

NEWS IN BRIEF
MUMBAI'S NEW AIRPORT FACES TRAFFIC WOES AS IT TAKES ON SINGAPORE AND DUBAI

Diary Times Desk : For a first-time visitor, landing in India's financial capital Mumbai can be quite an experience. At approach, as the flight cuts across the Arabian Sea and flies past the mangrove marshes, the great metropolis emerges - swarming with railway tracks, towering skyscrapers and the dense habitation of Asia's largest shantytown pressed tightly against the airport's periphery wall. For years, aviation experts have flagged the dangers and inefficiencies of operating an overworked airport right in the middle of such an urban setting, with buildings obstructing the flight path and safety and operational constraints preventing pilots from using the intersecting runways at once.

HYDERABAD CYBERCRIME COPS BUST INDIA'S BIGGEST FILM PIRACY RACKET

Diary Times Desk : Cybercrime police have dismantled what they describe as the largest movie piracy network in India, arresting five key members across multiple states. Hyderabad Police Commissioner CV Anand said the racket was responsible for leaking hundreds of films online. Anand stated that the Telugu film industry alone lost about Rs 3,700 crore to piracy in 2024, while the wider Indian film industry recorded losses of nearly Rs 22,400 crore in 2023 from pirated content across theatres and OTT platforms. The syndicate operated through hacked servers, hidden cameras in theatres, Telegram channels and cryptocurrency payments, fuelling what the city police chief called India's "multi-billion-rupee piracy economy." Investigators traced the network over two months, following a complaint from the Telugu Film Chamber of Commerce's anti-video piracy cell in June. Films such as #Single and HIT: The Third Case were found on piracy websites like ITamilBlasters, 5MoviezRulz and ITamilMV within hours of release. Later, Kubera was uploaded online on the same day it premiered.

INDIA-UK COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC AND TRADE AGREEMENT

Adding the UK government's perspective, Deputy Trade Commissioner, South Asia, British High Commission in India, Anna Shotbolt, described the Agreement as a "milestone in bilateral trade ties" and encouraged Indian exporters to align with sustainability and quality standards to capture premium segments of the UK market.

"The event placed strong emphasis on sectoral perspectives through active participation from India's leading Export Promotion Councils. Chairman, APEDA, Abhishek Dev, highlighted the growing demand for Indian agri and processed food products in the UK, noting that CETA provides a gateway for India to tap into niche categories such as ethnic foods, organic produce, and ready-to-eat products. Director General, FIEO, Ajay Sahai, stressed the importance of multi-sector opportunities, urging exporters to look beyond traditional markets and adopt digital tools to reach UK buyers more efficiently," the release said.

From the manufacturing and creative sectors, EPC leaders highlighted their industries' strengths. Vice Chairman of GJEPC, Shaunak Parikh, spoke about positioning India's gems and jewellery in the UK's luxury retail landscape, while Additional Executive Director of EPCH, Rajesh Rawat, highlighted how handicrafts and carpets can carve out niche spaces in the premium UK market. Executive Director of EEPIC, Adhip Mitra, underscored the potential of engineering goods and auto components, stressing innovation and compliance as key to success. General Manager of AEPC, Saurabh Kumar, emphasised India's competitiveness in the apparel and textiles sector, noting that CETA can boost exports if exporters align with sustainability and ethical sourcing standards.

INDIAN EXPORTERS SET TO LEVERAGE INDIA-UK TRADE AGREEMENT FOR GROWTH

Diary Times Desk : The Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Regional Authority Delhi, under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, hosted an outreach programme on the recently concluded India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) yesterday. Themed "Gateway to Growth: Harnessing Opportunities under India-UK CETA", the event brought together senior government officials, diplomats, Export Promotion Councils (EPCs), industry leaders, and trade associations to deliberate on the transformative potential of the Agreement for Indian exporters.

Chairing the programme, Director General of Foreign Trade & Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Ajay Bhadoo, underlined the strategic significance of CETA in expanding India's footprint in the UK market. He highlighted tariff concessions, simplified market access provisions, and the scope for Indian MSMEs to integrate more strongly with global value chains.

MURDERS AND MOBILE PHONES: ALL ABOUT TERRORIST LAWRENCE BISHNOI AND HIS GANG

Diary Times Desk : Mob boss Lawrence Bishnoi and his cohort of criminals - linked to murders, extortion, and drugs and weapon trafficking - were branded as terrorists by Canada Monday evening.

"Acts of violence and terror have no place in Canada, especially those that target specific communities to create a climate of fear and intimidation," Prime Minister Mark Carney's administration said.

The notification is overdue; the gang has been linked to killings and acts of intimidation, including the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Nijjar in Canada in June 2023, which caused a diplomatic storm, and the shooting outside Bollywood superstar Salman Khan's Mumbai home in April last year.

That list also includes the December 2023 murder of Rajput leader Sukhdev Gogamedi and the October 2024 killing of Maharashtra politician Baba Siddique, as well as the murder of Punjabi singer Sidhu Moose Wala in May 2022, which catapulted his gang to 'international stardom'.

Canada's crackdown means any Bishnoi gang asset in that country, from cash to vehicles and property, can be frozen or seized, giving Canadian law enforcement more (and sharper) teeth to prosecute gang members for various offences, including those related to financing of terrorist activities. It also means immigration officials can deny suspected members entry into Canada.

**GURUGRAM TECHIE KILLS WIFE, SENDS A VIDEO MESSAGE, THEN DIES BY SUICIDE**

Diary Times Desk : A software engineer has allegedly strangled his wife after a fight and then died by suicide in Gurugram, police said on Monday.

The accused, Ajay Kumar (30), then sent a video message to his friend, saying that he was going to kill himself.

Kumar, a resident of Uttar Pradesh's Prayagraj, and Sweetey Sharma, 28, a resident of West Bengal's Asansol, got married three years ago. Both worked at an IT company in Gurugram.

The police said they got a call from Kumar's friend, who told them that he had sent him a video on Sunday at 3:15 pm saying that he was going to die by suicide. The video appeared to suggest that an argument had broken out between the couple.

When the police reached their flat in a residential society in Sector 37, they found Sharma's body lying on the floor with a scarf, which was used to strangle her to death. Kumar was found hanging from a noose with a ceiling fan, the police said.

The police said that it appeared that Kumar had killed his wife. However, the cause behind both incidents is yet to be ascertained. The woman's family had alleged murder and filed a complaint against Kumar.

"US SAID 'DON'T START A WAR': P CHIDAMBARAM'S 26/11 ADMISSION, BJP POUNCES

Diary Times Desk : India considered military retaliation against Pakistan - after the 26/11 Mumbai attacks - but decided against it amid pressure from the international community, including the United States, and the advice of senior diplomats, senior Congress leader P Chidambaram, said Monday.

The admission has been pounced on by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party, which was heavily criticised by the opposition, including the Congress, after the Operation Sindoor ceasefire; this was after US President Donald Trump claimed he told Delhi and Islamabad to stop fighting, and they listened.

All of this played out in the days after terrorists from the Pak-based Lashkar-e-Taiba - also responsible for the Pahalgam terror attack in April this year - slaughtered 175 people in coordinated strikes.

Chidambaram, the Home Minister in the then-ruling Congress-led UPA government, told a Hindi news channel "the whole world descended on Delhi to tell us 'don't start a war'". This included a conversation with ex-United States Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and it persuaded the government to reconsider an armed response, the Congress leader said.

"Two or three days after I took over (Condoleezza Rice came) to meet me and the Prime Minister (then, Dr Manmohan Singh) ... to say 'please don't react'. I said this is a decision which the government will take. (But) ... an act of retribution did cross my mind."

FLIGHT WAS DELAYED BY FIVE HOURS**PASSENGERS PERFORM GARBA AT GOA AIRPORT AFTER FLIGHT DELAY, AIRLINE STAFF JOINS**

Diary Times Desk : Mayur had travelled to Goa for work. But he wanted to wrap it up early and return to Surat to celebrate Navratri, a nine-day festival observed in honour of goddess Durga. He had booked train tickets but since the service was delayed, he cancelled the train ticket and booked a flight ticket instead. To his surprise, even the flight was delayed by five hours. But that could dampen Mayur and his fellow passengers' spirits. They turned Goa airport into mela ground and performed Garba in unison.

Surat-bound flight was scheduled to depart from Goa at 5 pm on Sunday evening. Passengers were looking forward to going to Surat and participating in Navratri festivities, particularly Garba. But the flight was delayed due to a technical issue.

Mayur, one of the passengers, expressed his eagerness to reach Surat to a flight attendant. And that opened doors to celebration at the airport.

The flight attendant arranged for speakers, bringing everyone together for Garba. The video of people, including airline staff, dancing to folk songs, has gone viral.

In a viral video, people are seen clapping to traditional beats, twirling, and swaying in a circle. A man, standing in the middle of the circle, can be seen asking people to increase the radius of the circle so that more people can join. In between, airline staff is seen joining the celebration and tapping foot.

Navratri is often celebrated with the joyous dance of Garba. This nine-night festival honors Goddess Durga's divine power, blending devotion with celebration. Garba, a traditional folk dance from Gujarat, brings communities together in colorful attire, swirling to rhythmic beats around a beautifully decorated Garba or Dandiya setup.

ODISHA GOVERNMENT RAISES WORKDAY TO 10 HOURS, OKS NIGHT SHIFT FOR WOMEN

Diary Times Desk : The state government on Monday extended the maximum daily work hours for all categories of commercial establishments from existing nine to 10 while allowing women employees to work night shifts and enhancing overtime wages for the workers.

The state cabinet presided over by Chief Minister Mohan Charan Mahji approved proposals for amendments to the Factories Act, 1948 and the Odisha Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1956 to maximise productivity, ease of doing business, and enhance economic activities.

Announcing the decisions after the cabinet meeting, the chief minister said the maximum daily work time will now be 10 hours subject to an upper-limit of 48 hours in a week. The amendments will be applicable to all groups or classes of industries and factories as well as shops and commercial establishments.

Mahji said amendments to the Factories Act will allow women employees to work night shifts between 7 pm and 6 am in all factories, shops and commercial establishments. However, they will be engaged only with their written consent. The night shift engagement of women will be subject to issues of their safety or any other conditions prescribed by the state government, he added.

PM MODI PERFORMS AARTI AT FAMOUS TEMPLE IN DELHI'S 'MINI BENGAL'

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi today visited a Durga Puja pandal in south Delhi's CR Park neighbourhood on the auspicious occasion of Ashtami. He offered prayers to Goddess Durga amid chanting of mantras. The Prime Minister also performed an aarti at the iconic Kali Bari temple in the area. He then attended the celebrations held according to traditional Bengali culture.

Heavy security arrangements were in place in view of PM Modi's visit this evening in south Delhi areas. Traffic on several stretches were regulated. Chittaranjan Park, or CR Park, is a Bengali community neighbourhood where nearly every park has a pandal. It is next to Greater Kailash Part-2, an upscale south Delhi locality.

"Today, on the auspicious occasion of Maha Ashtami, I went to Delhi's Chittaranjan Park to take part in the Durga Puja celebrations. Chittaranjan Park is known for its strong association with Bengali culture. The celebrations truly reflect the spirit of unity and cultural vibrancy in our society. Prayed for everyone's happiness and wellbeing," PM Modi said in a post on X after the visit to CR Park. The resident welfare associations had informed people in their areas to check for traffic restrictions and diversions during PM Modi's visit.

Also known as Delhi's mini Bengal, Chittaranjan Park is known for its Durga Puja celebrations. The area is adorned with vibrant pandals, food stalls, and cultural events celebrating the festival. The lively celebrations attract thousands of visitors from across the city.

BULLDOZER ACTION AGAINST CLOSE AIDE OF UP CLERIC IN BAREILLY

Diary Times Desk : Bulldozers moved into UP's Bareilly, where authorities have initiated action against properties linked to close aides of Tauqeer Raza Khan, the influential cleric and president of the Ittehad-e-Millat Council (IMC). The first target appears to be the residence of one of his associates in the Bankhana area, where officials sealed construction work on Monday amid a heavy police deployment. The Bareilly district administration and police, accompanied by a fire brigade team, arrived at the residence of Nadeem Khan, identified as a close aide of Tauqeer Raza. Construction work at the site was halted and sealed, and a bulldozer was moved in. Officials indicated that the property, which is registered in the name of a relative, could be demolished as early as Tuesday. A large police force, including companies of paramilitary personnel, has been stationed in the area to prevent any disturbance. Senior officers, including the District Magistrate, Senior Superintendent of Police Anurag Arya, Bareilly Development Authority (BDA) Vice-Chairman Dr Manikandan A, and the municipal commissioner, are supervising preparations. According to officials, eight properties linked to associates of Tauqeer Raza have been identified for action. These structures, spread across Faiq Enclave, Jagatpur and Bareilly's old city, are alleged to have been built without sanctioned maps and in several cases on government or ceiling land.

KERALA ASSEMBLY ADJOURNED AMID OPPOSITION PROTEST OVER DEATH THREATS AGAINST RAHUL GANDHI



Diary Times Desk : The Legislative Assembly was adjourned on Tuesday following a strong protest from the Opposition over the Speaker's refusal to permit an adjournment motion to discuss the death threat made against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi by a BJP leader.

Although the government had previously allowed discussions on four adjournment motions, Tuesday's notice was rejected outright. Speaker A N Shamseer stated that the issue was neither urgent nor important enough to warrant an adjournment motion and suggested it could instead be brought up as a submission.

ICONIC GANDHI STATUE NEAR LONDON UNIVERSITY VANDALISED, INDIA REACTS

Diary Times Desk : Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Tavistock Square, London, was defaced on Monday, just days before the annual Gandhi Jayanti celebrations are scheduled to take place at the site on October 2. The High Commission of India has strongly condemned the incident, calling it a "shameful act" and an assault on the legacy of nonviolence. In a post on X, the Indian mission said the desecration was reported to the local authorities, even as its officials were on site to coordinate the restoration of the monument to its original state. The plinth of the iconic statue, which depicts the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, in a seated meditative pose, was discovered daubed with disturbing anti-India graffiti. "The High Commission of India in London is deeply saddened and strongly condemns the shameful act of vandalism of the statue of Mahatma Gandhi at Tavistock Square in London," the High Commission said in a statement.

HEAVY RAIN, THUNDERSTORM IN DELHI AND NOIDA, AIRLINES ISSUE ADVISORY

Diary Times Desk : Heavy rain and thunderstorms lashed parts of Delhi on Tuesday, bringing relief from the scorching heat over the past few days. Many areas in the city were waterlogged, disrupting traffic movement. Visuals showed the Zakhira underpass in the national capital waterlogged, with people trying to walk through the flooded street. Airlines have also issued advisories, warning passengers of temporary disruptions in flight schedules. "Persistent rainfall and thunderstorms are currently affecting #Delhi, leading to possible delays in flight operations. Our teams are closely monitoring the situation to ensure your journey resumes as soon as conditions improve. If you're travelling today, we recommend checking your flight status on our website or app before leaving for the airport. Please also allow for additional travel time, as road conditions may be slower than usual," IndiGo said in a post on X.

"GEN Z REVOLTED IN NEPAL, HERE ALSO...": AFTER STAMPEDE, VIJAY'S AIDE'S X POST

Diary Times Desk : A now-deleted X post by Aadhav Arjuna, a senior leader in actor Vijay's Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam, has kicked up a row for urging Tamil Nadu's 'Gen Z' to do as young Nepalis did this month, and revolt against a "wicked government", i.e., the ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

In particular, the timing of the post - less than 48 hours after a stampede at a rally headlined by Vijay in Karur killed 41 people - has raised eyebrows. The DMK has responded only briefly so far; Lok Sabha MP Kanimozhi called the post "irresponsible" and warned it would instigate violence.

The TVK, grappling with the humane, legal, and political fallout of the stampede - including police claims that Vijay's 'deliberate display of political power' was responsible - has acknowledged the error. Sources said the post had been immediately deleted, and that the party had nothing to do with it or the 'revolution' apparently advocated by Arjuna.

'The party and Vijay will never instigate people or violence', TVK sources told NDTV. In the Tamil post, a screenshot of which is circulating online, Aadhava Arjuna, the TVK's General Secretary, had declared, "A youth-led revolution is the only solution. 'Gen Z' revolted in Sri Lanka, Nepal against the ruling government. Here also the youth will lead a revolution."

"ALLEGATIONS FALSE": TVK LEADERS NAMED IN STAMPEDE CASE SEEK PRE-ARREST BAIL

Diary Times Desk : Named in the First Information Report (FIR) in connection with the stampede in Tamil Nadu's Karur last week, in which 41 people were killed, two senior functionaries of the Tamilaga Vetti Kazhagam (TVK) - General Secretary Bussy Anand and Joint General Secretary CT Nirmal Kumar - have approached the Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court seeking pre-arrest bail. In their bail applications, the leaders plead innocence, describing the allegations as "false, baseless, and intended to implicate us for political reasons". They stressed that they are "law-abiding citizens with no criminal antecedents" and maintained that the stampede was caused purely by an "unexpected surge of a huge crowd beyond the control of any individual."

9 KILLED IN ARCH COLLAPSE AT TAMIL NADU POWER PLANT, PM ANNOUNCES COMPENSATION

Diary Times Desk : Nine migrant workers from Assam were killed when an under-construction coal handling enclosure collapsed at the Ennore supercritical power station on the outskirts of Chennai. The accident occurred inside the premises of a Special Economic Zone (SEZ), leaving one worker injured and under treatment. Confirming the tragedy, Dr J Radhakrishnan, Chairman and Managing Director of TANGEDCO, told NDTV: "The grid fell on them from 45 feet high as they worked on a crane. It's a coal handling shed and work was on to build a cover." The injured worker was rushed to Chennai's Stanley government hospital, situated around 15 kilometres from the accident site. When asked whether the workers were provided safety equipment, Dr Radhakrishnan said: "Yes, they had complied with safety gear." He added that the injured worker is in stable condition and under treatment. Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) officials were present at the site and authorities have started a probe into the cause of the accident. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced a compensation of Rs 2 lakh for each of the families of the dead. Further, Rs 50,000 compensation was announced for those who sustained injuries.

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin expressed deep sorrow over the loss of lives. In a statement in Tamil.

"DUBAI SHEIKH WANTS SEX PARTNER": DELHI BABA'S SHOCKING WHATSAPP CHATS



Diary Times Desk : The arrest of self-styled godman Swami Chaitanyananda Saraswati has led to the discovery of WhatsApp chats that shed light on his alleged exploitation of young women students. One of the most striking exchanges shows Chaitanyanand trying to arrange what he described as a meeting with a "Dubai Sheikh." In a conversation with an alleged student, the 62-year-old wrote: Delhi Baba: "One Dubai Sheikh wants to [have] a sex partner, do you have any nice friend?" Victim: "Koi nahi hai" (There is no one). Delhi Baba: "How it's possible?" Victim: "I don't know." Delhi Baba: "Your any classmate? Junior?" In other chats, Chaitanyananda repeatedly addresses a victim in infantilising terms, such as "Sweetie Baby Daughter Doll."

SUSPECTED KIDNEY INFECTION CLAIMS LIFE OF SEVENTH CHILD IN MP'S CHHINDWARA IN 30 DAYS

Diary Times Desk : A 4-year-old boy from Chhindwara in Madhya Pradesh has died due to a suspected kidney infection, marking the seventh such child fatality in the district this month, officials said.

Authorities have collected different samples from the areas concerned to identify the source of infection, the initial symptoms of which include high fever and difficulty in urinating, they said.

The deaths have been reported mainly from Tamia and adjoining Koylanchal areas, about 55 km from the district headquarters, where several other children are undergoing treatment in private hospitals, the officials said on Sunday, as authorities grappled with the rising number of such cases.

AFTER POLL ROLL REVISION, 'GEN Z' VOTERS HOLD KEY IN BIHAR'S NAWADA DISTRICT

Diary Times Desk : A total of 95,959 voters in Bihar's Nawada have been removed in the final list published by the Election Commission (EC) following the special intensive revision (SIR) exercise. The EC also added at least 30,491 voters in this district - known as a key battleground region, and one where all the contesting alliances want to win. The voter list released by the Nawada district magistrate and district election officer Ravi Prakash under the SIR exercise indicates Gen Z or young voters will emerge as the biggest factor in the assembly election in all the constituencies of Nawada. There are 3.64 lakh Gen Z voters between 18 and 30 years old in Nawada out of a total 17.16 lakh voters. Most of them would be first-time voters. Analysts say their thinking and decisions are more easily influenced by social media, the internet and new-age issues. While traditional vote banks have been decisive in elections, the appearance of a large number of Gen Z voters has brought both challenges and opportunities for candidates in Nawada.

JSP SEEKS PM MODI'S INTERVENTION IN REMOVING BIHAR DY CM SAMRAT CHOUDHARY FROM OFFICE

Diary Times Desk : Jan Suraaj Party (JSP) national president Uday Singh on Tuesday wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging him to remove Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary from his post over allegedly misrepresenting his age to obtain reprieve in a 1995 murder case. In his letter, former MP Singh alleged that Choudhary avoided conviction in the 1995 case, in which six people were killed, by misrepresenting his age. He said Choudhary was arrested and sent to judicial custody, and his bail petitions were rejected twice. Later, Choudhary produced a matriculation certificate showing his age as 15, and by declaring himself a minor, he obtained a court reprieve. However, in his 2020 election affidavit, Choudhary listed his year of birth as 1969, which would have made him 26 in 1995 when the incident occurred, Singh noted in his letter.

"PREPAREDNESS AGAINST NUCLEAR THREATS IS IMPORTANT": DEFENCE CHIEF

Diary Times Desk : Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan on Tuesday called for preparedness against bio-threats and radio contamination from nuclear weapons for the future. Addressing the Scientific Session on the 100th Raising Day of the Military Nursing Service (MNS) at the Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt, Gen Chauhan said that bio-threats are likely to increase in the post-COVID pandemic era and called for defence preparedness against them.

He said, "The world has been through a period of intense travels and tribulations during the COVID pandemic. Bio-threats, man-made, accidental or natural, are likely to increase in future."

"Defence against such threats and treatment of infected persons require different treatment protocols. We must be prepared for this in future," he added.



SEEK BRICS MEMBERSHIP, LOOKS FORWARD TO INDIA'S SUPPORT: PALESTINIAN AMBASSADOR TO INDIA

Diary Times Desk : Palestine has formally expressed interest in joining the BRICS grouping and has begun discussions with member countries. Palestinian Ambassador to India Abdullah Abu Shawesh stated that Palestine views BRICS as an essential platform and is hopeful of becoming a full member with India's support.

"BRICS is a very important platform, and we look forward to being a full part of this. We are already in discussion with all the BRICS members, and we look forward to India supporting our request," Abu Shawesh told ANI.

The envoy said Palestine values India's role in global forums and hopes that New Delhi will back its application.

BRITISH ENVOY TO INDIA EXPRESSES "DISAPPOINTMENT AND SADNESS" OVER VANDALISM OF MAHATMA GANDHI'S STATUE IN LONDON

Diary Times Desk : British High Commissioner Lindy Cameron expressed "disappointment and sadness" over the vandalism of Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Tavistock Square, London, just days before his birth anniversary on October 2.

"Disappointed and saddened by the vandalism of Gandhiji's statue. The @metpoliceuk have begun an investigation. His teachings of tolerance, peace, and non-violence are timeless and will always bring people together. That's what I'll remember on Gandhi Jayanti, this year and every year," she said. She added that the London Metropolitan Police have begun an investigation into the incident. The High Commission of India in London also condemned the act, calling it a "shameful act of vandalism" and stating that it had "taken this up strongly with local authorities." In a post on X, the mission said, "This is not just vandalism, but a violent attack on the idea of nonviolence, three days before the International Day of Nonviolence, and on the legacy of the Mahatma."

TODDLER 'ARYATARA SHAKYA' IS ANOINTED AS "KUMARI" THE LIVING GODDESS AFTER UNDERGOING ANCIENT RITUAL

Diary Times Desk : Toddler 'Aryatara Shakya' has been anointed as the Royal "Kumari" the Living Goddess of Nepal undergoing ancient ritual in a ceremony on Tuesday. The two-and-half year old goddess passed the selection process which included a traditional trial of bravery. On Tuesday she was brought to the Taleju Bhawani temple, carried by her father, where thousands of people queued in line to get a glance of her. Five senior Buddhist Bajracharya, Chief Royal Priest, Taleju, and a royal astrologer oversees the selection ritual of the Kumari. "There are total of twelve criteria that are to be met to formally anoint a Kumari. Following those twelve criteria we asked for the name of children in Shakya clan from which Kumari is made, we sent the notice to 12 Bahal (areas). It was to collect the name of those eligible to be the Kumari. From the collected names, we then sorted out those who fulfill the criteria.

BRIDGERTON MEETS BOLLYWOOD! WATCH SIMONE ASHLEY'S FANGIRL MOMENT WITH AISHWARYA



Diary Times Desk : The Paris Fashion Week 2025 has been buzzing with excitement, thanks to a heartwarming encounter between Bridgerton star Simone Ashley and Bollywood star Aishwarya Rai Bachchan. The two celebrities met backstage at the fashion event, where Aishwarya was representing beauty brand L'Oréal.

Simone captured the special moment with a candid selfie, which she shared on her Instagram Stories. The photo shows the two stars posing in matching black outfits, exuding elegance and warmth as they get ready in their vanity space.

In no time fans expressed their excitement on social media.

Meanwhile, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan's appearance at Paris Fashion Week 2025 was a grand success, with her stunning outfit designed by Manish Malhotra turning heads.

"QATAR NOW COMMITTED TO A COMMON VISION," ISRAELI ENVOY TO INDIA EXPRESSES HOPE OF PEACE IN WEST ASIA

Diary Times Desk : Reuven Azar, Ambassador of Israel to India said that Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was clear that he did not have anything against Qatar itself, but they simply targeted terrorists there. Azar said that now Qatar has a common vision after it accepted the peace proposal by US President Donald Trump."Well, the Prime Minister was very clear that we didn't have any intention against Qatar itself. We targeted terrorists there. We apologized for killing a Qatari citizen that was a guard there. But I think that above that, what gave us the confidence to create this new mechanism with Qatar is that Qatar now is committed to a common vision," he said.

INTERNSHIP GONE WRONG? INDIAN WOMAN'S 2-DAY MUNICH STAY ENDS IN SUDDEN FIRING



Diary Times Desk : Kaajal Tekwani, an Indian woman, has gone viral on social media after sharing her shocking experience of being fired from a German startup just two days into her internship. Tekwani relocated from Berlin to Munich for the role, having gone through multiple interview rounds, completed a task to the company's satisfaction, and even turned down other offers.

She shared the video on Instagram. Tekwani's troubles began when the founder criticised her attitude, claiming she lacked a certain "fire" needed for the role.

According to Tekwani, the reasons cited for her dismissal were:

Not a team fit: The company felt she didn't mesh well with the team. Lack of senior knowledge and expertise: They expected someone more experienced, despite knowing her level during the interview process. Punctuality issues: Being late on her second day due to an eye infection, which she had informed her team about.

BANGLADESH RIGHTS GROUP EXPRESSES DISMAY OVER YUNUS'S DENIAL OF MINORITY PERSECUTION

Diary Times Desk : Bangladesh Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad, a human rights organisation dedicated to combating religious discrimination, has expressed deep regret and indignation over the statement made by Interim Government Chief Adviser Dr Muhammad Yunus. In an interview with GTO on Tuesday, held on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly session, Dr. Yunus reportedly dismissed allegations of persecution against the Hindu minority during his government's tenure as "baseless." A statement from the Parishad described the Chief Adviser's comments as a "denial of the truth." In a protest letter issued to the media, the Oikya Parishad's central committee responded to the Chief Adviser's remarks, stating that during a consultation meeting held on August 13, 2024, with Dr Yunus and religious and ethnic minority leaders, they strongly demanded an immediate halt to the ongoing violence.



"KYRGYZSTAN IS REASONABLE FOR STUDENTS," HONORARY CONSUL OF KYRGYZSTAN IN CHENNAI SAYS



Diary Times Desk : Prakash Rao Venkata Ramana Duvvuri, Honorary Consul Kyrgyz Republic in Chennai said that Kyrgyzstan is reasonable for Indian students to pursue medical field.

"Kyrgyzstan is very reasonable. The entire cost of medical education there is not more than 25 lakhs for all the five years. Whereas 25 lakhs is nothing for medical education in this country. In this country, we talk of 1 crore 75 lakhs minimum. As I said, 25 lakhs is maximum cost, including maintenance and all that. So that's why today you find 10,000 students from South of India doing medicine there. And overall from India around 20,000 students are there. A lot of students go into Russia for education," he told ANI.

Duvvuri said that all these nations were once a part of the Soviet Union, and these countries are preferred for the safety and security they offer.

"All these countries were a part of Soviet Union at one time. They got separated in 1992, I think, Kyrgyzstan got separated. So the country is developing after the independence. Among the neighboring countries, here safety and stability is very good. Not only safety of people, stability of the government and all is very good here. No problems," he said.

Duvvuri said that he was proud of the opening of the consulate, as Tamil Nadu significantly contributes to the GDP of the country and it is a huge moment for the state.

CHICAGO IMMIGRATION AGENTS GET OUTRUN, OUTSMARTED AND OUTBIKED

CREDIBILITY, TRANSPARENCY OF PAKISTAN'S 2024 ELECTION IMPINGED: COMMONWEALTH REPORT

Diary Times Desk : A dramatic video is making rounds on social media, showcasing a food delivery worker's daring escape from US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents in downtown Chicago. The incident has sparked widespread debate and mockery of the agents involved.

According to eyewitnesses, the delivery worker was riding his bike when he spotted the ICE agents approaching him. One officer yelled "Get him!" as the worker took off on foot, leaving the agents struggling to keep up. Despite their tactical gear, the ICE officers were no match for the agile delivery worker, who successfully evaded capture.

Diary Times Desk : A combination of factors, including the non-allocation of the cricket bat symbol to Imran Khan's party, impinged on the "credibility, transparency and inclusiveness" of the electoral process during Pakistan's 2024 general election, said the Commonwealth's independent election observer group in a report released on Tuesday.

The 13-member Commonwealth Observer Group (COG), led by former Nigerian president Goodluck Jonathan, was convened by the Commonwealth Secretariat following an invitation from Election Commission of Pakistan (ECP).

BLAST TARGETS SECURITY FORCES IN PAKISTAN'S QUETTA, 10 DEAD; CCTV CAPTURES MOMENT



Diary Times Desk : At least 10 people were killed and several others injured on Tuesday after a powerful explosion hit Pakistan's restive Balochistan province, according to Dawn.

The bomb blast ripped through a busy street near Quetta's Frontier Constabulary (FC) headquarters. CCTV videos have emerged on social media showing the moment the powerful explosion hit the road.

Quoting the police, it said that 10 people were killed in the blast while at least 19 others were injured.

The Balochistan Health Department imposed an emergency in hospitals across the city, the Dawn newspaper reported, quoting Health Secretary Mujeeb Rehman.

"All consultants, doctors, pharmacists, staff nurses, and paramedical staff have been directed to remain present in the hospitals," Rehman said.

PAKISTAN SUCCESSFULLY TEST-FIRES FATAH-4 CRUISE MISSILE

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan on Tuesday successfully conducted a training launch of the newly inducted and indigenously developed cruise missile 'Fatah-4' that can strike targets up to 750 kilometres, the army said.

The army carried out the launch of the missile with a range of 750 kilometres, Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the army's media arm, said in a statement.

"Equipped with advanced avionics and state-of-the-art navigational aids, this weapon system is capable of evading enemy's missile defence system due to terrain-hugging features and engaging targets with high precision," the army said.

As part of the Army Rocket Force Command, Fatah-4 "will further enhance the reach, lethality and survivability of Pakistan Army's conventional missile systems", it said.

The launch was witnessed by the chief of general staff, senior officers from Pakistan's armed forces, scientists and engineers.

IMF TEAM IN PAKISTAN TO REVIEW ITS \$7-BILLION BAILOUT LOAN PERFORMANCE

Diary Times Desk : An IMF mission held a formal kick-off meeting with Pakistan's economic team to review the implementation of a USD 7 billion loan and a USD 1.1 billion Resilience and Sustainability Facility, according to a media report on Tuesday.

It comes as the programme's performance as of end-June 2025 — the period under review — has been mixed, the Dawn newspaper reported.

The IMF team, led by Pakistan's Mission Chief Iva Petrova, met on Monday with Pakistan's delegation headed by Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb.

The opening session was attended by key economic stakeholders, including the State Bank of Pakistan governor, finance secretary and the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) chairman.

The mission will remain in Pakistan for almost two weeks and review the implementation of the USD 7 billion Extended Financing Facility (EFF) and the USD 1.1 billion Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF).

WHAT CHARLIE KIRK ADVISED BENJAMIN NETANYAHU TO COUNTER "ANTI-ISRAEL" SENTIMENT

Diary Times Desk : Right-wing activist and commentator Charlie Kirk, who was assassinated earlier in September, advised Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu that his focus should be on winning the "information warfare", adding he should not depend on "subcontracting" it to "surrogates in America".

"Mr Prime Minister, I urge you to REVAMP your information warfare strategy from top to bottom," he said.

In a seven-page letter, Kirk also flagged the "anti-Israel sentiment" among Gen Z, something he said he observed during his interactions with students and people on college campuses.

The May 2 long note also referred to an alarming rise in "anti-Israel and anti-Semitic trends" on social media, The NY Post reported.



YOUTUBE TO PAY \$24.5M TO SETTLE LAWSUIT OVER TRUMP'S ACCOUNT SUSPENSION

Diary Times Desk : YouTube has agreed to pay \$24.5m to settle a lawsuit brought by United States President Donald Trump after the platform suspended his account in response to the January 6, 2021, riot at the US Capitol. Under the settlement, YouTube, which is owned by Google parent company Alphabet, will contribute \$22m on Trump's behalf to the Trust for the National Mall, a nonprofit that is overseeing a \$200m project to construct a ballroom at the White House, a court filing showed on Monday. The remaining \$2.5m will go to other plaintiffs in the case, including the American Conservative Union and American author Naomi Wolf, according to the filing at the US District Court for the Northern District of California. The settlement does not include any admission of wrongdoing by YouTube, and was reached for the "sole purpose of compromising disputed claims."

TRUMP'S BAGRAM GAMBIT IS ALL ABOUT CHINA

Diary Times Desk : On September 20, 2025, US President Donald Trump warned on Truth Social that if Afghanistan "doesn't give Bagram Airfield back ... BAD THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN!" Earlier that week at a London press event, the US leader described Bagram as "an hour away from where China makes its nuclear weapons." While factually imprecise, the message was unmistakable: Washington sees renewed value in a forward option on China's western periphery, even if only as a coercive signal. Kabul's answer was immediate and categorical. A Taliban foreign ministry official dismissed the idea of a US return to Bagram, citing sovereignty and the Doha Agreement peace deal. Relinquishing the very airfield that symbolized America's defeat would be political suicide for the Taliban regime; publicly, at least, there is no room for negotiation. The strategic logic behind Trump's threat is geography.

FIRST TANKER SET TO LOAD KRG OIL AT TÜRKIYE'S CEYHAN AFTER 2.5-YEAR HALT



Diary Times Desk : An oil tanker has been booked to load about 700,000 barrels of oil from Iraq's Kurdistan Regional Government (KRG) at the Mediterranean export terminal at the Turkish port of Ceyhan on Thursday, a report said on Tuesday. That will make Vallesina the first tanker to load crude following the resumption of flows through a pipeline from KRG to Türkiye on Saturday after a 2.5-year hiatus over legal and technical disputes. The restart came after eight oil companies operating in KRG reached agreements with Baghdad and the regional government. According to the agreement, the KRG will deliver the crude to SOMO, Iraq's national oil marketing company, and an independent trader will handle sales from Ceyhan using SOMO's official prices. Producers will get \$16 per barrel.

INDIA'S TRADE PACT WITH 4 EUROPEAN NATIONS FROM OCT 1, \$100 BILLION INVESTMENT IN 15 YEARS

Diary Times Desk : The free trade agreement between India and the four-nation European bloc EFTA will come into force from Wednesday under which New Delhi has received an investment commitment of USD 100 billion in 15 years from the grouping while allowing several products such as Swiss watches, chocolates and cut and polished diamonds at lower or zero duties. The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) members are Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, and Switzerland. It was signed on March 10, 2024. Domestic customers will get access to high-quality Swiss products such as watches, chocolates, biscuits, and clocks at lower prices as India will phase out customs duties under the trade pact on these goods over 10 years. The bloc committed an investment of USD 100 billion -- USD 50 billion within 10 years after the implementation of the agreement and another USD 50 billion in the next five years - which would facilitate the creation of one million direct jobs in India.

NETANYAHU DIALS QATAR FROM WHITE HOUSE, APOLOGISES FOR DOHA ATTACK

Diary Times Desk : Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu expressed regret for an Israeli attack in Doha to Qatar's leader on Monday in a three-way call with US President Donald Trump, the White House said. The White House said Netanyahu also expressed regret for Israel violating Qatari sovereignty and "affirmed that Israel will not conduct such an attack again in the future." "The leaders discussed a proposal for ending the war in Gaza, prospects for a more secure Middle East, and the need for greater understanding between their countries," the White House said before a news conference with Trump and the Israeli prime minister. Trump hosted Netanyahu for talks on Monday to press him to back a Gaza peace proposal aimed at ending a nearly 2-year-old war that has seen Israel face growing international isolation.



TRUMP SAYS HAMAS HAS 'THREE OR FOUR DAYS' TO RESPOND TO GAZA PROPOSAL



Diary Times Desk : United States President Donald Trump says Hamas has “three or four days” to respond to his Gaza ceasefire proposal, telling reporters that Israeli and Arab leaders had already accepted the plan.

“Hamas is either going to be doing it or not, and if it’s not, it’s going to be a very sad end,” Trump said at the White House on Tuesday. Asked if there was room for negotiations on the proposal, he replied: “Not much.”

The US president also thanked Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who met with Trump on Monday in Washington, DC, “for agreeing to the plan”.

Trump’s comments come a day after the White House released a 20-point document that calls for an immediate ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, the exchange of Israeli captives held by Hamas for Palestinians in Israeli prisons and a staged Israeli withdrawal from Gaza.

800 US GENERALS SAT IN SILENCE AS TRUMP’S QUANTICO SPEECH SPIRALED FROM \$1 TRILLION MILITARY SPENDING TO HITTING PROTESTERS

Diary Times Desk : When US President Donald Trump walked onto the stage at Marine Corps Base Quantico on Tuesday, he quipped: “I’ve never walked into a room so silent before.”

Before him sat hundreds of generals and admirals, one of the largest gatherings of US military brass in modern history. The US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth had already stunned the audience by declaring the Department of Defence the ‘War Department.’ Now it was Trump’s turn to speak.

The president encouraged the officers to laugh, applaud, or even walk out, joking that if they left, “there goes your rank, there goes your future.”

Backing Hegseth’s War Department reset

He even suggested to Hegseth that America’s crime-ridden cities could be used as military training grounds, and floated deploying the National Guard to Chicago and Portland.

TARIFFS, ASIM MUNIR, INDIA-PAKISTAN WAR, NOBEL PEACE: TRUMP REPEATS HIS DICTIONARY IN NEW SPEECH

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump on Tuesday praised tariffs as a key tool in boosting the nation’s wealth, calling the word “beautiful”. The President said, “Tariff is my favourite word,” and highlighted the trillions of dollars collected. He stressed that whoever has taken advantage of the US and now tariffs gonna treat them fairly. “I love tariffs. Most beautiful word... Tariff is my favourite word... We’re becoming rich as hell... We’ve taken in trillions of dollars... When we finish this out, there’ll never be any wealth like what we have. Other countries had been taking advantage of us for years... Now we’re treating them fairly,” the US President said.

While addressing the Department of War, Trump added, “We have a big case in front of the Supreme Court, but I can’t imagine because this is what other nations have done to us... We’ve taken in trillions of dollars. We’re rich again. When we finish this out, there’ll never be any wealth like what we have. Other countries were taking advantage of us for years and years...

AFGHANISTAN IMPOSES INTERNET BLACKOUT: WHAT HAS THE EFFECT BEEN SO FAR?

Diary Times Desk : A nationwide telecoms shutdown has been imposed in Afghanistan, as part of a Taliban crackdown on “immoral activities”. Netblocks, a global internet watchdog, said on Monday that multiple networks in Afghanistan had been disconnected. Telephone services had also been limited, resulting in what Netblocks described as a “total internet blackout” in the nation of 43 million people. Connectivity was cut in phases on Monday, with the final stage affecting telephone services. In the past, the Taliban have voiced concern about online pornography. And earlier this month, authorities cut fibre-optic links to some provinces, with officials citing morality concerns. “The incident is likely to severely limit the public’s ability to contact the outside world,” the group added. This is the first time that the whole of Afghanistan has faced an internet blackout under the hardline Islamist government.

THREE DEAD, DOZENS TRAPPED AFTER INDONESIAN SCHOOL COLLAPSES ON STUDENTS

Diary Times Desk : Rescuers are racing to pull dozens of students and workers from under the rubble of a school building that collapsed in East Java, Indonesia. Three people have been killed and 99 others hospitalised, some of them with critical injuries, officials said Tuesday, adding that the death toll may rise. At least 38 others, many of them teenage boys remain trapped under the Al Khoziny Islamic Boarding School in the East Java town of Sidoarjo. They had gathered for prayers when the building gave way on Monday. The two-storey building had an unstable foundation and could not support the weight of the construction of two more floors, the disaster mitigation agency said. The girls were praying in another part of the building and managed to escape, according to the Associated Press.

MADAGASCAR POLICE FIRE TEAR GAS AS PRESIDENT FAILS TO PLACATE PROTESTERS

Diary Times Desk : Police in Madagascar have fired tear gas as hundreds of young protesters returned to the streets of the capital, despite the president agreeing to dissolve his government. The so-called Gen-Z protests have seen thousands demonstrate in cities across Madagascar since Thursday, demanding an end to repeated water and power cuts. President Andry Rajoelina sacked his government on Monday, but protesters responded to calls on social media for a fresh rally on Tuesday. A message on the protest movement’s Facebook page expressed disappointment with the president’s speech, calling for him to apologise and take responsibility after protesters were killed by the security forces. The UN’s human rights chief previously said security forces had used “unnecessary force” to quell the unrest, adding that at least 22 people were killed and 100 others injured. Madagascar’s foreign ministry has rejected the UN’s figures, alleging the data is “based on rumours or misinformation”. Police were deployed in and around Antananarivo on Tuesday. At one roadblock, they fired teargas to scatter a small crowd that had begun to gather, the AFP news agency reported.



**PUBLISHERS CLEARING
HOUSE’S NEW PLAN:
FUTURE WINNERS WILL
BE PROTECTED. PAST
WINNERS STILL WON’T
GET PAID**

Diary Times Desk :
Publishers Clearing House – the bankrupt sweepstakes company that told its past prize winners they would no longer receive their ‘forever’ payments – has a new CEO, who has a plan to protect the company’s prize winners.
Future winners. Past winners are still out of luck.
ARB Interactive, a mobile gaming company that now owns PCH, announced Tuesday that Owen O’Donoghue will lead a “revitalization” of the 70-year-old brand that ensures “all future sweepstakes payouts are fully secure,” according to a statement. O’Donoghue, the new PCH CEO, also plans to make PCH a “mobile-first digital entertainment platform.”
The change comes after ARB Interactive said that under the terms of the sales agreement, it would not honor payouts for those who won their life-changing prizes before July 15th of this year, leaving many so-called forever winners without the sweepstakes checks they had come to rely on for years.

**MOST COMPANIES
AREN’T SEEING A
RETURN ON AI
INVESTMENTS. THIS
TECH CEO WANTS TO
CHANGE THAT**

Diary Times Desk : The artificial intelligence industry has a big problem: 95% of companies that try AI aren’t making any money from it, according to a report from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology last month. One AI executive believes he knows why. “There has been this general promise of, hey, you’ll just plug in the (AI) model ... and everything will work,” Jason Droege, CEO of startup Scale AI, said in an interview. “The reality is a little bit different.” Scale is primarily known for helping to make AI work at a fundamental level. AI giants need massive amounts of data to train their large language models, and it needs to be labeled and categorized so the models can learn, for example, what’s a photo of a cat versus a photo of a fish – for years, they’ve turned to Scale to provide that organized data.

**BEIJING’S ANGER AT ‘EXTREMELY MALICIOUS’ US MOVE TO RAMP UP
PRESSURE ON CHINESE TECH FIRMS**

Diary Times Desk :
The Trump Administration ramped up its pressure on Chinese tech firms on Monday by expanding restrictions imposed on certain companies to also cover their subsidiaries, a move that’s drawn the ire of Beijing as the two powers remain locked in a technology race.
The US action aims to stop sanctioned companies – including technology champion Huawei, memory chip giant YMTC and drone maker DJI – from evading export controls by funnelling restricted technologies through their subsidiaries.
The new rule “closes a significant loophole,” the US Department of Commerce said, by making any subsidiary at least 50% owned by a firm already on the export controls list face the same restrictions as the parent company – a shift that could affect tens of thousands of companies.
In response, a spokesperson for China’s Ministry of Commerce called the move “extremely malicious,” adding that the country would “take necessary measures” to protect the rights and interests of its companies.



**CANDID PHOTO OF SCOTT BESSENT’S PHONE REVEALS
ADMINISTRATION’S CONCERN ABOUT TWO KEY TRUMP POLICIES**

Diary Times Desk : A member of the Trump administration has seemingly raised a red flag after China bought millions of tons of Argentinian soybeans, taking advantage of a financial lifeline the US Treasury Department said it plans to provide to Buenos Aires – all while American soybean farmers are struggling with a Chinese blockade of their crops.
A photo of Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent’s phone captured by the Associated Press shows a text from a contact named “BR,” presumed to be US Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins. The message linked to the X account of grain trader Ben Scholl, who has sounded the alarm on what Argentina’s massive bailout means for America’s soybean farmers.
“Just a heads up. I am getting more intel, but this is highly unfortunate. We bailed out Argentina yesterday and in return, the Argentine’s [sic] removed their export tariffs on grains, reducing their price to China at a time when we would normally be selling to China,” the message said.



**THERE MAY NOT BE A JOBS REPORT AT ALL THIS WEEK — SO ECONOMISTS ARE
HOMING IN ON THIS DATA INSTEAD**

Diary Times Desk :
In what could be the last piece of federal jobs data released this week if the government shuts down, a new report Tuesday showed that the number of available roles remains low for the year, a sign that opportunities continue to dwindle for Americans looking for work.
Tuesday’s Job Openings and Labor Turnover Survey showed that the number of available jobs increased slightly to 7.23 million at the end of August from an upwardly revised 7.21 million. Job openings as a share of total employment remain at five-year lows, Bureau of Labor Statistics data shows.
Tuesday’s data further confirmed that the US job market has grown increasingly stagnant. Excluding the onset of the pandemic in early 2020, the rate of hiring fell in August to 3.2%, matching the lowest rate since 2013, BLS data shows.



UNCERTAINTY OVER AN AFRICA-US TRADE DEAL SPARKS FEARS OVER JOBS AND HOPES FOR NEW DEALS

Diary Times Desk :
A cloud of uncertainty hangs over an Africa-US trade deal set to expire by the end of September, with African unions warning that more than a million indirect jobs could be on the line if it is not renewed. But some trade experts and economists say the possible end of the 25-year-old African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) could allow African countries to seek potentially beneficial deals with other partners, or boost trade with each other.

"AGOA is the breadbasket of many people in very critical sectors," said Hod Anyigba, chief economist at the International Trade Union Confederation Africa (ITUC-Africa), which has 17 million members.

"(But it) is not the only way to prosperity. It was one of the ways... but there could be other, better ways of trading," he told the Thomson Reuters Foundation.

WALL STREET, REPUBLICANS AND SOME COURTS HAVE TRIED TO STOP TRUMP'S TARIFFS. HERE'S WHY THEY'RE STILL IN PLACE

Diary Times Desk : A majority of Americans — regardless of party affiliation — have made it crystal clear in poll after poll: They're not on board with President Donald Trump's tariff-heavy agenda. It's also an open question as to whether the president is legally able to impose the levies. But none of that has stopped him. Instead, he's preparing to roll out a slew of higher tariffs this week and has made fresh threats that more are still to come.

That's even as inflation has reaccelerated and could get even hotter as businesses warn of more price increases. The US labor market is also sputtering under the weight of tariffs, with employers hesitating to take on more workers amid heightened economic uncertainty.

At the same time, stocks are near all-time highs; and mortgage rates, after months of barely budging, are finally starting to move lower.

HOT DOGS, CAMPING TRIPS AND CARDBOARD BOXES: WHAT THESE NON-SCIENTIFIC INDICATORS TELL US ABOUT THE ECONOMY



Diary Times Desk : Gray's Papaya hot dog restaurant in Manhattan has served up beef franks to the hungry and frugal masses for the past five decades. But the bustling business off 72nd and Broadway isn't just an iconic New York City bastion for cheap eats — it also moonlights as an unofficial economic indicator.

When hot dog sales there see a dramatic pickup — particularly the two-frank-and-tropical-drink "Recession Special" — it's usually a signal that folks have fallen on harder times, owner Rachael Gray told CNN. "We noticed a big uptick around 2008-2009, when everything was collapsing (amid the Great Financial Crisis), and we are feeling the same thing right now — to a lesser extent, obviously, but the pattern is the same," she said. There are scores of traditional, time-tested gauges of the US economy's health and its trajectory: Federal data on employment, production, spending, income and other critical areas factors heavily into the calculus of the National Bureau of Economic Research, the official arbiter of recessions, when it dates business cycles.

TRUMP WANTS TO FORCE MENTALLY ILL HOMELESS PEOPLE INTO HOSPITALS AND TREATMENT. HE'S CUTTING THE PROGRAMS THAT FUND THEM



Diary Times Desk : Last month, a homeless man with a history of serious mental illness killed a woman on a Charlotte train. The murder, shown on video, spurred calls from some for a tougher approach to dealing with the rise of homelessness and mental health issues across the United States.

A record number of Americans are living on the streets, roughly a quarter with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder or other severe mental illness. The overwhelming majority pose no public danger, and research links only 3% to 5% of violent acts to those with serious mental illness.

President Donald Trump, however, frames homeless people with mental illness as a public safety threat. The solution, he says, is to commit more people into psychiatric hospitals and treatment programs against their will.

Trump released an executive order in July encouraging states to expand involuntary commitment laws — a legal process forcing people considered a danger to themselves or others into inpatient psychiatric care.

"Shifting homeless individuals into long-term institutional settings...will restore public order," Trump's order said. He also said in August that he would support the government reopening "insane asylums" for people with serious mental illness.

But psychiatric hospital beds, treatment slots and mental health care workers have been in short supply for years. And Trump's cuts this year to Medicaid, housing assistance and mental health programs will make it harder to add psychiatric beds, undermining his goal of increasing involuntary commitment.

"The big problem is that the mental health care system we have is grossly inadequate. It's underfunded and overburdened," said Jeffrey Swanson, a professor in psychiatry and behavioral sciences at Duke University.

HC ACCEPTS
BALWINDER SEKHON'S
APOLOGY, DIRECTS HIM
TO PLANT 10 SAPLINGS
IN CONTEMPT CASE

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab and Haryana High Court today discharged dismissed Punjab Police officer Balwinder Singh Sekhon from contempt proceedings, after accepting his unconditional and unqualified apology for uploading videos on social media criticising the judicial system and officers. The court directed Sekhon to perform community service by planting 10 saplings within a week and to file a compliance report within 15 days.

The contempt proceedings were initiated by the court on its own motion against Sekhon through an order dated February 15, 2023, issued by a coordinate bench under the provisions of the contempt of court. The notice was issued after Sekhon uploaded videos on social media expressing alleged dissatisfaction with judicial officers and the judicial system.

In response, Sekhon filed an affidavit dated January 14, expressing his bona fide regret for uploading the videos, tendering an unconditional apology, and undertaking not to repeat such acts in the future. The affidavit explicitly stated that he had realised the proper course was to avail legal remedies rather than posting videos online. Sekhon also confirmed that the videos in question had already been deleted from social media.

SAD LEADER ANIL JOSHI
SET TO JOIN CONGRESS

Diary Times Desk : In a major development, SAD leader Anil Joshi is all set to join the Congress in the coming days. Joshi, a former two-time MLA from Amritsar (North), recently met senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and AICC general secretary (organisation) KC Venugopal in Delhi, reportedly expressing his desire to join the Congress. Joshi, who had resigned from the Akali Dal on November 20, 2024, had rejoined the party in June this year during the byelections to the Ludhiana (West) seat. He had unsuccessfully contested the 2024 Lok Sabha polls from Amritsar on a SAD ticket.

RAJVIR JAWANDA REMAINS CRITICAL 4 DAYS AFTER ACCIDENT, DOCTORS
REPORT NO MAJOR SIGNS OF IMPROVEMENT

Diary Times Desk : Punjabi singer Rajvir Jawanda remains on life support at a private hospital in Mohali, with his condition described as critical and largely unchanged.

According to a statement issued by hospital authorities, Jawanda's neurological status is severely compromised, showing minimal brain activity and no major signs of improvement, despite intensive medical care. An MRI of the brain revealed hypoxic damage, which doctors believe is a consequence of the CPR administered at the initial treatment center. Additional MRI scans of the spine have shown extensive injuries to both the cervical and dorsal regions, leading to significant weakness in all four limbs. He continues to require prolonged ventilator support, and while treatment is ongoing, doctors have said the overall prognosis remains guarded.




HIMACHAL PRADESH BRACES FOR
HEAVY RAINFALL: YELLOW WARNING
ISSUED FOR OCTOBER 4-6

Diary Times Desk : Himachal Pradesh is expected to experience another spell of heavy rainfall starting October 4, following a yellow weather warning issued by the state's meteorological department. The warning applies to October 4-6, with specific districts under alert on October 4, including Kangra, Bilaspur, Una, Sirmaur and Chamba.


A fresh western disturbance is predicted to impact northwest India, including Himachal Pradesh, from October 4, leading to heavy rainfall in isolated areas. This weather system is likely to cause maximum temperatures to drop by 2°C to 3°C. Meanwhile, the weather was mostly dry across the state during the past 24 hours. Minimum temperatures were above 2°C to 6°C, ranging between 5°C and 25°C while maximum temperatures were above 2°C to 7°C, ranging between 20°C and 36°C. With 35.2°C maximum temperature, Una was the hottest place in the state while Tabo in tribal district was the coldest as it recorded 5.2°C minimum temperature.

FAKE PUNJAB POLICE OFFICERS
BUSTED, 4 ARRESTED FOR
EXTORTION IN MOGA


Diary Times Desk : The Moga police have apprehended four individuals impersonating Punjab Police officers to extort money from people. The gang was caught wearing fake uniforms and using a car to move around. According to the police, the gang members posed as policemen to threaten and loot individuals. Acting on a tip-off, a team from the Ajitwal police station conducted the operation under the supervision of SP (I) Bal Krishan Singla and DSP Anwar Ali. The arrested individuals have been identified as Ravi Singh alias Ravi, Chand Singh alias Kamlu, Gurwinder Singh alias Lali alias Ladi (all residents of Fatehgarh Korotana), and Dhira Singh of Tartariye Wala, district Moga. Two others, Darshan Singh alias Raju and Satnam Singh alias Seera, are still at large. The police seized a white Swift Dzire car, two NGO-rank uniforms, and three constable-rank uniforms from the accused. A case has been registered at the Ajitwal police station.




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.

BHUPINDER HOODA
CONSOLIDATES
CONTROL OVER
CONGRESS

Diary Times Desk : With both posts of Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader and Pradesh Congress Committee president going to Hooda's camp, a former CM, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, has consolidated his hold over the state unit.

The camp's first choice was the CLP post for Hooda, who would eventually become the Leader of the Opposition. With Rao Narender Singh as PCC president, it's like icing on the cake. The party prioritised continuity over change. Despite losing three elections, it gave a signal to his Jat voter base and avoided any experimentation. It has chosen stability over a generational shift.

With the Backward Class leader as the state unit president, the party will attempt to counter the expanding BJP base in south Haryana. It will be after two decades that the party has given a leadership role to a member of a Backward Class. For the last two decades, the party has had a Dalit as a PCC president — Phool Chand Mullana, Ashok Tanwar, Kumari Selja, and Udai Bhan.

PIL IN HC ALLEGES OVER
63 ILLEGAL BANQUET
HALLS IN GURUGRAM,
NO SEALING DESPITE
LOKAYUKTA ORDER

Diary Times Desk : The functioning of more than 63 banquet and marriage halls in Gurugram allegedly without licences, sanctioned building plans, change-of-land-use permissions, or mandatory fire safety NoCs, today came under judicial scanner with the filing of a public interest litigation in the Punjab and Haryana High Court. Among other things, the high court was told that the halls were operating despite categorical findings by the Haryana Lokayukta and sealing directions by the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG) Commissioner. In his petition placed before the Bench of Chief Justice Sheel Nagu and Judge Sanjiv Berry, RTI and human rights activist Harinder Dhingra through counsel Karanvir Singh Khehar alleged that the respondents failed to discharge their statutory obligations.

HARYANA CONGRESS IN TURMOIL: CAPT YADAV QUESTIONS HPCC PRESIDENT
CHOICE

Diary Times Desk : Senior Congress leader and former minister Capt Ajay Singh Yadav has sharply reacted to the appointment to the post of Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC) chief, announced on Monday evening. A six-time former MLA and a prominent contender for the post, Yadav took to the social media platform 'X' (formerly Twitter) to express his disappointment and concern over the decision. Congress has appointed Rao Narender, a former minister, as President of the HPCC. "Given the Congress party's steadily declining performance in Haryana, the party needs to introspect on today's decision. Rahul Gandhi's desire was to appoint a person with a clean, unblemished, and youthful leadership as president of the Haryana Congress. However, today's decision appears to be the exact opposite. This has led to a complete decline in the morale of party workers and cadre," said Yadav on his post on 'X', tagging senior leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, KC Venugopal and BK Hariprasad.



HARYANA CONGRESS ENDS
DEADLOCK, NAMES BHUPINDER
HOODA CLP LEADER

Diary Times Desk : The Congress on Monday broke a year-long deadlock in Haryana by naming a former Chief Minister, Bhupinder Singh Hooda, as the Leader of the Congress Legislature Party (CLP), and appointing Rao Narender Singh, a former state health minister, as the new president of the Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC). The 61-year-old Rao Narender, a senior OBC leader representing the Ahirs (Yadavs) from south Haryana, will replace Udai Bhan, an SC face. The announcement, made through a letter signed by AICC general secretary KC Venugopal, ended months of factional wrangling that had paralysed the party since the Assembly elections in October last year, when the BJP returned to power. The communication also placed on record the party's "appreciation" for outgoing PCC chief Bhan.

Hooda's elevation, however, came after bruising internal resistance. Despite commanding the support of 29 of 37 Congress MLAs, his continuance was blocked for months with rival factions in the party standing firm.

NO MORE BACKBENCHERS:
ROHTAK SCHOOLS ADOPT U-
SHAPED SEATING

Diary Times Desk : In a move to enhance classroom engagement and equality, the district administration has introduced an inclusive seating model at government schools in order to eliminate the long-standing divide between 'frontbenchers' and 'backbenchers'. The new layout replaces traditional row-based seating with U-shaped or circular arrangements. Deputy Commissioner Sachin Gupta said, "This design allows all students to sit directly facing the teacher, allowing better eye contact, easier communication and more engaging classroom interactions. The new arrangement offers numerous benefits, including positioning each child equally, eliminating the age-old stigma of sitting at the back; improved teacher-student interaction; and giving teachers a full view of the classroom, ensuring no student is overlooked." Gupta maintained that increased participation encourages children to become more confident and participate responsively and actively in discussions. "It also fosters better discipline. With all students visible and engaged."

PALWAL MAN HELD FOR SHARING INFO WITH PAK HIGH COMMISSION

Diary Times Desk : Palwal police have arrested a man accused of spying for Pakistan and sending confidential information about Indian military activities to officials at the Pakistan High Commission.

The accused, Taufiq (35), a resident of Alimev village in Hathin block of Palwal, was arrested after intelligence inputs. Police said he had been in touch with officials linked to the ISI since 2022 and was allegedly sharing details via WhatsApp.

According to investigators, Taufiq's connections with Pakistan began after visiting his wife's relatives there in 2022, where he came into contact with an employee of the Pakistani embassy. "He started communicating with the official on WhatsApp and passed on confidential information about Indian military activities," a senior officer said.



Cat Stevens Postpones North American Tour

Cat Stevens, who also goes by Yusuf, has postponed the North American leg of his book tour due to unspecified visa issues, the singer announced on social media Monday.

The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame member was set to tour in support of his book, "Cat on the Road to Findout," which will release in the US on Oct. 7 and was made available in the UK earlier this month. The book release won't be impacted, Stevens wrote, noting that "books don't need visas!"

Stevens is the latest in a string of international musicians and athletes impacted by visa issues, as fees have increased in the past year and processing times have slowed.

Stevens wrote that his team waited months for visa approvals, but "at this point, the production logistics necessary for my show cannot be arranged in time." "I am really upset!" Stevens wrote on social media. "Not least for my fans who have bought tickets and made travel plans to see me perform."

Representatives of Stevens did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' request for comment.

The singer's tour was set to start Oct. 2 in Philadelphia and had various stops scheduled across the country for the rest of the month. His Oct. 8 tour stop in Toronto, Canada was also postponed.

The British singer-songwriter rose to fame in the 1960s and put his career on hold for two decades after converting to Islam in the late 1970s. He returned to secular music in the 2000s and had a six-city concert tour in North America in 2014. Stevens indicated the tour could be rescheduled if visas are approved, but those dates "would be some time away because of other travel fans," he wrote.

The tour, announced in May, was described as a "portal" into the singer's universe, offering an in-depth conversation on the memoir and acoustic performances of select songs, according to the website. Stevens began the tour visiting several cities in the U.K. throughout September.

Stevens wrote "hopefully, fans will be able to hop on the Peace Train route at some time in the future."

Stevens said North American fans may still get a chance to see the tour "if visa approvals come through," though he said those dates would most likely be "some time away" because of other commitments.

"Hopefully, fans will be able to hop on the Peace Train route at some time in the future," he added. "Meanwhile, tour delays should not affect the book, which you'll still be able to enjoy... the obvious benefit of it being — books don't need visas!"



The singer-songwriter, who changed his name to Yusuf Islam after embracing the Muslim faith, did not specify any reason for the visa delays. He is the latest in a string of international musicians and athletes impacted by visa issues, as fees have increased in the past year and processing times have slowed. Representatives of Stevens did not immediately respond to The Associated Press' request for comment. The singer's tour was set to start Oct. 2 in Philadelphia and had various stops scheduled across the country for the rest of the month. His Oct. 8 tour stop in Toronto, Canada, was also postponed.



Max Saltman

The British singer-songwriter rose to fame in the 1960s and put his career on hold for two decades after converting to Islam in the late 1970s. He returned to secular music in the 2000s.



Brad Lendon

The country isn't short on guns; they're common in rural areas for pest control. But violent gun crime is rare and many urban residents might never have even seen a firearm in person.

3D-Printed Guns

FBI boss Kash Patel gifted New Zealand Officials

On a visit to New Zealand, FBI Director Kash Patel gave the country's police and spy bosses gifts of inoperable pistols that were illegal to possess under local gun laws and had to be destroyed, New Zealand law enforcement agencies told The Associated Press.

The plastic 3D-printed replica pistols formed part of display stands Patel presented to at least three senior New Zealand security officials in July. Patel, the most senior Trump administration official to visit the country so far, was in Wellington to open the FBI's first standalone office in New Zealand.

Pistols are tightly restricted weapons under New Zealand law and possessing one requires an additional permit beyond a regular gun license. Law enforcement agencies didn't specify whether the officials who met with Patel held such permits, but they couldn't have legally kept the gifts if they didn't.

It wasn't clear what permissions Patel had sought to bring the weapons into the country. A spokesperson for Patel told the AP Tuesday that the FBI would not comment. Inoperable weapons are treated as though they're operable in New Zealand if modifications could make them workable again.



New Zealand doesn't have a passionate culture of gun ownership and the weapons have been viewed more dimly since the mass shooting. Gun ownership is enshrined in New Zealand law as a privilege, not a right.

The pistols were judged by gun regulators to be potentially operable and were destroyed, New Zealand's Police Commissioner Richard Chambers told AP in a statement Tuesday. Chambers didn't specify how the weapons had been rendered inoperable before Patel gifted them. Usually this means the temporary disabling of the gun's firing mechanism. Three of New Zealand's most powerful law enforcement figures said they received the gifts at meetings July 31. Chambers was one recipient, and the other two were Andrew Hampton, Director-General of the country's human intelligence agency NZSIS, and Andrew Clark, Director-General of the technical intelligence agency GCSB, according to a joint statement from their departments. A spokesperson for the spy agencies described the gift as "a challenge coin display stand" that included the 3D-printed inoperable weapon "as part of the design." The officials sought advice on the gifts the next day from the regulator that enforces New Zealand's gun laws, Chambers said. When the weapons were examined, it was discovered they were potentially operable.

"To ensure compliance with firearms laws, I instructed Police to retain and destroy them," Chambers said.

James Davidson, a former FBI agent who is now president of the FBI Integrity Project, a nonprofit that seeks to safeguard the bureau from undue partisan influence, has criticized Patel's appointment.

But Davidson said the gift of the replica pistols appeared "a genuine gesture" from Patel and their destruction was "quite frankly, an overreaction by the NZSIS, which could have simply rendered the replica inoperable," he said.

3D-printed weapons are treated the same as other guns in New Zealand. The country bolstered its gun restrictions following a 2019 white supremacist attack on two mosques in the city of Christchurch, when 51 Muslim worshippers were shot dead by an Australian man who had amassed a cache of semiautomatic weapons legally.

The guns Patel gifted to the law enforcement chiefs were not semiautomatic models now prohibited after the Christchurch massacre. But there are a suite of other reasons New Zealanders might not legally be able to possess certain weapons, including the specific permits required for pistols.

INFA

Oscar Nominee

MICHELLE PFEIFFER SHARES SHE'S NOW A GRANDMOTHER

Hollywood star Michelle Pfeiffer has announced that she has become a grandmother, and spoken about how it has affected her working life.

Speaking on the "Smartless" podcast on Monday, three-time Oscar nominee Pfeiffer told hosts Jason Bateman, Sean Hayes and Will Arnett that having a grandchild was "heaven."

"I've been very quiet about it and it is — it's heaven. It's ridiculous," said Pfeiffer, 67, who has an adopted daughter Claudia Rose and a son named John Henry.

"And if I had known that I was going to be a grandmother, I wouldn't have taken on so much work, but I've enjoyed everything and I'm really grateful," she said. "I love each of these projects," said Pfeiffer, referencing her recent work on projects including "Yellowstone" spin-off series "The Madison" on Paramount+, Christmas comedy "Oh, What Fun" and the TV adaptation of Rufi Thorpe's novel "Margo's Got Money Troubles."

"I'm so grateful. I'm so grateful because I love acting... in fact, I probably, enjoy it more now than I ever have because I'm sort of more relaxed with it," said Pfeiffer.

The Hollywood star has had a long and storied career both in

movies and on TV, including appearances in "Scarface" (1983), "Batman Returns" (1992) and Showtime series "The First Lady" (2022).

"I don't really have time to be thinking about anything but the task at hand," she said, highlighting the fact that she also set up a fragrance company a few years ago.

"But when I had all these acting jobs coming up, I thought, 'Okay, okay, how are you going to manage this and have a life?' Because that hasn't always been easy for me. I'm an all or nothing kind of girl," added Pfeiffer.

"I always like taking on challenges and then I get into it and it's sort of sink or swim and for whatever reason I kind of feed on that," she said, before going on to suggest that her priorities have shifted recently.

"I don't have the time nor the desire to go that deep for that long and not be present," said Pfeiffer.

Karlie Kloss & Joshua Kushner

The supermodel and her husband welcomed their third baby, a baby girl, on Sept. 18.

Joshua shared the news on social media Sept. 20 with an adorable photo of the newborn swaddled in a striped blanket and wearing a pink hat.

And in the Instagram caption, he revealed their baby girl's name by writing, "Rae Florence 9.18.2025."

Erin Bates & Chad Paine

The Bringing Up Bates star and her husband Chad Paine welcomed their seventh child—a son named Henry—on Aug. 25. However, Erin was soon admitted into the ICU for childbirth complications.

"Labor was longer and more intense than previous births," Chad shared on Instagram Sept. 1. "Erin developed a severe UTI and kidney infection, which sent her into septic shock."

Riley Keough & Ben Smith-Peterson

Priscilla Presley, who was married to Elvis Presley for six years until their 1973 divorce, revealed that her granddaughter and her husband privately welcomed their second baby.



Jack Guy

"That's what makes me happy," Priscilla told People of her flourishing family in an interview published Sept. 17, "knowing everyone is doing well."

A GUIDE TO JOAN MIRÓ'S PRINTS

Diary Times Desk : 'A kaleidoscopic game of infinite possibilities' — this was how French writer Michel Leiris described the art created by his friend Joan Miró. If the Catalan artist is remembered principally as a painter, it's worth pointing out that his artistic curiosity wasn't satisfied by oil on canvas alone. Over a seven-decade career, he also worked in sculpture, ceramics, tapestry and, most prolifically, prints.

Like his compatriot Pablo Picasso, Miró had an unwavering commitment to printmaking. And similarly to Picasso, he created more than 2,000 works in the medium. It's often said that Miró's fondness for calligraphic lines — such a distinctive feature of his paintings — lent itself naturally to graphic work.

'In terms of both the quality and quantity of his output, Joan Miró was one of the most important printmakers of the 20th century,' says Murray Macaulay, head of Prints and Multiples at Christie's in London.

'Miro's approach to making prints was playfully improvisational,' explains the specialist. 'He would cut up proofs and rearrange the elements, collating the pieces together in new patterns, adding daubs of colour in crayon, or glyph-like marks in India ink, and writing extensive instructions to his printer. It was a process of finding the image through experiment — embracing accident, but also controlled and methodical.'

Miró's literary prints

The son of a watchmaker, Miró was born in Barcelona in 1893. He moved to Paris in the early 1920s and soon joined the Surrealist movement led by André Breton. He also befriended a host of avant-garde writers, such as Antonin Artaud, Paul Eluard, Max Jacob and Tristan Tzara.

The first prints Miró ever made were illustrations for Tzara's 1930 book of poems, *L'Arbre des Voyageurs*. Literary sources would prove to be a constant inspiration for him, with notable examples including Alfred Jarry's play *Ubu Roi*, Stephen Spender's poem *Fraternity* and Saint Francis of Assisi's medieval text *Cantic of the Sun*.

Miró produced an edition of the last of these — *Càntic del Sol* (as per its title in Catalan) — with the leading Barcelona publisher Editorial Gustavo Gili in 1975. Comprising a portfolio of 33 prints, it marked a peak of Miró's printmaking.

Saint Francis had written his text during a period of blindness in the mid-13th century. It expressed his ecstatic vision of man and nature as one — something Miró strove to emulate through his idiosyncratic visual vocabulary of ciphers, symbols and squiggles.



9 ICONIC OBJECTS THAT SPORTS AND HOLLYWOOD LEGENDS MADE FAMOUS

Diary Times Desk : From the baseball diamond to the Hollywood hills, Dr. G.B. Espy's personal collection brings together rare artifacts from figures who defined American culture. Across trophies and championship rings, photographs, important sports collectibles and autographed mementos, the collection is one of the most comprehensive and unique assortments of sports and entertainment memorabilia ever assembled.

This October, Christie's will offer more than 400 items as part of American Greats: Vintage Sports and Hollywood from the Dr. G.B. Espy Collection. Read the stories behind nine exceptional treasures from American icons:

Believed to be the last Yankees pinstripes Lou Gehrig ever wore, this jersey embodies the legend's farewell season. Worn during the 1939 World Series, it features the original NY logo, Gehrig's name chain-stitched in the collar and the year '39 embroidered on the inside tail. The 4 on the back — Gehrig's iconic number — is the original felt numeral.

When Marilyn Monroe married Yankee centre fielder Joe DiMaggio, Hollywood glamour collided with baseball royalty in one of the most talked-about unions of the era. This laminated identification card, issued in 1954 for Monroe's USO tour in Korea, bears Monroe's photograph and legal name 'Norma Jean DiMaggio'. Signed by the star in blue ink, the card is believed to be the only known example of her signing her legal name during her brief but infamous marriage to 'Joltin' Joe.'

Presented to Jackie Robinson upon his Hall of Fame induction in 1962, this 10K gold ring is amongst the most significant pieces of sports jewellery ever offered at auction. Featuring a figural baseball with red enamel stitching, it commemorates the man who broke Major League Baseball's colour barrier in 1947 and forever redefined the game. With provenance from his widow Rachel Robinson, this ring symbolizes courage, excellence and the historic impact of Robinson's career.

Worn by Elvis Presley in the 1962 film *Girls, Girls, Girls*, this beige silk blazer captures a star at his cinematic peak. Most notably seen during the scene where the Presley sings *The Chains That Bind*, the jacket later inspired the image for the 1993 'Young Elvis' postage stamp. Gifted by Presley to a Paramount set designer, this piece bridges Hollywood glamour, music history and the enduring allure of The King.

This cream-coloured jersey, with its distinctive 77 and trio-striped sleeves, was worn by football titan Red Grange during the Chicago Bears' championship era. Nicknamed 'the Galloping Ghost' for his extraordinary speed, Grange helped to transform the NFL from a fledgling league into a national spectacle. Replete with Grange-specific traits including the removal of the crotch strap and manufacturer's tagging, this jersey is the only known example with solid attribution to Grange, making it a touchstone of American football history.



BARCELONA WILL MOVE TO RENEW KEY DEFENDER ONCE DE JONG AGREEMENT IS FINALISED



Diary Times Desk : Eric Garcia's rapid rise to prominence has been one of the highlights for Barcelona this year. The summer exit of Inigo Martinez has further helped Garcia become a key player in the team, with the former Manchester City starlet notably starting every league game for Barça this season. The Spaniard has impressed onlookers with his performances, showcasing maturity and leadership in defence, be it at right-back or centre-back. Barcelona's plan to renew Eric Garcia in light of his brilliant performances this season, Barcelona intend to renew the contract of Eric Garcia, which expires at the end of the season. According to AS, Barça plan to renew the contract of Garcia once they finalise the renewal of Frenkie de Jong. The Dutchman's renewal is currently the topmost priority for the Catalans, as the midfielder has been equally impressive and has played a key role in revving up Hansi Flick's Barcelona side.

'WRITE US OFF AT YOUR PERIL'

Diary Times Desk : The good times just keep on coming for those of a Sunderland persuasion, and right now I'm on cloud nine.

Saturday was another brilliant occasion for us and we were fantastic value for our three points at Ange Postecoglou's Nottingham Forest.

I said it after the summer transfer window, and I'll say it again – Sunderland have not come up to make up the numbers.

All talk of relegation is off the table, replaced by talk of taking games one at a time and seeing each as an opportunity to win. It doesn't matter who the opponent is, we want to beat them. Simple as that.

Forest have some unbelievable players. You can see why they qualified for Europe this season because they had fantastic options on the pitch and on the bench for Postecoglou to call upon.

But whether it was Morgan Gibbs-White, Callum Hudson-Odoi, or Chris Wood, Sunderland's solid defence kept them at bay. Another clean sheet and another three points – and we are rapidly developing a reputation as a side opponents struggle to take apart.

THE NUMBERS ARE INSANE FOR ERLING HAALAND, SAYS PEP GUARDIOLA



Diary Times Desk : Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has once again backed the "insane" Erling Haaland to reach the heights attained by Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo, as he prepares for his side's Champions League clash at Monaco on Oct 1.

Despite a relatively poor start to the season, City are now seeking a fifth win from six matches in all competitions when they visit the Stade Louis II. Guardiola's men beat Kevin de Bruyne's Napoli 2-0 in their first European fixture this campaign, while Monaco were beaten 4-1 by Club Brugge away from home.

City are heading into this match following a 5-1 win over Burnley last weekend.

RED CARD 'WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN' – EKITIKE



Diary Times Desk : Liverpool striker Hugo Ekitike says he was "disappointed" to be suspended for Saturday's game against Crystal Palace and "it won't happen again".

Ekitike scored a late winner against Southampton in the Carabao Cup but was sent off for taking his shirt off having earlier been booked.

"It wasn't smart," said the 23-year-old. "I felt disappointed to watch the boys from home last Saturday [against Palace]."

"I apologised to everyone already, my team-mates and that kind of thing. It won't happen again. I move on and focus on football."

Ekitike was signed for £69m in the summer and has made a fine start.

BARCELONA DIRECTOR'S NEXT CONTRACT PRIORITIES FOLLOWING MARC BERNAL'S RENEWAL – REPORT

Diary Times Desk : After a long wait, Barcelona have finally announced the contract extension of Marc Bernal, which was long in the making.

The young midfielder has signed a new deal that will keep him at the club until 2029, effectively sealing his long-term future at the club.

Bernal will join a long list of players who have already extended their contract at Barcelona in the recent past but he certainly won't be the last.

Barcelona's next contract priorities According to SPORT, Barcelona sporting director Deco's next two contract priorities after Bernal are Frenkie de Jong and Eric Garcia.

The Catalans have already been in talks with the agents of both players for a while now, and a breakthrough could be just around the corner.

This is applicable especially for De Jong, with the Dutchman likely to pen a new contract that will secure his long-term future at the club.

JARROD BOWEN GOAL SAVES WEST HAM AGAINST EVERTON ON NEW COACH NUNO ESPIRITO SANTO'S FIRST GAME IN CHARGE

Diary Times Desk : Nuno Espirito Santo's reign as the West Ham coach got off to an encouraging start after his lowly side fought back from a goal down to draw at Everton 1-1 in the Premier League on Monday. The Portuguese coach replaced Graham Potter on Saturday and he saw his side's defensive frailties laid bare as it went behind in the 18th minute. The Hammers defense looked sluggish when James Garner crossed from the left and Michael Keane headed home. The headed goal was Everton's 361st in the Premier League, a competition high beside Manchester United. The Toffees are unbeaten at their new Hill Dickinson Stadium but they could not add to their total and they paid the price in a pulsating second half. West Ham came more and more into the game and captain Jarrod Bowen equalized 20 minutes into the second period with a clinical left-foot strike. It was the first goal Everton has conceded at its new ground.

"I just tried to get into the box and I know what I am going to do before the defenders do," Bowen said.

"It is a big point for us. It is a fair result. It shows the character of the team going down 1-0. We spoke at halftime that it was only one goal and whether it took us up to 90 minutes we knew we would get our own chances."