

'PARIKSHA PE
CHARCHA'

PM MODI'S 'PARIKSHA PE CHARCHA' ENTERS
GUINNESS WORLD RECORD

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi's annual programme 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' has entered the Guinness World Record for setting a world record with 3.53 crore+ registrations and over 21 crore viewership on television, Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan shared on microblogging platform 'X'.

"A matter of great delight and personal satisfaction to accept the Guinness World Record for 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' with Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw and Shri Jitin Prasada. PPC2025 has set a world record with 3.53 crore+ registrations and over 21 crore viewership on television. Congratulate everyone, particularly our students, teachers, principals, parents and schools on this momentous milestone. A second such recognition during my tenure as Cabinet Minister, vividly recall presenting the Guinness World Record certificate for #PAHAL-the world's largest direct benefit transfer scheme for LPG, to Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi ji," he tweeted.

"A most-awaited interaction for our #ExamWarriors, 'Pariksha Pe Charcha' led by Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi ji has evolved into a nation-wide festival for stress-free and joyful learning. Hats-off to PM Modi ji for envisioning such a holistic and celebratory approach to learning, reducing exam related stress as well as encouraging well-being and personal growth," his tweet added.



INDIA AS A
"VALUED
FRIEND"

"INDIA IS VALUED FRIEND": PHILIPPINES PRESIDENT
EMBARKS 5-DAY STATE VISIT



Diary Times Desk : Philippines President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. on Monday described India as a "valued friend" as he embarked on a five-day State Visit to India.

The President, in his departure statement, emphasised that shared democratic values, maritime interests, and regional peace form the foundation for "deeper, broader, and more meaningful bilateral cooperation" with India.

This marks his first official visit to India since assuming office in 2022.

"Our bilateral relations have seen a measured and stable development that is both comprehensive in scope and multifaceted in nature," state-run news agency PNA quoted President Marcos as saying.

"There is much potential for cooperation with India that will mutually benefit our peoples," he added, highlighting areas of defence, trade, health, pharmaceuticals, agriculture, tourism, and digital connectivity for possible collaboration.

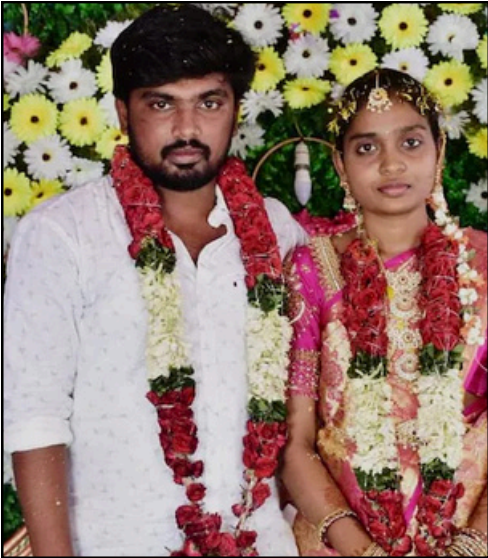
"I want this visit to bring concrete benefits for the Filipino people, such as more affordable medicine and greater connectivity and food security," he added.

After arriving in New Delhi, President Marcos will begin his official engagements with Indian leaders and key stakeholders.

President Marcos will meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and both leaders will discuss ways to deepen cooperation in areas such as the economy, defence, security and political matters, as well as trade, investment and people-to-people exchanges.

'WON'T TIE RAKHI...': WOMAN'S NOTE FOR BROTHER BEFORE DYING BY SUICIDE

Diary Times Desk : In a heartbreaking incident, a 24-year-old woman died by suicide in Andhra Pradesh's Krishna district, leaving behind a letter addressed to her brother. The note contained a devastating line: "Be careful, little brother. This time, I may not be able to tie Rakhi on you". Srividya - a college lecturer - died by suicide just six months after her wedding to Rambabu, a village surveyor. In the note, she pointed to the harassment that began merely a month into their marriage. The note detailed a pattern of brutal domestic abuse. Srividya wrote that Rambabu would return home drunk, subject her to physical violence, and verbally abuse her. She described how he would mock her, call her "useless" in front of another woman, and inflict severe physical pain by slamming her head against the bed and punching her in the back.



CONTEMPT PLEA BY AIADMK AGAINST 'STALIN-NAMED' SCHEME, DMK APPROACHES TOP COURT

Diary Times Desk : AIADMK MP and former minister C Ve Shanmugam has filed a contempt petition in the Madras High Court against the Tamil Nadu Health Secretary and the Public Department Secretary, alleging violation of a court order by continuing to use Chief Minister MK Stalin's name in a new government health outreach programme. In the run-up to the 2026 assembly elections, the state government recently launched the "Nalam Kaakkum Stalin" (Wellness Ensuring Stalin) initiative, despite a High Court interim order last week barring the use of names of living political personalities in government schemes. The order also prohibited the use of photographs of former Chief Ministers or ideological leaders in publicity material. The court, however, allowed the use of the incumbent Chief Minister's photograph, citing a Supreme Court ruling. The DMK government had earlier named two flagship schemes -Ungaludan Stalin (Stalin With You) and Nalam Kaakkum Stalin - after the Chief Minister, featuring visuals of both MK Stalin and late DMK patriarch M Karunanidhi in outreach campaigns. These schemes are part of a broader public service drive with elections just eight months away.

"TREMENDOUS TIES WITH PM MODI BUT...": TRUMP'S TOP AIDE ON INDIA BUYING RUSSIA OIL

Diary Times Desk : A senior official of US President Donald Trump's administration accused India of imposing "massive" tariffs on American goods and "cheating" the US immigration system, in addition to purchasing the Russian oil that's "financing" Russia's war in Ukraine. The remarks came amid the United States' escalating pressure on New Delhi to stop trading with Moscow. "What he (Trump) said very clearly is that it is not acceptable for India to continue financing this war by purchasing the oil from Russia...People will be shocked to learn that India is basically tied with China in purchasing Russian oil. That's an astonishing fact," Stephen Miller, deputy chief of staff at the White House and one of Trump's most influential aides, said on Fox News' "Sunday Morning Futures." Miller's comments are some of the strongest yet by the Trump administration about one of the United States' major partners in the Indo-Pacific. He claimed that Trump "wants a tremendous relationship and has had always a tremendous relationship with India" and Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "But we need to get real about dealing with the financing of this war...So, President Trump, all options are on the table to deal diplomatically, financially and otherwise with the ongoing war in Ukraine, so we can achieve peace," he added.



TRADE UNIONS, FARMERS TO PROTEST AGAINST US TARIFFS, INDIA-UK DEAL ON AUGUST 13

Diary Times Desk : CTUs-SKM, the platform of ten Central Trade Unions and Samyukt Kisan Morcha, on Monday gave a call for a nationwide protest on August 13, against US President Donald Trump's tariff threats and India-UK CETA. According to a statement, the CTUs-SKM strongly condemned the recent threats by Trump to impose 25 per cent tariffs on India and also punitive tax for the oil trade deal with Russia. "CTUs-SKM calls upon all farmers, workers, students, and patriotic citizens to join the nationwide day of resistance on August 13, 2025, with various mass actions like tractor and motorcycle rallies, protest demonstrations, public gatherings, and other forms of protest as decided by different platforms and partner organizations," it stated. They demanded that India must reject Trump's tariff threats and assert its sovereign right to trade with all nations, including Russia.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

05-08-2025

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.

Gemini

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

Leo

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

Libra

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

Sagittarius

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

Aquarius

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

Taurus

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

Cancer

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

Virgo

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

Scorpio

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

Capricorn

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

Pisces

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



JE OF HIMALAYA ENERGY DEPARTMENT COMMITTED SUICIDE BY HANGING HIMSELF, ARUN WAS A RESIDENT OF SHIMLA; POLICE ENGAGED IN INVESTIGATION

Diary Times Desk : JE of Himalaya Energy Department committed suicide by hanging himself, Arun was a resident of Shimla; Police engaged in investigation

JE of Himalaya Energy Department committed suicide by hanging himself in Chambaghat of district headquarters Solan. He was identified as 35-year-old Arun Kumar son of Bhagwan Singh resident of village and post office Kuthad sub-tehsil Nerwa, district Shimla. Police has registered a case and started investigation. Police is investigating from every aspect.

SP Solan Gaurav Singh said that information was received through police helpline number 112 that a youth has hanged himself in Chambaghat. On information, the team of Police Station Sadar Solan reached the spot. Where the youth was hanging from the ceiling fan in a room of a building. During investigation it was found that Arun was working as JE in Himalaya Energy Department for about one and a half years. He was living with his family in a rented room in Ber village Chambaghat. His wife has gone to the village these days and he was living alone in the rented room. On August 3, his wife called the tenant living next door and told him that her husband was not picking up the phone. When the neighbour went to the room, she found Arun hanging from the noose. No one has expressed any doubt on the investigation so far. Still, investigation is going on on every aspect on priority basis.

BJP'S 17 DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES DECLARED, STATE TEAM TO BE FORMED SOON; TIRANGA YATRA ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

Diary Times Desk : BJP's 17 district executive committees declared, state team to be formed soon; Tiranga Yatra on Independence Day

Himachal Pradesh BJP has declared 17 district executive committees. On Monday, 874 officers and members including 358 women, 258 Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, OBC were made in the presence of party observers in all the organizational districts of the state. State President Dr. Rajiv Bindal gave information about the formation of district executive committees in a press conference in Shimla on Monday. Bindal said that the announcement of BJP's state team will be made soon. BJP is a worker based political party. By creating workers from the general society, the Bharatiya Janata Party has built itself with innovation.

MAHARASHTRA TOURIST DIES AFTER SUFFERING FROM BREATHING PROBLEMS WHILE VISITING CHANDRATAL

Diary Times Desk : A tourist from Maharashtra who went to visit Chandratat in Lahaul has died. His health deteriorated due to breathing problems. Death is suspected to be due to high altitude sickness. The deceased has been identified as Akash Nana Saheb Dhadve (24) son of Kaluram Dhadve, village Sarove, tehsil Bhor, district Pune, Maharashtra. Rohan Manhas, resident of village and post office Bhahwal Manjh, tehsil Mukerian, district Hoshiarpur, Punjab, in a statement to the police said that he is an employee of a travel company and had come to Manali with a group of 18 people. All were provided bikes on rent from Manali and he himself went to Chandratat in a Bolero with other employees. Akash's health deteriorated in the camp on the morning of August 2, he was having difficulty in breathing.

LEADER OF OPPOSITION JAIRAM THAKUR SAID – ANOTHER SYSTEM CHANGE IN THE STATE UNDER PRESSURE FROM LOTTERY MAFIA

Diary Times Desk : Jairam Thakur: Leader of Opposition Jairam Thakur said – Another system change in the state under pressure from lottery mafia

Leader of Opposition Jairam Thakur said that the decision to start lottery in the state has been taken by the government under pressure from lottery mafia. This is another system change under the rule of Congress government. He said that if lottery is implemented in the state, then the government should also tell under whose pressure the decision was taken. What transactions were done with whom. Where did the transactions take place. No matter how many excuses are made by the government in favor of lottery, no matter how many arguments are given, but it is clear that lottery is not in the interest of Himachal Pradesh. BJP strongly opposes the decision to implement the system and demands its immediate withdrawal.

Thakur said that the government which came to power in the name of giving 5 lakh jobs. In the name of giving self-employment to the youth, promoting startups, shaping the future of the youth, grabbed power by lying. Today the government is calling legalizing lottery for the state a master stroke. Congress does not even talk about the guarantees in the name of which it came to power. The way the government ministers and the Chief Minister are arguing for implementing the lottery is even more surprising. Does the government have no other option left except to open liquor shops indiscriminately, legalize cannabis cultivation, and earn revenue by declaring lottery as legal?



PROSTITUTION WAS GOING ON IN A PRIVATE HOTEL IN SOLAN, POLICE RESCUED SEVEN GIRLS

Diary Times Desk : Police rescued seven girls from a hotel in Nalagarh's Saini Majra. After taking the girls into custody, police have registered a case against the hotel operator. The girls will be presented in court on Tuesday.

Police received information about the prostitution of girls in Nalagarh's Saini Majra hotel. On which the police raided here. Police rescued seven girls from the hotel. All these girls have been taken into custody by the police. These girls were doing prostitution business here for money. Hotel businessmen were taking huge money by offering these girls to customers.

On the other hand, DSP Bishma Thakur said that the police have rescued the girls. All these seven girls will be presented in the court of SDM on Mangalwarp. Police have registered a case against the hotel operator.

STUDENT HANGED HIMSELF DUE TO STRESS OF STUDIES IN SHIMLA, WROTE IN SUICIDE NOTE- I DID NOT DO WELL IN 3 PAPERS

Diary Times Desk : A student studying in class XII in a government school in the capital Shimla has committed suicide by hanging himself due to stress of studies. The student hanged himself by hanging his sari from the wooden plank of the ceiling in the absence of his father. Police found a suicide note written on page number 90 of the notebook lying on the bed in the room, in which the student had written that his three house tests held recently did not go well, due to this stress he is committing suicide.

Police have registered a case and started investigating the matter. According to the police, the student living in Fagli area was alone at home on Sunday. During this time he committed suicide by making a noose of sari from the wooden plank of the ceiling. When the father reached home at around 4:30 in the evening, the door was locked from inside. He knocked on the door but there was no response from inside. After this, when he looked inside through the window, the son was hanging from the noose. Hearing the father's screams, other family members also reached the spot and broke the door and entered inside. They took the boy down and took him to IGMC, where doctors declared him dead.

SHIBU SOREN, FORMER
JHARKHAND CHIEF
MINISTER, DIES AT 81



Diary Times Desk : Veteran tribal leader and former Jharkhand chief minister Shibu Soren, fondly known as “Dishom Guru”, passed away on Monday. He was 81.

His son, Jharkhand Chief Minister, Hemant Soren confirmed the news. Shibu Soren was undergoing treatment at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital in Delhi for over a month for kidney-related problems. He was on ventilator support and in critical condition.

He is survived by his wife, Roopi Soren, and three children. “Respected Dishom Guruji has left us all... I have become ‘shunya’ (zero) today,” Hemant Soren posted on X.

BONES FOUND FROM NEW
SITE IN DHARMASTHALA
MASS BURIAL CASE

Diary Times Desk : The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the alleged mass burial case in Dharmasthala on Monday recovered multiple skeletal remains from a new site identified by the anonymous complainant, police sources said.

Under the supervision of Director General of Police (DGP) Pranab Mohanty, the SIT halted exhumations at the designated 11th site and redirected operations to a previously unexamined spot at a place called Banglegudde.

The new site, located on an elevated terrain nearly 100 feet high, has yielded several skeletal fragments, including skulls and other human bones, sources in the police said.

According to sources, the SIT, which is investigating the case of hundreds of alleged illegal burials between 1995 and 2014, has already gathered Unnatural Death Report (UDR) records for the period. Despite earlier records being tampered with or missing from Belthangady police archives, prior data collection ordered by Mohanty soon after the SIT’s constitution helped preserve critical evidence.

Police officials said the recovered skeletal remains have been sent to the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) to determine age, gender, and possible cause of death.

"INDULGING IN TRADE WITH RUSSIA
THEMSELVES": INDIA COUNTERS US TARIFF
THREAT

Diary Times Desk : The government, in a strongly worded statement, has hit back at the US after Donald Trump threatened to "substantially" raise tariffs on goods from India over its purchase of Russian oil. New Delhi also reminded Washington that when it began importing from Russia after the outbreak of the Ukraine conflict, the US "actively encouraged such imports". It also countered the stance of the European Union for singling out Indian refiners over their exports of crude.

The foreign ministry said that while India's imports are "a necessity compelled by the global market situation", the nations criticising it are themselves "indulging in trade with Russia" even when "such trade is not even a vital compulsion". It then listed out the trade pacts these nations have with Russia. "The European Union in 2024 had a bilateral trade of Euro 67.5 billion in goods with Russia. In addition, it had trade in services estimated at Euro 17.2 billion in 2023. This is significantly more than India's total trade with Russia that year or subsequently. European imports of LNG in 2024, in fact, reached a record 16.5mn tonnes, surpassing the last record of 15.21mn tonnes in 2022."

"Europe-Russia trade includes not just energy, but also fertilisers, mining products, chemicals, iron and steel and machinery and transport equipment," read an official statement.

it continues to import from Russia uranium hexafluoride for its nuclear industry, palladium for its EV industry, fertilisers as well as chemicals."

KIREN RIJJU ON WHY CENTRE WILL BE
FORCED TO PUSH BILLS AMID
PARLIAMENT PROTESTS

Diary Times Desk : The government will be compelled to press for the passage of its bills amid protests in Parliament, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijju said on Monday, as the Opposition's relentless disruptions over SIR dimmed the prospects of normal functioning of the two Houses.

While the Lok Sabha saw little transaction of any listed business on Monday, the Rajya Sabha was adjourned as a mark of respect for its member and former Jharkhand chief minister Shibu Soren, who passed away this morning.

Rijju insisted that the government wants a thorough discussion in Parliament over its bills but will be compelled to push for their passage from Tuesday in "national interest" as the proposed legislations are important for governance. Hitting out at the opposition parties, he said that they had agreed to a two-day discussion over the National Sports Governance Bill and National Anti-Doping (Amendment) Bill.

RAHUL GANDHI 'CERTIFIED
ANTI-NATIONAL', SAYS BJP
AFTER SUPREME COURT PULLS
UP CONGRESS MP

Diary Times Desk : The Bharatiya Janata Party launched a scathing attack on Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, describing him as a "certified anti-national" after the Supreme Court reprimanded him over his remarks about the Indian Army.

The BJP alleged that Gandhi has vowed to "weaken India and strengthen China", claiming that the "China Guru" and his party "hate" the Indian armed forces. They demanded an apology from him and the Congress for his remarks.

The Supreme Court on Monday stayed the proceedings against the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha before a Lucknow court for his remarks about the Army during his December 2022 Bharat Jodo Yatra. However, the top court bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih slammed Gandhi, saying that he would not say such a thing if he were a true Indian.

Union minister Dharmendra Pradhan said in a post on X that for the first time in India's parliamentary history.

UP MINISTERS HIT GROUND IN FLOODED
DISTRICTS, DISTRIBUTE RELIEF
MATERIALS

Diary Times Desk : Lucknow, As parts of Uttar Pradesh reeled from floods, state government ministers, on the instructions of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, reached ground zero on Monday to oversee flood relief and rescue operations.

Incessant rainfall in UP has led to floods in 13 districts of the state. While Ganga was flowing above the danger mark in Varanasi, Mirzapur, Ghazipur and Ballia, Yamuna is above the red mark in Auraiya, Kalpi, Hamipur, Prayagraj and Banda, even as Betwa overflowed in Hamirpur, according to officials.

The ministers visited flood-affected districts, assessed ongoing relief efforts, and directly interacted with victims, according to an official statement, which added that ensuring timely assistance and uninterrupted distribution of relief materials remains a top priority for the government.

The chief minister affirmed that government representatives, administration, and resources stand with the people in every situation, committed to providing support in both hardship and recovery.

DELHI COURT DISMISSES CORRUPTION CASE AGAINST AAP LEADER SATYENDAR
JAIN



Diary Times Desk : In a major relief for Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Satyendar Jain, a Delhi court has dismissed a corruption case against him after the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) found no evidence of wrongdoing after four years of investigation.

Special Judge Dig Vinay Singh of the Rouse Avenue Courts accepted the CBI's closure report, effectively ending a four-year investigation into claims of irregular hiring practices during Mr Jain's tenure as Delhi's Public Works Department (PWD) minister.

The case, filed in May 2019 as "CBI v. Satyendar Jain & Others", stemmed from a complaint by the vigilance department. It alleged that Mr Jain wrongly outsourced the recruitment of a 17-member consultant team for the PWD, bypassing standard government procedures. After a thorough investigation, the CBI concluded that the hiring process was fair, competitive, and necessary due to urgent departmental needs, with no evidence of corruption, conspiracy, or personal gain.

**HUNDREDS OF ISRAELI EX-OFFICIALS
APPEAL TO TRUMP TO HELP END GAZA
WAR**

Diary Times Desk : A group of some 600 retired Israeli security officials, including former heads of intelligence agencies, have written to US President Donald Trump to pressure Israel to immediately end the war in Gaza.

"It is our professional judgement that Hamas no longer poses a strategic threat to Israel," the officials said.

"Your credibility with the vast majority of Israelis augments your ability to steer Prime Minister [Benjamin] Netanyahu and his government in the right direction: End the war, return the hostages, stop the suffering," they wrote. Their appeal comes amid reports that Netanyahu is pushing to expand military operations in Gaza as indirect ceasefire talks with Hamas have stalled.

**TAIWAN SEES FIRST FULL WEEK OF
'EXTREMELY HEAVY' RAIN SINCE 1998:
CWA**

Diary Times Desk : Taiwan last week saw its first full week of "extremely heavy" rain since 1998, the Central Weather Administration (CWA) said yesterday.

The CWA defines extremely heavy rain as when 24-hour accumulated rainfall exceeds 200mm, or accumulated rainfall exceeds 100mm in three hours

The CWA made the statement during a news conference after lifting the week-long rain advisory it had named the "0728 Southwesterly Airflow Extremely Heavy Rain Incident."

**HAMAS SAYS OPEN TO ICRC DELIVERING
FOOD TO ISRAELI CAPTIVES IN GAZA**

Diary Times Desk : Hamas has said it is open to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) delivering aid to Israeli captives in Gaza after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said he requested the Geneva-based international organisation to step in. The statements from Hamas and Netanyahu came after Palestinian groups last week released videos showing two emaciated Israeli captives held in Gaza, where some 2 million Palestinians are struggling to survive the Israeli-induced starvation crisis. Netanyahu said on Sunday he had spoken to Julian Larson, the head of the ICRC delegation to Israel, requesting the group's "immediate involvement" in providing food and medical treatment to captives still held in Gaza.

In a post on X, Netanyahu wrote in Hebrew that he told Larson that Hamas was propagating a "lie of starvation" in the enclave, but the reality was that "systematic starvation is being carried out against our hostages".

**"BE VERY, VERY CAREFUL WITH NUCLEAR
RHETORIC": RUSSIA AFTER TRUMP'S
SUBMARINE ORDER**

Diary Times Desk : The Kremlin said on Monday that everyone should be careful about nuclear rhetoric, in its first response to a statement by US President Donald Trump that he had ordered a repositioning of US nuclear submarines.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov played down the significance of Trump's announcement last Friday that he had ordered two subs to be moved to "the appropriate regions" in response to remarks from former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev about the risk of war between the nuclear-armed adversaries.

"In this case, it is obvious that American submarines are already on combat duty. This is an ongoing process, that's the first thing," Peskov told reporters.

"But in general, of course, we would not want to get involved in such a controversy and would not want to comment on it in any way," he added. "Of course, we believe that everyone should be very, very careful with nuclear rhetoric."

Peskov said that Russia did not see Trump's statement as marking an escalation in nuclear tension.

"We do not believe that we are talking about any escalation now. It is clear that very complex, very sensitive issues are being discussed, which, of course, are perceived very emotionally by many people," he said.

Peskov declined to answer directly when asked whether the Kremlin had tried to warn Medvedev to tone down his online altercation with Trump.

**5 UNAUTHORISED FLIGHTS
REPORTED NEAR TRUMP
PROPERTY OVER WEEKEND**

Diary Times Desk : A civilian aircraft was intercepted by fighter jets on Sunday afternoon after it entered restricted airspace near Donald Trump's golf club in Bedminster, New Jersey.

The incident occurred around 12:50 pm local time, according to a statement from the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). The jets used flares to alert the pilot before escorting the aircraft out of the Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) zone.

It was the second airspace violation of the day, with five such incursions reported over the weekend.

The flares, which may have been visible to the public, are "employed with the highest regard for the safety of the intercepted aircraft and people on the ground," NORAD said. The flares burn out quickly and do not pose a danger to those on the ground.

Authorities are reminding general aviation pilots to check all Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Notices to Airmen (NOTAMs) before flying. For flights near Bedminster, pilots should review NOTAMs 9839, 9840, 9841, and 9842.

"General aviation pilots are reminded to verify all Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) Notice to Airmen (NOTAMs) and Fly Informed before every flight," NORAD advised.

Trump was reportedly out of town at the time of the incident and expected to return to the White House later that day, as per Fox News.

NORAD said it uses a network of radars, satellites, and fighter aircraft to identify and respond to potential threats in US and Canadian airspace.

**AMID TENSIONS WITH US,
CHINA AND RUSSIA STAGE
NAVAL WAR GAMES IN THE
SEA OF JAPAN**

Diary Times Desk : China and Russia kicked off the latest edition of their bilateral naval exercise, Joint Sea-2025, on Sunday in the Sea of Japan near Vladivostok, Russia.

The multi-domain drills come just two days after U.S. President Donald Trump claimed that he had ordered two nuclear submarines to be deployed to "the appropriate regions", in response to 'inflammatory' remarks by former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev.

**RUSSIA EXITS INF TREATY, BLAMES US MISSILE DEPLOYMENTS AND RISING
NUCLEAR TENSIONS**

Diary Times Desk : Russia on Monday announced that it no longer considers itself bound by the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, a landmark arms control agreement signed in 1987, reported the Times of India. Moscow blamed the "actions of Western countries" for creating a "direct threat" to its national security and said the conditions for maintaining the treaty had "disappeared." The Russian Foreign Ministry stated that it would no longer observe self-imposed restrictions on the deployment of certain missile systems.

The Russian Foreign Ministry pointed to recent US military activity, including the deployment of a Typhon missile launcher in the Philippines and missile exercises during the Talisman Sabre drills in Australia, as key reasons behind its decision to abandon the pact. Officials said these moves undermined strategic stability and increased pressure on Russia's security environment.

The INF Treaty had banned ground-launched ballistic and cruise missiles with ranges between 500 and 5,500 kilometres. It collapsed in 2019 after the US withdrew, alleging Russian violations. Moscow has consistently denied those claims and accused Washington of developing missile systems banned under the pact. The treaty's breakdown has left a major gap in the arms control framework between the two nuclear powers.

PUNJAB TO INVOLVE PUBLIC IN FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS; 'YUDH NASHEYAN VIRUDH 2.0' TO BEGIN

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab government is all set to launch the 'Yudh Nasheyan Virudh 2.0', involving members of the public in fighting the war against drugs.

As part of the next phase, the government will involve the public to fight the menace by forming village-level (in rural areas) and ward-level (in urban areas) defence committees. Comprising 10-20 members, these committees will act as vigilantes and keep an eye on drug smugglers, peddlers and consumers. With the help of police, they will keep drug peddlers and smugglers away from their areas. The first defence committees will be formed in Ludhiana. Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann will formally initiate them into this on Monday. Officials say the defence committees will be formed in every village and ward of Punjab. Preference will be given to retired soldiers, teachers and senior officials.

The AAP government had started the 'Yudh Nasheyan Virudh' campaign in March. A five-member cabinet committee headed by Finance Minister Harpal Cheema oversees every aspect of the campaign. In the first phase, the government emphasis was on breaking the supply chain by arresting drug peddlers and smugglers. Police so far have arrested 24,499 smugglers since the campaign started.

CM MANN SAYS DRUG MENACE REDUCED SIGNIFICANTLY, HONOURS NASHA UKTI YATRA COORDINATORS



Diary Times Desk : The Chief Minister of Punjab, Bhagwant Singh Mann, stated that while the drug menace has not been completely eradicated in the state, it has been significantly reduced through the collective efforts of the state government and residents. Mann made this statement while addressing a program against drugs organised in Ludhiana on Monday. The Chief Minister also honoured the zone coordinators of Nashi Mukti Yatra and members of Village Defence Committees (VDCs), which have been restructured to lead the campaign at the ground level. Speaking further on the issue, CM Mann said that the menace of drugs had increased during the tenure of previous governments. However, after the Aam Aadmi Party assumed power in the state, it launched a battle against drugs, which has led to a significant reduction in the menace. AAP has now decided to make Punjab a "Rangla Punjab" again through the collective effort of Punjabis. Referring to the recent arrest of SAD leader Bikram Singh Majithia, CM Mann said that three leaders of Congress and two leaders of BJP have spoken in favour of Majithia. "I want to ask these leaders if they are hand-in-glove with these drug smugglers or against them," CM Mann said. "They should clear their stand as they openly favour Majithia." Without naming any leaders, CM Mann mentioned that other party leaders, such as Charanjit Singh Channi, Partap Singh Bajwa, and Capt Amarinder Singh, had openly come in support of this "wadda taskar" (big smuggler). He added that a basket full of evidence is being submitted in court to bring the case to a logical end.

10 PUNJAB, HARYANA SESSIONS JUDGES SWORN IN AS HIGH COURT JUDGES; STRENGTH RISES TO 59



Diary Times Desk : Ten District and Sessions Judges from Punjab and Haryana were on Monday sworn in as Additional Judges of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, taking the court's working strength to 59 against the sanctioned strength of 85.

The appointments come as part of a concerted institutional push to reduce a pendency of 4,33,720 cases—an effort that the High Court has been steadily pursuing over the past several months. The oath was administered by Chief Justice Sheel Nagu at a simple yet impressive ceremony in the High Court auditorium. The event was attended by sitting and retired judges, senior bureaucrats, members of the legal fraternity, and family of the newly appointed judges.

Those who took oath include Virinder Aggarwal, Mandeep Pannu, Amarinder Singh Grewal, Parmod Goyal, Rupinderjit Chahal, Shalini Singh Nagpal, Subhas Mehla, Surya Partap Singh, Aaradhna Sawhney, and Yashvir Singh Rathor. The elevations are expected to lend substantial momentum to case disposal at a time when the High Court is engaged in the arduous task of dismantling a backlog accumulated over decades. The Governor visited a relief camp at Bagsyad and held discussions with the affected residents at the Public Works Department (PWD) Rest House in Thunag. He later visited the Panchayat Ghar at Pakhrair and reviewed the situation in the affected areas of Jhundi and Pakhrair panchayats. The Governor also met with the disaster-hit families of Janjehli and offered words of comfort to them. He said that five truckloads of relief material had already been dispatched to Mandi and one truckload to Kullu from Raj Bhawan. He assured people that more assistance would be sent promptly if the district administration requested for it.

PUNJABI SINGER HARBHAJAN MANN'S CAR MEETS WITH ACCIDENT IN KURUKSHETRA



Diary Times Desk : Punjabi singer Harbhajan Mann had a narrow escape after his car met with an accident at the Pipli flyover in Kurukshetra early Monday morning.

As per information, Mann was on his way from Delhi to Mohali when his car collided with a stray animal and overturned. However, he reportedly escaped the accident without any major injuries. Around 4 am, as the vehicle crossed the flyover, the driver spotted a stray cow sitting on the National Highway.

COLONEL ASSAULT CASE: SUPREME COURT JUNKS PLEA AGAINST TRANSFER OF PROBE TO CBI

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday deprecated the conduct of Punjab Police officers accused of assaulting a serving Army Colonel and his son over a parking dispute as it rejected police officers' petition against the Punjab and Haryana High Court's order for a CBI probe into the incident.

"Have respect for Army people. You are sleeping peacefully in your house because that man is serving at the border at minus 40 degrees... They go and defend you and they come back wrapped in the National Flag," a Bench of Justice Sanjay Kumar and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma said, dismissing the police officers' petition against the high court's July 16 order for a CBI probe. "When the war is going on, you glorify these Army officers...Your SSP says, I am not able to arrest them in spite of rejection of anticipatory bail (plea) because they are police officers...Eight-day delay in lodging FIR!" the Bench wondered.

"This kind of lawlessness is not acceptable. No legal arguments, nothing is there...Your bail was dismissed, they are roaming freely and they have not been arrested...Let the CBI look into this," the top court said, describing the High Court's order as "well-reasoned".

**MONSOON HAVOC:
HIMACHAL SUFFERS RS 1,753
CRORE LOSS, 266 ROADS
BLOCKED**

Diary Times Desk : The total loss caused by flashfloods and torrential rain in the state has touched Rs 1,753.63 crore. As per the Revenue Department records, till now, 106 persons have lost their lives in landslides, cloudbursts, flashfloods, etc. Also, the Public Works Department has suffered the maximum loss of Rs 880 crore, followed by the Jal Shakti Department (Rs 618 crore), the horticulture sector (Rs 27.43 crore) and the agriculture sector (Rs 11.45 crore).

Also, 266 roads, including the National Highway-305 in Kullu district, are closed for vehicular traffic in the state. As per the state's Meteorological Department, heavy to very heavy rain is likely to continue for the next few days. The Met Department has issued orange and yellow alerts for heavy rain in various districts till August 8. Thereafter, light to moderate rain is likely to continue in some parts of the state.

An orange alert for heavy rain in Una, Bilaspur and Kangra districts and a yellow alert for heavy rain in Sirmaur, Mandi and Hamirpur districts on August 5 have been issued.

**HIMACHAL: 80-YEAR-OLD
MAN STRANDED AMID
LANDSLIDE ON NATIONAL
HIGHWAY DIES**

Diary Times Desk : Tears mingled with rain on under-construction Paonta Sahib-Shillai-Gumma-Fedizpul stretch of National Highway No. 707, as another massive landslide — triggered by relentless monsoon downpour — brought the traffic on the fragile road to a standstill near Hewna in the early hours of Sunday. But this was no ordinary disruption. Among many vehicles stranded in the chaos was one carrying not just a lifeless body — but a story that pierced the heart of the region. The deceased, Ram Bhaj Tomar, around 80 years old and believed to be the first RSS Swayamsevak from this region, had long been battling with poor health. He was cousin of former Shillai MLA Baldev Singh Tomar. According to emotional accounts now circulating on social media, his final wish had been simple, yet deeply personal — to return to his ancestral village in Shillai from Paonta Sahib and spend his last moments surrounded by familiar hills and kin.

3 KILLED, 2 INJURED AS CAR FALLS INTO GORGE IN MANDI

Diary Times Desk : Three people died and two others were seriously injured as an Alto car plunged into a deep gorge near Saini Nullah on the Janjheli-Chhatri road in this district.

The mishap occurred on Sunday night but came to light only on Monday morning.

All occupants of the car were returning from Shankardehra after work.

Police promptly arrived at the site and started an investigation.

Authorities said poor road conditions caused by heavy rain and the collapse of a roadside retaining wall were likely contributors to the accident.

The deceased were identified as Devdat, Mangal Chand and Yashpal, all residents of Breogi village.

The two critically injured, driver Guman Singh from Kalyanju village and Labh Singh from Gagan village, were rushed to a nearby hospital by locals.

**FLASHFLOODS DAMAGE ROADS, BRIDGES IN
LAHAUL-SPITI DISTRICT**

Diary Times Desk : Flashfloods damaged roads, bridges, farms, irrigation systems and drinking water supply schemes in several parts of Lahaul and Spiti district over the past two days. Many villages were badly affected and residents were facing serious problems, especially related to transportation and farming.

According to area residents, flashfloods damaged an irrigation system and posed a threat to a road bridge in Shansha village. Flashfloods in Karpot Nala in the Miyar valley of the district on Saturday evening washed away a road bridge, leaving residents without transportation facilities. The people of the area are struggling to travel or move goods.

Flashfloods in Dared Nala on the Sansari-Killar-Thirot-Tandi road in Udaipur subdivision damaged a road bridge and brought traffic to a complete halt. In Yangla village, flashfloods in Guldhar Nala caused significant damage to agricultural land and cash crops, causing big losses to local farmers.

**95% OF AFFECTED WATER SUPPLY
SCHEMES TEMPORARILY RESTORED IN
HIMACHAL: DY CM MUKESH AGNIHOTRI**

Diary Times Desk : The Jal Shakti Department, which has suffered a damage of Rs 580.30 crore, has temporarily restored 95 water supply schemes affected due to recent torrential rains and flash floods across the state.

Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri today said a total of 5,805 water supply schemes were affected due to the disaster, out of which 5,440 had been restored temporarily. He stated that the state had a total of 10,067 water supply schemes, including 3,210 lift schemes, 335 tubewells, and 6,522 gravity-based schemes.

"The heavy rainfall impacted 5,805 schemes, but swift action by the department has ensured that majority schemes were back in operation. The estimated damage to these water supply schemes stands at approximately Rs 434.47 crore," he stated.

HIMACHAL HC FLAGS WEEKEND TRAFFIC SNARLS NEAR PARWANOO

Diary Times Desk : Traffic snarls and the meandering, unending queue of vehicles at a barrier near Timber Trail in Parwanoo may soon find a way out, with the Himachal Pradesh High Court suggesting that the state and its functionaries explore the feasibility of a common facility at the barrier/collection centre at Sanwara, barely 15 km ahead.

The suggestion came after a Division Bench of Chief Justice GS Sandhawalia and Justice Ranjan Sharma took suo motu cognizance of the recurring chaos caused at the entry tax collection point near Timber Trail on the Chandigarh-Shimla highway.

The Bench was hearing a petition filed in public interest against the state of HP and other respondents by law student Uttansh Monga through counsel Ganesh Barowalia on the issue of toll barriers. He was, among other things, seeking reprisal regarding the "undue hardship and financial burden caused by the illegal and discriminatory imposition of toll fees at the toll barriers situated not only on the national highway, but also on roads constructed and maintained by authorities other than the NHAI in areas bordering Himachal Pradesh and Punjab." Taking up the matter, the court enlarged the scope of the public interest litigation.

HIMACHAL GOVERNOR MEETS DISASTER-HIT PEOPLE IN SERAJ, DISBURSES RELIEF MATERIAL

Diary Times Desk : Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla visited the disaster-affected areas of Thunag, Bagsyad and Janjheli in the Seraj Assembly constituency of Mandi district today. He met with the affected families and handed over essential relief materials to them.

In Thunag, the Governor interacted with disaster-hit people and said that the subdivision had suffered extensive damage in the recent cloudbursts and flashfloods. Huge losses to private property, land and livestock had been caused. He added that the cases of over Rs 3 crore in compensation had been approved for the final sanction. The Governor said, "Thunag has suffered massive damage and loss but the courage and determination of local residents are commendable. While a complete compensation for the damage is not possible, every effort will be made to provide assistance at all levels." He emphasised the need for considering both internal resources and additional arrangements to tackle such situations effectively.

ELECTION COMMISSION USES INDIA'S 6-RUN WIN AGAINST ENGLAND TO ENCOURAGE VOTING

Diary Times Desk : Thirteen months ago, when India beat South Africa in the final of the ICC World T20, Mohammad Siraj, in an after-match interview, said: "I only believe in Jassi bhai". On Monday, when he walked onto The Oval, England needed 35 runs to win, and they had four wickets in hand. Siraj, who didn't play that final against the Proteas in June 2024, didn't have Jasprit Bumrah with him today. And he told himself: "Believe in yourself." He picked up a fiver and India beat England by six runs to win the fifth and final Test of the series.

What looked like a sure-shot English victory on day four turned into a dramatic collapse as Siraj led India to one of the most thrilling comebacks in recent memory. With this win, India levelled the five-match series 2-2, capping off an unforgettable contest.

And much like the fans, the Election Commission has tapped into the excitement surrounding the win to promote democratic participation, comparing the win to voting.

"Team India wins the 5th Test by just 6 runs! Edge-of-the-seat stuff, because every run is a game-changer. In a democracy, every vote counts just as much. Every eligible elector must enrol in the electoral roll!" they wrote on X.

Enrolling in the electoral roll means registering yourself as a voter in the country's official list of eligible voters.

HERO TO VILLAIN TO HERO AGAIN:
HOW SIRAJ HAD THE LAST LAUGH AT THE OVAL



Diary Times Desk : In the morning session of day four of the Oval Test, Mohammed Siraj's leg touched the boundary rope after the fast bowler completed the catch of the dangerous Harry Brook, only to give him a second life on 19. Brook went on to smash what looked like a potential match-winning century (111). It was Siraj who eventually took Brooks' catch, but not before newspaper headlines screamed - 'Siraj goes from hero to villain'.

Almost exactly twenty-four hours later, Siraj had reclaimed the title of 'hero', taking India to an unforgettable 6 run win. After the match, Siraj revealed how he had downloaded a picture with the caption that read - 'Believe' - and told himself that he could do it for the team. His belief in himself was validated when he walked off the ground with the Player of the Match medal around his neck for match figures of 9/190.

SAHIBZADA FARHAN, SAIM AYUB SHINE AS PAKISTAN CLINCH T20 SERIES AGAINST WEST INDIES



Diary Times Desk : Fifties from Sahibzada Farhan and Saim Ayub cruise Pakistan to win the third and final T20 against West Indies by 13 runs to clinch the three-match series 2-1 at Florida, on Monday. Pakistan skipper Salman Agha won the toss and opted to bat. Pakistan's opening pair of Saim Ayub and Sahibzada Farhan gave Pakistan a flying start, adding 47 runs without any loss in the powerplay. They continued to build on the momentum and extended Pakistan's dominance by taking the team's total to 82 without loss at mid-way through the innings as Farhan completed his third T20I half-century.

Ayub joined his partner and completed his second T20I fifty, bringing up the 100-run opening stand for Pakistan.

'I AM SORRY...': SHASHI THAROOR AFTER INDIA'S HISTORIC WIN AGAINST ENGLAND

Diary Times Desk : Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Monday hailed India's sensational six-run win over England in the fifth and final Test at The Oval, celebrating the team's gritty comeback to level the series 2-2.

Taking to X (formerly Twitter), Tharoor praised the Indian squad's spirit and particularly lauded pacer Mohammed Siraj, whose standout performance sealed the result.

"Words fail me... WHAT A WIN! 🇮🇳🏏 Absolutely exhilarated & ecstatic for #TeamIndia on their series-clinching victory against England!" Tharoor posted on X (formerly Twitter). "The grit, determination, and passion on display were simply incredible. This team is special," he wrote.

Tharoor, who had earlier expressed doubts about India's chances, admitted he was mistaken: "I am sorry that I expressed a spasm of doubt about the outcome yesterday. But Mohammed Siraj never stopped believing! Shabash to our heroes."

India's win came after a high-voltage final morning in London, with England needing just 35 runs with four wickets in hand. But Siraj, channeling what Tharoor described as unwavering belief, spearheaded a stunning turnaround with a lethal spell that saw India snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Siraj, who took nine wickets in the match, was named Player of the Match and later revealed that he had begun the day by setting an intention. "I woke up in the morning and checked Google on my phone and took out a 'Believe' emoji wallpaper and told myself that I will do it for the country," the 31-year-old said, beaming with pride and exhaustion.

SHUBMAN GILL TO BECOME ODI CAPTAIN AFTER ENGLAND TEST
HEROICS? SUNIL GAVASKAR GIVES CLEAR TAKE

Diary Times Desk : Legendary batter Sunil Gavaskar has urged the selectors to consider Shubman Gill as captain of India's ODI team. His remarks came after Gill led India to a 2-2 draw in the just-concluded five-match Test series against England. Gill led from the front in his debut series as captain of India as he smashed 754 runs across 10 innings, including three centuries and a double ton. While Rohit Sharma, who retired from Test cricket before the England tour, is the current ODI captain, Gavaskar feels that if the selectors are looking at a new leader, it is the perfect time for them to appoint Gill.

"Rohit and Kohli are available for ODIs. They haven't been selected as of yet. Those things will be up to the selection committee. When the ODI series against Australia or the West Indies gets underway, it will be the perfect time to go for the Gill if the selectors want," Gavaskar said after the match.

Gavaskar also praised Gill for the way he batted in the Edgbaston Test, and lauded his fighting spirit after he single-handedly won them the game.

CHRIS WOAKES BRAVES DISLOCATED SHOULDER,
COMES OUT TO BAT WEARING A SLING

Diary Times Desk : England cricket team star Chris Woakes braved a dislocated shoulder to come out to bat during Day 5 of the fifth Test match against India at The Oval on Monday. Woakes picked up the injury during Day 1 of the match and did not play any part in the match from that point. Even the England Cricket Board (ECB) issued a statement that he was ruled out of the game due to injury. However, he stunned everyone by coming out to bat at No. 11 for the hosts after Prasidh Krishna took the wicket of Josh Tongue. The crowd were on their feet as he made his way to the ground as he received a rousing ovation.

India clinched the match by 6 wickets to level the five-match series 2-2.

Woakes suffered a suspected dislocated shoulder when fielding on the opening day of The Oval contest and was subsequently ruled out for the remainder of the match.

But with England needing just 35 runs for victory on the final day on Monday and to clinch the series 3-1, Woakes will put his body on the line and come to the crease at No.11 should he be required.

Woakes received some throwdowns at the indoor nets at The Oval on Sunday and got changed into his whites in anticipation of batting.