

NEWS IN BRIEF

**PM MODI REVIEWS
FLOOD, LANDSLIDE
DAMAGE IN
HIMACHAL, VISITS
KANGRA**

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday took stock of the flood and landslides situation in Himachal Pradesh and reached Kangra after conducting an aerial survey of disaster-hit Mandi and Kullu districts. The prime minister was welcomed by Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla, Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, and Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri. Leader of the Opposition Jai Ram Thakur, state BJP chief Rajiv Bindal, and other BJP legislators were also present at the Gaggal airport. PM Modi, along with the governor, CM, and senior officials of the state government, watched a presentation on the prevailing situation in Himachal Pradesh after cloudbursts, flash floods, and landslides triggered by heavy rains wreaked havoc in the state, and he was briefed about the same.

**ED RECORDS
STATEMENT OF BJP
WORKER WHO
ALLEGED RAHUL
GANDHI IS A
BRITISH NATIONAL**

Diary Times Desk : The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Tuesday recorded the statement of BJP worker K Vignesh Shishir under section 37 of FEMA. He filed a petition in the Allahabad High Court claiming Leader of Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi is a British national.

Before entering the ED headquarters, Vignesh spoke to the media and said, "I have been summoned by the Enforcement Directorate. I will be appearing before them. There is evidence to show RG is British National. I have shared evidence with CBI Lucknow."

"I have been summoned under section 37 of FEMA and will share all evidence and documents," he added. Last week ED had asked to appear before it with all evidence and documents under provisions of FEMA. Vignesh in his petition before the Allahabad High Court has alleged that he has documents and emails from British government to show Rahul Gandhi is a British national.

**CP
RADHAKRISHNAN**
**NDA-BACKED CP RADHAKRISHNAN ELECTED
INDIA'S NEXT VICE PRESIDENT**


Diary Times Desk : Maharashtra Governor CP Radhakrishnan, the NDA candidate for the post of the Vice President, will succeed Jagdeep Dhankhar in the post. The 68-year-old sailed through the election today, scooping up 452 first preference votes, leaving Opposition candidate and retired Supreme Court judge B Sudershan Reddy trailing with 300 first preference votes. While 754 votes were cast, 15 were found to be invalid. Of the valid votes, Mr Radhakrishnan got 452 first preference votes, Justice Reddy got 300, said Returning Officer for the election PV Mody. The 150-vote margin, however, is one of the lowest in the Vice-Presidential polls. In 2022, Jagdeep Dhankhar had beaten Opposition candidate Margaret Alva with the highest margin in the six last Vice Presidential elections. He secured 528 votes to her tally of 182. The voting figures also made it clear that there has been considerable cross-voting - presumably from Opposition MPs. At least 15 MPs are expected to have voted for the NDA candidate. Though the Congress has claimed that the 315 Opposition MPs had held together, jubilant NDA is claiming this as another example of the deep fissures in the Opposition ranks ahead of a series of state elections. The NDA had 427 votes, and YSR Congress, which was supporting it, had 11 MPs. So the NDA votes should have been capped at 438 but Mr Radhakrishnan got 452 votes -- 14 more votes. The cancellation of 15 votes also raises questions about the Opposition votes. While the Congress claimed that had 315 votes but the Opposition candidate Mr Reddy got only 300 votes. The BJP's Nishikant Dubey was among the first to respond, asking in a post in X "which 15 people ran away and voted for us". "Even the leaders along with the public have run away from you... By the way, @RahulGandhi ji the Vice President's election was indeed held using ballot paper, not E (electronic)," he added.

**CHHATTISGARH POLICE CLOSES CASE AGAINST BABA RAMDEV
OVER REMARKS ON ALLOPATHY**

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court was informed on Tuesday that Chhattisgarh police has filed a closure report in connection with a first information report (FIR) filed earlier against yoga guru and Patanjali Ayurved founder Baba Ramdev over remarks he made during the COVID-19 pandemic against allopathic medicines [Swami Ram Dev vs. Union of India & Ors.]. The Court was hearing Ramdev's petition seeking the clubbing of FIRs lodged across different States after his controversial comments drew widespread criticism. A Bench of Justices MM Sundresh and Satish Chandra Sharma was told today that the criminal proceedings in Chhattisgarh are being dropped by the police. However, a similar FIR in Bihar remains pending. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta added that such criminal proceedings were driven by vested interests rather than genuine grievances. "These FIRs are obviously sponsored by some interested groups," he said. Meanwhile, Ramdev's counsel, Senior Advocate Siddharth Dave, pointed out that the closure report in the Chhattisgarh FIR had not yet been filed before the Court. He expressed apprehension that the case could be revived if a protest petition were filed by the complainant. "That has to be brought on record. Chhattisgarh, if the complainant is heard in a protest petition and that gets revived then again... it's been pending, your lordships is protecting, it can be called after some time," Dave said.


**HILSA PRICES TO PINCH POCKETS
THIS PUJA DESPITE BANGLADESH'S
EXPORT NOD: TRADERS**


Diary Times Desk : The Md Yunus government in Bangladesh may have chosen to honour the commitment of culinary tradition and issue a notification to export hilsa to India ahead of the festive season, but fish importers in West Bengal aren't sure whether the move will broaden the smiles of the average middle class waiting to savour the delight of 'Padmar Ilish' this Durga Puja.

Fish traders on this side of the international border attribute dual factors of lower quantity of export from Bangladesh compared to previous years, as well as higher cost of imports, as reasons behind the high prices of 'rupali shosyo', which means 'silver crop'.

Putting apprehensions of an export freeze on hilsa to rest, the Bangladesh government's notice on Monday stated that it has approved in-principle the "conditional export" of 1200 metric tonnes of hilsa to India this year, in keeping with its traditional Durga Puja gift to Bengalis in India. For this, the Md Yunus government has invited applications from interested exporters in Bangladesh within a deadline of 5 pm on September 11. It has fixed USD 12.5 (Rs 1,100) a kilo as the base price for the fish.

"We were expecting that the Bangladesh government would permit us to import at least 3,000 metric tonnes of hilsa this year. The volume, which has been ultimately approved, is far less than what we hoped for. This would inevitably mean that 'Padmar Ilish' (hilsa of the Padma river) would remain costly and out of bounds for most hilsa admirers this Puja," said Atul Chandra Das, president of the Fish Importers' Association of Bengal.

**"WON'T END WELL FOR INDIA": TRUMP AIDE
DOUBLES DOWN ON 'TARIFF MAHARAJA' JAB**


Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump's trade advisor, Peter Navarro, has threatened that it "won't end well" for India if New Delhi doesn't "come around" at some point in trade negotiations with the United States. In an interview with the 'Real America's Voice' show, Trump's trade czar doubled down on his claim that India was the 'Maharaja' of tariffs.

"But it's absolutely true. They have the highest tariffs in any major country in the world against the United States. We got to deal with that," Navarro said. He claimed that India never bought oil from Moscow before Russia invaded Ukraine, "except for like little tiny drops of it." "And then they go into this mode of profiteering with Russian refiners coming on to Indian soil and profiteering," and American taxpayers end up having to send more money for the conflict, he said. Historically, India was not a significant importer of Russian crude, depending more heavily on the Middle East. But that changed in 2022, after Russia invaded Ukraine and the Group of Seven (G-20) nations imposed a \$60-per-barrel price cap to limit the Kremlin's oil revenue while ensuring that supplies continued to flow globally. India's ability to purchase discounted cargoes was a feature of that mechanism, US officials have acknowledged. The White House adviser listed the "great" trade deals that the US has inked with the European Union, Japan, South Korea, the Philippines and Indonesia, saying "all these countries are working very closely with us" because they realise that they've been taking too much advantage of the US and also because they need American markets. "I think India must come around at some point. And if it doesn't, it's lying down with Russia and China, and that won't end well for India," he warned.

VOTER FRAUD

**CONGRESS ALLEGES LARGE-
SCALE VOTER FRAUD IN
MAHARASHTRA'S RAJURA,
WARNS OF LEGAL ACTION**


Diary Times Desk : The Congress on Tuesday claimed large-scale voter fraud in Rajura assembly constituency in Maharashtra, similar to the Mahadevapura case, and warned of approaching the court if action was not taken within a month.

Addressing a press conference here, state Congress spokesperson Atul Londhe alleged that no action was taken in the last 11 months since the lodging of an FIR against "bogus online voter registrations" in Rajura.

"Between October 1 and October 15, 2024, as many as 11,667 fake voters were registered online in the Rajura constituency in Chandrapur district. Following a complaint by Congress candidate Subhash Dhote, 6,853 names were deleted. However, the police and administration have not shared details of the IP addresses, email IDs, and mobile numbers used in the fraudulent registrations," Londhe claimed.

He alleged that the BJP's Rajura candidate was caught with Rs 61 lakh in cash and election material by the Election Commission's flying squad team, and a case was registered at Gadchandur police station.

"However, no action has been taken in this matter either," he claimed.

BJP's Deorao Bhongle defeated his nearest Congress rival, Subhash Dhote, from the Rajura assembly segment by 2,000 votes. Rajura is part of the Chandrapur Lok Sabha constituency.

**FOURTH TRAIN ON BMCRL
YELLOW LINE THIS WEEK,
MAY CUT WAIT TIME BY 10
MINS**


Diary Times Desk : Responding to repeated passenger requests, the much-awaited fourth train will join Namma Metro's Yellow Line fleet this week, officials from the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMCRL) confirmed. The line currently operates three trains. The introduction of the additional train is expected to reduce peak-hour wait time from the current 25 minutes to around 15 minutes.

"The fourth train will be introduced for passenger services this week, following the necessary testing required for its commissioning," BMCRL Chief Public Relations Officer Yashwant Chavan said. "Further addition of trains to the line's fleet will be done as and when we get the trainsets delivered and after necessary testing is carried out," he added. Another BMCRL official reiterated that the new train could potentially reduce peak-hour wait times from the current 25 minutes to around 15 minutes, though the exact impact will be assessed after commissioning.

BOMB THREATS AT DELHI SECRETARIAT, 2 MEDICAL COLLEGES

DECLARED HOAX

Diary Times Desk : Delhi Chief Minister's Secretariat, Maulana Azad Medical College (MAMC) and University College of Medical Science (UCMS) on Tuesday morning received bomb threats, which were later declared hoax, officials said.

The police said the threats mentioned that RDX, having a one-km blast radius, were planted in the three sites. Immediate and coordinated action was taken under standard operating procedures (SOPs), with bomb detection and disposal teams (BDDT) pressed into service at the three sites. After thorough checking the bomb threats were declared hoax, they said.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (Shahdara) Prashant Gautam said, "Around 11 am, information was received from UCMS at GTB Hospital that they have received an email regarding the presence of a bomb in the collage premises." Immediately, in accordance with the SOP, college was vacated without creating any panic, he said.

The DCP added that the Bomb Dog Squad (BDS) was called and every corner of the building was checked. At 1.30 pm building was declared as cleared from danger and the threat was found to be a hoax.

According to the Delhi Fire Service (DFS), a separate call regarding the threat was also received, following which multiple fire tenders were rushed to the spot as a precautionary measure.

DCP (Central) Nidhin Valsan, in a statement, said entire area of MAMC and CM Secretariat was screened. "The email turned out to be hoax. Legal action will be taken." "Senior officers, including additional DCP (central), ACP Kamla Market and SHO IP Estate, were present at the Secretariat overseeing anti-sabotage checks. At MAMC, the exercise was being supervised by the additional traffic officer (ATO) of IP Estate police station," he said.

SIT'S VANTARA INQUIRY: CLOSE TO 200 QUESTIONS, MULTIPLE

AGENCIES, SUMMONS TO GLOBAL PARTNERS

Diary Times Desk : Vantara, a global wildlife rescue and rehabilitation organization under the Reliance Foundation, has received a questionnaire of nearly 200 queries from a consortium of investigative authorities, a source close to the probe told ANI on condition of anonymity.

The source said the Special Investigation Team (SIT), led by former Supreme Court Judge Justice Jasti Chelameswar, spent three days at Vantara and engaged multiple other investigative agencies, including senior officials from multiple state forest departments to assist in the inquiry.

Senior members of Vantara's leadership team were subjected to lengthy questioning during the visit. It has also emerged that the SIT has asked Vantara to summon all its international partners for questioning.

SOLDIERS, MILITANTS KILLED IN GUNFIGHT IN KULGAM'S

GUDDAR FOREST



Diary Times Desk : Two army personnel were killed and another soldier was injured in a gunfight with militants inside the Guddar forest in south Kashmir's Kulgam on Monday.

Both militants involved in the gunfight were killed in retaliatory fire. The gunfight came less than a month after Kulgam was rocked by one of the longest operations in years in Kashmir, which had lasted for nearly a fortnight and left two soldiers dead and 10 personnel injured.

Security forces had to quietly call off last month's gunfight after a group of highly trained Pakistani militants managed to escape, leaving the security administration red-faced. A local militant had died during the operation.

GST REFORMS WERE IN MAKING FOR

1.5 YEARS: NIRMALA SITHARAMAN AT

GST CONCLAVE

Diary Times Desk : Reduction and rationalisation of Goods and Services Tax slabs - reducing them to two, and exempting certain items, including premiums for health and life insurance - were 18 months in the making, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said at an NDTV summit Tuesday evening.

They were also not a response to outrageous tariffs of 50 per cent announced by Donald Trump, she stressed, responding to whispers the GST revisions were put together to spur domestic demand to counter the impact - potentially \$48 billion - on exports to the United States.

Ms Sitharaman said the GST framework overhaul was discussed even before last year's Union Budget, when Prime Minister Narendra Modi reminded her about relief for the 'aam aadmi'.

That was back when, delivering her eighth consecutive budget, she gave relief to middle-class taxpayers from the salaried class, which included rebates for people earning up to Rs 12 lakh.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

10-09-2025

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.

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.

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.

'NOT CITIZENSHIP PROOF': SC DIRECTS POLL PANEL TO ACCEPT AADHAAR AS 12TH DOCUMENT IN BIHAR SIR

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court Monday directed the Election Commission to accept Aadhaar as a 12th document, in addition to the 11 it has permitted for identification in order to be included in the final electoral roll during the Special Revision (SIR) in Bihar ahead of Assembly elections.

The bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi, however, made it clear that Aadhaar "is not proof of citizenship", and stated that the EC will be entitled to assess its authenticity.

"There is no quarrel that as per the statutory status assigned to Aadhaar Card under the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, it is not a proof of citizenship and therefore shall not be accepted as proof of citizenship. However, keeping in view Section 23(4) of the Representation of People Act, 1950, Aadhaar Card is one of the documents enumerated for the purpose of establishing the identity of a person," the court ordered.

TELANGANA HIGH COURT SETS ASIDE GROUP-1 RESULTS, ORDERS RE-EVALUATION OF ANSWER SCRIPTS

Diary Times Desk : In a major setback to candidates who qualified for the Group-1 Main Examinations, Justice N Rajeshwar Rao of the Telangana High Court on Tuesday set aside the final mark list dated March 10, 2025, and the General Ranking List dated March 30, 2025. The Court directed the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TGPSC) to re-evaluate all answer scripts of the Group-1 Main Examinations by applying the moderation method as laid down by the Supreme Court in the Sanjay Singh & Another vs. State of UP Public Service Commission case. The re-evaluation must be carried out manually, and fresh results should be announced accordingly. Based on the revised results, the TGPSC was asked to proceed with the recruitment process to fill up the 563 notified posts. Significantly, the Court also observed that if re-evaluation is not carried out as directed, it would be inclined to cancel the Group-1 Main Examinations altogether. In such a scenario, the TGPSC would be required to re-conduct the Main Examinations under Notification No. 2/2024 dated February 19, 2024, for all candidates who had cleared the Group-1 Preliminary Examination.

'COMPLICIT IN GENOCIDE': TWO OPPOSITION PARTIES CONDEMN INDIA SIGNING TRADE AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL

Diary Times Desk : Opposition parties have slammed India's signing of a bilateral trade agreement with Israel on Monday, amid its genocidal war on Gaza that has killed more than 64,000 Palestinians, more than half of it being women and children.

Slamming the bilateral investment agreement signed by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman with her Israeli counterpart Bezalel Smotrich as "despicable," AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi wrote on X, "It is despicable that the Modi govt has signed a Bilateral Investment Treaty with Israel at a time when Israel is overseeing genocide, ethnic cleansing & famine of Gaza."

Owaisi pointed out that the far-right minister has arrest warrant applications against him pending with the International Criminal Court (ICC).

"The person seated next to @nsitharaman believes that it is "just and moral" to starve Gazans. Arrest warrant applications against him are pending with the ICC. Supporting a genocidal government cannot be in national interest," Owaisi said.

Smotrich is known for making genocidal comments against the Palestinians during Israel's war on Gaza. His visit to India comes as he faces sanctions in the UK, Canada, Australia, New Zealand and Norway for "repeated incitement of violence against Palestinian civilians."

WHY MONSOON RAINS HAVE BEEN SO DEADLY IN INDIA THIS YEAR

Diary Times Desk : India's monsoon has turned wild.

Half of the country is reeling under floods after extraordinary downpours, with Punjab facing its worst deluge since 1988.

Some parts of Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan saw rains more than 1,000% above normal in just 24 hours, the Indian Meteorology Department (IMD) says.

Between 28 August and 3 September, rainfall in northwest India was 180% above average, and in the south, it was 73%.

More heavy rain is forecast across large parts of the country this week.

The rains have caused landslides and floods in several parts of the country, inundating villages and towns and killing hundreds.

But how did the rainfall become so intense?

Changing monsoon

The climate crisis is changing the behaviour of the monsoon.

KERALA: PANIC SPREADS AS DEADLY INFECTION KILLS 5 IN 1 MONTH

Diary Times Desk : Concern is mounting in the state as the death toll of amoebic meningoencephalitis continues to climb, touching five in just one month. Experts and health officials warn that inadequate coordination between departments and delayed interventions are hampering effective containment efforts, leaving both patients and the public vulnerable. Shobhana, 56, of Thiruvalli near Wandoor in Malappuram, is the latest victim of the rare but deadly brain infection. Diagnosed on September 6, she had been under critical care at Kozhikode Medical College Hospital (MCH) and passed away on Monday. Just two days ago, Ratheesh, a resident of Sulthan Bathery, died of the disease. Three others died over the past few weeks: A three-month-old from Omassery in Kozhikode, Ramla, 52, from Malappuram, and a nine-year-old girl from Thamarassery, who died while receiving treatment at the Institute of Maternal and Child Health, Kozhikode. Eleven patients, including children, are under observation at the Kozhikode MCH.

10 DELHI UNIVERSITY COLLEGES AMONG INDIA'S TOP 20, HERE'S THE COMPLETE LIST

Diary Times Desk : In a remarkable achievement, 10 colleges from Delhi University (DU) have secured places in the top 20 of the India Rankings 2025, highlighting the consistent academic excellence and overall performance of the university's institutions. The top five colleges are Hindu College, Miranda House, Hans Raj College, Kirori Mal College, and St. Stephen's College. Hindu College topped the list with a score of 84.01, while Miranda House claimed the second position with a score of 83.20.

Other DU colleges in the top 10 include Atma Ram Sanatan Dharma College, Sri Venkateswara College, Deshbandhu College, Lady Shri Ram College for Women, and Shri Ram College of Commerce.

In the university category, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) secured the second rank, Jamia Millia Islamia claimed the fourth spot, and the University of Delhi ranked fifth with a score of 67.38.

SC TRANSFERS ALL PETITIONS CHALLENGING ONLINE GAMING ACT TO ITSELF FOR UNIFORM RULING

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday transferred to itself a batch of petitions pending in high courts challenging the Gaming Act, which seeks to either ban some forms of online gaming or regulate others to prevent gullible people from falling prey to such entertainment.

A bench of Justices J.B. Pardiwala and K.V. Viswanathan passed the order while allowing an application moved by the Union government seeking transfer of petitions pending in high courts to the Supreme Court for an authoritative pronouncement and to avoid multiple proceedings on the same issue. Solicitor-general Tushar Mehta represented the Centre.

"This transfer petition is at the instance of the Union of India with the following prayers... The transfer as prayed for is allowed. The proceedings from Karnataka HC, Delhi HC and MP HC stand transferred to this court. The respective high courts are requested to transfer the entire record within a period of one week from today. Let this transfer be done digitally to save time. The transfer petition is accordingly disposed of," the bench said.

It added: "If there are any other matters filed fresh, they can also be transferred. We make it clear that if there is any challenge to the validity of the Act before any other high court, the same shall not be entertained and the entire matter shall stand transferred to this court."

**WE ARE SCARED EVEN IF ONE CALL
DOESN'T REACH HOME: NEPALI****DIASPORA IN INDIA**

Diary Times Desk : With Nepal witnessing chaos after protests against internet freedom and corruption turned deadly on Monday, Nepali students and diaspora in India find themselves anxious about the safety of their families. At least 19 people were killed and over 400 were injured after police opened fire on protesting youth. Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli resigned on Tuesday and houses of many ministers were set on fire by mobs.

A student in Pune told The Indian Express, "Every 10 minutes we are calling back home and if a call does not go through, we are so scared. That is happening with every Nepali student that is away from home now. Yesterday there was speculation that there was going to be a blackout throughout the nation and the internet would be shut down. For all the Nepali youth outside studying or working, this terror exists. At least I am in India and can call home using normal numbers. For people farther away it's even scarier."

The student added, "People say that you are a student and out (of the country). But for us it is still our country and to see things from a third-person perspective and be anxious every moment and not know what is happening is even scarier."

**WHITE HOUSE SAYS TRUMP NOTIFIED
QATAR BEFORE ISRAELI STRIKE ON
HAMAS**

Diary Times Desk : The administration of US President Donald Trump has confirmed it was notified before Israel's attack on Hamas negotiators in Qatar, but said it did not agree with the decision. The statement on Tuesday came hours after the strike on a residential area in the Gulf country's capital, Doha. Qatar has been a lead mediator in US-backed ceasefire talks aimed at ending the war in Gaza.

"The Trump administration was notified by the United States military that Israel was attacking Hamas, which very unfortunately, was located in a section of Doha, the capital of Qatar," White House spokesperson Karoline Leavitt told reporters.

"Unilaterally bombing inside Qatar, a sovereign nation and close ally of the United States that is working very hard and bravely taking risks with us to broker peace does not advance Israel or America's goals," she said. "However, eliminating Hamas, who have profited off the misery of those living in Gaza is a worthy goal."

Leavitt added that Trump directed his special envoy, Steve Witkoff, to "inform the Qataris of the impending attack". She said Trump also spoke to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu after the strike, but did not say if he threatened any actions against the close US ally. Leavitt added that Trump "believes this unfortunate incident could serve as an opportunity for peace".

**THAI COURT RULES EX-PM THAKSIN
MUST SERVE ONE YEAR IN JAIL**

Diary Times Desk : Thailand's top court has ruled that former prime minister Thaksin Shinawatra must serve a year in jail, in yet another blow to the influential political dynasty.

The decision relates to a previous case where he was sentenced to years in prison for corruption, but ended up spending less than a day in a jail cell as he was moved to a hospital.

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court ruled that this transfer was unlawful - and that the 76-year-old would have to serve his sentence in prison.

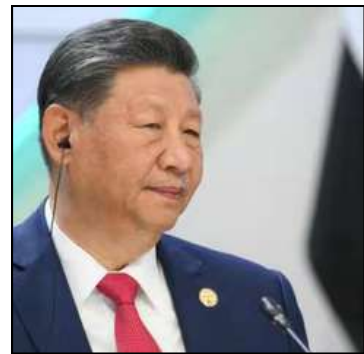
Thaksin and his family have dominated Thai politics since he was first elected PM in 2001. His daughter Paetongtarn previously served as leader but was removed from office last month over a leaked phone call. Shortly after the ruling was announced, Thaksin released a statement on social media stating that "even though I lose my physical freedom, I will still have freedom of thought for the benefit of my country and its people".

**MACRON UNDER PRESSURE
TO NAME NEW PM AS
FRANCE SIMMERS AHEAD
OF PROTESTS**

Diary Times Desk : French President Emmanuel Macron has come under pressure to name a new prime minister quickly after François Bayrou lost a vote of no confidence and on Tuesday handed him his resignation. The fall of Bayrou's government came as no surprise, because a majority in France's hung parliament staunchly opposed Bayrou's bid to bring down France's spiralling debt with €44bn (£38bn) budget cuts. But Macron is still faced with one of the highest budget deficits in the eurozone and mounting criticism from political opponents.

France is also facing a day of protests on Wednesday from a nebulous grassroots movement called Bloquons Tout - "Let's Block Everything", and authorities are planning to deploy 80,000 police.

As Monday's confidence vote was called by Bayrou himself, Macron has had weeks to prepare his next step. He has already made clear he will choose a new prime minister in the coming days - the fifth since he won a second term as president in 2022.

**HOW WEIGHT OF
CORRUPTION IS CRUSHING
XI'S AMBITIOUS 2027 PLA
MODERNISATION TARGET**

Diary Times Desk : Chinese President Xi Jinping's bold pledge to build a "world-class military" by 2027 has been one of the defining themes of his decade in power. The slogan is designed to impress, and is backed by pompous parades showcasing hypersonic missiles, publicity videos of aircraft carriers at sea, and speeches that cast the People's Liberation Army (PLA) as the spearpoint of China's rise.

Behind this spectacle, however, the picture is far less tidy. The PLA is still grappling with the same structural weaknesses that have dogged it for years. There is corruption in the ranks, uneven quality in its equipment, and deep-seated training deficiencies. The gap between Xi's ambition and the military's reality is proving increasingly difficult to hide.

FORMER NEPAL PM'S WIFE DIES AFTER HOUSE SET ABLAZE

Diary Times Desk : Rabi Laxmi Chitrakar, wife of former Nepal Prime Minister Jhala Nath Khanal, passed away after her home in Kathmandu's Dallu area was set ablaze by protesters. She succumbed to severe burn injuries at Kirtipur Burn Hospital, according to family sources.

Demonstrations led by young people, dubbed "Gen Z protests," erupted over the government's temporary ban on social media platforms, citing non-compliance with regulations.

Police fired on crowds that resulted in loss of 19 lives.

Protesters attacked government buildings, including the Parliament House and homes of top leaders like Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli, who subsequently resigned. President Ram Chandra Paudel also resigned amid escalating turmoil.



ISRAEL TARGETS HAMAS LEADERSHIP IN QATAR'S CAPITAL DOHA

Diary Times Desk : Israel launched a strike targeting Hamas' leadership in Qatar on Tuesday, officials said, further widening its campaign against the militant group as negotiations over ending the war in the Gaza Strip appear stalemated before a new military offensive there.

Black smoke rose over the skyline of the Qatari capital, Doha, with authorities there acknowledging the strike. It wasn't immediately clear if anyone was hurt in the attack, marking the second time the energy-rich nation has been directly attacked in the nearly two years of war that have gripped the wider Middle East since Hamas' attack on southern Israel on October 7, 2023.

It wasn't immediately clear how the attack was carried out, though an Israeli military spokesman referred to Israel's air force carrying out the strike. Qatar Airways continued landing in Doha amid the strike, even as at least one Qatari air force aircraft took off on patrol over the country.



DEMOCRATS RELEASE ALLEGED TRUMP'S 'BIRTHDAY LETTER' TO JEFFREY EPSTEIN, WHITE HOUSE DENIES

Diary Times Desk : Democrats on the House Oversight Committee released on Monday a sexually suggestive letter to Jeffrey Epstein purportedly signed by President Donald Trump, which he has denied.

The letter was included as part of a 50th birthday album compiled in 2003 for Epstein, a wealthy and well-connected financier who was once a friend of Trump's.

The full House committee on Monday night released a copy of the entire album, which bore names of some other prominent figures such as former President Bill Clinton and attorney Alan Dershowitz in a 'friends' section, and included other letters with sexually provocative language.

Trump has said he did not write the letter or create the drawing of a curvaceous woman that surrounds the letter, and he filed a USD 10 billion lawsuit against The Wall Street Journal for earlier reporting on his link to the letter.

"As I have said all along, it's very clear President Trump did not draw this picture, and he did not sign it," White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt said in a statement posted on X. "President Trump's legal team will continue to aggressively pursue litigation."

AT LEAST 20 PEOPLE KILLED IN RUSSIAN GLIDE BOMB ATTACK ON VILLAGE IN EASTERN UKRAINE



Diary Times Desk : A Russian glide bomb struck a village in eastern Ukraine as pensions were being distributed on Tuesday, killing more than 20 civilians, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said.

The bomb hit the village of Yarova in the Donetsk region, Zelenskyy said in a post on Telegram. "Frankly brutal," he said of the attack, urging the international community to make Russia pay economically for its invasion through additional sanctions.

"The world should not remain silent," Zelenskyy wrote. "The world should not remain inactive. The United States needs a reaction. Europe needs a reaction. The G20 needs a reaction. Strong action is needed so that Russia stops bringing death."

TAIWAN DETECTS 3 CHINESE AIRCRAFT, 6 VESSELS, 1 OFFICIAL SHIP NEAR ITS TERRITORY

Diary Times Desk : Taiwan's Ministry of National Defense said it detected three Chinese military aircraft, six Chinese naval vessels, and one official ship operating in its territorial waters as of 6 am (local time) on Tuesday.

As per the MND, of the three, two sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern ADIZ.

In a post on X, the MND said, "3 PLA aircraft, 6 PLAN vessels and 1 official ship operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 2 out of 3 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded accordingly."

Earlier on Monday, Taiwan detected 27 PLA aircraft, seven PLAN vessels and two official ships. Of the 27 sorties, 14 crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, central and southwestern ADIZ.

"27 PLA aircraft, 7 PLAN vessels and 2 official ships operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 14 out of 27 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern, central and southwestern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded", it wrote on X.



APPLE LAUNCHES SLIMMER IPHONE AIR, NEW IPHONE 17

Diary Times Desk : Apple on Tuesday showed off a new, slimmer iPhone "Air" model with a "high density battery" and a brand new processor, as well as an iPhone 17, the latest upgrade to its flagship smartphone.

The iPhone Air model is the star of the annual product launch event, and Apple said the model is its most durable iPhone yet.

Apple said the base model iPhone 17 will have a brighter, more scratch-resistant screen. It also said the device will feature a new A19 processor chip, which will be made with 3-nanometer chipmaking technology and have improved capabilities for on-device artificial intelligence features.

Apple said the iPhone 17 will also have a better front-facing camera with a differently shaped sensor to make horizontal selfies look better.

LONDON COMMUTERS TURN TO BIKES AND BOATS AS TUBE STRIKE ENTERS DAY 2



Diary Times Desk : Commuters in London turned to bikes, buses and boats on Tuesday as a staff strike shut down the capital's underground "Tube" network for a second day.

With almost no underground trains running until Friday, demand for shared bike services and river transport surged as Londoners looked for alternative ways to get to work, causing longer journeys and crowding on other parts of the transport network.

The London-based Centre for Economics and Business Research estimates the strike will have a direct impact on the London economy of 230 million pounds (\$310 million), and cost millions more indirectly.

lime, which operates electric bikes across the city, said it saw a 58% increase in trips during Monday's morning peak compared with the same period a week earlier.

INDIA-HIRED LOBBYIST JASON MILLER MEETS US PRESIDENT DONALD TRUMP

Diary Times Desk : US-based political lobbyist Jason Miller, whose lobbying firm was hired by India, met US President Donald Trump and a few officials of his administration.

The meetings come amid the backdrop of tensions in the ties between the two countries over Washington's policy on trade and tariffs. Miller on Saturday posted several photos, including one with Trump, on social media. He did not mention the purpose of his meeting with Trump and other officials.

Miller's post on social media platform X said "fantastic week in Washington with so many friends being in town, topped off, of course, by having the opportunity to stop in and see our President in-action! Keep up the great work".

The relations between New Delhi and Washington DC have been soured after Trump doubled tariffs on Indian goods to a whopping 50%, including 25% punitive tariff for India's purchase of Russian crude oil.



ATTORNEYS GENERAL WARN OPENAI, OTHER TECH COMPANIES TO IMPROVE CHATBOT SAFETY

Diary Times Desk : The attorneys general of California and Delaware on Friday warned OpenAI that they have "serious concerns" about the safety of its flagship chatbot, ChatGPT, especially for children and teens.

The two state officials, who have unique powers to regulate non-profits such as OpenAI, sent the letter to the company after a meeting with its legal team earlier this week in Wilmington, Delaware.

California AG Rob Bonta and Delaware AG Kathleen Jennings have spent months reviewing OpenAI's plans to restructure its business, with an eye on "ensuring rigorous and robust oversight of OpenAI's safety mission". But they said they were concerned by "deeply troubling reports of dangerous interactions between" chatbots and their users, including the "heartbreaking death by suicide of one young Californian after he had prolonged interactions with an OpenAI chatbot."

OHIO SENATOR PROPOSES LEGISLATION TO TAX COMPANIES THAT HIRE FOREIGN WORKERS

Diary Times Desk : US Senator Bernie Moreno from Ohio introduced the Halting International Relocation of Employment Act, or HIRE Act, to protect American workers from outsourcing by disincentivizing US companies from chasing cheaper wages and hiring foreign workers.

The legislation, which was introduced on Sunday is set to impose a tax on any company that employs foreign labor instead of Americans and will use the generated revenue to fund workforce development programs with an aim to aid the American middle-class.

"While college grads in America struggle to find work, globalist politicians and C-Suite executives have spent decades shipping good-paying jobs overseas in pursuit of slave wages and immense profits - those days are over," Moreno said in a statement.

'MORE' SECONDARY SANCTIONS ON COUNTRIES BUYING RUSSIAN OIL CAN DAMAGE MOSCOW'S ECONOMY: SCOTT BESSENT

Diary Times Desk : US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent on Sunday said the Russian economy will "collapse" if Washington and the European Union impose more secondary sanctions on countries that buy crude oil from Moscow.

Bessent, in an interview to NBC News, said President Donald Trump and Vice President JD Vance had a very productive call with President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen, who followed up with a call with him on Friday and they discussed what the US and European Union (EU) could do to put more pressure on Russia.

The Trump administration has imposed an additional 25 per cent tariff on India for its purchases of Russian oil on top of the 25 per cent reciprocal tariffs announced earlier, bringing the total duties imposed on New Delhi to 50 per cent, with effect from August 27.

The treasury secretary said the US is prepared to increase pressure on Russia, "but we need our European partners to follow us".

"We are in a race now between how long can the Ukrainian military hold up versus how long can the Russian economy hold up," Bessent said.

ISRAEL WARNS CITIZENS AGAINST TRAVEL TO NEPAL AMID UNREST



Diary Times Desk : Israel's Foreign Ministry issued a warning against travelling to Nepal following widespread civil unrest.

Protests in Kathmandu and other cities have turned violent, causing casualties, property destruction, and looting. A curfew has been imposed, major roads are blocked, and the Kathmandu airport remains closed until further notice.

Israeli citizens in Nepal have been urged to stay indoors, avoid crowds and demonstrations, and refrain from travelling to Kathmandu until the situation stabilises.

Nepali protesters demonstrating against a social media ban and government corruption stormed and set fire to the parliament building in Kathmandu and forced the resignation of Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli. At least 22 people were killed and 209 were injured in clashes with the Nepali Army.

(ANI/TPS)

ITALIAN NAVY'S CAIO DUILIO CONDUCTS PASSAGE EXERCISE WITH INS SURAT IN INDIAN OCEAN

Diary Times Desk : The Italian Navy destroyer ITS Caio Duilio, currently participating in the European Union's Naval Operation ASPIDES, conducted a passage exercise (PASSEX) with the Indian Navy destroyer INS Surat in the Indian Ocean, the EU said in a statement.

The exercise, held under the command of the Force Commander of Operation ASPIDES, Rear Admiral Andrea Quondamatteo, was carried out, for the first time, in close coordination between the Indian Navy and European Union forces. It marked a significant opportunity to enhance operational interoperability, reinforce professional naval ties, and demonstrate a shared commitment to maritime security in strategically important waters.

According to the EU Statement, the engagement with the Indian Navy aligns with the primary objectives of Operation ASPIDES, which are to support the freedom of navigation by protecting merchant vessels and to enhance maritime situational awareness across critical sea lanes such as the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden, Arabian Sea, Sea of Oman, the Gulf, and the northwestern Indian Ocean.



The PASSEX included manoeuvring and tactical drills, radio and data exchanges, simultaneous flight operations, and other training activities for the crew, enhancing operational readiness and strengthening mutual understanding.

SOUTH KOREA JUST LEARNED A DEEP LESSON ABOUT DEALING WITH DONALD TRUMP

Diary Times Desk :
The raid came less than two weeks after Trump and the president of South Korea, Lee Jae Myung, met in the Oval Office, touting \$350 billion Seoul has committed to expand its manufacturing operations on American soil.

That’s the Trump promise, right? You want to do business in America, the world’s biggest economy with the most consumer-y consumers, you’ve gotta bring your operations here and create some jobs for American workers.

Of course. But it’s more complicated than that.

Companies often want to – or even need to – bring in their own workers to set up shop, install proprietary equipment, and train the less-skilled hourly employees who’ll be running things day to day.

For Korean conglomerates, doing so under less-than-above-board visas is not just an open secret, it’s a necessity, the Financial Times reported Monday, citing executives and industry groups.

FERRARI CHAIR WILL DO COMMUNITY SERVICE AS PART OF TAX DISPUTE SETTLEMENT

Diary Times Desk :
Stellantis and Ferrari Chairman John Elkann has agreed to do a year of community service and pay a negotiated sum to settle a tax dispute over the inheritance from his grandmother, Italian prosecutors said Monday.
Elkann and his siblings Lapo and Ginevra will jointly pay 183 million euros (\$215 million) to the Italian tax authorities related to the estate of their grandmother Marella Caracciolo who died in 2019, prosecutors in the northern city of Turin said.
Elkann also agreed to undertake a year of community service, thus ending a criminal investigation against him for alleged tax fraud in relation to the inheritance.
Prosecutors said they had given their approval to the agreement, which must now be ratified by a judge.

CRACKER BARREL SUSPENDS RESTAURANT RENOVATIONS FOLLOWING LOGO FLOP



Diary Times Desk :
Cracker Barrel announced that it’s suspending the renovations of its restaurants following a disastrous logo rollout that sent shares lower.

“You’ve shared your voices in recent weeks not just on our logo, but also on our restaurants,” the chain said on X. “If your restaurant hasn’t been remodeled, you don’t need to worry, it won’t be.”

Cracker Barrel said that its minimalist and lighter design, which removed its dark woods and many of the trademark tchotchkes that lined the walls, was tested at only four out of 660 restaurants.

“The vintage Americana you love will always be here – the rocking chairs on the porch, our fireplaces and peg games, unique treasures in our gift shop and antiques pulled straight from our warehouse in Lebanon, Tennessee,” the chain said on its website.

The cancelled remodel comes a few weeks after Cracker Barrel rolled out a new logo that eliminated its so-called “old timer” figure and the barrel itself. The minimalist logo was trashed online, particularly by conservatives and far-right influencers who called it “woke,” sending the stock down as much as 12%, and the company reverted back to its previous logo.

GIRL SCOUTS ADDING A NEW COOKIE TO THE LINEUP

Diary Times Desk :
Girl Scouts of the USA is debuting a new cookie for its upcoming season. The organization announced Tuesday that “Exploremores,” a Rocky Road-inspired cookie, is being added to the lineup when its annual sales begin in January. Like the Girl Scouts’ other cookies, which include the popular Thin Mints, Samoas, and Tagalongs, the Exploremores will be sold both online and in-person at booths by local troops.
The new chocolate cookie, which has a creamy filling with notes of chocolate, marshmallow and toasted almond-flavored crème, reflects “the spirit of exploration at the heart of every Girl Scout,” according to a press release. Nearly 700,000 scouts participate in the cookie sale each year



AMERICA’S HOUSING MARKET GAINED \$20,000,000,000,000 IN 5 YEARS

Diary Times Desk : Buying a home has become increasingly pricey in the past few years. Now, Zillow has put a staggering number to those higher costs: America’s housing market has climbed 57% since 2020, to a record \$55 trillion.

That means that in just five years, the US housing market’s value has climbed \$20 trillion, according to data from the real estate company released Monday.

Zillow’s findings highlight a housing market that remains historically expensive, with values climbing even as elevated mortgage rates sideline would-be buyers and force more sellers to slash asking prices.

But the housing market’s gains haven’t been spread evenly in 2025. New York added \$216 billion in value over the last year, more than any other state. New Jersey, Illinois and Pennsylvania were close behind.
“Demand continues to outpace supply in the Northeast,” Orphe Divounguy, a senior economist at Zillow, said. “When you look at housing inventory in New York, there are only half as many homes for sale as there were before the pandemic. So you have the value of the existing housing stock really rising a lot in that market.”
In contrast, pandemic-era boom states Florida, California and Texas lost billions in their housing markets in 2025. Once magnets for buyers seeking sunshine – and often looser Covid restrictions – demand has started to cool off in these states.
“Real estate is cyclical, and we’re definitely in a down cycle,” Sharon Ross, a real estate agent in South Florida, recently told. “Sellers are getting hit with lower offers, and I’m trying to manage their expectations.”

PM MODI ANNOUNCES
RS 1,500 CRORE AID FOR
FLOOD-HIT HIMACHAL
PRADESH

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a financial assistance package of Rs 1,500 crore for flood and rain-affected areas in Himachal Pradesh. He also declared an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh for the next of kin of those who lost their lives and Rs 50,000 for the injured.

The announcement came after PM Modi conducted an aerial survey of the severely affected Mandi and Kullu districts and reviewed the flood and landslide situation in the state. The PM acknowledged the gravity of the situation and assured that the central government would make all efforts to address the situation.

He also announced the advance release of the second instalment of SDRF and PM Kisan Samman Nidhi and sanction under PM Awas Yojana, restoration of national highways, provision of relief under PMNRF along with release of mini kits for livestock would also be done.

FLOOD-HIT PUNJAB
GETS SUPPORT FROM
UNEXPECTED QUARTERS

Diary Times Desk : The people of Punjab are showcasing extraordinary resilience and unity in the face of devastating floods, with help pouring in from unexpected quarters. Despite widespread destruction, with villages, schools and fields still submerged in knee-deep water, the spirit of selfless service remains strong. In Mohali, the Manav Mangal Group of Schools has donated Rs 10 lakhs to support flood-affected families, handed over by Director Sanjay Sardana to Deputy Commissioner Komal Mittal for relief operations. A heartwarming gesture came from 12-year-old Damanpreet Singh, who emptied his piggybank to contribute Rs 5,000 to the Mohali Deputy Commissioner. Senior vets step up: The Punjab Senior Vets Association, comprising retired animal husbandry officers, is pooling resources and medicines to aid livestock farmers. Dr Gurinder Singh Walia highlighted their contribution of Rs 5,000 to 10,000 per head, along with anti-snake.

PM MODI ANNOUNCES RS 1,600 CRORE AID FOR FLOOD-AFFECTED
PUNJAB

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced a financial assistance of Rs 1,600 crore for flood-hit Punjab as he reviewed the situation and damage caused by the deluge to the state. Modi announced the assistance for the border state in addition to the Rs 12,000 crore already in the state's kitty. The PM also announced an ex-gratia of Rs 2 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 to the seriously injured in the floods and natural calamity. Earlier, he took stock of the flood situation and also conducted an aerial survey of the flood-ravaged areas in Punjab. Modi, who was on a day-long visit to Punjab and neighbouring Himachal Pradesh to review the flood situation in the two states, landed in Gurdaspur -- one of the worst-affected districts in the state -- after conducting the aerial survey.



PM MODI CONDUCTS AERIAL
SURVEY OF FLOOD-HIT AREAS IN
PUNJAB



Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday conducted an aerial survey of the flood-ravaged areas in Punjab, battling its worst deluge since 1988. Modi, who is on a daylong visit to Himachal Pradesh and Punjab to review the flood situation in the two states, will also hold discussions with senior officials and chair a review meeting on the ground situation in Gurdaspur, officials said. Modi meets the Punjab flood victims in Gurdaspur. Sunil Jakhar led the Punjab BJP leaders and flood victims. Modi came to Punjab after his visit to Himachal Pradesh.

PM MODI MEETS ONE-YEAR-OLD
NITIKA, 20 OTHER SURVIVORS OF
HIMACHAL RAIN DISASTER

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Kangra on Tuesday to assess the flood-affected areas of Himachal Pradesh and meet survivors of the devastating monsoon rains.

Among those he met was one-year-old Nitika, who became the symbol of this year's tragedy after losing her entire family in a cloudburst in Mandi district. Nitika, who was just 11 months old at the time, lost her father Ramesh Kumar (31), mother Radha Devi (24), and grandmother Poonam Devi (59) on the night of June 30 when a massive landslide struck Talwara village in the Gohar area.

The three were swept away while trying to divert slush away from their home, unaware of the impending cloudburst in the mountains above. Miraculously, Nitika, who was asleep in the kitchen, a part of the house untouched by the slide, survived unscathed.

DALAI LAMA WRITES TO HIMACHAL CM SUKHU, DONATES FOR FLOOD
RELIEF

Diary Times Desk : Tibetan spiritual leader Dalai Lama has written to Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu to express his sadness over the loss of life and destruction of property and infrastructure in several parts of the state due to extremely heavy rains this year.

"I would like to offer my prayers and condolences to you, to the families who have lost loved ones, and to everyone affected by this natural disaster," he wrote. McLeodganj, popularly referred to as 'Little Lhasa', has been home to not just the Dalai Lama but thousands of Tibetan refugees living in exile. The headquarters of the Tibetan Government-in-Exile and the Tibetan Parliament is located here in McLeodganj. "I am aware that the State Government and all concerned agencies are engaged in urgent relief and rehabilitation work. As a token of my solidarity with the people of the state, I have asked the Dalai Lama Trust to make a donation as a contribution to the relief and rehabilitation efforts," he wrote.



Absolutely Broke' If They'd Stayed In California

On a sunny afternoon in the Dordogne Valley, Debra and Eric Stillwell stroll along a cobblestone street, watching autumn leaves tumble to the ground. Later they'll stop at one of the open-air markets found in southwest France's medieval towns, perhaps plan a trip to Bordeaux to visit Citi de la Vin — Debra's favorite museum — or wander through the region's many castles. It's a life far removed from the future that once awaited them in California, where they spent three decades before relocating to France five years ago.

"I figured it out," says Debra, 67. "If we stayed where we were, I would probably have had to work until I was 85."

The Stillwells — who met at a "Star Trek" convention in 1995 and married a year later — had long dreamed of retiring in Europe. Debra's mother had retired early and called it "the best thing she ever did." But in Los Angeles, the numbers didn't add up.

"The problem was, when we were living in Los Angeles, we couldn't afford to retire early and still pay off the mortgage and pay off all of the debts," says Eric, 62, who once worked as a script coordinator for "Star Trek: The Next Generation," before joining Disney.

They initially considered moving to Italy, but found themselves increasingly drawn to France. Debra had studied French while growing up in Montreal, and one of Eric's great-grandfathers had emigrated from France to the United States in the 19th century.

A 2013 wine cruise, which stopped in Bordeaux, clinched it. The couple spent the night in Saint-Émilion, close to the border of southwest France's Dordogne region, and fell in love with the area.

"We decided this is where we wanted to live," Eric says. The medieval towns, castles and landscapes were all enthralling, he adds.

Eric had been let go from his Disney job around the time Debra retired from her job as a medical center education director, so the couple sold their California home at profit, paid off their mortgage and credit cards, and left debt-free.

They bought a chalet-style house in the Résidence Souillac Golf & Country Club — a leisure community with an 18-hole golf course, tennis courts and swimming pools — in the Dordogne Valley's Lachapelle-Auzac area, for about 70,000 euros, or roughly \$81,000.

"In the beginning, we had the romantic notion of living in a stone cottage with blue shutters, the typical French house," says Eric. Then they came across the chalet house. Neither Eric nor Debra play golf, but they were won over by the fact the club rents out properties on behalf of owners if they're absent, allowing them to go traveling. "It was the perfect choice for us."

They moved in 2020 and quickly settled into the area. Their neighbors include British, Dutch, French and Irish families — many part-time residents — who helped ease the transition.

"We have a built-in community here that's really great," says Eric. "Our French neighbors are wonderful. People invite each other to dinner all the time."

They still struggled with some adjustments. French restaurant opening times left them scrambling for lunch after 1:45pm. Since his US driving licence was only valid for their first year, Eric spent six months preparing for the French driving test, which he passed. Debra has no intention of trying.

"We were lucky," says Debra. "There's a lot of healthcare deserts in different areas. But in this tiny town there's probably six primary care medicine doctors."

They're far from fluent in French, but say they're able to muddle through. "My words are all mixed up," says Debra. But she speaks "enough for them to understand what I'm trying to say 99% of the time, and I understand them most of the time."



Tamara Hardingham-Gill
Eric says he can read basic French, but struggles with conversation. "It's just been very difficult for me to figure out how to hear the French accent," he says.



Wesley Bruer
He and Brown net a third eel. And a fourth. By 11a.m., the heat and humidity are taking a toll on the crew and they take a break under the overpass of State Road Florida 408, which divides Lake Underhill in half.

Wildlife Conservation

Electrifying Lakes To Capture Invasive Species

Well before the sun rises in Orlando, joggers making their laps around Lake Underhill Park are joined by fishermen outfitting their kayaks on the edge of the boat ramp. Rods and lures safely stowed, the paddling anglers head past the swampy banks and cast their lines through the reeds and lily pads.

It's a regular steamy summer morning for the locals, but on this day, there will also be strangers above and below the waters of the lake.



Small panfish and bream float stunned and motionless in the five feet or so of zapped lake around the boat, but the target eels do not seem as susceptible in the marshy edges that are lined with brush.

minimizing adverse effects of nonnative plants and animals. And increasing floods linked to climate change are thought to be washing the creatures further and further afield.

The first swamp eel found in this part of Florida was in 2023, and they've also been discovered as far north as New Jersey. The scientists from the US Geological Survey and other agencies are here with their own nets to see what the situation is like now, to try to pinpoint new populations and figure out how they got there. The Asian swamp eel isn't a "true" eel, according to Dr. Daniel Slone, a USGS research ecologist who has a PhD in entomology. "Unlike our native species that may look similar, the Asian swamp eel does not have any dorsal fin and also does not have any reduced legs," he said. But more problematic to the scientists today is that the eels are nocturnal, good at hiding and very, very slippery. The crew and researchers board what at first seems to be a typical johnboat, but once on the

water it's transformed to an "electroshock boat." After unthreading some lug nuts from attachments secured to the port and starboard sides of the vessel, the crew deploys two metal arms that jut out a half dozen feet from the aft. Hanging from these are chandelier-like devices adorned with five or six electrodes dangling into the water, all powered by a booming gas generator on the boat.

Howard Jelks, a retired USGS fish biologist now captaining the boat, explains the plan.

"We're applying electricity to the water to stun the fishes so we can collect them," he said. "As long as you're in the grounded boat, you're safe, do not put anything in the water, no body parts, no metallic objects, anything like that when the generator is running. And we consider it 'hot' the whole time."

When the boat goes "hot" and sends electricity into the lake, an ear-splitting trill blasts across the water. With the vessel launched, the crew does a test run to make sure everything is working and to their surprise, get a catch right away.

Biologists Mary Brown and Wesley Daniel spot an eel near the surface and scoop it up in a net.

INFA

Groundbreaking Study

BRAIN MAP SHOWING HOW DECISIONS ARE MADE



Mindy Weisberger
Neuroscientists previously hypothesized that the brain accesses prior knowledge early in decision-making, "so that as soon as you start processing your sensory stimulus, you do it in the context of what you expect," Pouget said.

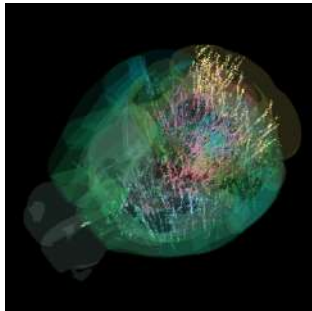
Neuroscientists from 22 labs joined forces in an unprecedented international partnership to produce a landmark achievement: a neural map that shows activity across the entire brain during decision-making. The data, gathered from 139 mice, encompass activity from more than 600,000 neurons in 279 areas of the brain — about 95% of the brain in a mouse. This map is the first to provide a complete picture of what happens across the brain as a decision is made. "They have created the largest dataset anyone has ever imagined at this scale," said Dr. Paul W. Glimcher, chair of the department of neuroscience and physiology and director of the Neuroscience Institute at New York University's Grossman School of Medicine, of the researchers. In the field of neuroscience, "this is going to go down in history as a major event," Glimcher, who was not involved in the new research, told CNN. To construct the map, researchers first created a standardized procedure to be shared across laboratories and then tracked neural activity in mice as the rodents responded to visual prompts, integrating all the data gathered by each lab. Seven years in the making and presented in two studies, the

findings were published on September 3 in the journal Nature.

"There are basically two big results, which is why we have two papers," said Alexandre Pouget, a full professor in basic neuroscience at the University of Geneva. One study outlined the widespread distribution of electrical activity related to decision-making. The other used the data to evaluate how expectations shape choices. Pouget is a coauthor of the first study and senior author of the second.

"We started from scratch," he told CNN. "Nobody had ever attempted to do something like this before."

Prior research suggested that small clusters of neurons fire in only some parts of the brain during decision-making, mostly in areas related to sensory input and cognition. But the new map reveals that neural activity is far more widespread, with electrical signals pinging across nearly all of the mouse's brain during different stages of decision-making. For decades, scientists have studied brain activity during certain tasks by using electrodes that record electrical pulses from single neurons. But recording one neuron at a time is difficult and slow; several months of work



would yield results from around 100 neurons, making the technique best suited for studying highly targeted regions of the brain. Over the past decade, neuroscience took a giant leap forward with the development of digital neural probes called Neuropixels, which can monitor thousands of neurons at once. These sensitive electrodes were an essential tool for creating the new map.

"We went from looking at just a few hundred neurons in one area to 600,000 neurons in all brain regions," Pouget said.

In the experiments, mice wore electrode helmets while turning a tiny steering wheel to control the movement of a black-and-white striped circle on a screen. The circle briefly appeared on either the left side or the right side of a screen, and mice that successfully steered the circle to the center received a reward of sugar water. As the mice responded to what they saw, Neuropixels probes recorded electrical signals in their brains.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST SWOOP FOR ANGE POSTECOGLOU AFTER SACKING NUNO ESPIRITO SANTO

Diary Times Desk : Nottingham Forest appointed Ange Postecoglou as manager on Tuesday to replace Nuno Espirito Santo, who was sacked following a dispute with club owner Evangelos Marinakis. Nuno led Forest to European qualification for the first time in 30 years last season by finishing seventh in the Premier League. But he became the first Premier League manager to lose his job this season after publicly stating that his relationship with Greek billionaire Marinakis had deteriorated. Postecoglou himself was sacked by Tottenham in June just days after winning the Europa League. Despite ending Spurs' 17-year wait to win a trophy, the Australian was dismissed due to Tottenham's worst league season since 1976/77 as they finished 17th. However, Marinakis backed the 60-year-old to continue his record of winning trophies at Tottenham, Celtic, Yokohama Marinos and during his spell in charge of Australia. "We are bringing a coach to the club who has a proven and consistent record of winning trophies," said Marinakis.



BALL-SNATCHING ROW: FATHER OF BOY REVEALS 'PHILLIES KAREN' WAS "VERY VULGAR..."

Diary Times Desk : A ball-snatching incident from a Major League Baseball (MLB) match at Citizens Bank Park in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US last week grabbed all the attention on social media. It all started after Philadelphia Phillies' outfielder Harrison Bader hit a home run against the Miami Marlins. A man, Drew Feltwell, managed to catch the ball and immediately gave it to his young son, Lincoln, who was at the game to celebrate his birthday. Lincoln's happiness, however, was short-lived as a female fan approached them and claimed the ownership of the memento.

The woman, dubbed "Phillies Karen" by social media users, became angry and demanded the ball, saying that she had caught it first. Drew eventually gave the ball to her, despite admitting that the incident left his son Lincoln devastated.

While speaking to Fox News Channel's "America Reports," Drew recalled the incident and revealed the reason why he relinquished the ball to "Phillies Karen."

"She was very vulgar. She was screaming in my ear, saying, 'That's my ball. That's my section.' The world could use a little more de-escalation," he said.

HOW A BOOK OF RS 300 HELPED ARYNA SABALENKA WIN US OPEN WOMEN'S SINGLES TITLE

Diary Times Desk : Aryna Sabalenka, who won her fourth Grand Slam title at the US Open this weekend by defeating Amanda Anisimova, has credited a book that cost her just 10 pounds (sold for far less in India) for the turnaround in her career. James R Doty's bestseller, 'Into the Magic Shop' is a book that tells the story of a "neurosurgeon's quest to discover the mysteries of the brain and the secrets of the heart". It's also helped Sabalenka discover a new level in her career.

Sabalenka found the book while she was holidaying on the Greek island of Mykonos after her heartbreaking defeat in Wimbledon.

"I was in Mykonos, reading my book, enjoying the view, and I was just thinking that why would I let my emotions take control over me in those two finals? Going into this final I decided for myself that I'm going to control my emotions. I'm not going to let them take control over me, and [it] doesn't matter what happens in the match," she told The Times, London.

She said that she picked up the book because it was heavily recommended by her friends.

LATE MOHAMED ALI BEN ROMDHANE GOAL SEALS TUNISIA BERTH IN 2026 FIFA WORLD CUP

Diary Times Desk : Mohamed Ali Ben Romdhane scored in added time to give Tunisia a 1-0 win in Equatorial Guinea on Monday and qualification for the 2026 World Cup in North America. Victory for Tunisia gave them an unassailable lead in Group H, and they became the second African nation to secure a place at the tournament after 2022 semi-finalists Morocco. Tunisia have 22 points from eight games, 10 more than second-placed Namibia, who have one match in hand but cannot match the total of the Carthage Eagles. Substitute Ben Romdhane, a midfielder with Egyptian and African giants Al Ahly, struck in the 94th minute after being set up by Firas Chaouat. He also scored the only goal, from a penalty, when Tunisia beat Equatorial Guinea in matchday 3 last year.

"When Firas Chaouat received the ball in the final moments, I knew he was going to get the better of the Equatorial Guinean player," Ben Romdhane told Tunisian TV.

"So I moved forward and put myself in a good position to score," added the 26-year-old, who joined Ahly this year from Hungarian outfit Ferencváros.

"It was the toughest match of the qualifiers, and we expected it given the conditions, the pitch, and the humidity," said fellow midfielder Ferjani Sassi.



SCALONI TO TEST BENCH STRENGTH VS ECUADOR, OTAMENDI TO LEAD IN MESSI'S ABSENCE

Diary Times Desk : Argentina national team coach Lionel Scaloni spoke at a news conference before the team's World Cup qualifier at Ecuador.

"We believe it is important to see other players in tomorrow's (Tuesday) game. The idea is to make some changes. I think those who have played less deserve to have some game time," Scaloni said. "Recently, young players have emerged who can give us different options. The team's identity is always the same, regardless of who plays."

Argentina, who qualified for next year's World Cup to be played in North America in March this year, will play their last qualifier.

Brazil, Ecuador, Uruguay, Colombia and Paraguay have also qualified from South America.

With Lionel Messi not travelling with the squad, Scaloni revealed Nicolas Otamendi will wear the captain's armband at Banco Pichincha Monumental Stadium in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

MCLAREN MAKE CLEAR STATEMENT ON CONTROVERSIAL LANDO NORRIS-OSCAR PIASTRI SWAP

Diary Times Desk : McLaren team principal Andrea Stella has delivered a clear statement on why a controversial call was made late in the Italian Grand Prix to swap drivers Lando Norris and Oscar Piastri which was to the detriment of the Australian.

Running second and third behind Red Bull's Max Verstappen, as the lead car, Norris gave up priority at the pit stop phase to Piastri after both had run deep into the race on Pirelli's hard tyres before switching to softs.

Piastri's stop of 1.91s was the fastest for any team this year. Following a lap later, an issue with the front left meant Norris was turned around in just under six seconds, costing him the lead.

Slow pit stops are part of racing, yet Piastri was informed to cede position to Norris, and beyond that, race to the chequered flag.

It was a call Piastri questioned over the radio initially by stating, "We said that a slow pit stop was part of racing. I don't really get what's changed here", before adding that he would comply. Speaking to the media and asked by RacingNews365 whether the decision taken was the right one.