

NEWS IN BRIEF

7-KM TRAFFIC JAM ON GURUGRAM HIGHWAY, VEHICLES STUCK FOR OVER 3 HOURS

Diary Times Desk : With cars queuing almost bumper-to-bumper, the traffic jam on the Delhi-Jaipur highway stretched up to 7-8 kilometres and people were stuck for over 3 hours after heavy rain hit Gurugram Monday, throwing normal life out of gear.

The roads were heavily waterlogged, and with more rain predicted Tuesday, offices have been advised to ask their employees to work from home. The schools, too, have been told to conduct online classes.

"Today, from 3 pm to 7 pm, heavy rainfall of over 100 mm has been recorded in Gurugram City," Indian Meteorological

Department in its forecast has issued Orange Alert: Heavy to very Heavy rainfall on 02-09-2025," said District Disaster

Management Authority, Gurugram. "In view of the above forecast, all Corporate offices and Private institutions in the district are advised to guide their employees to work from home; and all schools in the district.

"IT'S GETTING LATE": TRUMP CLAIMS INDIA "OFFERED TO CUT TARIFFS TO NOTHING"

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump claimed Monday that India has offered to reduce its tariffs on US goods to zero, underlining that New Delhi should have done it years ago. The Trump administration has imposed 25 per cent reciprocal tariffs on India and an additional 25 per cent levies for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, bringing the total duties imposed on India to 50 per cent, among the highest in the world.

Trump has accused India of fuelling Moscow's deadly attacks on Ukraine by purchasing Russian oil. However, he has refrained from tougher US sanctions on Russia itself. Defending India's oil purchase, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar argued that the same yardstick has not been applied to China and the European Union, the largest importer of Russian crude oil and Russian LNG, respectively.

"They have now offered to cut their tariffs to nothing, but it's getting late.

BARREL CRUDE OIL

INDIA PREVENTED A \$200/BARREL CRUDE OIL SHOCK, HARDEEP SINGH PURI SAYS



"Look (Prime Minister Narendra) Modi is a great leader," Navarro said in an interview with Fox News on Sunday.

The trade adviser said that he doesn't understand how the Indian leader is cooperating with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping "when he's the biggest democracy in the world".

"So I would just simply say, the Indian people, please understand what's going on here. You got Brahmins profiteering at the expense of the Indian people. We need that to stop," Navarro said.

India's Russian oil imports

Earlier, US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent accused the country's wealthiest families of profiteering, and Navarro said the nation was fueling "the Russian war machine" and "nothing but a laundromat" for the Kremlin.

"India has not broken rules," Puri wrote, adding that New Delhi's Russian oil imports were compliant with a G-7 price-cap mechanism that was designed to limit Moscow's revenues yet also keep crude flowing. "India has stabilised markets and kept global prices from spiralling."

Russia, which previously had a negligible share in India's oil imports, has accounted for 37% of New Delhi's buys this year, according to Kpler data accessed by Bloomberg. India took advantage of a \$20 a barrel discount after Europe halted purchases in the wake of the Ukraine war. The discounts have narrowed to a tenth of that as sanctions tightened.

FROM PEPSI TO MCDONALD'S, US GIANTS FACE SWADESHI HEAT AMID TRUMP TARIFFS

Diary Times Desk : A wave of anti-US sentiment has gripped India since US President Donald Trump imposed 50 per cent tariffs on the South Asian nation. The tariffs on India, which were slapped due to its purchase of Russian oil, are among the highest in the world.

As a result of this, American multinationals such as Pepsi, Coca-Cola, Subway, KFC, McDonald's face a threat of being boycotted.

Yoga guru Ramdev has advised Indians to boycott all American products over Trump's tariffs on India. "Not a single Indian should be seen at the counters of Pepsi, Coca-Cola, Subway, KFC, or McDonald's. There should be such a massive boycott," he said, adding, "If this happens, chaos will ensue in America."

Anti-American boycotts are already going on in other parts of the world such as France, the United Kingdom and Canada.

With a population of 1.5 billion, India's boycott of US companies could cause massive losses and serious challenges. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has urged Indians to buy and use "swadeshi" or homegrown goods.

He said, "Anyone who wants to make India the third-largest economy in the world, any political party, any leader, should speak in the country's interest and instill in people that they need to resolve to buy 'swadeshi'... When we decide to buy anything, there should be only one measure: We are going to buy those things which an Indian has sweated to make. Anything that has been made by the people of India, using the skill of the people of India, by the sweat of the people of India, is 'swadeshi' for us.



CAN MINORITY-RUN SCHOOLS BE EXEMPTED FROM RTE LAW, SC REFERS QUESTION TO LARGER BENCH



Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday (September 1, 2025) referred to a larger Bench the question of whether minority educational institutions are entirely exempt from the purview of the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009.

A two-judge Bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Manmohan made the reference in a judgment based on a batch of civil appeals questioning school education departments' insistence on faculty clearing the Teachers Eligibility Test (TET) in minority institutions.

The reference stems from apprehensions over a Constitution Bench verdict of 2014 in Pramati Educational and Cultural Trust case. In the case, a five-judge Bench was testing the constitutionality of Section 12(1)(c) of the Right to Education Act. The provision mandates educational institutions to provide 25% reservation for children from disadvantaged groups and weaker sections at the entry level in order to foster social inclusion in elementary education.

However, the 2014 judgment concluded that Section 12(1)(c) violated the minority character of these institutions and impacted their institutional autonomy. The Constitution Bench went on to take minority institutions entirely out of the ambit of the RTE law.

JAGDEEP DHANKHAR'S NEW ADDRESS: EX-VP SHIFTS INTO CHAUTALA FARMHOUSE



Diary Times Desk : Political veteran Jagdeep Dhankhar, who has been out of the public eye ever since he quit as Vice-President of India several weeks ago, has shifted out of the VP Enclave in central Delhi.

As for his current whereabouts — the subject of massive speculation and numerous political jibes — he has reportedly shifted into a private farmhouse in Delhi, officials said.

In the month and a half since he quit midway in his term citing health reasons, Dhankhar has been spending time with his family, playing table tennis and practising yoga, said a report citing sources close to him.

A video on Monday showed what PTI reported as Dhankhar's cavalcade leaving the VP Enclave. The farmhouse in the Gadaipur area of Chhatrapur in South Delhi belongs to prominent Jat leader Abhay Chautala of the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) from Haryana.

Senior among politicians from the agricultural Jat community, and touted as a grassroots "kisan putra" (farmer's son), Dhankhar has applied for pension as an ex-MLA from Rajasthan.

He was MP and a union minister, too, during stints with the Janata Dal, Congress, and the BJP. Before becoming VP, he served as the governor of West Bengal.

BOMBAY HIGH COURT

AMID MARATHA QUOTA STIR TRAFFIC CHAOS, JUDGE WALKS TO REACH HIGH COURT



Diary Times Desk : Not only common people, but even the Bombay High Court was inconvenienced by Maratha quota protesters who occupied streets in south Mumbai and blocked a car of a judge, who had to walk a short distance to reach the HC building.

A bench of Justices Ravindra Ghuge and Gautam Ankhad stated that the city of Mumbai was "literally paralysed and the HC was virtually under a siege".

The bench noted that every street, especially in the entire region of Azad Maidan, CST, Mantralaya, Flora Fountain, Marine Drive, P'Demello Road, was flooded with protesters who are on the streets, dancing, playing kabbadi, cooking food, bathing on the main roads, and so on.

"In fact, today, when one of us (Ravindra Ghuge) was travelling to the Court around 12:30 pm in the official car, there was a huge blockade in front of the City Civil Court and the High Court building," the high court stated in its order after hearing a bunch of petitions.

The protesters were playing on the streets, many were dancing, while some were sleeping on the roads. The Judge (Ghuge) walked beside the crowd on the footpath from the City Civil Court and reached the High Court, it added.

Even the government pleader, Purnima Kantharia, also had to walk along with the judge as she too was stranded.

"The High Court was virtually under a siege. Whilst the hearing was going on inside the Court hall, doors of which were closed, slogan shouting was clearly audible to us as well as all the lawyers and litigants," the bench stated.

PAHALGAM'S POINTED MENTION BY SCO MARKS SHIFT TOWARDS INDIA'S STANCE ON TERROR: BIG CHANGE BETWEEN TWO SUMMITS IN CHINA



Diary Times Desk : Ten weeks can mean a lot in diplomacy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi's China visit showed this, notably in how the Pahalgam terror attack was pointedly condemned in the September 1 joint declaration of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), of which Pakistan is a full member too.

This is a marked shift from June 26 when, at the SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting held also in China, in the city of Qingdao, India's Rajnath Singh refused to sign a joint declaration because it did not mention the April 22 attack at Pahalgam in Jammu and Kashmir that killed 26 people. It mentioned incidents in Pakistan, though.

In the Tianjin declaration now, Pakistan is not named in the context of Pahalgam, but it is among the signatories who have condemned terrorism as a common threat to SCO members.

Russia, China and Iran are among the 10 permanent members who signed the document.

PUNJAB FLOODS: 29 KILLED, 2.5 LAKH PEOPLE IMPACTED IN 1 MONTH

Diary Times Desk : The devastating floods in Punjab have claimed 29 lives so far, the maximum in Pathankot district, besides impacting the lives of more than 2.56 lakh people, officials said on Monday.

Twelve out of 23 districts in the state have been hit in the one month starting August 1, in what the state government called one of the worst flood disasters to hit Punjab in decades, an official bulletin said.

Punjab is facing massive floods caused by the swollen Sutlej, Beas and Ravi rivers and seasonal rivulets due to heavy rain in their catchment areas in Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir. The flood situation worsened due to heavy rainfall in many parts of the state.

According to the bulletin, of the 29 casualties, the maximum - six - have been reported from Pathankot district. Amritsar, Barnala, Hoshiarpur, Ludhiana, Mansa and Rupnagar districts reported three deaths each, while Bathinda, Gurdaspur, Patiala, Mohali and Sangrur saw one death each, the bulletin said.



BENGALURU TECHIE, 41, DIES AFTER BEING BITTEN BY SNAKE HIDING IN HIS FOOTWEAR

Diary Times Desk : A 41-year-old software engineer in Bengaluru died on Saturday after being bitten by a venomous snake that had slithered into his footwear. The victim has been identified as Manju Prakash, who was an employee of TCS and a resident of Ranganatha Layout. According to police reports and accounts from family members, Mr Prakash had left his Crocs slippers outside the front door of his home. After stepping out briefly to purchase juice from a nearby shop, he returned home and slipped his feet into the footwear, unaware that a snake had taken refuge inside one of the slippers during his absence.

Mr Prakash had previously suffered an accident that resulted in a loss of sensation in his leg, a condition that prevented him from feeling the snakebite. Unaware, he took off his footwear and went inside his room to rest.

A family worker later noticed a snake inside the slipper and alerted his father, who carefully removed the reptile.

TRUST DEFICIT BETWEEN POLL BODY, POLITICAL PARTIES UNFORTUNATE: SUPREME COURT

Diary Times Desk : The "trust deficit" between the Election Commission and political parties in Bihar is "unfortunate", the Supreme Court said today. The court noted that the poll body will continue to receive objections to the draft voter list beyond the September 1 deadline.

The bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi was hearing applications seeking an extension of the September 1 deadline to file objections to the draft list.

Appearing for the Election Commission, Senior Advocate Rakesh Dwivedi said the people of Bihar do not have a problem with the Special Intensive Revision, and only the petitioners see red.

The poll body informed the bench that most applications it has received seek the removal of names from the voter list, and the number of requests for inclusion is much lower.

DELHI HC TO RULE ON BAIL PLEAS OF ACTIVISTS LINKED TO FEBRUARY 2020 RIOTS TOMORROW



Diary Times Desk : The Delhi High Court is likely to pronounce on Tuesday its verdict on bail pleas of activists Sharjeel Imam, Umar Khalid and others facing prosecution in a UAPA case linked to the alleged conspiracy behind the February 2020 riots.

A bench of Justices Navin Chawla and Shalinder Kaur, which reserved its order on July 9 after hearing the arguments on behalf of the prosecution and various accused, is scheduled to pass the order at 2:30 pm.

The court had reserved its order on the bail pleas of Sharjeel Imam, Umar Khalid, Mohd Saleem Khan, Shifa Ur Rehman, Athar Khan, Meeran Haider, Abdul Khalid Saifi and Gulfisha Fatima.

The prosecution vehemently opposed the bail plea saying it was not a case of spontaneous riots but a case where riots were planned well in advance with a sinister motive and well-thought-out conspiracy.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, representing the prosecution, had contended that it was a conspiracy to defame India on a global level and mere long incarceration is no ground for bail.

"If you do anything against your nation, you better be in jail till you are acquitted," he had argued.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

02-09-2025

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.

CHAR DHAM, HEMKUND SAHIB YATRA POSTPONED AMID HEAVY RAIN, LANDSLIDE ALERT

Diary Times Desk : Uttarakhand Chief Minister's Secretary and Garhwal Division Commissioner Vinay Shankar Pandey on Monday announced that the Char Dham Yatra and Hemkund Sahib Yatra have been postponed until September 5.

The decision came amid the red and orange alerts for heavy rain issued by the Meteorological Department. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami informed that some districts in the region are currently under a red and orange alert issued by the Meteorological Department, and the next 24-48 hours will be crucial.

"... Some of our districts are in red alert, and some districts are in orange alert... The next 24-48 hours are crucial, and we all have to keep a close watch. Our entire district administration, NDRF, SDRF, all departments are on alert... We are also monitoring the Nanak Sagar Dam. It is flowing 5 feet below the danger level..." Chief Minister Dhami said on Sunday.

TRUMP HAS MISCALCULATED THAT INDIA IS A SOFTER TARGET THAN CHINA

Diary Times Desk : The Trump tariff of 50% on Indian goods, which officially went into effect on August 27, has cast a long shadow over one of the most important bilateral relationships in the world. Yet, even before its implementation, the mood in New Delhi toward Washington had already begun to sour. America's decision to impose punitive duties unveiled dramatically on 'Liberation Day' was followed by an additional 25% secondary tariff, bringing the total burden on Indian exports to among the highest in the world. In India, these measures are widely perceived as being deliberately punitive rather than rational economic policy. Washington's justification, that the move was tied to India's continued purchase of Russian oil, has failed to convince policymakers or the public. Many in India point to China as a glaring contradiction, for it remains the largest buyer of Russian oil and yet faces no comparable penalty. On the other hand, if Trump's real goal was to reduce Moscow's revenue stream and end the Ukraine war, then targeting New Delhi does little to achieve that end. More fundamentally, the Trump administration seems to overlook that the Russia-Ukraine conflict is rooted in complex historical and cultural realities, not just economic factors.

WILL RAHUL GANDHI'S YATRA IMPACT BIHAR ELECTION?



Diary Times Desk : When Rahul Gandhi marched in the blistering August sun through the dusty arteries of Bihar - not as a scion of a dynasty, nor only as the leader of a party adrift, but as a solitary traveller, testing the resonance of words like adhikar and vishwas against the murmurs of a restless electorate -- he was not merely stretching his legs; he was stretching the memory of the Congress party in a state where it has long seemed like a ghost of its past. The Voter Adhikar Rally, across 1,300 kms, threading through 25 districts, covering 110 assembly seats over 16 days, seemed less a march of spectacle than meditation, a reminder that politics, at its core, is about walking alongside strangers until they cease to be strangers. Accompanied by several INDIA bloc Chief Ministers - MK Stalin, Revanth Reddy, Siddaramaiah, Hemant Soren - and Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav, Rahul Gandhi attempted to cement the Opposition alliance. The Voter Adhikar rally took him to seven of the 19 seats that the Congress had managed to win in 2020 - a modest foothold, but also a reminder that presence on the ground can sometimes shift the arithmetic of alliances and turnout.

COURT DISMISSES E20 PLEA AS CENTRE SAYS "WILL SOMEONE FROM OUTSIDE DICTATE..."

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed a PIL challenging the government's E20 or ethanol blending plan - i.e., to blend all petrol sold in the country with 20 per cent ethanol by 2025/26.

A bench of Chief Justice BR Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran struck down the plea after Attorney General R Venkataramani argued against a plea asking for ethanol-free petrol for pre-2023 vehicles.

During the hearing senior advocate Shadan Farasat, appearing for the petitioner, referred to a 2021 NITI Aayog report that expressed concern about six per cent reduced fuel efficiency for older vehicles - specifically those manufactured before 2023 - running on the blended petrol.

FLOOD ALERT IN DELHI AFTER 29,000 CUSECS OF WATER RELEASED FROM HATHNIKUND BARRAGE

Diary Times Desk : The Delhi government has issued a flood alert as the water level of the Yamuna River is expected to exceed the danger level after the release of 29,313 cusecs of water from Hathnikund Barrage on Monday morning. Officials were instructed to maintain strict vigilance, along with patrolling in low-lying areas. "As the water level of ORB (Delhi Old Railway Bridge) may cross the danger level and is likely to exceed 206.50m, a CWC advisory may be expected soon. So, all the Sector Officers are hereby advised to keep a strict vigil in their respective areas and to take necessary action at vulnerable points, such as people residing within the river embankments, shall be warned and shifted to safer places," a Delhi government order said. "The police and the staff of 1 & FC Department would undertake patrolling along right and left marginal embankments and keep vigil round the clock on the vulnerable points.

UNION HOME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF COOPERATION, SHRI AMIT SHAH, REVIEWS SECURITY SCENARIO OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR IN A MEETING HELD IN JAMMU

Diary Times Desk : Home Minister appreciates UT administration and security agencies for conducting Shri Amarnathji Yatra, 2025 peacefully

Shri Amit Shah emphasizes on the zero tolerance policy against terrorism under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi

Home Minister instructs all security agencies to remain alert and operate in a coordinated manner to eliminate terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir

Shri Amit Shah appreciates the pivotal role played by all the security forces in relief and rescue work in the recent flash floods of J&K which has helped in saving many lives

Home Minister assures full support of CAPFs in managing the natural calamities in J&K.

MINUTES BEFORE PM-PUTIN MEET, US "DEFINING RELATIONSHIP" SIGNAL TO DELHI

Diary Times Desk : As Prime Minister Narendra Modi exchanged hugs and handshakes with Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese premier Xi Jinping at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in China's Tianjin, a key member of US President Donald Trump's team has termed New Delhi-Washington DC ties a "defining relationship of the 21st century". Marco Rubio, US Secretary of State, has said the relationship between US and India continues to reach new heights. "This month, we're spotlighting the people, progress, and possibilities driving us forward. From innovation and entrepreneurship to defense and bilateral ties, it's the enduring friendship between our two peoples that fuels this journey," the US Embassy quoted Rubio as saying. The post on X came minutes before Prime Minister Modi's meeting with President Putin on sidelines of SCO.



TAYLOR SWIFT AND TRAVIS KELCE'S
ENGAGEMENT POST SHATTERS
INSTAGRAM RECORDS

Diary Times Desk : Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce's whirlwind romance has taken a significant leap, with the global pop sensation announcing her engagement to the NFL star on Instagram.

The couple's joint post, featuring dreamy photos from the proposal, has broken multiple records on the platform. With over 1 million reposts in just six hours and 35.7 million likes currently, Taylor Swift's engagement announcement has become one of the most trending posts in Instagram history.

In a playful nod to their professions, Taylor Swift captioned the post, "Your English teacher and your gym teacher are getting married." The post features stunning photos of Travis Kelce proposing to Taylor Swift in a picturesque garden setting, with Swift proudly showcasing her exquisite vintage-inspired diamond ring, valued at up to \$5 million.

The ring, designed by Kindred Lubeck of Artifex Fine Jewelry, features an old mine brilliant cut diamond set in yellow gold. The unique design reflects Swift's love for timeless elegance and holds special significance, symbolising their relationship milestones.

CANNOT SHOW MULTI COLOURED
DREAMS OF NEW GENERATION ON
OLD BLACK WHITE SCREEN: PM MODI
AT SCO SUMMIT

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday stated that the aspirations of the Global South cannot be confined to outdated frameworks, emphasising that the world must move towards a more inclusive and modern approach.

Speaking at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, PM Modi used the analogy of a "black-and-white screen" to explain that the dreams of the new generation cannot be displayed on old systems.

"To confine the aspirations of the Global South to outdated frameworks is to deny justice to future generations. The colourful dreams of the new generation cannot be displayed on a black-and-white screen. It is time to change the screen," PM Modi said as per a press statement from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER JOHANN WADEPHUL TO VISIT INDIA ON SEPT
2-3

Diary Times Desk : German Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs Johann David Wadepuhl will pay an official visit to India from September 2-3, as per the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).

He will arrive in Bengaluru on September 2 and visit the Indian Space Research Organisation before leaving for Delhi later in the day.

On September 3, Wadepuhl will meet Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, followed by a meeting with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in New Delhi.

He will depart the same day.
The visit follows Jaishankar's meeting with German Member of Parliament Jurgen Hardt in New Delhi last month, where the two leaders discussed bilateral ties and global developments.

INDIA OFFERED TO CUT TARIFFS TO
NOTHING, BUT IT'S LATE: TRUMP AFTER
PM MODI MEETS XI, PUTIN



Diary Times Desk : Hours after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held bilateral discussions with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Tianjin, Trump threw a fresh salvo in the ongoing India-US tariff tussle.

Trump claimed that the Indian government had offered to cut tariffs on US goods to zero.

"They (India) have now offered to cut their tariffs to nothing, but it's getting late. They should have done so years ago," Trump said on Truth Social. The Indian government did not issue a formal response to Trump's claim.

"WE'RE REALLY COUNTING ON INDIAN
SUPPORT FOR A VERY SUCCESSFUL
COP30," SAYS BRAZILIAN ENVOY

Diary Times Desk : Kenneth Felix Haczynski Da Nobrega, Ambassador of Brazil to India, on Monday said that Brazil and India share a strong responsibility in addressing global challenges such as climate change. "I think that Brazil and India have a lot to offer to the world in terms of solutions and paths to solve the climate crisis. We're really counting on Indian support to ensure that we have a very successful COP30..." he said. Speaking on the issue of US tariffs, the Brazilian envoy noted India's approach in the evolving geopolitical scenario. "India is trying to see what opportunities are arising within this new geopolitical context. We are exploring ways to collaborate on various initiatives. We are focused on developing our people. Climate change is a phenomenon that will persist for years to come. So we are also focusing on the longer term, on the importance of ensuring that climate change will not affect our societies..." he said.

On the transition of the G20 presidency from India to Brazil, Da Nobrega highlighted the constructive nature of the process. "I think there has been a very smooth and constructive transition from your (India) presidency of G20 to our presidency of G20. I think we are going to replicate the success story of two brotherly countries handing over to one another presidencies.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO
HOLD SEPTEMBER BRIEFING
ON AFGHANISTAN AS
OTUNBAYEVA PREPARES
FINAL REPORT

Diary Times Desk : The UN Security Council will hold its quarterly briefing on Afghanistan in September, Tolo News reported. Roza Otunbayeva, head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), will present her quarterly report, with a representative of civil society and UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk also expected to participate.

Part of the Council's statement reads: "In September, the Security Council will convene for its quarterly open briefing on Afghanistan. Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) Roza Otunbayeva and a representative of civil society are expected to brief. UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk may also brief," Tolo News added.

Political analyst Moeen Gul Samkani said: "There are divisions within the Security Council over Afghanistan. This has both advantages and disadvantages for us. If this time they reach a decision that resolves the problems of the Afghan people, politically, economically, and diplomatically, then we can say they are acting independently. Otherwise, they remain under the influence of others and unable to decide," Tolo News reported.

GUYANA HOLDS ELECTIONS
AMID OIL REVENUE DEBATE
AND VENEZUELA TENSIONS

Diary Times Desk : People in Guyana are voting for a president and members of parliament who will oversee billions in oil revenue, offshore production with a United States-led international consortium, and tensions with Venezuela, Al Jazeera reported.

Over 750,000 registered voters will have until 6:00 p.m. (22:00 GMT) on Monday to cast their ballots at approximately 2,800 polling stations. Six parties are participating in the election for the presidency and 65 parliamentary seats, but it is effectively a three-way race between President Irfaan Ali of the People's Progressive Party (PPP), Aubrey Norton of the People's National Congress Reform (PNCR), and billionaire Azruddin Mohamed, Al Jazeera added. Mohamed launched his We Invest in Nationhood party in March to challenge the two-party system.



FEARS RISE AS AFGHANS IN DELHI AWAIT NEWS FROM QUAKE-HIT COUNTRY

Diary Times Desk : Sitting in their modest shops and small rented rooms in Delhi, Afghan migrants spent a sleepless Monday night, holding onto their phones and waiting for the comforting sound of a familiar voice from back home as news of the earthquake that killed more than 600 people in eastern Afghanistan trickled in.

For many like Asim, a 20-year-old dry fruit seller in central Delhi, the silence on the other end has been unbearable, as his grandmother and extended family live in Jalalabad, one of the worst-hit areas.

"I came here with my uncle two years ago and have been working with him since. The last time I spoke to my parents was about two weeks ago. This morning, when I heard about the quake, I kept trying to call them, but the phone just didn't go through. I can only pray my grandmother is safe," he said, his voice breaking.



Farzan, 24, who works alongside Asim, said his family members also live in the affected neighbourhood. "I moved here three years ago with my elder brother. For the past few days, nobody has been answering the phone back home. I have been trying to call them, and I have made at least 100 calls by now," he said.

Nasir Khan, 35, who has been working at a Delhi restaurant for over a decade, said his grandparents and cousins are still in Kabul.

INDONESIA'S DEADLY PROTESTS PAUSED BUT DEEP RESENTMENT REMAINS

Diary Times Desk : Indonesia's worst wave of violent protests in years seems to have come to a pause for now after the government ordered the military and police to take stern action against rioters and looters.

Some students and civil society groups called off their protest on Monday, citing fears of heightened security measures imposed after deadly riots across the country on the weekend, Reuters reported.

At least five people have been killed in the protests, which began peacefully over controversial housing perks for lawmakers but erupted on Thursday when an armored police vehicle hit and killed a rideshare driver, according to government-run news agency Antara.

The unrest escalated over the weekend as thousands of protesters across the sprawling archipelago set fire to legislative buildings and looted parliamentarians' homes.

Economic and political frustration has been brewing for months under the leadership of Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto, who took office last October and was forced to cancel a planned trip to China this week to deal with the turmoil.

SHEHBAZ SHARIF SNUBBED? PAK PM ON SIDELINES AS PM MODI, PUTIN WALK PAST

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday engaged in a warm exchange with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin, China-- a moment that drew global spotlight for its strong geopolitical implications, especially as President Donald Trump ratchets up trade tensions with New Delhi.

Photographs and videos from Tianjin showed visible camaraderie among the three heavyweight leaders, while several world leaders observed them from the sidelines. In one of the videos going viral from the summit, Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif was seen looking on with a grim expression as Prime Minister Modi engaged in an animated informal chat minutes ahead of the plenary session in Tianjin.

This came after PM Modi was seen standing several places apart from Sharif in the first family photo from the summit.

Later, PM Modi posted photographs of himself with President Putin and President Xi, highlighting the friendly exchange and wrote, "Interactions in Tianjin continue! Exchanging perspectives with President Putin and President Xi during the SCO Summit."

"MUST OPPOSE BULLYING": XI SENDS INDIRECT MESSAGE TO US AT SCO SUMMIT

Diary Times Desk : Chinese President Xi Jinping on Monday called for promoting a correct view of second world war history and opposing cold war mentality, block confrontation and bullying, a statement seen as sending a message to the United States over its unilateral imposition of tariffs on other nations including China.

He stated that the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) member states must advocate for an equal and orderly multipolar world and inclusive economic globalisation.

In his address at the 25th meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO in Tianjin on Monday, Xi said, "We must uphold fairness and justice. We must promote a correct view of World War II history and oppose the Cold War mentality, block confrontation, and bullying. We must uphold the international system with the United Nations at its core and support the multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organisation at its core. We must advocate for an equal and orderly multipolar world and inclusive economic globalization, and promote the building of a more just and reasonable global governance system."

U.S. STILL WORKING ON TRADE DEALS DESPITE COURT RULING, USTR SAYS

Diary Times Desk : The Trump administration is continuing its talks with trading partners despite a U.S. appeals court ruling that most of President Donald Trump's tariffs are illegal, U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said on Sunday (August 31, 2025).

"Our trading partners, they continue to work very closely with us on negotiations," he said in an interview on Fox News' Fox & Friends programme. "People are moving forward with their deals, regardless of what this court may say in the interim." Mr. Greer did not say which countries the United States was still in talks with, but said he had spoken with one trade minister on Saturday morning.

The ruling threatens what has become a pillar of Trump's foreign policy since starting his second term in the White House in January. He has used the levies imposed on imported goods to exert political pressure and renegotiate trade deals even as the tariffs have increased volatility in financial markets.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington's 7-4 decision on Friday said while Congress gave the president significant authority to act in response to a national emergency.

LAOS ACCEPTED AS DIALOGUE PARTNER OF THE SCO

Diary Times Desk : Laos, on Monday (September 1, 2025), was accepted as a dialogue partner of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) at the SCO summit conducted in the Chinese city of Tianjin.

Since the dialogue partners and observers have been merged with the single status of SCO partners with Laos being added to it, the grouping now comprises 10 members and 17 partners.

The SCO summit kicked off on Sunday (August 31, 2025) in the northern port city of Tianjin, days before a massive military parade in the capital Beijing to mark 80 years since the end of World War II.

This year's summit was stated to be the largest of the SCO group as China, which holds the Presidency of the organisation this year, has invited 20 foreign leaders and 10 heads of international organisations, including UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to attend the SCO Plus summit.

On Monday (September 1, 2025), the leaders address the meeting enunciating their future vision for the organisation.

Prime Minister Modi, on the third day of his China trip, attended the SCO summit on Monday (September 1, 2025). He met the Russian President Vladimir Putin, conveying to him the message that it is humanity's call to end the Ukraine conflict as soon as possible.



5 KILLED AS PAK ARMY HELICOPTER CRASHES IN POK

Diary Times Desk : An army helicopter crashed in northern Pakistan on Monday, killing all five people on board, the military said.

"The helicopter was on routine training flying when it developed a technical fault and crashed," it said in a statement.

Two pilots, two crew, and a flight engineer on board the MI-17 died.

A police official in the district had earlier said that the helicopter crashed during a test landing on a newly proposed helipad.

The helicopter came down in a mountainous tourist area in Diamer district, in Gilgit Baltistan, around 10:00 am (0500 GMT).



"NEVER FELT BETTER IN MY LIFE": DONALD TRUMP AMID "HE IS DEAD" VIRAL CLAIMS

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump on Monday dismissed the speculations of his 'deteriorating' health in a post on Truth Social, saying he has "never felt better" in his life. Trump was responding to a post by conservative commentator DC Draino – who called out the people on the internet for having "comical double standards".

"Joe Biden would go multiple days at a time without any public appearances and the media would say he's "sharp" and "top of his game". Meanwhile he was wearing diapers and napping. President Trump puts in more public work hours than any other POTUS in US history and media freaks out if he disappears for 24 hours. Comical double standard," the post read. To this, Trump responded: "NEVER FELT BETTER IN MY LIFE".

He further mentioned that Washington DC has become a "crime-free zone" in the same post.

US ISSUES FRESH WARNING TO INDIAN STUDENTS AMID TRUMP'S IMMIGRATION CRACKDOWN; 'YOUR VISA MAY BE REVOKED IF...'

Diary Times Desk : The US Embassy in India on Saturday sent out a new warning to Indian students, stating that there would be "serious consequences" if they break any laws or get detained. These might include being deported, having their visa revoked, or being disqualified from obtaining US visas in future.

"US laws can have serious consequences for your student visa. If you are arrested or violate any laws, your visa may be revoked, you may be deported, and you could be ineligible for future U.S. visas," the US Embassy in India stated in a post on X.

"Follow the rules and don't jeopardize your travel. A U.S. visa is a privilege, not a right," the post added.

BRITAIN'S QUEEN CAMILLA FOUGHT TRAIN ATTACKER WITH HER SHOE, NEW BOOK REVEALS



Diary Times Desk : Britain's Queen Camilla used the heel of her shoe as a teenager to fight off a sexual assault on a train to London's Paddington station, a new book on the relationship between the royal family and government officials revealed on Monday.

'Power and the Palace: The Inside Story of the Monarchy and 10 Downing Street' by Valentine Low, being serialised in 'The Times' newspaper this week, recounts a conversation between King Charles III's wife and Boris Johnson, who was the Mayor of London at the time in 2008. A man is said to have been inappropriately touching Camilla Shand, then aged 16 or 17, when she took off her shoe and hit him with it.

"I did what my mother taught me to. I took off my shoe and whacked him in the nuts with the heel," reads the account from the book. Once the train pulled into Paddington station, she found a uniformed officer and got the culprit arrested for the assault.

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 aerial attack 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. Hamas has not confirmed his death. The Palestinian armed group earlier said dozens of civilians were killed and injured in the Israeli air strikes on a residential building in the district.

Local journalists reported that at least seven people had been killed and 20 injured in the strikes on the densely populated al-Rimal neighbourhood of Gaza City, with children among the casualties. Saturday's attack comes amid ongoing aerial strikes on Gaza City ahead of a planned Israeli offensive.

HANDSHAKE, HUG, PAT ON BACK: HOW PM MODI'S GESTURES DID THE TALKING AT SCO

Diary Times Desk : A hug with Russian President Vladimir Putin, a handshake with Chinese President Xi Jinping, a pat on the back for Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, and not a glance at Pakistan's Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif-- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's gestures at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit were as clear as his words in defining who's a friend and who's not.

In a very public display of bonhomie amid US President Donald Trump's tariff offensive, PM Modi and Putin carpooled as they headed to the venue of their bilateral meeting on Monday. Sources said the Russian leader waited for about 10 minutes for PM Modi to join him on the ride from the SCO conference venue to the bilateral meeting held at the Ritz Carlton.

Both leaders, said sources, spent another 45 minutes in the car even after reaching their destination, conversing on various issues before the bilateral meeting that was over an hour long.

PM Modi was also seen in huddles and laughing with Putin and Xi Jinping. In a viral video, Pakistan PM Sharif watched from the sidelines as PM Modi and Putin walked past, deep in conversation. PM Modi's easy camaraderie with the two leaders stood out against the backdrop of geopolitical tensions amid US tariffs, putting a global spotlight on the high-profile gathering at the SCO Summit.

NO-FRILLS PIONEER SPIRIT AIRLINES SEEKS SECOND BANKRUPTCY IN MONTHS

Diary Times Desk : U.S. no-frills pioneer Spirit Airlines filed for fresh Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection on Friday, as dwindling cash and mounting losses derailed its turnaround efforts since emerging from a previous Chapter 11 reorganization in March.

The carrier, recognizable by its bright yellow jets, has struggled to steady operations since emerging from its first bankruptcy in March.

Flights, ticket sales, reservations and operations will continue, the airline said on Friday.

Spirit had been attempting to rebrand as a more premium airline to keep pace with post-pandemic travel trends that have challenged the viability of the ultra-low-cost model.

But Spirit's recovery was further hit by uncertainty from President Donald Trump's tariffs and budget cuts, which have cooled consumer spending and driven down domestic airfares.

FOX CHANNELS MAY GO DARK ON YOUTUBE TV FROM WEDNESDAY OVER PAYMENT DISPUTE

Diary Times Desk : YouTube said on Monday it is in talks to renew a content partnership with Fox, but the media company is asking for payments above those received by partners providing comparable content.

"If we are unable to reach a new agreement by 5:00 PM ET on August 27, Fox channels including Fox Sports, Business, and News would become unavailable on YouTube TV," YouTube said in a blog post.

YouTube, owned by Alphabet, also said it is in active negotiations with Fox, looking to reach a deal that is fair for both sides "without passing on additional costs to our subscribers."

Should Fox's content become unavailable for an extended period of time, YouTube will provide members with a \$10 credit. Separately, Fox said it is "disappointed that Google continually exploits its outsized influence by proposing terms that are out of step with the marketplace," adding that it is alerting users that they could lose access to content "unless Google engages in a meaningful way soon."

HOW TRUMP'S 'AMERICA FIRST' VISION PUTS 'MAKE IN INDIA' AND MILLIONS OF LIVELIHOODS ON THE LINE

Diary Times Desk :

Two decades ago, Jinul Abedeen left his family and moved to India's capital where he spent a year learning Zardozi, an ancient and intricate threadwork technique he hoped would equip him to support his family for decades to come.

The gamble succeeded. He landed a job at Orient Craft, a major garment factory on the outskirts of New Delhi that supplies global brands like Gap, Ralph Lauren, and American Eagle. For 12 years, he has created pieces destined for clothing racks 8,000 miles away in the United States.

"This is a true skill," he said, recalling that year spent learning his craft when he lived on his meagre savings, as his needle moved across a sheer piece of fabric to form a flower petal. "Otherwise, it would not take a year to learn."



END OF AN ERA: BILLIONS OF PACKAGES OF 'CHEAP' GOODS SHIPPED TO THE US ARE NOW SUBJECT TO STEEP TARIFFS

Diary Times Desk : A big change to all the "cheap goods" Americans order just went into effect.

For nearly a century, low-value packages of goods from abroad have entered the United States duty free, thanks to what's known as the "de minimis rule," which as of 2015 has applied to packages worth less than \$800.

The loophole has reshaped the way countless Americans shop, enabling many small businesses globally to sell goods to US consumers with relative ease and allowing, in particular, ultra-low-cost Chinese e-commerce sites like Shein, Temu and AliExpress to sell everything from clothing to furniture to electronics directly to American shoppers, escaping many duties in place for packages exceeding the \$800 threshold. But those days are over. As of one minute past midnight Eastern Time, all imported goods — regardless of their value — are now subject to 10% to 50% tariff rates, depending on their country of origin. (In certain cases, they could face a flat fee of \$80 to \$200, but only for the next six months.)

EARLY SIGNS OF DEMENTIA CAN SHOW IN YOUR FINANCES

Diary Times Desk : Financial files in disarray. Late payments and last-warning service-cutoff notices. Multiple daily bank withdrawals. Out-of-character purchases.

When a family member who has been fairly responsible with money all their lives becomes careless with their finances, it may be one sign of as-yet-undiagnosed dementia.

Researchers at the New York Federal Reserve who analyzed both US credit reporting and Medicare data found that in the five years before a dementia diagnosis, a person's average credit scores may start to weaken and their payment delinquencies rise.

"The harmful financial effects of undiagnosed memory disorders exacerbate the already substantial financial pressure households face upon diagnosis," the researchers wrote. "Beyond susceptibility to payment delinquency, early stage [Alzheimer's disease and related disorders] may affect new account openings and debt accumulation, credit utilization, and/or credit mix."

Their findings echo the results of a 2020 study from the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

CRACKER BARREL QUIETLY REMOVES DEI AND PRIDE PAGES FROM ITS WEBSITE AFTER LOGO UPHEAVAL

Diary Times Desk : After backing away from a controversial logo rebrand loudly opposed by many right-wing influencers, Cracker Barrel also quietly made changes to its website this week. The Tennessee-based roadside restaurant chain deleted a dedicated "Pride page" and scrubbed references to employee resource groups, including its LGBTQ+ and Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging groups, from another part of its website. "On behalf of Cracker Barrel's LGBTQ+ Alliance & DEIB Team, we want to celebrate YOU for being YOU. It is our greatest Mission to ensure that Pleasing People means 'all people,'" Cracker Barrel's now-deleted Pride page read, according to a CNN review of the Wayback Machine.

The URL now redirects to the company's "Culture and Belonging" page, which has also been revised, according to the Wayback Machine. The new version speaks more broadly about company culture but no longer lists its employee resource groups, which were publicly visible as recently as Tuesday, according to the archive.



MONSOON MAYHEM IN NORTH: RAIN WREAKS HAVOC IN PUNJAB; HIMACHAL DECLARED DISASTER-HIT

Diary Times Desk : Incessant rain continued to wreak havoc across the region on Monday, causing widespread damage to life, property, and livelihood.

In Shimla district, three people lost their lives in two separate landslide incidents triggered by heavy rain that lashed the region throughout Sunday night. Virender Kumar (35) and his daughter (10) were killed when a landslide hit their house at Mohal Jot village in Junga tehsil. His wife survived as she was outside at the time. A few cattle heads were also killed.

In another incident, an elderly woman was buried in her house following a landslide at Chol village of the Kotkhai area. Meanwhile, Jalandhar was left battered by a torrential downpour, flooding homes, showrooms, and disrupting power for hours.

In Patiala, the Ghaggar river swelled near Bhankharpur, prompting the administration to issue flood warnings for villages in the Rajpura sub-division.

NHAI TO AIRLIFT HEAVY MACHINERY FOR MANALI ROAD RESTORATION

Diary Times Desk : The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) on Monday said it would airlift construction equipment to inaccessible stretches of the Kullu-Manali highway, where torrent rains and floods have completely washed away sections of the road, cutting off the hill town from the rest of Himachal Pradesh.

According to the authority, 12 locations on the Kullu-Manali section of NH-21 have been destroyed and five others partially damaged, with two critical points near Bindu Dhank still beyond reach due to heavy rains and a swollen river.

“To expedite emergent restoration works, machinery will be airlifted once the weather clears,” the NHAI official said.

HIMACHAL DECLARED DISASTER-AFFECTED AMID HEAVY RAIN DAMAGE: SUKHU

Diary Times Desk : The Himachal Pradesh government has declared the entire state as disaster-affected due to the extensive damage caused by cloudbursts, flash floods and landslides. Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced that the state has suffered losses worth over Rs 3,056 crore.

The damage has been particularly severe in the infrastructure sector, with roads, bridges, power, and water supply schemes being badly affected. The Manimahesh Yatra has also been impacted, with 16 pilgrims reported dead, and four bodies still stuck in Kugti village in Bharmour. The Chamba district administration has arranged for 20 porters to carry the corpses out, but the incessant rains are hindering the efforts.



HEAVY RAIN CONTINUES IN HIMACHAL; RED ALERT ISSUED FOR 4 DISTRICTS

Diary Times Desk : Himachal is set to witness heavy rain in isolated areas of the state as the Meteorological Department has issued a red warning for Una, Sirmour, Bilaspur and Solan districts for the next few hours.

An orange warning has been issued for Shimla, its adjoining areas and rest of the state, resulting in a few spells of heavy rain. As many as 793 roads, including five national highways, were blocked for vehicular traffic as a result of heavy rain that continues to wreak havoc across the state.

As per the State Emergency Operation Centre, 266 roads, including NH 3, are closed in Mandi; 176 roads, including NH 305, in Kullu, 138 roads, including NH 707 and 907 in Sirmour; 68 in Solan, 61 in Kangra, 30 in Una, 28 in Bilaspur, 13 in Lahaul and Spiti, 12, including NH 5 in Kinnaur, and one road in Hamirpur district.

WARRING WRITES TO PM MODI, SEEKS URGENT FLOOD RELIEF PACKAGE FOR PUNJAB



Diary Times Desk : Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring has sought the immediate intervention of the Prime Minister for an “urgent” flood relief package for Punjab, as the floods have caused havoc and devastation across the state. In a letter to PM Modi, Warring stated that almost the entire state of Punjab has been devastatingly hit by floods, with no immediate reprieve in sight, as more rains are predicted for the next few days. Referring to Inter-Ministerial Committee constituted by the Union Home Ministry to assess flood losses in different states, he noted that these efforts will take time, while people need relief right away. Seeking an “urgent” flood relief package for Punjab.

MP MEET HAYER URGES PM MODI FOR RS 20,000-CRORE RELIEF PACKAGE TO PUNJAB

Diary Times Desk : Punjab, which is suffering from one of the most devastating floods in the past half century, needs urgent support to recover from this calamity and provide relief to the affected people. In this regard, Member of Parliament from Sangrur, Gurmeet Singh Meet Hayer, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, seeking a special relief package for Punjab. Meet Hayer has demanded that Punjab be given Rs 20,000 crore as immediate interim relief, and after a comprehensive assessment of the total loss, a larger relief package should follow. Additionally, he has also urged the Centre to release the pending Rs 60,000 crore funds of Punjab without delay. Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann has also appealed to the Prime Minister for urgent intervention in this matter. Meet Hayer stressed that it is now the duty of the Centre to support Punjab, the state that feeds the nation. He said that the floods have caused loss of life, property, livestock, and massive damage to infrastructure, while also destroying crops over vast stretches of farmland. This will have a direct negative impact on the country's food reserves. He emphasised that since Punjab is the nation's food bowl, the Centre must extend its hand to support the state in this hour of crisis. The crops were damaged right at the peak of the harvest season. Apart from human and property losses, the floods have caused major loss of cattle, severely affecting dairy farming and allied livestock-based livelihoods.



Israel Considers West Bank Annexation

Israel is weighing the annexation of parts of the occupied West Bank, three Israeli officials said, just as several Western nations move towards recognizing Palestinian statehood this month.

It's one of the steps Israel is considering in retaliation for the anticipated recognition of Palestinian statehood by France, Australia, Canada, Portugal and the United Kingdom, which would join more than 140 nations that already recognize a Palestinian state.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held an initial discussion on the matter last week, but the security cabinet has yet to discuss the matter in detail and no decision has been made yet, the officials told CNN on condition of anonymity.

Israel captured the West Bank from Jordan in the 1967 war and began establishing Jewish settlements there soon after in defiance of international law. The Palestinians want the West Bank, East Jerusalem and the Gaza Strip for a future state, a position supported by most of the international community.

The Israeli officials said Netanyahu is considering various scales and levels of annexation options, ranging from a limited takeover of several Jewish settlements to a broader approach calling for annexation of Area C, which comprises 60% of the territory.

A series of peace agreements between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization in the 1990s known as the Oslo Accords split the West Bank into Areas A, B, and C, where Area C falls entirely under Israeli administrative and security control.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Saar updated US Secretary of State Marco Rubio about Israel's annexation plans during a meeting last week, according to an Israeli official. However, other Israeli sources told CNN the plans have not received a green light from the US yet.

Encircling Palestinian population centers Two of the officials said one of the main options being considered is annexation of the Jordan Valley – a strip of land on the eastern edge of the West Bank that runs along the Jordan River. The officials said there was a broader Israeli public consensus in favor of such a proposal, adding that Israel's need to use it as a security perimeter would be easier to sell to the international community – and, most importantly, Washington.

However, Netanyahu's far-right political allies, ministers Bezalel Smotrich and Itamar Ben Gvir, as well as the settler leadership, oppose the idea of partial annexation involving specific strips or settlement blocks, and are instead pushing for the maximalist approach – applying Israeli sovereignty over all territory not inhabited by Palestinians. The move would allow Israel to encircle Palestinian population centers, further undermining the viability of a contiguous Palestinian state.

Whereas applying sovereignty to territory with Palestinian inhabitants could obligate Israel to provide citizenship or residency status to the roughly 3 million Palestinians who live in the West Bank.

Annexing any part of the occupied West Bank by applying Israeli sovereignty would violate multiple UN Security Council resolutions and spark an enormous diplomatic backlash.

Israeli settlements in the West Bank are considered illegal under international law. The United Nations reinforced that designation in 2016 with Security Council resolution 2334, which declared that Jewish settlements in occupied territory are a "flagrant violation" of international law and have "no legal validity."

Omer Rahamim, CEO of the Yesha Council, the umbrella organization of West Bank Jewish settlements, told CNN that applying sovereignty should be "a preemptive move ahead of the French recognition of Palestinian statehood. By applying sovereignty, we will prevent the establishment of a Palestinian state, because it is impossible to establish a state on the sovereign territory of another country."



Tal Shalev
Alongside annexation, Israel is contemplating other punitive measures in response to the Palestinian statehood developments, including sanctioning the Palestinian Authority, which governs parts of the West Bank as part of a peace agreement.



Chris Isidore
Trump has made it clear he's taking this action in part to weaken federal unions, who have "declared war on President Trump's agenda" and "block Trump policies," according to a White House fact sheet issued at that time.

Trump's Latest

Beginning Of The End For American Unions?

America's unions have had much to celebrate on recent Labor Days. Not this year.

President Donald Trump is trying to strip collective bargaining rights from approximately one million unionized federal workers. Just last week, he signed an executive order affecting union workers at federal agencies, including the National Weather Service and NASA, citing national security concerns. Earlier this year a similar order targeted unions at, among others, the departments of state, defense, justice and health and human services.

And because of the importance of public sector unions to the broader US labor movement, Trump's moves could deal a massive blow to the union momentum that had been growing under President Joe Biden.

"This is the single largest attack on the labor movement in our history," Liz Shuler, president of the AFL-CIO, told CNN in an interview Friday. She said the labor federation fears what is going on with federal workers will expand to corporate America.



The order not only stripped workers of union protections but also stopped them from automatically deducting union dues from their paychecks. The AFGE has already been forced to cut about a third of its staff due to the financial hit.

"An attack on one sector ripples over to another sector," she said. "We know the playbook. And, you know, corporations are watching." Nearly half of union members nationwide work for different levels of government, not businesses. And the public sector is more unionized than the private sector – about 19% of civilian federal workers outside of the Postal Service belong to a union, compared to only 6% of workers in the private sector.

Labor leaders are concerned the Trump administration's attack on federal workers and their unions will not only threaten labor's political influence, but also their ability to organize and win contract gains across all types of American employers.

"I think that what he's doing, he is using the federal sector as a test (case), right?" Everett Kelley, president of American Federation of Government Employees, told CNN. "(It's a) nod to the private sector, saying, 'Okay, you go ahead and do the same thing. You know, we got your back.' I think whether it's private sector

or public sector, you're going to see more and more of it." Recent wins following decades of decline

For years, unions struggled as their economic and political clout waned. Only 10% of US workers now belong to unions, down from 20% in 1983.

But concerns over working conditions during the pandemic increased grassroots support for unions. And a strong job market in the years that followed, with more job openings than job seekers at times, helped embolden workers who might have been nervous otherwise about organizing efforts.

That led to a number of high-profile unionizations at large employers such as Amazon, Starbucks, Apple and Volkswagen's US factory, breathing new life into the union movement. While many of these new unions are still fighting for their first contracts, workers did win their first agreement at an Apple store in 2024. But in 2024, 45% of union households voted for Trump, according to CNN exit polls. Trump has said he supports union members, framing tariffs as a way to force companies to return union jobs back to America from overseas.

GPS Jamming

PLANE CARRYING EU'S TOP LEADER



Ivana Kottasová
Speaking in Bulgaria's capital shortly after the plane incident, but before it became public, von der Leyen said Europe needed to "keep up the sense of urgency."

A plane carrying the European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen was targeted by GPS navigation jamming while trying to land in Bulgaria on Sunday, a spokesperson for the commission told CNN.

The commission received "information from Bulgarian authorities that they suspect this blatant interference was carried out by Russia," said European Commission Deputy Chief Spokesperson Arianna Podestà.

The Kremlin has denied the allegation, with spokesperson Dmitry Peskov telling The Financial Times, which first reported on the story, "your information is incorrect."

The plane landed safely, the European Commission spokesperson said. A source familiar with the situation told CNN the pilots landed the plane using paper maps.

Von der Leyen and the commission have been staunch supporters of Ukraine as Kyiv tries to defend itself against Russia's unprovoked aggression.

She was one of the European leaders who attended US President Donald Trump's summit on Ukraine last week and has consistently urged EU member states to allocate more resources to helping Ukraine.

The incident occurred as the president was about to land at the Plovdiv International Airport in the south of Bulgaria, part of her tour around member states in the eastern part of the bloc to rally support for Ukraine.

"This incident underlines the urgency of the president's current trip to frontline Member States, where she has seen first hand the every day threats from Russia and its proxies," Podestà told CNN.

She later added the flight was a charter and that it was unclear whether the attackers intended to target it directly.

CNN has reached out to the Bulgarian authorities for comment.

GPS interference that causes disruptions to flights and maritime traffic has long been among the tools in Russia's hybrid war arsenal.



The European Union has previously sanctioned several Russian state-linked entities and individuals for being behind jamming incidents.

"This will further reinforce our unshakable commitment to ramp up our defense capabilities and support for Ukraine," the spokesperson added.

The trip to Bulgaria was part of von der Leyen's tour of several European Union states that border Russia, Belarus and the Black Sea.

The trip was meant to show strength and unity as Russia continues to attack Ukrainian cities and sabotaging any attempts to reach a ceasefire deal.

The president visited Latvia and Finland on Friday, Estonia on Saturday, and Poland and Bulgaria on Sunday. She was rounding up the trip on Monday, visiting Lithuania and Romania.

SEATTLE SOUNDERS STUN LIONEL MESSI'S INTER MIAMI 3-0 TO LIFT LEAGUES CUP

Diary Times Desk : The Seattle Sounders stunned Lionel Messi and Inter Miami 3-0 on Sunday to win the Leagues Cup, completing their collection of North American trophies in front of a record crowd at Lumen Field. Osaze De Rosario scored in the 26th minute and Alex Roldan added a penalty in the second half before Paul Rothrock capped the scoring for the Sounders, whose determined defense stymied a star-studded Inter lineup led by Argentine icon Messi. Inter's frustrations spilled over at the final whistle and officials had to scramble to quell a brewing brawl before the Sounders -- whose \$16.7 million payroll is dwarfed by Miami's \$46.8 million player compensation total -- could celebrate their first Leagues Cup title.



OSCAR PIASTRI EXTENDS CHAMPIONSHIP LEAD AFTER NORRIS BREAKDOWN AT DUTCH GRAND PRIX



Diary Times Desk : Oscar Piastri powered to victory at an incident-packed Dutch Formula One Grand Prix on Sunday, with home favourite Max Verstappen claiming second place as Piastri's McLaren teammate Lando Norris suffered a dramatic breakdown late in the race. Piastri led from pole to chequered flag at the Zandvoort circuit in a race that saw the safety car deployed three times to stretch his lead over Norris to 34 points in the championship race. Racing Bulls' 20-year-old French rookie Isack Hadjar finished third to become the fifth youngest podium finisher of all time.

CHELSEA AGREE £70.5M BAYERN DEAL FOR JACKSON & LOAN BUONANOTTE

Diary Times Desk : After an on-off transfer saga, the 24-year-old is set to complete an initial loan move for £14.3m (16.5m euros), which crucially includes a mandatory obligation to buy for £56.2m (65m euros) through a minimum number of appearances.

It's a deal on slightly improved terms as the one initially agreed and now worth in excess of £70m. Personal terms are already in place for a future five-year permanent contract for Jackson, whose deal with Bayern was in doubt after Chelsea instructed him to return when Liam Delap was injured in Saturday's Premier League win over Fulham.

The Senegal forward joined Chelsea from £32m from Villarreal in 2023 and scored 30 goals in 81 matches.

To boost their own attacking options, Chelsea have signed Argentine Facundo Buonanotte, 20, on a season-long loan deal from Brighton for a £2m fee.

Jackson had been an automatic starter until his red card at St James's Park in April - his second dismissal of the season - which left the club without a striker as they were competing for a place in the Champions League.

PREMIER LEAGUE: LIVERPOOL BEAT ARSENAL, MANCHESTER CITY COLLAPSE TO ANOTHER LOSS

Diary Times Desk : Full time was approaching at Anfield and it was clear something special was needed to separate Liverpool and Arsenal as they slugged out an early-season heavyweight contest in the Premier League on Sunday. Enter Dominik Szoboszlai. With a long-range free kick that flew in off the post in the 83rd minute, Szoboszlai earned Liverpool a hard-fought 1-0 win over the opponent likely to be the biggest challenger to its title. "The game needed a moment of magic for either team to win it," Liverpool manager Arne Slot said, "and it was Dominik who did so."

Many thought Manchester City would be back in the title race this season, but perhaps not. Collapsing to a 2-1 loss at Brighton, for a second straight loss, was another sign that Pep Guardiola's once-dominant team has lost its aura. "This is the reality - we are not at the level from a long time (ago)," City midfielder Rodri said.



Szoboszlai is popular among Liverpool fans for his work ethic and versatility, and the Hungary midfielder was filling in at right back - for so long the position of the now-departed Trent Alexander-Arnold - because of injuries to Conor Bradley and Jeremie Frimpong. Szoboszlai did his best impression of Alexander-Arnold with a top-quality dead-ball strike that was out of keeping with the rest of the game.

'EVERY GAME, I PLAY BETTER' - SABALENKA RACES THROUGH

Diary Times Desk : The 27-year-old Belarusian did not face a break point as she cruised to a 6-1 6-4 win in an hour and 13 minutes against the unseeded Spaniard on Louis Armstrong Stadium. Sabalenka won her first US Open singles title last September - her third Grand Slam singles triumph overall - when she beat American Jessica Pegula in the final. However, she has not won a major title this year, losing in the finals of both the Australian Open and Roland Garros - to Madison Keys and Coco Gauff respectively. "I'm not playing not to lose, I play to win," Sabalenka said when asked about the pressure of defending her title at Flushing Meadows. "I don't care about what happened last year."

TAYLOR FRITZ KEEPS FLAG FLYING FOR AMERICAN MEN AT US OPEN

Diary Times Desk : Taylor Fritz, last year's runner-up and the only American man left in the US Open draw, raced into the quarter-finals Sunday with a straight-sets win over Tomas Machac. Fritz barely gave the Czech 21st seed a sniff and didn't face a single break point as he wrapped up a 6-4, 6-3, 6-3 win in an hour and 38 minutes. Hopes of a first US men's Grand Slam champion since Andy Roddick in 2003 are pinned squarely on Fritz after the third-round departures of Ben Shelton, Tommy Paul and Frances Tiafoe.

"Hopefully the crowd is really going to get behind me now because I am the last guy," said Fritz. "It's surprising. I think it's just been a rough week for the guys. "I mean, it's tough, Ben with the injury, then I think Foe and Tommy just ran into some guys who were playing -- dangerous players, playing really good tennis, so it happens."

BARCELONA'S YOUNG STAR LAMINE YAMAL SHATTERS MASSIVE RECORD DURING 1-1 DRAW AGAINST RAYO VALLECANO

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona's young attacking sensation Lamine Yamal shattered yet another record after converting a much-debated penalty during the 1-1 draw against Rayo Vallecano in the La Liga.

In the 40th minute of the match, Yamal converted from the spot by sending the goalkeeper the wrong way and became the youngest to score a penalty in La Liga in the 21st century at the age of 18 years and 49 days, according to Goal.com.