

## PRIME MINISTER MODI

## PM MODI TEARS INTO WEST BENGAL GOVT OVER MURSHIDABAD VIOLENCE, TEACHER SCAM

**Diary Times Desk :** Launching a blistering attack on the TMC government in West Bengal, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday said the state is "plagued" by violence, corruption and lawlessness, and asserted that people are now yearning for change from the "nirmam sarkar" (cruel government).

Addressing a rally in Alipurduar, Modi said incidents of communal violence in Murshidabad and Malda are grim reminders of the TMC government's "cruelty and indifference" to the sufferings of ordinary citizens. "Today, West Bengal is grappling with a series of crises. People don't want 'nirmam sarkar'. They want change and good governance. That is why the whole of Bengal is saying they don't want cruelty and corruption anymore," Modi said.

"First is the widespread violence and lawlessness that are tearing apart the fabric of society. Second is the growing sense of insecurity among mothers and sisters, compounded by horrific crimes committed against them," the PM said. Modi said the third crisis in Bengal is the deepening despair among the youth, driven by rising unemployment and lack of opportunities, while the fourth is the "pervasive corruption" that is eroding public trust in the system. "The fifth crisis stems from the self-serving politics of the ruling party, which is stripping the poor of their rightful entitlements. Incidents in Murshidabad and Malda are stark examples of the cruelty of the TMC government and its failure to maintain law and order," he said.



## AMARNATH YATRA

## AMARNATH YATRA SECURITY: CENTRE DEPLOYS ABOUT 42,000 PERSONNEL OF CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES



**Diary Times Desk :** The Centre has ordered deployment of 580 companies, comprising about 42,000 on-ground personnel, of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) for the annual Amarnath Yatra in Jammu and Kashmir, official sources said on Thursday.

While 424 companies are being sent to the Union Territory (UT), the rest, including about 80 companies that moved to the UT during Operation Sindoor, will be "relocated" to secure the yatra route, the pilgrims and other areas, including Srinagar, they said. The Union Home Ministry, officials told PTI, has directed that these forces move "immediately" and take position in Jammu and Kashmir by the second week of June. The Amarnath Yatra will begin on July 3 and end on August 9. The security deployment plan for the pilgrimage is being prepared keeping in mind the challenges emerging from the April 22 Pahalgam terrorist attack in which 26 persons, mostly tourists, were killed, they said.

"The Union Home Ministry has decided to deploy about 580 CAPF companies for the Amarnath Yatra this time. This includes about 150-160 units already present in the UT," a senior officer said. The companies are drawn from five CAPFs of CRPF, BSF, CISF, ITBP and SSB. Each of these companies have an operational strength of about 70-75 personnel, he said. Union Home Minister Amit Shah will also review the security arrangements during his proposed visit to Jammu on Thursday. CRPF Director General (DG) Gyanendra Pratap Singh had reviewed the preparations for the Amarnath Yatra over the week when he was in Kashmir. BSF DG Daljit Singh Chawdhary, too, is expected to hold a review of border security and the yatra in Srinagar.

## AHEAD OF SHAH’S J-K VISIT, RAHUL WRITES TO PM MODI SEEKING RELIEF FOR PAK SHELLING VICTIMS

**Diary Times Desk :** Shah reached J-K today evening, and is likely to travel to areas affected in Pakistan shelling along the border tomorrow (May 30). It is Shah's first visit to the Union Territory post Operation Sindoor. Shah had earlier visited J-K after the April 22 attack in Pahalgam. In his letter, Gandhi mentioned that he himself recently visited Poonch where 14 persons, including four children, were “tragically” killed and dozens injured in Pakistani shelling. “This sudden attack has caused a huge destruction in our areas. Hundreds of houses, shops, schools and religious places have been badly damaged,” the Congress leader mentioned in his letter. Gandhi also stated in his letter to the PM that several victims have told him that their “years of hard work were wasted in one stroke”. People of Poonch and other areas near the border have been living in peace and brotherhood for decades. Today, when they are going through this deep crisis it is our duty to understand their pain and provide all possible help to rebuild their lives,” Gandhi stated in the letter. He further said that he urges the government to prepare a “concrete and generous relief and rehabilitation package” for Poonch and all other areas affected by Pakistan’s shelling. On May 24, Gandhi visited Poonch and met families affected by cross-border shelling by Pakistani troops earlier this month.



## BANGLADESH APPOINTS ENVOY TO INDIA AFTER 8 MONTHS

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## TMC HITS BACK AT PM MODI’S CLAIMS, POSES FIVE COUNTER QUESTIONS



**Diary Times Desk :** Accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi of diverting attention from the BJP-led Centre’s failures, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) on Thursday posed five ‘counter-questions’ in response to the PM’s remarks about crises allegedly affecting West Bengal. In a post on X, the party called upon the PM to first “fix the mess” in Manipur, which had witnessed severe law and order problems for Coming to other posers, the party said, “Women’s safety? From Unnao to Hathras, @BJP4India’s track record is soaked in silence and shame.” “Youth hopelessness? Paper leaks, NEET scam, and 45 per cent unemployment – BJP’s national gift to students,” the regional party said. “Corruption? Half your Cabinet is out on bail. Irony died a slow death,” the party said, turning the corruption charge towards the Modi cabinet. The party also reiterated the claim that “Bengal was denied MGNREGA and Awas Yojana funds due to your (Modi) government’s vendetta politics.”

## GOVERNMENT DECEIVING FARMERS IN THE NAME OF MSP: CONGRESS

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

30-05-2025

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.





## HIMACHAL NEWS: UNION LABOR MINISTER MANDAVIYA WILL INAUGURATE ESI HOSPITAL IN KALA AMB ON SATURDAY

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Minister of Labour & Employment and Youth Affairs & Sports Dr Mansukh Mandaviya will inaugurate the newly constructed 30 bedded Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Hospital at Kala Amb, Sirmaur, Himachal Pradesh on 31st May 2025. This modern hospital, which can be upgraded to 100 beds, is a major milestone in strengthening healthcare services under the Employees State Insurance (ESI) Scheme in the region. As a special honour, Dr Mandaviya will also felicitate the construction workers who contributed in the construction of the hospital. Built at a cost of about Rs 100 crore, this modern hospital is expected to benefit more than one lakh beneficiaries, providing access to better infrastructure and advanced healthcare services to the residents of Sirmaur and neighbouring districts. The construction of the hospital, sanctioned by the Employees State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) in the year 2019, started on 28th March 2022. The hospital is spread over 13,532.77 sq.m, with an additional 2,094.74 sq.m for staff quarters and 65.79 sq.m for supporting facilities, giving a total built-up area of 16,293.30 sq.m.



## KANGRA: BUS SENT FROM CHAMUNDA TO VRINDAVAN WAS PELTED WITH STONES IN PUNJAB, FRONT GLASS BROKEN, BIKE RIDERS ATTACKED; PASSENGERS SAFE

**Diary Times Desk :** On Wednesday night, two bike riders pelted stones on the HRTC bus which started from Chamunda of Kangra to Vrindavan at Bhanupalli between Nangal and Anandpur Sahib in Punjab. The front glass of the bus has been broken due to stone pelting. However, the passengers and the bus driver have not suffered any injuries. The bus has reached Vrindavan safely. The Transport Corporation has lodged a case against two unknown people in Nangal Police Station for this attack and has demanded an investigation. The incident occurred around 11:30 pm. During the attack, the driver showed prudence and did not stop the bus. During this, the bike riders fled from the spot. Avinash Thakur, a passenger in the bus, said that he was sitting on the front seat. The passengers were terrified due to the breaking of the front glass of the bus in the stone pelting. The bike riders fled in the dark. On the other hand, DM Pankaj Chaddha of HRTC Division Dharamshala said that a case has been registered against the unknown attackers in Nangal Police Station.

## HIMACHAL NEWS: CHIEF MINISTER REACHED SHARCHI IN BANJAR UNDER THE GOVERNMENT VILLAGE DOOR PROGRAM, STAYED OVERNIGHT HERE

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, under the 'Sarkar Gaon Ke Dwar' program, stayed overnight at the house of ex-serviceman Subedar Anup Ram in Sharchi village of Banjar assembly constituency in Kullu district. All the villagers were excited on the arrival of the Chief Minister. The villagers were overwhelmed with warmth on finding the Chief Minister at their doorstep. The villagers, dressed in traditional attire, welcomed the Chief Minister with the melodious sound of musical instruments. While walking, the Chief Minister interacted with children, elderly and women. During this, the villagers also informed the Chief Minister about their problems. The Chief Minister gave directions to the officials on the spot and asked them to ensure timely solutions. The Chief Minister said that proper provision of budget will be made to meet the demands of the people. He directed the Public Works Department officials to widen the Nagaladi-Sharchi road and improve it. He said that a drain will also be constructed along the road. He also asked to install paver blocks on the road as per requirement, so that the road can be maintained in a better manner. He also announced to provide Rs 1 lakh each to five Mahila Mandals of Sharchi Gram Panchayat. On Thursday morning, the Chief Minister had breakfast with the villagers and also listened to their problems.

## SANJAULI MOSQUE CASE: NOW STAY ON DEMOLITION OF SANJAULI MOSQUE TILL 5TH JULY, COURT CONSIDERED THE MATTER DEBATABLE

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## HIMACHAL: COMPANIES WILL HAVE TO DESTROY AS MUCH PLASTIC AS THEY SELL, POLLUTION BOARD TAKES STRICT ACTION

**Diary Times Desk :** The Himachal Pradesh government has taken another strict step towards making the state plastic free. Now, the companies will have to destroy the same amount of plastic in a scientific manner as the amount of products they sell in plastic packaging in the state. This policy has been implemented under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), in which the producers will have to take responsibility for the plastic waste generated due to their products. The Himachal Pradesh Pollution Control Board has started action to strictly implement this policy. So far, notices have been issued to more than 800 companies, which are doing business in the state.

## HIMACHAL WEATHER: CLOUDS WILL RAIN CONTINUOUSLY IN MANY PARTS TILL JUNE 4, ORANGE ALERT FOR HEAVY RAIN FOR TWO DAYS IN FIVE DISTRICTS

**Diary Times Desk :** There is a forecast of continuous rain for six days in many parts of Himachal Pradesh. A yellow alert has also been issued for thunderstorms in some places. During the last 24 hours, Palampur 31.6, Murari Devi 17.2, Katola 13.0, Sujampur Tihra 12.8, Bijahi 11.8, Nahan 10.8, Slappar 10.5, Shimla 7.0, Kangra 6.6, Bajaura 5.5 and Paonta Sahib 5.2 mm of rain fell. Today, the capital Shimla is sunny and lightly cloudy. According to the Meteorological Center Shimla, rain is likely to continue in many parts of the state from May 30 to June 4. During this period, a yellow alert has also been issued for thunderstorms in many parts. According to the department, light to moderate rain is likely at some places on May 30. Light to moderate rain is likely at many places in the state during 31 May to 3 June. An orange alert has been issued for heavy rain and thunderstorm in Chamba, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi and Shimla districts for 31 May and 1 June. Light rain may occur at one or two places today. At the same time, the maximum temperature is likely to gradually fall by 2-3 degrees Celsius in some parts of the state during the next 3-4 days. The minimum temperature is likely to increase by 2-3 degrees Celsius in many parts of the state.



UNION GOVT LIKELY TO  
NOTIFY THREE NEW SC  
JUDGES TODAY

**Diary Times Desk :** The Union government is likely to notify the appointment of three new judges to the Supreme Court later Thursday, following the President's assent to the collegium's recommendations. The judges are expected to be sworn in by Chief Justice of India Bhushan R Gavai on Friday morning. The files concerning the appointments reached President Droupadi Murmu on Wednesday and have now received her approval. The Union Law Ministry is anticipated to issue the formal notification shortly, completing the process initiated by the Supreme Court collegium. This marks a significant development in the judiciary, coming just three days after the collegium's recommendation. The swift action is seen as a positive start to the tenure of CJI Gavai, who assumed office earlier this month. The three judges set for elevation are: justices NV Anjaria, Karnataka HC chief justice with Gujarat as his parent HC; Vijay Bishnoi, Gauhati HC chief justice, having Rajasthan as his parent high court, and Justice AS Chandurkar, a judge of the Bombay HC. With their appointments, the Supreme Court will reach its sanctioned strength of 34 judges.

STORM, RAIN, GUSTY  
WINDS BRING RESPITE  
FROM HEAT IN PARTS OF  
DELHI-NCR

**Diary Times Desk :** Heavy rains lashed several parts of Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) on Thursday, bringing much-needed relief from the relentless heat. The downpour was preceded by strong winds and intense dust storms, which swept through the city, reducing visibility and causing a brief period of chaos on roads. Several areas across Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) were expected to experience rain accompanied by gusty winds reaching speeds of up to 60 km/h, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast said. An orange alert was issued for most parts of Delhi-NCR. An orange alert was issued for the majority of the National Capital Region, while a yellow alert was sounded for areas in the northwestern and southwestern parts of the NCR. The yellow alert covered Panipat, Bhiwani, Jhajjar, Jind, Hisar, Karnal, Nuh, Rewari, Alwar, Narnaul, and Gurugram, indicating the possibility of light rain and gusty winds in these regions. Meanwhile, an orange alert was also issued for Meerut, Muzaffarnagar, Bijnaur, Ghaziabad, Noida, Faridabad, Palwal, Hodal, Hathin, Aligarh, Bulandshahr.

'WE HAVE ENTERED YOUR HOUSE, KILLED YOU  
THRICE': PM MODI TO PAKISTAN AT BENGAL RALLY



**Diary Times Desk :** In a stern warning to Pakistan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, at a rally in Alipurduar city of West Bengal, declared that Operation Sindoor is far from over, referring that the mission will continue until its objectives are fully achieved. PM Modi said by declaring that Operation Sindoor is "not over yet", he was voicing the resolve of 140 crore Indians, underlining the national significance of the operation. Speaking of Operation Sindoor which was launched on May 7 when Indian military forces struck nine terror infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied-Kashmir (PoK), PM Modi said India destroyed cross-border terror infrastructure, "which Pakistan never thought of." The prime minister also invoked Bengal's deep cultural and emotional connection with 'sindoor' [vermillion], referring to the traditional ritual of 'Sindoor Khela' during Durga Puja. "Now that I am standing on the sacred land of 'Sindoor Khela', it is only right that we speak about a new resolve against terrorism 'Operation Sindoor.... Terrorists had dared to wipe out sindoor of our sisters.

CASTE-BASED ENUMERATION WILL BE  
A TRANSFORMATIVE STEP: VP  
JAGDEEP DHANKHAR

**Diary Times Desk :** Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday hailed the Union government's decision to conduct caste-based census and said it was a "great decision" that will "be a transformative step." "It will help bring about social justice. It will be an eye-opener. It will satisfy people's aspirations. It's a very broad decision of the government. There was a caste-based census earlier. Last time, I think it was conducted in 1931. I looked up to that census many times to know about my caste. I therefore realise the importance of caste-based enumeration," he said. Dhankhar who was addressing the probationers of the Indian Statistical Service said, contrary to the perception that a caste-census will be divisive, a thoughtfully collected caste data will be an instrument of integration. "How can information collected by itself be a source of the problem? It is like getting your body MRI. You will know about it when you stand... And this mechanism will transform.

SHASHI THAROOR BREAKS SILENCE, HITS BACK AT 'ZEALOTS' AMID CONGRESS  
CRITICISM: 'I HAVE BETTER THINGS TO DO'

**Diary Times Desk :** Shashi Tharoor of the Congress on Thursday hit back at criticism from within his party, notably from Udit Raj, over his reported statement in Panama that India breached the Line of Control (LoC) for the first time during the 2016 surgical strike on a terror base. Taking to X, Shashi Tharoor clarified he was referring only to retaliatory strikes after recent terror attacks, not previous wars. "Critics are welcome to distort my words, but I genuinely have better things to do," he wrote, citing his tight schedule. Udit Raj has been slamming Shashi Tharoor for allegedly undermining Congress' legacy and suggested he be made the "super spokesperson of the BJP." Tharoor is leading a multi-party delegation post-Operation Sindoor. "After a long and successful day in Panama, I have to wind up at midnight where with departure for Bogota, Colombia in six hours, so I don't really have time for this — but anyway: For those zealots fulminating about my supposed ignorance of Indian valour across the LoC: in the past: 1. I was clearly and explicitly speaking only about reprisals for terrorist attacks and not about previous wars; & 2.



IAF CHIEF FLAGS DELAYS: WE  
SIGN CONTRACTS DESPITE  
KNOWING IT WON'T COME ON  
TIME

**Diary Times Desk :** Highlighting the importance of speeding up the defence procurement process, Air Force Chief Amar Preet Singh urged the industry not to make promises it cannot deliver on time. Speaking at the CII Annual Business Summit 2025, the Air Force Chief admitted that "timeline is a big issue." His remarks came nearly three months after he publicly expressed displeasure over the delay in the delivery of Tejas MkIA fighter jets by Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. "So, once a timeline is given, not a single project that I can think of has been completed on time. So this is something we must look at. Why should we promise something which cannot be achieved? While signing the contract itself, sometimes we are sure that it is not going to come up, but we just sign the contract," the Air Force chief said. "In the next 10 years, the Air Force will require more input from the industry, but we also need to act today and get into quick Make in India programs.

K KAVITHA SLAMS OWN PARTY OVER  
LETTER LEAKED TO FATHER, MAY  
FLOAT NEW PARTY

**Diary Times Desk :** Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) MLC K Kavitha has launched a scathing attack on her own party leadership and insiders following the leak of a letter she had written to her father and party chief K Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). Addressing the media, Kavitha questioned the source of the leak and alleged that the BRS was being weakened from within, even as attempts were being made to merge the party with the BJP. "I wrote hundreds of letters. What's wrong in writing a letter?" Kavitha said, expressing anguish over the leak. "I want to know who leaked the letter. You're not finding the culprits of the leak but showing power on me." She reiterated, "Who leaked the letter?" Kavitha also claimed that people approached her with false information in the name of KCR. "People came to me as KCR's messengers and gave false information. I am extremely hurt," she said. On the issue of a possible BRS-BJP merger, Kavitha was unequivocal. "I feel BRS will be given to BJP. This proposal came to me when I was in jail.



**"400-PERSON INDIAN BARAAT" SHUTS DOWN WALL STREET**

**Diary Times Desk :** A grand Indian wedding procession brought a slice of desi celebration to New York's iconic Wall Street, and the internet can't get enough of it. A video of a baraat (groom's wedding procession) with nearly 400 people dancing on the streets of Lower Manhattan has gone viral on social media. Dressed in vibrant traditional Indian attire, the group was seen dancing joyously to DJ beats, temporarily transforming the heart of New York's financial district into a full-blown Indian wedding scene. "We shut down Wall Street for a 400-person baraat - who would've ever thought?!" wrote DJ AJ, who performed at the event. "A once-in-a-lifetime kind of magic," he added. The video shows the wedding party dancing with infectious energy, with the bride and groom, dressed in a red lehenga and a beige sherwani, at the centre of it all. The backdrop of skyscrapers and the New York Stock Exchange adds a surreal touch to the already extravagant scene.

**"NOT DILLI, NOT PINDI, BANGLADESH FIRST": BNP'S REGIONAL POLICY STANCE**

**Diary Times Desk :** Bangladesh's political landscape is heating up as the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) pushes back against Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus's focus on foreign policy. The BNP, led by Acting Chairperson Tarique Rahman, is emphasising the need for elections and reforms, questioning Yunus's mandate to make long-term foreign policy decisions. Tarique Rahman outlined his party's vision, prioritising Bangladesh's interests above all else. He has made it clear that Bangladesh will not seek closer ties with Rawalpindi or Delhi but put Bangladesh first. "Not Dilli, Not Pindi, Bangladesh before everything," he declared at a massive rally in the Nayapaltan area of Dhaka, urging supporters to repeat the slogan. This stance diverges from Yunus's approach, which seems to favour stronger ties with Pakistan at the expense of relations with India. The ties between India and Bangladesh were not at its best when BNP was in power, but Yunus, who came in only with a limited mandate, has indicated he wants to make decisions on foreign policy matters that have a long term impact. Yunus also wants to allow a Rohingya corridor and take decisions like handing over the Chattogram Port to foreign firms.

**AUSTRALIA'S FIRST HIJAB WEARING SENATOR ALLEGES SHE WAS URGED TO DRINK, 'DANCE ON TABLE'**

**Diary Times Desk :** A Muslim lawmaker in Australia said Wednesday that she has complained to a parliamentary watchdog after a male colleague allegedly urged her to drink wine and "dance on the table". Senator Fatima Payman -- who said she does not drink alcohol -- claimed the older colleague made a series of inappropriate remarks after he "had too many drinks" at an official function. He said: "Let's get some wine into you and see you dance on the table," Payman, 30, told national broadcaster ABC. "I told this colleague, 'Hey I'm drawing a line mate', and moved on to making a formal complaint," she said. It was not clear when the alleged incident occurred or who the colleague was. Born in Afghanistan, Payman is the first senator to wear a hijab inside Australia's parliament, according to local media.

**HARVARD GETS 30-DAY REPRIEVE FROM TRUMP IN ROW OVER FOREIGN STUDENTS: REPORT**

**Diary Times Desk :** Harvard University had said that if its ability to enroll international students is revoked, it would impact about a quarter of its student body. On Thursday, a federal judge will consider whether to further block US President Donald Trump's administration from revoking the same. US District Judge Allison Burroughs will consider whether to extend the temporary order she issued on Friday that blocked the US Department of Homeland Security to carry out the revocation it issued earlier. Trump had said in the Oval Office on Wednesday that the Ivy League University should have a 15 per cent cap on the number of non-U.S. students it admits. "Harvard has got to behave themselves," he said. The Trump administration had accused Harvard of fostering antisemitism and violence on campus, and coordinating with the Chinese Communist Party. However, the University's lawyers said that the attack was part of an "unprecedented and retaliatory attack on academic freedom at Harvard".

**ISRAEL APPROVES NEW SETTLEMENTS TO OBSTRUCT PALESTINIAN STATE**

**Diary Times Desk :** Israel will build 22 new settlements in the West Bank including some along its eastern border with Jordan to strengthen its grip on the territory and block the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The plan, which has been approved by the security cabinet, comes as Israel is facing mounting pressure from European allies to end its 19-month war in Gaza, which has destroyed large parts of the coastal enclave, killed tens of thousands and sparked a hunger crisis. The expansion of settlements is a violation of international law, according to the United Nations Human Rights Office. The move could harden attitudes against Israel ahead of a UN summit co-chaired by France and Saudi Arabia in New York next month that aims to rally support for a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Homesh and Sa-Nur settlements in the northern West Bank, which were evacuated two decades ago when Israel disengaged from part of the territory and the Gaza Strip, will be reconstructed.

**PAK ARMY HAS A BIG WAR TO FIGHT AS IMRAN KHAN BLOWS BUGLE**

**Diary Times Desk :** While the Pakistani army is reeling from India's Operation Sindoor, it would now find itself entangled in a bigger crisis at home. Former Prime Minister and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) chief, Imran Khan, has called for a nationwide agitation, which will not be restricted to Islamabad. The proposed mass agitation follows several protests by PTI supporters seeking the release of Imran Khan, who has been in jail since August 2023. The message, conveyed by Khan's sister Aleema Khan, made it clear. "Start preparing for a mass movement; I will not call people to Islamabad, but we will launch the movement across Pakistan", Pakistan Daily, The Express Tribune, quoted her as saying. In a post on X, PTI Senator Ali Zafar, who went to meet Imran Khan on Monday, also shared that his party was planning a nationwide movement. "Some very important matters were discussed. Amongst them was a countrywide movement for which the party should prepare and be well-organised," the senator wrote. The fight is more against the military establishment headed by Field Marshal Asim Munir than against the civilian government of PM Shehbaz Sharif, which has been propped up by the Rawalpindi deep state.

**KILAUEA VOLCANO SPEWS 'LAVA FOUNTAIN' 1,000 FEET ABOVE HAWAII**

**Diary Times Desk :** One of the world's most active volcanoes spewed columns of lava exceeding 1,000 feet above Hawaii, according to US volcanologists and spectacular footage released Sunday. Activity at the summit of Kilauea volcano on Hawaii's Big Island has been intermittent since an eruption on December 23, 2024. On Sunday, footage showed jets of lava spraying into the air, forming neon-orange fissures as it flowed within Kilauea's caldera. The USGS Hawaiian Volcano Observatory said the eruption began at 4:15 pm Sunday Hawaii Standard Time (0215 GMT Monday) in the north vent of Halema'uma'u, a pit crater of Kilauea. An hour later, the south vent started agitating, spewing lava fountains of about 230 feet "while lava fountains from the north vent are exceeding 1,000 feet (300 meters) in height," the agency said. "Lava flows are covering the floor of Halema'uma'u crater." Sunday's activity was the 23rd since the December eruption, the agency said, adding that the lava fountains "have continued for around a day or less." Primary hazards include high levels of volcanic gas, which could react with the atmosphere downwind.



## PUNJAB COMPLIES WITH MHA ORDERS TO CONDUCT MOCK DRILL UNDER 'OPERATION SHIELD'

**Diary Times Desk** : Punjab will conduct a mock drill under 'Operation Shield' in the state's border districts. Punjab Home Guards and Commandant General, Special DGP Sanjeev Kalra, have issued the orders. According to the orders, the mock drill is being conducted on the directives of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Earlier, Punjab had not followed the MHA's orders to conduct a mock drill on May 29, citing training issues with the civil defence staff. However, the state government has now agreed to comply with the MHA's orders and conduct the drill. The exercise will include safety measures during a simulated air raid.



## PUNJAB LOCAL GOVERNMENT MINISTER PAYS SURPRISE VISIT TO ZIRAKPUR'S BALTANA, INSPECTS SUKHNA CHOE

**Diary Times Desk** : Punjab Local Government Minister Ravjot Singh paid a surprise visit to Baltana in Zirakpur on Thursday morning and heard the problems being faced by locals. The minister inspected the Baltana bridge over the Sukhna choe and took stock of the situation. Garbage, cow dung, and plastic and furniture waste is being dumped into the choe, which leads to clogging and subsequent flooding of the nearby areas in the monsoon season. Baltana resident Swaranjit Kaur said, "Every year this area gets flooded in monsoon. The police post, nearby MC park and crematorium are flooded as the flow of the rivulet is obstructed by debris and waste material. Due to this, locals face problems."

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## FAMILY OF PUNJAB'S NAWANSHAHR MAN IN AGONY AS HE IS HELD HOSTAGE IN IRAN

**Diary Times Desk** : Jaspal Singh, a 32-year-old from Langroya village in Nawanshahr, is one of the three youths who were allegedly kidnapped in Iran. Jaspal wanted to go abroad for a better future and had approached a travel agent in Hoshiarpur who promised to send him to Australia. With great difficulty, the family arranged Rs 18 lakh and gave it to the agent. Jaspal has two kids, one aged 3 years and the younger one just 3 months old. Ashok Kumar, Jaspal's elder brother, said that Jaspal first landed in Dubai and was made to stay there in a room for a month. "After that, he was taken to Iran, and the moment he landed there, he was kidnapped," he said. At 2 am on the intervening night of May 1 and 2, a call from Jaspal turned the lives of the family members upside down. "On May 1 at 2 am, we got a call from Jaspal. He asked us all to remain awake and then he cut the call. We were terrified. At 3 am, we got another call, where he told us that he, along with others, had been kidnapped and that if we wanted his safety, we would have to pay Rs 18 lakh more," Ashok Kumar added.

## PENDENCY DECLINES AS PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT BATTLES SHORTAGE OF JUDGES

**Diary Times Desk** : Even as the Punjab and Haryana High Court continues to grapple with a gaping judicial deficit—51 judges against a sanctioned strength of 85—it has managed a consistent month-on-month decline in pendency by an average of 365 cases, following a concerted push to cut delays and restore public faith in the system. From a backlog of 4,32,227 cases in January this year, the total pendency has dipped to 4,30,412—marking a steady, determined effort to clear the decades-old burden of cases. Second appeals—often bogged down by voluminous records—have fallen from 48,386 to 47,633. Civil matters, long known for procedural complexity, have come down from 2,68,279 to 2,62,054. The proportion of civil and criminal cases pending for over a year has dipped from nearly 85 per cent in January to 79.74 per cent. The National Judicial Data Grid reinforces this downward trend. Cases pending for one to three years have reduced from 76,433 (18 per cent) to 69,644 (16 per cent). Matters pending for three to five years have dropped from 34,653 (8 per cent) to 31,975 (7 per cent). Those pending for five to 10 years have declined from 1,29,122 (30 per cent) to 1,21,712 (28 per cent). The count of cases languishing for over a decade has shrunk from 1,26,854 (29 per cent) to 1,19,885 (28 per cent). This progress, though incremental, stands out in a system weighed down by a near-40 per cent shortage of judges.

## CM SAINI MAKES SURPRISE STOP AT FAFDANA, JALMANA VILLAGES; INTERACTS WITH LOCALS

**Diary Times Desk** : Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini won praise from villagers on Wednesday with an unexpected display of humility during his return from the state-level Maharana Pratap Jayanti celebration in Salwan village, Assandh. On his way back, CM Saini made a surprise stop at Fafdana and Jalmana villages, much to the delight of the local residents. The villagers were thrilled to see the CM among them. Some even praised his simplicity. At Fafdana, the CM got down from his vehicle near a group of villagers sitting under a tree and engaged in a friendly conversation. He inquired about their wellbeing and discussed local development issues. Later, as the convoy passed through Jalmana village, he stopped near the main bus stand to interact with shopkeepers and residents. CM Saini mixed with the villagers, without any formality. Children and youth enthusiastically took selfies with him. Locals expressed appreciation for the CM's approachable and down-to-earth conduct. "It is rare to see a CM stop by casually and talk to us like this. His simplicity reflects his true connection with the people," said a shopkeeper in Jalmana.

## 'DRUGS EASILY AVAILABLE IN OUR VILLAGE,' RUES BROTHER OF 26-YEAR-OLD WHO DIED OF OVERDOSE IN SIRSA

**Diary Times Desk** : A 26-year-old man, Arshdeep, died of drug overdose at Abubshahar village in Dabwali on Tuesday afternoon. His body was found near a water treatment plant with a syringe, pointing to his death due to drug overdose. His family said Arshdeep had been struggling with drug addiction for the past three years. According to his elder brother, Gurlabh Singh, Arshdeep had recently returned from Bikaner, Rajasthan, where he was working as a labourer. The family believed he had quit drugs and was undergoing treatment in Dabwali. Doctors were regularly updating the family on his health. He said despite receiving marriage proposals, Arshdeep and the family would turn those down due to his addiction. "We didn't want to ruin any girl's life," Gurlabh said. He said intoxicant pills and drugs were easily available in their village and many people were openly selling them. Notably, this is the third drug-related death in Abubshahar village within just 16 days. Arshdeep reportedly used to dissolve pills and inject the solution. Reacting to the situation, Sirsa MP Kumari Selja criticised the Haryana Government.



**HIMACHAL YOUTH ARRESTED  
AFTER 'SENSITIVE' CONTENT  
RELATED TO COUNTRY'S  
SECURITY FOUND IN HIS  
PHONE**

**Diary Times Desk :** An 18-year-old youth was arrested on Thursday after sensitive content which could endanger the sovereignty, unity and integrity of the country was allegedly found in The accused has been identified as Abhishek, a resident of Sukahar in Himachal Pradesh's Kangra district. Abhishek, reportedly a college dropout, has been booked under the Section 152 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), a statement issued by the Police Headquarters here said. The police team had been monitoring the suspect closely for several days, collecting intelligence and keeping him under surveillance, and on Thursday a special team led by Sub-Divisional Police Officer (SDPO) Dadaseeba raided the residence of the accused and took him in custody, police said.

**BJP PLAYING POLITICS OVER  
NEGI'S DEATH CASE:  
HIMACHAL MINISTER  
VIKRAMADITYA SINGH**

**Diary Times Desk :** Public Works Department (PWD) Minister Vikramaditya Singh today accused the BJP of politicising the Vimal Negi death case. He said that there's was no point in the BJP giving a memorandum pertaining to Vimal Negi's death case to Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla when the case had already been handed over to the CBI. He said that the government would complete its full term and the conspiracies of the BJP would not make any difference. "The BJP is involved in witch-hunting merely for some political gains," he added. The minister said that the Opposition should refrain from doing politics over Negi's death. "There are some issues where one should rise above party politics and work towards ensuring justice," he added. The minister, while addressing mediapersons, said that the state government was committed to providing justice to Negi's family and would cooperate with the CBI at all levels. "The government accepts the High Court's decision to hand over the case to the CBI. The government will cooperate with the agency wherever it will require assistance," he added. He said that the government would not tolerate indiscipline. "The Chief Minister is very clear on this and has taken action against the erring officers.

**HIMACHAL NEWS: EXCISION EXERCISE DELAYED, MOD CONVENES MEETING  
TOMORROW**

**Diary Times Desk :** Failure to finalise the excising exercise in the five cantonment towns of Himachal has delayed exclusion of civilian areas from these towns. While the Ministry of Defence will convene a key meeting on May 30 in Delhi to invite public objections and suggestions for 10 cantonments across the nation after issuance of its draft notification, in Himachal the exercise has been inordinately delayed. These 10 towns comprise Fatehgarh, Clement Town, Shahjahanpur, Mathura, Ramgarh, Dehradun, Deolali, Nasirabad, Babina and Ajmer where the draft notification was issued in March 2024 after completion of the process, as per the notifications accessed by The Tribune. The excising exercise is underway in the six cantonment towns of Subathu, Dagshai and Kasauli (Solan); Bakloh and Dalhousie (Chamba); and Jutogh (Shimla) of the state. Civilians residing in the cantonments of Himachal will have to wait for some more time before their area is excluded from the cantonment towns as the state government has refused to bear the annual liabilities amounting to Rs 30 crore for inheriting the liabilities including staff and upkeep of civic amenities in these towns.

**WILLING TO SHARE WATER IF DELHI,  
HARYANA PAY BBMB ARREARS:  
HIMACHAL CM SUKHU**

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal is willing to supply water to New Delhi and Haryana but these neighbouring states should first settle the pending dues of the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) that have remained unpaid for 14 years. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu said this while addressing a public gathering at Dehuri village in Banjar subdivision of Kullu district as part of the Sarkar Gaon ke Dwar initiative. He said, "During my recent trip to New Delhi, I made it clear that the neighbouring states must file an affidavit in the Supreme Court, agreeing to pay the arrears before we move forward on the Kishau dam project. I consider the state my family and I will not compromise with the interests of Himachal Pradesh." He inaugurated and laid the foundation stones of 19 development projects worth Rs 78.47 crore in the Banjar Assembly constituency. Besides, he launched the Indira Gandhi Pyari Behna Sukh Samman Nidhi Yojana, which would benefit 2,238 eligible women in Banjar development block. Under the scheme, Rs 4,500 per beneficiary (amounting to Rs 1 crore) was transferred to their saving bank accounts. Further, a financial assistance of Rs 5.87 lakh was disbursed to 37 beneficiaries under various government welfare programmes. The Chief Minister had a halt at Sarchi village.

**HIMACHAL AMBULANCE WORKERS'  
STRIKE BRINGS EMERGENCY SERVICES  
TO A STANDSTILL**

**Diary Times Desk :** Ambulance workers under the Himachal Pradesh 108 and 102 Ambulance Employees' Union, affiliated to Centre of Indian Trade Union (CITU), held a protest rally in Chamba on Wednesday as part of their ongoing agitation against poor working conditions and lack of fair compensation. The protest follows a breakdown in talks with the National Health Mission (NHM), prompting the union to declare a 24-hour strike starting 8 PM Tuesday. Emergency medical services across the state came to a standstill as workers, drivers and emergency medical technicians (EMTs), abstaining from work. During the protest at Chamba, employees voiced their frustration over continued exploitation under Medswan Foundation, the agency currently operating the service. Addressing the protesters, CITU district secretary Sudesh Thakur said ambulance personnel working under Medswan Foundation — the agency managing operations under NHM — face chronic exploitation. Employees, she said, are routinely assigned 12-hour shifts without receiving overtime pay and are not even compensated with the government-mandated minimum wages. In addition, key statutory benefits such as Employees' Provident Fund (EPF).

**937 TRAINED GRADUATE TEACHERS TO BE RECRUITED IN HIMACHAL: MINISTER**

**Diary Times Desk :** Education Minister Rohit Thakur today said that the government would shortly fill 937 posts of Trained Graduate Teacher (TGT) through the Rajya Chayan Aayog. The Aayog had advertised the posts, seeking application from eligible candidates. The minister added that over 1,800 JBT posts would also be filled through the Aayog shortly. Applications have been sought for 425 TGTs in arts, 343 in non-medical and 169 in the medical stream. The selected candidates will be appointed as trainees, with a pay scale Rs 22,860 per month. The recruitment will help the Education Department fill vacancies in the remote areas of Shimla, Sirmaur, Kullu and Chamba, where many schools do not have teachers. There are many schools where medical and non-medical TGTs are not available. In the Class XII results announced by the Himachal Pradesh Board of School Education, all 21 students of a school in Sirmaur district failed, as there was no maths and science teachers for more than two years. Besides fresh recruitments, the department is trying to provide teachers in every school through rationalisation of postings as well. There are teachers in many schools in urban areas and the department has been trying to deploy them in schools where there's a shortage of teachers.



**BOWLERS, SALT SHINE AS RCB MARCH INTO FIRST IPL FINAL SINCE 2016**

**Diary Times Desk :** Royal Challengers Bengaluru 106 for 2 (Salt 56\*, Mayank 19, Jamieson 1-27) beat Punjab Kings 101 (Stoinis 26, Suyash 3-17, Hazlewood 3-21, Dayal 2-26) by eight wickets. Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) waltzed their way into their first IPL final since 2016 as they blew Punjab Kings (PBKS) away for 101 on a surface with seam and extra bounce. Batting didn't get any easier in the second innings, but Phil Salt broke the back of the small chase in the powerplay that went for 61 despite a wicket- maiden in it. The RCB fast bowlers kept bashing the hard lengths as PBKS refused to dial down the aggression on the challenging surface, taking seven wickets between them. The legspinner Suyash Sharma was the beneficiary of some reckless sweeping; the PBKS batters didn't pick any of the wrong'uns, losing three wickets to him. The ball bounced and moved more in the second innings than the first, just the time for Salt to unleash his quickest fifty in the IPL - off just 23 balls - to take RCB home with a whole ten overs to spare. Even before the nature of the pitch made itself apparent to the outside eye, Priyansh Arya failed to keep a drive down. It wasn't as much failing to keep it down but not even going up and over. Prabhsimran Singh, the other part of the dynamic opening partnership, charged Bhuvneshwar Kumar twice and hit two fours. At the third time of asking, Bhuvneshwar shortened the length.

**EASWARAN, JAISWAL AND NITISH REDDY IN FOCUS AS INDIA A FACES ENGLAND LIONS IN UNOFFICIAL TEST**

**Diary Times Desk :** A clutch of frontline Test players, including opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and all-rounder Nitish Reddy, will look to acclimatise to English conditions as India A takes on the England Lions in a four-day unofficial Test starting Friday. Alongside Jaiswal and Nitish, the squad features Abhimanyu Easwaran, Dhruv Jurel, Karun Nair, and pacers Akash Deep and Shardul Thakur. All, except Karun, are touring England for the first time, making this match vital to adapt to the pronounced swing conditions before the official Test series kicks off on June 20. Rohit Sharma's retirement leaves India's opening position up for grabs. Easwaran, with over 100 First-Class matches under his belt, aims to stake a claim either as an opener or at No. 3. His technique and experience will be closely watched. Should selectors decide to open with K.L. Rahul, Easwaran could slot in at No. 3, pushing skipper Shubman Gill to No. 4. Karun, who forced his way back into the team after a strong domestic run and county experience with Northamptonshire, will also be under scrutiny for a middle-order role. Nitish impressed in the recent Australia Tests, scoring 298 runs at 37, and will want to maintain his edge with both bat and ball amid competition.

**IPL ELIMINATOR: SHUBMAN GILL'S FUMBLING GUJARAT TITANS UP AGAINST MIGHT OF MUMBAI INDIANS**

**Diary Times Desk :** Among the title favourites but battling a loss of momentum, Shubman Gill's Gujarat Titans will be up against the mighty Mumbai Indians, who also have issues to be addressed, in the winner-takes-all IPL Eliminator here on Friday. It is a knock-out game but both sides are used to the stage with Mumbai Indians being the five-time champions. Titans have made the play-offs thrice in the last four seasons, including the trophy-winning run on their debut in 2022. However, both Shubman Gill and Hardik Pandya, have a point to prove. Gill, the newly appointed India Test captain, would build up his leadership credentials immensely if Titans go all the way. Hardik has got the love of the fans back after being booed on his return to the team last year and an IPL trophy will cement his place in the list of the fabled greats of the franchise. But in their pursuit of glory, both leaders must find a way to address the issues at hand. Titans have more to be worried about as they have lost momentum going into the play-offs. Having conceded 465 runs in their last two defeats, they need to up their game with the ball. Mohammed Siraj, the de facto leader of the pace battery, will need to provide breakthroughs in the powerplay.

**RAVINDRA JADEJA FINALLY LETS IT ALL OUT ON 'DIFFICULT' CSK CAPTAINCY FIASCO: 'ALL THE BLAME ALWAYS...'**

**Diary Times Desk :** In 2022, Chennai Super Kings took their first big step towards transition when MS Dhoni shockingly stepped down as captain on the eve of their season opener to hand over the reins to Ravindra Jadeja. However, the hopes came crashing down within a month as Chennai managed just two wins in the first eight matches, amid a significant dip in Jadeja's form. Midway through the season, Jadeja stepped down, handing the duties back to Dhoni, which eventually sparked a major fiasco, with reports hinting at a rift between the two senior players. For the first time since the incident, Jadeja opened up on the "difficult" stint as a captain of Chennai, admitting that he could have done things differently. "It was difficult. In T20 cricket, every ball is an event. It is a fast game but for me it was an experience. I could have done better. As a captain, if you are team is not doing well then all the blame always falls on the captaincy. Thinking, bowling changes, fielding chances. Unfortunately, the team was not doing well. If we were winning and everyone was contributing, then it was not rocket science," Jadeja said in conversation with Chennai teammate Ravichandran Ashwin on the 'Kutti Stories With Ash' YouTube show.

**ASHWIN: PANT SHOULD NOT HAVE WITHDRAWN RATHI'S APPEAL**

**Diary Times Desk :** R Ashwin was not impressed with Rishabh Pant's decision to withdraw Digvesh Rathi's appeal for running out Jitesh Sharma at the non-striker's end during Lucknow Super Giants' (LSG) final league game against Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB). "Digvesh Rathi is not my relative. He is not my friend. I don't know who he is. But I am saying... You will scar a bowler so much that it will really affect him," Ashwin said on his YouTube channel. "But because nobody really cares about a bowler, so in front of crores of people, should we withdraw his appeal and insult him?" The incident occurred in the 17th over of RCB's chase when Rathi took off the bails after observing that Jitesh had left the crease at the non-striker's end. The replays showed that the batter was outside his crease, but the TV umpire deemed that Rathi had completed his delivery stride before effecting the run-out. While it all unfolded, Pant withdrew the appeal and received a hug from Jitesh. RCB went on to win the game by six wickets.

**'I MADE IT PRETTY CLEAR. I WANTED FULL AUTONOMY': PONTING'S NON-NEGOTIABLE DEMAND AFTER LEAVING DELHI CAPITALS**

**Diary Times Desk :** Ricky Ponting's impact on Punjab Kings has been nothing short of transformative. Taking charge of a team long associated with underachievement, the Australian legend has revealed that he demanded complete autonomy before accepting the job, and the results speak for themselves. Under Ponting's watch, Punjab ended their decade-long play-off drought, thanks in large part to a daring auction strategy that favoured uncapped potential over marquee names. By retaining only Prabhsimran Singh and Shashank Singh, Ponting built a squad tailored to his philosophy of "playing differently," unlocking the kind of fearless cricket he's long envisioned. Ponting was earlier the head coach of Delhi Capitals for seven years, and while the side did reach the final in the 2021 edition, the Aussie failed to end the side's title drought. During an interview with PTI, Ponting spoke about his time at DC and his switch to the Kings, stating that 'full autonomy' was among the first things that he demanded when he accepted the role with the Punjab franchise. "I'm not sure if I had a point to prove. With the good squads that I had in DC, it was pretty evident to see where we made it with good players in that squad."