

AIR INDIA CRASH

AIR INDIA CRASH TRIGGERS ₹39.4 BILLION INSURANCE CLAIM, ONE OF INDIA'S LARGEST IN AVIATION HISTORY

Diary Times Desk : India's deadliest plane crash in more than a decade is sending shock waves through the aviation insurance industry as it triggered one of the country's costliest claims, estimated at around \$475 million or ₹39.4 billion.

Ramaswamy Narayanan, Chairman and Managing Director at General Insurance Corporation of India, told Bloomberg, "This aviation insurance claim could be one of the biggest in India's history." General Insurance Corporation of India is one of the firms that has provided coverage for Air India.

According to Narayanan, the claim for the aircraft hull and engine is estimated at around \$125 million. He estimated that the additional liability claims for loss of life for passengers and others will be around \$350 million. The accumulated costs are more than triple the annual premium for the aviation industry in India in 2023, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The financial repercussions of the crash that killed 241 people on board and others as it fell in a densely populated part of Ahmedabad in western India on Thursday will affect the entire global aviation insurance and reinsurance market. It's also likely to make insurance costlier for airlines in India, as per Bloomberg. Insurance premiums across the aviation industry are expected to increase in India, either now or at the time of policy renewals, according to sources known to Bloomberg.



CENSUS 2026

CENTRE ISSUES CENSUS NOTIFICATION, TO START IN LADAKH, J&K, 2 STATES IN 2026



Diary Times Desk : The Census - the recording of India's population, including of critical details such as caste - will begin in the union territories of Ladakh and Jammu and Kashmir, as well as Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand from midnight on October 1, 2026, the government said Monday afternoon.

Counting for the rest of the country will begin from midnight on March 1, 2027. Earlier today Union Home Minister Amit Shah reviewed the census prep with the Home secretary, the Registrar General & Census Commissioner of India and other senior officials.

In each state the census will be conducted in two phases, officials have said. In the first, i.e., the House Listing Operation, or HLO, information about the housing conditions, assets, and amenities of each household will be collected. In the second, i.e., Population Enumeration, or PE, demographic, socio-economic, and cultural details of every person in each household will be collected. Information about an individual's caste will be collected in this phase.

The government had, on April 30, confirmed that an enumeration of the various castes and sub-castes in the country, and the number of people in each, will be part of the next census. The decision to include caste enumeration in the census - a demand pressed fiercely by the opposition - was announced months before a critical election in Bihar, over 63 per cent of the population of which comes from Extremely Backward or Backward classes. The government has clarified that caste, and not class, will be taken into consideration during the Census.



4 WOMEN KILLED, OVER A DOZEN INJURED IN BLAST AT
FIRECRACKER FACTORY IN UP'S AMROHA

Diary Times Desk : Four women were killed and more than a dozen were seriously injured in a blast at a firecracker factory located inside a forest area here on Monday, officials said. According to district authorities, the explosion took place around two kilometres inside the forest near Atrasi village, where nearly 25 men and women were working at the time. The blast completely destroyed the tin-roofed structure, hurling debris up to 300 metres and triggering panic in nearby villages, officials said. District Magistrate Nidhi Gupta and Superintendent of Police Amit Kumar Anand visited the spot and confirmed the death of four women. At least 12 others were admitted to the district hospital with critical injuries, they said. A high-level probe has been initiated to ascertain the cause of the explosion and verify the legality of the factory's operations, the officials said, adding that records related to its licensing and compliance with safety norms are being scrutinised. Eyewitnesses said the explosion was heard several kilometres away and was followed by intermittent blasts for nearly 15 minutes, causing fear among locals.



20-YEAR-OLD WOMAN GANG-
RAPED ON GOPALPUR BEACH IN
ODISHA

Diary Times Desk : A 20-year-old woman was allegedly gang-raped by around 10 men at an isolated place on Gopalpur beach, a renowned tourist destination in Odisha, police said. A case was registered at Gopalpur police station after the survivor, an undergraduate student of a private college, lodged an FIR on Monday. The incident took place on Sunday night when the woman, who lives in a private mess along with three other women, went to the beach along with her boyfriend, who is her classmate, on the occasion of Raja festival. The woman, in her complaint, said that when they were sitting at an isolated place, a group of 10 men approached them, detained her boyfriend and took turns to rape her. At least seven men suspected of their involvement in the crime were detained for interrogation, Superintendent of Police (Berhampur) Saravana Vivek M said. The SP, along with other senior police officials, visited the spot for investigation.

GLOBAL WATCHDOG CONDEMNS PAHALGAM ATTACK,
TO SOON RELEASE CASE REPORTS ON STATE-
SPONSORED TERROR FUNDING



Diary Times Desk : Condemning the brutal Pahalgam terror attack in April, global watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) on Monday said it has enhanced its focus on the steps that the countries have taken to combat terror financing, and will soon release a report on terror financing cases, including state-sponsored terrorism. The rare condemnation by FATF shows that the "international community has felt the severity of the attack", which killed 26 persons in Pahalgam, on April 22, and spotlights that such attacks will not go unpunished, sources said, adding the terror attack was done by Pakistan-trained terrorists. "Terrorist attacks kill, maim and inspire fear around the world. FATF notes with grave concern and condemns the brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam on April 22. This, and other recent attacks, could not occur without money and the means to move funds between terrorist supporters," FATF said in a statement. Sources said FATF rarely issues condemnation of terrorist acts. It is only the third time in last decade that they have issued condemnation of a terrorist attack.

'ITNI GOLIYAN MAROONGI KI': UP WOMAN THREATENS
PETROL PUMP WORKER, POINTS GUN AT HIM

Diary Times Desk : A woman allegedly pointed a licensed revolver at a petrol pump employee during an argument here, prompting the police to initiate legal proceedings in the case, officials said on Monday. According to the police, the incident took place at a petrol pump on Sandi Road in Bilgram town on Sunday night. An argument broke out when an employee at the petrol pump, Rajneesh Kumar, asked a family who had arrived for CNG refuelling, to step out of their car as a safety measure. During the altercation that followed, a male member of the family, assisted by two women from the group, allegedly pushed and assaulted Rajneesh. The younger of the women then allegedly went back to the car, pulled out a licensed revolver and aimed it at the petrol pump employee's chest, police said. Rajneesh alleged that the woman threatened him saying, 'Itni goliyan maroongi ki tumhara parivaar tumhe pehchan nahin payega (I'll shoot you so many times that your family won't be able to recognise you).'



YOUR HOROSCOPE
17-06-2025

Aries
Today, you will meet old friends, which will refresh old memories. Employed people may be fired from the job due to heavy arguments with colleagues in the workplace. People doing business should thank God for getting financial benefits from the advice of their spouse. Due to irritation in the eyes, you should consult an ophthalmologist.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



HIMACHAL NEWS: TEACHER ARRESTED FOR DOING OBSCENE ACTS WITH GIRLS, ACTION TAKEN UNDER POCSO ACT

Diary Times Desk : A case has been registered against a JBT teacher working in a primary school under Arki subdivision for committing indecent acts with small girls. Police has arrested the accused by taking action under POCSO Act. According to the police, the teacher of a special community committed indecent acts with 5 girls. They told their parents about this. The parents lodged a complaint with the Panchayat Pradhan at Police Station Kunihar. Police took immediate action and arrested the teacher. The girls will also be medically examined. In the complaint, the parents said that the girls are now afraid of going to school. On the other hand, DSP Solan Ashok Chauhan said that some parents have given him a complaint letter. The matter is being investigated.



HIMACHAL: RAJIV BINDAL SAID- ATTEMPT TO MURDER CASE AGAINST ME, NO ACTION TAKEN AGAINST STONE PELTERS

Diary Times Desk : BJP state president Dr. Rajiv Bindal has expressed surprise over the registration of a case of attempt to murder against him and Paonta MLA Sukhran Chaudhary in the communal tension case arising after the disappearance of a girl under Majra police station area of Sirmaur district. Addressing a press conference in Nahan, Bindal has accused the government of hatching a conspiracy to eliminate political rivals. Bindal said that people from the Hindu side were protesting peacefully there. During this protest, both of us leaders were present with the police. In such a situation, registering a case of attempt to murder against him and Sukhran Chaudhary is shocking. He said that the police and the government are adopting a biased attitude. He said that no action has been taken so far against the people of a particular religion who committed violence by throwing bricks and stones. The government and the police are deliberately targeting people of the same religion. He said that there were no women police present at the spot during the protest. Male police personnel beat up the protesting women with batons.

HIMACHAL NEWS: PEOPLE ARE SUFFERING DUE TO TRAFFIC JAM IN SHIMLA, A JOURNEY OF TWO MINUTES IS TAKING ONE HOUR

Diary Times Desk : People are suffering from the daily traffic jam in the capital Shimla. The situation is such that a two-minute journey is taking one hour. Due to increased movement of tourists and lack of parking, the traffic system of the city has gone off track due to vehicles parked on both sides of the roads. People going towards Chhota Shimla from Sanjauli Chowk at 5:30 pm on Monday reached Navbahar Chowk by bus at 6:27 pm. Usually this journey takes only two minutes. There were queues of vehicles on both sides of the road. During this time people were not able to understand why there was a jam on the road. On talking to the police, it was found that a Bolero camper had broken down in Chhota Shimla. Due to this also the movement of vehicles was affected here for some time. However, people continued to struggle with traffic jams on other routes of the city throughout the day. In the morning, there were queues of vehicles from Tutikandi crossing towards Shimla. Due to this, employees and other people going to government and private offices had to face a lot of trouble. Many people, fed up with the jam, left for their destination on foot. The police department has deployed additional police force to deal with the traffic jam, but despite this, it has become difficult for them to keep the traffic system smooth due to the large number of vehicles.

HPU RELEASED THE FACULTY WISE, CATEGORY WISE MERIT OF B.ED; 8046 CANDIDATES APPEARED IN THE ENTRANCE EXAM

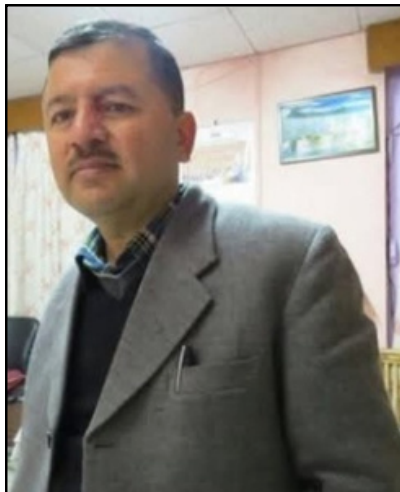
Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh University has released the faculty-wise, category-wise merit after the entrance examination held on 27 May for the academic session 2025-26 and the result declared on 12 June. A total of 8046 candidates appeared in the entrance examination. Out of these, 7691 candidates passed the entrance examination. University's examination controller Prof. Shyam Lal Kaushal said that category-wise merit has been released as per the schedule. The merit list can be seen on the university's website www.nadmissions.hpuniv.ac.in and www.hpuniv.ac.in. According to the released merit, the one who got 122 in medical has topped, 1092 have qualified. The one who got 122 in non-medical has topped, 1546 have qualified, the one with 126 was the topper in the Faculty of Arts and Commerce. 5053 qualified for this. The process of counseling and further seat allocation of B.Ed will be decided and released by the B.Ed Admission and Counseling Committee of the university.

HIMACHAL NEWS: MINISTER VIKRAMADITYA SINGH SAID- VILLAGES WITH A POPULATION OF 150 TO 200 IN HIMACHAL PRADESH WILL BE CONNECTED BY ROADS

Diary Times Desk : Public Works and Urban Development Minister Vikramaditya Singh has said that the department has set a target to connect remote villages of the state with a population of 150 to 200 with roads. For this, people should come forward to voluntarily donate land and help in development. In the fourth phase of the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, a target has been set to build about 1500 kilometers of roads in the state. This also includes five roads of Padhar Mandal for which an estimate of about Rs 26 crore has been prepared. Public Works Minister Vikramaditya Singh, who arrived as the chief guest at the closing ceremony of the district level Saranahuli fair organized at the world famous tourist destination and the place of penance of Rishi Parashar located in Drang Assembly constituency, said that an amount of about Rs 140 crore has been sanctioned from the Center for the construction of bridges in the state. A new bridge will soon be constructed in place of the historic bridge of Pandoh which was washed away in the floods last year.

VIMAL NEGI DEATH CASE: INTERIM BAIL OF FORMER POWER CORPORATION MD MEENA EXTENDED TILL JULY 14

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh High Court has extended the interim bail of former MD of Power Corporation Harikesh Meena till July 14 in the case related to the death of Chief Engineer of Power Corporation Vimal Negi. The court has directed the CBI to file a best status report in this case. CBI had demanded four weeks time to present the report in the court, which was accepted by the court. After the investigation of Vimal Negi's death went to CBI, the court has removed the name of the government from the petition. Now CBI has been made a party in the petition. Now CBI will oppose Meena's interim bail in the court of Judge Virendra Singh. Meena did not appear in person during the hearing on Monday. He has filed an anticipatory bail petition in the court to avoid arrest in the death of Vimal Negi. This is to be debated now. It is worth noting that in this case, the body of Vimal Negi, Chief Engineer of HPPCL, who was missing since March 10, was found in Govindsagar Lake in Bilaspur on March 18. His wife alleges that the senior officials have mentally harassed her husband. The entire case is now being investigated by the CBI.



DON'T WANT TO CONTINUE:
AUDIO OF AIR INDIA
DREAMLINER THAT RETURNED
TO HONG KONG

Diary Times Desk : The pilots of the Delhi-bound Air India flight, which returned to Hong Kong after nearly 90 minutes of take-off, didn't want to continue their journey after a suspected technical glitch was detected in the aircraft. The Air India flight AI 315 took-off for Delhi from Hong Kong International Airport on Monday morning. The pilot could be heard telling Air Traffic Control, "We don't want to continue further." The aircraft involved in the incident was also a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, the same aircraft model which crashed shortly after taking-off from Ahmedabad airport on Thursday, June 12, killing 241 out of 242 on board. An audio of the pilot's conversation with the Air Traffic Control has emerged where they are heard saying that they don't want to continue and return to the airport. Air India Flight 315 requested to stay closer to Hong Kong, citing technical reasons before deciding to return to Hong Kong International Airport.

BENGALURU COMMUTERS
RIDE AS 'PARCELS' AFTER
BIKE TAXI BAN

Diary Times Desk : Indian 'jugaad' - a Hindi word that loosely translates as 'unconventional and innovative' - is a wonderful example of creative problem-solving, and don't let anybody ever tell you different. Remember the story of the Mumbai auto driver who earns as much as Rs 8 lakh a month without driving his vehicle? How? Well, think less auto rickshaw and more bag storage area. Now there's a new story, from Bengaluru, where app-based ride aggregator Rapido seems to have cleverly replaced the banned 'bike taxi' service with a 'bike parcel' service, creating a business offering commuters hassled by traffic jams and poor road infrastructure have happily jumped (pun intended) on. How? By booking themselves as a 'parcel' for intra-city couriers driving two-wheelers. The apparent improvisation comes after the Karnataka government acted on a High Court directive to suspend operations of two-wheeler taxi services operated by app-based aggregators like Rapido. The court had ruled these 'bike taxis' to be illegal. On Friday last, i.e., June 13, a division bench refused pleas from the companies behind the Uber, Ola, and Rapido apps to stay that ban, which is to remain in place till the state government notifies specific rules and guidelines for 'bike taxis' under the Motor Vehicles Act. The court said it might be inclined to grant a stay if progress had been made towards framing those rules.

PM MODI EXPRESSES CONCERN AMID ISRAEL-
IRAN WAR, REITERATES CALL FOR PEACE; SAYS
'THIS IS NOT AN ERA OF WAR'



Diary Times Desk : Amid the ongoing conflict between Iran and Israel, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday expressed his concern and stated that this is not an era of war. Addressing the people in Cyprus, PM Modi said, as quoted by ANI, "We expressed worry over the ongoing conflicts in West Asia and Europe. We believe this is not an era of war." "We both expressed concern over the conflicts going on in West Asia and Europe. Their negative impact is not just limited to those regions. We both consider that this is not an era of war. Resolution through dialogue and restoration of stability is the call of humanity," PM Modi added. PM Modi visited Cyprus, the first leg of his three-nation tour. As per the details, this is the first visit of an Indian prime minister to Cyprus in over two decades. During his visit, PM Modi was conferred with the Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III of Cyprus, the country's highest civilian honour. "Humbled to receive the 'Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III' of Cyprus. I dedicate it to the friendship between our nations," Modi said after receiving the award.

ZURICH-BOUND AIR INDIA FLIGHT DELAYED
DUE TO MANDATORY CHECKS ON BOEING
787

Diary Times Desk : An Air India flight from Delhi to Zurich was delayed on Sunday due to mandatory checks on Boeing 787-8 aircraft, resulting in its late arrival in Switzerland close to the night curfew, sources said on Monday. The delay was not due to any technical issue but the mandatory checks ordered by government. The return flight is scheduled to operate as planned, sources clarified. Earlier in the day, in a separate incident, an Air India flight, which was supposed to land in Delhi, was diverted back to Hong Kong after the pilot suspected a technical issue mid-air, according to sources. The AI 315 flight, a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, had departed from Hong Kong to Delhi. According to the flight tracking site, Flight Radar 24, the Air India flight was supposed to reach Delhi by 12.20 PM. Sources said that the passengers deboarded safely and the plane is undergoing a safety check. The pilot suspected some technical issue in the flight and, as a precautionary measure, the flight returned to its origin.

"WE KNEW IT WOULD
COLLAPSE": PUNE BRIDGE A
TRAGEDY IN THE MAKING

Diary Times Desk : The scenic village of Kundmala in Maval, Pune turned into a site of shock and mourning after a 30-year-old footbridge - built only for pedestrians - collapsed last week under the weight of thousands of tourists and half a dozen bikes that crowded onto it. Locals say they always knew the bridge would collapse one day. Ganesh, who lived in the village all his life, voiced what many others confirmed: "We knew the bridge was going to fall - 100 per cent. So many people came here, but no one heard us." The bridge, originally built only for local commuting, had become an unofficial tourist hotspot, especially on weekends. As Lonavala remained overcrowded, Kundmala saw an influx of 2,000 to 4,000 visitors every Saturday and Sunday. "Yesterday alone, 4,000 to 5,000 people came. Nearly 70-80 people were standing on the same metal part when it gave way," said Srushti Beghade, a graduate who depended on the now-collapsed bridge to travel to classes and work.

"GO BACK TO YOUR COUNTRY,"
BENGALURU DRIVER TOLD WOMAN BEFORE
SLAPPING HER

Diary Times Desk : A video showing a Rapido bike taxi driver assaulting a woman passenger in Bengaluru's Jayanagar has gone viral on social media. The woman, who reportedly works at a jewellery store, is said to have confronted the bike taxi driver, Suman S, over rash driving after getting off mid-ride. The argument escalated as the two were unable to communicate. She spoke only English while the rider spoke only Kannada. The woman allegedly refused to pay the fare and return the helmet. The situation worsened after the woman hit Suman. The driver was then seen slapping her, which threw on onto the ground. Suman has been detained, and a police case has been filed against him. In the video, the two were initially seen arguing and trying to convince the bystanders to intervene, but to no avail. Even after the man slapped her, no one tried to stop him. The driver, meanwhile, has defended his action, claiming she asked her to stop the bike in the middle of the road.

INVESTIGATION IN RAJA RAGHUVANSHI MURDER CASE NOT JUST
CONFINED TO LOVE TRIANGLE: MEGHALAYA DGP

Diary Times Desk : Meghalaya DGP Idashisha Nongrang on Monday said the investigators probing the murder of Indore businessman Raja Raghuvanshi in Sohra were not treating the love triangle as the only motive, and they are looking into various other angles. Raja was hacked to death on May 23 while honeymooning in the Northeastern state. His wife Sonam, her boyfriend Raj and three hitmen were arrested in connection with the murder on June 9. "We are investigating whether there is anything more to this case. It is unusual that within a few days of marriage, she would develop so much animosity against her husband," Nongrang told PTI. "We are exploring all possible angles for this murder to have taken place. We have enough evidence, and loose ends are being tied up. We have a solid case," she added. Sonam and Raja got married in Indore on May 11 and reached Meghalaya via Guwahati in Assam on May 21 for their honeymoon. Both of them went "missing" on May 23 in Sohra in East Khasi Hills district, hours after checking out of a homestay at Nongriat village.



FROM MAKING BURRITOS TO MINNESOTA LAWYER, ALL ABOUT MELISSA HORTMAN

Diary Times Desk : Melissa Hortman's influence at the Minnesota Capitol and her power as a Democratic leader to shape the course of a deeply divided Legislature were a far cry from her job as a teenager making chili-cheese burritos and overshadowed her volunteer work training service dogs for veterans. She was a lifelong Minneapolis-area resident who went to college in Boston and then returned home for law school and, with degree fresh in hand, worked as a volunteer lawyer for a group fighting housing discrimination. Elected to the Minnesota House in 2004, she helped pass liberal initiatives like free lunches for public school students in 2023 as the chamber's speaker. With the House split 67-67 between Democrats and Republicans this year, she helped break a budget impasse threatening to shut down state government. Tributes from friends and colleagues in both parties poured in after Hortman and her husband were shot to death early Saturday in their suburban Brooklyn Park home in what authorities called an act of targeted political violence.

TRUMP REJECTS ISRAEL'S PLAN TO KILL IRAN'S SUPREME LEADER KHAMENEI

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump opposed an Israeli plan to kill Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, CNN reported, amid ongoing waves of tit-for-tat strikes between Israel and Iran. Over the weekend, one senior US official told CNN, the Israelis had an opportunity to kill Iran's supreme leader. The US communicated to Israel that Trump opposed that plan, the senior official said, and the plan was not executed. Trump is eager to de-escalate, wary of becoming bogged in another Middle East war and highly attuned to the changing politics of his party. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said on Sunday morning (local time) that there are "so many false reports of conversations that never happened and I'm not going to get into that". A spokesperson for Netanyahu told CNN that the reports of Trump rejecting an Israeli plan are "FAKE." Even as the conflict escalated, administration officials made clear they were open to continuing nuclear talks with Iran — hoping that, despite impossible odds, they could salvage a peaceful solution, as per CNN. Sources familiar with the matter.

"IRAN, ISRAEL SHOULD MAKE DEAL JUST LIKE I GOT INDIA, PAK TO MAKE ONE": TRUMP

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump on Sunday claimed that he could secure a deal between Iran and Israel just as he had done between other arch-rivals, as he repeated his claim that he stopped the war between India and Pakistan last month by "using trade". In a post on Truth Social, Trump also claimed that "many calls and meetings are now taking place" on the issue. "Iran and Israel should make a deal, and will make a deal, just like I got India and Pakistan to make, in that case by using TRADE with the United States to bring reason, cohesion, and sanity into the talks with two excellent leaders who were able to quickly make a decision and STOP!" Trump claimed. The Indian government has maintained that India and Pakistan reached an understanding on May 10 to end the conflict after four days of intense cross-border drone and missile strikes without any third-party involvement. Israel attacked Iran early Friday targeting its nuclear, missile, and military infrastructure. Iran launched retaliatory strikes on Israel, which has threatened even greater force after some Iranian missiles struck buildings in Tel Aviv. In his post, Trump listed other conflicts where he claimed he had intervened and stopped the fighting.

PAKISTAN WILL NUKE ISRAEL IF IT USES NUCLEAR WEAPON AGAINST US, CLAIMS IRAN

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan will launch a nuclear attack on Israel if it drops a nuclear bomb on Iran, a top Iranian officer of its elite forces has claimed amid rising tensions in the Middle East. General Mohsen Rezaei's remarks came during an interview on Iranian television as a barrage of missiles crisscrossed Iran and Israel. So far, about 248 deaths (Iran 230 and Israel 18) have been reported in the two countries. "Pakistan has assured us that if Israel uses a nuclear bomb on Iran, they will attack Israel with a nuclear bomb," said Rezaei, a senior officer in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) and a member of Iran's National Security Council. Officials in Pakistan have denied the claim. NDTV could not independently verify the video. Israel and Pakistan are among the nine countries that currently possess nuclear weapons, according to ICAN (International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons).

"DANGEROUS NEW ARMS RACE": REPORT SAYS CHINA ADDED 100 NEW WARHEADS IN 2 YEARS

Diary Times Desk : China's nuke arsenal up to 600 warheads now, estimates global think tank in annual inventory of world's weapons China has added 100 new warheads in 2023 and 2024, resulting in an increase of its nuclear arsenal to at least 600, according to an estimate by international security think tank SIPRI, which has warned about the emergence of a "dangerous new arms race." Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) on Monday launched its annual assessment of the state of armaments, disarmament and international security. Key findings of the SIPRI Yearbook 2025 are that a dangerous new nuclear arms race is emerging at a time when arms control regimes are severely weakened. Nearly all of the nine nuclear-armed states--the United States, Russia, the United Kingdom, France, China, India, Pakistan, North Korea and Israel--continued intensive nuclear modernization programmes in 2024, upgrading existing weapons and adding newer versions, the report said.

**TRUMP'S MILITARY PARADE FLOPS AS SOCIAL MEDIA MOCKS 'SLOPPY' MARCHING: "THIS WAS A SH*T SHOW"**

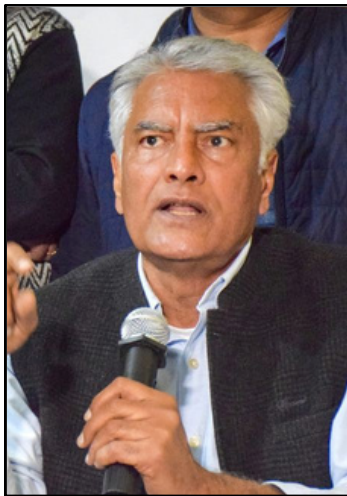
Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump's military parade, marking the 250th anniversary of the US Army, is being mocked by social media users after videos of the pageant surfaced on social media. The footage showed the American troops marching sloppily, without any coordination, in front of a tiny crowd as the president saluted every walking contingent. Mr Trump was joined by his wife, Melania Trump and other members of his administration and military leaders for the parade, which cost approximately \$45 million. "Tonight, we affirm with unwavering certainty that in the years ahead, and in every generation hence, whenever duty calls and whatever danger comes, the American Soldier will be there," Mr Trump said. It was the first event of its kind in the US since 1991, as over 6,600 soldiers, joined by tanks and robot dogs, marched down Constitution Avenue. However, the social media users were not impressed by the celebrations and questioned if the soldiers had willingly decided not to turn up for the event.

US EYES TRAVEL BAN EXPANSION, TARGETS 36 NATIONS INCLUDING BHUTAN, DRC, EGYPT

Diary Times Desk : The administration of US President Donald Trump may expand its current travel ban by including citizens from 36 more countries, according to a memo from the State Department reviewed by the news agency Reuters. On June 4, Trump signed the proclamation banning travel from 12 countries. The White House said that this was needed to protect the United States against "foreign terrorists" and other national security threats. Trump has launched an immigration crackdown since assuming office for the second time. He deported thousands of Venezuelans suspected of gang activity and enforced stricter policies on foreign students in the US. The memo, signed by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, stated that the US is worried about how some countries manage the identity and security of their citizens. The cable outlines several reasons why these 36 countries are being considered for a full or partial ban. In an internal diplomatic cable signed by Marco Rubio, the State Department outlined, "The Department has identified 36 countries of concern that might be recommended for full or partial suspension of entry if they do not meet established benchmarks and requirements within 60 days."

PUNJAB MLAS WHO RODE BICYCLES NOW OWN LUXURY CARS, SAYS BJP CHIEF JAKHAR, CALLS FOR HC-SUPERVISED DRUG PROBE

Diary Times Desk : Punjab BJP chief Sunil Jakhar has written to Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann, seeking a probe under the supervision of the Chief Justice of the Punjab & Haryana High Court into the drug money trail to track down the mighty and powerful beneficiaries of this menace in Punjab. "Drug cartels in Punjab cannot thrive without some kind of patronage. The recovery of narcotics in Punjab amounts to several thousands of crores of rupees, which underlines the rot that exists. It cannot be dismissed as mere coincidence that the fortunes of so many Punjab politicians have changed in the last few years. MLAs who once rode cycles now own luxury cars worth crores. Many have farmhouses spread over acres," he said. The BJP chief also wrote that the flow of money must be established to catch the big fish and arrest the end beneficiaries, be they politicians across party lines or officials. Without this, the government's claim in its fight against drugs in Punjab remains a farce, he added. Under the "Yudh Nashian Virudh" campaign launched by the AAP government in Punjab three-and-a-half months back, more than 17,000 drug smugglers have been arrested, and large consignments of drugs have been seized.



AKALI DAL PRESIDENT SUKHBIR BADAL BRAVES RAIN, LEADS ROADSHOW IN LUDHIANA WEST

Diary Times Desk : Shiromani Akali Dal president Sukhbir Singh Badal led an impressive roadshow, undeterred by the rain, showcasing his unwavering commitment to the people. The event demonstrated his strong support base and determination to connect with voters despite the weather conditions. Senior party leaders, including Daljit Cheema, Sikandar Singh Maluka, Sharanjit Dhillon, Kamal Chatly, and SAD candidate Parupkar Singh Ghuman, accompanied Sukhbir Badal as they stood on an open jeep during the roadshow. Hundreds of party workers, including women and youths, participated in the roadshow. People also waved at Badal while standing on the rooftops of their houses and outside their shops. The roadshow started from Jawahar Nagar camp and culminated at Aarti Chowk, passing through Bharat Nagar Chowk, Fountain Chowk, Maharani Jhansi Road, and Ghumar Mandi. Party workers carrying the party flag raised slogans, including "Sukhbir teri soch te pehra dewange thok ke" and "Akali Dal di balle balle, baki sarey thale thale".

STRUGGLING WITH DEBTS, 24-YR-OLD YOUTH JUMPS INTO KALI BEIN IN KAPURTHALA

Diary Times Desk : A 24-year-old youth from Kapurthala has died after jumping into the Kali Bein at Kapurthala this morning. Gurpreet Singh, a resident of village Pattewal in Kabirpur, jumped into the Bein after reportedly being upset over debts he had incurred. The boy's family said he was depressed due to constant pressure from creditors seeking repayment. Gurpreet, a driver for a local grocery store, had been struggling to manage his finances. He had taken loans and was paying instalments on a loading vehicle he had recently purchased. The stress of repaying the debts had taken a toll on him. Before taking the extreme step, Gurpreet called his cousin brother to inform him about his intentions. A team of 10 divers from Kapurthala and Chandigarh searched for hours.

SIDHU MOOSEWALA DOCUMENTARY: FATHER BALKAUR SINGH TO RESPOND TO BBC'S OBJECTION BY JUNE 23

Diary Times Desk : A local court in Mansa has directed Balkaur Singh, father of slain Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, to respond by June 23 to an application filed by BBC World Service and its two employees. The application challenges the maintainability of a suit related to a documentary on the singer, contending that the case is not maintainable before the Mansa court due to lack of jurisdiction. Earlier, the court had sought a formal reply from BBC by June 16 on a petition filed by Balkaur Singh, seeking a stay on the documentary. Singh alleged that the documentary was produced without the family's consent and could hurt their sentiments. The documentary, titled "The Killing Call", was released on June 11, coinciding with Moosewala's birth anniversary. Sidhu Moosewala, a popular Punjabi singer, was shot dead on May 29, 2022, at Jawaharke village in Mansa district, in a case that drew national and international attention.

DRUG RECOVERY CASES MATTER OF NATIONAL CONCERN: PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT

Diary Times Desk : Drug recovery cases are not ordinary criminal matters but issues of "national importance" that warrant cautious judicial handling, the Punjab and Haryana High Court asserted while underlining the magnitude of the narcotics menace. The bench also made it clear that the drug menace could not be curbed without the adoption of stringent and uncompromising measures. The assertion by Justice Anil Kshetarpal came in a case where an accused was seeking pre-arrest bail in a criminal case registered on February 26 under the provisions of the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act at the Passiana police station in Patiala district. Among other things, his counsel contended that the petitioner was sought to be implicated on the basis of a disclosure statement of a co-accused "admissibility whereof was doubtful". The counsel representing the state, on the other hand, told the bench that the petitioner was involved in four more cases under the NDPS Act. After going through the rival contentions and the case documents, Justice Kshetarpal asserted: "The cases pertaining to recovery of drugs are of national importance and are supposed to be decided with caution. The trafficking of drugs is a menace and is required to be addressed by taking stringent steps. Hence, the petitioner is required in custody to provide significant details that may be useful in discovering the supply chains of drugs".

'INDIAN PASSPORT DEVALUED DUE TO PEOPLE LIKE YOU': SC DENIES PRE-ARREST BAIL TO HARYANA TRAVEL AGENT

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday denied anticipatory bail to an accused for allegedly duping a man after promising to send him to the US through the "donkey" route saying such people bring disrepute to Indian passport. A bench of Justices Ujjal Bhuyan and Manmohan said, "Because of people like you, Indian passport is devalued." The top court further noted such acts of a few brought disrepute to Indian passport. "Donkey route" or "donkey journey" refers to an illegal method of migration, usually used to enter countries like the United States or the United Kingdom. The process involves utilising human smugglers and navigating through various countries, often facing harsh and dangerous conditions, to bypass legal immigration processes. The bench said the accused not only duped the person but also made him travel to several countries bordering the US in inhuman conditions to ensure that he enters the US illegally. The bench termed the allegations as "very serious" and refused to entertain the anticipatory bail plea of Om Prakash, who hails from Haryana.

HARYANVI MODEL SHEETAL MURDER: BODY FOUND IN NCR CANAL, BOYFRIEND'S CAR ABANDONED NEARBY

Diary Times Desk : The body of a young woman found in the NCR canal between Khanda and Jharothi villages, under the jurisdiction of the Kharkhoda police station, has been identified. The deceased has been identified as Sheetal, a model associated with the Haryanvi music industry, originally from Khalila Majra village in Panipat. Sheetal had recently moved to Sat Kartar Colony in Panipat with her sister Neha. On Sunday, Neha had filed a missing person's report at the Old Industrial Area Police Station in Panipat after losing contact with Sheetal. According to the family, Sheetal was last seen with her boyfriend. His car was also found near the canal where her body was found. The family alleged before disappearing, Sheetal had video-called her sister accused her boyfriend of assaulted and attacked her. After that call, she could not be contacted, and her body was later discovered in the canal on Sunday night, they claimed. Kharkhoda police station in-charge Prem Kumar confirmed.

ZIPLINE FALL OF MINOR IN MANALI PUTS SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY LAPSES

Diary Times Desk : A disturbing video showing a 12-year-old girl named Trisha falling nearly 30 feet from a zipline near Nehru Kund in Manali has gone viral, reigniting serious concerns over the safety of adventure tourism in Himachal Pradesh. The incident, which occurred on June 8, remained unreported until the unsettling footage surfaced online. According to the police, Trisha's father, Praful Vijve, has opted not to pursue legal action. He stated that he will personally ensure his daughter receives the required medical care. Eyewitnesses revealed that the zipline malfunctioned mid-course, causing Trisha to plunge abruptly onto the rocky terrain below. She sustained serious injuries and was initially treated at a hospital in Manali, later referred to Chandigarh, and has now been shifted to Nagpur for advanced care. Her condition is reported to be stable. The incident has renewed criticism of the lax safety protocols and inadequate government oversight in the Kullu-Manali region—one of the most popular adventure tourism hubs in the country. Of particular concern is the participation of minors in such high-risk activities and the questionable safety measures adopted by several operators.

RAHUL SHARMA MAKES HIMACHAL PROUD WITH 22ND ALL-INDIA UPSC RANK

Diary Times Desk : Rahul Sharma has secured the 22nd All-India rank in the UPSC examination for commission in the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) and has been selected as an Assistant Commandant, according to the results declared by UPSC on Saturday. Rahul Sharma, a resident of Mihara Ghumarwin village in Bilaspur district, is the son of Rakesh Sharma, a Himachal Administrative Service (HAS) officer currently posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate at Nadaun. His mother is serving as head of the Department of Zoology at Gautam College in Hamirpur. Notably, Rahul completed his post-graduation from IISER-Mohali, and is currently pursuing an MBA in Artificial Intelligence and Data Science from the IIT-Mandi. He stated that serving in uniform had always been his childhood passion and that his grandparents, Bali Ram Sharma, a retired principal.

CHINA MANEUVERING MARRIAGES TO DILUTE IDENTITY OF BUDDHISTS IN HIMALAYAN REGION: SENIOR RSS LEADER

Diary Times Desk : Senior RSS leader Indresh Kumar has alleged that China is trying to dilute the identity of Buddhists in the Himalayan region, including Tibet, and undermine their culture. Kumar claimed that after usurping Tibet, China is maneuvering marriages of Chinese youth with Tibetan and Himalayan Buddhist girls to dilute their identity. The senior RSS leader was interacting with mediapersons here following his four-day visit to the Buddhist-dominated tribal districts of Lahaul-Spiti and Kinnaur along the Chinese border. He said China recently announced that it would name the successor of the Dalai Lama, which must be vociferously opposed to send a clear message that Tibetans and Buddhists elsewhere would not tolerate any interference in their religious and spiritual matters. Kumar said he visited Tibetan monasteries and localities and interacted with people, discussing developmental, religious and cultural issues, stressing the need to be aware of the challenges faced by them. Calling upon Buddhists and Sanatani Hindus to stay together and thwart attempts to divide them, he said Christian missionaries are also engineering conversions through service and education

**POLICE BUST CHEATING RACKET IN CONSTABLE RECRUITMENT EXAM, 2 ARRESTED**

Diary Times Desk : The Kangra district police busted a cheating racket involved in the Himachal Pradesh Police Constable Recruitment Examination and arrested two persons, Kangra Superintendent of Police Shalini Agnihotri revealed here today. The police recruitment examinations were held on Sunday. The SP said that the arrests were made after the police received a tip-off about individuals attempting to cheat by offering unlawful assistance to candidates to help them clear the examination. Acting swiftly, a joint team comprising the Security Branch and Palampur Police detained several suspicious individuals from outside an examination centre in Palampur. During preliminary interrogation, it was revealed that two persons from the Jawali area had devised a plan to extort money from job aspirants. The accused allegedly misled candidates by deploying other youths as proxies to appear for the examination on behalf of the actual candidates, the SP said. Some candidates appearing in the examination were also interrogated on the spot by the police. Based on the evidence gathered, the police on Monday registered a criminal case at Palampur Police Station under Sections 318(4) and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita against Vikram and Balvinder alias Sonu Jaryal — both residents of Jawali, Kangra, the SP said. Shalini Agnihotri said that both have been arrested, and interrogation was going on to find out.

SEVEN DAYS ON, ISRAELI TOURIST RESCUED FROM TRIUND TREK NEAR DHARAMSALA

Diary Times Desk : Seven days after he went missing, the 30-year-old Israeli tourist Samuel Vengrinovich, who had gone for trekking on the heights of Triund near Dharamsala in Kangra district, was recovered from a snowline area of the mountain ranges on Sunday. A special rescue team was also sent on a helicopter from the Kangra airport on Sunday afternoon to look for him but it could not find him. Director of the Kangra airport Dharendra Singh posted on X "Kangra Airport played a pivotal role in a rescue operation for the missing Israeli trekker near snowline above Triund. The airport served as a critical base for facilitating the rescue team's arrival and departure, refuelling and ensuring helicopter's operational readiness". He had reportedly slipped down from a slope in the adverse weather conditions, said SP of Kangra Shalini Agnihotri. She said that a joint team of the police, SDRF and the DDMA brought down the Israeli citizen. After the rescue, he was rushed to the Government Medical College and Hospital at Tanda for medical examination. Shalini Agnihotri said that he had suffered some injuries. Samuel was also a little weak and appeared to be suffering from physical exhaustion due to hunger and dehydration. A team of doctors was constantly monitoring him. Samuel Vengrinovich had set out on a trek towards.

RAINFALL TO CONTINUE IN HIMACHAL TILL JUNE 22; YELLOW WARNING ISSUED FOR SEVERAL DISTRICTS

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh is set to receive rainfall till June 22 as the State's Meteorological Department has issued a yellow warning for several districts for the next six days, resulting in thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds in isolated parts of the state. According to the department, light to moderate rain is very likely to occur at few places from June 18 to 20 with one or two spells of heavy rain at isolated places on June 21 and 22. During this period, maximum temperatures are likely to dip by 3-4°C in the next few days while minimum temperatures are likely to fall by 2-3°C in many parts of the state — thus bringing the mercury down across the state. Light to moderate rainfall occurred in many parts of the state during the last 24 hours. However, minimum and maximum temperatures across the state were normal as no drastic change was observed in the last 24 hours. Shimla recorded 25.2°C maximum temperature while prominent tourist destinations such as Dharamshala, Manali, Dalhousie and Kasauli recorded 30°C, 27.2°C, 24.1°C and 23.6°C, respectively. Maximum temperature in Solan was 32.2°C, Mandi 33.4°C, Kangra and Nahan 32.6°C, Chamba 30.9°C, Bilaspur 35.6°C, Hamirpur 38.2°C, Keylong 19.5°C, Kalpa 23.9°C, Kufri 20.5°C, Bhuntar 34.6°C, Sundernagar 34.8°C and Narkanda 22.4°C and Reckong Peo 29.5°C.



DALE STEYN IN TEARS AFTER SOUTH AFRICA BEAT AUSTRALIA TO WIN
WTC FINAL

Diary Times Desk : The significance of the World Test Championship victory for South Africa, especially for the generations of cricket greats who had risen through the ranks and endured such protracted periods of heartache and disappointment, is difficult to put into words. Witnessing Kyle Verreynne smash a shot past the covers and confirming that the ICC Test Mace would come to the Rainbow Nation was a relief from decades of pain and the realization of a dream that many people had held but had not yet realized. Dale Steyn, one of the greatest fast bowlers of all time, was one such individual who came very close to winning an ICC trophy. After those winning runs, Steyn, who was working as a media representative for Star Sports, was filled with emotion and almost lost his words as he saw his nation finally overcome that obstacle. Steyn can be seen fighting to speak and stifling tears in a video posted on the Star Sports social media accounts. He then goes silent for a long time as the situation finally hits him. "What do you do, what do you say? It's incredible, I'm sitting at home, I've got my cap here, I'm extremely proud. I mean, what do you do? I'll take my son for a walk and life will carry on," the fast bowler stated, raising his Proteas Test cap, before going silent and shedding tears after the moment.



SHUBMAN GILL TAKES GUARD AT THE
DAWN OF INDIA'S NEXT TEST

Diary Times Desk : In September 2024, on the eve of the Duleep Trophy as India's domestic season stirred to life under overcast Bengaluru skies, Shubman Gill allowed himself a brief glance into the near future. A long stretch of Test cricket lay ahead, his chance to steady what had been a stop-start journey in the format. "Hopefully, after these 10 Tests end, I'll be up to my expectations or more," said the captain of India 'A'. He began with a century in Chennai. Then came an accomplished 90 on a turner in Mumbai. But soon, the season drifted, much like his brief Test career so far, into a familiar mix of promise and pauses. But just eight months on, the view has entirely shifted. The 'A' has slipped away. Gill now stands as India's 37th Test captain, at the front of a new era, with more than just his own expectations resting on his shoulders. This (c) change was sudden and as the 25-year-old might soon learn, the suffix can be overwhelming in more ways than one. Every move of an Indian captain is amplified. MS Dhoni once spoke of how captaincy quickly added grey to his beard. By his second series in charge, even Virat Kohli's face bore early signs of that weight. For now, Gill's clean-shaven look is perhaps for the best.

COLOMBO ALLOTTED 11 LEAGUE
GAMES IN ICC WOMENS WORLD CUP
2025

Diary Times Desk : Hosts India will get their 2025 Women's ODI World Cup campaign underway in Bengaluru against Sri Lanka on September 30. Per the unveiled full schedule, Colombo - a neutral venue picked to host Pakistan's league games - has been allotted 11 round-robin games, including four of Sri Lanka's. All matches are slated to be day-night affairs with a 3 PM IST start. Sri Lanka will have the opportunity to 'host' Australia (October 4), New Zealand (October 14), South Africa (October 17) and Bangladesh (October 20) besides Pakistan (October 24) in front of the home crowd. Colombo is also a floating option for semifinal 1 (October 29) and the final (November 2) should Pakistan qualify for the knockouts, the ICC had earlier revealed. Defending champions Australia will be in action on the second day of the tournament when they take on the reigning T20 champions New Zealand at the Holkar Cricket Stadium in Indore on 1 October. India's league game against Pakistan is scheduled for Sunday (October 5) while the following Sunday (October 12) will witness the high-octane clash between India and Australia in Vizag. India will wind up their round-robin games in Bengaluru, against Bangladesh on Sunday (October 26).

INDIA VS ENGLAND 1ST TEST XI: 'WON'T PLAY JASPRIT BUMRAH...': SHUBMAN
GILL, GAUTAM GAMBHIR RECEIVE STUNNING ADVICE

Diary Times Desk : There has been a lot of chatter surrounding how the Indian cricket team will use star fast bowler Jasprit Bumrah in the upcoming Test series against England. Chief selector Ajit Agarkar made it clear that Bumrah will not be playing all the matches and his workload management will be an issue that the team management will take very seriously. Former Australia cricketer Brad Hogg believes that Bumrah should be used strategically and even came up with a stunning advice. Hogg told RevSportz that Bumrah should be rested for the first Test match starting June 20 and should be used in the next two matches. "You've got to be very strategic with those three Test matches," Hogg told RevSportz. "Where are you going to get the most benefit out of him? Because he can turn the game, he can turn the series on its head. So you want to make sure that you play him at Lord's, definitely, and probably Warwickshire." "And I don't know where you'd play him in the other three Test matches, but you want to make sure you play him in those crucial games. I probably wouldn't even play him in the first Test match, actually. I'd just go, 'Right, England, we don't have Bumrah.' And you could just see England thinking, 'Oh, they don't have Bumrah - that's good, we don't have to face him.' But then they're going to start worrying about him in the second Test match. And if he turns the tide in the second match, then all of a sudden England are playing catch-up. So I'd add a bit of by-play there," Hogg added.



MOTHER STILL IN ICU, GAUTAM
GAMBHIR DECIDES TO FLY
BACK TO ENGLAND TO JOIN
INDIA SQUAD BEFORE TEST
SERIES

Diary Times Desk : When the going gets tough, the tough get going and there are few better examples of toughness than Gautam Gambhir. Someone who never gave an inch to the opposition and always put the team first during his playing days has once again set an example for the others. This time, as the head coach of the Indian cricket team. Gambhir, who had to rush back home hours before the start of the India vs India A intrasquad match at Beckenham due to his mother's sudden cardiac arrest, has taken the tough decision to fly back to England even though his mother, Seema, remains in the ICU in Delhi. Hindustan Times can confirm that India head coach Gautam Gambhir will leave for the UK on June 16 (Monday) and will join the team in Headingley the next day. "Gambhir will leave for the UK today. He will join the team in London and then the entire squad will travel to Headingley on Tuesday," a source close to Gambhir told Hindustan Times.

ASHWIN AND DINDIGUL
DRAGONS CLEARED OF BALL-
TAMPERING ALLEGATIONS IN
TNPL

Diary Times Desk : Former India offspinner R Ashwin has been cleared of ball-tampering charges by the Tamil Nadu Premier League (TNPL) after allegations were made by Siechem Madurai Panthers against him and Dindigul Dragons, the team he captains. The Madurai franchise had accused Dindigul of tampering with the ball by using towels treated with chemicals during their game in Salem on June 14. "The ball's condition deteriorated rapidly during our innings, affecting our batsmen's performance," Madurai coach Shijit Chandran said in the complaint originally addressed to franchise CEO Pooja Damodaran and then sent to the TNPL. "You can hear the sound of every shot our batters played after the powerplay, which were as if they were hitting hard stone instead of a cricket ball. "We are of the view that the Dindigul Dragons team used foreign substances to alter the ball's condition, including using special towels with pre-applied roughening agent, which is unacceptable and against the spirit of the game, and amounts to cheating." After a detailed review of the matter, TNPL CEO Prasanna Kannan said no evidence of ball-tampering had been found. "The towels in question were TNCA-issued and equally available to both teams," Kannan said in a statement.