

PM NARENDRA MODI

"A PARTY THAT PREACHES 'MAA, MATI, MANUSH..': PM'S RG KAR JAB AT TRINAMOOL

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday accused Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and her Trinamool Congress of shielding the guilty in the RG Kar rape-murder case.

In Bengal's Durgapur to launch Rs 5,000 crore in oil, gas, electricity, road, and rail projects, the Prime Minister used the occasion to attack his arch-rival in next year's election and said incidents of violent crime against women in Bengal - including the rape and murder of a junior doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Hospital in August last year - is a source of "pain and anger". In a no-holds barred attack on the Trinamool, Mr Modi warned Bengal voters the state could only develop if his Bharatiya Janata Party wins next year's election, and pointed to Bengalis migrating to other states in search of jobs and the overall lack of investment to make his point.

He then pivoted to the issue of women's safety, which has underpinned Ms Banerjee's recent electoral campaigns. Women voters are seen as a Trinamool stronghold. In fact, the party's slogan for the 2009 federal and 2011 state elections was 'maa, mati, manush', which translates as 'mother, motherland, people', and has carried over since. But the Prime Minister used recent horrific attacks on women to criticise Ms Banerjee's track record. The mistreatment of women by a party that preaches 'maa, mati, manush' deeply pains and angers me. It is disheartening to witness such actions in the land of Kadambini Ganguly," he droned, referring to the first Indian woman trained in contemporary medical practice.



UDDHAV THACKERAY

"YEH ANDAR KI BAAT HAI": UDDHAV THACKERAY ON D FADNAVIS' 'OFFER'



Diary Times Desk : Uddhav Thackeray has responded to an 'offer' by Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis that has sparked huge speculation. The two former allies - one who headed the Shiv Sena before it broke into two factions, and the other from the BJP - made comments that appeared like signalling for something significant.

Mr Fadnavis, however, cleared the air. It was a joke, he said, referring to his comment that "Uddhav ji" has the scope to reunite with the ruling Mahayuti alliance. "Uddhav ji, there is no scope (for a change in government) till 2029. We do not have the scope to come to the other (Opposition's) side. You have the scope to come here, and it can be thought about. We can think about it differently," the chief minister had said.

To a question by reporters on Friday, Mr Fadnavis said, "Why do you take our jokes seriously? Even Uddhav ji has said it was said in a lighter note. Don't take our tension. We (Mahayuti) are capable and competent."

Mr Thackeray, who heads the Shiv Sena (UBT), also met the chief minister on Thursday, a development that led to a buzz over something in the works. Later, Shiv Sena (UBT) leader and Uddhav Thackeray's son Aaditya Thackeray said his father met Mr Fadnavis to discuss the Marathi language issue, which has been in the news in recent times.

Mr Thackeray met Mr Fadnavis in the chamber of legislative council chairperson Ram Shinde. Worli MLA Aaditya Thackeray was also present in the meeting that lasted for about half-an-hour.

ALL PARTIES ON BOARD ON JUSTICE VARMA'S REMOVAL;

CORRUPTION IN JUDICIARY SERIOUS MATTER: RIJIJU

Diary Times Desk : Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said on Friday that all political parties are on board on the issue of the impeachment of Justice Yashwant Varma, from whose residence burnt wads of currency notes were found. "I have spoken to all senior leaders of different political parties. I will also get in touch with some of the single-MP parties because I do not want to leave out any member. So it becomes a unified stand of the Parliament of India," Rijiju said in an exclusive video interview with PTI. The minister asserted that it is not the government but members of Parliament cutting across party lines, including from the Congress, who are in favour of moving a motion to remove Justice Varma. "Corruption in the judiciary is an extremely sensitive and serious matter, because the judiciary is where people get justice. If there is corruption in the judiciary, it is a serious concern for everybody. That is why the motion for the removal of Justice Yashwant Varma is to be signed by all the political parties," he said. Rijiju said he is happy that the principal opposition party, Congress, has understood the severity of the matter and agreed to be on board on the issue.



'WE ARE STABLE', SAYS FADNAVIS

IN PRESENCE OF SHINDE, PAWAR A DAY AFTER MEETING UDDHAV

Diary Times Desk : Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Friday sought to make light of his meeting with Shiv Sena (UBT) head and political rival Uddhav Thackeray a day ago and noted that his government was stable with support from deputy CMs Eknath Shinde and Ajit Pawar. Asked about his "offer" to Thackeray, a former BJP ally, to come over to treasury benches, Fadnavis, talking to reporters after the end of the monsoon session of the state legislature, expressed dismay over light-hearted communication making headlines. "We are stable," the CM asserted while pointing to deputies Shinde and Pawar, both sitting next to him at the press conference. Shinde heads the Shiv Sena, while Pawar is president of the NCP, and both parties are constituents of the BJP-led ruling coalition Mahayuti. Uddhav Thackeray on Thursday met Fadnavis, the move coming a day after the latter's "come here" offer to his former ally set off political speculation.

PRASHANT KISHOR LEAVES RALLY IN A HUFF IN BIHAR,

PARTY SAYS HE SUFFERED INJURY



Diary Times Desk : Jan Suraj party founder Prashant Kishor on Friday was seen writhing in pain at the venue of a rally in Bihar's Bhojpur district. Kishor was accompanied, among others, by Bhojpuri singer Ritesh Pandey, who had joined the party earlier in the day. As Kishor sat in his chair, and his face contorted in pain, Pandey took the mic and said, "Prashant Kishor ji is not well. He has received a minor injury. He needs to leave." According to a leader of the Jan Suraj party, Kishor drove back to his Patna residence after receiving first aid locally. It was not a major injury requiring hospitalisation, the leader said, adding that Kishor suffered an injury to his ribs. The leader, however, could not say how Kishor suffered the injury.

CHILD CUSTODY BATTLE: RUSSIAN WOMAN HASN'T LEFT

INDIA, AT LEAST LEGALLY, DELHI POLICE TELL SUPREME COURT

Diary Times Desk : A Russian woman involved in a battle for custody of her child with her estranged Indian husband hasn't left India, at least through legal means, the Delhi Police told the Supreme Court on Friday. "We have issued a 'Look Out Circular' against the woman and her child and issued hue and cry notices across all police stations of the country. From the information we received from all international airports and ports, we can say that she has not left the country with the child at least through legal means," Additional Solicitor General Aishwarya Bhati told a Bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi. Maintaining that the Russian Embassy was cooperating with the probe, Bhati, representing the Delhi Police, said the woman came to its consular section on July 5 and left the embassy in an hour. The Bench – which on Thursday directed the Delhi Police to forthwith trace the child and asked the Centre to issue a look out notice for her -- asked the Ministry of External Affairs and the police to probe if the Russian embassy officials helped the woman in leaving India on a different passport. Engaged in a fierce custody battle for the child with his estranged Russian wife, the Indian man accused her of not complying with the court's order with regard to custody of the minor. He said he was unaware of the whereabouts.



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.

Libra

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

Sagittarius

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

Aquarius

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

Virgo

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

Scorpio

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

Capricorn

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

Pisces

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



KINNAUR KAILASH YATRA: ONE DAY BREAK DUE TO BAD WEATHER AND RAIN, 260 DEVOTEES KEPT SAFE HERE

Diary Times Desk : In view of bad weather and heavy rains, Kinnaur Kailash Yatra, the holy place of Lord Shiva in Kinnaur district, was stopped for a day on Friday. The devotees who went on the Yatra have been safely brought to the base camp set up by the administration. Now the Yatra will be run smoothly on Saturday. 260 devotees have been kept safe in the second base camp of the Yatra, Milling Khatta, while about 200 devotees have reached the first base camp of the Yatra, Tangling, to go on the Yatra. It is worth noting that the District Administration Kinnaur stopped the Yatra for a day on Friday due to heavy rains and bad weather for the safety of the pilgrims. In such a situation, there was disappointment among the devotees who came from outside states. In view of the bad weather, the administration has kept the pilgrims safe in Base Camp Tangling and Ganesh Park. Nodal Officer of Kinnaur Kailash Yatra and Range Officer of Forest Department Manmohan Singh Negi said that on Thursday, 260 devotees from Base Camp Tangling had reached Ganesh Park (Milling Khatta) at night.



HIMACHAL: JUSTICE TARLOK SINGH CHAUHAN WAS GIVEN FAREWELL, NOW APPOINTED AS THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF JHARKHAND

Diary Times Desk : A farewell ceremony was held at the Himachal Pradesh High Court on Friday in honour of Justice Tarlok Singh Chauhan, who was elevated as the Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court. Justice Chauhan was elevated as Additional Judge of the Himachal Pradesh High Court on February 23, 2014 and took oath as a judge on November 30, 2014. He gave several strong judgments on solid waste management, coloured lights in vehicles, encroachment on national highways and over speeding through public interest litigations. Chief Justice Gurmeet Singh Sandhawalia said that Justice Chauhan disposed of 75,000 cases during his tenure. Other judges of the High Court were Vivek Singh Thakur, Justice Ajay Mohan Goyal, Justice Sandeep Sharma, Justice Jyotsna Rewal Dua, Justice Sushil Kukreja, Justice Satyen Vaidya, Justice Virendra Singh, Justice Ranjan Sharma and Justice Rakesh Kaithala. Senior advocates and members of the Bar Association, Registrar General.

HIMACHAL: MINISTER JAGAT SINGH NEGI SAID- CONSTRUCTION WORK OF SHONGTONG HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT WILL BE COMPLETED BY DECEMBER 2026

Diary Times Desk : Meetings of the Cabinet Sub-Committee constituted on issues related to compensation claims of courts and 450 MW Shongtong Hydroelectric Project were held on Friday under the chairmanship of Revenue Minister Jagat Singh Negi. Minister Jagat Singh Negi informed that about 60 percent of the work of Shongtong project has been completed. He called upon the officials to complete the target set for the project before December 2026. The river diversion work of the project has been completed while the work of the barrage is in the advanced stage. Minister Jagat Singh Negi said that the payment of workers by the private companies working in this project and the payment of contractors by the Power Corporation are also being made on time. In the meeting, representatives of Patel Engineering Limited and ADHL Company also provided information about the work being done related to the project. During the meeting of the committee constituted for compensation claims of courts, the decisions taken in the previous meeting were reviewed. Extensive discussions were held about registering possession of all government properties including Public Works Department roads.

HIMACHAL CONGRESS: PRATIBHA SINGH'S REQUEST TO THE HIGH COMMAND, FORMATION OF STATE CONGRESS COMMITTEE SHOULD BE APPROVED SOON

Diary Times Desk : State Congress President and former MP Pratibha Singh has appealed to the party high command to constitute Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) soon. She said that the executive of PCC has been dissolved in the state for a long time, due to which organizational work is getting affected. In such a situation, early approval is necessary so that the party structure can be reactivated. Pratibha Singh says that municipal bodies and Panchayati Raj elections are going to be held soon in the state and the election process has started. In such a situation, organizational strength and appointment of officials is very important so that responsibilities can be fixed. Pratibha has said that the economy of the state has suffered a severe blow due to natural disaster, especially the situation is very serious in Mandi parliamentary constituency. More than 100 people have died and many people are still missing. Government and private property worth thousands of crores has been damaged due to landslides and floods. The state government is engaged in relief and rescue operations despite its limited resources. Pratibha Singh demanded a special economic package from the central government and said that the state needs a huge relief amount to recover from this disaster.



HIMACHAL NEWS: TRANSPORT CORPORATION'S MINI BUS SERVICES RESTORED ON MANY ROUTES IN SERAJ AREA

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Path Parivahan Nigam has restored mini bus (tempo traveller) services on several routes of disaster-affected Seraj assembly constituency from Friday. Due to this, life has started becoming normal in the disaster-affected areas. Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri said that the start of mini bus services will provide great relief to the people of the area, as they were struggling with the lack of transport facilities for a long time. Now the corporation is operating tempo traveller services on various inaccessible routes including Bagsyad, Janjehli, Chhatra, Sarachi, Thunag and Chiuni Chet. The Deputy Chief Minister said that these tempo traveller services have been linked to other bus services of the corporation in Bagsyad, which will provide easy access to other destinations including the district headquarters Mandi. The corporation has ensured that the transport system is smooth and timely. Mukesh said that the people of Seraj area had to face difficulties due to blockage of roads after the disaster.

DHARAMSHALA: COMPANY REFUSED TO GIVE INSURANCE CLAIM, NOW WILL HAVE TO PAY 1.55 LAKH WITH INTEREST

Diary Times Desk : The bench of District Consumer Commission Dharamshala Chairman Hemanshu Mishra, members Aarti Sood and Narayan Thakur has ordered HDFC Life Insurance to pay Rs 10,000 as damages and Rs 10,000 as litigation expenses for not paying the claim amount. Along with this, the commission has also asked the company to pay the insurance amount of Rs 1,55,620 to the complainant along with 9 percent annual interest. According to the information, Neelam Kumar, wife of late Darshan Kumar, resident of Sidhbhari (Tehsil Dharamshala) told in the complaint that her husband had taken a policy of Rs 1,55,620 under the Group Credit Product Plus Plan. After the death of her husband on March 28, 2022, she applied to the company with documents for the claim, but the company refused to pay by showing various objections. Finding deficiency in service, the commission accepted the complaint and ordered the company to return the claim amount with interest and pay additional compensation. Neelam Kumar, wife of late Darshan Kumar, resident of Sidhbhari.

DRISHTI IAS' VIKAS DIVYAKIRTI MOVES RAJASTHAN HC OVER SUMMONS IN DEFACTION CASE

Diary Times Desk : Drishti IAS coaching institute founder and social media influencer Vikas Divyakirti has moved the Rajasthan High Court to get a defamation complaint filed against him in the subordinate court dismissed. The complaint pertains to a video in which certain comments were allegedly made by Divyakirti regarding the functioning of the legal system and the judiciary. The matter came to light when an advocate, Sumeer Sodhi, filed a petition in an Ajmer court. The local court took cognisance of the complaint and summoned him on July 22. The case before the high court is listed on July 21 and would be heard by Justice Sameer Jain.

DESIRE TO SETTLE ABROAD TURNS INTO NIGHTMARE FOR 7 PUNJAB BACHELORS DUPED ON PRETEXT OF MARRIAGE

Diary Times Desk : A mother-daughter duo from Punjab's Ludhiana district found a novel way to dupe prospective bachelor emigrants to Canada by exploiting their eagerness to settle abroad. For seven aspiring bachelor 'emigrants', it was a double delight of getting married and settling in Canada. But it did not turn out to be so. They neither got the bride nor the emigration to Canada but instead ended up losing lakhs of rupees, police investigation has revealed. Sukhdarshan Kaur, who was arrested recently along with two others, would allegedly use the photographs and videos of her 24-year-old daughter Harpreet as a prospective bride for those wanting to get married and settle abroad. Harpreet went to Canada on student visa and was currently there on work permit. According to Doraha SHO Inspector Akash Dutt, seven victims have been identified and have come forward with their statements to the police so far. The modus operandi allegedly adopted by Sukhdarshan and other accused in the case was the same, he said. Sukhdarshan would follow the matrimonial advertisements in newspapers and then approach the families of the prospective grooms. She would tell them that her daughter Harpreet lived in Surrey, Canada on work permit after having studied there. Police said Sukhdarshan would fix her daughter's 'marriage' with those prospective grooms who wanted to settle in Canada but were unable to do so due to various reasons and limitations. The mother would make her daughter speak to the prospective grooms via video calls and then go ahead and hold engagement ceremonies.

'ASIM MUNIR WILL UNDERSTAND MY PAIN IF SOMEONE HARMS...': PAHALGAM VICTIM LT VINAY NARWAL'S FATHER



Diary Times Desk : Rajesh Narwal, whose son Lieutenant Vinay Narwal was one of the victims in the Pahalgam terror attack, has said that Pakistan army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir will only understand the pain if "someone harms his son or daughter." Lieutenant Vinay Narwal, who got married on April 16, was gunned down by terrorists a week later in Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir on April 22. "He (Asim Munir) will only be able to understand my pain the day someone harms his son or daughter. The day he learns that his son or daughter was killed in a terrorist attack, only then will he understand the pain," Rajesh Narwal said in an interview to NDTV. "If I, an ordinary person, were given a gun to shoot and took his son or daughter, then he would know the pain," he added. Vinay was among the 26 tourists who were shot dead by terrorists in Pahalgam. The couple were on a honeymoon in the hilltown when one of the gunmen approached them and shot Vinay from point-blank range.

FULL-TIME KILLER, PART-TIME INFLUENCER: INSIDE TAUSEEF BADSHAH'S REEL WORLD

Diary Times Desk : The man identified as the principal killer in the Bihar hospital murder, 26-year-old Tauseef Badshah of Patna, is not an unknown entity. A day after he casually led a posse of five inside a hospital room, executed his target, then walked out with the same casual swagger, Tauseef Badshah's social media handles have come to the fore. Tauseef's Instagram account features reels showing him driving around Patna, often with dramatic captions. One reel in particular, captioned "King of Patna", shows him cruising the city streets. His YouTube channel features 129 short videos. Most are styled after urban gangster tropes - thumping music, fast cuts, and over-the-top dialogues. In one clip, Tauseef is seen driving a car with a baby on his lap. It remains unclear if the child is related to him. Other videos show him with associates with voiceover scripts, usually in Hindi, playing in the background. His Facebook bio reads: "Jis jungle me tum sher bane ghumte ho, us jungle ke bekhauf shikari hai hum (In the jungle where you walk as a lion, I am the fearless hunter)."

NITI AAYOG PROPOSES EASING INVESTMENT RULES FOR CHINESE FIRMS: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : India's top policy think tank, NITI Aayog, has proposed easing rules that currently subject Chinese investments in Indian companies to heightened scrutiny, Reuters reported, citing sources. The proposal, which aims to revive slowing foreign direct investment (FDI), recommends allowing Chinese companies to acquire up to a 24 per cent stake in Indian firms without requiring security clearance. At present, all investments from Chinese entities must be vetted by both the ministry of home affairs and the ministry of external affairs. "Chinese companies can take a stake of up to 24 per cent in an Indian company without any approval being required," Reuters quoted a source as saying. The move is still under review by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), as well as the finance and foreign ministries and the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the report added. While NITI Aayog's proposals are not always adopted, this suggestion comes at a time when India and China are cautiously working to rebuild ties frayed by a deadly border clash in 2020. The news agency also cited two unnamed officials who said that any final decision on the proposal would rest with the political leadership and could take several months.

ALL PARTIES ON BOARD FOR REMOVING JUDGE IN CASH-AT-HOME CASE: KIREN RIJJU

Diary Times Desk : All parties are on board with the impeachment of Justice Yashwant Varma, from whose house a large amount of cash was found in March, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju told news agency PTI today. He said he is speaking to MPs cutting across party lines to take a unified stand on the matter, and so far it has been heading in the right direction. "Corruption in the judiciary is an extremely sensitive and serious matter because the judiciary is where people get justice. If there is corruption in the judiciary, it is a serious concern for everybody. That is why justice Yashant Varma's removal motion is to be signed by all the political parties. For that I have already coordinated and spoken to all senior leaders of different political parties," the Union minister said. I will also get in touch with some of the single MP parties because I don't want to leave out any member. So it becomes a unified stand of parliament," he said, and acknowledged the Congress agreeing to support the motion.

SHARAD PAWAR'S PARTY MEN PROTEST OUTSIDE MUMBAI POLICE STATION AFTER CLASHES IN MAHARASHTRA ASSEMBLY

Diary Times Desk : Supporters of the Nationalist Congress Party-Sharadchandra Pawar (NCP-SP) staged a protest outside Mumbai's Marine Drive Police Station early Friday morning, following a clash on Thursday. The scuffle broke out outside the Maharashtra assembly between supporters of Bharatiya Janata Party MLA Gopichand Padalkar and NCP-SP leader Jitendra Awhad. Among the protesters were NCP-SP MLA Rohit Pawar and Jitendra Awhad, demanding the release of activist Nitin Deshmukh, who was taken to the police station, news agency ANI reported. Awhad, known for being vocal in the assembly, launched a sit-in protest near the rear gate of the Vidhan Bhavan premises around 2am after police began taking away his supporter Nitin Deshmukh. The MLA blocked the police vehicle, demanding Deshmukh's release, alleging biases on the part of law enforcement officials. "This is nothing but blatant bias. My supporter, who was beaten, is being arrested while Padalkar's five men who assaulted him are being protected by the police," ANI quoted.



"TERRORIST TREATED BETTER": IMRAN KHAN'S BIG CHARGE AGAINST ASIM MUNIR

Diary Times Desk : Former Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan has asked members of his party, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), to hold Army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir accountable if anything happens to him or his wife, Bushra Bibi, in jail. The 72-year-old cricketer-turned-politician is lodged in Pakistan's Adiala Jail, where he's serving sentences in multiple cases. Khan's sister Aleema Khan uploaded a video on social media in which she conveyed her brother's message to PTI members. In a lengthy post on X, Khan wrote, "In recent days, the harsh treatment I face in jail has intensified. The same applies to my wife, Bushra Bibi. Even the television in her cell has been switched off. All basic rights - both human and those legally granted to prisoners - have been suspended for both of us." He said that "there must be accountability for" such harsh treatment and claimed that he is fully aware that a colonel and the jail superintendent are carrying out actions "on the orders of Asim Munir." "Therefore, I give clear instructions to my party - if anything happens to me in jail, Asim Munir must be held accountable," Khan added.

"UNACCEPTABLE BLACKMAIL": BRAZIL'S LULA SLAMS TRUMP'S 50% TARIFF THREAT

Diary Times Desk : Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva on Thursday slammed Donald Trump's threat to impose 50 percent tariffs on Latin America's largest economy as "unacceptable blackmail." Lula's comments during a nationally televised speech were the latest in series of tense exchanges between the leaders, with the US president launching especially blistering attacks on the government in Brasilia. Trump announced on July 9 his intention to slap steep tariffs on Brazil as punishment for what he termed a "witch hunt" against his far-right ally, former president Jair Bolsonaro. The United States has also said it is investigating Brazil's "unfair trading practices," and Brasilia said it was committed to negotiations. The tariffs on all products from Brazil would kick in on August 1 if Brasilia and Washington do not reach an agreement. In his speech, leftist leader Lula slammed Brazilian politicians who back Trump's policies as "traitors to the homeland."

FELIX BAUMGARTNER DEAD: RELIVE THE MOMENT HE JUMPED FROM THE EDGE OF SPACE

Diary Times Desk : Austrian skydiver Felix Baumgartner, renowned worldwide for his record-breaking "edge of space" jump in 2012, has died at age 56 in a paragliding accident in Porto Sant'Elpidio, Italy. The tragic incident occurred on Thursday, July 17, 2025, when Baumgartner, flying a powered paraglider, reportedly experienced a sudden medical issue, possibly cardiac arrest, while mid-flight. He lost control and crashed into a hotel swimming pool at Le Mimose Family Camping Village, lightly injuring a young hotel employee but suffering fatal injuries himself. Despite an urgent call for an air ambulance, Baumgartner was pronounced dead at the scene before further medical assistance could arrive. Just hours before the accident, Baumgartner posted to Instagram about "too much wind," hinting at the challenging flying conditions. Local authorities and emergency services have since confirmed his identity and death. Porto Sant'Elpidio's mayor, Massimiliano Ciarpella, expressed deep sorrow, describing Baumgartner as "a symbol of courage and passion for extreme flight".

**US MAN WEARING LARGE METALLIC CHAIN SUCKED INTO MRI MACHINE**

Diary Times Desk : A US man suffered serious injuries after he was sucked into an MRI machine, having entered the room without permission while wearing a metal item. According to the Nassau County Police Department, the incident took place at Nassau Open MRI in the village of Westbury around 4:30 pm local time on Wednesday (Jul 16). The 61-year-old man entered the magnetic resonance imaging room while the machine was in progress, according to a report in New York Post. He was wearing a large metallic chain around his neck, causing him to be immediately sucked into the machine, which has a massive magnet in it. As per the authorities, the man suffered a medical episode after he was forcefully pulled into the machine. He was rushed to a local hospital, where he's listed in critical condition with unknown injuries. It remains unclear how he gained access to the medical suite during an active scan. An investigation has been launched to probe how he gained access to the room.

"NOT SCHEDULED AT THIS TIME": US DISMISSES REPORTS ON TRUMP'S PAK VISIT

Diary Times Desk : The White House on Friday shunned media reports circling around US President Donald Trump's visit to Pakistan, stating that there has been no such presidential travel plans. "A trip to Pakistan has not been scheduled at this time", the White House confirmed to ANI. The White House has not announced or confirmed any such travel arrangements, contrary to what has been reported by news channels in Pakistan. There have been reports circulating in Pakistani news outlets regarding potential presidential travel plans. Earlier in the day, some local television news channels reported, citing sources, that Trump was expected to visit Pakistan in September. The news channels said that Trump would also visit India after arriving in Islamabad in September.

UK TO REDUCE VOTING AGE TO 16, THESE COUNTRIES HAVE ALREADY DONE IT

Diary Times Desk : The United Kingdom has announced its plans to lower the voting age to 16, and the Labour Party-led government wants to do it before the next General Election. The proposal, which is likely to have a massive impact on the country's democratic system, comes months after the UK witnessed its lowest turnout in the 2024 national polls since 2001. The step is aimed at ensuring maximum participation in all elections once the proposed changes are written into law. The move will grant around 1.5 million 16 and 17-year-olds the right to vote when the country goes to the polls for the next general election in 2029, BBC reported. But not all parties supported the idea. While Prime Minister Keir Starmer said that young people should have the opportunity to say what they want their money spent on, Conservative MP Paul Holmes said the government's proposal was "hopelessly confused". Nigel Farage, the leader of Reform UK, said he didn't support lowering the voting age to 16 "even though we get lots of votes".

TRUMP PLANS TO IMPOSE 10-15% TARIFFS ON OVER 150 COUNTRIES, BUT SPARES...

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has unveiled new details about his sweeping tariff plans, saying he intends to impose levies in the range of 10 to 15 percent on imports from over 150 countries. However, Trump clarified that major trading partners of the United States will not be subjected to this lower tariff bracket. "We'll have well over 150 countries that we're just going to send a notice of payment out," Trump told reporters on Wednesday, adding that "the notice of payment is going to say what the tariff" rate will be. Trump went on to describe these targeted nations as those that are "not big countries and they don't do that much business." Later the same day, in an interview with Real America's Voice, Trump reiterated that the tariff range is still being finalised. "It'll be probably 10 or 15 per cent, we haven't decided yet," he said. Trump in recent days has unleashed a barrage of tariff demands, informing other economies of new duties that will kick in on August 1 if they cannot negotiate better terms with the US. The letters extended what was initially a July 9 deadline for another three weeks, setting off a frantic dash for trading partners looking to avoid higher levies. "For much of the world - and Asia in particular, which faces among the highest levies - the rate announcement could be read as a positive, providing some certainty for smaller countries."

SOFTWARE ENGINEER ‘DETAINED’ FOR SENDING THREAT EMAILS TO
GOLDEN TEMPLE

Diary Times Desk : Amritsar Police have detained a software engineer in connection with a series of threatening emails sent to blow up the Golden Temple here. The suspect has been identified as Shubham Dubey, a resident of Faridabad. Police Commissioner Gurpreet Singh Bhullar termed it a “partial success” and said that Dubey was taken into custody for questioning. His laptop and mobile phones have been seized and sent for forensic examination. Since July 14, the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) has received around six threatening emails to blow up the Golden Temple. In response, police have intensified security measures in and around the temple. Bhullar added that central agencies were also involved in the probe. He said the suspect was associated with multiple software companies. Further investigation is underway.



ED RAIDS IN ‘ILLEGAL’ DRUGS SALE
CASE LINKED TO PUNJAB DE-
ADDICTION CENTRES

Diary Times Desk : The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday raided multiple locations in Punjab apart from some in Mumbai as part of a money laundering investigation linked to “illegal” sale of drugs by private de-addiction centres in the northern state, official sources said. The federal probe agency’s investigation stems from various FIRs filed by Punjab Police against a doctor named Amit Bansal, a pharmaceutical company, a drugs inspector and some others. Bansal runs 22 drugs de-addiction centres across Punjab, the sources said. The raids are being conducted in Chandigarh, Ludhiana and Barnala in Punjab and in Mumbai, Maharashtra, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), they said. Sources said private de-addiction centres like the ones run by Bansal have been entrusted by the Punjab government to provide BNX (Buprenorphine/Naloxone) medicine to patients, enrolled in their facilities, so that they can be weaned away from narcotics. It was found that these medicines meant for rehabilitation of drug addicts were being taken in “excess” quantity for a “new kind of drug abuse”, they said. The sources claimed Bansal, through his de-addiction centres, “misused” the facilities and was involved in “illegal” sale of such drugs. A drugs inspector named Rupinder Kaur is being searched.

DRIVER WAS A LOCAL, COULD HAVE
SHOWN HUMANITY: FAUJA SINGH’S
SON

Diary Times Desk : The son of late marathoner Fauja Singh called out the driver accused in his father’s hit-and-run case, saying that he should have taken Singh to a hospital as a basic act of humanity instead of abandoning him. The veteran marathoner’s son, Harvinder Singh, said that the accused driver, Amritpal Singh Dhillon, was a local who lived near his village, Beas, and that their families were familiar with each other. “I have read that he claimed he did not know whom he had hit. However, he was a local and should have known that someone elderly had been struck by his vehicle. Had he not fled the scene and taken my father to the hospital, maybe that could have saved his life,” he said. Harvinder emphasised that Dhillon should have spoken to his family after the incident, even though he was scared, and admitted that he was responsible. “He was not our enemy; he could have approached us and admitted it was him. At least for humanity’s sake, he should have come forward. Now, the police have taken action in the matter and the case is in their hands,” he added. The last rites for Fauja Singh, who was the world’s oldest marathoner, will be held at 12 PM in his village, Beas, in Jalandhar on Sunday. “Many of our relatives who live abroad have arrived, while some more will reach by Saturday,” Harvinder mentioned.

BSF INTERCEPTS 6 DRONES, RECOVERS 2.3-KG HEROIN IN AMRITSAR

Diary Times Desk : The instances of intrusions of flying machines carrying drugs and arms at the international border with Pakistan continued unabated with the Border Security Force neutralising multiple drones in the past 24 hours. As many as six drones were shot down and recovered from Amritsar border alone. In addition to this, the BSF confiscated 2.34 kg of suspected heroin dropped by these flying machines. “In a remarkable achievement, the alert BSF troops, recovered six Pakistani drones along with four packets of suspected heroin in the border area of Amritsar in multiple incidents last night,” revealed BSF authorities on X. Sharing details, a BSF spokesman said that on Thursday night, the vigilant BSF troops on duty intercepted successive drone intrusions near Pul Moran border outpost near the Amritsar border. “In immediate response, the technical counter-measures deployed on border were activated.



LIKE US, ALL NATIONS MUST
DECLARE TRF AS TERRORIST
OUTFIT: PAHALGAM VICTIM LT
VINAY NARWAL’S FATHER

Diary Times Desk : Rajesh Narwal, father of Lt Vinay Narwal – a young naval officer killed in the Pahalgam terror attack on April 22, welcomed the decision of the US to designate the Pakistan-based The Resistance Front (TRF) as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). TRF had claimed responsibility for the deadly terrorist attack in Pahalgam, in which 26 persons lost their lives, including Indian Navy Lt Narwal hailing from Karnal. Reacting to the US decision, Rajesh Narwal, expressed support for the move, calling it long overdue. “TRF is not a new group. It emerged as a front for Lashkar-e-Taiba after the abrogation of Article 370. Its aim was to mislead the public and target non-Kashmiri communities, security forces and innocent civilians,” he said. Narwal stressed that India had already classified TRF as a terrorist group. “They have carried out numerous attacks on security patrols, paramilitary forces and civilians. The US has only now taken this step after TRF claimed responsibility for the massacre in Pahalgam, which included the murder of my son and 25 others,” he added.

LAST RITES OF DALIT TEEN
HELD IN HISAR AFTER GOVT
ACCEPTS FAMILY’S DEMANDS

Diary Times Desk : The last rites of the Dalit boy, who died in a suspicious manner here on July 7, were held on Friday in Haryana’s Hisar after the government accepted the demands of the family. The last rites of Ganesh were performed in the afternoon after family claimed the body. Haryana Minister Krishan Kumar Bedi and MLA Randhir Panihar were among those present at the funeral. Ganesh (16) died on July 7 in a suspicious manner when police went to a residential area to stop the “loud music” being played late at night by a family during a birthday party. The family had earlier demanded action against the erring police personnel, alleging it was murder. The demands of the family included registration of an FIR on their complaint, an impartial investigation into Ganesh’s death and job to one of their kin. Meanwhile, according to HTM police station in-charge, a case has been registered against unidentified persons under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita provisions including for murder besides the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act on the complaint of his father Vikram Kumar. Earlier in the day, while speaking to media persons.

CHANDIGARH MAN DIES DURING YATRA; OUTRAGE OVER OVERCHARGING BY PORTERS

Diary Times Desk : Abhay, a 33-year-old pilgrim from Chandigarh, lost his life while being transported from Bhimdwari to Jaon during the sacred Shrikhand Mahadev Yatra in the Nirmand region of Kullu district yesterday. Abhay had embarked on the arduous journey with his cousin on July 12. After successfully reaching Shrikhand Mahadev, he fell seriously ill on the return trek. Rescue teams from the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) and local volunteers managed to evacuate him from Parvati Bagh to Bhimdwari, where his condition showed signs of improvement. It was hoped he would reach the base camp safely. However, due to a shortage of SDRF personnel, many of whom were simultaneously deployed in the disaster-hit Mandi, his cousin was forced to hire local porters to carry Abhay over the remaining 20-km stretch. Shockingly, the porters demanded an exorbitant Rs 40,000 for the service. The porters were paid money but Abhay died on the way back, sparking outrage among fellow pilgrims and locals.

140 SCHOOLS DAMAGED IN MANDI, STUDIES OF 15,479 STUDENTS AFFECTED

Diary Times Desk : The recent cloudbursts and flashfloods in Mandi district have left behind a trail of destruction, severely impacting the education sector. Around 140 schools in various Assembly constituencies of Mandi district have suffered severe damage, disrupting the studies of thousands of students. On June 30, a series of cloudbursts wreaked havoc in Seraj, Nachan, Karsog and Dharampur Assembly constituencies, claiming 15 lives. As many as 27 persons are still missing. Educational institutions were among the worst hit while houses, cowsheds and infrastructure suffered widespread damage. According to officials, 27 government primary schools in the Bagsyad education block in Seraj were damaged. Of these, 17 schools have been deemed to be fit for the resumption of classes while 10 others remain non-functional for various reasons. In several areas, damaged pedestrian paths have made schools inaccessible.

ORANGE ALERT ISSUED IN HIMACHAL; ROADS BLOCKED, KINNAR KAILASH YATRA POSTPONED

Diary Times Desk : Several roads were blocked and the ongoing Kinnar Kailash Yatra halted due to incessant rains in Himachal Pradesh on Friday. The pilgrimage to Kinnar Kailash, the winter abode of Lord Shiva located at an altitude of 19,850 feet in Kinnaur district, commenced on July 15 and was to continue till August 30. However, the rains have rendered the journey unsafe and hence the pilgrimage stands halted until the weather clears up and the route is declared safe, Kinnaur Police said. The Lahaul and Spiti administration has also temporarily suspended bike rides on the Mandali-Leh highway until further orders. Torrential rains have led to the closure of around 250 roads in Himachal Pradesh. According to the State Emergency Operation Centre, 181 roads were closed in disaster-hit Mandi, 26 in Sirmaur and 23 in Kullu district, while 61 water supply schemes and 81 power distribution transformers were affected as of Friday morning. The local meteorological office has issued an orange alert for 'heavy' to 'very heavy' rainfall in isolated areas of the state on July 21 and 23, officials said.

**HIMACHAL GOVT TO MOVE SC FOR STAY ON FELLING OF APPLE TREES**

Diary Times Desk : The Himachal government will move the Supreme Court on Monday to seek a stay on the felling of apple trees on the encroached forest land in the state. Currently, the Forest Department is cutting down apple trees from the forest land on the orders of the Himachal Pradesh High Court. "The decision was taken in the meeting chaired by Horticulture Minister Jagat Singh Negi today," said Kuldeep Rathore, the Congress MLA from the Theog Assembly constituency. Rathore further said that a consensus was reached in the meeting that the timing of cutting down apple trees wasn't appropriate, and hence it was decided to seek a stay on their felling. "A large scale cutting of apple trees in monsoon could cause soil erosion and result in some disaster. Also, the trees are fruit laden at the moment," he said. Currently, the Forest Department is cutting down trees in the Kotkhai and the Kumarsain areas. In Kumarsain, a family has been evicted from the house built on the forest land. Seb Utpadak Sangh and Himachal Kisan Sabha, affiliated to CPM, have already started agitation against the felling of trees, and have given a call for gherao of the Secretariat on July 29. The felling of trees has triggered an intense debate, especially on social media.

SHIMLA CLEANLINESS RANKING DIPS, NOW 347TH IN COUNTRY

Diary Times Desk : In an alarming trend, Shimla, known for its scenic beauty has further slipped in the national rankings of cleanest cities. The city has been ranked 347, down from its 188th rank that it held last year. The rankings were revealed in the Swachhta Sarvekshan Survey 2024-25, the result of which was declared today. However, Shimla has ranked number three in the cleanest cities in Himachal Pradesh. A team of Swachhta Sarvekshan had visited the town earlier this year during which they conducted an extensive survey to assess the cleanliness in the town. As per the City Report Card, the town has scored zero per cent in cleanliness of water bodies as well as in remediation of dumping sites. The city has been given a score of 2 per cent in source segregation, 42 per cent in door to door garbage collection, 44 per cent in waste generation vs processing and 100 per cent in cleanliness in residential areas. Meanwhile, the Municipal Corporation, Shimla, has expressed deep disappointment with the ranking and has decided to ask the ministry to re-evaluate the town. Mayor, Municipal Corporation, Shimla, Surinder Chauhan said that the ranking is very unfair as the corporation.

TO GIVE RELIEF PACKAGE, STATE GOVERNMENT NEEDS CENTRE'S HELP: CHIEF MINISTER

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today said that the state government would soon announce a special relief package for the disaster-affected families after discussions in the Cabinet. Sukhu, while talking to mediapersons here, said that the state government had limited resources and it was not possible to compensate the flood-affected people for the losses and damage suffered without liberal help from the Union Government. Therefore, the state had sought a special relief package from the Union Government to support efforts to rehabilitate the families, which had lost their homes, agricultural land and livelihoods. He said, "The monsoon has just begun and has a long way to go in the season. So, we must remain vigilant throughout its course." He added that discussions were also held with Union Health Minister JP Nadda, who had assured to consider all demands of the state sympathetically. Sukhu said, "We do not want credit and the state government is ready to meet with anyone for the welfare of disaster-hit people." He added that he had also urged Union Home Minister Amit Shah to visit the disaster-affected areas to personally assess the situation.



BCCI SENT BLUNT 'JASPRIT BUMRAH' MESSAGE FOR 4TH TEST AGAINST ENGLAND: 'IF HE DOESN'T PLAY...'

Diary Times Desk : Former India head coach Anil Kumble weighed in on the importance of Jasprit Bumrah's availability for the rest of the Test series and suggested that India's pace spearhead should feature in the remaining two Tests against England. Ahead of the Test tour of England, chief selector Ajit Agarkar and head coach Gautam Gambhir had announced that Bumrah will only play three of the five games in the series as part of workload management. It meant that Bumrah played in Tests at Headingley and Lord's, while being rested from the Edgbaston game. But with a week's gap between third and fourth Tests, Bumrah might just play in the Test at Old Trafford, starting on July 23, as India aim to equalise the series scoreline after a 22-run loss at Lord's. "I would certainly push for Bumrah to play the next game because that's crucial. If he doesn't play and India end up losing the Test, that's it, the series would be done and dusted. Bumrah should feature in both the remaining Tests.



ARJUN ERIGAISI CREATES HISTORY, BECOMES FIRST INDIAN TO REACH SEMIFINALS OF FREESTYLE CHESS GRAND SLAM TOUR

Diary Times Desk : Indian Grandmaster and World Number 5 Arjun Erigaisi has created history by becoming the first Indian ever to reach the semifinals of the prestigious Freestyle Chess Grand Slam Tour, currently taking place in Las Vegas. The 21-year-old prodigy secured his place in the final four with a clinical 1.5 - 0.5 victory over World No. 7 Nodirbek Abdusattorov in the quarterfinals. Arjun won the first rapid game and drew the second, eliminating the Uzbek star in a format that rewards creativity over memorized openings. Arjun had earlier advanced from the round-robin stage with a strong showing, scoring 4 points from 7 games, including 3 wins and 2 draws, against a field packed with global heavyweights. His imaginative and fearless approach in the Chess960 (Freestyle) format has drawn widespread attention from the global chess community. Arjun now joins Fabiano Caruana, Levon Aronian, and Hans Niemann in the upper-bracket semifinals, placing him among the most elite minds in modern chess. His next match, against seasoned Grandmaster Levon Aronian, is scheduled for July 19.

GLENN PHILLIPS RULED OUT OF ZIMBABWE TOUR WITH GROIN INJURY

Diary Times Desk : New Zealand allrounder Glenn Phillips has been sidelined from the ongoing T20I tri-series in Zimbabwe, also involving South Africa, and the following two-Test series against Zimbabwe, with a groin injury. Phillips had suffered the injury while playing for Washington Freedom in the Major League Cricket (MLC) final on July 13. When he was assessed upon arrival in Zimbabwe, it was determined that he would require "a number of weeks" to recover, according to an NZC statement. Tim Robinson, who was a late addition to the T20I squad for the tri-series as cover for players involved in the MLC knockouts, will remain with the side for the rest of the tri-series. Phillips' replacement in the Test squad will be named in due course.

"HASN'T QUITE GOT THE WICKETS": MOEEN ALI ON INDIA'S STAR'S BOWLING AFTER LORD'S TEST

Diary Times Desk : India's star all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja is having a good time in England with the bat during the ongoing five-match Test series. However, with the ball, the player has failed to impress. Jadeja scored three fifties by the conclusion of the third Test at Lord's, but managed to pick only three wickets. On the other hand, England spinner Shoaib Bashir scalped 10 wickets in the first three Tests. India's spinner Washington Sundar too has picked 5 wickets in two games. Former England player Moeen Ali praised Jadeja's batting during the series, but highlighted the point that he has failed to get many wickets. "He just knows what he's doing. I think he's done it for many years. I think he's been amazing with the bat this series, obviously," Moeen told India Today. "I think with the ball, he hasn't quite got the wickets, but he does what he does. He's very tight. He can bowl, but he's not outstanding... I think now he's at the peak of his batting. Bowling wise, I think he just doesn't have the wickets. With the tally, I think he's bowled well, he just doesn't have the wickets," he added.

AJINKYA RAHANE MAKES BOLD REQUEST TO GAUTAM GAMBHIR, SHUBMAN GILL AHEAD OF 4TH TEST

Diary Times Desk : With the Indian cricket team down 1-2 after the first three matches in the 5-Test series, a lot is being contemplated ahead of the Manchester showdown. Though the match ended on a fighting note, which could've gone India's way, a few changes in the playing XI have been discussed. Veteran India cricketer Ajinkya Rahane, who isn't a part of the Indian team for the England tour, has urged head coach Gautam Gambhir and skipper Shubman Gill to make a big change in the team by adding another bowler to the roster. While Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Siraj, and Akash Deep played as frontline seamers at Lord's, the likes of Ravindra Jadeja, Washington Sundar, and Nitish Reddy were the three all-rounders. Rahane, however, wants another mainstream bowler to be added. "We all know that Day 4 and 5 get slightly difficult to bat on. It's not easy to score runs. Yes, England bowled really well. But I felt India missed an opportunity to get that big score on the board in the first innings. And also, I feel going forward, India should look to add one extra bowler - because you're going to win a Test match or a Test series by getting 20 wickets," Rahane said on his YouTube channel. While Gautam Gambhir's love for all-rounders isn't hidden from anyone, talks of Nitish Reddy to be dropped from the team have surfaced.

NEW ZEALAND BRUSH ASIDE ZIMBABWE EN ROUTE TO SECOND WIN IN TRI-SERIES

Diary Times Desk : A clinical all-round performance helped New Zealand notch up their second straight win in the T20I tri-series, easing past Zimbabwe by eight wickets in Harare on Friday (July 18). Matt Henry's 3 for 26, backed by a tight spell from the spinners, saw Zimbabwe restricted to 120/7 after New Zealand opted to bowl. Devon Conway then led the chase with a composed 59 not out off 40 and was involved in half-century stands with Rachin Ravindra and Daryl Mitchell as New Zealand got over the finish line inside 14 overs. New Zealand had a lucky break early in the chase as Blessing Muzarabani put down a simple catch offered by Devon Conway off Richard Ngarava in the opening over. But he made up for it in the next over as he dismissed the dangerous Tim Seifert. Zimbabwe kept it disciplined, with Ravindra's four off Ngarava in the fourth over being the first of the innings. New Zealand finally picked up pace as Ravindra struck a hat-trick of fours in the fifth over off Trevor Gwandu, followed by a four and a boundary for Conway and a maximum for Ravindra off Muzarabani as New Zealand got to 43/1 after six overs.

CONFIDENT INDIA AIM TO WRAP UP SERIES AT LORD'S

Diary Times Desk : It has been less than a week since Lord's witnessed a thriller of a Test that went down to the final session of the final day. International cricket returns to the iconic ground five days later as India and England will square off once again, but this time for the second women's ODI of the three-match series. India had a lot of positives to take from the first ODI in Southampton. Despite the inexperience in their bowling attack, they took wickets at crucial junctures to keep pegging England back. Kranti Goud and Sneha Rana picked up a brace while the young Sree Charani bowled ten tight overs. On the batting front, all of their top-order players got starts while Deepti Sharma showed immense maturity in completing the chase. The only cause for concern would be their fielding, as they dropped two catches in the middle overs of Sophia Dunkley and Alice Davidson Richards. For England, their success and faultless displays from the West Indies tour have suddenly come crashing down over the last three weeks. India have won four of the six games on this tour so far. The hosts had a top-order collapse in the first ODI, with Goud picking up the two openers in her opening spell. Another concern for the hosts was the regularity in which they lost wickets, which happened on more than.