

NEWS IN BRIEF

"STOP SINGLING OUT INDIA..." : US EXPERT ON TRUMP'S RUSSIA OIL CHARGES

Diary Times Desk : US Strategic Affairs Expert Ashley J. Tellis said that the US should stop "singling out" India over President Donald Trump's frustration regarding peacemaking in the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict. In an interview to NDTV, Mr Tellis said that there are many others who bear the responsibility for making "Trump's life difficult" with respect to his peace initiative.

"Stop singling out India as the author of all the complications for Trump's peace initiative in Ukraine. There are many who bear the responsibility for making President Trump's life difficult with respect to his Ukraine peace initiative. So stop singling out India as if it is the only author of his misfortunes", he said. The Trump administration on August 27 doubled India's tariffs to 50 per cent to punish it for fueling Russian oil and fuelling the Ukraine war.

37 KILLED, ALL 23 DISTRICTS HIT AS PUNJAB SEES WORST FLOODS SINCE 1988

Diary Times Desk : Another spell of heavy rain has compounded the flood situation in Punjab, which is battling its worst deluge since 1988, as all 23 districts of the state have been hit and 37 lives lost so far.

Punjab is witnessing 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. Additional heavy rains have intensified the flooding situation, aggravating the challenges faced by residents.

The villages worst-affected by the floods were in Gurdaspur, Pathankot, Fazilka, Kapurthala, Tarn Taran, Ferozepur, Hoshiarpur and Amritsar districts. To ensure safety and well-being of students and staff, the state government has decided to keep all educational institutions, including government, aided, recognised and private schools, colleges, universities and polytechnic institutes closed till September 7.

INDIA - USA NEWS
INDIA KILLS US WITH TARIFFS: TRUMP REPEATS CLAIM OF 'NO DUTY' OFFER FROM NEW DELHI


Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has once again targeted India over trade, branding it the "most tariffed nation" in the world and repeating his claim that New Delhi offered to eliminate tariffs altogether — a move he insisted would not have come without his tough stance. Trump claimed that India, like China and Brazil, "kills" the US with tariffs.

Speaking on The Scott Jennings Radio Show, Trump said, "China kills us with tariffs, India kills us with tariffs, Brazil kills us with tariffs. I've understood tariffs better than they did; I understood tariffs better than any human beings in the world. India was the most highly tariffed nation in the world, and you know what, they've offered me no tariffs in India anymore. No tariffs."

Mr Khalid's arrest. A former research scholar at JNU, he first came into the limelight after he was booked along with other students for allegedly raising inflammatory slogans in February 2016 on the university campus. JNUSU president Nitish Kumar alleged that student activists were being deliberately targeted while those responsible for instigating the violence had walked free.

"This is a pattern we are seeing continuously that bail is not given to people who raise their voice against the administration. The main culprits of the Delhi riots are now out of jail, and some of them are ministers and MLAs in the government. Student activists are put in jail, while the main culprits roam free and are given high regard," he alleged. On September 13, it would be five years since Umar Khalid was arrested and "we will march on that day in solidarity as we do every year," Kumar said.

Since his arrest, Mr Khalid, 38, had been granted interim bail for a week in December 2022 and then again for a similar duration in December 2024. In February 2024, Mr Khalid withdrew his bail plea from the Supreme Court with his lawyer Kapil Sibal citing "change in circumstances" and saying they will try their luck in trial court. Earlier in the day, the High Court dismissed the bail applications of Mr Khalid, Sharjeel Imam and seven other accused under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) in connection with the alleged conspiracy behind the February 2020 riots. India has maintained that trade negotiations are ongoing. Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal recently noted that discussions with Washington were continuing to address differences and he expressed hope that a bilateral trade agreement (BTA) between the two nations would be concluded by November.

'COLONIAL ERA OVER... CAN'T USE THIS TONE': PUTIN DEFENDS INDIA AMID US TARIFFS

Diary Times Desk : Russian President Vladimir Putin, addressing the press at Beijing's Diaoyutai State Guesthouse, cautioned against any nation trying to "dominate" global politics or security, even as he acknowledged the rise of "economic giants" such as India and China.

"From an international law point of view, everyone must have equal rights, and must be in a similar position," Putin declared, stressing the need for balance in international relations. He noted that large countries like India and China have unique political systems and domestic laws, warning that attempts to "punish" them place their leaders in a difficult bind. "If one of them shows weakness, his political career will be over," Putin said.

Speaking of history, he reminded the West of its colonial past. "Countries have had difficult periods in their history, such as colonialism, attacks on sovereignty for prolonged periods of time. Now that the colonial era is over, they have to realise that they cannot use this tone in speaking with their partners," he said.

Putin's remarks come against the backdrop of intensifying trade and geopolitical tensions. On August 27, US President Donald Trump's administration doubled tariffs on India to 50 percent - half aimed at penalising New Delhi for ramping up Russian oil imports after Moscow's invasion of Ukraine, and the other half under Trump's signature "America First" push to cut trade deficits.


K KAVITHA RESIGNS FROM FATHER'S PARTY BRS, DAY AFTER SUSPENSION


Diary Times Desk : K Kavitha - suspended from the Bharat Rashtira Samithi by father and ex-Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao - quit this afternoon. "I have no greed for posts. I am resigning from the BRS and submitting my resignation to the (Legislative Council) Speaker," she said.

As she quit, she also urged her father - whom she referred to in May as a "God surrounded by devils" - to re-evaluate the intentions and worth of his advisors, claiming a cohort within the BRS planned to, and had, "broken the BRS family for their own financial and political interests".

The Telangana MLC told reporters today she had worked hard after being released from Delhi's Tihar Jail in August last year - she had been arrested in connection with the alleged liquor policy scam - and could not understand how any of these could be seen as "anti-party" activities. I participated in various programs and worked for reservations for backward class, and in other initiatives against the Congress (which is in power in Telangana) while wearing the BRS flag. I don't understand how these constitute 'anti-party' activities," she said. Ms Kavitha also doubled down on allegations against cousin and senior BRS leader T Harish Rao, claiming he and the Congress' Chief Minister, Revanth Reddy, had conspired to target her family, i.e., her father, KCR, and her brother, BRS Working President KT Rama Rao.

GST COUNCIL APPROVES MEASURES TO EASE COMPLIANCE FOR BUSINESSES: SOURCES


Diary Times Desk : The Goods and Services Tax Council has approved measures to ease burden of compliance on businesses, sources told NDTV Wednesday evening. The measures approved include reduction of registration time for MSMEs, i.e., medium, small, and micro enterprises, and start-ups from 30 days to just three. A proposal for automated GST refunds for exporters was also cleared.

The council began its two-day meet this morning with the rationalisation of GST tax slabs as the big-ticket item on its agenda. The council is studying recommendations to cut existing tax brackets by half. The current system has four slabs - five, 12, 18, and 28 per cent.

The government plans to drop 90 per cent of goods in the 28 per cent category to the 18 per cent bracket, and drop a chunk from the 12 per cent to the five per cent slab. This is expected to boost domestic consumption and offset the Rs 50,000 crore expected revenue loss. Overall, eight sectors - textiles, fertiliser, renewable energy, automotive, handicrafts, agriculture, health and insurance - will benefit the most from the rate overhaul, sources said.

There are also proposals to exempt some goods or services - such as life and health insurance premiums, which attract 18 per cent tax at present - from the GST framework.

However, certain 'luxury' items, such as tobacco and high-end cars, as well as liquor, will continue to attract the 'sin goods' tag and, this time, a Health Cess or a Green Energy Cess.

TEJASHWI ON PM HITTING
"NOT LIKE BJP..." : TEJASHWI YADAV ON PM HITTING OUT AT OPPOSITION OVER ABUSE


Diary Times Desk : Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav has condemned the use of derogatory words on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's late mother during a joint RJD-Congress rally in Bihar. Mr Yadav, however, also alleged BJP leaders are no less in using abusive words on women.

"I want to say that no one should use derogatory language on anyone's mother. We condemn this. It is not in our culture," he said.

Then he added a caveat - it is not like BJP leaders have never said anything derogatory about women, the Leader of Opposition in the Bihar assembly said. Seen in this context, Mr Yadav's reaction appeared to be more in line with the Opposition's swipe at BJP leaders on issues linked to women.

PM Modi yesterday shared he felt deeply pained over the abuse and insult meted out to his late mother from the joint RJD-Congress election campaign event in Bihar. He called it "an insult to all the mothers of the country".

"As a son, it is a very painful moment for me. I never imagined such a level of politics," PM Modi said in a video conference with a gathering of women in Bihar. Sources said the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) is now considering launching a massive campaign - 'Maa Ka Sammaan' - for seeking support of women voters in Bihar. As part of the tentative strategy, senior NDA leaders will travel across Bihar and hold meetings with women, especially senior citizens, sources said.

YAMUNA WATER LEVEL IN FLOODED DELHI RISES TO 207.41 METRES, 3RD-HIGHEST EVER


Diary Times Desk : The Yamuna river's water level in Delhi reached the third-highest ever recorded at 207.41 metres today, amid massive flooding on the riverbank which affected both residential and commercial areas. This was recorded at 9 pm. The floods in 1978 and 2023 were the other two times when the Yamuna river's water level rose to record levels. Areas including Yamuna Bazar, Geeta Colony, Majnu Ka Tila, Kashmiri Gate, Garhi Mandu, and Mayur Vihar are flooded. Most of these places have a mix of both commercial and residential buildings.

Over 14,000 people have been evacuated so far, officials said, adding rescue operations are continuing. Relief camps have been set up at ITO, Mayur Vihar, and Geeta Colony. Traffic on Outer Ring Road has been hit, with the road from ITO towards Ring Road no longer motorable due to ingress of floodwater. Vasudev Ghat, Monastery Market, and the Old Delhi Railway Bridge have been closed. Floodwater from the Yamuna river started entering the Nigambodh Ghat, Delhi's oldest and busiest cremation ground, which might halt operations if the water level rises, officials said today.

LANDSLIDES, HEAVY RAIN BLOCK KEY ROADS IN J&K, MANY VILLAGES FLOODED

Diary Times Desk : Massive landslides and flash floods have blocked key roads, including the Srinagar-Jammu National Highway in Jammu and Kashmir. Two people – a mother and daughter – were killed after their house collapsed in the Sunderbani area of Rajouri district, as dozens of homes have been damaged due to heavy rains and landslides in the region.

In the Udhampur area, besides the highway, a massive landslide and sinking of land has also damaged transmission towers, affecting power supply in the region. Hundreds of vehicles, including trucks carrying essential supplies, are also stranded on the highway that was partially opened on Sunday after a week-long closure due to last week's heavy rains and floods. Over the last three weeks, more than 170 people have died in Jammu and Kashmir due to landslides, cloudbursts, and other weather-related incidents. Over the last 24 hours, heavy rainfall has occurred in most parts of Jammu and Kashmir, resulting in flash floods, landslides.



HEAVY RAIN AND WATERLOGGING BATTER DELHI-NCR, YAMUNA CONTINUES TO SWELL

Diary Times Desk : Incessant rainfall over the past few days has brought life to a standstill in Delhi-NCR, triggering widespread waterlogging in the national capital, neighbouring Noida, Gurugram, Ghaziabad and Faridabad. Heavy rain continued to lash several parts of the national capital, including Safdarjung, Kashmere Gate, Connaught Place, India Gate and other areas on Wednesday.

Additionally, the water level of River Yamuna in Delhi rose to 207.33 meters by 6 pm on Wednesday, surpassing the 2013 mark of 207.32 meters and becoming the third-highest level ever recorded in the city's history. A wall of Delhi's Nigambodh Ghat collapsed late evening, allowing floodwaters to rush into the complex. Following this, Nigam Bodh Ghat has been closed and cremation bodies are being redirected to the Panchkuan crematorium. Floodwaters entered relief camps in the Yamuna Bazaar area on Wednesday evening, prompting the administration to begin evacuations.

RUSSIA'S BIGGER OIL DISCOUNTS LURE INDIA, TRUMP'S TARIFF GAMBIT BACKFIRES: REPORT



Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump's bid to choke off India's oil trade with Russia through punishing tariffs is backfiring. Far from backing down, New Delhi is poised to buy even more Russian crude as Moscow dangles steeper discounts.

Russian Urals crude is now being offered to India at \$3 to \$4 a barrel below Brent for shipments in late September and October, Bloomberg reported. Just weeks ago, the gap was \$2.50; in July, barely \$1. According to the Bloomberg report, state-run and private refiners in India snapped up 11.4 million barrels of Russian oil between August 27 and September 1 – right after US tariffs came into force.

"Indian refiners have continued to take Russian oil, despite a brief pause in early August, and cheaper Urals are likely to attract strong buying interest," the report said.

Trade insiders told Reuters that Indian refiners plan to boost Russian oil purchases in September by 10 per cent to 20 per cent from August, or about 150,000 to 300,000 barrels a day. Trump slapped a 25 per cent penalty on top of existing 25 per cent levies on Indian exports last month, accusing New Delhi of bankrolling Moscow's war in Ukraine. The move was an abrupt about-face from when Washington openly encouraged such imports.

AFTER 48 YEARS, ABVP CLINCHES TOP POST IN PANJAB UNIVERSITY STUDENT COUNCIL POLLS

Diary Times Desk : The Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the student wing of the BJP, has scripted history by winning the Panjab University Campus Students' Council (PUCSC) election for the first time in 48 years. Gaurav Veer Sohal, a research scholar from the University Institute of Legal Studies (UILS), emerged victorious, securing 3,148 votes and defeating his closest competitor, Sumit Sharma, by a margin of 488 votes. The university is yet to announce the results officially. Sohal, who contested the election in alliance with INSO and HRSC, maintained his lead throughout the counting process. Although the alliance secured the top post, it trailed in other positions, including vice president, secretary, and joint secretary. "I am happy that my team's hard work paid off. There were several questions put on ABVP's proximity with the university officials, but I want to announce in clear and loud words that we will fight for students' rights."



YOUR HOROSCOPE

04-09-2025



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.

NO, THIS IS NOT ABOUT
GANGING UP AGAINST THE
US

Diary Times Desk : What could arguably be the most 'consequential' visit of the Prime Minister is now over. That adjective, once used to describe India -US relations, could ironically now apply to the Beijing visit, given the tantrums being seen almost daily from the White House. The maligning and insults by White House officials have added flavour to what should have otherwise have been an almost ignored event. The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) has never come up with anything exciting, but now it seems the grouping is going places, with its largest ever meeting. India's presence added the necessary spice, especially since Delhi chose very deliberately to go to Japan first. That's signalling of a sort not seen in decades.

Japanese Fine Dining
The visit to Japan prior to going to China - for what was, after all, a multilateral meeting and not a bilateral one - is of note. It was, in some measure, a taste of what Beijing has often done in clubbing India and Pakistan together in visits. There was an additional twist. This time, Beijing was holding a grand parade to mark its win against Japan during the World War. That the Prime Minister did not attend that with other guests is one thing. What would have riled the Chinese even more was the unmitigated success of his Japan visit in terms of optics, warmth and the written word. With more than 70 dialogue mechanisms and groups, ties are already at a high level, but the Joint Statement has two interesting aspects. One is the commitment to facilitate more than 5 lakh people exchanges to foster talent mobility. As the US threatens India on the H-1B visa, that's a huge thumbs up.

CM SIDDARAMAIAH SCOFFS
AT BJP FOR 'DOUBLE
STANDARDS'

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has turned the tables on the BJP, accusing the saffron party of double standards in the Dharmasthala row and the Sowjanya case. The saffron party took out a yatra in support of Dharmadikari Veerendra Heggade on one hand, and on the other, it wants Sowjanya's family to approach the Supreme Court and plead for a fresh inquiry, he said here on Tuesday. Sowjanya was raped and murdered in October 2012, while returning home from college in Dharmasthala. If BJP is supporting Veerendra Heggade, why do they want Sowjanya's family to approach court for a fresh inquiry, when the CBI has investigated the case and closed it.

CHOKING METROS, HAPLESS CITIZENS

Diary Times Desk : Life in India's metro cities can often feel like a living nightmare. Today, citizens of two of the country's most prominent urban centres-Mumbai and Gurgaon-are grappling with the fallout of governance failures, civic apathy, and chaotic disruptions. Mumbai, the so-called Maximum City, first battered by relentless monsoon rains and flooding, is now being held hostage by the Maratha reservation protests. Protesters have taken over public spaces with impunity, choking the city's arteries. Meanwhile, Gurgaon-India's much-touted Millennium City-is fast becoming a cautionary tale of unchecked urbanisation and unplanned growth. Just four hours of rain on Monday brought Gurgaon to a standstill. Major roads were flooded, highways clogged, and routine office commutes turned into multi-hour ordeals. Some residents were stuck in gridlocks for hours; others waded through waist-deep water.



FRUIT FARMERS OF JAMMU AND
KASHMIR STARE AT HEAVY LOSSES AS
FLOOD THREAT LOOMS LARGE

Diary Times Desk : Farmers in Kashmir are facing major losses as hundreds of trucks carrying fruit are facing difficulties crossing the Pir Panjal mountains into the Jammu region due to heavy rain and flash flooding which has restricted traffic on the valley's only all-weather surface route connecting to the country. Former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti on Tuesday, September 1, urged the Union government to arrange freight trains between Srinagar and Delhi exclusively for transporting hundreds of millions of rupees worth apples and pears, some of which have already begun to rot in local fruit markets and trucks stranded along the Jammu-Srinagar national highway (NH-44). The horticulture sector is the backbone of Kashmir's economy generating Rs 20,000 crores annually. Around seven lakh families are dependent on the sector for sustenance, according to J&K's horticulture department.

TIANJIN DECLARATION
'INANE', SAYS P
CHIDAMBARAM ON
PAKISTAN'S ENDORSEMENT

Diary Times Desk : Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister P. Chidambaram on Tuesday questioned the credibility of the Tianjin Declaration, which condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, pointing out that the document was signed and adopted by Pakistan as well. In a post on social media platform X, Chidambaram wrote, "The Tianjin Declaration strongly condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. It was signed and adopted by Pakistan. That shows the worth of the Declaration." He further added, "Unless countries of the world are able to distinguish between terrorism-exporting nations and terrorism-affected nations, such inane Declarations will be signed and adopted."



CHENAB, JHELMUM CROSS DANGER MARK
AS HEAVY RAINS TRIGGER FLOOD THREAT
IN J&K; SCHOOLS SHUT, HIGHWAY CLOSED

Diary Times Desk : There is imminent flood threat in Jammu and Kashmir as the water level in rivers and streams across the Union Territory has significantly increased due to continuous downpour. The authorities have closed all educational institutions in the region while the Srinagar-Jammu national highway, the only road link connecting Kashmir with the rest of the country, is closed for vehicular traffic. Jammu and Kashmir has been witnessing continuous rainfall since yesterday. While it was raining in Jammu region from the morning, it started raining in the Valley from the evening. A MeT official said significant rainfall has been recorded in J&K since yesterday 8.30 am till 5.30 am today. Many areas in the Kashmir valley witnessed a fresh spell of rain. In south Kashmir, Qazigund in Kulgam district recorded 90.6 mm followed by Kokernag (89 mm) and Pahalgam (64.4 mm) in Anantnag district while Srinagar experienced 46.1 mm of rainfall during the past 27 hours ending 11.30 am.

ONLY 3 PEOPLE GRANTED CITIZENSHIP UNDER CAA IN ASSAM:
HIMANTA SARMA

Diary Times Desk : On a day the Ministry of Home Affairs made a significant announcement on members of minority communities from some neighbouring countries living in India, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said only three foreigners have been granted citizenship in the state under the Citizenship (Amendment) Act so far. The CAA seeks to provide citizenship to Hindus, Jains, Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists and Parsis who came to India from Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan, and the earlier deadline for entry into India was December 31, 2014. On Wednesday, the Home Ministry said members of minority communities from the three countries who came to India till December 31, 2024, to escape religious persecution will be allowed to stay in the country without a passport or other travel documents, according to the Union Home Ministry.



"WARMEST REGARDS AS YOU CONSPIRE...": TRUMP'S DIG AT XI ON INVITING PUTIN, KIM

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump on Wednesday accused Chinese President Xi Jinping of "conspiring against" America after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Russian President Vladimir Putin attended China's largest-ever military parade. Trump questioned whether China would acknowledge the American soldiers who "gave their blood" to help liberate the country during World War II. "The big question to be answered is whether or not President Xi of China will mention the massive amount of support and "blood" that the United States of America gave to China in order to help it to secure its FREEDOM from a very unfriendly foreign invader. Many Americans died in China's quest for Victory and Glory. I hope that they are rightfully honoured and remembered for their Bravery and Sacrifice!," Trump wrote on his social media platform Truth Social. "May President Xi and the wonderful people of China have a great and lasting day of celebration. Please give my warmest regards to Vladimir Putin, and Kim Jong Un, as you conspire against The United States of America," he added.

WHY AMERICAN PRESIDENTS LOVE PAKISTANI STRONGMEN LIKE ASIM MUNIR

Diary Times Desk : In 1959, six years before I was born, Pakistan was ruled by a general who had seized power in a military coup and elevated himself to the rank of Field Marshall—the highest rank in the British army, whose structures and hierarchies were inherited by several post-colonial nations.

One of Field Marshall Ayub Khan's main claims to power was that he was best friends with American president Lyndon B Johnson. Their mutual bonhomie is preserved in several portraits. Field Marshal Khan patting President Johnson on the cheek; President Johnson approaching a camel cart driver on a Karachi street and asking if he would like to be friends with him.



IRAN INCREASED STOCKPILE OF NEAR WEAPONS-GRADE URANIUM BEFORE ISRAELI ATTACK: UN AGENCY

Diary Times Desk : Iran further increased its stockpile of uranium enriched to near weapons-grade levels before Israel launched its military attack on June 13, a confidential report by the United Nations' nuclear watchdog seen by The Associated Press said Wednesday.

The report by the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency said that as of June 13, Iran had 440.9.6 kg of uranium enriched up to 60%, an increase of 32.3 kg since the IAEA's last report in May. The report stated that this figure is "based on the information provide by Iran, agency verification activities between 17 May 2025 and 12 June 2025 (the day preceding the start of the military attacks), and estimates based on the past operation of the relevant facilities". That material is a short, technical step away from weapons-grade levels of 90%. The confidential report also stated that as of June 13, Iran's total enriched uranium stockpile was 9874.9 kg, which represents an increase of 627.3 kg since the last report in May.

'DINE AND DASH' GANG LEAVES INDIAN RESTAURANT IN UK WITHOUT PAYING RS 23,000 BILL

Diary Times Desk : A family-run Indian restaurant in the UK is grappling with financial loss after a group of six diners fled without paying a Rs 23,000 (200 pound) bill. Raman Kaur and Narinder Singh Athwa, who run the family-owned eatery, shared their heartbreak on social media after two families allegedly fled without paying for a lavish Saturday night meal on August 30.

The group, consisting of four adults and four children, booked a table just 15 minutes in advance but arrived with double the expected number. They indulged in a feast of curries, sides, and children's meals, enjoying the vibrant atmosphere of the award-winning venue. As the evening wound down, the women and children slipped out, leaving the two men to attempt payment. Despite trying five cards and making calls for transfers, they claimed to have "no way of paying," provided no ID, and left with a promise to settle by Monday, September 1. No payment has been made since.

CHINA AND RUSSIA CAN ABSORB \$20-BILLION INDIAN EXPORTS AT RISK FROM US TARIFFS, BUT GAPS REMAIN

Diary Times Desk : China and Russia together have the potential to absorb nearly \$20 billion of Indian exports currently bound for the US, a Moneycontrol analysis shows. While Moscow has pledged to take on all shipments at risk from the new US tariffs, the data suggests its market can realistically accommodate no more than \$5 billion worth, leaving the bulk of the rebalancing dependent on Beijing. China is the only market large enough to absorb India's mass-consumption and consumer-facing products, while Russia provides selective relief in niches such as ceramics, coffee and specialised tools. Seafood stands out as the single biggest swing category. Frozen shrimp and prawns worth nearly \$1.85 billion could be redirected to China, where imports in this category totalled \$3.5 billion in 2024. Beijing already absorbed \$740 million worth of India's shipments last year. Packaged foods such as concentrates, syrups, protein powders, jams and biscuits also have headroom. China can import \$196 million worth of packaged foods headed to the US and could accommodate nearly \$77 million worth of jams and marmalades and sweet biscuits exports. Spices—particularly cumin (\$45 million) and capsicum (\$33 million)—could be diverted, along with black tea worth \$38 million. Coffee beans, however, find a Russia-only opening, with room for about \$13 million.

INDIAN BIKER STRANDED IN UK AFTER BIKE THEFT DERAILS GLOBAL JOURNEY

Diary Times Desk : An Indian traveller on a round-the-world tour has had his motorcycle stolen while riding through the United Kingdom. The person in the incident is Yogesh Alekari, a motorcycle enthusiast riding his KTM 390 Adventure. The person has already clocked over 24,000 km riding through 17 countries. In the next part of his journey, he was supposed to go to Africa. However, the ride has now been disrupted. The incident occurred on August 31, when Alekari stopped for breakfast at Wollaton Park while visiting a friend in Nottingham. At the time of theft, his motorcycle was packed with all his gear and essentials, including his passport, money, and other documents. Four men broke the lock with a hammer to damage the handle and rode away with the motorcycle. The whole incident was caught on camera and later shared on social media.

TRUMP CALLS VIDEO OF BAG BEING THROWN FROM WHITE HOUSE AN 'AI-GENERATED' FAKE

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump dismissed a viral video of what appears to be a black bag being tossed out of a White House as an AI-generated fake, adding that it's "a little bit scary" how realistic such videos can be. "That's probably AI-generated," Trump said on Tuesday. "It's got to be because I know every window up there. ... Number one, they're sealed, and number two, each window weighs about 600 pounds." The president then asked to take a look at the video, which was first circulated on Instagram over the weekend by the washingtonianprobs account, before reiterating that he believed it was a fake. He said AI is both "good and bad" and that he sees "so many phony things."

"If something happens, really bad, just blame AI," Trump quipped.

In the video, what appears to be a black plastic bag is tossed out of a window on the second floor of the White House, where Trump's private residence is located. But over the weekend, two sources familiar indicated that the video was real — and that it was related to construction and renovations going on in the room. And Hany Farid, a professor at University of California, Berkeley and the chief science officer at deepfake detection firm GetReal, said Tuesday that he didn't see any evidence the video was AI-generated or manipulated.



SUDAN LANDSLIDE: A COLLAPSING MOUNTAIN AND BODIES STILL BURIED UNDER RUBBLE

Diary Times Desk : An aid worker supporting rescue efforts after the devastating Sudan landslide which reportedly killed hundreds of people has told the BBC that it had caused a "mountain to collapse", leaving just one known survivor so far.

"We have so far managed to recover nine bodies," said Abdul Hafeez Ali, head of the Coordinating Council of the Tawila and Jebel Marra Emergency Room.

Heavy rainfall led to Sunday's disaster, which killed at least 370 people according to a UN estimate, and "destroy[ed] the village" of Tarseen in the western Darfur region, Mr Ali added.

The armed group in control of the area has said that 1,000 people died and has appealed for urgent assistance.

Another man told the BBC's Sudan lifeline programme that many members of his family were still unaccounted for.

"So far, I've confirmed the deaths of two relatives: one of my uncles and his grandson. The rest of my family members are still missing," said Ahmed Abdel Majeed, who lives in Uganda but is originally from Tarseen and keeps in touch with locals from around the affected area.



"WHERE ARE YOU TODAY?" CONGRESSMAN'S TARIFF MESSAGE FOR INDIAN AMERICANS

Diary Times Desk : A prominent American lawmaker has called out President Donald Trump for "destroying" decades of bipartisan work to build the India-US strategic partnership with his hefty and punitive tariffs on New Delhi. And Trump is doing so just because India did not nominate him for the Nobel Peace Prize while Pakistan did, said Indian American Congressman Ro Khanna, the co-chair of the US-India caucus.

"Trump is destroying 30 years of bipartisan work to build the US-India strategic partnership because Modi refuses to nominate him for a Nobel Peace Prize. He imposed higher tariffs of 50% on India than China," said the lawmaker, questioning how many Indian Americans who had voted for Trump have spoken out over the tariffs.

The US has imposed over 50% tariffs on Indian goods, which includes a 25% levy on New Delhi's Russian oil imports. This is higher than Brazil and China, Mr Khanna noted.

He said the tariffs are hurting Indian leather and textiles exports into the US, as well as American manufacturers and exports into India, echoing the concern of several former diplomats and officials that Trump policies are driving India towards China and Russia.

HOW AUSTRALIA'S ANTI-IMMIGRATION RALLIES WERE AMPLIFIED ONLINE BY GLOBAL FAR RIGHT

Diary Times Desk : Over the weekend, rallies were staged across various Australian cities under the branding 'March for Australia'.

The rallies, which were attended by avowed neo-Nazis and elected politicians alike, called for an end to mass migration.

These protests are not unique to Australia. Recently, the United Kingdom has seen its own wave of anti-migrant demonstrations in cities such as London, Bristol and Birmingham.

Despite claims by some that the Australian rallies were hijacked by the neo-Nazi National Socialist Network (NSN), they were deeply rooted in the far-right, white nationalist ideas of remigration and the Great Replacement theory.

An ABC investigation in the lead-up to the rallies found that remigration was listed on the organisers' website as a key reason for marching, before later being deleted.

Significantly, the March for Australia rallies also received high-profile, online support from far-right figures overseas, including Alex Jones, Tommy Robinson, Jack Posobiec and Elon Musk.

Musk retweeted a post erroneously claiming 150,000 people took part in the rallies, while Jones retweeted a post claiming a crowd size of half a million.

TRUMP SAYS US MIGHT HAVE TO UNWIND TRADE DEALS WITH EU, OTHERS IF IT LOSES TARIFF CASE

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump said on Wednesday the United States might have to "unwind" trade deals it has clinched with the European Union, Japan and South Korea, among others, if it loses a Supreme Court case on the legality of tariffs.

Trump, speaking to reporters at the start of a meeting with Polish President Karol Nawrocki, said his administration was asking the Supreme Court to reverse a U.S. appeals court ruling last week that found many of his tariffs were illegal.

Losing that case would leave the United States far poorer, and could jeopardize trade agreements made in recent months, he said, adding that he thought the administration would prevail.

"Our country has a chance to be unbelievably rich again. It could also be unbelievably poor again. If we don't win that case, our country is going to suffer so greatly, so greatly," he said.

HOW FALSE RUMOURS OF TRUMP'S UNTIMELY 'DEATH' SPREAD ON SOCIAL MEDIA



Diary Times Desk : Some people spent Labor Day weekend in the United States soaking up the last of the summer's rays. Others took to social media to speculate that President Donald Trump was at death's door, or worse.

On X, the hashtags #trumpisdead and #whereistrump trended. Millions of people made or watched videos on TikTok speculating that Trump had died or suffered a stroke or another serious medical emergency.

The president is not dead. Trump spoke live at the White House on Tuesday. Even as rumours of his death went viral, he had been photographed by news outlets, and his Truth Social posts racked up thousands of interactions.

"How did you find out over the weekend that you were dead?" Fox News reporter Peter Doocy asked Trump, who stood before reporters in the Oval Office. "Did you see that?"

25 KILLED, DOZENS INJURED IN THREE BOMB BLASTS IN PAKISTAN



Diary Times Desk : At least 25 people were killed in three attacks in Pakistan on Tuesday, officials said, including 14 who died after a suicide bomber targeted a political rally in the southwestern province of Balochistan.

Dozens of people were wounded in that explosion, which took place in the parking lot of a stadium in the provincial capital, Quetta, where hundreds of members of the Balochistan National Party (BNP) had gathered, two provincial officials said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

At least seven of the wounded were in critical condition, the officials said.

Another attack in Balochistan, near the border with Iran, claimed five lives on Tuesday, while six soldiers were killed after a suicide attack on their base in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province.

Balochistan is Pakistan's largest and most resource-rich province, but also its poorest, and regularly ranks among the lowest on human development indicator scorecards.

PUTIN SAYS RUSSIA WILL ACHIEVE ALL AIMS MILITARILY IF UKRAINE DOES NOT AGREE DEAL

Diary Times Desk : President Vladimir Putin has said Russia is willing to fight to achieve all its objectives if Ukraine does not agree to a deal. He made the remarks in China after attending a huge military parade seen as a challenge to Donald Trump and the US-dominated world order.

The US president has tried to persuade Putin to end the war, but the Russian leader, while praising Trump's "sincere desire", has so far not done so.

Visiting Kyiv, UK Defence Secretary John Healey told the BBC Trump had brought Putin to the table, but had not ruled out putting more pressure on him.

Countries like the UK, he said, were willing "to put extra economic pressure on Putin... and to give extra aid to Ukraine so they can keep in the fight".

Trump pulled Putin out of international isolation last month when he hosted a meeting with him in Alaska.

He also tried to persuade Putin to meet Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky.

"I have never ruled out the possibility of such a meeting. But is there any point? Let's see," Putin said on Wednesday.



'PAKISTAN PERFECTLY FINE WITH INDIA-RUSSIA TIES, BUT WE ALSO WANT...': SHARIF TO PUTIN IN CHINA

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif said that while it is "perfectly" fine with India's relations with Russia, Islamabad also seeks a stronger bilateral relationship with Moscow, as he met President Vladimir Putin in China.

The two leaders are in China to participate in the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin and attend a grand parade of the Chinese army in Beijing on Wednesday to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Chinese People's War of Resistance Against Japanese Aggression.

"Our relations have only improved over the past many years. Thanks to your commitment and interest in many areas. I also intend to decisively strengthen our bilateral ties," Sharif told Putin.

INDONESIA'S PRESIDENT TO GO AHEAD WITH CHINA TRIP DESPITE PROTESTS

Diary Times Desk : Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto has left for China to attend a Victory Day parade after initially cancelling due to days of massive protests against rising inequality, his presidential spokesperson Prasetyo Hadi said in a statement.

The Indonesian president will join more than 25 leaders – including North Korea's Kim Jong Un and Russia's Vladimir Putin – to attend Wednesday's parade in Beijing's Tiananmen Square to mark 8th anniversary of Japan's defeat in World War II.

Prabowo is expected to meet his Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping for talks during his visit, his spokesperson added on Tuesday. He will fly back home on September 3.

Indonesia was rocked by widespread protests, which left at least six dead and over 20 missing according to rights groups.

The protests began in the capital Jakarta last week, against a range of cost-of-living issues and anger boiled over after the killing of a motorcycle taxi driver who was hit by a police vehicle during a demonstration in the capital.

Protesters have attacked the headquarters of the police mobile brigade and set fire to a five-storey building near the police compound in the Kwitang neighbourhood of central Jakarta.

POLAND SCRAMBLES AIRCRAFT TO ENSURE AIRSPACE SAFETY AFTER UKRAINE WARNS OF RUSSIAN ATTACKS

Diary Times Desk : Polish and allied aircraft were activated on Wednesday to ensure the safety of Polish airspace after Russia launched airstrikes targeting Western Ukraine, near the border with Poland, the operational command of the Polish armed forces said.

"The Russian Federation once again is carrying out strikes on targets located on the territory of Ukraine," the operational command said in a post on X.

"In order to ensure the safety of Polish airspace ... Polish and allied aircraft are operating intensively in our airspace, while ground-based air defence and radar reconnaissance systems have reached the highest state of readiness."

At 0140 GMT, all of Ukraine was under air raid alerts following Ukrainian Air Force warnings of Russian missile and drone attacks.

HOPE FADES FOR FINDING SURVIVORS AFTER AFGHAN QUAKE KILLS MORE THAN 1,400

Diary Times Desk : Hope is fading of finding survivors in the rubble of homes devastated by a powerful earthquake in eastern Afghanistan over the weekend that killed more than 1,400 people, as emergency services struggle to reach remote villages.

In Kunar's Nurgal district, victims remained trapped under destroyed structures and were difficult to rescue, local official Ijaz Ulhaq Yaad told the AFP news agency on Wednesday. "There are some villages which have still not received aid," he said.

A magnitude 6 earthquake hit the mountainous region bordering Pakistan on Sunday, leaving residents huddled in the open air for fear of powerful aftershocks and desperately trying to pull people from under flattened buildings.

TRUMP SAYS "VERY DISAPPOINTED" WITH PUTIN OVER NO DEAL ON UKRAINE IN ALASKA

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump said in a radio interview Tuesday he was "very disappointed" by Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin's failure to reach a peace deal on Ukraine after their summit in Alaska.

"I'm very disappointed in President Putin, I can say that," Trump told the Scott Jennings radio show when asked if he felt betrayed by Putin's response. "We had a great relationship, I'm very disappointed."

Trump however did not say what, if any, consequences Russia would face, despite recently setting a two-week deadline to reach a peace deal that is due to expire later this week.

The US leader added that he was not worried by a potential axis between Russia and China, despite Putin meeting Chinese President Xi Jinping in Beijing on Tuesday ahead of a massive military parade.

"I'm not concerned at all, no," Trump said.

"We have the strongest military in the world by far and they would never use their military on us, believe me that would be the worst thing they could ever do."



On Monday, when asked by Fox News about potential sanctions on Russia, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said the administration would be examining options for a US response this week. Since their Alaska summit, and a lengthy phone call with Trump while Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and European leaders were at the White House, Putin "has done the opposite of following through on what he indicated he wanted to do," Bessent said.

SHEIN TAKES DOWN SHIRT LISTING THAT USED LUIGI MANGIONE’S LIKENESS

Diary Times Desk :
Fast fashion giant Shein said on Wednesday that it was conducting an investigation after a product on its website featured what appeared to be an edited image of Luigi Mangione, the man accused of killing UnitedHealthcare’s CEO last year.

Mangione is facing the death penalty in federal court after allegedly gunning down UnitedHealthcare CEO Brian Thompson in Manhattan in December. He has been indicted for murder and other charges related to the death, but he has pleaded not guilty to all federal and state charges against him.

Shein said in a statement to CNN that the image was provided by a third-party vendor and has been removed. In the photo, the Mangione figure models a short-sleeved button-down shirt with floral patterns. It cost \$11.69 and was sold out in multiple sizes, according to a screengrab from the Wayback Machine, a digital archive of the internet. It’s unclear if artificial intelligence was used to manipulate the image.

NEWSMAX SUES FOX NEWS, CALLING IT A MONOPOLY THAT ABUSES ITS POWER

Diary Times Desk : Christopher Ruddy’s pro-Trump channel Newsmax on Wednesday filed an antitrust lawsuit against Fox News, accusing the Rupert Murdoch-owned broadcaster of illegally blocking competition in the right-wing pay-TV market.

The lawsuit, filed in the US District Court for the Southern District of Florida against the Fox News Network and its parent company, Fox Corp, accused Fox of engaging in “an exclusionary scheme to increase and maintain its dominance in the market for US right-leaning pay TV news.”

“Fox’s control over this must-have news channel gives it significant market power and leverage to impose onerous demands on distributors of its content,” Newsmax alleges in the lawsuit.

THE BATTLE FOR PEPSI’S FUTURE HAS BEGUN

Diary Times Desk :
PepsiCo is losing the soda wars to Coca-Cola. That’s nothing new. But after it fell into third place behind Dr Pepper, a heavyweight activist investor said Tuesday that the company needs a drastic shakeup. Elliott Management said it built a massive \$4 billion stake in PepsiCo and wanted to work with the company to turn around its business. “PepsiCo finds itself at a critical inflection point,” Elliott Investment Management said in a letter to PepsiCo’s board of directors. “The company has an opportunity – and an obligation – to improve financial performance and regain its position as an industry leader.” PepsiCo, which owns Lay’s, Doritos, Cheetos, Gatorade, Pepsi, Mountain Dew, Quaker and other brands, has slumped in recent years. The company’s weakness has made it a target of investor scrutiny – PepsiCo’s stock has dipped 15% over the last year.



WHY MACY’S STOCK JUST SURGED 20%

Diary Times Desk :
Here we are, at the tail end of a strong-despite-tariffs corporate earnings season, staring down a bumpy road through the second half of the year, when out of nowhere comes a flash of... what’s the word... hope? Well, not hope, but at least a reassurance that real-world business fundamentals still matter in a market obsessed with speculative AI pitch decks? A turnaround of a company with the gall to tell the private equity goons circling their stores to get bent? It just may be. See here: Macy’s, the retailer many investors had left for dead a year ago, busted out a banger of a quarterly earnings report, sending its stock up more than 20% early Wednesday. The company’s earnings were broadly better than expected, with revenue coming in at \$4.8 billion (versus analysts’ consensus of \$4.7 billion). But it was a closely watched sales metric that got heads spinning on Wall Street: Macy’s sales at locations open at least a year rose 0.8%, the first positive quarter in three years. The company, which also owns the swankier Bloomingdales brand and cosmetics retailer Bluemercury.

GOOGLE WILL NOT BE FORCED TO SELL OFF CHROME OR ANDROID, JUDGE RULES IN LANDMARK ANTITRUST RULING

Diary Times Desk : A court will not force Google to sell off its Chrome browser or Android, a federal judge said in a court filing on Tuesday. The decision serves as a significant win for the tech company, which has avoided the most extreme possible outcome from a landmark antitrust case that determined the company was operating an illegal online search monopoly. Although Google will not be forced to sell off its Chrome browser or Android, it will have to make certain search data available to qualified competitors to promote competition. It will also be barred from entering into or maintaining exclusive contracts related to the distribution of services like Chrome, Search, the Google Assistant and its Gemini app. Those agreements provide a significant source of revenue for Google and broad access to its services, although the company had proposed ditching those contracts as a potential remedy in the case. US District Court Judge Amit Mehta said in a ruling Tuesday that he had accepted Google’s proposed remedies, in part.

MAKE ART, NOT WAR: WHY AN ARTIST SPENT FIVE YEARS AND USED 35 MILLION BEADS TO TRANSFORM A SUPERSONIC JET

Diary Times Desk :
Ludrick Cooper, an eighth-grade teacher in South Carolina, didn’t always like the idea of using artificial intelligence – in the classroom or otherwise. But he eventually came around.

“This is the new encyclopedia,” said Cooper, who loved reading encyclopedias growing up.

Cooper is just one of many teachers now incorporating AI into lesson plans, another sign that AI-powered tools are becoming more commonplace in the classroom even as the technology’s advantages and risks are still developing.

Six in 10 teachers said they used an AI tool for work in the 2024–2025 school year, according to a study from the Walton Family Foundation and Gallup.

On Tuesday, First Lady Melania Trump announced the Presidential AI Challenge, a push to encourage students in grades K–12 use AI to “address community challenges.” Just last month, OpenAI launched a “study mode” for ChatGPT and announced a partnership with Instructure, whose learning platform is used by millions of students. OpenAI, Microsoft and Anthropic also teamed up with the national and New York American Federation of Teachers unions to invest approximately \$23 million for AI training for 400,000 K–12th grade teachers.



RAJYA SABHA MP
RAGHAV CHADHA
BACK IN PUNJAB
POLITICS, ALLOCATES
FUNDS FOR FLOOD
RELIEF

Diary Times Desk : Punjab’s Rajya Sabha MP Raghav Chadha is making news once again.

Having remained “politically inactive” in Punjab for the past several months, he is back, making his presence felt at a time when Punjab is facing the worst floods in recent history. After visiting flood-devastated areas in Gurdaspur last week, perched atop a tractor, he has today allocated Rs 3.25 crore from his MPLADS fund for the state.

Interestingly, a sum of Rs 2.75 crore has been sanctioned for strengthening and repair of flood protection embankments in Gurdaspur District, while Rs 50 lakh has been sanctioned for relief and rehabilitation work in Amritsar District. In his message, Raghav Chadha prayed for the 30 lives lost and expressed condolences to the bereaved families. He has also extended special thanks to the Indian Army, NDRF, BSF, Punjab Police, officers, doctors, NGOs, civil society, and youth engaged in relief efforts.

HIMACHAL SCHOOLS,
COLLEGES TO REMAIN
CLOSED TILL SEPTEMBER
7

Diary Times Desk : Taking preventive measures to ensure the safety of students as well as teachers in view of insistent rainfall, the Himachal Pradesh Government has decided to keep all government and private schools and colleges, including District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), in the state till September 7. As per the orders issued by Secretary (Education) Rakesh Kanwar, the decision has been taken amid reports of widespread landslides, falling trees, blocked roads, power outages, disrupted drinking water supply, and significant damage to public infrastructure across the state. The government has also cited the ongoing inclement weather and the high likelihood of further such incidents as key reasons for the preventive measure.

RAIN FURY CLAIMS 10 LIVES IN HARYANA, HIMACHAL, J-K; CRIPPLES
LIFE ACROSS NORTH INDIA

Diary Times Desk : The downpour across north India showed no signs of easing on Wednesday as rain-triggered structural collapses and landslides claimed 10 lives in Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, and Jammu and Kashmir, pummelled regions already on edge and forced the suspension of classes, flights, trains and even cremations. In the east, a fresh low-pressure system over the Bay of Bengal is likely to bring heavy showers in Arunachal Pradesh, West Bengal and Jharkhand on Thursday, while rains continued to batter Odisha for the third consecutive day on Wednesday with no respite in sight. At least six people, including three girls, were killed in three roof collapse incidents caused by heavy rain in different parts of Haryana. The incidents were reported from Bhiwani, Shahbad Markanda, which is about 20 km from Kurukshetra, and Yamunanagar.



HEAVY RAINFALL TO CONTINUE IN
HP: 1,364 ROADS SHUT, 5 NATIONAL
HIGHWAYS BLOCKED

Diary Times Desk : Heavy rainfall is set to continue across Himachal Pradesh as the state’s Meteorological Department has issued a yellow weather warning for Kangra, Kullu, Mandi and Sirmour districts for Thursday. According to the department, light to moderate rain is likely to occur across the state till September 9. On Tuesday, as a result of heavy rainfall, water levels of Sutlej River rose and was touching Thali bridge in Sunni, district Shimla. As a result of rise in the water levels, the river bank area at Kalighat and ITI, Sunni has been inundated. As a precautionary measure, two families from the area were shifted to safer places. As many as 1,364 roads, including five National Highways (NH) remain blocked for vehicular traffic as a result of heavy downpour that continues to wreak havoc across the state. As per the State Emergency Operation Centre, as many as 295 including NH 03 are blocked in Mandi, 234 in Shimla, 226 including NH 305 in Kullu, 204 in Chamba, 121 in Sirmour, 86 in Solan, 53 in Kangra, 49 including NH 505 Lahaul and Spiti, 46 including NH 503 in Una, 25 in Bilaspur, 13 including NH 05 in Kinnaur and 12 roads are blocked in Hamirpur district.

TOXIC FLOODWATERS FROM
BUDDHA NULLAH LEAVE TRAIL OF
DESTRUCTION IN LUDHIANA

Diary Times Desk : Following intense rainfall, toxic water from Buddha Nullah overflowed into multiple residential colonies, flooding homes, choking streets, and leaving behind a thick layer of chemical-laced sludge. The water has receded from inside houses, but the damage remains etched across roads, drains, and lives. A grim scene has unfolded in colonies like Dhokka Mohalla, Dharampura, Shivaji Nagar, Kashmir Nagar, Maharaj Nagar, and Kundanpuri, where black water surged through narrow lanes, carrying untreated effluents from dyeing and other industries. The colonies turned into black rivers — chemical-laden, foul-smelling, and dangerous. The worst suffering was borne by families who lost loved ones and were unable to reach the cremation ground at Gashala Road. “Nearly 4-5 people died in the area. Their bodies lay at home for days because families couldn’t step out. They were cremated only yesterday and today as the water receded,” said a potter from the area.

AAP MLA’S ESCAPE: VILLAGERS PROTEST PUNJAB POLICE’S ‘DETENTION OF
INNOCENT PEOPLE’

Diary Times Desk : Residents of Dabri village and nearby areas gathered at the Sadar police station on Wednesday evening, protesting against the alleged detention of nearly 14 persons by the Punjab Police in connection with the escape of AAP MLA Harmeet Singh Pathanmajra from the residence of HSGMC member and former Sarpanch of Dabri village, Gurnam Singh Laddi. The villagers alleged that Punjab Police personnel, in civilian dress, forcibly entered houses and picked up residents, including relatives of people who had gone to Laddi’s residence to inquire about the incident that occurred on Tuesday morning. They claimed the detained persons had no connection with the MLA’s escape and were wrongly targeted. Villagers alleged that police resorted to manhandling and even misbehaved with women during the operation. “Around 14-15 innocent people have been taken away without any justification. They have nothing to do with the MLA’s case, yet our people are being harassed,” said Amarjeet Singh.

The Sadar police had registered a case against the MLA, Laddi, and others on Tuesday evening, after locals allegedly resisted their move to arrest the AAP legislator. “We only want our innocent people back. This is unfair and unacceptable,” the villagers asserted, calling for intervention by local authorities.



Alec Baldwin's wife Hilaria

Hilaria Baldwin, Corey Feldman, a "Boy Meets World" alum and an actress responsible for turning the name "Meredith Blake" into a whole celebrated vibe will be battling in the ballroom on the new season of "Dancing with the Stars." The cast and their professional dance partners were announced Wednesday morning on Good Morning America.

Hilaria Baldwin, an author and wife of actor Alec Baldwin, will be paired with Gleb Savchenko, while Feldman, a musician and former child star, will be paired up with Jenna Johnson.

A pair of '90s favorites – Danielle Fishel, known best for playing free-spirited Topanga Lawrence on the teen sitcom "Boy Meets World," and Elaine Hendrix, known for her roles in "Parent Trap" and "Romy and Michelle's High School Reunion" among others – are also set to be part of the new season. Fishel and Hendrix will be paired with Pasha Pashkov and Alan Bersten, respectively.

Rounding out the cast are: Olympian gold medalist Jordan Chiles, NBA star Baron Davis, reality TV star Dylan Efron, Scott Hoying of Grammy-winning group Pentatonix, Fifth Harmony singer Lauren Jauregui and comedian Andy Richter. They join Alix Earle, Robert Irwin, Whitney Leavitt and Jen Affleck, who were previously announced as season 34 contestants.



Hilaria Baldwin is joining the Season 34 cast of "Dancing With the Stars."

The news was announced on Wednesday morning on "Good Morning America." She has been paired with pro dancer Gleb Savchenko.

Baldwin, who is an author, influencer, and the wife of actor and Syracuse megafan Alec Baldwin, is no stranger to the cameras. Alongside husband Alec, the couple stars with their seven children on TLC's "The Baldwins," which premiered in February.

Baldwin's extensive yoga experience, as a former co-founder of the yoga studio and community Yoga Vida, will likely serve her well on the dance floor. She has also shared numerous fun dance videos on her Instagram, including an intimate video of her dancing for Alec that resulted in him giving her a foot rub.

Following the announcement on "GMA," Baldwin shared a photo with Savchenko, who has appeared on the show since Season 16.

"So excited to finally announce!#DWTS season 34 here we goooo. See you in the ballroom," she wrote on Instagram.

Baldwin also shared a handful of behind-the-scenes photos and videos, where she indicated that her yoga skills might not be as sharp as they once were. "The last one cracks me up...trying to get my broken hip leg up...this yoga teacher needs to work on her flexibility," she wrote, referring to a video of her and Savchenko practicing.

Baldwin will be competing against 13 other celebrities eager to add pro dancing to their résumés. The lineup includes Olympic gold medalist Jordan Chiles, retired NBA star Baron Davis, reality star Dylan Efron (Zac Efron's brother), actor and musician Corey Feldman, "Boy Meets World" star Danielle Fishel, "The Parent Trap" actress Elaine Hendrix, Pentatonix singer Scott Hoying, Fifth Harmony singer Lauren Jauregui, and comedian and actor Andy Richter.

Eruption Is Back
Kilauea's On-And-Off

Hawaii's Kilauea volcano has been shooting lava from its summit crater about once a week since late last year, delighting residents, visitors and online viewers alike with a firehose of molten rock.



Lisa Eadicicco

Kanahaʻele-Mossman's nonprofit is named after her grandmother — the esteemed practitioner of Hawaiian language and culture. The foundation's hula halau, or school, is celebrated for its mastery of a style of hula rooted in the stories of Pele and her sister, Hīriaka.

On Tuesday, the volcano had its 32nd episode since December. Scientists believe they are all part of the same eruption because magma has been following the same pathway to the surface.

The lava has been contained within the summit crater inside Hawaii Volcanoes National Park and hasn't threatened homes or buildings.

Park visitors can see the eruption in person. Others can watch popular livestreams offering a choice of three different camera angles made possible by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Kilauea is on Hawaii Island, the largest of the Hawaiian archipelago. It's about 200 miles (320 kilometers) south of the state's largest city, Honolulu, which is on Oahu.

And the fountains emerged in a remote area, so few got to watch. The other two occurred in 1959 and 1969.



"You as the dancer, you are the storyteller and you carry that history that was written in those mele forward," she said, using the Hawaiian word for song. "To be able to actually see that eruption that's described in the mele."

Many of the eruptive episodes since December have featured lava soaring high into the air. In some cases the lava formed towers topping 1,000 feet (300 meters.) The fountains are generated in part because magma — which holds gases that are released as it rises — has been traveling to the surface through narrow, pipelike vents.

The expanding magma supply is capped by heavier magma that had expelled its gas at the end of the prior episode. Eventually enough new magma accumulates to force the degassed magma off, and the magma shoots out like a Champagne bottle that was shaken before the cork was popped.

This is the fourth time in 200 years that Kilauea has shot lava fountains into the air in repeated episodes. There were more episodes the last time Kilauea followed this pattern: The eruption that began in 1983 started with 44 sessions of shooting fountains. Those were spread out over three years, however.

Something similar could happen again. Or the current eruption could instead stop at the summit if its magma supply peters out.

Scientists can estimate a few days or even a week ahead of time when lava is likely to emerge with the help of sensors around the volcano that detect earthquakes and minuscule changes in the angle of the ground, which indicate when magma is inflating or deflating.

"Our job is like being a bunch of ants crawling on an elephant trying to figure out how the elephant works," Hon said.

The lava fountains have been shorter lately. Steve Lundblad, a University of Hawaii at Hilo geology professor, said the vent may have gotten wider, leaving molten rock less pressurized.

"We're still gonna have spectacular eruptions," he said. "They're just going to be wider and not as high."

Carrying stories of Pele
Some people may see lava flows as destructive. But Huihui Kanahaʻele-Mossman, the executive director of the Edith Kanakaʻole Foundation, said lava is a natural resource that hardens into land and forms the foundation for everything on Hawaii Island.

INFA

'Best' Movie

QUENTIN TARANTINO REVEALS



Lianne Kolirin

During the interview, Tarantino said his latest project, "The Adventures of Cliff Booth," a follow up to "Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood," has just started filming.

Hollywood filmmaker Quentin Tarantino has revealed which of his movies he thinks is the best — and it's probably not the one you'd expect.

The American director has two Academy Awards to his name: one for the screenplay of "Pulp Fiction" in 1994 and another for the screenplay of "Django Unchained" 18 years later.

But neither is what he considers to be his best — or even his favorite — movie.

Rather, he says 2009's "Inglourious Basterds" is his best piece of work, while his favorite is his most recent feature film "Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood."

He made the comments during an interview with "The Church of Tarantino" podcast in an episode released on Friday.

Asked to reveal which of his movies he loves the most, the 62-year-old said: "Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood" is my favorite, 'Inglourious Basterds' is my best, but I think 'Kill Bill' is the ultimate Quentin movie, like nobody else could have made it."

Set in Nazi-occupied France and starring Brad Pitt and Christoph Waltz, "Inglourious Basterds"

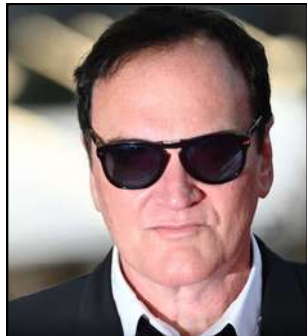
follows the exploits of a group of American Jewish soldiers who plan to assassinate Nazi leaders. Tarantino went on to say that "every aspect" of his two-volume "Kill Bill" story, which sees Uma Thurman star as a former assassin hellbent on vengeance after waking from a coma, was taken from his imagination, loves and passions.

"So I think 'Kill Bill' is the movie I was born to make. I think 'Inglourious Basterds' is my masterpiece but 'Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood' is my favorite," he said.

Some of his output also came in for criticism.

When asked if there was anything he would change, Tarantino said he "miscalculated a couple of things along the way." "The only thing that bites my a** is just a few little shots in both 'Reservoir Dogs' and 'Pulp Fiction,'" he said, adding that both featured some "amateur sh't."

While he "loves" both movies, he said they were made early in his career when "I didn't know what I didn't know." He said he didn't want to point out his mistakes, but mentioned equipment in a shot, the shadow of a boom and the mark of an X where the actors should have been standing. "It takes you at least two movies to figure out how to do it," he joked.



Tarantino previously told CNN that the next movie he directs would be his last. It had been rumored that this would be a script called "The Movie Critic" but he scrapped the idea last year.

Explaining why, he said he lost interest in bringing the story to the big screen. "I pulled the plug on it," he said.

"I was so excited about the writing but I wasn't really that excited about dramatizing what I wrote once we were in pre-production, partly because I'm using the skill set that I learned from 'Once Upon a Time... in Hollywood,'" he said, adding that "The Movie Critic" would have been set in a similar place and time.

"One Upon a Time... in Hollywood" starred Leonardo DiCaprio as fading TV actor Rick Dalton, while his stunt double Cliff Booth was portrayed by Pitt. Together, they try to recapture their success and fame.

BAYERN MUNICH REPORTEDLY TRIED TO HIJACK ANTONY’S REAL BETIS TRANSFER

Diary Times Desk : How wild was Bayern Munich’s transfer deadline day? The Bavarians almost ended up with former Manchester United winger Antony.

The 25-year-old is moving permanently to LaLiga side Real Betis on a reported €22M deal after spending the past half-season there on loan. But Bayern, with its Nicolas Jackson deal hanging in the balance, apparently attempted to hijack the deal. It might have succeeded, too, had the Brazilian forward decided that simply being able to was enough.

“I spoke to Bayern Munich the day before everything was done with Betis. I don’t know if it [the offer] was seven million [net], I didn’t talk about that,” Antony is quoted as saying. “But when I spoke with them, I said I gave my word to Betis, and that everything was 95% finalized, and I’ll stick to my word. Out of respect, affection, and knowing that I’m happy here. I feel calm about making this decision with all due respect to Bayern Munich, a top three club in the world. I don’t know what will happen in the future.”



SINNER VS. ALCARAZ AT THE US OPEN? DJOKOVIC AIMING TO ‘MESS UP THOSE PLANS’

Diary Times Desk : There has been a lot of talk of a Jannik Sinner, Carlos Alcaraz final at the US Open this fortnight. The World No. 1 and World No. 2 have met in the past two major championship matches, with their previous five clashes on Tour coming in title deciders.

However, one man keen to block out the Sinner-Alcaraz noise and spoil the party is Novak Djokovic, who is chasing a record-extending 25th major. The 38-year-old Serbian defeated Taylor Fritz in four sets on Tuesday night to set a semi-final meeting against Alcaraz.

“We know that they are the two best players in the world. Everybody is probably expecting and anticipating the finals between the two of them. I’m going to try to mess up the plans of most of the people,” Djokovic said. “Let’s see. Sinner still has to win a couple of matches to get to the final. But they are playing the best tennis of any players here. They have been the dominant force since the beginning of the tournament. “But I definitely am not going with a white flag on the court. I don’t think anybody does really when they play them, but particularly not me. I put myself in another semi-final of a Grand Slam this year.

DONNARUMMA: I’LL ‘IMPROVE’ TO FIT PEP’S MANCHESTER CITY STYLE

Diary Times Desk : Gianluigi Donnarumma said he will try to improve his ability to pass the ball out from the back after transferring to Manchester City.

City signed Donnarumma from Paris Saint-Germain on Tuesday even though he’s not known for build-up skills with his feet -- typically a key requisite for goalkeepers coached by Pep Guardiola.

“I always try to help the team and do what the coach asks of me. I do everything; you can always improve in everything, but regarding what the coach asks of me, I try to improve,” Donnarumma said at Italy’s training camp on Wednesday. “I’m sure that with Guardiola we’ll do a great job.”

Donnarumma -- one of the world’s best shot-stoppers -- was a key figure in PSG’s run to the Champions League title last season, but was deemed surplus to requirements at the French club following the signing of Lucas Chevalier from Lille last month.

The issues playing the ball with his feet were also evident in occasional glaring errors during his tenure at PSG.

DEFENDING US OPEN CHAMP SABALENKA RETURNS TO SEMIFINALS WITH WALKOVER WIN AGAINST VONDROUŠOVÁ

Diary Times Desk : Defending champion Aryna Sabalenka returned to the US Open semifinals without hitting a ball on Tuesday night because the woman she was supposed to face in the quarterfinals, 2023 Wimbledon champion Markéta Vondroušová, pulled out of their match with an injured knee.

According to the US Tennis Association, Vondroušová is the first woman to give her opponent a walkover -- the term for when a tennis player withdraws from a match before it begins -- at the US Open in the quarterfinals or later since 1988, when Steffi Graf advanced to the final when Chris Evert did not play their semifinal.

“I tried my best to take the court today, but during the warm-up, I felt again my knee, and after consultation with the tournament doctor decided not to risk aggravating the injury,” Vondroušová, a 26-year-old left-hander from the Czech Republic, said in a statement released by the USTA. “I appreciate all the support this tournament and apologize to the fans who were looking forward to the match.”



BARCELONA, REAL MADRID EYE FREE TRANSFER SWOOP FOR LIVERPOOL DEFENSIVE TARGET – REPORT

Diary Times Desk : The biggest stories on the summer transfer deadline day were those involving Premier League champions Liverpool.

The Reds were successful in their endeavours to sign Alexander Isak from Newcastle United in a league-record transfer.

However, they failed in their pursuit of Marc Guehi from Crystal Palace, with the transfer collapsing late on deadline day despite an agreement being reached and the player completing his medicals.

Marc Guehi now on Barcelona, Real Madrid’s radar

While Liverpool are expected to return for Guehi in 2026, when his contract with Crystal Palace runs out, they are now set to face some serious competition.

Indeed, according to reports relayed by ESPN, Barcelona and Real Madrid have now set their sights on a possible free-transfer swoop for Guehi in the summer of next year.

VENUS WILLIAMS WILL KEEP PLAYING AFTER US OPEN DOUBLES EXIT



Diary Times Desk : Venus Williams said she plans to keep playing tennis on Tuesday after exiting the US Open women’s doubles with partner Leylah Fernandez. The 45-year-old tennis icon and Fernandez saw their doubles dream halted in the quarter-finals with a 6-1, 6-2 loss to top seeds Katerina Siniakova and Taylor Townsend. Williams, who only returned to tennis in July after a 16-month absence from the sport, expressed satisfaction at her performances in New York. And the seven-time Grand Slam singles winner said she intends to keep playing for the foreseeable future, opportunities permitting.

“If there is opportunity for me to play, then hopefully I can get back somewhere this year,” said Williams, who received wild cards into the singles, doubles and mixed doubles draws at the US Open.