

## INDIA'S POPULATION

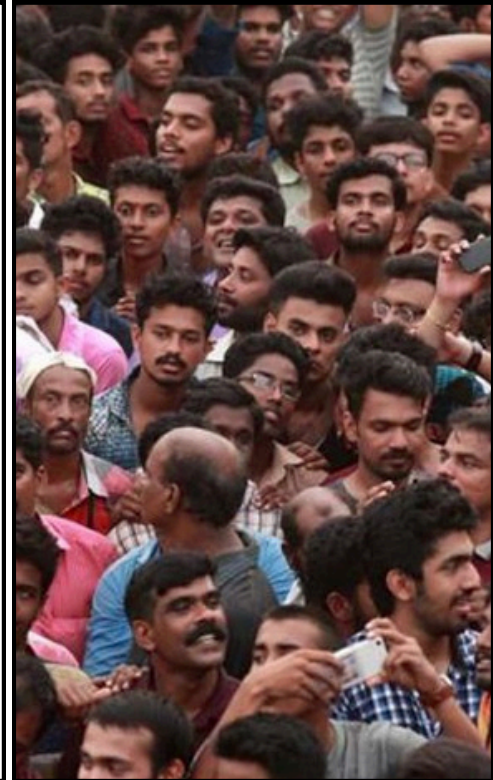
## INDIA'S POPULATION TOUCHES 1.46 BILLION, FERTILITY DROPS BELOW REPLACEMENT RATE: UN REPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** India's population is estimated to reach 1.46 billion in 2025, continuing to be the highest in the world, according to a new UN demographic report, which also revealed the country's total fertility rate has fallen below the replacement rate.

UNFPA's 2025 State of World Population (SOWP) Report, The Real Fertility Crisis, calls for a shift from panic over falling fertility to addressing unmet reproductive goals. Millions of people are not able to realise their real fertility goals, it asserts.

This is the real crisis, not under-population or overpopulation, and the answer lies in greater reproductive agency – a person's ability to make free and informed 150 per cent choices about sex, contraception and starting a family, it says. The report also reveals key shifts in population composition, fertility, and life expectancy, signalling a major demographic transition.

The report found that India's total fertility rate has declined to 1.9 births per woman, falling below the replacement level of 2.1. This means that, on average, Indian women are having fewer children than needed to maintain the population size from one generation to the next, without migration. Despite the slowing birth rate, India's youth population remains significant, with 24 per cent in the age bracket of 0-14, 17 per cent in 10-19, and 26 per cent in 10-24.



## INDIA-PAK CONFLICT

## ROOT CAUSE OF INDIA-PAK CONFLICT REMAINS UNCHANGED: JAISHANKAR



**Diary Times Desk :** A month into the fragile ceasefire between India and Pakistan, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said the root cause of the conflict – Pakistan's support to terrorism – remains unchanged. He warned the western neighbour of 'retaliation' if cross-border terrorism continues.

The skirmish between the two nuclear armed neighbours stopped on May 10 only after eight of Pakistan's main airfields were hit and disabled by the Indian Air Force (IAF), said Jaishankar, who is in Europe. He gave separate interviews to media houses, Le Figaro and Politico.

In his interview to Politico, he said "It (Pakistan) is a country very steeped in its use of terrorism as an instrument of state policy. On being asked if conditions that led to the outbreak of war last month were still in place, Jaishankar said, "If you call the commitment (of Pak) to terrorism, as a source for the tension, absolutely, it is."

Pakistan was training thousands of terrorists in the open and unleashing them, the minister said. He warned Pakistan that India is not going to live with it. "Our message to them is that if you continue to do the kind of barbaric acts which they did in April (Pahalgam attack), then there is going to be retribution, and that retribution will be against the terror organisations and the terrorist leadership." "And we don't care where they are. If they are deep in Pakistan, we will go deep into Pakistan," he added. Answering about the Kashmir dispute to Le Figaro, Jaishankar said, "This is not a dispute with Pakistan over Kashmir – we simply have zero tolerance for terrorism. And if terrorists attack India, we will hunt them down wherever they are, including in Pakistan."

## 'GOVT WANTS TO SAVE JUSTICE YADAV': SIBAL SLAMS DHANKHAR FOR 'INACTION' ON IMPEACHMENT NOTICE

**Diary Times Desk :** Rajya Sabha member Kapil Sibal on Tuesday questioned why Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has not taken any action on the notice for moving an impeachment motion against Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav of Allahabad High Court and alleged the government was trying to save the judge who made "totally communal" remarks last year. Sibal, who is also a senior advocate, said the whole incident smacks of "discrimination" as on one hand, the Rajya Sabha secretariat wrote to the Chief Justice of India not to go ahead with an in-house inquiry against Yadav as a petition was pending against him before the Upper House, while did not do so in the case of Justice Yashwant Varma. Sibal also said that if the government tries to remove Varma citing the in-house Supreme Court inquiry against him without the impeachment procedure as claimed by some reports, it would be unconstitutional and would be met with strong opposition for endangering judicial independence. A fire incident at Varma's residence in the national capital in March, when he was a judge at the Delhi High Court, had led to the discovery of several burnt sacks of cash at the outhouse. Speaking about Justice Yadav's matter, Sibal said it was very unfortunate and questions are bound to arise when the person who is sitting on the constitutional post.



## PM MODI HOSTS MPS WHO TOURED THE WORLD TO SPEAK FOR INDIA POST PAHALGAM ATTACK

**Diary Times Desk :** Rajya Sabha member Kapil Sibal on Tuesday questioned why Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has not taken any action on the notice for moving an impeachment motion against Justice Shekhar Kumar Yadav of Allahabad High Court and alleged the government was trying to save the judge who made "totally communal" remarks last year. Sibal, who is also a senior advocate, said the whole incident smacks of "discrimination" as on one hand, the Rajya Sabha secretariat wrote to the Chief Justice of India not to go ahead with an in-house inquiry against Yadav as a petition was pending against him before the Upper House, while did not do so in the case of Justice Yashwant Varma. Sibal also said that if the government tries to remove Varma citing the in-house Supreme Court inquiry against him without the impeachment procedure as claimed by some reports, it would be unconstitutional and would be met with strong opposition.

## SHASHI THAROOR HAILS HIS DELEGATION'S WORK AFTER 5-NATION TOUR



**Diary Times Desk :** Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who led a multi-party delegation to the US and four other countries to convey India's stand following Operation Sindoor, on Tuesday said his delegation had "good results" everywhere with "very high-quality meetings" and there was a complete understanding for the Indian position. Tharoor, who returned after his five-nation tour this evening, said from the government's perspective, the purpose of sending MPs both demonstrates the unity of India across political lines and at the same time to deliver an effective message to government officials, legislators, think tanks, opinion makers, media and the diaspora abroad. "All of this was very thoroughly fulfilled," he told reporters at the airport here. "I think it was a very good visit. We were all very pleased with the way all the five countries we went to received us. We thought we had good results everywhere. "We had very high-quality meetings—presidents, PMs, vice-presidents, very senior interlocutors," the Congress leader said. At the same time, there was complete understanding and support for the Indian position for why this whole thing had been triggered post-Pahalgam and what our reaction had to be, he said.

## CSIR STUDY SHOWS WAY TO ENHANCE PERFORMANCE OF RADAR, COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS BY 44%

**Diary Times Desk :** Studies conducted by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) have shown that the efficiency of microwave-based applications can be significantly enhanced by modifying the shape of certain components. Research undertaken by CSIR's Central Electronics Engineering Research Institute (CEERI) has demonstrated that the performance of systems like radar, communication networks and industrial heating equipment can be boosted by 44 per cent when the shape of the anode vanes is changed. Radars and communication systems have become indispensable across civilian and military domains. A huge amount of power is expended for their functioning and there is constant endeavour to make them more energy efficient and cost effective. Besides, there is a host of industrial equipment that employ microwaves



### YOUR HOROSCOPE

11-06-2025

**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.





## HRTC'S FEAT: VOLVO FARE CHARGED IN ORDINARY BUS, PASSENGERS COMPLAINED TO CORPORATION MANAGEMENT

**Diary Times Desk :** A case has come to light of Himachal Path Parivahan Nigam charging Volvo bus fare from passengers in ordinary buses. Every day at 9:30 pm, HRTC's Volvo bus leaves for Shimla from Dharamshala bus stand. On Monday night, the Volvo bus was standing near Hamirpur due to technical fault. The passengers had made online booking for Shimla from Dharamshala. When no Volvo bus was available at Dharamshala bus stand, the corporation management sent an ordinary bus to Hamirpur bus stand. During this time, all the passengers who boarded this bus were charged the fare of Volvo bus. On protest, the bus conductor told that the ticketing machine they have is of Volvo bus. Therefore, tickets are coming out of the machine on the basis of Volvo bus per kilometer. The fare of ordinary bus from Dharamshala to Shimla is Rs 607 and the bus fare from Dharamshala to Hamirpur is Rs 235. Whereas the fare of Volvo bus from Dharamshala to Shimla is Rs 1385. All the passengers travelling to Hamirpur in ordinary bus were charged.



## HIMACHAL: MINISTER JAGAT SINGH NEGI SAID- THE DISPUTE WITH CHINA WILL NOT ALWAYS REMAIN

**Diary Times Desk :** Revenue and Horticulture Minister Jagat Singh Negi, while addressing a public meeting at Shipki La border, said that the dispute with China will not last forever. He said that the central government will have to resolve border issues by sitting together. Negi said that Indo-China trade and Mansarovar Yatra can become a medium for this. He said that we can start a message of friendship with China. Today is a historic day. For the first time after independence, the people of the country will get a chance to come here. They will be able to see the valleys here. He said that the elders of Kinnaur used to go to Tibet to trade in difficult circumstances. Now there is road facility. He said that the people of the village have been cooperating with the army from the beginning. When there was no road to Shipki-La, the local people used to help in delivering ration and water to the army. There was no road here till 1968. The then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and the then CM Dr. YS Parmar reached here on horses and on foot. He urged the Army and ITBP not to be too strict so that tourists face any problems. He demanded to start HRTC bus service till Shipki La. This bus runs till Namgya, it should be sent till Shipki La. He demanded to provide parking facility at Shipki La.

## HIMACHAL: CM SUKHU SAID- WILL ADVOCATE FOR OPENING SHIPKI-LA ROUTE FROM THE CENTRE FOR KAILASH MANSAROVAR YATRA

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu on Tuesday launched border tourism activities at Shipki-La, a 3,930-metre high motorable mountain pass situated on the Indo-China border in Kinnaur. Addressing a public gathering on the occasion, the Chief Minister said that we have relaxed restrictions on the border for tourists to enjoy the beauty of Shipki-La and the tourism activities here will boost tourism in the region as well as strengthen the economy of the local people. He said that the state government had requested the Ministry of Defence to allow starting tourism activities in the border areas of Lepcha, Shipki-La, Giu and Rani Kanda. After getting approval for this, the border tourism initiative has been started. The Chief Minister said that the state government will also take up the matter of starting Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from Shipki-La with the Central Government. He said that I will meet the Prime Minister and put this matter before him. Shipki-La will be the easiest route for Kailash Mansarovar Yatra. The centuries-old trade route Shipki-La between India and Tibet was closed for trade in the year 2020. There is immense potential for trade and cultural exchange through this pass and the matter of restarting it will also be raised before the central government.



## HIMACHAL : A 17-YEAR-OLD MIGRANT GIRL IN NALAGARH IS CORONA POSITIVE, HEALTH DEPARTMENT KEPT HER IN HOME ISOLATION

**Diary Times Desk :** Another corona positive case has come to light in Nalagarh. A 17-year-old migrant girl has been found corona positive, who has been kept in home isolation by the health department. The girl was tested for corona in a private hospital after she had cough and cold, in which her report came positive. The health department conducted 18 corona tests of the girl's family members and other people, which have come negative. It should be noted that earlier also a woman had come corona positive in Nalagarh, who is now healthy. The travel history of the girl is being investigated. On the other hand, Block Medical Officer Nalagarh Dr. Kaviraj Negi said that a 17-year-old girl has been found corona positive, who has been kept in home isolation. He said that 18 corona tests were conducted of the girl's family members and other people, whose report has come negative.

## VIMAL NEGI CASE: CBI TEAM WENT TO GHUMARWIN IN VIMAL NEGI DEATH CASE, FISHERMEN WILL BE QUESTIONED

**Diary Times Desk :** A CBI team went to Ghumarwin on Sunday night in the case of death of Power Corporation Chief Engineer Vimal Negi. Vimal Negi was last seen at the base in Ghumarwin. During this time, several people were also questioned. On Monday, the team kept collecting evidence of Vimal Negi's death in Ghumarwin itself. The CBI team is sending the investigation of Vimal Negi's mobile phone, laptop, pen drive to FSL New Delhi to take the investigation further. On Monday, the CBI team had to go to the headquarters of the Power Corporation, but the team could return from Ghumarwin by evening. It is being told that some more records can be collected from the Power Corporation on Tuesday. It has also been learned that the CBI can again collect facts from the fishermen. After the DIG returned to Delhi, two CBI employees have reached Shimla. At present, seven people of CBI are engaged in investigating the case in the base camp. Before Ghumarwin, a CBI team has visited Bilaspur. This team had gone to Bilaspur to find out where all Vimal Negi stopped on the way from Shimla to Bilaspur. Where all did he go and whom did he meet after reaching Bilaspur. The CBI team is visiting that place. On the basis of the complaint.

## CBI ARRESTS CGST SUPERINTENDENT, SEIZES ASSETS WORTH CRORES

**Diary Times Desk :** The CBI has arrested a Central Goods and Services Tax superintendent in Uttar Pradesh for allegedly accepting a ₹1 lakh bribe for waiving penalty on a private company, officials said. During searches at the premises of Nishan Singh Malli post arrest, the CBI seized 17 property documents, in his and his family members' name, worth crores. "These properties include three residential flats in Ghaziabad and Moradabad; one commercial shop in Moradabad; 12 residential plots in Rampur and Gajraula. One Creta vehicle in the name of accused public servant was also seized," a CBI spokesperson on Tuesday said. ₹3 lakh in cash aside from the alleged bribe amount of ₹3 lakh was confiscated during the searches, the CBI added. During search of official premise of accused public servant, relevant documents pertaining to the case were seized and are being scrutinised," the spokesperson added. The other person arrested by the agency is a tax lawyer who was representing the complainant in the case, the agency said.

## 8 JAIPUR MEN ON OUTING TO TONK DISTRICT DROWN IN BANAS RIVER: POLICE

**Diary Times Desk :** Eight youngsters from Jaipur drowned in the Banas River in Rajasthan's Tonk district while three others were rescued, police said on Tuesday. Preliminary information suggests the group of 11- believed to be between 25 and 32 years of age- had come to Tonk to celebrate a friend's birthday. Some entered the river to swim, and others reportedly followed in an attempt to help when they began drowning. After locals learned of the incident, they immediately informed the police, and a joint rescue operation was launched. Tonk superintendent of police (SP) Vikas Sangwan said that eight of the victims were declared dead by doctors. The deceased were identified as Naushad Khan, Rusim Khan, and Farhan Khan — all natives of Hasanpura; Rijwan Khan and Bablu — both from Ghat Gate; Nawab Khan and Sajid Khan — both from Kachchi Basti; and Nabeed Khan — a resident of Ramganj Bazar in Jaipur. Their bodies have been kept in the mortuary for post-mortem. Their families and Jaipur police have been informed and the bodies will be handed over to the families after the post-mortem, the SP added. The SP said three individuals were rescued with the help of locals and police and are being treated at Saadat Hospital. They have been identified as Shahrukh Khan (30), Salman Khan (26), and Samir (32) .

## SONAM OFFERED RS 20 LAKH FOR MURDER, HELPED PUSH BODY INTO GORGE: SOURCES



**Diary Times Desk :** Sonam Raghuvanshi had offered Rs 4 lakh to hired killers for the murder of her husband Raja Raghuvanshi, sources said, adding she later raised the amount to Rs 20 lakh. According to top police sources, Sonam helped the other accused in pushing Raghuvanshi's body into a gorge in Meghalaya. Raja Raghuvanshi's body was found in a gorge near a waterfall in Sohra area (also known as Cherrapunji) of East Khasi Hills district on June 2, days after he reached Meghalaya with his wife Sonam for their honeymoon. The hitmen hired by Sonam first met with the newlywed couple in Bengaluru, from where they took their connecting flight to the northeast, the sources said, adding that since the victim and the accused were from the same city, they got talking. Sonam had allegedly hired killers to get rid of her husband as she reportedly wanted to be with her lover. As per sources, Sonam Raghuvanshi planned the murder with her alleged lover Raj Kushwaha just a few days after her May 11 wedding in Indore.

## AIRLINES SEEK GOVT SUPPORT TO REVIVE AIR TRAVEL DEMAND TO KASHMIR

**Diary Times Desk :** The Federation of Indian Airlines (FIA), representing major Indian carriers, including Air India, IndiGo, and SpiceJet, has requested the government to provide immediate support to revive air travel demand to and from Srinagar airport. In a letter addressed to Samir Kumar Sinha, the secretary of the civil aviation ministry, the FIA highlighted the sharp decline in tourism in the Kashmir region following the Pahalgam terror attack. After the Pahalgam incident tourists are terrified and no one is travelling to Kashmir region for tourism purposes. There is no demand for air travel to and from Kashmir. Hotels are empty there," said the letter dated May 29. The federation requested Sinha to waive off the User Development Fee (UDF) and GST for Srinagar, believing that eliminating these charges, along with existing safety and security efforts by the government, will encourage more people to fly to the region. "Currently every departing passenger pays Rs. 1,050 as UDF.

## 'WON'T TOLERATE VISA ABUSE': INDIAN STUDENT'S VIRAL VIDEO SPARKS US WARNING

**Diary Times Desk :** The US Embassy in India has issued a strong advisory to Indians travelling to the United States. In a statement, the embassy noted that Washington "will not tolerate any abuse of visas or illegal entry" into the country. This comes after a social media video of an Indian student in handcuffs at Newark Airport in New Jersey went viral. "The United States continues to welcome legitimate travelers to our country. However, there is no right to visit the United States. We cannot and will not tolerate illegal entry, abuse of visas, or the violation of U.S. law, " the post on X said. The video, first captured by a witness and an Indian-American entrepreneur, Kunal Jain, showed the authorities treating the student like a criminal. The disturbing footage shows the student pinned to the ground as at least four officials held him down, with two of them keeping their knees on his back. They had tied the student's legs and hands. "I witnessed a young Indian student being deported from Newark Airport last night - handcuffed, crying, treated like a criminal.

## CMS ELECTED AFTER 2029 MAY HAVE TO RESIGN EARLY TO ALIGN WITH ONOE PLAN

**Diary Times Desk :** As India inches towards holding simultaneous polls by 2034, all state assembly elections to be elected after 2029 will be for a shorter duration. Head of the joint parliamentary committee (JPC) on the "One nation, one election" bill, PP Choudhary told Times of India that after 2027, the assembly due to be elected in 2032 may have a tenure of only two years. This move would ensure the synchronisation of the next elections in Uttar Pradesh with the Lok Sabha polls which may be held in 2034. The Constitution (129th Amendment) Bill, 2024, also known as the "One Nation, One Election" bill, allows elections for the Lok Sabha and all state assemblies to be held simultaneously. According to guidelines, to implement simultaneous elections, the President may issue a notification on the date of the first sitting of Lok Sabha after a general election. The terms of all state assemblies constituted after this date will expire with the end of that Lok Sabha's five-year term.

## DELHI BOILS AT 43.4°C ON SEASON'S HOTTEST DAY; 'REAL FEEL' SOARS TO 49°C

**Diary Times Desk :** The capital sizzled under a relentless sun on Monday, recording its hottest day of the season. Safdarjung — the city's base station — logged a scorching 43.4°C, three degrees above normal, while Ayanagar breached the heatwave threshold at 45.3°C, triggering widespread discomfort across the city. The previous season-high was 42.3°C, recorded on May 16. According to the IMD, a heatwave is declared when temperatures exceed 40°C with a departure of at least 4.5°C from normal, or cross 45°C — as Ayanagar did on Monday. The swelter wasn't just numerical. Delhi's 'real feel' temperature — factoring in humidity — soared to 49°C by mid-afternoon, trapping residents in stifling concrete pockets. Humidity ranged from 25% to 70%, ensuring even shaded areas offered little relief. Even slight respite is only expected from Thursday night, when light rain and winds up to 60 km/h could sweep across the city, potentially shaving 4–5°C off daytime highs by Friday, the IMD said. "With temperatures exceeding 44.9°C in Hisar, Sirsa, Rohtak, and Ayanagar, heatwave conditions were confirmed over the Haryana-Chandigarh-Delhi subdivision — the second straight day of such conditions," said IMD scientist Krishna Mishra.





**11 DEAD IN AUSTRIA SCHOOL SHOOTING, SUSPECT KILLED HIMSELF**

**Diary Times Desk :** At least 11 people, including the suspect, were killed and several others injured in a shooting at a school in the Austrian city of Graz, local media reported. The suspect, a student, killed himself and was found in the washroom, UK-based Independent reported, citing Austrian state media ORF. He opened fire in two classrooms at the Borg Dreierschutzengasse high school and police said bullying could have prompted him to carry out the crime. Graz Mayor Elke Kahr, quoted by Austrian news agency APA, said many injured had also been taken to hospital following the shooting at the school, which she called a "terrible tragedy". Police said a major operation began around 10 am (local time) after gunshots were heard inside the school. Students and teachers were among those seriously injured in the shooting, according to ORF. A local police spokesperson said the area had been secured. People had been evacuated from the school and relatives of the victims and pupils were being cared for, he said.

**KYIV'S WORLD HERITAGE CATHEDRAL DAMAGED IN RUSSIAN ATTACK: UKRAINE MINISTER**

**Diary Times Desk :** A Russian attack overnight damaged Saint Sophia Cathedral in the historic centre of Kyiv, one of Ukraine's most significant monuments and a designated world heritage site, the Ukrainian culture minister said on Tuesday. "Last night, the enemy struck at the very heart of our identity again," Mykola Tochytskyi wrote on Facebook, calling the 11th-century cathedral "the soul of all Ukraine." "Saint Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv, a shrine which survived for centuries and symbolizes the birth of our statehood, was damaged," he said. He added that a blast wave damaged the cornice on the main apse of the landmark. Pieces of white plaster crumbled to the ground with a gap visible in a section of the cornice, Reuters video from the scene showed. This is the first time since the start of the war that the cathedral has been damaged, first deputy director general of the site Vadym Kyrilenko told reporters. But Russian drones flying close to the ground present a threat amid continuous air attacks on the capital. "As our security guards say, sometimes (drones) almost touch the crosses on the bell tower 76 meters above the ground," he said. The cathedral was added to UNESCO's World.

**JD VANCE'S DEPORTATION THREAT TO FASHION CRITIC WHO MOCKED HIS STYLE**

**Diary Times Desk :** US Vice President JD Vance appeared to advocate for deporting a popular fashion blogger who criticised his dressing style in the past. Derek Guy, the fashion commentator behind the popular X account known as "Menswear Guy", came under Vance's line of fire after he opened up about coming to the United States illegally from Canada as a kid after his father found work in the country. In a series of posts on X, Guy recounted his immigration journey, saying his mother crossed the Canadian border carrying him, while he was still a baby, after his family fled Vietnam during the Tet Offensive. He also admitted that his family never had any legal documentation. "My family escaped Vietnam after the Tet Offensive and went through an arduous journey that eventually landed them in Canada. My father worked there for a time as a janitor; my mother, a secretary. When work fell through, my dad was offered to work with his sister in the United States, so he went, as our family needed money. He ended up staying in the US longer than he was supposed to - not knowing immigration laws - and asked my mom to come be with him. Of course, she went and carried me over the border while I was still a baby," he wrote.

**WAS KIDNAPPED BY ISRAELI TROOPS IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS: GRETA THUNBERG**

**Diary Times Desk :** Swedish activist Greta Thunberg on Tuesday accused Israel of "kidnapping us in international waters and taking us against our will to Israel" after security forces intercepted a boat carrying humanitarian aid bound for Gaza. "This is yet another intentional violation of rights that is added to the list of countless other violations that Israel is committing," Thunberg, 22, told reporters on arrival at Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris after being deported from Israel. She stressed that her own experience was "nothing compared to what the Palestinians are going through". Of the 12 people on board the Madleen carrying food and supplies for Gaza, five French activists were taken into custody after they refused to leave Israel voluntarily. But Thunberg, who rose to fame as a schoolgirl activist against climate change and seeks to avoid flying because of its environmental impact, was deported by Israel on a commercial flight of national airline El Al bound for Paris.

**TRUMP SAYS LOS ANGELES 'WOULD BURN TO THE GROUND' IF HE DID NOT SEND TROOPS**

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that if he had not deployed Marines and other soldiers in Los Angeles, the city "would be burning to the ground right now". "If I didn't 'SEND IN THE TROOPS' to Los Angeles the last three nights, that once beautiful and great City would be burning to the ground right now," Trump posted on Truth Social. To put an end to the protests, about 700 Marines have been deployed in Los Angeles and 4,000 National Guard troops have been mobilised. Notably, the American military does not have any domestic law enforcement role. The US Marines had been deployed domestically in 2005 for Hurricane Katrina and for the 26/11 attacks. California Governor Gavin Newsom said that this move by the US president is fulfilling "the deranged fantasy of a dictatorial president". The state is suing the president for sending in troops without the permission of the governor. The last time a president had sent National Guard troops to a US city without a governor's approval was in 1965.

**ISRAEL STRIKES YEMEN'S HODEIDAH PORT, THREATENS BLOCKADE**

**Diary Times Desk :** Israel's military has launched overnight strikes on Yemen's port city of Hodeidah, which it claims is used by Houthi rebels to transport weapons. The Israeli army and Houthi-controlled media reported the strikes on Hodeidah, a key port for humanitarian aid imports, on Tuesday. An Israeli official said an "aerial and naval blockade" could follow unless Houthi rebels halt attacks on Israel. The strike hit two piers at the port, according to the Houthi reports. Israel's military claimed responsibility shortly after, saying it used navy ships to fire missiles at seaports that the Houthis use for "military purposes". Neither the Houthi nor Israeli reports mentioned any casualties. Located on Yemen's western coast, Hodeidah is the main entry point for food and other humanitarian aid for millions of Yemenis struggling during a war that began in 2014. Israel accuses the Houthis of using the port to transfer weapons as part of Iran-backed "terrorist activity" and targeted it with air strikes in May.

**CHINESE PHD STUDENT FROM WUHAN TRIES TO SMUGGLE "BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS" TO THE US**

**Diary Times Desk :** A Chinese researcher from Wuhan, from where Covid-19 is suspected to have spread to the world, has been arrested for allegedly trying to smuggle "biological materials" into the US in a second such incident in less than a week. The FBI arrested Chengxuan Han, a PhD student, in Detroit for sending four parcels with "biological materials" to the US. Not much is known about the alleged content of the parcels except that it is related to roundworms. "Yesterday, @FBIDetroit arrested a second Chinese national on charges of smuggling biological materials into the US and lying to federal agents. This individual is Chengxuan Han, a citizen of the People's Republic of China and a PhD student in Wuhan, China," said FBI chief Kash Patel. Han is the third Chinese person charged with similar allegations in recent days, he said. On June 4, a Chinese couple was arrested for trying to smuggle a dangerous biological pathogen that could possibly be used as an agricultural terror weapon. Han's Wuhan connection raises suspicion against the backdrop of the Covid lab leak theory; the FBI believes that the virus likely originated in a Chinese government-controlled lab. Han has been accused of shipping four packages of "biological material" from China to four persons working at a lab at the University.

**SETTING UP INDUSTRY MADE SIMPLER AS PUNJAB LAUNCHES UDYOG KRANTI INITIATIVE**

**Diary Times Desk :** After Sikhiya, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)-led Punjab government on Tuesday launched Punjab Udyog Kranti. Touted as the first in the country and an industrial revolution, the initiative is aimed to simplify, reduce and expedite the statutory processes required to set up industry in the state. It will also end the red-tape and widespread corruption involved in the system, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal announced while switching on the Fastrack Punjab portal here. The portal, which they also claimed to be the first in the country, will ensure all statutory permissions and compliances within a maximum of 45 days from the date of application. "In case you don't get the permissions within 45 days, the portal will automatically issue you a deemed approval certificate on the 46th day, with which you can begin your industry," Kejriwal declared while addressing a gathering of industry and business leaders at a private university in Sector 82A this afternoon. Kejriwal said in the cases of deemed approval, the government will launch internal investigation to find out which official and why the permissions and compliances were not issued within 45 days. "In all such cases, the officials found wanting will be taken to task after being asked to explain the reasons for the same," the AAP supremo said, while cautioning the state's bureaucracy against red-tape and corrupt practices.

**3,485 FAMILY IDS 'ALTERED' USING SAME DOCUMENT IN JHAJJAR, REVEALS INQUIRY**

**Diary Times Desk :** Another startling development has emerged in the Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP)-tampering case, as revealed in the supplementary chargesheet recently submitted by the district police to the court. According to a report compiled by Arun Mahendru, Security Analyst at the Haryana Parivar Pehchan Authority (HPPA), one PDF document was used to modify PPP data in as many as 3,485 cases. Significantly, 13 specific documents were also identified to have been uploaded over 100 times each, suggesting widespread misuse. The racket first came to light in November 2023 when the local police arrested three local employees of the Citizen Resources Information Department (CRID) for illegally altering PPP details through the official portal. Since then, a total of seven persons have been arrested and the investigation is on. The HPPA report also highlights that 239 of the requests included scanned images of bank passbooks that did not belong to the applicants. Additionally, 129 requests were found to contain blurred or poor-quality documents, pointing to serious lapses in the verification process.

**RS 4.5-CR SCAM UNEARTHED IN PANIPAT MC'S PROPERTY TAX BRANCH**

**Diary Times Desk :** A Rs 4.5-crore scam has been unearthed in the property tax branch of the Panipat Municipal Corporation (MC), exposing a deep-rooted nexus of scammers manipulating property records using fake documents and unauthorised access to official IDs. In one shocking instance, the same properties were linked and delinked two to three times within a single day, with April 24 and May 5 recording the highest number of such fraudulent entries. Even ownership changes were processed based on forged documents — for example, one applicant submitted registration papers of a property in Kachroli village, which doesn't fall within MC limits but rather under a panchayat jurisdiction. The scam came to light when it was found that the official ID of the Joint Commissioner, Sanjay Kumar, was misused by his personal assistant (PA) to carry out numerous unauthorised entries — such as corrections in property IDs, ownership changes, tax category modifications, no-dues certificate issuance and more. As per inquiry reports, while the Joint Commissioner officially approved only 74 files, the PA made over 400 entries in the system.

**TRADITIONAL PARTIES DIDN'T LET PUBLIC THINK BEYOND BASIC NEEDS, SAYS PUNJAB CM**

**Diary Times Desk :** Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Monday launched a scathing attack on traditional parties, accusing them of trapping people in the struggle for basic needs while furthering their personal interests. In a 34-minute speech peppered with metaphors, anecdotes and sharp jibes at political opponents, Mann said issues like choked sewerage and raising of crematorium walls in villages got precedence over pressing problems for decades. "For over 70 years, people were not allowed to think beyond these basic needs," he said taking a jibe at Opposition parties after inaugurating a tehsil complex at Dudhan Sadha in Sanaur. He claimed that the AAP government in the state had initiated reforms in the education sector with parents now "shifting their children to public schools from private ones". "Our students are scoring over 99 per cent marks and clearing competitive exams," he claimed.

**PUNJAB TRANSPORT DEPT CRACKS DOWN ON 'CLUBBING' OF BUS PERMITS**

**Diary Times Desk :** In a move impacting several private transporters, including companies owned by prominent politicians from the Aam Aadmi Party, Congress and Akali Dal, the state Transport Department has put an end to the illegal practice of "clubbing" multiple stage carriage permits to cover distances beyond those originally permitted. Over 700 stage carriage permits have been ordered to be de-clubbed. The widespread practice, allegedly facilitated by the regional transport authorities (RTAs) in Patiala, Jalandhar, Ferozepur and Bathinda, not only led to substantial losses for the state exchequer, but also disproportionately benefited private transporters, especially those with political connections. Instead of issuing a single, composite permit, several permits were illegally clubbed together to appear as one. Orders to cancel these unauthorised extensions have been issued in various cases heard by the State Transport Commissioner and the aforementioned RTAs, following appeals against show-cause.

**BALKAUR SINGH SEEKS STAY ON SIDHU MOOSEWALA DOCUMENTARY, COURT TO CONSIDER ON JUNE 12**

**Diary Times Desk :** Seeking a stay on the screening of a documentary scheduled for June 11 on the birth anniversary of Sidhu Moosewala, his father Balkaur Singh filed a petition in a Mansa court today. The court of the Civil Judge (Senior Division) has adjourned the matter to June 12 for consideration. The documentary is set to be screened by a foreign broadcaster in Mumbai. Advocate Satinder Pal Singh Mittal, counsel for Balkaur Singh, said, "The matter is now sub-judice, thus we are hopeful that the broadcaster will not screen the documentary. The court has adjourned the matter to June 12 for consideration." Sources close to the family said that Balkaur had completed the legal formalities on Monday and sought an immediate relief from the court to direct the broadcaster to suspend its scheduled programme. Balkaur has already sent a legal notice to the broadcaster and lodged complaints with the Maharashtra police, along with a follow-up reminder to restrain and halt the screening of the documentary. He has alleged that 'Investigative Documentary on Sidhu Moosewala' contains unauthorised, sensitive and unpublished material, including personal testimonies and commentary on an ongoing criminal case. He argued that the screening could incite public unrest, interfere with the investigation into Moosewala's murder and violate the family's legal rights, including privacy and posthumous dignity.

**BATHINDA DSP HARBANS SINGH SUSPENDED OVER ALLEGED FAILURE TO ACT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKERS**

**Diary Times Desk :** The state government has suspended Bathinda DSP City-I Harbans Singh. A senior police officer in Chandigarh confirmed the development, stating that further details would be shared shortly. According to sources, the DSP allegedly failed to take action against drug traffickers in his jurisdiction. However, some people in the town speculate that Harbans has been made a scapegoat due to ongoing infighting between two factions of the ruling party in Bathinda. Bathinda DIG Harjit Singh and Bathinda SSP Amneet Kondal were not available for comment. Notably, Harbans has previously served in various positions in Bathinda, including as SHO of Kotwali and Civil Lines police stations. This action against the DSP comes just within a fortnight of the suspension of Fazilka SSP Varinder Singh Brar on May 28. However, some people in the town speculate that Harbans has been made a scapegoat due to ongoing infighting between two factions of the ruling party in Bathinda.



## UNA SIZZLES AT 42°C AS TEMPERATURES SOAR IN HIMACHAL

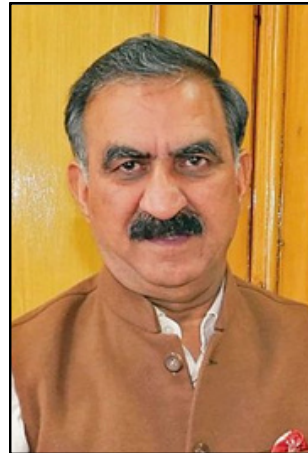
**Diary Times Desk :** Maximum temperatures across the state have soared past 40°C at a few places in the plains and low hills in the past 24 hours. The temperatures are likely to rise further as the weather will stay largely clear over the next few days. The places where the temperatures have gone beyond 40°C include Una (42.4°C), Kangra (40.4°C), Bilaspur (40.1°C) and Neri (42.6°C). Shimla has also touched 29°C. Apart from maximum temperatures, the minimum temperatures are also rising. Minimum temperatures are three to five degree above normal at many stations. There's a forecast for light rain at isolated places from June 13 to 15 across the state. It will provide some relief to the people from rising temperatures.

## STARS IN THEIR EYES: SISSU VILLAGE PREPARES FOR ASTRO-TOURISM BOOM

**Diary Times Desk :** In a visionary effort to blend celestial science with community tourism, the Panchayat Tourism Development Committee (PTDC), guided by People for Himalayan Development and supported by Royal Enfield, is launching a two-day astro-guide training program in the breathtaking village of Sissu, nestled in the tribal district of Lahaul and Spiti. Scheduled for June 10 and 11, the initiative marks a new chapter in sustainable tourism for the Himalayas. Part of the broader People Owned People Governed Tourism (POPGT) initiative, the programme aims to empower locals with basic astronomy knowledge and hands-on guiding skills, enabling them to lead stargazing sessions for curious travellers. The goal: transform the pristine night skies of Lahaul into a living planetarium — guided not by professionals, but by the very people who call these mountains home. The training is free and open to all local residents, and comprises three immersive sessions: a theory module on the morning of June 10, a practical stargazing experience that same night, and a solar observation workshop on June 11. Participants will learn to decode celestial stories, operate telescopes, and introduce tourists to constellations, planets, and cosmic events visible from Lahaul's clear skies.

## COMPLETE SHONGTONG PROJECT BY NOV 2026, SUKHVINDER SUKHU DIRECTS OFFICIALS

**Diary Times Desk :** CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today visited Shongtong-Karcham hydroelectric project in Kinnaur and directed officials to complete the 450 MW capacity hydroelectric project by November 2026. The CM said the state would earn annual revenue of about Rs 1,000 crore after the commissioning of the project. "The project has been under construction for the last 13 years. The present government has accelerated the construction work and it would be dedicated to the nation in the stipulated time period," he said. Sukhu said the present government was taking concrete steps to ensure proper exploitation of its river water to strengthen the economy of the state. He further said the state government was working towards taking over the Dhaulasidh, Luhri and Sunni hydro power projects and the total amount spent on these projects so far was being evaluated. "Henceforth, the state government would take forward the construction work of hydropower projects on its own terms so that the interests of the state could be protected, which were completely sidelined by the previous BJP government," he said. The CM said that the state government was also moving ahead towards setting up a geo-thermal power project at Tapri in Kinnaur district, and making advancement in the field of electricity.



## RENUKA DAM GETS FOREST CLEARANCE, TO BE READY BY 2030

**Diary Times Desk :** The Centre has granted the much-awaited forest clearance to the Rs 6,947-crore Renuka multi-purpose dam, decades after it was conceived to address the water woes of the National Capital Region. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the project, which will come upon the Giri river at Dadahu in Sirmaur district of Himachal Pradesh, in December 2021. Confirming the stage-II final approval granted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on June 4, Vasanth Kiran Babu, Conservator of Forests, Nahan, said: "The clearance will facilitate the diversion of 909 hectares of forest land for the construction of the dam." While land acquisition has been completed, the dam authorities are in the process of finalising the technical details. The initial phase involves constructing three 1.5-km diversion tunnels to temporarily redirect the Giri, a tributary of the Yamuna, ensuring minimal disruption to its natural flow. This is critical to laying the foundation for the 148-m-high rock-fill dam, which is expected to be operational by 2030. As many as 41 villages and 7,000 people will be affected and 346 families will be rendered homeless by the construction of the dam. A total of 1,508 hectares of land, including 1,231 hectares of agricultural land spread across 32 villages, 909 hectares of reserved forestland and 49 hectares of the Renuka wildlife sanctuary, would be submerged in the Rs 6,947-crore project.

## DECLARE NANGAL-JAIJON ROAD A NATIONAL HIGHWAY, HIMACHAL DEPUTY CM URGES NITIN GADKARI

**Diary Times Desk :** Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri today met Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi and discussed several issues related to the state. The Deputy Chief Minister requested Gadkari to increase the validity of All India Taxi Permits from 12 years to 15 years, aligning with the vehicle scrapping policy period of 15 years. Agnihotri said that the Union Minister assured him that he would look into the matter and issued directions to the authorities concerned. Agnihotri also urged the minister to release a pending amount of Rs 7.63 crore under the scheme for special assistance to the state for capital investment, specifically for incentives related to scrapping old vehicles. The Deputy CM also demanded that the Nangal-Jaijon road be declared a National Highway, highlighting its importance to the proposed bulk drug park in Una. "A DPR to the tune of Rs 429 crore has already been prepared for the road, and it would be submitted to Government of India under Gati Shakti scheme," he said. Agnihotri further demanded that the proposed four-laning of NH 503 A from Amritsar to Hoshiarpur be extended from Bankhandi (HP boundary) to Jhalea. "This is a stretch of approximately 15 km and would connect Anandpur Sahib to Mata Chintpurni.

## CONGESTION CRISIS: NARROW ROADS OF KULLU BUCKLE UNDER TOURIST PRESSURE

**Diary Times Desk :** As mercury levels rise, tourists from across the country are heading to Kullu's serene locales like Manikaran for relief. However, the region's crumbling infrastructure and narrow roads have turned daily commutes into ordeals, especially along the Bhuntar-Manikaran route. Bottlenecks and congestion plague the Parbati Valley, frustrating commuters and disrupting local life. Residents report traffic jams stretching from Sarsari to Manikaran, with daily delays becoming routine. "It's a grave situation," said Mukesh, a local. Another resident, Vivek, revealed that while road widening proposals have existed for over a decade, no concrete steps have been taken. The July 2023 floods and landslides only worsened the situation, damaging key road stretches. Temporary fixes remain in place, while a shortage of police personnel exacerbates the mess. The Jalori Pass area in the Banjar Valley is similarly overwhelmed. Narrow roads and an unregulated influx of tourists have led to hours-long traffic snarls. Haphazard vehicle parking adds to the chaos. Many pilgrims and visitors are forced to trek from Baranala to Jalori Pass due to the gridlock. Local tourism operators are urging authorities to deploy more personnel during the peak tourist season.



**BAVUMA ANNOUNCES PROTEAS XI FOR WTC FINAL 2025**

**Diary Times Desk :** South Africa have announced a strong lineup for the much anticipated clash against Australia in the Ultimate Test. South Africa captain Temba Bavuma has announced the playing XI for the ICC World Test Championship Final against Australia starting on Wednesday. Bavuma headlines a well-rounded lineup that offers the first-time WTC Finalists multiple options in all departments of the game. Headlining the batting order is Ryan Rickelton, who has been South Africa's top-scorer in the WTC 2023/25 cycle, alongside Bavuma - not too far behind in the scoring charts, Aiden Markram, and Tristan Stubbs. South Africa playing XI: Aiden Markram, Ryan Rickelton, Wiaan Mulder, Temba Bavuma (c), Tristan Stubbs, David Bedingham, Kyle Verreynne (wk), Marco Jansen, Keshav Maharaj, Kagiso Rabada, Lungi Ngidi. A notable decision is to stick with Wiaan Mulder at No.3 after he was used at that position during South Africa's recent Tests against Sri Lanka and Pakistan. "Mulder is quite young in that position. But I think having played with Mulder, having seen him and the way he has grown in the last two years within the red-ball format," Bavuma said. "It's about giving him a lot more confidence, keep backing him and just allowing him to do what he does best. He has an opportunity in a pressure situation, but I think he can take comfort from the fact that the guys are backing him. We just want him to play his game."

**POORAN MAKES SHOCK RETIREMENT FROM INTERNATIONAL CRICKET AT 29**

**Diary Times Desk :** Nicholas Pooran, the former West Indies white-ball captain, has retired from international cricket at the age of 29. He finishes with 1983 runs in 61 ODIs and 2275 runs in 106 T20Is. Pooran had recently opted out of selection for West Indies' T20I series against England and hadn't featured in ODIs since West Indies' exit in the 2023 ODI World Cup Qualifiers. However, his retirement comes as a shock since it was only in November last year - on the occasion of his 100th T20I cap - that Pooran had said he could play 100 more T20Is. In a statement on his social media, Pooran wrote on Monday: "After much thought and reflection, I've decided to announce my retirement from international cricket. This game we love has given and will continue to give so much - joy, purpose, unforgettable memories, and a chance to represent the people of the West Indies. Wearing that maroon, standing for the anthem, and giving everything I had each time I stepped on the field... it's hard to put into words what that truly means to me. To have led the team as captain is a privilege I will always hold close to my heart. To the fans - thank you for your unwavering love. You lifted me in the tough moments and celebrated the good ones with unmatched passion."

**AUSTRALIA REVEAL PLAYING XI FOR WORLD TEST CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL**

**Diary Times Desk :** Australia captain Pat Cummins has revealed his side's playing XI for the ICC World Test Championship at Lord's. Former No.1 ranked Test batter Marnus Labuschagne will push up the order to open alongside Usman Khawaja, while Josh Hazlewood won the race against Scott Boland to partner left-armers Mitchell Starc and Cummins in the pace attack. All-rounder Cameron Green will play his first Test since back surgery, while Beau Webster retains his spot in the XI and will provide the bowlers some support with his medium pace and spin options. Cummins explained his reasons why selectors opted for Labuschagne at the top of the order and decided to leave teenager Sam Konstas out of the XI. "With Marnus moving, we thought it's one spot up really. It's not too different to batting three," Cummins said. "Marnus has experience, he has done well here at Lord's and in England in general. Opening the batting can be tough, but it can also be sometimes the best time to bat, before the Dukes ball actually starts swinging. There's an opportunity to score there, so just keeping that ball in tow."

**AFTER IPL WIN, IS RCB GOING TO BE SOLD? OWNER DIAGEO RESPONDS TO SPECULATION**

**Diary Times Desk :** Rumours of the Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB) being on sale surfaced just days after the franchise claimed its maiden Indian Premier League (IPL) title after beating Punjab Kings in Ahmedabad. However, the owners, Diageo India, an Indian branch of UK-based Diageo Plc, categorically shut the rumours as they told the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and BSE Surveillance Department on Tuesday that the reports were merely speculative in nature. Earlier, a Bloomberg report indicated that the British distiller has been in discussion with potential advisers on selling part or all of the club. Diageo owns the team through its Indian unit, United Spirits Ltd., and may seek a valuation of as much as \$2 billion. However, the rumours were ended in a mail to the BSE, with Mital Sanghvi, the company secretary, informing the regulating body of the Indian Stock Market, "The company would like to clarify that the aforesaid media reports are speculative in nature and it is not pursuing any such discussion. This is for your information and records." Diageo is registered with the BSE and hence a mail was sent to the company as the rumours around the RCB had lifted the share price. Shares of United Spirits gained as much as 3.3%, to hit a five-month high.

**MS DHONI GIVES FIRST REACTION AFTER BEING INDUCTED INTO ICC HALL OF FAME: 'CRICKETERS ACROSS GENERATIONS...'**

**Diary Times Desk :** Legendary India cricketer MS Dhoni gave his first reaction after being formally inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame. The former India captain was among seven iconic players added to the ICC Hall of Fame at a glittering ceremony held at the iconic Abbey Road Studios in London. Apart from Dhoni, the other male cricketers to get the honour were South Africa's Hashim Amla, former Australia opener Matthew Hayden, former South Africa captain Graeme Smith, and New Zealand great Daniel Vettori. Pakistan's Sana Mir and former England wicketkeeper-batter Sarah Taylor were the two women inductees who took the total Hall of Famers to 122. The seven distinguished cricketers were voted by the ICC Hall of Famers, senior executives and members of the media and inducted during 'A Day with the Legends' event. Dhoni, who has more than 17000 international runs and is the only captain to win all three ICC white-ball tournaments, felt honoured as the ICC recognised the contributions of the cricketers through its Hall of Fame programme, launched in 2009. "It is an honour to be named in the ICC Hall of Fame, which recognises the contributions of cricketers across generations and from all over the world."

**PAT CUMMINS' BLUNT 'INDIA' REMARK ON WTC FINAL AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA**

**Diary Times Desk :** Ahead of the much-awaited World Test Championship (WTC) 2025 final against South Africa, Australia skipper Pat Cummins is excited about playing an ICC summit clash against a team other than India. Both India and Australia are undoubtedly one of the best two teams in the world and are also cut-throat rivals. However, Pat Cummins and co spoiled India's dream of reaching the WTC 2025 final after they defeated them in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy earlier this year. However, South Africa came in a surprise package and secured the finale berth. The WTC 2025 final will begin from June 11 at Lord's, London and there's no doubt that Australia will be entering the ground as the favourites. However, Cummins is not ready to take the Proteas lightly. "In some ways you expect India to be around. England have been quite strong at home and New Zealand always seem to get to finals. But the same case could be made for South Africa in ICC events," Cummins told the Guardian.

