

## AIR INDIA PLAIN CRASH

## CENTRE FORMS HIGH-LEVEL PANEL TO FIND 'ROOT CAUSE' OF CRASH AS TOLL REACHES 270

**Diary Times Desk :** The Centre on Saturday set up a high-level multi-disciplinary panel to ascertain the "root cause" of the crash of the London-bound Air India plane in Ahmedabad and assess any contributing factors, including mechanical failure, human error and regulatory compliances, even as the death toll in the disaster rose to 270.

As the panel headed by Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan was mandated to give its report in three months, Civil Aviation Minister K Rammohan Naidu said aviation regulator DGCA has ordered "extended surveillance" for the Tata-owned airline's Boeing 787 Dreamliner series planes. The Civil Aviation ministry said the committee will not be a substitute to other probes being conducted by relevant organisations.

In a post on X, Air India said it has done one-time safety checks on nine of its Boeing 787 Dreamliners and is on track to complete the checks on the remaining 24 such planes as directed by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation(DGCA).The carrier now has 26 Boeing 787-8s and seven Boeing 787-9s in its fleet.

All but one of the 242 passengers and crew on board the Boeing 787-8(AI171) and another 29 persons, including five MBBS students on the ground, were killed when the aircraft came down on Thursday moments after taking off from the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport before falling inside the nearby campus of the state-run BJ Medical College in Meghaninagar area and going up in flames.



## AHMEDABAD PLANE CRASH

## AHMEDABAD PLANE CRASH : GOVT SHOULD GIVE COMPENSATION, MUST FIX ACCOUNTABILITY : KHARGE

**Diary Times Desk :** Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday said the Union government must fix accountability in the horrific Air India plane crash. Talking to reporters after meeting injured persons at Ahmedabad Civil Hospital, Kharge also said the Centre must give compensation to the kin of the deceased and to the injured.

"The government must give compensation to kin of plane crash victims and fix accountability," he asserted when reminded by mediapersons that neither the state government nor the Centre had announced compensation as yet.

The Ahmedabad-London flight crashed into buildings on a medical college campus in Meghaninagar shortly after taking off from Sardar Vallabhbhai Airport on Thursday, killing 241 out of 242 persons on board as well as several others on the ground. Kharge also visited the site of the crash along with senior Congress leaders Shaktisinh Gohil and Mukul Wasnik. Expressing grief at the deaths of Indian nationals as well as foreign citizens on board the aircraft and on the ground, including medical students, Kharge said people of the city will never forget the horrific crash.

"Nobody should take such incidents lightly and say such things keep happening or that this is routine. I would also like to say that nobody should try to take credit by visiting the site or meeting the injured and then getting photos clicked," Kharge asserted. The Congress chief said he and his party colleagues were here to give strength to the kin of the deceased and to the injured.





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



## HIMACHAL TOURISM: TOURISTS RUSHED TO HIMACHAL TO GET RELIEF FROM THE HEAT, TWO KM LONG JAM IN PARWANOO

**Diary Times Desk :** Tourists are reaching Himachal to get relief from the scorching heat in the plains. In such a situation, the number of tourists has increased suddenly on the weekend. Due to this, the hotels of Kasauli and Chail are 100% packed. At the same time, due to the high movement of tourists, tourists have also had to face problems due to traffic jam in Gadhkhal market of Kasauli including Parwanoo, the entry point of Kalka-Shimla NH. A two km long jam occurred from TTR Chowk to Toll Plaza in Parwanoo. Tourists had to face problems amidst the heat. Although, police personnel are deployed on the spot, but there has been trouble due to the sudden high number of vehicles. According to the information, a large number of tourists were seen in small and big hotels adjacent to Kalka-Shimla NH on Saturday. A large number of tourists were seen having fun near Sadhupul adjoining Chail, near Ashwini Khad. The movement of vehicles has also increased on Kalka-Shimla NH. Due to this, there was also a jam at the Parwanoo entry point.



## HIMACHAL PRADESH: ACCUSED OF MURDER OF COUSIN IN SHIMLA HOTEL ARRESTED, POLICE TEAM CAUGHT HIM FROM PANCHKULA

**Diary Times Desk :** Police has arrested the accused in the murder of cousin in a hotel room in Dhali, Shimla. Police has arrested the main accused Arjun Sharma from Panchkula. Akash was a resident of House No. 35, Main Market, Sector-10, Panchkula. Police traced Arjun Sharma on the basis of technical surveillance, human intelligence and coordinated efforts of various teams and arrested him from the outskirts of Panchkula (Haryana) on the morning of June 14. SP Shimla Gaurav Singh said that further action is going on in the case. According to the information, Akash Sharma and Arjun Sharma reached Hotel Grand Majestic near Dhali Tunnel on June 11 at around 8:22 pm. Akash had studied law and the accused runs a vegetable business with his father in Panchkula. Investigation so far has revealed that in the early hours of June 13, both of them had an argument over something and in a fit of rage, Arjun allegedly first hit Akash Sharma on the head with a beer bottle and then slit his throat with glass. SP Shimla Gaurav Singh said that on the basis of preliminary investigation, the police have registered a murder case against the accused.

## HIMACHAL PRADESH: WORKERS BECAME RICH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SCHEMES, NOW FIR WILL BE LODGED

**Diary Times Desk :** In Hamirpur district, many ineligible people wrongly took advantage of the schemes of the Workers Welfare Board. The Board Chairman has said that an FIR will be lodged against the culprits in this case. Himachal Pradesh Building Construction and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board Chairman Nardev Singh Kanwar held a review meeting on Friday. During this, he said that during the investigation in 9 gram panchayats of Barsar and one panchayat of Bhoranj subdivision, about 38 such well-off people were found, who have taken advantage of the board's schemes by adopting wrong tactics. He said that these people have taken financial benefits of more than Rs 10 lakh. These include family members of many government officials and employees and rich businessmen. The process of taking strict action against them and registering FIR will be started. He said that action will be taken against the well-off people who adopt wrong tactics to take advantage of 14 schemes being run for the welfare and upliftment of workers. Action will also be taken against the officers.

## NEET UG RESULT 2025: MINERVA'S AARAV THAKUR BECOMES STATE TOPPER IN NEET EXAM, SCORES 619 OUT OF 720 MARKS

**Diary Times Desk :** In the NEET results, Minerva Study Circle student Aarav Thakur set a new record by topping the state. Aarav not only achieved the pride of becoming the state topper by securing 619 marks out of 720, but also brought laurels to the district and the institute by securing 500th position in the entire country. After this success in NEET, Aarav Thakur's goal is to do social service by taking admission in the prestigious AIIMS. To succeed in the exam, he used to study till 3 o'clock in the night. In the winter season, he used to wake up early in the morning and start studying. Aarav said that for success, not luck but hard work along with determination is necessary. Delighted with this achievement, Minerva Institute has announced to give one lakh rupees in cash to Aarav Thakur for becoming the state topper. The special thing is that Aarav Thakur had secured 99.29 percentile in this year's JEE Mains exam. Aarav has given the credit of this achievement to his teachers and family. The school management, teachers and family members have expressed happiness over this historic success of Aarav.

## ANURAG SINGH THAKUR: MP ANURAG SINGH THAKUR SAID- INDIA HAS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN CREATING A NEW INNOVATION GEOGRAPHY

**Diary Times Desk :** Former Union Minister and MP from Hamirpur Lok Sabha constituency Anurag Singh Thakur, in a program organized by Observer Research Foundation in France, highlighted India's achievements and capabilities in the field of technology, describing India's important role in the creation of a new innovation geography on the global stage. Many dignitaries including External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar participated in this program. Anurag Singh Thakur said that under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, today India has emerged as a new hope for the world in the field of technology and innovation. Today the world is seeing India's important role in the creation of a new innovation geography on the global stage. Honorable Prime Minister Modi has pledged to make India a developed nation by the year 2047. Today in the era of technology, there will be very few people who will be untouched by Digital India and UPI and the role of Digital India and UPI is going to be extremely important in building a developed India. Digital India is improving the lives of all citizens through digital delivery of services, digital economy and expansion of employment opportunities. Anurag said that thanks to PM Modi's policy of promoting fintech, UPI is reaching informal economies and bridging.

## HIMACHAL NEWS: CENTRE BENEFITS FROM THE OPERATION OF VOLVO BUSES OF OTHER STATES, HIMACHAL SUFFERS LOSSES; THIS MUCH LOSS IS BEING INCURRED

**Diary Times Desk :** The Centre is benefiting from the operation of Volvo buses of other states in Himachal while Himachal is incurring losses. It is difficult for the state government to stop the operation of these buses. According to the policy of the central government, these operators can take tourists and passengers anywhere in the country by paying a tax of Rs 3 lakh for the All India Tourist Permit. The state government can only take SRT from these operators. The government is going to raise this matter of stopping the operation of Volvo buses before the central government. The state government has instructed all RTOs to stop illegal Volvo operations. Dozens of Volvo buses stand in the morning itself to take passengers from tourist places Kullu, Manali, Dalhousie, Dharamshala, Shimla to Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, Jammu and other religious places. The fare of these buses is less than the Volvo buses of the Transport Corporation. In such a situation, people also come forward to travel in them. Not only this, the owners of Volvo buses also bear the cost of tea and water of the passengers. According to the information, the Transport Corporation is losing Rs 15 thousand per Volvo in Himachal. This amount is in lakhs every month from these buses.





UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN 1ST  
SCOTTISH VARSITY TO OPEN  
CAMPUS IN INDIA

**Diary Times Desk :** University of Aberdeen has become the first Scottish university to receive the nod for setting up a branch campus in India, officials said on Saturday. The university was granted a Letter of Intent to set up its branch campus in Mumbai which is expected to be operationalised by 2026. The proposed campus would initially offer programmes in computing and data science, business management, economics, and artificial intelligence. Besides, it will also offer an MBA programme with future expansion in mathematics, international business management and information systems, public health, film studies and psychology—strategic areas where Aberdeen and India share common priorities. “We are excited to progress our global ambitions after the Indian Government gave us approval to proceed with our intention for a campus. As a country of over 1.4 billion where 50 per cent of the population are below the age of 25, India has long been a priority area for our global engagement strategy focusing on student recruitment.

BURNING MERCHANT VESSEL  
TOWED AWAY FROM KERALA  
COAST IN HIGH-RISK  
OPERATION

**Diary Times Desk :** In a daring maritime operation, the Indian Navy successfully attached a tow rope to merchant vessel ‘Wan Hai 503’, which has been burning off the Kerala coast since June 9. The rope connects the drifting ship to the ocean-going tug ‘Offshore Warrior’. According to the Ministry of Defence, the Indian Coast Guard had been holding the vessel away from the Kerala coast for several days, but sudden deterioration in weather conditions and strong westerly winds caused it to dangerously drift toward the shoreline. The merchant vessel ‘Wan Hai 503’ was just 38 km off Kochi in Kerala when the team managed to connect a 600-metre tow rope to Offshore Warrior.

The Wan Hai 503 is now being towed westward, away from the coast and is now nearly 65 km offshore, the MoD said on Saturday. The Indian Coast Guard (ICG), along with the Navy and Air Force, have successfully transferred the tow of the distressed ship, the MoD said. Despite adverse weather that restricted aerial operations and delayed salvage crew boarding, a Navy Sea King helicopter launched from Kochi on June 13 successfully winched salvage team members onto the vessel under extremely challenging conditions.

CBI BOOKS BUILDER SUPERTECH, ITS PROMOTER RK  
ARORA FOR ALLEGED RS 126 CRORE FRAUD WITH IDBI  
BANK



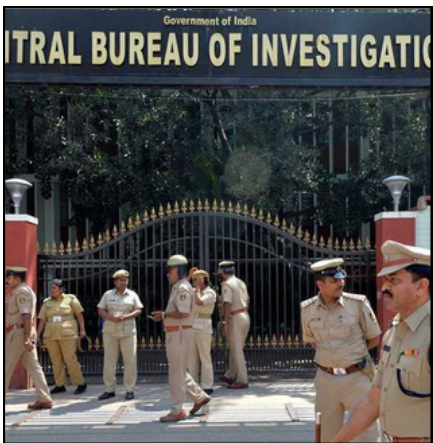
**Diary Times Desk :** The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered an FIR against Supertech Limited and its promoter, RK Arora for allegedly cheating IDBI Bank to the tune of Rs 126.07 crore, news agency PTI reported citing officials. Those named in the FIR include Ram Kishor Arora, Sangita Arora, Mohit Arora, Anil Kumar Sharma, Vikas Kansal, Pradeep Kumar Goel, Anil Kumar Jain and Parul Arora. On Saturday, the CBI conducted coordinated search operations at five locations linked to the accused, including official and residential premises in Noida and Ghaziabad, in connection with the case. During the raids, agency officials seized cash amounting to Rs 28.5 lakh, CBI's spokesperson said in a statement. The case was initiated following a complaint from IDBI Bank, which alleged that the accused had conspired to misappropriate sanctioned loan funds through fraudulent means. According to the FIR, the bank alleged that the company and its directors submitted forged documents to secure credit facilities under false pretences.

328 ARMS, 9,300 ROUNDS OF  
AMMUNITION RECOVERED IN MANIPUR BY  
JOINT FORCES

**Diary Times Desk :** In a major development, the security forces in joint operations, have recovered 328 arms and around 9,300 different types of ammunition in restive Manipur, officials said here on Saturday. A senior police official said that in the early hours of Saturday, on the basis of specific Intelligence reports regarding the presence of a large cache of arms and ammunition stashed in different areas of five Imphal valley districts, simultaneous search operations were launched at different locations. He said that joint teams of Manipur Police, Army, Assam Rifles, Border Security Force (BSF), the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) recovered the significant number of arms and a huge cache of ammunition and war-like stores from the outskirts of five valley districts of Imphal West, Imphal East, Thoubal, Bishnupur, and Kakching. Of the 328 arms recovered, 151 are Self-Loading Rifles (SLRs), followed by 73 rifles.

CBI FILES FIR AGAINST SUPERTECH, PROMOTER ARORA FOR ALLEGEDLY  
DEFRAUDING IDBI BANK OF RS 126 CRORE

**Diary Times Desk :** The CBI has registered an FIR against Noida-based construction firm Supertech Limited and its promoter R K Arora among others for allegedly defrauding IDBI Bank of Rs 126.07 crore, officials said Saturday. Arora has been named in the FIR alongside whole-time directors Sangita Arora, Mohit Arora, Parul Arora, Vikas Kansal, Pradeep Kumar, Anil Kumar Sharma, and Anil Kumar Jain, in addition to the Noida-based company, they said. On Saturday, the CBI conducted coordinated search operations at five locations linked to the accused, including official and residential premises in Noida and Ghaziabad, in connection with the case. During the raids, agency officials seized cash amounting to Rs 28.5 lakh, CBI's spokesperson said in a statement. The case was initiated following a complaint from IDBI Bank, which alleged that the accused had conspired to misappropriate sanctioned loan funds through fraudulent means.



ISRAELI MILITARY APOLOGISES  
OVER WRONG INDIA MAP AFTER  
HUGE ONLINE BACKLASH

**Diary Times Desk :** In a first, the Israel Defense Forces has apologised for posting an incorrect map of India's international boundaries - which wrongly showed Jammu and Kashmir as belonging to Pakistan - on X. The IDF admitted the map "fails to precisely depict borders" but claimed it was only an "illustration of the region". The IDF's post followed tweets by Indian users, many quite furious, pointing out the error and urging the Israeli military to retract the post. Some even tagged Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Responding directly to one such tweet, by an X handle called Indian Right Wing Community", the Israel Defense Forces said, "This post is an illustration of the region. This map fails to precisely depict borders. We apologise for any offense caused". This was around 90 minutes after the original post. The first complainant had said: "Now you understand why India remains neutral. In diplomacy, no one's really your friend". The Indian government has not yet responded to the IDF's wrong map.

SONAM STAYED HERE SECRETLY AFTER  
RAJA'S MURDER, HAD A RENTAL  
AGREEMENT TOO

**Diary Times Desk :** Sonam Raghuvanshi took shelter at a rented accommodation in Indore after murdering her newly wed husband, Raja Raghuvanshi, during their honeymoon in Meghalaya last month, police sources said. Sonam, who was reported "missing" after Raja's body was recovered from a deep gorge in the northeastern state, escaped and went into hiding at the Indore flat that was rented by one of the three hitmen involved in the crime. The flat was taken on lease by Vishal Singh Chauhan, who was the first one to attack Raja with a machete in Meghalaya, the sources said. The remaining hitmen were identified as Akash Rajput and Anand Kurmi. The sources said the accommodation is located five kilometres away from Vishal's house, and was taken on rent on May 30, seven days after the brutal crime that has sent shockwaves across the country. "The police verification was also done while he was taking the flat on rent.

## NOT CONCERNED ABOUT WAR, GAVE IRAN 60 DAYS, TODAY'S 61ST: TRUMP BACKS ISRAEL

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump said on Friday that he is "not concerned" about a regional war breaking out after Israel targeted and destroyed Iran's military and nuclear sites, while also killing its top nuclear scientists and commanders. In an interview to news agency Reuters, President Trump said he had initially tried to delay an Israeli strike, giving Iran ample time for diplomacy and dialogue, but added that he had given a 60-day ultimatum to Tehran, "And today was the 61st day," he said. However, the US President said he is still hopeful for furthering nuclear talks with Iran. He said that Washington will go ahead as planned for talks scheduled in Oman for Sunday, but after Israel's major offensive, he is doubtful that Iran will participate. US special envoy Steve Witkoff is scheduled to meet an Iranian delegation on June 15. It is still not too late for Iran, President Trump said hours after he had advised Tehran to "make a deal before it is too late". Mounting pressure on Iran, President Trump had posted on his Truth Social account earlier on Friday that "Iranian hardliners spoke bravely, but they didn't know what was about to happen. They are all DEAD now, and it will only get worse!"

## PUTIN SPEAKS TO TRUMP, CONDEMNS ISRAEL'S STRIKES ON IRAN, KREMLIN SAYS

**Diary Times Desk :** Russian President Vladimir Putin spoke to US President Donald Trump for 50 minutes on Saturday, condemning the Israeli military operation against Iran and expressing concern about the risks of escalation, the Kremlin said. "Vladimir Putin condemned Israel's military operation against Iran and expressed serious concern about a possible escalation of the conflict, which would have unpredictable consequences for the entire situation in the Middle East," Kremlin aide Yuri Ushakov told reporters. Trump, for his part, described events in the Middle East as "very alarming," according to Ushakov. But the two leaders said they do not rule out a return to the negotiating track on Iran's nuclear programme, Ushakov said. On Ukraine, Putin told the US leader that Russia was ready to continue negotiations with the Ukrainians after June 22, according to state news agency RIA. Trump reiterated his interest in a speedy resolution to the conflict, the Kremlin aide said. Putin also congratulated Trump on his 79<sup>th</sup> birthday.

## DEMOCRATIC LAWMAKERS SHOT IN MINNESOTA: SUSPECT AT LARGE AFTER 'POLITICALLY MOTIVATED' ATTACK

**Diary Times Desk :** Minnesota Gov Tim Walz says former state House speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband were shot and killed in a politically motivated assassination, and a second lawmaker and his wife were shot and wounded. Authorities were actively searching for some suspect hours after the targeted killings. "We must all, in Minnesota and across the country, stand against all forms of political violence," Walz said at a press conference Saturday. "Those responsible for this will be held accountable." The wounded lawmaker was identified as state Sen John Hoffman, a Democrat first elected in 2012. He previously served as vice chair of Anoka Hennepin School Board, which manages the largest school district in Minnesota. Hoffman is married and has one daughter and represents a district north of Minneapolis.

## MINNESOTA LAWMAKER KILLED, ANOTHER SHOT AT, TRUMP CONDEMNS "TERRIBLE SHOOTING"



**Diary Times Desk :** Minnesota Governor Tim Walz said former state House Speaker Melissa Hortman and her husband were killed in a politically motivated assassination, and a second lawmaker and his wife were shot and wounded. Authorities were actively searching for a suspect hours after the targeted killings. "We must all, in Minnesota and across the country, stand against all forms of political violence," Walz said at a press conference Saturday. "Those responsible for this will be held accountable." US President Donald Trump has also condemned the "terrible shooting" of the lawmakers. The wounded lawmaker was identified as state Senator John Hoffman, a Democrat, was first elected in 2012. He previously served as vice chair of the Anoka Hennepin School Board, which manages the largest school district in Minnesota. Hoffman is married and has one daughter. Hortman was the top House Democratic leader in the state Legislature and a former House speaker. She was first elected in 2004.

## MASSIVE FIRE AT 67-STOREY DUBAI SKYSCRAPPER, OVER 3,800 EVACUATED

**Diary Times Desk :** A massive fire broke out in the wee hours of Saturday in a 67-storey residential skyscraper in Dubai Marina, prompting a large-scale emergency response and the safe evacuation of more than 3,800 residents. Authorities confirmed that there were no injuries or casualties in the blaze, which engulfed Marina Pinnacle-also known as Tiger Tower. According to the Khaleej Times, Dubai Civil Defence teams worked tirelessly for six hours to bring the fire under control. Specialised firefighting and rescue units successfully evacuated all 3,820 residents from 764 apartments in the high-rise, ensuring that every individual was safely escorted out. The Dubai Media Office (DMO) said early Saturday morning that the evacuation was completed without incident. "Control measures remain in place and the situation is fully managed by the firefighting teams," the DMO noted, adding that the smoke still visible at the site was due to ongoing cooling operations. Authorities are now working with the building's developer to arrange temporary accommodation for the displaced residents, placing the highest priority on their safety and well-being.



## INDIA DISTANCES ITSELF FROM SCO STATEMENT CONDEMNING ISRAELI STRIKES ON IRAN

**Diary Times Desk :** India on Saturday asserted that its position on the Israel-Iran situation remains as stated earlier and urged the international community to utilise channels of dialogue and diplomacy towards de-escalation, after the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) issued a statement critical of Israel's military strikes. India had on Friday said it was "deeply concerned" at the recent developments between Iran and Israel and "closely monitoring" the evolving situation, even as New Delhi had urged both countries to avoid any escalatory steps. The statement by SCO dated June 14 said, "The member states of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) express serious concern over the escalating tensions in the Middle East and strongly condemn the military strikes carried out by Israel on the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran on June 13." China currently holds the chairmanship of the SCO. The influential economic and security bloc's members include Russia, India and Pakistan. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said India had communicated its position to other SCO members and did not participate in the discussions on the statement.

## AUSTRALIAN MAN SHOT DEAD AT VILLA ON INDONESIAN RESORT ISLAND OF BALI

**Diary Times Desk :** Authorities were searching on Saturday for two gunmen suspected of fatally shooting an Australian tourist and injuring another at a villa on the Indonesian resort island of Bali. The shooting happened just after midnight on Friday at Villa Casa Santisya near Munggu Beach in the district of Badung killed Zivan Radmanovic, 32, from Melbourne. The second victim, who is 34 and also from Melbourne was beaten, said Badung Police chief Arif Batubara. "We cannot yet determine the motive," Batubara said, adding that an investigation is under way. The two Australians were rushed to hospitals in Denpasar, the provincial capital. According to police, the villa had only three rooms occupied with a total of five guests when the shooting happened. The two victims' wives were also there and another foreign tourist, Batubara said. Radmanovic was shot in a bathroom, where police found 17 bullet casings and two intact bullets. At least three witnesses at the villa told investigators that two gunmen, one wearing orange jacket with a dark helmet.



**REBEL LEADER SIKANDER SINGH MALUKA REJOINS SHIROMANI AKALI DAL**

**Diary Times Desk** : Exactly a year after the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) removed its former Cabinet Minister Sikander Singh Maluka as the head of its disciplinary committee, he was re-inducted into the party fold today by SAD chief Sukhbir Singh Badal. Maluka, once a close aide of the Badals, served as SAD's Bathinda district president for 28 years. His daughter-in-law, Parampal Kaur Sidhu, a former IAS officer, had unsuccessfully contested the Lok Sabha election from Bathinda last year as a BJP nominee against Harsimrat Kaur Badal. Maluka's son, Gurpreet Singh, is a former chairman of the Bathinda Zila Parishad. At that time, Maluka had commented that he had tried to stop his son Gurpreet Singh Maluka and daughter-in-law from joining the BJP, but in vain. In April last year, he was removed from the post of SAD's Maur Assembly constituency in-charge. The party had replaced him with another former Cabinet Minister, Janmeja Singh Sekhon. After developing differences with the Sukhbir-led SAD, he joined the 'Sudhar Lehar' and became a party rebel. In December last year, Sudhar Lehar was dissolved on the directions of the then Akal Takht Jathedar, Giani Raghubir Singh. Speculations had been rife over the past few days that he would soon rejoin the SAD. He was also seen sitting with Sukhbir Singh Badal and other SAD leaders at the recently held bhog ceremony of former MP Sukhdev Singh Dhindsa in Sangrur.

**SENIOR CITIZENS DUPED OF RS 23 LAKH BY TRAVEL FIRM IN FARIDKOT**

**Diary Times Desk** : The Faridkot police have registered an FIR against Avidfly Vacations Pvt Ltd, Chandigarh, and its directors for allegedly defrauding a group of senior citizens out of Rs 22.90 lakh. The company had promised to arrange a luxury 7-night, 8-day tour package to Dubai, scheduled for January 2025. Despite receiving payment, the tour was never executed. According to the FIR, the complainants were provided with a detailed itinerary that included stays at high-end hotels like Atlantis, The Palm. However, the company failed to deliver on its promises. Harmanpreet Singh, one of the company's directors, allegedly admitted to receiving the funds and assured the SP (D), Faridkot, that the full amount would be refunded before April 20. Despite this commitment, no refund was issued. The complainants, all elderly individuals from Faridkot, provided evidence, including bank transaction records, emails, and WhatsApp chats, to substantiate their claims. They alleged that the company deliberately delayed the refund by giving excuses and failed to return their hard-earned money.

**SIRSA HOTTEST AT 45.2 DEGREES CELSIUS AS HOT WEATHER CONDITIONS PERSIST IN HARYANA, PUNJAB**

**Diary Times Desk** : Sirsa in Haryana was the hottest place in the state, recording a day temperature of 45.2 degrees Celsius on Saturday as hot weather conditions continued to persist at most places in the state and neighbouring Punjab. Sirsa, in the western region of the state, has been reeling under extreme heat for the past many days. According to the local Met office, among other places in Haryana, Hisar sizzled at 43.5 degrees Celsius. Rohtak sweltered at 44.3 degrees, Narnaul recorded 42.3 degrees, Gurugram 41 degrees and Ambala 42.8 degrees, while Karnal recorded a maximum of 39 degrees Celsius. Chandigarh, the common capital of the two states, also braved the hot weather at a high of 42.2 degrees Celsius. Bathinda was the hottest place in Punjab, recording a high of 43.8 degrees Celsius. Faridkot braved the hot weather, which peaked to 42 degrees. Amritsar registered a maximum of 41.2.

**LUDHIANA WOMAN HELD CAPTIVE IN MUSCAT FOR 2 MONTHS RETURNS HOME SAFELY**

**Diary Times Desk** : A young woman from Ludhiana district, who had travelled to Muscat, Oman, in search of a better job and brighter future, has safely returned home after a harrowing two-month ordeal. At Nirmal Kutiya in Sultanpur Lodhi, she shared her traumatic experience, describing the conditions she faced as "nothing short of hell". Lured by the promise of a Rs 30,000 to 40,000 salary, she left for Oman in April on a two-year clinical work visa due to her family's financial hardships. However, upon arrival, her passport was confiscated, and she was forced into illegal work against her will, contrary to the promised clinical duties. The woman recounted being threatened with being sold or killed if she resisted and was subjected to inhumane living conditions, working day and night with minimal food and rest. She wasn't paid the promised salary, and even the money she brought with her was taken away. Her situation changed when Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Balbir Singh Seechewal intervened, contacting the Ministry of External Affairs. Thanks to his efforts, she was successfully brought back home.

**2-DAY POLICE REMAND FOR KAMAL KAUR BHABHI MURDER ACCUSED; ANOTHER INFLUENCER RECEIVES FRESH THREAT**

**Diary Times Desk** : The Bathinda police have got a two-day remand of the two accused arrested in the murder case of social media influencer Kanchan Kumari, also known as Kamal Kaur Bhabhi. The duo, Jaspreet Singh and Nimaratjeet Singh, was produced in court on Friday evening. Bathinda SSP Amneet Kondal said today that the police were questioning both accused and efforts were on to trace the mastermind, Amritpal Singh Mehron, who continues to evade arrest. Mehron had on Friday released a video taking responsibility for the murder and warning other influencers against posting "vulgar" content on social media. The incident has sparked a strong response, especially within the Sikh community and among Nihang groups. While some Nihangs, Sikh organisations and influencers have spoken in support of Amritpal, others have strongly condemned the brutal act, calling it an act of vigilantism that cannot be justified under any circumstances. Even social media users are expressing mixed opinions. Meanwhile, another influencer, Preet Jatti, has come forward claiming she received a threatening call from an international number, warning her to stop uploading content online. In a video, Preet Jatti said, "I have a five-month-old baby. I am feeling so bad today. I only upload simple videos and don't promote anything wrong. I don't know who is calling me."

**LIQUOR CONTRACTOR SHOT DEAD ON NATIONAL HIGHWAY NEAR KURUKSHETRA**

**Diary Times Desk** : Unidentified assailants fatally shot a liquor contractor at Shahabad in Haryana's Kurukshetra district, police said on Saturday. Shantanu was shot dead near Meena Market on the national highway in Shahabad, 20 km from here, on Friday evening, they said. The victim briefly stopped his car to buy some items when two men on a sports bike pumped seven bullets into him, the police said. Eyewitnesses told police that the attackers fired about eight rounds before fleeing. As panic spread on the busy highway, bystanders attempted to stop the shooters, who abandoned their bike, ran across the road, snatched a motorcycle at gunpoint and fled towards Ambala on the wrong side of the highway. Shantanu was rushed to Adesh Hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. SP Nitish Aggarwal said that he reached the crime scene with a police team along with DSP Ram Kumar and Shahabad SHO Satish Kumar. A case has been registered, and security has been tightened with blockades on all major routes and city borders as the search for the killers continues, he said. The SP said the victim, originally from a village in Jhajjar district, had been living in Shahabad for sometime.

**BEDI'S COMPARISON OF HARYANA CM NAYAB SAINI TO AMBEDKAR DRAWS SHARP CRITICISM**

**Diary Times Desk** : Haryana's Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Krishna Bedi has stirred controversy by comparing Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini with Dr BR Ambedkar during a Kabir Jayanti function in Sirsa on Wednesday. Addressing the gathering, Bedi welcomed the CM with high praise, saying, "Our destiny maker has arrived. We may not have seen Ambedkar, but if there is anyone like him in Haryana, it is Nayab Singh Saini." A video of this statement went viral soon after, prompting a wave of backlash from political opponents and citizens alike. The Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) was quick to condemn Bedi's comparison. Senior INLD leader Prakash Bharti termed the remark "highly inappropriate and insulting," demanding a public apology. BR Ambedkar was the architect of the Indian Constitution and gave rights and reservations to Scheduled Castes and backward communities. Because of his efforts, leaders like Saini and Bedi are in power today. Comparing anyone to Ambedkar is not only wrong, but it is also a sin," Bharti said. Social media users echoed similar sentiments.

**BOY ELOPES WITH GIRL  
TRIGGERING COMMUNAL  
TENSION IN PAONTA SAHIB**

**Diary Times Desk :** In view of communal tension prevailing in the Majra area of Paonta Sahib after a minor boy from a minority community and a girl eloped, Sirmaur Deputy Commissioner Sirmaur issued prohibitory orders in areas falling under the Majra police station late on Friday night. As per the directions, areas like Majra, Mallon, Fatehpur, Misserwala and Majra have been identified as vulnerable after an irate crowd gathered at Kiratpur area and threatened to hold a protest. Since this could precipitate into a law and order situation by assuming a communal colour, District Magistrate Priyanka prohibited the assembly of five or more people publicly without permission. Further, carrying lethal weapons and arms including sticks, daggers, swords, pick axe, shovels, etc has also been banned. Holding public rally, procession or demonstration, including hunger strike, and sloganeering has also been barred. Those violating the orders would be penalised as per Section 233 of the BNSS.

**6 ARRESTED FOR  
SWAPPING GOLD WITH  
BRASS IN SHIMLA**

**Diary Times Desk :** Six individuals, including four women from Haryana and Rajasthan, have been arrested for allegedly stealing gold jewellery from a shop in Shimla district. The accused have been identified as Kiran (52) from Ganganagar, Rajender Kumar (47) from Rawatsar in Hanumangarh, Lakhmi Chand (50), Bateria (70), Soni (70), and Rajbaj (38) — all from Ratia in Fatehabad, Haryana. The incident came to light after Paras Ram Shah, a jeweller from Narkanda, filed a complaint stating that on June 12, four women entered his shop posing as customers. While pretending to examine gold rings, they allegedly swapped nine gold rings with brass imitations and left without making any purchases. Suspicious of their actions, Shah informed the police, leading to their arrest on Friday. Rampur SDPO Naresh Sharma confirmed the incident and said a case has been registered. During the investigation, it was also revealed that the same group was involved in a similar theft at Maa Hateswari Jewellers in Darbhanga, Bihar.

**DESPITE SECTION 163 IN FORCE, RESIDENTS PROTEST IN SIRMAUR'S  
MAJRA OVER ALLEGED ABDUCTION**

**Diary Times Desk :** Defying prohibitory orders under Section 163, a large group of protesters, led by BJP state president Dr Rajeev Bindal, gathered in Sirmaur's Majra area this morning, demanding justice in an alleged case of abduction involving a minor girl. The incident, which has sparked communal tension, prompted authorities to enforce Section 163 of Bhartiya Nagrik Suksha Sanhita (BNSS) late last night across Majra and adjoining areas of Kiratpur, Meliyon, Fatehpur and Mishrawala. Despite a ban on the assembly of more than five persons, a sizable crowd — comprising the girl's family and their supporters — assembled for a sit-in protest. The girl was allegedly taken away by a youth from another community, and while officials have not confirmed it, sources claimed that the girl had been found and may soon meet her parents. Majra remains heavily fortified, with around 150 police personnel deployed to prevent escalation of tensions. Three DSPs — Manvinder Thakur, Ramakant Thakur and Vidya Negi — along with Paonta Sahib SDM Gunjeet Singh Cheema, are overseeing the situation on the ground. Additional security has been stationed at the local police station and no large gathering is being allowed.

**SHIMLA: WORK ON SATELLITE TOWNSHIP  
JATHIA DEVI TO BEGIN IN OCT, MASTER  
PLAN SUBMITTED**

**Diary Times Desk :** Work on the much-delayed satellite township of Jathia Devi is likely to begin in October, later this year as Tata Consultants have submitted the master plan for the construction of flats, villas and eco resorts, besides other infrastructure. The much-delayed projects of the state government has failed to take off due to paucity of funds. The satellite township, conceived more than a decade back, was planned to decongest the state capital. Himachal Pradesh Urban Development Authority (HIMUDA) has now decided to start work on the township at Jathia Devi, 14 km from here, from October from its own funds. Failing to get Central funding, the state government will start work on the Phase I of the project from October. "We were pinning our hopes on getting central funding for the project but since that has not come through, we have decided to start the phase I from our own funds," confirmed Rajesh Dharmani, Town and Country Planning (TCP) Minister. He added that the next phases of the township will be undertaken in case central funding is received. He said Tata Consultants have already submitted the master plan for the satellite township to be spread over 1944 bighas of land. Dharmani said HIMUDA will begin work on 250 bighas while formalities for transfer of 350 bighas of land from the Industries Department are being fulfilled. More private land will be acquired for the project as per requirement, he added.

**RELIEF FROM PERSISTING HEATWAVE;  
RAINFALL TO CONTINUE IN HIMACHAL  
TILL JUNE 19**

**Diary Times Desk :** People of Himachal Pradesh got a slight relief from the continuing heatwave conditions as several parts of the state received light rainfall on Friday. According to the State's Meteorological Department, light to moderate rain occurred in isolated areas of the state during the last 24 hours due to which maximum temperatures in many part of the state recorded slight dip. The department also revealed that rainfall is expected to continue across the state till June 19. A yellow weather warning for several districts of the state have also been issued for June 15 to 17, resulting in thunderstorms accompanied with lightning and gusty winds at isolated places of the state. During this period, maximum temperature across the state are expected to witness a dip of 3°C to 4°C, thus proving relief to the people from scorching heat. Meanwhile, a yellow weather warning of heatwave in Kullu, Mandi, Una, Kangra and Chamba districts has also been issued for June 14. Shimla, the state's capital recorded 27.5°C maximum temperature while prominent tourist destinations such as Dharamsala, Manali, Dalhousie and Kasauli recorded 34°C, 29.2°C, 26.4°C and 28.3°C, respectively. Similarly, maximum temperature in Solan was 32°C, Mandi 37.4°C, Kangra 38°C, Nahan 33.9°C, Bilaspur 38.2°C, Hamirpur 37.3°C, Kalpa 27°C, Kufri 21.9°C.

**STRENGTHENING RURAL ECONOMY STATE GOVT PRIORITY, SAYS HIMACHAL CM**

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today said that the state government was committed to strengthen the rural economy and special emphasis was being laid on promoting natural farming. The Chief Minister today chaired a meeting with a delegation of the National Rural Livelihood Mission and the Himachal Pradesh 'Pashu Evam Krishi Sakhi Sangh' here. "For the first time, the state government has fixed Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for milk, wheat, maize, and turmeric produced through natural farming," he said. Sukhu said that the MSP for maize has been increased from Rs 30 to Rs 40 per kg, and for wheat from Rs 40 to Rs 60 per kg, benefitting lakhs of farmers. "The state government will soon start purchasing raw turmeric at Rs 90 per kg to promote its cultivation under the brand name 'Himachali Haldi'. Over 1.58 lakh farmers engaged in natural farming have already been certified in the state so far," he stated. The Chief Minister added that an e-commerce portal 'Him-Ira' has been launched to facilitate the sale of products made by women self-help groups. Products like Him-Ira are gaining popularity even outside the state which go a long way in economic empowerment of women.





SOUTH AFRICA CLINCH 1ST ICC TITLE IN 27 YEARS, BEAT AUSTRALIA IN WTC FINAL

**Diary Times Desk :** South Africa ended a 27-year-long drought by winning their first ICC trophy since 1998, defeating Australia in a thrilling World Test Championship final at Lord's. The victory marks a historic moment for the Proteas, who had long chased global silverware. South Africa has fallen short in ICC knockout matches on multiple occasions, with two quarter-final exits, 12 semi-final losses, and one defeat in a final. But it was an edgy finish as they took 27.4 overs to slowly score the 69 runs needed to secure success on the fourth day at Lord's after resuming at 213-2 overnight. In so doing, South Africa completed a successful pursuit of the joint second-highest winning fourth-innings total in test history at the London venue. It was a first major cricket triumph for South Africa, who had earned an unwanted reputation for failure when on the cusp of victory over the last decades in limited overs competitions. This was their first appearance in the WTC final, with opener Aiden Markram delivering a heroic innings of 136 to ensure success. Markram, who reached his century late in the third day, added 34 more runs on Saturday, accumulating carefully before falling to a sharp catch by Travis Head with six runs needed to win.



SHUBMAN GILL STARTS INDIA CAPTAINCY JOURNEY WITH SPARKLING KNOCK, KL RAHUL HITS FIFTY IN INDIA VS INDIA A MATCH

**Diary Times Desk :** Ever since he landed in England a little more than a week ago, KL Rahul has been in red-hot form with the bat. continued his rich vein of form. After hitting 116 and 51 for India A against England Lions in the second practice match at Northampton, Rahul took another giant step in his preparation for the five-match Test series against England by hitting a half-century in the India vs India A intra-squad warm-up match at Beckenham on Friday. The four-day warm-up match, which does not have first-class status, is India's last chance of getting a match-like feel before the Test series next week. The Indian team management decided to keep it a closed-door affair, restricting any broadcaster and media personnel at the venue. The only updates from the match came from the social media handles of BCCI after the close of play. Apart from Rahul's fifty, the biggest silver lining for India was the new captain Shubman Gill's positive performance. Just like Rahul, Gill also scored a half-century while all-rounder Shardul Thakur, who is fighting with Nitish Kumar Reddy for a spot in the XI, picked up wickets. "Beckenham.

PAT CUMMINS MAKES SHOCKING ADMISSION AFTER WTC FINAL LOSS: "THERE ARE CONCERNS..."

**Diary Times Desk :** In a historic triumph at Lord's, South Africa sealed their first ICC World Test Championship (WTC) title, defeating defending champions Australia by five wickets. The victory not only secured their maiden WTC crown but also marked their first ICC title since 1998, ending a 27-year wait on the global stage. Proteas had defeated the West Indies in the 1998 ICC KnockOut Trophy. Despite entering the final as reigning champions, Pat Cummins' Australia fell short in the decisive clash. After earning a respectable 74-run first-innings lead by dismissing South Africa for just 138, the Aussies failed to capitalize, allowing the Proteas to claw back into the match with a composed and dominant fourth-innings chase. Speaking after the match, Australia captain Pat Cummins acknowledged the missed opportunities. "Things can change quickly, but it was a bridge too far. Few things we didn't do right. Didn't bat out the opposition after a decent first-innings lead," Cummins said. Australia's bowling unit had its moments early in the match. "SA didn't give us a chance in the fourth innings. There are concerns in the top-seven, guys have performed well in the last two years. Bowlers did well in the first two days.

INDIA WOMEN'S HOCKEY TEAM SUFFER AGONISING 2-3 DEFEAT TO AUSTRALIA IN FIH PRO LEAGUE

**Diary Times Desk :** The Indian women's hockey team fought back from a 0-3 deficit but suffered a narrow 2-3 defeat to Australia in their FIH Hockey Pro League 2024/25 match at the Lee Valley Hockey & Tennis Centre here on Saturday. Before the start of the match, both teams observed a minute's silence in memory of those who lost their lives in the recent aircraft tragedy in Ahmedabad. After going three goals down, India fought back through goals from Deepika (44') and Neha (52'), but the Australians held their nerve in a fierce final quarter to secure the win. Courtney Schonell (16'), Lexie Pickering (27'), and Tatum Stewart (35') scored goals for Australia. The match also marked a personal milestone for midfielder Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke, who completed her 50th appearance for India. There was little to separate the two sides in the opening quarter, with both teams showing intent and valuing possession. India adopted a patient approach but were quick to apply pressure on the Australian defence. Australia earned a penalty corner in the 10th minute, but India held firm to deny them. India's best chance came late in the quarter when a swift attacking move forced Australian goalkeeper Zoe Newman into a sharp double save.



SMITH AVOIDS SURGERY, FACES RACE TO BE FIT FOR WEST INDIES TESTS

**Diary Times Desk :** Steven Smith has avoided surgery on the compound dislocation he suffered on the third day against South Africa at Lord's but still faces a race against time to be fit for Australia's upcoming Test series in West Indies. Smith went straight to hospital after leaving the field when he sustained the injury to his right little finger, spilling a sharp chance offered by Temba Bavuma. The wound was cleaned, stitched and the finger placed in a splint and it's understood he will be able to bat if he can tolerate doing so with the splint, which he will need to wear for up to eight weeks although the wound itself is expected to heal in around a fortnight. The impact on him in the field would also need to be assessed and it could hinder his ability to field in the slips. Australia's first Test in West Indies starts on June 25 in Barbados followed by matches in Grenada and Jamaica in July. Smith had also been due for a brief stint for Washington Freedom at Major League Cricket (MLC) between the end of the WTC final and the first Test. It would be a significant boost for Australia if Smith was able to play a part in the series given there is uncertainty over the top order after the struggles of Usman Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne and Cameron Green in the World Test Championship final.

ICC TO CLAMP DOWN ON AIRBORNE CATCHES BEYOND BOUNDARY LINE

**Diary Times Desk :** The International Cricket Council (ICC) proposes to change the rules of boundary line catching, particularly the ones with action taking place outside the boundary. The world body has written to the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) to review snares taken with multiple jumps and multiple airborne contacts with the ball before the catch is completed inside the boundary. Cricbuzz first wrote about the planned changes to boundary line catches recently. These changes will come into effect next year but other amendments to the playing conditions will be implemented straightaway from this month. The changes suggested by the ICC to the MCC, the custodians of the game's rules, are: 1. At any time, if a fielder is touching the ball and the ground, they must be wholly inside the boundary. This is covered in Law 19.5.1, and has not changed at all. 2. If a fielder's first touch of the ball is while airborne, then they must have been inside the boundary before they left the ground to make that touch. This is covered by 19.5.2, and has also not changed.