

NEWS IN BRIEF

“NO NEED TO PANIC, NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY”: PIYUSH GOYAL ON TRUMP TARIFFS

Diary Times Desk : Stressing that negotiations are underway with the United States over 50 per cent tariff on Indian goods, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal said that there is no need to “panic” as India and US will come to an equitable, balanced and fair agreement.

In an interview with ANI on Thursday, Piyush Goyal assured that India and the US continue to have good relations.

He said, “I do not think there is any need to panic. We should allow the negotiations to happen. We continue to have good relations with the United States, and I am sure we will be able to resolve some of these issues and come to an equitable, balanced and fair agreement.”

When asked about the timeline of the negotiations, he said, “There is never a timeline in negotiations.”

ARMY RESCUES 2 SOUTH KOREAN MOUNTAINEERS IN LADAKH; 1 DIES

Diary Times Desk : The Indian Army rescued two critically ill South Korean nationals during a trekking expedition from a peak in the Union territory of Ladakh, officials said on Friday. However, one of the climbers passed away during treatment.

“On 4 September, during a mountaineering expedition, two South Korean nationals fell critically ill near Kongmarula, an isolated peak of Ladakh,” Fire and Fury Corps said on X.

Army Aviation helicopters of Fire and Fury Corps executed a night Casualty Evacuation (CASEVAC) from an unprepared site at an altitude of 17,000 feet to ensure the timely evacuation of the mountaineers to SNM Hospital, Leh, for further treatment, the post added.

Fire and Fury Corps expressed condolences to the family of the climber who passed away.

The CASEVAC is a rapid transportation of critically ill or injured individuals from a dangerous or threatening condition to a medical facility for treatment.

INDIA AND RUSSIA
“WE’VE LOST INDIA, RUSSIA TO DEEPEST, DARKEST CHINA”: DONALD TRUMP’S LATEST


Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump today said in a social media post that it “looks like we’ve lost India and Russia to deepest, darkest China,” before sarcastically wishing all three countries a “prosperous” future.

Chinese President Xi Jinping played host to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Tianjin earlier in the week.

“Looks like we’ve lost India and Russia to deepest, darkest China. May they have a long and prosperous future together!” Trump posted on his Truth Social.

The comments mark Trump’s sharpest public acknowledgement to date of the deepening ties between New Delhi, Moscow and Beijing. The three leaders publicly discussed cooperation in areas ranging from energy to security, with all of them – at different levels – at odds with Washington on issues including the war in Ukraine and global trade policy.

For decades, Washington has viewed India as a potential counterweight to China’s expanding influence. Both Republican and Democratic administrations invested in cultivating New Delhi as a strategic partner. Trump himself courted India during his first term, appearing with PM Modi at the 2019 ‘Howdy Modi’ rally in Houston and reviving the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) with Japan and Australia.

Yet recent developments point to a cooling of ties. Experts note that Trump’s tariff measures, along with his criticism of India’s energy trade with Russia, have weakened Washington’s leverage.

The SCO summit in Tianjin marked PM Modi’s first visit to China in seven years, a significant development given long-standing tensions, including the deadly 2020 border clash in the Galwan Valley. By meeting both Xi and Putin, PM Modi signalled a willingness to place strategic autonomy above alignment with any single bloc.

‘IT WAS A WRONG TWEET. WE DON’T SUPPORT IT’: TEJASHWI ON CONGRESS’ BIDI-BIHAR COMPARISON

Diary Times Desk : Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) leader Tejashwi Yadav on Friday distanced himself and his party from Congress’ X (previously Twitter) post comparing Bihar and Bidis, while trying to take a dig at the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over the recent GST reforms.

“It was a wrong tweet. We don’t support it,” said Tejashwi, when asked about the now-deleted X post by Congress.

Congress issues apology, deletes post

The Kerala unit of Congress sparked a row after it tried to take a dig at Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led BJP government at the Centre, while comparing Bidis and Bihar. In a now-deleted post, it posted: “Bidis and Bihar start with B. Cannot be considered a sin anymore.”

Hours later, the party issued an apology and said: “We see that our jibe at Modi’s election gimmick with GST rates is being twisted. Our apologies if you felt hurt.”

BJP says Cong, RJD will get reply from Bihar’s people

However, the Kerala Congress’ post gave BJP a chance to attack the grand alliance in Bihar, where assembly elections are scheduled to be held later this year. Senior BJP MP Ravi Shankar Prasad said the grand alliance will get a reply from the people of Bihar during the upcoming assembly elections. “It (Congress) insulted Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s mother (recently) and did not apologise for it so far. And, now (it) insulted Bihar’s dignity and Biharis,” Prasad said, as reported by news agency PTL. “Rahul Gandhi, what are you doing?... You do not care about the history of Bihar. Will you compare Bihar with bidis?”


‘PETROL, DIESEL AND ALCOHOL TO STAY OUTSIDE GST’: FM NIRMALA SITHARAMAN

Diary Times Desk : Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that petrol, diesel and alcohol products are unlikely to come under the GST regime in the immediate future, speaking with Network18 Group Editor-in-Chief Rahul Joshi in an exclusive interview.

Upon being asked if petroleum products and alcohol will continue to remain outside the GST, the finance minister said, “The current proposal does not include it,” adding that they won’t be included in the immediate future either.

“Not in the immediate future,” Sitharaman said when asked about the timeline of their inclusion in the ambit of GST.

Implemented in July 2017, products like petrol, diesel, and alcoholic beverages were kept outside the ambit of GST since then, owing to the fact that these commodities are major revenue sources for both central and state governments through excise duty and value-added tax (VAT).

This has repeatedly caused high retail prices despite GST simplifying the indirect tax structure for 99% other goods and services.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that 99% of all goods and services touched by GST are now either in zero, 5%, or 18% and only 1% is being taxed as demerit or sin goods.

In an exclusive interview to Network18 Group Editor-in-Chief Rahul Joshi, Sitharaman spoke about GST 2.0 and the new slabs, saying that Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government has worked towards simplifying the indirect taxes.

“That is the extent to which we have cleansed the system from anomalies, doubts, duplications and any interpretative issues,” finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told CNBC-TV18.

TOP 25 AGRICULTURE INSTITUTES IN INDIA AS PER NIRF RANKINGS 2025


Diary Times Desk : The NIRF Rankings 2025 by Ministry of Education help students choose the best colleges and universities for a career in the agriculture domain. Agriculture contributes over 15 per cent to India’s GDP and remains a crucial pillar for developing nations like India. For students pursuing agriculture and allied sectors, it is important to know which institutes excel in resources, teaching, research, and industry impact.

The NIRF Rankings 2025 highlight the leading agriculture institutes in India, showcasing their academic excellence, resource availability, employer reputation, and more.

Here’s the list of the Top 25 Agriculture and Allied Sector Institutes in India, as per NIRF Rankings 2025.

Compared to last year’s rankings, this year’s top 6 agricultural universities remain the same while others have shown a slight change in their rankings.

The NIRF rankings are determined using weighted parameters that vary by category, but broadly cover teaching, learning and resources; research and professional practice; graduation outcomes; outreach and inclusivity; and peer perception.

In the 2024 NIRF Rankings, IIT Madras retained the top position in both the overall and engineering categories. IISc Bangalore led in universities and research, while IIT Roorkee topped in architecture and planning. IIT Bombay secured first place in innovation, and Hindu College was ranked the best college.

This year’s rankings have been released across 17 categories – overall, SDGs institutes, universities, colleges, research institutions, engineering, management, pharmacy, medical, dental, law, architecture and planning, agriculture and allied sectors.

HAZRATBAL SHRINE
ASHOKA EMBLEM AT J&K’S HAZRATBAL SHRINE DAMAGED, BJP SAYS “TERRORIST ACT”


Diary Times Desk : Armed with stones and shouting slogans, angry worshippers at Jammu and Kashmir’s Hazratbal shrine defiled the national emblem on a plaque placed outside the main prayer room. On the occasion of the ‘Eid-e-Milad’ (Birthday of the Prophet) on Friday, the year’s largest congregation of devout Muslims from all over the Valley gathered at the Hazratbal shrine to spend the night in prayer and penance. For centuries, Dargah Hazratbal has remained most revered place for people of Jammu and Kashmir as it houses the relic of Prophet Mohammad.

A crowd started shouting slogans against Waqf Board as they gathered near the plaque right after the congregational prayers on Friday.

Earlier this week, the Waqf board had formally inaugurated the grandly decorated and renovated interior of the Hazratbal shrine after spending crores of rupees. BJP leader and chairperson of the J&K Waqf Board Darakhshan Andrabi had said during the inaugural function that the board had managed all funds spent on the renovation/decoration without borrowing anything from any quarter. This is the first time a plaque was fixed on the wall of the shrine to mark the inauguration.

Situated on the banks of the Dal Lake, the centuries-old shrine has undergone several renovations and reconstructions. The present construction of shrine in white marble, a blend of Mughal and Kashmiri architectures was carried out in 1970s by Sheikh Mohammad Abdullah with public donation. However, no plaque was fixed by him to showcase the reconstruction.

“400 KG RDX, CAN KILL 1 CRORE”: MUMBAI ON ALERT AFTER BOMBS IN CARS MESSAGE

Diary Times Desk : Mumbai is on high alert after the police received a WhatsApp message threatening dozens of blasts in the financial hub where the Ganesh festival is set to culminate tomorrow. The threat message claimed that ‘human bombs’ had been planted in 34 vehicles, and it would shake the entire city. The threat message was received on the WhatsApp helpline of the traffic police’s control room yesterday as the cops covered the city in a security net for Anant Chaturthi, which would mark the end of the 10-day Ganesh festival with the immersion ritual.

The sender identified himself as “Lashkar-e-Jihadi” and said that 14 Pakistani terrorists have entered India. About 400 kg of RDX will be used for the blast, which can “kill 1 crore people”, the threat said.

Mumbai Police has become alert following the threat, and security deployment has been increased across the city. An official said the threat is being investigated from all angles and that the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) has been informed.



"WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BUY": NIRMALA SITHARAMAN SAYS
RUSSIAN OIL SUITS INDIA'S NEEDS

Diary Times Desk : Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday said that India will continue purchasing Russian oil, stressing that decisions will be guided solely by national interest.

"Whether it is Russian oil or anything else, we will take a call based on what suits our needs in terms of rates, logistics, or whatever. Where we buy our oil from, especially since it is a big-ticket foreign exchange-related item, is a call we will take based on what suits us best. So, we will undoubtedly be buying Russian oil," she said in an interview with News18.

The Union Minister reiterated that the contribution of crude oil to India's import bill is the highest.

The minister's statement has come at a time when the President of the United States, Donald Trump, has accused India of buying Russian oil and funding the Ukraine war, and has imposed a 50 per cent import tariff, effective from August 27.



'INTENTION WASN'T TO INTERFERE
BUT...': AJIT PAWAR ON VIRAL WOMAN
IPS VIDEO

Diary Times Desk : Following a controversy over him "threatening" a woman police officer who was cracking down on illegal excavation in Maharashtra's Solapur, Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar has said he was only trying to prevent an escalation in the situation on the ground and that he had no intention of "interfering" with law enforcement.

In a video that had gone viral, Mr Pawar, who is also president of the NCP, is heard speaking to Anjana Krishna, a sub-divisional police officer in Solapur's Karmala, who was stopping the illegal excavation of 'murrum' - a substance used in road construction - in Kurdu village.

Ms Krishna, who is originally from Kerala and was posted to Maharashtra recently, was handed a phone by an NCP worker and told Mr Pawar was on the line. The officer did not recognise Mr Pawar's voice and asked him to call her on her cellphone.

SHARING FLOOD DATA WITH PAKISTAN ON HUMANITARIAN
GROUND: INDIA

Diary Times Desk : India on Friday said it has been sharing flood data with Pakistan through diplomatic channels on humanitarian ground even as the Indus Water Treaty remains suspended.

External affairs ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India has been sharing the flood data with that country through the Indian high commission in Islamabad.

"We have been sharing high flood data with Pakistan through our diplomatic channels as and when it is required. This sharing of data is happening through our high commission in Islamabad," he said.

"You've seen the kind of rainfall that is happening in that part of India and that part of the world. And this is being done based on humanitarian considerations," Jaiswal said at his weekly media briefing.

A day after the April 22 Pahalgam attack, India announced a series of punitive measures against Pakistan, including the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty with New Delhi asserting that "blood and water" cannot flow together.

GUJARAT'S BETTING KINGPIN NABBED: HARSHIT JAIN
DEPORTED FROM DUBAI IN RS 2300-CRORE SCAM



Diary Times Desk : In a high-stakes joint operation, Gujarat Police and the CBI tracked down and brought back Harshit Jain, the fugitive mastermind behind Gujarat's biggest-ever cricket betting scam worth over Rs 2300 crore. Jain, who fled to Dubai after a police raid in March 2023, was deported to Ahmedabad after a Red Corner Notice issued through Interpol.

His arrest is the latest breakthrough in a multi-layered digital betting racket linked to Saurabh Chandrakar, aka Mahadev Bookie.

Harshit Babulal Jain was arrested in Dubai and flown back to India on September 5, following an inter-agency crackdown. According to a CBI press release, "The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), in collaboration with Gujarat Police, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), successfully coordinated the return of wanted fugitive Harshit Babulal Jain from the UAE. Jain was wanted for tax evasion, illegal gambling, and money laundering. A Red Notice was issued through Interpol on August 9, 2023, at the request of Gujarat Police. He was deported and handed over to Gujarat Police at Ahmedabad International Airport on September 5."

DIG of State Monitoring Cell Nirlipta Rai said, "Harshit Jain, the key accused in the betting racket, had fled India. Acting on specific intelligence, we launched a search and issued a lookout notice in coordination with central agencies. When Jain was located, a formal proposal was sent to Dubai authorities on December 9, 2023, through the Gujarat Home Ministry, the Ministry of Home Affairs, and the Ministry of External Affairs to bring him back to India. Based on this proposal, he was deported on September 5, 2025, and taken into SMC custody directly from the airport."

YOUR HOROSCOPE

06-09-2025

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

MADHYA PRADESH LOP
UMANG SINGHAR SPARKS
POLITICAL ROW WITH
“TRIBALS ARE NOT HINDUS”
STATEMENT

Diary Times Desk : Nine days after the Madhya Pradesh Congress chief Jitu Patwari kicked up a political row with his “women in MP consume more alcohol than anywhere else in the country” claim, now the leader of opposition of the state, Umang Singhar, has triggered a fresh controversy by saying, “Tribals are not Hindus.”

Addressing events in Chhindwara district, including a meeting of the Tribal Development Council and the National Karamdar Puja programme, the LoP in the Vidhan Sabha accused the BJP and RSS of attempting to impose Hindu identity on tribal communities.

“I have said this many times in the past that tribals are not Hindus. This is my belief as well as the sentiment of the tribal society. We have our own customs, culture and way of life. If we worship crops, trees and nature, why should the BJP and RSS have any problem?” Singhar said.

The fourth-time Congress MLA further said, history shows that the adivasis (tribals) are the original inhabitants of the country. “The RSS and BJP were attempting to stop tribals from following their traditions.”

WHY DO WE CELEBRATE
TEACHERS' DAY ON SEPT 5?
THE STORY OF DR
RADHAKRISHNAN

Diary Times Desk : Every year on September 5, India celebrates Teachers' Day to honour educators across the country. The date marks the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the distinguished philosopher, scholar, and statesman who served as the second President of India. Here are some key facts about his life and contributions.

Early Years And Education

Born on September 5, 1888, in Tiruttani, Tamil Nadu, Dr Radhakrishnan grew up in a modest family with strong spiritual values. His father, Sarvepalli Veeraswami, wanted him to become a priest, but he pursued academics instead. With scholarships and determination, he studied philosophy at Madras Christian College, completing his master's degree in 1907.

Dr Radhakrishnan began his teaching journey in 1909 and went on to hold prestigious academic positions. He was invited as a guest lecturer at Oxford University in 1929 and later became Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University. His reputation as a thinker and educator made him one of India's most respected intellectuals.

"INACCURATE, MISLEADING": INDIA ON TRUMP
ADVISER PETER NAVARRO'S RECENT REMARKS



Diary Times Desk : Spokesperson for the Ministry of External Affairs Randhir Jaiswal clarified that India rejects the “inaccurate and misleading” comments made by US President Donald Trump's senior trade advisor Peter Navarro.

“We have seen inaccurate and misleading statements made by Mr Navarro. Obviously, we reject them”, he said.

Since Trump returned to office, Navarro has made multiple attacks on India regarding the latter's trade and foreign policies, which has lead to increased tensions between the US and India.

Just hours after Trump's punitive 50 per cent tariffs on India had come into effect, Navarro had labelled the Russia-Ukraine conflict as “Modi's war”. He claimed that it was because of New Delhi's continued purchase of Russian oil that Moscow's military aggression was being fuelled. He also pressured India to stop buying oil from Russia, stating that New Delhi could see a 25 per cent reduction in tariffs if it stops buying discounted crude from Moscow.

SCHOOLS IN J-K TO REMAIN CLOSED
TILL SEPTEMBER 6 DUE TO INCESSANT
RAINS, CHECK WHEN CLASSES WILL
REOPEN

Diary Times Desk : The Jammu and Kashmir administration has extended the closure of all government and private schools till Saturday (September 6) as incessant rains continue to lash the region. Authorities have now announced that schools across the Kashmir Valley will reopen from Monday (September 8). Educational institutions in the Union Territory have remained closed for nearly two weeks owing to persistent bad weather.

Earlier this month, the Jammu and Kashmir Board of Secondary Education (JKBOSE) was also forced to postpone the Class 10 and 11 examinations.

“In the backdrop of the recent inclement weather conditions and the subsequent flood situation, along with gusty winds during which several school buildings were submerged and some structures sustained damage, it has become imperative to ensure the safety of school premises before the resumption of classwork.

PUNJAB CABINET MEETING
ON FLOODS SCHEDULED FOR
TODAY CANCELLED AS CM
MANN REMAINS UNWELL



Diary Times Desk : The cabinet meeting scheduled for 4 PM today has been cancelled. While no official reason has been given for the cancellation, it is learnt that Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann remains indisposed due to a high-grade fever.

CM Mann was also unable to accompany AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal on his visit to the flood-affected areas yesterday, owing to his illness.

The Cabinet meeting had been convened to discuss the relief and rescue operations in the flood ravaged state, which has witnessed 43 deaths and 15 per cent of area of the state is affected.

Punjab had declared itself as a disaster-hit state earlier this week.

DOES MAMATA'S BLISTERING ASSEMBLY
SPEECH BETRAY A FLICKER OF DOUBT OVER
2026 POLLS?

Diary Times Desk : Even her fiercest critics would concede that Mamata Banerjee was in her element in the West Bengal Assembly on Thursday, her performance surpassing past displays of political firepower. In a crisp white cotton sari with a striking yellow border, the chief minister dominated proceedings, shouting slogans against the BJP, the Prime Minister and the Home Minister with the fiery energy that marked her opposition years in Singur and Nandigram during the Left regime that she ultimately toppled. Once known as “mercurial Mamata”—unpredictable, volatile—that persona was back, the newest avatar, clearly honed by years in power into a more shrewd and formidable political force. Thursday's House drama, however, does beg the question: why? Why did Mamata unleash such fierce, borderline unparliamentary attacks on the Prime Minister and Home Minister by name? With most observers betting on her to return as chief minister in next year's Assembly elections.

AIR INDIA EXPRESS DELHI-INDORE FLIGHT MAKES PAN-PAN CALL
AFTER ENGINE FAULT

Diary Times Desk : A Delhi-Indore Air India Express flight having 161 passengers on board on Friday suffered a mid-air engine fault, with the pilot making a 'PAN-PAN' call to indicate non-life-threatening emergency, but the aircraft landed safely at the airport here with a delay of 20 minutes, an official said.

The aircraft landed at the Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport in Indore and everyone on board was safe, he said.

“After receiving information about a technical fault in one of the engines of the Air India Express plane coming from Delhi to Indore, we took all precautions and the aircraft landed at Indore airport at 9.55 am. As per the schedule, it was supposed to land at the Indore airport at 9.35 am,” Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport Director Vipinkant Seth told PTL.

The crew of this plane with flight number IX 1028 and all 161 passengers on board are completely safe, he said.



TRUMP SIGNS ORDER TO CUT TARIFFS ON JAPANESE CARS TO 15%

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump signed an executive order on Thursday that cuts tariffs on Japanese car imports from 27.5% to 15%, easing uncertainty for motor industry giants like Toyota, Honda and Nissan.

It formalises an agreement, which was announced in July, to apply a 15% levy to almost all Japanese exports to the US - including vehicles and pharmaceuticals.

Tokyo has also agreed to invest \$550bn (£410bn) in US projects, and gradually open its economy to American goods, including cars and rice, the White House said.

The deal came after months of negotiations between the US and Japan in the wake of Trump announcing sweeping tariffs on most countries around the world in April.

"Finally," Japan's top trade negotiator, Ryosei Akazawa, said in Japanese as he reposted a White House announcement about the executive order.

CHINA EXITS PAKISTAN'S \$60 BILLION ECONOMIC CORRIDOR PROJECT; ISLAMABAD TURNS TO ADB FOR FUNDING

Diary Times Desk : In a major geopolitical shift, China has walked away from Pakistan's most ambitious China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project, the Main Line-1 (ML-1) railway upgrade. The decision follows Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's recent visit to Beijing, where he failed to secure fresh funding or major projects under CPEC Phase-2. Instead, he returned with Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) worth \$8.5 billion, mainly in agriculture, electric vehicles, solar energy, health, and steel, but no headline investments.

At the same time, Islamabad's warming relations with Washington, and India's growing closeness with China and Russia after the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit in Tianjin, have added a complex geopolitical backdrop to Beijing's disengagement.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a major infrastructure project aimed at connecting China's northwestern Xinjiang region to Pakistan's Arabian Sea port of Gwadar through a network of roads, railways.

INDIA BLOCKS AUSTRIAN ECONOMIST'S X ACCOUNT OVER CONTROVERSIAL POST

Diary Times Desk : India on Friday blocked Austrian economist Gunther Fehlinger-Jahn's X account after he shared a controversial post calling for the "dismantling" of India.

The Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology flagged the content and instructed the Elon Musk-led platform to block the account in the country, as per media report.

"I call to dismantle India into ExIndia as India as Modi as stabbed Ukraine and European Union in back by submitting India to Russia and China at Shanghai Summit Tianjin," Fehlinger-Jahn said in a post on X.

TRUMP AND PUTIN BOTH BLAME EUROPE AS UKRAINE PEACE EFFORT LANGUISHES

Diary Times Desk : Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin are on the same page again.

The US and Russian presidents are now both singling out Europe as stasis envelops efforts to end the Ukraine war three weeks after their high-profile but low-impact summit in Alaska.

Trump called on Europe to do more in a call with European leaders on Thursday — even though the only incremental diplomatic activity to do with the war is coming from US transatlantic allies as they try to work out security guarantees to protect Ukraine after any peace deal.

The latest twist in the president's erratic Ukraine diplomacy came a day after he told reporters he planned to speak with Putin again soon so he could work out "what we're going to be doing."

INDIA ENGAGES WITH AUSTRALIA OVER ANTI-IMMIGRANT PROTESTS TARGETING INDIAN DIASPORA

Diary Times Desk : The External Affairs Ministry on Friday confirmed that the government is in active contact with both the Australian authorities and Indian diaspora organisations following a series of anti-immigrant protests across Australia that have raised concerns about the safety and well-being of Indian nationals.

The protests, held in several major Australian cities on August 31 under the banner of the "March for Australia" rallies, have sparked alarm within India's diaspora communities. The demonstrations, organised by anti-immigration groups, were marked by inflammatory rhetoric and occasional clashes with pro-immigration supporters.

While the rallies were not officially aimed at any one community, several incidents specifically targeting Indians have been reported, including one that went viral on social media.

Addressing the weekly press briefing, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said, "We are all aware that anti-immigrant protests happened in many cities across Australia on 31 August. Our High Commissions and Consulate Generals were in regular touch with the Australian government, as well as with our community members in this regard." Jaiswal noted that Indian diplomatic missions were proactive in raising the diaspora's concerns before the protests took place.

THE MUSIC-LOVING DUCHESS WHO BECAME A PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHER IN HULL



Diary Times Desk : The Duchess of Kent, who has died at the age of 92, carried out her royal duties with the minimum of fuss.

She was best known to most of the public as the elegant woman who presented the trophies at Wimbledon each year, once famously having to comfort a distraught losing finalist.

She became the first member of the Royal Family to convert to Catholicism since the Act of Settlement in 1701 – but that was not, perhaps, her most surprising decision.

Recognising that her twin passions were music and children, she quietly withdrew from royal life and took a job as a music teacher at a primary school in Kingston upon Hull.

She even stopped using the title Her Royal Highness. In the staff room she was simply "Kath", and to the children "Mrs Kent".

JAISHANKAR TO REPRESENT INDIA AT VIRTUAL BRICS SUMMIT ON SEPT 8

Diary Times Desk : External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar will participate in the BRICS Summit convened virtually on September 8 under Brazil's chairmanship, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) announced on Friday.

"The Brazilian chair of BRICS has called for a virtual meeting, which will take place on September 8. From our side, it will be the External Affairs Minister who will be participating. This BRICS Summit is at the leaders' level," MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal told reporters at the weekly media briefing.

The summit will bring together leaders of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, and is expected to deliberate on global political and economic challenges.

Reports suggest that the summit will be attended by both Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping.



WHAT GUARANTEES HAS MACRON'S 'COALITION OF THE WILLING' PROMISED UKRAINE?

Diary Times Desk : French President Emmanuel Macron announced on Thursday that 26 countries had promised to send troops or provide other military assistance to Ukraine after the war ends in a bid to guarantee security in the country.

Macron's announcement came after a meeting of the so-called "coalition of the willing" in Paris on Thursday.

A coalition of the willing is a temporary international group created to solve a specific issue or achieve a particular military or political goal.

This coalition comprises countries that share the common goal of providing Ukraine with security guarantees. They are predominantly European nations, but also include Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Canada.

The coalition was first announced by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer last March.



ISRAEL MILITARY CLAIMS IT CONTROLS 40% OF GAZA CITY

Diary Times Desk : The Israeli military on Thursday said it controls 40 percent of Gaza City, the largest urban centre in the Palestinian territory which it is preparing to conquer after nearly two years of devastating war.

Israel has intensified in recent days its bombardments of the area of Gaza City, in the territory's north, ahead of the planned offensive, despite mounting international pressure to halt the campaign.

Gaza's civil defence agency said Israeli strikes on Thursday killed more than 30 people in the city, out of at least 64 Palestinians killed across the Gaza Strip.

As concern grows over the dire humanitarian conditions for Gaza's population of more than two million, one of the European Union's top officials called the war a "genocide" -- a term strongly rejected by Israel, but which several governments and numerous rights groups have adopted.

In a televised briefing, Israeli military spokesman Brigadier General Effie Defrin said that "we hold 40 percent of the territory of Gaza City", adding that the offensive "will continue to expand and intensify in the coming days".

US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TO BE RENAMED 'DEPARTMENT OF WAR': REPORT

Diary Times Desk : United States President Donald Trump is due to rename the Department of Defense as the Department of War in a bid to rebrand the government agency with a more forceful image.

The name change is expected to be implemented in an executive order on Friday, according to The Associated Press news agency, quoting White House officials familiar with the rebranding effort.

The "Department of War" will become the secondary name for the Department of Defense until legislative action can make the name change permanent, according to an unreleased fact sheet.

US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth wrote "DEPARTMENT OF WAR" in a post on social media above a news story on the reported change. Hegseth made no other comment.

President Trump had said a name change would remind people of past US military victories in World War I and World War II, when the US was an emerging superpower.

"Everybody likes that we had an unbelievable history of victory when it was Department of War," he told reporters late last month.

"Then we changed it to Department of Defense," he said. "Defense is too defensive. And we want to be defensive, but we want to be offensive too, if we have to be," he said.

XI COINED "ELEPHANT-DRAGON" FOR INDIA-CHINA TIES, "BEAR" ADDED LATER: PUTIN

Diary Times Desk : Russian President Vladimir Putin while discussing Russia-India-China (RIC) ties said that Chinese President Xi Jinping had coined the animal metaphor "dragon and elephant" dance to describe the relations between China and India. He said that the media had added Russia's "bear".

Speaking at the Eastern Economic Forum 2025, Putin joked about using a tiger instead for Russia's Far East. "Of course, 'bear' is a symbol of Russia, but we are here - the Far East, and the biggest tiger in the world is the local breed here", referring to the Amur tiger or Siberian tiger.

He mentioned the United States' symbol - a double-headed eagle and taking a jibe said that it looks to the West and the East but, "there is also south, you know".

"HIGHLY PROVOCATIVE": PENTAGON SAYS VENEZUELA MILITARY PLANE FLYING NEAR US SHIP

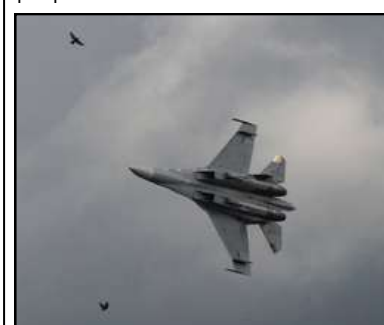
Diary Times Desk : The Pentagon said two Venezuelan military planes flew near a US Navy vessel in international waters Thursday, days after a deadly American strike against an alleged drug trafficking boat from Venezuela.

The Defense Department, in a post on X, called the move "highly provocative" and warned against further escalation from the government of Nicolas Maduro, whom the United States accuses of leading a drug cartel.

"The cartel running Venezuela is strongly advised not to pursue any further effort to obstruct, deter or interfere with counter-narcotics and counter-terror operations carried out by the US military," the Pentagon said.

Washington has deployed navy warships in the south Caribbean as tensions rise between US President Donald Trump and Venezuelan strongman Maduro.

On Tuesday, US forces blew up an alleged drug boat in the Caribbean that Trump said belonged to a criminal organization tied to Maduro, killing 11 people.



"HOW MUCH WILL YOU INVEST?" TRUMP'S BLUNT QUESTION TO TIM COOK, ZUCKERBERG

Diary Times Desk : During a high-profile dinner with Silicon Valley honchos at the White House, US President Donald Trump grilled Apple CEO Tim Cook over the company's investment in the United States, as the iPhone maker returns "home in a big way" from "elsewhere"-- a reference that appeared to be about Apple's operations in India.

In the conversation that took place in the presence of Meta's Mark Zuckerberg, OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, Google CEO Sundar Pichai and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella, Trump asked Cook, "Tim, how much money will Apple be investing in the United States? I know it's a very large amount. You were elsewhere before, and now you're really coming home in a big way. How much money will you be investing?"

The Apple CEO replied, "\$600 billion." He also praised the US President for "setting the tone" for Apple to grow in America.

"I want to thank you for setting the tone such that we could make a major investment in the United States... That says a lot about your focus and your leadership and your focus on innovation," said Cook during a dinner also attended by US First Lady Melania Trump.

In May, Trump told Tim Cook that he doesn't want Apple to build its products in India, taking a shot at the tech giant's move to diversify production away from China.

"I had a little problem with Tim Cook yesterday...I said to him, 'My friend, I treated you very good. You're coming here with \$500 billion, but now I hear you're building all over India.' I don't want you building in India," Trump had said, urging Apple to pivot stateside.

The US leader was referring to Apple's commitment of a \$500 billion investment in the US, which was announced in February after Trump came to power for the second term.

CONSTITUENTS SAY DEPUTY PM RAYNER 'HAD TO GO'

Diary Times Desk : "She has been the main attack dog for Labour when the Tories have done something wrong - especially with tax and things."

That was how retired toolmaker Alan Douglas described his local MP Angela Rayner, who has resigned as deputy prime minister and housing secretary.

Mr Douglas, from Rayner's constituency of Ashton-under-Lyne in Greater Manchester, said she had little option but to fall on her sword after it emerged she had failed to pay the correct amount of stamp duty.

"Now it has turned full circle and come back to bite her," said Mr Douglas, 75.

"It wasn't looking good for her."

Stockport-born Rayner, 45, will now return to the back benches as a Labour MP.



WESTERN TROOPS DEPLOYED IN UKRAINE WOULD BE TARGET FOR RUSSIAN ARMY: PUTIN

Diary Times Desk : Russian President Vladimir Putin warned on Friday that any Western forces deployed to Ukraine would be a "legitimate" target for Moscow's army, a day after Kyiv's allies said they had committed to a troop presence in the event of a peace deal. Two dozen countries, led by France and Britain, pledged Thursday to join a "reassurance" force on land, at sea and in the air to patrol any deal. "If some troops appear there, especially now during the fighting, we proceed from the premise that they will be legitimate targets," Putin said at an economic forum in the far eastern city of Vladivostok. He added that the deployment of such a force was not conducive to long-term peace and said Ukraine's closer military ties with the West were one of what he calls the "root causes" of the conflict. Ukraine's allies have not revealed any specific details of the plan, including how many troops it would involve and how specific countries would contribute.

THAI TYCOON, ANUTIN CHARNVIRAKUL, WINS PARLIAMENTARY VOTE TO BECOME PM

Diary Times Desk : Thai conservative construction magnate Anutin Charnvirakul on Friday won a parliament vote to serve as the nation's next prime minister, according to an AFP tally of lawmakers' ballots. Since 2023 elections, the Pheu Thai party of the powerful Shinawatra family has monopolised Thailand's top office, but a court ruling last week saw dynasty heiress Paetongtarn Shinawatra sacked from the post. Rushing into the power vacuum, construction magnate Anutin Charnvirakul has cobbled together a coalition of opposition blocs to shut Pheu Thai out of the premier's office. In the still-underway ballot Anutin has won more than 247 votes, according to an AFP tally, securing the majority backing of the 492 MPs sitting in the National Assembly's lower house.

US SANCTIONS PALESTINIAN RIGHTS GROUPS WHO ASKED TOP COURT FOR ISRAEL WAR CRIMES INVESTIGATION

Diary Times Desk : The US State Department has imposed sanctions on three Palestinian human rights groups that asked the International Criminal Court to investigate and arrest Israeli leaders over accusations of war crimes in Gaza. Late last year the ICC issued arrest warrants for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, former Defense Minister Yoav Gallant, and a now deceased senior Hamas official. Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Thursday the US will sanction the three NGOs - Al Haq, Al Mezan Center for Human Rights (Al Mezan), and the Palestinian Centre for Human Rights (PCHR) - for engaging in what he called the ICC's "illegitimate targeting of Israel." The organizations "have directly engaged in efforts by the International Criminal Court (ICC) to investigate, arrest, detain, or prosecute Israeli nationals, without Israel's consent," Rubio said in a statement posted to the US Treasury Department's website.

INDIA REJECTS REPORT OF CHINA'S XI JINPING SENDING 'SECRET LETTER' TO PRESIDENT MURMU TO RESET TIES

Diary Times Desk : India on Friday rejected a report that Chinese President Xi Jinping sent a 'secret letter' to President Droupadi Murmu in a bid to revive ties with New Delhi, and urged the media to exercise due responsibility during coverage.

"We have seen the report and can confirm that the story of the letter is incorrect," said Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal at a press conference. "We would urge our media friends to exercise due responsibility in their reporting."

A recent report by Bloomberg claimed that President Xi sent a 'secret letter' to President Murmu in March this year to reset ties with India amid the ongoing trade war with the United States (US). Quoting an Indian official, the report claimed that Xi, in his letter, expressed "concern about any US deals that would harm China's interest".

The report claimed that the message was sent to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, but it was only in June when his government started a 'serious effort' to reset ties with China. In June, the report claimed that trade talks with the US had turned 'contentious'.

WHAT IS THE BATTLE OVER CHINA'S WARTIME HISTORY?



Diary Times Desk : China commemorated 80 years since the end of World War Two this week with a massive military parade against a backdrop of a disputed history about who ultimately defeated Japan. The issues, including Japan's reckoning with its wartime record in China, are bound to flare again in December, a flashpoint anniversary of the mass killing in Nanjing by invading Japanese troops. Below is an explainer about what the different - and disputed - points of view are.

WHAT IS CHINA'S VIEW?

For the Chinese government sitting in Beijing, this is a clear-cut issue: China sacrificed 35 million people in a heroic and brutal struggle against Japan that began in 1931 with the Japanese invasion of its northeastern region of Manchuria. Western countries, particularly the United States, have downplayed China's contribution.

China calls the conflict the Chinese People's War of Resistance against Japanese Aggression and, for World War Two, the World Anti-Fascist War.

It says China and the Soviet Union served as the "mainstay" of resistance against Japan and Germany, with communist guerrilla forces acting as the "backbone" of the fighting in China.

WHAT ABOUT TAIWAN?

Some of the most bitter comments about how China has marked the anniversary have come from Taiwan, whose formal name is the Republic of China. During World War Two the island itself was a Japanese colony.

WEST VIRGINIA HAS THE BEST KINDERGARTEN VACCINATION RATES



Diary Times Desk :
When it comes to health, West Virginia is used to being on the wrong end of the numbers.

It's one of the poorest states in the nation. More than 1 in 4 residents depend on Medicaid, a program that provides health care for low-income children and some adults. West Virginia has the highest obesity rate in the nation among adults, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The state earned an "F" grade from March of Dimes in 2024 for its high rate of preterm births.

But on childhood vaccination rates, it's a standout. During the 2023-24 school year, more than 98% of kindergarteners in West Virginia were vaccinated against diseases such as measles, pertussis and chickenpox, making it first in the nation, according to data from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

TRUMP'S ATTEMPTS TO UNDERMINE FAITH IN THE JOBS

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump and his administration spent the last month portraying recently dreadful jobs data as a "scam" and an organized vendetta against his presidency. That effort hit a brick wall Friday after the government produced updated jobs numbers that painted an even more concerning portrait of the US economy. Trump last month labeled the disappointing July jobs report as "rigged," and fired Erika McEntarfer from her role as Bureau of Labor Statistics commissioner. Afterward, top administration officials bent over backward to explain why the president was justified in his extraordinary action, which was based on a claim he has yet to substantiate: The BLS' data collection is lousy, administration officials maintained, and revisions to the jobs report are too dramatic month to month to be trusted.

A TASTE OF LEGACY: RELIVING TRADITION THROUGH KARELA BHURJI



Diary Times Desk :
From Her Kitchen to Mine:
Cooking the traditional karella bhurji turned into an emotional journey for me. My Gug Bhuji told me that her mother—my Dadiji (Mataji)—would often prepare this dish in season, a recipe likely more than a hundred years old. As I worked through the recipe, I realized the care and effort it required. The true joy came when my parents relished every bite, the karella and onions glistening like gold on the plate. In that moment, I felt deeply connected to my Mataji, imagining her in the kitchen years ago. She had passed down her skills to my Bhuji and my mother, and now the legacy has reached me. Carrying forward this tradition feels like both an honour and a blessing.

Known as karella bhurji this dish gets its name from the way the bitter gourd is finely chopped, resembling the texture of a bhurji or keema.

Kerala Bhurji			(Total -145gm)
Ingredients:			
250gm/2cups	Bitter Gourd	chopped (after frying 55gm)	
190gm/2cups	Onion	chopped (after frying 60gm)	
14 gm/1tbsp	Garlic	chopped	
4gm/1tbsp	Fennel		
To taste	Salt		
2gm/1tsp	Red Chili Powder		
20gm/1 ½ Tbsp	Raw Mango grated		
For Frying	Mustard Oil		

- Method:**
- 1.Wash and chop the bitter gourd, then leave it to dry overnight. (This step reduces frying time and oil absorption.)
 - 2.Heat mustard oil in a kadhai and fry the bitter gourd until golden. Remove and set aside.
 - 3.In the same oil, fry the onions until lightly browned. Remove and set aside.
 - 4.Reduce the oil quantity if needed. Add garlic to the remaining oil; once it splutters, add fennel seeds, salt, and red chilli powder.
 - 5.Return the fried bitter gourd and onions to the pan. Mix well, then finish with dry mango powder or freshly grated raw mango.
 - 6.Serve at room temperature with roti and also can be served with chicken keema on side.

Chef Reetika Gill
Founder-**Chef of Curry Singh Kitchen**, which she successfully ran for eight years, serving traditional Punjabi cuisine in Gurgaon. She now heads Gourmet Gill Catering, a luxury Indian catering company delivering bespoke culinary experiences at high-end events worldwide. She is a part of Indian Federation of Culinary Associations. She also serves as Consulting Chef for Dafeteria, a food truck startup incubated by the Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship-Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak.

GOOGLE HIT WITH \$3.45 BILLION EU ANTITRUST FINE OVER ADTECH PRACTICES

Diary Times Desk : Alphabet's Google was hit with a 2.95-billion-euro (\$3.45 billion) EU antitrust fine on Friday for anti-competitive practices in its lucrative adtech business, marking its fourth penalty in its decade long fight with EU competition regulators.

The move by the European Commission was triggered by a complaint from the European Publishers Council and comes amid a threat by U.S. President Donald Trump to retaliate against the European Union for any push against Big Tech.

The EU competition enforcer had originally planned to hand out the fine on Monday but opposition from EU trade chief Maros Sefcovic on concerns about the impact on U.S. tariffs on European cars derailed EU antitrust chief Teresa Ribera's plan.

The Commission said Google favored its own online display technology services to the detriment of rivals and online publishers and that it abused its market power since 2014 until today.

NAVJOT SIDHU SAYS
PUNJAB FLOODS 'MAN-
MADE', BLAMES CENTRE,
AAP GOVT OVER
'FAILURE TO PREVENT
THEM'

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Navjot Singh Sidhu held both the Centre and the Punjab government responsible for the widespread devastation caused by the recent floods in the state, calling it a "man-made disaster, not destiny." In a first statement issued on Friday, Sidhu alleged that the current crisis was entirely preventable and stemmed from chronic mismanagement of Punjab's river systems, lack of preparedness, and systemic governance failures. "The five rivers of Punjab, once a boon, have become a curse through sustained mismanagement," he said, citing illegal riverbed mining, unchecked siltation, and poor dam and reservoir operations as major contributing factors. Sidhu highlighted that rampant, unregulated sand and gravel extraction has weakened natural flood defenses. He pointed to field reports indicating that such activities have destabilised riverbeds and embankments (dhussis), increasing the risk of breaches and flooding.

SARKAGHAT GETS
CONNECTED: BUS
SERVICE TO
CHANDIGARH
LAUNCHED

Diary Times Desk : In a significant move aimed at improving connectivity for both the ex-servicemen community and the general public in the Sarkaghat region of Mandi district, the Chandigarh Transport Undertaking (CTU) has officially commenced a bus service on the Chandigarh-Sarkaghat-Chandigarh route on September 1. This long-awaited service comes as a major relief to hundreds of residents and veterans who frequently travel to Chandigarh for medical, administrative, educational and employment-related needs. The initiative was spearheaded by the United Front of Ex-Servicemen (JCOs & OR), Himachal Pradesh Branch, Sarkaghat, under the leadership of Capt.Jagdish Verma (retd), chairman of the organisation. The United Front had previously submitted a formal request to CTU in 2024.

34 HEALTH INSTITUTIONS TO GET CT SCAN MACHINES: HIMACHAL
HEALTH MINISTER SHANDIL

Diary Times Desk : Health and Family Welfare Minister Dhani Ram Shandil stated that 34 health institutions would soon be equipped with the state-of-the-art CT scan machines. Chairing the high power purchase committee meeting here today, he said the procurement and installation of these machines would be completed within three months. "This would offer latest and reliable CT scan services to the people close to their homes and would reduce their dependence on private service providers," the Health Minister said. These machines would be installed in civil hospitals at Paonta Sahib, Rajgarh, Arki, Nalagarh, Nadaun, Dehra, Jawali, Amb, Chopal, Rohru, Theog, Reckong Peo, Mandi, Bilaspur, Nurpur, Ghumarwin, Karsog, Sundernagar, Sarkaghat Jogindernagar, Manali, Anni, Bharmour, Chowari and Bhoranj, zonal hospitals at Dharamsala and DDU Shimla, Regional Hospitals Una, Solan, Keylong.



PM MODI TO VISIT PUNJAB, OTHER
FLOOD-AFFECTED STATES SOON



Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi will soon visit the flood-affected states, including Punjab, and review the situation, government sources said on Friday. The sources said Prime Minister's visit to Punjab was still being finalised and the schedule would be announced soon. On Thursday, Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan toured Punjab to assess the flood situation.

Meanwhile, Union Home Minister Amit Shah toured Jammu and Kashmir to review the flood situation. Several fences and border posts along the International Border in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir have been destroyed in recent floods.

NO SPECIAL RELIEF PACKAGE
ALLOCATED FOR DISASTER;
RESCUE OPS UNDERWAY WITH
LIMITED RESOURCES: CM SUKHU

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu today stated that no special relief package has been allocated for the recent disaster, and all rescue, relief and rehabilitation efforts are being carried out within limited resources.

Speaking to media personnel at Bhuntar Airport during his visit to assess the damage in the district, he urged the BJP national president and the seven BJP MPs from Himachal Pradesh to advocate for a dedicated relief package from the Central Government.

The CM revealed that a Rs 3,000-crore proposal for disaster rehabilitation has been submitted to the World Bank and expressed hope for its prompt approval. He criticised the Leader of Opposition, alleging that their presence has been confined to social media and political maneuvering rather than contributing meaningfully to relief efforts.

NIA ARRESTS KEY ACCUSED IN AMRITSAR TEMPLE GRENADE ATTACK CASE

Diary Times Desk : The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has arrested the key accused in the March 2025 grenade attack on a temple in Amritsar. The accused, identified as Sharanjit Kumar alias Sunny, a resident of Bhaini Bangar village in Qadian, Batala, Gurdaspur district, Punjab, was apprehended on Friday from Gaya, Bihar.

According to investigators, Sharanjit played an active role in both the conspiracy and execution of the attack, which occurred in the early hours of March 15.

The assault was carried out by two bike-borne assailants, Gursidak Singh and Vishal Gill, acting under instructions from foreign-based handlers. According to an officer, NIA's probe revealed a wider conspiracy involving operatives with a transnational presence in the United States, Europe, and Canada.

"These handlers allegedly provided funds, weapons, logistical support, and details of the intended targets," the officer said.



Investigations further showed that Gursidak and Vishal were involved in procuring and transporting multiple consignments of arms, ammunition, and grenades.

On March 1, Sharanjit reportedly received a consignment of four grenades in Batala from another arrested accused. Two days before the attack, he allegedly handed one of the grenades to Gursidak and Vishal.

After NIA teams searched Batala last month, Sharanjit went absconding.

Summer Is Over, And Trump

Never Took A Vacation

Labor Day, according to the Department of Labor, is “an annual celebration of the social and economic achievements of American workers.”

In the days leading up to this year’s celebration, the Trump administration informed thousands of additional federal workers that it will be dissolving their union.

It’s an expansion of a move undertaken back in March to utilize President Donald Trump’s executive authority and citing national security law to argue that people who work in the US Patent and Trademark office, the National Weather Service, NASA, and hydroelectric workers across the country, among others, are

too vital to national security to be able to organize.

That’s the stated reason, at least. The move is also in line with the Trump administration’s general hostility toward unions and its efforts to strip as many federal workers as possible of collective bargaining rights.

As usual with Trump’s audacious use of executive power, there are lawsuits.

But the March executive order, which affected a large portion of the unionized federal workforce, has been allowed to proceed after some early setbacks in court.

Trump doesn’t like American holidays very much. Back on Juneteenth, the still-new federal observance of the end of slavery, he complained on his social media platform that American workers have too many days off.

It’s costing the country too much money to have all these holidays, the president argued. Certainly it’s true that when people don’t work, they’re not productive on that day, but CNN’s Elisabeth Buchwald took a look at the research, some of which suggests having holidays and time off ultimately makes workers more productive in the long run.

No August vacation for the president. Trump himself has not taken significant time away from the White House this month. Presidents traditionally spend at least a week or two in their preferred vacation spot during the month of August. During his first term, Trump would go to his golf club at Bedminster in New Jersey in the summer. This summer, he has golfed almost every weekend, but mostly stayed in Washington, where he has overseen turning the Rose Garden into a patio area and plans to build a \$200 million ballroom.

He has also still spent plenty of his time in front of television cameras.

He had no public events on Friday, but on Tuesday he held a marathon three-plus-hour Cabinet meeting in front of television camera, although more than a working meeting it felt like an opportunity for his Cabinet secretaries to heap over-the-top praise on his leadership. On Monday, he spoke to reporters multiple times at length from behind the Resolute Desk in the Oval Office. He also held a joint meeting, including a public session in front of cameras, with the Korean President Lee Jae Myung.

Productivity is in the eye of the beholder. Trump has certainly produced a fair amount of video content this week. But he might consider spending less time in front of cameras and more time tending portions of the federal government that seem to be teetering.

His HHS Secretary Robert F. Kennedy’s efforts to undermine vaccines have set off chaos and resignations at the CDC, where Director Susan Monarez was ousted, apparently in a dispute over vaccine policy, despite having been confirmed by the Senate less than a month earlier. Other officials have resigned in protest.



Diego Mendoza
And Trump’s \$1-million-a-day callup of the National Guard to patrol Washington, DC — including low-crime areas like the National Mall — has DC residents scratching their heads.

Hyundai Megaplant

Massive Immigration Raid

Hundreds of federal officers descended on a small southeast Georgia community and raided the Hyundai Metaplant — arresting 475 people in the largest sweep yet in the current Trump administration’s immigration crackdown at US worksites.



Emma Tucker

“Together, we are sending a clear and unequivocal message: those who exploit our workforce, undermine our economy, and violate federal laws will be held accountable.”

Previously, federal officials estimated 450 people were apprehended Thursday at the enormous site in Ellabell, about 25 miles west of Savannah, Georgia.

The majority are Korean nationals, said Steven Schrank, a Homeland Security Investigations special agent in charge. Schrank said he did not have a breakdown of the arrestees’ nationalities.

All 475 people taken into custody were illegally in the US, Schrank said. Some crossed into the US illegally; some had visa waivers and were prohibited from working; and some had overstayed their visas, he said.

During the raid, several people tried to flee — including some who “ran into a sewage pond located on the premises,” the US Attorney’s Office for the Southern District of Georgia said.



In 2022, Hyundai announced an agreement with the state of Georgia to build Hyundai’s “first dedicated fully electrified vehicle and battery manufacturing facilities in the United States” in Bryan County, the company said.

“Agents used a boat to fish them out of the water. One of the individuals swam under the boat and tried to flip it over to no avail. These people were captured and identified as illegal workers.”

Schrank noted that some of the workers may have been contractors or subcontractors. A Hyundai spokesperson told CNN he does not believe anyone arrested was a direct employee of Hyundai Motor Company.

“We are aware of the recent incident at the HL-GA Battery Company construction site in Bryan County, Georgia. We are closely monitoring the situation and working to understand the specific circumstances,” spokesperson Michael Stewart said Friday.

“As of today, it is our understanding that none of those detained is directly employed by Hyundai Motor Company. We prioritize the safety and well-being of everyone working at the site and comply with all laws and regulations wherever we operate.”

The sprawling, 2,900-acre Hyundai Metaplant has two parts: a Hyundai electric vehicle manufacturing site, and an EV battery plant that’s a joint venture between Hyundai and LG.

The raid halted construction of the EV battery plant, the Associated Press reported.

The same day, hundreds of miles away in upstate New York, dozens of workers at a family-owned plant that makes nutrition bars were also apprehended during an ICE raid, officials said, drawing the ire of Gov. Kathy Hochul.

The raids come as Chicago leaders are preparing for a possible National Guard deployment in step with an expected immigration enforcement operation in the city.

At the Georgia site, masked and armed agents gave orders to construction workers wearing hard hats and safety vests as they lined up while officers raided the facility, video footage obtained by CNN showed.

ICE and Homeland Security Investigations were accompanied by the Georgia State Patrol, the FBI, DEA, ATF and other agencies in executing a search warrant as part of an ongoing.

INFA

Emma Heming

DEMI MOORE SUPPORTS HER EX-HUSBAND

Demi Moore is in her family’s corner, and that includes Bruce and Emma Heming Willis.



Lisa Respers France

“It’s hard to see somebody who was so vibrant and strong and so directed shift into this other part of themselves,” she said. “My particular perspective is, one I really always say it’s so important just to meet them where they’re at.”

Moore has been public over the years about her blended family with her ex-husband — with whom she shares three daughters — and now she is coming out in support of his wife Heming Willis.

During a recently released episode of Oprah Winfrey’s podcast, Moore talked about about the challenges of Willis living with frontotemporal dementia, telling Winfrey that “being the ex-wife, even though our family is very connected, is an interesting position.”

“So much fell on Emma to really figure this whole thing out and the most beautiful thing... was recognizing the importance for caregivers is that they have to take care of themselves,” Moore said. “If they don’t put that time into making sure that they’re okay, then they can’t show up for anyone else.”

Moore’s comments came on the heels of Heming Willis appearing with ABC’s Diane Sawyer for a special titled “Emma & Bruce Willis: The Unexpected Journey.”

In it, Heming Willis shared that her husband’s illness led to “one of the hardest decisions I’ve had

to make,” which was to move Willis to a separate, one-story home where he could receive around-the-clock care.

According to the Mayo Clinic, frontotemporal dementia (FTD) is an “umbrella term for a group of brain disorders that primarily affect the frontal and temporal lobes of the brain. These areas of the brain are generally associated with personality, behavior and language.”

Moore, who was married to Willis from 1987 to 2000, said during the podcast this week that when it comes to his current wife, she has “so much compassion for Emma in this, being a young woman.”

“There’s no way that anybody could have anticipated where this was going to go and I really think she’s done a masterful job,” Moore said. “She has been so dedicated to forging the right path. She’s had equal amounts of fear and strength and courage in navigating this.”

Watching Willis go through his struggle has been difficult, Moore said. “It’s hard to see somebody who was so vibrant and strong and so directed shift into this other part of themselves,” she said. “My particular perspective is, one I really always say it’s so important just to meet them where they’re at.”



Heming Willis married the “Sixth Sense” star in 2009 and they are parents to two daughters, Mabel, 13, and Evelyn, 11.

Heming Willis’ book about their family experience with FTD, titled “The Unexpected Journey,” comes out September 9, and Moore said she believes the book will be extremely helpful to others.

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LIONEL MESSI SAYS GOODBYE IN ARGENTINA, CASTS DOUBT ON WORLD CUP

Diary Times Desk : Lionel Messi got emotional after playing his final competitive match in Argentina in a 3-0 World Cup qualifying win over Venezuela on Thursday at the Estadio Monumental in Buenos Aires before later casting doubt on his participation in next year's World Cup.

Messi scored two goals and Lautaro Martínez added another as the Argentina star signed off in style in his last official match in the country. When asked about playing in the World Cup next summer in the United States, Mexico and Canada, Messi said: "Because of my age, the most logical thing is that I won't make it" before also expressing his motivation to feature in the tournament. "There are so many emotions, I've experienced so many things on this field," Messi said after the game. "It's always a joy to play in Argentina with our people. We've been enjoying match after match for many years. I'm very happy; being able to finish in this way here is what I always dreamed of."



LAWSON CRITICAL OF SAINZ FOR DECIDING TO "MOUTH OFF" ABOUT INCIDENT

Diary Times Desk : One of many incidents from the Dutch GP came on lap 27, when Liam Lawson and Carlos Sainz made contact.



Both drivers were comfortably in the points, but a collision at the Safety Car restart relegated both drivers to the back of the field. At a race where many drivers in the midfield secured big points, this was a heavy blow. The stewards deemed Sainz as culpable with the incident, swiftly awarding him with a 10-second penalty. Lawson has been unimpressed by some of the Spaniard's comments.

MONACO GRAND PRIX TO REMAIN ON FI SCHEDULE UNTIL 2035

Diary Times Desk : Formula One announced on Friday that the Monaco Grand Prix will continue on the circuit until 2035. The iconic race on the Mediterranean coast has been part of the Formula One schedule since its first season in 1950. "The streets of Monaco have been echoing with the sound of Formula One since the earliest days of the sport, so I'm delighted to announce the extension of this fantastic event to 2035," Formula One president and CEO Stefano Domenicali said in a statement. "It is an iconic race that is loved by all drivers and fans, with a unique vibe thanks to its location on the world's most glamorous principality." The next race in this season's world championship is the Italian Grand Prix this weekend in Monza.



'ALL MY DREAMS CAME TRUE': EDERSON BIDS FAREWELL TO MAN CITY

Diary Times Desk : Ederson has admitted it is hard to say goodbye to Manchester City. The Brazilian brought his eight-year stay with the Blues to an end by joining Fenerbahce on transfer deadline day.

After finalising his move to Turkey, he then flew back to Manchester to say goodbye properly to teammates, staff and friends.

Edison on his time at City
One of City's most popular goalkeepers of all time, Ederson, says the success the club enjoyed during his stay is a fitting testimony to his time at the Etihad.

"Six Premier League titles in eight seasons. I remember after my last Premier League title, I spoke with Fred Caldeira (TNT presenter) and said After winning four in a row, it's like normal now! It's not normal."



NORRIS SAYS MONZA FIELD 'BIT CLOSE FOR MY LIKING'

Diary Times Desk : The McLaren driver needs to make inroads into team-mate Oscar Piastri's championship lead after dropping to 34 points behind the Australian with nine races remaining following a retirement in last weekend's Dutch Grand Prix, the first race after Formula 1's summer break. Norris was 0.083 seconds ahead of Ferrari's Charles Leclerc in second place, ahead of Williams' Carlos Sainz, Piastri, the second Ferrari of Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen's Red Bull. The Briton said: "I just need to make the gap a bit bigger to make things a bit more comfortable." Norris and Piastri were among several drivers to have moments as they tested the limits at the high-speed and historic Monza circuit. Norris had a big slide at the second chicane, known as Roggia, and Piastri had his own moment, running a little wide and kicking up the gravel at the second Lesmo.

BARCELONA CAPTAIN SUBSTITUTED IN INTERNATIONAL FIXTURE DUE TO DISCOMFORT, CONFIRMS MANAGER

Diary Times Desk : The Netherlands and Poland played out a 1-1 on Thursday in Rotterdam, in what was a match of particular interest for FC Barcelona given the presence of Frenkie de Jong and Robert Lewandowski on opposite sides.

The Polish forward, making his return to the national team under new coach Jan Urban, played for a little over an hour and was substituted in the 63rd minute after a rather subdued performance.

As for De Jong, the Dutch midfielder also failed to complete the match, as manager Ronald Koeman replaced him in the 82nd minute with Quinten Timber. De Jong's substitution due to physical problem Speaking to the media after the game, Koeman clarified that the decision to take De Jong off against Poland was a precautionary measure. Indeed, the former Barcelona manager confirmed that the 28-year-old club captain was dealing with some discomfort in his glutes, which is why he was substituted. "Frenkie warned us that he felt tightness in his glutes, so we didn't take any risks," explained Koeman, as quoted by Mundo Deportivo.

Prior to being taken off, De Jong had turned in a solid performance for his national team in midfield, even though they were unable to secure a victory.