

COMPLETION OF
8 YEARS OF GST

PM CALLS GST A LANDMARK REFORM, RAHUL
GANDHI SEES 8 YEARS OF ECONOMIC INJUSTICE

Diary Times Desk : As the Goods and Services Tax (GST) completed eight years of its implementation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday praised it as a landmark reform that has reshaped India's economic landscape. However, his statement drew sharp criticism from Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, who called GST a tool of "economic injustice" that has punished the poor and benefited a few corporates.

In a post on X, Prime Minister Modi said, "Eight years since it was introduced, GST stands out as a landmark reform that has reshaped India's economic landscape. By reducing the compliance burden, it has greatly improved the Ease of Doing Business, particularly for small and medium enterprises. GST has also served as a powerful engine for economic growth, while fostering true cooperative federalism by making states equal partners in this journey to integrate India's market."

He said the tax reform had not only simplified processes but also promoted the spirit of cooperative federalism, with states becoming equal partners in building a unified national market. Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, however, launched a blistering attack on the Modi government over its implementation of the GST. Responding to the Prime Minister's remarks, Gandhi wrote: "8 years on, the Modi government's GST is not a tax reform - it's a brutal tool of economic injustice and corporate cronyism. It was designed to punish the poor, crush MSMEs, undermine states, and benefit a few billionaire friends of the Prime Minister."



HIMACHAL
NEWS

MONSOON HAVOC IN HIMACHAL PRADESH'S
MANDI, ONE DEAD



Diary Times Desk : Cloudburst and flash floods triggered by heavy rains battered Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district, leaving one person dead and around 12 missing, officials said on Tuesday.

Mandi received extensively high rainfall of 216.8 mm since Monday evening. Deputy Commissioner, Mandi, Apoorv Devgan told PTI that one person died while 12-13 are missing.

The death was reported in Karsog while about seven people belonging to two families are missing in Syanj in Mandi.

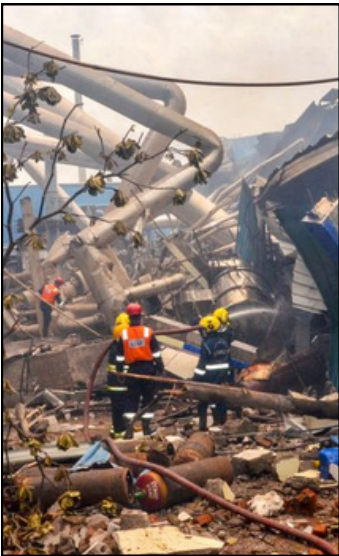
Devgan said several people have been rescued and shifted to safe places as cloudbursts and flash floods following heavy rains caused extensive damage at several places in the district.

Reports of damage to houses and agricultural land has been received. Roads and vehicles have been washed away in Karsog's Purana Bazar , Kutti, Baral, Mamel and Bhyal villages.

A dozen houses, cow sheds, horses, cattle and goats have been reportedly washed away due to heavy rains in Syathi village of Laungni panchayat of Mandi, while water has entered the houses of people in Patikari Power Project near Pandoh. All the rivers and streams in the district are in full spate and over 1.5 lakh cusecs of water has been released from the Pandoh Dam in Beas river. The water level of Pandoh Dam has reached 2,922 feet against the danger mark of 2,941 feet. The Chandigarh-Mandali four-lane is currently blocked at multiple locations.

TELANGANA PHARMA PLANT EXPLOSION: DEATH TOLL RISES
TO 36, RESCUE OPS CONTINUE

Diary Times Desk : The death toll from the explosion at the Sigachi Industries' pharma plant in Pashamylaram has risen to 36, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said on Tuesday. Reddy, accompanied by some of his cabinet colleagues, visited the accident site and said his government will engage with the management of Sigachi Industries Ltd to ensure that a compensation of Rs 1 crore is paid to the kin of those who died in the explosion. He asserted that action will be taken against those responsible for the unfortunate incident. Later, the CM visited the injured at the hospital. According to information provided by the officials, most of the deceased were from Odisha, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana. There were 143 people at the time of the blast out of which 56 are in touch with the officials. Search is on for the rest of the people. Earlier, District Superintendent of Police Paritosh Pankaj told PTI that the toll rose to 35. He, however, did not provide further details. "Several bodies have been found under the debris while removing it. As many as 31 bodies have been extricated from the debris while three died in hospital while undergoing treatment.



KOLKATA COLLEGE GANG-RAPE:
DOCTORS FIND MARKS OF NAIL
SCRATCH ON MONOJIT MISHRA'S
BODY

Diary Times Desk : Doctors found scratch marks on the body of Monojit Mishra, the arrested prime accused in the gang-rape of a student at a Kolkata law college, a well-placed police source said on Tuesday. The injury marks from nails show the resistance put up by the victim during the alleged sexual assault that took place inside the room of a security guard at the South Calcutta Law College on the evening of June 25, he said. "There are signs of injuries, precisely scratch marks, on the body of Monojit. These injuries are fresh. Such injuries happen when someone faces struggle or resistance," the officer said. Going through the phone call details record (CDR), the nine-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Kolkata Police also found evidence of a conversation between Monojit and college Vice Principal Nayna Chatterji the morning after the crime. "The CDRs of the mobile phones of the three arrested.

PRIYADARSHINI MATTOO MURDER CASE: DELHI HIGH COURT
ORDERS FRESH REVIEW OF CONVICT SANTOSH SINGH'S PLEA
FOR PREMATURE RELEASE



Diary Times Desk : Noting that there's an element of reformation in the convict, the Delhi High Court on Tuesday set aside the Sentence Review Board's decision rejecting a premature release plea of Santosh Kumar Singh, who is serving life imprisonment for the rape and murder of law student Priyadarshini Mattoo here in 1996. "I have found some element of reformation in him," Justice Sanjeev Narula said while pronouncing the verdict. "Merely taking note of the facts of the case and recording prima facie satisfaction, without giving any reasons for the same, is insufficient," Justice Narula said, directing the SRB to consider his plea afresh. It also laid down certain guidelines to be followed by the SRB while considering remission pleas of convicts. The SRB must conduct psychological assessment of the convicts while considering their pleas, which was not done in this case, it pointed out. Mattoo (25) – a law student -- was raped and murdered in January 1996 at her South Delhi residence. Singh, a fellow law student of Delhi University, was acquitted by the trial court on December 3, 1999. However, the Delhi High Court on October 27, 2006 reversed the decision, and held him guilty of rape and murder and awarded him death penalty.

TOUGHER UK VISA MEASURES FOR FOREIGN WORKERS TABLED
IN PARLIAMENT

Diary Times Desk : The British government on Tuesday tabled the first set of tougher visa norms in the House of Commons to curb the recruitment of foreign skilled workers across different sectors, including the care industry, dubbing it a "complete reset" of the country's immigration system. The new rules, proposed as part of an 'Immigration White Paper' back in May, will involve the skills and salary thresholds for foreign workers – including Indians – rise, overseas recruitment for care workers end, and more than 100 occupations including chefs and plasterers being taken off the shortage list which allowed certain visa exemptions. These changes, once approved by Parliament and effective from July 22, are designed to attract graduate level or above workers by making several low-paid jobs ineligible for visas.



YOUR HOROSCOPE

02-07-2025

Aries

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

Gemini

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

Leo

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

Libra

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

Sagittarius

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

Aquarius

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

Taurus

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

Cancer

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

Virgo

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

Scorpio

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

Capricorn

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

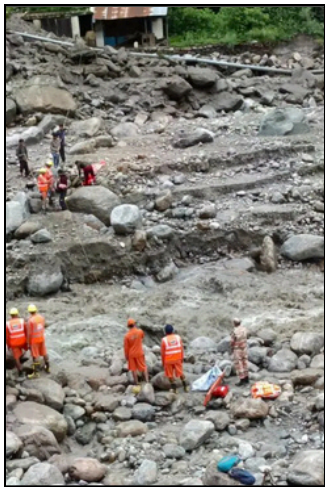
Pisces

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



CLOUD BURST IN MANDI: WATER LEVEL SUDDENLY ROSE, 16 MW PATIKARI POWER PROJECT DESTROYED, 12 PEOPLE SAVED THEIR LIVES BY RUNNING AWAY

Diary Times Desk : Torrential rain on Monday night caused havoc in Saraj area. The 16 MW Patikari power project was completely destroyed after being hit by the flood. The flood destroyed everything from the Patikari dam to the Patikari power house located in Guhad. 12 people posted at the power house and dam site ran away from the spot and saved their lives. Power project's AGM and project in-charge Shyam Lal said that due to continuous rain on Monday night, the water level of the ravine suddenly increased. In no time, water entered the Patikari power house. At that time, eight employees were posted on night service in the power house and four at the dam site. Everyone ran away in time and saved their lives. Shyam Lal said that the situation worsened in a few hours. When the situation was reviewed in the morning, both the dam site and the power house had disappeared. The roads have been completely broken. A machine, tipper and two concrete machines of a contractor have also been washed away. It was told that the project had suffered a loss of about Rs 25 crore in the rains of 2023. A 6 meter high and 150 meter long protection wall was also built to protect the power house, but the water rose above it. The water tunnel and pan stock have suffered partial damage in the devastation.



HIMACHAL PRADESH: FIR LODGED AGAINST PANCHAYATI RAJ MINISTER ANIRUDH SINGH, ACCUSED OF MISBEHAVING WITH NHAI OFFICER

Diary Times Desk : Police have registered an FIR against Panchayati Raj Minister Aniruddh Singh and others in the case of assault on NHAI officials. On the complaint of NHAI Shimla manager Achal Jindal, Dhali police has registered a case and started investigating the matter. On Monday afternoon, after the multi-storey building collapsed in Bhattakufar's Mathu Colony, Panchayati Raj Minister reached the spot with the administration. It is alleged that some people including the minister took the NHAI officials to a room and started assaulting them. Both the officials, bleeding, ran away from the spot to save their lives and reached IGMH hospital in their own car for treatment. There is an allegation of assault in the presence of administrative officials. At the same time, Union Road and Transport Minister Nitin Gadkari has written a letter to Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, calling the incident condemnable and asking for immediate action and providing security to the officials. Gadkari himself gave information about talking to CM Sukhu by posting on X.

HIMACHAL WEATHER: ORANGE ALERT FOR FIVE DAYS OF HEAVY RAIN IN MANY PARTS OF HIMACHAL, CLOUDS WILL RAIN FOR A WEEK

Diary Times Desk : Extremely heavy rain was witnessed in the last 24 hours at different places in Himachal Pradesh. Cloud burst occurred at 17 places in the state on Monday night. Out of these, 15 cloud bursts occurred in Mandi district and one each in Kullu and Kinnaur districts. Heavy destruction has been caused in Mandi district due to rain, cloud burst and the fury of Beas river and drains. 7 people have lost their lives in the entire state including 5 in Mandi. 16 people are still missing. Six people have also been injured. 332 people have been rescued from various places and their lives have been saved. In Mandi district alone, 24 houses and 12 Gaushalas have been razed to the ground. 30 animals have died. Last night, 223.6 mm rain was recorded in Sandhol, 216.8 mm in Mandi, 215.0 mm in Pandoh, 196.0 mm in Bijahi, 160.2 mm in Karsog, 143.0 mm in Palampur, 139.8 mm in Chaupal, 125.0 mm in Gohar, 88.8 mm in Baggi, 83.1 mm in Kotkhai, 77.0 mm in Neri, 73.3 mm in Kangra, 69.0 mm in Sujampur Tihra, 67.5 mm in Narkanda, 66.0 mm in Naidun and 65.0 mm in Kufri. Meteorological Centre Shimla has predicted continuous rain in the state for the next seven days. An orange alert has been issued for heavy rain for five days, while a yellow alert has been issued for two days. According to the department, light to moderate rain is expected at most places on 1, 2, 3, 6 and 7 July.

HIMACHAL NEWS: RAJIV BINDAL SAID- THE COMING TWO YEARS ARE CHALLENGING, THE GOAL IS TO OUST CONGRESS AND BRING BJP

Diary Times Desk : BJP's newly appointed state president Dr. Rajiv Bindal said that the coming two years are challenging. The goal is to bring BJP back by ousting the lying Congress government. Rajiv Bindal, who became aggressive as soon as he took charge, called upon everyone to gear up for the municipal elections. He praised the efficiency of Leader of Opposition Jairam Thakur and former Union Minister Anurag Thakur. Taking inspiration from RSS's second Sarsanghchalak Golwalkar, Bindal called upon everyone to work wholeheartedly for the nation and BJP, leaving aside my world. Bindal said that it is the love and blessings of the workers that he was again entrusted with the responsibility of the state president. Praising the efficiency of Leader of Opposition Jairam Thakur and Union Minister Anurag Thakur, he said that whatever work we gave to the Leader of Opposition, they did it. Former Union Minister Anurag Thakur also worked to strengthen the party in all the programs. Bindal also thanked his colleagues for the membership campaign, winning all the seats in the Lok Sabha elections, registering a lead in 61 out of 68 assembly constituencies, making 47,000 active members in the state, increasing the number of Mandals from 74 to 171 and forming 11 member committees at 7775 booths out of 8009 booths and raising a movement against the government at the Mandal level.



HIMACHAL PRADESH: CHIEF MINISTER SUKHWINDER SINGH SUKHU SAID- EIGHT CLOUDS BURST IN THE STATE LAST NIGHT, LOSS OF RS 500 CRORE

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that last night, there were incidents of dam bursting at eight places in Mandi in the state. In the initial assessment, a loss of Rs 500 crore has been reported. The Beas river is in spate. The body of a woman has been recovered on the banks of Beas in Naidun. Updates of damage have been coming continuously from some places, so the figure of loss may increase. Chief Minister Sukhu was talking to journalists on Tuesday after the inauguration of the building constructed for the Assistant Public Prosecutor in his home constituency Naidun. He has appealed to the people of the state not to go to the banks of the river. All people should stay at a distance of about 500 meters from the rivers and streams. There is information about the members of a family being affected by the landslide. Some people have been rescued here. The Meteorological Department has issued an alert for the next 24 hours. Appealing to the tourists, Chief Minister Sukhu said that tourists should stay in urban areas and stay away from rivers, streams and inaccessible mountains. Incidents of landslides are being reported in inaccessible areas.

NEWLY APPOINTED DR. RAJESH SHARMA OF HIMACHAL EDUCATION BOARD SAID- BRINGING TRANSPARENCY IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM IS A PRIORITY

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh School Education Board is doing good work. It still needs more improvement. The Chief Minister often says that a child of class V cannot read even a book of class II. We will make the children so capable that a child of class V can read at least a book of class V. After taking charge of the State School Education Board, the newly appointed Chairman Dr. Rajesh Sharma took the oath of office and secrecy as the 38th Chairman. He said that improving the education system and bringing transparency will be the priority. The Chief Minister is very serious about the quality of education. It is a matter of good fortune for him to work under his guidance. The evaluation system in the board will be strengthened technically, so that the examination results.

AIR INDIA DELHI-VIENNA
FLIGHT PLUNGED 900 FEET
MID-AIR, DAYS AFTER
AHMEDABAD CRASH

Diary Times Desk : An Air India flight took off from Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport for Vienna on June 14. However, soon after takeoff, it lost altitude - the plane dropped 900 feet mid-air. Both pilots have now been off-rostered pending the outcome of the investigation, the airline said. The incident happened two days after an Air India flight crashed in Ahmedabad minutes after takeoff, killing all but one person on board. The action was taken after the matter was disclosed to the aviation watchdog Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) in "accordance with regulations", Air India said in a statement. "Upon receipt of the pilot's report, the matter was disclosed to DGCA in accordance with regulations. Subsequently, upon receipt of data from the aircraft's recorders, further investigation was initiated. The pilots have been off-rostered pending the outcome of the investigation," an Air India spokesperson. The Boeing 777 landed safely in Vienna after a flight of 9 hours and 8 minutes. Meanwhile, a parliamentary panel led by JDU MP Sanjay Jha is all set to review recent air crashes and also manpower gaps in the aviation sector. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, chaired by Mr Jha, will meet on June 23 to take up aviation safety as a top priority, in the wake of the Ahmedabad Air India crash and the recent helicopter accident in Uttarakhand, sources told NDTV.

UPROAR IN MAHARASHTRA
ASSEMBLY OVER 'INSULT TO
FARMERS', NANA PATOLE
SUSPENDED, OPPOSITION
WALKS OUT

Diary Times Desk : For the second consecutive day, the Maharashtra Assembly witnessed high drama, this time over remarks deemed derogatory to farmers. On the occasion of Maharashtra Agriculture Day, senior Congress MLA and former Speaker Nana Patole launched a scathing attack on the ruling Mahayuti government, demanding a public apology from the Chief Minister for what he described as repeated insults to the farming community. "We will not tolerate the insult of farmers; the Chief Minister must apologise," said Mr Patole in the assembly referring to the statements made by former BJP minister Babanrao Lonekar. Tensions escalated when Mr Patole walked up to the Speaker's chair in protest, prompting a brief suspension of proceedings. The former Speaker was later suspended from the House for the day. "It is one thing to show emotion over an issue, but it is wrong to get aggressive.

KOLKATA STUDENT HAD PANIC ATTACK, ACCUSED
ARRANGED INHALER, THEN RAPED HER



Diary Times Desk : The 24-year-old law student of a Kolkata college, who has alleged that an alumna and two current students raped her on campus, has said in her complaint that she suffered a panic attack before the assault and that the main accused, Monojit Mishra, asked a co-accused to get an inhaler for her. Once the inhaler was brought, the survivor took a puff, felt some relief and tried to escape, but the main gate had been locked. She was then dragged to another room and Mishra allegedly raped her as co-accused Zaib Ahmed and Pramit Mukhopadhyay recorded the act. The shocking crime, less than a year after the heinous rape-murder of a doctor in the state-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, has put the Trinamool Congress government in a spot, especially because of the main accused Monojit Mishra's links to the ruling party. While the Trinamool says the accused will face harsh punishment irrespective of their political links, the Opposition alleges it is the ruling party's support that enables those like Monojit.

DK SHIVAKUMAR SENDS NOTICE TO MLA
WHO PUSHED FOR HIM TO BE CHIEF
MINISTER

Diary Times Desk : Putting out one fire. Then another. Then yet another. That appears to be the case in the Karnataka Congress amid a renewed push for a leadership change. The party, however, maintains all's well. MLA Iqbal Hussain is the latest to muddy the waters and has been served a showcase notice to explain his remarks in support of Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar. The Ramanagara MLA said 100 out of 138 Congress MLAs are backing DK Shivakumar. He warned the high command that if the Chief Minister, Siddaramaiah, is not changed, the Congress may not return to power in Karnataka. "Iqbal Hussain, MLA, Ramanagara Legislative Assembly, today made public statements to the media regarding the change of Chief Minister, which have caused confusion and embarrassment in the party," read the showcase notice issued to him by DK Shivakumar, the very man he canvassed for. "Your public statements not only embarrass the party but also violate party discipline. Taking your unruly statements seriously, you have been given a show cause notice.

TELANGANA GOVT SLAMS
SIGACHI INDUSTRIES
MANAGEMENT OVER SILENCE
AFTER BLAST KILLS 36 PEOPLE

Diary Times Desk : The Telangana government on Tuesday gave a dressing down to the management of Sigachi Industries Ltd for its absence following a factory blast that claimed 36 lives in this district. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy accompanied by Ministers Sridhar Babu, Damodara Raja Narasimha, G Vivek and P Srinivasa Reddy visited the factory blast site and reviewed the situation with senior officials. The CM sought a comprehensive report on the incident, including details of past similar occurrences and preventive measures taken. The fatal blast and fire accident at a plant belonging to Sigachi on Monday left 36 dead and an almost equal number injured. Replying to the Chief Minister's query, a company official said the Founder and Executive Chairman of Sigachi was here on Monday. Reddy also pressed the company for an action plan regarding the compensation to the victims. "Major accident has taken place. He (senior management) has to come.

N RAMCHANDER RAO APPOINTED NEW
TELANGANA BJP CHIEF

Diary Times Desk : Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has appointed former MLC N Ramchander Rao as the new president of the Telangana unit of the party, bringing an end to days of intense speculation over who would succeed G Kishan Reddy. A press release by the BJP confirmed the appointment on Tuesday. N Ramchander Rao, a seasoned BJP leader with strong ideological roots, had long been considered a frontrunner, even as other aspirants lobbied behind the scenes. His selection is seen as a strategic choice as he is considered a trusted and ideologically committed BJP veteran. The announcement was made after the party issued a formal notification on Sunday and began accepting nominations for the post. Rao emerged as the consensus candidate, with the party's central leadership giving its nod to his appointment. Speculation had been swirling around several names, including Rajya Sabha MP K Laxman, Lok Sabha MPs Eatala Rajender and D Arvind, and N Ramchander Rao himself. The decision also comes at a time when the Congress-led state government has been pushing a social justice narrative, including the conduct of a caste.

PM CALLS GST A LANDMARK REFORM, RAHUL GANDHI SEES 8 YEARS OF ECONOMIC
INJUSTICE

Diary Times Desk : As the Goods and Services Tax (GST) completed eight years of its implementation, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday praised it as a landmark reform that has reshaped India's economic landscape. However, his statement drew sharp criticism from Congress MP Rahul Gandhi, who called GST a tool of "economic injustice" that has punished the poor and benefited a few corporates. In a post on X, Prime Minister Modi said, "Eight years since it was introduced, GST stands out as a landmark reform that has reshaped India's economic landscape. By reducing the compliance burden, it has greatly improved the Ease of Doing Business, particularly for small and medium enterprises. GST has also served as a powerful engine for economic growth, while fostering true cooperative federalism by making states equal partners in this journey to integrate India's market." He said the tax reform had not only simplified processes but also promoted the spirit of cooperative federalism, with states becoming equal partners in building a unified national market.



ISRAEL STRIKES POUND GAZA, KILLING 60, AHEAD OF US TALKS ON CEASEFIRE

Diary Times Desk : Israeli strikes killed at least 60 people across Gaza on Monday in some of the heaviest attacks in weeks as Israeli officials were due in Washington for a new ceasefire push by U.S. President Donald Trump. A day after Trump called to "Make the deal in Gaza, get the hostages back", Israel's strategic affairs minister Ron Dermer, a confidant of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's, was travelling to Washington for talks on Iran and Gaza, according to an Israeli official and a source familiar with the matter. Dermer was expected to begin meetings with Trump administration officials on Tuesday, the source in Washington said. But on the ground in the Palestinian enclave, there was no sign of fighting letting up. The Israeli military issued evacuation orders on Monday to residents in large districts in the northern Gaza Strip, forcing a new wave of displacement. "Explosions never stopped; they bombed schools and homes. It felt like earthquakes," said Salah, 60, a father of five children, from Gaza City. "In the news we hear a ceasefire is near, on the ground we see death and we hear explosions."

MAN JUMPS OVERBOARD TO SAVE HIS DAUGHTER AFTER SHE FALLS FROM DISNEY CRUISE SHIP

Diary Times Desk : A father has been praised as a hero for saving his daughter after she fell overboard on a Disney cruise ship. The incident happened on June 29 as the Disney Dream was returning to Fort Lauderdale from a four-night Bahamian cruise, Newsweek reported. Passengers on the Disney Dream shared details of the incident on the unofficial Disney Dream Cruise Ship Facebook group, reporting that the girl fell into the water from the fourth deck and was quickly followed by her father, who jumped in to rescue her. The father, reportedly, kept his daughter afloat for nearly 20 minutes until the rescue team arrived at the scene. The ship's emergency alert, "Mr. M.O.B." (man overboard), was triggered, prompting a swift response. Both the father and daughter were quickly rescued and are safe, according to Disney officials. "The crew aboard the Disney Dream swiftly rescued two guests from the water. We commend our Crew Members for their exceptional skills and prompt actions, which ensured the safe return of both guests to the ship within minutes. We are committed to the safety."

TRUMP SAYS HOPES FOR GAZA CEASEFIRE 'SOMETIME NEXT WEEK'

Diary Times Desk : The United States is pushing for a truce in Gaza by "sometime next week," US President Donald Trump said Tuesday. The Republican leader was asked by reporters if a ceasefire in the devastating war between Israel and Palestinians could be in place before a visit by Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to the White House, set for July 7. We hope it's going to happen, and we're looking for it to happen sometime next week," Trump responded as he departed Washington for Florida. The swift resolution of Israel's 12-day war with Iran has revived hopes for a halt to the fighting in Gaza, where more than 20 months of combat have created dire humanitarian conditions for the population of more than two million. Trump has previously urged Israel to "make the deal in Gaza," but on the ground, Israel has continued to pursue its offensive across the Palestinian territory.

MUSK HAS A PARTY NAME AND LAUNCH DATE READY. ALL EYES NOW ON TRUMP'S BILL

Diary Times Desk : As the US Senate inches closer to a vote on the White House's massive tax and immigration agenda, tech billionaire Elon Musk has renewed his criticism of President Donald Trump's flagship spending bill-- "One Big Beautiful Bill"-- and threatened to unseat the lawmakers who support the unpopular package, which is expected to slash social welfare programs and add an eye-watering \$3 trillion to the national debt. Lawmakers in the US Senate were bogged down in a marathon session of amendment votes on Monday as Republicans sought to pass the "big, beautiful bill", which would extend Trump's tax cuts passed in 2017. "Every member of Congress who campaigned on reducing government spending and then immediately voted for the biggest debt increase in history should hang their head in shame," Musk, who was Trump's presidential advisor till May, said in a post on X. "And they will lose their primary next year if it is the last thing I do on this Earth," he added.

FRANCE SHUTS SCHOOLS, TOP FLOOR OF EIFFEL TOWER, AS HEATWAVE GRIPS EUROPE

Diary Times Desk : More than a thousand schools were closed in France on Tuesday and the top floor of the Eiffel Tower was shut to tourists as a severe heatwave continued to grip Europe, triggering health alerts across the region. The Mediterranean Sea was up to 6 degrees Celsius warmer than usual for the time of year, hitting a record of as much as 30 C (86 F) in Spain's Balearic Sea as a heat dome trapped hot air above Europe, the country's Aemet weather forecaster said. Europe is the world's fastest-warming continent, heating up at twice the global average, according to the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service, making extreme heatwaves occur earlier in the year, and persist into later months. In France, the heat was set to peak on Tuesday, reaching 40-41 C in some areas and 36-39 C in most others, weather forecaster Météo France said. Sixteen departments will be on the highest level of alert from noon, with 68 on the second highest.

AMAZON 'APPLAUDS' CANADA'S SCRAPPING OF TECH TAX

Diary Times Desk : Amazon said Tuesday it "applauds" Canada's decision to scrap its digital services tax in order to salvage trade talks with the United States, calling it a win for the online retailer's customers. The digital services tax, enacted last year, would have seen US technology giants such as Amazon on the hook for a multibillion-dollar payment in Canada by Monday, analysts have said. US President Donald Trump had slammed the tax and called off trade talks with Ottawa, which reversed course and binned the tax on Sunday. The tax had been forecast to bring in 5.9 billion Canadian dollars (\$4.2 billion) over five years. "Amazon applauds Canada's decision to rescind the Canada Digital Services Tax Act," an Amazon spokesman told AFP. "Digital services taxes are discriminatory, stifle innovation, and harm consumers, and we appreciate the US government's work to address DSTs around the world," he said. Austria, Brazil, Britain, France, India, Italy, Spain and Turkey are among a dozen large countries that have imposed or planned to impose special taxes on big tech firms. The goal is to force them to pay taxes where they carry out business as well as to counter the strategies they often use to reduce their tax bills.

TRUMP TO REMOVE SOME SANCTIONS ON SYRIA, KEEPING MEASURES ON ASSAD: WHITE HOUSE

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump will sign an order lifting sanctions on Syria, the White House announced on Monday. Sanctions will still apply to individuals tied to former Syrian leader Bashar al-Assad, human rights abusers, drug traffickers, people linked to chemical weapons activities, the Islamic State and ISIS affiliates and proxies for Iran. President Donald Trump is expected to sign an executive order on Monday that will remove many of the US sanctions currently in place against Syria. According to the White House, the order is part of a broader effort to help Syria recover after years of civil war. "Some sanctions will remain, especially on Bashar al-Assad's associates and others involved in violence or terrorism," Leavitt told reporters. In May, Trump announced his plan to lift some of the sanctions in order to support Syria's rebuilding efforts. Following that announcement, the US Treasury Department eased rules on certain areas like banking, airlines, and businesses linked to Ahmed al-Sharaa, the new Syrian president. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said those changes were made.



MAJITHIA MOVES HIGH COURT; ALLEGES ILLEGAL ARREST, 'POLITICAL VENDETTA'

Diary Times Desk : Less than a week after the vigilance bureau registered an FIR under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act, former cabinet minister Bikram Singh Majithia today moved the Punjab and Haryana High Court against "illegal arrest and subsequent remand". Among other things, Majithia submitted that the FIR was a result of "political witch-hunting and vendetta initiated by the present political dispensation with the sole object of maligning and harassing him as he has been a vocal critic and political opponent". The petition filed through advocates Sartej Singh Narula, Damanbir Singh Sobti and Arshdeep Singh Cheema is yet to come up for hearing. Majithia submitted that the FIR dated June 25 registered at the Vigilance Bureau police station in Mohali was "patently illegal" and his arrest the same day from his residence was carried out in "gross violation of settled legal procedures". Majithia said he was kept in illegal custody for over two hours prior to his official arrest at 11.20 am as evident from multiple video recordings.



PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT EXPLORES COMMUNITY MEDIATION TO RESOLVE NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES

Diary Times Desk : Good fences make good neighbours. But what happens in places where there are no fences at all — only invisible lines of tension, old feuds, and neighbours at each other's throats over water taps, cattle trespass, or even loud wedding drums? It is often words — not walls — that decide whether neighbours remain friends or turn bitter foes. It is precisely for such communities that the Punjab and Haryana High Court has now turned its gaze to community mediation — a remedy written into the Mediation Act, 2023, but lying unused so far. Acting on its own, the high court's Chief Justice Sheel Nagu has initiated a suo motu public interest litigation to explore why the grassroots tool has not taken root despite its promise of keeping peace where tempers flare quickest. Taking up the matter on the judicial side, the bench of Chief Justice Nagu and Sumeet Goel issued notice of motion to Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh and the Centre through the chief secretaries for further consideration.

AMRITSAR: INTERNATIONAL DRUG SYNDICATE BUSTED, 60 KG HEROIN SEIZED

Diary Times Desk : The Amritsar police in collaboration with the Border Security Force (BSF) and the Rajasthan Police busted an international drug syndicate and recovered over 60 kg of heroin smuggled from across the border with Pakistan. Those held included Prashotam Singh, alias Kala (50), a resident of Simbal camp in Jammu who was allegedly involved in a bomb blast that took place in 2000 in Delhi's Paharganj. According to the police, the accused were involved in hawala transactions and cross-border smuggling. The drug was seized near the International Border in Rajasthan's Barmer, said Punjab DGP Gaurav Yadav. He said the racket was operated by Pakistan-based smuggler Tanveer Shah in association with Canada-based Indian handler Joban Kaler, who originally hailed from Amritsar. Apart from Prashotam Singh, the police arrested Gagandeep Singh, alias Gagan (23).

MANSA COURT GIVES SIDHU MOOSEWALA'S FATHER TIME TO FILE REPLY IN BBC DOCUMENTARY CASE

Diary Times Desk : A local court in Mansa on Tuesday directed Balkaur Singh, father of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moosewala, to file his response by July 21, after he again failed to submit it, even as the BBC and its two employees filed their written statement in the documentary case. The directive was issued in connection with an application filed by the BBC World Service and its employees, challenging the maintainability of the suit filed by Balkaur regarding a documentary on the late singer. In their plea, the respondents had argued on June 16 that the Mansa court lacks jurisdiction, as neither the cause of action nor any connecting factor lies within the district. Following this, the court had directed Balkaur to submit his reply by June 23. However, he had failed to do so. In the meantime, the BBC and its employees submitted their written statement on Tuesday, asserting that Moosewala was a public figure and the documentary was produced accordingly. "We have submitted the written statement to the court, primarily highlighting that the slain singer was a public personality and that the case is not maintainable before this court," said advocate Gurdas Mann, counsel for the two BBC employees.

'REASONS ARE HEARTBEAT OF EVERY ORDER': HC QUASHES COP'S DISMISSAL FOR LACK OF SPEAKING ORDER

Diary Times Desk : Reasons are the heartbeat of every order passed not only by judicial or quasi-judicial, but also administrative authority," the Punjab and Haryana High Court has ruled. The assertion came as a division bench ruled that a government employee convicted of a crime could not simply be sacked without a reasoned order showing why dismissal was fair and proportionate to the seriousness of the offence. The bench comprising Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Justice Sumeet Goel also set aside the 2002 dismissal order passed against a Punjab Police official convicted for subjecting a married woman to cruelty under Section 498-A of the IPC. The court found the service-dismissal order to be unsustainable as it failed to record reasons or show application of mind to the officer's reply or to the question of punishment quantum. Appearing before the bench, advocate Manu K Bhandari submitted that the appellant-official was removed from service with immediate effect vide order dated November 6, 2002, passed by the DGP under the provisions of the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Rules following his conviction by a trial court. "This court is of the considered view that the only illegality reflected in the order dated November.

1.5 LAKH COMPLAINTS FILED AGAINST INFO OFFICERS; 33K ISSUED NOTICES: RTI REPLY

Diary Times Desk : As many as 1,49,863 appeals and complaints have been filed with the State Information Commission, Haryana, against the State Public Information Officers (SPIOs) of different departments ever since the enforcement of the RTI Act on October 12, 2005, till March 31, 2025. These include 1,32,365 appeals under Section 19(3) and 17,318 complaints under Section 18(2) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act. As per information provided by the state government in response to an RTI application, 33,179 officials have been issued show-cause notices under Section 20(1) for providing incorrect or incomplete information or non-provision of requested information by the SPIOs during the past 19 years. "However, the Commission accepted the justifications of the SPIOs in most of the cases and penalties were imposed on the erring SPIOs only in 4,048 cases. Nonetheless, a majority of them did not deposit the fines imposed on them," said Subhash, state convenor of the Haryana Soochna Adhikar Manch, on whose RTI application the said information was provided.

SIRSA TEHSILDAR SUSPENDED AFTER CORRUPTION VIDEO CLIP GOES VIRAL

Diary Times Desk : A storm of controversy has hit Sirsa after a video showing tehsildar Bhuvnesh Kumar allegedly talking about bribes and staff transfers inside a government office resurfaced online. The footage, originally dated November 14, 2024, was shared by Congress MLA Gokul Setia on Monday, causing widespread anger. Acting swiftly, the government suspended the officer on the same day and reassigned him to the land records office in Panchkula during the inquiry period. Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini said there will be zero tolerance for corruption in the state. In the now-viral clip, which features both video and audio, the tehsildar is heard saying: "I've taken the money. I'll use Rs 3 lakh for my treatment and the rest for household needs." He also tells a subordinate to stay silent about the matter, to which the staff member replies, "I am with you, sir." The video shows Bhuvnesh allegedly offering to arrange transfers in exchange for bribes. "Tell me where you want the transfer — it'll cost Rs 2 lakh," he says, with the employee agreeing. "I'll speak to him," he adds, indicating influence over higher-ups. Other remarks in the video include instructions to keep blank tokens ready for future deals and comments on how desperate citizens will eventually return for pending work.

NHAI OFFICIALS ASSAULTED IN MINISTER'S PRESENCE: HIMACHAL EX- CM JAI RAM THAKUR

Diary Times Desk : Leader of the Opposition Jai Ram Thakur today alleged that National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) officials were assaulted in the presence of a minister at Bhattakuffer, where a building had collapsed. He said that Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu should take action against the minister and dismiss him from the Cabinet. "This type of anarchy will not be tolerated in the state under any circumstances," he said Thakur called the incident shameful and condemnable and said two NHAI officials were called to the spot in the presence of the minister, police and administration officials and were then beaten up in a closed room. He alleged that the most shameful part of the assault was that it happened in front of a senior administrative officer and police personnel, and the victims were not even taken to hospital. "The attack on the NHAI officers is an example of declining law and order in the state," he added.

23 DEATHS DUE TO HEAVY RAINS IN HIMACHAL DURING PAST 10 DAYS

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh has suffered a loss of Rs 75.69 crores due to torrential rains that has occurred across the state during the past 10 days. As per the Revenue Department, the state has witnessed 23 deaths as a result of flashfloods, cloudbursts, drowning, etc since June 20. Also, as many as 259 link roads across the state remain closed while 614 distribution transformers and 144 water supply schemes across the state remain disrupted. Heavy downpour continued across the state on Monday, resulting in a flashflood triggered by a cloudburst in Sikka Seri village in Sarpara gram panchayat in Rampur, Shimla district. As a result, the house of Rajendra Kumar was badly affected. The floodwaters engulfed one room, a storeroom, kitchen, and cowshed. Also, a cow and two calves housed in the cowshed were swept away. Additionally, around 70 to 80 apple trees and plants belonging to Rajendra's elder brother, Vinod Kumar, and Gopal Singh were completely destroyed. Heavy rainfall was also reported in many parts of the state as Pandoh and Mandi received 120 mm rain each, highest in the state followed by 80 mm.

HAVOC IN HIMACHAL: CLOUDBURSTS UNLEASH FLASHFLOODS IN MANDI, 4 DEAD, 16 MISSING

Diary Times Desk : Sudden cloudbursts on Monday night triggered flashfloods and landslides across Himachal Pradesh's Mandi district, leaving four people dead and 16 missing. Rescue operations continued on Tuesday, with 99 people evacuated from affected areas as authorities worked to trace the missing and restore blocked routes. Of the 16 people missing, nine are from Siyanj Panchayat where two houses were swept away. Three others were washed away in Talwara village of Gohar, and four remain missing in Karsog. Evacuees include residents and students from Palace Colony, DIET, Bada, Bassi, Kutti, Rikki villages, and Government Degree College Karsog. The rescue operations are being carried out by teams from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), police, home guards, and District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). The deluge also caused widespread damage – 10 houses and 12 cowsheds were destroyed, and 26 cattle perished. In Dharampur subdivision, landslides in Serthi and Bhadrana villages led to house collapses, prompting safety concerns.



NHAI OFFICIALS ASSAULTED IN SHIMLA; GADKARI BLAMES HIMACHAL MINISTER, DEMANDS ACTION

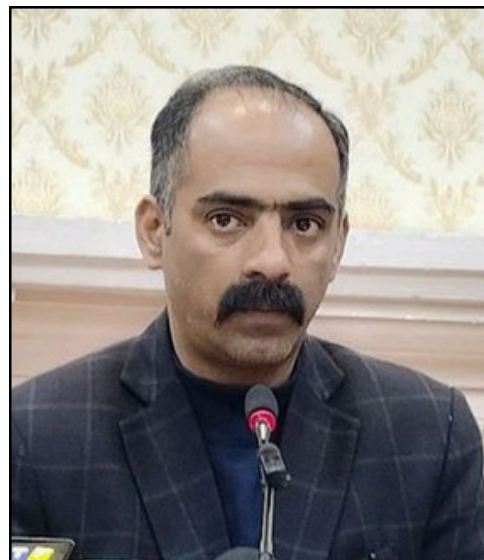
Diary Times Desk : The attack on National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) officials here on Monday by an unruly mob has snowballed into a major controversy, with Union Minister Nitin Gadkari strongly condemning Rural Development Minister Anirudh Singh for his alleged involvement in the assault. In a tweet, Gadkari stated that the heinous attack on Achal Jindal, Manager of NHAI PIU Shimla, allegedly by the Minister of Panchayati Raj and his associates, is deeply reprehensible and an affront to the rule of law. "Such a brutal attack on a public servant performing his official duties not only endangers individual safety but also erodes institutional integrity," Gadkari wrote. He took serious cognisance of the matter and spoke with Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh, urging immediate and exemplary action against all perpetrators. "Accountability must prevail, and justice must be delivered without delay," he remarked. On Monday, a mob at the site of a building collapse at Bhattakuffar, on the outskirts of the town, assaulted two NHAI officials, accusing them of endangering their houses due to reckless digging in road construction. The issue of the attack on NHAI officials has escalated into a major controversy, with Santosh Kumar Yadav, Chairman of NHAI, also writing to Chief Secretary Prabodh Saxena, taking a serious view of the attack.

RICHARD GERE JOINS CELEBRATIONS MARKING DALAI LAMA'S 90TH BIRTHDAY IN MCLEODGANJ

Diary Times Desk : Hollywood veteran Richard Gere, a Golden Globe winner, joined the ongoing week-long celebrations marking the 90th birthday of the Dalai Lama in McLeodganj on Tuesday. A long-time supporter of the Tibetan cause and chairman of International Campaign for Tibet, Gere arrived in McLeodganj with his son, Homer James Jigme Gere, to participate in the spiritual and cultural festivities. The event has drawn spiritual leaders from various faiths, dignitaries, and well-wishers from around the world, all gathered to offer long-life prayers for the Tibetan spiritual leader. The father-son duo attended a significant religious ceremony at Nechung Drayangling Monastery in Gangchen Kyishong. Speaking to the media, Gere said, "I am here to celebrate His Holiness' 90th birthday and wish him good health, strength, and compassion." Reflecting on his personal bond with Nechung, Gere added, "Nechung is one of my oldest friends. This monastery holds special meaning for both me and my son. He has even visited my home in the US. It's always a joy to be here." As part of the day's spiritual proceedings, the Nechung Oracle, considered one of the key protector deities of the Tibetan people.

ASSAULT ON NHAI OFFICIALS: FIR REGISTERED AGAINST HIMACHAL MINISTER ANIRUDH SINGH

Diary Times Desk : An FIR has been filed against Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Minister Anirudh Singh in a matter related to an assault on an National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) official in Shimla on Monday. Achal Jindal, the complainant, has accused the Minister of assaulting him and his colleague inside a room at Bhattakuffar, where a building had collapsed on Monday. The case has been registered under Sections 132, 121 (1), 352, 126 (2) and 3(5) of BNS, and the police have started an investigation in the matter. When contacted, Singh refused to comment on the matter. According to the FIR, the Minister sought information about the collapsed building from the complainant, which he provided. However, the complainant mentioned that the Minister used abusive language against him and then called him and his colleague inside a room where they were beaten up. He further stated that he was hit with a flower pot on his head that resulted in severe bleeding. As per the FIR, no one from the administration came to his rescue, and he and his colleague drove to the Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC) and Hospital for treatment.



ICC T20I RANKINGS: MANDHANA NO. 3 AMONG BATTERS, BELL FOURTH IN BOWLING CHARTS

Diary Times Desk : Smriti Mandhana, ranked No. 1 among batters in the ICC ODI rankings for women, has gone past Tahlia McGrath to move to No. 3 on the T20I table after her match-winning 62-ball 112 against England in the first match of the series. The other big mover after the match was Lauren Bell, the England quick who returned 3 for 27. She moved up to No. 4, pushing team-mate Sophie Ecclestone and India's Renuka Thakur down. Mandhana's 112, her first T20I century in what was her 149th appearance in the format, also gave her the best rating of her career - 771 points. No. 2 Hayley Matthews is just three rating points in front, and well within Mandhana's reach when England India play their second T20I on Tuesday, but table-topper Beth Mooney is quite a distance away, with 794 points. Shafali Verma, who returned to India's T20I XI and partnered Mandhana at the top in the first game after last having played a T20I in October 2024 after which she was dropped, also moved up a spot to No. 13 after scoring 20 in 22 balls and looking fairly rusty. Harleen Deol also re-entered the rankings at joint-86th after she scored 43 in 23 balls. Deol had last played a T20I in July 2023 and had dropped out of the rankings.



JASPRIT BUMRAH A 'JEWEL' IN AJIT AGARKAR'S EYES BUT TOLD TO PLAY EDGBASTON TEST: 'IF YOU'RE SELECTED FOR ENTIRE TOUR...'

Diary Times Desk : Heading into the Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy, it was already decided that World No.1 bowler Jasprit Bumrah would be playing just three Tests in the five-match series against England. Ever since the 31-year-old went down in the Sydney Test against Australia due to a back spasm, the team management has been extra cautious in managing Bumrah's workload. India are 0-1 down in the series, and giving the speedster a rest in the upcoming Edgbaston Test would mean the visitors running the risk of going 0-2 down. Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna both lacked bite in the series opener, hence Bumrah becomes all the more important. If the ace speedster does not feature in the upcoming contest, then either Akash Deep or Arshdeep Singh are likely to get a nod in. Bumrah bowled 43.4 overs in the Headingley Test, taking five wickets. All of his scalps came in the first innings. In the second innings, the pacer failed to take a single wicket, and this was the main reason behind the hosts chasing down 371 to gain a 1-0 lead in the series. In the build-up to the second Test.

INDIA SEARCH FOR THE EQUALISER ON BIRMINGHAM'S ELECTRIC STAGE

Diary Times Desk : "Let's fill this town with artists," declares a banner outside a themed storefront near Birmingham New Street Station, a sentiment the city seems to have taken to heart. This weekend, the original Black Sabbath - Ozzy Osbourne, Tony Iommi, Geezer Butler and Bill Ward - will play together at Villa Park as Black Sabbath for the first time in 20 years and the city has turned itself inside out in tribute. Murals have sprung up on street corners. The City Museum is running a full retrospective on Ozzy, the local working-class hero who screamed his way into legend. Several thousands are expected to descend on the city to celebrate the band that birthed heavy metal, in the place it was born. Metallica, Tool, Lamb of God - are all here, to salute and celebrate. Not that Edgbaston or the Hollies Stand ever needed it, but it's into this mood - loud, electric, defiant - that the second Test arrives. And if there's one man in India's XI who fits right in, it's Jasprit Bumrah. All raw rhythm and menace. No frills - just bite and beautiful chaos. Heavy metal in cricketing form. But the question now is whether India play their biggest hit. With Lord's coming up quickly, and with Bumrah pencilled in to play only three Tests this series, the visitors face a dilemma: rest their fiercest weapon, or double down in a match.

RISHABH PANT, 9 OTHER IPL STARS TO BE AUCTIONED IN 8-TEAM DELHI PREMIER LEAGUE

Diary Times Desk : After fetching a whopping Rs 27 crore from the Lucknow Super Giants (LSG) in the Indian Premier League (IPL) mega auction last year, Rishabh Pant could potentially trigger another huge bidding war as he has decided to come in the Delhi Premier League (DPL) 2025 auction. Pant, who remains one of the finest Indian batters in the game, is among a number of IPL stars who have shown their interest in playing the DPL. Other than Pant, the likes of Priyansh Arya and Digvesh Rathi are also part of the player auction pool. The auction is set to be held on July 6 and 7 in New Delhi. On Tuesday, the Delhi & District Cricket Association (DDCA), on July 1, also announced the addition of two new franchises to the DPL, taking the total count to 8 teams. The two new franchises added are: Outer Delhi franchise, secured for Rs 10.6 crore by Savita Paints Private Limited. New Delhi franchise, acquired for Rs 9.2 crore by Bheema Tolling and Traffic Solutions Private Limited and Crayon Advertising Limited. The existing franchises are: Central Delhi Kings, East Delhi Riders, North Delhi Strikers, Purani Dilli 6, South Delhi Superstarz, and West Delhi Lions.



MOHAMMED SIRAJ OPENS JOHARFA RESTAURANT IN HYDERABAD AMID ENGLAND SERIES

Diary Times Desk : Indian fast bowler Mohammed Siraj has taken a bold step beyond cricket by launching his first restaurant, Joharfa, in his hometown of Hyderabad. While he prepares to shoulder more responsibility on the field in the ongoing Test series against England, Siraj is also now a proud entrepreneur, hoping to give back to the city that shaped him. Located in the heart of Hyderabad, Joharfa offers a rich and diverse menu influenced by Mughlai, Persian, and Arabian cuisines, alongside popular Chinese dishes. Siraj revealed that this venture is deeply personal for him. Joharfa is very close to my heart. Hyderabad gave me my identity, and this restaurant is my way of giving something back to a place where people can come together, share a meal, and enjoy flavours that feel like home," Siraj shared in a press release. The restaurant is operated by a team of seasoned chefs who specialize in traditional cooking methods using high-quality and fresh ingredients. With this move, Siraj joins the likes of Sachin Tendulkar, Sourav Ganguly, and Virat Kohli, all of whom have previously invested in the food and hospitality business.

ELISABETTA COCCIARETTO STUNS THIRD SEED JESSICA PEGULA IN 58 MINUTES

Diary Times Desk : Elisabetta Cocciaretto of Italy delivered the biggest upset of the 2025 Wimbledon so far, ousting No. 3 seed Jessica Pegula 6-2, 6-3 in just 58 minutes in a women's singles first-round match here on Tuesday. The result was the quickest defeat of a Top 5 seed at a major since Jule Niemeier's 58-minute 6-4, 6-0 defeat of Anett Kontaveit in the second round of Wimbledon 2022, as per WTA. Cocciaretto took the ball relentlessly early to redirect all of the Americans' pace, tallying 17 winners to Pegula's five. She also served flawlessly, conceding just eight points in total behind her delivery, and did not face a break point during the match -- while capturing Pegula's serve three times. Cocciaretto advanced to the third round of Wimbledon for the second time, and reversed her 6-4, 6-0 loss to Pegula at that stage in 2023. Pegula fell in the first round of a Grand Slam for the first time since Roland Garros 2020, where she lost her opener to Aryna Sabalenka 6-3, 6-1. "I was so pumped to play Wimbledon this year," Cocciaretto said in her on-court interview. "I couldn't wait until the match started, I was practising so hard."