

PM MODI IN KASHMIR

KASHMIR TO KANYAKUMARI NOW A REALITY FOR RAIL NETWORK TOO: PM MODI

Diary Times Desk : The Chenab bridge has become a new milestone in pan-India connectivity, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi remarking that the phrase 'Kashmir to Kanyakumari' has now become a reality even in the Indian railway network.

"While walking on the Chenab and Anji bridges today, I lived the lofty aspirations of India and the skill and courage of our engineers and workers," the Prime Minister proudly said at a rally in Katra after inaugurating the two bridges. He also inaugurated the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Line and flagged off Vande Bharat services between Katra and Srinagar, which is expected to be a game-changer for tourism.

"We have always invoked Maa Bharati with deep reverence, saying 'from Kashmir to Kanyakumari.' Today, this has become a reality even in our railway network," said PM Modi, referring to Jammu and Kashmir as the "crown jewel of India". The Chenab bridge, the world's highest railway bridge, is an engineering marvel built in the face of extreme weather and a challenging topography. At 359 metres, it is taller than the Eiffel Tower in Paris by 35 metres. "People visit France to see the Eiffel Tower, and this bridge is taller than that. This bridge will not just help you visit Kashmir, it will become a tourist destination itself," he said. PM Modi said the Chenab and Anji bridges will serve as gateways to prosperity for Jammu and Kashmir.



SEBI FREEZES CHOKSI'S ACCOUNTS

SEBI FREEZES FUGITIVE BUSINESSMAN MEHUL CHOKSI'S BANK ACCOUNTS, INVESTMENTS TO RECOVER RS 2.1 CR.



Diary Times Desk : The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has ordered the attachment of absconding businessman Mehul Choksi's bank accounts, mutual funds, and shares to recover Rs 2.1 crore.

The amount is related to a penalty imposed on him for violating insider trading rules in the shares of Gitanjali Gems.

Choksi, who was the Chairman and Managing Director of Gitanjali Gems, is accused of sharing unpublished price-sensitive information (UPSI) with an associate, Rakesh Girdharlal Gajera.

Based on that information, Gajera sold off his entire 5.75 per cent stake in the company in December 2017, allegedly to avoid losses before details of fraudulent activities involving the company became public.

In January 2022, the SEBI fined Choksi Rs 1.5 crore and banned him from trading in the securities market for one year.

However, Choksi did not pay the fine, prompting the SEBI to issue a demand notice on May 15, 2025. When he failed to respond or make the payment within the 15-day deadline, the market regulator proceeded with the attachment of his assets. The total dues now stand at Rs 2.1 crore, including Rs 60 lakh in interest. In its notice dated June 4, the SEBI directed all banks, depositories like CDSL and NSDL, and mutual fund houses to freeze Choksi's accounts. While no money can be withdrawn, credits are still allowed. The market regulator has also instructed banks to seize any lockers in his name.

MEDIATION BETWEEN TWO UNEQUALS NOT POSSIBLE: SHASHI THAROOR ON TRUMP'S CLAIMS ON INDIA, PAKISTAN

Diary Times Desk : Congress MP Shashi Tharoor has said that to suggest one can mediate between two unequals is not possible because there is no equivalence between terrorists and their victims, amid repeated claims by US President Donald Trump that he "helped settle" the tensions between India and Pakistan. Tharoor, currently in the US leading a multi-party delegation on Operation Sindoor, made the comments in response to a question during a conversation at the Council on Foreign Relations here on Thursday. "... Mediation is not a term that we are particularly willing to entertain. I'll tell you why not. The fact is that this implies, even when you say things like broker or whatever, you're implying an equivalence which simply doesn't exist," Tharoor said. He said there is no equivalence between terrorists and their victims. "There is no equivalence between a country that provides safe haven to terrorism, and a country that's a flourishing multi-party democracy that's trying to get on with its business," he said. "There is no equivalence between a state that is a status quo power that just wants to be left alone by its neighbours, where the neighbours don't agree with us, and a revisionist power that wants to upset the geopolitical arrangements that have existed.



ICICI BANK RELATIONSHIP MANAGER SWINDLES RS 4.58 CRORE FROM CUSTOMER ACCOUNTS, LOSES MOST OF IT IN STOCKS

Diary Times Desk : A relationship manager in an ICICI bank branch in Kota allegedly swindled around Rs 4.58 crore from customers' accounts only to lose the lot of it in the stock market, police on Friday said. She was arrested last week and is currently under judicial custody, they said. Sakshi Gupta was posted as a relationship manager at ICICI Bank's DCM branch. Police said she had been pilfering from more than 110 accounts belonging to 41 customers for around two and a half years. She allegedly invested these amounts in the stock market and lost a large chunk of it, they said. Branch manager Tarun Dadich filed a complaint against her at the Udhog Nagar police station on February 18, accusing her of siphoning Rs 4.58 crore from customer accounts. Based on the complaint, Gupta, who worked at the branch from 2020 to 2023, was arrested on May 31.

PM MODI INAUGURATES WORLD'S HIGHEST RAILWAY BRIDGE OVER CHENAB IN J&K



Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday inaugurated the Chenab Bridge, the world's highest railway arch bridge, and flagged off the Katra-Srinagar Vande Bharat Express train from Katra railway station, which is expected to boost regional connectivity by gradually linking the Kashmir Valley with the rest of the country. Before flagging off the train, the Prime Minister inspected the Chenab Bridge and the Anji Bridge and also interacted with the workers who were part of the massive project. The inauguration of the semi-high-speed train marks a milestone in connecting the Kashmir Valley to one of India's most sacred pilgrimage sites—Katra, home to the revered Vaishno Devi shrine—through cutting-edge rail infrastructure. Two pairs of Vande Bharat Express trains—Train Nos. 26404/26403 and 26401/26402—will ply the Srinagar-Katra-Srinagar route with a key stop at Banihal.

BENGALURU STAMPEDE: BJP, JD(S) DOING POLITICS OVER 'DEAD BODIES', SAYS DK SHIVAKUMAR

Diary Times Desk : Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar on Friday accused the opposition BJP and JD(S) of doing politics over "dead bodies", as he hit out at them for demanding his resignation following the June 4 stampede here that killed 11 people. The stampede occurred on Wednesday evening in front of the Chinnaswamy stadium, where a large number of people gathered to participate in the RCB team's IPL victory celebrations. "They (opposition) are trying to do politics over dead bodies. We are not doing it. We have sincerity...what do they have to target me? In what way am I responsible?" Shivakumar asked. Speaking to reporters here, he said, "Karnataka State Cricket Association wrote (to the government) seeking permission. The event was held. I'm Bengaluru minister...I had also gone to the stadium as the Bengaluru minister, what is wrong?" "I had gone to the airport (to receive the RCB team). I requested them to cooperate as there was no permission for the victory procession. I gave them a Kannada flag and welcomed them. What's wrong? What crime have I committed?" he asked.



YOUR HOROSCOPE

07-06-2025

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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

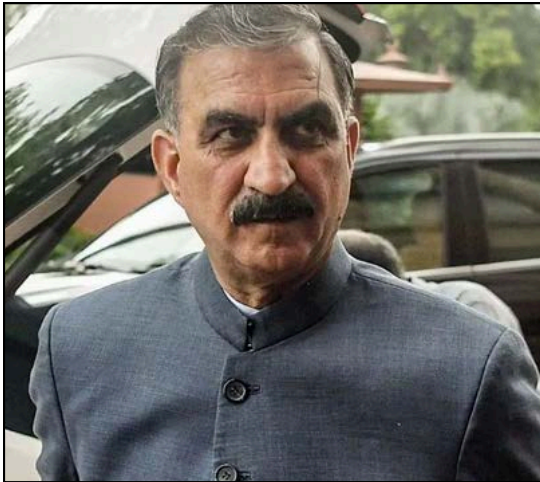
Aquarius
Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employees will be suspended due to indiscipline in the workplace. People doing business should solve all the problems of their customers in time. Due to worsening weather, problems related to cold and cough may increase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

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



HIMACHAL NEWS: ULTRASOUND, X-RAY AND ECG WILL NOT BE CHARGED IN GOVERNMENT HOSPITALS, GOVERNMENT HAS WITHDRAWN THE DECISION

Diary Times Desk : There will be no charge for ultrasound, X-ray and ECG in Himachal's government medical colleges and hospitals. These tests will be free in the state's hospitals as before. The state government has withdrawn the decision to charge for all three tests. The state government had issued a notification to charge for ultrasound, X-ray and ECG in addition to Rs 10 for the slip in the hospitals. In this, the fee was fixed at Rs 60 for X-ray, Rs 120 for ultrasound and Rs 35 for ECG. It was also decided to charge test fee from fourteen categories like elderly, pregnant women and patients suffering from serious diseases, but the government has now withdrawn it. On the registration fee (slip), Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu had made it clear on Thursday itself that the patient welfare committees will take a decision on this.



JAIRAM THAKUR SAID- THE GOVERNMENT WHICH IS INCREASING THE FEES IS TAKING AWAY FACILITIES FROM THE PUBLIC, CM SHOULD NOT LIE

Diary Times Desk : Leader of Opposition and former Chief Minister Jairam Thakur said that the Sukhu government, which is imposing some new fee every day, is snatching away the facilities being provided to the people of the state. For months, the government was not providing mustard oil and refined oil in the depots. Now it is preparing to provide it at 33 to 40 percent higher rates. The refined oil which was earlier available for Rs 97 will now be available for Rs 134. This is nothing less than a joke on the people of the state. How can the government make the food items of the common man almost one and a half times more expensive in one stroke? In a press statement issued on Friday, Jairam Thakur said that while claiming to be the government of happiness, the Chief Minister has become the head of the government of fees. The Chief Minister imposes some kind of fee on the people of the state every day and does not even accept it. He clearly denies the fee imposed by him. On Thursday also, the Chief Minister said that he has not imposed any fee on the slips of hospitals. Jairam Thakur said that when the government has not given orders.

HIMACHAL NEWS: AMRISH RANA AND AMIT MANKOTIA ARRESTED IN CASE OF THREATENING AND EXTORTING CRUSHER OWNERS

Diary Times Desk : Police arrested Amrish Rana and his associate Amit Mankotia on Friday on charges of threatening crusher owners and extortion. Two other accused are wanted in the case. About two months ago, police had registered a case against Rana and his associates. After that, all of them absconded. Meanwhile, Rana and Mankotia filed a petition for anticipatory bail in the High Court. On the rejection of the petition, police arrested both of them on Friday. Police arrested Rana from Badhera Rajputan and Mankotia from Panjavar. ASP Sanjeev Bhatia said that Rana and Mankotia will be presented in Amb court on Saturday. He said that a few days ago, a crusher owner had registered a case against the accused in Gagret police station, accusing them of threatening the workers, spoiling the JCB and extortion. Amrish Rana of Panjavar was sentenced to life imprisonment by the court in the case of murder of three people in Una in the year 1999. After serving 25 years of imprisonment, Rana was released from jail last year on the recommendation of the government for good conduct. Now a criminal case has been registered against him again. Police have arrested Amrish Rana and his associate Amit Mankotia from their house after they were absconding for nearly two months on charges of threatening and extorting crusher owners registered under Gagret police station of Una district.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: VICE PRESIDENT JAGDEEP DHANKHAR REACHED SHIMLA ON A TWO-DAY VISIT

Diary Times Desk : Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar reached Shimla on Friday morning. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla and Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu welcomed him at the Annadale helipad. The Vice President has been accommodated in the Monal Room of Raj Bhavan Shimla. Very special guests visiting the Raj Bhavan are accommodated in this room. On Saturday morning, the Vice President will go to Horticulture and Forestry University Nauni. Here he will interact with the university students in a program. After that he will go to Chandigarh and from there to Bangalore. On reaching Shimla, the Vice President was given a dignified welcome by the Governor and the Chief Minister at the Annadale helipad. On this occasion, Minister in Waiting Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri and Public Works Minister Vikramaditya Singh were also present for the Vice President's visit. From Annadale, the Vice President's convoy reached the Raj Bhavan via Mall Road. He was given a Guard of Honor at the Raj Bhavan. On behalf of the people of the state, the Governor honored him by presenting him a traditional Himachali cap, shawl and a souvenir. The Vice President stayed in the Raj Bhavan on Friday.



HIMACHAL WEATHER: WEATHER IS EXPECTED TO BE CLEAR FROM THIS DAY, 75 PERCENT MORE RAIN THAN NORMAL IN JUNE SO FAR

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh received 75 percent more rainfall than normal from June 1 to 6. 10.8 mm rainfall was considered normal for this period but in reality 18.9 mm rainfall occurred. All districts except Lahaul-Spiti received more than normal rainfall. Bilaspur received 228 percent more rainfall than normal, Chamba 66 percent, Hamirpur 90 percent, Kangra 31 percent, Kinnaur 24 percent, Kullu 9 percent, Mandi 90 percent, Shimla 194 percent, Sirmour 239 percent, Solan 104 percent and Una received 224 percent more rainfall than normal. Lahaul-Spiti received 33 percent less rainfall than normal. According to Meteorological Centre Shimla, there is a possibility of light rain at some places on June 6. The weather is forecast to remain clear in the entire state from June 7. However, light rain may occur at one or two places in the high mountains on June 11 and 12. There is a possibility of gradual increase in maximum temperature by 4-6 degree Celsius and gradual increase in minimum temperature by 3-5 degree Celsius in many parts of the state during the next 2-3 days. During the last 24 hours, 10.0 mm rain was recorded in Rohru, 6.0 in Palampur, 6.0 in Bharmour, 4.2 in Chaupal, 4.2 in Bijahi, 3.5 in Kotkhai, 2.0 in Jogindernagar, 1.7 mm in Shilaru, 1.4 in Manali, 0.5 in Dhaula Kuan and 0.2 mm in Sangla.

TWO-DAY LITERATURE FESTIVAL IN KALPA OF KINNAUR FROM SATURDAY, MINISTER JAGAT SINGH NEGI WILL INAUGURATE IT

Diary Times Desk : The second edition of the literature festival will begin on Saturday in Kalpa. Deputy Commissioner Kinnaur Dr. Amit Kumar Sharma and Superintendent of Police Kinnaur Abhishek S. told in a joint press conference that the festival will run for two days at the ice skating rink. The Deputy Commissioner invited all the people of the district to participate in this literary event. He said that especially the youth and children will be able to benefit by interacting with famous writers, scholars and poets from all over the country. The festival will be inaugurated by Revenue, Horticulture and Tribal Development Minister Jagat Singh Negi. The special attraction of the inaugural ceremony will be the message of religious leader Dalai Lama, which has been sent for this literary festival. The two-day program will focus on Kinnaur's.

RBI AIMS TO BOOST
ECONOMIC GROWTH,
LIQUIDITY WITH JUMBO
RATE AND CRR CUTS

Diary Times Desk : In a move to invigorate India's slowing economy and in the wake of consistently easing inflation, the rate-setting committee of India's central bank slashed the repo rate by 50 basis points (bps) on Friday, twice the 25 bps that was widely expected. Further it complemented the policy rate cut with a 100 bps reduction in the cash reserve ratio (CRR). A basis point is one-hundredth of a percentage point. "Inflation is under a lot of control now, and we can accept that we have won the war," RBI governor Sanjay Malhotra said at a media briefing on Friday following the MPC meeting, adding that the central bank has reduced inflation projection for FY26 to 3.7% from 4% earlier. The unexpected bounty was cheered by the stock markets, with the BSE Sensex closing 0.92% up at 82,188.99, and the Nifty 50 surpassing the 25,000 level with a 252 pts upswing to close at 25,003.5. Bond markets, too, reacted positively, with the shorter end of the yield curve seeing some softening. The 10-year G-sec yield hit an intraday high of 6.290, before rising 4.3 bps to close at 6.289.

RCB OFFICIAL CHALLENGES
ARREST AS COURT GRANTS
INTERIM RELIEF TO KSCA
ADMINISTRATORS

Diary Times Desk : The Karnataka High Court on Friday granted interim protection from arrest to key office bearers of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) in connection with the deaths of 11 people and injuries to many more in a stampede during the event held on Wednesday to celebrate Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) winning the IPL. Justice S R Krishna Kumar, who heard the petition seeking to quash the FIR against the KSCA office-bearers, restrained the police from taking any coercive action against the officials until the next hearing. The court also directed the petitioners to cooperate with the ongoing investigation. The petition to quash the FIR will be taken up again on June 16. The KSCA's lead office bearers comprise: former Karnataka spinner Raghuram Bhatt (president), K Sriram (vice-president), A Shankar (secretary), ES Jairam (treasurer) and former umpire Shahvir Tarapore (joint secretary). Advocate General Shashi Kiran Shetty, who appeared on behalf of the state, clarified that the police had no immediate plans to arrest anyone and sought permission for the investigation to continue.

AMID BENGALURU STAMPEDE, MUMBAI'S T20
WORLD CUP VICTORY PARADE IN FOCUS



Diary Times Desk : The stampede in Bengaluru amid celebrations over RCB's IPL win that resulted in 11 deaths has brought into focus the feat of Mumbai police, which helmed a massive victory parade with picture-perfect arrangements and clockwork precision following India's T20 World Cup win last year. Despite the iconic Wankhede stadium and almost the entire stretch of the picturesque Marine Drive turning into a sea of blue on July 4 as almost three lakh people gathered to greet the Indian team, precise placement of barricades, a steady stream of real-time announcements and on the spot decisions of crowd control saved the day, officials said on Friday. "We had just 36 hours to prepare. We were on our toes and managed around three lakh people. We told the Mumbai Cricket Association that tickets should be issued for such free public events so that crowds can be managed properly. If online tickets are kept for such events, the entry and exit of the people can be monitored and crowding can be avoided," a senior police official told PTI.

NEET-PG TO BE HELD ON AUG 3, SUPREME
COURT ACCEPTS EXTENSION REQUEST

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Friday permitted the National Board of Examinations in Medical Sciences (NBEMS) to reschedule the NEET-PG 2025 examination to August 3, following its earlier directive mandating that the exam be held in a single shift. A vacation bench comprising Justices P.K. Mishra and A.G. Masih passed the order after NBEMS submitted an application citing its inability to conduct the examination in a single shift on the previously scheduled date of June 15. Appearing on behalf of NBEMS, Advocate Kirtiman Singh informed the court that the Board had initially planned to conduct the online examination in two shifts, identifying 450 centres accordingly. However, adhering to the new single-shift directive required a substantial increase in secure examination centres equipped with uninterrupted Wi-Fi, hardware support, and power backup. The Supreme Court's May 30 order had struck down the two-shift format as "arbitrary." Following that decision, NBEMS consulted its technical partner.

IN US, SHASHI THAROOR'S SON GRILLS HIM ON PAKISTAN ROLE IN PAHALGAM
TERROR ATTACK. CONGRESS MP GIVES 'THREE REASONS'

Diary Times Desk : Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who is in the United States leading an all-party delegation, was asked a question by his son, Ishaan, on Thursday about Pakistan's involvement in the Pahalgam terror attack. Ishaan Tharoor asked whether any country had asked the delegation led by his father for evidence of Pakistan's involvement in the deadly Pahalgam terrorist attack on April 22 that killed 26 people, mostly tourists. He also asked about Pakistan's consistent denial of its involvement in the attack. "I'm curious though, on this tour you've been on various countries in the Western Hemisphere. Have any of your government interlocutors asked you to show evidence of Pakistan's culpability in the initial attack? And what do you say to the repeated Pakistani denials of having any hand in the initial attack?" Ishaan asked.

'WE SUSPECT KIDNAPPING': FAMILY OF
INDORE WOMAN MISSING IN MEGHALAYA
DURING HONEYMOON

Diary Times Desk : The brother of a newly married woman who went missing during her honeymoon in Meghalaya has told the police their family suspects she has been kidnapped. Rescuers have made no headway in the search for Sonam, a tourist from Indore whose husband, Raja Raghuvanshi, was found murdered in a gorge in Meghalaya's East Khasi Hills district. The missing woman's brother, Govind Raghuvanshi, said they believe she is alive and have no reason to think otherwise. The family also asked the case to be taken up by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). "It has been so many days and the search team has not got any clue. The rescuers have not yet found her phone or bag. So, this is kidnapping. We appeal to the police and the rescuers not to give up hope and change their tack to find her alive," Govind Raghuvanshi said. "Some 200 metres below the place where Raja's body was found, there were tonnes of garbage.



RUSSIA LAUNCHES 400 DRONES, 40 MISSILES ON UKRAINE DAYS AFTER KYIV'S ATTACK

Diary Times Desk : Russian forces launched 400 drones and 40 missiles on Ukraine overnight on Friday, killing at least four people and injuring dozens, Ukrainian authorities said. All four fatalities occurred in Kyiv, where 20 other people were injured, said Kyiv Mayor Vitali Klitschko. The State Service for Emergencies confirmed that three of the victims were emergency service workers. Separately, the National Police reported that about 40 people were injured nationwide, with most of them in Kyiv, the northwestern city of Lutsk and the western city of Ternopil. According to the police, 38 facilities were damaged in the attacks, including five apartment buildings and five private houses, Xinhua news agency reported. For Kyiv residents, the night brought a sadly familiar chorus: the high-pitched buzz of drones, the wail of air raid sirens, and thunderous explosions overhead—whether from successful air defence interceptions or incoming missiles hitting their targets.

OIL PRICES HEADED FOR REBOUND THIS WEEK AS US-CHINA TRADE TALKS RESUME

Diary Times Desk : Oil prices slipped on Friday but were on track for their first weekly gain in three weeks after U.S. President Donald Trump and Chinese leader Xi Jinping resumed trade talks, raising hopes for growth and stronger demand in the world's two largest economies. Brent crude futures fell 19 cents, or 0.3%, to \$65.15 a barrel as of 0441 GMT. U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude gave up 20 cents, also 0.3%, to \$63.17, after gaining around 50 cents on Thursday. On a weekly basis, both benchmarks were on track to settle higher after falling for two straight weeks. Brent has advanced 2.1% this week, while WTI is trading 4% higher. China's official Xinhua news agency said trade talks between Xi and Trump took place at Washington's request. Trump said the call had led to a "very positive conclusion," adding the U.S. was "in very good shape with China and the trade deal." Canada also continued trade talks with the U.S., with Prime Minister Mark Carney in direct contact with Trump, according to Industry Minister Melanie Joly. The oil market continued to swing with news on tariff negotiations.

F-47 SIXTH GENERATION FIGHTER JET OF US LIKELY TO GET ITS FIRST BUYER, NOT INDIA, PAKISTAN, ISRAEL, UKRAINE, UK, FRANCE, SAUDI ARABIA, IT IS...

Diary Times Desk : Amid Russia and China rapidly advancing their military technologies, especially the development of sixth-generation fighter jets, the United States has announced that it was building F-47—the country's first 6th-gen fighter jet. Sharing the news, US President Donald Trump described the F-47 as the "most advanced and powerful jet" ever built. "The F-47 will be the most advanced, most capable, most lethal aircraft ever built," Trump said, while his Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth said the 6th-generation aircraft was a "clear message" to US' allies and enemies. "It sends a very clear message to our allies that we're here to stay—and to our enemies that we will continue to project power globally without any obstacles," said Hegseth. Developed and manufactured by American aerospace giant Boeing, the F-47 is the US' first officially-announced 6th-generation fighter jet designed to supplement and support its older platforms, such as the F-15, F-16, F-18, F-22, and F-35 fighters.

**TRUMP MAY GET RID OF HIS TESLA AFTER MUSK ROW: OFFICIAL**

Diary Times Desk : Donald Trump may now offload a Tesla he said he bought earlier this year in a show of support for Elon Musk, a White House official said Friday, following a blazing row between the US president and his billionaire former advisor. The red electric vehicle, which retails for around \$80,000, was still in a parking lot on the White House grounds on Friday, an AFP reporter said, a day after the very public meltdown between Trump and the South African-born tech tycoon. "He's thinking about it, yes," a senior White House official told AFP when asked if the Republican would sell or give away the Tesla. Tesla stocks had tanked more than 14 percent on Thursday amid the row, losing some \$100 billion of the company's market value, but leapt back in early trading Friday. Trump, who does not drive as a president, said he was buying the Tesla in March to boost support for his mega-donor, whose brand -- and bottom line -- has been hit hard by public outrage over his role in slashing US government jobs.

PM INVITED TO G7 SUMMIT IN CANADA'S KANANASKIS THIS MONTH

Diary Times Desk : In a big sign of India-Canada ties healing after hitting an all-time low under former prime minister Justin Trudeau, his successor Mark Carney has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the G7 summit in the country later this month. Indicating that he will attend, PM Modi said he is looking forward to meeting Mr Carney at the summit, which will be held from June 15 to 17. Taking to X on Friday, PM Modi wrote he had received a call from the Canadian Prime Minister and that the two countries would work together with "renewed vigour", guided by mutual respect. "Glad to receive a call from Prime Minister @MarkJCarney of Canada. Congratulated him on his recent election victory and thanked him for the invitation to the G7 Summit in Kananaskis later this month. As vibrant democracies bound by deep people-to-people ties, India and Canada will work together with renewed vigour, guided by mutual respect and shared interests. Look forward to our meeting at the Summit," the Prime Minister wrote.

MODI GOVT MOVE TO PUNISH PAKISTAN BY SUSPENDING INDUS WATER TREATY LEAVES PAKISTAN..., BILAWAL BHUTTO MAKES SHOCKING REMARKS

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan has once again warned of nuclear war against India. This time, the threat comes in response to India's decision to suspend the Indus Water Treaty. Former Foreign Minister of Pakistan and Pakistan People's Party (PPP) chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari made the comments during his visit to the United States. On Thursday, June 5, 2025, Bilawal was speaking at the Middle East Institute in Washington, D.C. While addressing the gathering, he strongly criticized India and accused it of violating the water-sharing treaty, which he claimed is putting Pakistan's water resources at serious risk. According to a report by Pakistan's newspaper Dawn, Bilawal said, "We have made it clear that cutting off our water supply is an act of war." He added in a serious tone, "This isn't just about nationalism or political statements. We're not saying this for effect—this is about our survival. No country in the world, no matter how big or powerful it is, will sit quietly if its water and future are threatened. Every country will fight for its water."

WORLD'S HAPPIEST COUNTRY IS FINLAND, ISRAEL'S POSITION WILL SHOCK YOU, INDIA, PAKISTAN ARE AT....

Diary Times Desk : There are over 190 countries across the world. Each has its own unique traditions and cultures. We always think and read about the wealthiest country in the world or the biggest and tiniest countries, but have you ever wondered which is the happiest country in the world? According to the World Population Review Report 2025, there are some countries that are actually happy. The list is topped by Finland, and the second position is secured by Denmark. Iceland and Sweden are at third and fourth positions. But do you know where India stands in the list of the world's most happiest countries? Finland is at the top position on the happiest country list for several years now. The country is known for its stunning natural beauty, particularly the Northern Lights. Denmark, which holds the second position on the list, is known for social equality, strong welfare systems, and high purchasing power. Iceland, known for its dramatic volcanic, glacial, and waterfall scenery, holds the third position in the ranking of the world's happiest country. India is at 126 positions as per the World Pollution Report. A country's ranking is calculated using Gallup poll data from 149 nations. Six factors considered are – per capita GDP, social support.

OP BLUESTAR ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED PEACEFULLY; FOR 1ST TIME SINCE 1999, JATHEDAR DOESN'T ADDRESS SIKH COMMUNITY AT AKAL TAKHT

Diary Times Desk : Amid tight security arrangements, members of various Sikh organisations participated in the 41st Operation Bluestar anniversary that was observed peacefully at the Akal Takht on Friday. Confrontation between Sikh organisations during the Operation Bluestar anniversary was avoided as Akal Takht officiating Jathedar Kuldeep Singh Gargaj neither delivered an address to the Sikh community from the Fasil of the Akal Takht nor felicitated the Sikh families whose near and dear ones were killed during the Army operation in 1984. Following extensive damage to the Akal Takht building in the Army operation, a new building was constructed in 1998 and in 1999, the Dal Khalsa started observing the Operation Bluestar anniversary. Since then, it is for the first time that the Akal Takht Jathedar did not address the Sikh community nor felicitate the families of those killed during the operation. Instead, SGPC president Harjinder Singh Dharmi felicitated the Sikh families who had lost their near and dear ones in the operation. Damdami Taksal head Harnam Singh Dhuma, who had objected to Gargaj delivering an address to the Sikh community from the Akal Takht and felicitating the families, said he "felt relieved".

**ROPAR IIT GETS RS 311-CR PROJECT TO DEVELOP AI-BASED AGRI TECH**

Diary Times Desk : The IIT, Ropar, has got a grant of Rs 311 crore from the Union Ministry of Education to set up a centre of excellence for developing artificial intelligence (AI)-based solutions in the field of agriculture. Director of the IIT, Ropar, Professor Rajiv Ahuja told The Tribune that the project aimed at taking AI-driven innovations to the grassroots level and empowering farmers with cutting-edge tools for better farm management. The institute would work for leveraging AI for sustainable agriculture and food security in the country, he said. The institute has already developed some AI-based solutions to assist farmers in animal husbandry and beekeeping. Digital Bee Sence technology has been developed by the institute to monitor bee health using AI. It helps in ensuring effective pollination, resulting in higher crop yield. The institute's other innovative projects include a solution for AI use in livestock management, a smart tag to monitors the health of livestock that sends alerts on the mobile phones of farmers, an AI tool for precision farming that helps in optimising nitrogen levels in the soil etc.

COURT ORDERS GMADA TO VACATE EXCESS LAND TAKEN FOR AIRPORT ROAD

Diary Times Desk : In a classic case, an excess piece of land was taken by the Greater Mohali Area Development Authority (GMADA) for the construction of a 200-ft-wide road, commonly known as Airport Road, which leads to the Chandigarh international airport in Mohali. The court has now ordered vacation of the land. The state government had acquired land in June 2008 for the road and the acquisition proceedings were completed in June next year with the award of compensation to the landowners, ranging from Rs 5-10 crore, depending upon the condition and location of the acquired land. Two bighas and 12 biswas (almost 0.65 acre) of Narata Singh, a resident of Nadiali village in Mohali, were also acquired. However, during the construction of Airport Road in 2015, his 22 biswas of excess land were also used under the project. Realising the loss of their excess land, his son Rudla Singh.

DEVELOPMENT CHARGES FOR PUNJAB REALTORS HIKE BY UP TO 100%

Diary Times Desk : In the wake of the boom in the realty sector, the government on Wednesday substantially hiked the development charges for real estate promoters, ranging from 50 per cent to 100 per cent across the state. To boost the state's revenue, the Cabinet had recently decided to increase the development charges. The maximum hike has been for areas around Chandigarh, like Mohali, Kharar, Zirakpur and Dera Bassi, that are witnessing large-scale urbanisation with a number of residential and commercial projects being approved under the Punjab Apartment and Property Regulation Act-1995 and mega projects under the Mega Project Policy. Now, the promoter of a residential colony in Mohali would have to pay development charges of around Rs 1.28 crore per acre against Rs 67 lakh paid as per the previous rates, implying that the end-user would also have to pay more to buy property. Similarly, the promoter of a group housing project in Mohali would have to pay around Rs 3.65 crore as development charges against the previous rate of around Rs 1.66 crore per acre. In the case of commercial projects in Mohali, a promoter would have to pay nearly Rs 4.60 crore against Rs 2.50 crore charged earlier.

BID TO BUY PEACE BY GIVING INDUS WATER PROVED COSTLY TO NATION, SAYS SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Diary Times Desk : Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan today targeted the Congress saying its "attempt to buy peace by giving Indus water to Pakistan proved costly for India". "Our nasty neighbour Pakistan kept irrigating the crop of terrorism and unleashed terror on our motherland," he said as he targeted first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru over the Indus Waters Treaty. The minister was visiting the state as part of the Viksit Krishi Sankalp Abhiyan. He engaged with farmers of Patiala to promote sustainable and progressive farming practices. While congratulating PM Narendra Modi for suspending the Indus Water Treaty following the Pahalagam terror attack, Chouhan claimed that 80 per cent of the country's water was flowing into Pakistan. "Now, this water will be used for farming in Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan," he said. "I have gone through the parliamentary proceedings of the time when the Indus Water Treaty was signed. Even the parliamentarians of the Congress, particularly from Punjab and J&K, had strongly opposed it. And the then PM Nehru had stated that we are buying peace from Pakistan in lieu of water. While peace never prevailed.

HARYANA TO REVIVE 25,000 HECTARES UNDER ARAVALLI GREEN WALL PROJECT

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi symbolically launched the Aravalli Green Wall project today, even as Haryana targets to restore around 25,000 hectares of the depleting Aravallis. The project, which aims to combat the threat of desertification, will, in the first phase, develop continuous forests from Porbandar in Gujarat to Rajghat in Delhi. Almost 40 per cent of the Aravallis are in Haryana's six districts, making the state's role particularly crucial for the green wall project to succeed. In Haryana, the restoration will be carried out over the next three years in the recorded forest areas (RFA) of five districts — Gurugram, Faridabad, Nuh, Rewari and Mahendragarh. The Forest Department has used Geographical Information System (GIS) mapping to identify RFA totalling 33,706 hectares across these districts. Of this, 24,990 hectares were found to be degraded. Over half of the degraded land has low tree cover, around a quarter has no forest cover, and 15 per cent of it is scrubland.

HARYANA BJP CHIEF MOHAN LAL BADOLI EXHORTS PARTY LEADERS, WORKERS TO TAKE DRIVE TO GRASSROOTS

Diary Times Desk : To mark the successful completion of 11 years of the BJP-led Central government and promote the 'Sankalp Se Siddhi' campaign, a special workshop of the Ambala Lok Sabha constituency was organised in Ambala City on Thursday. BJP state president Mohan Lal Badoli and Rajya Sabha MP Rekha Sharma were the chief speakers. Addressing party workers and leaders, Badoli exhorted them to reach out to grassroots. He highlighted the achievements of PM Narendra Modi-led Union government and said, "Whatever PM Modi had promised in 2014 has been fulfilled and taken to its logical conclusion over these 11 years. A comparison between pre-2014 and today's India shows a transformational change. Modi's 'Viksit Bharat' vision by 2047 is a mission we all must work collectively to achieve," he said. He outlined upcoming initiatives under the campaign and said a media dialogue would be held on June 8, while digital competitions on the theme "Changing India-My Experience" would be held from June 9 to July 9. State-level press conferences would be organised on June 9. On June 10 and 11, district-level press briefings, professional meets and exhibitions would be organised, he said. Mandal-level 'Sankalp Sabhas' would be held.

HIMACHAL HC UPHOLDS
CBI INVESTIGATION IN
NEGI DEATH CASE

Diary Times Desk : The Himachal Pradesh High Court on Thursday declined to interfere with the earlier decision to transfer the investigation into the death of chief engineer Vimal Negi to the CBI. The order came on a petition filed by Sanjeev Gandhi, who headed the SIT as SO, Shimla. Gandhi had challenged the Single Bench's order transferring the inquiry to the CBI, but the court observed this plea was non-maintainable. However, it issued notices to the state government and Kiran Negi, the deceased's wife, on a limited issue regarding the removal of certain observations made in the single judge's order transferring the probe to the CBI. Negi, a chief engineer at HP Power Corporation Ltd, went missing on March 10. His body was later found in Govindsagar, Bilaspur, on March 18. Suspecting bias in the SIT probe, his family had moved the court seeking a CBI investigation. A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice GS Sandhawalia and Justice Ranjan Sharma passed the order on Gandhi's appeal against the single judge's decision. Gandhi argued that certain remarks in the order referencing DGP and ACS (Home) status reports could harm his career as an IPS officer. The court will now hear his plea on this limited aspect.

LIGHTNING STRIKE KILLS 11
BUFFALOES IN CHURAH
AREA IN CHAMBA

Diary Times Desk : A lightning strike in Pakhara ridge under the Chanju area of Churah sub-division claimed the lives of 11 buffaloes belonging to a Gujar hearer. The buffaloes, owned by Sharif Ali, were grazing in the ridge when the lightning struck around 6:30 pm. However, no loss of human life was reported. The incident was reported to local authorities by Sharif Ali, following which the animal husbandry department visited the site on Thursday. The department assessed the losses, recorded the death of the animals and has forwarded the report to higher authorities for further action. Gujar pastoralists from Punjab migrate to highland pastures in Chamba district during summer to ensure fodder for their cattle. Many of them, including Sharif Ali, had set up temporary camps in the Chanju region. The families are expected to return to their native places after the summer season ends.

SNOW MUCH FUN: ROHTANG PASS DEFIES SUMMER WITH SNOWFALL

Diary Times Desk : Tourists visiting Rohtang Pass this June are in for a rare treat — intermittent snowfall that has transformed the region into a winter wonderland. Perched at an altitude of 13,058 feet, Rohtang defies summer's grip, offering snow-draped peaks, plunging temperatures, and a refreshing chill that leaves visitors wide-eyed with wonder. Across Mandali, the mood is celebratory as travellers embrace this unseasonal burst of winter. Many describe the experience as nothing short of magical — an alpine escape where the scorching heat and humidity of the plains vanish, replaced by crisp mountain air. From snowball fights to cozy bonfires, the contrast between the sweltering cities and this frosty retreat couldn't be more dramatic. Tourists are seizing the moment, indulging in thrilling activities like river rafting and paragliding. Meanwhile, locals have swiftly adapted to the surprise cold snap. Woollens are out, and heaters and tandoors are back in use, with mornings and evenings now boasting a December-like chill — even in the middle of June. The snowfall sweeping across Rohtang and surrounding high-altitude regions has drawn visitors from far and wide. Families from Delhi and Kolkata, fleeing 50°C temperatures, are basking in the cool embrace of Mandali's snow-kissed landscape. "It's surreal — we left an oven behind and walked into a snow globe," said Ashutosh Mehta, a tourist from Delhi.



DEVELOP MECHANISM FOR
RELEASING CONVICTS ON PAROLE:
HC TO HIMACHAL GOVT

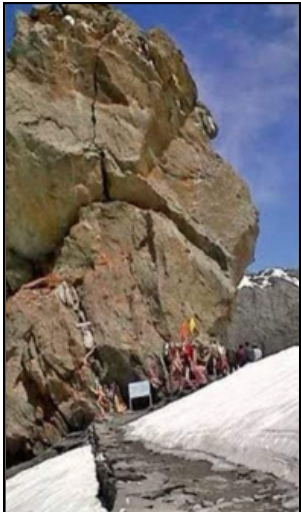
Diary Times Desk : The Himachal Pradesh High Court has directed the state government to develop a mechanism to promulgate, monitor, revise and enforce compliance of relevant provisions, Jail Manual, HP Good Conduct Prisoners (Temporary Release) Act and Rules framed thereunder, especially with respect to the time frame prescribed for process, considering and deciding the applications for temporary release. While passing this direction, a Division Bench, comprising Justice Vivek Singh Thakur and Justice Rakesh Kainthla, observed, "There should be an unambiguous, meaningful provision for considering eligibility for enlarging prisoners on parole, including eligibility for applying for parole for the first time." It further observed, "The denial of the extension of the benefit of parole should not be based upon vague and general objections communicated casually, but there must be substance or material to sustain the reasons for not recommending the case of the prisoners for release on parole. Mere apprehension without any substance or material should not be made basis for denying the benefit of temporary release on parole. The denial or non-recommendation should be based on a credible assertion, including a real cause or threat warranting non recommendation and denial of the benefit of temporary release." The court further directed the state authorities.

MANDI: GREEN ACTIVISTS EXHORT
UNIFIED ACTION TO MAKE
COUNTRY PLASTIC-FREE

Diary Times Desk : On the occasion of World Environment Day, environmentalists raised a clarion call to make India plastic-free, expressing deep concern over the growing environmental degradation in the fragile Himalayan ecosystem due to plastic pollution. Guman Singh, convener of Himalayan Niti Abhiyan, an NGO dedicated to environmental conservation in the state, highlighted the escalating plastic waste crisis in the Himalayan region. "Plastic waste has become a major environmental concern in the hills over the past few years," Singh said. "Not only urban areas, but even villages are grappling with this menace due to the lack of an effective waste processing system." He warned that plastic waste was accumulating on riverbanks and polluting water bodies, with harmful substances seeping into the soil and entering the food chain. The situation had further worsened due to the increasing influx of tourists, many of whom irresponsibly discard plastic waste in ecologically sensitive areas. Singh stressed that plastic pollution was no longer just a local or national concern, but a global issue that needed immediate and coordinated efforts. Narender Saini, chairman of Devbhumi Paryavaran Rakshak Manch, echoed similar concerns.

KULLU: SHRIKHAND YATRA TO COMMENCE ON JULY 10, PREPARATIONS
UNDER WAY

Diary Times Desk : The revered Shrikhand Yatra, widely recognised as one of the most challenging pilgrimages, is set to take place from July 10 to 23 this year. On July 23, the final group of devotees will embark on the Shrikhand Mahadev Yatra with their return scheduled for July 29. Kullu Deputy Commissioner Torul S Raveesh announced that the pilgrimage will be organised into five sectors, with adequate security measures already in place. Addressing concerns over last year's damages, the Deputy Commissioner confirmed that trek routes affected by the previous disaster are currently being repaired. "The administration is committed to ensure that all rest stops and accommodations are properly equipped for the passengers," she stated. She also emphasised the need for swift action and close coordination among all relevant departments. In a detailed video conference, the Deputy Commissioner engaged with members of the Yatra Trust as well as traders from the Chail and Juagi panchayats to discuss preparations for the Shrikhand Yatra. During this discussion, Buddhi Singh Thakur, founder member of the Trust and Milkfed chairman, provided valuable suggestions aimed at enhancing the overall experience for the pilgrims. According to Trust vice president and SDM Nirmand Manmohan Singh, registration is mandatory for all participants. "Devotees will join the journey only after registering online," he explained.



'WILL TRY TO ENSURE SUCH INCIDENTS DON'T RECUR' - BCCI SECRETARY ON CHINNASWAMY STAMPEDE

Diary Times Desk : The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), which regulates the Indian Premier League (IPL), is considering introducing guidelines for victory celebrations in the future. "At some stage BCCI will have to do something. We cannot be a silent spectator," BCCI secretary Devajit Saikia told Cricbuzz. The BCCI official was reacting to the horrific turn of events in Bengaluru during RCB's victory celebrations on Wednesday (June 5). "It was a private affair of RCB but we at the BCCI are responsible for cricket in India and we will try to ensure such incidents do not recur in future," Saikia further said. Eleven fans died and scores injured in the stampede-like situation near Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru during the RCB victory celebrations. This has caused a nation-wide outrage leading to action against police and RCB officials by the Karnataka State Government. Quite a few arrests have been made already. Only a day earlier, India coach Gautam Gambhir hit out against the organisers of the victory parade. "I think the lives of people are far more important and I will continue to say. We can be a little bit careful of not holding these kinds of roadshows and can probably have them closed doors or something like this in a stadium.



CARLSEN, GUKESH STRIKE TO SET UP PERFECT NORWAY CHESS LAST ROUND

Diary Times Desk : World number-one Magnus Carlsen leads World Champion Gukesh Dommaraju by half a point going into the final round of Norway Chess 2025 after both stars won their classical games in round nine. Carlsen sacrificed a pawn against GM Fabiano Caruana but ultimately converted an extra pawn in the endgame. Gukesh took big risks in the opening against GM Wei Yi but turned it all around again to win in style. GM Hikaru Nakamura took a classical draw against GM Arjun Erigaisi before winning smoothly in armageddon. All three classical games in Women's Norway Chess 2025 ended decisively and with a major shakeup in the standings. GM Anna Muzychuk beat Women's World Champion GM Ju Wenjun to take a two-point lead. The former leader GM Koneru Humpy achieved a winning position against GM Lei Tingjie but blundered and lost a piece, leaving her in second. IM Sara Khadem won her second classical game of the event, against GM Vaishali Rameshbabu. With the top-three only separated by two points the final round of Norway Chess is set to be a thriller. Carlsen vs. Caruana has been perhaps the biggest rivalry in chess for a decade, but the world number-one felt his opponent wasn't quite at the races in round nine."

PIYUSH CHAWLA RETIRES FROM PROFESSIONAL CRICKET

Diary Times Desk : Piyush Chawla, the former India legspinner, has called time on a professional career that spanned over two decades. Chawla, 36, played three Tests, 25 ODIs and seven T20Is, with his last appearance for India coming back in 2012 at the T20 World Cup in Sri Lanka. The Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy in 2024-25 was Chawla's final appearance in domestic cricket, a tournament he had committed to play in the hope of featuring in IPL 2025. He went unsold at the mega auction in November and was subsequently part of ESPNcricinfo's programming during the tournament. Chawla featured in 192 IPL matches, and had stints with four franchises - Punjab Kings (PBKS), Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR), Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Mumbai Indians (MI). He picked up 192 wickets, with the highlight being the 2014 season, where he famously hit the winning runs to bring KKR their second IPL title in three seasons. Chawla's last IPL appearance came in 2024, when he was part of MI. He finishes as the fourth-highest wicket-taker in the IPL. Chawla came into the limelight as a 16-year-old when he bowled Sachin Tendulkar with a googly in the 2005 Challenger Trophy. In 2006, he earned a Test debut against England in Mohali, soon after being a part of India's Under-19 World Cup squad.

IND A VS ENG LIONS: KL RAHUL SCORED HUNDRED IN 2ND UNOFFICIAL TEST

Diary Times Desk : KL Rahul on Friday scored a century for India A on the first day of the second unofficial Test match against England Lions at the County Ground in Northampton. He got to the mark in 151 deliveries with 13 fours and a six. This was Rahul's 19th First-Class ton, and his first for India A. The Karnataka batter was added to the A squad for the second unofficial Test after missing the first game due to his Indian Premier League commitment with Delhi Capitals. Rahul opened the innings with Yashasvi Jaiswal, a major development ahead of the five-match series against England as India tries to figure out its batting order after the retirements of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli. The 33-year-old had also stepped up into the opening spot during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia when Rohit was unavailable. He got to the mark in 151 deliveries with 13 fours and a six. The Karnataka batter was added to the A squad for the second Test.



YASH DAYAL REFLECTS ON RCB PLAYERS HELPING VIRAT KOHLI ACHIEVE IPL GLORY: 'WHATEVER IS DONE FOR HIM IS LESS'

Diary Times Desk : In the days following Royal Challengers Bengaluru's maiden IPL win, after the beat Punjab Kings by six runs in IPL 2025 Final in Ahmedabad, there has been plenty of cause for celebration for cricket fans all over the world, but especially amongst the players themselves. This extends especially to some players who have grown up watching Virat Kohli, idolised the great man, and now earnt an opportunity to play alongside him. It was evident in RCB's celebrations that this victory meant just a little bit more because the team could help Kohli finally get his hands on that elusive IPL trophy, after 18 long years. As Kohli broke down in tears, his teammates flooded towards him to celebrate. Trying to explain the cause for such sentiment, Kohli's teammate and one of RCB's most important players in the last two years, Yash Dayal, spoke about how it was important to the players as well. "Whatever is done for Virat bhaiya is very less. He has given this franchise 18 years and has seen so many ups and downs. And we are very happy to have won the trophy and want to repeat it in the future also," said Dayal in an interview with Times of India.

BANGALORE FRANCHISE WAS NOT MALLYA'S FIRST CHOICE - LALIT MODI

Diary Times Desk : Lalit Modi hailed Royal Challengers Bengaluru's triumph in IPL 18 and revealed that the franchise almost didn't come into existence. According to the IPL's founder and former chairman, Vijay Mallya wanted the Mumbai franchise initially, while Virat Kohli was not the first-choice for the Delhi team. "There is a lot of controversy about my good friend Vijay Mallya. He was the first person to have come on board for the IPL, and he was the one who blindly endorsed it before anybody, without even looking at a business model," Modi revealed to Cricbuzz. Both Modi and Mallya are currently based in the UK. "His first choice was Mumbai, and he lost it by just USD 200,000 in the big auction. He got Bangalore (now Bengaluru), and rightfully so, because it is his birth city, home city, and it is where he came from. And RCB is what it is because Mallya made it at that time. It was Mallya's second choice, right? But the best choice for me. "If it had been some other buyer, it definitely would not have been RCB, and it would have been something totally different. But nevertheless, as we sit here today, Vijay Mallya had the foresight and the understanding to get, number one, the Bangalore.