

PAHALGAM TERROR ATTACK

PM MEETS TOP MINISTERS AFTER 2 KEY MEETINGS OVER PAHALGAM

Diary Times Desk : Two powerful decision-making committees of the government met today to discuss India's response to Pakistan's state-sponsored terrorism, after terrorists killed 26 tourists in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam. Tension is rising between the neighbours. The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, held a second meeting today since the Pahalgam terror attack. The CCS in the first meeting took several steps aimed against Pakistan that included suspending the Indus Waters Treaty.

After the CCS meeting, another meeting of the Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs (CCPA) began to discuss the Opposition's request for a special session of parliament to discuss the Pahalgam terror attack. After both the cabinet meetings got over, PM Modi held another meeting with top Union ministers to brief them about the discussions he had. Opposition leaders including Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi had written to PM Modi seeking a session of parliament to present a collective resolve against the terror attack. The CCS in its first meeting on April 23 condemned the Pahalgam terror attack in the strongest terms and expressed its deepest condolences to the families of the victims. Officials who briefed the CCS brought out cross-border linkages of the terror attack. The terrorists were against the successful election in Jammu and Kashmir, a Union Territory, and the region's steady progress towards economic growth and development, the CCS was told.



CASTE CENSUS

RAHUL WELCOMES GOVT'S 'SUDDEN' CASTE CENSUS DECISION, WANTS TIMELINE FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION



Diary Times Desk : Terming caste enumeration as Congress's "vision", party leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday welcomed the government's decision to conduct a caste census, while demanding a clear timeline for its completion. He called the decision the "first step" towards deeper social reform.

"We welcome the decision, but we need to know how much time it will take to conclude the census," the Congress leader told reporters. He also gave credit to the public and political pressure for pushing the government to act, saying, "We have shown we can press the government."

Referring to the Congress's longstanding demand of implementation of the caste census in the country, the Rae Bareilly MP said: "We had said in Parliament that we would make caste census happen. We had also said that we would scrap the 50 per cent reservation cap. Suddenly after 11 years, the caste census has been announced."

Terming Telangana a model for undertaking such an exercise, Rahul said it could serve as a blueprint. "We completely support it, but we want a timeline. This is the first step. There are two examples—Bihar's and Telangana's—and there is a vast difference between the two."

Rahul said, "Caste census is the first step. Our vision is to bring a new development paradigm through caste census."

ABOVE-NORMAL TEMPERATURES PREDICTED IN MOST PARTS OF INDIA IN MAY

Diary Times Desk : The India Meteorological Department (IMD) on Wednesday said most parts of India are likely to see above-normal temperatures in May but occasional thunderstorms may keep the heat from reaching the severe levels of last year. IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said the number of heatwave days is expected to be higher than normal -- by one to four days -- in most parts of Rajasthan, Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Gangetic West Bengal. Some areas of Gujarat, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, adjoining Telangana and north Karnataka are also expected to see above-normal heatwave days. Normally, different parts of the country, except the southwest Peninsular India, experience one to three days of heatwave in May. Mohapatra said most parts of the country are likely to receive normal to above-normal rain, except for some areas in northwest, central and northeast India. Rainfall over north India is expected to be above normal, more than 109 per cent of the long-period average of 64.1 mm. He said frequent and intense thunderstorms in May will likely prevent temperatures from rising to the levels seen in May 2024.



SAUDI ARABIA, QATAR URGE INDIA-PAKISTAN TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT

Diary Times Desk : Saudi Arabia and Qatar on Wednesday expressed concern over escalating tensions between India and Pakistan, following continued cross-border exchanges of fire. In a statement issued, the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs urged both nations to exercise restraint, avoid escalation and resolve disputes through diplomatic means. It also emphasised the importance of good neighbourliness and regional stability. Saudi Arabia reiterated its support for all efforts aimed at defusing tensions and maintaining peace in South Asia. "The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia expresses its concern over the escalating tensions between the Republic of India and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan," the statement said. Meanwhile, Qatar also called on both countries to show maximum restraint and prioritise dialogue. The Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed that resolving disputes peacefully aligns with Doha's belief in diplomacy as the most effective means to address regional and global conflicts. These statements follow India's suspension.

RIGHT TO DIGITAL ACCESS PART OF RIGHT TO LIFE UNDER ARTICLE 21, RULES SC



Diary Times Desk : Holding that the right to digital access is included in the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution, the Supreme Court on Wednesday directed the Centre, RBI and other authorities to make the process of digital KYC accessible to the disabled, particularly those with facial disfigurements and visual disabilities. "In the contemporary era, where access to essential services, governance, education, healthcare, and economic opportunities is increasingly mediated through digital platforms, the right to life under Article 21 of the Constitution must be reinterpreted in light of these technological realities," a Bench of Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice R Mahadevan said. Noting that the principle of substantive equality demanded digital transformation to be both inclusive and equitable, the top court issued a set of 20 directions to the Centre and different public entities (PEs) to make the digital KYC process more inclusive.

FIRING ALONG LOC, INTERNATIONAL BORDER IN 4 J-K DISTRICTS AS PAKISTAN VIOLATES CEASEFIRE AGAIN

Diary Times Desk : Following an exchange of fire along the Line of Control, Pakistani troops resorted to unprovoked firing along the International Border in the Jammu region, prompting Indian forces to 'respond effectively', officials said on Wednesday. This marked the sixth consecutive night of ceasefire violations by Pakistan along the LoC, amidst heightened tensions between New Delhi and Islamabad following a recent terror attack in Pahalgam on April 22. According to the Army, during the night of April 29-30, Pakistan Army posts initiated unprovoked small-arms fire across the LoC opposite the Naushera, Sunderbani, and Akhnoor sectors in Jammu and Kashmir. "The Indian Army troops responded swiftly and proportionately," officials said. Similar incidents of unprovoked small-arms fire were also reported from Pakistani posts across the LoC in the Baramulla and Kupwara districts in the Kashmir Valley, and across the International Border in the Pargwal sector in Jammu district, they added. Initially, the firing began in Kupwara and Baramulla districts and then spread to the Poonch and Akhnoor sectors.



YOUR HOROSCOPE

01-05-2025

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.

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.

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 NEWS: HPTI DC'S HEADQUARTERS WILL BE FROM DHARAMSHALA, PROCESS STARTED, DECISION TAKEN IN THE MEETING

Diary Times Desk : The headquarters of Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (HPTDC) will be shifted from Shimla to Dharamshala. This decision was taken in the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation on Wednesday. After the meeting, the Chairman of the Corporation Raghubir Singh Bali told in a press conference that the process of shifting the headquarters to Kangra has started from Wednesday itself. The zonal office will remain in Shimla. Bali said that since 1972, the headquarters of HPTDC is running in a rented building in Shimla. Notices were coming to vacate it. This was discussed with Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, after which it was approved. There are about 75 officers and employees in the headquarters, who will go to Dharamshala. The BOD has also decided to renovate 56 hotels of the corporation. The properties of HPTDC which are locked will be given on lease. Bali said that if the headquarters is shifted from here, then the MD, GM, AGM and other staff will sit in Dharamshala itself. There are many buildings in Kangra district, which are vacant. It will be seen whether the headquarters can run in them.



HIMACHAL: CM SUKHU SAID- WILL NOT STOP COMMUTATION NOW, DECISION WILL BE TAKEN AFTER DISCUSSION IN THE CABINET

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that commutation of government employees and officers retiring in the month of April will not be stopped. He said that 1500 employees are retiring today. Everyone will get the benefit of commutation. But whether to give commutation to employees in future or not, it will be discussed in the cabinet meeting. CM said that a meeting of the cabinet sub-committee has been held on the matter of commutation. The committee has made some recommendations, in which it has been said to consider 40 percent pension advance to government employees. Let us tell you, the sub-committee has recommended to stop the commutation given to employees after retirement. Now this will be discussed in the cabinet. There will also be a discussion in the cabinet about increasing the retirement age or not. Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that commutation of government employees and officers retiring.

SOLAN: IDS SCHEME CLOSED, GRANTS WORTH CRORES OF RUPEES TO ENTREPRENEURS STUCK

Diary Times Desk : Due to the sudden closure of the Central Government's Industrial Development Scheme (IDS), 1,500 industries in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand have not been able to get grants. Under the scheme, entrepreneurs have registered on the portal, but have not yet received the grant under the scheme. Actually, the Central Government had started the IDS scheme in 2017 for the development of industries in Himachal and Uttarakhand. Under this scheme, if an entrepreneur invests up to Rs 100 crore, he was to get a 30 percent grant. Under this scheme, 975 industrialists in Himachal and 525 industrialists in Uttarakhand had established their industries by registering on the online portal. The operators took loans from banks keeping the grant in mind. Meanwhile, in the year 2020, the Center suddenly stopped this scheme, while this scheme was to be closed in 2023. Due to the sudden closure of the scheme, the grant from the government.

IPL 2025: TICKETS WORTH RS 1500 SOLD OUT IN ONE HOUR, MATCH BETWEEN PUNJAB KINGS AND DELHI WILL BE HELD ON MAY 8

Diary Times Desk : Offline ticket sales for the IPL match between Punjab Kings and Delhi Capitals to be held on May 8 started on Wednesday. A crowd of cricket lovers started gathering at the counter outside the HPCA to buy tickets for the match since morning. As soon as the counter opened at 11:00, Kangra youth Raj bought a ticket worth Rs 1500. Cheap tickets were sold within an hour of the counter opening and after this, tickets worth Rs 2000 and above were sold by the franchise. There was a lot of enthusiasm among cricket lovers due to the offline counter for the match between Punjab and Delhi. Some bought tickets to see Shreyas Iyer, while others bought tickets to see KL Rahul and Akshar Patel. Cricket lovers said that they had booked online tickets for the match to be held on May 4. Which we got for Rs 1200, but the ticket for this match was also available online for Rs 1500, which we bought at the counter today. Student Tamanna said that people have a special craze for the match between Punjab and Delhi. Both teams are playing well in IPL. She is buying tickets to see Shreyas Iyer. Anil said that he has bought tickets for two matches so far. When the sale of tickets for the match between Punjab and Mumbai starts, he will buy that too. His favourite player is Rohit Sharma.

HIMACHAL: HIMACHAL BECAME CHAMPION IN KABADDI COMPETITION, WOMEN AND MEN TEAMS REGISTERED VICTORY

Diary Times Desk : Himachal became champion in both the categories of Kabaddi competition organized by Himachal Pradesh Electricity Sports Control Board. On the last day on Tuesday, Himachal Vidyut Board won the title by defeating Maharashtra Biscom 33-16 in the men's category. Haryana Power Corporation was at the third position. In the women's category too, Himachal won by defeating Maharashtra Biscom 30-17. Sakshi and Prafulla from Himachal's team also gave a great performance in the match. Maharashtra Transmission was at the third position in the women's category. In the women's category, the best defender was Sakshi of Electricity Board, best raider was Ashwani Shivar of Maharashtra and best all-rounder was Sakshi of Board. Similarly, in the men's category, the best defender was Munish Negi of Electricity Board, best raider was Satnam of Maharashtra and all-rounder was Ajay Shinde of Maharashtra. Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Anirudh Singh attended the closing ceremony as the chief guest and awarded the winners. The minister said that the state government is promoting sports activities.

PRESIDENT DRAUPADI MURMU'S VISIT TO SHIMLA POSTPONED, PREPARATIONS STOPPED

Diary Times Desk : The headquarters of Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation (HPTDC) will be shifted from Shimla to Dharamshala. This decision was taken in the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Corporation on Wednesday. After the meeting, the Chairman of the Corporation Raghubir Singh Bali told in a press conference that the process of shifting the headquarters to Kangra has started from Wednesday itself. The zonal office will remain in Shimla. Bali said that since 1972, the headquarters of HPTDC is running in a rented building in Shimla. Notices were coming to vacate it. This was discussed with Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, after which it was approved. There are about 75 officers and employees in the headquarters, who will go to Dharamshala. The BOD has also decided to renovate 56 hotels of the corporation. The properties of HPTDC which are locked will be given on lease. Bali said that if the headquarters is shifted from here, then the MD, GM, AGM and other staff will sit in Dharamshala itself. There are many buildings in Kangra district, which are vacant. It will be seen whether the headquarters can run in them.

HP CONGRESS: CONGRESS ORGANIZATION HAS NOT TAKEN ANY DECISION EVEN AFTER FIVE MONTHS, PRATIBHA IS THE ONLY OFFICER AFTER DISSOLUTION

Diary Times Desk : Even after five months of its dissolution, a decision on the new Himachal Pradesh Congress organisation is yet to be taken. At present, Pratibha Singh is the only official in the Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee. The picture is not clear as to whose official duty the party president should assign for the organisation's activities and who should be given the responsibility of taking the organisation's activities forward. Despite consulting Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, party president Pratibha Singh and other regional leaders, the high command has not been able to take any decision on the new executive. Last year, during the election of Rajya Sabha member in Shimla, six Congress MLAs joined the BJP, and an influential faction of the Congress in the state was split. Committed leaders of this faction like Sudhir Sharma, Rajendra Rana, Indradutt Lakhnarpal left the Congress and joined the BJP.

SCHOOLBOY, 15, IN UP'S
ALIGARH FORCED TO URINATE
ON PAKISTANI FLAG: COPS

Diary Times Desk : A video circulating on social media purportedly showing a mob surrounding a schoolboy and coercing him into urinating on a Pakistani flag lying on a road in Uttar Pradesh's Aligarh has prompted police to launch a probe and book three people. The Aligarh district unit of the Samajwadi Party condemned the incident, which it saw as an attempt at inciting communal discord in the wake of last week's Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were killed. In a police complaint, the 15-year-old student's family said he was returning home from the Government Inter College with friends on Monday afternoon when he noticed the flag lying on the ground. Moments later, a mob accosted the boy, demanded to know his name, started abusing him and coerced him to urinate on the flag, it stated. An FIR was registered late on Monday night at the Banna Devi police station and three accused, including one unnamed, were booked under various sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.

DEVEN BHARTI, WHO LED 26/11
ATTACKS PROBE, IS NEW
MUMBAI POLICE
COMMISSIONER

Diary Times Desk : Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Deven Bharti, who led the probe into the 26/11 attacks, has been appointed as the commissioner of Mumbai Police. Bharti, perceived to be close to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, will replace Vivek Phansalkar, who retired on Wednesday. A 1994 batch IPS officer from Bihar, Bharti has been serving as the Mumbai Police special commissioner since 2023 - a post that was created by the Mahayuti government amid opposition criticism. Throughout his career, Bharti served at several important postings in Mumbai. He was one of the longest-serving joint commissioners of police (law & order) of Mumbai. He also served as the additional commissioner of police (crime branch), and headed the Maharashtra State Anti Terrorism Squad (ATS). As joint commissioner of police under the then-Devendra Fadnavis-led BJP-Shiv Sena government, Bharti oversaw the functioning of the over 90 stations in Mumbai. He was then counted among the most powerful police officers in Maharashtra. However, under the Uddhav Thackeray-led MVA regime, Bharti was sidelined and put in charge of the Maharashtra State Security Corporation (MSSC).

CENTRE ANNOUNCES CASTE CENSUS, RAHUL
GANDHI SAYS REMOVE 50% QUOTA CAP



Diary Times Desk : Congress's Rahul Gandhi said today that the Centre's decision to club caste census with next year's population census is a welcome step though taken under pressure. He offered to help the Centre "design" a roadmap for the census, declaring that the caste survey done by Telangana was completely different from the one by Bihar, though it was the first. He also laid down a broad roadmap to achieve social justice - outlining the next three steps which the Congress, he said, will push for. Calling the caste census a "new paradigm of development", he said, "It was our vision, we are glad they have adopted it". His party, he said, now wishes to "go beyond" and see what is the "participation of 90 per cent people". "The 50 per cent cap on reservations is becoming an impediment to the progress of our country and to the progress of Backward Castes, Dalits and Adivasis.

VOTED, STUDIED IN INDIA, SAYS
PAKISTAN'S OSAMA, SENT BACK
AFTER 17 YEARS

Diary Times Desk : The Attari-Wagah land border witnessed emotional scenes as hundreds of people returned to Pakistan on the last day of the deadline set by the Indian government after 26 people were killed in the dastardly attack in Pahalgam on April 22. However, the case of Pindi boy Osama stood out. He was in India for the last 17 years, passed his board exams here, even had official documents like Aadhaar, and voted in Indian elections. In fact, some of the Pakistanis sent back had been in India for nearly 50 years. Osama, originally from the twin cities of Rawalpindi-Islamabad, was among the around 900 people who crossed over to Pakistan, with 110 crossing the border on April 29, the last day of returning. Partucularly shocking was his admission that he had voted in Indian elections. Non-Indians cannot vote in elections in India, and the Election Commission of India (ECI) has directed poll officials concerned to probe the Pakistani national's claims that he was registered as a voter.

TECHIE COUPLE AMONG 8 DEVOTEES
KILLED IN ANDHRA TEMPLE WALL
COLLAPSE

Diary Times Desk : A techie couple are among seven devotees killed in a wall collapse during an annual festival at Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple at Simhachalam here in the early hours of Wednesday. The officials have confirmed seven deaths as the rescue operation was completed by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and the police. Initial reports had put the casualty at eight. The deceased include four men and three women. Three devotees, who were injured, have been admitted to King George Hospital in Visakhapatnam. A techie couple from the Visakhapatnam district was among the victims of the tragic accident. Pilla Uma Maheswara Rao (30) and Pilla Sailaja (26) were employed with HCL and Infosys in Hyderabad, and were working from home. The couple, who married three years ago, hailed from Chandrapalem village in Madhurawada of Visakhapatnam.

SHE COULD NOT BLINK FOR BANK KYC. HOW IT LED TO LANDMARK TOP COURT VERDICT

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court's landmark judgment, stressing that digital access is intrinsic to the right to life, follows a long legal battle led by an acid attack survivor whose inability to blink had become an obstacle in opening a bank account in her name. In July 2023, acid attack survivor Pragya Prasun went to an ICICI bank branch to open a bank account. She could not complete the Digital KYC process as bank staff insisted that she must blink her eyes to fulfill the requirement of a "live photograph". Owing to the injuries she had suffered in the acid attack, Pragya Prasun could not blink. She was told that the mandatory requirement of proving a customer's 'liveness' under the Reserve Bank of India-regulated KYC process can only be fulfilled when a customer blinks his/her eyes before the camera and this could be matched with the photograph. Pragya Prasun later raised the issue on social media, triggering outrage. Later, a bank executive reached out to her and told her that they could make an exception for her. But for Pragya Prasun, this was not enough. She realised many like her continue to face similar problems and decided to approach the court.



CHINA'S STERN 'NEVER KNEEL DOWN' VIDEO MESSAGE AS TRUMP COMPLETES 100 DAYS

Diary Times Desk : China has released a video titled 'Never Kneel Down', vowing not to bow to US President Donald Trump's trade tactics and positioning itself as a champion of the global economy. The clip, released by the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, came as Trump completed 100 days in office. The video, widely promoted on social media, is laced with nationalistic imagery - high-tech factories, rocket launches, and sweeping orchestral music - all bragging about China's strength. The video's message is blunt, "China won't back down so the voices of the weak will be heard. When the rest of the world stands together in solidarity, the US is just a small stranded boat." The video comprises subtitles in both Mandarin and English to amplify the message for the global audience. The video marks a continuation of China's strategy to reframe the ongoing trade war not just as a bilateral dispute, but as a global test of economic fairness and international order.

VIETNAM MARKS 50 YEARS OF FALL OF SAIGON WITH GRAND PARADE

Diary Times Desk : Vietnam mounted its biggest-ever celebration of the fall of Saigon on its 50th anniversary Wednesday, including Chinese troops for the first time after Xi Jinping visited to portray Beijing as a more reliable partner than Washington. Fighter jets and helicopters carrying flags flew overhead, state TV images showed, with a float carrying a portrait of founding leader Ho Chi Minh as part of a march in the city renamed after him. Thousands of people -- many wearing T-shirts emblazoned with the Vietnamese flag -- including families with young children and the elderly stayed out overnight in the streets, sharing food and waiting for the display. The celebrations come half a century after tanks of communist North Vietnam crashed through the gates of the city's presidential palace, defeating the US-backed South and delivering a painful blow to American moral and military prestige. "I am proud of having contributed to liberating the south," said 75-year-old veteran Tran Van Truong who had travelled -- dressed in full military uniform -- from the capital Hanoi to see the parade.

KIM JONG UN WATCHES MISSILE TEST-FIRING FROM NORTH KOREA'S FIRST DESTROYER

Diary Times Desk : North Korea has said leader Kim Jong Un had observed the test-firings of missiles from a recently launched destroyer -- the first such warship for the North -- and called for accelerating efforts to boost his navy's nuclear attack capabilities. North Korea last week unveiled the 5,000-tonne destroyer equipped with what it called the most powerful weapons systems built for a navy vessel. During Friday's launching ceremony at the western port of Nampo, Kim called the ship's construction "a breakthrough" in modernising North Korea's naval forces. The official Korean Central News Agency said on Wednesday that Kim watched the tests of the destroyer's supersonic and strategic cruise missiles, anti-aircraft missile, automatic guns and electronic jamming guns earlier this week. The report said, Kim appreciated the ship's combination of powerful strike weapons and conventional defences and set tasks to speed the nuclear arming of his navy. During the ship's launching ceremony, Kim said the destroyer will be deployed early next year.



BANGLADESH COURT GRANTS BAIL TO FORMER ISKCON LEADER CHINMOY KRISHNA DAS: REPORTS



Diary Times Desk : A Bangladesh court on Wednesday granted bail to former ISKCON leader Chinmoy Krishna Das in a sedition case, reported The Daily Star. Das was arrested from Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport area of Dhaka in connection with a sedition case filed in Chattogram on November 25, 2024. On April 23, Chinmoy's lawyer Apurba Kumar Bhattacharjee prayed to the HC bench to grant bail to his client, saying that Chinmoy is ill and suffering in jail without trial. Bangladesh's minority Hindus, which constitute only about 8 per cent of the 170 million population, have faced hundreds of attacks in 50-odd districts of the country since the fall of Sheikh Hasina's Awami League government on August 5. Das had earlier demanded that the interim government in Bangladesh take strong action against the fundamentalists fomenting trouble in that country and arrest them so as to build confidence among the minorities.

"HIS BROKEN ENGLISH": INDIAN AMERICAN DEMOCRAT TROLLED OVER CALL TO IMPEACH TRUMP

Diary Times Desk : Indian-American Democrat Shri Thanedar has hit back at right-wing commentator-author Dinesh D'Souza for his recent remark suggesting if he remained in India, he would still be a municipal clerk or waiter. In response to Mr D'Souza's comment, Mr Thanedar said he grew up in India and his father was a clerk. In a post on X, he said, "I did grow up in India. My dad was a clerk. Then I found my American Dream. Now I'm helping many other Americans achieve their dreams." He also took a dig at Mr D'Souza's past legal cases, saying, "If you need help recovering from your felony, please let me know. Happy to help." Mr D'Souza posted a video of Mr Thanedar introducing seven articles of impeachment against President Donald Trump. He criticised Mr Thanedar's English, calling it "broken", adding he was in the US because of the country's diversity initiatives.

US PUTS INDIA ON WATCH LIST OVER IP RIGHTS ENFORCEMENT, VIOLATIONS

Diary Times Desk : The US has placed India on its 'Priority Watch List', citing concerns over India's intellectual property rights (IPR) protection and enforcement. The United States Trade Representative (USTR), in its latest report, dubbed India "one of the most challenging major economies when it comes to the protection and enforcement of intellectual property (IP)". According to the USTR's 2025 Special 301 Report, India's progress in safeguarding intellectual property rights has been uneven over the past year, with inconsistencies in protection and enforcement. The report even called India the world's most "challenging major economies" when it comes to IP enforcement. Despite India's efforts to enhance its intellectual property framework, including promoting public awareness about its significance and stepping up engagement with the US on intellectual property (IP) matters, it still hasn't made sufficient progress on several long-standing IP issues, according to the report.

AROUND 600 NORTH KOREAN SOLDIERS KILLED FIGHTING FOR RUSSIA: SEOUL LAWMAKER

Diary Times Desk : Around 600 North Korean soldiers fighting for Russia against Ukraine have been killed and thousands more wounded, a Seoul lawmaker said Wednesday, after Pyongyang officially confirmed deploying troops to aid Moscow. "So far, North Korean troop casualties are estimated at around 4,700, including approximately 600 deaths," MP Lee Seong-kweun, a member of parliament's intelligence committee, told reporters after a briefing by the country's spy agency. North Korea confirmed for the first time Monday that it had deployed troops to Russia, with state news agency KCNA reporting Pyongyang's soldiers helped Moscow reclaim territory under Ukrainian control in the Russian border region of Kursk. Moscow had separately confirmed the North's participation, after months of official silence from both countries, even as Seoul and Washington accused Pyongyang of sending ever more troops and weapons to help. Some 2,000 soldiers have been taken back to nuclear-armed North Korea this year, Lee said, and were now reportedly being held in isolation in Pyongyang and at other locations across the country. "It is understood that the bodies of fallen soldiers were cremated locally in Kursk before being transported," back to the North, he added.

CM MANN IS TRYING TO DIVIDE PUNJAB, HARYANA BY RAISING WATER ISSUE NOW: RAVNEET BITTU

Diary Times Desk : By raking up the water issue with Haryana, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann was trying to divide the two states, at a time when the country was united against Pakistan over the Pahalgam terror attack, Union minister Ravneet Singh Bittu said on Wednesday. The BJP leader's statement came a day after Mann refused the release of more water to Haryana, stating that the neighbouring state has already utilised 103 per cent of its allocated share. Mann has also accused the BJP of exerting pressure on the Punjab government through the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) to meet Haryana's demand. Mann has said Haryana has exhausted its share of water in March and is now seeking additional water for April and May. He said Punjab needs water for the upcoming paddy sowing season and there is not a single surplus drop to spare. Union minister Bittu on Wednesday said the whole country stands united against the merciless killing of 26 people in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir. "At this point in time, when everybody stands united to give a befitting reply (to Pakistan) why did you (Mann) speak about creating division," asked Bittu referring to Mann's statement over the water issue. "You (Mann) have tried to divide two brothers (Punjab and Haryana) at this point in time and you should seek an apology," said Bittu in a video posted on his Facebook account.



PUNJAB POLICE ARREST 5 BABBAR KHALSA MEMBERS, FOIL POTENTIAL GRENADE ATTACK

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Police on Wednesday claimed to have thwarted a potential grenade attack at a police establishment with the arrest of five members of Pakistan's ISI-backed Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) terror module, which allegedly had links with foreign-based gangster Jiwan Fauji. DGP Gaurav Yadav said those arrested have been identified as Naresh Kumar alias Babbu, Abhinav Bhagat alias Abhi, Ajay Kumar alias Ajju and Sunny Kumar, all residents of Haripura in Amritsar and a 17-year-old juvenile. Police teams also seized a hand grenade and a country-made .32 pistol, along with five live cartridges. The DGP said Fauji, currently operating from abroad, has been running a terror module in border districts of the state with the help of the arrested persons, who were recruited and radicalised to execute criminal activities. Probe also revealed that the arrested persons were provided with motorcycles and tasked with retrieving weapon consignments from the Ajnala sector in Amritsar district, he added. The accused were plotting to target a police establishment with grenades, police said. An FIR has been registered, and further investigation is under way, he said.

NAVJOT SIDHU LAUNCHES YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO SHARE LIFE, CRICKET, MOTIVATION

Diary Times Desk : Cricketer-turned-politician Navjot Singh Sidhu on Wednesday launched his own YouTube channel titled 'NavjotSidhuOfficial', marking a fresh chapter in his life – one he says is 'devoid of politics'. Sidhu announced that the channel, with the tagline 'Master of All Trades, Jack of None, All-in-One,' will serve as a platform to share experiences from his two-decade-long international cricket career and his personal life. Similarly, he has also launched exclusive new pages on Instagram and other social media platforms with a tagline, 'The whole world is my family, all mankind my brethren. To spread happiness and do good my religion.' He said that unlike his earlier social media pages, the new channel would be bereft of any political content. "For the first time, I will share my life story, thoughts on spirituality, health, comedy, lifestyle, and motivation in a simple and relatable way. This is about who I am – not as a politician, but as a human being," he said. He said, "I started off with cricket, then switched over to commentary, followed by comedy and reality shows. Politics gave me satisfaction, but commentary brought me happiness."

CAN'T ACCUSE PARENT OF KIDNAPPING OWN CHILD IN ABSENCE OF CUSTODY ORDER: HC

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab and Haryana High Court has categorically held that no parent could be accused of kidnapping his own child unless a judicial order expressly divests him of guardianship. Dismissing a habeas corpus petition filed by the paternal uncle of a 12-year-old boy, Justice Harpreet Singh Brar asserted that both mother and father are equal natural guardians of their child and the matter of custody must be determined by the family court with the child's welfare as the paramount consideration. "It is trite law that welfare of the minor would reign supreme while deciding upon the matter of his custody," Justice Brar observed, while noting that the Supreme Court had consistently held that the welfare and interest were of paramount consideration in child custody matters. Going into the background of the matter, Justice Brar observed that the paternal uncle was seeking directions for the boy's release from the alleged illegal custody of his mother residing in Australia. The petitioner contended that the child had been removed from his habitual residence by the mother without the consent of the father, who was on a business trip abroad.



ROW OVER 'PROXY CULTURE': GURUGRAM MC WITHDRAWS APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR'S HUSBAND AS ADVISER

Diary Times Desk : In the wake of a backlash over the promotion of "Mayor pati raj", the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) has withdrawn the recent orders appointing the husband of the newly elected Mayor as her adviser. Mayor Raj Rani Malhotra of the BJP stirred a controversy as she went ahead appointing her own husband Tilak Raj Malhotra, a former BJP district president, as an official adviser to the MCG. The act drew criticism from all quarters and the Congress opposed the act saying it was "detrimental" to the spirit of reservation of seat for a woman and it promoted proxy culture. Raj Rani, during her elections, was frequently called out for being a "mute rubber stamp with no voice of hers". It is being said that the withdrawal of appointment was the reason behind the cancellation of House meeting that was scheduled on Tuesday. "We are glad both the Mayor and the MCG have come to their senses. The BJP is a government of rubber stamps and proxies. They chose a woman who neither had experience nor voice and was being led by her husband everywhere. She cannot discharge her duties as Mayor in the day-to-day work, so to ensure that her husband is with her in all meetings and House proceedings, they took the decision to make him an adviser."

FIRE AT GURUGRAM SLUM, OVER 40 SHANTIES BURNT TO ASHES

Diary Times Desk : More than 40 shanties were gutted by a massive fire that broke in a slum in Gurugram's Sector 102 on Wednesday morning, an official said. There was no loss of life or injuries to anyone in the incident. According to a fire official, the fire erupted around 3.50 am from a scrapheap, spreading across several shanties in Sector 102 near Dwarka expressway. After blasts in many small gas cylinders, the fire spread rapidly. More than 10 fire tenders from Bhim Nagar, Sector 29, Sector 37 and Udyog Vihar were rushed to the spot and it took the firefighters over three hours to bring the blaze under control, he added. The official said the fire aggravated because of gas cylinder blasts. It took more than 10 fire engines and 50 firefighters to douse the blaze. "While over 40 shanties were gutted, our firefighters managed to save around 100 shanties in the nearby area," Fire officer Narender Singh said. Fire erupted around 3.50 am from a scrapheap, spreading across several shanties in Sector 102 near Dwarka expressway.

**YELLOW ALERT FOR
THUNDERSTORM,
LIGHTNING IN HIMACHAL
FOR NEXT 4 DAYS**

Diary Times Desk : The weather department has issued a yellow alert for thunderstorms and lightning at most places across the state over the next four days. Gusty winds at around 40-50 kmph are likely at many places during this period. Except Lahaul and Spiti, all other districts will experience these conditions on all four or on two to three days. A fresh western disturbance is likely to affect Western Himalayan region from May 2. There's also a forecast for light to moderate precipitation over some parts of mid hills and low hills/plains and at isolated places over high hills from May 1-3. Light to moderate precipitation is likely over many parts of mid hills and low hills/plains and at some parts over high hills on May 4.

**'APPLE MAN' CONFERRED
WITH PADMA SHRI AWARD**

Diary Times Desk : Hariman Sharma, who is popularly known as 'apple man' in lower Himachal, was conferred with the Padma Shri award by President Droupadi Murmu for his exceptional contribution to Indian agriculture, in a function organised in New Delhi last evening. Sharma, a resident of Panyala village in the Ghumarwin Assembly constituency of Bilaspur district, received the prestigious award for the development of the HRMN-99 apple variety, which had transformed the farming of the fruit by allowing it to thrive in the tropical climate of India and paved the way for its nationwide cultivation. Sharma told that he was grateful to the Union Government for recognising his work and selecting him for the Padma Shri award. He added that getting the award from the President was a lifetime memory for him. He said that this recognition would encourage him to work to support farmers in developing apple orchards in the lower areas of the state. He added that he had received 15 national awards and 10 state awards for his innovation in horticulture. About the HRMN-99 variety, he said that this was a self-pollinating, low-chilling fruit that grows in tropical and sub-tropical areas in temperatures between 40°C and 45°C. He added that the variety was registered with the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority.

FIRE ERUPTS IN PINE FORESTS NEAR NAGROTA, LOCALS IN PANIC

Diary Times Desk : A fire broke out in the pine-dominated forests near Rajiana village, close to Nagrota Bagwan town in Kangra district, triggering panic among residents in nearby habitations. According to local sources, the blaze started during the night and intensified into a full-fledged inferno by the morning. By the time this report was filed, teams of the district administration and the Forest Department were on the ground, working to contain the fire. Trenches were being dug to prevent the blaze from spreading and fire engines were deployed to douse it. However, thick layers of dry pine needles carpeting the forest floor made firefighting efforts extremely challenging. Pine forests in the Dharamsala region are a known hotspot for wildfires. Over the past few decades, the Forest Department has increasingly planted pine trees due to their high survival rate. Today, pine forests make up around 20 per cent of the total forest cover in the Dharamsala circle, spanning nearly 27,910 hectares. However, the dominance of pine trees has brought ecological and management challenges. Pine trees are known for their allelopathic properties - they release biochemicals that inhibit the growth of other vegetation in their vicinity. As a result, these forests have minimal grass or undergrowth, leaving only flammable pine needles that accumulate in thick layers during the dry season.

**REMAIN VIGILANT ABOUT FOREST
FIRES DURING SUMMER: SUKHU**

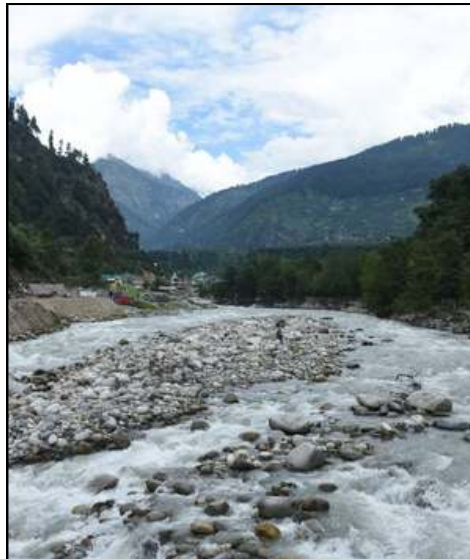
Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today said that considering the upcoming summer season, the Forest Department must remain vigilant about forest fires and take necessary steps to protect the green cover. He was speaking at a function to release a training manual for newly appointed 'Van Mitras' here. The manual would be used to train 'Van Mitras' in forest fire management, department functioning, nursery management, various plantation programmes and overall forest management practices. The 'Van Mitras' would undergo training in their respective ranges from May 1 to 5. All Divisional Forest Officers (DFOs) had been appointed as nodal officers for the training and they would monitor its progress as well. Under the 'Van Mitra' recruitment programme, 1,896 of them had joined duty at various locations in the state. The Chief Minister said that the copies of the manual be distributed at training centres and to trainers promptly. He emphasised the need to provide high-quality training to ensure that 'Van Mitras' become well-versed with the department's functioning and were able to discharge their duties effectively. He also instructed the Forest Department to upload the training manual on its website for easy access by all 'Van Mitras'. He said that he would interact with the newly appointed 'Van Mitras' after May 15.

**20, INCLUDING TWO MINORS,
INJURED AS TRUCK OVERTURNS IN
BADDI**

Diary Times Desk : As many as 20 labourers, including two minor children, were injured when the pick-up utility vehicle they were travelling in overturned on the road and plunged into a gorge in Theda village near Lodhi Majra in Baddi today around 6.37 pm. They were heading for Manpura when the mishap occurred due to negligent driving. Fifteen have been seriously injured; four were rushed to Baddi, of which two were further referred to Nalagarh community health centre. Majority of the injured are migrants from Uttar Pradesh. "Since there are several head injuries, 15 patients have been referred to PGI Chandigarh," informed Additional SP Baddi Ashok Verma. Those injured and admitted in Nalagarh have been identified as Sanket (19), Aakash (18), Cheenu (18), Anshika (18), Gulshan (18), Sanu (17), Mahi (18), Sannu (19), Nargis (19), Nasreen (19), Santosh (18), Amreena (20), Ravi Kumar (17), Sonam and Sarita Devi. Besides, Noor Mohammed, Harsh, Juli and Chandni were admitted in Baddi. One male was yet to be identified and his condition was stated to be stable. With majority of the labourers being 18-19 years of age and there being two minors, the working of such factories.

**ALERT ISSUED: RISING WATER LEVELS IN BEAS DUE TO POSSIBLE
RELEASE FROM PANDOH DAM**

Diary Times Desk : The authorities have issued a safety advisory for residents and visitors near the Beas River as water levels may rise unexpectedly due to a possible release from the Pandoh Dam in Mandi district today. The Additional Superintending Engineer of BBMB, Pandoh, stated that due to continuous snowmelt in the dam's catchment area, the water inflow into the reservoir has increased significantly. To manage the rising water level, the dam's spillway gates may be opened at any time to release excess water downstream. This precautionary step is necessary to maintain the structural safety of the dam and ensure smooth water regulation. However, it may result in a sudden surge in the flow of the Beas. In light of this, the public has been strongly advised not to venture near the riverbanks in the next 24 hours. People residing or working in low-lying areas along the river are urged to stay alert and follow safety guidelines. Authorities have also appealed for cooperation to prevent any untoward incidents. The district administration is closely monitoring the situation and will issue further updates if required. The public is requested to remain vigilant and prioritise safety over curiosity during this period.



YUZVENDRA CHAHAL PICKS 1ST HAT-TRICK OF IPL 2025, SCALPS 4 IN 1 OVER INCLUDING MS DHONI; BECOMES 1ST BOWLER TO...

Diary Times Desk : Yuzvendra Chahal produced a performance for the ages in the IPL 2025 as he became the first bowler this edition to pick a hat-trick. The Punjab Kings spinner finished with figures of 4/32 against Chennai Super Kings in Chennai on Wednesday. In fact, he is the first bowler since IPL 2023 to pick a hat-trick. After conceding 23 runs in his first two overs, Chahal was brought into the attack by PBKS captain Shreyas Iyer in the 19th over. Though he was hit for six off the first ball, he picked MS Dhoni's wicket on the second ball. He went on to scalp Deepak Hooda, Anshul Kamboj and Noor Ahmad to complete his second hat-trick in the IPL. Chahal is now the first player in history to take a hat-trick against CSK in the IPL. This is also the first instance of a bowler taking a hat-trick at Chepauk since 2008. That year CSK's Laximipathy Balaji became the first to achieve the feat against Kings XI Punjab (now PBKS).



"THE GUY YOU'RE PRAISING WANTED ME DROPPED": CHETESHWAR PUJARA'S WIFE MAKES STAGGERING REVELATION

Diary Times Desk : One of the most dependable Test cricketers India has produced, Cheteshwar Pujara, is a man of a few words but impeccable character. Over the years in his international cricketing career, Pujara earned many draws for India and played a crucial role in several victories. But the batter is no longer a part of India's team in any of the three formats. Pujara, who last played for India in 2023, has often produced fine knocks, making selectors contemplate his return. But his fortunes have still not changed. Pujara's wife, Puja, in her book 'The Diary of a Cricketer's Wife', has made some staggering revelations about the batter's cricketing career. In the book, she even narrated how Pujara once overheard a conversation about him being dropped from the team during the 2018-19 Australia tour. The episode took place while Pujara wasn't enjoying the best of form, having aggregated just 28 runs in the Perth Test. As India went on to lose the match, with Pujara also trying to manage a light hamstring injury, calls were apparently being made to drop him. The incident took place while Pujara's father was admitted to a hospital back home.

CRICKET RETAINED FOR 2026 AICHI-NAGOYA ASIAN GAMES IN JAPAN

Diary Times Desk : The Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) has retained cricket for the 2026 Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games, to be held in Japan from September 19 to October 4. The matches will be held in Aichi Prefecture but the exact venues are yet to be finalised. "The latest development in the compilation of the sports programme came at the 41st meeting of the AINAGOC Board of Directors at Nagoya City Hall on Monday, April 28, when cricket and Mixed Martial Arts were both formally approved," the OCA said. This will be the fourth time that cricket will feature in the Asian Games. The first two times - at Guangzhou 2010 and Incheon 2014 - the games were not granted an international status. But when cricket returned to the 2023 Asian Games in Hangzhou, the matches were deemed T20 internationals.

MAXWELL SUFFERS FINGER FRACTURE, LIKELY OUT OF IPL 2025

Diary Times Desk : Glenn Maxwell's IPL 2025 might be over following a fractured finger. His captain at Punjab Kings, Shreyas Iyer, confirmed the injury at the toss ahead of the game against CSK in Chennai on April 30. Shreyas also said that the team hasn't thought of replacement yet - the strongest hint that Maxwell might not feature in the season again. "It's very unfortunate that he's got a fractured finger," Shreyas said at the toss. "To be honest, we haven't decided about the replacements yet so far but we are pretty strong in our team's mindset and what we have outside of our playing XI. We've got varieties of players who can win you matches. So we're going to stick to that as much as possible." Maxwell's Australian compatriot at the franchise, Marcus Stoinis also spoke of the injury and reckoned the all-rounder's season is done. Stoinis revealed that Maxwell suffered the injury before their previous fixture - the rain-hit game against KKR, where Maxwell batted too. For the CSK game, PBKS replaced Maxwell with Suryansh Shedge in their playing XI, picking just three overseas players. "Unfortunately, Maxi's broken his finger. He broke it just before the last game at training. He didn't think it was too bad, but it ended up getting pretty bad. He had scans and yeah, the results weren't great. So unfortunately for Maxi, I think it's likely he's out for the tournament," Stoinis told Jostar.

DRAVID: DON'T WANT TO CONFUSE SURYAVANSHI WITH 'TOO MANY THINGS', HE SHOULD 'HAVE SOME FUN'

Diary Times Desk : Vaibhav Suryavanshi has become the flavour of IPL 2025 since his 35-ball century against Gujarat Titans (GT) on Monday lit up the tournament. But behind his rise to stardom, Rajasthan Royals (RR) have tried to create an environment to help the 14-year-old play with freedom while staying insulated from the pressures of playing in a certain way. "He's been very welcomed," head coach Rahul Dravid said on Star Sports Press Room on Wednesday. "One of the things we've tried to do is make him feel integrated well into this environment. Even after the auction, we had three to four short-duration camps every month leading into the tournament. Vaibhav was there at every one of those camps, getting to know the players and support staff." The idea was simple: make him feel at home before the spotlight turned his way. "We were conscious of the fact that we wanted him to feel comfortable by the time he came to the IPL," Dravid said. "We wanted him to know each and everyone of the players, except the foreign players whom he was meeting for the first time. But he'd met all the Indian players, coaches, admin staff and support staff." Despite being "shy", Dravid felt Suryavanshi hadn't shown signs of being overwhelmed.

BCCI SUED IN DELHI HIGH COURT FOR CALLING IPL ROBOT DOG 'CHAMPAK'

Diary Times Desk : Delhi Press Patra Prakashan, which publishes the children's magazine Champak, has moved the Delhi High Court against Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) over the name of a robotic dog, introduced as an attraction during the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL). Justice Saurabh Banerjee issued notice on the suit filed by the publisher, which has alleged that BCCI has infringed its registered trademark by calling the robotic dog 'Champak'. The Court will take up the matter next on July 9. Advocate Amit Gupta, representing Delhi Press, submitted that the Champak magazine is quite popular among children and the use of its name for the product introduced by the BCCI is a clear infringement of the publisher's registered mark. "This AI tool [robotic dog] has been named as Champak. The IPL has been going on. The product was introduced earlier but it was named later on April 23 purportedly based on fan voting," Gupta submitted, adding there are regular reports about this 'robotic dog' in the media.

MS DHONI'S BLOCKBUSTER REPLY ON PLAYING NEXT IPL FOR CSK: "I DON'T..."

Diary Times Desk : Is MS Dhoni playing his last IPL? That is one question that is on everybody's mind. MS Dhoni, under whom Chennai Super Kings won five IPL titles, has answered the question (well, sort of). Ahead of the CSK's match against Punjab Kings in Chennai on Wednesday, there was huge fanfare when MS Dhoni was about to speak at the toss. That former New Zealand player Danny Morrison, commenting on the match, to ask Dhoni about his future. "Does that mean, you will be coming for the next season?" Danny Morrison asked MS Dhoni. "I don't know I'm coming for the next game (laughs)," MS Dhoni replied. One of the things is the pride factor. Majority of the games you play at home. Home advantage is very important which we haven't been able to capitalise on. Same team. We've been a side where we don't make a lot of changes. But this season we've made a lot of changes. Reason is simple. If most of your players are doing well, then you chop and change 1-2 players. But this season it hasn't worked for us. It's also the first season after a fresh auction. So you have something in mind but you have to see where a batter is suited better. CSK on the other hand will be eliminated from the tournament with a loss on the night. The home side currently lingers at the bottom of the points table.