

PM MODI

'APPOINT A MUSLIM AS PARTY CHIEF IF...': PM MODI SLAMS CONGRESS ON WAQF ACT

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday lambasted the Congress for amending the Waqf law in 2013, saying the motivation behind the party's move was to win elections through the politics of appeasement. Addressing a gathering in Haryana, the Prime Minister asked the Mallikarjun Kharge-led party to appoint a Muslim chief if it had any sympathy for the largest minority community in the country.

Addressing a gathering after laying the foundation stone of a new terminal building AT Hisar's Maharaja Agrasen Airport and flagging off a commercial flight to Ayodhya, PM Modi said the Congress pleased only a few fundamentalists in the Muslim community.

"From Independence till 2013, there was a Waqf law. But to win elections, and in pursuing a politics of appeasement and vote bank, the Congress made amendments in the Waqf law hurriedly late in 2013 so that it can get votes in elections (few months later in 2014)," said Modi.

"If they (Congress) have some sympathy for Muslims, they should appoint their president from the Muslim community. Why don't they do it?" he asked. He also asked the Congress to give 50 percent election tickets to Muslims. "After they win, they will put forth their views," said Modi. He said the real truth of the Congress was that it had no intention of working for the welfare of any community, including Muslims. PM Modi said the Waqf board owned lakhs of hectares of land in the country, which could have been utilized for the benefit of the poor, the destitute women, and children.



SUPREME COURT

"CONFIDENT SUPREME COURT WON'T...": UNION MINISTER ON CHALLENGE TO WAQF ACT



Diary Times Desk : Minority Affairs minister Kiren Rijiju, referring to the legal challenge to the amended Waqf law, told NDTV today that he is "confident" that the Supreme Court would not "venture into legislative matter". He also said Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's declaration that the amended law will not be implemented in the state raises questions on whether she has any moral authority or the Constitutional right to occupy that position.

The minister's comment comes amid an escalating row over the law, which has been challenged in the Supreme Court by multiple individuals and organisations, and the staunch assertion of Ms Banerjee in Bengal. The Supreme Court will hear the petitions on Wednesday.

"I am confident that the Supreme Court will not venture into a legislative matter," the minister told NDTV. "We have to respect each other. If tomorrow the government interferes into judiciary, it won't be nice. The separation of powers is well defined," he said.

"I have not seen any other bill being scrutinised so much... one crore representation, maximum sittings of the JPC (Joint Parliamentary Committee) and a record in Rajya Sabha while debating the bill," he added.

Earlier, the Supreme Court had made it clear that it would not trespass into the domain of the legislature. But as the final arbiter on issues involving constitution, it has agreed to hear out the petitioners, who claim the amended law tramples on several fundamental rights, including the right to equality and the right to religious freedom. In Bengal meanwhile, Mamata Banerjee -- who refused to implement the Citizenship Amendment Act, National Register of Citizens and Uniform Civil Code last year -- has now announced that the amended Waqf law will also join that category.

MEHUL CHOKSI ARRESTED IN BELGIUM ON INDIA'S EXTRADITION REQUEST

Diary Times Desk : Absconding diamantaire Mehul Choksi has been arrested in Belgium following an extradition request by Indian probe agencies for his involvement in the Rs 13,000 crore PNB bank loan "fraud" case, official sources said on Monday. The action against the second "prime suspect" in this case, after Choksi's nephew diamantaire Nirav Modi, was taken on Saturday based on an extradition request moved by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the Enforcement Directorate (ED). Choksi, 65, was located in Belgium last year when he went there on the grounds of getting medical treatment. He had been staying in Antigua since 2018 after leaving India. Sources said the Interpol Red Notice against him for arrest was "deleted" sometime back by the global police body and the Indian agencies were since pursuing him via the extradition route. At least two open-ended arrest warrants, issued by a special court in Mumbai in 2018 and 2021, have been shared by the Indian agencies with their Belgian counterparts as part of the extradition request, sources said.



CPI, TAMIL ACTOR-TURNED-POLITICIAN VIJAY MOVE SUPREME COURT AGAINST WAQF AMENDMENT ACT

Diary Times Desk : Ahead of the April 16 hearing, the CPI and Tamil actor-turned-politician Vijay have moved the Supreme Court challenging the constitutional validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. In its petition through its general secretary D Raja, the CPI has contended that despite opposition from the masses, the Waqf (Amendment) Bill was passed without proper consideration of the objections raised by the members of the Joint Parliamentary Committee and the other stakeholders. Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) leader and actor Vijay, too, has filed a petition in the top court challenging the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. Passed by the Rajya Sabha during the wee hours of April 4, with 128 members voting in favour and 95 opposing it, the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2025, received President Murmu's assent on April 5. The Lok Sabha passed the Bill on April 3, with 288 members supporting it and 232 against it. The Centre notified it on April 8. Under the amended law, only self-owned resources can be declared.

WAQF PROTEST TURNS VIOLENT IN WEST BENGAL'S SOUTH 24 PARGANAS; SEVERAL INJURED, VEHICLES TORCHED



Diary Times Desk : Supporters of the Indian Secular Front (ISF) on Monday clashed with the police at Bhangar in West Bengal's South 24 Parganas district during protests over the Waqf (Amendment) Act, leading to several injuries and torching of multiple police vehicles. The clash erupted when police stopped ISF upporters from heading towards Ramliia Maidan in central Kolkata to attend an anti-Waqf (Amendment) Act rally addressed by party leader and Bhangar MLA Naushad Siddique. According to police sources, the rallyists were stopped near Bhojerhat on the Basanti Highway, where a large number of ISF workers had gathered from Bhangar as well as neighbouring areas such as Minakhan and Sandeshkhali. Tension escalated when the crowd attempted to break through police barricades, leading to a clash between the two sides. "Some police vehicles were set on fire by the protesters and a few police personnel were injured when the agitators attacked the law enforcers," a senior police officer said.

RAHUL GANDHI'S TWO-DAY GUJARAT VISIT AIMS TO STRENGTHEN CONGRESS GRASSROOTS

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Rahul Gandhi will visit Gujarat on April 15 to launch the party's pilot project of strengthening District Congress Committees (DCCs) in the state. He will be on a two-day visit to the state. This is Rahul's third visit to Gujarat. His visit comes after the recently concluded AICC session and Congress Working Committee (CWC) meeting, the events which were held in the state on April 8 and April 9, respectively. Earlier, Rahul had visited Gujarat in the month of March. During the visit, he had criticised party workers and emphasised the need to distinguish genuine ones from the compromised lot. He will hold an orientation programme for district observers at Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee, Ahmedabad. The move is aimed to strengthen district units in the state, where party has become out of power for over three decades now. The party insiders said Rahul would hold an orientation meeting with the AICC and PCC observers in Ahmedabad on Tuesday before they embark on the statewide exercise of selecting the heads for the state's district units. On Wednesday, Rahul will address party workers at the Modasa town in the Arvalli district, where he will begin the pilot project of selecting district unit chiefs.



YOUR HOROSCOPE

15-04-2025

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.



CM SUKHU PANGI VISIT: CM SUKHWINDER SINGH SUKHU SAID- I HAVE BROUGHT A LOT OF GIFTS FOR THE PEOPLE OF PANGI

Diary Times Desk : I have brought a lot of gifts for the people of Pangi who live in difficult circumstances. Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, who arrived as the chief guest for the Himachal Day celebrations in the tribal area of Pangi, said this after landing from the plane at the helipad in Dharwas. Sukhu said that he had heard many times about Pangi that there are many problems here. In such a situation, Pangi will be taken forward only after seeing with his own eyes how Pangi should be developed. The Chief Minister said that scheme waste schemes will be brought in Pangi and tribal areas so that people can get the benefit directly. The purpose is not achieved by keeping the problems in the budget, the purpose is achieved when people get more benefit. He said that I have come to Pangi for the first time, so efforts will be made to find a solution to their problems by listening to the problems of the people here and assessing them. The Chief Minister said that after coming to power, he celebrated his first Himachal Day celebration in Spiti. The kind of problems that were there in Spiti were assessed.



CM SUKHU PANGI VISIT: CM SUKHU SAID- GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE INTEREST SUBSIDY FOR SETTING UP SOLAR PROJECTS ON PRIVATE LAND

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu was warmly welcomed by the local people dressed in traditional attire on his arrival at Kilad in Pangi, a remote area of Chamba district. Representatives of various panchayats felicitated the Chief Minister and put forth their issues before him. Assuring the people of quick resolution of their problems, the Chief Minister said that the State Government is committed to the development of tribal areas. He announced Rs. 25 lakh each for the Mahila Mandal Bhawan to be constructed at Dharwas and Lunj. Apart from this, he announced a sum of Rs. 10 lakh for the early completion of the construction of another Mahila Mandal Bhawan being constructed at Lunj. He also announced Rs. 1 lakh each to three Mahila Mandals for the purchase of necessary equipment. The Chief Minister encouraged the local people to install solar power plants on private land.

HIMACHAL NEWS: CM SUKHU SAID- NEPHROLOGY AND NEUROLOGY DEPARTMENTS WILL BE OPENED IN HAMIRPUR MEDICAL COLLEGE

Diary Times Desk : On the occasion of the birth anniversary of Constitution maker Bharat Ratna Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu unveiled the statue of Dr. Ambedkar in the Deputy Commissioner's office complex of Hamirpur district and inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various development works worth about Rs 38 crore. After this, while paying tribute to the Constitution maker in the Ambedkar Jayanti celebrations organized by the Scheduled Caste Department of the Congress Party in the Deputy Commissioner's office complex, the Chief Minister said that Dr. Ambedkar has given such a wonderful structure to the Indian Constitution, which has ensured the welfare and upliftment of every citizen and all sections of the society. He said that taking inspiration from the life of Dr. Ambedkar, the State Government is working towards making Himachal Pradesh a self-reliant.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: HIMACHAL BECAME A MODEL FOR THE COUNTRY BY FIXING MSP FOR NATURAL AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS, HE PRAISED IT

Diary Times Desk : Himachal has set a model for the country by fixing the minimum support price (MSP) for natural agricultural products. This is the statement of the country's well-known food policy analyst and agricultural expert Devinder Sharma. He has said that by fixing the MSP, the farmers of Himachal will be encouraged towards organic farming and the fertility of the land will also not be affected by the use of chemicals. Sharma has also suggested the whole country to adopt the Himachal model to increase the income of farmers. The policy of encouraging farmers to cultivate organic agricultural products is a pathfinder for the whole country. To promote organic farming, Himachal had announced a high purchase price for cow and buffalo milk and has increased it in this budget. The purchase price for cow milk has been increased from Rs 45 to Rs 51 and for buffalo milk from Rs 55 to Rs 61 per liter. Legal guarantee for MSP is a burning issue of the country, farmers' organizations of Punjab have been demanding it for a year. Meanwhile, Himachal has fixed a high MSP for organic products. As against the MSP of Rs 24.25 per kg announced.

HIMACHAL NEWS: MP KANGANA RANAUT SAID- CONGRESS IS ENGAGED IN VOTE BANK POLITICS BY RAISING THE CONSTITUTION BOOK

Diary Times Desk : MP and actress Kangana Ranaut said that Congress is engaged in vote bank politics by raising the Constitution book. In history, Congress has only worked to humiliate Bhimrao Ambedkar, while PM Narendra Modi has given him a place like a god. Former Prime Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had scorned the Constitution maker and removed him from the cabinet. Due to this, Bhimrao Ambedkar was forced to resign. She was speaking at a program organized in Baldwara on the occasion of Ambedkar Jayanti. She said that till date Congress has worked to fool everyone. This party has done nothing except fooling people and showing them the middle finger. At the time of elections, Congress showed the public the illusion and fear of changing the Constitution and other things. Now BJP is in power, but nothing like this has happened. Said that if a lie is told 100 times, it also seems true. This is the diplomacy of Congress. Kangana said that anarchy has spread in the state under the leadership of the Congress government. Disabled and widows are not even getting social security pension.

AMBEDKAR JAYANTI: CM SUKHU UNVEILED AMBEDKAR'S STATUE IN HAMIRPUR, INAUGURATED THESE VARIOUS WORKS

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu on Monday unveiled the statue of Baba Saheb Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar on his visit to Hamirpur especially on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Constitution maker Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar. On this occasion, the Chief Minister inaugurated 8 different works in Hamirpur district including Hamirpur assembly constituency. MLA Suresh Kumar, MLA Captain Ranjit Rana, Political Advisor to the Chief Minister Sunil Sharma Bittu, Chairman of Kangra Central Cooperative Bank Kuldeep Pathania, current Congress District President Suman Bharti and other dignitaries were present with the Chief Minister. On reaching the Deputy Commissioner's office premises, the Chief Minister was warmly welcomed by the local people as well as Congress workers. The Chief Minister congratulated the people on the occasion of Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar's birth anniversary and said that today the people are remembering the Constitution maker of the country and his statue was unveiled in the Hamirpur Deputy Commissioner's office.

CHIEF MINISTER SUKHU SAID- SCHOOL CURRICULUM WILL CHANGE IN HIMACHAL, GENERAL KNOWLEDGE SUBJECT WILL BE STARTED

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that the curriculum of Himachal schools will be changed. Now general knowledge subject will be introduced. Such an education policy will be made in the state, which will ensure the all-round development of students. He said that along with the process of administrative changes in the field of education in the state, positive changes are being made in the initiative for quality education and transfer process. The CM said that the most qualified teachers are providing services in government schools. Despite this, why there is a decrease in the enrollment of students, it will be studied. The Chief Minister said these things on Sunday while sending 70 teachers of Himachal to Singapore on an educational tour. The Chief Minister said that the state government has taken historic steps towards making the field of education strong and innovative, in which the initiative of giving global experience to teachers is leading.

TELANGANA NOTIFIES SC
SUB-CATEGORISATION ACT
ON AMBEDKAR JAYANTI

Diary Times Desk : The Telangana government started the implementation of the Scheduled Caste sub-categorisation Act on Monday, April 14. The Law Department issued a Government Order (GO) bringing into force the Scheduled Castes (Rationalisation of Reservation) Act. The development coincided with the birth anniversary of the Constitution's prime architect, Dr BR Ambedkar. With this, Telangana became the first state in the country to implement SC sub-categorisation after the Supreme Court delivered a judgement allowing it last year. The state Assembly had last month passed a Bill for sub-categorisation of SCs. The Bill was drafted after a one-man commission headed by Justice Shameem Akhtar submitted its report. Governor Jishnu Dev Varma gave his assent to the bill on April 8. The Act aims to rationalise the existing 15% reservation for Scheduled Castes by categorising the 59 SC sub-castes in the state into three groups based on inter-se backwardness.

"QUITE BIZARRE": UP COP
HUNTS FOR JUDGE INSTEAD
OF ACCUSED IN HUGE MIX-UP

Diary Times Desk : In a bizarre mix-up, a policeman in Uttar Pradesh's Firozabad launched a hunt for a judge after writing down her name in place of the accused man on the proclamation order in a theft case. The mix-up emerged last month when sub-inspector Banwarilal, who was assigned to serve a court notice to theft suspect Rajkumar, informed the chief judicial magistrate, Nagma Khan, that the accused "Nagma Khan" could not be found at her home despite a "thorough search". "When the attached NBW (non-bailable warrant) was served by me, then a thorough search was done at the mentioned address of Nagma Khan, and no accused of this name lives at the said address. Therefore, you are requested to please pass further orders," he told the court. In her March 24 order, Magistrate Khan said it was "quite bizarre" that Banwarilal had "little to no idea of what was sent by this court, who exactly sent it and against whom". "Without giving an inch of attention to the process, he first carelessly mentions the proclamation as an NBW and he then just wrote the name of the presiding officer quite blindly," she said. "The serving officer of the concerned Police Station who was supposed to comply with the proclamation issued under section 82 CrPC seems to have been lacking basic knowledge of what was asked in the proclamation on his part.

AFTER MURSHIDABAD, VIOLENCE DURING WAQF
PROTEST IN ANOTHER BENGAL DISTRICT



Diary Times Desk : A fresh bout of violence - over changes to the Waqf laws, which govern how Muslim charitable properties are administered - rocked Bengal, this time in South 24 Parganas district, Monday. Videos showed police motorbikes set on fire and an overturned police bus with its windshield ripped out. The videos also showed a large contingent of police on the streets. According to news agency PTI, the violence erupted as supporters of the Indian Secular Front clashed with cops in the Bhanganar area, leading to injuries and arson of police vehicles. The ISF supporters were reportedly moving towards the Ramlika Maidan in central Kolkata, to attend an anti-Waqf law rally to be addressed by the party's MLA, Naushad Siddique. But the police said no permission had been given for the rally, which was held nonetheless and at which Mr Siddique called the new law "an attack on Muslims and assault on the Constitution" and tension escalated when the crowd attempted to break through barricades.

PRIYANK KHARGE SLAMS BJP, CALLS
IT 'STOOGES OF RSS'

Diary Times Desk : Karnataka Minister Priyank Kharge on Monday slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), calling its members "stooges of RSS" in reference to their stance on minority rights and caste-based allocation, following a report on the state's caste census. He accused the BJP leaders of not understanding the Constitution and aligning with the RSS ideology, which he claimed does not prioritise equality. Speaking to mediapersons, Kharge said, "Muslims are minorities as per the Constitution. They (BJP) don't understand the Constitution... The Parliament has already declared Muslims as minorities. The problem lies with CT Ravi and the BJP -- they don't understand or want to read the Constitution properly." Kharge further said that the BJP's opposition to policies aimed at empowering marginalised communities, including SCs, STs, and backward classes, was driven by their ideological allegiance to the RSS and called for the central government to follow the example set by the Karnataka government.

26/11 MASTERMIND TAHAWWUR
RANA'S 3 REQUESTS TO PROBE
AGENCY NIA

Diary Times Desk : Mumbai terror attacks key mastermind Tahawwur Hussain Rana is being interrogated for eight to ten hours daily by the (NIA) sleuths to unravel a larger conspiracy behind the dreaded strikes, PTI reported, quoting official sources said on Monday. The NIA officials are ensuring Rana's medical check-up and he is being allowed to meet his lawyer, according to the order of a Delhi court that had on early Friday morning granted 18-day custody to the probe agency following his extradition from the US, they said. PTI reported, quoting its sources, that Rana is being grilled by the NIA investigators for around eight to ten hours daily to probe a larger conspiracy behind the 2008 dastardly strikes orchestrated by Pakistan-based terrorist group Lashkar-e-Taiba and in which 166 people were killed and over 238 injured. "Rana has been cooperating during the questioning," a source said, adding that a team of NIA officials led by Chief Investigating Officer Jaya Roy is interrogating him.

SUPREME COURT'S TAMIL NADU
GOVERNOR VERDICT HAS
MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT TOO

Diary Times Desk : Only courts have the prerogative to provide recommendations regarding the constitutionality of a Bill and the Executive is supposed to exercise restraint in such matters, the Supreme Court has said, underlining that it would be prudent for the President to refer Bills with constitutional questions to the Supreme Court. The significant remark has been made in the top court's judgment in the Tamil Nadu case, in which it ruled that Governor RN Ravi's decision to withhold assent to 10 Bills was "illegal" and "arbitrary". Multiple reports have now said that the Centre is planning to file a review petition to the top court judgment, which effectively curtails the powers of the President, and by extension the Council of Ministers, which advises the President. The Supreme Court's ruling has effectively set a three-month deadline for Presidential and gubernatorial assent to bills passed by the legislature for the second time.

PEOPLE FEEL BETRAYED IN CONGRESS-RULED HIMACHAL,
K'TAKA, TELANGANA: PM MODI

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday said there were blackouts when the Congress was in power before 2014 but India's production has doubled in the last decade and it is exporting electricity. Addressing a gathering after laying the foundation stone of an 800-MW ultra-critical modern unit at the Deenbandhu Chhotu Ram Thermal Power Plant at Kail village in Yamunanagar, the Prime Minister said Haryana is seeing "double speed of the BJP's double-engine government". The project will be built by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) at a cost of ₹7272.06 crore. The total project cost is ₹8469.12 crore, Haryana Power Generation Corporation Limited (HPGCL) said. "The Congress model has proved to be a complete lie as it focuses only on (winning) power. The BJP model is based on truth," Modi said. "People are being betrayed in Congress-ruled states. In Himachal Pradesh, people are upset as all development work is stalled, while in Karnataka, everything from electricity to milk is getting expensive under the Congress government," he said



**BENJAMIN NETANYAHU SLAMS FRANCE'S
MACRON FOR PLANS TO RECOGNISE
PALESTINE AS SOVEREIGN STATE**

Diary Times Desk : Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday lashed out at French President Emmanuel Macron for his plans to recognise Palestine as a sovereign state during a UN conference in New York in June. The prime minister's comments echoed those of his son, Yair Netanyahu, who also condemned Macron for expressing hope that his move would trigger a reciprocal recognition of Israel by Arab countries. "President Macron is gravely mistaken in continuing to promote the idea of a Palestinian state in the heart of our land -- a state whose sole aspiration is the destruction of Israel," Netanyahu said in a statement. "To this day, not a single figure in Hamas or the Palestinian Authority has condemned the horrors of the worst massacre of Jews since the Holocaust," Netanyahu said, referring to the October 7, 2023 attack by Hamas on Israel. Netanyahu described this as "a silence that reveals their true attitude toward the Jewish state."

**BANGLADESH ISSUES ARREST
WARRANT FOR BRITISH MP TULIP
SIDDIQ**

Diary Times Desk : Bangladeshi authorities have issued an arrest warrant for the British MP and former Labour minister Tulip Siddiq. The country's Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) has been investigating allegations Siddiq illegally received land as part of its wider probe of the regime of her aunt, Sheikh Hasina, who was deposed as prime minister in August. The Hampstead and Highgate MP, who quit as economic secretary to the Treasury in January, was named in the arrest warrant alongside more than 50 others. Lawyers acting for Siddiq denied the charges, which they said were "politically motivated". The ACC had not presented any evidence or informed Siddiq about an arrest warrant, the lawyers added. The UK lists Bangladesh as a 2B extradition country - meaning clear evidence must be presented before ministers and judges make a decision. The ACC is examining claims Sheikh Hasina and her family embezzled up to £3.9bn from infrastructure spending in Bangladesh. The investigation is based on a series of allegations made by Bobby Hajjaj, a political opponent of Hasina.

**BANGLADESHI MODEL MEGHNA ALAM ARRESTED AFTER CLAIMING
AFFAIR WITH MARRIED DIPLOMAT**

Diary Times Desk : Bangladeshi model and actress Meghna Alam was arrested by Dhaka Police on April 9 under the Special Powers Act for allegedly posing a "threat to public safety, law, and order". Her arrest came shortly after Alam claimed she had had an affair with a married diplomat who was now trying to silence her with the help of law enforcement agencies, reported the Daily Star. Meghna Alam is a well-known actress in Bangladesh and the former winner of the Miss Earth Bangladesh beauty pageant of 2020. She is also the chairperson of the Miss Bangladesh Foundation. Her arrest has caused a stir in the country, raising concerns about misuse of power. According to the Daily Star, before her arrest, Alam shared several Facebook posts claiming that a foreign diplomat was trying to silence her. She said that the diplomat - a married man - had an affair with her. Her Facebook posts have since been deleted.

**CHINA IMPOSES VISA RESTRICTIONS ON U.S.
PERSONNEL OVER TIBET**

Diary Times Desk : China has announced visa restrictions on some U.S. personnel who have "behaved badly" on Tibet-related issues, its foreign ministry said on Monday (April 14, 2025). The announcement at a regular press conference came after Washington imposed additional visa restrictions two weeks ago on Chinese officials involved in policies governing foreigners' access to Tibetan areas. The U.S. accused the Chinese Communist Party of refusing to afford U.S. diplomats, journalists, and other international observers access to Tibet and other Tibetan areas of China, and demanded "unrestricted access" to the areas for U.S. diplomats and others. Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lin Jian said Tibet-related issues were China's "internal affairs" and the "U.S. abuse of visa restrictions on Chinese officials" over Tibet "seriously violates international law and basic norms governing international relations".

**US TEEN CHARGED WITH KILLING PARENTS
FOR MONEY TO ASSASSINATE TRUMP**

Diary Times Desk : A Wisconsin teenager charged in the deaths of his parents faces wider allegations that he killed them to "obtain the financial means" to assassinate President Donald Trump and overthrow the government, according to a recently unsealed federal warrant. Nikita Casap, 17, was charged last month by Waukesha County authorities with first-degree murder, theft and other crimes in the deaths of his mother, Tatiana Casap, and his stepfather, Donald Mayer. Authorities allege the teenager fatally shot them at their home outside Milwaukee in February and lived with the decomposing bodies for weeks before fleeing with \$14,000 cash, passports and the family dog. He was arrested last month in Kansas. Casap, in custody at the Waukesha County jail on a \$1 million bond, is due in court next month to enter a plea. County prosecutors have offered a glimpse of the federal allegations, which were outlined in an FBI warrant unsealed Friday. Federal authorities accuse Casap of planning his parents.

**DONALD TRUMP "FULLY FIT"
TO SERVE AS US PRESIDENT,
SAYS HIS DOCTOR AFTER
MEDICAL EXAM**

Diary Times Desk : Donald Trump is in "excellent health," a White House doctor's assessment said Sunday, after he underwent his first annual medical checkup since returning to the US presidency. Republican Trump, 78, has repeatedly boasted about his own vigor since starting a second term, while mocking his 82-year-old Democratic predecessor Joe Biden as decrepit and mentally unfit for office. "President Trump exhibits excellent cognitive and physical health and is fully fit to execute the duties of the Commander-in-Chief and Head of State," read a physician's letter shared by the White House. It noted a few abnormalities that included minor sun damage to Trump's skin, as well as scarring on his right ear from a gunshot wound suffered in an assassination attempt last July. A colonoscopy revealed last year that Trump had diverticulosis -- small pouches in the colon -- and a benign polyp, the report said, adding that a follow-up exam was recommended in three years.

**LONDON WOMAN EARNS \$4
MILLION WITH HAIR OIL
INSPIRED BY ANCIENT INDIAN
TRADITIONS**

Diary Times Desk : A London woman has earned over \$4 million in sales with a hair oil brand inspired by ancient Indian traditions. Erim Kaur is the influencer and entrepreneur behind ByErim - a luxury brand that sells a range of haircare products. Its most popular product is its flagship hair growth oil, made with "100% natural and Ayurvedic ingredients." According to the ByErim website, the formula contains a blend of 8 oils, including amla oil, argan oil, coconut oil, sweet almond oil and castor oil. Erim Kaur, 30, says her brand is a labour of love for people who grew up without mothers or sisters. Her own mother died of breast cancer when she was just 8. "I think one of the strongest messages I've always had has been that I want to do it for girls or boys that have grown up without a mum and sisters," Kaur told CNBC Make It in an interview published April 14. She says that one of her mother's defining traits was her long hair. "I really wanted to emulate the way that my mother looked," said Kaur. "It was scary to see her lose the identifying part of what people saw as something that contributes so heavily to her beauty." After her mother's death, Kaur's paternal grandmother would apply "different oils and ingredients on her hair." This experience formed the foundation for her hair oil.



'50 BOMBS IN PUNJAB': BAJWA SEEKS TIME TO APPEAR BEFORE MOHALI POLICE

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Leader of Opposition Partap Bajwa, through his counsel, has expressed his inability to appear before the Cyber Crime police station, Phase 7, on Monday noon. He has sought time till 2 pm on Tuesday to appear before the cops. Bajwa said he received the summons late on Sunday night. Bajwa had been asked by the police to appear before them in a case registered against him on Sunday night. Police had booked him after his recent comment that 50 bombs had arrived in Punjab. The notice issued by Mohali SP says, "In pursuance of Sub Section (3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, I hereby inform you that during the investigation of FIR No. 19 dated April 13, 2025 under Sections 353(2) and 197(1) of the BNS registered at Cyber Crime police station, Phase 7, SAS Nagar, it is revealed that there are reasonable grounds to question you to ascertain facts and circumstances in relation to the present investigation. Hence, you are directed to appear before me at the police station concerned on Monday noon."



THOUSANDS OF SIKH PILGRIMS VISIT PAKISTAN TO CELEBRATE BAISAKHI FESTIVAL

Diary Times Desk : Thousands of Sikhs were in Pakistan on Monday to celebrate Baisakhi, a harvest festival that marks the start of the Sikh New Year and is mostly observed in Punjab and northern India. The Pakistani authorities this year granted more than 6,500 visas to Indian Sikhs, a higher number than previous years. Visas to travel between the two countries are normally difficult to obtain, but the governments have a special arrangement that allows pilgrims to visit shrines and places of worship. The main Baisakhi ceremony was held in Nankana Sahib, where the founder of the Sikh faith, Guru Nanak, was born. Gurdwara Janam Asthan is one of the nine Sikh places of worship at Nankana Sahib, which is located some 75 km west of Lahore. Rinko Kaur travelled from India's western Gujarat state, where Prime Minister Narendra Modi is from. She said she was initially hesitant about visiting Pakistan. "My family warned me about going... and said I should be with a group to be safe," Kaur said. But she said the people have been welcoming. "I saw people coming out of their houses, waving as a welcome gesture. We feel as if we are celebrities," said Kaur, who plans to visit other Sikh holy sites in Pakistan in the coming days. Many Sikh holy sites are located in Pakistan.

'SC SPORTS' QUOTA DSP POST VALIDLY RESERVED FOR WOMEN: SUPREME COURT

Diary Times Desk : In a significant ruling upholding gender-based horizontal reservation, the Supreme Court has affirmed that the post of Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), advertised under the 'Scheduled Caste Sports' category, was validly reserved for women pursuant to the Punjab Civil Services (Reservation of Posts for Women) Rules, 2020. The apex court upheld the reasoning adopted by Justice Pankaj Jain – the single judge of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, who had dismissed a writ petition filed by a male candidate challenging the reservation of the DSP post for 'SC Sports (Women)'. The judgment assumes importance as it settles the controversy stemming from two conflicting stands taken by the Punjab Government departments – with Home Department supporting the reservation for women under the 2020 Rules, and Department of Social Justice contending that the reservation should have remained gender-neutral. A division bench hearing the plea against Justice Jain's no-upheld order had even called upon the Chief Secretary to resolve the conflict. He had supported Social Justice Department's stand on the ground that a mistake had crept into the advertisement and the DSP post should have been reserved for 'SC Sports' only, and not 'SC Sports (Women)'.

MOHALI TURNS 19, NO MORE CHANDIGARH'S POOR COUSIN

Diary Times Desk : Flying high with international air connectivity from state-of-the-art international airport, international cricket and hockey stadiums, Knowledge City, IT City, country's second-of-its-type Tata Memorial Cancer Hospital, Mohali district is no more Chandigarh's poor cousin on its 19th anniversary, which falls on Monday. It was on April 14, 2006, that Capt Amarinder Singh, the then Chief Minister of Punjab, laid the stone for Mohali as 18th district of the state. Nineteen years down the line, Mohali is no longer Chandigarh's poor cousin, as it used to be two decades back. The district has seen tremendous development in its almost two-decade journey and become the pride of Punjab. It is the first choice of people coming to this part of the region to live. Mohali, which is being developed as the Information Technology hub of Punjab, has also been witnessing a surge in its growth as well as population. Spread across 1,098 sq km, the district's population, which was nearly 8.5 lakh in 2006, has now swelled to around 15 lakh.



PM FLAGS OFF HISAR-AYODHYA FLIGHT; LAYS FOUNDATION STONE OF NEW TERMINAL BUILDING OF AIRPORT

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a scathing attack on the Congress on the birth anniversary of BR Ambedkar, accusing the party of turning Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and OBCs into "second-class citizens" while it was in power. Addressing a gathering after flagging off the first commercial flight from the Maharaja Agrasen airport here to Ayodhya and laying the foundation stone of a new terminal building at the airport, he alleged that the Congress has become the destroyer of the Constitution framed by Ambedkar. "Babasaheb Ambedkar wanted to bring equality, but the Congress spread the virus of vote bank (politics) in the country. He wanted every poor person to live with dignity, with heads held high, to dream and fulfil them. But the Congress made the SCs, STs and OBCs second-class citizens," he said. After flagging off the flight and laying the foundation stone of the new terminal building, Modi said the Centre is emphasising connectivity on the one hand and ensuring social justice and welfare of the poor on the other. "This was Ambedkar's dream," he said.

HARYANA CRACKS WHIP ON OFFICIALS HOLDING DUAL CHARGE

Diary Times Desk : In a bid to instil transparency in the administration, especially at the district level, the Nayab Singh Saini Government has cracked the whip on officials and employees having dual charge at the headquarters and districts. In a communication to the heads of the departments (HoDs) across the state and nodal officers working in the departments and districts, the Additional Chief Secretary (Finance), asked them to "refrain" from assigning the additional charge of the post having higher pay scale to officials working on the lower pay scales. Besides, officials will not be given additional charge in their hometowns, a development which will go a long way in checking "undue" discretion at their disposal. Giving the rationale behind the twin decisions, a senior government functionary said the main aim was to prevent the 'misuse' of official facilities and instil transparency in administration. Currently, hundreds of such officials and employees having dual charges at headquarters and district levels continue to enjoy dual benefits, including retention of official accommodation. Besides, a number of officials continue to retain plum postings at the district levels despite their promotion and posting at the headquarters.

**29 HURT AS VOLVO BUS
OVERTURNS ON KIRATPUR-
MANALI HIGHWAY**

Diary Times Desk : In a major road accident early Sunday morning, a Volvo bus overturned near Shilakippur on the Kiratpur-Mandali four-lane highway in Mandi, leaving at least 29 passengers injured. The bus, which was en route to Kullu from Mandi, lost control and turned turtle under still undetermined circumstances. According to Mandi Additional Superintendent of Police (ASP) Sagar Chander, the mishap occurred in the early hours when most of the passengers were asleep. The sudden overturning of the vehicle caused panic inside the bus, with passengers sustaining injuries ranging from minor to critical. The ASP said the bus was carrying around 40 passengers at the time of the incident. Of these, 29 were injured —six of them critically. Two critically injured passengers were referred to PGIMER Chandigarh from Nerchowk Medical College for advanced treatment, while the remaining 23 sustained minor injuries.

**HC NOTICE TO CENTRE,
STATE GOVT OVER DELAY
IN BUILDING CUHP NORTH
CAMPUS**

Diary Times Desk : The Himachal High Court has issued notice to the Union Ministry for Human Resource Development and state government over delay in constructing the north campus of Central University Himachal Pradesh (CUHP) in Jadrangal area of Dharamsala. The notice was issued by a Bench of Chief Justice of Himachal High Court, GS Sandhawalia, and Justice Rajan Sharma on April 11 on a public interest litigation (PIL) moved by Dharamsala resident Atul Bharadwaj against the state of Himachal Pradesh. Advocate Nitya Sharma who is representing the petitioner told The Tribune that in the petition, we had specifically asked for judicial intervention against the state and central governments for implementation of a policy that is already approved. Despite the fact that the project for constructing the CUHP campus in Dharamsala has been approved by the central and state governments, there was prolonged delay in its implementation. This neglect results in arbitrary disparity amongst the development of Dehra campus and Dharamsala campus and such discrimination violated Article 14.

HIMACHAL BJP LEADER GETS RANSOM CALL, DEATH THREAT; CASE REGISTERED

Diary Times Desk : BJP leader and former Himachal Pradesh Minister Virendra Kanwar on Monday claimed he had received a ransom call demanding Rs 20-25 lakh and the unknown caller threatened to kidnap and kill him if the demand was not met. Police said that after receiving a complaint from Kanwar in the matter, a case was registered and investigations initiated. According to the complaint, the caller had introduced himself as Dharmendra from Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh even though the True Caller app showed his name as Irfan Khan. Superintendent of Police Rakesh Singh said a team of police personnel were trying to trace the accused with the help of the police's cyber cell.

**HIMACHAL CM SUKHVINDER SUKHU FLAGS
OFF TEACHERS' DELEGATION TO SINGAPORE**

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Sunday flagged off a delegation of 70 teachers on an educational tour to Singapore, under a government initiative aimed at providing global exposure and advanced training to educators from the state. Speaking at the send-off ceremony, the CM said the state government had taken historic steps to strengthen and modernise the education sector. "Travel broadens knowledge and enhances experience," he remarked, adding that such initiatives would play a key role in transforming Himachal Pradesh into a model state for quality education. The government has signed an agreement with the renowned Principals Academy in Singapore to provide world-class training to Himachali teachers. This initiative, Sukhu said, is expected to sharpen the knowledge, skills and teaching methodologies of educators, directly benefiting students and reshaping the education system into a more inclusive, effective and modern framework. "My government is committed to bringing continuous and positive change in the education sector. By 2032, Himachal will become the best state in the country in terms of providing quality education," he asserted. Sukhu highlighted that the reforms introduced over the past two years are already showing promising results.

**25 FROM SAME FAMILY IN HIMACHAL
WEDDING STUNG BY WASPS; 5 CRITICAL**

Diary Times Desk : In an unusual incident, 25 members of a family engaged in wedding festivities were injured on Monday morning in a wasp attack in Rakkad village of Hamirpur district when they had gone to a temple. The incident took place when groom Naveen Singh and his family members, as part of the wedding rituals, went to Guga temple to offer prayers and were suddenly attacked and stung by wasps near the temple premises after they performed puja. The sudden attack also led to a commotion as everyone tried to evade the stings. They have been admitted to Nadaun Hospital and are undergoing treatment, said the groom's father, Dilip Singh. Five of them are considered critical, while a few of the remaining, including the groom, are seriously injured, said the health officials. The atmosphere of happiness in the family has turned into sorrow following the attack, and at present, the wedding rituals have been stopped for some time. Earlier, on Saturday evening, two women were attacked by honey bees while they were cutting grass in Bilapsur district's Kar Yalag (Jol) village. Wasps are carnivores, feeding on insects, spiders and others. They are often considered pests due to their aggressive nature and stings, while honey bees are primarily herbivores.

**CURRENT MID-DAY MEAL MAY BE FALLING SHORT IN GIVING
ADEQUATE NUTRITION: CM SUKHU**

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Sunday expressed concern over rising malnourishment and stunting among children in Himachal Pradesh, suggesting that the current mid-day meal scheme may be falling short in providing adequate nutrition. Speaking at a ceremony where he flagged off a group of teachers for an international exposure visit to Singapore, the CM questioned the nutritional value of the meals served in schools. "The number of malnourished and stunted children is increasing in the state. We need to assess whether children are actually receiving sufficient proteins and carbohydrates, or if the food merely fills the stomach," he said. According to the National Family Health Survey-5 (2020-21), over 30 per cent of children under five in Himachal were found to be stunted, and more than 25 per cent were underweight. The state was listed among those with a rise in all major markers of child malnutrition. To address these concerns, Sukhu said the government will prioritise the nutritional needs of students enrolled in the upcoming Rajiv Gandhi Day Boarding Schools, the state's flagship education programme. "Education Minister Rohit Thakur is working on deciding the menu for these schools. We won't be serving old or substandard grains like in the current mid-day meal scheme. We're committed to improving food quality," he assured. Ten such schools—one in each Assembly constituency—are slated to become functional starting next year.



IPL 2025: CSK SEAL VICTORY WITH 5-WICKET WIN OVER LUCKNOW SUPER GIANTS

Diary Times Desk : MS Dhoni smashed 26 off just 11 balls, taking Chennai Super Kings (CSK) to a dramatic last-over victory over Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in their IPL 2025 clash. Walking in to bat with 56 needed off 30 balls, Dhoni's knock ensured that CSK clinch their second win of IPL 2025. Batting first, LSG captain Rishabh Pant top-scored with 63, helping his side reach a total of 166/7 in 20 overs. In their run chase, IPL debutant Shaik Rasheed gave CSK a flying start, but they lost their way in the middle overs.



SMARAN RAVICHANDRAN JOINS SRH AS REPLACEMENT FOR ADAM ZAMPA

Diary Times Desk : Sunrisers Hyderabad have named Ravichandran Smaran as the replacement for the injured Adam Zampa, an IPL media advisory stated on Monday (April 14). The release also confirmed that Ayush Mhatre was picked by CSK as a replacement for Ruturaj Gaikwad, as reported earlier by Cricbuzz. Smaran, a 21-year-old left-handed batter from Karnataka, joins the SRH setup at his base price of INR 30 lakh, while Mumbai batter Mhatre has been picked up by CSK for the same amount. Smaran has played seven first-class games in which he has scored over 500 runs at an average of 64.50, including a double century against Punjab. He has also played 10 List A games since his debut in 2024, scoring 433 runs at an average of 72.16, with two hundreds, while he has scored 170 runs in six T20 matches at a strike rate of 170. Both SRH and CSK are in the bottom half of the standings.

TILAK VARMA FINALLY BREAKS SILENCE ON 'RETIRED OUT' ROW: "DIDN'T TAKE IT..."

Diary Times Desk : Tilak Varma was the top-scorer for Mumbai Indians with a 33-ball-59 as his side registered a thrilling win over Delhi Capitals in the IPL 2025 on Sunday. It was the second consecutive half-century for the MI batter after he was 'retired out' in the clash against Lucknow Super Giants. It was a decision that split the experts and fans as it did not ultimately result in a victory for the side. Tilak finally broke his silence on the decision and said that it was a call made by the team management keeping the scenario and match in mind. That is why he did not have any problems in making way for Mitchell Santner in that situation. "Nothing. I was just thinking that they made the decision for the team's purpose. So, I took it in a positive way and didn't take it in a negative way. But the main thing is how you take it. It's more important," Tilak said on Star Sports after Mumbai Indians' win over Delhi Capitals. "So I was thinking it that way. I just want to be comfortable wherever I bat. So I told the coach and staff, 'Don't worry wherever you play me, I'm comfortable, and I'll give my best,' he added. A relieved Hardik Pandya credited 'impact sub' Karn Sharma.

GIVING ROHIT SHARMA CREDIT FOR MI WIN, NOT HARDIK PANDYA WOULD BE WRONG: SANJAY MANJREKAR

Diary Times Desk : Sanjay Manjrekar feels that MI captain Hardik Pandya deserves all the credit for Mumbai Indians' win over Delhi Capitals and not Rohit Sharma. MI secured their second win of the season as they survived an onslaught from Karun Nair to win by 12 runs in the end. As Karun was going all guns blazing, Rohit suggested to Hardik to change the ball from the dugout. Hardik agreed to the move and brought on Karn Sharma as the impact player and it worked as the veteran spinner was able to turn the game in MI's favour. Speaking about the win, Manjrekar felt that Hardik deserved to get the plaudits for the win as he took the call in the middle. The former cricketer also said that fans would have blamed the MI skipper if things didn't work out well. "There are many people who are there to give suggestions but it all depends on the person in the middle who has to take the decision. He (Hardik) listened to the advice (from Rohit) is the biggest thing. If you give Rohit credit here as well and not Hardik Pandya, it would be the wrong thing. If the suggestion had failed, you would've blamed Hardik," Manjrekar said on Star Sports.

BLOW FOR PBKS AS INJURED FERGUSON LIKELY TO MISS REMAINDER OF IPL 2025

Diary Times Desk : Lockie Ferguson's injury is set to keep him out of at least a major part of IPL 2025 landing a big blow to Punjab Kings. "Ferguson is out indefinitely, and us getting him back by the end of the tournament is a very low percentage. I think he's done a real decent injury to himself," said Punjab Kings' fast bowling coach James Hopes a day ahead of their clash against Kolkata Knight Riders in Mullanpur. Ferguson hobbled off the field after bowling just two balls against Sunrisers Hyderabad. While details of the injury weren't specified, the 33-year-old was seen clutching his left thigh as he walked off the field. Ferguson picked up five wickets in four games, including the SRH encounter, for Punjab Kings and has been a key part of their bowling plans operating predominantly in the middle overs. Punjab Kings have some options in their squad to replace the New Zealander including Australian seamer Xavier Bartlett. Azmatullah Omarzai, the Afghan allrounder, is another option. However, they do have options in their Indian contingent including Vijaykumar Vyshak who made an impact in their first game of the season. Vyshak hasn't featured for PBKS subsequently. Yash Thakur was another option used by PBKS against Sunrisers Hyderabad. Ferguson's latest injury comes as a blow to the pacer who had missed the Champions Trophy for New Zealand after suffering a hamstring injury.

IPL 2025: MAYANK YADAV RECOVERS FROM INJURY, SET TO JOIN LSG AFTER LONG LAYOFF

Diary Times Desk : Tearaway fast bowler Mayank Yadav has recovered from his injuries and is set to rejoin the Lucknow Super Giants, sources have told India Today. Mayank, who has been out of the LSG squad since the start of the Indian Premier League, is expected to join the side on Tuesday, April 15. Retained for Rs 11 crore despite playing only four games last season, Mayank has been given the green light by the BCCI's Centre of Excellence in Bengaluru. Top sources have informed India Today that he is fit to play, but the final call will rest with the LSG coaching staff, who will be monitoring the player closely. Mayank Yadav was at the CoE due to a lumbar stress injury. He was expected to recover by the second week of April, but that was further delayed to to his toe injury. Langer had spoken about Mayank's injury at the start of the season and revealed that the pacer injured his toe by accidentally kicking his bed. Mayank returning to the side will be a huge boost for the team, which has done well despite its relative lack of resources. At the start of the season, LSG signed Shardul Thakur as the replacement player, who has done well so far. However, Shardul came in as a replaced for left-armner Mohsin Khan.

ACB-CONTRACTED WOMEN CRICKETERS COULD FIRST BENEFIT FROM ICC'S NEW INITIATIVE

Diary Times Desk : The 25 Afghan women cricketers initially contracted by the Afghanistan Cricket Board (ACB) in 2020 could be the first beneficiaries of the ICC's new support initiative, announced after their board meetings at the weekend. Nineteen of those 25 players are residing in Australia, and have support from the organisation Pitch Our Future, which hopes to work with the ICC in developing the rollout of a funding and high-performance programme for these players. ESPNcricinfo has learnt that Pitch Our Future will provide the ICC with a full list of the names of the formerly-contracted players, including those in Canada and the UK, as well as guidelines on a player-development programme which includes an education and a life-skills programme. Pitch Our Future was launched after an Afghan women's XI played Cricket without Borders in Melbourne on January 30. It already has a fund-raising campaign, a budget for the next three years, and plans for more matches and tours, including a possible trip to the Women's World Cup as spectators.