakh for the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker. The three Bills that were passed included Himachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly Speaker's And Deputy Speaker's Salaries (Amendment) Bill, 2025; HP Legislative Assembly (Allowances and Pension of Members) Amendment Bill, 2025; and the Salaries and Allowances of Ministers (Himachal Pradesh) Amendment Bill, 2025. Both Congress and BJP legislators welcomed the passing of the Bills by thumping of tables. "The MLAs came to me and narrated their woes. I realised they were getting only Rs 1.6 lakh salary and allowances," said Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu.

## DAM WATER LEVELS 52% BELOW NORMAL IN PUNJAB, 46% IN HIMACHAL

**Diary Times Desk :** As summer sets in, water levels in crucial dams across the region are significantly below normal for this time of year, prompting authorities to issue a note of caution. The reduced water levels could potentially impact power generation and the availability of water for irrigation. Additionally, rainfall in northwest India has been deficient this season, further exacerbating the situation. The combined water storage in key reservoirs in Himachal Pradesh is about 46 per cent below normal, while in Punjab it is about 52 per cent below normal, information released by the Central Water Commission (CWC) on March 27 reveals. At Bhakra Dam, which lies on the Sutlej in Himachal Pradesh, the current storage is 1.247 billion cubic metres (BCM) against its total capacity of 6.229 BCM, making for availability of 20 per cent. The average storage at Bhakra over the past 10 years at this time of the year is 33 per cent. The current storage at Pong Dam on the Beas in Himachal Pradesh is 13 per cent as compared the 10-year average of 25 per cent. The availability of water is 0.816 BCM against its total capacity of 6.157 BCM.

## STATES WELCOME TO TAKE UP HYDEL POWER PROJECTS IN HP: CM SUKHVINDER SUKHU

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Saturday said Himachal Pradesh would welcome state governments from all over the country to take up hydel power generation rather than partner with the central Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), who have not given the state its due. Addressing a press conference on the occasion of signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for execution of two hydel projects with the Telangana government, Sukhu said Himachal Pradesh's interest had not been protected in the agreement signed for the setting up of the Luhri, Sunni and Dhaula Sidh hydro projects. The MoU between Telangana and Himachal Pradesh was signed for executing the 400 MW Selli and 140 MW Miyar hydel projects. Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka was present. "We have decided to take back these projects from the central PSUs as Himachal Pradesh is not getting its due," said Sukhu. He said the state government has taken a policy decision to seek enhanced free power at the rate of 12, 18, and 30 per cent and return of the hydel project after 40 years.



## IPL 2025: MI'S START GOES FROM BAD TO WORSE, GT CLAIM FIRST WIN

**Diary Times Desk :** Gujarat Titans (GT) defeated Mumbai Indians (MI) by 36 runs to clinch their first win in IPL 2025. Put into bat, GT managed a total of 196/8 in 20 overs, led by B Sai Sudharsan's half-century and good contributions by captain Shubman Gill and Jos Buttler. MI's run chase fell apart right from the first over, when Mohammed Siraj dismissed Rohit Sharma. Suryakumar Yadav top-scored with 48, but Prasidh Krishna bowled a superb spell to pull MI back. MI captain Hardik Pandya performed well with the ball on his return from suspension, but flopped with the bat. Hardik Pandya brutally dissects Mumbai Indians' defeat, and states that they under-performed with both bat and ball tonight. Also says that is important for the batting to step up, which has failed to cross more than 160 in both games.



## VIRAT KOHLI CAN'T KEEP CALM, DANCES INSIDE DRESSING ROOM AFTER RCB INVADE CSK FORTRESS AFTER 17 YEARS: 'WIN SO SPECIAL'

**Diary Times Desk :** Breaching the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) fortress at the MA Chidambaram Stadium has always been a task too steep for the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB). Heading into Match 8 of the IPL 2025 edition, the Ruturaj Gaikwad-led side was touted as the favourites. However, Rajat Patidar and co managed to do the unthinkable by defeating the hosts by 50 runs. This is the first time since 2008 that RCB has been able to defeat Chennai in Chennai. As expected, the RCB players, including Virat Kohli, could not keep calm, and the entire contingent celebrated in style. Kohli was seen shaking a leg to Humankind's 'Run It Up' song inside the dressing room. The former India captain seemed elated with RCB's win over five-time champions CSK. This was not it as the celebrations continued even when the franchise reached the hotel. Kohli was seen grooving to the same track. Even the likes of Lungi Ndigi, Liam Livingstone and Phil Salt were also seen dancing along to express their happiness. The video was shared by RCB's official Instagram handle, and the caption read, "A win so special, it got King Kohli grooving. This team! The vibes! We're loving it."

## MAHELA JAYAWARDENE PROVIDES KEY UPDATE ON JASPRIT BUMRAH'S RECOVERY

**Diary Times Desk :** Shubman Gill's Gujarat Titans and Hardik Pandya's Mumbai Indians will look to bounce back from disappointing opening losses in their upcoming showdown at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium on Saturday. Mumbai's head coach, Mahela Jayawardene, spoke to the media ahead of the match. "Everyone is available except for Bumrah. As I mentioned in my previous interview, he's progressing daily with his rehabilitation program," Jayawardene shared. Jayawardene updated on Bumrah's recovery from a back injury sustained during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, confirming progress but no clear timeline for his IPL return. "He is diligently following his program every day, and everything seems to be progressing well for now. However, the NCA has not provided any specific timelines yet, so we'll have to wait for further updates," Jayawardene explained regarding Bumrah's situation. Addressing the growing trend of high-scoring matches in IPL 2025, Jayawardene expressed confidence in Mumbai's experienced bowling unit, believing they have the skills to handle the challenge. "Our bowling unit is highly experienced, and they don't get bogged down by such factors. Each match brings unique challenges based on the venue and opposition, and that's where our focus lies," he added.



## 300-RUN MARK NOT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SRH: BOWLING COACH MURALITHARAN AHEAD OF DC CLASH

**Diary Times Desk :** Sunrisers Hyderabad's spin bowling coach and mentor, Sri Lanka legend Muttiah Muralitharan, has emphasised that the team is setting its sights on becoming the first side in Indian Premier League (IPL) history to breach the 300-run mark. As SRH prepare for their upcoming IPL 2025 clash against Delhi Capitals on March 30, Muralitharan reaffirmed that the team will persist with its aggressive batting approach—one that has made the elusive 300-run milestone an achievable target. Sunrisers Hyderabad have long been known for their explosive batting, but the addition of power-hitters like Travis Head, Abhishek Sharma, Heinrich Klaasen, and Nitish Kumar Reddy ahead of the 2024 season has further strengthened their reputation. Their fearless approach paid dividends last year when they set the record for the highest-ever IPL total, scoring 287 against Royal Challengers Bangalore. They nearly surpassed that feat in their season opener this year, posting 286 against Rajasthan Royals. Speaking at a pre-match press conference ahead of the clash against DC in Visakhapatnam, Muralitharan expressed confidence that the team has the firepower to become the first IPL side to reach 300.

## HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO READ THE WICKETS AT CHEPAUK - STEPHEN FLEMING

**Diary Times Desk :** Straight after CSK's 50-run loss to RCB, once the handshakes were done, head coach Stephen Fleming walked to the match pitch with a member of Chepauk's ground staff. Five days earlier, on the adjacent surface, 25 overs of spin dictated terms as CSK edged out Mumbai Indians. This time, seam, bounce, and two-paced deliveries turned the game on its head. "Well, as we've been telling you for a number of years, there was no home advantage at Chepauk," an unusually terse Fleming said after CSK's biggest home defeat. "We've won away from home a couple of times. And we haven't been able to read... we've been really honest with you. We haven't been able to read the wickets here in the last couple of years. So, it's not new. We are trying to come to grips each day with what we get, and we don't know." CSK's team-building strategy - of playing three frontline spinners - was predicated on home conditions favoring turn. But just two games in, that logic has been called into question. "It's not the Chepauk [of old] where you can just go in and play four spinners," Fleming admitted. "We're having to work really hard to try and understand what the nature of each pitch is, and it's quite different."

## MS DHONI BURSTS INTO LAUGHTER AS CSK YOUNGSTER CHEEKILY ASKS VIRAT KOHLI TO STEP BACK UP FOR A MILLION-DOLLAR PICTURE

**Diary Times Desk :** Chennai Super Kings youngster Vansh Bedi had a heartwarming exchange with two of India's greatest cricketers, MS Dhoni and Virat Kohli, after CSK's clash against Royal Challengers Bengaluru on Friday. The match may have ended in disappointment for the home team, but the lighthearted moment brought smiles to the faces of both sets of fans. Following RCB's emphatic 50-run victory, Vansh, eager to seize the opportunity of a lifetime, approached Kohli and Dhoni for a picture together. As the three prepared to pose, Kohli had momentarily stepped down a level, making him appear shorter than both Dhoni and Vansh. Noticing this, the youngster playfully asked Kohli to step back up so they could be on the same level for the perfect shot. The seemingly playful remark left Dhoni in splits, as the CSK legend burst into laughter at the unintended hilarity of the situation. Kohli, too, found the moment amusing, sharing a hearty laugh with the duo before striking a pose for what would become a viral snapshot. While this wholesome exchange brought smiles to the fans, the game itself was a historic one.