

NEWS IN BRIEF

MHA EXTENDS BAN ON NSCN (KHAPLANG) FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

Diary Times Desk : The Union Ministry of Home Affairs on Monday issued an order extending the ban on the National Socialist Council of Nagaland (Khaplang) including all its factions, wings, and front organisations, as an unlawful association for the next five years.

The MHA in its notification said the ban under provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act will remain effective from September 28.

In an official statement, the MHA said that the Khaplang group of NSCN was found to be aligned with other unlawful associations like the ULFA(I), PREPAK, and PLA. The outfit indulged in kidnapping for ransom and extortion of money from businessmen, government officials, and other civilians, it alleged. "Among other unlawful activities in which the NSCN (Khaplang) has been found to be indulging

"PM MODI HARD TASKMASTER WHEN IT COMES TO PUBLIC GOOD": AMIT SHAH

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi is an excellent listener when it comes to meetings and taking feedback, but when it is a matter of public good, he is a very "hard task master", Union home minister Amit Shah told NDTV today. In an exclusive interview with NDTV CEO and Editor-In-Chief Rahul Kanwal, Mr Shah was asked about the various facets of the Prime Minister and Mr Shah's own experience of working with him.

Asked whether the Prime Minister is very strict, Mr Shah -- one of PM Modi's closest colleagues -- said it was just a perception that has been created.

"I have told this many times and I would like to repeat it. I have not seen a more patient listener than him. In a meeting, since he is the leader, he speaks at the end. In the cabinet, no matter which department he is in, he gives all the cabinet ministers a chance to speak," Mr Shah said. The ministers, he said, "speak openly and the decisions are open". And inputs, he said, is taken regularly - not just from ministers, but also from the various parliamentary

NEXTGEN GST REFORMS

During his visit to the markets and while engaging directly with the local business community and shoppers, Nadda reiterated Prime Minister Modi's call for increased adoption of Swadeshi products. He emphasised the importance of promoting goods that bear the "sweat and earthen fragrance of the youth of India."

He also urged the business community to wholeheartedly embrace Swadeshi, viewing it as a crucial step towards realising a truly self-reliant Viksit Bharat by 2047. In a post on his "X" handle, Nadda said, "The coming month has many festivals, which will also increase purchases due to the GST reforms, leading to a historic rise in savings. Tax exemptions will bring radical changes in the lives of crores of consumers and promote self-reliance."

He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi's decision on the GST reforms, describing the measures as an innovative gift to the people of the country and dubbing it a "GST Savings Festival" coinciding with the festival season.

Shukla added that the BJP national president not only required about the status of businesses but also explained in detail the benefits of the GST reforms to both traders and ordinary citizens. "Our party president shared with the traders many benefits of the rationalised GST tax slabs, which are essentially aimed at enhancing the savings of common people," Shukla remarked.

BJP NATIONAL PRESIDENT JP NADDA ENGAGES TRADERS IN DELHI TO PROMOTE NEXTGEN GST REFORMS AND SWADESHI PRODUCTS

Diary Times Desk : BJP National President JP Nadda, advancing Prime Minister Narendra Modi's mission to ensure the benefits of the NextGen GST reforms reach all sections of society, visited the Lajpat Nagar area in Delhi on Monday. Marking the auspicious occasion of Sharadiya Navratri, Nadda greeted traders and shoppers across various business outlets.

Nadda, who also serves as the Union Health Minister in the Modi Cabinet, personally visited shops, interacting with traders and shopkeepers as part of the "Gstbachatsav" campaign.

Speaking, BJP national spokesperson Prem Shukla stated that Nadda held extensive discussions with traders about the advantages of the newly introduced NextGen GST reforms. These reforms, which came into effect on Monday, include revised and reduced tax slabs on over 350 essential everyday items.

TOP COURT NOTICE TO COPS ON BAIL PLEA OF UMAR KHALID, 7 OTHERS IN DELHI RIOTS CASE

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday sought Delhi Police's response on the bail pleas of activists Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam, Gulfisha Fatima, and Meeran Haider in the UAPA case related to the alleged conspiracy behind the February 2020 riots in Delhi. A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria issued notice and posted the matter for October 27.

As the hearing commenced, Justice Kumar clarified that the matter could not be taken up for hearing on September 19 as Justice Manmohan, who was sitting with him on the bench, wanted to recuse as he was an associate in the chambers of senior advocate Kapil Sibal at one point in time.

Senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for Fatima, said the petitioners were students and had been incarcerated for over five years.

When he requested the top court to issue notice on an application for interim bail, the top court said it would finally dispose of the main petition.

The activists were challenging the Delhi High Court order passed on September 2. The high court denied bail to nine people, including Khalid and Imam, saying "conspiratorial" violence under the garb of demonstrations or protests by citizens could not be allowed. Besides Khalid and Imam, those who faced bail rejection are Fatima, Haider, Mohd Saleem Khan, Shifa Ur Rehman, Athar Khan, Abdul Khalid Saifi, and Shadab Ahmed.

**JACQUELINE FERNANDEZ'S PLEA DISMISSED: SC REFUSES TO INTERVENE IN RS 200 CRORE MONEY LAUNDERING CASE**

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday refused to interfere with a Delhi High Court order dismissing actor Jacqueline Fernandez's plea to quash ECIR (equivalent to FIR) in a Rs 200 crore money laundering case involving alleged conman Sukesh Chandrasekhar.

"We will not interfere at this stage," a bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Augustine George Masih told senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, who represented Fernandez.

The plea filed through advocate Sumeer Sodhi, Jacqueline Fernandez has challenged the high court's July 3 order which dismissed her petition seeking quashing of the Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) in the money laundering case.

Jacqueline Fernandez is an accused in the money laundering case lodged against Sukesh Chandrasekhar and had appeared before the Enforcement Directorate for questioning in the investigation.

Delhi Police booked Sukesh Chandrasekhar for allegedly duping the spouses of former promoters of Ranbaxy, Shivinder Singh and Malvinder Singh of Rs 200 crore.

BLACKBUCK CEO'S POST ON BENGALURU'S CRUMBLING OUTER RING ROAD JOLTS KARNATAKA INTO ACTION

Diary Times Desk : When the CEO of BlackBuck, a Bengaluru-based digital platform for trucking, posted about the poor condition of Outer Ring Road (ORR) - the city's tech corridor - on social media, few expected it to trigger such an outcry that would shake up Karnataka's administration.

CEO and co-founder Rajesh Yabaji's post drew sharp reactions from industrialists and citizens, forced Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to convene a high-level meeting, prompted Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh and senior officials to visit ORR, sparked residents' protests, and fuelled online outrage.

Moneycontrol was the first to report about BlackBuck CEO Rajesh Yabaji's tweet, which later garnered over 1.4 million views. Siddaramaiah subsequently slammed government officials over the state of the roads in Bengaluru and set a one-month deadline for filling potholes.

SUPREME COURT**"UNFORTUNATE": SUPREME COURT ON PILOT'S "FUEL CUT-OFF" MENTION IN AIR INDIA CRASH REPORT**

Diary Times Desk : Describing the 'pilot error' narrative after the AI 171 crash as "unfortunate", the Supreme Court has sought responses from the Centre and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to a petition seeking an independent probe into the tragedy. The court has also sought a response from the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau, which in July published a preliminary report on what led to the tragedy that claimed 265 lives. The report mentioned a conversation between Captain Sumeet Sabharwal and First Officer Clive Kunder. The report stated that the cockpit audio has confirmed that one pilot asked, "Why did you cut off?" And the other replied, "I didn't". This led to speculation that a pilot error was behind the shocking tragedy.

Aviation safety NGO Safety Matters Foundation has filed a Public Interest Litigation, alleging that the preliminary report withholds critical information and violates citizens' fundamental rights to life, equality and access to truthful information.

The PIL also criticised the report for downplaying systemic anomalies, such as fuel-switch defects and electrical faults, and for prematurely attributing the crash to a pilot error.

Appearing for the petitioner, Senior Advocate Prashant Bhushan said that more than 100 days have passed since the June 12 crash, but only a preliminary report has been released. "It doesn't say what may have happened and what precautions should be taken. The result is that all passengers who are travelling on these Boeing planes are at risk today," he said.

Mr Bhushan said the five-member team formed to investigate the crash has three serving members from the aviation regulator DGCA, creating a serious conflict of interest. "How can employees of the same organisation that is under question carry out the probe?" he asked.

The bench of Justice Surya Kant and Justice N Kottiswar Singh said that while the petitioner's demand for a fair inquiry is understandable, making all findings public could affect the probe.

'WHY ARE YOU EVEN HERE?' SIDDARAMAIAH LOSES COOL DURING MYSURU DASARA EVENT

Diary Times Desk : Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah lost his cool during the inauguration event of the Mysuru Dasara. Siddaramaiah was seen pointing at someone in the audience from the stage. He was heard rebuking the audience members, who were not seen in the video, for allegedly being unruly.

"Can't you sit for a little while? Sit down. Who is that? If I tell you once, don't you understand? Why did you even come here? You should have stayed at home," he was heard saying in Kannada.

The Chief Minister was then heard telling a police official to "Don't let them go". "Police, don't let them go. Can't you sit for half an hour or an hour? Then, why are you attending this function?" he said.

The 11-day Dasara festival began in the city of palaces today.

The Mysuru Dasara this year got embroiled in controversy after the Karnataka government invited International Booker Prize Winner Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate the festival. Objections were raised by BJP leaders and others, following an old video that went viral, in which Ms Mushtaq reportedly expressed reservations about worshipping the Kannada language as "Goddess Bhuvaneshwari".

AFGHAN TEEN STOWAWAY IN REAR WHEEL WELL SURVIVES FLIGHT TO DELHI



Diary Times Desk : In a daring but reckless act, a 13-year-old boy from Afghanistan clandestinely stowed away on a flight to India on Sunday by hiding in the rear wheel well of an aircraft. The teenager survived the 94-minute journey and 'landed' safely at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport in stable physical condition, four sources familiar with the incident told this newspaper.

According to flightradar24.com, the Airbus A340 departed Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul at 8:46 am IST and landed at Terminal 3 at 10:20 am. A security source said the boy, clad in a kurta and pyjama, intended to sneak into Iran but boarded the wrong flight. The teenager admitted to tailgating passengers at Kabul airport to access the flight, then hid in the wheel well during boarding. "This raises serious concerns about the security screening processes at Kabul airport," the source noted.

The incident came to light when a ground handler at T3 taxiway spotted the boy walking in the restricted apron area, after the flight landed and passengers had disembarked. He alerted authorities. The Central Industrial Security Force took the boy into custody, and later handed him over to airport police. As a minor, the boy is immune from legal charges, a source confirmed. An aviation expert described the act as perilous, noting that survival outside the aircraft during flight is nearly impossible, while a doctor stressed on the improbability of surviving such extreme conditions.

AYYAPPA MEET: CPM SAYS 4K TOOK PART, OPPN CITES EMPTY CHAIRS

Diary Times Desk : A political storm has erupted over the Global Ayyappa Sangamam held at Pampa on Saturday, with the CPM hailing it as a resounding success even as the Opposition insists it was a damp squib.

On Sunday, CPM state secretary M V Govindan declared that more than 4,000 devotees took part in the meet, dismissing criticism over visuals of vacant seats.

"False propaganda is being spread. If you want, you can even use AI to create empty chairs," he quipped.

Devaswom Minister V N Vasavan backed the figures, saying 4,126 people attended the event. He



explained that the main venue had a capacity of 4,000 and that participants later moved to parallel auditoriums for panel discussions, leaving seats empty.

"Those visuals were twisted to spread fake news," he said, adding that an 18-member panel would review suggestions made during the sessions.

PLEA SEEKS REMOVAL OF AFZAL GURU, MAQBOOL BHATT'S GRAVES FROM TIHAR JAIL PREMISES



Diary Times Desk : A plea has been filed in the Delhi High Court seeking directions to remove the graves of terrorists Mohammad Afzal Guru and Mohammad Maqbool Bhatt, who were awarded death penalty and executed in Tihar jail here, from the prison premises. The PIL also sought directions to the authorities concerned to relocate the remains, if necessary, to a secret location to prevent "glorification of terrorism" and misuse of jail premises. The plea filed by Vishwa Vedic Sanatan Sangh and one Jitendra Singh claimed the construction and continued existence of these graves inside a state-controlled prison was "illegal, unconstitutional, and against public interest". The petitioner's counsel said they have not received the date of listing of the petition but it could be listed on Wednesday, the day when the high court usually hears PILs.

VICE-PRESIDENT RELEASES VOLUMES OF PRIME MINISTER MODI'S SPEECHES TITLED SABKA SATH, SABKA VIKAS, SABKA VISHWAS, SABKA PRAYAS



Diary Times Desk : The Vice-President of India, Shri CP Radhakrishnan today released two volumes containing the selected speeches of Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, titled 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas' covering the fourth and fifth years of Prime Minister's second term.

Speaking at the event organized by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in New Delhi, the Vice-President extended warm greetings to citizens on the auspicious occasion of Navratri and noted that this was his first public function after assuming office.

ALL SET FOR VIJAYAWADA UTSAV; VENKAIAH AND LOKESH TO LAUNCH

Diary Times Desk : Swachandhra Corporation Chairman Kommareddy Pattabhi Ram on Sunday said that Vijayawada Utsav-2025, organised by the Society for Vibrant Vijayawada, promises to be a dynamic confluence of spirituality, tradition, and modern cultural celebration. Elaborate arrangements have been made for the 11-day festival, which will be held on par with Dasara festivities.

Former Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu and HRD Minister Nara Lokesh will inaugurate the event at Punnami Ghat. Addressing a press conference, Pattabhi Ram said the Utsav will promote cultural heritage, creativity, and entertainment for the public and devotees visiting the Durga temple.

Cultural and spiritual programmes will be held across five key venues, including Tummalapalli Kalakshetram, Punnami Ghat, and Ghantasala Music College. Exhibitions, mythological and social plays, poetry-based dramas, Kuchipudi, Bharatanatyam, and other classical dance forms will be showcased.

INDIA PLANS 'BODYGUARD SATELLITES' TO STRENGTHEN SPACE SECURITY AFTER CLOSE ORBITAL ENCOUNTER: REPORT



Diary Times Desk : India is working on a plan to better protect its satellites after a close encounter in space showed the risks posed by other countries' spacecraft. The government wants to develop "bodyguard satellites" that can spot and respond to threats, people familiar with the matter told HT. Satellites have also been important during military tensions, such as India's conflict with Pakistan in May. In mid-2024, an Indian satellite orbiting 500-600 km above Earth came dangerously close to a satellite from a neighbouring country. The foreign satellite approached within just 1 km of the Indian one, which is used for mapping and monitoring activities that could have military applications.

HYDRAA RECOVERS
ENCROACHED
GOVERNMENT LAND
VALUED AT NEARLY RS
15,000 CRORES

Diary Times Desk : The Hyderabad Disaster Management and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) carried out a demolition drive on Sunday against influential land grabbers in Gajularamaram, Quthbullapur mandal of Medchal-Malkajgiri district.

Officials cleared over 317 acres of prime government land, valued at nearly Rs 15,000 crore, that had been encroached upon by politicians, real estate developers, and other officials. The land, falling under Survey No 307 and adjoining areas, was originally allotted to the State Finance Corporation.

During the drive, HYDRAA pulled down unauthorised ventures spread over 12 acres, a 20-acre illegal layout, and several sheds, fencing structures and temporary buildings raised by land grabbers. Illegal internal roads and power connections were also removed, and officials have begun fencing the area to prevent further encroachments.

Investigations showed that while influential groups developed large ventures near Pragathinagar, smaller plots measuring 60-120 sq. yards were sold off by rowdy-sheeters. Revenue officials were also allegedly involved, leading HYDRAA to widen its probe.

KHALISTANI TERRORIST
INDERJIT SINGH GOSAL
ARRESTED IN CANADA ON
FIREARMS CHARGES

Diary Times Desk : Khalistani terrorist Inderjit Singh Gosal, a close aide of the designated terrorist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun of Sikhs for Justice (SFJ) – which is banned in India – has reportedly been arrested in Canada. Gosal was the principal organizer of the so-called Khalistan referendum in Canada.

Sources within intelligence agencies have claimed that 36-year-old Gosal was detained in Ottawa on multiple charges related to firearms possession. He had also served as Pannun's personal security officer (PSO). His arrest comes shortly after India and Canada last week agreed to adopt a collaborative approach towards a new chapter in bilateral ties, including working closely to combat terrorism and transnational crimes.

Earlier, Gosal was arrested in November last year in connection with a violent attack at a Hindu temple in the Greater Toronto Area (GTA) and was later conditionally released by the Peel Regional Police (PRP).

NOIDA TECHIE CLAIMS HR ASSAULTED HIM FOR
DEMANDING SEVERANCE PAY: "RIGHT HAND
WAS TWISTED"



Diary Times Desk : An employee working at a Noida-based company claimed he was physically assaulted by the Human Resources (HR) team members after inquiring about severance pay. His detailed account, shared in a viral Reddit post, has sparked discussions on workplace ethics.

The employee described the events of September 19 at the company's Noida office, where he was suddenly terminated. He wanted to know the grounds for his termination, if he would receive severance pay, and the separation process.

Despite sending emails and making calls to HR, he received no response. When he visited the office in person, an HR staff member allegedly told him, "We won't reply. You are terminated. Fight wherever you want." When he returned with his phone camera on, another HR staff member reportedly instructed colleagues to "snatch his phone".

"INDIA'S TIME TO FLEX DIPLOMATIC
MUSCLE": US LAWMAKER AMID TRADE
TALKS

Diary Times Desk : With ministerial-level talks between India and the United States set to begin in Washington, US Democrat lawmaker Ami Bera advised New Delhi to "flex its diplomatic muscle" and play Russia-Ukraine peace negotiator to seal the trade deal with Washington.

Speaking to NDTV in New Delhi, he noted that 50 per cent tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump on Indian imports are benefiting no one, and are taking the India-US relationship in the wrong direction.

"There's a major export market of Indian products in the United States, and it's (tariffs) going to impact Indian workers. But it's not going to help the US consumer either, as we are seeing inflation and prices go up in the United States. Nobody benefits from a trade war," he said.

He mentioned that a ministerial-level delegation, including Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Foreign Minister S Jaishankar.

'ANOTHER LAMBORGHINI MISHAP':
SPEEDING LUXURY CAR CRASHES ON
MUMBAI'S COASTAL ROAD

Diary Times Desk : A Lamborghini lost control and crashed into the divider on the southbound side of Mumbai's Coastal Road on Sunday morning. The driver was unharmed, but the car's front end was badly damaged.

The incident occurred at around 9.30 am, just after an early morning rain, which had left the road wet and slippery.

A video of the crash quickly appeared on social media after Gautam Singhania, an industrialist and car enthusiast, shared it. The footage shows the luxury sports car speeding along the Coastal Road before it skids and slams into the divider.

Commenting on the video, Singhania wrote, "Another day, another Lamborghini mishap. This time on Mumbai's Coastal Road. Do these cars even have traction? From catching fire to losing grip – what's going on with Lamborghini?"

EAM JAISHANKAR AND US SECRETARY OF STATE RUBIO HOLD
BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS IN NEW YORK

Diary Times Desk : External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Monday met US Secretary of State Marco Rubio for bilateral discussions, as the high-level 80th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) kicks in.

The meeting at Lotte New York Palace is the first face-to-face interaction between them following President Donald Trump's imposition of an additional 25 per cent tariff on India for Delhi's purchases of Russian oil, taking the total levies imposed on India to 50 per cent.

They had last met in July in Washington DC for the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting. Their meeting takes place on the same day India and the US will hold discussions to achieve an early conclusion of a trade agreement.

A delegation led by Union Commerce and Industries Minister Piyush Goyal will meet with the US side on Monday in the city.

"The delegation plans to take forward the discussions with a view to achieving early conclusion of a mutually beneficial Trade Agreement," the Ministry of Commerce and Industry had said in a statement.

**CHINA SILENT ON US H-1B VISA HIKE,
BUT OPENS DOORS TO GLOBAL
TALENT**

Diary Times Desk : China on Monday declined to comment on US President Donald Trump's move to impose a hefty USD one lakh fee for H-1B visas, but at the same time invited global professionals to work in the country as it prepares to roll out a new employment visa next month.

On Friday last week, the Trump administration announced a USD 1,00,000 fee on H-1B visas. The fee is a one-time fee on submission of a new H-1B petition.

"China will not comment on the US visa policy," Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Guo Jiakun told a media briefing here when asked about Trump's decision.

However, at the same time, he said in the era of globalisation, cross-border talents promote technological and economic progress globally, and Beijing welcomes global professional talent to explore opportunities in the country.

China welcomes "talents from various industries and areas across the world to come and stay in China, jointly contribute to the progress of the human society and achieve success in their careers", Guo said.

Indians account for nearly 71 per cent (over 2.8 lakh) of all H-1B visas, followed by Chinese professionals with around 11.7 per cent or over 46,600.

China's K-Visa to take effect from Oct 1

While the US tightens its visa regime, China last month announced a new work permit called K-Visa under which qualified professionals from across the world can come to the country and explore work opportunities.

The K-Visa, set to take effect from Oct 1, is aimed at attracting young science and technology talent and does not require a domestic employer or entity to issue an invitation.

**JSMM CHAIRMAN URGES UN TO HOLD PAKISTAN ACCOUNTABLE FOR RIGHTS
ABUSES, ETHNIC OPPRESSION**

Diary Times Desk : With the 80th session of the United Nations General Assembly currently underway, Shafi Burfat, the Chairman of Jeay Sindh Muttahida Mahaz (JSMM), has released an open letter demanding global attention toward Pakistan's treatment of its ethnic minorities and national movements.

In the letter, Burfat has accused Pakistan of being built on religious manipulation and using it to oppress historical nations such as the Sindhis, Baloch, Pashtuns, Saraiis, and Brahuis. He has claimed that these communities have been politically sidelined, economically exploited, and culturally erased for decades.

According to Burfat, Pakistan's power structures, including the military, intelligence services, and diplomatic corps are overwhelmingly controlled by ethnic Punjabis, creating an imbalance that leaves other nations under effective occupation. He has described this as a modern form of slavery.

**HOW SAUDI-PAKISTAN DEFENCE DEAL
SIGNALS NEW SECURITY ORDER IN THE
GULF**

Diary Times Desk : When Saudi Arabia and Pakistan's leaders met in Riyadh on September 17, they signed what Pakistan's Foreign Ministry described as a "Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement," pledging that "any aggression against either country shall be considered an aggression against both."

The accord arrives amid widespread outrage in the Gulf following an Israeli airstrike in Doha that killed six people, highlighting fears among Arab states that US protection may no longer be guaranteed.

In Islamabad, Defence Minister Khawaja Mohammad Asif was unusually forthright. Speaking to Geo TV, he declared: "What we have, and the capabilities we possess, will be made available to (Saudi Arabia) according to this agreement." The reference was unmistakable.

**TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BRAZILIANS
PROTEST EFFORTS TO SHIELD
BOLSONARO AND LAWMAKERS FROM
COURTS**

Diary Times Desk : Tens of thousands of Brazilians took to the streets of major cities on Sunday to protest legislative efforts to shield former President Jair Bolsonaro and federal lawmakers from the courts, marking the country's strongest leftist demonstrations in years.

The protests, organized by social movements, unions and political parties, denounced lawmakers trying to avoid legal consequences for themselves and Bolsonaro, who was sentenced to prison for a coup plot after his supporters stormed government buildings following his 2022 election defeat.

It was the first major demonstration since Bolsonaro's conviction this month, with numbers rivaling recent right-wing protests against his sentencing in major cities, driving home the stark divisions in one of the world's largest democracies.

**HONG KONG AIRPORT MAY
SHUT FOR 36 HOURS AS
SUPER TYPHOON NEARS,
BLOOMBERG NEWS
REPORTS**

Diary Times Desk : Hong Kong International Airport is planning to suspend all passenger flights for 36 hours as the Asian financial hub prepares for one of its strongest super typhoons in years, Bloomberg News reported on Monday, citing people familiar with the matter.

Airport and aviation officials are set to stop all flights from as early as 6 p.m. (1000 GMT) on Tuesday till 6 a.m. on Thursday as Super Typhoon Ragasa advances, the report added.

A spokesperson for Airport Authority Hong Kong said it is closely monitoring the developments regarding Ragasa and has commenced preparations to deal with the super typhoon. An official announcement is expected to happen on Monday and the Hong Kong Observatory plans to hoist its first precautionary signal for the storm around noon, according to the report.

**TO PROTECT SOLDIERS,
UKRAINE USES REMOTE-
CONTROLLED VEHICLES FOR
DANGEROUS MISSIONS**

Diary Times Desk : On a battlefield swarming with deadly Russian drones, Ukrainian soldiers are increasingly turning to nimble, remote-controlled armoured vehicles that can perform an array of tasks and spare troops from potentially life-threatening missions.

The Ukrainian army is especially eager to deploy what soldiers refer to as "robots on wheels" as it faces a shortage of soldiers in a war that has dragged on for more than 3 ½ years.

The vehicles look like miniature tanks and can ferry supplies, clear mines and evacuate the wounded or dead.

"It cannot fully replace people," said the commander of a platoon of the 20th Lyubart Brigade who goes by the call sign Miami and spoke on condition of anonymity in line with military rules.

"I would put it this way: A person can go in there, but for a human it's (sometimes) far too dangerous."

The German army used a remote-controlled miniature tank – tethered by a wire—called the Goliath in World War II. In recent decades, the U.S., Israel, Britain, and China have developed modern versions used for combat engineering and other battlefield roles, according to Ben Barry, a fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies. But Ukraine's extensive deployment of these vehicles is noteworthy and could lead to advances, Barry said.

NEWS OUTLETS PREPARE FIGHT AGAINST PENTAGON’S DEMAND FOR PRESS TO SIGN ‘PLEDGE’ RESTRICTING REPORTING



Diary Times Desk : Media lawyers and newsroom leaders are evaluating a government memo spelling out new rules that would sharply restrict reporting at the Pentagon. Several of the country’s biggest news outlets are publicly pushing back on the rules, foreshadowing a potential legal battle. “This policy operates as a prior restraint on publication, which is considered the most serious of First Amendment violations,” Seth Stern, director of advocacy at the Freedom of the Press Foundation, told CNN.

Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth’s press office has already booted some news outlets, including CNN, from media workspaces and made key parts of the building off-limits to journalists without an official escort. Now, according to the new policy, beat reporters with a Pentagon credential will have to sign a pledge not to obtain or use unauthorized material — even though, as Stern said, “The Supreme Court has made clear for decades that journalists are entitled to lawfully obtain and publish government secrets. That is essentially the job description of an investigative journalist.” But the new policy will turn that act into a cause for revoking press credentials. “Asking independent journalists to submit to these kinds of restrictions is at stark odds with the constitutional protections of a free press in a democracy,” a spokesperson for The New York Times said in response. The Times called the policy “yet another step in a concerning pattern of reducing access to what the U.S. military is undertaking at taxpayer expense.”

The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal also issued statements criticizing the policy. And Thomas Evans, the editor-in-chief of NPR, said, “We’ll be working with other news organizations to push back.”

It is unclear what form that response will take. When the new rules were sent via email to reporters on Friday, Hegseth wrote on X that members of the media could “wear a badge and follow the rules — or go home.”

PUTIN SAYS RUSSIA WILL STICK TO NUCLEAR ARMS LIMITS FOR ONE MORE YEAR

Diary Times Desk : Russia’s President Vladimir Putin said on Monday that Moscow will adhere to nuclear arms limits for one more year after a nuclear pact with the United States expires in February. The New START Treaty is the last remaining arms control agreement between Russia and the US. Speaking at a meeting with members of Russia’s Security Council, Putin said that the pact’s termination would have negative consequences for global stability. Putin said that Russia would expect the US to follow Moscow’s example and also stick to the treaty’s limits.

BRITISH INDIAN CHARITY, BUSINESS, ENTREPRENEURIAL EFFORTS AWARDED IN UK

Diary Times Desk : Britain’s annual Asian Achievers Awards shone the spotlight on British Indian efforts in the field of philanthropy, entrepreneurial drive, arts and culture in London, with Prime Minister Keir Starmer issuing a message in support of the “changemakers”. While India-based Neerja Birla was awarded the Woman of the Year title for her philanthropic efforts as the founder and chairperson of the Aditya Birla Education Trust, UK-based successful businessman Simon Arora was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the awards ceremony last week.

AS WORLD CONVULSES IN WAR, CONTENTIOUSNESS, ITS LEADERS CONVENE AT UN TO FIGURE IT OUT



Diary Times Desk : World leaders begin convening Monday at one of the most volatile moments in the United Nations’ 80-year history, and the challenges they face are as dire as ever if not more so: unyielding wars in Gaza and Ukraine, escalating changes in the US approach to the world, hungry people everywhere and technologies that are advancing faster than the understanding of how to manage them. The United Nations itself, which emerged from World War II’s rubble on the premise that nations would work together to tackle political, social and financial issues, is in crisis. As Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said last week: “International cooperation is straining under pressures unseen in our lifetimes.” Yet the annual high-level gathering at the UN General Assembly will bring presidents, prime ministers and monarchs from about 150 of the 193 UN member nations to UN headquarters.

THE ONE PLACE WHERE CHINA’S POPULARITY IS SKY HIGH: KARISHMA VASWANI

Diary Times Desk : When the US steps back, China moves in. Beijing is making significant inroads in Africa, using a combination of investment and soft power in a region that’s now a vital player in the global contest for resources. The strategy is working. In parts of Africa, public opinion on China is more favourable than in many other regions, according to an Asia Society survey released this month. That enthusiasm contrasts sharply with Beijing’s standing in the West and some of Asia, where views have soured dramatically. The advance is intentional. Sub-Saharan Africa’s share of the global population will more than double this century, according to World Bank data. That could potentially turbo-charge international growth, despite low levels of purchasing power. Africa is home to 30 per cent of the world’s mineral reserves, many of which are pivotal for the clean energy industry. Beijing’s popularity is helping it to score points against Washington. And in the race for these critical elements, it’s drawing ahead. News earlier this month that Morocco had secured \$5.6 billion in funding to host the continent’s first-ever battery gigafactory is just the latest sign of how Chinese investment is transforming the region into a key supplier of batteries for electric vehicles and renewable energy storage. Chinese firms currently account for 8 per cent of Africa’s total mining output. That’s still well below Western giants, but the trend is shifting. Recent deals have stretched across the region, with companies making major acquisitions for copper in Zambia, cobalt in the Democratic Republic of Congo and lithium in Zimbabwe.

UK MOVES TO ATTRACT GLOBAL TALENT WITH VISA FEE WAIVER: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : The UK government is looking at bolstering a drive to attract global talent with a possible visa fee waiver to support the world’s top science and tech talent relocation to the country, a media report said on Monday. The Global Talent Taskforce, backed up by a 54-million-pound Global Talent Fund launched earlier this year, is revving up further to lure international experts, including Indians, even as the US announced a clampdown on its H-1B visas used by global techies, according to a ‘Financial Times’ report. The taskforce, which reports directly to Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Chancellor Rachel Reeves, works across 10 Downing Street and the UK Treasury to explore ways to boost the UK’s economic growth.

UN RIGHTS OFFICE DEMANDS "IMMEDIATE RELEASE" OF CHINESE JOURNALIST ZHANG ZHAN AFTER FRESH SENTENCE

Diary Times Desk : The United Nations Human Rights Office has raised concern over the sentencing of Chinese citizen journalist Zhang Zhan, who earlier reported from Wuhan during the coronavirus outbreak and has now been imprisoned for four more years on charges of "picking quarrels and provoking trouble."

The UNHR termed these charges as "vague and ill-defined" and demanded the immediate release of the journalist.

UN spokesperson Jeremy Laurence described the latest conviction as "deeply disturbing" and called for her "immediate and unconditional release."

The precise details of Zhang's new charge have not been made public, but it is believed to be linked to her social media activity, as per the UNHR office statement. UN has also raised concerns regarding the conduct of trial has no independent observers were allowed to attend the meeting.

**OVER HALF OF DENGUE PATIENTS DIE WITHIN 24 HOURS OF HOSPITALISATION: DGHS**

Diary Times Desk : More than half of this year's dengue fatalities in Bangladesh occurred within just 24 hours of hospital admission, largely due to delayed hospitalisation, the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) said today (22 September).

At a press briefing on the dengue situation, DGHS Director of Communicable Disease Control Dr Halimur Rashid said, "So far, we have reviewed 114 dengue deaths. Of them, 66 patients died within 0–24 hours of hospitalisation, 18 within 24–48 hours, five within 48–72 hours, and 25 after 72 hours."

He noted that most of the deceased sought medical care late—typically after enduring fever for three to six days—leaving their average hospital stay before death at just 2.5 days. Young adults were disproportionately affected, with the highest death toll reported among patients aged 20–30 years. A significant number of deaths were linked to comorbidities, such as diabetes and hypertension.

THE RHINOCEROS, UNDER SIEGE BUT NOT LOST

Diary Times Desk : For millennia, the rhinoceros stood as one of Earth's great survivors, armored and immense, its bulk anchoring the landscapes of Africa and Asia. Today, it's perilously close to vanishing. A recent report by wildlife trade watchdog TRAFFIC and the IUCN, the global wildlife conservation authority, reads like a somber register of loss and resilience. It records populations buffeted by poachers, weakened by drought, and fragmented into ever-smaller herds. The numbers tell a grim story. White rhinos (*Ceratotherium simum*), once abundant across Southern Africa, have slumped to their lowest level in two decades. Javan rhinos (*Rhinoceros sondaicus*) may now number barely 50. Sumatran rhinos (*Dicerorhinus sumatrensis*), scattered and elusive, can be counted in the dozens. Each life lost is not only an individual destroyed, but a step toward the silence of extinction.

The toll is driven by a market as ruthless as it is irrational.

PAKISTAN IN \$9.5 BILLION DEBT TRAP, COURTESY CHINA-PAKISTAN ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

Diary Times Desk : The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) which Islamabad had envisaged as an economic game-changer is actually turning out to be a costly venture as it has failed to achieve its targets and instead landed Pakistan in a \$9.5 billion debt trap.

The initiative promised to give much-needed economic impetus to Pakistan but quickly entered uncharted waters and became mired in countless controversies.

Thus CPEC has very few outcomes to showcase. This delay has cost Pakistan dearly. The overdue energy and infrastructure projects, cost overruns, and accusations of opaque contracts have cost the initiative its viability, according to an article in 'The Diplomat' news magazine.

According to economist Ali Hasanain, an Associate Professor at Lahore University of Management Sciences, CPEC's original sin was that a large number of its projects relied on foreign currencies, which ultimately clashed with Pakistan's domestic-oriented exchange rate and industrial policies, narrowing the fiscal space for Islamabad.

Currently, Pakistan owes more than \$7.5 billion for setting up power plants and additional nearly \$2 billion to Chinese energy producers in circular debt, or unpaid bills, the article states.

Due to the delay in CPEC 2.0, Pakistan has been unable to establish the industrial base needed to transform into an export-driven economy and pay off its debts. Consequently, Pakistan had to seek more loans to pay past loans – resulting in a prolonged debt crisis.

**"FOR CHARLIE KIRK": TRUMP, MUSK MEET AT MEMORIAL MONTHS AFTER MESSY SPLIT**

Diary Times Desk : Months after their very public fallout, US President Donald Trump and his former 'first buddy', Elon Musk, reunited at a memorial event for right-wing leader Charlie Kirk on Sunday. Trump was seen sitting side-by-side with his once-trusted billionaire advisor in the stands of a stadium in Glendale, Arizona, where tens of thousands had gathered to pay tribute to Kirk, who was shot dead on September 10 at a Utah university campus.

Videos from the event show the pair chatting in a manner that appeared friendly. The event marked the first public encounter between Trump and Musk since the Tesla CEO -- who once led Team Trump's so-called "Department of Government Efficiency" (DOGE) -- resigned from his position as a special government employee under tense circumstances.

The memorial appearance represents a notable thaw in their previously strained relationship. The White House shared a photo of the two engaged in a conversation on the social media platform X, which Musk owns.

UN SECURITY COUNCIL TO HOLD EMERGENCY MEETING ON RUSSIAN JET INCURSIONS OVER ESTONIA

Diary Times Desk : The UN Security Council will hold an emergency meeting on Monday to discuss Russian incursions over Estonia's airspace, Estonian and UN officials said Sunday.

Estonia requested the emergency meeting after three Russian MiG-31 fighter jets entered its airspace over the Gulf of Finland without permission on Friday. The jets remained for 12 minutes before being intercepted by NATO, according to the Estonian Foreign Ministry and an alliance spokesperson.

Estonian Foreign Minister Margus Tsahkna said in a post on X on Sunday that Russia's actions "undermine principles vital to the security of all UN member states."

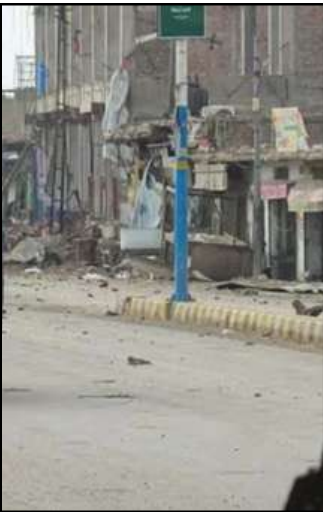
"When such actions are committed by a permanent member of the Security Council, they must be addressed by that very body," Tsahkna wrote.

According to the Estonian Foreign Ministry, the Security Council is expected to discuss what the ministry described as a "blatant, reckless, and flagrant violation of NATO airspace" and Russia's "repeated violations of international law."

WHY PAK DROPPED BOMBS FROM CHINESE JETS, KILLING 30 IN KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

Diary Times Desk : Thirty people, including women and children, were reportedly killed in air strikes in Pakistan's Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province Monday. China-made J-17 fighter jets dropped eight Chinese-made LS-6 bombs – laser-guided precision munitions – on a village in the Tirah Valley around 2 am. The deaths sparked outrage among local communities already on edge over an increase in terror attacks in recent years. Last week there was a protest in Mingora, a city in the province's Swat Valley; thousands came together to demand the government and its security apparatus restore peace swiftly.

Pakistan's main opposition party, the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf, has hit out at the government and the party's Khyber office said on X "no words can encompass this sorrow and grief... drone (attacks) and bombings have sown so many seeds of hatred... nothing will be left". The deaths also raised questions about the quality of intelligence and counter-terrorism operations in the province, which shares an international border with Afghanistan. Pak military said the strikes were based on intel that said terrorists were frequenting civilian areas and using them to mask their activities.



TRUMP, STANDING NEXT TO CHARLIE KIRK'S WIDOW, 'DANCES' AT MEMORIAL

Diary Times Desk : As many Americans mourned the death of Charlie Kirk, US President Donald Trump broke into a "dance" at a rightwing activist's memorial ceremony, making his grieving widow Erika Kirk smile. Trump and his supporters attended the memorial service of 31-year-old Kirk at State Farm Stadium in Arizona's Glendale on Sunday. At the event, Trump, the final speaker to address nearly 65,000 people, celebrated the life of the conservative activist using the language of religious fervour. "He's a martyr now for American freedom," Trump said of Kirk, who was killed on September 10 at a Utah university campus.

"I know I speak for everyone here today when I say that none of us will ever forget Charlie. And neither now will history." Several videos from the event flooded social media, with one of them showing Trump grooving and seen lip-synching the word "America" as the choir sang 'America The Beautiful' in the backdrop. In the clip, Erika Kirk can be seen smiling with tears in her eyes.

AS US HIKES H-1B COSTS, UK WEIGHS SCRAPPING GLOBAL TALENT VISA FEES: WHY IT IS GOOD NEWS FOR INDIAN PROFESSIONALS

Diary Times Desk : British Prime Minister Keir Starmer is weighing proposals to abolish visa fees for leading scientists, academics and digital experts as part of efforts to drive economic growth, Financial Times reported. This comes at the same time as the United States has introduced a 100,000-dollar fee for new H-1B visas, a programme heavily used by American technology companies. According to the FT report, Starmer's "global talent task force" is discussing options that could include waiving costs entirely for people who have attended the world's top five universities or received prestigious awards. One official told FT: "We're talking about the sort of people who have attended the world's top five universities or have won prestigious prizes. We're kicking around the idea of cutting costs to zero." The UK's global talent visa currently costs £766 per applicant. Partners and children have to pay the same fee. In addition, applicants usually face an annual health surcharge of £1,035 per person. The visa route, introduced in 2020, is aimed at recognised leaders in science, engineering, humanities, medicine, digital technology, and arts and culture.

TIKTOK'S ALGORITHM WILL BE OVERSEEN BY ORACLE IN THE US AFTER THE SALE IS COMPLETED



Diary Times Desk : The White House has answered what had been one of the major outstanding questions regarding its pending deal to transfer TikTok's US operations to a majority American ownership group: Under the agreement, the app's algorithm will be operated in the United States and overseen by Oracle.

SUPER TYPHOON HITS PHILIPPINES AS THOUSANDS EVACUATE

Diary Times Desk : Thousands have been evacuated in the Philippines as a super typhoon, described by regional authorities as potentially "catastrophic", makes landfall in the country's northern region. Super typhoon Ragasa, packing 230km/h (143mph) wind gusts, made landfall over Panuitan Island, in the Philippines' northern Cagayan province, on 15:00 local time (08:00 GMT) Monday, the country's weather authority said. It is expected to barrel west towards southern China. Ragasa brings a "high risk of life-threatening storm surge" with peak heights exceeding 3m (10ft), the Philippine weather bureau said. Authorities have warned of widespread flooding and landslides and damage to homes and infrastructure. Schools and government offices in large parts of the country, including in the capital Manila, have been shut.

ISRAEL-PALESTINE TWO-STATE SOLUTION SUMMIT TO BE HELD AS RECOGNITIONS SURGE

Diary Times Desk : France and Saudi Arabia are preparing to host a one-day summit at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), a day before the start of the General Debate, both of which will be heavily focused on Israel's war on Gaza and the elusive two-state solution.

At the UN headquarters in New York, world leaders will convene on Monday to revive the long-stalled notion amid warnings that a contiguous Palestinian state could "vanish altogether" as a result of Israel's hegemonic moves in both Gaza and the occupied West Bank. France is expected to announce its official recognition of a Palestinian state, and others like Belgium are considering doing the same. It will come one day after the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia and Portugal all recognised Palestinian statehood in historic moves despite vehement opposition from Israel and the United States. Israel and its top allies are boycotting the summit, with Israel's ambassador to the UN, Danny Danon, describing the major multilateral event as a "circus" and sticking to Israel's common refrain that such moves "reward terrorism".



NEWS OUTLETS
PREPARE FIGHT

AGAINST PENTAGON'S
DEMAND FOR PRESS TO
SIGN 'PLEDGE'
RESTRICTING
REPORTING

Diary Times Desk :

Media lawyers and newsroom leaders are evaluating a government memo spelling out new rules that would sharply restrict reporting at the Pentagon.

Several of the country's biggest news outlets are publicly pushing back on the rules, foreshadowing a potential legal battle.

"This policy operates as a prior restraint on publication, which is considered the most serious of First Amendment violations," Seth Stern, director of advocacy at the Freedom of the Press Foundation, told CNN.

The policy leverages the fact that many reporters who cover the US military have press credentials that allow physical access to the Pentagon complex.

JIMMY KIMMEL'S
COUSIN SAL HINTS:
'THERE ARE A COUPLE
BOMBHELLS STILL
THERE'

Diary Times Desk : Sal Iacono, Jimmy Kimmel's cousin and a long-time writer and performer on "Jimmy Kimmel Live!" suggested Sunday that the show may not be coming back on the air after ABC indefinitely suspended the program last week.

On an episode of "The Bill Simmons Podcast" late Sunday night, Iacono said he was reluctant to talk about the future of the show out of respect for the staff whose jobs are on the line. But he said significant news could come out this week, and he believed Kimmel will land on his feet no matter what the outcome is.

"I wish I could say anything. There are a couple bombshells still there," Iacono said. "I'm feeling good. We're going to be all right. Everything's going to be just fine."

Bill Simmons, who worked as a writer on the show two decades ago, agreed that Kimmel would find a platform if the show ended.

"He'll be fine, whatever he wants to do," Simmons said. "Hey listen, he might just want to be a pop-up chef and start making."

WALL STREET GOT THE RATE CUT IT WANTED. CAN THE OPTIMISM
LAST?

Diary Times Desk : The stock market is shrugging off worries about a weakening labor market and stubborn inflation, instead embracing a much-anticipated interest rate cut.

That optimism still has room to run, analysts say, but stocks could hit a wall if worries about an economic slowdown and still-high prices begin to weigh on consumer spending or businesses' earnings.

The Dow, S&P 500 and Nasdaq each hit back-to-back record highs last week after the Federal Reserve delivered its first rate cut since December. The S&P 500 is up 13% this year, rising through tariff uncertainty and concerns about the Trump administration encroaching on the Federal Reserve's independence.

Investors see more room for stocks to run despite the economy showing signs of frailty. While the Fed balances an increasingly complicated dynamic, investors are cheering the prospect of a rate-cutting cycle – even as experts warn the market is increasingly divorced from economic reality.



THE FED HAS A LOT OF CATCHING UP TO DO, SAYS NEW CENTRAL
BANKER STEPHEN MIRAN

Diary Times Desk : Central bankers are underestimating how much pressure interest rates are putting on America's labor market, said Federal Reserve Governor Stephen Miran, a staunch ally of President Donald Trump, on Monday. "I view policy as very restrictive, (and) believe it poses material risks to the Fed's employment mandate," Miran said during his first speech in his new role, at an event in New York. Miran was previously head of Trump's Council of Economic Advisers, but has taken leave from that position to serve a vacated term on the Fed's Board. The Fed last week lowered borrowing costs for the first time since December to prevent the labor market from deteriorating, according to Chair Jerome Powell in a post-meeting news conference. But Miran says the Fed has a lot of catching up to do.



KIMMEL'S ABC COLLEAGUES AT 'THE VIEW' FINALLY SPEAK OUT: 'NO ONE
SILENCES US'

Diary Times Desk :

After remaining mum on fellow ABC host Jimmy Kimmel's suspension last week, the hosts of "The View" on Monday spoke out against the Trump administration's recent crackdown on free speech.

"Did y'all really think we weren't going to talk about Jimmy Kimmel? Have you watched the show over the last 29 seasons?" co-host Whoopi Goldberg said at the top of the broadcast. "No one silences us," she said.

Goldberg explained that the long-running daytime talk show hadn't addressed Kimmel's indefinite suspension during Thursday's and Friday's broadcasts because the co-hosts "took a breath to see if Jimmy was going to say anything about it first." While the co-hosts did not directly attack ABC or its parent company Disney for benching Kimmel, they did sharply criticize what they described as the Trump administration's attacks on the First Amendment.

"We fight for everybody's right to have freedom of speech because it means my speech is free."



THE US ECONOMY HAS
A NEW PROBLEM:
DEMOCRACY IS UNDER
SIEGE

Diary Times Desk :
The nation's top economic statistician was fired. Central bank independence is being undermined. The federal government is buying chunks of private companies and demanding cuts of revenue streams. Presidential power to lob tariffs has been wielded in unprecedented fashion. And federal regulators are threatening media companies over late-night comics.

These events all took place this year, and not in a third-world country, but in the world's preeminent democracy under President Donald Trump.

Some political scientists see a pattern that suggests American democracy is being undermined in real time. The stakes are massive for the US economy and the business world.

ANALYSIS: CAUGHT
BETWEEN KIMMEL AND
TRUMP, BOB IGER FACES
A NO-WIN SITUATION

Diary Times Desk : At ABC's annual presentation for advertisers last year, Jimmy Kimmel looked over to his boss, Disney CEO Bob Iger, and made light of Iger's return to the company after stepping down from the CEO post in 2020. "Bob Iger, this guy, he should be retired by now," Kimmel joked. "You should be off on a yacht somewhere!" Seriously, though, that yacht probably sounds pretty good to Iger right now. Remaining in retirement wasn't really an option for the restless Iger. But some fellow execs are wryly wondering if he regrets being back on top right now. Iger, 74, who once wanted to run for president against Trump, is in a no-win situation with Kimmel on one side, Trump on the other, and Disney's reputation at stake. Three full days have now passed without a publicly announced resolution. Walt Disney's original vision was all-American, right down to the flags along Main Street USA, and the company now exports Americana all around the world. But you know what else is all-American? The First Amendment. And Kimmel's suspension.

TRIAL TO DECIDE WHETHER AMAZON TRICKED CUSTOMERS INTO
SIGNING UP FOR PRIME STARTS TODAY



Diary Times Desk :
The Federal Trade Commission's long-awaited trial against Amazon begins this week, with the e-commerce giant's cancellation practices under the microscope.

The lawsuit, filed in 2023 under the Biden administration, accuses Amazon of tricking millions of consumers into signing up for its Prime subscription service through deceptive user interface designs and making it hard to cancel.

"Specifically, Amazon used manipulative, coercive, or deceptive user-interface designs known as 'dark patterns' to trick consumers into enrolling in automatically renewing Prime subscriptions," the FTC complaint said.

It added that Amazon deliberately made it much harder to cancel subscriptions than to enroll in Prime, alleging that the company created a "labyrinthine" cancellation process intended to distract or deter consumers from following through on their intent.

"The bottom line is that neither Amazon nor the individual defendants did anything wrong," an Amazon spokesperson told CNN. "We remain confident that the facts will show these executives acted properly and we always put customers first."

AMERICA IS IN A LITERACY CRISIS. IS AI THE SOLUTION OR PART OF
THE PROBLEM?



Diary Times Desk :
Reading levels dropped to historic lows during the pandemic. Now parents, teachers and tech companies are hoping AI can help solve America's literacy crisis.

America's literacy challenge has been building for years, with reading scores sliding even before the pandemic pushed them to their lowest levels in decades. Educators said potential factors include children's increased screen time, shortened attention spans and a decline in reading longer-form writing.

Mississippi, Louisiana and other states have experimented with shaking up reading curriculums and passing laws aimed at improving childhood literacy. But the rise of artificial intelligence is creating another opportunity to reimagine how students learn to read.

Across the US, parents, educators, and community groups are trying AI-powered tutors that listen as children read, correct mistakes in real time and adapt lessons to each student's reading level — though questions remain about the risks of using AI and whether it can actually improve literacy skills.

Denver Public Schools made headlines in recent years for embracing AI products, both as teaching tools and as teacher supports. The system of roughly 200 schools began working with Amira Learning, a company that specializes in AI reading tutors, in January.

Thousands of its elementary students are currently reading with the platform, according to Jennifer Begley, the district's director of humanities.

CONGRESS APPOINTS
SARKARIA AS TARN
TARAN BYELECTION IN-
CHARGE AMID
FACTIONAL TENSIONS

Diary Times Desk : The appointment of sitting Raja Sansi MLA Sukhbinder Sukh Sarkaria as election in-charge for the upcoming Taran Tarn byelection signals a rapprochement between the warring factions in the Punjab Congress. After the Ludhiana (West) byelection, where the Congress fared poorly due to open factionalism within the state unit, this move is seen as an effort to bridge the gaps. Historically, the Congress had a stronghold in the area, with Congress candidate Dharambir Agnihotri winning the seat in 2017. However, in 2022, AAP candidate Dr Kashmir Singh won the seat, which has necessitated a bypoll following Dr Singh's death. Although the date of the byelection has not been announced yet, party leaders believe it will be held concurrently with the Bihar election. Sources indicate that during a recent meeting chaired by Bhupesh Baghel, AICC general secretary and Punjab in-charge, Sarkaria and MLA Tript Rajinder Bajwa, along with other leaders, expressed reservations about the functioning of PPCC chief Amarinder Raja Warring.

AAP MLA RAMAN
ARORA GETS BAIL AFTER
129 DAYS IN CUSTODY
IN EXTORTION CASE



Diary Times Desk : AAP MLA Raman Arora from Jalandhar Central Assembly constituency has been granted bail by the Jalandhar court after spending 129 days in custody.

Arora was arrested on May 23 by the Vigilance Bureau for allegedly running an extortion racket in collusion with municipal officials, where they would identify ongoing construction projects, serve violation notices, and demand bribes to settle the matter. Given the court's order, Arora is likely to be set free today.

HIMACHAL DEPUTY CM'S DAUGHTER'S ENGAGEMENT HELD IN MULLANPUR

Diary Times Desk : The ring ceremony of Aastha Agnihotri, the daughter of Himachal Pradesh Deputy CM Mukesh Agnihotri, was held with IAS officer Sachin Sharma at a private gathering at a resort in Mullanpur on Monday evening, sources said.

Aastha is an Assistant Professor at the University Institute of Legal Studies at HPU, Shimla. Sachin Sharma, a 2022-batch IAS officer of the HP cadre, is the SDM at Amb in Una. He hails from Haryana.

The couple is set to get married in Una on November 22, sources said.



INSIDE HIMACHAL MINISTER
VIKRAMADITYA SINGH AND AMREEN
SEKHON'S WEDDING IN
CHANDIGARH



Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh Minister for Public Works and Urban Development Vikramaditya Singh tied the knot with Amreen Sekhon, a Panjab University professor and long-time acquaintance, in a private ceremony held in Chandigarh on September 22. Amreen Sekhon, the bride, is a highly accomplished academic. She holds double master's degrees in English and Psychology, a PhD in Psychology, and has also pursued studies at Harvard University. Currently, she serves as an Assistant Professor at Panjab University.

PUNJAB LAUNCHES UNIVERSAL
HEALTH INSURANCE; FREE
TREATMENT UP TO RS 10 LAKH

Diary Times Desk : Punjab government is all set to launch its universal health insurance scheme on Tuesday, that ensures free health treatment of upto Rs 10 lakh per family.

As a pilot, the scheme is first being rolled out in Tarn Taran and Barnala districts, where, beginning tomorrow, 128 camps each will be organised in both districts.

"People will have to come here with the copies of their voter id card, AADHAR card and passports, submit them along with the registration form, to be eligible for getting the free health insurance. Sehat cards will be issued to them," said Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann.

The Chief Minister said that while all government run health institutions are already on board for the scheme, around 500 private hospitals have also been empaneled and will give free cashless insurance to those who enrol for the scheme. "In a year, irrespective of number of people in the family seeking treatment, each family can get treatment for ,2000 ailments, for upto Rs 10 lakh for free," said Mann.

YOUR HOROSCOPE
23-09-2025

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.

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.

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.

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.

Libra

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

Scorpio

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

Sagittarius

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

Capricorn

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

Aquarius

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

Pisces

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

EMPOWERING YOUTH
WITH JOB
OPPORTUNITIES, SAYS
HARYANA CM SAINI

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini today said the state was moving rapidly toward the goal of empowering its youth with self-respect through employment opportunities.

Flagging off the “Namo Yuva Run” at the Dronacharya Stadium in Kurukshetra, the CM said, “Initiatives like Make in India, Vocal for Local, Digital India, Startup India and Skill India are propelling the nation to new heights. True development comes only when all sectors and citizens work together. Skill development and youth empowerment remain at the core of this progress.” He urged the youth to give equal importance to skill development as well as health and fitness, and to work collectively for the vision of “Developed India – Developed Haryana.”

HARYANA GOVT TO
INJECT RS 4,827 CRORE
TO BOOST ROAD INFRA

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini today launched the Pradeshik Sadak Utthan Pariyojna (Regional Road Upgradation Project), aimed at strengthening the road infrastructure.

Under this initiative, 4,227 roads covering 9,410 km will be repaired and upgraded at a cost of Rs 4,827 crore this fiscal. The CM described the launch as a “golden chapter” in Haryana’s infrastructure development. He said the project would be a milestone in building a developed India and Haryana. It would bridge the gap between rural and urban areas, enhance connectivity and further boost the state’s economic, social and commercial growth, said Saini, adding that repair works on 410 roads had been initiated.

The CM stated that the government was committed to ensuring accountability in infrastructure construction.

He warned that strict action would be taken against contractors and officials found negligent, stressing that public funds must be utilised solely for public benefit.

17 HARYANA SIKH GURDWARA MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERS SEEK
JHINDA’S RESIGNATION, SERVE 15-DAY ULTIMATUM

Diary Times Desk : A major rift has emerged within the newly elected body of the Haryana Sikh Gurdwara Management Committee (HSGMC) as 17 of its members have signed a notice seeking committee president Jagdish Singh Jhinda’s resignation. The members, who had reportedly supported Jhinda when he was elected, served him a 15-day ultimatum to resign from the post, citing serious allegations of financial irregularities, violation of statutory provisions and misuse of authority.

Jhinda, however, refused to comment on the allegations, saying he had not received any notice by the members. HSGMC senior vice-president Gurmeet Singh Ramsar said a meeting of the members was organised at Kalka on Saturday evening, in which five out of 11 members of the executive body also participated. “All members levelled serious allegations against Jhinda about misusing the funds and not properly discharging his duty,” said Ramsar.



ANNOYING, BUT NOT OUTRAGING
MODESTY: HC SAYS ATTEMPT TO
TALK TO WOMAN DOESN’T ATTRACT
IPC 354

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab and Haryana High Court has ruled that a mere attempt to initiate a conversation with a woman, though possibly annoying and unwelcoming, cannot by itself constitute an offence under Section 354 of the IPC, which deals with assault or criminal force with intent to outrage a woman’s modesty.

Justice Kirti Singh made it clear that such an act – in the absence of criminal force – did not “shock the sense of decency of a woman”. The continuation of proceedings under such circumstances would amount to an abuse of process of law.

The ruling came as Justice Kirti Singh quashed an FIR registered on July 26, 2020, at the PGIMS police station in Rohtak under Sections 354-A and 451 of the IPC, along with subsequent proceedings, including an order of January 4, 2024, whereby charges under Section 354 were framed against the petitioner.

HARYANA CM PRAISES IAF FOR
DISPLAY OF VALOUR IN OP
SINDOOR

Diary Times Desk : The Indian Air Force’s Suryakiran Aerobatic Team today enthralled the audience with a series of breathtaking stunts, multiple formations, flying at speeds ranging from 150 kmph to 650 kmph, during an air show at the Maharaja Agrasen Airport Complex in Hisar. Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini, who watched the show, said the IAF’s strength had been significantly enhanced with the induction of modern fighter aircraft such as the Rafale. He expressed pride in the valour and strength displayed by the IAF during Operation Sindoor. The Chief Minister said that the air show conveyed a strong message of discipline, teamwork and unwavering patriotism. “Each feat of the Suryakiran Aerobatic Team reflected the spirit of their motto, “Sadaiv Sarvottam” (Always Excellence),” he said. The Indian Air Force’s Suryakiran Aerobatic Team today enthralled the audience with a series of breathtaking stunts, multiple formations, flying at speeds ranging from 150 kmph to 650 kmph, during an air show at the Maharaja.

AHIRWAL COMMUNITY LAYS CLAIM TO HARYANA CONGRESS PRESIDENCY

Diary Times Desk : Calling themselves the kingmakers in Haryana, several Ahir associations have reached out to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge seeking party presidency for the community.

Members of the Yadav Mahasabhas said the Congress should look beyond Jat-centric politics and concentrate on the Other Backward Classes (OBCs). The Ahir leaders claimed that even when party was in power in the state, they were ignored. They said South Haryana, especially the Ahirwal region, had many leaders who enjoyed mass public support. “The Congress has lost its public connect in the Ahirwal region in the past 11 years. Despite having good leaders, party never gave them the power. As a result, youths were ignored when it came to providing government jobs. Even development took a back seat in the area during the Congress tenure. We have seasoned leaders like Captain Ajay Singh Yadva, Rao Daan Singh, Rao Narender Singh and youth leaders like Rao Chiranjiv,” read a letter shot by Rambir Yadav, head of the Yadav Kalyan Sabha. Notably, Ahirs in South Haryana have around 12 lakh votes and are part of the OBC community. It’s the OBC voters who gave BJP a third chance to form the government in the state. Six-time MLA and former minister Captain Ajay Singh Yadav had recently raised the demand, which had spread across the Ahirwal region.



Huge archive of drag culture takes on new urgency in today's political climate

“he first time I saw God was at Bizarre,” says visual artist Rachel Rampleman.

She is referring to the drag artist God Complex and the now-defunct Brooklyn bar Bizarre. Inspired by the performer's background as a dancer after seeing him live, Rampleman committed him to the screen for “Life is Drag,” a project wherein she films drag performances and conducts interviews with participants about their drag philosophies. A new exhibition showing the project's latest works opens at New York's SoMad art space this week, and in one of the featured videos, God Complex dances, lost in reverie, wearing a skin-toned gown twinkling with beads.

The many artists Rampleman has chronicled in “Life is Drag” reveal the multitudes of what the art form is and can be. Since 2019, Rampleman has captured more than 200 artists and 370 shows, making it the largest known digital archive of drag performance in the US.



Kevin Liptak
From now until mid-December, SoMad will exhibit Rampleman's new works.

The latest videos and portraits are the product of her artist residency at SoMad, a self-described “femme and queer led, independent art space” in Manhattan's Flatiron District. In these new works, Rampleman chose to spotlight some drag artists who are community organizers, producers, advocates and activists, as a response to US President Donald Trump's re-election. The importance of the project then extends beyond just the chronicle of a performance, it also becomes the validation of existence. In Rampleman's project, the subjects can't be erased from history. “(It) was important to work with the people we felt were the most inspiring, and to do whatever we could to magnify and amplify their message and their voices,” she said. The people she's worked with range from community organizer Julie J to producer Amygdala to King Molasses, the newly crowned winner of the US reality series “King of Drag.”



In a cultural moment where many people are introduced to drag through “RuPaul's Drag Race,” a project like Rampleman's not only captures an art form known for its ephemerality but shows us just how broad the scope of its artistry truly is. In “Life is Drag,” there's not one particular look, and that is part of its power.

In the same way there's not one way to paint, there's also not just one way to do drag. And while Rampleman is drawn to more artistic, avant-garde performances, there's also no shortage of pageant-inspired numbers and gorgeous evening gowns in her wider archive, either. “The goal of the project is also just to be as inclusive and diverse in regards to who I work with as possible,” she said.

From now until mid-December, SoMad will exhibit Rampleman's new works.

There are video installations on the building's second floor, over two dozen recorded performances playing across six monitors suspended from the ceiling; interviews will run on a large screen in the back of the venue and large portraits of participating drag artists, wearing everything from sequin tuxedos to baby doll dresses, will be exhibited on the fourth floor.

Immigration Enforcement

‘Like Prime, but with human beings’



Angelica Franganillo Diaz

The former official also raised alarms about ICE's growing dependence on Palantir. “One of the things that we've been concerned about is relying so heavily on a primary vendor ... it means that you're locked into their ecosystem,” they said. “Substantial portions of the IT infrastructure now require Palantir's tools to function.”

The Trump administration is sharply expanding its use of artificial intelligence in immigration enforcement, using technology not just to track migrants but also to help determine who gets targeted for deportation.

To power immigration enforcement — a top policy priority for President Donald Trump — the administration is deploying artificial intelligence algorithms to sift through a vast array of records. Officials say the tools can flag potential violations, prioritize leads and direct officers on next steps, accelerating processes that once relied on slower, manual reviews.

Acting Immigration and Customs Enforcement Director Todd Lyons has described a vision of squads of trucks sweeping up immigrants with the efficiency of Amazon delivery routes: “Like Prime, but with human beings,” he said in April during the Border Security Expo in Phoenix.

Driving that vision is ImmigrationOS, a new platform that consolidates these tools into a single interface. The system, which DHS will start using Thursday, includes workflows that allow agents to approve raids, book arrests, generate legal documents and route



“You can go in and, you know, raid and arrest, get your approval to do that in the system,” the official said. “Then it'll route them through to detention or removal. That entire lifecycle is built into the software.”

individuals to deportation flights or detention — all in one place.

“It doesn't just collect data — it structures what agents do with it,” a senior DHS official said. While some of the technology has been previously used piecemeal for immigration efforts, the scale of this project is unprecedented. The system also draws from traditionally non-immigration data sources, including Suspicious Activity Reports and financial transactions flagged under the Bank Secrecy Act. Those tools — more commonly deployed in counterterrorism or anti-money laundering cases — are now being repurposed to identify potential immigration enforcement targets, from people suspected of identity fraud to those working without authorization.

Some experts warn the growing reliance on opaque algorithms raises serious concerns. Bias, overreach and reduced human oversight are all possible, particularly as the Department of Homeland Security ramps up deportations and executive orders pushing AI adoption while dismantling so-called woke or regulated systems.

Now that effort is ramping up, with the help of Palantir, a major government contractor also used by the Department of Defense.

Earlier this year, ICE awarded the company nearly \$30 million to develop ImmigrationOS. The system is being designed not just to collect information but also to shape enforcement decisions — a move critics say outsources judgment to software and raises concerns about oversight and accountability.

Palantir has said that it believes AI should be used to “enhance human execution and decision-making rather than replacing it” and that “it's essential to preserve fundamental principles of privacy and civil liberties while using data.”

A former DHS official who worked in the current Trump administration told CNN that ImmigrationOS marks a fundamental shift in enforcement infrastructure. “They're combining data sets from Treasury and other agencies into an observability platform,” the official said.

The former official added that the new platform will also use Internal Revenue Service and census data. It includes built-in workflows that allow agents to approve raids — all from a single interface. INFA

Wrong Hands

THIS GUN STORE PRIDES ITSELF ON STOPPING GUNS

Five federal agents entered the gun store on the busy highway in central Minnesota that Chris Mercadante manages and gave him a serial number.

Unfamiliar, he flicked through the book that keeps a record of every gun that passes through Frontiersman Sports gun shop until he spotted it. It belonged to a revolver purchased by a customer just four days prior.

That customer had opened fire on Annunciation Catholic School in Minneapolis just hours earlier, authorities say, firing through the windows at the pews, killing two children and wounding 18 other people.

Worry had been stirring within 60-year-old Mercadante even before the FBI and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives agents showed up at the store on August 27 — ever since he heard about the devastating mass shooting carried out just 10 miles away.

“You never want to hear this, you never want to see this, you never want to be a part of this,” he said, adding there's always a concern a gun used to carry out a mass shooting could have come from his store.

After confirming to the agents

that the customer purchased a .38 special caliber revolver and its ammo from the store, he found surveillance footage of the shooter shopping for guns and browsing ammo on August 23.

The suspect — identified by police as Robin Westman — was inside the store for 40 minutes, talking and laughing with other employees, as well as a customer, and testing out different firearms, the eerie footage shows.

While police have not mentioned a revolver being used in the shooting at Annunciation, the sight shook the store workers with years of experience who took pride in going the extra mile to make sure their guns didn't fall into the wrong hands. Mercadante, who wasn't working the day the suspect came in, says he prayed with his staff, including the ones who spoke to the suspected shooter. They all agreed: The normal red flags they're trained to catch weren't there.

The customer asked the right questions, appeared friendly, acted “normal” and seemed very knowledgeable about guns, one of the employees who was working when the suspect came in told CNN.

Kory Krause, the owner of Frontiersman Sports, said he felt like he needed to “take a shower” after watching the footage of the suspect in the store he's owned for 16 years. It's important for Krause that his employees pick up on even the most subtle warning signs. They refuse to sell firearms to shoppers they suspect may be a danger to themselves or others, seem mentally unstable, are under the influence of drugs or alcohol or appear to be purchasing a gun for someone



There is no mention of the revolver purchased at Frontiersman Sports in police search warrant documents related to the shooting investigation, which list a Magpul semi-automatic rifle, a Taurus semi-automatic pistol and a Mossberg pump-action shotgun among the evidence collected. When asked by CNN, police could not comment on whether a revolver was taken into evidence. Still, Frontiersman Sports' youngest employee was the person who sold the suspect the gun, and Krause said the incident has affected him.

“You always sit back and go, ‘Could I have done more?’ ... ‘Did something stand out that I didn't see?’” Mercadante said. “The (suspect) was smiling and joking and laughing. I mean, if that's not evil, I don't know what is.”

WHAT MAKES A MASTERPIECE?



Diary Times Desk : At once reflecting the era of their creation and future artistic innovation, true masterpieces stand the test of time. It's artists' eternal experimentation with new techniques and compositions, as well as their ways of interpreting light and colour that have always pushed media and movements forward. In contrast to the realism seen in art of prior centuries, the late 19th and early 20th centuries witnessed an explosion of creative expression, anticipating the abstraction to come in subsequent years. Imogen Kerr, Co-Head of Christie's 20th Century Evening Sale, highlights three masterworks from the Collection of Kawamura Memorial DIC Museum of Art. Offered during Christie's Fall Marquee Week in November in New York City, this collection features remarkable works of Impressionist, Modern, Post-War and Contemporary art by artists ranging from Claude Monet, Pierre-Auguste Renoir and Henri Matisse to Marc Chagall, Henry Moore and more. Here, discover three paintings, offered in Christie's 20th Century Evening Sale, that embody the revolutionary art of this period

Whether dense or sparse, all-over or decidedly off-kilter, an artwork's composition has the power to direct the eye around the canvas. Arrangements of line, shape, colour and contrast each contribute to eye-catching compositions. For artists who derive endless inspiration from the same scene or subject, producing new works is often a matter of experimenting with novel compositions.

Perhaps, no other artist created as many compositions of a singular subject as Claude Monet, whose water lilies feature in some 300 paintings. As the water constantly flowed, plants blossomed and died, and the light changed throughout the course of the day and season, nature provided an ever-evolving mix of compositions. Monet's constellation-like arrangements of lilies eschewed conventional pictorial perspective, as he often depicted their reflections in the water, therefore, abstracting the environment. With their sweeping compositions, Monet's monumental canvases envelop the viewer as if one is standing amidst nature.

Jackson Pollock's splatter, Andy Warhol's screenprint, Gerhard Richter's squeegee. Throughout history, experimentation has led to innovation, giving rise to signature techniques that define an artist's oeuvre. Impressionism marked a major turning point in embracing non-traditional techniques, as exemplified by Pierre-Auguste Renoir's broad brushstrokes and luminous juxtapositions of colour in his sumptuous nudes and picturesque landscapes.

THE LONG WAIT FOR THE NEW MUSEUM OF MODERN ART IN WARSAW: 'WE ALWAYS SEEMED TO BE NEGOTIATING OUR EXISTENCE'

Central Square in downtown Warsaw is immense. Occupying 60 acres, it has had umpteen uses since its creation in the 1950s. Reflecting its erstwhile name of Parade Square, it hosted many a political procession during Poland's era of communist rule. Pope John Paul II gave a giant open-air mass there in 1987. Funfairs and flea markets filled it in the 1990s, since when the square has mostly served as a parking lot.

'Now, however, it's being totally reimaged,' says Joanna Mytkowska, director of the Museum of Modern Art in Warsaw (also known as MSN Warsaw). 'There's no square in Europe like this one, and the topic of how to use it caused discussion, disagreement and tension in Poland for a long time.'

More on this below, but Mytkowska is referring to a period that began in 1989 with the collapse of communism. Eventually, the city of Warsaw decided that the square should serve a cultural purpose. A theatre called TR Warszawa is currently under construction — on a site adjacent to MSN Warsaw, which opened in February.

Spread across four floors, the museum owns an ever-expanding art collection, currently numbering about 4,000 pieces. It focuses chiefly on work made in the 36 years since democracy returned to Poland. International artists do feature, but two-thirds of the pieces are by Poles — the likes of Magdalena Abakanowicz, Mirosław Bałka, Wilhelm Sasnal and Ewa Juszkiewicz.

The plan is to combine displays and exhibitions of different sizes, based on MSN Warsaw's holdings and outside loans. The initial offering, however, is a show titled The Impermanent. Spread out across the entire venue, it features 150 highlights from the museum collection.

Works include Façade by Monika Sosnowska, a replica of the curtain wall of a 1960s building, which has been crushed, twisted and stretched; and Eurotique by Henrike Naumann, an installation that resembles a furniture showroom — alluding to the rush of citizens to embrace consumerism in the 1990s and deck out their homes in Western fashion.



COLD SHOWER FOR BARÇA, POSSIBLE SERIOUS INJURY: JOAN LAPORTA ALREADY CONFIRMS IT

Diary Times Desk : Barça won (3-0) against Getafe in the fifth round of the league, but not everything was good news for Flick's team, as Joan Laporta confirmed. Barça's president was closely following the match between the Catalans and the Madrid team and dropped a bomb: a possible serious injury. Barça defeated Getafe without too much trouble, but they already know they're going to face problems in the upcoming rounds of the competition: Joan Laporta confirmed it at the Johan Cruyff. Barça took care of their commitment against Getafe and remain at the top of the league standings, although the truth is that Flick is starting to have serious problems. In this case, the problems are coming in the form of injuries and, for now, Gavi, "Dro" Fernández, Alejandro Balde, Lamine Yamal, and captain Marc-André ter Stegen are sidelined. Moreover, as if all this weren't enough, Joan Laporta has already confirmed that there could be another injury: Fermin López, who collapsed just before the final whistle.



BARCELONA STAR REACTS AFTER MVP DISPLAY AGAINST GETAFE – 'I ALREADY SAID I COULD BE A STARTER'

Diary Times Desk : Ferran Torres was the main star of Barcelona's win 3-0 against Getafe at Estadi Johan Cruyff on Sunday night.

The Spanish international was named MVP of the match after scoring twice in the first half and is now the team's top scorer in La Liga with four goals, surpassing Raphinha, who has three.

Ferran happy with performance
Speaking to the media after the game (h/t Mundo Deportivo), Ferran highlighted that it was always going to be difficult against Getafe, while also aiming a dig at their opponents' style of play.

"We knew it was going to be a tough match. They often don't offer anything, committing a lot of fouls and disrupting the pace of the game," said Ferran.

"Although we didn't start the second half well, we got the three points," he added. The former Manchester City star continues to prove himself match after match. After the game, he underlined that he feels confident about being a starter, not just an option from the bench.

MARCUS RASHFORD LEFT OUT OF BARCELONA LINE-UP AFTER ARRIVING LATE TO TRAINING

Diary Times Desk : Marcus Rashford was left out of Barcelona's starting line-up to face Getafe on Sunday night after arriving late to training on the morning of the game.

Rashford, 27, had been looking to continue his good form after scoring twice in Barcelona's 2-1 Champions League victory at Newcastle United.

But his lack of punctuality — which sources with knowledge of the situation, speaking on the condition of anonymity, confirmed to The Athletic — saw head coach Hansi Flick continue his policy of not selecting players to start a match if they have been late to training or a meeting.

In the last year, Inaki Pena, Jules Kounde and Raphinha have also suffered the same treatment after lateness. Raphinha's incident occurred last week, but the Brazilian then came on at half-time of the game against Valencia and scored twice in the 6-0 win before being restored to the starting line-up against Newcastle.

FORMER REAL MADRID STAR AND COACH WARNS FORWARD ABOUT HIS ATTITUDE – 'NOT HEALTHY'

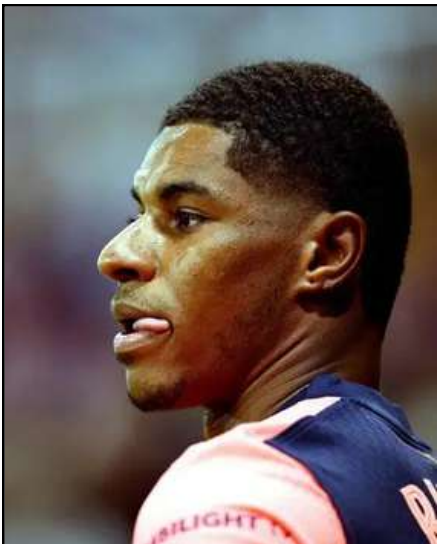
Diary Times Desk : Former Real Madrid player, coach and sporting director Jorge Valdano has spoken about Vinicius Jr.'s anger after being substituted by Xabi Alonso in the match against Espanyol.

The 24-year-old forward started for Los Blancos on Saturday, after being benched against Marseille.

While his performance was not the best, Vinicius was showing signs of coming into his own in the second half and did set Kylian Mbappe for Real Madrid's second goal.

As such, he was far from pleased from his substitution and reacted angrily, something that Xabi Alonso spoke about after the game in his press conference.

Jorge Valdano warns Vinicius
Now, former Real Madrid coach and manager Jorge Valdano has spoken about Vinicius' reaction on Movistar+, warning that things are not the same as they were under Carlo Ancelotti.
"Vinicius is not the same as he was and the coach is not the same as he was," said Valdano.



MLS: SON AND BOUANGA STAR FOR LAFC, AUSTIN WIN LATE AGAINST SEATTLE



Diary Times Desk : Denis Bouanga scored a hat-trick for Los Angeles as they beat Real Salt Lake 4-1 for the second time in the space of four days. RSL took the lead after 14 minutes through Brayan Vera, but the hosts were back in front before the half-time whistle.

Son Heung-min, who scored a hat-trick when the two sides met during the week, assisted Bouanga's equaliser in the first minute of additional time before putting LAFC ahead two minutes later with a long-range effort.

RSL pushed for an equaliser, and went close twice, but they were punished in the 73rd minute when a quick passage of play saw Bouanga through on goal and the forward coolly lobbed the goalkeeper.

The Gabon international then completed his hat-trick three minutes from time as Cabral could only parry the shot from point-blank range into the side-netting.

Elsewhere in the Western Conference, Austin FC closed the gap to the Seattle Sounders after they scored a 96th-minute winner in a 2-1 victory. Diego Rubio put Austin ahead at the Q2 stadium three minutes before the break, but Georgi Minounou equalised within 60 seconds of coming on as a half-time substitute.

MARTINELLI'S TOUCH OF CLASS FINISHES RESCUE JOB FOR ARSENAL: MOTW

Diary Times Desk : Mikel Arteta's attempt to co-opt rugby terminology to keep his squad happy may not get much purchase amongst ex-footballing pundits, but in Gabriel Martinelli's last-gasp equalizer against Manchester City, he found the perfect definition.

The irony being that in Martinelli, a footballer who has left scores of fans frustrated with his final action (or lack thereof), 'finisher' would be the last adjective to describe him. And yet, as the minutes ticked down at the Emirates Stadium with Arsenal growing increasingly desperate, the Brazilian popped up with a goal that offered merit to Arteta's definition.

With Manchester City scoring early with the most Erling Haaland of Erling Haaland goals, Pep Guardiola's side had retreated as Arsenal banged on the door. Arsenal's starters were unable to breach an out-of-possession 5-4-1 that City employed, and Arteta had to turn to his ... finishers.