

## TRUMP TARIFFS

## TRUMP TARIFFS TO IMPACT 55% OF TOTAL MERCHANDISE EXPORTS TO US: MINISTER

**Diary Times Desk :** About 55 per cent of India's total merchandise exports to the US will be subject to 25 per cent reciprocal tariff, Minister of State for Finance Ministry Pankaj Chaudhary said on Monday.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Chaudhary said the government attaches utmost importance to protecting and promoting welfare of farmers, entrepreneurs, exporters, MSMEs, and will take all necessary steps to secure our national interest.

"A combination of different factors, such as product differentiation, demand, quality, and contractual arrangements, would determine the impact on India's exports," he said.

The minister was replying to a question about whether the government has made any assessment on the impact of the USA's reciprocal tariff threat on Indian goods.

"It is estimated that around 55 per cent of the total value of India's merchandise exports to the US will be subject to this reciprocal tariff," Chaudhary said.

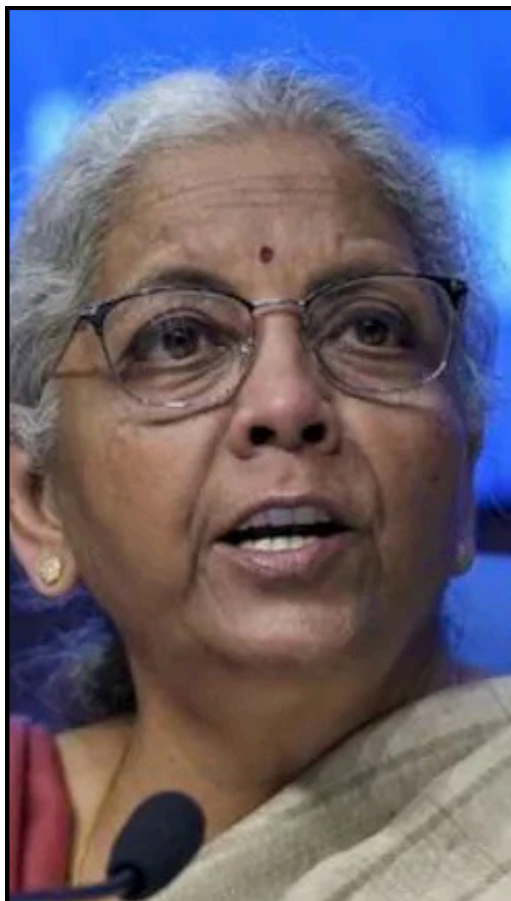
He said a reciprocal tariff of 25 per cent is proposed to be imposed on certain goods exported from India to the US starting from August 7.

US President Donald Trump has also announced an additional 25 per cent tariff, to be effective from August 27. With this, the total tariff on Indian goods to the US is now 50 per cent.



## LOK SABHA

## INCOME TAX (NO 2) BILL CLEARS LOK SABHA. WHAT IS IN 'S.I.M.P.L.E' NEW LAW?



**Diary Times Desk :** The Income Tax (No 2) Bill - which seeks to replace the six decades old Income Tax Act of 1961 and make the laws S.I.M.P.L.E to understand - cleared the Lok Sabha sans opposition debate Monday afternoon, but to the cacophony of INDIA bloc MPs protesting the voter list revision in poll-bound Bihar.

Finance Minister Sitharaman used that acronym in February, when she first tabled a first draft of the bill, to refer to its guiding principles. Those principles are: 'Streamlined structure and language; Integrated and concise; Minimised litigation; Practical and transparent; Learn and adapt, and Efficient tax reforms'.

That first draft was then referred to a select committee led by the ruling BJP's Baijayant Panda. The committee made 285 suggestions and most have been accepted, Ms Sitharaman said this afternoon.

The revised bill carries that mission further, Mr Panda said. He said the new draft further simplifies the decades-old tax structure and helps individual taxpayers and MSMEs avoid unnecessary litigation.

"The 1961 Income Tax Act has undergone over 4,000 amendments and contains over five lakh words. It has become too complex. The new bill simplifies that by nearly 50 per cent..." he said.

Apart from simplifying the language, the No 2 Bill clarifies deductions and strengthens cross-referencing across provisions, and addresses ambiguities around income from house property, including standard deductions and pre-construction interest on home loans.

'HUM NIKAAL DENGE': RAHUL GANDHI ALLEGES ELECTION COMMISSION TRYING TO DISTRACT PUBLIC

**Diary Times Desk :** Congress MP and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Monday insisted that he need not sign any oath to submit proofs to the Election Commission of the "vote theft" that he has alleged. "Arey bhai, unhi ka data hai (It is their own data)," he told reporters outside Parliament after Opposition MPs from the Congress-led INDIA bloc attempted to march to the EC office in Delhi.

"Election Commission jaanta hai ki uska data phatega... Jisko woh chhupa raha hai, hum nikaal denge," he said, in Hindi, meaning: "EC knows that its data will blow up. We will reveal what it's trying to hide."

Asked about the notices issued to him by the poll panel, Rahul Gandhi said, "They (EC) can put that data into their own website and get to know the details. All this is just to distract from the issue. And, let me tell you, this (vote fraud) is not limited to Bangalore (Central seat); it has happened in many other constituencies too."



KAMAL HAASAN DEMANDS MACHINE-READABLE ELECTORAL ROLLS, SLAMS RAHUL GANDHI'S DETENTION

**Diary Times Desk :** Actor-turned-politician Kamal Haasan launched a sharp attack on the Election Commission of India (ECI) today, raising what he called "grave questions" about the integrity of the country's electoral rolls. In a strongly worded letter to the people of India, the Makkal Needhi Maiam (MNM) founder asked why the ECI refused to publish rolls in machine-readable formats that allow independent verification and why it demanded a written oath from Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi when the evidence he cited came from the poll body's records itself.

The Rajya Sabha MP's statement comes amid the ongoing controversy about bogus voters in the Mahadevapura assembly segment in Karnataka.

Last week, Rahul Gandhi alleged the assembly segment of the Bangalore Central Parliamentary Constituency had more than 1,00,000 fake votes in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls.

'WE'LL FIX THIS': DELHI'S ACTION PLAN AFTER SUPREME COURT'S STRAY DOG RULING

**Diary Times Desk :** The debate over stray dogs in Delhi has now moved from the streets to the highest court in the country and will soon move to the city's shelters. Following a Supreme Court directive to relocate all stray dogs from residential areas to designated shelters, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta has promised a clear, phased plan to make it happen.

"Residents of Delhi have been troubled by the stray dog menace for many years. We will implement the Supreme Court's order in a planned and systematic manner," Ms Gupta said on Monday, calling the order a "turning point" in tackling a problem that has often sparked heated discussions between residents and animal welfare groups.

A Long-Running Concern

From morning walkers in Rohini to families in South Delhi, concerns over stray dog attacks and constant barking have been voiced for years. While some residents have demanded immediate action, others have argued for humane solutions.

KARNATAKA MINISTER OUSTED AFTER VOTER LIST REMARKS UPSET PARTY, BJP JEERS

**Diary Times Desk :** Karnataka Minister KN Rajanna was ousted by the Congress - Rahul Gandhi wanted him out and there could be further action against him, sources have said. The minister - whose comments about the alleged voter list tinkering by the Election Commission had hugely upset the party - was dropped after senior Congress leader KC Venugopal had a word with Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, sources said.

The allegation that the Election Commission is hand in glove with the BJP in introducing huge numbers of fake voters, is being spearheaded by Mr Gandhi. After his press conference on the matter and briefing to the INDIA bloc on Thursday - the matter has morphed into a massive political row.

Amid this, Mr Rajanna's comment about the alleged voter list tinkering in Karnataka's Mahdevpura in 2024 -- the test case for the Congress - has punched holes in Mr Gandhi's allegations and played into the hands of the BJP.

It was the Congress which was in power when the said tinkering took place, Mr Rajanna had said. Then he had pointed finger at his party in no uncertain terms -- saying the matter should have been flagged while it was happening and not now.

"When was the voter list prepared? It was prepared when our own government was in power. At that time, was everyone just sitting quietly with eyes closed? If we speak casually, we'll have to say many things," Mr Rajanna had said.

"These irregularities did take place -- that's the truth. There is nothing false in this. These irregularities happened right in front of our eyes -- we should feel ashamed. We didn't take care of it at the time. That's why we must be alert in the future," he said.

"When the draft electoral rolls are made, we must file objections -- that is our responsibility. At that time, we kept quiet and now we are talking," he said.

**Uncertain Future For Rajanna**

Sources said the Congress high command is now closely tracking the matter and for Mr Rajanna, it is a touch and go situation.

**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.

**YOUR HOROSCOPE**  
12-08-2025

**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.





## JAIRAM THAKUR: LEADER OF OPPOSITION JAIRAM THAKUR SAID- KIDNAPPING OF THREE STUDENTS IS A QUESTION ON POLICING AND LAW AND ORDER

**Diary Times Desk :** Leader of Opposition Jairam Thakur said that every day some or the other example of how bad the law and order of the state is coming to the fore. On the day of Rakshabandhan festival, three children are kidnapped from a famous school in the middle of the city. The kidnappers manage to take them about 50 kilometers away through every major intersection of the city. This is a very serious question on the policing of the capital. In a press statement issued on Monday, Jairam Thakur said that the law and order situation in the state is very bad. Even before this, in the heinous murder case in Una last month, the entry of international mafias and open threats on social media came to the fore. That incident told the whole story of the deteriorating law and order of the state and the mafia gangs being active, but the simultaneous kidnapping of three children in the state capital has given sleepless nights to the people of the state. The Leader of Opposition said that thank God that all the kidnapped students were recovered safely. The hard work of the police personnel engaged in their search and the cooperation of the common people paid off. Still the question remains that how did three students get kidnapped on a festival day? Where was the police?



## WATER FROM DRINKING WATER SOURCES AND HAND PUMPS WILL BE TESTED IN HIMACHAL PRADESH; INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING SAMPLES

**Diary Times Desk :** In Himachal Pradesh, water from drinking water sources, hand pumps, stepwells will be tested. Water samples will be collected from these sources so that it can be known which source's water is potable. Information boards will be put up at the sources whose water is not potable. So that people are aware that the water from that source is not potable. Let us tell you that water-borne diseases are spreading due to rains. Cases of water-borne diseases like jaundice, diarrhea are coming in hospitals. People should get clean drinking water. Due to this, this arrangement has been made. The government has asked the Jal Shakti department to investigate and submit a report within a week. Jal Shakti department has been asked to run an awareness campaign in the state so that people can get clean water.

## HIMACHAL NEWS: DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER MUKESH AGNIHOTRI SAID- CENTRAL GOVERNMENT IS SCARED OF RAHUL GANDHI'S REVELATIONS

**Diary Times Desk :** Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri has accused the central government of trampling democratic traditions. Mukesh has said that when Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, Congress General Secretary and MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and leaders of India Alliance were appealing to protect democracy by taking out a peaceful march against vote theft and electoral irregularities, the police took them and other MPs into custody at the behest of the central government. This is a black day for democracy. Agnihotri said that today Rahul Gandhi has made a big disclosure in front of the country that lakhs of fake voters have been added in many constituencies, in which votes are registered in the name of the same person at different places.

## MERITORIOUS STUDENT FELICITATION CEREMONY: RS 73 LAKH RELEASED TO 770 MERITORIOUS STUDENTS OF CLASS 10TH AND 12TH; CM SUKHU HAD ANNOUNCED IT

**Diary Times Desk :** Fulfilling the announcement of Chief Minister Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu, the Directorate of Education has released Rs 73 lakh as prize money to 770 meritorious students of class 10th and 12th. The meritorious students of the academic session 2023 and 2024, who were honored in Amar Ujala's Meritorious Student Honor Ceremony, have been given Rs 5 and 25 thousand per student. The bank accounts and IFSC codes of 110 meritorious students have been found to be wrong. In this regard, updated information has been sought from the district officials in three days. The Directorate of Higher Education has completed the verification process of eligible students and deposited the prize money in the bank accounts. In the Meritorious Student Honor Ceremony 2023 and 2024, Chief Minister Sukhu had announced to give money to a total of 880 meritorious students. The Chief Minister had announced to give Rs 5,000 each to the meritorious students of 2023 and Rs 25,000 each to the meritorious students of the year 2024 from his discretionary fund. The Directorate of Higher Education got the meritorious students verified through the District Deputy Directors and Principals of private and government schools to give the prize money. Due to lack of detailed information, there was a delay in releasing the amount. Now the Education Department has released money for 770 meritorious students. Detailed information has been sought to give money to the remaining 110 students.



## SHIMLA: ROBOTIC SURGERY STARTED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN CHAMIYANA, BECAME THE FIRST HOSPITAL OF HIMACHAL

**Diary Times Desk :** Robotic surgery was launched at Atal Institute of Medical Super Speciality Chamiyana on Monday. Chamiyana became the first hospital in Himachal to provide this facility. This facility will also be available under Himcare scheme. The estimated cost of the operation will be between Rs 50,000 to Rs 1.25 lakh depending on the complexity of the case. On the first day, two operations were performed using robotic surgery technique and an eight-hour operation was completed in just four hours. On Monday, one patient was treated for prostate cancer and another for kidney tumor. The surgical team was led by former professor and head of department (urology), Dr Anant Kumar (SGPGIMS, Lucknow). The team included head of department Dr Pamposh Raina and assistant professor Dr Pawan Kaundal. The patients were admitted a week ago and pre-operative investigation and anesthesia evaluation was done. The first surgery started at 9:30 am and lasted till 1:30 pm, while the second surgery started at 2:30 pm and completed at 6 pm.

## HIMACHAL NEWS: MUKESH AGNIHOTRI SAID- TENDERS WORTH RS 900 CRORE ISSUED FOR BULK DRUG PARK

**Diary Times Desk :** Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri said that tenders worth Rs 900 crore have been issued for various works of the Bulk Drug Park. He was addressing a public meeting on the occasion of the 76th Van Mahotsav organized in the premises of the under-construction rest house of the Water Power Department in Haroli of Una district. He said that through this project, India's dependence on China in the supply of active pharmaceutical ingredients will end and the country's medicinal self-reliance will be strengthened. This is one of the three National Bulk Drug Park projects being set up in the country. Its establishment in Una will give Himachal a global identity in the pharma sector. There is a possibility of investment of about Rs 10,000 crore in the project in future. More than 10,000 youth will get direct and indirect employment. Targeting the development obstacles, Agnihotri said that those few people who have not contributed even a bit to the development of Haroli are roaming around criticizing and are engaged in conspiracies.

ARMED ROBBERS TARGET  
JABALPUR BANK, LOOT 14.5  
KG GOLD, CASH

**Diary Times Desk :** In a major daylight heist, armed robbers looted gold worth more than Rs 14.8 crore and Rs 5.7 lakh in cash from a bank in the Khitola area, about 50 km from Jabalpur, this morning. The robbery took place around 11 am at the Isaf Small Finance Bank branch, with suspects threatening staff at gunpoint before fleeing within minutes. According to the police, the robbers -- believed to be six in number -- arrived on three motorcycles. CCTV footage shows at least four of them entering the bank one by one, wearing helmets to conceal their faces. They allegedly observed the staff for a while before drawing pistols and threatening to shoot. The assailants forced employees to hand over locker keys and quickly loaded 14.8 kg of gold and cash into bags. The bank staff said there were six employees, including the manager, inside at the time of the robbery. The branch had no security guard on duty at the time, reportedly because of recent changes in working hours for the festive season.

FARMERS STAGE  
MOTORCYCLE MARCH IN  
PUNJAB TO OPPOSE LAND  
POOLING POLICY

**Diary Times Desk :** The Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee (KMSC) held a bike rally on Monday against the Punjab Land Pooling Policy, urging public support for their cause. They protested against the Land Pooling Policy, which defines the terms for compensation of agricultural land acquisition in the state. Farmers' leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said that following the bike rally, they will hold a Mahapanchayat in Jalandhar. Pandher told ANI, "Punjabis should come together and support us in our protest against the government. After today's motorcycle march, all unions will hold a Mahapanchayat in Kukar village, Jalandhar. We have also written to SKM (Samyukt Kisan Morcha), and there will be a big movement to force the government to take back the policy. Today's motorcycle march will uproot the government." He added that their campaign is revealing the government's true face behind the policy. "A perception war is going on. The government is saying the policy is good, but we are going to the public to reveal the government's true face. In the next phase, we are not denying the possibility of a protest at the borders," he said. Further, Pandher said that KMSC is also supporting the electricity department employees' strike against the privatisation.

THAROOR SHARES UPDATE ON INDIA-US  
TRADE TALKS AFTER PARLIAMENTARY  
COMMITTEE MEET



**Diary Times Desk :** Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on Monday stressed the enduring importance of the Indo-US relationship, saying recent trade concerns will not derail the broader strategic partnership. His remarks came just days after US President Donald Trump slapped 50% tariff on India for purchasing Russian oil. Briefing reporters after a parliamentary committee meeting with senior officials, Tharoor said the Commerce Secretary had assured members that "the process of dialogue is ongoing" and that the committee was "fairly satisfied" with the government's responses. "We are not going to allow this kind of nonsense to influence our thinking," he said, rejecting any notion that "nuclear blackmail" could sway India's position. "No party, no representative of any party disagrees with that." Tharoor confirmed there was no change in plans for the sixth round of trade talks with the US, scheduled for the August 25.

8 WOMEN DIE ON WAY TO TEMPLE  
AFTER VAN FALLS OFF ROAD ON HILLY  
TERRAIN IN PUNE

**Diary Times Desk :** Eight women on their way to a temple were killed and 29 people injured after a pick-up van they were travelling in fell off the road on a hilly terrain in Pune district on Monday, police said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi condoled the loss of lives and announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund to the next of kin of each deceased. The vehicle carrying around 40 passengers, most of them women and children, veered off the road and plunged 25 to 30 feet down around 1 PM after the driver lost control of the wheel, a police officer said, citing the preliminary information. The victims, who hailed from Papalwadi village, were headed to Shree Kshetra Mahadev Kundeshwar Temple in Khed tehsil to mark the auspicious Monday of the Shravan month. Eight women on their way to a temple were killed and 29 people injured after a pick-up van they were travelling in fell off the road on a hilly terrain in Pune district.

PETA'S SHARP REACTION  
AFTER SUPREME COURT'S  
'REMOVE ALL STRAY DOGS'  
ORDER

**Diary Times Desk :** The Supreme Court's sweeping order to remove all stray dogs from Delhi and the adjoining National Capital Region (NCR) has drawn a response from animal rights groups, with PETA warning that large-scale displacement is both "unscientific" and ineffective. The top court today directed the Delhi government and civic bodies in Gurugram, Noida and Ghaziabad to begin immediate removal of stray dogs from all localities and house them in shelters, saying the animals must not be returned to the streets. PETA India's Senior Director of Veterinary Affairs, Dr Mini Aravindan, issued a statement questioning the effectiveness of mass removal. "Communities think of neighbourhood dogs as family, and the displacement and jailing of dogs is not scientific and has NEVER worked. Per a population survey conducted in 2022-23, Delhi has around 10 lakh community dogs, with less than half sterilised. Forced removal of some 10 lakh.

PAKISTANI INTRUDER IN BSF CUSTODY DIES  
AFTER FAILED BID TO ENTER INDIA  
ILLEGALLY

**Diary Times Desk :** A Pakistani national was detained by the Border Security Forces on Monday after a failed attempt to cross the border. As per the official statement from the BSF, the man was spotted trying to cross over into India along the international border. The intruder was arrested in an injured condition. BSF troops opened fire on observing movement of a group of people attempting to sneak into the country along the International Border in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua. The injured intruder was shifted to a hospital for treatment, officials said. However, as per the latest update, the Pakistani national succumbed to his injuries during treatment. "On 11 Aug 2025 evening, BSF troops observed suspicious movement wherein a Pak National was observed crossing the IB and approaching aggressively towards border fence in district Kathua, Jammu. He was warned by alert troops but paid no heed," reads the official statement issued by the BSF.

'INDIA REMAINS...': PM MODI CONVEYS STAND ON RUSSIA-  
UKRAINE WAR TO ZELENSKY

**Diary Times Desk :** Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday shared that he spoke with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Ukrainian leader's call with PM Modi comes as India faces high tariffs from the United States due to its purchase of Russian oil. As per the statement issued by Zelensky, the Ukrainian president called for India to support the peace effort to end the war. "It is important that India is supporting our peace efforts and shares the position that everything concerning Ukraine must be decided with Ukraine's participation. Other formats will not deliver results," said Zelensky.



ANAS AND MOHAMMED,  
JOURNALISTS SLAIN BY ISRAEL,  
REMEMBERED AS ROLE MODELS

**Diary Times Desk :** Late Sunday evening, Israel's military targeted Al Jazeera Arabic's Gaza correspondents Anas al-Sharif, Mohammed Qreiqeh and three others, killing them in a drone strike against their media tent at the gate of al-Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. The slain journalists had spent the past 22 months documenting the ongoing conflict and its impact on their community. Al-Sharif, 28, and Qreiqeh, 33, are both survived by their wives and a baby boy and a girl. Qreiqeh, who was an only child, had lost his mother in Gaza in March 2024, when Israeli forces stormed al-Shifa Hospital. He searched for his mother for two weeks, eventually finding her decomposing body on the stairs of the facility. Witnesses said she was shot and killed in cold blood. Despite the personal grief and excruciating circumstances, both al-Sharif and Qreiqeh continued to document Israel's war in Gaza, which is increasingly being deemed a genocide by critics worldwide.

CHILDREN OF H-1B VISA HOLDERS  
COULD LOSE GREEN CARD RIGHTS;  
INDIANS TO BE HIT

**Diary Times Desk :** Starting August 15, a major change in US immigration policy could put the Green Card prospects of thousands of children, mainly from India, at risk. Children of H-1B visa holders may lose their protected immigration status once they turn 21, even if their parents' Green Card applications are still pending. The US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) on Friday (US time) announced an update to its rules for calculating a child's age under the Child Status Protection Act (CSPA). This change, effective for applications filed on or after August 15, 2025, simplifies and standardises the process for families seeking Green Cards, making it the same whether applying from inside or outside the US. Under the new rule, USCIS will now rely on the Final Action Dates chart in the Department of State's Visa Bulletin to determine when a visa is considered available for calculating age under the CSPA. Applications submitted before this date (August 15) will still be evaluated under the earlier policy issued on February 14, 2023, as many applicants based their adjustment.

TRUMP DEPLOYS NATIONAL GUARD IN  
WASHINGTON, COPS NOW UNDER  
FEDERAL CONTROL

**Diary Times Desk :** President Donald Trump said Monday he's placing the Washington, D.C., police department under federal control and deploying the National Guard to make the nation's capital safer. Trump has promised new steps to tackle homelessness and crime in Washington, prompting the city's mayor to voice concerns about the potential use of the National Guard to patrol the streets. Ahead of a news conference, Trump said Monday on social media that the nation's capital would be "LIBERATED today!" He said he would end the "days of ruthlessly killing, or hurting, innocent people." For Trump, the effort to take over public safety in Washington reflects a next step in his law enforcement agenda after his aggressive push to stop illegal border crossings. But the move involves at least 500 federal law enforcement officials, raising fundamental questions about how an increasingly emboldened federal government will interact with its state and local counterparts.

AUSTRALIA TO RECOGNISE PALESTINIAN  
STATEHOOD; NEW ZEALAND MAY  
FOLLOW

**Diary Times Desk :** Australia will recognise a Palestinian state in September, Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has announced, drawing condemnation from Israel. Albanese said on Monday that his government would formally announce the move when the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) meets in New York. "A two-state solution is humanity's best hope to break the cycle of violence in the Middle East and to bring an end to the conflict, suffering and starvation in Gaza," Albanese said at a news conference in Canberra. Australia's announcement comes as Canada, France and the United Kingdom are also preparing to formally recognise Palestine at the meeting next month, joining the vast majority of UN member states that already do so. Israeli Ambassador to Australia Amir Maimon said recognition of a Palestinian state will do nothing to end the war in Gaza, telling the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC): "We reject the recognition, unilateral recognition." Israeli President Isaac Herzog also slammed the Australian announcement as a reward for Hamas for its October 7, 2023, attack on southern Israel, repeating the Israeli government's stance on all recognition announcements thus far. This latest recognition comes about a week after hundreds of thousands of Australians marched across the Sydney Harbour Bridge to protest Israel's war in the Gaza Strip.

TRUMP "REVIEWING  
OPTIONS" ON TARIFFS OVER  
CHINA BUYING RUSSIAN  
OIL: JD VANCE

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump has not yet decided on imposing levies on China for purchasing oil from Russia, as Washington's ties with Beijing "affect many things that have nothing to do with the Russian situation", Vice President J D Vance has said. "Well, the President said he's thinking about it, but he hasn't made any firm decisions," Vance told Fox News Sunday. He was responding to a question about Trump imposing significant tariffs on countries like India for buying Russian oil and whether Washington will impose similar levies on China since Beijing also buys Russian oil. "Obviously the China issue is a little bit more complicated because our relationship with China, it affects a lot of other things that have nothing to do with the Russian situation," Vance said. He added that Trump is "reviewing his options, and of course, going to make that decision when he decides." The US had initially imposed 25 per cent reciprocal tariffs on India and Trump last week slapped another 25 per cent levies on Delhi for its purchases of Russian oil, bringing the total duties on India to 50 per cent, among the highest imposed by the US on any country in the world.

UK EXPANDS "DEPORT  
NOW, APPEAL LATER"  
SCHEME FOR FOREIGN  
CRIMINALS TO 23 NATIONS

**Diary Times Desk :** The UK government announced Sunday that it will expand a scheme forcing some foreign nationals to have appeals against convictions heard from abroad, to prevent them delaying deportations.

The number of countries enrolled in the initiative will nearly treble to 23, with people from those nations now to be deported before they can appeal their convictions, it said.

In a separate announcement, Justice Secretary Shabana Mahmood said she intends to change the law so most foreign criminals will be deported immediately when they receive a prison sentence.

Foreign national offenders make up around 12 per cent of the prison population, and the move could save money, according to Mahmood. The steps come as Prime Minister Keir Starmer's centre-left Labour government faces intense domestic pressure over immigration, as Nigel Farage's right-wing Reform UK party surges in polls.

CHINA SAYS IT EXPELS PHILIPPINE VESSELS NEAR SCARBOROUGH SHOAL

**Diary Times Desk :** China's coastguard says it has expelled Philippine vessels from waters around the disputed Scarborough Shoal in the South China Sea while Manila reports a collision in the confrontation. The Philippine boats were intercepted on Monday after they ignored warnings in an operation China's coastguard said was "professional, standardised, legitimate and legal". The incident is the latest in a series of confrontations between China and the Philippines in the South China Sea, one of the world's busiest maritime routes, which Beijing claims almost entirely despite an international ruling that the assertion has no legal basis. Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan also claim parts of the contested waters. "The China Coast Guard took necessary measures in accordance with the law, including monitoring, pressing from the outside, blocking and controlling the Philippine vessels to drive them away," said Gan Yu, a Chinese coastguard spokesperson.





## PUNJAB WITHDRAWS LAND POOLING POLICY FOLLOWING PROTESTS BY FARMERS

**Diary Times Desk** : Amid the mounting political and legal pressure, the Punjab government on Monday withdrew its land pooling policy, through which the state's AAP government intended to acquire 65,533 acres. The policy has been withdrawn after the Punjab and Haryana High Court stayed it last week, coming down heavily on the government for bringing in the policy without undertaking any environmental or social impact assessment. It is learnt that a meeting of some of the bureaucrats involved in framing the policy was held with AAP top bosses two days back. Till Monday morning, senior functionaries of the ruling party were holding meetings with senior ministers and other leaders. With the state leadership being unanimous in their view that the policy was politically disadvantageous for AAP, it was decided a few hours back to withdraw it. Under the policy, the state government was to acquire 65,533 acres of land, 46,861 acres of which is located in Ludhiana. The policy was announced in June, after which all political parties and farmer unions started their protest. Within the AAP, too, the leaders started showing dissent over the policy.



## FARIDKOT POLICE ARREST ACCOMPLICE IN RS 14 CRORE BANK EMBEZZLEMENT CASE

**Diary Times Desk** : In the fraud case in SBI's Sadiq branch in the district, the Faridkot police today claimed to have arrested Abhishek Kumar Gupta, a close accomplice of Amit Dhingra, a clerk in the bank, from his flat in Ghaziabad. Investigations revealed that Dhingra had transferred about Rs 1.5 crore worth of property — a flat in Ghaziabad — to Gupta. Additionally, around Rs 10 lakh in cash had been credited to Gupta's account, and furniture and decor valued at approximately Rs 40 lakh in the flat were also subject to seeling. With Gupta's arrest, assets worth roughly Rs 2.50 crore in movable and immovable property have now been seized. Preliminary financial links to other accused individuals amounting to an estimated Rs 2 crore have also been uncovered, and further financial probes are underway, said Dr Pragya Jain, SSP Faridkot.

## LABOURER'S DAUGHTER SHINES AT WORLD ATHLETICS CONTINENTAL TOUR WITH GOLD AND BRONZE WINS

**Diary Times Desk** : In a moment of pride for Indian athletics, 22-year-old Amandeep Kaur clinched a gold medal in the 800-metre race and a bronze medal in the 1500-metre race at the ongoing World Athletics Continental Tour Bronze event, held at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar. "I was the only girl from Punjab and having won two medals is a dream come true. My second run was just half an hour later after my first 800-m run — I can't even express how happy I am," Amandeep shared her happiness over phone. Kaur clocked an impressive 2:04.31 minutes in the 800m event, securing the top podium position. She also displayed commendable endurance and speed in the 1500m, finishing the race in 4:27.14 minutes to secure a third-place finish. Behind these achievements lies a story of grit and determination. Coming from a humble background — her father works as a labourer and her mother is a domestic help.

## AKAL TAKHT EX-JATHEDAR GIANI HARPREET SINGH ELECTED PRESIDENT OF SHIROMANI AKALI DAL

**Diary Times Desk** : The Akal Takht-appointed five-member committee on Monday unanimously elected Giani Harpreet Singh as the president of the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) in a meeting of the delegate session held at Gurdwara Burj Akali Phoola Singh in Amritsar. Apart from this, Satwant Kaur has been elected as chairperson of the 'Panthic' council. The political group led by Giani Harpreet Singh, former acting Jathedar of the Akal Takht, was seen as a parallel to the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), while the Panthic council was carved out to guide the group. Issuing a clarion call to revive the original Akali Dal of 1920, the panel announced that Giani Harpreet Singh would not contest the elections. The elected heads claim to represent the original Akali Dal and intend to approach the Election Commission of India (ECI) for ratification. Giani Harpreet Singh, the former Jathedar of Takht Sri Damdama Sahib, was part of the Sikh clergy that had pronounced 'tankhaiya' (guilty of religious misconduct) for SAD leader Sukhbir Singh Badal and other Akali leaders on December 2, 2024.

## US TARIFF BLITZ ON INDIAN EXPORTS ROCKS PUNJAB INDUSTRY

**Diary Times Desk** : The increase in tariffs on Indian exports to 50 per cent by the US government has caused ripples in Punjab's industry. Auto component manufacturers, basmati exporters, hand tool manufacturers, and leather exporters in the state are now weighing their options. "We have been pushed into an economic war," say these industrialists who export their products to the US. Across all sectors, the exporters share a common opinion that the imposition of such high tariffs — while being advantageous for China (auto components and hand tools), Pakistan (basmati), Bangladesh, and Vietnam (textiles and garments) — will make their own exports to the US economically unviable. This is because the tariffs on these countries, barring China, are much less. China has the inherent advantage of much lower production costs because it is the manufacturer/producer of rawest materials. A leading Ludhiana-based auto components exporter to the USA, who requested not to be identified, said that if the 50 per cent tariff were to be imposed, he and other auto component manufacturers would lose their competitive advantage to China. "Till the time there is a 25 per cent tariff, we remain competitive compared to our Chinese counterparts. If the tariff on our exports is increased, China, where steel is much cheaper, gains an advantage.

## NO CERTIFIED COPY NEEDED: PUNJAB AND HIGH COURT EASES BAIL TO END CUSTODY DELAYS

**Diary Times Desk** : The Punjab and Haryana High Court has made it clear that liberty once granted by the court cannot be withheld due to the requirement of certified copies and stamped paperwork. In a progressive and humane ruling, the bench held that downloaded copies of bail or sentence suspension orders, duly attested by an advocate from the court's official website, must be accepted for furnishing bail bonds. This, the court said, would ensure that no one remained in custody even a day longer due to procedural delays in transmitting orders from the registry, prosecution, or computer systems. The ruling — cutting through the bureaucratic bottlenecks that too often chain freedom to paperwork — is significant as it applies to every person in judicial custody granted bail or suspension of sentence, making the restoration of liberty swifter and more accessible. It came as the bench of Justice Anoop Chitkara and Justice Mandeep Pannu directed the suspension of a convict's life term in an attempt to murder and kidnapping for ransom case registered at a police station in Gurugram in May 2018.

## MASSIVE FIRE GUTS HANDLOOM MANUFACTURING UNIT IN PANIPAT

**Diary Times Desk** : A major fire broke out in the wee hours on Monday at a handloom products manufacturing unit in Sector 29 Part-2, Panipat, causing significant damage to property and machinery. The fire, which started around 4 am, erupted at the MRR Private Limited unit, a factory known for manufacturing export-quality bath mats and rugs. The unit is owned by Ramesh Verma, who also serves as the president of the Handloom Exports Manufacturer Association. The factory had been closed after the Sunday morning shift. A security guard on duty noticed the flames and immediately alerted the factory owner and fire brigade. Due to the intensity of the blaze, a total of 10 fire tenders from Panipat and Samalkha were deployed to the site. Firefighters battled the flames for over four hours before managing to bring the situation under control. The exact cause of the fire is not known. Amit Kumar, a leading fireman at the scene, said the factory, a single-storey structure, was completely engulfed by the fire. "All the manufactured goods, including rugs, bath mats, machinery, and yarn, were destroyed in the fire," he said.

## HEAVY RAIN PREDICTED IN HIMACHAL PRADESH TILL AUG 15; ORANGE, YELLOW ALERTS ISSUED

**Diary Times Desk :** Himachal Pradesh is set to receive a spell of very heavy to heavy rain till August 15 as the state's Meteorological Department has issued orange and yellow alerts for various districts from August 11 onwards, resulting in enhanced rainfall activities across the state. As per the Meteorological Department, light to moderate rain along with a few spells of very heavy to heavy rain are very likely to occur across the state till August 15. During this period, maximum temperatures are likely to fall by 2°C to 3°C while minimum temperatures will remain normal. On August 10, heavy rainfall is very likely to occur at isolated places over Una, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi and Sirmaur districts amid yellow weather warning. On August 11, very heavy to heavy rain is likely to occur at isolated places over Kangra, Chamba and Mandi districts for which an orange warning has been issued. Similarly, heavy rainfall is also likely to occur at isolated places over Una, Bilaspur, Hamirpur and Solan districts, for which a yellow weather warning has been issued.

## ECO TASK FORCE PLANTS 6.5 MILLION SAPLINGS IN HP

**Diary Times Desk :** The Ecological Task Force, constituted by the Himachal Pradesh Government for environmental conservation, has planted over 6.5 million saplings in the state, an official said on Sunday. Commanding Officer of 133 Eco Task Force, Colonel Deepak Kumar, said the force was not only contributing significantly in the field of ecology but is also playing an important role in relief and rehabilitation during disaster management. The task force carries out plantation drives in areas such as Shimla, Mandi, Karsog, Nachan, Kullu and Sainj, selecting species suitable for the local environment. Due to heavy rains since around 4 pm on August 8, a massive landslide blocked the Mandi-Pandoh National Highway on both sides, stranding a large number of travellers, a statement issued here said. The Bravo Company of the 133 Ecological Task Force, stationed at Jalogi.

## BISHOP COTTON SCHOOL ALUMNUS HELD FOR KIDNAPPING 3 STUDENTS FOR EXTORTION IN SHIMLA

**Diary Times Desk :** A Bishop Cotton School (BCS) alumnus was arrested for allegedly kidnapping three school students from his alma mater for an extortion bid, police said on Monday. According to police, the accused, Sumit Sood (45), was familiar with the school's environment and planned the kidnapping for financial gains. The boys were rescued from a house in Chaithla village, Kotkhai, on Sunday, a day after they went missing during a day out. Speaking to the media alongside school authorities on Monday, local Congress MLA and former BCS student Harish Janartha said Sumit introduced himself as an old student and offered the children a lift near the Vigilance office in Khalini, close to the school. He then drove them towards upper Shimla, instead of heading towards Mall Road. "Sumit was aware that the school caters to children from affluent families and also knew the school's outing schedules," Janartha said. "It seems the children were not specifically targeted, and the accused, whose financial condition is poor, picked them at random," Janartha said.



## 316 ROADS CLOSED FOR TRAFFIC IN HIMACHAL; ORANGE ALERT ISSUED FOR HEAVY RAIN

**Diary Times Desk :** One national highway and 316 roads were closed for motor traffic in Himachal Pradesh as the state continued to be pounded by incessant rain on Monday. In the afternoon, Shimla found itself covered under a blanket of fog, with visibility reduced to only a few metres. The local weather office issued an orange warning for heavy to very heavy rain at several places in three to five districts till Thursday. The alert has been issued for Kangra, Mandi and Sirmaur districts for Tuesday, Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, and Sirmaur for Wednesday and Kangra, Kullu, Mandi, Shimla and Sirmaur for Thursday. Ghaghas village in Bilaspur district has received 61 mm of rain since Sunday night. Bilaspur has witnessed 50.2 mm of rain, Dharamshala 30.8 mm, Sarahan 30 mm, Murari Devi 28.6 mm, Shimla 27.2 mm, Jubbarhatti 25 mm and Neri 24.5 mm of rain. Malraon received 19.2 mm of precipitation, Kufri 19 mm, Slapper 18.9 mm, Sundernagar 18.7 mm, Mandi 17.4 mm, Nahan 16.1 mm and Dehra Gopipur 16 mm. Aut-Sainj road, a part of NH-305, was closed for vehicular traffic. Of the 316 roads closed, 181 were in Mandi district and 85 in the adjoining Kullu district.

## HACKER BOOKED FOR FAKE DONATION PAGE ON STATE DEPT OF INDUSTRIES WEBSITE

**Diary Times Desk :** An unknown person has been booked for allegedly hacking the official website of the state's Department of Industries and for using a fake web page seeking donations for Chief Minister's Relief Fund. The hacker had also provided a bank account detail as well as a QR code for donations. According to a complaint filed by Tilak Raj Sharma, Additional Director of the Department of Industries, he alleged that he received information about the web page and QR code from an employee of EY, who is currently working with the Department of Industries. He mentioned that the fake page, uploaded on July 26, displayed a QR code linked to a bank account under the name Purav Maan with UPI ID. "Taking immediate action, the Data Centre team immediately disabled the website on July 28 to prevent misuse of other government websites and restored it the next day after implementing safety measures," he mentioned. "During verification, one of the members of the EY team transferred Rs 1 from their personal account to the QR code that was being displayed on the website."

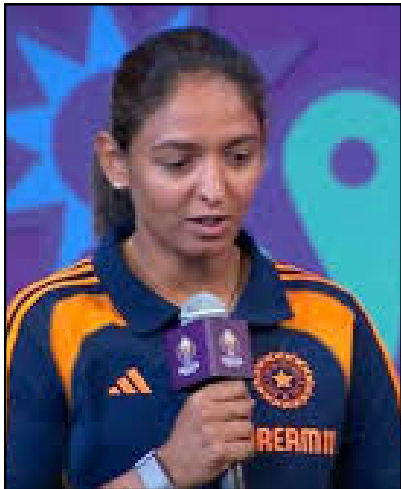
## SOMETHING SUSPICIOUS IN BJP'S LS POLL CLEAN SWEEP: HIMACHAL CONGRESS CHIEF PRATIBHA SINGH

**Diary Times Desk :** Backing Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi's charges of irregularities in elections, Himachal Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC) president Pratibha Singh today alleged that there was something suspicious in the clean sweep the BJP has been making in the Lok Sabha polls in the state. "We have been watching elections in the state since long and we had never witnessed the victory margins of four to five lakh votes. At best, the margin would be around 1.5 lakh votes," she said while talking to mediapersons here today. Talking about the last Lok Sabha elections, which the BJP swept in the state by winning all four seats, the Congress state chief said she had doubts about the last Lok Sabha elections too, including the result of the Mandi parliamentary seat. "In the Mandi parliamentary seat, the BJP fielded a candidate who had no connection with politics and had no experience. Yet, she won with a good margin against a candidate who had a good vote bank in the constituency," said Pratibha Singh. She further said she and other party people had doubts in their minds but had no proof. "I am grateful to Rahul Gandhi that he has exposed the scam and shown how the BJP was getting its votes," she said, accusing the BJP of weakening democracy and constitutional institutions.



HARMANPREET AND MANDHANA HOPE INDIA 'BREAK THE BARRIER' FOR MAIDEN WORLD CUP GLORY

**Diary Times Desk :** India's senior duo of Harmanpreet Kaur and Smriti Mandhana is banking on the team's recent form, collective confidence and their changed methods of preparation to "break the barrier" and lift India's maiden ODI Women's World Cup. The 2025 tournament, which features eight teams, will kick off on September 30, with India taking on Sri Lanka in the opening game. India failed to make the semi-finals of the last ODI World Cup, in 2022. Their best result at an ODI World Cup so far has been the runners-up place - twice, in 2005 and 2017, both times under Mithali Raj. They will hope to go one step further with home advantage and recent form on their side. "Playing in front of a home crowd, that is always special, and hopefully, this time we will give our 100% and try to break that barrier which all Indian fans and we are waiting for," Harmanpreet said at an ICC event in Mumbai to start the 50-year countdown for the World Cup. India have had a good ODI year so far, having won nine of their 11 games. The results include a 3-0 whitewash of Ireland, a tri-series victory in Sri Lanka (also featuring South Africa).



VISWANATHAN ANAND RECALLS 'PRETTY PATHETIC DEFEAT IN CHENNAI' VS MAGNUS CARLSEN: 'THAT'S WHAT MAKES HIM DIFFERENT'

**Diary Times Desk :** 2013 saw Magnus Carlsen become World Chess Champion for the first time, defeating Viswanathan Anand for the title. The Indian GM then qualified for the next World Championship in 2014, but once again lost to Carlsen, ushering in the beginning of a new chapter in chess. Speaking on a YouTube podcast recently, Anand took a walk down memory lane and recalled his rivalry with the Norwegian, who is also the current world No. 1. "I was in a chess crisis from roughly the end of 2010 until, well, after the match in 2013. I was really struggling with my game, and while I was working, I think I was unable to adapt to the new trends and developments. At the same time, I was working harder and harder in my old ways, trying to catch up, and it wasn't working," he said. "This frustration climaxed in a pretty pathetic defeat in Chennai. But then I suddenly had this realisation... when I took a lot of pressure off myself and just tried to play for fun and experiment a bit more. I certainly won the Candidates in 2014 and played Magnus. I think I played much better this time... a lot of the games were at least two-way battles that could have gone either direction before they went.

SARFARAZ KHAN SENDS HUGE STATEMENT OF INTENT TO BCCI: "IF SUNIL GAVASKAR, SACHIN TENDULKAR..."

**Diary Times Desk :** Ignored Indian cricket team batter Sarfaraz Khan believes that all Mumbai cricketers should play the Kanga League competition. Sarfaraz turned up for the tournament that is held during Mumbai's monsoon season and said that cricketers should not skip it due to the fear of failure. Sarfaraz was ignored by the BCCI selectors for the five-match Test series against England but the youngster found himself in the headlines due to his stunning body transformation. Sarfaraz scored 61 off 42 deliveries while playing for Parkophone Cricketers during the match against Islam Gymkhana. It was a big statement of intent from the cricketer who is looking to regain his spot in the Indian cricket team and he namedropped Sachin Tendulkar and Sunil Gavaskar in his big message for Mumbai cricketers. "I was so excited about this Kanga League match that the reporting time was 8.30am, but I reached at 8am only. More than being satisfied with my performance, I was delighted to be able to spend time in the middle. The pitch was not easy to bat on, and I even got hit on my helmet once. Also, there was a thick grass cover across the outfield so boundaries were hard to come by," Sarfaraz told Mid-Day.

BCCI SELECTORS TALKED WITH MOHAMMED SHAMI AHEAD OF ENGLAND TOUR: REPORT. PACER "DIDN'T..."

**Diary Times Desk :** At the age of 34, India pacer Mohammed Shami has seen his career plagued by repeated injuries, which have threatened to cut short his career. Shami was not selected for India's five-match Test series of England due to fitness concerns. New reports have now emerged, stating that Shami was even consulted by the BCCI selection committee, headed by Ajit Agarkar, before the squad to England was picked. However, the pacer himself was not confident about his fitness. The report also states that the selectors are keen on looking at younger fast bowlers, and that Shami's potential India comeback rests on one or two key factors. "First of all, he wasn't dropped because of form. Fitness issues are the only reason why he couldn't travel to England," said a BCCI insider, as per a report in The Telegraph. Shami had also not featured in India's five-match series of Australia, but it was the doubt in his own mind regarding fitness that saw him left out of the squad to England.



RCB'S MO BOBAT APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF CRICKET FOR THE HUNDRED SIDE LONDON SPIRIT

**Diary Times Desk :** Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Director of Cricket, Mo Bobat, has been appointed as Director of Cricket at London Spirit, with his tenure set to begin on 1 October 2025. The former England Men's Performance Director becomes the first major appointment for the Spirit as they prepare for the 2026 season. Bobat's arrival coincides with a new ownership era for the Lord's-based franchise. The MCC now holds a 51% stake in the team, while US-based tech investment group Tech Titans owns the remaining 49%. The ECB recently confirmed that all eight teams in The Hundred will transition to private ownership. Notably, London Spirit will continue to be known by the same name, as the franchise has retained its identity despite the sale of its 49% stake to the Silicon Valley consortium known as the "Tech Titans". The 51% owners of the franchise, the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), are in close contact with their partners and will unveil a new team branding ahead of the 2026 season, with the possibility of incorporating the club's distinctive egg-and-bacon colours.

"GHUTNE ME JO...": MS DHONI'S REPLY IS GOLD AS FAN TELLS HIM TO PLAY IN IPL 2026

**Diary Times Desk :** MS Dhoni's playing future in the Indian Premier League (IPL) remains a mystery, as the Chennai Super Kings (CSK) stalwart is yet to take a call on it. During a recent event, Dhoni suggested that he still has a few months left to decide whether he will continue or not. "I don't know whether I'll play or not. I have time to decide. I have some time until December, so I'll take another couple of months, and then finally, I can make my decision," said Dhoni while interacting with the host. However, a video has now gone viral where a fan can be heard telling Dhoni that he has to play another season in the IPL for CSK. "You have to play, sir," a fan shouted, as Dhoni was talking to the host. Dhoni, however, came up with a hilarious response that left everyone in splits. "Arre, ghutne me jo dard hota hai uska take care kaun karega (The pain I have in my knees, who will take care of that)?" Dhoni replied. Dhoni stood in for regular CSK skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad for the majority of this year's IPL after the latter suffered an elbow injury, and led their faltering and imbalanced side with resilience to notch up a few impressive victories towards the end of the season. The knee injury aside, the years that have passed.