

COVID 19 CASE

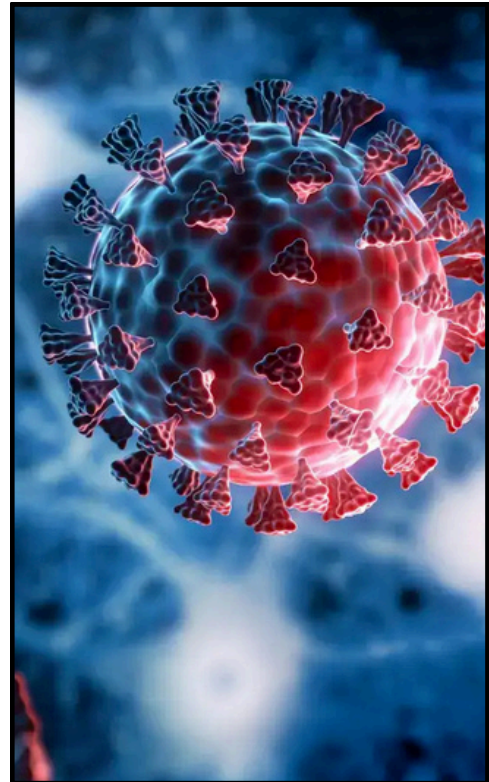
COVID CASE TALLY HITS 3,758 IN SIGNIFICANT SURGE; 2 DEATHS RECORDED IN KERALA, KARNATAKA

Diary Times Desk : Covid-19 active cases in India have risen to over 3,700—marking the first significant surge in months—with more than 360 new infections reported in the past 24 hours, as per Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) data on Sunday, June 1.

As of Sunday, Kerala, Maharashtra, and Delhi have logged the most Covid-19 active cases at 1400, 485 and 436 respectively. Meanwhile, the country also recorded two Covid-19-related death in the 24-hour period, MoHFW data on Sunday showed.

Covid-19 active cases in India: The country currently has a total of 3,758 active cases of Covid-19, with 363 fresh infections reported between Saturday and Sunday -- May 31 and June 1.

Most cases in these states: Kerala tops the Covid tally chart with 1,400 active cases, followed by Maharashtra (485 cases) and Delhi (436 cases). Kerala, Maharashtra and Delhi logged 64, 18 and 61 fresh cases, respectively, in the last 24 hours, as per MoHFW data. **Covid deaths in India:** India also reported two Covid-19-related deaths -- one each in Kerala and Karnataka -- in the 24-hour period, MoHFW figures on Sunday showed. In Karnataka, a 63-year-old man with Pulmonary TB, Squamous Cell Carcinoma of buccal mucosa and incidental Covid positive status died, while in Kerala, a 24-year-old woman with Covid-19 and Sepsis Hypertension, DCLD.



KHARGE SAID

PM MODI SHOULD STEP BACK FROM CAMPAIGNING, FOCUS ON ENEMY: KHARGE



Diary Times Desk : Commenting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's public speeches after Operation Sindoor, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday urged him to "focus on the enemy instead of self-boasting" and to recuse himself from election campaigning.

"I don't like reacting to all his (Modi's) statements," Kharge said while addressing reporters in Bengaluru. "But my only request to him is that those in power should sometimes keep their mouth shut."

Kharge questioned the Prime Minister's recent public statements and political activities, suggesting that Modi should temporarily step back from electoral campaigning. "Modi should recuse himself from elections and focus on the country. He should understand whatever has happened in the country and speak," he remarked.

"I am saying without any political differences that he (Modi) should focus on the enemy instead of self-boasting that no one except him would have done it. Our full support is with the Armed Forces," he said.

Referring to ongoing developments linked to Operation Sindoor, Kharge noted that multi-party delegations are visiting several countries to explain India's position. "Let them come back. Till they return, it is not proper to be touring around and giving speeches," he said. The opposition leader in the Rajya Sabha reiterated the Congress party's unwavering support to the armed forces. The Congress chief also took a swipe at the Prime Minister's earlier assertion that the military had been given a free hand.

DIVORCED WIFE ENTITLED TO MAINTENANCE TO SECURE
FUTURE, IF LIVING INDEPENDENTLY SANS REMARRIAGE

Diary Times Desk : A divorced wife is entitled to a level of maintenance that reflects the standard of living she enjoyed during the marriage and which reasonably secures her future, if she is living independently without getting remarried, the Supreme Court has ruled. The ruling came from a Bench of Justice Vikram Nath and Justice Sandeep Mehta which enhanced the monthly maintenance of a divorced woman from West Bengal from Rs 20,000 to Rs 50,000. "In our considered opinion, a sum of Rs 50,000 per month would be just, fair and reasonable to ensure financial stability for the appellant-wife. This amount shall be subject to an enhancement of 5% every two years," the Bench said in its May 29 order. "As regards the son, now aged 26, we are not inclined to direct any further mandatory financial support. However, it is open to the respondent-husband to voluntarily assist him with educational or other reasonable expenses," it said, allowing the wife's appeal. The Bench, however, clarified that "the son's right to inheritance remains unaffected, and any claim to ancestral or other property may be pursued in accordance with law".



MAMATA OPPOSING OPERATION SINDOOR TO APPEASE
MINORITIES, MURSHIDABAD RIOTS WERE STATE-
SPONSORED: AMIT SHAH



Diary Times Desk : Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday launched a blistering attack on West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, accusing her of "stooping low" by opposing Operation Sindoor and the Waqf Amendment Act to appease the Muslim vote bank, and alleging that the Murshidabad riots were "state-sponsored". Addressing party leaders and workers here, Shah gave a call to uproot the TMC government from power in next year's Assembly polls, asserting that the tenure of Banerjee as the CM will end in 2026. "To appease the Muslim vote bank, Mamata didi opposed Operation Sindoor. By doing so, she is insulting the mothers and sisters of this country. I have come to appeal to women of Bengal to explain the value of sindoor to those who are against Operation Sindoor, in the upcoming (Assembly) elections," he said. Banerjee had recently accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP of trying to exploit Operation Sindoor for political gains. "In the 2026 (Assembly polls), the mothers and sisters of the state would teach the CM and the Trinamool Congress a lesson for opposing Operation Sindoor," Shah asserted.

CSIR DEVELOPS NON-DESTRUCTIVE TECHNIQUE TO
DETECT DAMAGE IN AIRCRAFT

Diary Times Desk : The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) has developed a non-destructive evaluation (NDE) framework to detect damage in aircraft components by using ultrasonic guided waves, offering a faster and more cost-effective method over conventional techniques. This will improve aircraft safety and maintenance through reliable damage detection and will benefit not only the civil aviation sector but also be useful for the armed forces in their day-to-day functioning as well as assessments for life extension programmes. Researchers at CSIR's National Aerospace Laboratory (NAL) demonstrated the use of low-frequency guided wave-based damage detection in aircraft structures. They found that significant wavefield interruptions indicated damage presence in a component while pristine structures showed smooth wave patterns. Amplified wave mode responses confirmed damage detection accuracy and effective localisation of multiple affected zones validated the robustness of the detection framework.



3,802 PEOPLE AFFECTED, 883 HOUSES
DAMAGED AS HEAVY RAIN BATTERS
MANIPUR

Diary Times Desk : Heavy rain wreaked havoc in Manipur with 3,802 people affected and 883 houses damaged due to floods and landslides across the state in the last 48 hours, officials said on Sunday. Several localities of the state's capital Imphal and many parts of Imphal East district have been inundated after a swollen river breached embankments and overflowed in Khurai, Heingang and Checkon areas, they said. Manipur Governor Ajay Kumar Bhalla visited several inundated areas of Imphal town even as the army and Assam Rifles personnel rescued nearly 800 people from submerged localities in Imphal East, the worst-affected district, they said. Bhalla, accompanied by Chief Secretary PK Singh and other senior officials, visited Kangla Nongpok Thong, Lairikyengbam Leikai, and Singjamei Bridge in Imphal and assessed the overall situation, a Raj Bhavan statement said. "At least 3802 people have been affected and 883 houses damaged in the last 48 hours.

YOUR HOROSCOPE
02-06-2025

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: OVERLOADED PICKUP COLLIDED WITH THE RAILING OF THE BRIDGE IN MANDI, HIMACHAL, FIVE KILLED, DRIVER INJURED

Diary Times Desk : Five people died on the spot and one was injured in a road accident at Kammat near IIT Mandi. Three of the deceased have been identified while the police is trying to trace two others. The deceased have been identified as Sukhwinder Singh son of Harvansh Singh resident of Ludhiana, Umesh Kumar son of Raja Ram GT Road Pratap Nagar Amritsar and Sagar son of Surendra Kumar resident of village and post office Ferozepur district Amritsar. The driver Gurjeet Singh son of Jagtar Singh village Malia district Tarn Taran is injured in the accident. The accident took place at 8:45 am on Kammat bridge. The above mentioned people were coming to Kammat ITI Mandi from Amritsar, Punjab with tent material. They were called by a local contractor for a program. All of them left with the goods in a pickup vehicle on Sunday evening and stayed in Sundar Nagar at night. They left with the goods at seven in the morning. Four people were sitting on top of the pickup while one person was sitting with the driver. After descending at Kammat, the driver lost control of the vehicle and the pickup collided with the railing of the bridge.



HIMACHAL: CHARGES ON BUYING GOODS IN GLASS, PLASTIC AND ALUMINIUM PACKING, MONEY WILL BE REFUNDED ON RETURNING THE BOXES

Diary Times Desk : Now, in the state, additional charges will be levied on purchasing goods in glass, plastic, aluminum packing. Initially, this scheme will be implemented on a pilot basis in some tourist places. If the scheme is successful, it can be implemented in the entire state. This work will be handed over to a private company. All such material will have a QR code. This will be used to keep track of it. This fee will be refunded on returning empty bottles, containers and boxes. This decision has been taken to dispose of the waste lying in the open or in forest areas in the form of glass, plastic, aluminum etc. In the cabinet meeting held at Himachal Pradesh Secretariat on Saturday, it was also decided to launch the Deposit Refund Scheme-2025 for effective management of biodegradable waste and to reduce it. Industry Minister Harsh Vardhan Chauhan said that under this scheme, a refundable deposit can be paid in addition to the price of the consumer product, which will be returned on returning the empty product. The scheme will be applicable to a wide range of glass bottles, plastic beverage containers, aluminum cans, liquid packaging, flexible plastic packaging and multilayer packaging.

HIMACHAL NEWS: DOUBT REMAINS OVER RELAXATION IN MAXIMUM AGE LIMIT IN NEW RECRUITMENTS, PROPOSAL HAS BEEN SENT TO THE STATE GOVERNMENT

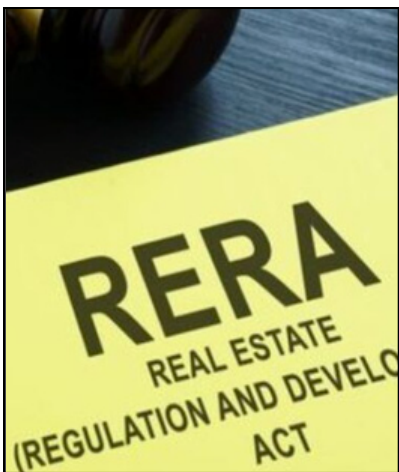
Diary Times Desk : In the TGT recruitment released by Himachal Pradesh State Selection Commission Hamirpur, two years relaxation in the maximum age limit has not been given yet. Due to the paper leak case, recruitments could not be conducted through the commission for the last two and a half years, in such a situation, the State Selection Commission had sent a proposal to the state government for two years relaxation in the maximum age limit to the candidates in the new recruitments. No decision has been taken on this proposal yet. In such a situation, there is doubt about the relaxation in the maximum age limit in the recruitment of TGT. The commission argues that the proposal has been sent to the government again on this subject. Amendments can be made regarding relaxation in the age limit after getting permission from the government. Actually, the paper leak case came to light in December 2022. After this matter came to light, the Staff Selection Commission has been dissolved. Dozens of recruitment examinations have come under the purview of vigilance.

HIMACHAL NEWS: CHIEF MINISTER SUKHU SAID- FODDER SUBSIDY FOR ANIMALS IN GAUSHALAS INCREASED FROM RS 700 TO RS 1,200

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that for the purpose of care and welfare of the destitute cows in the state, the state government has decided to increase the monthly fodder subsidy for the animals kept in the Gaushalas from Rs 700 to Rs 1,200 per animal. This decision reflects the government's commitment towards livestock welfare and the interests of farmers. He said that the increased subsidy will prove to be beneficial in ensuring better care of the destitute cows. This decision will prevent the damage caused to the crops of the farmers by stray animals roaming in the fields. Sukhu said that the state government has taken several steps to ensure livestock welfare. Financial assistance is also being given to local people and institutions for the establishment and expansion of Gaushalas. For the establishment of new Gaushalas, the government is providing Rs 10 lakh or 50 percent of the project cost as grant to the people. Similarly, a grant of Rs 5 lakh or 50 percent of the project cost is also given for the expansion of the Gaushala. He said that to strengthen these efforts, the state government has increased the excise duty on liquor to Rs 2.50 per bottle and the additional revenue from this is being used for cow service. The present government is working actively considering the safety of livestock and the interests of farmers as paramount.

HIMACHAL: REAL ESTATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY OFFICE WILL BE SHIFTED TO DHARAMSHALA, APPROVAL GIVEN IN CABINET MEETING

Diary Times Desk : The Sukhu government of the state has given another gift to Kangra, the largest administrative district of Himachal Pradesh, in the form of RERA office. After the announcement of the Chief Minister, the State Cabinet meeting on Saturday also approved the transfer of Real Estate Regulatory Authority (RERA) office from Shimla to Dharamshala. Earlier last month, the state government had approved the shifting of the Directorate of Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation and Himachal Pradesh Wildlife Department to Dharamshala in the State Cabinet meeting. A notification has also been issued by the government regarding shifting the State Wildlife Department to Dharamshala. It is being shifted to the KFW office building located in Dharamshala. Now, with the shifting of three offices from Shimla to Dharamshala, the employees of lower Himachal will get its benefit. At the same time, the business of the people will also increase at the local level. Because the employees and their families have to buy daily items including ration, clothes.



HIMACHAL NEWS: HIMACHAL PRADESH HIGH COURT ORDER- CHT PROMOTED BEFORE 2012 WILL GET THE BENEFIT OF PROMOTIONAL INCREMENT

Diary Times Desk : CHTs promoted before 1 December 2012 will get the benefit of promotional increment for the post of Head Teacher. The court of Justice Jyotsna Rewal Dua of Himachal Pradesh High Court passed this order. The court said that there cannot be two types of criteria for the cadre of the same category. The court has maintained the promotion increment of head teachers. The court has ordered the government to give all the financial benefits within six weeks, which have been given to the employees promoted after this date. Even if they have got any other promotion later or they have chosen any option of pay fixation. The court refuted the government's argument and said that the state cannot refuse to give promotion.

SHEIKH HASINA'S BIG TRIAL
BEGINS, CHARGED WITH
CRIMES AGAINST HUMANITY

Diary Times Desk : Bangladeshi prosecutors officially charged former prime minister Sheikh Hasina and two senior officials with crimes against humanity for their alleged roles in violent crackdowns during the 2024 student-led uprising. An investigation report found that Hasina "directly ordered" state security forces, her political party and affiliated groups to conduct operations resulting in mass casualties. "These killings were planned," Chief Prosecutor Tajul Islam said in a televised hearing on Sunday, citing video evidence and encrypted communications between different agencies. The case listed 81 people as witnesses, Islam said. Prosecutors also alleged that Hasina, as head of government, bears command responsibility for security force operations during the unrest. Hasina resigned as prime minister in August after ruling for 15 years and fled Bangladesh for New Delhi under pressure from millions of protesters who had taken to the streets for weeks to demand she step down. She and some of her family members also face allegations of corruption.

SCOLDING DOES NOT
AMOUNT TO PROVOKING
SOMEONE TO TAKE OWN
LIFE: SC

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court has discharged a man who was accused of driving a student to suicide by scolding him. The accused, in charge of a school and a hostel, had scolded the deceased following a complaint by another student. After the incident, the student hanged himself in a room. A bench of Justices Ahsanuddin Amanullah and Prashant Kumar Mishra stated that no ordinary person could have imagined that a scolding would result in such a tragedy. The top court set aside an order of the Madras High Court, which had refused to discharge the teacher for the offence of abetment to suicide under Section 306 of the Indian Penal Code. "Having considered the matter in its entirety, we find it a fit case for interference. As has rightly been submitted by the appellant, no normal person could have imagined that a scolding, that too based on a complaint by a student, would result in such a tragedy due to the student so scolded taking his own life," the bench said. The apex court said such scolding was the least to ensure that the complaint made against the deceased by another student was taken note of and remedial measures were effected.

OPERATION SINDOOR IS NOT OVER YET: AMIT SHAH
IN KOLKATA



Diary Times Desk : Operation Sindoor is not yet over and anyone who dares to do anything will be given a befitting reply, Union home minister Amit Shah said in Kolkata on Saturday. Addressing an organisational meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Kolkata's Netaji Indoor stadium, Amit Shah also launched a scathing attack against the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) in West Bengal and added that the BJP would form the government in the state in 2026. He also said that the violence, which erupted in Murshidabad district over the Waqf (Amendment) Act in April this year, was "state-sponsored." Earlier in the day, Shah inaugurated a new building of the Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Kolkata. "When violence erupted in Murshidabad, the Union home ministry repeatedly requested the state to deploy the BSF. The state didn't. Central forces were deployed on the orders of the high court. A TMC leader was present at the spot to encourage the rioters. It was state-sponsored," Shah said.

'AIM NOW VIKSIT DILLI': CM SETS TONE
FOR GOVERNANCE IN DELHI

Diary Times Desk : The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government is rooted in action — since coming to power in February, it has worked on and resolved issues related to air pollution, public healthcare, education, infrastructure development, and welfare works, chief minister Rekha Gupta said at an event held at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, a day after her government completed 100 days of being in power. During a nearly hour-long conversation with actor Anupam Kher, the CM elaborated on the works undertaken in these sectors. A day ago, she and her cabinet ministers unveiled a 22-page workbook defining her government's early imprint on the Capital. At the event, attended by all the six Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, party legislators, and many senior officials, the CM highlighted what the BJP administration counts as its accomplishments so far — works undertaken to clean the Yamuna, and implementation of the long-delayed Ayushman Bharat scheme, among others — and made announcements of their upcoming plans.

'PM SHOULD STEP BACK FROM CAMPAIGNING, FOCUS ON ENEMY':
MALLIKARJUN KHARGE

Diary Times Desk : Commenting on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's public speeches after Operation Sindoor, Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge urged him to "focus on the enemy" and step back from himself from election campaigns for the time being. "I don't like reacting to all his (PM Modi's) statements," Mr Kharge said while addressing reporters in Bengaluru. Mr Kharge questioned the Prime Minister's recent public statements and political activities, suggesting that PM Modi should temporarily step back from electoral campaigning. "PM Modi should recuse himself from elections and focus on the country. He should understand whatever has happened in the country and speak," he remarked. "I am saying without any political differences that he (PM Modi) should focus on the enemy instead of self-praise no one except for him would have done it. Our full support is with the Armed Forces," he said. Referring to ongoing developments linked to Operation Sindoor, Mr Kharge noted that Congress delegations had travelled abroad for consultations. "Let them come back. Till they return, it is not proper to be touring around and giving speeches," he said.



KOLKATA POLICE DEFENDS
ITSELF IN SHARMISHTA PANOLI'S
CASE: 'ACTED LAWFULLY'

Diary Times Desk : The Kolkata Police on Sunday said that some social media accounts are spreading false information about the arrest of influencer Sharmishta Panoli amid backlash over the action, which the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) termed 'selective enforcement'. In a post on X, the Kolkata Police said that social media accounts are claiming that the Kolkata Police have unlawfully arrested a law student for opposing Pakistan. "This narrative is mischievous and misleading. Expressing national pride and patriotism is a thing that every citizen and organisation stands for. Kolkata Police being no different, stands firmly with the citizens of India," the police said. The 22-year-old was arrested by the Kolkata Police late Friday night from Gurugram in Haryana and brought to Kolkata. She was produced before the court on Saturday, which sent her to judicial custody until June 13. She is accused of hurting religious sentiments through her 'communal' comments in now-deleted videos on her social media.

COVID-19 CASES IN INDIA RISE TO
3,395; KERALA TOPS LIST WITH 1,336,
FOLLOWED BY MAHARASHTRA, DELHI

Diary Times Desk : The number of active Covid-19 cases in India has risen to 3,395, with Kerala topping the list at 1,336 cases, followed by Maharashtra and Delhi, Union health ministry data released on Saturday said. Between Friday and Saturday, 685 new Covid cases and four deaths were reported — one each in Delhi, Kerala, Karnataka, and Uttar Pradesh. Currently, active case counts in key states are: Kerala (1,336), Maharashtra (467), Delhi (375), Gujarat (265), Karnataka (234), West Bengal (205), Tamil Nadu (185), and Uttar Pradesh (117). The national count has risen sharply, going from 257 on May 22 to 1,010 by May 26, and further to 3,395 by Saturday. Officials said the Covid-19 situation is being closely monitored. Most infections are mild, and patients are recovering at home. "There is no reason to worry," sources told PTI. A 63-year-old man with comorbidities, who tested positive for Covid-19, died at a private hospital in Bengaluru on May 29. He had been admitted on May 21 after feeling weak.

EU ‘STRONGLY REGRETS’ DONALD TRUMP’S DECISION TO DOUBLE STEEL TARIFFS, WARNS OF RETALIATORY MEASURES

Diary Times Desk : The European Commission announced its plans to retaliate against President Donald Trump’s plan to double tariffs on imported steel and aluminium, reported Reuters. The EU said it “strongly regrets” Trump’s plan to raise tariffs, and it “undermines ongoing efforts to reach a negotiated solution.” “This decision adds further uncertainty to the global economy and increases costs for consumers and businesses on both sides of the Atlantic,” the report quoted an EU spokesperson, adding that “the (EU) is prepared to impose countermeasures.” On Friday, Trump announced at a rally in Pennsylvania that the US would double steel tariffs from 25% to 50% from Wednesday onwards while promoting the partnership between Japan’s Nippon Steel and US Steel. Taking to his Truth Social account, Trump later wrote, “It is my great honour to raise the Tariffs on steel and aluminium from 25% to 50%, effective Wednesday, June 4th. Our steel and aluminum industries are coming back like never before. This will be yet another BIG jolt of great news for our wonderful steel and aluminum workers. MAKE AMERICA GREAT AGAIN!”

‘PREPARED TO IMPOSE COUNTERMEASURES’: EU WARNS TRUMP OVER 50% STEEL TARIFF

Diary Times Desk : The European Union has strongly criticised US President Donald Trump’s decision to double tariffs on steel imports from 25 percent to 50 percent, warning that the move risks derailing efforts to resolve the ongoing trade standoff through negotiations. In a statement to NBC News on May 31, an EU spokesperson said, “We strongly regret the announced increase of U.S. tariffs on steel imports from 25 percent to 50 percent,” adding that the escalation “undermines” the possibility of a “negotiated solution.” “This decision adds further uncertainty to the global economy and increases costs for consumers and businesses on both sides of the Atlantic,” the EU spokesperson added. The EU also confirmed that it is prepared to reinstate and expand its countermeasures if the situation does not improve. “If no mutually acceptable solution is reached, both existing and additional EU measures will automatically take effect.

MUJIB DROPPED FROM NEW BANGLADESH BANKNOTES, REPLACED WITH TEMPLES, LANDMARKS

Diary Times Desk : New banknotes were released in Bangladesh with new designs, replacing the portrait of the ousted Prime Minister and the nation’s founding father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, with natural landscape and traditional landmarks, the country’s central bank said. Till now, all the banknotes feature the portrait of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who led Bangladesh to freedom from Pakistan in 1971 until he was assassinated by soldiers in a military coup four years later. Along with the new banknotes, existing notes having Sheikh Mujibur Rahman’s portrait and coins will remain in circulation. “Under the new series and design, the notes will not feature any human portraits, but will instead showcase natural landscapes and traditional landmarks,” Bangladesh Bank spokesman Arif Hossain Khan told news agency AFP. The new banknotes, released by Bangladesh Bank, will have images of Hindu and Buddhist temples, as well as historic palaces. They will also feature artwork by the late painter Zainul Abedin, depicting the Bengal famine during the British colonial rule.



UKRAINIAN DRONES STRIKE MULTIPLE AIRBASES IN RUSSIA, OVER 40 AIRCRAFT HIT



Diary Times Desk : Ukraine on Sunday launched one of its largest drone-based operations on Russia to date, striking an air base in eastern Siberia, thousands of kilometres (miles) from its border. The Russian governor of the Irkutsk region confirmed the attack, saying Ukrainian remote-piloted aircraft attacked a military unit in the village of Sridni, the first such attack in Siberia. Ukrainian media claimed that a large-scale special operation by Ukraine’s Security Service (SBU) has struck “more than 40” Russian aircrafts at air bases in the “rear of the Russian Federation”. Citing officials, news agency AFP reported that Russian airbases in the eastern Siberian city of Belaya, in Olenya, up in the Arctic near Finland, and in Ivanovo and Dyagilevo, both east of Moscow, had been targeted. The aircraft destroyed in the attack include Tu-95 and Tu-22M3 bombers, and at least one A-50, a report by Kyiv Independent claimed, citing sources.

26 KILLED, 80 WOUNDED AS ISRAELI TANKS OPEN FIRE NEAR AID CENTRE IN GAZA: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : At least 26 Palestinians were allegedly killed and over 80 others were injured in gunfire near a US-backed aid distribution site in southern Gaza’s Rafah area. Gaza rescuers alleged that thousands of Palestinians had gathered near Al-Alam roundabout-- close to the aid centre run by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF)-- on Sunday when Israeli tanks approached and opened fire on the crowd. However, the reports of the attack were denied by sources in the Israeli embassy. The GHF also claimed that its aid distribution in Gaza went on “without” any incident and denied the Hamas allegations of an attack on civilians. Former Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett also took to X (formerly Twitter) and denied the reports of Israeli firing on Gazans near the aid centre in Rafah. In a video message, he said, “This morning, all world media reported a huge lie. They said that Israeli tanks opened fire at a food distribution centre... this has not happened. It’s simply a lie.”

5 KILLED, SEVERAL INJURED AS FIRE BREAKS OUT IN KUWAIT APARTMENT BLOCK

Diary Times Desk : A fire in a residential building southwest of Kuwait City killed five people, the Gulf state’s fire brigade said on Sunday. The blaze broke out in two apartments in the Rigga area, about 10 kilometres (six miles) from the capital, said spokesman Brigadier General Mohammed al-Gharib. Three bodies were found at the scene and two more people died from their injuries in hospital, he told AFP. Several others were injured, and Gharib warned that the number of deaths could rise due to the severity of some of the burns. An investigation has been launched into the cause.

CHINA WARNS US NOT TO ‘PLAY WITH FIRE’ OVER TAIWAN

Diary Times Desk : China has warned the United States against “playing with fire” over Taiwan in response to US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth calling the Asian power a “threat to the region” at a high-profile summit in Singapore. Speaking at the Shangri-La Dialogue on Saturday, Hegseth said China was “credibly preparing” for military action to shift Asia’s power balance, accusing Beijing of rehearsing a potential invasion of Taiwan. China considers Taiwan, a separately governed island, to be a part of its territory and has vowed reunification by force if necessary. Taiwan’s government rejects Beijing’s sovereignty claims, saying only the island’s people can decide their future. Hegseth’s remarks provoked a swift rebuke from China’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which stressed that Taiwan remains a domestic matter, warning foreign powers against using the issue as leverage. It described US actions in Asia Pacific as turning the region into a “powder keg”. “The US should not entertain illusions about using the Taiwan question as a bargaining chip to contain China, nor should it play with fire,” it said. Hegseth had called on allies in the Asia Pacific region, including key security ally Australia, to spend more on defence after warning of the “real and potentially imminent” threat from China. Calling the US a “true destabilising” force in the Asia Pacific, Beijing accused Washington of deploying offensive weapons in the South China Sea and aggravating regional tensions. Beijing accused Hegseth of “vilifying China with defamatory allegations” and promoting a “Cold War mentality”. “Hegseth deliberately ignored the call for peace and development by countries in the region, and instead touted the Cold War mentality for bloc confrontation.

PUNJAB VIDHAN SABHA ASKS SAD REBEL MLA SUKHI TO CLARIFY POSITION AFTER APPOINTMENT AS AAP VICE PRESIDENT

Diary Times Desk : A day after rebel Shiromani Akali Dal MLA Dr Sukhwinder Kumar Sukhi was appointed Vice President of Aam Aadmi Party, the MLA has been asked by Punjab Vidhan Sabha to clarify his position on July 29. The MLA has been asked to give his reply on a petition filed against his continuation as a SAD MLA by advocate HC Arora seeking the disqualification of Dr Sukhi. The ENT specialist was first elected as MLA from Banga in 2017 and re-elected in 2022. However, he joined AAP in August last year. Later, he was made the chairperson of Punjab State Container and Warehousing Corporation and given the status of a cabinet minister. His appointment as the AAP vice president yesterday had created a political buzz, especially as he continues to be a SAD MLA. Asked about the status of the petition against Dr Sukhi, Punjab Vidhan Sabha Speaker Kultar Singh Sandhwan said that since Dr Sukhi is a member of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha, he has been asked to give his reply on July 29.



AMRITSAR POLICE ARREST 3 WEAPON SMUGGLERS, SEIZE 8 SOPHISTICATED PISTOLS

Diary Times Desk : The Special Cell of Amritsar Rural Police has dismantled a drugs and weapons smuggling network and seized eight foreign-made sophisticated pistols from three traffickers. They were in touch with a Pakistan-based weapon smuggler, Rana. Sharing details, Amritsar Rural SSP Maninder Singh said those arrested were identified as Fatehbir Singh alias Gandhi, Jagroop Singh alias Lalli and Ranjit Singh alias Kaka, all residents of Vaniake in Lopoke area. They were intercepted at a checkpoint on the Brar-Kohala village link road following an intelligence input. The police seized three Glock Gen 43 pistols (9mm), one Glock 26 Gen pistol (9mm), a .30 bore pistol, a PX5 .30 bore Pistol, a Zigana pistol, 10 live cartridges of .30 bore calibre, a motorcycle and three mobile phones. "Three men riding a motorcycle were intercepted. After preliminary questioning, they were apprehended and sophisticated weapons seized from them," said Maninder Singh.

PUNJABI UNIVERSITY RESEARCHER DEVELOPS REAL-TIME AIR QUALITY INDEX DETECTOR TO INSTANTLY CHECK AIR PURITY

Diary Times Desk : A design patent device for a cutting-edge real-time air quality index (AQI) detector has been designed by a Punjabi University scholar and the device will be able to instantly measure the level of air purity in indoor places like classrooms, hospitals, offices and shopping malls. Punjabi University on Sunday claimed the successful registration of its design patent. It has been developed by PhD scholar Bachandeep Bhathal at the Department of Computer Science and Engineering under the guidance of Gaurav Gupta and Brahmaleen Sidhu. Gurjit Bhattal and Priyanka Gupta have also contributed to the research. Bachandeep Bhathal said the patented device offers a compact, user-friendly solution for monitoring air quality in indoor environments, such as classrooms, hospitals, offices, shopping malls, party halls, theatres and homes. Gaurav Gupta said the benefit of this feature of the device.

PUNJAB REGISTERS 25% GROWTH IN GST COLLECTIONS IN MAY

Diary Times Desk : Punjab registered a 25.31 per cent on-year growth in net goods and service tax (GST) collections in May to Rs 2,006.31 crore driven by strong tax administration and enhanced compliance. Finance Minister Harpal Cheema said Punjab's net GST revenue rose to Rs 2,006.31 crore in May, up from Rs 1,601.14 crore in May 2024, showing an increase of Rs 405.17 crore. This marks the highest-ever GST collection for the month of May in Punjab's history, said Cheema in an official statement. This year's performance clearly indicates a robust and accelerating growth trend in Punjab's fiscal health, he said and attributed the growth to strong tax administration, enhanced compliance, and a resilient economic environment. He emphasised that the AAP government's commitment to financial prudence and economic reform led to this consistent upward trend in revenue. Cheema noted that this surge not only represents the highest year-on-year monthly growth in recent years but also outpaced the national average GST growth.

WANTED 77-YEAR-OLD FRAUDSTER POSING AS ARMY COLONEL HELD FROM PATIALA OLD-AGE HOME

Diary Times Desk : A 77-year-old man who had been absconding for over a decade after jumping bail in a cheating case involving the Army Welfare Housing Organisation (AWHO) was arrested from an old-age home in Punjab's Patiala, the Delhi Police said on Sunday. Sitaram Gupta, a native of Mansa, was impersonating an army colonel and duped people by offering flats and shops under fictitious AWHO schemes, police in a statement said. "Gupta, a postgraduate in economics and history from Panjab University and a former student of ex-Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, had been evading trial in a 2007 cheating case registered at Vivek Vihar police station in Delhi," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Crime Branch) Apoorna Gupta said in the statement. He allegedly took Rs 56,000 from a complainant after offering him a flat and shop under the AWHO scheme and issued forged receipts, the officer said. After his arrest in 2007 and subsequent release on bail, Gupta went underground and failed to appear before court, leading to the issuance of non-bailable warrants. On April 26 this year, the Karkardooma court declared him a proclaimed offender. He had started his career as a contractor supplying oil to Army cantonments across India, the statement said. During this period, he gained knowledge of the Army's functioning, which he later used to impersonate a senior army officer and lure unsuspecting people.

RULES NOTIFIED FOR PROVIDING DRIVERS, HELP TO EX-CJS, JUDGES

Diary Times Desk : The Haryana Government on Friday notified rules for providing facility of domestic help, driver, secretarial assistance, security and telephone facility to retired chief justices, judges and their spouses. A notification issued by Chief Secretary Anurag Rastogi framed the Retired Chief Justices and Judges Domestic Help(s) and other Benefits Rules, 2025, which "applies to a person who has held office either as chief justice or as a judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana and their spouses". "To enable the retired chief justice/judge or their spouses, to engage domestic help(s)/driver(s), the high court shall provide a consolidated amount of Rs 45,000 per month to a retired judge or spouse and Rs 50,000 per month to a retired chief justice or spouse," the notification said. Besides, the retired chief justice/judge or spouse shall also be paid Rs 15,000 per month towards the expenses of rental and calls of mobile phones and/or landline, Internet services, secretarial services and security service. However, there are certain conditions for availing these services such as that "they are not availing such or similar facility from any other High Court." The rules clarified that they would not be entitled to these facilities during the tenure of their appointments or assignments to any office, post or assignment except where such appointments did not provide these facilities.

DAYS AFTER ERRONEOUS RELEASE FROM FARIDABAD JAIL, PRISONER CAUGHT FROM VILLAGE IN BIHAR

Diary Times Desk : A prisoner jailed on charges of raping a minor who was released from the district jail here due to a mistaken identity was caught from his village in Patna, Bihar, police said on Sunday. He was produced in a city court and sent into judicial custody again in Neemka jail, they said. Nitesh Pandey was mistakenly released from Neemka jail instead of another inmate named Nitesh who received bail from a Faridabad court, leading the suspension of five jail officials. The fathers of the Niteshs also had the same name, adding to the confusion. A senior police officer said that during interrogation, accused Nitesh Pandey revealed that he knew that the other Nitesh was to get bail in a case in which he was being tried for trespass and assault. After the second Nitesh got bail on Monday, the prisoners were called. The inmate who got the bail was not present at the spot on Tuesday and the rape accused identified himself as Nitesh.

**NEW CONTROVERSY IN
HIMACHAL PRADESH
POLICE: DR. ATUL ISSUED
ORDERS FOR DGP DISC
AWARD, TIWARI TOOK IT
BACK**

Diary Times Desk : Amid the ongoing dispute between SP Shimla and DGP Atul Verma, a new controversy has arisen in the police department. DGP Dr. Atul Verma issued orders on Saturday to honour 172 officers and employees, including 4 IPS officers, with the DGP Disc Award before his retirement. At the same time, Ashok Tiwari, who is handling the additional charge, withdrew these orders in the evening. The then IG State Vigilance and Anti Corruption Bureau Bimal Gupta, SP PTC Deroh Arvind Chaudhary, SP Mandi Sakshi Verma and SP Kullu Karthikeyan Gokulchandran were selected for the DGP Disc Award for outstanding services in 2024. Inspector Pratap Chand of State Vigilance and Anti Corruption Bureau was to receive the Golden Disc Award. Now a new controversy has arisen due to the withdrawal of the order.

**UNA: STUDENT FOUND
HANGING FROM A NOOSE
AFTER FAILING IN
COMPETITIVE EXAM, THE
YOUTH'S FAMILY MEMBERS
HAD GONE OUT OF THE
HOUSE**

Diary Times Desk : A class 12 pass youth was found hanging from a noose in a village under Amb subdivision. According to information received from the police, the youth's family members had gone out of the house on Saturday. When they returned, they found that the youth was hanging from the fan. People took the youth down from the noose and took him to Civil Hospital Amb. Where the doctor declared him dead. It is being told that the student had passed class 12 and was preparing for a competitive exam in Chandigarh. He was mentally disturbed due to not getting success in it. SDPO Amb Dr. Vasudha Sood said that the police has taken the body into custody and sent it to the Regional Hospital Una for post-mortem. The matter is being investigated. A class 12 pass youth committed suicide in Una district of Himachal Pradesh. It is being told that the student had passed class 12 and was preparing for a competitive exam in Chandigarh.

5 KILLED, 1 INJURED IN ROAD ACCIDENT NEAR IIT-MANDI

Diary Times Desk : Five persons died and one sustained injuries in a road accident near Kataula in Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district today. The driver of the vehicle they were travelling in reportedly lost control, causing it to plunge off the road. According to initial reports, all victims are believed to be residents of Punjab. The group was heading towards IIT-Mandi when the mishap took place. Preliminary findings suggest that the driver failed to negotiate a sharp turn near the hilly stretch of Kataula, leading to the fatal crash. Mandi Superintendent of Police Sakshi Verma said a case had been registered. "The identification process of the deceased is under way. Further investigation is in on to ascertain the cause of the accident," she added. Emergency services and police officials rushed to the spot after receiving alerts. The injured individual has been taken to a nearby hospital for treatment.

**VIMAL NEGI DEATH CASE: CBI QUESTIONED
ASP DSP OF POLICE SIT FOR TWO AND A HALF
HOURS, SOUGHT REPLY WITHIN TWO DAYS**

Diary Times Desk : The CBI team which arrived from Delhi to investigate the death of Chief Engineer Vimal Negi questioned the SIT of Shimla Police on Saturday. During the interrogation which lasted for about two and a half hours at the Shimla SP office, the CBI asked several questions to SIT's ASP Navdeep Singh and DSP Shakti Singh. Questioning the negligence shown during the investigation of Negi's body, the officials were asked questions. The CBI has asked the officials to provide concrete answers to the questions within two days. Apart from this, the CBI has also seized about 10 thousand pages of records from the SIT of Shimla Police. At the same time, mobiles, laptops, pen drives and other records seized during the investigation were also taken. The CBI team reached the SP office on Saturday morning. First, they met Solan SP Gaurav Singh, who is handling the additional charge of SP Shimla. After that, taking the investigation forward in the case, they started questioning the ASP and DSP. At around 11:20 am, the CBI team reached the SP office in an HRTC taxi and returned at around 2:30 pm. The CBI team also reached the New Shimla Police Station on Friday. She has also visited the incident spot at Talai. The appeal filed in the capacity of SP has been withdrawn by Sanjeev Gandhi after consultation with the Advocate General's office. The AG said that Gandhi cannot file an appeal in the Vimal Negi death case as SP.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH: TWO YOUTHS OF
BILASPUR DIED UNDER SUSPICIOUS
CIRCUMSTANCES, SUSPECTED TO HAVE
DIED DUE TO CHITTA, THIS WAS THEIR AGE**

Diary Times Desk : Two youths died under suspicious circumstances in Bilaspur district. It is suspected that both the youths died due to consumption of chitta (heroin). Four cases each are registered against the youths under the Narcotics Act. In such a situation, it is believed that both must have consumed drugs. On the other hand, the police say that the post-mortem of the body of one youth has been done. After receiving the report, the real reason for his death will be revealed. No action has been taken by the police in the case of the death of the second youth. One of the youths who died had come out of jail on bail only two days ago. One youth died in Ghumarwin Hospital and the other in IGMSC Shimla. According to the information, a 39-year-old youth, resident of Sih village adjoining Ghumarwin city, was found unconscious on the bed at four o'clock on Saturday morning. The family immediately took him to Ghumarwin Hospital for treatment, where the doctor declared him dead. The youth was caught by the police with 5.60 grams of chitta a month and a half ago and he was released on bail two days ago, i.e. on 29 May. In such a situation, it is suspected that the youth died due to consumption of chitta. On the other hand, DSP Chandrapal Singh said that the post-mortem.

**SPORTS NEWS: MOUNTAIN GIRLS PERFORM WONDERS;
WON ONE GOLD,
TWO BRONZE MEDALS**

Diary Times Desk : Players of Sai Water Sports Center NTPC Barmana won one gold and two bronze medals in the Sub Junior National Rowing Championship. In the double sculls 500 meter race of the championship held from May 27 to May 31, the pair of Archita Negi of Pondi in Kinnaur and Shreya Thakur of Dhar in Kullu won the gold medal. In the quadruple sculls 500 meter, the team of Archita Negi, Shreya Thakur and twin sisters Tanishka Thakur and Anamika Thakur, residents of Khareri in Kullu, won the bronze medal. In pair 500 meter, Parisha Dadwal of Una and Chahat of Rohru won the bronze medal. Khushi Chandel of Bilaspur also participated in the competition. Center in-charge Vijay Negi attributed the success to the guidance of coaches Sanjeev Singh and Manisha. MLA RS Bali inaugurated the All India Tennis Ball Cricket Competition in the memory of former minister GS Bali at Nagarota Bagwan on behalf of Himachal Pradesh Tennis Ball Cricket Association. 28 teams from 16 states are participating in the competition. These include 20 men's teams and 8 women's teams. In the competition, matches of 8-8 overs are being played within a perimeter of 30 yards.



HARDIK PANDYA'S 3-WORD REACTION TO SHUBMAN GILL'S
POST ON RIFT BETWEEN DUO SUMS IT ALL UP

Diary Times Desk : Mumbai Indians skipper Hardik Pandya and his Gujarat Titans counterpart, Shubman Gill, had some tense moments on the field as the two squared off in the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2025 Eliminator on Friday. Right from the toss, something seemed off between the two Team India mates, especially after an awkward handshake snub. Even after Gill was dismissed cheaply in the middle, Hardik let his feelings be known aggressively while passing by the GT skipper. The antics on the field made many wonder if all was well between the two. After Shubman Gill shared a 'nothing but love' story on Instagram, dedicating it to Hardik, the MI captain also shared the story on his account, with the caption: "Always shubhu baby". The duo, in the process, buried all the negative talks going on the internet about a possible rift in their relationship. Recapping the match, a brilliant half-century by Sai Sudharsan and his partnership with Washington Sundar went in vain as fine death bowling effort from the five-time champions helped the Blue and Gold franchise eliminate the 2022 champions.



KEVIN PIETERSEN'S BIG "TWO GEMS"
VERDICT ON KARUN NAIR, KL RAHUL.
GIVES REASON

Diary Times Desk : Kevin Pietersen was all praise for India batters Karun Nair and Kevin Pietersen ahead of the upcoming five-match Test series against England, starting June 20. Pietersen, who worked with Karun and Rahul at Delhi Capitals during IPL 2025, was really pleased with the preparation of the duo ahead of the crucial tour. Karun gave the BCCI a huge selection headache ahead of the first Test in Leeds as he slammed an unbeaten 186 on Day 1 of India A's unofficial Test against the England Lions. The 33-year-old made a strong case for his selection in the playing XI for the first Test at Headingley Carnegie. On the very same day, Rahul reportedly told the BCCI of his intention to play the second unofficial Test between India A and England Lions. Pietersen labelled Karun and Rahul as "two gems". "Karun gets a 100 yesterday and KL has asked BCCI to travel early to UK to get extra practice in before Tests - 2 gems!" The second unofficial Test between England Lions and India A begins on June 06. The senior Indian team will then be involved in an intra-squad match in Beckenham on June 13. The first Test of the 5-match series starts in Leeds on June 20. On Day 1 at the Canterbury Cricket Ground, Karun was elegance personified while serving a timely reminder to the Gambhir.

"PANICKING...": JASPRIT BUMRAH'S VIRAL 'CALM DOWN' GESTURE AT
MAHELA JAYAWARDENE IN IPL 2025 ELIMINATOR DECODED

Diary Times Desk : Jasprit Bumrah turned out to be Mumbai Indians' saviour in the IPL 2025 Eliminator against Gujarat Titans on Friday. Bumrah took just one wicket but it was a crucial one of Washington Sundar (48, 24b), who stitched an important stand with Sai Sudharshan (80, 49b). Post that dismissal, GT fell short of the 229-run target by 20 runs. During that match, an interaction between MI coach Mahela Jayawardene and Bumrah went viral. However, Bumrah gestured towards him to calm down and take it easy before doing the same gesture to captain Hardik Pandya. Jatin Sapru who was on the Hindi broadcast at that time, said, "Bumrah is basically saying 'I know my job well. I am here. You stay calm and just give me a chance.' Former RCB and India pacer Varun Aaron said Jayawardene was 'panicking' because the MI bowlers were getting hit by GT batters. "If you want wickets, he comes and gets you wickets. If you want to stop runs, he stops runs for you. Man, what a bowler," Aaron said on ESPNcricinfo's Time Out.



DAVID WARNER'S FINAL
PREDICTIONS: PROPHECY
FOR NEW IPL CHAMPIONS,
SNUBS VIRAT KOHLI FOR
PLAYER OF THE MATCH

Diary Times Desk : 2016 IPL-winning skipper David Warner made a bold prediction for the winner of the ongoing season as the tournament has already entered the business end with two matches left to play. Warner is one of the three overseas players to lead an IPL team to a title triumph, before him, Shane Warne and Adam Gilchrist etched their names in the history. He feels a new IPL champion will be crowned on June 3 and predicted that Josh Hazlewood will play a pivotal role in the Royal Challengers Bengaluru ending their title drought. RCB have already sealed a place in the IPL 2025 final with a thumping win over Punjab Kings in the qualifier 1 and reaching there first made them a firm favourite to win the title. It was Warner who stopped RCB from lifting their maiden title when they last reached the IPL final in 2016, as Sunrisers Hyderabad emerged victorious at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad. Warner scored a fiery 69 off 38 balls, setting the tone for a big total - 208/7, while Virat Kohli and co. did put up a fight with the bat but were eight runs short in the end.

KARTHIK CALLS RCB STAR
'BIGGEST EYE-OPENER' AFTER
REACHING IPL 2025 FINAL:
'WHEN PEOPLE SUDDENLY GET
POWER, THEY CHANGE'

Diary Times Desk : Royal Challengers Bengaluru's brilliant run to the IPL 2025 final has had many architects, but none more quietly influential than their new captain, Rajat Patidar. For a side that began the season amid uncertainty with no Faf du Plessis as captain, Patidar emerged not just as a calm tactician but a personality that has won over the dressing room. Dinesh Karthik, RCB's batting coach and mentor, didn't hold back while hailing the skipper's unchanging nature in the face of power. "Rajat Patidar has been the biggest eye-opener for me in life," Karthik said during the second episode of RCB's Journey to the Finale, as quoted by News18. "Because when people suddenly get a little bit of adulation, power, they tend to change. It's normal. Their behavioural pattern, the way they kind of interact. Somewhere, something will show. But with Rajat Patidar, what a guy he is. For someone who is a captain of RCB, and today he calls the shots, he has been exactly the same that he was before becoming the captain, Rajat." Patidar's rise came on the back of leading Madhya Pradesh to the final of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy.