

NITI AAYOG  
MEET

IF CENTRE, STATES WORK TOGETHER LIKE TEAM INDIA,  
NO GOAL IS IMPOSSIBLE: PM MODI AT NITI AAYOG MEET

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that if the Union Government and states work together like Team India, no goal is impossible.

In his opening remarks at the 10th Governing Council meeting of the Niti Aayog, which is discussing the concept of Viksit Rajya for Viksit Bharat@2047, Modi said that Viksit Bharat is the goal of every Indian.

“When every state is viksit, then Bharat will be viksit. This is the aspiration of its 140 crore citizens,” he said further. The Prime Minister’s comments gain significance in the light of the fact that the BJP-led NDA Government under him has been consistently blamed for breaking the concept of cooperative federalism, especially by Opposition and Chief Ministers of non-BJP ruled states.

Today’s meeting was skipped by West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerji and Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, even as Chief Ministers of other non-BJP ruled states like Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Punjab and even the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, were present in the meeting. Meanwhile Modi further said that the focus should on one goal, that is to make India developed by 2047. “We should have the aim of making each state viksit, each city viksit, each nagar palika viksit and each village viksit. If we work on these lines, we will not have to wait till 2047 to become Viksit Bharat,” he said. The Prime Minister further called upon all states to develop at least one tourist destination at par with global standards.



MONSOON

MONSOON ARRIVES IN INDIA, EARLIEST ONSET  
OVER INDIAN MAINLAND SINCE 2009



**Diary Times Desk :** The southwest monsoon hit Kerala on Saturday, marking its earliest arrival over the Indian mainland since 2009 when it reached the southern state on May 23, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Normally, the southwest monsoon makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8. It starts retreating from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15.

The monsoon had set in over the southern state on May 30 last year; June 8 in 2023; May 29 in 2022; June 3 in 2021; June 1 in 2020; June 8 in 2019; and May 29 in 2018, IMD data showed.

Data available since 1975 showed that the monsoon reached Kerala the earliest in 1990 (on May 19), 13 days before the usual date. According to meteorologists, there is no direct relationship between the onset date and the total rainfall over the country during the season.

The monsoon arriving early or late in Kerala does not mean it will cover other parts of the country accordingly. It is characterised by large-scale variabilities and global, regional and local features, an IMD official said. The IMD in April forecast above-normal cumulative rainfall in the 2025 monsoon season, ruling out the possibility of El Nino conditions, which are associated with below-normal rainfall in the Indian subcontinent. According to the IMD, rainfall between 96 per cent and 104 per cent of the 50-year average of 87 cm is considered 'normal'. Rainfall less than 90 per cent of the long-period average is considered 'deficient'.

CENTRE REVIEWS COVID-19 SURGE, SAYS MOST CASES ARE MILD

**Diary Times Desk :** The Centre on Saturday conducted a review of Covid-19 surge in the country and said all current active cases were mild. Union Health Secretary Punya Salila Srivastava held the review today with Secretary, Department of Health Research and Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research Rajeev Bahl, Director General Health Services and Director of the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). "Some Covid-19 cases have been reported mainly from Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Karnataka. It may be noted that there is a robust pan-India system for surveillance of respiratory illnesses, including Covid-19, through the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) and ICMR's pan-India respiratory virus sentinel surveillance network," Government officials said. They said most current cases are mild and under home care. The officials also noted increase in Covid 19 cases in Singapore, Hong Kong and other countries in the recent past and said, "It has been ascertained from the respective National IHR (International Health Regulation) focal points that there is no indication that the circulating variants are more transmissible or cause more severe disease compared to the previously circulating variants." The Union Health Ministry said it was vigilant and through its multiple agencies, was proactively monitoring the situation closely.



TAMIL NADU CM STALIN SEEKS 50% SHARE IN CENTRAL TAXES, RELEASE OF EDUCATION FUNDS

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SUPREME COURT ORDERS CADRE REVIEW IN ALL CAPFS IN 6 MONTHS

**Diary Times Desk :** Holding that all benefits available to Organised Group-A Service (OGAS) should naturally flow to the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), the Supreme Court has ordered a cadre review—which was due in 2021—in all (CAPFs), including ITBP, BSF, CRPF, CISF and SSB, within six months. A Bench of justices Abhay S Oka and Ujjal Bhuyan on Friday also asked the Centre to gradually reduce deputation of IPS officers to CAPFs. Noting that IPS officers are there on deputation by virtue of the policy decision of the Central Government manifest through the service rules/recruitment rules of the CAPFs, the Bench said, "We cannot also be oblivious of the grievance expressed by officers of the CAPFs... their dedicated service upholding the security, integrity and sovereignty of the nation while safeguarding our borders and maintaining internal security within the country cannot be ignored or overlooked. "They discharge their duties under very demanding conditions. They have a grievance that because of lateral entry into the higher grades of the respective CAPFs, they are unable to get their timely promotion. Consequently, there is a great deal of stagnation," it said.





### YOUR HOROSCOPE

25-05-2025

**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.


**Gemini**  
Today you should include yoga and meditation in your daily routine. For employed people, your responsibilities may increase due to promotion in the workplace. People doing business may suffer financial loss from any unknown person today. There may be difficulty in walking due to nerve pain problems.

**Leo**  
Today, you should offer water to Lord Shiva to avoid difficulties. A heated argument with HR in the workplace will spoil your whole day. Businessmen have to exercise patience, there are chances of improvement in business. Today, you may face stomach and pancreas problems due to eating too much fried food.

**Libra**  
Today is going to be a busy day for you. Employed people will get a chance to work with senior officers due to advancement in their professional field. People doing business should avoid exchanging money with any unknown person today. Pregnant women may have to face problems due to changing weather.

**Sagittarius**  
Today you should take all important decisions of your career thoughtfully. Employed people may have to face some problems due to the start of a new job in the workplace. Due to financial gain for business people, you can invest in a new business. Problems like leg pain and headache may bother you.

**Aquarius**  
Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employees will be suspended due to indiscipline in the workplace. People doing business should solve all the problems of their customers in time. Due to worsening weather, problems related to cold and cough may increase in the family.



**Taurus**  
Today you will get success as your long pending legal proceedings will come in your favor. There will be an atmosphere of happiness in the family as employed people will get progress in their workplace. People doing business should make a budget and spend the money in order to get financial benefits. Housewives should change their food according to health and season.

**Cancer**  
Today you will get relief from all your problems due to sudden financial gain. Employed people may have to get scolded by their boss due to being hasty in the workplace. People doing business may face increased difficulties in business due to arguments with business partners. As the problem of foot pain increases, you must consult a specialist doctor.

**Virgo**  
Today you should take special control over your speech and behavior. People in employment will get success in the workplace with the help of friends. People doing business will get financial gain due to some special offer, your financial condition will be strengthened. Old diseases of elders in the house may emerge.

**Scorpio**  
Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employed people may have to face mental problems due to extra workload in the workplace. People doing business may have to travel abroad in connection with business expansion. Diabetic patients should get themselves checked by a doctor in case of any problem today.

**Capricorn**  
Today you can invest especially in land and buildings. Employed people may have to travel long distances due to office work, due to which your health may deteriorate. People doing business may face difficulties in repaying business loans due to loss of money. High BP and cholesterol problems will increase the problems of your spouse.

**Pisces**  
Today your interest in creative work will especially increase. Employed people may be given an important project by their boss to handle important projects in the workplace. People doing business should control their speech and behavior with their customers. You should walk carefully on the road, problems may arise due to injury.





## JAIRAM SAID- ALL THE SYSTEMS IN THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT ARE IN SHAMBLES, SP AND DGP ARE SPEAKING AGAINST EACH OTHER

**Diary Times Desk :** Leader of Opposition and former Chief Minister Jairam Thakur targeted the state government over the investigation of Vimal Negi's death case. During a public meeting in Rekongpeo, he said that Vimal Negi is no longer with us, but when we said in the assembly that whether it is murder or suicide, it should be investigated and the state government agencies cannot do the investigation because in this, along with big leaders, officials are also being discussed. Therefore, the investigation should be done by the CBI. But the government said that there is no need for a CBI investigation, the family members do not want a CBI investigation. Jairam said that the Chief Minister of the state should answer, if Vimal Negi's family does not need a CBI investigation, then why did they have to go to the High Court today for a CBI investigation.



## AFTER GIVING AFFIDAVIT IN HIGH COURT AGAINST SIT, SP SHIMLA MADE SERIOUS ALLEGATIONS AGAINST DGP

**Diary Times Desk :** After the affidavit given by Director General of Police (DGP) Dr. Atul Verma against SIT in the High Court in the case of death of Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Chief Engineer Vimal Negi, now the Shimla SP has made serious allegations against him. On Saturday, SP Shimla Sanjeev Kumar Gandhi said in a press conference that the strings of the Chitta smuggling case are connected to the office of Himachal DGP. Such facts have come to light in the investigation of the case related to Sanjay Bhuria Chitta smuggler gang. He claimed that the involvement of DGP's personal staff has also been found in the case of leaking of confidential information from CID. The SP alleged that in the case of Vinay Agarwal, who was allegedly accused of extorting money from industrialists by posing as a fake IG, the report was prepared by pressurizing the subordinate officers. SP Gandhi said that when the involvement of the staff of the DGP office came to light in the case of Sanjay Bhuria, accused of drug smuggling, permission was sought from the Sessions Court two months ago to conduct.

## SHIMLA: AFTER PROTESTS, HRTC REVERSED ITS DECISION, REDUCED BUS PASS FARE, NOW IT WILL COST THIS MUCH

**Diary Times Desk :** HRTC has revised the pass rates of chartered buses running for private schools in the capital Shimla. Now the fare has been reduced by dividing the pass fare into three slabs. Regarding this, HRTC Chief General Manager Pankaj Singhal has issued orders on Saturday. According to the new slab, the fare has been fixed at Rs 1200 per month for 0 to 6 km, Rs 1800 per month for 6 to 12 km and Rs 2000 for distance more than 12 km. Earlier, the bus pass fare for up to five km was Rs 1800. Himachal Path Parivahan Nigam (HRTC) had increased the quarterly bus fare of students studying in private schools of the city. Parents were very angry about this. Amar Ujala had raised this matter prominently and after this people also took to the streets to protest against it. After this the matter reached the government. On Saturday, Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri talked about reducing the bus pass fare. After this, HRTC issued a notification of revised bus pass fares. Himachal Road Transport Corporation runs 42 buses for Auckland, Chapsley Coulston, DAV New Shimla, Edward, Navbahar Chailsey, SPS Khalini, Pujarli and Tara Hall schools of the city. More than 2100 students travel in these buses daily.



## YOUTHS ENTERED THE GOVERNMENT REST HOUSE WITHOUT BOOKING, CREATED A RUCKUS, THREATENED THE WATCHMAN AND CHASED HIM AWAY

**Diary Times Desk :** Some workers of a political party entered the rest house of Jal Shakti Department in Jawali on Friday night without booking. During this, they threatened the watchman of the rest house and chased him away from there. After this, they themselves cooked meat and consumed alcohol in the rest house. The accused consumed alcohol throughout the night and created a lot of ruckus during this time. During this ruckus, empty bottles of liquor were broken, sofas and chairs were damaged. Contraceptive material was also found in the rest house. It is suspected that some women were also present in the rest house at night. Executive Engineer Ajay Sharma said that the entire incident is captured in CCTV cameras and a complaint has been lodged in Jawali police station. On the other hand, DSP Jawali Biri Singh Rathore said that on the complaint of the watchman of the rest house Jaswant Singh, a case has been registered against Vikku Bhardwaj, Munish and other unknown people under various sections on the charges of creating ruckus, abusing and vandalism in the rest house. Investigation of the case has started.

## VIMAL NEGI CASE: SHIMLA POLICE'S SIT IN THE DOCK DUE TO PEN DRIVE AND DGP'S AFFIDAVIT, THESE SERIOUS QUESTIONS RAISED

**Diary Times Desk :** The affidavit given by Himachal Pradesh Police Director General Dr. Atul Verma in the High Court put the SIT of Shimla Police in the dock. He raised serious questions on the investigation of the SIT. The DGP exposed the hiding and formatting of the pen drive found in the pocket of the deceased Vimal Negi in his report. The affidavit of the DGP became the main basis for handing over the investigation of the Vimal Negi death case to the CBI. On March 15, the DGP formed an SIT to search for Vimal Negi. DSP Amit Kumar was made the head of the SIT. Apart from them, SHO Sadar Police Station Shimla Dharmasen Negi, SHO Police Station Ghumarwin Amita Devi and Investigating Officer Police Station Shimla Yashpal were made members. Additional Director General Gyaneshwar Singh was entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring the work of the SIT. Negi's body was recovered on March 18.

GUJARAT MAN ARRESTED FOR  
SPYING FOR PAK, SHARED KEY  
INFO ON AIR FORCE

**Diary Times Desk :** A man in Gujarat has been arrested for allegedly sharing key information related to the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Border Security Force (BSF) with a Pakistani agent, officials said on Saturday. The accused, Sahdev Singh Gohil, is a resident of Kachchh and worked as a health worker, senior Gujarat Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) officer K Siddharth told reporters. The 28-year-old came in contact with an agent, who identified herself as Aditi Bharadwaj, through WhatsApp in 2023. He sent her photos and videos of the IAF and the BSF sites that were newly constructed or were under construction, Mr Siddharth said. "We had information that he had been sharing information related to the BSF and the IAF with a Pakistani agent," he said. Gohil was then called for a preliminary investigation on May 1, during which the STF found out that the Pakistani agent had asked him for photos and videos of the IAF and the BSF sites. "At the beginning of 2025, he bought a SIM card on his Aadhaar Card and activated WhatsApp on that number for Aditi Bharadwaj with the help of an OTP (one time password). After that, all photos and videos related to BSF and IAF were shared on that number," the officer said.

'KCR IS GOD, SURROUNDED BY  
SOME DEVILS': K KAVITHA ON  
LETTER LEAK

**Diary Times Desk :** The internal differences within the Bharat Rashtira Samithi came to the fore on Friday with party MLC K Kavitha taking exception to the letter she wrote to her father and party president K Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) getting leaked. She also said some conspiracies are being hatched in the party. KCR is like a god, but is surrounded by some devils, she claimed. Speaking to reporters at the RGI airport here on Friday evening, after returning from the US, she wondered how an internal letter became public. "Two weeks ago, I had written a letter to KCR ji. I had expressed my opinions to him earlier through letters. I had recently said that conspiracies are being hatched. The letter written by me internally to KCR ji became public. All of us in the party and the people of Telangana have to think about what is happening," she said. She further said she had only expressed in her letter, after touring half of Telangana, what people are thinking and that she does not have any personal agenda. Asked who is behind the conspiracy that she talked about, Ms Kavitha said: "KCR ji is a god. But, there are some devils around him."

"20,000 INDIANS KILLED IN TERRORIST  
ATTACKS": INDIA BLASTS PAKISTAN AT UN



**Diary Times Desk :** India on Saturday slammed Pakistan over its "disinformation" on the Indus Waters Treaty, which was suspended after a deadly terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam last month. India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Parvathaneni Harish, said the 65-year-old treaty will remain in abeyance until Pakistan, a "global epicentre of terror", ends its support for cross-border terrorism. His response came after the Pakistani representative raked up the agreement issue at the UN, saying "water is life and not a weapon of war". India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty, which was signed in 1960, on April 23, a day after the Pahalgam attack left 26 people dead. New Delhi's action came after it found "cross-border linkages" to the dastardly terror attack. "India has always acted in a responsible manner as an upper riparian state," Mr Harish said as he highlighted four points that "exposed" Pakistan. "First, India entered into the Indus Water Treaty 65 years ago in good faith. The preamble of that treaty describes how it was concluded with spirit and friendship."

CENTRAL FUNDS, WATER: NON-BJP CHIEF  
MINISTERS' DEMANDS AT MEET LED BY PM

**Diary Times Desk :** The Niti Aayog meeting on Saturday, in which the Prime Minister urged all states to work together towards the goal of a developed India, also saw some opposition chief ministers raise issues affecting their states, with their main grievances boiling down to the sharing of resources. While Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin pushed for the Centre to share more funds with states, his Punjab counterpart argued that his state had no water to share with Haryana. Mr Stalin, whose government has been locked in a face-off with the BJP-led Centre over the three-language clause in the National Education Policy and has approached the Supreme Court claiming that over Rs 2,000 crore was being withheld from the state because of that, urged the Union government "extend non-discriminatory cooperation" to all states, including Tamil Nadu. Speaking at the 10th Governing Council of the Niti Aayog, the DMK chief said, "It is not ideal for states in a federal democracy like India to struggle, argue, or litigate to receive the funds rightfully due to them. It hinders the development of both the state and the country."

MONSOON ARRIVES IN INDIA,  
EARLIEST ONSET OVER INDIAN  
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**Diary Times Desk :** The southwest monsoon hit Kerala on Saturday, marking its earliest arrival over the Indian mainland since 2009 when it reached the southern state on May 23, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. Normally, the southwest monsoon makes its onset over Kerala by June 1 and covers the entire country by July 8. It starts retreating from northwest India around September 17 and withdraws completely by October 15. The monsoon had set in over the southern state on May 30 last year; June 8 in 2023; May 29 in 2022; June 3 in 2021; June 1 in 2020; June 8 in 2019; and May 29 in 2018, IMD data showed. Data available since 1975 showed that the monsoon reached Kerala the earliest in 1990 (on May 19), 13 days before the usual date. According to meteorologists, there is no direct relationship between the onset date and the total rainfall over the country during the season. The monsoon arriving early or late in Kerala does not mean it will cover other parts.

ARMY OFFICER, 23, DROWNS AFTER HE  
JUMPS INTO STREAM TRYING TO SAVE  
COLLEAGUE

**Diary Times Desk :** A 23-year-old Army officer, Lieutenant Shashank Tiwari, posted in Sikkim, died in the line of duty while saving a fellow soldier who fell into a mountain stream during an operational task, officials said on Friday. The incident occurred when Lieutenant Tiwari of the Sikkim Scouts Regiment was leading a team to a strategic location being prepared for future deployment. Around 11 am, Agniveer Stephan Subba slipped while crossing a log bridge and was swept away by a fast-moving stream. Without hesitation, Lieutenant Tiwari jumped into the torrent in an attempt to rescue the soldier. Naik Pukar Katel also entered the water to assist. Together, they successfully pulled the Agniveer to safety. However, in the process, Lieutenant Tiwari was carried away by the strong current. Despite immediate rescue efforts by the patrol team, his body was found 800 metres downstream nearly half an hour later. "His bravery and devotion to duty will continue to inspire generations," the Army said, while sharing the news of death of the officer, who was commissioned into the service just six months ago.

COURT ISSUES NON-BAILABLE WARRANT AGAINST RAHUL GANDHI IN  
DEFAMATION CASE

**Diary Times Desk :** The MP-MLA Special Court in Chaibasa, Jharkhand, has issued a non-bailable warrant against senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi in connection with a 2018 defamation case. The court has directed Rahul Gandhi to appear in person on June 26. The case stems from alleged derogatory remarks made by Rahul Gandhi during a Congress party event in 2018, in which he is accused of making disparaging comments about the then-BJP National President, Amit Shah. According to the complaint filed by Pratap Katiyar, a resident of Chaibasa, Mr Gandhi had remarked that "no murderer can become the National President in Congress. Congressmen cannot accept a murderer as the National President, this is possible only in the BJP." The complainant viewed this as a defamatory statement directed at Amit Shah and lodged a complaint on July 9, 2018. In April 2022, the Chaibasa court had initially issued a bailable warrant against Rahul Gandhi after no response was received. However, when Mr Gandhi failed to respond, the court escalated the matter and issued a non-bailable warrant in February 2024.





**PAK RANKS 7TH IN CIVILIAN DEATHS  
FROM BLASTS IN 2024, WORSE THAN  
SOME COUNTRIES AT WAR**

**Diary Times Desk :** Pakistan was the seventh most-affected country in the world for civilian casualties resulting from explosive weapons in 2024, recording 790 civilian casualties, including 210 deaths, according to a new report that highlights the alarming state of civilian safety in the country. Although the total number of civilian casualties in 2024 represented a nine per cent decrease compared to 2023, the number of recorded incidents rose by 11 per cent, from 218 in the previous year, according to the UK-based NGO Action on Armed Violence (AOAV). Countries ahead of Pakistan on the list include Palestine (Gaza), Ukraine, Lebanon, Sudan, Myanmar, and Syria -- all either war-torn or embroiled in civil conflict. Nations that have a better situation than Pakistan include Russia, Nigeria, Yemen, Iran, and Israel among others, and many among them are also engaged in war or armed conflict. The report also noted that 2024 saw the highest number of explosive violence incidents in Pakistan since 2014 and the second-highest number of civilian casualties since 2018. It was also the second-worst year for armed actor casualties since 2015.

**DONALD TRUMP ORDERS LAYOFFS AT  
NSC: STAFFERS DEALING WITH 'ISSUES  
FROM UKRAINE TO KASHMIR'  
DISMISSED**

**Diary Times Desk :** In a sweeping layoff, dozens of staff members were dismissed from the White House National Security Council on Friday, as US President Donald Trump took major step to reduce size and influence of agency, according to a report by Reuters citing sources. The report mentioned, "staff dealing with most major geopolitical issues, from Ukraine to Kashmir, were terminated in the afternoon," the sources told Reuters. In a sweeping layoff, dozens of staffers were removed from the White House National Security Council on Friday, as Trump moved to scale back the agency's size and influence, Reuters reported, citing five sources. The move comes on the heels of weeks after Secretary of State Marco Rubio taking over from Mike Waltz as national security adviser. "The NSC restructuring is expected to further reduce the agency's influence, transforming it from a powerful policymaking body.

**OBAMA DIVORCE RUMORS RAMP UP AFTER MICHELLE GETS 'FLIRTY'  
WITH BILLIONAIRE: 'IF I WERE SINGLE...'**

**Diary Times Desk :** Michelle Obama sparked divorce rumors, again, after she got 'flirty' with Airbnb's co-founder and CEO, Brian Chesky, on her IMO podcast this week. The former First Lady even went on to say that if she is a 'single girl out there', she would 'stay in his house, have you ever'. While the 61-year-old was making these comments 'candidly', social media users speculated if she is inching towards a divorce from former President Barack Obama. Chesky, making his debut on Michelle's podcast, spoke about how an Airbnb user refreshed the website thousands of times until they got to book a stay in his home. The billionaire has opened his home as an Airbnb. Making the announcement, he had said back in 2022: "Starting today, my home is now on Airbnb (yes, this is my actual home and I'll be there when guests are here)." He further noted that his house has amenities such as freshly baked chocolate chip cookies, a golden retriever, and freshly brewed coffee.

**"HE DIDN'T SAY HE'LL LEAVE": MUHAMMAD  
YUNUS' AIDE AMID RESIGNATION BUZZ**

**Diary Times Desk :** Muhammad Yunus will continue as the head of Bangladesh's interim government, an adviser in his cabinet said on Saturday. This announcement comes two days after he told student-led National Citizen Party (NCP) leaders that he was mulling resignation as he felt "the situation is such that he cannot work". He also cited difficulties in working because political parties could not find a common ground for change. "He (Yunus) didn't say he will leave. He said that while we face many obstacles in carrying out the work and responsibilities assigned to us, we are overcoming them," Planning Adviser Wahiduddin Mahmud told reporters. He added, "He (Yunus) is definitely staying." Mahmud also stated that "the responsibility entrusted to us is a significant one; we cannot abandon this duty", and the advisors were not going anywhere. Reportedly, Yunus was persuaded not to quit by his colleagues when he expressed his desire to resign during a cabinet meeting.

**TRUMP ADMINISTRATION CONSIDERS  
PULLING US TROOPS OUT OF SOUTH KOREA  
DURING INDO-PACIFIC POLICY OVERHAUL**

**Diary Times Desk :** The Trump administration is weighing a dramatic drawdown of US troops in South Korea, with the intention of transferring as many as 4,500 to other spots in the Indo-Pacific region, such as Guam, military officials briefed on the discussions say. The idea is one piece of a continuing informal policy review of how to reorient the US presence in the region as Washington reassesses its approach to North Korea and China, the Wall Street Journal reported. Even though the plan has not yet made it to President Trump's desk, its creation marks a fresh initiative inside the White House to reduce America's historic military presence in South Korea, where around 28,500 US troops are deployed. Pentagon official Sean Parnell stressed that there has been no final decision and reiterated Washington's commitment to South Korea, describing the alliance as "iron clad." Nevertheless, increased momentum for the proposal has alarmed Seoul.

**SAN DIEGO AIRPORT  
EXPERIENCED GLITCHES  
BEFORE FATAL PLANE CRASH**

**Diary Times Desk :** Investigators are examining whether foggy conditions and technical glitches at a San Diego airport that cut off lights meant to guide pilots may have played a role in a fatal plane crash. A Cessna 550 crashed early Thursday into a residential neighbourhood, burning cars and destroying at least one home. Authorities say all six aboard are presumed dead, including a former drummer for the rock band The Devil Wears Prada and a high-profile music agent. The National Transportation Safety Board is examining a mix of clues and said the aircraft did not have a flight data recorder, which would have provided more information. Officials have not yet determined what factors led to the crash. In a news conference on Friday, NTSB investigator Dan Baker said the agency is receiving help from the FBI as it works to collect and preserve evidence from the scene. He said investigators have found the plane had struck high-tension power lines before crashing into homes in the Murphy Canyon neighbourhood, about two miles from the Montgomery Field Airport - where the plane was heading.

**PAKISTAN, AFGHANISTAN  
MOVE TOWARDS 'RESTORING  
TIES' IN TALKS WITH CHINA**

**Diary Times Desk :** As Pakistan remained embroiled in a war of words with its archrival India - following a dramatic exchange of missiles and drones nearly two weeks ago - it this week advanced diplomatic efforts with two other neighbors: China and Afghanistan, which could lead to the formal resumption of diplomatic ties between Islamabad and Kabul after nearly four years. In an "informal" trilateral meeting held in Beijing on May 21, the foreign ministers of China, Pakistan and Afghanistan convened under a forum first launched in 2017, and which last met in May 2023. This time, a key outcome from the meeting, according to Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, was a renewed willingness by both Pakistan and Afghanistan to restore diplomatic relations after heightened tensions in recent years. "Afghanistan and Pakistan expressed clear willingness to elevate diplomatic relations and agreed in principle to exchange ambassadors as soon as possible. China welcomed this and will continue to provide assistance for the improvement of Afghanistan-Pakistan relations," Wang said. He added that the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) - a \$62bn mega project under China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

## PUNJAB CM MANN RAISES WATER, SYL, BBMB ISSUES AT NITI AAYOG MEET; DEMANDS END TO 'INJUSTICE'

**Diary Times Desk :** Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann attended the 10th Governing Council meeting of NITI Aayog, where he raised several key issues concerning the state. He alleged that Punjab has been treated unfairly and demanded an end to the injustice and bias. Mann emphasised that Punjab has no surplus water to share with other states. He advocated for the construction of the Yamuna-Sutlej-Link (YSL) canal instead of the Satluj Yamuna Link (SYL) canal, citing the grim water situation in the state. He pointed out that the Ravi, Beas, and Sutlej rivers are already in deficit and suggested diverting water from surplus to deficit basins. The Chief Minister highlighted that Punjab was entitled to two-thirds of the Yamuna waters, as per a 1954 agreement between the erstwhile Punjab and Uttar Pradesh. He argued that Punjab should be included in negotiations for the allocation of Yamuna waters and that the state should receive its due rights. Mann criticised Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) for its biased approach, stating that the board has ignored Punjab's requests to regulate water release to Haryana. He claimed that BBMB's decision to release 8,500 cusecs of water to Haryana, despite Punjab's objections, was against the law.



## OVER 4.81 LAKH CASES SETTLED, RS 617 CRORE AWARDED IN PUNJAB LOK ADALAT

**Diary Times Desk :** Amidst the weekend rush of litigants, a middle-aged man in a faded shirt, his shoulder wrapped in a makeshift sling, stepped out of the District Court complex in Ropar. A vague sense of relief crossed his face as he tightly clutched a crumpled paper—settlement of a long-pending loan dispute with a bank. The small crowd outside barely noticed, but for him, the moment was significant. Years of legal wrangling had finally ended—not in a courtroom battle, but at a Lok Adalat bench. The day-long Lok Adalat saw a staggering 5.50 lakh cases taken up across Punjab, with 4,81,324 cases disposed of and settlement awards exceeding Rs 617 crore passed. A total of 442 Benches were constituted across districts and subdivisions. The event drew the participation of banks, insurance companies, government departments, and the general public, with the scale of resolutions marking a sharp rise from the previous Lok Adalat in March, where 3.66 lakh cases were settled.

## HIGH COURT ORDERS INTERIM BAIL FOR 412 INMATES AWAITING PREMATURE RELEASE IN PUNJAB

**Diary Times Desk :** The Punjab and Haryana High Court has ordered the release of 412 inmates in Punjab – whose applications for premature release have been pending – on interim bail within two weeks. Justice Harpreet Singh Brar also admonished the state authorities for their evident failure in processing the inmates' applications. "The rather conspicuous failure on part of the State agencies to process the applications of such a considerable number of inmates is deeply concerning. In doing so, the applicants-inmates have been subjected to further incarceration when they may be eligible to be released. Such an undisciplined approach is symptomatic of the culture of apathy that has developed on the subject of rights and well-being of convicts," Justice Brar asserted. The Bench also directed the States of Haryana and the Union Territory of Chandigarh to file affidavits with details of premature release cases pending.

## SGPC CHIEF ACCUSES PUNJAB GOVT OF ALTERING GOLDEN TEMPLE IMAGE IN CENTENARY AD, SEEKS APOLOGY

**Diary Times Desk :** Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) president Harjinder Singh Dhami on Saturday accused the Punjab government of altering the image of 'Sachkhand Sri Harmandar Sahib' through computer-generated techniques in an advertisement seeking suggestions for an upcoming centenary commemorations. He said the move by the government is a "serious affront to Sikh sentiments". Dhami emphasised that before publishing any image related to the Sikh faith, the government should have consulted SGPC. He said Golden Temple is the spiritual centre of Sikh devotion, and Sikhs across the globe hold the sacred image of this shrine deep within their hearts. By presenting an artificial intelligence-generated "distorted" image, the advertisement has not only disrespected Sikh reverence and belief, but has also made a shallow attempt to diminish the spiritual aura of the Darbar Sahib, which resides in the soul of every Sikh, he added. The SGPC president further said that despite hundreds of authentic images of 'Sri Harmandar Sahib' being available on the internet, the government's decision to distort one through digital manipulation is deeply painful.

## SIDHU MOOSEWALA MURDER CASE: KEY WITNESS ANGREZ SINGH PASSES AWAY AHEAD OF TESTIMONY

**Diary Times Desk :** In a significant development in the Sidhu Moosewala murder case, Angrez Singh—the first Investigating Officer (IO) and one of the key witnesses—passed away late Friday night after a prolonged illness. Singh, who was serving as the Station House Officer (SHO) of Mansa Sadar police station at the time of the Punjabi singer's assassination in May 2022, was a crucial figure in the investigation. As one of the first responders at the crime scene, his testimony was expected to provide critical insights into the early stages of the probe. He was scheduled to appear in court on July 4. Due to ongoing health issues, Singh had already been unable to attend a court hearing on May 23, citing medical concerns. His death is likely to cause further delays in the high-profile trial, which has already experienced multiple adjournments. At the most recent hearing, Singh was one of three primary witnesses listed to testify, along with Sidhu Moosewala's father, Balkaur Singh, and police official Sukhpal Singh. Earlier proceedings in the case had seen key eyewitnesses—Gurpreet Singh and Gurvinder Singh—identify the shooters, the weapons used, and the vehicles involved in the murder, providing pivotal testimonies in the case.

## NO INFIRMITY IN SPECIAL COURT ORDERS IN MANESAR LAND CASE, SAYS HIGH COURT

**Diary Times Desk :** The Punjab and Haryana High Court has turned down the petitions filed by former bureaucrats and others accused in the Manesar land case, upholding the Special Court's decision to dismiss their discharge applications and instead proceed with frame charges under provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Prevention of Corruption Act. The court held that no sanction for prosecution was required in the circumstances of the case. The petitioners included former Principal Secretaries to then Chief Minister Murari Lal Tayal and Chhatar Singh; former Director, Town and Country Planning Department, Sudeep Singh Dhillon; and others, including private builders. They had approached the High Court challenging the December 1, 2020, order of the Special Court, which had dismissed their discharge applications and proceeded to frame charges. Justice Manjari Nehru Kaul ruled that sanction under Section 19 of the PC Act was not required for prosecuting the petitioners, as they had already retired from service at the time the police report was submitted and cognizance was taken on March 16, 2018.

## J&K, RAJASTHAN COPS INTERROGATE YOUTUBER JYOTI MALHOTRA IN HISAR

**Diary Times Desk :** The police from J&K and Rajasthan have also arrived in Hisar to question YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra, sources revealed here today. Police sources said she had filmed videos of sensitive bordering areas along the Pakistan border in Rajasthan, and also visited Kashmir some time before the Pahalgam attack. "The police of these states also want to question her. Though she is in custody of Hisar police for four days, the interrogators from other states and Central agencies have been grilling her," they said. Special Investigation Teams of these states have submitted a list of questions to the Civil Lines police. The other agencies are also in contact with the Hisar police for the smooth exchange of information. The sources indicated that the probe agency could take her to J&K for identification of certain locations. However, it could not be confirmed. Meanwhile, her father Harish Malhotra said he was unable to meet her during the appearance in the court yesterday. Speaking to the media, he said, "I was told that she would be produced in court in the afternoon, so I went there. But by the time I reached the venue, she had already left."



**RELEASE PENSION  
BENEFITS OR FACE  
ACTION, PENSIONERS  
WARN HPSEBL  
MANAGEMENT**

**Diary Times Desk :** The Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Limited (HPSEBL) Pensioners' Forum has issued a two-week ultimatum to the board management, demanding payment of arrears of revised pay scales and other pensionary benefits. According to AS Gupta, forum's president, these demands were agreed upon in a meeting held in November 2023, but the management has failed to fulfill them. Gupta said the pensioners were struggling to get their dues. He said government pensioners have received payment, particularly those above 75 years, while HPSEBL pensioners are still waiting for their payments.

**BADDI POLICE DISMANTLE  
DRUG PEDDLER'S ILLEGAL  
HOUSE**

**Diary Times Desk :** In a significant move to curb drug-related crime, the Baddi police, in coordination with the Revenue Department, dismantled a house illegally built on government land in Kishenpura by drug peddler Sarbjeet Singh, alias Cheema. The property, constructed using proceeds from drug trade, was razed following due legal process. Baddi SP Vinod Dhiman said this action was part of a broader campaign to identify and demolish properties acquired through criminal means. Cheema, 31, a resident of Kishenpura, has been booked in four cases under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act. Investigations revealed that his family had encroached on one bigha of revenue land and built a house using money earned through illegal activities. After a legal notice was served to Cheema's father and the response period lapsed, the house was dismantled under police supervision. "This is a crucial step toward building a crime-free society. Such acts of using crime money to acquire properties will not be tolerated in Baddi," Dhiman said. In a significant move to curb drug-related crime, the Baddi police, in coordination with the Revenue Department, dismantled a house illegally built on government land in Kishenpura by drug peddler Sarbjeet Singh, alias Cheema.

**KNIVES OUT AS SHIMLA SP ACCUSES DGP AND STAFF OF MISCONDUCT OVER  
VIMAL NEGI CASE**

**Diary Times Desk :** A day after the Himachal Pradesh High Court transferred the probe into Vimal Negi's death to the CBI, the head of SIT in the case, Shimla SP Sanjeev Kumar Gandhi, hit out at the DGP on Saturday, claiming he filed the status report questioning the SIT investigation with an ulterior motive. The SP also accused the state police chief and his staff of misconduct in other cases. In an unprecedented move, SP Gandhi levelled a litany of allegations against DGP Atul Verma at a press conference and said he would prefer to quit rather than tolerate insults. There was no immediate reaction from the DGP. "We had carried out the investigation with full honesty and integrity and the status report and affidavit presented by the DGP in the court was very irresponsible and it has happened as senior police officers posted in the police headquarters hold a grudge against me," the SP said. He said he would again approach the court with facts and documents and also expose how DGP Verma filed the status report with "ulterior motives".

**SHIMLA SP FILES PETITION IN HIMACHAL  
HC AGAINST BJP'S SUDHIR SHARMA;  
MLA SERVES LEGAL NOTICE**

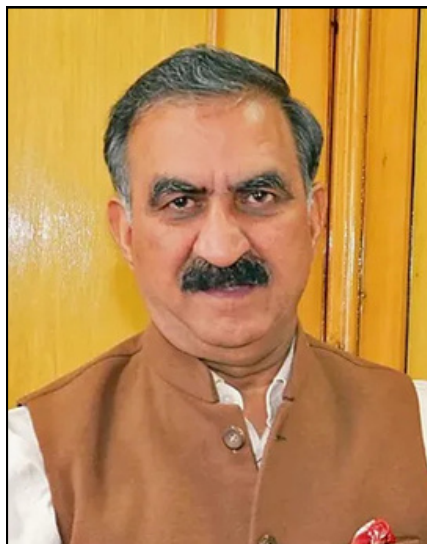
**Diary Times Desk :** Shimla SP Sanjeev Kumar Gandhi on Saturday filed a petition in the Himachal Pradesh High Court seeking action against BJP MLA Sudhir Sharma for circulating a video clip of the court proceedings without permission. Sharma, in response, served a legal notice to the senior police official. "I have filed a petition in the court against sitting BJP MLA from Dharamshala, Sudhir Sharma, for selectively live streaming the high court proceedings which is contempt of proceedings and violation of Copyright and Information Act," Gandhi told reporters here. The video circulated online shows courtroom remarks against Gandhi during a hearing of petition seeking a CBI probe into the death of Himachal Pradesh Power Corporation Limited (HPPCL) chief engineer Vimal Negi earlier on Wednesday. The SP alleged that Sharma had emerged as a mastermind in the alleged "horse trading" of the MLAs during the Rajya Sabha elections held in February last year and has maliciously portrayed him in a bad light and tarnished his image. Sharma, on the other hand, served a legal notice to the SP maintaining that the clip was not fabricated and live streaming of the proceedings has been allowed by the court itself and demanded withdrawal of "irresponsible and unsubstantiated" statements made by him.

**VIMAL NEGI'S FAMILY, FRIENDS  
HOPE NOW JUSTICE WILL BE DONE**

**Diary Times Desk :** The family and friends of deceased Vimal Negi today welcomed the Himachal High Court's decision to hand over the case to the CBI and said that the order had ignited their hopes of getting justice. "We are extremely thankful to the High Court for handing over the case to the CBI. We had lost all hope in the state's investigating agencies. We are hopeful now that we will get justice," said Surender Negi, brother of Vimal Negi. Surender accused the state government and the police of trying to suppress facts and divert the investigation. He said that they would soon launch a protest against the officials, who had tried to bungle the investigation. "We were the complainants but the police started investigating the properties of Vimal Negi. They tried to show that he was in depression. It clearly showed that the effort was to take the investigation to another direction and save the higher officials named in the FIR," he alleged. A relative pointed out that Vimal Negi's missing mobile phone and the story weaved around the pen drive found on his body also proved that the investigation was merely a charade to save the higher officials. "There's massive corruption at the bottom of the whole incident and we suspect it was not a suicide but a murder," he claimed.

**HIMACHAL CM SUKHVINDER SUKHU MEETS SITHARAMAN, SEEKS HIKE IN  
LOAN LIMIT BY AT LEAST 2 PER CENT**

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu called on Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi last evening and held discussions on various budgetary and financial issues concerning the state that required the attention of the Central Government. The Chief Minister also discussed with her the issue of the import of apple from Turkey and requested her for a universal hike in the import duty on the fruit to protect the interests of the apple growers of the country. Sukhu requested the Union Finance Minister to raise the borrowing limit of Himachal and other special category states by at least 2 per cent. He also briefed Sitharaman about various initiatives taken by the state government to improve its fiscal management and the steps taken to augment financial resources despite several constraints. The Chief Minister also met Dr Arvind Panagariya, Chairman of the Finance Commission, and pleaded for an increase in the allocation of funds to the state. The officers of the state government made a presentation to the commission and submitted an additional memorandum. The state asked for green bonus for the ecological and environmental services it was rendering to the nation by preserving its ecosystem.



GILL NAMED INDIA TEST CAPTAIN BEFORE ENGLAND TOUR

**Diary Times Desk :** The 25-year-old succeeds Rohit Sharma as captain, with the 38-year-old having retired from Test cricket earlier this month. Gill, who has scored 1,893 runs in 32 Tests, will lead a depleted India team in a five-Test tour of England starting at Headingley on 20 June. Veteran seamer Mohammed Shami was left out of India's 18-strong squad following a late injury setback, although he played in the Indian Premier League. Wicketkeeper Rishabh Pant has been named Gill's deputy in the Test squad as Jasprit Bumrah, who was Rohit's vice-captain on the tour of Australia, may not be able to play in all five Tests. Chief selector Ajit Agarkar said India did not want to risk burdening pace bowler Bumrah, 31, with the captaincy. "I think he's more important to us as a player," Agarkar said. "We want him fit. He's aware of it. We had a chat with him and he's OK with it." Gill was one of the leading candidates to replace Rohit as Test skipper having served as Gujarat Titans captain in the IPL and led India in five T20 internationals. "In franchise cricket, he's relishing the role," Agarkar added. "It's going to be a lot harder but those are the challenges you face playing international cricket. He's been around for two to three years in all formats. He can fall back on that experience." Gill has been given extra preparation time for the England tour having been named in a strong India A squad to face England Lions.



SARFARAZ KHAN SNUBBED FOR INDIA'S TEST SQUAD VS ENGLAND. AJIT AGARKAR SAYS, "HE GOT A 100, THEN..."

**Diary Times Desk :** The Indian Test team has officially entered its long-awaited transitional phase when Shubman Gill was named as the captain for the upcoming five-match tour of England, with Rishabh Pant named his deputy. Chief selector Ajit Agarkar admitted that it's always tough to fill in big holes left by retirements of Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli and Ravichandran Ashwin. The last time a Test played without Rohit, Kohli and Ashwin was on tour of England in 2011. "When guys like that retire, always big holes to fill. Ashwin also retired. Those three have been stalwarts. Always difficult. One way of looking at it is, opportunity for someone else. Had conversations with both of them." "Virat reached out early April, seen him give 200% on every ball he plays even when he's not batting or on the field. Felt he'd given everything he had, if he can't keep up to the standards it was time for him. It's come from him. Have to respect that. They've earned that respect." "It is a new WTC cycle, you are looking at whole lot of scenarios. All we need to do is show them respect and move on. It is a big job and big transition. We are all confident that Gill is the guy to take us forward."

AGARKAR: 'VIRAT REACHED OUT EARLY APRIL AND SAID HE WANTS TO FINISH'

**Diary Times Desk :** A combined 190 matches together, over 13,500 runs, 42 hundreds in the format, and a collective captaincy experience of 92 Tests. The recent Test retirements of Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are "big holes to fill" but when players make decisions to leave the game, even if before a high-profile five-Test tour of England, you have to "respect" them and move on, according to chair of India men's selection panel, Ajit Agarkar. While announcing India's 18-member squad that will be led by new captain Shubman Gill, Agarkar revealed that it was Kohli who had reached out to the selectors in the early stages of IPL 2025 to inform them about leaving Test cricket. "Virat reached out early April and said he wants to finish," Agarkar said. "We've seen him give 200% to every ball that he plays, even when he is not batting or he's in the field. He probably felt that he had given everything that he had and if he can't keep up to the standards that he set for himself over the years, and how good he has been, and maybe it was time for him. It has come from him. You've got to respect that. They have earned that respect, both of them. As all great players are, the one thing there is, they are true to themselves, and he was in that conversation."

BCCI BREAKS SILENCE ON SNUBBING JASPRIT BUMRAH, KL RAHUL AS CAPTAIN: "15-16 PEOPLE..."

**Diary Times Desk :** Shubman Gill is officially the new Indian cricket team Test captain. At a press conference in Mumbai on Saturday, BCCI chief selector Ajit Agarkar announced the decision while revealing India's squad for the five-Test series against England, that starts on June 20. Shubman Gill does not have prior experience of leading the Test side, while the squad that has been selected comprises two players - Jasprit Bumrah and KL Rahul - who have led the side in the past. BCCI chief selector Ajit Agarkar was clear in his thought process when asked about the duo and their chances of leader. "Bumrah because he has led us in Australia but one, he is not available for all the Test matches. I think we wanted him more as a player. It's always extra burden when you are managing 15-16 people. It takes a lot out of you. We would rather have him as a bowler. Hope he has a big series. He is an important player for us, so having him fit as a bowler important. He knows where his body is at the moment," Agarkar said.



GT LOOK TO SEAL QUALIFIER 1 BERTH AGAINST CSK

**Diary Times Desk :** A finish in the top-two is firmly within reach for table-toppers Gujarat Titans. Despite a setback in their previous outing against the Lucknow Super Giants, their destiny remains firmly in their own hands as a win over Chennai Super Kings will seal a spot in Qualifier 1, giving them two shots at reaching the final. For Shubman Gill, the newly appointed Indian Test skipper, a win here to seal a top-two finish, would add further weight to his credentials as the the next flagbearer of Indian cricket. For CSK, however, it's been a season to forget. The storied IPL team, which has won five titles, is staring at a bottom finish for the first time in IPL history. And the only escape route for the struggling CSK side is a massive win - defeat GT by 107 runs or with 45 deliveries to spare, assuming a first innings score of 200. The game against LSG was only the second time this season that each of their top-three - Shubman Gill, Sai Sudharsan, and Jos Buttler - didn't go past fifty in the same match. The middle order tried to step up, with Shahrukh Khan and Sherfane Rutherford coming up with fighting knocks, but GT fell 33 short of LSG's 235.

SAI SUDHARSAN GETS 1ST TEST CALL-UP — HOW HAS THE BATTER FARED IN COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP IN ENGLAND?

**Diary Times Desk :** B. Sai Sudharsan earned his maiden Test call-up as the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced India's squad for the five-match Test series in England on Friday. The 23-year-old helped Tamil Nadu reach the quarterfinals of Ranji Trophy last season and has scored runs at will at the ongoing Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025, where he is currently the purple cap holder, with 638 runs to his name. However, Ajit Agarkar, the chairman of senior men's selection committee, insisted that his selection was not on the basis of his performance for Gujarat Titans this season. "When England Lions came he did well. We have not picked him because of IPL. He has showed the right away and seems to have the game to succeed at the top level. "We have been looking at him for a while but there has never been any place in the team," Agarkar said. He has also impressed in County Championship, scoring 281 runs for Surrey over two seasons as the side won consecutive titles. Sai Sudharsan made his ODI debut in India's tour of South Africa two years ago, scoring a half century in Johannesburg. Overall, he has played three ODIs and one T20I, with the latter played against Zimbabwe last year.