

## INDIA - US TRADE

## 'INDIA'S INTEREST MORE IMPORTANT, NOT DEADLINE': PIYUSH GOYAL ON US TRADE TALKS

**Diary Times Desk :** India is in no hurry to finalise any major trade deal on the basis of a deadline, but will agree on a decision if it is a win-win for both parties, Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said today. His comments come as India and the US are likely at the final stages of an interim trade deal.

The Union Minister highlighted India's approach to international trade negotiations remains firm and principled. While India is seeking greater market access for its labour-intensive goods, the US wants duty concessions for its agricultural products. These talks are important as the suspension of US reciprocal tariffs is ending on July 9. The two sides are looking at finalising the talks before that.

"It should be a win-win agreement, and only when India's interests are safeguarded - national interest will always be supreme - and keeping that in mind, if a good deal is formed, India is always ready to engage with developed countries," he said on the sidelines of the 16th Toy Biz B2B expo in Delhi. "Discussions are ongoing with various countries -- be it the European Union, New Zealand, Oman, the US, Chile, or Peru. Talks about agreements are underway with many nations," he said. "A free-trade agreement is only possible when there is mutual benefit. India never enters into trade deals based on deadlines or time pressure. A deal is accepted only when it is fully matured, well-negotiated, and in the national interest," Mr Goyal added.



## HIMACHAL NEWS

## 69 DEAD, DOZENS MISSING, RS 700 CRORE DAMAGES: MONSOON HAVOC IN HIMACHAL



**Diary Times Desk :** At least 69 people have died, 37 are missing, and 110 have been injured as Himachal Pradesh battles cloudbursts, flash floods, and landslides triggered by days of continuous and heavy monsoon rainfall, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu told reporters Friday afternoon.

A heavy rain alert is in place for all districts in the state till Monday, July 7. The Chief Minister said 14 separate cloudbursts had been reported since the onset of the monsoon, which has damaged roads and drinking water projects, as well as electricity supply to several areas.

Mr Sukhu said his government "stands with the disaster-affected families" of the state and, according to news agency ANI, will provide Rs 5,000 to each family as "renting accommodation". He also said relief and search-and-rescue operations were underway, particularly in Mandi district, the worst-affected.

Earlier today Union Home Minister Amit Shah spoke to the Chief Minister and promised relief and help, not just for Himachal but other states affected by the monsoon, including Gujarat and Rajasthan. "In the wake of heavy rainfall in different parts of the nation, spoke with the chief ministers of Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, and Chhattisgarh. Adequate numbers of NDRF (National Disaster Response Force) teams have been deployed... and reinforcements can be sent..." "Assured them of all possible assistance from the central government," he said. The monsoon entered Himachal Pradesh June 20 and, as it does every year, wreaked havoc across the state.



FADNAVIS DEFENDS EKNATH SHINDE OVER 'JAI GUJARAT' SLOGAN, CONGRESS CALLS IT 'POLITICAL SLAVERY'

**Diary Times Desk :** Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday defended Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde over the latter's 'Jai Gujarat' remarks at an event in Pune. "Jai Hind, Jai Maharashtra, Jai Gujarat," Shinde said at the event, where Union Minister Amit Shah was present. Shah addressed the gathering in Gujarati language. "Just because Shinde said 'Jai Gujarat', it doesn't mean that Shinde loves Gujarat more than Maharashtra," Fadnavis told reporters. "Such a parochial thinking doesn't behove Marathi manhood," he added. Fadnavis recalled that when a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was unveiled at Chikodi in Karnataka, former Union Minister Sharad Pawar had said 'Jai Maharashtra, Jai Karnataka.' "Does this mean that Sharad Pawar loves Karnataka more and Maharashtra less?" Fadnavis asked. Meanwhile, Maharashtra Congress chief Harshwardhan Sapkal sought Shinde's resignation for exhibiting "political slavery" and betraying the state's pride.



CHINA USED OP SINDOOR AS 'LIVE WEAPONS LAB' AMID INDIA'S STAND-OFF WITH PAKISTAN: ARMY

**Diary Times Desk :** Deputy Chief of Army Staff (Capability Development and Sustenance), Lieutenant General Rahul R Singh, on Friday, outlined several key lessons learnt from the Operation Sindoor, a conflict that revealed the complexity of modern warfare. Speaking at the 'New Age Military Technologies' organised by FICCI, the Deputy COAS highlighted the importance of air defence and technological advancement during military operations. Acknowledging the Pakistan-China alliance, the Deputy Chief pointed out that India has "two adversaries on one border," where Pakistan was on the front and China was providing all possible support. The Deputy COAS said that Pakistan has 81 per cent Chinese hardware in their military fleet. "Air Defence and how it panned out during the entire operation was important... This time, our population centres were not quite addressed, but next time, we need to be prepared for that... So few lessons.

KOLHAPURI CHAPPALS HIT HEADLINES AS PIL IN HIGH COURT QUESTIONS 'UNAUTHORISED USE' BY PRADA



**Diary Times Desk :** India's Kolhapuri chappals have hit headlines with a PIL in the Bombay High Court accusing Italian fashion house Prada of unauthorised use of the legendary handcrafted chappals. The PIL filed by six Pune-based lawyers sought compensation to be paid to Indian artisans for allegedly copying their design—cultural symbol of Maharashtra. It has also sought a direction to Prada to refrain from commercialising and using its 'toe-ring sandals' without any authorisation. It wanted Prada to issue a public apology for the misuse and acknowledge the use of Kolhapuri chappals. In its spring/summer collection, Prada showcased their 'toe-ring sandals', which were deceptively similar to the Kolhapuri chappal, the petitioners alleged. These sandals are priced at Rs 1 lakh per pair. Kolhapuri chappals (slippers) are already protected as a Geographical Indication (GI) under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, the petitioners submitted.

ED ARRESTS MASTERMIND IN RS 903-CRORE CHINESE APP INVESTMENT SCAM

**Diary Times Desk :** The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has arrested Rohit Vij, a key accused and alleged mastermind in a major Chinese app-based investment fraud case, under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). According to an official, the arrest was made on June 30, and the accused has been remanded to five-day ED custody by a Delhi court. Subsequent to the arrest, the agency conducted searches at five locations in Delhi linked to Vij, his business entities, and associates. The raids led to the recovery of incriminating documents and identification of proceeds of crime. The ED probe stems from a 2022 FIR filed by Hyderabad's Cyber Crime Police, which alleged that Chinese nationals, in collaboration with Indian accomplices, duped investors using a fake investment app named LOXAM. The app falsely claimed to be associated with a reputed French multinational group and lured victims with promises of abnormally high returns. According to the ED, the fraudulently collected funds were first routed to a shell company, Xindai Technologies Pvt Ltd, created under the name of an Indian national.



**YOUR HOROSCOPE**  
05-07-2025

**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.

**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 : CHIEF MINISTER SUKHWINDER SINGH SUKHU SAID- HRTC SHOULD EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF RUNNING GREEN HYDROGEN BUSES

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu has directed the officials of Himachal Path Transport Corporation (HRTC) to explore the feasibility of starting green hydrogen buses. He has directed the officials to expand transport services for the people of the state in view of the challenging and hilly areas of Himachal. While chairing a high-level meeting of the corporation, the Chief Minister said that HRTC is the lifeline of the people of the state. The Chief Minister said that by March 2026, 297 Type-1 electric buses will be able to run on the road. The procurement process of 30 Type-2 electric buses is going on. It will prove to be a milestone in environmental protection and making the corporation self-reliant. He also directed the officials to explore the feasibility of starting green hydrogen buses. He said that the state government has set a target of making the state a green energy state by March 2026.



## HIMACHAL : NOW HIMCARE CARD CAN BE RENEWED ANYTIME IN THE YEAR, 3,227 DISEASES ARE TREATED FOR FREE

**Diary Times Desk :** There is a relief news for the people of Himachal. People will now be able to renew Himcare card anytime in the year. If the card is not renewed on time, then under the new policy, it will be done on quarterly basis in March, June, September and December. The Health Department has changed the system. The new system has been implemented from this month. There are 5.26 lakh Himcare card holder families in the state. A maximum of five members of a family are included under this card. Under the scheme, 3,227 small and big diseases are treated free of cost. Himcare cards will now be made in Himachal on quarterly basis every year. The validity of these cards will be one year and the portal will be opened every three months to apply for the card. The portal will be open for one month each in March, June, September and December every year. The Himachal government has provided benefits of about Rs 810 crore to more than 5.80 lakh beneficiaries of the state under the Himcare scheme.

## HIMACHAL PRADESH: CONSUMERS DEPRIVED OF RATION LAST MONTH WILL GET TWO MONTHS' QUOTA

**Diary Times Desk :** This time, the consumers who were deprived of ration in June in cheap ration shops in Himachal Pradesh will be given two months' quota at once in the depot. Last month, ration was distributed by the Food Supply Corporation through OTP on mobile. There were many such consumers whose mobile numbers were not linked to Aadhaar card. In June, ration was given in the depot only through OTP. Due to this, consumers were deprived of ration. Now, to give this month's quota to the consumers, the Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs Department has made a provision for backlog sale for the sale of June's ration in the POS machines kept in cheap ration shops. Along with this, instructions have also been issued to the depot operators to give two months' quota at once. After this, now consumers will be able to take ration from the depot. Apart from this, to get rid of problems like OTP and server, ration is being given by scanning the face with the PDS Face Authentication App. Many consumers were deprived of ration in the cheap ration shops in June. This time those consumers are being given ration quota of two months together. For this, instructions have been issued to the depot operators.

## HIMACHAL WEATHER: CLOUDS WILL RAIN CONTINUOUSLY FOR A WEEK IN HIMACHAL, RED ALERT FOR THREE DISTRICTS ON JULY 6

**Diary Times Desk :** In Himachal Pradesh, light to moderate rain is expected at most places and heavy to very heavy rain at some places in the lower hill-plain areas, mid-hill and adjoining high hill areas during July 5 to 9. The Meteorological Department had earlier issued a red alert for July 6 in three districts. Then the red alert has been issued for 10 districts and now again revised to three districts. The maximum intensity of rain will be on July 6 and 7. Very heavy to extremely heavy rain is also expected in the lower hill/plain areas and adjoining mid-hill areas from the afternoon of July 6 to the afternoon of July 7. At the same time, 280 roads were blocked for vehicular movement in the state till 10:00 am on Friday. Apart from this, 332 electricity transformers and 784 water supply schemes are also affected. The maximum 156 roads are blocked in Mandi district. 49 roads are affected in Sirmaur, 36 in Kullu and 19 in Shimla.



## HIMACHAL : THE WAY IS CLEAR TO GIVE SALARY SCALE TO ELECTRICITY BOARD EMPLOYEES ON THE LINES OF THE CENTER

**Diary Times Desk :** The way has almost been cleared to give pay scale to the state electricity board employees on the lines of the Center. Punjab had made this change in the year 2020. Now the cabinet sub-committee constituted to strengthen the board has prepared this proposal for Himachal as well. Under this, the pay scale of the employees will be that of the Central Government and the allowances will be made on the lines of the Himachal Government. The sub-committee has recommended to get the approval of this proposal in the upcoming cabinet meeting. The pay scale of the employees of the State Electricity Board is going to be revised. A proposal has been made to make the pay scale uniform on the lines of the Central Government and to give allowances as per qualification. Officials said that the existing pay structure of the board employees is to be revised in accordance with the pay scale of the Central Government (as per the 7th Central Pay Commission). Many employees of the board work with the same responsibility and qualification as the employees working in the departments of the Central Government. This exercise has been started to promote equality and standardization by making the pay scales uniform.

## HIMACHAL : CHIEF MINISTER SUKHU SAID- GOVERNMENT WILL GIVE MONTHLY RENT OF RS 5,000 TO DISASTER AFFECTED FAMILIES

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu said that cloudburst and heavy rainfall have caused extensive damage to land and houses of people in Seraj, Dharampur and Karsog areas of Mandi district. If people whose houses have been damaged in these areas want to live in rented houses, the government will give them Rs 5,000 rent per month. Free ration is also being delivered. As soon as the weather clears, relief material will be delivered to the affected areas of Mandi through army helicopters. Right now the goods are being sent through mules. Talking to reporters at the Secretariat on Friday, the Chief Minister said that so far 69 people have died and 110 people have been injured in the disaster caused by heavy rains. 37 are still missing. He will visit the affected areas again soon. Sukhu said that he has spoken to Union Minister Amit Shah.



'HE MOLESTED ME TOO':  
KOLKATA GANGRAPE  
ACCUSED MONOJIT 'MANGO'  
FACES ALLEGATIONS FROM  
ANOTHER STUDENT

**Diary Times Desk :** Another student come out with allegations of molestation against Monojit Mishra, the main accused in last month's gangrape case at South Calcutta Law College. This student, who is in her second year of law degree, told a TV channel that college alumnus Monojit Mishra, who goes by 'Mango dada' among his influence groups, molested and threatened her two years ago. According to her telephonic conversation with India Today TV, her assault in October 2023 was similar in modus operandi to last month's case. She was locked in a room and molested by Mishra, she alleged, son after her fellow students and she had attended an event organised by Mishra. She recounted how, as her father called her during the event, she stepped into a nearby vacant room at that venue to speak with him. "Just as I was about to step out [after the call], I saw Monojit enter and lock the door from inside. He was visibly drunk and had also consumed 'weed' (marijuana). I asked him to let me leave, but he ignored me and kept coming closer," the student, in her second year of law degree now, told the channel..

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN, D  
PURANDESWARI AMONG  
LIKELY PICKS FOR BJP  
PRESIDENT: REPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is undergoing a major organisational rejig. After the appointment of party chiefs for local units in six states and Union territories, the BJP is now shifting focus on appointing its national president. JP Nadda has held the party's national president post since 2020. His term ended in 2023, but the BJP extended it till 2024 so he could steer the party through the Lok Sabha elections. While a suspense remains on who would hold the key post, sources have told Live Hindustan that the party may get its first ever woman president. BJP leader Nirmala Sitharaman has been holding the Finance Minister since 2019, after the BJP was elected for a second term. She is being seen as one of the frontrunners for the BJP President post, being one of the more influential women in the party. Her roots in Tamil Nadu can also be an advantage to the BJP, given the party's push down south. She recently also met with JP Nadda and BJP General Secretary BL Santhosh in the party headquarters. Formerly the BJP's Andhra Pradesh unit chief, D Purandeswari is also one of the probables who may hold.

37 DEAD, ₹400 CRORE WORTH OF DAMAGE AS  
HEAVY RAINS BATTER HIMACHAL PRADESH



**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh is reeling under incessant rains that have claimed over 37 lives and caused widespread destruction across the hill state. According to the Himachal Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority, more than ₹400 crore worth of property has been damaged, and the death toll expected to rise as rescue operations continue. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a rain alert for the state until July 7, warning of continued heavy showers. Mandi district has emerged as the worst-hit region, particularly the Thunag subdivision, where roads remain impassable, and essential services such as electricity and water supply have been severely disrupted. In a press briefing on Wednesday, DC Rana, Special Secretary of the State Disaster Management Authority and Revenue Department, said, "We have recorded over ₹400 crore in losses so far, as entered in our system. But the actual damage is likely to be much higher.

'MASTERLY STROKE': ARMY DEPUTY CHIEF  
ON INDIA'S DECISION TO STOP OPERATION  
SINDOOR

**Diary Times Desk :** "War is easy to initiate, but it's very difficult to control," India's Deputy Chief of Army Staff Rahul R Singh said on Friday as he described Operation Sindoor as a carefully orchestrated military action. The operation showed India's resolve to stay ahead on the escalation ladder, while preventing a full-scale war with Pakistan, he said as per a report by news agency ANI. He termed Operation Sindoor a "masterly stroke that was played to stop the war at an appropriate time". Lt Gen Singh was speaking at the 'New Age Military Technologies' event organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). "A total of 21 targets were identified, out of which nine targets we thought would be prudent to engage," he said laying out the strategic thinking behind the operation's execution and conclusion. Both technological and human intelligence were used to decide on the targets, he added.

AIR INDIA VS UK LAW FIRM OVER ALLEGED THREAT TO CRASH VICTIMS' FAMILIES

**Diary Times Desk :** The families of the victims of the Air India plane crash in Ahmedabad last month have accused the Tata Group-owned airline of "forcing" them to make financial disclosures under the "threat of receiving no advance compensation", even as the carrier "categorically rejected" the allegations and said efforts are being made to process the payments. "Air India cannot process these payments in an information vacuum. In order to facilitate payments, Air India has sought basic information to establish family relationships to ensure that the advance payments are received by those entitled to them," the airline said Friday. The Tata Group had announced a compensation of Rs 1 crore for families of those killed in the crash that occurred soon after London-bound AI 171 took off from Ahmedabad airport at around 1.30pm on June 12. The plane crashed into the residential quarters of BJ Medical College doctors in Meghaninagar area before going up in flames. Only one of the 242 passengers and crew members onboard survived the accident. The remaining victims were from those in the college and around the premises.

CHINA'S MESSAGE TO INDIA  
AFTER KIREN RIJIJU BACKS DALAI  
LAMA ON SUCCESSION PLANS

**Diary Times Desk :** China has asked India to act cautiously on Tibet-related issues, while objecting to Union Minister Kiren Rijiju's remarks that the incarnation of the Dalai Lama should follow his wishes. The Minority Affairs Minister on Thursday said that only the Dalai Lama and the organisation he has set up have the authority to identify his successor as the spiritual head of Tibetan Buddhism, in a comment contradicting China's long-held position. In response, China has asked India to exercise caution in its words and actions to avoid any adverse impact on the improvement of bilateral relations. The Ministry of External Affairs, contradicting Mr Rijiju's stand, has said that the Indian government "doesn't take any position or speak on matters concerning beliefs and practices of faith and religion". "The government has always upheld freedom of religion for all in India and will continue to do so," the foreign ministry said. Earlier today, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning reacted to Mr Rijiju's comments.

MAN WHO RAPED PUNE TECHIE WAS HER  
FRIEND, SHE HERSELF TOOK SELFIE: POLICE

**Diary Times Desk :** A suspect detained in connection with the alleged rape of a Pune IT professional at her home was her friend and not a stranger who gained entry by posing as a courier delivery agent, police said on Friday, casting doubt on her version of the events. It was the woman herself who took a selfie with him and typed a threatening message in her phone, police commissioner Amitesh Kumar said. "They know each other for a couple of years and belong to the same community," he said. The 22-year-old woman had claimed that a man who posed as a courier delivery agent entered her flat in Kondhwa area on Wednesday evening when she was alone, and forced himself on her. She passed out, and when she regained consciousness, he was gone, she said. Before leaving, the accused clicked a selfie using her phone in which her back and a part of his face are seen, and left a message warning that he had taken her pictures and would release them on social media if she reported the incident.



**INDONESIAN RESCUERS WIDEN SEARCH FOR MISSING AFTER FERRY SINKS**

**Diary Times Desk :** Hundreds of Indonesian rescuers widened their search for dozens of missing people Friday after a ferry sank in rough seas on the way to the resort island of Bali, with six bodies recovered. The ferry carrying at least 65 people, including passengers and crew, was making a five-kilometre (3.2-mile) crossing from eastern Java island to Bali when it tilted and sank in bad weather late Wednesday, witnesses and officials said. As of Friday evening, 30 people were still missing after 29 were rescued from the water on Thursday, with no more survivors found since, Rama Samtama Putra, police chief of Banyuwangi in East Java, where the boat departed, told AFP. Rescuers said one of the six found dead was a three-year-old boy. Tearful survivors described their horror when the ship went down, including one man who lost his wife. "I was joking around with my wife. And then... the ferry tilted. The accident was very fast," Febriani, who like many Indonesians has one name, told AFP late Thursday.

**IRAN RESUMES INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS AFTER 20-DAY SUSPENSION**

**Diary Times Desk :** Iran's Imam Khomeini International Airport has welcomed its first foreign flight since the resumption of international air travel after a 20-day suspension, local media reported on Friday. According to Student News Network, Mehdi Ramezani, spokesperson for Iran's Civil Aviation Organisation, confirmed the Flydubai flight from the United Arab Emirates landed on Wednesday, after extensive security and diplomatic coordination. The landing marks a "new phase of stability" for Iran's aviation sector, Ramezani said, after recent tensions with Israel. He added that it represented a return to calm and intelligent management of the nation's airspace. International flights will gradually resume to specific destinations in coordination with authorities, to meet public needs and restore air links, he said. Iran and Israel agreed to a ceasefire last month after a bloody 12-day conflict that saw Israel striking hundreds of Iranian military infrastructure targets and nuclear-related sites, and Iran firing missiles at Israel in return. The truce was brokered by the US after it dropped 30,000-pound "bunker-busting" bombs on three of Iran's key nuclear sites.

**"DARK LAUGH, SAYING THINGS LIKE...": WHAT HAPPENED MOMENTS BEFORE INDIAN-ORIGIN MAN ATTACKED PLANE PASSENGER MID-AIR**

**Diary Times Desk :** A 21-year-old Indian-origin man has been arrested in the US after allegedly attacking a fellow passenger during a mid-air brawl on a Frontier Airlines flight. According to the New York Post, the incident occurred on Monday on board a Frontier Flight from Philadelphia to Miami. The accused, identified as Ishaan Sharma, allegedly attacked a fellow passenger "without provocation," following which he was arrested as the plane touched down in Miami. After the mid-air fight, the 21-year-old sustained a black eye along with lacerations on his eyebrow, while the victim suffered minor injuries. According to the Post, Sharma assaulted Keanu Evans for no apparent reason soon after their flight took off from Philadelphia. A video shot on a mobile phone shows the two men engaged in a violent fight as other flyers and a flight attendant attempt to break up the brawl. "Let him go. Stop, let him go," a fellow passenger is heard in the background, while a crew member tells them, "Sir, you have to sit down."

**RUSSIA BRUSHES OFF TALKS, LAUNCHES LARGEST ASSAULT ON UKRAINE**

**Diary Times Desk :** The Kremlin said on Friday that it sees no immediate diplomatic way out of the war in Ukraine, hours after launching its largest ever drone and missile barrage of the invasion. The hours-long bombardments across Ukraine came just after a telephone call between the US and Russian presidents ended without any breakthrough. AFP journalists in Kyiv heard drones buzzing over the capital and explosions ringing out throughout the night as Ukrainian air defence systems fended off the attack. "We are interested in achieving our goals in the course of the special military operation and it is preferable to do it by political and diplomatic means," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters, referring to its invasion, launched in February 2022. "But as long as that is not possible, we are continuing the special operation," he said in a briefing, including with AFP.

**WHITE HOUSE TO HOST UFC FIGHT: INSIDE TRUMP'S 250TH INDEPENDENCE DAY PLANS**

**Diary Times Desk :** As a part of celebrations to mark 250 years of American independence, next year, the White House will host a UFC bout, US President Donald Trump announced at a rally in Iowa on Thursday. "Every one of our national park battlefields and historic sites are going to have special events in honor of 'America250' and I even think we're going to have a UFC (Ultimate Fighting Championship) fight," Trump said on the eve of the Fourth July holiday. He said the event will boast an audience of 20,000-25,000. "It's going to be a championship fight, full fight, like 20,000 to 25,000 people and we're going to do that as part of '250' also," he said. Trump, being a friend of Dana White, the UFC president, said, "We are going to have some incredible events, some professional events, some amateur events." His links to the UFC dates back to 2001, when the Trump Taj Mahal, which is now closed, used to host UFC. Addressing the crowd at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines.

**US IMPOSES NEW SANCTIONS TARGETING IRAN OIL TRADE, HEZBOLLAH, TREASURY DEPT SAYS**

**Diary Times Desk :** The United States imposed sanctions on Thursday against a business network that smuggles Iranian oil disguised as Iraqi oil, as well as sanctions targeting a Hezbollah-controlled financial institution, the Treasury Department said. The network of companies run by Iraqi businessman Salim Ahmed Said has been buying and shipping billions of dollars worth of Iranian oil disguised as, or blended with, Iraqi oil since at least 2020, the department said in statement. "Treasury will continue to target Tehran's revenue sources and intensify economic pressure to disrupt the regime's access to the financial resources that fuel its destabilizing activities," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said. The Treasury Department also sanctioned several vessels that are accused of engaging in the covert delivery of Iranian oil, intensifying pressure on Iran's "shadow fleet," it said. The Treasury Department also issued sanctions against several senior officials and one entity associated with the Hezbollah-controlled financial institution Al-Qard Al-Hassan.

**INCREASE PRICES OF SUGARY DRINKS, ALCOHOL, TOBACCO BY 50%: WHO**

**Diary Times Desk :** The World Health Organisation (WHO) has called on nations to raise the prices of sugary drinks, alcohol, and tobacco by 50% over the next ten years. This recommendation, introduced at the UN Finance for Development conference in Seville, is part of a new initiative aiming to curb chronic health issues and generate revenue for health systems worldwide. The WHO believes that by implementing these taxes, countries can reduce the consumption of harmful products that contribute to diseases like diabetes and some cancers. This move is seen as a critical step in addressing public health challenges globally. Jeremy Farrar, WHO's assistant-director general of health promotion and disease prevention, emphasised the importance of these health taxes, stating, "Health taxes are one of the most efficient tools we have. It's time to act." The WHO's strategic plan, known as "3 by 35", targets the potential to raise \$1 trillion by 2035 from this taxation policy. Such a substantial financial boost could be pivotal for countries struggling with diminishing development aid and increasing public debt. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus highlighted that these taxes could enable governments to "adjust."



## NO RELIEF FOR BIKRAM SINGH MAJITHIA; PUNJAB AND HARYANA HC HEARING ADJOURNED TO JULY 8

**Diary Times Desk** : The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Friday asked the State counsel to seek instructions while adjourning the hearing on former cabinet minister Bikram Singh Majithia's plea against "illegal arrest and subsequent remand". Justice Tribhuvan Dahiya's Bench also fixed the case for further hearing on July 8. Majithia – among other things – had challenged the remand orders, terming them as illegal. He submitted in his petition that the case 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 was filed through Sartaj Singh Narula, Damanbir Singh Sobti, and Arshdeep Singh Cheema days after the vigilance bureau registered the FIR under the provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Majithia submitted that the FIR, dated June 25, 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".



## COLD STORAGE FACILITY WITH 650 KG OF SUSPECTED COW MEAT, DHABA SEALED IN PHAGWARA; 7 ARRESTED

**Diary Times Desk** : The Phagwara police on Thursday evening sealed an illegal cold storage facility – where about 650 kg of suspected cow meat was found – and 'Jyoti Dhaba' that was operating above it, near Chachoki village in Kapurthala district. Acting on a tip-off, the police launched a swift raid to nab the accused, including a foreign national from Myanmar, prompting suspicions of a wider international network. Those arrested include Rihana Alam, Manjoor Ali, Mukhtar Alam, Yakir Hussain, Azad, and Qurban Ali – all residents of Malda district in West Bengal – as well as Madan Lal, a local resident of Chachrari village near Goraya. Senior Superintendent of Police Gaurav Toora said the accused were presented before the local judicial magistrate, who granted five days of police custody for further interrogation aimed at uncovering the full extent of the operation.

## 'PADDY DADDY' FEELS THE CROP NO LONGER THE RIGHT FIT FOR PUNJAB

**Diary Times Desk** : "I am extremely pained to see the paddy crops I developed proving to be the Achilles' heel of agriculture in Punjab and exhausting its fossil water reserves," said California-based, internationally famed rice breeder Dr Gurdev Singh Khush in a conversation. The man who has developed more than 300 rice varieties grown all over the world remarked, "Rice is vital to the survival of millions, but Punjab needs to stop growing it any further. Underground water is drying up fast, and I can see deserts marching into the 'Land of Five Rivers'. The only way to wean farmers off the current wheat-paddy cycle is for the government to provide them with an assured Minimum Support Price (MSP) on crops like pulses, soybeans, and mustard." Winner of the World Food Prize in 1996 while working at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines, Dr Khush was honoured for his work on "enlarging and improving the global supply of rice."

## PUNJAB WOMEN CELL DSP IN FARIDKOT CAUGHT OFFERING RS 1 LAKH BRIBE TO QUASH GRAFT CASE, ARRESTED

**Diary Times Desk** : DSP Rajan Pal, posted in Crime Against Women Cell in Faridkot, has been arrested after being caught attempting to bribe senior officials. Rajan Pal was booked under the Prevention of Corruption Act following allegations that he solicited a bribe from the family of a woman involved in a matrimonial dispute. The complaint was initially filed by Kiranjit Kaur of Pakka village. Her brother, Karmtej Singh, alleged that the DSP demanded Rs 1 lakh to act on their case. Despite the payment, no action was taken. After the matter was escalated to Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Dr Pragya Jain, DSP Rajan Pal reportedly attempted to offer a Rs 1 lakh bribe to ASI Jaswinder Singh, the SSP's reader, to suppress the complaint filed against him.

## OUT OF PUNJAB CABINET, KULDEEP DHALIWAL SAYS UP TO PARTY LEADERS TO DECIDE FUTURE ROLE

**Diary Times Desk** : The departure of Kuldeep Singh Dhaliwal, one of the most firebrand ministers of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in Punjab, from the Council of Ministers may not signal the end of his political innings. Sources in AAP said as the party gets "battle ready" for the 2027 Assembly poll, Dhaliwal would be used to build political narrative in the run-up to the elections. An indication to this effect was reportedly been given by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann today. In the recent days, he has remained one of the shriller voices to create a narrative against SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia, while defending why the AAP government arrested him. Interestingly, Dhaliwal has often been touted "Majhe da Jarnail" – a title previously accorded to Majithia during the SAD-BJP tenure from 2007-2017. However, last three years of his political journey have not been very smooth. Dhaliwal, a close friend of CM Mann, was an American citizen. He gave up his US citizenship and came back to Punjab almost a decade ago to make his mark in politics. He unsuccessfully contested the 2019 General Election as AAP candidate from Amritsar, before he tasted political success in the 2022 Vidhan Sabha poll and got elected as an MLA from Ajnala. Dhaliwal was inducted into Cabinet as Agriculture and Rural Development Minister. For a little over a year, he handled both departments, till he was suddenly stripped of these. Later, he was given charge of NRI Affairs Department and Department of Administrative Reforms, which the government accepted that the department did not exist. In a notification earlier this year, the government said the Department of Administrative Reforms was non-existent.

## HARYANA CM NAYAB SAINI SETS \$1-TRN ECONOMY TARGET, BIRLA URGES LOCAL BODIES TO EMBRACE DEMOCRATIC DISCIPLINE

**Diary Times Desk** : Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini today unveiled the state's ambitious Vision-2047, targeting a \$1-trillion economy and creation of 50 lakh jobs, while emphasising the critical role of urban local bodies (ULBs) in driving democratic and developmental transformation at the grassroots. Addressing the inaugural session of the national conference of chairpersons of urban local bodies in Manesar, Saini said, "Haryana is growing by the day and being chosen to host this national conference reflects our rising prominence. The state is nurturing the grassroots of democracy while realising Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Viksit Bharat 2047. We will soon be an economy to reckon with." Calling ULBs the "first school and nursery of democracy", he said, "The deeper the roots of democracy at the local level, the stronger our nation becomes." Highlighting Haryana's urban development model, the CM praised Gurugram as a symbol of smart growth and shared plans to develop five new ultra-modern cities under the Panch Gram Yojana along the 180-km KMP corridor, designed for a projected population of 75 lakh by 2050.

## IMD ISSUES MULTIPLE ALERTS AS CHANDIGARH BRACES FOR INTENSE RAINFALL TILL JULY 9

**Diary Times Desk** : After receiving the region's heaviest and June's highest rainfall during the last few days, Chandigarh is likely to get another spell of heavy to very rainfall for the next five days, beginning Saturday, the weathermen have said. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued yellow and orange alerts for thunderstorms and lightning on Friday; heavy rain on Saturday; heavy to very heavy rain on Sunday and Monday; and again a spell of heavy rain from Tuesday to Wednesday next week. Issuing the weather forecast and warning, the IMD has predicted light to moderate rain likely at most places in Chandigarh, Punjab and Haryana on July 6 and 7, and at many places on July 8 and 9. "Heavy rainfall (7cm or more) is very likely from July 5 to 9 at isolated places over northern and eastern parts of Chandigarh, Punjab and Haryana during this spell," the weather department said, while forecasting very heavy rain (12 cm or more) likely at isolated places from July 6 to 7 over parts of Chandigarh, Mohali and Panchkula. Even as Tricity remained dry for the second consecutive day on Thursday, the IMD observed light to moderate rain.

**LOP 'LYING' FOR POLITICAL MILEAGE, SPOKE TO HIM ABOUT FLOOD RELIEF OPERATIONS: CM SUKHU**

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu on Friday refuted Himachal Pradesh Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur's claims that the CM did not respond to his calls on the flash floods and landslides that have caused havoc in the state. "I and Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri spoke to Jai Ram Thakur, the engineering chief and the Deputy Commissioner, Mandi. Helicopters have been pressed into service in his Assembly constituency to provide relief to affected people," CM Sukhu said. During a press conference in Mandi on Thursday, LoP Thakur said his Assembly constituency Seraj was the worst affected in the recent floods, claiming that about 500 houses were damaged in it. The former CM alleged that he was trying to contact Sukhu since morning but there was no response. Responding to the allegations, Sukhu while interacting with mediapersons here on Friday said that he had spoken with the LoP on Thursday and can show the call records. "The LoP is telling lies to gain political mileage," he told the media persons here.

**'JAAG GAYI DIDI': KANGANA CLAIMS JAI RAM THAKUR ADVISED HER AGAINST VISITING FLOOD-HIT MANDI; NETIZENS ASK DID HE STOP FROM TWEETING TOO**

**Diary Times Desk :** BJP MP from Mandi and Bollywood actor-turned-politician Kangana Ranaut has expressed deep sorrow over the widespread devastation caused by torrential rains and flash floods in her home state of Himachal Pradesh. Taking to social media platform X on Friday, Ranaut said she attempted to visit flood-affected areas in Mandi, including Seraj, but was advised by senior BJP leader and Leader of Opposition Jai Ram Thakur to delay her visit due to poor connectivity and safety concerns. "It is heartbreaking to see massive flood devastation in Himachal almost every year now. I tried reaching flood-affected areas in Seraj and other parts of Mandi but was advised by respected leader of opposition Shri @jairamthakurbjp ji to wait until access is restored. A red alert has been issued today by Mandi DC as well.

**HIMACHAL PRADESH MONSOON FURY: 43 DEAD, 37 MISSING; HEAVY RAIN ALERT FOR NEXT 4 DAYS**

**Diary Times Desk :** Forty-three people have been killed and at least 37 are missing in Himachal Pradesh due to ravages of the weather – cloudbursts, flash floods, landslides since the onset of the monsoon. . The monsoon hit the state on June 20 and has cost the state Rs 5,000 crore in damages. Of the 43, 14 were killed in cloudbursts, eight in flash floods, and one in a landslide, while seven were drowned. The most deaths, 17, took place in Mandi district where ten instances of cloudbursts, flash floods and landslides wreaked havoc on Tuesday. A search is still on for 31 people missing from this district alone, officials said. On Friday, the soldiers from the National Disaster Response Force rescued 65 people trapped in Bharad, Deji, Payala, and Rukchui villages after heavy rain. The downpour, followed by landslides, damaged roads and caused rivers to swell, which cut off many villages and deposited debris to people's houses and fields.

**CM SUKHU ANNOUNCES RS 5,000 MONTHLY RENT FOR AFFECTED FAMILIES**

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today said rescue and relief operations were in full swing in rain-affected areas and that Union Home Minister Amit Shah had assured of all possible help. Talking to media persons here today, Sukhu said he had spoken with Union Home Minister about over Rs 700 crore loss suffered in these areas. He said a Central team will visit the affected areas soon to assess the damages. The CM said, "It is wrong on the part of Leader of Opposition to politicise a natural disaster and mislead people. He had spoken with me yesterday and all senior officers have spoken with him as well. I tried to extend all possible help and even got ration delivered." He said that the state government has decided to provide Rs 5,000 per month as house rent to disaster-affected families whose homes have been damaged and were living in rented accommodation. He said that the SDMs concerned have been directed to provide food supplies to the affected people. Sukhu said heavy rainfall caused extensive damage to homes and land in the Seraj and Dharampur areas of Mandi. "A total of 14 cloudburst incidents have occurred in Mandi alone this monsoon season, which is a matter of concern. There is need to study why such incidents are happening frequently. I raised it with Amit Shah also," he added. He said due to the rain, roads, electricity infrastructure and drinking water supply schemes had been severely.

**CENTRE RAISES MINIMUM IMPORT PRICE OF APPLES FROM RS 50 TO RS 80/KG**

**Diary Times Desk :** The Centre has increased the Minimum Import Price (MIP) from Rs 50 to Rs 80, providing a big relief to the apple growers of Himachal, Kashmir and Uttarakhand. "The decision was taken on June 3 following the approval of the Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan," said Chetan Singh Bragta, the BJP spokesperson. Apart from enhancing import duty on apple, the apple growers have been demanding a hike in MIP to ensure imported apple does not reach the Indian markets at extremely cheap rates. Calling the decision 'a result of the farmer-friendly approach and strong political will of the Narendra Modi government', Bragta said it would check the unhindered dumping of imported apple in the country. "It would lead to local apple growers getting remunerative prices in the market," he said. The MIP was introduced at Rs 50 per kg in 2023. While happy with the decision, the apple growers had been demanding a hike and strict adherence to the decision. "The Modi government banned the entry of the Chinese apple into the Indian market in 2018. Like that decision, the hike in MIP is going to benefit the local growers a lot, and its impact would be seen shortly," he said. With MIP at Rs 50 and the import duty fixed at 50 per cent.

**HIMACHAL'S WEATHER WOES CONTINUE: RED ALERT FOR JULY 6-7**

**Diary Times Desk :** The weather department has issued a red alert for heavy to extremely heavy rainfall in the districts of Mandi, Sirmaur and Kangra starting July 6. This warning comes as the state is already grappling with intense rains that have persisted over the past week. Mandi district has experienced devastating impacts from recent weather events, including multiple cloudbursts and flash floods. Over the last week, Mandi recorded an alarming 426 per cent more rainfall than normal. As a precautionary measure, an orange alert has been issued for other districts, including Una, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Solan, Shimla and Kullu until July 9. The weather department cautioned residents about potential hazards associated with the upcoming rains. These include landslides, mudslides, land subsidence, flooding in river catchment areas, flash floods, and extensive damage to horticulture and standing crops. Authorities are urging residents in affected areas to remain vigilant and take necessary precautions to ensure their safety during this severe weather event.





JAMIE SMITH, HARRY BROOK LEAD ENGLAND'S STUNNING  
COUNTERPUNCH

**Diary Times Desk :** Jamie Smith's 102\*, well supported by Harry Brook's 91\*, saw England consolidate to 249/5 after a double-jolt early on Day 3 of the Edgbaston Test. Mohammad Siraj took out Joe Root and Ben Stokes on successive deliveries in his very first over, but a brisk 165-run unbroken partnership between the sixth-wicket pair kept India at bay for the rest of the morning session on Friday (July 4). It was an ominous start for the hosts who found themselves under immense pressure 10 balls into the session. First to depart was Root, who tried to flick a leg-side delivery and tickled it to the left of Rishabh Pant behind the stumps. Stokes was then greeted with a mean short ball first up from Siraj that climbed on him awkwardly and kissed the handle of his bat on his way to the 'keeper. Down to 84/5, England looked in serious trouble but the arrival of Jamie Smith bought urgency in their scoring. And they were further aided by a lean slip cordon that allowed for easy scoring opportunities. The English wicketkeeper sent the hat-trick ball straight down the ground for a four to get going, and raced to become the joint third-fastest centurion for England, getting to the landmark in just 80 balls. Brook too eased into it and started finding regular boundaries off Indian pacers.



MICHAEL VAUGHAN BACKS INDIA  
TRIO TO TAKE TEAM FORWARD: "LIKE  
VIRAT KOHLI DID ALONE..."

**Diary Times Desk :** It would take the combined might of new Test captain Shubman Gill, Yashasvi Jaiswal and Rishabh Pant to take the Indian Test team forward in the absence of Virat Kohli, who did the job "single-handedly" in his prime, feels former England captain Michael Vaughan. The Indian batting line-up seems to have moved on rather smoothly from Kohli and Rohit Sharma going by the performances so far in the Test series against England but Vaughan, in an interview to PTI, said a good start does not mean that the task has been accomplished. "They (Gill, Jaiswal and Pant) now have to drag this Indian Test team forward like Virat did single-handedly. There's a group of them that I see that play the game the right way," said the cricketer-turned-commentator. "They've got a great chance of leaving a legacy in a few years' time of doing what Virat Kohli did to the Indian Test team. If they can be anywhere near as close as what he brought to the Test match team, the energy and the number-one status for such a long period of time, they'll have done a decent job," he added. Kohli and Rohit announced Test retirements ahead of the England tour and Vaughan said.

RAVINDRA JADEJA BREAKS BCCI  
RULES IN 2ND TEST, BUT UNLIKELY  
TO FACE SANCTION: REPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja broke one of the key rules in the new Indian Cricket Board guidelines during the second Test match against England. Jadeja, who scored a crucial 89 runs in the first innings of the match, travelled separately to the Edgbaston Stadium. According to the new BCCI Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), issued after India's disastrous tour of Australia, all team members are required to travel together in the team bus to and from the stadium and practice sessions. Travelling separately is strictly prohibited under the new SOP, aimed at maintaining discipline within the team. ESPNcricinfo reported on Thursday that Jadeja had travelled alone to the Edgbaston Stadium, thereby violating the BCCI rules. However, the report also noted that Jadeja is unlikely to face any sanction, as he had reached the stadium earlier than the rest of the team to get in some extra batting practice before the match. "Somewhere I felt that I should go and bat extra because the ball was still new. I felt if I could see the new ball off, it would become easier for the rest of the innings. Luckily, I could bat till lunch, and then Washington [Sundar] also batted well with Shubman.

ISHAN KISHAN STUNS WITH UNEXPECTED BOWLING CAMEO AT  
COUNTY, MIMICS HARBHAJAN SINGH'S ACTION FRAME-BY-FRAME

**Diary Times Desk :** Ishan Kishan appears to be relishing his County Championship experience with Nottinghamshire. The India wicketkeeper-batter has made an encouraging start to his red-ball stint in England, registering back-to-back half-centuries in Division I. Adding to his contributions, Ishan brought out a new side to his game during a rain-affected, drawn fixture against Somerset at Taunton. On Wednesday, in an unexpected moment, he was handed the ball and took the opportunity to showcase more than just his batting skills. In his solitary over, Kishan delivered a mix of off-spin and leg-spin, delighting teammates and fans alike. He opened his spell by mimicking Harbhajan Singh's signature bowling action, sending down a delivery from over the wicket to Tom Kohler-Cadmore, who was nearing 150 at the time. The imitation was impressively accurate, capturing the essence of the former Indian spinner's style.



SHUBMAN GILL AND CO  
TARGETED IN BIZARRE  
RANT BY EX-ENGLAND  
STAR: 'HAVEN'T PAID TO...'

**Diary Times Desk :** Former England cricketer turned commentator David Lloyd was not happy with the multiple breaks taken by the Indian batters during Day 2 of the second Test match against England. Lloyd pointed out that the match kept losing overs during the breaks and even commented that his friends did not buy the tickets to the match to 'watch the grass grow'. The comment was made in connection to Ravindra Jadeja taking two breaks in the first session after he was hit on his hand. Lloyd went on to say that in case of injuries, the batter should leave the field and get treated outside the field. "Only 15 minutes into the second morning, Jadeja stopped the game, had a drink and took a couple of pills, after being struck on the hand," Lloyd wrote in his column for Daily Mail. "After 40 minutes, he took another break. The umpires appear powerless. No wonder we keep losing overs. Surely, the officials should exercise their authority or have a directive from the ICC that any injury be treated off the field while a new batter comes out. Keep the game moving. Get on with it. My mates in the Eric Hollies haven't paid £85 (around INR 9,900) to watch the grass grow," he added.

VIRAT KOHLI, ROHIT  
SHARMA'S RETURN SERIES  
'CANCELLED' OVER  
DIPLOMATIC CONFLICT:  
REPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** India's upcoming white-ball tour of Bangladesh is all but off, amid deteriorating political relations between the two nations. According to a report, the tour which was scheduled to take place between August 17 to 31, comprising of three ODIs and three T20Is, is "effectively off". While the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) is hopeful that the series can be rescheduled for a later date, it has also paused the sale of the tour's media rights. According to a report in Cricbuzz, the BCB is currently focused on selling media rights for the forthcoming home series against Pakistan, starting July 17. "We will continue, we will take time to research the market. There is no point in rushing things. We can give different contracts," a BCB official told Cricbuzz. The report, however, added that the Indian broadcasters have been informed that the series won't happen "They have informed us that there is no India series. After announcing the tender, they did not provide the ITT. They are selling, for now, only for the Pakistan series," an Indian broadcaster told Cricbuzz.