

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### ASSAMESE JOURNALIST SHOT AT DURING CULTURAL EVENT IN MANIPUR

**Diary Times Desk :** An Assamese journalist working for a Nagaland-based television channel was shot at by an unknown persons while covering a flower festival in Manipur. The journalist, identified as Dip Saikia, sustained bullet injuries after the attack while covering the 'Zinnia Flower Festival' or 'Cherry Blossom Festival' in Manipur's Senapati district on Saturday evening. He sustained injuries in the right leg and under his armpit. Mr Saikia was immediately evacuated to a nearby hospital for first aid before being shifted to Nagaland for further treatment. According to Senapati district hospital authorities, he is now out of danger. Manipur Police said a case has been registered at the concerned police station, and a pressurised air rifle suspected to have been used in the attack was recovered from the site. "Police has identified the culprit and a team is on its way to arrest the alleged culprits."

### J&K: MORE THAN 200 PEOPLE RESCUED IN KATHUA AMID FLOOD DAMAGE

**Diary Times Desk :** More than 200 people have been rescued so far as rescue operations are underway in the aftermath of heavy flooding in Jammu division's Kathua district, a police officer said. On Saturday, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Saxena told reporters, "DGP Nalin Prabhat has done a detailed inspection of border arrangements. He was our first senior officer to visit after the floods... We had a detailed meeting with CAPF, district officers, SSP Traffic, and SSP Pathankot for flood relief, rescue, and repair works in Kathua. Rescue operations are underway. "We have rescued 75 more people. This has resulted in the rescue of more than 200 people so far... We have rehabilitated a lot of people as a preventive measure." Director General of Police (DGP) Jammu and Kashmir, Nalin Prabhat, visited the forward areas of the Border District Kathua on Saturday to review the security situation in the aftermath of heavy flooding.

## PM MODI IN CHINA

## PM MODI RAISED CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM IN TALKS WITH XI JINPING: MEA



"I would, in fact, like to say that we have received the understanding and cooperation of China as we have dealt with the issue of cross-border terrorism in the context of the ongoing SCO Summit," he added.

Modi, on his first visit to China in seven years to attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, met Xi for the second time since the two sides agreed last October to end a military standoff on the Line of Actual Control (LAC) which began in April-May 2020. The face-off took bilateral ties to their lowest point since the 1962 border war.

The foreign secretary said that the India-China boundary issue was also discussed in the bilateral meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping earlier today.

During their talks, Modi underlined the need for peace and tranquillity on the border areas for continued and smooth development of bilateral relations, Misri said. "The boundary issue also figured in the discussions. Both leaders took note of the successful disengagement last year and the maintenance of peace and tranquillity in the border regions since then," Misri said while briefing the press.

"In voicing certain principles related to this issue. The Prime Minister underlined the need for peace and tranquillity on the border areas for continued and smooth development of bilateral relations. There was understanding on the need to maintain peace on the borders using the existing mechanisms and avoid disturbances to the overall relationship going forward," he added.

## "NATURAL DISASTERS TESTING NATION": PM AS RAIN RAVAGES PARTS OF NORTH INDIA

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday expressed pain and anguish over the devastation caused by landslides and floods triggered by incessant rains, and said natural disasters are testing the country.

In the 125th episode of the "Mann Ki Baat" programme, he also highlighted two major achievements of Jammu and Kashmir amid the devastating natural calamity -- the first day-night cricket match in Pulwama and the 'Khelo India Water Sports Festival' at Dal Lake in Srinagar. "During this monsoon season, natural disasters are testing the country. In the last few weeks, we have witnessed massive havoc caused by floods and landslides. Homes torn apart, fields submerged, and entire families destroyed.

"The relentless surge of water swept away bridges; roads got washed away, and people's lives were in danger. These incidents have saddened every Indian," Modi said in the radio broadcast. The prime minister hailed the efforts of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), and security forces during the rescue operation amid mayhem. "Wherever there was a crisis, our NDRF-SDRF personnel and other security forces worked day and night to save people. The soldiers also took the help of technology. Efforts were made to speed up relief work with the help of thermal cameras, live detectors, sniffer dogs and drone surveillance."



### TELANGANA ASSEMBLY PASSES BILLS FOR 42% BACKWARD CLASSES QUOTA IN LOCAL BODIES



**Diary Times Desk :** The Telangana Assembly passed two Bills to provide 42 per cent reservation to Backward Classes (BCs) in the urban and local bodies.

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said the Telangana Municipalities and Panchayat Raj Amendment Bills were moved due to the continued pendency of two previously passed bills and a subsequent ordinance with the President of India. This legislative action comes as the state faces a Telangana High Court deadline to hold local elections by September 30.

Speaking in the Legislative Assembly, Mr Reddy launched a sharp attack on the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), accusing them of deliberately creating obstacles and spreading "false information" to stall the government's efforts on a crucial social justice issue. He stated that the new bill aims to achieve what the stalled ordinance was intended to do - lift the 50 per cent reservation ceiling, which is a key barrier to implementing the 42 per cent reservation for BCs. "The law brought by (then CM) K Chandrashekar Rao in 2018 has now become an obstacle," the Chief Minister said, referring to the Telangana Panchayat Raj Act. He explained that his government had already passed two separate bills-one for reservations in education and jobs and another for local bodies-and sent them to the Governor.

### '89 LAKH COMPLAINTS IGNORED': CONGRESS DEMANDS THAT SIR BE CONDUCTED AGAIN IN BIHAR



**Diary Times Desk :** The Congress party on Sunday intensified its criticism of the Election Commission and demanded that the Special Summary Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in Bihar be conducted again. Senior party leader Pawan Khera, while addressing a press conference in Patna, claimed widespread irregularities in the process and accused the poll panel of ignoring nearly 89 lakh complaints submitted by its Booth Level Agents (BLAs).

"Congress demands that SIR be conducted again, as 'large-scale irregularities' cast a doubt on EC's intention," Khera said while speaking at the press briefing in Bihar capital. Khera further claimed that a staggering 89 lakh complaints of irregularities, flagged by the party's Booth Level Agents (BLAs) in Bihar during the SIR, was ignored by the Election Commission.

"The EC keeps getting news planted through its sources that no complaints are coming from any political party. The truth is that the Congress submitted 89 lakh complaints pertaining to irregularities in the SIR to the EC," he said.

Khera alleged that the EC told Congress workers that only individuals could file complaints and not political parties. The SIR exercise in Bihar has already come under fire from the Opposition after several parties in the INDIA bloc have approached the Supreme Court, warning that the current process could disenfranchise millions, particularly from marginalised communities, due to missing names and a lack of proper notice.

### STRAY DOG ORDER

### 'MADE ME FAMOUS ACROSS WORLD': SUPREME COURT JUDGE ON STRAY DOG ORDER



**Diary Times Desk :** Known for his light-hearted banter both in and out of the courtroom, senior Supreme Court judge Justice Vikram Nath on Saturday said the "stray dog" case has made him famous in civil society across the world.

A special three-judge bench headed by Justice Vikram Nath on August 22 modified the August 11 order of a two-judge bench that prohibited the release of captured stray dogs from shelters in Delhi and neighbouring areas.

Speaking at a regional conference on human-wildlife conflict organised by the National Legal Service Authority (NALSA) in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, Justice Nath said he was grateful to Chief Justice of India BR Gavai for assigning him the case.

"For a long time, I have been known in the legal fraternity for my odd jobs, but I am also grateful to stray dogs for giving me recognition not only in this country but in the entire civil society across the world. And I am grateful to our Chief Justice for assigning me this case," Justice Nath, who is in line to be the Chief Justice of India in 2027, said. He said he recently attended a summit, where lawyers, including the president of the lawyers' association, asked him questions about the stray dog issue.

"I am also getting messages that, apart from dog lovers, dogs are also giving me blessings and best wishes," he said. Justice Nath-led bench said the dogs can be sterilised, vaccinated and released back into the same area from where they were picked up.

### "FROM TOMORROW, WILL STOP...": MANOJ JARANGE'S THREAT OVER MARATHA QUOTA DEMAND



**Diary Times Desk :** Activist Manoj Jarange on Sunday asserted he will not leave Mumbai until his demand for reservation to the Maratha community is met, as his hunger strike entered the third day.

He also claimed his demand was constitutionally valid and that the government has records showing Kunbis and Marathas are the same caste.

A large number of agitators were present at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) impacting traffic in the area and nearby junctions, according to police.

"As the Agitation at Azad Maidan still continues, agitators are present at CSMT Junction Impacting traffic in the area and near by junctions. Motorist are advised to avoid these route and take alternate route to reach their destination," the Mumbai Traffic Police said on their X handle. Jarange said people from the Maratha community have come to Mumbai to participate in the agitation with a lot of pain in their hearts and urged Maharashtra government not to consider them as a "crowd".

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The prime minister hailed the efforts of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF), and security forces during the rescue operation amid mayhem. "Wherever there was a crisis, our NDRF-SDRF personnel and other security forces worked day and night to save people. The soldiers also took the help of technology. Efforts were made to speed up relief work with the help of thermal cameras, live detectors, sniffer dogs and drone surveillance.

## BJP TO HOLD STATE-WIDE PROTESTS IN A.P. AGAINST RAHUL GANDHI'S REMARKS

**Diary Times Desk :** Andhra Pradesh BJP president P.V.N. Madhav strongly criticised Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, accusing him of 'befriending lies' and stooping to indecent levels in his recent remarks. Speaking with party cadre via teleconference on Sunday (August 31), Mr. Madhav said that Mr. Rahul Gandhi's comments, particularly those concerning Prime Minister Narendra Modi's late mother, were disgraceful and unacceptable.

"Such remarks are an insult to public decency, and the people of the country will never forgive him," Madhav asserted.

He called upon BJP workers across the State to organise protests on Monday (September 01) under the leadership of the BJP Mahila Morcha, which will include the burning of Rahul Gandhi's effigies and filing complaints at local police stations.

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YOUR HOROSCOPE

01-09-2025

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.



## POLITICS OVER MODI-XI 'DOSTI': CONGRESS RAKES UP GALWAN CLASH

**Diary Times Desk :** India and China have pledged to strengthen their partnership during a meeting on the sidelines of the key SCO Summit today. As both nations committed to taking their ties forward, Chinese President Xi Jinping remarked that it is vital for India and China-the dragon and the elephant-to come together as friends. However, this display of bonhomie hasn't gone down well with the opposition in India.

The Congress Party raised the 2020 Galwan clash, questioning whether India has received any justice for the soldiers who lost their lives. The party accused Prime Minister Modi of constantly shifting friendships-from Donald Trump to now, Xi Jinping. Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav also demanded clarification on whether India's total landmass has decreased following alleged Chinese occupation.

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Jarange said people from the Maratha community have come to Mumbai to participate in the agitation with a lot of pain in their hearts and urged Maharashtra government not to consider them as a "crowd".

The 43-year-old activist has been staging an indefinite hunger strike at the Azad Maidan in south Mumbai from Friday to press for the reservation.

He has been demanding a 10 per cent quota for Marathas and wants them to be recognised as Kunbis -- an agrarian caste included in the Other Backward Classes category -- which will make them eligible for reservation in government jobs.

## 'MINI-CLOUDBURSTS' ARE ON THE RISE, SAYS IMD CHIEF



**Diary Times Desk :** There is no "increasing trend" in 'cloudbursts' over India in recent years and they remain "impossible" to forecast. However, there has been an increase in 'mini cloudbursts', Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director-General, India Meteorological Department (IMD), said at a press briefing on Sunday (August 31, 2025).

Rainfall in September — the last official monsoon month — is like in previous months, expected to be 'above normal', or 9% more than the usual average of 16.7 cm. Except for the northeastern States and parts of "extreme" southern India, the rest of the country is expected to receive above-normal monsoon.

The three monsoon months so far have seen 'above normal' rainfall, in line with what the IMD had forecast in May. Rain from June 1- August 31 was 6% above the normal 70 cm that is usual for the three months. Northwest India — comprising Uttarakhand, most parts of Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Jammu, Kashmir, Rajasthan, and Delhi — saw 26% more rain than what is typical for these three months.

## CONGRESS GEARS UP FOR TABELING OF KLIS REPORT

**Diary Times Desk :** With the state government preparing to table the Justice PC Ghose Commission's report on alleged irregularities in the construction of the Kaleshwaram project in the Assembly on Sunday, Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday made a presentation to ministers and Congress MLAs. He outlined the findings of the report and, according to sources, also gave suggestions to members on how to raise the issue in the House.

Meanwhile, Assembly Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar rejected a request from the BRS to make a presentation on the Kaleshwaram project in the House. The party reportedly sought permission to allow former minister and MLA T Harish Rao to address the Assembly with a presentation.

In an informal interaction with reporters, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka said there was no precedent for permitting the Opposition to give presentations in the Assembly.

## 'BIG BOY INDIA CONVEYED IT WON'T BE BOSSSED ON OIL PURCHASE': US JOURNALIST SLAMS TRUMP TARIFFS

**Diary Times Desk :** An American journalist on Sunday said India is "the big boy", "not a schoolchild", that conveyed that the US cannot boss it over where to buy or not buy oil from, prompting a "cataclysmic moment". He was referring to the tariffs imposed on Indian goods by United States President Donald Trump.

American journalist and political commentator Rick Sanchez called the US decision to impose tariffs on India for purchasing Russian oil is a "disrespectful and ignorant policy".

US President Donald Trump has imposed 25 per cent tariffs on India plus a penalty of 25 per cent additional duties for Russian oil purchase, taking the total levies to 50 per cent.

Rick Sanchez, in an ANI news agency interview, said the US decision on secondary tariffs is "extremely preposterous in the eyes of most people" and amounts to treating India like schoolchildren who need to be told what to do.

## HOME MINISTER SHAH VISITING J-K SOLELY TO ASSESS FLOOD DAMAGE CM OMAR ABDULLAH

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Home Minister Amit Shah is visiting Jammu and Kashmir to assess the damage caused by flash floods triggered by cloudbursts and record rainfall early this week, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said on Sunday.

Shah is scheduled to arrive in Jammu later this evening on a two-day tour and is expected to conduct an aerial survey of the flood-hit areas before chairing a high-level meeting at the Raj Bhavan on Monday.

More than 130 people were killed and over 120 injured while 33 remained untraced following cloudbursts, landslides and flash floods in Kishtwar, Kathua, Reasi and Ramban districts since August 14.

The record rainfall on August 26-27 also caused flash floods in low-lying areas across the region, causing widespread damage to public and private infrastructure.

"The home minister is solely coming here to assess the situation in the aftermath of the heavy rains .

## ASSAMESE JOURNALIST SHOT AT DURING CULTURAL EVENT IN MANIPUR

**Diary Times Desk :** An Assamese journalist working for a Nagaland-based television channel was shot at by an unknown persons while covering a flower festival in Manipur.

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Manipur Police said a case has been registered at the concerned police station, and a pressurised air rifle suspected to have been used in the attack was recovered from the site.



IN TIANJIN, PM OLI EXPRESSES  
NEPAL'S "STRONG OBJECTION" TO  
INDIA-CHINA TRADE THROUGH LIPU  
LEKH PASS

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister K. P. Sharma Oli of Nepal became one of the first foreign leaders to meet President Xi Jinping of China on Saturday (August 30, 2025). During the meeting, Mr. Oli highlighted Nepal's "strong objection" to India-China restarting trade through the Lipu Lekh Pass that Kathmandu considers a part of Nepal's sovereign territory, the Embassy of Nepal in Beijing said in a press statement.

"Referring to the recent understanding reached between India and China on border trade through Lipu Lekh Pass, the Rt. Hon. Prime Minister stated that the territory belongs to Nepal and Government of Nepal has registered strong objection on the same," said the press statement. Referring to the discussion between the two teams, Foreign Secretary Amrit Bahadur Rai also reiterated the Nepalese position on the Lipu Lekh Pass and said, "According to the 1816 Treaty of Sugauli, the entire area to the east of Mahakali river is part of the sovereign territory of Nepal."

BEYOND DIPLOMACY: ROBOTS ADD  
SPARK TO SCO SUMMIT

**Diary Times Desk :** While world leaders gather in Tianjin to discuss weighty matters of security and cooperation at the SCO Summit, the real stars of the media centre aren't diplomats in dark suits — but robots.

From ice-cream vendors with mechanical arms to calligraphy artists wielding brushes with surprising elegance, a fleet of futuristic helpers has turned the media hub into something straight out of science fiction.

At one counter, a robot in a crisp white shell carefully swirled vanilla ice cream into cones, its precision drawing smiles from weary journalists. Nearby, a delivery robot rolled silently across the hall, dodging camera tripods and hurried reporters as it dropped off bottles of water.

Another desk had a resident host — "Xiaohe", a multimodal interactive robot. Equal parts receptionist and guide, Xiaohe greets visitors with a bow, answers questions and even cracks a joke or two in three languages — English, Mandarin and Russian.

CHINA'S FACTORY ACTIVITY CONTRACTS IN AUGUST DESPITE EXTENSION  
OF TRADE TRUCE WITH US

**Diary Times Desk :** China's factory activity contracted in August, marking five consecutive months of decline, according to an official survey released Sunday, after a trade truce between the US and China was extended for another 90 days.

China's purchasing managers index in the manufacturing sector rose from 49.3 in July to 49.4 in August, indicating the decline slowed from the previous month, the National Bureau of Statistics said. PMI is measured on a scale from 0 to 100, where 50 marks the cutoff between expansion and contraction.

The indices measuring manufacturing, new orders and raw material inventory edged up in the sector. But the index measuring employment saw a slight drop.

The survey results came weeks after US President Donald Trump extended a pause in sharp hikes in import duties for 90 days. But uncertainty over tariffs on exports to the US is still looming over the world's second-largest economy. This compounds the pressures on China's economy, from a property sector downturn to a rise in the jobless rate, among other factors.

US TRADE WAR, INDIA-CHINA TIES  
LOOM LARGE AT SCO SUMMIT IN TIANJIN



**Diary Times Desk :** Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi are among the more than 20 world leaders attending the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit, which is now the world's largest regional grouping by population.

The Beijing-backed bloc will convene on Sunday and Monday in the northern Chinese city of Tianjin, bringing together a diverse range of power brokers from across Asia, Europe and the Middle East.

Founded by China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan in 2001, the summit has shifted focus over the past two decades from Central Asian concerns to global matters.

EU IS DIVIDED ON GAZA ISSUE:  
EUROPEAN COMMISSION VICE  
PRESIDENT KALLAS

**Diary Times Desk :** The European Union remains divided when it comes to Gaza, Vice-President of the European Commission, Kaja Kallas said after the informal meeting of the bloc's foreign ministers in Copenhagen, as per EuroNews.

Kallas said the division is negatively affecting the global credibility of the EU, and expressed disappointment about not being able to reach unity among ministers.

"If you ask personally how that feels, that I'm the face that is to blame, that we don't have a decision, then it's hard. It's very hard," Kallas said, as quoted by EuroNews.

"It's clear that member states disagree on how to get the Israeli government to change course. The options are clear and remain on the table. We have presented the options paper. But the problem is that not all EU member states are on board," Kallas added.

Kallas said that member states still have no agreement on plan to suspend free trade with Israel as part of the EU-Israel Association Agreement. Some countries expressed their opposition, including Germany and Hungary, while Denmark, currently holding the rotating presidency, signalled it would support the suspension.

BARRON TRUMP REACTS TO  
DAD DONALD'S DEATH  
RUMOURS; HERE'S WHAT HE  
SAID

**Diary Times Desk :** Adin Ross, an American online streamer who interviewed US President Donald Trump in a 90-minute livestream last year, claimed to have gotten a text from "someone very close" verifying that the news of Trump's death was false. Ross gave an update to his fans during a livestream on Kick, informing that "literally nothing is wrong."

"Guys, I just got confirmed that President Trump is okay. By a very close... Wait, what happened with Trump? Nothing, literally nothing's wrong," he stated.

The video was posted on X with the caption, "Adin Ross just got a text from Barron Trump confirming Donald Trump is alive and well."

Reacting to the post, one person wrote: "Wait, so Barron Trump is now the official presidential health spokesperson? Kid's got range."

"No way Adin Ross is breaking this news," another stated.

"@grok what happened to trump," another user confirmed from an AI chatbot developed by xAI.

RUSSIA, CHINA OPPOSE  
'DISCRIMINATORY  
SANCTIONS' AGAINST BRICS  
COUNTRIES: PUTIN

**Diary Times Desk :** Russia and China have taken a common stand against "discriminatory sanctions" that hinder the socioeconomic development of BRICS member countries, Russian President Vladimir Putin has said.

Putin, who arrived here to attend the Shanghai Cooperation (SCO) summit, made the remarks in an interview with China's state-run Xinhua news agency.

He said that Russia and China are paying special attention to mobilising additional resources for critical infrastructure projects, and stand united in strengthening BRICS' ability to address pressing global challenges.

The Russian President said that Moscow and Beijing take a "common stand against discriminatory sanctions that hinder the socioeconomic development" of BRICS members and the world at large.

Putin's remarks came in the backdrop of US President Donald Trump threatening the member countries of BRICS with 10 per cent tariffs.





### INDONESIAN PRESIDENT SAYS LAWMAKERS’ PERKS TO BE CUT AFTER DEADLY PROTESTS

**Diary Times Desk :** Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto says political parties have agreed to revoke a number of perks and privileges for parliamentarians in a major concession to people taking part in antigovernment protests that have killed at least five people. Protests over what the demonstrators have criticised as excessive pay and housing allowances for parliamentarians started on Monday and expanded into riots on Thursday after one person, a motorcycle rideshare driver, was killed in a police action at a protest site.

Rioters ransacked or set ablaze the homes of some members of the political parties as well as some state installations as protests rocked major cities in Southeast Asia’s biggest economy.



### MODI MEETS MYANMAR MILITARY CHIEF, EXPRESSES ‘FAIR ELECTION’ HOPE

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday (August 31) met Senior General Min Aung Hlaing of Myanmar, on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit in Tianjin and expressed hope that the upcoming elections in the country would be held in a fair and inclusive manner.

Hlaing is the chairman of the State Administration Council of Myanmar – the military junta which is in power in the country. Modi had last met Hlaing in April on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) Modi “expressed the hope that the forthcoming elections in Myanmar will be held in a fair and inclusive manner involving all stakeholders.”

“He underlined that India supports a Myanmar-led and Myanmar-owned peace process, for which peaceful dialogue and consultation is the only way forward,” an MEA statement said.

The MEA said that Modi had reiterated India’s readiness to support the developmental needs of Myanmar and noted that India attaches importance to ties with the country as a part of its Neighbourhood First, Act East and Indo-Pacific policies.

### AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT CONDEMNS CAMPAIGNS AGAINST MIGRATION OF INDIANS

**Diary Times Desk :** The Australian government on Sunday (August 31, 2025) has disapproved the campaigns taking place across various cities against increasing migration of Indians, saying “brand of far-right activism grounded in racism and ethnocentrism” has no place in the country.

‘March for Australia’ rallies were held in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Adelaide, Perth, Hobart, among others, were held against immigration, according to the right wing group’s website.



In a release, the Australian government said, the Anthony Albanese government stands against the events planned for the weekend. “All Australians, no matter their heritage, have the right to feel safe and welcome in our community,” the statement said.

Minister for Multicultural Affairs Anne Aly said, “Multiculturalism is an integral and valued part of our national identity.” “We stand with all Australians, no matter where they were born, against those who seek to divide us and who seek to intimidate migrant communities. We will not be intimidated.

### TRUMP’S ALARMING HEALTH CONDITION CAN LEAD TO ‘AMPUTATION’; DOCTOR ISSUES URGENT WARNING

**Diary Times Desk :** President Donald Trump was spotted with his grandchildren, Kai Trump, 18, and Spencer Trump, 12, on the south lawn of the White House hours after rumors about him going ‘missing from public eye’ went viral. The White House is yet to react to these bizarre rumors that were shared in unverified social media posts. Late on Friday, ‘Trump is dead’ and ‘Where is Trump?’ were among the top trends on X, platform formerly known as Twitter. This comes as the president’s appearance has sparked health concerns. On Monday, Trump’s hand bruise was seen unconcealed. The 79-year-old was using makeup to hide the bruise for weeks. White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said the reason for the bruising was that Trump was ‘shaking hands all day, every day’.

### US COURT RULING CALLING TARIFF ILLEGAL NOT APPLICABLE TO INDIA, CLAIMS EXPERT



**Diary Times Desk :** The legal battle over US President Donald Trump’s reciprocal tariffs has intensified after a federal appeals court ruled that the levies were imposed illegally under emergency powers.

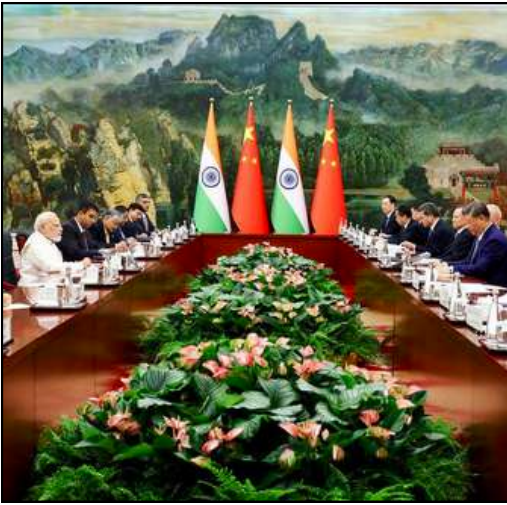
In a 7-4 decision issued on Friday, the US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit concluded that the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA) was never intended to authorise tariffs, declaring it “illegal”.

The ruling upheld an earlier decision by the Court of International Trade in May, which also found the tariffs unlawful. However, the judges stopped short of striking them down immediately, leaving the duties in place while litigation continues.

Trump slapped 50% punitive tariff on India earlier this month for continuous buying of Russian oil. Trade lawyer Mollie Sitkowski of Fægre Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP clarified in a client note that the judgment does not directly apply to India or Brazil, reports Bloomberg.

HANDSHAKES, SMILES, PERFORMANCES: HOW PM MODI WAS WELCOMED BY INDIAN DIASPORA IN CHINA

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday (August 31, 2025) underlined the importance of peace and tranquillity on the India-China border for the continued development of bilateral relations, at his meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. Meeting on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in the northern Chinese city of Tianjin, the two leaders agreed on the need to strengthen people-to-people ties through direct flights and visa facilitation, building on the resumption of the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra and tourist visas, amid an improving relationship between the neighbours. Mr. Xi said that the border issue should not define overall relations. "The two leaders noted with satisfaction the successful disengagement last year and the maintenance of peace and tranquillity along the border areas since then.



XI JINPING, PUTIN'S MINUTE-LONG CHAT PUTS BONHOMIE ON DISPLAY AT SCO SUMMIT

**Diary Times Desk :** As leaders from across Asia congregate at the ongoing Shanghai Cooperation Summit in China's Tianjin, lighter moments are being witnessed apart from discussions on pressing issues like trade, development and regional conflicts. One such interaction was seen between Chinese President Xi Jinping and his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin ahead of a group photo of all leaders attending the summit. A video of the interaction showed both leaders exchanging smiles and summoning their interpreters to continue their chat for over a minute. Ahead of the summit, Putin had asserted that Moscow and Beijing are "united in strengthening" the BRICS grouping to address global issues, including showing opposition to "discriminatory (US) sanctions" which he claims are impeding the socioeconomic development of member states and the broader international community.

HAMAS CONFIRMS DEATH OF ITS CHIEF MOHAMMED SINWAR MONTHS AFTER ISRAEL SAID IT KILLED HIM



**Diary Times Desk :** The Palestinian group Hamas confirmed on Saturday the death of its Gaza military chief, Mohammad Sinwar, a few months after Israel said it killed him in a strike in May.

Hamas did not provide details on Sinwar's death but published pictures of him along with other group leaders, describing them as "martyrs".

Mohammad Sinwar was the younger brother of Yahya Sinwar, the Islamist faction's chief, who co-masterminded the October 7, 2023, attack on Israel, and whom Israel had killed in combat a year later.

He was elevated to the top ranks of the group after the death of his brother.

His confirmed death would leave his close associate Izz al-Din Haddad, who currently oversees operations in northern Gaza, in charge of Hamas' armed wing across the whole of the enclave.

HAMAS SPOKESMAN ABU OBEIDA KILLED IN GAZA, ISRAEL SAYS

**Diary Times Desk :** Abu Obeida, the spokesman for Hamas's armed wing, has been killed in an air strike in Gaza City, Israel has said. Israel's Defence Minister Israel Katz congratulated the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) and Israel's security agency, Shin Bet, for the "flawless execution" in a post on X. He gave no detail on the time or location of the operation, but the IDF earlier said its aircraft attacked "a key terrorist" in the al-Rimal neighbourhood on Saturday, prompting reports in Israeli media that Obeida had been the target. Hamas has not confirmed his death. The Palestinian armed group earlier said dozens of civilians were killed and injured in Israeli strikes on a residential building in the district. Katz warned on Sunday that many more of Obeida's "criminal partners" would be targeted with "the intensification of the campaign in Gaza" - a reference to a recently approved Israeli plan to seize control of Gaza City.

RUSSIA SAYS ITS UNITS DESTROY 21 UKRAINIAN DRONES IN SOUTH, SOUTHWEST

**Diary Times Desk :** Russia's air defence systems intercepted and destroyed 21 Ukrainian drones, the Russian Defence Ministry reported on Sunday (August 31, 2025) after an overnight attack.

Eleven drones were downed over the Volgograd region in southern Russia, while the rest were destroyed over the Rostov, Belgorod and Bryansk regions in Russia's southwest, the Ministry said on the Telegram messaging app.

Russian overnight drone attack cuts power to thousands in Odesa, Ukraine says  
A Russian drone attack overnight damaged four power facilities near the southern Ukrainian city of Odesa, leaving more than 29,000 customers without electricity on Sunday morning, the region's governor and power firm DTEK said.

CHINA'S XI SAYS SCO BEARS 'GREATER RESPONSIBILITY' FOR KEEPING PEACE



**Diary Times Desk :** The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) security forum now bears "greater responsibility" for safeguarding regional peace and stability, Chinese President Xi Jinping has told about 20 world leaders he hosted for a summit in northern China's Tianjin. Xi also underscored the SCO's mission for the development and prosperity of its member states as he hosted and addressed the high-profile gathering at a banquet on Sunday evening. The ongoing SCO summit shoulders the important mission of building consensus among all parties and stimulating momentum in cooperation, Xi was cited as telling the assembled leaders, Chinese state news agency Xinhua reported. Among the most notable guests at the two-day summit is Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is on his first visit to China since 2018 after years of difficult relations in the wake of Indian and Chinese troops clashing in 2020 at a disputed Himalayan border.

Also attending is Russian President Vladimir Putin, who faces an arrest warrant issued by the International Criminal Court (ICC) in 2023 over the war in Ukraine. China is not a member state of the ICC and is not a party to the Rome Statute that founded it, so the court has no authority in the country.



PUNJABI SINGERS JOIN  
FLOOD RELIEF ‘SEWA’ IN  
AFFECTED AREAS

**Diary Times Desk :** As rescue and relief efforts gain momentum with worsening flood situation in Ajnala, Ramdass and Fazilka areas, several Punjabi singers have come forward to donate relief material and funds to several volunteer organisations on ground.

Diljit Dosanjh’s manager Sonali Singh has reached Amritsar along with his team to help with relief material and essential items. The team has asked the on-ground volunteer teams to reach out for any help or aid. Singer Guru Randhawa, too, has set up a relief camp at Dera Baba Nanak and village Dharowali.

Singer-actor-producer Gippy Grewal has already donated a truck full of ‘achaar’ (pickles) that are required in bulk at gurudwaras serving ‘langar’ to people taking shelter. Jasbir Jassi’s team and Satinder Sartaj’s Sartaj Foundation volunteers are already on ground working to serve food, dry ration and essentials to relief camps in Ajnala.

PUNJAB GOV KATARIA  
DIALS SEECHEWAL TO  
REVIEW FLOOD  
SITUATION IN  
KAPURTHALA

**Diary Times Desk :** State Governor Gulab Chand Kataria today expressed deep concern over the serious flood situation in the Mand areas of Sultanpur Lodhi. The Governor spoke with Rajya Sabha Member Balbir Singh Seechewal over the telephone to inquire about the condition of the flood-hit areas and voiced his concern over the worsening situation in Kapurthala. The Governor also thanked Seechewal for serving flood victims tirelessly since the very first day of the disaster. He told Seechewal that he would soon come to meet the flood-affected people and personally review the grave situation. During the conversation, Rajya Sabha Member Sant Seechewal apprised the Governor of the miserable conditions of the victims and discussed the urgent need for immediate relief and rehabilitation measures.

FLOOD–RAVAGED PUNJAB RECEIVES 74% EXCESS RAIN IN AUGUST,  
HIGHEST IN 25 YEARS

**Diary Times Desk :** Flood-ravaged Punjab received 253.7 mm of rain in August, which was not only 74 per cent in excess of normal, but also the highest the state witnessed in the past 25 years, officials said on Sunday. Neighbouring Haryana received 194.5 mm of rain in August against an average of 147.7 mm for the month, marking a 32 per cent increase, they said. According to the meteorological department here, at 253.7 mm, the August rainfall in Punjab was 74 per cent more than the month’s normal of 146.2 mm. “Punjab received deficient rainfall multiple times in the past couple of decades, but this year it recorded the highest rainfall figures for August in the last 25 years,” the Met department said. In August, 18 of Punjab’s 23 districts received excess rain, while a few districts like Patiala and Fatehgarh Sahib recorded deficient rainfall.



HOLIDAYS IN PUNJAB SCHOOLS  
EXTENDED TILL SEPTEMBER 3



**Diary Times Desk :** Amid the grim flood situation, the Punjab Government has extended holidays in all schools till September 3.

Earlier, the schools were closed from August 27 to August 30. In a post on X, Education Minister Punjab Harjot Singh Bains stated that in accordance with the directives of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann, considering the flood situation in Punjab, holidays have been declared in all government/aided/recognised and private schools in the state till September 3.

He requested the parents and students to prioritise safety and comply with the instructions issued by the administration.

PUNJAB GOVT’S TIMELY  
INVESTMENT SAVES ROPAR FROM  
FLOODS: HARJOT BAINS

**Diary Times Desk :** The Punjab Government’s investment of Rs 15 crore in creating embankments along the Sutlej and its tributaries in Ropar district has paid off, saving the region from severe flooding this monsoon season. This was stated by Minister for Education Harjot Singh Bains while interacting with the public under the ‘Sada MLA Sade Vich’ programme organised by the AAP party. Bains said that for the past many years, dozens of villages near Bhakra Dam in Anandpur Sahib constituency of district Ropar used to be severely affected during monsoon rains. However, this time, the Punjab Government under the leadership of Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann paid special attention to flood-prevention by constructing embankments and strengthening the corners of villages located along the Sutlej. The water level of Bhakra Dam was expected to reach 1,673 feet, but due to timely preventive measures, it remained at 1,672.62 feet. For the first time in 30 years, despite repeated heavy inflow in the Swan river, the villages in Ropar district have not suffered any major damage.

PUNJAB FLOOD SITUATION WORSENS AS RAIN CONTINUES IN MANY  
DISTRICTS

**Diary Times Desk :** The Punjab flood situation worsened on Sunday with incessant rain lashing many districts and the Ghaggar and Beas rivers being in spate. Even the Ravi, which four days back saw 14.11 lakh cusecs of water, has brought most of the water towards Ajnala in Amritsar, inundating many parts of the town and 15 villages. Officials say the situation will improve only once the water starts moving towards Pakistan. Ajnala MLA Kuldeep Dhaliwal told The Tribune that most of his constituency, located along the international border with Pakistan, has witnessed severe destruction because of the floods. “The Centre should come to the aid of Punjab immediately,” he said. Till date, 26 people have died in the devastating floods, including an employee of the irrigation department, who had fallen into the Ravi river last week while trying to open the flood gates at Madhopur barrage. More than 1,000 villages have been affected by the floods caused by the rivers being in spate and because of the controlled release of water from the dam reservoirs.



## DESPITE BAN HIMACHAL'S CHAKKI, MAND AREAS PLAGUED BY ILLEGAL MINING

**Diary Times Desk :** Illegal miners continue to operate with impunity in the Chakki and Mand areas, despite recent efforts by the Nurpur district police to crack down on their activities. The police have registered challans and cases against mining mafia and seized their earth-excavating machinery, but this has failed to deter them from extracting minerals from riverbeds in Nurpur, Indora and Fatehpur sub-divisions in the lower Kangra region.

Although the state government has imposed a blanket ban on mining activities in rivers, khuds and other natural water bodies, it has not been effective in stopping the mining mafia. Inquiries reveal that stone crushers in the Chakki River area and Mand area have been using heavy machinery to extract raw materials from the riverbed at night.

The Chakki, Beas and Chhonchh rivers in the lower Kangra region are considered lucrative for miners and illegal mining is a highly profitable business in the area. A recent video clip showing illegal miners extracting raw materials from the Chakki rivulet in Khanni and Lodhwan areas in Nurpur has gone viral, highlighting the brazen nature of these activities.

## WOES CONTINUE: NO WATER IN NURPUR TOWN FOR 5TH DAY

**Diary Times Desk :** Residents of Nurpur town went without piped water supply for the fifth consecutive day on Saturday. However, HPSEBL had restored power supply late on Friday night and the Jal Shakti Department (JSD) was set to restore piped water supply on Sunday morning. According to reports, heavy rain triggered a landslide, damaging water supply pipes of the main Chakki water supply scheme at three different locations near Manuha village in Aundh panchayat. Besides, the torrential rain that lashed the area on Friday night flooded the pump house of the second water supply scheme for Nurpur town at Letri village. Residents who were expecting piped water supply on Saturday morning were disappointed to find their house taps dry for the fifth day in a row.

## DALAI LAMA TO RETURN ON SEPT 1

**Diary Times Desk :** Tibetan spiritual leader the Dalai Lama will return back to his residence, Chunglakhang Monastery, in McLeodganj on September 1, after spending nearly one-and-a-half months in Leh, Ladakh. However, the scheduled date of coming back to home may be changed by a day or two if the weather is not favourable for incoming flights at Gaggal (Kangra) airport.

He has reached Delhi from Leh on Thursday and will stay there for a couple of days before travelling to Dharamsala. He will go for a medical check up in Delhi as per a routine exercise as he had returned back from a high-altitude area.

After celebrating his birthday in Dharamsala on July 6, the Dalai Lama left for Leh on July 12 by air. During his stay in Ladakh, he travelled to Zaskar, inaugurated the KarGön Mega Summer Symposium, laid the foundation stone of the Zaskar Mönlam Chörten, and gave teachings to more than 21,000 devotees.



## SHIPKILA TRADERS LIST DEMANDS AS INDIA, CHINA REOPEN TRADE

**Diary Times Desk :** As India and China agree to reopen trade through the Shipkila Pass, local traders have called for a revision of the export and import items list to make business more viable. The last batch of traders returned from the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR) of China on November 30, 2019, following the outbreak of Covid. Trade has remained suspended since then.

Traders have also sought the lifting of the ban on livestock trading, imposed in 2012 due to the absence of quarantine facilities.

Following directives from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on resuming border trade, the Kinnaur Deputy Commissioner, who also serves as the Trade Commissioner, has sought suggestions from traders.

"We have asked them to revise the trade list, which has not been changed since 2012, and also to get the expired Import Export Code (IEC) revived since it has lapsed as no trade has taken place after 2019," said Hishey Negi, president of the Kinnaur Indo-China Trade Association.

## 10 PILGRIMS LOST LIVES DURING MANIMAHESH YATRA: CHAMBA ADMN



**Diary Times Desk :** In the wake of rumours about a large number of deaths of pilgrims headed for Manimahesh Yatra, the Chamba administration released the list of casualties reported in the district since August 24, when the region was battered by heavy rains.

According to report, 10 persons have died in different incidents, while eight others sustained injuries and four remain missing. On August 24, Nirmala Devi went missing after being buried under debris in a landslide at Dugi village in Salooni. The following day, three devotees from Punjab lost their lives due to lack of oxygen. On the same day, Darshana Devi, died after being struck by a shooting stone in Bharmour.

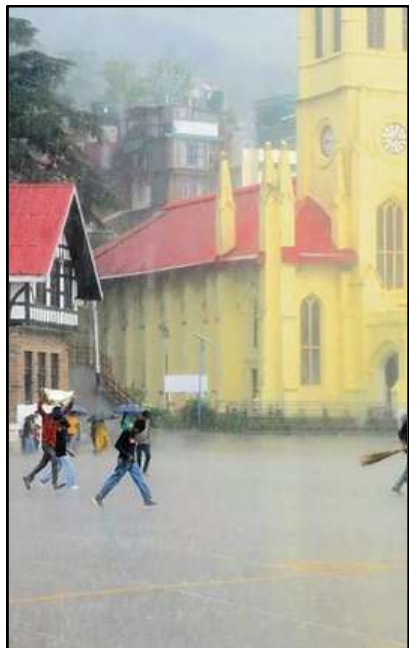
## RED ALERT IN HIMACHAL: HEAVY RAINS TO CONTINUE; 666 ROADS, INCLUDING 4 NATIONAL HIGHWAYS, BLOCKED

**Diary Times Desk :** In an alarming situation, Himachal Pradesh, which has already suffered immense loss of lives as well as properties due to torrential rains, is very likely to witness extreme rainfall in isolated areas, as the State's Meteorological Department has issued red weather warnings for several districts for the next two days.

As per the department, a red alert has been issued for Mandi, Kangra, Sirmaur, Una, Hamirpur and Bilaspur districts for September 1, resulting in a few spells of extreme rain in isolated parts of these districts. Additionally, an orange weather warning has also been issued for Shimla, Kullu, Chamba, Kinnaur and Lahaul and Spiti for September 1 while a yellow weather warning has been issued for Solan.

Red weather warning has also been issued for Chamba, Mandi, Kullu and Kangra districts for September 2 while an orange weather warning has also been issued for Shimla, Una, Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Kinnaur, Lahaul and Spiti and Sirmour districts along with another yellow weather warning for Solan district for the same day.

In view of heavy rainfall, several districts, including Shimla, Solan Sirmaur and Salooni subdivision in Chamba district have announced to keep all the educational institutions closed on September 1.





Indonesia's president cancels

China trip

Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto on Saturday canceled a planned trip to China as days of protests spread further outside the capital Jakarta, with several regional parliament buildings set ablaze.

Prabowo had been due to attend a "Victory Day" parade in China on September 3 to mark the 80th anniversary of the end of World War Two following Japan's formal surrender.

The protests, the first major test for Prabowo's nearly year-old government, began in Jakarta this week over lawmakers' pay and worsened after a police vehicle hit and killed a motorcycle rider.

"The president wants to continue monitoring (the situation in Indonesia) directly...and seek the best solutions," presidential spokesperson Prasetyo Hadi said in a video statement on Saturday.

"Therefore, the president apologizes to the Chinese government that he could not attend the invitation."

Another consideration in canceling the trip was a United Nations General

Assembly session in September, Prasetyo said.

In the light of the protest, short-video app TikTok, which is owned by China's ByteDance, said on Saturday it had suspended its live feature in Indonesia for a few days.

Jakarta had this week summoned representatives of social media platforms, including Meta Platforms Inc and TikTok, and told them to boost content moderation because disinformation had spread online. The government says that such disinformation has spurred protests against it.

Regional parliament fires

Earlier on Saturday, protesters caused fires at regional parliament buildings in three provinces - West Nusa Tenggara, Pekalongan city in Central Java and Cirebon city in West Java, local media reported.

Local media Detik.com said protesters had looted parliamentary office equipment in Cirebon and police fired teargas to disperse protesters in Pekalongan and West Nusa Tenggara.

Three people were killed on Friday in an arson attack on a parliament building in Makassar, the capital of South Sulawesi province, Indonesia's disaster management agency said.

State news agency Antara said the victims had been trapped in the burning building, and the disaster management agency said two people were injured after jumping out of the building to escape the fire.



Nimi Princewill

Sahroni has faced accusations of responding insensitively to people calling for parliament to be dissolved amid anger over lawmakers' allowances. Sahroni has labeled such critics "the stupidest people in the world."

Local media outlet metrotvnews.com reported one further death from a fire at the Makassar parliamentary building. This could not be independently confirmed.

Protests also occurred on the holiday island of Bali, where tear gas was used against protesters.

Local media also reported that a crowd had looted the Jakarta home of Ahmad Sahroni, a lawmaker from the political party NasDem, and taken items including household furniture.

Scottish Brothers

139-Day Row Across Pacific

Three Scottish brothers have made history by completing the fastest unsupported non-stop row across the Pacific Ocean - the world's largest ocean - with 139 days at sea.



Laura Sharman

In 2020, they looked for a way to support charities fighting for clean drinking water around the world and thought of the potential impact of undertaking a big physical challenge.

Ewan, Jamie and Lachlan Maclean rowed 9,000 miles from Peru to Australia, also becoming the first team on record to successfully row across from South America.

Surviving on freshly caught fish and freeze-dried meals, they overcame seasickness, dwindling food supplies and tropical storms, including one incident in which Lachlan was swept overboard by a towering wave in the night.

On Saturday, the Edinburgh trio triumphantly stepped back onto land after four-and-a-half months of continuous rowing across their self-built, F1-inspired carbon fiber boat.

In doing so, they surpassed the previous time record crossing set by Russian Fedor Konyukhov, who rowed solo from Chile to Australia in 2014.

Arriving just before midday, the brothers celebrated by playing the bagpipes and waving



They made the bold decision to row across the Atlantic Ocean, achieving three world records in the process. They completed the 3,000-mile journey in just 35 days, becoming the first trio of brothers to row any ocean together and the youngest and fastest trio to cross from the Canary Islands to Antigua.

Scottish, Australian and UK flags as they were greeted by friends and family including their mother Sheila.

"We've still got our sea legs, so yeah, wobbling all over the place to be honest, but very happy to be ashore," Ewan told Australia's public broadcaster ABC, describing the experience as "pretty overwhelming." Hours before, Ewan had uploaded a video on Instagram sending a message to the marina. "Do you have pizza and beer? I repeat, do you have pizza and beer? Over."

Not all smooth sailing

Ewan, Jamie and Lachlan set off from Peru's capital Lima in mid-April, with the initial goal of reaching Sydney by August 2.

But they rerouted to Cairns due to bad weather. "The last couple of weeks have been really hard," Jamie told ABC. "Our expectations being crushed when we thought we were going to arrive and then getting hit by storm after storm, just getting knocked back, getting thrown

north." It followed Lachlan's terrifying man-overboard incident during a night shift when Ewan managed to rescue him.

"A side-on wave came in out of nowhere. I had like a couple of seconds to react and it just hit me," Lachlan told ABC. "Took me right off my feet. I kind of hit the life lines on the starboard side, basically did like a backwards somersault into the water."

Brotherly bond

Ewan, Jamie and Lachlan believe their familial bond was pivotal in their mission.

Despite the extreme challenges, they were able to stay positive, often finding moments of joy in the harshest of times.

"We are able to speak very directly to one another," Jamie said previously. "Good communication has been key to this journey."

Their boat, named Rose Emily in honor of their sister who was lost during pregnancy, is believed to be the fastest and lightest ocean rowing boat ever built, created with ocean rowing legend Mark Slats.

The Macleans embarked on the ocean crossing in pursuit of both a world record and the goal of raising £1m to fund clean water projects in Madagascar.

INFA

Lion Population

CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION, BUT IT'S ALSO A DEADLY PROBLEM

Five-year-old Pulsing Ajnera was playing with his brothers in a field near their home in the western Indian state of Gujarat, when a lion "came out of nowhere," his grieving father told CNN.

"This lion grabbed the child, my youngest, and left. My family tried everything to rescue him. They threw stones at the lion and a few wooden sticks as well, but (it) dragged him into the jungle," Heera Ajnera said. The boy's body was later recovered.

Pulsing was one of seven people in India killed by lions in the year to June 2025, taking the total number of fatal attacks in five years to more than 20. Attacks on cattle have almost doubled during the same period, Gujarat officials told CNN.

Sporting an unmistakable dark mane and unique folds of skin along their bellies, Asiatic lions are slightly smaller than their African cousins. They once prowled the Middle East and Asia but now Gujarat is home to the world's last population of wild Asiatic lions.

The lions were hunted to the brink of extinction in India, before a ban on killing the cats was put in place in Gujarat a century ago. Recent conservation efforts, have seen the state's lion population rise by 30% to 891 in the last five years.

Conservationists say a large part of the success stems from a unique human-lion relationship, where locals profit from the presence of lions, and lions are given space to roam. But that symbiotic relationship is being tested as the lion population grows.

"Lions have been found in basement parking lots of hotels... on top of people's homes. They are resting on terraces. They're sitting there and roaring," said wildlife biologist Ravi Chellam, the coordinator of conservation network the Biodiversity Collaborative.

"The minute a lion moves into human-dominated habitats, the probability (of it attacking humans) just increases," he said. For more than a decade, Chellam and other conservationists have been pushing the Gujarat government to move some lions to a second habitat outside the state.

But Gujarat's lions haven't gone anywhere, and their numbers are continuing to grow - creating the potential for conflict - despite a Supreme Court ruling ordering the government to relocate them.

An expanding population

Gir National Park - a 545-square-mile protected area about the size of Los Angeles City - was established in 1965 to protect endangered species, including Asiatic lions. Most of Gujarat's



Asiatic lions now live outside the park's borders, mixing with humans in towns and villages.

"But when you have too many animals, they claim space outside of the protected area... and then they start coming into conflict with local (people)," he said.

Bhujwala says India's conservation model was never intended to separate lions from humans, noting that villages are built within national parks.

"They all coexisted, and that coexistence, that tolerance, is something which is very unique to India's conservation history," he said. Local people rely on lions to generate tourism income, and in return big cats feed on old cattle abandoned by local herders, wrote Yadvendradev Vikramsinh Jhala, the former dean of Wildlife Institute of India, in an academic paper published last year.

Jhala and his co-authors said the lions also prey on pigs and nilgais - a type of antelope - which helps eliminate animals the local farmers consider to be pests.

LA LIGA: REAL MADRID OVERTURN MALLORCA AS ATLETICO HELD BY ALAVES

**Diary Times Desk :** Real Madrid claimed a third straight La Liga victory with a 2-1 triumph over Real Mallorca on Saturday to continue their perfect start to the campaign. Atletico Madrid were held to a 1-1 draw at Alaves, leaving them without a win in their first three La Liga matches. Arda Guler and Vinicius Junior scored in quick succession for Los Blancos after Mallorca's Vedat Muriqi had opened the scoring at the Santiago Bernabeu. Xabi Alonso's Madrid also had three more goals ruled out as they continued to improve following the coach's arrival at the start of the summer. After competing in the Club World Cup and not having much of a pre-season, winning all their games before the first international break is an impressive feat for Alonso.



NEW SEASON, SAME PROBLEMS FOR PEP GUARDIOLA AS RODRI'S RETURN TO THE PREMIER LEAGUE LINE UP

**Diary Times Desk :** Manchester City suffered their second-successive Premier League defeat as they slipped to a 2-1 defeat at Brighton on Sunday. Erling Haaland marked his 100th appearance in the English top-flight with a goal, but Pep Guardiola's side fell apart in the final quarter of the match on the south coast.

Haaland wasted a golden early opportunity when he was played through on goal by Omar Marmoush as he fired a weak effort straight at Bart Verbruggen, while at the other end James Trafford got down well to tip Kaoru Mitoma's low shot past the post. Haaland eventually broke the deadlock, however, when he bounced back from having a header saved by Verbruggen to latch onto Marmoush's poked pass and net from close range. City dominated proceedings until the midway point of the second half, only for a quadruple substitution from Fabian Hurler to bring the hosts to life. They almost-instantly won a penalty following those changes as Matheus Nunes was penalised for a handball inside the box, and James Milner sent Trafford the wrong way from the spot.

'BEST TEAM IN THE WORLD' - GARNACHO SEALS CHELSEA MOVE



**Diary Times Desk :** The 21-year-old has signed a long-term deal at Stamford Bridge that runs through to 2032.

"It's an incredible moment for my family and I to join this great club," Garnacho told Chelsea's club website.

"I can't wait to get started. I watched the Club World Cup and to join the world champions is special - we're the best team in the world!"

The forward becomes Chelsea's ninth arrival of the summer and fifth attacking addition after Joao Pedro, Liam Delap, Estevao and Jamie Gittens.

'Maresca gets his man'

The signing of Garnacho is deemed important by Blues manager Enzo Maresca.

VILLA KEEPER MARTINEZ BACK ON MAN UTD RADAR

**Diary Times Desk :** United have been looking to address their goalkeeping issues and have been negotiating with Royal Antwerp about their highly rated 23-year-old Belgian Senne Lammens.

Lammens is keen to join United and has been left out of Antwerp's past two games. It is known the Belgian Pro League club need to make a sizeable sale so they can meet an external loan they have previously taken out.

However, he lacks high-level experience, while Martinez is a World Cup winner with Argentina and a two-time Fifa goalkeeper of the year with 197 Premier League appearances under his belt.

After Saturday's 3-2 victory over Burnley, United head coach Ruben Amorim admitted: "I think it is hard to be a Manchester United goalkeeper in this moment."

SINNER FIGHTS BACK TO BEAT SHAPOVALOV IN FOUR SETS

**Diary Times Desk :** Italy's Sinner, a four-time Grand Slam champion, defeated Canadian 27th seed Shapovalov 5-7 6-4 6-3 6-3.

World number one Sinner had only lost 11 games across his previous two matches but produced an off-colour performance on Arthur Ashe Stadium, struggling with his serve and producing a number of uncharacteristically loose groundstrokes throughout the first three sets.

Across the match, he produced five double faults and 36 unforced errors, while his first-serve percentage was just 58%.

But after saving a break point to avoid going a double-break down in the third set, he won 12 of the next 15 games to close out the victory.

POLE FOR OSCAR PIASTRI AT DUTCH GP IN MCLAREN LOCK-UP

**Diary Times Desk :** Oscar Piastri snatched pole position Saturday for the Dutch Grand Prix, locking up the front of the grid with his teammate Lando Norris as McLaren maintained their dominance of Formula One. Piastri clocked a lap record time of one minute 8.662 seconds, 0.012 seconds ahead of Norris to give himself a valuable advantage for Sunday's race. It was the fifth pole position of the season for the Australian driver, who is seeking to extend his nine-point world championship lead over Norris. Norris had had the edge over the Australian in all three practice sessions so far, but Piastri hit back when it counted to give himself an advantage for the race.

"That was the definition of peaking at the right time," Piastri said after the qualification.



TENNIS STAR MEETS FAN AFTER US OPEN HAT SNATCHING VIRAL VIDEO

**Diary Times Desk :** Polish tennis player Kamil Majchrzak has met a young fan after a video appearing to show a man snatching his hat from a boy in the crowd at the US Open went viral. Majchrzak shared two clips on his official Instagram account in which he shook hands with two boys and presented them with gifts - including a cap similar to one handed to the boy and then swiftly taken off him in the clip.

"Today after warm up, I had a nice meeting," the tennis pro wrote, adding: "Do you recognise [the cap]?"

The viral video, widely reported to be from Majchrzak's match on Thursday, showed the tennis player interacting with fans before offering a child the cap he had been wearing.

A man next to the child can then be seen taking the cap before the child had a chance to grab it himself. The boy can then be seen pleading to get it back.

Versions of the clip were subsequently shared on social media, with many users criticising the man - who multiple media outlets have since named as Piotr Szczerek, a Polish CEO of a paving company.

BBC News has approached Mr Szczerek through his company for comment.

Majchrzak also posted an image of him standing and smiling next to the boy wearing the cap.