

NUCLEAR SUBMARINES

FOLLOWING THREATS FROM RUSSIAN EX-PRESIDENT, **TRUMP** **ORDERS NUCLEAR SUBMARINES MOVED NEAR RUSSIA**

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump on Friday said he had ordered two nuclear submarines to be positioned in regions near Russia in response to threats from former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev.

"I have ordered two Nuclear Submarines to be positioned in the appropriate regions, just in case these foolish and inflammatory statements are more than just that," Trump said in a social media post that called Medvedev's statements highly provocative. He said he ordered the submarines moved "just in case these foolish and inflammatory statements are more than just that. Words are very important, and can often lead to unintended consequences, I hope this will not be one of those instances".

Trump and Medvedev, who is deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council, traded taunts in recent days after Trump on Tuesday said Russia had "10 days from today" to agree to a ceasefire in Ukraine or be hit, along with its oil buyers, with tariffs. Moscow, which has set out its own terms for peace in Ukraine, has shown no sign that it will comply with Trump's deadline. Medvedev on Monday accused Trump of engaging in a "game of ultimatums" and reminded him that Russia possessed Soviet-era nuclear strike capabilities of last resort after Trump told Medvedev to "watch his words".



US TARIFF

RESPONDING TO US TARIFF, **INDIA SAYS BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE FORWARD**



Diary Times Desk : Responding to the US-imposed tariff and penalty, the Ministry of External Affairs on Friday said the India-US ties have seen several transitions and challenges, and the relationship will continue to move forward.

MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, responding to questions at a media briefing, said, "We remain focused on the substantive agenda that our two countries have committed to and are confident that the relationship will continue to move forward."

India and the United States share a comprehensive global strategic partnership anchored in shared interests, democratic values, and robust people-to-people ties. This partnership has weathered several transitions and challenges, Jaiswal said when asked about the Donald Trump- imposed 25% tariff and also penalties on buying oil and weapons from Russia.

Asked about the India-US defence ties, Jaiswal said, "We have a strong defence partnership with the US which has been strengthening over the last several years."

Jaiswal said there is a potential for this partnership to grow further under the India-US 'COMPACT' arrangement for the 21st century.

Asked about penalties for ties with Russia, Jaiswal downplayed the threat, saying, "Our bilateral relationships with various countries stand on their own merit and should not be seen from the prism of a third country." India and Russia have a steady and time-tested partnership, and sourcing of energy and defence needs are as per our needs, Jaiswal said.

BONES FOUND FROM SIXTH SITE IN DHARMASTHALA MASS BURIAL CASE

Diary Times Desk : In a major development in connection with the mass grave allegation case, the Special Investigation Team (SIT) has recovered bones during the excavation of the sixth burial site at a Hindu pilgrimage centre in Mangaluru district of Karnataka, sources confirmed on Thursday. This discovery is likely to mark a significant turning point in the investigation into the mass grave allegations in the Dharmasthala temple town. According to SIT sources, two bones were recovered from the sixth burial site located in a forested area. Following the recovery, the SIT has shifted its full focus to a careful and detailed excavation of the site, with the entire team redirected to assist with the process. In response to the discovery, SIT chief DGP P. Mohanty and DIG M.N. Anuchet are rushing to the site. The excavation is being carried out in the presence of the Tehsildar, forensic science experts, and SIT personnel. Sources stated that the whistle blower has claimed that he had buried 8 bodies at the 6th burial site.



PASSENGER SLAPPED ON MUMBAI-KOLKATA FLIGHT, INDIGO RESPONDS TO VIRAL VIDEO

Diary Times Desk : A passenger onboard IndiGo flight 6E138 from Mumbai to Kolkata slapped a fellow traveller in the aircraft aisle on Friday, sparking outrage after a video of the incident went viral on social media. According to sources, the victim appeared to be unwell and was receiving assistance from the cabin crew when another passenger suddenly slapped him without any provocation. A video clip circulating online shows the victim in visible distress, crying after the slap, while another passenger can be heard asking, "Why did you slap him? You don't have any right to hit anybody." A crew member is also heard telling the accused, "Don't do [that]." Upon landing in Kolkata, the accused was handed over to security personnel at the airport. The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took the individual into custody for further investigation.

'ATOM BOMB': RAHUL GANDHI CLAIMS CONGRESS HAS 100% PROOF OF ELECTION COMMISSION'S 'VOTE THEFT' FOR BJP

Diary Times Desk : Leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday (August 1) accused the Election Commission "vote chori" (vote theft) and said that the Congress has proof which will explode like an "atom bomb" to prove how the poll body is facilitating vote theft to benefit the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Gandhi accused the commission of "treason" and working against the country and said that involved officials will be tracked down, even if they have retired. "Votes are being stolen. Now we have open and shut proof that the Election Commission is facilitating vote theft. I am saying this with 100% evidence. As soon as we present this evidence to everyone, the entire country will know that the Election Commission is facilitating vote theft. For whom is it doing this? It is doing this for the BJP. No question," he said while speaking to reporters outside parliament. Gandhi said that the Congress had conducted their own investigation and found an "atom bomb." "We had suspicions in Madhya Pradesh, we had suspicions in the Lok Sabha elections, this went further in the Maharashtra Assembly elections where 1 crore voters were added.

MEGHALAYA'S CONRAD SANGMA CALLS FOR RELEASE OF ARRESTED KERALA NUNS

Diary Times Desk : Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma wrote to his Chhattisgarh counterpart Vishnudeo Sai, urging for the immediate release of two Kerala nuns who were arrested on allegations of religious conversion and trafficking of three girls. Mr Sangma called for a fair and impartial investigation and called Sisters Preeti Mary and Vandana Francis' arrest "shocking" and "over unfounded allegations of human trafficking". "Religious persecution of any kind has no place in a democratic and secular nation like India. Such baseless accusations not only endanger the lives and freedoms of innocent individuals but also reflect a worrying pattern of religious targeting," the Chief Minister wrote. He urged his Chhattisgarh counterpart to withdraw the allegedly false case, and safeguard the rights of minorities. "Justice must prevail. Intolerance must not," he added. The two nuns, along with another person Sukhman Mandavi, were arrested by the Government Railway Police (GRP) at Durg railway station in Chhattisgarh on July 25 following a complaint by a local Bajrang Dal functionary. The nuns have been booked under Section 4 of the Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act, 1968 (forced conversion) and Section 143 of the BNS (trafficking). Mr Sangma added that the Catholic Bishops' Conference of India (CBCI) has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, seeking their intervention in the matter.



YOUR HOROSCOPE

02-08-2025

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.

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.



HIMACHAL IAS TRANSFER: MAJOR ADMINISTRATIVE RESHUFFLE IN HIMACHAL, 16 IAS TRANSFERRED; KNOW WHO GOT APPOINTMENT WHERE

Diary Times Desk : Sukhu government of Himachal has made administrative reshuffle on Friday. Chief Secretary Prabodh Saxena has issued transfer orders of 16 IAS. Know who got appointment where and what was the workload...

1. Senior IAS officer C. Paulrasu has been appointed Secretary (Cooperatives, Horticulture and Agriculture).
2. IAS A. Shainamol has been given the responsibility of Secretary (Administrative Reforms, Training and Foreign Assignment and Public Grievance Redressal).
3. IAS Dr. Raj Krishna Paruthi has been made Divisional Commissioner of Mandi Division.
4. IAS Sudesh Kumar Mokta has been given the responsibility of Special Secretary (Industry).
5. IAS Dorje Chhering Negi has been appointed Registrar of Cooperative Societies.
6. IAS Kamal Kant Saroch has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Himurja.
7. Neeraj Kumar has been appointed as the Director of Transport Department.
8. Dr. Nipun Jindal has been appointed as the Managing Director of HRTC.
9. IAS Arindam Chaudhary has been appointed as the Managing Director of Himachal Pradesh Horticulture Produce Marketing and Processing Corporation Limited (HPMC).
10. IAS Shubh Karan Singh has been made Special Secretary (MPP and Power and NCES).
11. Gandharva Rathore, awaiting appointment, has been given the responsibility of Special Secretary (Personnel).
12. IAS Shiwam Pratap Singh has been appointed as Director of Youth Services and Sports Department.
13. IAS Abhishek Verma has been appointed as Director of Digital Technology and Governance.

SHIMLA: DHARMANI SAID-
DECISION TAKEN TO START
LOTTERY TO AVOID ILLEGAL
BETTING AND ONLINE BETTING

Diary Times Desk : Shimla: Dharmani said- Decision taken to start lottery to avoid illegal betting and online betting

Technical Education Minister Rajesh Dharmani said that the cabinet has decided to start lottery to avoid illegal betting and online betting. Many people in the state play online lottery. The government has no control over online lottery. Many people lose money in illegal betting. He said that lottery is legal in many states including Himachal's neighboring states Punjab and Maharashtra. Talking to the media at the Secretariat on Friday, Dharmani said that the BJP has ruined Himachal Pradesh economically. The previous BJP government looted the economic resources of the state. Announcements were made in the last months without thinking of financial implementation.

At that time GST compensation was received and the state also got three times more revenue deficit grant. Dharmani said that during the previous government, BJP was also in power at the Center, but still the then government failed to bring more money for Himachal. Dharmani has also reacted sharply to the 25 percent tariff imposed by America.

SHIMLA NEWS: 267
DANGEROUS TREES TO BE CUT
IN THE CITY, REPORT
SUBMITTED TO THE
DEPARTMENT

Diary Times Desk : After the increase in incidents of falling of trees due to continuous rain and strong winds in the capital, the Forest Department has surveyed the dangerous trees and submitted the report to the Urban Development Department.

267 dangerous trees have been identified in the report. These include dry, uprooted and green standing trees. The department has recommended cutting 14 of these trees for development work. Permission has been sought from the sub-committee of the government to cut these trees. 117 trees have been found dry, of which 47 trees are on government land and 70 on private land. Apart from this, there are 43 green trees which have either fallen or have been uprooted from the roots. Of these, 22 are in government and 21 in private sector. At the same time, there are 7 green trees which are still standing, of which 2 are on government and 5 on private land.

THE LOOMING DANGER OF LOTTERY ADDICTION
IN DEBTRIDDEN HIMACHAL PRADESH

 Shrey Awasthi

Diary Times Shimla : In recent developments, there has been talk of introducing or expanding the lottery system in Himachal Pradesh—a move that may seem like a harmless source of state revenue at first glance. However, for a debt-ridden hill state already grappling with widespread youth unemployment and financial instability, this initiative could prove to be nothing short of disastrous. Rather than offering relief or opportunity, the lottery system threatens to deepen the state's socio-economic wounds and push a vulnerable population further into despair. Himachal Pradesh's fiscal health has been deteriorating steadily, with mounting debts and a growing inability to generate sustainable revenue. In such a scenario, resorting to a lottery system appears to be a desperate attempt to fill government coffers without structural reforms. However, this short-term gain comes at a dangerous long-term cost. The idea of state-sponsored lotteries might sound like easy money for the government, but in reality, it is a regressive tool that disproportionately affects the poor, unemployed, and financially insecure—the very segments the government should be protecting.

Lakhs of young individuals in Himachal Pradesh are unemployed, frustrated, and directionless. For many, the lottery may appear as a ray of hope—a shortcut to success, a means to escape the harsh



realities of joblessness. But this illusion quickly morphs into addiction. What begins as a one-time purchase, "just to try their luck," can easily spiral into a compulsive habit. With each loss, the gambler's desperation grows, prompting them to chase losses and spend even more in hopes of a big win. The result is a vicious cycle of financial ruin, psychological stress, and social disintegration.

In a state where arranging money for daily needs is already a struggle for many, the pressure to scrape together funds for lottery tickets will only create new problems. Youth may resort to borrowing money, selling personal belongings, or even turning to illicit means just to keep playing. When a state promotes gambling as a solution to poverty or unemployment, it fails not just economically but morally. Moreover, unlike skill-based activities or jobs, lottery wins are purely based on chance. The overwhelming majority of players will lose, and for those already vulnerable, these losses can be catastrophic. Financial insecurity will increase,

pushing families further into debt and emotional turmoil.

Addiction to gambling, including lotteries, has far-reaching consequences beyond the individual. Families are torn apart, domestic violence increases, and communities suffer as productive time and resources are lost to a fruitless pursuit of luck. Additionally, the normalization of gambling can also impact school-going children and teenagers, who grow up watching their elders gamble, thereby internalizing it as a cultural norm. Rather than empowering its youth, the government will be sending dangerous message: that gambling is an acceptable and endorsed way to seek financial freedom.

The youth of Himachal do not need lotteries—they need jobs, education, skill development, and mental health support. They need investment in industries, infrastructure, and innovation. They need hope built on hard work and real opportunities—not the fleeting, deceptive promise of a lottery win.

BIHAR DRAFT ELECTORAL ROLLS AT 3 PM, OPPOSITION WRITES TO LOK SABHA SPEAKER

Diary Times Desk : The Election Commission of India (ECI) today handed out the draft electoral rolls for all 243 assembly constituencies in Bihar to political parties, triggering immediate protests from the Opposition, who in a joint letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla have sought a special discussion in Parliament over the timing and intent of the voter list revision process.

According to the Election Commission, the draft rolls include data of up to 90,817 polling stations across the state. Copies of the electoral rolls were distributed to all recognised parties through each of the 38 district collectors today. The Commission also announced that the draft voter list would be made available to the general public on its website from 3:00 PM onwards.

This release is part of a Special Information Revision (SIR) exercise, which the Commission has described as a routine procedure aimed at updating voter records and correcting discrepancies.

BOMBAY HIGH COURT TO GET NEW BENCH IN KOLHAPUR FROM AUGUST 18

Diary Times Desk : The Bombay High Court will get a new bench at Kolhapur district in western Maharashtra, which will be the fourth HC bench in the state, and its sittings will commence from August 18.

A notification in this regard was issued on Friday by High Court Chief Justice Alok Aradhe.

"I, Alok Aradhe, Chief Justice of the High Court at Bombay, with the approval of the Governor of Maharashtra, appoint Kolhapur as a place at which Judges and Division Courts of the High Court may also sit, with effect from August 18, 2025," the notification said.

As per officials, a roster of how many judges would be sitting at the Kolhapur bench, which is likely to cover half a dozen districts, would be prepared next week.

At present, apart from the principal bench in Mumbai, the high court has two more benches -- at Nagpur in eastern Maharashtra and Aurangabad (Chhatrapati Sambhajnagar) in the central region of the state.

A third bench of the high court sits in adjoining Goa.

The notification comes amid demands from various quarters over the years for a bench at Kolhapur so as to ease the burden on litigants and lawyers.

DONALD TRUMP'S TARIFF TO HAVE 'NEGLECTIBLE IMPACT... 0.2% GDP HIT': SOURCES



Diary Times Desk : The 25 per cent tariff announced by Donald Trump on Indian exports to the United States will have a 'negligible' impact on the economy, government sources told Friday afternoon.

The GDP loss is not likely to exceed 0.2 per cent, sources said, echoing what an India-based economist told Bloomberg (article behind paywall) - that GDP would likely slow by 0.3 per cent only.

A 0.2 per cent hit to GDP - Rs 330.68 lakh crore nominal in FY 2024/25 - is 'manageable'.

Sources also stressed the government will not bow to American pressure to open price-sensitive agriculture and dairy markets, or allow the import of beef or 'non-veg milk', i.e., milk from cows fed animal-based products like bonemeal. These may offend religious sentiments, sources said.

ENCOUNTER BETWEEN FORCES, TERRORISTS IN J&K'S KULGAM, 3RD GUN BATTLE THIS WEEK

Diary Times Desk : A fierce gun battle was underway between security forces and terrorists after a joint team of security forces launched an anti terrorist operation in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district today.

Army, police and CRPF have jointly launched the operation following a tip-off about the presence of terrorists. The number of terrorists involved in the encounter is unclear, officials said.

"Encounter has started at the Akhal area of district #Kulgam. SOG, J&K Police, Army and CRPF on the job. Further details shall follow," the Jammu and Kashmir police posted on X.

This is the third encounter this week. Earlier, three terrorists who were behind the Pahalgam terror attack were killed in a meticulously planned operation by the security forces. Union Home Minister Amit Shah told Parliament that the three were identified as Pakistani terrorists who had killed innocent tourists in cold blood in Pahalgam on April 22.

On Thursday, two more terrorists were killed near the line of control in Poonch.

UP MAN KILLS WIFE, TRIES TO PASS IT OFF AS ROBBERY, ARRESTED

Diary Times Desk : In a chilling incident in Uttar Pradesh's Bareilly district, a man allegedly killed his wife at the behest of his lover and tried to pass it off as a highway robbery, police said.

Om Saran (38), the accused, has been arrested and sent to judicial custody, they said.

After inconsistencies in Saran's initial statement raised red flags, his call records were checked which revealed that he was in touch with a woman named Mannat, prompting police to dig deeper, SSP (Bareilly) Anurag Arya said.

The probe eventually led to the unravelling of the murder conspiracy, Arya said.

Saran, a resident of Badaun district, has been booked under sections 103 (murder), 230 (fabricating false evidence), 238 (causing disappearance of evidence of offence), and 240 (giving false information) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), ASP (South) Anshika Verma said in a late-night press briefing on Thursday.

The accused initially told the police that on the night of July 31, he was returning home with his wife Amarvati on a motorcycle when they were attacked near Kanthari village by 3-4 unidentified men, who looted their cash and jewellery and fatally assaulted his wife.

Saran claimed that the attackers stole Amarvati's mangalsutra, gold earrings, and about Rs 10,000 in cash before fleeing.

DAY AFTER US' 'BUYING RUSSIAN OIL' TANTRUM, GOVERNMENT'S CALM REPLY

Diary Times Desk : India has issued a measured reply to US' criticism of its continued Russian oil purchases. "In securing our energy needs, we are guided by what is on offer in the market and the prevailing global circumstance," Foreign Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said Friday evening.

The US has ramped up pressure on India to stop buying Russian oil, arguing it amounts to funding Vladimir Putin's war on Ukraine. Secretary of State Marco Rubio called the purchases "a point of irritation" in comments this morning, as Delhi and Washington toil to secure a trade deal and scale down Donald Trump's 25 per cent 'reciprocal tariff'.

Rubio acknowledged India's vast energy needs - analysts expect crude oil demand from the world's fourth largest economy to cross 6.6 million barrels per day by 2030 - and that it was buying oil and gas from Russia because the sanction-hit country is offering steep discounts.

"FEEL HUMILIATED": ODISHA OFFICIAL SERVED URINE MIXED WITH WATER BY PEON

Diary Times Desk : A junior engineer was working in inadequate light and under immense pressure when he unassumingly took a sip from the water bottle brought by his peon. It later turned out that the peon had allegedly mixed urine in the water given to him. The incident occurred on July 23, when both were working till late hours in the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation (RWSS) Department's office in Odisha's Gajapati. Shortly after drinking the water, the official fell ill. On smelling and seeing the liquid carefully, he realised it was contaminated. He was then hospitalised for treatment.

After recovering, the junior engineer lodged a formal complaint, following which laboratory tests later confirmed unusually high levels of ammonia in the sample, suggesting serious contamination. "The high levels of ammonia establish that it was urine. I have filed an FIR with the police. I want a full investigation. I feel humiliated," the engineer told reporters.

The official also claimed that two other staff members who shared the water from the bottle also complained about its taste and quality.

TRUMP MOVES NUCLEAR SUBMARINES
AFTER EX- RUSSIAN PRESIDENT'S
COMMENTS

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump says he has ordered two nuclear submarines to "be positioned in the appropriate regions" in response to "highly provocative" comments by former Russian President Dmitry Medvedev.

In a post on social media, Trump said he acted "just in case these foolish and inflammatory statements are more than just that. Words are very important, and can often lead to unintended consequences, I hope this will not be one of those instances".

He did not say where the two submarines were being deployed.

Medvedev has posted several comments in recent days threatening the US in response to Trump's ultimatum to Moscow to agree to a ceasefire in Ukraine, or face tough sanctions.

In a post on Truth Social, Trump wrote: "Based on the highly provocative statements of the former president of Russia, Dmitry Medvedev, who is now the deputy chairman of the Security Council of the Russian Federation, I have ordered two nuclear submarines to be positioned in the appropriate regions".

On Monday, Medvedev accused Trump of playing "the ultimatum game with Russia".

In a post on X, the former Russian president said that "each new ultimatum is a threat and a step towards war".

Earlier this month, Medvedev described Trump's ultimatum as "theatrical", saying that "Russia didn't care".

And writing on Telegram on Thursday, Medvedev warned of a "dead hand" threat - which some military analysts understood as a reference to the codename of Russia's retaliatory nuclear strikes control system.

RUSSIAN EX-PRESIDENT MEDVEDEV'S 'ULTIMATUM GAME' REMARK SPARKS TRUMP'S IRE

Diary Times Desk : In his latest message for India after imposing 25 percent tariffs on his "good friend," US President Donald Trump has also issued a warning to Russia. The Republican's social media post comes days after former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev warned of a war if Trump kept "playing the ultimatum game."

"I don't care what India does with Russia. They can take their dead economies down together, for all I care. We have done very little business with India, their Tariffs are too high.

RUSSIAN STRIKES KILL 26 IN KYIV, INCLUDING 2-YEAR-OLD CHILD, SAYS
UKRAINE

Diary Times Desk : The death toll from Thursday's Russian missile and drone strikes on Kyiv has risen to 26, including three children, Ukraine's interior ministry said.

The toll previously stood at 16, including two children, but was revised Friday after "rescuers retrieved 10 bodies from the rubble of the residential building in Sviatoshynsky district, including the body of a 2-year-old child," the ministry posted on Telegram.

It also said 159 people were wounded in Thursday's strikes, including 16 children.

One person was also killed in a Russian attack early Friday on Zaporizhzhia, in southeast Ukraine, the region's military administration said on Telegram.

Kyiv was observing a day of mourning after Thursday's bombardment, among the deadliest the capital has seen since Russia launched its large-scale offensive in February 2022.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky urged his allies on Thursday to bring about "regime change" in Russia, hours after the attack.

US President Donald Trump on Thursday blasted Russia's actions in Ukraine, suggesting that new sanctions against Moscow were coming.

"Russia -- I think it's disgusting what they're doing. I think it's disgusting," Trump told journalists.

On Monday, the US leader issued a "10 or 12" day ultimatum for Moscow to halt its invasion, now in its fourth year, or face sanctions.

MUHAMMAD YUNUS PRAISES
BANGLADESH'S TRADE DEAL WITH US,
COMPARES IT TO INDIA

Diary Times Desk : The Chief Adviser of the Interim Government of Bangladesh, Muhammad Yunus has congratulated Bangladesh's tariff negotiators following a trade deal with the United States. Yunus also referred to the stalemate over trade.

"We proudly congratulate the Bangladesh tariff negotiators on securing a landmark trade deal with the United States, a decisive diplomatic victory," he said in a message, issued by his press wing, after describing the agreement as successful tariff negotiations with the US.

"Bangladesh secured a 20% tariff rate-comparable to its key apparel-sector competitors such as Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Pakistan, and Indonesia, which received rates between 19% and 20%. As a result, Bangladesh's relative competitiveness in apparel exports remains unaffected," Yunus said in a statement posted on social media platform X.

AFTER WHITE HOUSE PITCHES DONALD
TRUMP FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE, INDIA
REACTS

Diary Times Desk : The government on Friday said that the White House would be best to answer a question on a push for Nobel Peace Prize to US President Donald Trump.

During a press briefing, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal was asked about the White House's push for Trump getting a Nobel Peace Prize, claiming he ended several conflicts around the world, including between India and Pakistan.

"It is better to take this question to the White House," Randhir Jaiswal said in response.

Earlier in the day, White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt advocated for a Nobel Peace Prize for the US President, claiming he "ended conflicts between Thailand and Cambodia, Israel and Iran, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, India and Pakistan, Serbia and Kosovo and Egypt and Ethiopia."

The White House official argued that on an average, Trump had brokered one peace deal every month during his six months being President. "It's well past time that President Trump was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize," she said.

Ever as New Delhi has clarified many times that the cessation of hostilities between India and Pakistan was reached bilaterally, Donald Trump has claimed on multiple occasions that he brokered the ceasefire, even linking it to trade.

While New Delhi has always rejected his assertion, Islamabad has thanked Trump for brokering the deal.

SCARY VIDEO OF NYC FLOODS:
WATER BURST FROM WALLS OF
7TH AVENUE STATION AMID
EXTREME RAINFALL

Diary Times Desk : Severe thunderstorms and heavy rain triggered flash flood warnings across New York City. Videos capturing the impact of the extreme downpour have surfaced on social media, including one showing water seeping through the walls of the 7th Avenue station in Park Slope.

"Floodwater seeped through the walls of the 7th Avenue station in Park Slope on Thursday as storms brought heavy rain and flooding to New York City," an individual wrote while posting the now-viral video on X.

Other social media visuals capture the devastation caused by the heavy rainfall and flash floods. One shows water cascading like a waterfall inside Brooklyn's Jay Street-MetroTech.

TRUMP WARNS PHARMA
COMPANIES TO CUT PRICES OR
BE PUNISHED

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump told major pharmaceutical firms Thursday to lower prices or face punishment, as he moved to give Americans relief from medicine costs much higher than elsewhere in the world.

In letters to 17 drug companies published on his Platform Truth Social, Trump said he wants the firms to work with his administration to institute a series of changes within 60 days.

"If you refuse to step up we will deploy every tool in our arsenal to protect American families from continued abusive drug pricing practices," Trump wrote without specifying what the consequences would entail.

Trump is following up an on executive order he signed in May to address US drug prices that are among the highest in the world -- more than three times what people in similarly developed countries pay, the White House said Thursday.

In the letters Trump said the response he has received so far to his order from companies have been "more of the same: shifting blame" and policy changes that would in fact benefit the industry, not consumers.

Key to the Trump plan is a "Most Favored Nation" policy that pins the cost of drugs sold in the United States to the lowest price paid by other countries for the same drug.

Trump said Thursday he wants the companies to extend this pricing policy to medications used by older people under the government-backed health program Medicaid.

He also wants this status to apply to new drugs, Trump said in the letters.

CM MANN, KEJRIWAL UNVEIL ANTI-DRUG CURRICULUM FOR PUNJAB STUDENTS IN FAZILKA

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal unveiled an anti-drug curriculum for the students of classes

IX to XII of all state-run schools, in Arniwala sub-tehsil of Fazilka district today.

Kejriwal, while addressing the gathering, said that the AAP government had set an example by introducing anti-drug syllabus in classes and others states would have to follow the footsteps of the Punjab Government.

Accusing the opposition party leaders in Punjab, Kejriwal said that everyone started crying after he was put behind bars (indicating SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia) and they joined hands to defend the "biggest smugglers of drugs". He also accused the ministers of the previous government of facilitating their official vehicles to drug smugglers.



FORMER SSP, DSP AMONG 5 PUNJAB COPS CONVICTED IN 1993 AMRITSAR FAKE ENCOUNTER CASE

Diary Times Desk : A CBI court has convicted five Punjab police officials, including a former Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) and a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), in a 32-year-old fake encounter case involving the killing of seven youths of Rani Villah village in Amritsar in 1993.

The court convicted former SSP Bhupinderjit Singh, DSP Davinder Singh, Inspector Suba Singh, ASI Gulbarg Singh and ASI Raghbir Singh, all retired, for criminal conspiracy, murder, destruction of evidence, and fabrication of records.

The quantum of sentence will be pronounced on Monday.

Among the seven victims were three Special Police Officers (SPOs) who were picked up, tortured and then shown as killed in two encounters by Tarn Taran police.

The CBI had registered the case in 1999 based on a statement by Narinder Kaur, wife of SPO Shinder Singh, whose body had been cremated as unclaimed.

A police party, led by Sarhali SHO Gurdev Singh, forcibly picked up SPOs Shinder Singh, Desha Singh, Sukhdev Singh and two others, Balkar Singh alias Bobby and Daljit Singh from the house of a government contractor Joginder Singh, where they were on duty as gunmen on June 27, 1993.

'IF AAP GOVT DOESN'T WITHDRAW LAND POOLING POLICY, CONGRESS WILL': WARRING

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring today said that his party will take the battle of farmers against the land pooling policy to its logical conclusion and force the government to withdraw it. The state president is facing resistance from within the party for going soft on the ruling AAP government of the state. He claimed that if the ruling government will not withdraw the controversial policy, then once the Congress government will come to power in 2027, the policy would be immediately scrapped.

Addressing a protest demonstration held here against the policy, Warring said it was the AAP government's hidden play to snatch farmers' land and obtain loans.

CM MANN, KEJRIWAL, SISODIA VISIT SLAIN BIZMAN SANJAY'S FAMILY AT ABOHAR

Diary Times Desk : AAP Supremo Arvind Kejriwal, Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann and Delhi ex-Deputy CM Manish Sisodia today visited slain bizman Sanjay Verma's family at Abohar.

After participating in a programme at Arniwala village, the AAP to-brass team reached Verma's house in the afternoon and expressed grief over the brazen murder of Sanjay to his elder brother Jagat Verma, a leading gents' wears designer. Besides consoling Jagat, they tried to go deep into the circumstances that led to shooting Sanjay on July 7 at 10.15 am by two shooters who, along with their bike-riding accomplices, had fled to board a car having Haryana registration that had been parked near Sitto Gunno Road.

They also discussed the social impact of the incident on the business community. It was explained that a case was registered on the statement of Sanjay's son Himanshu identifying Shakti of Azeemgarh colony here who was accompanied by two unknown persons at the time of murder. It was recalled that two Patiala residents, identified as Jaspreet Singh and Ram Rattan.

TWO YOUTHS KILLED AFTER SUV RAMS INTO TREE IN HOSHIARPUR

Diary Times Desk : Two youths were killed after their SUV rammed into a tree in a village here, police said on Friday. The incident occurred on Thursday night on the Mahilpur-Phagwara road near Paldi village, they said.

The deceased were identified as Harsh Mann (18) and Harsimran (18), they said.

Police said the accident occurred when the two were returning to Dhada Khurd in their vehicle and the driver swerved to avoid hitting a stray animal, causing the vehicle to crash into a tree near Adda Paldi.

They were initially admitted to a nearby hospital. Harsh Mann was later referred to the Civil Hospital in Hoshiarpur, while Harsimran was referred to the Dayanand Medical College and Hospital (DMC) in Ludhiana. Both succumbed to their injuries during treatment, police said.

GOVT SHOULD TAKE BACK AIR INDIA FROM TATA GROUP: MANISH TEWARI

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Manish Tewari on Friday urged the government to take back Air India from the Tata Group, alleging that they have run the airline into the ground and that privatisation of the once national carrier has been a disaster.

In a post on X, the Chandigarh MP alleged that people "who grow tea" and "make cars" are now running Air India and hardly any aviation experts are running the airline. "Government of India should take @airindia back from the Tata Companies. They have run the airline into the ground," Tewari said in his post.

FOR MAJOR TECH UPGRADE, ALL POST OFFICES IN CHANDIGARH, PUNJAB CIRCLES CLOSED ON SATURDAY

Diary Times Desk : All post offices in Chandigarh and Punjab circles will remain closed for public dealing on Saturday, the Department of Posts (DoP) has announced.

The closure has been announced to enable a seamless and secure transition to the advanced digital platform, a senior official said.

She said no public transactions will be carried out at 20 head, 608 sub post offices along with their branch and operative offices across Chandigarh and Punjab on August 2 and 3 under the planned downtime shutdown.

The DoP is in the process of rolling out the next-generation advanced postal technology (APT) application, marking a major leap forward in its journey towards digital excellence.

As part of the transformative initiative, the upgraded system was implemented in the post offices of Chandigarh and select post offices in Mohali and Jalandhar postal divisions on July 22 under the first phase of the pilot project.

WHY FARMERS ARE SAYING 'NO' TO PUNJAB GOVERNMENT'S LAND POOLING SCHEME

Diary Times Desk : A deep emotional bond with their land and a lack of trust in the government's assurances are being cited as the primary reasons behind farmers' refusal to part with their agricultural land under the state's land pooling policy.

Former SAD leader and coloniser Manpreet Singh Ayali, whose 150 acres of land in three villages, including Birmi, Kialpur, and Dakha, fall under the land pooling scheme, strongly opposed the policy, stating, "The government may chop off my head, but I will never part with my land."

Ayali emphasised that land is not just a physical asset but an identity for farmers.

"A farmer has an emotional attachment to his land and won't give it up under any kind of pressure unless he voluntarily chooses to do so," he said.

Sharing his experience as a coloniser, Ayali stated that when he acquires land from farmers, he compensates them generously—providing 8 to 10 times more land elsewhere, constructing homes for them, offering tractors, and fulfilling other needs. "It is not easy for any farmer to part with his land. And the government thinks it can get it easily by promising Rs 50,000 per acre after a year? That's not how it works," he remarked. Simran Singh Dakha, a young landlord who has returned from Canada to pursue farming on his ancestral land, echoed similar concerns.

VICE ADMIRAL SANJAY VATSAYAN TAKES CHARGE AS VICE CHIEF OF INDIAN NAVY

Diary Times Desk : Vice Admiral Sanjay Vatsayan took over as the Vice Chief of the Indian Navy on Friday. A native of Hiranagar, Hamirpur (Himachal Pradesh), he represents the second generation of his family in the armed forces.

He has taken over from Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, who has been appointed as the Western Navy Commander at Mumbai. The Western Command is the sword arm of the Navy. Vice Admiral Swaminathan replaced Vice Admiral Sanjay J Singh on Thursday.

On assuming charge, Vice Admiral Vatsayan paid homage at the National War Memorial. A specialist in gunnery and missile systems, he has held a wide range of command and operational assignments.

At sea, he has served onboard various frontline warships, including as the commissioning crew of the INS Mysore.

He has commanded Coast Guard ship C-05, Navy warships INS Vibhuti, INS Nashak, INS Kuthar and was the first commanding officer of INS Sahyadri.

'ENTIRE HIMACHAL PRADESH MAY VANISH IN THIN AIR', WARNS SC

Diary Times Desk : Expressing serious concerns over ecological imbalance in Himachal Pradesh, the Supreme Court has warned that the entire state may vanish in thin air from the map of India, if unregulated development continues unabated.

"We want to impress upon the state government and (the) Union of India that earning revenue is not everything. Revenue cannot be earned at the cost of the environment and ecology. If things proceed, the way they are as on date, then the day is not far when the entire state may vanish in thin air from the map of the country," a Bench led by Justice JB Pardiwala said. "God forbid this doesn't happen. Therefore, it is of utmost necessity that adequate steps are taken at the earliest in the right direction," said the Bench – which also included Justice R Mahadevan.

The Top Court dismissed an appeal filed by M/s Pristine Hotels and Resorts Pvt. Ltd against the high court's decision upholding the Himachal Pradesh Government's June 6, 2025.

TORRENTIAL RAINS, LANDSLIDES SNAP ROAD CONNECTIVITY TO CHAMBA, KANGRA

Diary Times Desk : Torrential rain before noon wreaked havoc in Himachal Pradesh today as two main roads linking Chowari sub-divisional headquarters with Chamba, the neighboring Nurpur subdivision in Kangra district and Pathankot in Punjab were severed. On the 5-kilometre Lahru-Chowari link road, a 100-metre stretch was badly damaged. Similarly, the Chowari-Chamba road via Jot has also snapped due to damage near Kut in Chowari.

Owing to massive damage to these link roads, Chowari subdivision has lost connectivity with other parts of the state. Lahru-Chowari link road is a lifeline for the residents of this subdivision as it connects Kangra and Pathankot districts – from where daily supply of essential commodities is received. Apart from this, medical emergency services – for shifting patients in Tanda Medical College, Kangra, and Punjab's hospitals – have also been badly impacted. This inter-district road is the shortest route for Chamba residents to travel to Kangra and the rest of the state via the Jot-Chowari road. However, now they will have to travel long distances via the Pathankot-Dunera or Draman-Sihunta roads.

The only alternate route for commuting from Chowari to Kangra and Pathankot districts is the Chowari-Raipur-Lahru route – which is also landslide prone and has remained closed due to landslides at multiple locations.

Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (PWD), Chowari, Narinder Chowdhary, told The Tribune that department machinery has been deployed to restore the affected roads.

AFTER OVER 2 DECADES, CASH-STRAPPED HIMACHAL PRADESH LIFTS LOTTERY BAN



Diary Times Desk : The cash-strapped Himachal Pradesh Government has decided to allow the operation of lotteries in the state with an expected annual revenue between Rs 50 and Rs 100 crore.

The decision was taken by the Cabinet at its meeting held here today. Himachal Pradesh banned the sale of all types of lotteries operated by it, other states and union territories in 1999 under Sections 7, 8 and 9 of the Lotteries (Regulation) Act, 1998.

The decision assumes significance in view of the state's mounting debt burden, which has already crossed Rs 1 lakh crore.

LANDSLIDE BLOCKS CHANDIGARH-MANALI HIGHWAY BETWEEN MANDI AND KULLU NEAR PANDOH

Diary Times Desk : A massive landslide has severely disrupted vehicular traffic on the Chandigarh-Mandi National Highway between Mandi and Kullu near Kainchi Mod in the Pandoh region of Mandi district on Friday morning. The landslide caused significant damage to the road, rendering the key highway impassable.

According to the Mandi police, restoration work is currently under way, but the extent of the damage suggests that repairs may take considerable time.

Meanwhile, the movement of heavy vehicles has come to a halt. The vehicles are being stationed in designated open areas at Nagchala and Jhiri to avoid congestion and ensure safety.

Authorities said an alternate route via Kamand-Kataula is open to light motor vehicles. However, the diversion is strictly limited to LMVs due to terrain and road width, official said. The authorities have issued an advisory, urging commuters to travel only in case of emergency by following police instructions.

HIMACHAL ROADWAYS TRANSPORT CORPORATION TO ISSUE ID CARDS FOR FREE, CONCESSIONAL TRAVEL

Diary Times Desk : All categories of people availing of free and concessional travel in the buses of the Himachal Roadways Transport Corporation (HRTC) will now have to get an identity card (ID) made from the corporation within three months. The Cabinet today gave nod to a proposal approved by the Board of Directors of the HRTC in this regard.

Industries and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Harshwardhan Chauhan, while speaking with mediapersons after the Cabinet meeting, said that the decision was taken to ensure there was no misuse of the free travel facility provided by the HRTC, which was incurring losses because of it. To streamline and monitor free or concessional travel facility, the HRTC would be issuing HIM Bus Cards to eligible beneficiaries for Rs 200 each.

The Cabinet also decided to approve the recommendations of a sub-committee constituted under the chairmanship of Technical Education Minister Rajesh Dharmani to suggest the optimum use of unutilised vacant government buildings. The committee had recommended that all vacant government buildings of various departments may be utilised in a phased manner. It also recommended to designate a nodal agency for providing space to government departments, boards and corporations, which required the same for setting up offices.

The Cabinet approved a one-time legacy policy for the regularisation of unregistered construction equipment vehicles. Under the policy, owners can register their vehicles upon the payment of the applicable one-time tax and 50 per cent of the due penalty, to be paid in lump sum. The policy would remain in effect for three months from the date of notification. As per the estimates, there are 2,795 defaulter vehicles in the state that may benefit from the initiative.

The Cabinet also decided to launch the Phase-II of the Himachal Pradesh Sadbhawana Legacy Cases Resolution Scheme, 2025, for three months from September 1. The aim of the decision was to resolve around 30,000 pending cases. The scheme would also cover cases related to State Value Added Tax (VAT) on petroleum products up to financial year 2020-21.

- The monsoon session of the Vidhan Sabha will be held from August 18 to September 2. This will probably be one of the longest monsoon sessions, having 12 sittings.

SIRAJ'S FIERY SPELL SPARKS INDIA FIGHTBACK AFTER ENGLAND'S OPENING BLITZ

Diary Times Desk : Mohammed Siraj's inspired, large-hearted eight-over spell helped India claw their way back with six wickets in the afternoon session on Day 2, after a difficult morning that saw them bowled out for 224 and then concede a whirlwind 100 inside 15 overs. India made subtle but crucial adjustments after lunch; they pitched the ball half a metre fuller, bowled straighter and finally got the conditions to work for them. Prasidh Krishna, sharing the new ball with Akash Deep, struck in his first over of the session, getting Zak Crawley to miscue a pull off a ball that climbed on him and took the top edge. Siraj replaced Akash and made an immediate impact, striking with his fourth ball. Ollie Pope was trapped in front by an in-ducker that came in sharply. Joe Root, who looked uneasy and had already exchanged words with Prasidh, also fell LBW, unable to bring his bat down in time to a length ball that jagged in.

**WOAKES RULED OUT OF REMAINDER OF OVAL TEST**

Diary Times Desk : Chris Woakes has been ruled out of the remainder of the fifth Test against India at the Oval after sustaining an injury on his left shoulder on the opening day of the match.

"At this stage, the injury has ruled him out of any further participation in the Test," the England and Wales Cricket Board said in a statement on Friday ahead of the second day's play.

Woakes suffered the injury while fielding in the 57th over of India's first innings. He chased after the ball from mid-off and put in a dive to pull the ball back just inside the ropes. But he landed awkwardly and was seen holding his left shoulder in distress right away.

England, who are already missing the services of Ben Stokes and Jofra Archer in this fixture, will now have just three pace bowling options at their disposal – Josh Tongue, Gus Atkinson and Jamie Overton. Intriguingly, only three days ago, Stokes vehemently opposed the idea of injury substitutes in Test cricket, even if it left a team short in a game.

Woakes, who has featured in all five Tests, has been a workhorse for England all series. He bowled 181 overs – more than anyone else across the two teams – and picked 11 wickets.

LIONEL MESSI VS VIRAT KOHLI AND MS DHONI IN MUMBAI. REPORT SHARES DETAILS

Diary Times Desk : Lionel Messi, arguably the greatest footballer of all time, is all set to mark his second appearance in India. As per reports, Messi is scheduled to fly to Mumbai in December this year. India might be a cricketing nation but the country also has millions of football fans, who will get a rare opportunity to see the Argentine maestro at the Wankhede Stadium. It has also been reported that Messi could be seen playing cricket on the occasion, that too against Indian cricket greats like MS Dhoni and Virat Kohli.

"Messi will be at Wankhede Stadium on December 14. He is likely to play a cricket match, too, with former and current cricketers. The organisers will come up with a complete schedule once everything is finalised," a MCA source told the Indian Express.

Messi will reportedly visit three different cities -- Mumbai, Kolkata and Delhi -- from December 13 to 15, during his India visit. It has been reported that in Kolkata, Messi will be felicitated at the iconic Eden Gardens. As per the Times of India, Messi will also be a part of a football workshop for children and launch a football clinic in Kolkata during his visit. A seven-a-side tournament called the "GOAT CUP" will also be organised in his honour at the Eden Gardens.

BCCI TAKES MASSIVE DECISION ON JASPRIT BUMRAH AFTER STAR PACER MISSES 5TH TEST AGAINST ENGLAND

Diary Times Desk : Fast-bowling spearhead Jasprit Bumrah has been released from India's squad, after not being included in playing XI for the ongoing fifth Anderson-Tendulkar Trophy Test against England at The Oval, due to workload management, said the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). Bumrah wasn't spotted in the Indian team bus ahead of arriving at the venue for day two's play. "Mr Jasprit Bumrah has been released from India's squad for the fifth Test of the series against England. The fifth and final Test of the series is underway at Kennington Oval, London," said the BCCI in a statement on Friday. Before the five-match series began in England, chief selector Ajit Agarkar and head coach Gautam Gambhir said Bumrah wouldn't feature in more than three Tests on tour due to workload management. Bumrah featured in the first Test at Headingley, Leeds, followed by the third and fourth games at Lord's and Old Trafford, Manchester, respectively.

In three games, Bumrah picked 14 wickets, including two five-wicket hauls, coming off bowling 119.4 overs at an average of 26 to be the leading wicket-taker for India in the ongoing series. Bumrah could have been expected to play in the fifth Test at The Oval, but he wasn't included in the playing eleven.

"We obviously want to wheel him out, but we also want to respect where his body is at, and on the basis of that, we just felt that it wasn't worth including him in the squad. He has bowled a large number of overs, I know it doesn't always seem like that because he's only played three tests and he's only bowled in one innings in Manchester."

"But if you look at the loads, he's bowled a lot of overs, and like he did say coming into the tour, he was going to be available for three games, and we just felt it was right on that call," said India assistant coach Ryan ten Doeschate at the end of day one's play.

LAKSHYA SEN, THARUN MANNEPALLI ENTER SEMIFINALS OF MACAU OPEN; SATWIK-CHIRAG OUT

Diary Times Desk : Star Indian shuttler Lakshya Sen and promising Tharun Manneppalli advanced to the men's singles semifinals of the Macau Open Super 300 badminton tournament after registering hard-fought wins here on Friday.

Taking the court first, the 23-year-old Manneppalli, ranked 47th in the world, showcased speed and a versatile shot selection to edge out China's 87th ranked Hu Zhe 21-12 13-21 21-18 in a 75-minute battle.

Later in the day, Lakshya, a Commonwealth Games gold medallist and second seed here, eked out a tough 21-14 18-21 21-14 victory over Xuan Chen Zhu of China in his quarterfinal that lasted one hour and three minutes.

Lakshya will be up against fifth seed Alwi Farhan of Indonesia while Manneppalli will take on Malaysia's Justin Hoh in the last-four round.

KHALID JAMIL APPOINTED HEAD COACH OF INDIA MEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM

Diary Times Desk : The All India Football Federation (AIFF) on Friday announced Khalid Jamil's appointment as the new head coach of the Indian men's football team. The announcement comes following a rigorous selection process conducted throughout last month; Jamil will succeed Manolo Marquez in the role.

"The AIFF Executive Committee, in the presence of the Technical Committee, has approved the appointment of Khalid Jamil as the new head coach of the Senior India Men's National Team," the AIFF wrote in a post on X.

Jamil becomes the first Indian in over a decade to take charge of the senior side. His predecessor, Marquez, parted ways with the side last month after a string of underwhelming results. The last Indian to hold the post was Savio Medeira, who led the team from 2011 to 2012.

Jamil was chosen ahead of two other contenders, former India coach Stephen Constantine and Stefan Tarkovic, ex-manager of the Slovakia national team, after being shortlisted by the AIFF's Technical Committee, chaired by legendary striker IM Vijayan. His first challenge will be the CAFA Nations Cup in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, kicking off on August 29.

Jamil was most recently the head coach of Indian Super League team Jamshedpur FC.