

## UNIFORM CIVIL CODE

## "COUNTRY NEEDS UNIFORM CIVIL CODE": KARNATAKA HIGH COURT URGES ITS IMPLEMENTATION

**Diary Times Desk :** The Karnataka High Court has urged both the Parliament and State Legislatures to make a concerted effort to enact a law that would bring about a Uniform Civil Code (UCC), emphasising its importance in upholding the constitutional vision of equality, secularism, and justice for all citizens—especially women.

The strong recommendation came from a single-judge bench presided over by Justice Hanchate Sanjeev Kumar while ruling on a civil appeal involving a property dispute among siblings and the husband of a late Muslim woman, Shahnaz Begum.

The case raised broader questions around inheritance laws governed by personal religious statutes and their implications on gender justice. Justice Kumar asserted that the enactment of a Uniform Civil Code, as envisioned under Article 44 of the Constitution, would fulfill the ideals enshrined in the Preamble—namely, justice, liberty, equality, fraternity, and national unity.

"The country needs a Uniform Civil Code in respect of Personal Laws and religion," the Court on April 4 observed, "only then the object of Article 14 of the Constitution of India will be achieved." The Court underscored that although women across India are equal citizens under the Constitution, they are subjected to unequal treatment due to religion-based personal laws. The bench contrasted inheritance rights under Hindu and Muslim personal laws to illustrate this disparity. While Hindu law grants daughters equal rights in ancestral property.



## US TARIFFS

## GOVERNMENT IN TALKS WITH EXPORTERS OVER US TARIFFS, ALL OPTIONS ON TABLE: SOURCES



**Diary Times Desk :** India is analysing the impact of new US tariffs on its exports and considering a range of responses, including duty reductions under a bilateral trade agreement expected to be finalised by autumn, the government sources told India Today.

The United States has imposed reciprocal tariffs on Indian goods, prompting a detailed review by Indian trade authorities. Government officials in New Delhi said they are keeping "all options on the table" as they weigh potential steps to protect exporters and maintain trade flows.

India, unlike other countries affected by the tariffs, holds a unique position. "India has a first-hand advantage, as Washington only visited New Delhi," a source said, suggesting that direct engagement may give India leverage in negotiations.

Sources stated that the situation may also offer strategic opportunities. "As global supply chains shift in response to escalating trade disputes, India sees a silver lining," a government source said. Indian authorities are in talks with other countries exploring new trade alignments following the US move.

India has declined to join ASEAN in a joint response to the tariffs but is exploring individual strategies, including reciprocal tariff measures and reductions in duties. Trade agreements with Gulf nations, such as Bahrain and Qatar, are under review as part of broader efforts to diversify India's trade partnerships. Officials have expressed concern about the possibility of excess goods from countries facing US tariffs being dumped into Indian markets.

The government is preparing safeguards to prevent disruptions, with direct and indirect actions planned if necessary.



## LAY DOWN ARMS, JOIN MAINSTREAM: AMIT SHAH APPEALS TO NAXALITES IN CHHATTISGARH

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Saturday made an appeal to the Naxalite to lay down arms and join the mainstream, averring that nobody feels happy when a Naxalite is killed. Speaking at the closing ceremony of the Chhattisgarh Government's 'Bastar Pandum' festival, Shah asserted that the Union Government was committed to eliminating the Naxal menace by March 2026, and the Maoists would not be able to stop the development of tribal residents of Bastar. "The days when bullets were fired and bombs went off in Bastar are over. I urge Naxalite brothers to lay down arms and join the mainstream. You are our own people. No one feels happy when a Naxalite is killed. Just surrender your weapons and join the mainstream. You cannot stop the development of your tribal brothers and sisters by taking up arms," he said, offering an olive branch to the outlawed Maoist movement. Surrendered Naxalites who become part of the development process will get full protection from the Union and state governments, the minister assured.



## MEITEI, KUKI REPRESENTATIVES MEET FOR 1ST TIME AFTER OUTBREAK OF ETHNIC VIOLENCE

**Diary Times Desk :** For the first time since ethnic violence started in Manipur nearly two years ago, the representatives of the warring Meitei and Kuki communities met face-to-face on Saturday as the Centre intensified efforts to restore peace and bring back normalcy in the North-Eastern state. The meeting, which was held here at the aegis of the Union Home Ministry, discussed various aspects of the ongoing conflict and decided to continue their dialogue to find an amicable solution acceptable to people of the state, sources privy to the meeting said. The sources said the meeting, which lasted for about five hours, was held as part of the Centre's initiatives to resolve the ongoing conflict between the two communities, which began in May 2023 and had worsened ethnic tensions. The meeting was aimed at enhancing trust and cooperation between the Meiteis and Kukis and finding a roadmap to restore peace and normalcy.

## AAP MLA AMANATULLAH KHAN MOVES SUPREME COURT AGAINST WAQF AMENDMENT BILL



**Diary Times Desk :** AAP MLA Amanatullah Khan on Saturday moved the Supreme Court challenging the constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2025 which awaited President Droupadi Murmu's assent to become an Act after having been passed by both Houses of Parliament. The Waqf (Amendment) Bill 2025 was passed by the Rajya Sabha during the wee hours of Friday, with 128 members voting in favour and 95 opposing it. The Lok Sabha passed the Bill a day before with 288 members supporting it and 232 against it. Under the amended law, only self-owned resources can be declared as Waqf after ensuring the inheritance rights of women and children and the DC will determine that land being donated by a Muslim is actually in his ownership. However, Khan contended that "The Bill violates fundamental rights enshrined under Articles 14, 15, 21, 25, 26, 29, 30, and 300-A of the Constitution. It curtails the religious and cultural autonomy of Muslims, enables arbitrary executive interference, and undermines minority rights to manage their religious and charitable institutions."

## JUSTICE YASHWANT VARMA ADMINISTERED OATH IN 'CLANDESTINE' MANNER, ERODES PEOPLE'S TRUST: BAR ASSOCIATION

**Diary Times Desk :** Justice Yashwant Varma, who was transferred from the Delhi High Court to the Allahabad High Court amid cash-at-home allegations, was administered the oath in a "clandestine" manner on Saturday, the High Court Bar Association (HCBA) here claimed while condemning the move. The lawyers' body, which had opposed the repatriation of the judge, questioned why "this oath was not notified to the Bar" and alleged that it has once again eroded the trust of people in the judicial system. An in-house inquiry was ordered by the Chief Justice of India (CJI) after the recovery of "four to five semi-burnt sacks" of Indian currency notes from the residence of Justice Varma following a fire incident last month. Justice Varma has maintained that neither he nor his family was aware of the money. In a letter dated April 5 to Allahabad High Court Chief Justice Arun Bhansali, HCBA secretary Vikrant Pandey contended that "legally and traditionally, the oath administered to Justice Varma is fallacious and unacceptable". He urged the Chief Justice not to assign any administrative and judicial work to the judge.



**YOUR HOROSCOPE**  
06-04-2025

**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: TWO MORE EMPLOYEES ARRESTED IN JANJEHLI CHITTA CASE, ORGANIZED CRIME BY FORMING A SYNDICATE

**Diary Times Desk :** In the much talked about Bhalwad Chitta case of Janjehli in Mandi district of Himachal Pradesh, the SIT has arrested Sanjay Kumar, Junior Accountant of MNREGA working in Vikas Khand Office Seraj and Teammate Lal Singh alias Pappu posted in Electricity Board. The SIT has so far arrested ten people involved in this syndicate. All the accused arrested were illegally carrying out the illegal business of synthetic drugs i.e. Chitta like a syndicate. Everyone in Seraj area is shocked by the arrest of government employees in the Chitta case. There have been transactions with the main accused Rubal Thakur and Lovely in the bank accounts of accused Sanjay Kumar for the last one year. Sanjay has transacted with Rubal from bank accounts ten times in the year 2024-25. Sent Rs 30 thousand from SBI account and Rs 30,500 from HDFC account. During the same period, he sent Rs 73,500 from SBI and Rs 77,800 from HDFC to Lovely's account 25 times. The second accused Lal Singh alias Pappu sent Rs 22, 690 to the main accused Rubel from his SBI account in the year 2024-25.



BILASPUR: TWO FIRMS GOT THE WORK OF ISLAND TOURISM IN GOBIND SAGAR LAKE, TOURISM WILL TAKE WINGS

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh's first island tourism project is now going to turn into reality. The tender process for tourism development of two of the four selected islands in Govind Sagar Lake has been successfully completed and the work has been handed over to the two highest bidding firms. The start of this project has been described as an important step towards making Bilaspur district a new center of water tourism. The administration will earn about 15 lakh rupees annually from these islands, Jyori Patan and Dharadasani Islands. Deputy Commissioner Abid Hussain Sadiq said that it will be developed on the lines of Andaman-Nicobar Islands. The objective of this project is to promote island tourism in the state, so that tourists can get a new experience and the local economy also gets strengthened. Under this ambitious scheme, facilities like hotels, restaurants, destination weddings, adventure sports, picnic spots and pre-wedding shoots will be developed on these islands. While on one hand this will add new dimensions to the tourism sector, on the other hand, local people will also get many employment.

HIMACHAL: KANGANA RANAUT SAID- WAQF BOARD IS THE HANDIWORK OF CONGRESS, IT WAS MADE ABOVE THE LAW

**Diary Times Desk :** On the Waqf Amendment Bill, Bollywood actress and MP from Mandi parliamentary constituency Kangana Ranaut said that this is a day of good fortune for the country. PM Narendra Modi is cleaning up everywhere because there is so much corruption and land grabbing. This is public land. Can any person, community, institution, religion be above the law, but the Waqf Board was such a handiwork of the Congress, which was made above the law. This bill brings it within the ambit of law. She was talking to journalists in Mandi on Saturday. After this, Kangana targeted the Congress by addressing a public meeting during the Jan Sampark Abhiyan in Majhvad of Mandi Sadar constituency. She said that people were suffering from the Waqf Board for so many years. This conspiracy was hatched against the country. The country had already been divided into pieces. When the country became independent, it was said that Hindus should come here from Pakistan and Muslims should go there from here. When Hindus came from there, the Pakistan government took the land. The Muslims here gave the land to the Waqf. The area that belongs to Pakistan, the same area is being occupied here. He said that the Waqf Board says that the entire village is mine, so the Congress had given immunity so that even the law cannot question it.

HIMACHAL: HIGH COURT STAYS THE DECISION TO WITHDRAW SENIORITY BENEFITS OF CONTRACT PERIOD IN FOOD SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

**Diary Times Desk :** The Himachal Pradesh High Court has stayed the government's decision to withdraw seniority benefits of the employees of the Food Supply Department on the basis of calculation of contract period. The state government had issued orders to withdraw seniority benefits of contract period on April 3. This order has been stayed by a division bench of Justices Vivek Singh Thakur and Ranjan Sharma. The division bench said that the interim protection granted to the petitioners till the next hearing will not give any equity or other rights in their favor. The court has issued a notice to the government and asked to file a reply on this petition within two weeks. The case of Lekhraj and others vs Himachal Pradesh, in which the contract service period is counted for seniority and promotion in the High Court, will be heard on April 25. Along with this, this petition has also been filed. The government has implemented the Himachal Pradesh Government Employees Recruitment and Service Conditions Act 2024 on February 7 this year. Under this, the contract service period of those who are in the job after the year 2003 will not be counted for the benefit of seniority. A challenge has been made in the High Court in the case of Lekhraj and another.

DHARAMSHALA: DEPENDENTS OF EX-SERVICEMEN SELECTED FOR 16 JBT POSTS IN KANGRA DISTRICT

**Diary Times Desk :** On the basis of JBT counseling organized for the dependents of ex-servicemen, 16 candidates have been selected on contract basis in Kangra district. Deputy Director Elementary Education Ajay Singh informed that the selection process was conducted by his office on 8th and 9th February, 2024. He informed that after the selection process, appointment letters have been issued to Binu Devi of village Ghatta Post Office Dhamed Tehsil Kangra, Swati resident Bandahu Tehsil Palampur, Sapna Walia resident Malan Tehsil Nagarota Bagwan, Lakhwinder Singh resident Badun Nehran Pukhar Dehra, Sapna Devi resident Kohala Tehsil Kangra, Raj Kumar resident village Dhatti Tehsil Palampur, Manoj Kumar Kashyap resident village Badhala Tehsil Jaisinghpur, Sushma Devi resident village Badhala Tehsil Jaisinghpur, Kuldeep Singh resident.

HPTDC: RECRUITMENT WILL BE DONE ON OUTSOURCE IN HPTDC, HIMACHAL HIGH COURT HAS GIVEN APPROVAL

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh government has started the process of 6,692 outsourced recruitments in the education department. Applications have been sought till April 28 for recruitments through the Nailet company. 6202 aayas, 124 yoga teachers and 227 special educators will be recruited in pre-primary schools. Yoga teachers will be given an honorarium of Rs 6,789. 124 posts of career guidance counselors will also be filled, they will be given an honorarium of Rs 17,068. Aayas recruited on part-time basis will get an honorarium of Rs 4,075 per month. 193 posts of special educators to be appointed in primary and upper primary will be filled. They will get an honorarium of Rs 16385. 34 special educators to be recruited in secondary and senior secondary will get an honorarium of Rs 20,469. Apart from this, 12 posts of district program managers will be filled in other departments.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: PROCESS OF 6,692 OUTSOURCED RECRUITMENTS STARTED IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, KNOW THE LAST DATE OF APPLICATION

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh government has started the process of 6,692 outsourced recruitments in the education department. Applications have been sought till April 28 for recruitments through the Nailet company. 6202 aayas, 124 yoga teachers and 227 special educators will be recruited in pre-primary schools. Yoga teachers will be given an honorarium of Rs 6,789. 124 posts of career guidance counselors will also be filled, they will be given an honorarium of Rs 17,068. Aayas recruited on part-time basis will get an honorarium of Rs 4,075 per month. 193 posts of special educators to be appointed in primary and upper primary will be filled. They will get an honorarium of Rs 16385. 34 special educators to be recruited in secondary and senior secondary will get an honorarium of Rs 20,469. Apart from this, 12 posts of district program managers will be filled in other departments. They will be paid Rs 30,000 and three posts of e-district manager will be filled.

RS 1 LAKH A DAY SPENT ON MAINTENANCE OF ARVIND KEJRIWAL'S BUNGALOW: BJP

**Diary Times Desk :** Calling former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal a "Master of Corruption", Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva on Saturday shared RTI documents suggesting that the AAP National Convenor spent Rs 29.56 crore between March 31, 2015, and December 27, 2022 on maintenance of his official bungalow in north Delhi. "The scams perpetrated by Kejriwal are not coming to an end. We will ask the Delhi government to inquire how almost Rs 1 lakh per day was spent on the maintenance of his bungalow. We also want every penny to be recovered," Mr Sachdeva told IANS. He said that Mr Kejriwal has been avoiding the media since his defeat in Delhi elections but he will have to face these thorny questions on corruption. The people of Delhi expect him to come forward and clarify what exactly was so deficient in his bungalow that Rs 31 lakh per month was needed for its maintenance," he said. "An annual maintenance expenditure of Rs 3.69 crore on a government bungalow clearly indicates the royal level of upkeep that Kejriwal maintained, or there may be corruption at play in this as well," he said.

AMID WAQF ROW, RSS REPORT ON LAND UNDER CATHOLIC CHURCHES GETS RAHUL GANDHI FLAK

**Diary Times Desk :** Amid the row over the Waqf bill, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi warned that the Christian community might be the next target of the RSS after an article in its mouthpiece claimed Catholic churches were the largest landholder in the country. The article on the website of the Organiser, which has now been unpublished, claimed that Catholic institutions in India hold 7 crore hectares of land, making them the largest non-governmental landowner. "I had said that the Waqf bill attacks Muslims now but sets a precedent to target other communities in the future. It didn't take long for the RSS to turn its attention to Christians. The Constitution is the only shield that protects our people from such attacks - and it is our collective duty to defend it," Gandhi tweeted while sharing the link to a news report based on the Organiser's article. Calling the article "deplorable", senior Congress leader Ramesh Chennithala said the BJP's next step was to control the properties owned by the Catholic community. During the time of the passing of the Waqf bill, the Congress and Rahul Gandhi mentioned that the next step would be against Christians. The (article by) 'Organiser' clearly mentions.

INDIA, UAE TO DEVELOP ENERGY HUB IN SRI LANKA AMID FIERCE CHINA COMPETITION



**Diary Times Desk :** India and the United Arab Emirates agreed to develop an energy hub in Sri Lanka, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Saturday, as New Delhi's competition with China grows in the Indian Ocean island nation. The three nations signed the pact for the hub during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Sri Lanka, the first by a global leader since Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Disسانayake took office in September. New Delhi and Colombo have worked to deepen ties as India's southern neighbour recovers from a severe financial crisis triggered in 2022, during which India provided \$4 billion in financial assistance. Saturday's agreement boosts New Delhi's competition with China, whose state energy firm Sinopec has signed a deal to build a \$3.2-billion oil refinery in Sri Lanka's southern port city of Hambantota. The energy hub in the strategically important city of Trincomalee, a natural harbour in Sri Lanka's east, will involve the construction of a multi-product pipeline and may include using a World War Two tank farm partly held by the Sri Lankan subsidiary of Indian Oil Corp.

DEFENCE MINISTER TO INAUGURATE INDIAN OCEAN SHIP SAGAR AT KARWAR NAVAL BASE

**Diary Times Desk :** Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday inaugurated various infra projects at Karwar naval base in Karnataka. The Union minister arrived at the naval base around 1 pm where he was given a Guard of Honour at the Parade Ground. The defence minister landed at the key base in a military chopper, and is scheduled to spend a few hours here, with a number of engagements lined up. The Navy is expanding the crucial naval base as part of Project 'Seabird'. "Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh will flag off #INSSunayna as the Indian Ocean Ship SAGAR with 44 personnel from 9 navies embarked onboard, from #Karwar today," the Office of Raksha Mantri earlier posted on X on Saturday. It also shared a video in the post depicting the training phases, held both on land and at sea under this mission. "IOS SAGAR will play a crucial role in shaping the future of the Indian Ocean Region, reaffirming India's commitment to build stronger ties with its maritime neighbours and working towards a safer.

AIMPLB SAYS WAQF BILL SUPPORT EXPOSED 'SECULAR FACADE' OF POLITICAL PARTIES

**Diary Times Desk :** The All India Muslim Personal Law Board (AIMPLB) on Saturday declared the recent Waqf Amendment bill passed by Parliament as a "severe assault on Islamic values, religion and Shariah, religious and cultural freedom, communal harmony and the foundational structure of the Indian Constitution." In a statement, the AIMPLB said that the support extended by certain political parties to the BJP's "communal agenda" has fully exposed their "so-called secular facade." The AIMPLB added that it will lead a nationwide movement against these amendments in coordination with all religious, community-based and social organizations and the campaign will continue until the amendments are fully repealed. "In every state capital, Muslim leadership will offer symbolic arrests and at the district level, protests will be organised. At the conclusion of these protests, memorandums will be submitted to the President of India and the Home Minister, through the respective district magistrates and the collector," ANI quoted the statement as saying.

MISCHIEVOUS, POLITICALLY MOTIVATED: MEA ON BANGLADESH ACCOUNT OF MODI, YUNUS MEET

**Diary Times Desk :** The Bangladesh interim government's account of aspects of the meeting between chief adviser Muhammad Yunus and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, including attacks on minorities and the extradition request for former premier Sheikh Hasina, was "mischievous and politically motivated", people familiar with the matter said on Saturday. Responding to an official readout from the Bangladeshi side on the Modi-Yunus meeting in Bangkok and a Facebook post by Yunus' spokesperson Shafiqul Alam, the people said on condition of anonymity that the characterisation of the Indian premier's remarks regarding the relationship with Yunus and the previous Bangladesh government were "inaccurate". The people particularly took exception to remarks made by Yunus' press secretary Alam in a Facebook post on Saturday, saying the account of the meeting in Bangkok was "mischievous and politically motivated".

SIMULTANEOUS POLLS TO TAKE PLACE AFTER 2034: N SITHARAMAN CLARIFIES FALSE CLAIMS

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday dismissed the false propaganda surrounding the 'One Nation, One Election' concept, clarifying that it will not be implemented in the upcoming elections. Speaking at an event near here, she noted that around Rs 1 lakh crore was spent during the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, and such a massive expenditure could be saved through simultaneous elections. If simultaneous elections are held for electing the members of Parliament and Assembly, about 1.5 per cent growth will be added to the country's GDP. In value terms, Rs 4.50 lakh crore will get added to the economy. This is a black and white example of One Nation One Election' concept", she said. N Sitharaman accused certain parties of "spreading a false campaign" on the 'One Nation One Election' initiative, blindly opposing it. She clarified that simultaneous polls are planned to take place only after 2034 and the groundwork is being laid now for the then President to give assent.





## 'HANDS OFF' PROTESTS AGAINST DONALD TRUMP, ELON MUSK ACROSS US TODAY: WHAT IT IS

**Diary Times Desk** : Thousands across the United States will take to the streets on Saturday under the 'Hands Off!' banner, protesting against what they call a sweeping power grab by Donald Trump and Elon Musk. Over 1,200 protests by over 150 organisations – civil rights groups and labour unions to LGBTQ+ advocates, veterans and electoral reform activists – are planned across all 50 US states, with gatherings also expected at the Capitol and the National Mall in Washington DC, reported the Associated Press. The movement, which has rapidly gained momentum, is said to be possibly the largest single-day protest since Trump assumed office for his second term in January this year. "They're dismantling our country. They're looting our government. And they think we'll just watch," the Hands Off! campaign stated on its official website. Protesters are expected to voice opposition to Trump's policies, including cuts to Social Security, mass layoffs from federal agencies, rollbacks of consumer protections and measures targeting immigrants and the transgender community, Axios reported.

## INDIA HANDS OVER 442 METRIC TONNES OF FOOD AID TO QUAKE-HIT MYANMAR

**Diary Times Desk** : India on Saturday delivered a large consignment of food aid to quake-hit Myanmar at Thilawa Port in the southern coastal area to the Yangon region's chief minister as part of its ongoing Operation Brahma. A massive 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck Myanmar, with an epicentre near here, on March 28 and left over 3,100 dead. India launched Operation Brahma to provide necessary support, including Search and Rescue (SAR), humanitarian aid, disaster relief and medical assistance, following the devastating earthquake. India delivered the first tranche of Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) material to Myanmar in less than 24 hours. On Saturday, the 442 metric tonnes of food aid was delivered through a naval ship at Thilawa Port, about 400 kilometres south of Myanmar. "Meeting the needs of affected people. A large 442 T consignment of food aid (rice, cooking oil, noodles & biscuits) carried by @indiannavy landing ship tank INS Gharial arrived today at Thilawa Port & was handed over by @AmbAbhayThakur to CM Yangon U Soe Thein & team.

## "OOPS": TRUMP SHARES VIDEO SHOWING DEADLY STRIKE ON HOUTHIS IN YEMEN

**Diary Times Desk** : US President Donald Trump on Friday posted a video purportedly showing dozens of Huthi fighters being killed in an American strike on Yemen, adding the comment "oops." Resembling images shot from military drones or other loitering aircraft, the black-and-white footage Trump posted to his Truth Social network shows several dozen human figures from an almost vertical angle. "These Houthis gathered for instructions on an attack," Trump wrote in an accompanying text, using an alternate spelling for the Yemeni rebel group. American forces have carried out major raids on Yemen in recent weeks in response to the group's attacks on Red Sea shipping. Gathered in a loose oval along a road, the people in the video are superimposed with a gun camera-style crosshair. A few seconds in, a bright flash appears in the middle of the scene, followed by billowing smoke. The footage cuts to a wider shot showing a column of smoke over the apparent impact site and several vehicles parked further up the road.

## "HANG TOUGH, IT WON'T BE EASY": DONALD TRUMP TO AMERICANS AMID TARIFF WAR



**Diary Times Desk** : US President Donald Trump on Saturday doubled down on the sweeping tariffs he unleashed on countries around the world, warning Americans of pain ahead, but promising historic investment and prosperity. The comments came as Trump's widest-ranging tariffs took effect in a move that could trigger retaliation and escalating trade tensions that could upset the global economy. We have been the dumb and helpless 'whipping post,' but not any longer. We are bringing back jobs and businesses like never before," Trump wrote on his Truth Social platform. This is an economic revolution, and we will win," he added. "Hang tough, it won't be easy, but the end result will be historic." A 10 percent "baseline" tariff came into place just after midnight, hitting most US imports except goods from Mexico and Canada as Trump invoked emergency economic powers to address perceived problems with the country's trade deficits. The trade gaps, said the White House, were driven by an "absence of reciprocity" in relationships and other policies like "exorbitant value-added taxes."

## JP MORGAN SOUNDS US RECESSION ALERT: JOB LOSSES, GDP SLUMP

**Diary Times Desk** : JPMorgan Chase & Co. has predicted that the United States economy will enter a recession this year, largely due to the impact of new tariffs announced by President Donald Trump, reported The Hill. In a note to investors released on Friday evening, JP Morgan's chief US economist, Michael Feroli, said the country's gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to contract "under the weight of the tariffs". Michael Feroli added that the recession is also forecasted to "push the unemployment rate up to 5.3 per cent, The Hill said, citing its report. We now expect real GDP to contract under the weight of the tariffs, and for the full year (4Q/4Q) we now look for real GDP growth of -0.3%, down from 1.3% previously," Bloomberg quoted Michael Feroli as saying on Friday. Donald Trump's announcement on Wednesday of major tariffs on US trading partners around the world, including India, sent the S&P 500 index of US stocks to its lowest level in 11 months, wiping away \$5.4 trillion of market value.



## ZELENSKY SLAMS US EMBASSY AFTER DEADLY RUSSIAN STRIKES: 'STRONG COUNTRY, YET WEAK REACTION'

**Diary Times Desk** : Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelensky hit out at the US embassy in the country on Saturday for issuing a "weak" reaction to the Russian missile strikes that killed 18 people in his hometown. In a post on X, Zelensky shared footage from the Russian ballistic missile strikes which occurred on Friday, killing nine children and 11 others in Kryvyi Rig. 62 people were also wounded during the strike. While Zelensky praised the solidarity expressed by several other embassies such as Japan, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, and Germany, he also stated that he found the reaction of the US embassy to be disappointing. The Ukrainian President said, "Unfortunately, the response from the U.S. Embassy is surprisingly disappointing – such a strong country, such a strong people, and yet such a weak reaction. They are afraid to even say the word 'Russian' when speaking about the missile that murdered children." He added in his post, "Yes, the war must end. But to end it, we must not be afraid to call things by their names. We must not be afraid to put pressure on the one who continues this war and ignores all the world's proposals to end it. We must pressure Russia – the one choosing to kill children instead of choosing a ceasefire."

## DAYS BEFORE 26% TRUMP TARIFF HITS INDIA, A TRADE DEAL IN THE MAKING

**Diary Times Desk** : US President Donald Trump's latest tariff policy has sparked fear among Indian exporters. With duties raised to 26% in addition to a baseline tariff of 10%, domestic sellers fear their foreign sales could be hit. However, a solution may be around the corner with Indian and US officials negotiating a trade deal before the tariffs come into force next week, suggest media reports. Trump is "actively negotiating" trade deals with India, Vietnam, and Israel, CNN cited a senior adviser to the US President as saying. The 10% base tariff will be effective from today while a flat 26% country-specific duty for India will come into force next Wednesday (April 9). The Indian government has said it is "carefully examining" the implications of the tariffs announced by Trump on April 2, and that the Commerce Ministry is assessing the situation along with all stakeholders. Feedback is being taken from exporters and the department is also studying the opportunities that may arise due to the tariff changes. Trump has billed the increased duties as "Liberation Day" tariffs that seek to stop foreign sellers from "ripping off" US industries.

## END FAST, TALK TO CENTRE: BITTU APPEALS TO FARMER LEADER JAGJIT DALLEWAL

**Diary Times Desk** : Union Minister of State for Food Processing Ravneet Singh Bittu on Saturday appealed to farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal to end his indefinite fast and join talks with the Centre over their demands. In a video message addressed to Dallewal, Bittu said, “Your health is important and your life is precious for the people of Punjab as your leadership would always be needed for the struggle of farmers and farm labourers.” Bittu said during the Lok Sabha session that concluded on Friday, BJP ministers and senior leaders of the party kept asking him about the well-being of Dallewal. The MoS, Railways, said the Union Government had held a series of meetings on demands of farmers and wanted to continue the talks. Bittu said he was making the appeal to Dallewal from his side, on behalf of the Centre and the people of Punjab. The Union Minister of State said he understood the pain of farmers as he also belongs to a farming family. He wished Dallewal success in his mission so that he could continue to serve the people of Punjab for a long time. He urged Dallewal to give up his fast and join the meeting with the Centre on May 4.



## PUNJAB GOVERNOR’S MARCH AGAINST DRUGS ENTERS AMRITSAR ON THIRD DAY

**Diary Times Desk** : There is a need to increase employment opportunities for the youth, especially in the border areas, apart from engaging them in the sports activities in their free time so that they don't fall into the deadly trap of drug addiction, said Punjab Governor Gulab Chand Kataria during the third day of the 'padyatra' (foot march) launched by him to spread awareness among the people against rampant drug abuse. The campaign started from Sri Guru Harkrishan Senior Secondary Public School here. The march culminated at Sri Guru Ram Das Nursing College. A band of students of the school was also part of the padyatra which played patriotic songs. Earlier, addressing the students, he invoked supreme sacrifices of Sikh Gurus including Guru Ram Das, Guru Teg Bahadur and Guru Gobind Singh. He urged the women and children to be part of the campaign, making it a public movement for eradicating the drug peril from Punjab. When asked about absence of Punjab Chief Minister and ruling party leaders from the campaign, he hoped that they would participate during 5th or the culmination day of the campaign.

## POLICE CRACK DOWN ON CRIMINALS IN SECTOR 25 COLONY

**Diary Times Desk** : In the wake of two stabbing incidents in Sector 25, the police launched a major cordon and search operation in the area last evening. During the operation, police officials identified criminal elements in a colony and its adjoining areas. According to the police, preventive action was taken against six known “bad characters” under Sections 126/170 of the BNSS and against 18 persons under Section 35 1B. “All suspects, including repeat offenders and recently released prisoners, were checked and verified,” said the police, emphasising that these operations will continue in the area to prevent further crimes. Back-to-back stabbing incidents were reported in Sector 25 recently. Colony residents said police patrolling should be intensified and a long-term action plan.

## RUMBLINGS IN CONG AGAIN AS PUNJAB LEADERS MEET BAGHEL IN DELHI

**Diary Times Desk** : Simmering discontent in the Congress once again came to the fore as a section of senior leaders met the party’s Punjab affairs incharge Bhupesh Baghel in New Delhi with a “complaint” against their state chief Amrinder Singh Raja Warring. According to sources, they also aired their grouse against the Leader of the Opposition in the state Assembly — Partap Singh Bajwa — during the meeting held on Thursday. However, Warring downplayed suggestions of a rift between him and the leaders. He said the senior leaders met Baghel “not against him, but to strengthen the party”. The development has come days after Baghel held discussions with top state leaders to iron out differences among them. The interaction, held prior to the recently concluded Punjab Budget session, had witnessed heated arguments. Earlier, Baghel had put to rest speculation of a change of guard in the Punjab Congress after senior party leader Rana Gurjeet Singh called Warring a “selfish leader” and expressed willingness to lead the state unit. A source said the leaders who met Baghel included Punjab Congress vice-presidents Pargat Singh, Khushaldeep Dhillon, Inderbir Bolaria and working president Bharat Bhushan Ashu. Former Chief Minister Charanjit Channi and former state minister Tript Rajinder Bajwa were also part of the group.

## DISMISSED WOMAN CONSTABLE REMANDED IN 2-DAY POLICE CUSTODY IN DRUG SEIZURE CASE

**Diary Times Desk** : Suspended Punjab Police constable Amandeep Kaur was today remanded in two-day police custody following the alleged seizure of 17.71 gm of heroin from her. Sh was dismissed from service yesterday. Known as “Insta Queen” for her active social media presence, the police are now interrogating her to uncover more details about her alleged drug trafficking network and financial trails. Kaur frequently posted Instagram reels on her handle “police\_kaurdeep” featuring her SUV and luxury items, amassing more than 30,000 followers. Her social media activities had previously drawn attention within the Police Department. In addition to her social media presence, allegations surfaced regarding her personal life and assets. It is learnt that for the past three years, many persons had been filing complaints against her with the Punjab Government officials and senior police officers, but she used to escape scrutiny due to her “high-level connections”. It is also learnt that she tried to flaunt her close connections with a senior IPS officer to escape this time when stopped for checking. During her 14 years’ of service, Amandeep had seen 31 transfers and two suspensions.

## PM MODI TO VISIT HARYANA ON APRIL 14

**Diary Times Desk** : A state-level meeting of the BJP was held at the party’s office Mangal Kamal in Rohtak on Saturday to prepare for the proposed visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Haryana on April 14. Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, BJP state president Mohan Lal Baroli, national secretary Om Prakash Dhankhar, MP Subhash Barala, state general secretary Dr Archana Gupta and other senior leaders attended. Baroli told reporters that the Prime Minister will inaugurate the airport at Hisar and lay the foundation stone of the new unit of Yamunanagar thermal power plant on April 14. “The first flight from Hisar will be for Ayodhya,” Baroli said, adding that the Prime Minister will address a public meeting in Hisar at 9 a.m. and in Yamunanagar at 11 AM. The Chief Minister reviewed the preparations for the Prime Minister’s programmes and gave necessary instructions to the officers concerned. The responsibilities of the ruling party’s workers were also fixed.

## MBBS EXAM SCAM: TWO ROHTAK VARSITY STAFFERS ADMIT RECEIVING RS 4 LAKH DIGITALLY

**Diary Times Desk** : In a significant breakthrough in the MBBS exam scam, two Class-IV outsourced women employees at Pt BD Sharma University of Health Sciences Rohtak (UHSR) have admitted during police interrogation that they received total over Rs 4 lakh digitally on behalf of the main accused. DSP Dalip Singh, who is investigating the case, confirmed the confessions of both employees during questioning. Sources claimed that the accused had persuaded the employees working in his office to receive the money digitally allegedly by misleading them. The confessions have provided vital evidence to establish the money transfer in the scam. The names of both staff members were also mentioned by an MBBS student who filed a written complaint with UHSR authorities in January regarding the scam. “During police interrogation, one of the women employees revealed that the accused asked her to help him receive a digital payment stating that he is unable to receive money due to some technical issue. She was asked to use the PhonePay app on her phone to receive the amount and return it to him later. She agreed to his request and received Rs 2 lakh digitally,” the sources said. The sources further said the employee later returned the received money to the accused after withdrawing it from an ATM. Similarly, another employee too received over Rs 2 lakh digitally on behalf of the same.



TRIBUNAL DIRECTS  
INSURANCE COMPANY TO  
PAY RS 92 LAKH  
COMPENSATION TO  
DECEASED'S FAMILY

**Diary Times Desk :** The Motor Accident Claims Tribunal (MACT), Chandigarh, has directed an insurance company to pay compensation amounting to Rs 92,56,800 to the family of an Army man who died in an accident four years ago. In the claim petition filed before the Tribunal, Kavita Kaushal, a resident of Kangra district, said that on June 5, 2021, her husband Sagan Kumar was travelling along with some other passengers. He was coming to Jammu, when the driver lost control and the vehicle fell in a 400-feet-deep gorge. The accident had taken place solely on account of rash and negligent driving. Five persons travelling in the car lost their lives, including her husband. An FIR was also registered at Ramban Police Station regarding the accident. The deceased's family – wife, two children and parents – were financially dependent on him. All claimants have claimed compensation of Rs 1,50,00,000, along with interest at the rate of 12 per cent per annum from the date of filing of claim petition till its realisation.

SOARING MERCURY  
SPARKS FOREST FIRES IN  
LOWER HILLS OF  
HIMACHAL PRADESH

**Diary Times Desk :** With the onset of summers, forest fires are increasingly being reported from the lower hills of Himachal Pradesh. Pine forests in areas such as Palampur, Dehra Gopipur and Nurpur divisions are particularly vulnerable to fires during this time. The Forest Department faces significant challenges in controlling these fires due to a lack of cooperation from locals, who have been designated as "bartandar" (forest users) by the state government. However, the situation is currently under control, with forest officials successfully extinguishing most fires over the past two days. Official sources said this year, the Forest Department has been unable to implement basic preventive measures, such as controlled burning and maintaining fire lines, due to financial constraints. The total area of pine forests in the state, which requires controlled burning, spans 1.50 lakh hectares.

KANGANA RANAUT SUPPORTS WAQF BILL, CALLS IT A GREAT DAY  
FOR INDIA

**Diary Times Desk :** BJP MP from Mandi, actor Kangana Ranaut, expressed strong support for the recently introduced Waqf Bill in Parliament, calling it a "great day for the country". During her visit to Mandi on Saturday, Kangana praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and his ongoing efforts to tackle corruption across India. Speaking on the Waqf Board Bill, Kangana emphasised that the creation of the Waqf Board, initiated by the Congress, had led to significant land encroachments, a matter that she believes needed addressing. "The formation of the Waqf Board was an act by Congress, during which there was massive encroachment of land. Today, we are fortunate to have a leader like Prime Minister Modi who is working tirelessly to clean up corruption everywhere," Kangana stated. She said, "No one is above the law. If any land is encroached upon, they cannot seek help from the law to reclaim it. This is why I fully support the Waqf Board Bill introduced in Parliament, as it is a step towards rectifying these issues." Kangana's comments come after the Bill was presented in Parliament, aimed at addressing issues surrounding the administration of Waqf properties and the prevention of land encroachment.



NO CENTRAL FUNDS, HP MULLS PPP  
MODE FOR SATELLITE TOWNSHIP

**Diary Times Desk :** With little headway in getting central funding for the proposed mountain satellite township at Jathia Devi, the Himachal Government is contemplating pushing the much-delayed project under public-private partnership (PPP) mode. The decade-old project has been hanging fire with the state government looking for central funding to execute the project. This will be the first satellite township in the state. The main objective of the satellite township, 14 km from here, is to decongest the state capital of Shimla by shifting some government offices and setting up housing societies. "We had sought Rs 500 crore funding under Urban Challenge Fund from the Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, but there has been no response so far. So we are contemplating executing it under the PPP mode," said Town and Country Planning Minister Rajesh Dharmani. It is an important move aimed at easing pressure on Shimla, he added. He revealed that Himachal Urban Development Authority (HIMUDA) has acquired two chunks of 350 and 250 bighas at Jathia Devi for setting up the mountain satellite township. The state government issued a notification on January 23, 2024, creating the Jathia Devi Planning Area. This was done as a step towards ensuring planned and regulated development in the area.

CAMERA TRAPS CAPTURE PHOTOS  
OF ELUSIVE FLYING SQUIRREL IN  
HIMACHAL'S LAHAUL-SPITI

**Diary Times Desk :** The Forest Department has successfully captured the first-ever photographic evidence of the elusive woolly flying squirrel (eupetaurus cinereus) in the Miyar valley of Lahaul and Spiti district. This rare documentation was made during a camera trapping survey conducted for the Snow Leopard Population Assessment in India (SPAII), an initiative aimed at studying snow leopard populations and their habitat in the tribal district from October 10 to December 4, 2024. The woolly flying squirrel, endemic to the north-western Himalayas, was long believed to be extinct until it was rediscovered in 1994 after a gap of nearly 70 years. Its confirmed presence in the state marks a noteworthy addition to the state's mammal checklist and is considered a significant milestone in wildlife conservation efforts. In addition to the woolly flying squirrel, the camera traps also recorded images of several other key species, including the snow leopard, red fox, Himalayan wolf and mountain weasel. These animals were observed in rocky cliff zones and transitional habitats just above the tree line areas typically favoured by the woolly flying squirrel.

CABINET APPROVES KEY DECISIONS ON EMPLOYEE REGULARISATION,  
HEALTHCARE

**Diary Times Desk :** The Himachal government has decided to regularise the services of contractual employees who have completed two years of continuous service on March 31, 2025. The decision was taken by the Cabinet which met here today under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. The Cabinet also gave nod for the regularisation of daily-wage workers and contingent paid workers who have completed four years of continuous service as on March 31. The Cabinet gave the go-ahead to enter into a management service contract with East India Hotels Ltd for the interim operation of Hotel Wildflower Hall, Mashobra, ensuring a monthly revenue of Rs 1.77 crore for the state and safeguarding the property from deterioration until a new operator is selected through a competitive e-auction or bidding process. The Cabinet also approved the immediate re-auctioning of the remaining about 400 retail liquor vends on individual basis. The Cabinet gave nod to the recommendations of the sub-committee on resource mobilisation, chaired by Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri. The committee has proposed various measures aimed at enhancing the revenue of the state government.



YASHASVI JAISWAL STARS AS RR HAND PBKS FIRST LOSS, CLINCH CONVINCING WIN

**Diary Times Desk :** Rajasthan Royals handed Punjab Kings their first defeat of IPL 2025, beating them convincingly by 50 runs in Mullanpur. Put into bat, Yashasvi Jaiswal smashed his first half-century of the season, as RR posted a total of 205 in 20 overs. PBKS lost two wickets in their very first over, and were four-down inside the first seven overs. Nehal Wadhwa hit a fifty as PBKS tried to rebuild, but great spells by Maheesh Theekshana and Sandeep Sharma pegged them back, as they stumbled to 155/9. This is also RR's second straight win.



RATHI'S 'NOTEBOOK' CELEBRATION EARNS HIM ANOTHER FINE AND TWO DEMERIT POINTS

**Diary Times Desk :** Digvesh Rathi, who sent Naman Dhir off with a "writing in the notebook" celebration in the IPL 2025 match between Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) and Mumbai Indians (MI) on Friday night in Lucknow, has been fined 50% of his match fee and given two demerit points. His captain Rishabh Pant, meanwhile, was fined INR 12 lakh for his team's slow over rate in the game, which LSG won by 12 runs. For Rathi, it was the second such offence and penalty under Article 2.5 of the ICC Code of Conduct. He was fined 25% of his match fee when he had sent Priyansh Arya back with a similar gesture - and a bit of body contact - in an eight-wicket defeat in Lucknow on April 1. That earned him one demerit point, too. The latest Level 1 code of conduct breach came with a bigger fine as a result, even though he was some distance away from the batter. The offence also earned him two demerit points to go with the one he had from the earlier occasion. According to the IPL Code of Conduct, four demerit points add up to one suspension point, meaning the player will be forced to sit out one match when that mark is reached. Since the demerit points remain on an individual's record for a period of 36 months.

DC DISPATCH LISTLESS CSK TO MAKE IT THREE FROM THREE

**Diary Times Desk :** Delhi Capitals dispatched a listless and directionless CSK by 25 runsto notch up their third straight win at the start of IPL 2025. KL Rahul set the tone with a composed 77 before wrist spinners Vipraj Nigam and Kuldeep Yadav choked the hosts in the chase, handing DC their first win at Chepauk since 2010. In the middle overs, with and against spin. Axar Patel won a crucial toss and didn't even bowl himself through that phase, but DC completely bossed the nine overs post the PowerPlay in both innings. First, KL Rahul took on Noor Ahmad and Ravindra Jadeja, who together leaked 55 from their five overs. With the pitch offering more grip in the second innings, DC's wrist-spinning duo of Vipraj Nigam and Kuldeep Yadav conceded just 57 from eight overs and picked up three wickets, effectively sealing the contest. Delhi Capitals' decision to bat first began on a sour note as Khaleel Ahmed struck early, removing the dangerous Jake Fraser-McGurk for a four-ball duck. However, No.3 Abhishek Porel quickly swung momentum back with a counterattacking approach, taking Mukesh Choudhary apart for 19 runs in an over. KL Rahul, back at the top of the order in Faf du Plessis' absence, played second fiddle early on but showed glimpses of fluency with a trademark.

MS DHONI'S GO-SLOW GAMBLE BACKFIRES, SETS OFF FAN MELTDOWN AS CALLS FOR 'RETIREMENT' GROW LOUDER: 'HURTING HIS LEGACY'

**Diary Times Desk :** Chennai Super Kings faced their third defeat in four matches in IPL 2025, with the side slumping to a 25-run loss against Delhi Capitals at home on Saturday. MS Dhoni, the side's legendary former captain, failed to turn the fortunes for the Super Kings in the 184-run chase despite arriving to bat in the 11th over; walking in at 74/5 in the 11th over, Dhoni was the last recognised batter standing. What followed, however, was a curious innings that raised more questions than answers. Dhoni finished unbeaten on 30 off 26 balls - a knock that, on paper, might seem decent. But in the context of the game, it proved painfully slow. The required run rate had already started to climb when he arrived, and while the need of the hour was to build the partnership, Dhoni didn't seem to attempt big shots at all throughout the middle overs of the chase. His first 18 balls fetched just 13 runs, with only a couple of twos and the rest mostly singles.



KHUSHDIL SHAH DRAGGED AWAY BY SECURITY AFTER PAKISTAN STAR FURIOUSLY ATTACKS FANS DURING NZ ODI; PCB ISSUES STATEMENT

**Diary Times Desk :** Pakistan all-rounder Khushdil Shah lost his cool as he charged towards some fans after the Mohammad Rizwan-led side faced a defeat in the third and final ODI against New Zealand on Saturday at the Bay Oval, Mount Maunganui. It is not known what exactly prompted Khushdil to charge aggressively towards a section of the supporters. The fans repeatedly taunted Khushdil Shah over the team's performance on their tour to New Zealand, which saw them lose 1-4 in the five-match T20I series and 0-3 in the three-match ODI series. In the end, the 30-year-old ended up losing his cool, attacking fans in the crowd. The other members of the support staff quickly came in and took Khushdil away before the scenes got uglier. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) has also issued an official statement, saying foreign spectators used abusive language towards the players. According to the statement, Khushdil took matters into his own hands once he heard anti-Pakistan slogans. "The Pakistan cricket team management has strongly condemned the abusive language directed at national players by foreign spectators. During the match today, foreign spectators hurled inappropriate remarks at cricketers present on the field," the PCB said.

JAYAWARDENE CALLS LSG LOSS A 'SETBACK', WANTS MI TO BE MORE 'RUTHLESS'

**Diary Times Desk :** It's not often that Mumbai Indians taste defeat when Suryakumar Yadav scores a half-century and Hardik Pandya remains unbeaten in a run-chase. Their head coach Mahela Jayawardene, then, rightly wants his side to be a bit more "ruthless" with both bat and ball after a 12-run loss to Lucknow Super Giants. "I think it's early season so we need to be a bit more ruthless when we're in those kinds of situations to try and finish a game off," Jayawardene said. "I think halfway point, even at the 14th over mark, I think we were in it, 12 balls, 14 balls out, we were par score with them... we had the game in control most of the time even after losing those two early wickets but it was just disappointing that we just couldn't finish it." Jayawardene termed the loss a "setback," especially after slow-to-start MI got off the mark this season by beating Kolkata Knight Riders at Wankhede in their previous outing. "I have to be honest, it is a setback," Jayawardene said. "We probably made quite a few mistakes especially with the ball as well, we should have probably restricted them maybe 15-20 runs.