

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**REMAIN VIGILANT  
AND INTENSIFY  
PREVENTIVE  
MEASURES TO  
CONTROL DENGUE,  
MALARIA: NADDA  
TO STATES**

**Diary Times Desk :** Union Health Minister JP Nadra on Thursday issued an advisory to chief ministers of all the states, including Delhi, to remain vigilant in the coming months and to intensify preventive measures for effective control of dengue and malaria.

Nadra issued the advisory following a review meeting on the current situation of dengue and malaria with a view to galvanise preventive activities being undertaken by the states.

He also instructed that a high-level review meeting also be undertaken specifically for Delhi and NCR to closely assess the dengue situation and ensure advance preparedness.

Stressing on the need for urgent and coordinated action against vector-borne diseases, he advised state Health Ministers to personally review the situation and prepare action plans within 20 days.

**PSC TO FILE  
REVIEW PLEA  
AGAINST  
TELANGANA HIGH  
COURT ORDER ON  
GROUP-1 EXAM  
RESULTS RE-  
EVALUATION**

**Diary Times Desk :** The state Public Service Commission (PSC) is likely to file a review petition in the high court, challenging the single bench's order to re-evaluate the Group-1 mains examination papers. The PSC officials held a meeting on Wednesday, a day after the single judge bench's decision on the Group-1 mains examination.

The commission will submit a report to the government. After the government gives its assent, it will file a review petition in the court.

The PSC officials held discussions with advocates on Wednesday and sought their opinions on the single bench's judgement.

According to sources, the PSC has decided to file a review petition in the high court. It is also planning to knock on the doors of the Supreme Court, if necessary. The commission, according to sources, is of the opinion that the valuation was done in a proper.

**“NITTY-  
GRITTY”**
**NOT FAR APART ON TRADE DEAL WITH INDIA:  
TRUMP'S AMBASSADOR PICK AT US SENATE**


**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump's nominee for the country's ambassador to India, Sergio Gor, has said that Washington and New Delhi are not "that far apart right now" on the trade deal. Speaking before the senate committee, he said that the two countries are now discussing the "nitty-gritty" of a deal.

Admitting that the US expects more from India than other nations, he said that, "We hold our friends to different standards". Gor informed that Trump has invited India's commerce and trade ministers to visit next week and as part of a meeting with Ambassador Jamieson Greer, Washington's trade representative, the two countries will have a deal.

Regarding Trump's tariffs, he highlighted that China and India should be meted out with the same treatment, "And I hope that you will encourage that we treat China in the same way as we treat India, given what they're doing to fund Russia's war machine."

**PHYSIOTHERAPISTS CANNOT USE 'DR' PREFIX, SAYS CENTRE  
AFTER PROTEST BY INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

**Diary Times Desk :** In a U-turn, the Centre has issued a directive to physiotherapists in the country not to use the prefix 'Dr'.

The change in stance came after a strong protest from the Indian Medical Association (IMA), which has over 4 lakh medical practitioners as its members, and other medical bodies and organisations.

Interestingly, the letter by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), under the Union Health Ministry, was issued on September 9, a day after World Physiotherapy Day was celebrated globally.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also posted on X recognising the work of physiotherapists, stating that they play a vital role in enhancing the well-being and dignity of people, particularly the elderly.

Physiotherapists were given the go-ahead to use the prefix 'Dr' after the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare published its approved curriculum for them on April 23.

In the letter by the DGHS, Dr Sunita Sharma said by using the 'Dr' prefix, physiotherapists will be in legal violation of the Indian Medical Degrees Act, 1916.

She, however, suggested that a more appropriate and respectful title may be considered for graduates and postgraduates of physiotherapy, without causing ambiguity to patients or the public.


**PIYUSH GOYAL EXPLAINS WHY HIGH  
US TARIFFS MAY NOT IMPACT INDIA'S  
GDP MUCH**


**Diary Times Desk :** Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has downplayed the impact of the US-imposed 50% tariffs on India's economy, arguing the country's total merchandise exports accounted for only about 10% of its gross domestic product (GDP).

"First of all, we should understand that the total merchandise export of India is only 10% of the country's GDP. Secondly, our imports are more than our exports, which means our GDP is not dependent on our exports. Actually, the GDP gets reflected because imports are comparatively higher," Mr Goyal said at the NDTV Profit GST Conclave.

The Union Minister also highlighted that the exports directly impacted by the tariffs accounted for only 1% of India's GDP. He emphasised that the contribution of value addition within India's exports was relatively low.

"I had heard during the COVID days that there would be a lot of difficulty because of COVID; exports were going to decrease, and there were losses, but our inputs will decrease at a faster pace because we are an import-dependent economy. The contribution of value addition within our exports is relatively low, due to which, in fact, during Covid, we became a surplus nation, a current account surplus. So keep in mind that this is not going to have any significant impact on GDP. If we look at the exports on which reciprocal tariffs have been imposed, then 1% of our GDP is the export affected," he added.

**WOMAN WAS SLAMMING MLA'S ARREST ON FB  
LIVE, HUSBAND CUT IN. THIS HAPPENED**


**Diary Times Desk :** Fatima Farooq, a political activist, was live-streaming about a tense situation in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda district when she was interrupted by her furious husband.

But Fatima was not one to give up easily. Her husband is seen verbally abusing her, manhandling her to make her stop live-streaming her views on the arrest of Mehraj Malik, Aam Aadmi Party's MLA in Doda, who was booked under the draconian Public Safety Act on Monday. Hours later, the couple was taken into custody -- Fatima for violating prohibitory orders and her husband for manhandling her during the live session.

Mehraj Malik, Doda legislator and AAP's lone MLA in Jammu and Kashmir, has been detained under the draconian Public Safety Act for allegedly disturbing public order. The detention has drawn widespread criticism and sparked protests. The government has blocked internet services and imposed curfew-like restrictions in Doda since Tuesday.

Fatima, a former Block Development Council member, joined one such protest and was injured during a clash with police. She was later seen in a wheelchair pushed by her husband.

"A representative of one lakh people has been booked under the Public Safety Act on the grounds that he's a threat to public safety. How can this happen?" she asks.

Fatima's husband then tries to snatch her phone and verbally abuses her. Not one to give up easily, Fatima continues recording and starts showing her husband, "You all can see... standing with the truth..." Her husband is heard saying, "Stop it or I will choke your throat." Fatima goes on, "You can see, this is my husband, they don't allow you to stand with the truth. I want to ask the public... a person who stands with the truth faces this."

## INDIA-US TENSIONS

**SARAI KALE KHAN-MEERUT  
IN UNDER AN HOUR: NAMO  
RAIL CORRIDOR OPENING  
SOON, TO TAKE 1 LAKH CARS  
OFF ROADS**


**Diary Times Desk :** The entire Namo Bharat Delhi-Meerut corridor will be operational very soon, National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) Managing Director Shalabh Goel said on Wednesday. Currently, a 55-km section of the corridor — from New Ashok Nagar station on the Delhi border to Meerut South on the Meerut border — is operational.

The remaining 27-km stretch — from New Ashok Nagar to Sarai Khan on the Delhi side, and from Meerut South to Modipuram on the Meerut side in Uttar Pradesh — will be inaugurated soon. Successful trial runs were conducted on the entire 82-km Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor in June.

Thirty six-car trainsets ply this route at 15-minute intervals, accelerating to peak speeds on longer stretches between stations. Designed in Hyderabad and manufactured at Alstom's Savli factory in Gujarat, the trains feature aerodynamic, modern designs compatible with Automatic Train Protection (ATP), Automatic Train Control (ATC), and Automatic Train Operations (ATO).

Namo Bharat is a unique transit solution. Unlike conventional trains, it does not operate on fixed timetables or require seat reservations.

It is also distinct from metro services, catering to passengers travelling longer distances with fewer stops at higher speeds. Since the launch of its first 17-km Priority Section on 21 October 2023, the system has already served over 1.5 crore riders, solidifying its place as a key regional transport solution.

**INDIA PLEDGES \$680  
MILLION IN ECONOMIC  
SUPPORT FOR MAURITIUS**


**Diary Times Desk :** India agreed on Thursday to provide about \$680 million in economic assistance to Mauritius for healthcare, infrastructure and maritime security projects, as New Delhi pushes for greater influence in the Indian Ocean nation in competition with China.

The assistance, in the form of grants and lines of credit, also includes support for development and surveillance of the marine protected area of the Chagos archipelago, which houses a U.S.-British air base on the island of Diego Garcia.

Britain in May ceded sovereignty of the Chagos Islands to Mauritius, but retained control of the military base under a 99-year lease. India has historically backed Mauritius' claims over the islands and has supported the U.S. presence in the Indian Ocean to check the growing influence of China, which has close trade ties with Mauritius.

The marine protected area, where commercial fishing is banned, is one of the world's largest, covering a quarter of a million square miles — an area larger than the U.S. state of California.

IN THE LIGHT OF NEPAL'S UPHEAVAL, PRESIDENT MURMU'S  
ADMONITION COMES NOT A DAY TOO SOON

**Diary Times Desk :** Tucked away in a corner of page 7 of The Indian Express of September 10 is an all-important story. It carries news of an admonition from the honourable President of India – one that has not come a day too soon, given the upheavals in the neighbouring country of Nepal.

The President has underlined a truth that ordinary citizens speak of daily without much purchase in the corridors of power. President Murmu said that not “schemes” but “the recognition of people’s rights” constitutes “real empowerment”. Clearly, implicit in this telling observation is a context spanning our everyday experience of the reality of governmental pronouncements and the truth of their substance on the ground.

In Nepal, the revolt (which is what it is) ought not to be seen merely as deriving from a juvenile addiction to social media outlets. As is now becoming more and more apparent, the combustion has been fuelled by the blatant arrogance of the haves, most of them scions of the entrenched power-structure.

As if in a throw-back to the incremental histories leading up to the French Revolution, the revolt in Nepal has been a bursting of the dam that had held back the rising waters of grievance among the young of the nation.

Official corruption, unbearable lack of gainful employment, the flagrant ownership of the country’s top properties/business assets by the spoilt brats of the power-structure, cavalier unresponsiveness to the expression of public deprivation and governmental graft, and the easy recourse to high-handed methods by the state – all these came to boil when the state chose to ban some 26 social media sites which alone afforded some means of mutual cohesion and expression of outrage to the restive and offended Generation Z.

154 TELUGUS CLEARED FOR BOARDING AT KATHMANDU  
AIRPORT, 12 SAFELY CROSS INTO INDIA

**Diary Times Desk :** The Andhra Pradesh government’s mission to evacuate stranded Telugus from neighbouring unrest-hit Nepal, led by Minister Nara Lokesh, made notable progress with key developments reported on Thursday afternoon.

Officials confirmed that 154 passengers, including ten who had joined from Pokhara city in Nepal, were cleared for boarding at Kathmandu airport. At the same time, a group of twelve people from Simikot crossed into India safely through Nepalganj after being flown in by a chartered plane. Vehicles arranged for them had already crossed the border, ensuring their safe entry into India.

In Kathmandu, passengers reached the airport without incident, and boarding passes were issued for 154 travellers. The Indigo commercial aircraft arranged by the Andhra Pradesh government has also arrived in Kathmandu from Delhi to facilitate their onward journey to India.

From Pokhara, a charter flight carrying ten Telugus successfully landed in Kathmandu. Those passengers have joined the larger group at the airport to board the Indigo flight back to India.

‘CHOP OFF HEADS’—BJP’S CT RAVI MAKES PROVOCATIVE  
SPEECH AT COMMUNALLY TENSE MADDUR



**Diary Times Desk :** In an event held at Karnataka’s Mandya district, senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader C.T.Ravi has purportedly threatened to “cut off” the heads of those who dared to challenge the Hindus.

Addressing a large crowd Wednesday in communally tense region of Maddur, about 100 km from Bengaluru, Ravi’s speech was received with applause.

“We were born here. You were born elsewhere and have come here. Don’t try to slap your thighs in front of us. We will break your thighs and cut off your heads also,” the BJP’s former national general secretary in charge of Tamil Nadu said at a rally.

Later, an FIR was filed by Maddur Police against the BJP MLC for delivering a “provocative speech” during Ganapati immersion program. The complaint states that while addressing participants of the procession through a microphone, Ravi made remarks targeting the Muslim community that were capable of inciting communal hatred among communities.

SUPREME COURT TO HEAR BAIL PLEAS  
OF UMAR KHALID, SHARJEEL IMAM &  
GULFISHA FATIMA IN RIOTS LARGER  
CONSPIRACY TOMORROW

**Diary Times Desk :** The Supreme Court will hear tomorrow the petitions filed by Umar Khalid Sharjeel Imam, Gulfisha Fatima seeking bail in the Delhi riots larger conspiracy case. A bench comprising Justice Aravind Kumar and Justice NV Anjaria will hear the matter. The petition of co-accused Meeran Haider is listed before a bench comprising Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran.

The petitions have been filed against the Delhi High Court’s judgment delivered on September 2, dismissing their bail applications. The petitioners, who were student activists in the forefront of organising anti-CAA protests in 2019-202, are facing charges under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act and the Indian Penal Code for allegedly formulating the “larger conspiracy” behind the communal riots which took place in the national capital in the last week of February 2020.



Aries

Today, you will meet old friends, which will refresh old memories. Employed people may be fired from the job due to heavy arguments with colleagues in the workplace. People doing business should thank God for getting financial benefits from the advice of their spouse. Due to irritation in the eyes, you should consult an ophthalmologist.

Gemini

Today you should include yoga and meditation in your daily routine. For employed people, your responsibilities may increase due to promotion in the workplace. People doing business may suffer financial loss from any unknown person today. There may be difficulty in walking due to nerve pain problems.

Leo

Today, you should offer water to Lord Shiva to avoid difficulties. A heated argument with HR in the workplace will spoil your whole day. Businessmen have to exercise patience, there are chances of improvement in business. Today, you may face stomach and pancreas problems due to eating too much fried food.

Libra

Today is going to be a busy day for you. Employed people will get a chance to work with senior officers due to advancement in their professional field. People doing business should avoid exchanging money with any unknown person today. Pregnant women may have to face problems due to changing weather.

Sagittarius

Today you should take all important decisions of your career thoughtfully. Employed people may have to face some problems due to the start of a new job in the workplace. Due to financial gain for business people, you can invest in a new business. Problems like leg pain and headache may bother you.

Aquarius

Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employees will be suspended due to indiscipline in the workplace. People doing business should solve all the problems of their customers in time. Due to worsening weather, problems related to cold and cough may increase in the family.



YOUR HOROSCOPE  
12-09-2025

Taurus

Today you will get success as your long pending legal proceedings will come in your favor. There will be an atmosphere of happiness in the family as employed people will get progress in their workplace. People doing business should make a budget and spend the money in order to get financial benefits. Housewives should change their food according to health and season.

Cancer

Today you will get relief from all your problems due to sudden financial gain. Employed people may have to get scolded by their boss due to being hasty in the workplace. People doing business may face increased difficulties in business due to arguments with business partners. As the problem of foot pain increases, you must consult a specialist doctor.

Virgo

Today you should take special control over your speech and behavior. People in employment will get success in the workplace with the help of friends. People doing business will get financial gain due to some special offer, your financial condition will be strengthened. Old diseases of elders in the house may emerge.

Scorpio

Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employed people may have to face mental problems due to extra workload in the workplace. People doing business may have to travel abroad in connection with business expansion. Diabetic patients should get themselves checked by a doctor in case of any problem today.

Capricorn

Today you can invest especially in land and buildings. Employed people may have to travel long distances due to office work, due to which your health may deteriorate. People doing business may face difficulties in repaying business loans due to loss of money. High BP and cholesterol problems will increase the problems of your spouse.

Pisces

Today your interest in creative work will especially increase. Employed people may be given an important project by their boss to handle important projects in the workplace. People doing business should control their speech and behavior with their customers. You should walk carefully on the road, problems may arise due to injury.



"PAID CAMPAIGN TO POLITICALLY TARGET ME": NITIN GADKARI ON E20 PETROL ROW



**Diary Times Desk :** The social media campaign against E20 blending is a "paid campaign to politically target me", Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has said.

The minister was taking questions at the annual convention of the Society of Automobile Manufacturers when he was asked about the concerns surrounding the blending of ethanol into petrol.

The minister replied that automobile manufacturers and bodies like the Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI) have shared their findings on ethanol blending in petrol. "The way your industry works, so does politics. The social media campaign was paid; it was to target me politically. There is no fact in it; everything is clear. (Ethanol blending is) import substitute, cost-effective, pollution-free, and indigenous," the minister said.

Mr Gadkari said India spends a massive sum importing fossil fuels and asked if it is not a good move, economically, to try to reduce fossil fuel imports and put the money saved in the Indian economy. "We derived ethanol from makka (maize). Farmers have gained Rs 45,000 crore due to the move," he said.

**SABARIMALA TEMPLE'S SANCTITY, DEVOTEE RIGHTS MUST BE PROTECTED DURING GLOBAL AYYAPPA SANGAMAM: KERALA HIGH COURT**

**Diary Times Desk :** The Kerala High Court on Thursday ordered the State and the Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) to ensure that the conduct of the 'Global Ayyappa Sangamam' event at Pamba does not affect the Sabarimala temple's sanctity or disrupt access for devotees visiting the temple [Ajeesh Kalathil Gopi v State of Kerala & ors and connected cases].

The Division Bench of Justices Raja Vijayaraghavan V and KV Jayakumar issued the direction while hearing petitions that sought to prevent the conduct of the upcoming event on concerns that it was a political event that misused Lord Ayyappa's name.

AS MODI HEAPS BIRTHDAY PRAISE ON BHAGWAT, TUSSLE OVER NEXT BJP CHIEF STILL UNRESOLVED

**Diary Times Desk :** It no longer comes as a surprise to most that the Bharatiya Janata Party and its ideological parent, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, have been locked in a power tussle over the choice of next BJP president.

However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's elaborate tribute to sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat on his birthday (September 11, 2025) struck a different note – one of kinship, not discord. Modi not only recalled Bhagwat's lifelong commitment to the RSS, but also showcased his personal side. One got to know that Bhagwat can play a range of musical instruments, and that he is a tremendous listener, according to the prime minister.

Had it not been a birthday note, Modi's tribute could have very well been a speech made at a lifetime achievement award ceremony for Bhagwat. After all, the tribute written by Modi came on Bhagwat's 75th birth anniversary – a number that has long been an unofficial cut-off for retirement in the Sangh parivar until Bhagwat recently dismissed such a claim. "I never said I will retire or someone should retire at 75. We are swayamsevak (volunteers), we are given a job and we can't say no to it. It's not allowed in the Sangh. I will work till the time this organisation wants me to work," Bhagwat recently remarked at an event.

Recently, at an event marking the centenary celebrations of the RSS, when the Bhagwat was asked about this delay, he curtly responded, "If we were deciding, would it have taken so long?"

**AFTER CHINA'S CRRC, BENGALURU METRO MAY TURN TO BEML FOR EXTRA YELLOW LINE TRAINS TO EASE RUSH**

**Diary Times Desk :** Bengaluru Metro is likely to place an order for six additional trains from BEML to ease rush on newly-launched Yellow Line (RV Road-Bommasandra), which connects tech hub Electronics City. Sources told Moneycontrol that Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is in talks with BEML for a 'variation order' for 36 Communications-Based Train Control (CBTC) coaches (six trains).

"BEML had already received a Rs 3,177 crore rolling stock order to supply 318 coaches for Bengaluru Metro's Phase 2 (Pink Line), Phase 2A, and Phase 2B (Blue Line) corridors. The additional trains will be part of this contract as a variation order," a source said. A variation order is an official instruction to change a project's scope, design, cost, or schedule.

However, officials said the plan is still under discussion as cost estimates are being worked out.

**COURT RELIEF FOR SONIA GANDHI OVER 'NAME IN VOTER LIST BEFORE CITIZENSHIP' ROW**

**Diary Times Desk :** A Delhi court has dismissed a petition seeking criminal proceedings against senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi over allegations that her name was added to the electoral rolls before she acquired Indian citizenship.

The ruling by the Rouse Avenue Court delivered today rejected claims that the former Congress president was registered as a voter in 1980 -- three years before she was formally granted Indian citizenship.

The complaint sought the registration of an FIR against Sonia Gandhi, alleging violations of electoral law. According to the petition, her name appeared on the voters' list at the official residence of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi as early as January 1980.

The petition claimed that Sonia Gandhi was included in the electoral rolls with effect from January 1, 1980, despite not being an Indian citizen until April 1983.

Last month, the BJP's Amit Malviya posted excerpts of what he claimed were electoral roll forms from 1980. He alleged that Sonia Gandhi's name was added alongside members of the Gandhi family -- Indira Gandhi, Rajiv Gandhi, Sanjay Gandhi and Maneka Gandhi -- during the revision of rolls that year.

"Her name first appeared on the rolls in 1980 - three years before she became an Indian citizen and while she still held Italian citizenship," Mr Malviya wrote on X.

"We are not even asking why it took her 15 years after marrying Rajiv Gandhi to accept Indian citizenship. If this isn't blatant electoral malpractice, what is?" Mr Malviya said.

RS 15,000 FOR AUTO DRIVERS: ANDHRA CM CHANDRABABU ANNOUNCES AUTO MITRA SCHEME

**Diary Times Desk :** Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday announced a new scheme, Auto Mitra, aimed at providing financial assistance to auto drivers in the state.

Under this scheme, auto drivers will receive Rs 15,000 as financial assistance, which will be given as a gift for the Dussehra festival.

Speaking at the 'Super Six-Super Hit' meeting in Anantapur on Wednesday, CM Naidu said that the goal of his government is to make Andhra Pradesh a "Healthy, Wealthy, Happy" state. The Chief Minister clarified that the meeting was not driven by politics or vote-seeking, as there are no elections currently underway. Instead, it was aimed at highlighting the alliance government's fulfillment of its promises as a responsible administration.

CM Naidu underscored that true welfare goes beyond addressing temporary needs; it involves bringing about lasting change in the lives of the poor and improving their living standards.

PM TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GYAN BHARATAM ON 12TH SEPTEMBER IN NEW DELHI

**Diary Times Desk :** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will participate in the International Conference on Gyan Bharatam on 12th September at around 4:30 PM in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. He will also launch the Gyan Bharatam Portal, a dedicated digital platform to accelerate manuscript digitisation, preservation, and public access, and address the gathering on the occasion.

The Conference will be held from 11th to 13th September under the theme "Reclaiming India's Knowledge Legacy through Manuscript Heritage". The Conference will bring together leading scholars, conservationists, technologists, and policy experts to deliberate on pathways for revitalising India's unparalleled manuscript wealth, and to place it at the heart of a global knowledge dialogue.

**HAMAS PROMISES TO KEEP  
FIGHTING AFTER ISRAELI ATTACK ON  
QATAR**

**Diary Times Desk :** A spokesperson for Hamas has promised that the group will keep fighting after Israel attacked Qatar's capital this week in an attempt to assassinate senior leaders of the Palestinian group, including negotiators engaged in talks on securing a ceasefire in Gaza.

"The Israeli attack cannot dent our resolve by targeting our leaders," Hamas spokesperson Fawzi Barhoum said in a news conference televised on Al Jazeera on Thursday. "The crime did not target the negotiating delegation, but rather the entire negotiation process." The Hamas delegation was meeting in Doha to discuss the latest ceasefire proposal put forth by the US at the time of the attack, Barhoum said, adding that Israel's goal was to "torpedo" the negotiating process.

The attack came at a time when Qatar, one of the lead mediators between Israel, the United States and Hamas, had been trying to broker a ceasefire in Gaza, where Israel has killed more than 64,600 people since October 2023.

Five members of Hamas were reportedly killed in the attack this week, including the son of Hamas's exiled Gaza chief and top negotiator Khalil al-Hayya. At least one Qatari security official died in the attack, as well.

The purpose of Israel's missile attack was to "injure what Qatar symbolises, the support of all the aggrieved and oppressed," Barhoum said. He also stressed that Hamas's key demands — including the full withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza and reconstruction of the enclave — have not wavered. He described the ongoing siege, bombardment and mass displacement in Gaza as "a full-fledged war crime."

**GEN Z GROUP IN NEPAL WANTS TO DISSOLVE PARLIAMENT, AMEND  
CONSTITUTION**

**Diary Times Desk :** Youth-led Gen Z group, which spearheaded the anti-government protests in Nepal, on Thursday said that Parliament must be dissolved and the Constitution amended to reflect the will of the people, as the death toll from the demonstrations increased to 34.

The Gen Z protesters organised a press meet here to express their views, while some of their representatives were busy holding discussions with President Ramchandra Paudel and Army Chief Ashok Raj Sigdel at the Army Headquarters to find a solution to the current political crisis. Speaking on the occasion, the Gen Z activists underlined the need to find a solution through dialogue and cooperation. Diwakar Dangal, Amit Baniya and Junal Dangal — all representatives of the Gen Z group — were among those who spoke at the press meet. They warned the old political parties not to use them for their vested interests.

**TRUMP TO AWARD CHARLIE KIRK  
PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM, US'  
HIGHEST HONOUR**

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump announced on Thursday that he will posthumously award right-wing activist Charlie Kirk, the highest civilian honour — the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He made the announcement during a ceremony at the Pentagon to mark the September 11, 2001 attacks. On Wednesday, Charlie Kirk was killed with a gunshot from a distant rooftop at the Utah Valley University campus. He was speaking at a debate hosted by his Arizona-based organisation — Turning Point USA, at the Sorensen Center courtyard on campus when he was assassinated.

At the memorial service for 9/11, Trump said, "I'm pleased to announce that I will soon be awarding Charlie Kirk posthumously, the Presidential Medal of Freedom". Although the date of the ceremony has not been announced yet, he noted that there will be a "very big crowd", adding, "very, very big". Before Trump's speech, Defence secretary Pete Hegseth spoke about the death of MAGA ally Charlie Kirk. He lauded him saying, "Charlie we love you, we know that you have heard the Lord's words."

**EX-CHIEF JUSTICE OUT, ELECTRICAL  
ENGINEER IN. WHO WILL BE NEPAL  
INTERIM PM?**

**Diary Times Desk :** In a brief statement Thursday afternoon the 'Gen Z protest' group said at least two other names — Kathmandu Mayor Balendra 'Balen' Shah and former Nepal Supreme Court Chief Justice Sushila Karki — were considered at a six-hour virtual meeting of protesters. The choice of Mr Ghising — whom protesters called "a patriot and everyone's favourite" — comes as a surprise. Media reports from Kathmandu said ex-Chief Justice Karki had begun talks with the Army, in temporary control, over forming a new government. That led to ex-Chief Justice Kharki being nominated. However, it now appears a faction within the protesters have rejected her. They have argued the Constitution prohibits former judges from becoming Prime Minister and that she is 'too old', at 73, to lead them.

**NEPAL TURMOIL ADDS TO  
INDIA'S WOES IN SOUTH  
ASIA**

**Diary Times Desk :** Nepal has become the third country in India's immediate neighbourhood to see a violent uprising topple its government in recent years.

Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli resigned after more than 20 people died in clashes with police during anti-government demonstrations triggered by a social media ban.

A nationwide curfew is in place and the army is attempting to bring the situation under control after protesters stormed parliament and set fire to the homes of several politicians.

For many, the scenes in Kathmandu were reminiscent of the turmoil that gripped Bangladesh last year, and Sri Lanka in 2022.

Though Bangladesh and Sri Lanka are also India's close neighbours in South Asia, Delhi's relationship with Kathmandu is special because of historic people-to-people, economic and strategic ties.

Nepal shares a largely open border of more than 1,750km (1,080 miles) with five Indian states; Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Sikkim, Bihar and West Bengal.

**AFTER RUSSIAN DRONES  
WERE DOWNED IN POLAND,  
WHAT DOES TRIGGERING  
NATO ARTICLE 4 MEAN?**

**Diary Times Desk :** Poland has triggered Article 4 of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, after the country reported 19 "breaches" of its airspace by Russian drones on Wednesday.

NATO fighter jets shot down multiple Russian drones that violated Polish airspace during an attack on neighboring Ukraine, marking the first time that shots were fired by the alliance since the start of the war in Ukraine. A total of 16 drones were found scattered throughout the country, Poland's interior ministry said later on Wednesday.

The transatlantic defense alliance employs the principle that an attack on one is an attack on all. Article 4 of its treaty states that any member country can formally bring an issue to the attention of NATO's principal decision-making body, the North Atlantic Council, to meet and discuss next steps with allies.

The article says: "The Parties will consult together whenever, in the opinion of any of them,



NEW SRI LANKAN LAW STRIPS PRIVILEGES OF FORMER PRESIDENTS,  
RAJAPAKSA TO VACATE OFFICIAL MANSION

**Diary Times Desk :** Mahinda Rajapaksa is set to leave his official residence on Thursday, a day after the enactment of a new Act of Parliament stripped the privileges of former presidents.

Rajapaksa's residence is located in the posh Colombo residential area of Cinnamon Gardens. Mahinda Rajapaksa, who will turn 80 in November, has been occupying the official residence since 2015. He was president from 2005 to 2015. He was also the prime minister from 2004 to 2005 and again from 2019 to 2022.

"He (Mahinda Rajapaksa) will leave for his house at Tangalle this afternoon", an aide confirmed. The Carlton House at Tangalle, 190 km south of here, in Hambantota district was where Rajapaksa had launched his political career in 1970.



MAURITIUS PM NAVINCHANDRA  
RAMGOOLAM WITNESSES GANGA  
AARTI IN VARANASI, EMPHASISING  
CULTURAL TIES

**Diary Times Desk :** Experiencing the sacred connect with the Holy Ganga, Prime Minister Dr Navinchandra Ramgoolam of Mauritius witnessed the Ganga Aarti in Varanasi on Thursday. In a post on X, MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal highlighted the significance of the spiritual experience, stating, "Experiencing the sacred connect with the Holy Ganga. PM @Ramgoolam\_Dr of Mauritius witnessed Ganga Aarti at Varanasi today. This spiritual experience symbolises the timeless bonds of faith and tradition that bind India and Mauritius." The spiritual visit also coincided with official engagements, as Prime Minister Narendra Modi met with his Mauritius counterpart on Thursday. The Mauritius PM is on his first overseas bilateral visit to India in his current term, from September 9-16, highlighting both cultural and diplomatic ties between the two nations. The leaders warmly greeted each other, reflecting the bonhomie and the strength of India-Mauritius ties. Earlier in the day, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri had called upon PM Ramgoolam here in Varanasi.

PRESIDENT TRUMP, FIRST LADY  
MELANIA ATTEND 24TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF 9/11 ATTACK

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump on Thursday attended a solemn observance ceremony at the Pentagon to mark the 24th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. The attacks claimed the lives of 2,977 people after hijacked planes struck New York's World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and a field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. At Ground Zero in New York, the annual tradition of reading aloud the names of those who perished continues, honouring more than 2,700 victims who died in the collapse of the Twin Towers. The morning of September 11 in 2001 began like any other in New York City. Office workers hurried through crowded streets, tourists paused to admire the skyline, and vendors opened their stalls as sunlight glinted off the glass towers. The rhythm of daily life seemed unshaken--until the sudden roar of jet engines broke the calm, and a plane crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center, turning an ordinary day into the opening chapter of the deadliest terrorist attack on American soil. Moments after the initial crash, another plane struck the South Tower as onlookers stared at the devastating sight of the two towers turning into rubble in just a few moments.

HYUNDAI RAID: TRUMP  
OFFERED TO LET DETAINED  
KOREAN WORKERS STAY IN  
US BUT MOST HEADING  
HOME

**Diary Times Desk :** US President Donald Trump offered to allow hundreds of South Korean workers arrested during an immigration enforcement raid to stay in the United States to train American workers, but only one has opted to remain, South Korean officials said.

Trump's overture resulted in a one-day delay to the departure of a chartered plane to bring the workers home. It is now scheduled to leave the US later on Thursday. About 300 South Koreans were arrested last week along with 175 others at the site of the \$4.3 billion Hyundai Motor and LG Energy Solution project to build batteries for electric cars in Georgia.

South Korean President Lee Jae Myung said at a press conference on Thursday that the departure procedures were halted while officials responded to Trump's suggestion. Trump told US officials to "encourage" the workers arrested at the battery plant to remain in the country, according to a South Korean foreign ministry official, adding that Trump suggested they stay to continue to train or educate Americans.

"WILL NEVER BE  
FORGOTTEN": US DEFENSE  
SECY PETE HEGSETH ON  
CHARLIE KIRK

**Diary Times Desk :** US Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth on Thursday paid tribute to slain conservative activist Charlie Kirk during a 9/11 commemoration ceremony at the Pentagon, saying that like the victims of the terror attacks, he "will never be forgotten."

"On this day 24 years ago, we suffered. In the years since, we have endured. Our service and sacrifice have forged our character, and today, we stand in hope for the future of our great nation," Hegseth said, addressing the gathering in the Pentagon courtyard alongside President Trump. Hegseth underscored the role of young Americans in shaping the nation's future. "The young soldiers who take the oath give me hope. The young cops who wear the badge give me hope. The young firefighters who answer the call give me hope. The young agents who patrol our border give me hope. The life, example, and even death of Christ-follower and American patriot, Charlie Kirk give me hope."

KARACHI TRADERS PROTEST KMC'S DECISION TO DOUBLE UTILITY CHARGES,  
THREATEN TO STOP PAYING BILLS

**Diary Times Desk :** Karachi's small traders have strongly opposed the Karachi Metropolitan Corporation's (KMC) sudden decision to double utility charges in commercial electricity bills, threatening to stop paying their bills if the increase is not withdrawn, The Express Tribune reported. According to The Express Tribune, All Karachi Tajir Ittehad Chairman Atiq Mir said the fee was abruptly raised from Rs 400 to Rs 750 per month without any prior consultation, describing the move as "blatant deception." He criticised Karachi's mayor, questioning what improvements in municipal services could justify such a sharp increase and accusing the KMC of overburdening traders simply to boost revenue. According to Mir, the revised fee structure would increase KMC's monthly revenue from Rs 220 million to Rs 330 million, even though the corporation's performance has reportedly deteriorated. "Markets are already struggling with long-standing civic issues, broken roads, poor drainage systems, and piles of uncollected garbage, yet traders are being forced to pay more," he said, calling for greater accountability over funds previously collected by the civic body.



MOSCOW LAUNCHES RUSSIA'S FIRST AI-POWERED AUTONOMOUS TRAM FOR PASSENGERS

**Diary Times Desk :** Moscow has officially launched Russia's first autonomous tram carrying passengers, marking a significant milestone in the country's public transport innovation. The news was confirmed by the official website of the Moscow government.

This pioneering project forms a key part of Moscow's transport development strategy towards 2030. By that year, the city plans to equip over 300 trams with autonomous technology, aiming for these vehicles to account for 90 per cent of the tram fleet by 2035. According to the TV BRICS, the newly introduced autonomous tram is capable of making stops independently, operating doors, obeying traffic signals, yielding to pedestrians, and automatically switching tracks, all while maintaining strict adherence to schedules. Since May 2024, the tram has completed over 8,000 kilometres of rigorous testing without a single traffic violation, demonstrating the system's reliability and safety.



BANGLADESH FOOTBALL TEAM STUCK IN NEPAL RETURNS HOME

**Diary Times Desk :** Members of the Bangladesh national football team, stuck due to the uprising in Nepal, arrived in Dhaka on Thursday afternoon aboard a Bangladesh Air Force C-130 aircraft. "A total of 57 people, including 23 players of the Bangladesh national football team, coaches, officials, and journalists, have returned on a Bangladesh Air Force C-130 aircraft," journalist Omar Faruk Rubel, who accompanied the football team, told ANI. "The Bangladesh national football team went to Kathmandu on September 3 to play a friendly match with Nepal," he added. On September 6, the Bangladesh national football team played its first friendly match against Nepal. The match ended in a draw," Rubel said, noting that the second match, scheduled for September 9, could not take place due to the violent situation. Since then, the Bangladesh football team had been stuck in the Crown Imperial Hotel in Kathmandu.

LEADING TURKISH BROADCASTER SEIZED BY STATE AS PART OF FRAUD, TAX INVESTIGATION

**Diary Times Desk :** One of Turkiye's largest television news broadcasters has been confiscated by the state as part of a fraud, tax evasion and money laundering investigation, media reported Thursday. Haberturk was one of 121 companies belonging to Can Holding to be seized and transferred to the state-run Savings Deposit Insurance Fund, the state-run Anadolu Agency, and others, they said. Broadcaster Show TV was also confiscated. Arrest warrants were issued for 10 people, including senior Can Holding executives. The group includes companies across a wide range of sectors, including media, education, energy, hotels, health, construction and logistics. In a statement, the Kucukcekmece Chief Public Prosecutor's Office in Istanbul said companies under Can Holding were involved in fraud, tax evasion and laundering the proceeds of crime.

NETANYAHU DRAWS 9/11 PARALLEL TO JUSTIFY STRIKE ON HAMAS LEADERS IN QATAR

**Diary Times Desk :** Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu defended Israel's recent strike in Qatar targeting Hamas leaders, invoking the memory of the September 11, 2001, attacks on the United States. He framed Hamas' October 7, 2023, assault on Israel as a parallel moment of mass terror. "We remember September 11. On that day, Islamist terrorists committed the worst savagery on American soil since the founding of the United States," Netanyahu said. "We also have a September 11. We remember October 7. On that day, Islamist terrorists committed the worst savagery against the Jewish people since the Holocaust." Netanyahu emphasised that Israel's operation mirrored the US campaign against Al-Qaeda and the killing of Osama bin Laden in Pakistan.



"What did America do in the wake of September 11? It promised to hunt down the terrorists who committed this heinous crime, wherever they may be. And it also passed a resolution in the Security Council of the U.N. two weeks later that said governments cannot give harbor to terrorists," he said. "Yesterday, we acted along those lines. We went after the terrorist masterminds who committed the October 7 massacre. And we did so in Qatar, which gives safe haven to, harbors, finances Hamas, and grants its terrorist chieftains sumptuous villas. It gives them everything."

GENEVA: BROKEN CHAIR PROTEST CALLS OUT PAKISTAN, BANGLADESH FOR SYSTEMATIC ABUSE OF MINORITIES

**Diary Times Desk :** A striking three-day protest exhibition organised by the Global Human Rights Defence (GHRD) at the Broken Chair monument in Geneva has drawn attention to the oppression of religious minorities in South Asia, especially in Pakistan and Bangladesh.

The event, timed with the ongoing session of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), aimed to raise awareness of systematic abuses targeting vulnerable communities. The exhibition displayed powerful visuals, posters, and testimonies depicting the persecution of Hindus, Christians, Sikhs, and other minority groups. It highlighted the abduction and forced conversion of girls in Sindh, attacks on places of worship, murders of Hindus and Christians in Bangladesh, terrorist violence in Kashmir, and the anguish of Baloch families searching for missing relatives. Organisers accused global institutions of turning a blind eye, claiming their silence enables continued persecution and discrimination.

GUTTED, VANDALISED: NEPAL'S BIGGEST MEDIA HOUSE BUILDING LIES IN SHAMBLES AS AFTERMATH OF GEN Z PROTESTS SURFACES

**Diary Times Desk :** For 24 hours as the violence in Nepal peaked on Tuesday, the media group was inaccessible. It is now back on its feet. Kathmandu Post, the country's largest newspaper, came out this morning. In pictures exclusively shared with The Tribune, the once-grand 10-storey building in the heart of Kathmandu is now lying in shambles with windows broken, glasses shattered and much of the facade completely blackened due to the arson. Significantly, Gen Z protesters have publicly dissociated from the violence. Speaking to The Kathmandu Post, protest leaders alleged that the movement was "infiltrated by outsiders" bent on discrediting their campaign. "It's not easy to set a car on fire, leave alone a Parliament building," an analyst who closely watched the events unfold told The Tribune, adding "there is serious concern about what happened." The turmoil came in the backdrop of simmering tensions between the government and the media.



AMAZON IS  
ELIMINATING ONE OF ITS  
MOST GENEROUS  
LEGACY PERKS

**Diary Times Desk :**  
If you're sharing the Amazon Prime membership of a family member or friend outside your household, prepare to pay up. Beginning October 1, the company is eliminating "Prime Invitee," a program that let Prime members outside of their household share their free shipping benefit. Moving forward, customers will have to sign up for their own Prime membership to take advantage of Amazon's free shipping. A Reuters report last week revealed Amazon didn't meet its sign-up goals during its expanded Prime Day event in July, registering 116,000 fewer people over the 21-day run-up to the July 15 event, compared to the same period a year ago.

Publicly, Amazon was bullish on the event. In a July press release, the company said this year's Prime Day event had "record sales and more items sold during the four days." Amazon doesn't disclose how many US subscribers it has for its Prime program. However, a third-party analysis from Consumer Intelligence Research Partners estimates that it has 197 million customers as of March 2025.

EARLY SIGNS OF  
DEMENTIA CAN SHOW  
IN YOUR FINANCES

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

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

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

"The harmful financial effects of undiagnosed memory disorders exacerbate the already substantial financial pressure households face upon diagnosis.

MORTGAGE RATES ARE FINALLY SINKING — AND FAST



**Diary Times Desk :**  
After months of sitting out a sluggish housing market, would-be buyers may finally have a reason to jump in: Borrowing rates are tumbling.

The 30-year fixed mortgage rate averaged 6.35% for the week ending September 11, down from 6.50% last week, according to data released Thursday by Freddie Mac.

That's the sharpest weekly drop in rates so far this year.

The fall in home borrowing costs comes as the bond market flashes signals that the US economy may be deteriorating more than expected, after new data suggested that the US labor market was much weaker than previously thought.

"In anticipation that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates aggressively in the coming months to support the economy, investors have driven mortgage rates lower," said Zillow senior economist Kara Ng.

BOEING DEFENSE AND UNION REACH TENTATIVE DEAL TO END  
STRIKE IN ST. LOUIS AREA

**Diary Times Desk :**  
Boeing Defense and the machinists union have reached a tentative deal to end a five-week-long strike in the St. Louis area, union officials announced on Wednesday.

A vote on Boeing's five-year contract offer is scheduled for Friday, according to the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

IAM District 837's roughly 3,200 members, who assemble Boeing fighter jets, went on strike on August 4 after voting 67% to reject the company's last contract proposal.

"We've found a path forward on a five-year contract offer that grows wages by 45% on average," Boeing Defense Vice President Dan Gillian said in a statement. "It remains the best deal we've ever offered to IAM 837, and we encourage our team to vote yes so we can get back to work building amazing products for our customers."

The deal includes a 24% general wage increase over five years and a \$4,000 ratification bonus, among other terms.

The previous offer was for four years and included a 20% wage increase and a \$5,000 bonus. The deal would have raised compensation by 40% on average, according to the company.

HYUNDAI BATTERY PLANT FACES AT LEAST 2-3 MONTH STARTUP DELAY FOLLOWING  
RAID, CEO SAYS

**Diary Times Desk :** A battery plant co-owned by Hyundai is facing a minimum startup delay of two to three months following an immigration raid last week, Hyundai CEO Jose Munoz said on Thursday.

The Georgia plant, which is operated through a joint venture between Hyundai and South Korea's LG Energy Solution, was at the center of the largest single-site enforcement operation in the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's history last week.

The plant, part of a \$7.6 billion factory complex to make battery-powered models, was slated to come online later this year.

Munoz, in his first public comments since the raid, said he was surprised when he heard the news and immediately inquired if Hyundai workers were involved. He said the company discovered that the workers at the center of the raid were mainly employed by suppliers of LG.

About 475 workers, mostly South Korean nationals, were arrested, according to U.S. immigration officials. It is typical for an automotive battery plant to employ these workers as it is getting off the ground, Munoz said.

"For the construction phase of the plants, you need to get specialized people. There are a lot of skills and equipment that you cannot find in the United States," Munoz said, on the sidelines of an automotive conference in Detroit.

HEAVY RAIN TO  
CONTINUE ACROSS  
HIMACHAL TILL  
SEPTEMBER 14

**Diary Times Desk :** Heavy rain is set to continue across Himachal Pradesh as state's Meteorological Department has issued an orange weather warning for Mandi, Kangra, Solan, Bilaspur and Hamirpur districts, Shimla town and its adjoining areas.

As per the department, heavy rain is very likely to continue in the state till September 14. As many as 577 roads, including three National Highways (NHs), are still blocked across the state due to heavy rain.

As per the State Emergency Operation Centre, of the total 577 blocked roads, 213 roads, including NH-3 and NH-305, are blocked in Kullu district, 154 in Mandi, 72 in Shimla, 42 in Kangra, 30 in Chamba, 29 in Sirmour, 20 including NH-503A in Una, 19 in Solan, 14 in Bilaspur, two in Kinnaur and one in Lahaul and Spiti district. Also, as many as 812 transformers, including 369 in Kullu, 245 in Mandi, 125 in Solan, 41 in Shimla, 27 in Chamba, four in Kinnaur and one in Lahaul and Spiti district, are disrupted in many areas of these districts, affecting the electricity supply.

DALAI LAMA GRACES  
LONG-LIFE PRAYER  
OFFERING IN  
DHARAMSALA

**Diary Times Desk :** A profound wave of devotion swept through Thekchen Choeling Tsuglakhang today as His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama attended a special long-life prayer ceremony organised by the Lhokha Cultural and Welfare Association, Namgyal Institute Ithaca and Young Tibetans from around the globe. The sacred gathering, filled with heartfelt prayers and traditional rituals, was a collective expression of gratitude and reverence for His Holiness's continued health and longevity. The ceremony began with a vibrant Drum Dance by monks of Gongkar Choede Monastery, Dehradun, as His Holiness was escorted in a golf cart, warmly waving to the thousands gathered in spiritual solidarity. Senior monks welcomed the Dalai Lama at the Main Tibetan Temple.

BANJAR CUT OFF, BASIC SERVICES DISRUPTED BUT LEADERS TURN A  
BLIND EYE TO CRISIS

**Diary Times Desk :** Banjar subdivision in Kullu district is reeling under the impact of weather-related destruction. Local tourism stakeholder Hemraj Sharma says that the dire situation in the region was the result of inaction of the local political leadership. Sharma expresses disappointment over extensive damage to Banjar's infrastructure and basic services, while two of the area's top political figures are engaged elsewhere. "One is busy taking stock of losses in Kullu and Mandali with the Chief Minister while the other is sitting in Seraj with the former Chief Minister. Neither seems concerned about their own constituency," he alleges. He is clearly referring to BJP's Banjar MLA Surender Shourie and Congress leader and Chairman of APMC, Kullu, Ram Singh Mian. Sharma says that while Banjar has thankfully not seen any loss of life so far, a blessing he attributes to the grace of the local deities, the region is suffering immensely in other ways.



CM BHAGWANT MANN TO HOLD  
MEETING ON FRIDAY TO REVIEW  
FLOOD SITUATION IN PUNJAB

**Diary Times Desk :** Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann will hold a high-level meeting with senior officers at his residence on Friday to further expedite relief and rescue operations in the wake of the floods.

Mann was discharged from Fortis Hospital in Mohali on Thursday, days after he was hospitalised following exhaustion and low heart rate. Doctors said he was in good health and his vital parameters were stable.

The CM will hold the meeting on September 12 to review the flood situation and accelerate the pace of relief, rescue, and rehabilitation efforts, said an official release. Deputy Commissioners of the flood-affected areas will join the meeting via video-conference, while secretaries and the Chief Secretary will attend in person at his residence, it said. The meeting will focus on the provision of medical facilities, compensation, and concrete measures to tackle the ongoing flood situation.

PUTTING 'AMRITSARI KULCHA' ON  
THE MAP: PUNJAB EXPLORES  
POSSIBILITY OF GI TAG FOR  
ICONIC DISH

**Diary Times Desk :** Punjab's Food Processing Department is exploring the possibility of securing a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for 'Amritsari Kulcha', a famous dish that originated from Amritsar. A GI tag is a status given to a product that has a unique quality or characteristic due to its specific geographical origin. Principal Secretary, Food Processing Department, Punjab, Rakhee Gupta Bhandari said it will not only enhance the city's culinary legacy but also unlock new opportunities for branding, exports, market expansion and ultimately will lead to creating new job opportunities. She chaired a meeting at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, to discuss initiatives of the food processing sector. The meeting brought together faculty members from the Department of Food Science and Technology, representatives from industry associations and processing units, such as murabba, pickle, basmati rice, honey and jaggery, said an official statement.

FARMERS' PROTEST REMARK: SC TO HEAR ACTOR KANGANA'S PLEA FOR  
QUASHING DEFAMATION CASE ON SEPT 12

**Diary Times Desk :** The Supreme Court would on September 12 hear the plea of actor and BJP MP Kangana Ranaut challenging the high court's refusal to quash a case against her for allegedly making defamatory remarks in connection with the 2020-21 farmer protests.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta is scheduled to hear the matter. The actor-turned-politician challenged the defamation case, which stemmed from her retweet consisting of her own comment about a woman protestor during the 2020-21 farmer protests against the now repealed farm laws.

The complaint was filed by Mahinder Kaur (73), who hails from Bahadurgarh Jandian village in Punjab's Bathinda district in 2021. Her complaint in a Bathinda court said the actor made "false imputations and remarks" against her in a retweet by saying she was the same "dadi" namely Bilkis Bano, who was part of the Shaheen Bagh protest.





## Movie hero or cold-blooded killer?

Dennis Hathcock never believed the legend of Sheriff Buford Pusser – not for a second, he said.

In southwest Tennessee's McNairy County, where he's lived all his life, many hail the sheriff as a folk hero. But not Hathcock.

He never bought into the image of a fearless Pusser battling corruption and organized crime in this rural county near the Mississippi border. Nor did he buy the Hollywood version of Pusser as a righteous, club-wielding sheriff in the hit 1973 movie "Walking Tall" and its sequels.

"Never. Never," said Hathcock, 75. "I knew Buford. A lot of things people say about him are movie fabrications. Well, except that he was big and tall."

Over the years, the line between Pusser's real life and the movie versions have blurred, making it difficult to separate fact from fiction, Hathcock said. More than 50 years after his death, Pusser remains a prominent presence in his hometown of Adamsville, Tennessee, where a museum displays artifacts from his life and an annual festival celebrates his legacy.

That's why a bombshell revelation last month has left the community shaken. State investigators allege that Pusser staged an August 12, 1967, pre-dawn ambush that killed his wife, Pauline.

At the time, Pusser told authorities that gunmen angry over his crime crackdown pulled alongside his Plymouth Fury on a country road and opened fire at him and his wife. Pauline Mullins Pusser was fatally shot, and Pusser suffered a bullet wound to his jaw.

Now, investigators say that version of events is not true. At a news conference, prosecutors said they believe Pusser shot his wife and then staged his own injuries.

"This case is not about tearing down a legend. It's about giving dignity and closure to Pauline and her family," District Attorney Mark Davidson said at the news conference. "Truth matters. Justice matters, even 58 years later. Pauline deserves both."


Pusser's once-towering image is crumbling. Hathcock says he wasn't surprised by the allegations.

But in McNairy County, residents now face a tough question: When your hero suddenly turns into a villain, do you rewrite history?

A former wrestler becomes a crime-busting sheriff Before he wore a sheriff's badge, Pusser was already larger than life. At 6-foot-6, he wrestled professionally in Chicago as "Buford the Bull."


He met his wife during one of his bouts at the Buccaneer Club in Chicago, where he moonlighted as a bouncer, said Pauline's cousin, Oakley Dean Baldwin.

"They dated for about six or eight months and got married," he said.




**Faith Karimi**


After his wrestling career ended, the couple moved to Adamsville, where Pusser served as police chief and then at 26 became the county's youngest-ever sheriff.



**Osmary Hernandez**



**Dana Santas**



Trump Plays

Venezuela not seeking conflict with the United States



**The Venezuelan foreign minister said Washington's narrative of the incident "seeks to legitimize an illegal action."**

Venezuela is not seeking a military confrontation with the United States or any other regional actor, its Foreign Minister Yván Gil told CNN in a rare interview, as tensions rise with Washington, including over the recent deadly US Navy strike on a vessel allegedly carrying drugs in the Caribbean.

"We are not betting on conflict, nor do we want conflict," Gil said during the interview from the Casa Amarilla, the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry headquarters in Caracas, on Monday.

The relationship between the US and Venezuela has long been precarious. But it has become particularly fraught under the two administrations of President Donald Trump who has taken a hardline against his counterpart Nicolas Maduro, including recognizing the country's opposition leader following a widely criticized election.

CNN interviewed Gil as US military ships deploy to the Caribbean and after Washington announced the doubling of the reward for the arrest of Maduro to \$50 million.

And on Tuesday 2 September the US carried out a lethal strike on a speedboat it said was

carrying drugs in international waters and had departed from Venezuela, fueling suspicions in Caracas that Washington is trying to topple the regime of President Nicolas Maduro.

Maduro has since mobilized some 4.5 million militiamen to defend the country, in response to what he calls US "imperialism."

Although he ruled out a military escalation of tensions, the Venezuelan foreign minister said his country is prepared to deter any possible threat.

"We are denying the possibility of conflict because we are prepared to deter any deployment and we have a clear determination to defend our homeland," he said.

CNN asked Gil why he was calling for the United Nations human rights council to investigate the targeting of the boat, when Venezuela's government has called the body "two-faced" over its multiple condemnations of Venezuela's own human rights record.

In response Gil said Venezuela had "never questioned" the defense of human rights, but admitted Venezuela had "criticized the actions of some bureaucrats" in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

It "would not be appropriate" at this moment to talk about possible military alliances with other Latin American countries and the region since, Gil said, they maintain a "pro-peace" stance.

In this regard, Gil referred to the position of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), which recently expressed its "deep concern" about the military deployment in the region.

"The Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) issued a firm, categorical statement calling for respect for the peace zone decreed in 2014," he said.

Among US assets deployed to the Caribbean is a nuclear-powered submarine – which is not equipped with nuclear weapons – officials previously told CNN.

"They (the US officials) showed a video without clarifying many things. It's not clear where it was, who was on board, or if it really happened or not."

INFA

Building Muscle

MUSCLES DON'T JUST MOVE YOU — THEY CAN HELP HEAL CHRONIC PAIN

If you live with recurring aches and pains, it can seem safer to limit movement — especially lifting or doing anything that feels strenuous.

Many people avoid strength training for this reason, fearing it will only make their pain worse. But when approached strategically, building muscle strength can be one of the most effective tools for easing discomfort and improving everyday function.

This article is the first in a five-part series on the power of strength training to relieve pain and enhance movement.

Why strength can reduce pain Chronic pain usually results from your nervous system perceiving an area of instability in your body. It responds by creating protective tension and heightening sensitivity. If you don't take measures to address the source of your pain and calm your nervous system, you end up stuck in a sore state of limited mobility.

Strength training can break you out of that state by building muscular support around joints, correcting imbalances and improving overall stability. And by gradually exposing your body to increasing resistance,

Two separate systematic reviews and meta-analyses highlight these benefits. One focused on people with knee and hip osteoarthritis and found that resistance training not only builds strength but also reduces discomfort and improves mobility.

The other, examining exercise and pain sensitivity, reported that regular training can raise pain thresholds — a sign that the nervous system becomes less reactive — through a process called exercise-induced hypoalgesia (reduced pain sensitivity from regular exercise).

Together, these findings highlight how strength training can offer a practical, science-backed way to move beyond chronic pain.

Becoming stronger than your pain When your pain is chronic, there isn't a switch you can flip to turn it off immediately. But strengthening is like a power knob you can gradually turn to create lasting results.

By beginning with isometrics — exercises that engage muscles around a joint without movement — you can start demonstrating to your nervous system that an area of instability and discomfort can be safely supported. For example, doing wall sits engages



and builds the muscles that support your knees, while holding a plank position strengthens your core's ability to brace your lower back.

Next, adding slow-tempo movement builds capacity without jolting your system. To progress from wall sits, you could move to body-weight squats in which you slowly lower into the squat over five seconds and then return to standing at the same pace.

Progressing from a plank, you could practice lowering yourself to the floor over three to five seconds from the top of a regular or modified (knees down) push-up, focusing on maintaining core and spinal control instead of collapsing.

As you feel yourself getting stronger doing isometric and slow-tempo exercises, you may want to add additional resistance with bands or free weights, depending on your areas of focus. The key is progressing gradually, giving your body time to adapt and your nervous system time to feel safe.

## RAMPANT INDIA KICKSTART TITLE DEFENCE WITH THUMPING WIN

**Diary Times Desk :** Chelsea have been charged with 74 breaches of Football Association (FA) rules relating to agents, intermediaries and third-party investment in players. A consortium led by Todd Boehly and private equity firm Clearlake Capital completed their takeover of the club in May 2022 and subsequently flagged what they identified as accounting discrepancies inherited from Roman Abramovich's ownership of the team.

The charges relate to the period 2009 to 2022 but primarily between 2010 and 2016. Chelsea have until Sept. 19 to respond.

Sources have told ESPN that Chelsea are expecting to receive a financial punishment rather than a potential points deduction or any other sporting sanction. In July 2023, Chelsea agreed to pay UEFA €10 million (\$11.6m) after voluntarily identifying what was described as "incomplete financial reporting" during the Abramovich era.



## ISAK TO LEAD PARADE OF NEW SIGNINGS AS PREMIER LEAGUE RESUMES

**Diary Times Desk :** The Premier League returns this weekend after a two-week pause with clubs eager to show off their new transfer window purchases, none more so than champions Liverpool for whom Alexander Isak could make his debut at Burnley on Sunday. An astonishing 3 billion pounds (\$4.05 billion) was spent by the 20 clubs in England's top-flight, a fair chunk of it in the last few days of trading as clubs beefed up their squads for the months ahead.

Isak's acrimonious split from Newcastle United was finally resolved in the nick of time, with Liverpool paying a British record 125 million pounds for the Swedish goal-machine.

The 25-year-old did not play a single minute for Newcastle this season as he was effectively frozen out and while he did come off the bench for a brief cameo for Sweden against Kosovo on Monday, it is unlikely he will start at Burnley.

Arsenal are likely to hand a first start to Eberechi Eze at home to Nottingham Forest, a club who not only added Oleksandr Zinchenko, Dilane Bakwa, and Cuiabano on deadline day but since replaced manager Nunu Espirito Santo with Ange Postecoglou.

## JOAN LAPORTA: 'THE CLUB IS WORKING HARD TO ENSURE A RETURN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE'

**Diary Times Desk :** After the floral offering to the monument to Rafael Casanova, the FC Barcelona president conversed with the Club's media to explain the current situation surrounding the Spotify Camp Nou.

Joan Laporta first wanted to express his "gratitude for how understanding" members and fans are being regarding the construction process, and he highlighted the "great excitement and emotion" that arises from seeing the stadium almost finished and ready for hosting games. Laporta insisted on the need to continue the administrative process and complete the formalities, but he encouraged maintaining the understanding because "we will have done it together".

Laporta also highlighted that the project is "the most important in our history" and that "we will be back home soon", albeit he didn't define a date because that depends on the relevant permits from the institutions. The president assured that the Club is working hard for a return to be a reality as soon as possible, and he explained that the Board of Directors were moved by the stadium during their last visit, stating "it's a wonder all FC Barcelona fans will soon enjoy".

## MAN UTD NEWS: UNWANTED PLAYER FOLLOWING ANDRE ONANA TO TURKEY AS INJURY LATEST REVEALED



**Diary Times Desk :** Ruben Amorim has had plenty of time to come up with his game plan for United's rivals following their 3-2 win over Burnley before the break. The United boss could be getting the trip across the city to the Etihad Stadium at the perfect time, with Pep Guardiola's side reeling after consecutive defeats.

United have other things on their plate right now, too, with the transfer window in the Turkish Super Lig suddenly becoming of importance to the club. Here Mirror Football rounds up the latest headlines involving the club.

United have a few injury worries as we move towards Sunday's derby against Manchester City. Matheus Cunha and Mason Mount both went off injured in the 3-2 win over Burnley and their status is unclear before Amorim gives an update in his pre-match press conference. However, Cunha has posted promising updates on social media.

Diogo Dalot pulled out of playing for Portugal in the international break, due to "muscle discomfort" while Lisandro Martinez remains unavailable due to a long-term knee injury. It is definitely worse for City, who have lost Omar Marmoush to a knee issue sustained while playing for Egypt, while Phil Foden, Savinho, John Stones and Josko Gvardiol are among their doubts.

## FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 QUALIFIERS: KYLIAN MBAPPE BACK IN ACTION AS FRANCE BEATS UKRAINE

**Diary Times Desk :** France beat Ukraine 2-0 to open their qualifying group for the 2026 World Cup. It was Les Bleus' and Mbappé's first game in the competition since his hat trick in that epic loss to Lionel Messi and Argentina in the 2022 final when they were defending champions. Mbappé used pace and skill to elude Ukraine defender Illia Zabarnyi in the 82nd minute to extend a lead earned in the 10th by Michael Olise. With his 51st goal for France, now tied with soccer legend Thierry Henry for second on France's all-time scoring list. Switzerland and Greece got off to fast starts to their qualifying campaigns, racing to four-goal leads at halftime.

## FORMULA 1 WORLD CHAMPION BACKS BARCELONA SENSATION FOR BALLON D'OR SUCCESS – 'WILL WIN IT IN THE NEXT FEW YEARS'

**Diary Times Desk :** Four-time Formula 1 world champion Max Verstappen has shared his admiration for Barcelona wonderkid Lamine Yamal, describing his performances as nothing short of "incredible."

Speaking to Mundo Deportivo, Verstappen could not hide his surprise and wide-eyed respect for the teenager who continues to make history with Barça.

Verstappen himself knows what it is like to break into the highest level of sport at a young age, having debuted in Formula 1 as a teenager and gone on to dominate the grid.

He sees clear similarities between his own rise and Yamal's stunning progress.

"What he's doing is impressive for his age, eh?" Verstappen said, before adding with a mix of admiration and disbelief: "It's incredible." When asked about Yamal's chances of winning the Ballon d'Or in the future, the Dutch driver was certain it is only a matter of time.

