

## MANIPUR VIOLENCE

## MANIPUR ON EDGE AFTER ARREST OF RADICAL MEITEI LEADER —EX—COP WANTED FOR ABDUCTION OF SENIOR OFFICER

**Diary Times Desk :** Tensions erupted in two districts of Manipur on Saturday night, prompting the suspension of internet services for five days after a popular leader of the radical group Arambai Tenggol allegedly involved in the abduction of a senior police officer, was arrested and handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

Kannan Singh, the commander of Arambai Tenggol and a former head constable in the Manipur Police who was dismissed from service earlier this year, has been involved in multiple cases, police sources confirmed to ThePrint.

Another arrest of a Kuki National Army (KNA) leader was also made by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in a case of murder.

Protests broke out in the Imphal valley, demanding the release of Singh and another volunteer of Arambai Tenggol who was arrested by Manipur Police in a separate case. Protesters torched tyres and old furniture on roads in Kwakeithel and Uripok, and clashed with security personnel Saturday night.

A mob also set a bus on fire at Khurai Lamlong in Imphal East district. Security forces fired several rounds of tear gas shells to disperse the protesters in front of Kangla Gate, nearly 200 metres away from the Raj Bhavan.



## MANIPUR VIOLENCE

## PM'S 'INSENSITIVITY' TO SUFFERING OF PEOPLE IN MANIPUR 'TRULY SHOCKING': CONGRESS

**Diary Times Desk :** With fresh violence rocking parts of Manipur, the Congress on Sunday targeted Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his "insensitivity" towards the suffering of people in the state. In a post on X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the pain, distress, and agony of the people of Manipur continues unabated as five districts of Imphal West, Imphal East, Thoubal, Katching, and Bishnupur in Manipur have been rocked by violence in the last 24 hours.

A day after violent protests erupted in Manipur over the arrest of a leader of Meitei outfit Arambai Tenggol, the situation remained tense on Sunday with the administration imposing prohibitory orders and suspending internet services in five Imphal valley districts, police said.

Hitting out at the government, Ramesh claimed that in February 2022 the BJP "engineered a majority for itself alone" in the Assembly elections. "But less than 15 months later from the night of May 3, 2023, Manipur was made to burn. Hundreds of innocent men, women, and children were killed. Thousands were displaced. Places of worship were destroyed," he said.

On June 4, 2023, the Congress leader said the Union Government set up a three-member Commission of Inquiry. That Commission has been given repeated extensions to submit its report and the latest deadline given to it is November 20, he noted. On August 1, 2023, Ramesh said the Supreme Court observed that there had been an "absolute breakdown of constitutional machinery" in the state for the last two months. "The Union Home Minister went through the motions of visiting Manipur while the PM maintained absolute silence refusing to say anything.



CASH DISCOVERY: RESIGNATION ONLY OPTION BEFORE JUSTICE VARMA TO AVOID REMOVAL BY PARLIAMENT

**Diary Times Desk :** Resignation is the only option before Justice Yashwant Varma to avoid impeachment by Parliament as the government pushes for bringing a motion to remove the Allahabad High Court judge over alleged corruption. Officials aware of the procedure to appoint and remove Supreme Court and high court judges pointed out that while defending his case before lawmakers in any of the House, Justice Varma can announce that he is quitting and his verbal statement will be considered his resignation. Should he decide to resign, he will get pension and other benefits entitled to a retired high court judge. But if he is removed by Parliament, he will be deprived of pension and other benefits, they noted. According to Article 217 of the Constitution, a high court judge "may, by writing under his hand addressed to the President, resign his office". A judge's resignation does not require any approval. A simple resignation letter is sufficient. A judge may give a prospective date to step down. In such cases, the judge can withdraw the resignation before the date he or she has mentioned as the last day in office. Removal by Parliament is the other way a judge can vacate office. Then Chief Justice of India Sanjiv Khanna had written to the President and the prime minister to remove Justice Varma, mired in the cash discovery row.



MEITEI LEADER'S ARREST TRIGGERS FRESH UNREST IN MANIPUR; VEHICLES TORCHED, CURFEW-LIKE CURBS, NET BAN IN 5 DISTRICTS

**Diary Times Desk :** Fresh unrest erupted in Manipur on Sunday following the dramatic arrest of members of the Meitei outfit Arambai Tenggol and its leader Kanan Singh by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The arrests triggered widespread protests and violent clashes across the Imphal valley. In response, authorities imposed curfew-like restrictions and suspended Internet services across five key districts to prevent further escalation. Kanan Singh, believed to be a prominent leader of the Arambai Tenggol, a Meiti activist group, was picked up from Imphal airport in the early hours of June 8. CBI officials confirmed that Singh is a prime suspect in several cases related to the 2023 ethnic violence in Manipur and had been under surveillance for months. "He was wanted in multiple cases, including the attack on the house of Additional SP Moirangthem Amit.

IN 2026, NDA WILL FORM GOVERNMENTS IN TAMIL NADU, WEST BENGAL: AMIT SHAH



**Diary Times Desk :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday asserted that the NDA would form governments in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and targeted the DMK regime by firing fresh "corruption" salvos, including the Rs 4,600 crore sand mining scam. Addressing party office-bearers, he hailed Madurai as a city of 'parivartan' and said his party's Karyakarta Sammelan (workers' conference) in the temple city would lead to change, of dislodging the DMK from power. Chief Minister M K Stalin claimed that Shah cannot defeat the DMK and he is correct in a sense, he said, adding, "It is not Shah who will defeat the DMK, it is the people of Tamil Nadu who will bring about that change." Shah said he has participated in elections across the country and understands the pulse of the people, and he is fully confident that the people of Tamil Nadu will uproot the DMK government this time. The DMK's corrupt rule has affected the poor, women and children in Tamil Nadu, Shah alleged, and urged his party members to resolve to dislodge the Stalin-led Dravidian party government from the seat of power.

DRDO TRANSFERS TECHNOLOGY OF 9 DEFENCE SYSTEMS TO INDUSTRY FOR COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION

**Diary Times Desk :** The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has transferred the technology of nine defence systems to the industry for commercial manufacturing, which will help strengthen the defence industrial ecosystem. The licensing agreements of the equipment, developed by DRDO's Vehicles Research and Development Establishment, were handed over to representatives of 10 different industrial houses. These include entities in the public as well as private sector. The licences of some of the systems have been provided to more than one firm. The technologies for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear (CBRN) Recce Vehicle (Tracked) Mark-II and Expandable Mobile Shelter were handed over to Bharat Electronics Limited. The Full Trailer of the 70-tonne Tank.



YOUR HOROSCOPE  
09-06-2025

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.





## BIJNI-MANDI PROJECT: TUNNEL WILL BE BUILT IN THE SHAPE OF A HORSESHOE, THERE WILL BE AN EXIT GATE EVERY 500 METERS

**Diary Times Desk :** The twin tunnel being built under the Bijni-Mandi project in the Pathankot-Mandi four-lane will be in the shape of a horseshoe. Its alignment is almost straight. There will be slight turns in between. The other end of the tunnel starting from Bijni will come out on Score Road. A big bridge will be built on Beas here and will connect to Bindravani. The tunnel will also have state-of-the-art facilities. With this strategically important project, the Pathankot-Mandi four-lane will be connected to the Kiratpur-Manali four-lane at Bindravani. A junction will be built at Bindravani. Five service lanes will be built here. This will connect Mandi city, Kullu, Dharamshala, Chandigarh. A total of Rs 971.99 crore will be spent on the 5.357 km long project. A 3.5 km long tunnel is being built in it. The tunnel will have cross passages every 500 meters so that in case of any untoward incident, vehicles and others can be easily evacuated from the other tunnel. Apart from this, there will be a lay by place at every 800 meters i.e. a place to park the vehicle in case of emergency. The tunnel will have all kinds of facilities including ventilation, fire detection, CCTV, communication. The tunnel will have Skoda system. Under this, if there is more gas inside the tunnel.



## CHIEF MINISTER SUKHU SAID- SURVEY OF HOSHIARPUR-NADAUN FOUR LANE WILL SOON BRIGHTEN OTHER DISTRICTS OF UNA

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that Jairam Thakur ruined the economy of the state in the previous BJP government. The economy of the state was spent to save the government. There was no justification for this. BJP is divided into five factions in Himachal. Addressing a public meeting at Ramila Maidan, Daulatpur Chowk, Gagret Assembly constituency on Saturday, the Chief Minister said that before the previous BJP government left, so many institutions were opened in the state, which had no justification. The BJP government formed from 2017 to 2022 by promising a double engine government misused the public money in the state. He said that a survey is being conducted to make the Hoshiarpur-Nadaun road a four-lane road and it will be started soon. Solar energy projects are going on in Una district. Power projects are being set up at Haroli with 32 MW, Bhanjal with 5 MW and other places. From where electricity will also be provided to other districts during the day. The government formed with the slogan of system change is taking good decisions and is constantly working to make the state self-reliant. The people of the state will get direct benefits of this in the coming times.

## HIMACHAL: VICE PRESIDENT JAGDEEP DHANKHAR SAID - THERE IS A NEED TO WORK ON AGRICULTURAL INTELLIGENCE, VALUE ADDITION AND RESEARCH

**Diary Times Desk :** Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar stressed on bringing changes in the rural system and agriculture of the country to make India developed during the Samvad program at Nauni University. He gave the students five formulas for progress in the agricultural sector. These include agricultural intelligence, value addition, rural system, do your own work and work on authentic research. He told the students that you are the most important charioteer of developed India. You people are associated with agriculture. Developed India is not a dream but a goal and we will achieve it by 2047. The path to developed India will go through the farmer's field and that will happen only when scientists hold the hand of the farmer. The irony of the country is that the farmer is producing grains while the buyer decides the price. Therefore, young scientists need to do something in this, so that farmers can get marketing of crops.



## HIMACHAL NEWS: CHEATING IN THE NAME OF MARRIAGE, WOMAN RAN AWAY WITH HUSBAND'S CASH AND GOT MARRIED FOR THE FOURTH TIME, CAUGHT BY THE POLICE

**Diary Times Desk :** A young man from Banjar Valley became a victim of fraud in the name of marriage and trust. A woman who came as a bride after the fourth marriage, showed dreams of making her husband a big businessman a few months after marriage and sold 18 biswa ancestral land and got about two and a half lakh rupees deposited in her account and grabbed it. The woman ran away with 20 thousand rupees in cash and gold and silver jewelry. Patlikuhal police has caught the accused bride. She has been brought to the police station. According to the information received from the police, Gyan Chand, a resident of Baloun village of Banjar area, said that in 2024 he married a woman from Balichowki area. The marriage took place on the recommendation of the woman's brother. After some time, the wife instigated him to sell 18 biswa land. When the land was sold, he got Rs 2.50 lakh transferred to his account. She kept procrastinating every time when it came to getting her name registered in the Panchayat. Gyan Chand alleged that in April 2025, she suddenly disappeared from the house with 20 thousand rupees in cash and precious jewelry. Later it was found out that the woman had already been married three times before this. This was her fourth marriage. Gyan Chand alleged that the woman's brother, mother and father were also involved in this conspiracy. DSP KD Sharma said that the Patlikuhal police took action.

## HIMACHAL NEWS: 21-YEAR-OLD YOUTH DIES DUE TO DRUG OVERDOSE, AFZAL KHAN WAS A RESIDENT OF KHUSHINAGAR DISTRICT OF UTTAR PRADESH

**Diary Times Desk :** A young man died of drug overdose in Kunjahal. The young man was a worker in a private company and lived with his parents in a rented house in Kunjahal. The police handed over the body to his family after post-mortem in Nalagarh. Afzal Khan was a resident of Khushinagar in UP. According to the police, Afzal Khan was a drug addict. His parents worked in a company and 21-year-old Afzal was also working in the company. The deceased's father Nooruddin Ansari told the police that he used to take drugs secretly from his family members. Due to which he was not allowed to go out of the house. There was a holiday in companies on Saturday due to Eid. He went from home to offer Eid prayers and came back. At five in the evening, he took his mother's mobile and went for a walk towards Kunjahal. During this time, someone from Baliana informed him on the phone that his son was lying unconscious in a state of intoxication. As soon as they got the information, his family brought him home.

## SONIA GANDHI LEFT SHIMLA FOR DELHI, REACHED CHANDIGARH BY ROAD; HER HEALTH DETERIORATED ON SATURDAY



**Diary Times Desk :** Former Congress national president Sonia Gandhi, who had come to Shimla about a week ago, left for Delhi from Shimla on Sunday. She first reached Chandigarh's Shaheed Bhagat Singh Airport by road from here. After this, she left for Delhi. During this, a large number of Congress leaders and supporters reached the airport. Congress leader Manjit Khachi, son of State Forest Corporation Vice President Kehar Singh Khachi, also accompanied her to Mohali. On Saturday, her health deteriorated in Shimla and her blood pressure increased. After this, she reached IGC Shimla for routine checkup. Here all her tests were found normal. Then the doctor sent her back.

RINKU SINGH NOW ENGAGED TO SAMAJWADI PARTY MP PRIYA SAROJ; JAYA BACHCHAN, AKHILESH YADAV AND MORE BLESS THE COUPLE

**Diary Times Desk :** Indian cricketer Rinku Singh got engaged to Samajwadi Party MP Priya Saroj on Sunday, June 8, in Lucknow. Their wedding is slated for November 18 this year. Several pictures and inside videos from their private engagement party have now surfaced online. Several notable personalities, such as Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, MP Dimple Yadav and Jaya Bachchan attended the ring ceremony of Rinku Singh and Priya Saroj. Among them was Congress leader and BCCI Vice President Rajeev Shukla who told PTI, "May both of them enjoy a beautiful life, this is a wonderful match. Each excels in their own field, and together, they will make a strong and successful pair." Priya's father, Toofani Saroj, said that the "engagement ceremony was an intimate affair, attended by close family members, friends, and relatives". Rinku, 27, has played 2 ODIs and 33 T20Is for India in last couple of years and is an important member of IPL franchise Kolkata Knight Riders. The 26-year-old Priya is a first time MP from Jaunpur's Machhlishahr constituency.

INDIA'S ACTIVE COVID-19 CASES RISE TO 6,133, SIX DEATHS IN LAST 24 HOURS

**Diary Times Desk :** India's active Covid-19 case tally has crossed the 6,000-mark with 378 fresh cases reported in the last 24 hours, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's (MoHFW) data on Sunday, June 8, showed. India's active Covid-19 case tally stood at 6,133, with Kerala making the biggest contribution in the fresh infections, followed by Gujarat and West Bengal. India's active Covid-19 cases rose by 378 since Saturday to stand at 6,133, while 753 people with the infection were cured or discharged in the last 24 hours, the health ministry's data on Sunday showed. India also logged six deaths between Saturday and Sunday – two in Karnataka, three in Kerala and one in Tamil Nadu. Details of which are as follows: Karnataka – A 4- year old male with Cor pulmonale, Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension and incidental Covid-19 positive, a 78-year old male with Ischemic Heart Disease, Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura (and incidental Covid positive. Among the three Covid fatalities in Kerala was a 51-year-old male with SHT, CAD, CKD, a 64-year-old male with T2 DM, CKD, oesophageal adenocarcinoma with metastasis and a 92-year-old male with CAD-Post CABG, CKD Multiple Myeloma.

EC ASKS LOP RAHUL GANDHI TO FILE COMPLAINT DIRECTLY TO POLL BODY OVER MAHARASHTRA ELECTION 'RIGGING' CLAIM



**Diary Times Desk :** With Congress leader Rahul Gandhi sought the Election Commission's response on his article alleging rigging in Maharashtra polls, the EC said it would respond only if the Leader of the Opposition writes to it directly, PTI quoted a source as saying. According to the report, the EC stated that it had invited all six national parties for separate interactions. While the other five met the EC brass, Congress cancelled the May 15 meeting. Earlier on Saturday, Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha hit back at the Election Commission following sources in the poll panel rejected allegation of rigging in the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly polls, stating the evasion would not protect its credibility but telling the truth would. In an article, the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha had alleged "match-fixing" in the Maharashtra polls and claimed that it would next happen in the Bihar elections and "anywhere the BJP is losing". Responding to a question on Gandhi's demand for CCTV footage of Maharashtra's polling stations, the EC source cited the instructions of the poll body.

DELHI BRACES FOR INTENSE HEAT, TEMPERATURE LIKELY TO HIT 44 DEGREES IN COMING WEEK

**Diary Times Desk :** Delhi is set to face extreme heat as the temperature is likely to hit 44 degrees Celsius in the next few days. The national capital is in for a stretch of oppressive weather, with hot and humid conditions expected to continue till Thursday. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a yellow alert for the next four days, warning residents to take precautions against heat-related discomfort. Daytime temperatures in Delhi are likely to touch 44 degrees Celsius, coupled with high humidity, making the heat even more intense. Nights will remain warm and uncomfortable, offering little relief from the daytime heat. However, there is some relief on the horizon as the weather agency also predicted thunderstorms. According to the IMD, thunderstorm activity is expected to begin after Thursday, which is likely to bring down temperatures and provide a break from the ongoing heatwave-like conditions.

LITTLE TO SHOW POST OPERATION SINDOOR, PAK TRIES HARD AGAIN WITH DOCTORED IMAGES

**Diary Times Desk :** Did Pakistan hit a Sukhoi-30MKI parked at Adampur air base in Punjab? Or destroy an S-400 surface-to-air missile unit at Bhuj airfield in Gujarat? Those are the two latest fantasies being pushed as part of a month-long campaign of wishful thinking and weaponised misinformation from Islamabad. In the wake of India's Operation Sindoor, Pakistan had scrambled to project a counter-narrative of success in hitting Indian airfields and installations. With little to show by way of actual damage on Indian military infrastructure, it turned to doctored satellite images, fake visuals, and misinformation campaigns. Two new instances show Pakistan hasn't given up, and is relying even more heavily on doctored or incorrectly projected imagery to suggest damage. Top imagery analyst Damien Symon has serially debunked these claims over the last month, exposing how Pakistan attempted to fabricate battlefield success.

EAM JAISHANKAR BEGINS EUROPE VISIT TO BOOST TIES, HIGHLIGHT TERROR STANCE

**Diary Times Desk :** External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Sunday embarked on a week-long visit to Europe to hold talks with leaders of France, the European Union and Belgium to boost bilateral ties and reaffirm India's policy of zero-tolerance against terrorism. Jaishankar's visit to Europe comes a month after India launched Operation Sindoor in response to the dastardly Pahalgam terror attack and it is expected that he will apprise the European leaders about New Delhi's firm approach in dealing with cross-border terrorism. In the first leg of his tour, Jaishankar will visit France, a country that has emerged as an all-weather friend of New Delhi. "The external affairs minister would travel to Paris and Marseille where he would be holding bilateral discussions with his counterpart minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs Jean Noel Barrot," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said. Jaishankar would also participate in the inaugural edition of the Mediterranean Raisina Dialogue.

"IN 2026, BJP RULE IS CERTAIN IN TAMIL NADU," SAYS AMIT SHAH. DMK HITS BACK

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah, on a high-stakes visit to Tamil Nadu, delivered a fiery address in Madurai, asserting that the BJP-led alliance will form the government in the state after the 2026 Assembly elections. In a speech heavily loaded with political messaging, Mr Shah predicted a BJP resurgence not only in Tamil Nadu but also in West Bengal. "The people of Tamil Nadu are waiting to throw out the corrupt DMK regime. In 2026, BJP rule is certain in Tamil Nadu and West Bengal," Mr Shah said, adding, "My eyes and ears are on Tamil Nadu." The Home Minister also invoked Operation Sindoor, hailing it as a turning point that showcased India's military assertiveness under Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "When Pakistan launched missiles and drones, our response showed the world India's strength. Our forces flew 100 km into Pakistan and carried out surgical strikes," Mr Shah said, while emphasising the Modi government's push for self-reliance in defence.





**EARTHQUAKE TODAY: 6.5 MAGNITUDE  
EARTHQUAKE SHAKES COLOMBIA'S  
CAPITAL CITY, BOGOTA**

**Diary Times Desk :** Colombia's capital city, Bogota, was hit by a 6.5 magnitude earthquake on Sunday, 8 June 2025, reported the news agency Reuters, citing the German Research Centre for Geosciences (GFZ). The earthquake originated from a depth of 10 kilometres, the GFZ officials told the news agency. The buildings in the city shook as sirens blared around the nation's capital on Sunday. According to an AFP report citing the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the earthquake hit 170 kilometres near the city of Bogota at 9:08 local time. People started rushing out onto the street to seek safety, and some shared videos of swinging lights and furniture as the 6.5 magnitude earthquake wreaked havoc in Colombia. "This was very strong," an elderly lady in Bogota told the news agency. The report also mentioned how Central Colombia is a high seismic zone, and earlier in 1999, a 6.2 magnitude earthquake claimed nearly 1,200 lives near the region of Ansermanuevo.

**JOURNALIST MOTHER OF COLOMBIAN  
LEADER SHOT IN HEAD WAS KIDNAPPED,  
KILLED BY PABLO ESCOBAR**

**Diary Times Desk :** Colombia senator and presidential candidate Miguel Uribe was shot in the head during a rally on Sunday. The Colombian leader is the son of former journalist Diana Turbay, who was once kidnapped by a group linked to drug lord Pablo Escobar. Thirty-nine-year-old Senator Miguel Uribe was speaking to supporters in Bogota when a gunman shot him twice in the head and once in the knee. As per police, the suspect is a 15-year-old boy, who was detained after the attack. The senator was rushed to the hospital in "critical condition". As per the Santa Fe clinic in Bogota, the presidential candidate underwent "neurosurgical" and "peripheral vascular procedure." He "overcame the first surgical procedure," Bogota mayor Carlos Fernando Galan told media, adding that the senator had now entered "the critical hours" of recovery. As the Colombian leader recovers, thousands of supporters and political allies gathered outside the Santa Fe clinic with candles, praying for a swift recovery. Uribe hails from an influential Colombian family. He is the son of Diana Turbay, a famed Colombian journalist who was killed.

**IRAN SAYS ISRAELI 'TREASURE TROVE' OF SECRET DOCUMENTS TO BE UNVEILED SOON**

**Diary Times Desk :** Iranian Intelligence Minister Esmail Khatib has said sensitive Israeli documents related to its nuclear facilities, its relationship with the United States, Europe and other countries, as well as its defensive capabilities, will be unveiled soon. Khatib told state TV on Sunday that the documents obtained by Tehran were a "treasure trove" capable of strengthening the nation's offensive posture, but he did not provide any immediate evidence. The Israeli government, which has never revealed details about its nuclear arsenal, said to comprise substantial atomic weapons, making it the only country in the Middle East with nuclear bombs, has not yet commented on the report of the leaked documents. However, there have been arrests of Israelis allegedly spying for Tehran amid its war in Gaza. It was not clear if the materials were connected to a reported hacking of an Israeli nuclear research centre last year. The transfer of this treasure trove was time-consuming and required security measures. Naturally, the transfer methods will remain confidential, but the documents should be unveiled soon," Khatib said.

**ISRAEL ORDERS MILITARY TO STOP GAZA-  
BOUND YACHT CARRYING GRETA THUNBERG**

**Diary Times Desk :** Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz told the military on Sunday to stop a charity boat carrying activists including Sweden's Greta Thunberg who are planning to defy an Israeli blockade and reach Gaza. Operated by the pro-Palestinian Freedom Flotilla Coalition (FFC), the British-flagged Madleen yacht set sail from Sicily on June 6 and is currently off the Egyptian coast, heading slowly towards the Gaza Strip, which is besieged by Israel. "I instructed the IDF to act so that the Madleen ... does not reach Gaza," Katz said in a statement. "To the antisemitic Greta and her Hamas-propaganda-spouting friends, I say clearly: You'd better turn back, because you will not reach Gaza." Climate activist Thunberg said she joined the Madleen crew to "challenge Israel's illegal siege and escalating war crimes" in Gaza and highlight the urgent need for humanitarian aid. She has rejected previous Israeli accusations of antisemitism.

**UKRAINE REJECTS CLAIM RUSSIAN FORCES  
ENTER KEY CENTRAL REGION**

**Diary Times Desk :** Kyiv's armed forces rejected as "disinformation" Russia's claim that its ground troops have crossed into Ukraine's Dnipropetrovsk region for the first time, even as prospects for a US-brokered ceasefire remain elusive. Separately, Ukraine and Russia continued testy exchanges over the details of a planned large prisoner swap agreed to during last week's talks in Turkey. The exchange is likely to move ahead in the coming days. Russia's defense ministry said Sunday that units of its 90th tank regiment had crossed the western administrative border of Donetsk into neighboring Dnipropetrovsk, in what would be a symbolic milestone in their years-long offensive. In response, Ukraine's southern defense forces said its troops were "holding their section of the front" while involved in a situation that, while "tense," is still contained within the Donetsk region. At issue is the potential advance by Moscow's land forces into one of Ukraine's most populous and industrialized areas. The value of reaching the edge of the region appears mostly symbolic, as Kremlin troops are still more than 140 kilometers away from the regional capital.

**WORLD LEADERS URGED TO  
STEP UP FOR OVEREXPLOITED  
OCEANS**

**Diary Times Desk :** World leaders arrive in the French Riviera on Sunday ahead a high-level summit on ocean conservation, as nations face pressure to adopt tougher stances on overfishing, pollution and marine protection. The United Nations has sounded the alarm over an oceans "emergency" and leaders gathering in Nice will be called to commit money and stronger protections for the seas. The UN Ocean Conference, starting Monday, seeks to turn a corner as nations feud over deep-sea mining, plastic litter and exploitative fishing, against a backdrop of wider geopolitical tensions. "We have a duty to mobilise, because the science is clear and the facts are there," said French President Emmanuel Macron in Monaco on Sunday, where he attended a pre-conference event on ocean finance. Some 60 heads of state and government are expected in Nice, including Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and his Argentine counterpart Javier Milei. "The planet can no longer tolerate broken promises," said Lula on Sunday.

**TRUMP 'PEEVED' OVER MUSK'S  
CLAIM THAT HE WAS NAMED IN  
EPSTEIN FILES: REPORT**

**Diary Times Desk :** The calm after the storm proves true when it comes to US president Donald Trump and billionaire Elon Musk's very public social media spat. According to a report by the POLITICO, one of the officials said, "He's stopped posting, but that doesn't mean he's happy," regarding Trump's hiatus with Musk. "The future of their relationship is totally uncertain," the official said. Musk had suggested that Trump be impeached and the latter wanted to cut off all federal contracts for the former's companies but, neither wanted to do it, per the representatives of both the men. However, Trump was peeved by Musk's claim that he was associated with late sex offender Jeffrey Epstein in the Epstein Files. "Donald Trump is in the Epstein files. That is the real reason they have not been made public. Have a nice day, DJT!" Musk wrote on his X platform, which has now been deleted. On Thursday, the two were locked in a 'social media duel' when Musk had dropped the 'big bomb'. He had also added that his followers should mark this post for the future when "truth will come out." Notably, Trump has not been accused of been linked to the Epstein Files. What sent the president spinning was Musk's claim that he could not have won the election without his support and a quarter-billion dollars in political contributions.



**AGENT ARRESTED AFTER 3 PUNJAB MEN ARE NABBED AT DELHI AIRPORT FOR HAVING FAKE VISAS, TICKETS TO SPAIN**

**Diary Times Desk** : A man accused of trying to facilitate the illegal travel of three Punjab-based men to Spain using forged Schengen visas and fake tickets has been arrested by IGI Airport police, an official said on Sunday. The three men were arrested at the Delhi airport after their documents and tickets were found to be fake. They had been promised jobs in Spain after paying Rs 17 lakh for the illegal travel. Kamaldeep Singh (25), a resident of Amritsar, went into hiding after the trio's arrest but was later tracked and arrested from Kurukshetra, police said. He was working with another agent, Sonu Walia, already arrested by Punjab Police, to send the trio abroad on fake documents, they added. "On May 29, three passengers from Amritsar arrived at the IGI Airport to board a flight to Madrid. Airline officials flagged their tickets as fake and referred their documents to immigration authorities. The Schengen visas on their passports were confirmed to be counterfeit by a Swiss liaison officer," said the official. Schengen visa allows people from non-EU countries to enter Schengen countries (all in Europe) and permits free travel across borders within it. Following a complaint, an FIR was lodged and an investigation was ordered. Kamaldeep had promised the three jobs in Spain and charged them Rs 17 lakh in total.

**BJP'S JAKHAR URGES AKALI FACTIONS TO BURY DIFFERENCES, UNITE FOR STRONG 'PANTHIC' PARTY**

**Diary Times Desk** : Punjab BJP president Sunil Jakhar on Sunday said all Akali factions should set aside their "egos" and differences and unite, asserting that a strong 'panthic' party is required not only for the state but also for the nation. He asserted that it would be a "true tribute" to veteran Akali leader and former Union Minister Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa, who died on May 28. Jakhar was addressing a gathering during a ceremony organised to pay tributes to Dhindsa in Sangrur district. On the occasion, political leaders cutting across party lines and leaders from various Sikh bodies gathered to pay their last respects at the Antim Ardas for Dhindsa. Speaking on the occasion, Punjab BJP chief Jakhar said Dhindsa dedicated his life to the service of the people. He also made an appeal for a strong Panthic party, which is needed not only for Punjab but also for the nation. "All Akali factions should set aside their egos and unite for the community's interests, stepping forward for the 'Panth' and Punjab. This will be a true tribute to Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa," said Jakhar.

**AMRITPAL'S UNCLE REFUSES TREATMENT, SENT BACK TO BATHINDA JAIL AFTER BRIEF HOSPITAL VISIT**

**Diary Times Desk** : Harjit Singh, an uncle of jailed Khadoor Sahib MP Amritpal Singh, was taken to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Bathinda, late Saturday evening after his health deteriorated during a hunger strike in Bathinda jail. However, he was discharged within an hour and a half and sent back to the jail after a medical examination, as he refused to undergo treatment. The 54-year-old had reportedly been on a hunger strike for about a fortnight, demanding a physical mulaqat (face-to-face meeting) with visitors instead of communicating via telephone from behind a glass partition. He has also sought permission to speak with his family in Canada over the phone and to be allowed a mattress to sleep on the floor. His counsel, Advocate Harpal Singh Khara, today said, "A urine infection was detected during Harjit Singh's medical examination last night, but since he refused treatment.

**DRUG SMUGGLING RACKET BUSTED INSIDE ROPAR JAIL; ASI, HEAD CONSTABLE, AMONG OTHERS ARRESTED**

**Diary Times Desk** : Ropar police today busted a drug smuggling racket inside Ropar jail. SSP Ropar, Gulneet Singh Khurana, said that a gang involved in smuggling drugs and other prohibited items into Ropar District Jail has been busted. The SSP said Head Constable Kuldeep Singh was arrested and 101 grams of charas, 154 intoxicating capsules, 80 tablets and six packets of tobacco were recovered from him. He added that on June 2, the authorities at Ropar District Jail received information that Singh, resident of PAP Lines, Jalandhar, was found with prohibited items while on duty inside the jail. Immediate action was taken, and a case under Sections 20, 22-61-85 of the NDPS Act, 223-B of the BNS, and Section 52-A of the Prisons Act was registered at City Police Station, Ropar. During interrogation, the accused revealed the involvement of other accomplices, including inmates Asif, Kabir, Gurpreet Singh and ASI Sukhram Singh. They have been arrested on different dates. Another accused, Mumtaz Alam, is yet to be arrested.

**BLISTERING HEAT SWEEPS HARYANA, PUNJAB; SIRSA HOTTEST AT 45.8 DEGREES CELSIUS**

**Diary Times Desk** : Blistering heat swept Haryana and Punjab on Sunday, with Sirsa recording the highest maximum temperature at 45.8 degrees Celsius while Chandigarh—common Capital of the two states—recorded season's highest maximum so far at 42.1 degrees Celsius. While Sirsa in Haryana reeled under severe heat, most other places in the state also recorded above normal maximum temperatures. According to the weather department here, Rohtak recorded a maximum of 45.3 degrees Celsius while intense heat also swept Hisar, which registered a high of 44 degrees Celsius. Narnaul recorded a high of 43 degrees Celsius, Karnal 41.8 degrees and Ambala's maximum settled at 42.5 degrees Celsius. Bhiwani also reeled under severe heat at 42.8 degrees while Gurugram registered a high of 41.6 degrees Celsius. Hot weather conditions prevailed in Chandigarh at 42.1 degrees Celsius. According to the Met here, it was the UT's highest maximum temperature of the season recorded so far. Meanwhile, in Punjab, Bathinda was the hottest place recording a high of 44.8 degrees Celsius. Amritsar recorded a high of 44 degrees Celsius while blistering heat also swept Ludhiana at a high of 43.4 degrees Celsius. Patiala recorded a maximum of 42.8 degrees while intense heat also prevailed in Pathankot at 43 degrees Celsius. Ferozepur's maximum settled at 42.3 degrees Celsius.

**HARYANA ASSEMBLY SPEAKER KALYAN LISTENS TO PUBLIC GRIEVANCES IN GHARAUNDA**

**Diary Times Desk** : Haryana Assembly Speaker Harvinder Kalyan listened to the grievances of residents at the PWD Rest House in Gharaunda on Sunday afternoon. Unfazed by the scorching heat, Kalyan sat under a tree and patiently heard the people and directed the officials concerned to resolve their issues. Residents approached him with issues related to electricity, road maintenance and installation of tubewells. Rajendra, a local resident, raised the demand for the construction of a concrete drain in Bastara. Kalyan directed PWD officials to take necessary action in this regard. A group of villagers urged the Speaker to instal a submersible pump near Bazida railway station. The Speaker directed the officials to pay a visit at the site and take necessary measures. Later, Kalyan held a review meeting with SDM Rajesh Soni and other officials of the MC along with departments concerned to review the progress of the development projects in the constituency.

**CONG IGNORED ASPIRATIONS OF COMMON PEOPLE: SAINI**

**Diary Times Desk** : Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini alleged today that the Congress had always prioritised interests of its own family and never truly cared about the public, society or the nation. Despite being in power for decades, the Congress ignored aspirations of the common people and now the public had shown them door, said Saini. The Chief Minister was addressing a delegation of the deprived scheduled castes (DSC) community from across the state here today. On the occasion, members of the DSC community honoured the Chief Minister (CM) with a turban. They expressed gratitude to the CM for implementing categorisation within reservations for the DSC community. They also invited the CM to attend the Sant Kabir Jayanti celebration to be held in Sirsa on June 11. Saini said the DSC community was now receiving its rightful share and respect. In the recent announcement of approximately 3,500 government recruitments, 605 posts were reserved for the DSC community and 604 posts for other Scheduled Castes (SC). This was a strong step toward social justice, he said. Acknowledging the long struggle of the DSC community, Saini said their efforts were now yielding positive results. The Chief Minister emphasised that the Constitution of India.



**BILASPUR: CLAIMING THAT THE HIGHWAY LAND IS PRIVATE LAND, A CASE WAS FILED AFTER EIGHT DAYS AGAINST THE MOTHER AND SON WHO OBSTRUCTED THE NH**

**Diary Times Desk :** Eight days after the police registered a case against a mother-son duo from Mangrot village for blocking the Shimla-Dharamshala National Highway, the police registered a case at the Barmana police station. The police took this action on the complaint of the Public Works Department. After registering the case, the police interrogated both of them in Mangrot and then also removed bushes and stones from the highway. But some time after the police action, the person again laid stones and bushes on the road. Rajankant and his mother had closed a lane by planting bushes and stones on May 30, claiming the highway land to be private. Due to this, one lane of the highway remained blocked for a week. The Public Works Department had complained about the matter to the police. On Saturday, the Barmana police reached the spot and got the blocked lane cleared. Let us tell you that this matter is not new. In December 2022, on the orders of the High Court, Rajankant Sharma removed the kiosk from the side of the highway. After this, repeatedly obstructed the highway in different ways, claiming it to be private land.

**TERMITES ARE EATING AWAY CROPS AND FOREST WEALTH WORTH CRORES EVERY YEAR, IMPORTANT SUGGESTIONS HAVE ALSO BEEN GIVEN FOR THEIR CONTROL**

**Diary Times Desk :** Termites are increasing day by day in most of Hamirpur and surrounding areas. Along with crops and wood in houses, termites are now destroying trees and plants as well. Crops, forest wealth, timber and storage worth crores of rupees are damaged due to termites in India every year. Dr. Virendra Rana, HOD of Entomology Department at Neri College, exhumed a termite mound in Neri College, which was about three feet below the soil. Its width was 3.8 feet and the length of the chimneys of the mound was about three feet. During the research, scientists of the Entomology Department exhumed the termite queen from the mound.

**HIMACHAL: DATA ENTRY OPERATOR WOMAN EMBEZZLED RS 6 LAKH OF UNEMPLOYMENT ALLOWANCE, TRANSFERRED THE AMOUNT TO HER ACCOUNT**

**Diary Times Desk :** A case of embezzlement of Rs 6 lakh of unemployment allowance given to the youth has come to light in the Sub Employment Office Mahere located in Salooni of Hamirpur district. The police have arrested the data entry operator working in the office in the case. The scam came to light when some unemployed youth did not get unemployment allowance in their accounts. They complained about it in the office, after which the investigation revealed the embezzlement of Rs 6 lakh. The woman was providing services in the office on outsource since 2017. She was fired from the job a year ago. It is alleged that she carried out this embezzlement by fraud during 2021-22. Instead of transferring the amount received by the youth to their accounts, she was cleverly getting it deposited directly in her account. The government gives unemployment allowance of one thousand rupees every month to unemployed youth. The matter was sent to the Head Office Shimla for investigation last year. On the instructions received from the Head Office, the District Employment Officer has now lodged a complaint with the police. DSP Lalman Sharma said that the data entry operator woman accused has been arrested in the case of embezzlement. He has got five days remand.



**HIMACHAL NEWS: TRAVELLER OVERTURNED AFTER BEING HIT BY ROCKS FALLING FROM THE HILL, 11 PASSENGERS NARROWLY ESCAPED**

**Diary Times Desk :** A tempo traveller going from Chandigarh to Basahidhar Jogindernagar overturned on Sunday morning after being hit by rocks falling from the hill. 11 passengers in the traveller had a narrow escape in the accident. There was a lot of screaming among the passengers. The passengers came out of the traveller with great difficulty. It was a good thing that the traveller overturned on the road itself. If it had fallen down from the hill, a big accident could have happened. The police is investigating the incident. The work of the under construction Jalandhar Mandi Attari via Dharampur Kotli NH 03 is going on. The hill has been cut to widen the NH. The hill has also been cut at Padchhu Dhank. When the traveller from Chandigarh reached near Padchhu Dhank at around 5:30 in the morning, suddenly debris and rocks fell from the hill. A stone hit the tile of the traveller. Due to this it became uncontrolled and overturned. There was panic among the passengers in the traveller. Three people were injured in the incident. They were treated at a private clinic in Hukkal. At the same time, an HRTC bus also passed by and narrowly escaped being hit by the rocks. On learning about the incident, a large number of people gathered at the spot. Dharmpur police was also informed about it.

**HIMACHAL WEATHER UPDATE: MAXIMUM TEMPERATURE CROSSES 35 DEGREES IN SIX DISTRICTS OF THE STATE, HEATWAVE WARNING FROM TODAY**

**Diary Times Desk :** The maximum temperature has crossed 35 degrees Celsius in six districts of Himachal Pradesh. The effect of heat has started increasing again in Una, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Kangra, Sirmaur and Mandi districts. A warning of heat wave has also been issued in the plain districts from Sunday. The weather is forecast to remain clear in the entire state till June 11. Due to the western disturbance becoming active on June 12 and 13, rain is expected in the high altitude areas. On Saturday morning, the sun shone with light clouds in some areas of the state including the capital Shimla. After the afternoon, as soon as the clouds cleared, the sun shone brightly. People had to face problems due to strong sunlight and humid heat in the afternoon in some areas of the plain districts Kangra, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Una, Solan, Sirmaur and Mandi. Apart from the plain areas, the temperature of the hilly areas has also increased. The Meteorological Center Shimla has predicted clear weather in all parts of Himachal Pradesh till June 11. Light rain is expected in some mid-hill areas including high hills on June 12 and 13. During the next 4 to 5 days, maximum temperature is likely to increase by 3 to 4 degree Celsius and minimum temperature by 2 to 3.

**HIMACHAL NEWS: A SMALL CARGO VEHICLE FELL INTO A DITCH IN SANPALU ON GOHAR'S KOT DEVIDHAD ROAD, TWO KILLED, 22 INJURED**

**Diary Times Desk :** Two people died in a tragic accident near Sun Palu Nala on Kot Devidahar road of subdivision Gohar on Sunday. While about 20 people were injured. All were going to condole the death of a relative in a small cargo vehicle, but the vehicle met with an accident midway. Police is finding out the exact cause of the accident. According to information received from the police, about 24 people were going to condole the death of a relative in a small cargo vehicle. On Sunday afternoon, the vehicle went out of control near Sun Palu Nala and fell into a deep ditch. The injured in the accident were taken to Civil Hospital Gohar through 108 ambulance with the help of local villagers, where after first aid, some seriously injured were referred to Medical College Nerchowk. During treatment here, two people were declared dead by the doctors. The deceased have been identified as Bodhraj (38) son of Lachhi Ram and Neelmani son of Shahddu resident Bhurla. The vehicle was carrying people from Jhamaad and Bhurla villages who were going to Devdhar to express condolences on the death.



KHALEELS FIERY FOUR-FOR HANDS INDIA A SLENDER FIRST-INNINGS LEAD

**Diary Times Desk :** Left-arm pacer Khaleel Ahmed produced a penetrating spell of seam bowling, returning with figures of 4/70 as England Lions were bowled out for 327, handing India A a 21-run first-innings lead at tea on day three of the second unofficial Test, here on Sunday. Resuming at 192/3, the hosts suffered a dramatic collapse in the morning session, losing four wickets for just 10 runs. Khaleel set the tone, removing skipper James Rew (10) and George Hill (0) off successive deliveries to trigger the slide. He followed it up with the wicket of Chris Woakes (5), caught behind, reducing the Lions to 266 for 8 by lunch. After the interval, Nitish Kumar Reddy broke Farhan Ahmed's dogged resistance -- his 87-ball 24 frustrating the visitors -- to make it 279 for 9. But from there India A struggled to break through with the final wicket stand between Josh Tongue and No 11 Eddie Jack, frustrating the visitors. Tongue remained unbeaten on a resolute 36 (61 balls), while 19-year-old Jack -- playing only his second first-class game -- displayed remarkable composure under pressure. The left-hander struck three boundaries and partnered for a gritty 48-run last-wicket stand that took England Lions past the 300-run mark, frustrating the Abhimanyu Easwaran-led side. India A rotated their bowlers and even took the second new ball in the 81st over in pursuit of the final scalp.



KL RAHUL'S CHILDHOOD COACH  
MAKES BIG PREDICTION ON INDIA  
STAR: "IN ENGLAND..."

**Diary Times Desk :** In his first red-ball outing in nearly five months, KL Rahul smashed a sublime century on Day 1 of the second unofficial Test between India A and England Lions. It was a statement knock from Rahul, with days left for the start of the all-important five-match Test series against England. With Rohit Sharma not part of the Test setup anymore, following his retirement last month, Rahul's composed 116 at the top might just cement his place as India's designated opener, alongside Yashasvi Jaiswal, during the tour. So far in his Test career, Rahul has been the crisis man for India, batting at different positions as per the demand of the team. However, Rahul's childhood coach Samuel Jayraj revealed that his former student has been taking up challenges since his early playing days. "If you ask me, as a coach, this isn't surprising. He was always ready. He was also a wicketkeeper. He would smartly rotate strike, taking singles on the fourth, fifth, or sixth ball, then face the next over. He follows instructions really well. If you noticed in the Champions Trophy, his role was very specific-and he executed it perfectly," Jayaraj told Times of India. "In fact, despite having a very good ODI World Cup.

PARENTS OF STAMPEDE VICTIM, 24,  
BREAK DOWN WHILE ACCEPTING  
COMPENSATION

**Diary Times Desk :** Four days after a deadly stampede in Bengaluru, a family in Karnataka's Kolar was handed a financial compensation for the damage that cannot be compensated - the loss of their 24-year-old daughter. Kolar deputy commissioner MR Ravi visited the home of Sahana, one of the 11 people who died in the June 4 stampede that occurred in front of the Chinnaswamy stadium during the Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) team's IPL victory celebrations. Forty-seven were injured in the tragedy. Her mother broke down as she was offered the cheque of Rs 25 lakh compensation by the officer. Sahana's father, who was trying to hold back his tears, burst out crying as soon as he touched the cheque. As other family members comforted them, the parents were seen weeping uncontrollably. All the victims of the stampede were in the 20-30 years age group with a 14-year-old being the youngest - Divyanshi (14), Doresha (32), Bhoomik (20), Sahana (24), Akshata (27), Manoj (33), Shravan (20), Devi (29), Shivalinga (17) and Chinmayi (19) and Prajwal (20). Earlier, the Karnataka government had announced a compensation of Rs 10 lakh each, which was later increased to Rs 25 lakh per family.

RICKY PONTING'S BLUNT MESSAGE TO 'PUNDITS' AS BCCI SNUB  
JASPRIT BUMRAH FOR TEST CAPTAINCY

**Diary Times Desk :** India have taken the right decision by handing the reins of the Test team to Shubman Gill and now the youngster must given a long rope to prove his credentials, says Ricky Ponting, who is also confident that India can handle the ongoing transition phase better than other countries. India will be without stalwarts Virat Kohli, Rohit Sharma, Ravichandran Ashwin, who all retired recently, and pacer Mohammed Shami when they begin their five-Test tour of England on June 20. While Kohli and Rohit retired from Tests last month, Ashwin had hung up his boots during the Australia tour last year and Shami was ruled out on fitness grounds for the tour of the Old Blighty. "I actually think it's the right move. I know there's a lot of other people out there, pundits out there saying they can't understand why it wasn't Bumrah and why they have gone to Shubman, but I think it's pretty simple," Ponting told The ICC Review. "Bumrah's injuries are holding him back a bit in the last couple of years and you don't want that with a captain. You can't have a captain coming in and missing games here and there, so I think it's the right decision." "Now that they've made it, it's one they've got to stick with and give him (Gill) a good crack at it for a long period of time," he said.



ENGLAND BOWL FIRST, ONE  
CHANGE EACH WITH  
HOSEIN AND WOOD IN

**Diary Times Desk :** England won the toss and chose to bowl first against West Indies Harry Brook won the toss and chose to bowl first in the second T20I at Bristol, as England looked to seal their second series in a row against the touring West Indies. With grey but dry skies in prospect, and faced with a more compact ground than had been the case in the series opener at Chester-le-Street on Friday, Brook opted to let his bowlers set the tempo, with the left-arm seamer Luke Wood recalled for his first international since September 2023, at the expense of Matthew Potts. "We just fancy a chase," Brook said. "It's quite a big difference to Durham, the boundaries a lot shorter, but it's usually a good pitch to play on. For a point of difference, we want to have a look at Woody with the left-arm swing," Brook added, "and see how he goes with the new ball today." For West Indies, their one change was a notable one, with the left-arm spinner Akeal Hosein slotting straight back into the line-up, having arrived in the country at 8am this morning after visa issues had prevented him from being available for the series opener.

STEVE SMITH REVEALS: 'LET  
GO OF BATTING AFTER  
MISSING MOHAMMED  
SHAMI'S FULL TOSS'

**Diary Times Desk :** Australia star Steve Smith has revealed that he let go of one of his favorite things, shadow batting, after getting out to Mohammed Shami's full-toss in the 2025 Champions Trophy semi-final against India. Speaking in an interview on Sunday, he said he hadn't 'hit a ball' after the incident in the lead-up to the World Test Championship summit clash against South Africa, which begins at Lord's on June 11. Smith's wicket for 73 (96) in 37th over of the first innings was a pivotal moment in the game. Australia were bowled out for a slightly sub-par 264, which India chased down in the 49th over with only three wickets to spare. The right-hander retired from ODI cricket soon after and spent three months in New York, working on his fitness, away from several of his teammates who played T20 leagues or domestic cricket. "I'd normally have a bat laying around the house somewhere and just pick it up and do a bit of shadow batting and stuff. But I made a conscious decision to try and just let it go for a while. It was good. I hadn't hit a ball since I missed a full toss off Mohammed Shami in the Champions Trophy. "Fortunately, everything sort of clicked into place immediately.