

**PM NARENDRA
MODI**

MODI INVOKES INDIA'S SUPPORT FOR NAMIBIA'S FREEDOM INSIDE COUNTRY'S PARLIAMENT

Diary Times Desk : Saying that he is a representative from "mother of democracy", Prime Minister Narendra Modi in his address before the Namibian Parliament in Windhoek on Wednesday invoked India's long-standing support for Namibia's freedom struggle.

The Prime Minister expressed India's commitment to working alongside the African nation as New Delhi aspires to complete its developmental plans under 'Vision 2030'.

In his address before Namibian lawmakers, Modi said that India had supported Namibia's independence movement even before gaining its own freedom, raising the issue of South West Africa at the United Nations and backing the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO).

The people of India stood proudly with Namibia during your freedom struggle," he said. He also said that India hosted SWAPO's first ever diplomatic office abroad.

Furthermore, Modi paid tributes to founding president of Namibia — Sam Nujoma and the country's freedom fighters, calling their contributions an inspiration. We honour the memory of the fighters of your freedom struggle," he said. "It was Indian Lieutenant General Dewan Prem Chand who led the UN peacekeeping force in Namibia. India is proud to have stood with you, not just in words but in action," he added.



**RAHUL
GANDHI**

40-YEAR-OLD BRIDGE COLLAPSES IN GUJARAT'S VADODARA; 10 DIE AS VEHICLES PLUNGE INTO MAHISAGAR RIVER



Diary Times Desk : Ten persons, including two siblings, were killed and nine others rescued after multiple vehicles plunged into the Mahisagar river when a portion of a four-decade-old bridge collapsed in Gujarat's Vadodara district on Wednesday morning, officials said.

A slab of the Gambhira bridge, located on the Mahisagar river, which connects central Gujarat to the Saurashtra region of the state, collapsed, killing ten persons, Superintendent of Police (Vadodara rural) Rohan Anand said.

Visuals from the site showed the entire chunk of the slab of the bridge between two piers has collapsed. The slab collapse caused the vehicles, which were passing through the bridge, to plunge into the river. Five out of nine rescued persons were getting treated at state-run SSG Hospital in Vadodara city, Anand said, adding none of them is in a critical condition.

The SP said the 10- to 15-metre long slab of the bridge came crashing down at around 7.30 am. The rescue operation, involving fire brigade personnel, local residents as well as a team of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), was still under way at the site, officials said.

At least half a dozen vehicles—two trucks, two vans, an autorickshaw and a two-wheeler—fell into the river after the bridge collapsed, Vadodara Collector Anil Dhameliya said. Two other vehicles that came dangerously close to falling in the river were dragged away to a safer location, the collector said. Three persons on a two-wheeler, which fell into the river, managed to swim to safety, he added.

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR PETITIONS AGAINST BIHAR
ELECTORAL ROLL REVISION ON JULY 10

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court will on Thursday take up petitions challenging the Election Commission's decision to conduct a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the Electoral Rolls in Bihar, ahead of Assembly elections to be held in October-November, 2025. The petitions are listed for hearing on July 10 before a Bench of Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia and Justice Joymalya Bagchi, which on Wednesday agreed to hear a fresh petition filed by activists Arshad Ajmal and Rupesh Kumar against SIR of electoral rolls in Bihar. Acting on petitions filed by the Association of Democratic Reforms (ADR), People's Union for Civil Liberties (PUCI), RJD MP Manoj Jha, TMC MP Mahua Moitra and activist Yogendra Yadav, the Supreme Court had on Monday agreed to take up on July 10 petitions challenging electoral rolls' revision in Bihar. Apprehending potential disenfranchisement of nearly three crore voters, the ADR has urged the top court to set aside the EC's SIR Order as being arbitrary and violative of Articles 14, 19, 21, 325 and 326 of the Constitution as well as provisions of Representation of People's Act, 1950 and Rule 21A of the Registration of Electors Rules, 1960.



SHUKLA TURNS FARMER IN SPACE;
GROWS METHI, MOONG SEEDS

Diary Times Desk : In the final leg of his space sojourn, Indian astronaut Shubhanshu Shukla turned into a farmer, taking photos of 'moong' and 'methi' seeds sprouting in petri dishes and inserting them into a storage freezer on the International Space Station (ISS) as part of a study on how microgravity influences germination and early plant development. Shukla and his fellow Axiom-4 astronauts have spent 12 days on the orbital lab and they are expected to return to Earth any day after July 10, depending on the weather conditions off the Florida coast. NASA is yet to announce a date for the undocking of the Axiom-4 mission from the space station. The duration of the Axiom-4 mission docked to the ISS is up to 14 days. "I am so proud that ISRO has been able to collaborate with national institutions all over the country and come up with some fantastic research which I am doing on the station for all the scientists and researchers. It is exciting and a joy to do this," Shukla said in an interaction.

'WHEN I RETIRE, I WILL...': AMIT SHAH GIVES SNEAK PEAK
INTO HIS RETIREMENT PLANS



Diary Times Desk : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday gave a sneak peek into his retirement plans saying that he will take up natural farming and devote time to reading Hindu scriptures, including the Vedas and Upanishads. "When I retire, I will spend time reading the Vedas, Upanishads and practicing natural farming," Shah said while interacting with women associated with the cooperative sectors of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan during a 'Sahkar Samvad' event in Ahmedabad. He said that natural farming is a scientific practice which gives many benefits. "Eating food produced without fertilizers and chemicals will keep you away from doctors and medicines. Moreover, production increases with natural farming," the Home Minister said. Shah added that he has already adopted natural farming on his fields and has seen an increase of almost one and a half times in production. "There are big factories of urea, DAP and MPK, but in natural farming, earthworms play the same role. They eat soil and convert it into manure. Natural farming does not harm the land, saves water and promotes good health," Shah said.

TMC CLAIMS BENGAL'S MIGRANT WORKERS ILLEGALLY
DETAINED, ODISHA SAYS THEY LACK VALID DOCUMENTS

Diary Times Desk : The TMC on Wednesday alleged that the BJP-ruled Odisha government has illegally detained Bengali-speaking migrant workers on the pretext of identifying unauthorised immigrants, despite the labourers possessing 'valid documents'. The ruling party of West Bengal demanded their immediate release and warned of a larger political movement if such 'targeted harassment' continues. A senior Odisha Police officer, however, said the detained people lack valid documents to establish their residency or citizenship. He also said that the police are not targeting any community or region and are only ensuring the security of the country. TMC MPs Samirul Islam, who also serves as Chairman of the Migrant Workers' Welfare Board, and Mahua Moitra condemned the 'illegal detention'. In a post on X, Moitra said, "23 workers from Nadia are being held in illegal detention in Jharsuguda. I urge @SecyChief @DGPOdisha to release them immediately." Claiming that such incidents never happened during the Naveen Patnaik-led BJD's 24-year rule in Odisha, she said, "Do not think there is no one to fight for these workers."



YOUR HOROSCOPE
10-07-2025

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 NEWS: TRADE UNIONS ACROSS THE STATE PROTEST AGAINST LABOR LAWS, DEMAND MINIMUM WAGE OF RS 26 THOUSAND

Diary Times Desk : Trade unions demonstrated across the state on Wednesday against the labour laws of the Government of India. On the call of the Joint Platform of Central Trade Unions and National Federations and the United Kisan Morcha, labourers and farmers went on strike at the district and block headquarters including the capital Shimla under the banner of CITU and Himachal Kisan Sabha. During this, the demand was raised to give a minimum wage of Rs 26,000 and restore the old pension in the state. Labour unions also raised their voice against the repeal of the Electricity Amendment Bill, stopping outsourced recruitments, curbing inflation and privatization of public sector undertakings. Workers of Anganwadi, Mid Day Meal, MNREGA, construction, industrial workers of the state and Baddi Barotiwala Nalagarh area, BRO, outsource, contract, health, under-construction hydropower project, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam, hotels, street vendors, sewerage treatment plant participated in the strike. The strike was supported by Himachal Kisan Sabha, Janwadi Mahila Samiti, SFI, DYFI, AILU, Pensioner Association, Dalit Shoshan Mukti Manch, Jan Vigyan Andolan. Employees from various unions under the banner of Himachal Pradesh Bank Employees Confederation.



HIMACHAL: UNION MINISTER JP NADDA VISITED THE DISASTER AFFECTED AREAS OF MANDI DISTRICT, MET THE AFFECTED PEOPLE

Diary Times Desk : BJP National President and Union Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda visited various disaster-affected areas of Himachal Pradesh and inspected the situation arising due to cloudburst and heavy rainfall. Nadda visited Sainj Pangliyur Baga village in Nachan Assembly constituency of Mandi district. During this, he talked to the affected families. He also took stock of the damage caused by the disaster in Thunag and talked to the people. He also expressed concern over the damage caused in Karsog and Dharampur. During this, former Chief Minister Jairam Thakur and BJP State President Dr. Rajiv Bindal were also present with JP Nadda. JP Nadda first reached Sundarnagar in Mandi district and took information about relief and rescue operations from the local administration. He instructed the officials that there should be no laxity in relief work and the government's assistance should reach every affected person soon. He said that the Central Government is working in full coordination with the State Government and the necessary resources are being provided on time.

HIMACHAL WEATHER: MORE THAN 1,200 HOUSES DAMAGED SO FAR DUE TO THE DISASTER, 52 PEOPLE STILL MISSING

Diary Times Desk : Rain continues in many parts of Himachal Pradesh. Intermittent rain continues in Shimla as well. Due to cloudburst, landslides and floods in various places, 174 roads, 162 electricity transformers and 155 water supply schemes are still disrupted in the state till Wednesday evening. More than 1,200 kutchha and pucca houses have been damaged in the disaster. On the other hand, after cloudburst in many places on the night of June 30, the death toll in the disaster in Mandi district has reached 19. 52 people are still missing. Army personnel have rescued 222 people. The maximum number of 136 roads, 151 electricity transformers and 137 water supply schemes are closed in Mandi district. 466 houses, 457 cattle sheds and 92 shops have been damaged in Mandi district. 466 cattle have died. 291 drinking water schemes are still stalled. The body of Lalit Kumar, who was missing due to floods caused by cloudburst in Karsog, was recovered from Satluj river near Karla on Tuesday after eight days.

HIMACHAL PRADESH: ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AGAINST THOSE WHO INSTALL LIFTS WITHOUT A VALID LICENSE

Diary Times Desk : In Himachal Pradesh, action will now be taken against those who install lifts without a valid license. With the aim of strengthening public safety and a sense of responsibility, the state government has made it mandatory to apply for permission and license within one month of the installation of the lift. Application has to be made on the online portal for all works related to approval and license. The government has decided to strictly implement lift safety rules in public and private premises. Dr. Abhishek Jain, Secretary, Public Works Department, said that under the Himachal Pradesh Lift Act 2009, any person who wants to install a lift in his premises is required to apply for permission and license within one month of the installation of the lift. People do not have adequate information about this Act. Till August 31, 2024, only 1000 lifts were registered in the entire state, whereas now this number has increased to 1900.

HIMACHAL: HIMCARE CARD WILL BE MADE FREE FOR MNREGA WORKERS AND VENDORS, FREE TREATMENT AVAILABLE FOR 3,227 DISEASES

Diary Times Desk : The cards of the beneficiaries of Him Care Yojana will be made under the new rules. The cards of the beneficiaries will now be made according to their eligibility and financial status. Now the fee for making the card is fixed from free to Rs 1,000. Three parameters have been determined for this and beneficiaries falling under 13 categories have been included in them. According to the categories prescribed for Himcare cards, cards of children living below the poverty line, orphanages, MNREGA workers, jail inmates and registered street vendors will be made free of cost. Contract employees, daily wage workers, 40 percent disabled, single women, mid-day meal workers, outsourced and part-time employees will have to deposit a fee of Rs 365 and eligible beneficiaries of other categories will have to deposit a fee of Rs 1,000 to get the card made. In this regard, District Coordinator of Ayushman and Himcare Yojana, Dharampal Rana said that now Himcare cards are being made from zero to Rs 1,000. Chief Medical Officer Dr. NR Pawar said that Himcare Yojana is a health insurance scheme in Himachal Pradesh.

HIMACHAL : MOBILE NETWORK IS AVERAGE IN HIGHWAYS OF 4 DISTRICTS INCLUDING UNA, MANDI, BSNL HAS THE HIGHEST CALL DROP RATE

Diary Times Desk : The network performance of all mobile companies was found to be average on highways passing through four Himachal Pradesh districts of Una, Hamirpur, Mandi and Bilaspur. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has released the Independent Drive Test (IDT) findings for Himachal Pradesh Licensed Service Area (LSA) covering extensive city, highway and railway routes during May 2025. TRAI assessed network quality on Una and Mandi city, highway route from Una to Mandi via Bilaspur, Mandi to Una via Rewalsar and Hamirpur and New Delhi to Una railway route. The drive tests were designed to capture mobile network performance in urban areas, institutional hotspots, public transport hubs and high-speed corridors. TRAI teams conducted tests on 116.6 km urban test, 283.9 km highway test, 384.8 km railway test, five hotspot locations and 2.3 km pedestrian test. The technologies evaluated included 2G, 3G, 4G and 5G, reflecting the service experience of users with different handset capabilities. The evaluation in Una covered high-density neighbourhoods such as Barnoh, Dangoli, Jal Gran, Jhalera and Lal Singhi while in Mandi, it covered Pakhri, Kunnu, Narla, Padhar and Kotropi.



MLA IN VIRAL VIDEO ONCE OFFERED 11 LAKH FOR CHOPPING RAHUL GANDHI'S TONGUE

Diary Times Desk : Shiv Sena MLA Sanjay Gaikwad, now in the news for a viral video of him assaulting a canteen staff over the quality of dal, is no stranger to controversies. Last year, the MLA from Buldhana in Maharashtra sparked a row after he offered a reward of Rs 11 lakh to anyone who chops off senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's tongue. The Sena MLA announced the reward in September last year amid the political row over Rahul Gandhi's comments on the reservation system. During an interaction at a US university, the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha was asked about the reservation system. "We will think of scrapping reservations when India is a fair place and India is not a fair place," he had said. Speaking to the media soon after, Mr Gaikwad said, "While he was abroad, Rahul Gandhi said that he wanted to finish off the reservation system in India. This has exposed the true face of the Congress. I will reward anyone who cuts off Rahul Gandhi's tongue with Rs 11 lakh." The remarks had raised a political storm and police registered a case against the lawmaker. Shiv Sena's ally, BJP, had distanced itself from Sanjay Gaikwad's remarks.

MAN RAPES WOMAN, SHOOTS VIDEO TO BLACKMAIL HER IN LUCKNOW, ARRESTED: COPS

Diary Times Desk : A man has been arrested for allegedly raping a woman and blackmailing her using a video of the act, police said on Wednesday. They said the accused has been identified as Mohd. Farhaz (27). The woman filed a complaint at Sushant Golf City police station on July 7, alleging that last month, Farhaz offered her a cold drink laced with an intoxicant and then raped her. When the woman resisted, he threatened to kill her, police said. She alleged that the accused recorded a video of the act and used it to blackmail her. He demanded money from the woman and threatened to upload the video on social media if she did not pay him, said Deputy Commissioner of Police (South) Nipun Agarwal. Based on the complaint, an FIR was registered under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Farhaz was arrested on Tuesday. According to police sources, the woman and the accused worked at a shopping mall here. The woman filed a complaint at Sushant Golf City police station on July 7, alleging that last month, Farhaz offered her a cold drink laced with an intoxicant and then raped her. When the woman resisted, he threatened to kill her, police said.

'ACT OF GOD OR FRAUD?': OPPOSITION SLAMS GUJARAT'S BJP GOVT AS VADODARA BRIDGE COLLAPSE KILLS 10



Diary Times Desk : Several opposition leaders have lashed out at the Bharatiya Janata Party after a portion of a bridge in Vadodara's Padra, over the Mahisagar River, collapsed on Wednesday morning, killing at least 10 people. Officials said five vehicles, including two trucks, an SUV, a pickup van, and an auto-rickshaw, fell into the river. They feared the death toll could rise as the rescue and search operations continued. The Congress termed the collapse of the Gambhira Bridge portion a "tragic incident" and expressed condolences to the victims. The party claimed that the people of the district had been consistently complaining about the bridge, saying that it "was shaking and would collapse", urging action on the matter. "Before the accident, a lot of money was spent to repair the bridge, but it still collapsed," it added. The grand old party went to accuse the BJP in Gujarat of taking a pay-cut commission from any contractor before they get a work order. "This is why contractors do not do their work properly."

HYDERABAD BIZMAN DUPED OF ₹3 CRORE BY J&K FRAUDSTERS POSING AS SAPPHIRE DEALERS

Diary Times Desk : A Hyderabad businessman's dream to invest in rare blue sapphires cost him dear after he was duped of ₹3 crore by fraudsters posing as gemstone dealers, Jammu and Kashmir Police said on Wednesday. Police helped the businessman recover ₹62 lakh and have initiated legal proceedings to attach properties of the accused under Section 107 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), under which property can be attached and forfeited to restore the cheated amount to the complainant, according to officials. Mir Firasath Ali Khan from Hyderabad lodged a complaint at Bahu Fort police station last year, alleging that some people from Jammu tried to sell him the fake diamonds claiming they were the renowned Kashmir blue sapphires, a police spokesperson said. An FIR was registered and the probe revealed a larger conspiracy involving Mohammed Rayaz of Rajouri and Mohammed Taj Khan of Surankote in Poonch.

JAGUAR FIGHTER JET CRASHES IN RAJASTHAN, THIRD SUCH INCIDENT IN 2025

Diary Times Desk : A twin-seater Jaguar trainer aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) crashed in Rajasthan's Churu district on Wednesday afternoon, marking the third Jaguar-related crash this year. The fighter jet, which had taken off from Suratgarh air base, went down in an agricultural field near Bhanoda village around 1.25 pm, according to local authorities. Kamlesh, Station House Officer (SHO) of Rajaldesar, confirmed that human body parts were recovered from the crash site, indicating potential fatalities. "We are coordinating with defence officials and rescue personnel. More details will follow as the investigation progresses," he said. This incident marks the third crash involving a Jaguar aircraft in 2025, raising concerns about the fleet's operational safety. In April, a twin-seater Jaguar aircraft crashed shortly after taking off from Jamnagar Airfield during a night mission. The IAF later reported that the pilots had encountered a technical malfunction mid-flight and ejected to avoid further risk.

TRAIN IN JHARKHAND WAITS 2 HOURS AS ELEPHANT GIVES BIRTH ON TRACKS

Diary Times Desk : A train in Jharkhand came to a halt and waited for close to two hours as a wild elephant delivered her calf on the railway tracks. The incident, caught on camera, shows the elephant and her newborn calf walking off safely after the birth. Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav shared the video on X, calling it a powerful example of compassion in action. Beyond the news of human-animal conflicts, happy to share this example of human-animal harmonious existence," Yadav said in his post that also accompanied two videos of the touching moment. "It is lovely to see the efforts producing such heartwarming results. Special kudos to Jharkhand Forest officials for their sensitivity which helped the elephant deliver her young one," he added. Furthermore, Yadav said in his post that the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC), in coordination with the Ministry of Railways, has identified over 110 sensitive wildlife zones after surveying 3,500 km of railway tracks.

"VOTE THEFT LIKE MAHARASHTRA BEING ATTEMPTED IN BIHAR": RAHUL GANDHI

Diary Times Desk : Congress MP and Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday warned that the pattern of electoral manipulation seen in Maharashtra could be repeated in Bihar. Speaking at the Bihar Bandh rally, Rahul Gandhi said, "The way there was vote theft in the Maharashtra elections, a similar attempt is being made in Bihar." Mr Gandhi also raised questions over the rise in voter numbers between the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Maharashtra, alleging that all newly added votes went to the BJP. He claimed that the INDIA alliance's poor performance in the Maharashtra Assembly polls, despite a Lok Sabha majority, prompted a deeper data review that revealed suspicious voting patterns. He also said that between the Lok Sabha and assembly elections, one crore new voters were added, and in the assembly elections, 10 per cent more people voted.



**TAIWAN HOLDS HUGE WAR GAMES TO
ROLE PLAY CHINESE INVASION
SCENARIOS**

Diary Times Desk : Taiwan has launched the largest-ever version of its annual war games exercises, role playing responses to a hypothetical attack by Beijing on its communications systems before an invasion of the island. The 10-day live-fire Han Kuang exercise began on Wednesday, just a day after a Chinese military spokesperson warned of Beijing's "inevitable reunification" with Taiwan. The annual drills are being held amid reports of escalating harassment from China, at a time when global attention has been focused on the ongoing Israeli war on Gaza, the recent US-Israel-Iran conflict, and the Russia-Ukraine war. "We are learning from the situation in Ukraine in recent years and realistically thinking about what Taiwan might face ... in real combat," a senior defence official told the Reuters news agency, speaking on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the exercise. Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense said the war games exercise, including combating "grey zone tactics" deployed by China that stop just short of all-out warfare, will draw in the army, navy and air force, backed by a record 22,000 reservists.

**FOUR DEAD AND 15 MISSING FROM
GREEK SHIP ATTACKED IN RED SEA**

Diary Times Desk : Rescuers pulled six crew members alive from the Red Sea on Wednesday and were searching for 15 still missing from the second of two freighters sunk in as many days by suspected Houthis attackers. Four of the 25 people aboard the Eternity C cargo ship were killed before the rest of the crew abandoned the vessel, which sank on Wednesday morning after being attacked on Monday and Tuesday, sources at security companies involved in a rescue operation said. The six seafarers who were rescued had spent more than 24 hours in the water, they said. One source had said earlier that seven people had been rescued but the EU's Aspides naval mission, which protects Red Sea shipping, issued a statement confirming that just six had been pulled from the sea. The Houthis claimed responsibility for a similar attack on Sunday targeting another ship, the Magic Seas. All crew from the Magic Seas were rescued before it sank.

**DONALD TRUMP'S BRICS THREAT PUTS INDIA
IN A TOUGH POSITION AHEAD OF TRADE
DEAL: REPORT**

Diary Times Desk : Right ahead of a much-anticipated trade deal with Washington, US President Donald Trump issued a fresh warning to India, threatening additional tariffs over its continued participation in the BRICS. Speaking on Tuesday, Donald Trump said India could face an additional 10% tariff alongside other members of BRICS — a bloc of emerging economies he has labelled "anti-American". The United States' fresh warning came just a day after Trump said he was close to finalising a trade deal that New Delhi hopes will spare it from 26% reciprocal tariffs. Trump's comments follow a two-day BRICS summit in Brazil, where leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, issued a joint statement opposing trade-distorting tariffs. While Brazil and South Africa hit back publicly, India has so far chosen silence.

**DONALD TRUMP BACKS NEW RUSSIA
SANCTIONS BILL THAT COULD IMPACT INDIA**

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump on Tuesday said he would strongly consider backing a new Russia sanctions bill that aims to force Russian President Vladimir Putin to negotiate an end to the Ukraine war. The bill, which was introduced in the US Senate earlier this year, proposes a 500% tariff on countries such as India that purchase Russian energy products. "I'm looking. It's totally at my option. They pass it totally at my option, and to terminate totally at my option. And I'm looking at it very strongly," Trump told reporters on Tuesday. The American leader also expressed frustration at Putin for refusing to end the conflict with Ukraine. Trump recently directed America's department of defense to send more defensive weapons to Ukraine. Senator Lindsey Graham, a close political ally of President Trump, introduced the Sanctioning Russia Act of 2025 in the US Senate in April this year. The bill proposes a steep 500% tariff on goods and services exports from countries that purchase Russian-origin oil.

**"WORK 70 HOURS A WEEK": RISHI SUNAK'S NEW JOB AT GOLDMAN SACHS
TRIGGERS MEME FEST**

Diary Times Desk : Former UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak has returned to his old stomping grounds at Goldman Sachs as a senior adviser. The investment bank announced that Sunak, who led the UK from October 2022 to July 2024, will offer global clients insights on "macroeconomic and geopolitical issues." Sunak began his career at Goldman before entering politics. He is married to Akshata Murty, daughter of Infosys co-founder Narayana Murthy, who has time and again advocated a 70-hour work week to boost productivity. That controversial remark is now being thrown back at Sunak, with social media users mocking his new Wall Street role. A user on X wrote, "Rishi Sunak has joined Goldman Sachs to complete the quota of 70 hours of work per week." Another wrote, "When your father-in-law forces you to work 70 hours a week." Someone joked with a meme of a film character putting on a tie with a dead expression. "Rishi Sunak's first day at Goldman Sachs," the caption read.

**"QUITE CALM": RUSSIA ON
TRUMP'S CRITICISM OF PUTIN
OVER UKRAINE TALKS**

Diary Times Desk : The Kremlin, asked on Wednesday about U.S. President Donald Trump's criticism of Russian President Vladimir Putin, said that Moscow was "calm" regarding the criticism, and that it would continue to try to fix a "broken" U.S.-Russia relationship. In a call with reporters, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said: "We are quite calm about this." "We expect to continue our dialogue with Washington and our line on repairing the rather broken bilateral relations," he added. Trump said on Tuesday he had approved sending U.S. defensive weapons to Ukraine and was considering additional sanctions on Moscow, underscoring his frustration with Russian President Vladimir Putin. Trump pledged as a presidential candidate to end the war within a day but has not been able to follow through on that promise and efforts by his administration to broker peace have come up short. Peskov said that Trump had come to an understanding that the conflict between Russia and Ukraine would not be easy to resolve.

**'A DRONE MIGHT HIT HIM IN
NAVEL': IRANIAN OFFICIAL
THREATENS TRUMP COULD BE
KILLED AT MAR-A-LAGO**

Diary Times Desk : A senior Iranian official has issued a chilling warning suggesting that US President Donald Trump could be targeted even in his Florida residence, Mar-a-Lago, as tensions escalate over past US actions in the Middle East. Javad Larijani, a prominent advisor to Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, made the threat during a televised interview, claiming that Trump is now a marked man for authorising the assassination of Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) commander Qassem Soleimani in 2020. "Trump has done something that he can no longer sunbathe in Mar-a-Lago. As he lies there with his stomach to the sun, a small drone might hit him in the navel. It's very simple," Larijani said, according to a report by Iran International. The remarks come as a chilling crowdfunding campaign known as "Blood Pact" (Ahde Khoun in Farsi) has emerged online, offering a reward for the killing of Trump. The platform, launched by pro-regime actors, claims to be raising funds to enact "retribution against those who mock and threaten the Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei." By the evening of July 7, the campaign claimed to have raised over \$20 million. By the next morning, donations had exceeded \$27 million. Its ultimate goal is to collect \$100 million to fund the bounty against Trump.

DIVERT CHENAB WATERS TO PUNJAB, HARYANA TO RESOLVE SYL ISSUE: CM MANN AT CENTRE'S MEETING

Diary Times Desk : Punjab on Wednesday urged the Central Government to divert waters of the western rivers towards the state and Haryana and resolve the Sutlej Yamuna Link canal dispute forever. The suggestion to use suspended Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan to end the SYL dispute was made at a meeting called by Union Jal Shakti Minister C. R. Paatil to resolve the issue between the two states as directed by the Supreme Court, which will next hear the case on August 13. "The Union Minister and Haryana Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini both viewed the proposal of Punjab positively. How long will we live with ulcer? Why should the waters of Indus and western rivers go to Pakistan which is shedding our blood? Who should we fight with, Haryana or Pakistan?" Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann said after the meeting. He said 23 million acre feet of Chenab waters could be diverted to Punjab and further to Haryana, even Madhya Pradesh. "We are fighting for a few million acre feet of water. If we get 23 MAF from the Chenab, the whole dispute will be resolved forever," suggested Mann, with the Centre learnt to have noted the proposal to conduct feasibility studies on the western tributaries Indus, Chenab and Jhelum.



PUNJAB POLICE FOIL PAKISTAN-BACKED TERROR PLOT, RECOVER AK-47 RIFLES, GRENADES FROM GURDASPUR FOREST

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab Police on Wednesday said they have foiled a major terror plot orchestrated by Pakistan-based terrorist Harwinder Rinda and recovered a cache of arms from a forest area in Gurdaspur. Preliminary investigation has found that the consignment was pushed into India by Pakistani agencies and Rinda, as part of a premeditated plan to carry out attacks at multiple locations in Punjab, Director General of Police Gaurav Yadav said. "In an intelligence-led operation, the Anti-Gangster Task Force (#AGTF), Punjab successfully foiled a major terror plot orchestrated by Harwinder Rinda, a Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) operative based in #Pakistan and backed by Pakistan's ISI," Yadav posted on X. The DGP said acting swiftly on human intelligence, AGTF teams traced and recovered a large cache of terrorist hardware, including two AK-47 rifles with 16 live cartridges, two magazines, and two P-86 (high explosive) hand grenades from a forest area in Gurdaspur, before it could reach Harwinder Rinda's associates. Preliminary investigation reveals the recovered consignment was pushed into India by Pakistani agencies and Harwinder @ Rinda as part of a premeditated plan to carry out.

CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYEES OF PUNJAB ROADWAYS, PRTC CALL OFF STRIKE

Diary Times Desk : Contractual employees of the state-owned Punjab Roadways and Pepsu Road Transportation Corporation on Wednesday evening called off their three-day strike following a meeting with Finance Minister Harpal Singh Cheema and Transport Minister Laljit Singh Bhullar in Chandigarh. The meeting came after contractual employees struck work earlier in the day to press their demands, including regularisation of their jobs, causing inconvenience to commuters. Over 2,500 buses of Punjab Roadways and Pepsu Road Transportation Corporation (PRTC) stayed off the roads, the protesting employees said. After talks with union representatives, Cheema directed the transport department to hold a meeting with them in the next 15 days to consider their demands and submit a concrete report to the cabinet subcommittee, headed by him, to resolve their legitimate issues, according to an official statement. Following this directive, the striking union announced the withdrawal of the stir. The finance minister assured the union leaders that the Punjab government is making every possible effort to resolve their issues that have been pending for decades. Many passengers, who were unaware of the strike call, faced inconvenience.

IMA HARYANA RAISES CONCERNS OVER DELAYED PAYMENTS UNDER AYUSHMAN BHARAT SCHEME

Diary Times Desk : The Indian Medical Association (IMA), Haryana, has raised concerns over alleged delays in payments to private hospitals under the Ayushman Bharat scheme across the state. They sent a memorandum to CM Nayab Singh Saini and shared the same to PM Narendra Modi and Union Health Minister JP Nadda on their X account, demanding their intervention to safeguard the scheme's future. Dr Mahaveer P Jain, president of the IMA Haryana unit, said that the Ayushman Bharat scheme, introduced in 2018, initially covered treatment in government hospitals before being extended to private facilities. The scheme has seen significant success in the state, leading the Haryana government to expand its scope under the Chirayu Yojana to cover senior citizens above 70 years of age. He along with other office bearers emphasized that private hospitals play a crucial role in the scheme's implementation, offering cashless and quality healthcare services to millions of people. "To ensure their participation, the government had promised timely payment within 15 days and an additional 1% interest per week for any delays beyond the stipulated time as per the MoU signed with the hospitals. Unfortunately, despite these assurances, payments are being delayed by 3 to 6 months.

HARYANA POLICE UNITE TO SAVE INFANT'S LIFE, RAISE RS 3.3 CRORE

Diary Times Desk : Days after 'The Tribune' highlighted the case of 8.5-month-old Yuvansh, diagnosed with a rare and life-threatening genetic disorder, the Haryana Police have come together in an extraordinary show of unity and compassion to support one of its own – Constable Rajesh Kumar of the Fatehabad Cyber Cell. Yuvansh has been diagnosed with spinal muscular atrophy (SMA), a severe genetic condition that causes progressive muscle weakness and can be fatal without early intervention. The only available treatment is a one-time injection of Zolgensma, one of the most expensive medicines in the world, priced at Rs 14 crore. In a heart-warming gesture, the Fatehabad Police collected Rs 24.60 lakh through voluntary one-day salary donation from every officer and staff member. The cheque was handed over to Constable Rajesh by SP Siddhant Jain, on Tuesday. "We are not just a force; we are a family. When any one of us is in pain, we must come together.

FOUR DEAD, 17 HURT AS BUS COLLIDES WITH STATIONARY DUMPER ON HANUMANGARH HIGHWAY

Diary Times Desk : A road accident on the Hanumangarh mega highway near Nagraana village this morning claimed the lives of four persons and left 17 others injured. The collision occurred around 8.30 AM when a Rajasthan Roadways bus, travelling from Hanumangarh to Chandigarh, crashed into a gravel-laden dumper truck that was reportedly parked on the highway. The deceased have been identified as Rajveer (52) from Madhya Pradesh, Prithvi Raj (52) from Hanumangarh, bus conductor Ravinder Singh (50) from Sriganganagar and Vinod Tanwar (65) from Mirzewala, Sriganganagar. The injured, including Gentleman Singh, Amar Dass, Dharampal Matoria, Aarti Bawri, Gulshan Bawri, Surjit Singh Kamboj, Rajinder Odh, his wife Sanju Rani and son Rehan, Ravi Odh, bus driver Kuldeep Odh, Nishant Soni, Rekha Tomar, Kulwinder Kaur, and Gurpreet Singh, were rushed to the government hospital. According to Sangria police station in-charge Amar Singh, the bus was attempting to overtake another vehicle when it collided with the rear of the dumper truck. The impact was severe, causing extensive damage to the front of the bus. Local residents and police worked together to pull the injured from the wreckage. Superintendent of Police Hari Shankar and DSP Karan Singh were present at the scene.



MEDICAL COLLEGE PRINCIPALS CAN NOW MAKE HIMCARE CARDS

Diary Times Desk : The state government has empowered the principals and medical superintendents of medical colleges to make Himcare cards throughout the year under special circumstances. They can make the cards of the poor and needy people based on their financial conditions, severity of disease or any other appropriate reason. Recently, the government had taken a decision to make Himcare cards on a quarterly basis every year i.e., in March, June, September and December. The government has also decided to provide free of cost treatment to accident victims in all state-run medical institutions. "The step will ensure timely and quality free treatment to accident victims. This decision can prove to be life saving for persons injured in an accident," said a government spokesperson. He said that the Himcare cards would have a validity of one year, and the portal to apply for the cards would open after every three months. "People can renew Himcare cards throughout the year. If a beneficiary fails to renew his card on time, as per the policy, and the card expires, the expired card can be renewed in March, June, September or December," he added.

HOURS AFTER BDO SHIFTED TO JAWALI, HIMACHAL HC ISSUES STAY ORDER

Diary Times Desk : After 27 days of continuous relay fasting by residents of Nagrota Surian and surrounding panchayats in Jawali subdivision, the situation escalated when government authorities forcefully shifted the local Block Development Office (BDO) to Jawali, despite strong public opposition. The move, carried out early in the morning around 8 am, was backed by a large police presence led by the Jawali DSP and the tehsildar of Nagrota Surian. Protesters, under the banner of 'Save Nagrota Surian Development Block Sangharsh Samiti,' had been staging a peaceful dharna at the BDO premises. The office relocation followed a government notification issued on June 10, which had sparked widespread anger in the area. Residents accused local MLA and Agriculture Minister Chander Kumar of ignoring public sentiment in facilitating.

DISTRICT COURTS IN SHIMLA RECEIVE BOMB THREATS

Diary Times Desk : The premises of District Court in Shimla were vacated and security was beefed up after a bomb threat email, threatening to blow up the premises of the court was received here today, triggering panic in the court premises. According to reports, in the email, it was mentioned that explosives have been placed in the court premises and Improvised Explosive Device (IED) as well as suicide RDX blasts will soon occur in the court complex. Acting upon the email, a bomb disposal squad along with sniffer dogs and police personnel reached the court complex and conducted a thorough search operation and sanitisation of the entire premises. However, no such explosives were found. Similarly, an email threatening to blow up the Court complex with explosives was also received by the District and Sessions Court, Rampur in Shimla district after which the entire court building was evacuated and search and sanitisation operation was conducted. Similar threat emails were also received at the District and Sessions Court complex in Kullu, Nahan and Chamba after which a prompt action was taken by the police. However, no such explosive material was found from the court premises.



BOMB THREAT AT KULLU DISTRICT COURT TRIGGERS PANIC

Diary Times Desk : A bomb threat targeting the District and Sessions Court complex in Kullu triggered a swift response from law enforcement and security agencies on Wednesday. The alert was raised after an email containing the threat was received, prompting immediate action from both the administration and police. As a precaution, the entire court complex was evacuated. Employees, lawyers, and members of the public were safely escorted from the premises to secure locations. Bomb disposal squads, along with police forces, rapid response teams, and a dog squad, were deployed to conduct an intensive search of the area. Senior police officials are currently on-site, closely monitoring the situation. Notably, this is not the first such incident in Kullu. A similar threat was received earlier this year, on May 1, targeting the Deputy Commissioner's office. That alert ultimately proved to be a hoax, but the recurrence of such threats has heightened concern among security agencies. Efforts are now underway to trace the origin of the latest threat. The police cyber cell has been tasked with identifying the sender of the email and determining its credibility. Kullu Bar Association President Teja Thakur confirmed the threat, stating, "The court premises were evacuated after an email warning about a bomb was received."

NAHAN COURT COMPLEX EVACUATED AFTER BOMB THREAT MAIL

Diary Times Desk : A bomb threat sent via email to the Nahan Court Complex in Sirmaur district of Himachal Pradesh triggered widespread panic this morning. The alarming message prompted an immediate and coordinated response by the local administration and police, who swiftly evacuated the entire premises as a precautionary measure. According to police source, the email containing the threat was received directly by the court this morning, police were alerted and promptly moved to clear the court premises of all staff, lawyers, and the general public. Even on-duty police personnel were withdrawn from the site as part of a high-alert protocol. A four-member bomb disposal squad was deployed to the scene and began an intensive search operation for any suspicious object. As of now, no explosive device has been found, though the search operation is continuing with utmost caution. In parallel, a cybercrime team has been activated to investigate the source of the threatening email and trace its origin through technical analysis. This marks the first instance of such a threat to the Nahan Court Complex, which houses multiple courts and witnesses significant daily footfall. The incident has raised serious concerns for public safety and poses a critical challenge for the district administration.

HEAVY RAIN LEADS TO FUNGAL INFECTION IN HIMACHAL'S APPLE PLANTS

Diary Times Desk : Heavy rain over the past 10 days has led to severe fungal infection in apple plants in the apple belts. A delegation of apple growers met Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu here today and apprised him of this fast-spreading disease. The Chief Minister directed the Vice-Chancellor of Dr YS Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, to dispatch teams of expert to the affected areas immediately. He said that the disease should be scientifically investigated and the orchardists should be educated on preventive and control measures on the ground. Sukhu asked the Vice-Chancellor to submit a detailed report to the state government within seven days so that appropriate measures could be taken at the earliest. He assured the delegation that the state government was committed to resolving the issues of farmers and fruit growers on priority and would provide all necessary assistance. Meanwhile, Dr Usha Sharma, a senior scientist of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Shimla, said that alternaria and other leaf-spot diseases had attacked several orchards in the main apple belt of Kotkhai, Jubbal and Rohru. "At some places, leaf diseases have become quite severe. However, it can be controlled with the application of recommended fungicides," she added. The scientist said that the disease was more severe in orchards where the leaves of the plants had become vulnerable due to mite infestation or other factors such as canker, root disease or unbalanced use of fertilizers.



ENGLAND ANNOUNCE PLAYING XI FOR 3RD TEST AGAINST INDIA, MAKE BOLD JOFRA ARCHER MOVE

Diary Times Desk : Star pacer Jofra Archer is set to feature in his first Test since 2021 as England included him in their playing XI for the third match against India on a spicy surface at Lord's. The five-match series is locked at 1-1 the moment and heading into the third Test, England are hoping to add some spark into their bowling attack with the long-awaited comeback of Archer, who had been laid low by multiple injuries in recent years. Archer comes in place of Josh Tongue. England Men have made one change to their XI for the Rothesay Third Test against India at Lord's, starting on Thursday. "Sussex fast bowler Jofra Archer replaces Nottinghamshire's Josh Tongue. It will be Archer's first Test appearance since February 2021, also against India, in Ahmedabad," the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB) said in a statement on Wednesday. Archer has only played white-ball cricket for England since 2021 after elbow and back injuries.



RISHABH PANT DROPS BIG HINT ABOUT INDIA'S TEAM COMBINATION FOR 3RD ENGLAND TEST: 'OPTIONS...'

Diary Times Desk : Indian cricket team vice-captain Rishabh Pant dropped a massive hint about the team combination for the third Test encounter against England at Lord's. India went with just one spinner - Ravindra Jadeja - in the first Test before adding Washington Sundar to the mix for the second Test match. The team management also made a big change at Edgbaston as they included Nitish Kumar Reddy in place of Shardul Thakur. Some more changes are expected for the Test match at Lord's with Jasprit Bumrah potentially coming back in the side. Pant did not reveal much about what the team will look like for the third Test match but made it clear that there were three pacers with one or two spinners in the mix. "Options are still open, discussions still going on. Sometimes wicket changes colour in two days. We will take the call. Whether it will be 3+1 or 3+2," Pant said at the pre-match press conference.

PHIL SALT'S BAT DEEMED LEGAL AFTER INITIALLY FAILING 'GAUGE TEST' IN IPL

Diary Times Desk : England white-ball opener Phil Salt's bat, which he used in the last two years including in the Indian Premier League, was initially deemed "to have failed an on-field gauge test" but later cleared after further examination, his club said. The 28-year-old Salt currently plays for Lancashire. He played a major role in Royal Challengers Bengaluru's maiden IPL title win earlier in the year, scoring 403 runs from 13 matches, the second highest for his team after Virat Kohli (657 from 15 matches). Lancashire Cricket in a statement said that the bat used by Salt during Friday's Vitality Blast T20 match against Northants Steelbacks has been cleared by the Cricket Regulator's Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU). "Salt was alleged to have breached ECB Directives 3.2 and 3.3, after his bat failed an on-field bat-gauge test during the Vitality Blast fixture. It is a bat that he has used for the last two years for England, Lancashire and in the IPL with no issue," the club said in the statement.

'WIAAN MULDER PANICKED AND BLUNDERED' BY NOT CHASING BRIAN LARA'S 400: CHRIS GAYLE ASKS, 'HOW WILL YOU BECOME A LEGEND?'

Diary Times Desk : Wiaan Mulder's decision to declare South Africa's innings when he was batting on 367, just 33 runs short of matching Brian Lara's world record for the highest-ever score of 400, has divided the cricket world like nothing else in recent times. Former West Indies captain, Chris Gayle, who knows a thing or two about scoring big triple centuries -- he has one against Sri Lanka (333) and another against South Africa (317) -- said Mulder "panicked" and "blundered" by not going for Lara's 400 against Zimbabwe in the second Test. Mulder, who went Hashim Amla's 311* to register the highest score by a South African batter, rose to fifth in the all-time highest scorers list in a Test innings. His was the highest score by a batter away from home, bettering former Australia captain Mark Taylor's 334* against Pakistan. Mulder got to his triple century off 297, which was the second-fastest in Test history behind Virender Sehwag's all-time record off 278 balls against South Africa in Chennai. Mulder had the golden opportunity of surpassing Lara's 400* against England in 2004, but he chose not to, declaring that records should stay with legends like Lara. His reasoning for going after Lara's record drew as much attention as his decision to declare the innings when on 367.

BROOK REPLACES ROOT TO BE NO. 1 TEST BATTER, GILL MOVES UP TO NO. 6

Diary Times Desk : England batter Harry Brook, who scored 158 in the first innings at Edgbaston, is now the top-ranked Test batter in the world as per the ICC rankings. Brook replaced his team-mate Joe Root at the top, and is now 18 points clear of Root, who has moved down to second. India Test captain Shubman Gill's historic knocks of 269 and 161 in the second Test, which India won by 336 runs, helped him climb 15 places to move up to No. 6, with a career-best ratings points of 807. Between Brook, Root and Gill, there are Kane Williamson (third), Yashasvi Jaiswal (fourth) and Steven Smith (fifth) on the charts. England wicketkeeper-batter Jamie Smith was also among the beneficiaries after the Edgbaston Test. His twin contributions of a career-best 184*, during which he rescued England from 84 for 5 in the first innings along with Brook, and 88 in the second innings helped him rise 16 spots to No. 10. South Africa allrounder Wiaan Mulder, who got a mammoth 367* in the second Test against Zimbabwe, gained in both batters' and allrounders' rankings. While he jumped 34 places to No. 22 among the batters, he also went up 12 places to No. 3 among allrounders.

VIRAT KOHLI OPENS UP ON TEST RETIREMENT FOR FIRST TIME SINCE BREAKING HEARTS: 'WHEN YOU COLOUR YOUR BEARD EVERY 4 DAYS...'

Diary Times Desk : Almost two months after announcing his decision to retire from test cricket, legendary India cricketer Virat Kohli spoke on the matter for the first time on July 8, 2025. At an event organised by former India cricketer Yuvraj Singh to raise funds for YouWeCan Foundation in London, the who's who of cricket assembled, including the current Indian side. Kohli used the reference to beard colour to imply that it was time for him to draw the curtains on his illustrious Test career. "I just coloured my beard two days ago. You know it's time when you are colouring your beard every four days," said Kohli when insisted by Gaurav Kapur to join Yuvraj Singh, Ravi Shastri, Kevin Pietersen, Chris Gayle and Darren Gough on the stage. On May 12, Kohli took to Instagram to write a lengthy Instagram post, announcing his retirement from Test cricket, a format he vouched for right through his career. "As I step away from this format, it's not easy - but it feels right. I've given it everything I had, and it's given me back so much more than I could've hoped for. I'm walking away with a heart full of gratitude -- for the game, for the people I shared the field with, and for every single person who made me feel seen along the way. I'll always look back at my Test career with a smile."

HASARANGA RULED OUT OF BANGLADESH T20IS WITH HAMSTRING INJURY

Diary Times Desk : Sri Lanka legspinner Wanindu Hasaranga has been ruled out of the upcoming T20I series against Bangladesh, scheduled to begin on Thursday (July 10), with a hamstring injury. Hasaranga sustained the hamstring injury on his right leg while batting during the final ODI against the visitors in the just concluded three-match series that the hosts won by a 2-1 margin. Captain Charith Asalanka confirmed that Jeffrey Vandersay will replace Hasaranga in the squad for the three-match series. "He(Hasaranga) will be a huge loss for us. He is our superstar in white-ball cricket," Asalanka said on Wednesday. Asalanka added that Sri Lanka will be boosted by the return of Dasun Shanaka and Chamika Karunaratne to the T20I setup. Shanaka is set to take on the role of a flexible batting all-rounder, likely slotting in at number six, while Chamika could play at number seven as a bowling all-rounder. "We expect Dasun and Chamika to handle the all-round responsibilities."