

NEWS IN BRIEF

VIKAS SAPTAH – 24 YEARS OF PUBLIC TRUST, SERVICE, AND DEDICATION UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF SHRI NARENDRA MODI

Diary Times Desk : Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel, while inaugurating the 'Vikas Pradarshan' (Development Exhibition) in Ahmedabad as part of the state-wide 'Vikas Saptah' celebrations from October 7 to 15, stated that Shri Narendra Modi ushered in a new era of development-oriented politics when he assumed office as the Chief Minister of Gujarat on October 7, 2001. The state's uninterrupted development journey, which began in October 2001 under his leadership, has now entered its 25th year of good governance. He added that under the visionary leadership of the Prime Minister, we must continue our steadfast march towards the centenary of India's independence and the vision of Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

CONGRESS SHOULD TELL NATION WHO PREVENTED MILITARY RETALIATION AFTER 26/11 ATTACK: MODI

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday asked the Congress to tell the nation who prevented India's military response after the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks linked to Pakistan, and accused the party of weakening the fight against terrorism when in power.

He accused the Congress-led UPA government (2004-14) of weakening the fight against terror because of which the country has paid a heavy price.

"A Congress leader, who has also been Union home minister, has said that a country prevented India's military retaliation post-26/11 Mumbai terror attacks in 2008. The party should clarify," Modi said while addressing a gathering after inaugurating the first phase of the Navi Mumbai International Airport, Aqua Line of Mumbai metro and other projects. The PM emphasised that Mumbai has always been the country's financial capital and a vibrant metropolis, making it vulnerable to terror strikes.

INDIAN ARMY

ARMY INTRODUCES NEW FITNESS PARAMETERS FOR ALL TROOPS AND OFFICERS



Diary Times Desk : Indian Army has introduced new fitness parameters that makes physical tests mandatory for all ranks from Agniveer to Generals, meaning these shall apply to entire 13-lakh strong force.

Sources confirmed the new framework called the combined physical test (CPT) merges the existing Battle Physical Efficiency Test (BPET) and Physical Proficiency Test (PPT) into a single, comprehensive assessment reflecting the evolving operational requirements of modern warfare.

The test will be conducted twice a year and will be applicable to all personnel up to the age of 60—Lieut. General rank officers, they are senior-most after the Army Chief, retire at 60 years.

The test parameters will vary for each age group. It would be a age-based benchmark for a fair and inclusive assessment but would be rank-neutral and gender-neutral. Parameters of terrain and climate, where the test would be conducted, have been factored in. For units in high altitude areas, that is 9,000-feet plus, parameters have been relaxed.

Among the age-variable tests ask the soldiers to do a 3.2 km run, do a specified number of push ups and sit-ups. The younger soldiers would even need to display ability to do vertical rope climbing.

A new grading system has also been introduced with parameters for completing tests being graded as: super excellent, excellent, good and satisfactory. Test scores will be included in Annual Confidential Reports (ACRs), affecting promotions and evaluations.

A 'unit operational efficiency test' has been introduced for the first time. This entails, the entire unit doing route marches to foster collective physical endurance, needed in battle and ensure coordination.

Sources said the CPT aims to establish a realistic, inclusive, and standardised testing regime that recognises the diverse environmental conditions and demographics across the force. Despite increasing technological advancements, physical endurance, agility, and mental resilience remain fundamental to combat readiness.

The new frame work has been developed through extensive study of data from previous assessments of physical test. The Army Training Command and the Adjutant Generals Branch have given their inputs which have been benchmarked against 'Khelo India' standards and those of foreign armies.

BENGALURU PROFESSOR CALLS STUDENT HOME FOR CLASSES, ARRESTED FOR HARASSMENT

Diary Times Desk : A 45-year-old head of department (HOD) at a prestigious private college in Bengaluru has been arrested for allegedly misbehaving with a student under the pretext of helping her with studies and attendance. Sanjeev Kumar Mandal has been charged with sexual harassment, reports suggest.

Mandal had reportedly invited the Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA) student to his home for what he said were 'special classes'. His arrest followed after a complaint was filed by a woman two days ago at the Tilaknagar Police Station, said sources.

The professor had promised to help her with her studies and low attendance. He had even spoken to her mother to gain her trust.

When the student visited the accused's house on September 25, she realised his family members were not present.

The woman alleged in her complaint that the professor misbehaved with her at his home. He assured her higher marks and attendance if she complied with his advances, reports suggest. Shocked by his behaviour, the student informed her parents, after which they filed a police complaint. Tilaknagar Police are investigating the case.



JAGAN MOHAN REDDY HAS NO RIGHT TO SPEAK ON ILLICIT LIQUOR: PALLA SRINIVASA RAO



Diary Times Desk : TDP State president Palla Srinivasa Rao said former Chief Minister and YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy had become synonymous with falsehood and corruption.

He alleged that Jagan, who avoided attending the Assembly session, and failed in his duties as an elected representative, had no moral right to criticise the NDA government.

Palla said over 30,000 people lost their lives due to nerve, kidney, and liver diseases caused by adulterated liquor, while nearly 35 lakh suffered serious health damage during the previous regime.

He pointed out that independent laboratory tests in Chennai, Bengaluru, and even in the US had confirmed the presence of toxic substances in the so-called "J" brand liquor. "It is shameful that those responsible for this tragedy, are now speaking about spurious liquor," he said. "Driven by commissions and greed, they distributed spurious liquor that wrecked countless families and widowed many women," he charged, noting that digital payment systems in liquor sales were deliberately disabled for five years to siphon off thousands of crores. "SIT has already confirmed a Rs 3,500 crore liquor scam under the previous regime," he reminded. "We have introduced a first-of-its-kind multi-layer testing system in the country - 13 different tests for ENA, nine each for whisky, brandy, gin, and vodka, seven for beer, and nine for rum.

MANUFACTURED COMMUNAL CLASH DURING DURGA PUJA THREATENS ODISHA'S SECULAR LEGACY



Diary Times Desk : The calculated and manufactured communal violence – and the resultant shutdown of the internet and social media – in Cuttack, Odisha during the immersion of Durga idols after Dussehra has shocked the entire city and state. The city, where Hindus form a majority, has for the past 30-35 years elected a Muslim representative to the Odisha Assembly, the current one being Safia Firdaus of the Congress.

Communal violence between Hindus and Muslims during Durga Puja was previously unheard of in Cuttack's history. The city's defining character has long been its *baichara* – a fraternal bond among residents of all faiths, whether Hindu, Muslim, Christian, or others.

Even as the Supreme Court recently upheld the Karnataka government's invitation to author Banu Mushtaq to inaugurate Mysuru Dussehra – dismissing a petition that claimed non-Hindus could not perform Hindu rituals – Cuttack's Muslims have always been integral to Durga Puja festivities. Hindus and Muslims together build Puja pandals, celebrating a shared and composite culture.

Yet, this spirit of coexistence was recently maligned by the Bajrang Dal and the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP), who branded it "*chhadma baichara*" – a "false fraternity" concealing supposed animosity between the two communities.

Kedar Mishra, who runs the YouTube channel Samata Live, told this writer that the deliberate creation of such a poisonous atmosphere made people apprehensive that something terrible was bound to happen.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA B R GAVAI

BENGALURU POLICE REGISTER FIR AGAINST LAWYER WHO TRIED TO HURL SHOE AT CJI



Diary Times Desk : The Bengaluru Police on Wednesday registered a zero FIR against the lawyer who allegedly tried to hurl a shoe towards Chief Justice of India B R Gavai in his courtroom in the Supreme Court, officials said.

A zero FIR can be registered anywhere irrespective of where the alleged offence occurred.

The FIR was registered against Rakesh Kishore under Sections 132 (assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty) and 133 (assault or criminal force with intent to dishonour a person of the BNS, following a complaint by Bhaktavachala, president of the All India Advocates Association here, they said.

The act of Rakesh Kishore is not pardonable and acceptable by any section of society. In fact, his act is punishable...this is a grave incident to be taken seriously," the advocates association said in the complaint submitted to the SHO of Vidhan Soudha police station here.

Kishore (71) allegedly tried to hurl a shoe towards CJI Gavai in his courtroom in the Supreme Court on Monday, but was stopped by alert security personnel.

According to police sources, the errant lawyer was unhappy over the CJI's remarks during a hearing last month concerning the restoration of a Vishnu idol in Khajuraho.

HARYANA IPS OFFICER WHO DIED BY SUICIDE ACCUSED SENIORS IN 8-PAGE NOTE



Diary Times Desk : Y Puran Kumar, a senior Haryana IPS officer, who died by suicide at his Sector 11 Chandigarh residence by shooting himself had accused senior officers of "mental harassment", officials said. An eight-page note recovered by the police details the harassment.

Police said the officer allegedly shot himself with his service revolver, and his body was found by his daughter in the basement. The officer was reportedly disturbed over the inclusion of his name in a bribery case on the complaint of a liquor contractor without the permission of the state government.

The Rohtak Police on Monday registered a first information report (FIR) based on a complaint by the liquor contractor, who alleged that Kumar's aide Sushil Kumar had sought a bribe of Rs 2.5 lakh in the officer's name.

While the police had arrested Sushil, Y Puran Kumar's name figured in the FIR. However, the FIR has not been uploaded online.

On September 29, Kumar, a 2001-batch officer, was transferred to the Police Training College in Sunaria in Rohtak. Previously, he was posted as the Inspector General (Rohtak Range).

An engineering graduate, he was born on May 19, 1973, and was due to retire on May 31, 2023.

65-KM TRAFFIC JAM IN BIHAR: DELHI-KOLKATA NH-19 NIGHTMARE ENTERS 4TH DAY - '5 KM IN 24 HOURS'

Diary Times Desk : A colossal traffic jam has paralysed a critical 65-kilometre stretch of the in Bihar, leaving a desperate convoy of hundreds of lorries, buses, cars and motorcycles stranded for four consecutive days.

The gridlock, spanning from Rohtas to Aurangabad, has transformed the major arterial route into a parking lot, with vehicles inching forward at a barely perceptible pace.

According to a report by The Tribune, the crisis was triggered by torrential rains that lashed the Rohtas district last Friday. The downpour flooded the service lanes and temporary diversions created for a highway expansion project on the NH-19, rendering them impassable.

The resulting waterlogging, combined with severe pothole damage, has caused vehicles to skid and stall, compounding the congestion into a complete standstill.



UNION GOVT HAS FAILED KERALA, WE DON'T NEED YOUR CHARITY: HIGH COURT ON REFUSAL TO WAIVE LOANS FOR WAYANAD DISASTER VICTIMS

Diary Times Desk : The Kerala High Court on Wednesday expressed deep disappointment with the Central government's refusal to waive loans of persons affected by Wayanad landslides of 2024.

A Division Bench of Justice AK Jayasankaran Nambiar and Justice Jobin Sebastian went to the extent of saying that the Central government has failed the people of Kerala and that the State can do without the Centre's charity.

"Please tell the Union Government it has failed the people of Kerala. We had made it very clear that it is not a situation where the union is powerless to act. By this affidavit, you've clearly shown again, that you are hiding behind this power argument, you're saying that you are powerless to act. Why is that being done?" the Court told the government lawyer.

The Bench was referring to the Central government's argument that there is no legal provision for waiver of bank loans for persons affected by natural disasters.

The Court said that this stance by the Central government was nothing but "bureaucratic babble". "This is just bureaucratic babble. It is not about whether the Union can act, but whether they are willing to act. If you are unwilling to act, have the courage to say it.

ARVIND KEJRIWAL WANTED MAYAWATI'S BUNGALOW IN DELHI, GOT THIS INSTEAD



Diary Times Desk : A government doctor was seriously injured after being attacked with a machete by a man at the taluk hospital in Tamarassery in this district on Wednesday, police said.

The assailant, who is the father of a young girl who died recently of amoebic meningitis, has been taken into custody following the afternoon incident, they said. The doctor, identified as Vipin, was struck on the head and has been rushed to a private hospital for treatment, police said.

DULQUER SALMAAN, FILM STARS' HOUSES RAIDED AGAIN IN LUXURY CAR SMUGGLING CASE

Diary Times Desk : Malayalam superstar Dulquer Salmaan's house and over a dozen locations across South India were raided by the Enforcement Directorate amid a probe into smuggling cartels illegally importing high-end luxury vehicles from Bhutan and alleged tax evasion, sources said. The raids were conducted at 17 premises across Kerala and Tamil Nadu this morning, including the properties belonging to film stars Salmaan, Prithviraj Sukumaran, and Amith Chackalal, besides car owners and auto workshops, and traders in Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu and in Ernakulam, Thrissur, Kozhikode, Malappuram, and Kottayam in Kerala. The action was carried out under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) after the Customs unearthed alleged smuggling of luxury vehicles and unauthorised foreign exchange dealings.

'MY WIFE SAT CRYING ALONE ON EID': AZAM KHAN AHEAD OF AKHILESH YADAV'S RAMPUR VISIT

Diary Times Desk : A day before Samajwadi Party (SP) president Akhilesh Yadav's planned visit to Rampur, senior party leader and former minister Mohammad Azam Khan has spoken out for the first time since his release from jail last month.

The 77-year-old leader, once considered one of the most influential figures in Uttar Pradesh politics and the SP's most prominent Muslim face, said he now intends to stay in the background while continuing to hold respect for the party's leadership, in an interview with the Indian Express.

After spending nearly four years in two separate terms at Sitapur jail, Khan has been living quietly at his residence in Rampur's Mumtaz Park.

Reflecting on his time in prison, he described his experience as "humane", stating he holds no resentment.

SONAM WANGCHUK'S WIFE GEETANJALI ANGMO VISITS HIM IN JODHPUR JAIL



Diary Times Desk : Geetanjali Angmo on Wednesday said she had visited her husband, Sonam Wangchuk, in Jodhpur jail, where he was lodged in the wake of the September 24 Leh violence.

Geetanjali Angmo met the climate activist on Tuesday along with lawyer Ritam Khare, according to a post she made on X minutes after midnight.

She said Sonam Wangchuk's legal team has obtained the detention order, which will be challenged in court.

"His spirit is undaunted. His commitment resolute! His resilience intact!. He conveys heartfelt thanks to all for their support and solidarity," Geetanjali Angmo wrote in the post. The document lists the allegations against Sonam Wangchuk and the reasons for the invocation of the National Security Act against him.

BOLLYWOOD STARS WHO
PLAYED PILOTS, AND HOW
REAL THEY LOOKED

Diary Times Desk : Hrithik Roshan portrayed the role of a fighter jet pilot in the 2024 film 'Fighter'. His character name was Squadron Leader Shamsher 'Patty' Pathania. Several viewers praised his look and performance in this aerial action movie. The film 'Fighter' was directed by Siddharth Anand and also stars Deepika Padukone, Anil Kapoor, and others in the lead roles. The Bollywood film is available to stream on Netflix.

Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan played the character 'Veer Pratap Singh' who was an Indian Air Force pilot in the 2004 film 'Veer-Zaara'. The film was directed by Yash Chopra and written by Aditya Chopra. In this film, Shah Rukh Khan's character rescues a Pakistani girl stranded in India. It features Preity G Zinta and Rani Mukerji in the pivotal roles.

In the 2023 film 'Tejas', actress Kangana Ranaut portrayed the role of an Air Force pilot named Tejas Gill. The film was written and directed by Sarvesh Mewara and also features Sanjay Bharadwaj, Vishak Nairm, Anshul Chauhan and others in the pivotal roles. For the unversed, the movie is available to stream on the Zee 5 platform.

PM USES P
CHIDAMBARAM'S REMARKS
AS AMMO, ATTACKS
CONGRESS ON 26/11
RESPONSE

Diary Times Desk : Training his guns on the Congress, using former Union minister P Chidambaram's remarks as ammunition, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said the opposition party had succumbed to international pressure in deciding not to take retaliatory action against Pakistan after the 26/11 attacks.

In a recent interview, Chidambaram, who took over as India's Home minister after the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks, said he was inclined towards retaliating against Pakistan but the government decided to exercise restraint after global pressure not to start a war.

The Congress leader said then US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice had also travelled to New Delhi to meet him and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh and urged India not to take military action.

Referring to Chidambaram's remarks - without naming him - during the inauguration of the Navi Mumbai International Airport on Wednesday, PM Modi said Mumbai, which is India's economic capital, was targeted in 2008.

NAVI MUMBAI AIRPORT A SYMBOL OF BHARAT'S
ASPIRATIONS: GAUTAM ADANI



Diary Times Desk : Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani highlighted the completion of the Navi Mumbai airport, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday, as a major achievement in India's economic development and "a symbol of Bharat's aspirations".

"From blueprints to skylines, from dreams to runways, today India soars higher as Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Navi Mumbai International Airport," Gautam Adani said on X.

He also expressed his "deepest gratitude" to Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Union Civil Aviation Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu and all the Central and Maharashtra government officials "for their steadfast support and partnership".

"A heartfelt thank you to every construction worker, engineer, artisan, security guard, partner and team member whose dedication turned vision into reality."

19 US LAWMAKERS URGE TRUMP TO
"RESET AND REPAIR" TIES WITH INDIA

Diary Times Desk : 19 US Lawmakers on Wednesday wrote a letter to President Donald Trump urging him to "reset and repair" India-US "critical partnership." The letter was co-signed by several prominent Democratic leaders, including Deborah Ross, Ro Khanna, Brad Sherman, Sydney Kamlager-Dove, Raja Krishnamoorthi, and Pramila Jayapal. Notably, no Republican lawmakers signed it. The Congress members warned that the US President's recent tariff hikes, which raised duties on Indian goods to as high as 50 per cent, have undermined relations with India and hurt both American consumers and manufacturers.

"We write as Members of Congress representing districts with large, vibrant Indian-American communities that maintain strong familial, cultural, and economic ties to India. Recent actions by your administration have strained relations with the world's largest democracy, creating negative consequences for both countries. We urge you to take immediate steps to reset and repair this critical partnership," they noted.

ZUBEEN GARG'S COP COUSIN ARRESTED. HE WAS AT SINGAPORE
YACHT PARTY

Diary Times Desk : Zubeen Garg's cousin, who had travelled with him to Singapore, has been arrested by the Assam Police's Special Investigation Team (SIT) amid a probe into the singer's mysterious drowning death. Sandipan Garg, a deputy superintendent in the Assam Police Service, is the fifth person arrested, a senior officer told NDTV. All accused have been charged with murder, culpable homicide not amounting to murder, criminal conspiracy, and causing death by negligence in connection with his death probe.

Sandipan Garg was presented before a local court this morning and sent to seven-day police custody. The SIT had asked for 14 days.

Garima Garg, Zubeen's wife, said she had faith in the judicial system and believed that the investigation will provide them with "some answers".

"I also saw on social media this morning that Sandipan was called for some questioning, and later he was arrested. Maybe the authorities found some clue in his statement."



ADR CITES 2003 GUIDELINES
TO CALL 2025 SIR

'FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT'

Diary Times Desk : The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) has submitted in the Supreme Court that while the Election Commission of India has based the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the voter rolls in Bihar on the 2003 intensive revision, a look at the guidelines of the earlier exercise shows that the two were fundamentally different.

The ADR, which is the lead petitioner in the case challenging the SIR in Bihar, has told the court that the 2003 exercise "cannot be used as precedent for the SIR" and said that the Election Commission, by not making the 2003 order available earlier, is "deliberately concealing crucial and relevant information while offering an untruthful account." Citing the 2003 guidelines, the ADR highlighted that while the earlier exercise put the onus of inclusion of voters in the electoral rolls on the enumerator, in the 2025 SIR, the onus lies on voters who can face deletions from the rolls on failure to fill the enumeration form.

UKRAINE CLAIMS IT CAPTURED INDIAN
MAN FIGHTING FOR RUSSIA, INDIA YET
TO VERIFY

Diary Times Desk : A 22-year-old Indian national, who was allegedly fighting for the Russian army, was reportedly captured by Ukrainian forces. Indian authorities have not confirmed the detention and said they were working to verify Ukrainian media reports that identify the Indian man as Majoti Sahil Mohamed Hussein, apparently a resident of Morbi in Gujarat.

"We are ascertaining the veracity of the report. We have not yet received any formal communication from the Ukrainian side in this regard," sources in the Ministry of External Affairs told NDTV.

According to a report by The Kyiv Independent, Hussein, who went to Russia to study at a university, was enlisted by the Russian army to fight against Ukraine. Hussein appeared on a video recorded by Ukraine's 63rd Mechanised Brigade, which captured him. In the video, he was heard saying that he was sentenced to seven years in prison on drug-related charges in Russia.

EVEREST RESCUE: ALL STRANDED
TREKKERS EVACUATED SAFELY,
HIKERS SHOVEL SNOW WITH
COOKING POTS

Diary Times Desk :
Rescuers on Tuesday safely evacuated all remaining trekkers near the east face of Mount Everest in Tibet, ending one of the largest search-and-rescue operations in the region. The evacuation included hundreds of hikers, local guides, sherpas, and yak herders who had been stranded due to heavy snow and harsh weather, according to a report by Reuters. The remote Karma Valley, leading to Everest's eastern Kangshung face, had hundreds of visitors taking advantage of China's eight-day National Day holiday. Over the weekend, unusually heavy snow and rainfall trapped almost 1,000 people in the Tingri region, one of the main routes to the world's tallest mountain. Snow fell continuously on Saturday in the valley, which sits at an average altitude of 4,200 metres (13,800 ft). By Sunday, rescuers had guided about 350 hikers to safety. The remaining 200 or so trekkers were evacuated by Tuesday, bringing the total to 580 trekkers along with more than 300 guides, yak herders, and support staff, Xinhua reported.

STEPHEN MILLER HAS SAID DONALD
TRUMP HAS PLENARY AUTHORITY
BUT WHAT DOES THAT ACTUALLY
MEAN?

Diary Times Desk : A Trump administration official has allegedly claimed the US president has "plenary authority" while on a live interview with CNN.

White House deputy chief of staff Stephen Miller made the comment in relation to deploying National Guard troops in Portland, Oregon.

But the viral moment came immediately after, when he appeared to cut himself off mid-sentence, leaving his statement incomplete.

Here's how things played out.

What happened?
In an interview with CNN, Mr Miller was asked whether he was planning to abide by a court order that would prevent the Trump administration from deploying National Guard troops to Portland.

COPS WERE SENT TO STATEN ISLAND HORROR HOUSE REPEATEDLY ON
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CALLS BEFORE SHOCK DECAPITATION: SOURCES

Diary Times Desk : A batch of desperate pleas for help repeatedly drew cops to a Staten Island horror house in the years before twisted teen Damien Hurstel allegedly decapitated his mom's boyfriend inside the abode, The Post has learned.

The gorily dismembered beau — 45-year-old city Department of Sanitation worker Anthony Casasaspro — had been listed as the alleged perpetrator in at least five domestic violence-related 911 calls from the West Brighton home starting in 2021, sources revealed.

In the most recent report in 2023, sources said Casasaspro allegedly drunkenly attacked Hurstel before slapping the teen's mom.

WHO IS VRUJ PATEL? INDIAN-ORIGIN
LONDON PEDOPHILE JAILED FOR 22
YEARS OVER CHILD RAPE CHARGES



Diary Times Desk : Vruj Patel, a 26-year-old Indian-origin man, was sentenced to 22 years in jail at Snaresbrook Crown Court on Tuesday, October 7, according to the United Kingdom's Metropolitan Police. The Seldson Road E13 resident in London has been placed on the sex offenders' register for life.

Additionally, the London man's brother, Kishan Patel, was also sentenced to 15 months for possession of indecent images of children at the same court on Tuesday. In addition to his prison sentence, the 31-year-old individual will also served a 10-year-sexual harm prevention order.

Indian-origin man was arrested in London months ago
Vruj Patel was originally taken into custody on February 1. The incident followed the Greater Manchester Police relaying a third-party report to the Metropolitan Police, stating that videos of child sexual offending has been captured on a device sent for repair.

8 DEAD, THOUSANDS STRANDED AS
VIETNAM FLOODS BRING RIVERS TO 40-
YEAR HIGH

Diary Times Desk : Record floods submerged streets and inundated homes in Vietnam on Wednesday, leaving tens of thousands of people stranded, with at least eight killed this week. Floodwaters reached the tops of cars and rooftops in areas of Thai Nguyen city, approximately 80 kilometres (50 miles) north of the capital, Hanoi, leaving many residents stuck at home and others forced to flee. The environment ministry said eight people were killed in flash floods and landslides in Vietnam's mountainous north since Monday, and five others were missing. "I have never witnessed such a terrible flood since I was born 60 years ago," Nguyen Van Nguyen told AFP from his three-storey house in Thai Nguyen province.



QATAR AIRWAYS
PASSENGER REQUESTS FOR
VEG MEAL, CHOKES TO
DEATH AFTER BEING TOLD
TO 'EAT AROUND THE MEAT'

Diary Times Desk :
The family of an 85-year-old cardiologist from California has accused Qatar Airways of negligence after he allegedly choked to death on a flight meal that was not in accordance with his strict vegetarian dietary request. The passenger, Dr Asoka Jayaweera, had been travelling from Los Angeles to Colombo, Sri Lanka, in June 2023, when the incident occurred. The wrongful death complaint, filed in a California court in July, claims that the airline's failure to provide a vegetarian meal and its subsequent handling of the emergency led to his death.

According to court filings, Dr Jayaweera had requested a vegetarian meal for the 15-and-a-half-hour flight from Los Angeles International Airport. However, once on board, he was reportedly informed by a flight attendant that no vegetarian meals were available and was instead given a standard meal containing meat. The Independent reported. The complaint alleges that he was told to "eat around" the meat. "While attempting to 'eat around' the meat in the meal that he was provided, Asoka Jayaweera began choking shortly thereafter," the filing states. The document does not specify which food item caused the choking.

ISRAELI FORCES SHELL GAZA
ON WAR ANNIVERSARY;
HAMAS, ISRAEL DISCUSS
TRUMP PLAN

Diary Times Desk : Israeli tanks, boats and jets pounded parts of Gaza on Tuesday, giving Palestinians no respite on the anniversary of the Hamas attack that led to two years of war and underlining the challenges at talks on Donald Trump's plan to halt the conflict. Israel pressed on with its offensive, residents said, after Hamas and Israel began indirect negotiations on Monday in the Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheikh on sensitive issues such as Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and Hamas' disarmament. The talks on the US president's plan are widely seen as the most promising yet for ending a war that has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians and devastated Gaza since the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel which killed 1,200 people. Militant Groups Mark Anniversary With Statement. Residents in Khan Younis in southern Gaza and Gaza City in the north reported heavy bombing from tanks and planes in the early hours.

ISRAELIS MARK 7 OCTOBER ANNIVERSARY AS TALKS ON GAZA PEACE PLAN CONTINUE

Diary Times Desk : Israelis have gathered across the country to mark two years since the Hamas-led attack on 7 October 2023, as negotiations continued in Egypt over an end to the war in Gaza. The attack saw over 1,200 people killed and 251 others taken back to Gaza as hostages. It was the single deadliest day for Jews since the Holocaust.

Israel responded by launching a military offensive in Gaza which has killed more than 67,000 people, according to the territory's Hamas-run health ministry. Its figures are seen as reliable by the UN and other international bodies.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said in a statement that alongside "immense pain", Israel had shown "miraculous resilience".

"Our bloodthirsty enemies have hit us hard, but they have not broken us," Netanyahu said on Tuesday. He vowed to "achieve all the goals of the war: the return of all the kidnapped, the elimination of the Hamas regime and the promise that Gaza will no longer pose a threat to Israel".



U.S. APPROVES "MIG-21 KILLER" AMRAAM MISSILES TO PAKISTAN; ANOTHER HINT TO INDIA OR REGULAR BUSINESS FOR PENTAGON?

Diary Times Desk : The US has approved the sale of missiles to Pakistan that shot down an Indian MiG-21 fighter jet in 2019. Is it another signal to India or regular business for the Pentagon?

The year 2024 marked the zenith of US-India ties, as both countries achieved bilateral breakthroughs in the defense and space sectors. However, by the end of 2025, ties between India and the US reached an alarmingly low level. In the latest salvo fired by the Trump administration, the US has approved the sale of Raytheon AIM-120 AMRAAM (C-8/D-3) advanced medium-range air-to-air missiles to Pakistan and other nations.

AT LEAST 24 KILLED AS ARMY PARAGLIDER BOMBS MYANMAR BUDDHIST FESTIVAL

Diary Times Desk : At least 24 people were killed and 47 wounded while protesting against Myanmar's military government after an army motorised paraglider dropped two bombs on the crowd, a spokesperson for the government-in-exile told BBC Burmese. The military attacked on Monday evening as around 100 people gathered in Chaung U township in central Myanmar for a national holiday. Thousands have died and millions have been displaced since a military coup in 2021, which triggered a civil war with armed resistance groups and ethnic militias. After losing control of more than half the country, the army is making significant gains again, through an especially bloody campaign of airstrikes and heavy bombardment.

HUNDREDS OF US NATIONAL GUARD TROOPS ARRIVE IN CHICAGO



Diary Times Desk : Hundreds of National Guard troops from Texas have arrived at an army training centre outside Chicago to support US President Donald Trump's immigration crackdown. Trump has branded Chicago a "war zone", following recent protests against federal immigration officials in the third-largest US city.

The deployment comes amid opposition from local officials. Illinois Governor JB Pritzker has accused the Trump administration of an "authoritarian march" and said the state would "use every lever at our disposal to stop this power grab".

Sources told CBS News, the BBC's US partner, that some troops could begin their assignments as early as Wednesday. CBS also reported that trailers have been set up as temporary living quarters on the Army Reserve Training Center about 50 miles (80km) south-west of Chicago.

Fencing was also put up around the training facility late on Tuesday.

Local officials have said they have received few details on the troop assignments.

Trump argues the use of the troops is necessary to quell violence in Democratic-controlled cities, crack down on crime and support his deportation initiatives.

INSIDE ONE BATTLE-SCARRED GAZA BUILDING, DISPLACED FAMILIES TELL THE STORY OF THE WAR

Diary Times Desk :

The Skeik building, in a quiet road off Omar al-Mukhtar Street in western Gaza City, was a familiar sight to Gaza's lovers.

The tree-lined street that ran beside it was once a favourite place for courting couples, eager to avoid Gaza's socially conservative gaze.

But the road nicknamed "Lovers' Street" – and the six-storey building that overlooks it – is now surrounded by rubble. There are few residents left who remember the old days. Those hiding here now are not running from Gaza's disapproval, but from Israeli tanks.

Gaza's war has left this once-glitzy neighbourhood in ruins. The smart shops and restaurants running down to the beach are now pockmarked with shrapnel and bullet holes, the park with its French-manicured trees, is buried under grey rubble.

"TRANSFORMATIVE PRESIDENT": CANADIAN PM PRAISES TRUMP OVER INDIA-PAK PEACE

Diary Times Desk : Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney has called Donald Trump a "transformative president" and credited him for bringing "peace" between India and Pakistan. Speaking during bilateral talks at the White House, the Canadian leader credited Trump for influencing global affairs and economic stability.

"You (Donald Trump) hosted me and some of my colleagues a few months ago, and I said at the time, 'You are a transformative president,'" Carney said in the Oval Office, as Trump nodded.

"And since then, the transformation in the economy, unprecedented commitments of NATO partners to defend spending, peace from India-Pakistan, through to Azerbaijan-Armenia, disabling Iran as a force of terror, these were important."

Trump's Claim And India's Response

Trump has repeatedly said he brokered a truce between New Delhi and Islamabad during military confrontation in May, a claim that India denies. New Delhi has maintained that a ceasefire was reached after the Pakistani Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) called his Indian counterpart and requested an immediate truce, as Pakistan was desperate following India's strikes.

This was Carney's second visit to the Oval Office since taking over the top office in Canada in March. The visit came ahead of next year's review of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, as one of the world's most durable and amicable alliances has been fractured by Trump's trade war and annexation threats.

GRETA THUNBERG ALLEGES TORTURE BY ISRAEL AFTER GAZA FLOTILLA ARREST

Diary Times Desk : Swedish activist Greta Thunberg alleged on Tuesday that she and other detainees of the Gaza flotilla were subjected to torture in the Israeli prison they were held. Thunberg told a news conference in Stockholm that she and others were "kidnapped and tortured" by the Israeli military. She declined to elaborate, adding when pressed that she didn't get clean water and that other detainees were deprived of critical medication. "Personally, I don't want to share what I was subjected to because I don't want it to make headlines and 'Greta has been tortured', because that's not the story here," she said, adding that what they were subjected to paled in comparison to what people in Gaza experienced daily. Israel's foreign ministry did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment but has repeatedly denied mistreating the detainees.



CALIFORNIA DECLARES DIWALI A STATE HOLIDAY, JOINING PENNSYLVANIA AND CONNECTICUT

Diary Times Desk : California has officially recognised the Diwali festival as a state holiday. It has now become the third state in the United States of America, after Pennsylvania and Connecticut, which declare Diwali as a state holiday. Governor of California Gavin Newsom signed the bill introduced by Assembly member Ash Kalra, granting paid time off to state employees and allowing schools to observe the festival. Community leaders hailed the move as a milestone that honours the contributions of Indian Americans to the state's economy, government, and society.



20,179 CHILDREN KILLED IN GENOCIDE, OVER 12 LAKH KIDS FOOD-DEPRIVED: GAZA HEALTH MINISTRY

Diary Times Desk : Over 12 lakh children in Gaza are deprived of food, while 58,554 children have been orphaned, according to data released by the Ministry of Health in Gaza, on October 7, 2025.

Israel's war on Gaza – which has been declared a genocide by a UN commission of inquiry – remains ongoing, while 9,14,102 children remain deprived of education and 5,580 children await medical evacuation.

The data reveals that till October 7, 2025, a total of 20,179 children have been killed in the genocide, adding that a child is killed "every 52 minutes" in Gaza. Of these, 1,029 children were "below" the age of "one year", 5,031 children were "below" the age of "five years" and 420 children were "born and killed in war".

DELAYS SPREAD TO MAJOR AIRPORTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY, AS THE GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN IMPACTS TRAVELERS

Diary Times Desk : There would not be enough air traffic controllers in the tower at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport Tuesday night, the Federal Aviation Administration warned. In Nashville, so many controllers have stayed home, the facility – which guides planes into and out of the airport – is closing. Now, after more than a week of the government shutdown, same scenarios are unfolding at FAA offices across the country, with ripple effects hitting flights almost everywhere. The approach and departure facilities for Houston, Newark and Las Vegas did not have enough controllers working for at least part of Tuesday evening, along with the facilities that handle planes in the Boston, Atlanta, Philadelphia and Dallas areas, FAA operations plans noted.

GOOGLE NOW HAS 5 NOBEL PRIZE WINNERS, SAYS SUNDAR PICHAI WHILE CONGRATULATING PHYSICS LAUREATES

Diary Times Desk : Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai congratulated the winners of the 2025 Nobel Prize in Physics, celebrating a special connection to Google as one of the laureates currently works at the company, while another is a former employee.

In a post on X (formerly Twitter), Pichai praised Michel Devoret, John Martinis, and John Clarke for their groundbreaking work in quantum mechanics, which earned them the prestigious award this year. "Congrats to Michel Devoret, John Martinis, and John Clarke on the Nobel Prize in Physics. Michel is chief scientist of hardware at our Quantum AI lab, and John Martinis led the hardware team for many years," Pichai wrote.

The Google CEO highlighted how their pioneering research from the 1980s helped shape modern quantum computing. "Their pioneering work in quantum mechanics made recent breakthroughs possible and paved the way for error-corrected quantum computers to come," he said. Pichai also shared that he had visited Google's quantum lab in Santa Barbara a day earlier and expressed pride in the company's achievements. "Feeling lucky this morning to work at a company that has had five Nobel Laureates among our ranks – three prizes in two years!" he added.

REGIONAL POWERS SIGNAL OBJECTION TO US RECLAIMING AFGHANISTAN'S BAGRAM BASE

Diary Times Desk : Afghanistan's regional neighbours, including India, have voiced a rare unified front by opposing foreign attempts to deploy "military infrastructure" in the country, as United States President Donald Trump presses to regain control of the Bagram airbase. In a joint statement on Tuesday, members of the Moscow Format of Consultations on Afghanistan – which includes rivals India and Pakistan – "reaffirmed their unwavering support for the establishment of Afghanistan as an independent, united and peaceful state".

The forum also includes Russia, China, Iran and Central Asian nations, all of whom strongly oppose any US return presence in Afghanistan. The members "called unacceptable the attempts by countries to deploy their military infrastructure in Afghanistan and neighbouring states, since this does not serve the interests of regional peace and stability". Though the statement echoes last year's forum language, it suggests broad regional opposition to Trump's push to return to Bagram, which he handed over to Afghanistan's Taliban five years ago as part of a deal paving the way for the US withdrawal from Kabul.



TRUMP CALLS FOR JAILING OF ILLINOIS GOVERNOR AND CHICAGO MAYOR IN IMMIGRATION STANDOFF



Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump has called for the jailing of Illinois officials, accusing them of not doing enough to ensure the safety of federal immigration officers who are conducting raids in Chicago.

The president wrote in a social media post that Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson and Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, both Democrats, "should be in jail for failing to protect Ice Officers!"

Trump has previously called the city a "war zone" amid protests against immigration enforcement. Pritzker has called the president's actions "authoritarian".

The Republican president spoke as hundreds of National Guard troops arrived in the city as part of his immigration crackdown.

The standoff raises the temperature in an already heated rhetorical battle between Trump and local officials in Democratic-led cities and states.

11 SOLDIERS, 19 TERRORISTS KILLED IN MILITARY OP IN PAK'S KHYBER PAKHTUNKHWA

Diary Times Desk : Eleven Pakistani soldiers, including a Lieutenant Colonel and a Major, and 19 terrorists were killed in a operation against the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, also known as the Pak Taliban, in the Orakzai district of the remote Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province, which borders Afghanistan.

The military operation was launched late Tuesday based on intel about the 'fitna al-khawarij', i.e., the term used by the Pak government for local extremist groups like the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan.

A 'sanitisation' exercise will eliminate other terrorists in the area, the Army said.

Last month 17 TTP terrorists were killed in a multi-service raid on a hideout in Karak, another district in violence-hit Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. Three police officers were hurt in that shooting.

KEY US AND REGIONAL MEDIATORS JOIN TALKS IN PUSH TO END GAZA WAR

Diary Times Desk : Top US envoys and regional figures are taking part in the third day of indirect talks between Israel and Hamas in Egypt on President Donald Trump's plan to end the war in Gaza.

Steve Witkoff and Trump's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, arrived in Sharm el-Sheikh on Wednesday along with Qatar's prime minister and Turkey's intelligence chief for what is expected to be a key day indicating whether progress can be made.

A senior Hamas official told the BBC it had shown "the necessary positivity" in the negotiations and submitted a list of the Palestinian prisoners it wanted Israel to release in exchange for the hostages held in Gaza.

Israeli media cited officials as saying there was "cautious optimism".

BANGLADESH PLANS TO BUY 20 CHINESE J-10CE FIGHTER JETS IN \$2.2 BILLION DEAL: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : Bangladesh plans to purchase 20 Chinese-made J-10CE fighter jets at an estimated cost of \$2.2 billion, a media report said on Tuesday.

The deal will also cover training, maintenance, and other related expenses, The Business Standard newspaper reported, citing the government documents.

Bangladesh would receive the fighter jets during 2026 and 2027 to "modernise the Bangladesh Air Force and strengthen national air defence," it added.

According to China's Global Times, the J-10C, also known as the "Vigorous Dragon" is a fourth generation multirole combat aircraft capable of conducting a wide range of missions. It can perform air-to-air and air-to-ground strikes, engage targets up to 200 km away, and operate in coordination with other aircraft and drones for surveillance and attack missions.

No official announcement on the deal has been made yet, but the paper said it reviewed official documents related to the procurement that also suggested that payments for the jets would be spread across 10 fiscal years, up to 2036.

When asked by reporters for comments on the report, finance adviser Salehuddin Ahmed said, "I won't make any comment on this matter." "Just because I know something, does that mean I have to reveal everything?" he said.



SUSUMU KITAGAWA, RICHARD ROBSON, OMAR YAGHI WIN NOBEL PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

Diary Times Desk : The Nobel Prize in Chemistry for 2025 has been awarded to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson and Omar M Yaghi. "The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the 2025 #NobelPrize in Chemistry to Susumu Kitagawa, Richard Robson and Omar M Yaghi 'for the development of metal-organic frameworks,' the post on X announced this afternoon.

The three chemists will share the 11 million Swedish crowns prize money -- around Rs 10 crore in Indian currency, besides the prestige that the Nobel prize carries.

Kitagawa, who holds a PhD in hydrocarbon chemistry from Japan's Kyoto University, has earlier won awards such as the Humboldt Research Prize (2008) and the De Gennes Prize. He currently teaches at Kyoto University.

Robson, who was born in the UK and studied chemistry at the University of Oxford, now teaches at the University of Melbourne.

THIS GULF NATION BRINGS MAJOR CHANGES UNDER NEW CIVIL SERVICES LAW, OFFERS RS 292000 ANNUAL MARRIAGE ALLOWANCE, 150% PERFORMANCE RAISE, IT IS...

Diary Times Desk : Qatar, a Middle Eastern country, has made significant revisions to its Civil Human Resources Law, announcing new financial incentives to strengthen family stability and enhance the performance of the public sector workforce, Qatar News Agency reported.

Under Law No. 25 of 2025, issued by Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the revised framework has announced a marital allowance for both Qatari spouses and a QAR 12,000 (around Rs 2,92,000) annual marriage incentive for each.

Moreover, a series of social and administrative reforms have been introduced under the law to support a healthy work environment and attract national talent.

'Aims to keep pace with evolving working environment'

Dr. Abdulaziz bin Nasser bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, President of the Civil Service and Government Development Bureau and Secretary-General of the National Planning Council, hailed the revisions as a "a balanced legislative development, following a thorough review and a practical analysis."

DOMINO'S PIZZA IS ABOUT TO LOOK — AND SOUND — A LOT DIFFERENT

Diary Times Desk :
Domino's Pizza is giving itself a major makeover — and introducing a snappy jingle — in hopes of holding on to customers' limited attention.

The chain unveiled Wednesday its first refresh in 13 years, encompassing a bolder logo with brighter colors, new employee uniforms and pizza boxes, and redesigned restaurant signage. Also, for the first time in its 65-year-old history, the restaurant is releasing a jingle mimicking its name performed by country star Shaboozey.

The goal is to capture people's shortening attention spans amid a fractured media landscape, said Kate Trumbull, Domino's chief marketing officer.

HACK ON JAPAN'S BIGGEST BREWER RENEWS CONCERNS OVER CYBERATTACK READINESS

Diary Times Desk : Japan's favorite beer brand is reeling from a cyberattack that paralyzed its production last week. Its factories have started brewing again, and some truckloads of beer are leaving its warehouses, but the attack has spotlighted the poor cybersecurity readiness among top-tier companies in the world's fifth-largest economy.

Beer and beverage giant Asahi — which makes Asahi Super Dry Beer, Nikka Whisky and owns foreign brands like Peroni, Pilsner Urquell and Grolsch — said the attack last week halted order placement and shipping operations and forced it to shut down production at most of its 30 factories nationwide. That led to shortages of the popular beer and other Asahi products at convenience stores in Japan. On Tuesday, Qilin, a ransomware group with a track record of infiltrating organizations around the world, claimed responsibility, saying it had stolen around 27 gigabytes of data. All six of Asahi's alcohol factories nationwide and some of its soft drinks and food plants have now resumed operations, but it remains unclear when their production and shipment will be back to full service.

WHY GOLD IS HAVING ITS BIGGEST YEAR SINCE 1979

Diary Times Desk :
Gold is having a gangbusters year — and that's typically a red flag about the state of affairs in the world.

This week, gold blew past \$4,000 an ounce, and some on Wall Street are betting the rally is just getting started.

When investors pile in to gold, it's not usually during good times, but when they feel like the world is on fire. It's long been the go-to safe haven during economic stress and worries about inflation.

Gold and stocks, both moving higher
The 2025 gains for the precious metal are historic, surpassing prior turbulent periods such as after the September 11 terror attacks, the 2008 financial meltdown or even the pandemic. Gold is up 54% so far this year, on track for its best year since 1979, according to FactSet. Keep in mind that was a time when the United States was grappling with double-digit inflation and a full-blown energy crisis.

What's unusual about today's gold spike is that it's coming in tandem with a booming stock market.



FALL OF YET ANOTHER PREMIER WILL MAKE IT HARD FOR FRANCE TO FIX ITS FINANCES. WHAT'S BEHIND ITS DEBT PROBLEM?

Diary Times Desk : France lost its fifth prime minister in less than two years this week, just before the 2026 budget was due to be sent to parliament.

Sébastien Lecornu resigned Monday after announcing a cabinet that largely retained the same ministers as under his unpopular predecessor, triggering a backlash. François Bayrou quit last month after trying to push through a savings plan that included scrapping two public holidays and freezing public spending.

Lecornu's resignation raised doubts over whether the 2026 budget — including much-needed debt-cutting reforms — can be passed in time. But after talking to lawmakers from a number of parties, he provided some reassurance Wednesday, acting in a caretaker capacity. "There is a willingness for France to have a budget before December 31," he said. France is Europe's biggest spender relative to its economic output. Its debt burden is behind only those of Greece and Italy, which were at the heart of the European debt crisis in 2011.



DENMARK PLANS TO BAN SOCIAL MEDIA FOR USERS UNDER 15, AS PM SAYS

Diary Times Desk : **PLATFORMS ARE 'STEALING CHILDHOOD'**
Denmark will move to ban social media for children under 15, Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen said Tuesday, saying the online platforms are "stealing our children's childhood."

Speaking at the opening of the Danish parliament, Frederiksen said her government would propose a ban that also gives parents the option to approve social media use from age 13.

"We have said yes to mobile phones in our children's lives in the best sense. So they can call home and communicate with their friends," she said.

"But the reality is that we have let a monster loose. Never before have so many children and young people suffered from anxiety and depression," Frederiksen added. The Danish prime minister said many children find it difficult to read and concentrate, while some "see things they shouldn't see" online. Frederiksen also cited statistics showing that 60% of boys aged 11 to 19 don't physically see a single friend in their free time over the course of a week. (Frederiksen did not specify a source for the numbers.)



AS AI GETS MORE LIFE-LIKE, A NEW LUDDITE MOVEMENT IS TAKING ROOT

Diary Times Desk :
At my local coffee shop a couple of weeks ago, I overheard one 20-something woman say to another: Could I ask, what kind of phone do you have?
The other woman replied: Oh yeah, it's a Jelly Star...
I started Googling while they gabbed.
The conversation was brief, but they talked about the phone the way you might when you compliment a stranger's boots: So cool, are they comfortable, where did you get them, I want a pair.
Jelly Star is a credit-card size smartphone that runs on Android. It does all the things that feel required in modern life: emails, calls, texts, GPS. But the 3-inch screen is so tiny — about half the size of the average smartphone — there's almost no point in trying to stare at it for longer than a few seconds, according to fans on Reddit.
"It's too small to get addicted to, and using it even gives me a headache—perfect for negative reinforcement," a commenter on r/dumbphones, a subreddit that encourages members to "join the revolution and enjoy the simple life."

TESLA UNVEILS CHEAPER VERSIONS OF ITS MODEL 3 AND MODEL Y

Diary Times Desk : Tesla has unveiled the long-promised cheaper versions of its two main cars, dubbed the Model 3 Standard and Model Y Standard, after the expiration of the \$7,500 tax credit for American buyers of most of its cars.

Tesla said the new Model 3 Standard will cost \$38,630, including destination and order fees, and would be available in December or January. Model Y Standard will have a starting price of \$41,630, including destination and order fees, and would be available in November or December.

The Model 3 Standard is \$5,500 less than the "Premium" version, which had previously been the least expensive model, while the Model Y Standard is \$5,000 less than the Premium version. The new cars were unveiled on Tesla CEO Elon Musk's social media platform, X.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON ORDERED TO PAY \$966 MILLION IN LATEST TALC CANCER CASE



Diary Times Desk : A Los Angeles jury ordered Johnson & Johnson to pay \$966 million to the family of a woman who died from mesothelioma, finding the company liable in the latest trial alleging its talc products cause cancer.

The family of Mae Moore, a California resident who died at age 88 in 2021, sued the company the same year, claiming J&J's talc baby powder products contained asbestos fibers that caused her rare cancer. The jury late on Monday ordered J&J (JNJ) to pay \$16 million in compensatory damages and \$950 million in punitive damages, according to court filings.

The verdict could be reduced on appeal as the US Supreme Court has found that punitive damages should generally be no more than nine times compensatory damages.

Erik Haas, J&J's worldwide vice-president of litigation, said in a statement that the company plans to immediately appeal, calling the verdict "egregious and unconstitutional."

TRUMP TO CITIES: DROP DEAD



Diary Times Desk : Fifty years ago this month, President Gerald Ford told New York City the federal government would not save it from financial collapse. The New York Daily News summed up Ford's speech in an infamous front-page headline: "Ford to City: Drop Dead."

Today, President Donald Trump is punishing American cities in ways that make Ford's refusal to bail out New York look amicable by comparison. (Ford later approved federal loans to the city with strict conditions attached.)

But cities lack the power or resources to fight back. They can't stop Trump's funding cuts, remove federal troops stationed on their streets or reverse damaging policies beyond legal challenges — despite being the economic engines of the United States. Last year, metropolitan areas accounted for 90.8% of the country's economic output, employed 88.2% of Americans and housed 86.4% of the population. The income cities generate also supports rural areas and small towns. There's a long history of hostility toward cities in the United States, but "right now we're at an apex of virulent anti-urbanism," said Richard Schragger, a law professor at the University of Virginia who specializes in local government and urban policy. "What Trump is doing is affirmatively attacking and occupying American cities. That's a much more hostile attitude" than Ford.

Trump is going after cities every way he can. He suggested using "some of these dangerous cities as training grounds" for US troops. He authorized the National Guard to Los Angeles; Washington, DC; Memphis; Portland; and Chicago, and threatened the same for New Orleans and New York City.

HIMACHAL CM GIVE
PRE-DIWALI GIFT TO
STATE GOVT
EMPLOYEES,
ANNOUNCES HIKE IN
WAGES, HONORARIUM

Diary Times Desk : Ahead of Diwali, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister on Wednesday announced an increase in the wages and honorarium for various state government employees.

The honorarium of 21,115 mid-day meal workers has been increased by Rs 500, taking it to Rs 5,000 per month now. Meanwhile, honorarium for some categories of school management teachers was also increased by Rs 500, he said.

The salaries of daily wagers and part-time workers have been increased by Rs 25, bringing it to Rs 425 per day and the honorarium of stitching instructors, Panchayat chowkidars was also hiked by Rs 500, a statement issued here said.

‘MOHALLA’ FESTIVITIES
MARK KULLU DASEHRA
CELEBRATIONS

Diary Times Desk : On the second last day of the week-long Kullu Dasehra festival, grand 'Mohalla' festivities were held at Dhalpur ground today, where deities gathered to support Lord Raghunath in the symbolic battle against evil.

In a significant ritual, Maheshwar Singh, the 'Chharibardar' (chief caretaker) of Lord Raghunath and a descendant of the erstwhile rulers of Kullu, performed Durga Puja at the camp temple, seeking blessings ahead of the 'Lanka Dahan' ceremony scheduled for tomorrow.

It is believed that Goddess Tripura Sundari Devi, the family deity of the former Kullu royals, blesses Lord Raghunath to triumph over Ravana, representing the victory of good over evil.

Offerings were also made to Goddess Kali, whose blessings are essential for tomorrow's concluding rituals.

RAJVIR JAWANDA, PUNJABI SINGER, SUCCUMBS TO INJURIES DAYS AFTER
HIMACHAL ROAD ACCIDENT

Diary Times Desk : Punjabi singer Rajvir Jawanda, who sustained serious injuries following his road accident on September 27, passed away on Wednesday. He was 35.

Fortis Hospital, Mohali, Director Abhijit Singh confirmed that Rajvir Jawanda was declared dead at 10:55 am on Wednesday.

Jawanda had been in critical condition for several days following the accident, which occurred in Himachal Pradesh's Solan district while he was traveling to Shimla on his motorcycle. "Despite extensive medical support and continuous monitoring by the critical care and neurosurgery teams, he succumbed to multiple organ failure this morning," according to a hospital statement. Following his death, Rajvir Jawanda's body was taken from Fortis Hospital to his residence in Sector 71, Mohali. It will later be moved to Panchkula Civil Hospital for a postmortem examination.



RAJVIR JAWANDA DEATH:
POLITICAL LEADERS, CELEBRITIES,
FANS MOURN

Diary Times Desk : Political leaders, film fraternity and fans mourn the untimely demise of singer Rajvir Jawanda, who passed away on Wednesday at the age of 35.

Jawanda had been in critical condition for several days following a road accident on September 27 in Himachal Pradesh's Solan district. He was travelling to Shimla on his motorcycle when he reportedly lost control in the Baddi area, according to police. He was immediately airlifted to Fortis Hospital in Mohali, Punjab, in an "extremely critical" condition.


Colleagues and fans took to social media to express their grief. Hailing from Pona village in Ludhiana's Jagraon, Jawanda is known for his songs "Tu dis penda", "Khush reha kar", "Sardari", "Surname", "Afreen", "Landlord", "Down to earth" and "Kangani". Jawanda also acted in Gippy Grewal-starrer Punjabi movie "Subedar Joginder Singh" in 2018, "Jind Jaan" in 2019 and "Mindu Taseeldarni" in 2019.

RESIDENTS OF RAJVIR
JAWANDA'S NATIVE VILLAGE IN
JAGRAON MOURN HIS UNTIMELY
DEATH

Diary Times Desk : The residents of Kothey Pona village in Ludhiana are in mourning after the tragic death of their beloved singer Rajvir Jawanda. The community had come together to organise a path in the hope of his recovery, but unfortunately, their prayers were not answered.


The villagers, led by Sarpanch Raju Jawanda, were shocked to hear the news of Rajvir Jawanda's demise at the hospital.

"We were gathering to perform the Bhog of the path of Guru Granth Sahib to pray for the long life of Rajvir Jawanda when social media reports started pouring in, and we had to conclude the path in a hurry," said Raju Singh. Rajvir had gained popularity for his soulful voice and songs that highlighted the cultural heritage of Punjab and social bonding among families.




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.




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.



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.



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.

HARYANA IPS OFFICER'S
DEATH: VIDEO OF
LIQUOR CONTRACTOR
WHO LODGED FIR
LEVELLING BRIBERY
CHARGES SURFACES

Diary Times Desk : A video of a local liquor contractor who recently lodged an FIR against an individual for demanding a monthly bribe "in the name of senior police officer IPS Y Puran Kumar" has surfaced.

In the video, the contractor, with his face covered by a cloth, can be seen detailing his complaint that led to the registration of a case against one Sushil at Urban Estate Police Station on October 6. He has also recorded a detailed statement in a local Rohtak court, raising serious allegations of corruption, extortion and threats to life and business.

The contractor claimed that he had been receiving threat calls from various individuals demanding money. He also accused Sushil of exerting pressure on him for bribes using the name of Kumar.

GURUGRAM MC DRAFTS
WASTE MANAGEMENT
PLAN WITH FIVE-BIN
SYSTEM, SEEKS
RESIDENTS' INPUTS

Diary Times Desk : As Gurugram continues to grapple with its mounting solid waste challenge, the Haryana Government has drafted a city-specific Solid Waste Management and Handling Bylaws, 2025, aimed at offering a tailor-made solution to the Millennium City's sanitation woes.

The draft plan, prepared by the Municipal Corporation of Gurugram (MCG), was presented to resident welfare associations (RWAs), institutions and commercial representatives today for feedback before finalisation. "We already have solid waste management rules in place, but this plan is custom-made for Gurugram, which faces a different and much larger waste management crisis," said MCG Commissioner Pradeep Dahiya. "It aims to make waste management a collective responsibility and resolve the city's sanitation problems.

HARYANA IPS OFFICER Y PURAN KUMAR'S DEATH SPARKS ROW OVER FIR
INCLUSION WITHOUT GOVT NOD

Diary Times Desk : A day after 2001-batch Haryana IPS officer Y. Puran Kumar allegedly died by suicide, questions are being raised about the inclusion of his name in the FIR registered in Rohtak based on the complaint of a liquor contractor.

Sources close to his family said that his name could not have been included in the FIR without the permission of the state government.

The Rohtak Police had, on Monday, registered an FIR based on a complaint by a liquor contractor, alleging that Sushil, a person who was allegedly close to Kumar, then posted as IG, Rohtak, had sought a bribe of Rs 2.5 lakh in the officer's name. The contractor submitted CCTV footage and audio recordings as evidence. While the police had arrested Sushil that same evening and produced him in court, Kumar's name also figured in the FIR.



WIFE RETURNS FROM ABROAD AFTER
HARYANA IPS OFFICER FOUND DEAD
IN CHANDIGARH

Diary Times Desk : The wife of senior Haryana Police officer Y Puran Kumar, who allegedly shot himself dead at his Chandigarh residence, reached here on Wednesday from Japan, where she had gone as part of an official delegation.

The police officer's wife, Amneet P Kumar, an IAS officer and the commissioner and secretary of the Haryana Government's Department of Foreign Cooperation, was in Japan as part of a delegation led by Chief Minister Nayab Saini.

She arrived here in the afternoon, sources said.

Y Puran Kumar (52), a 2001-batch IPS officer, was found dead in his Chandigarh residence on Tuesday.

Some senior Haryana bureaucrats met Amneet Kumar after she arrived here and conveyed their condolences.

GOVT ROLLS OUT POLICY FOR
REGULARISATION OF INDUSTRIAL
COLONIES

Diary Times Desk : Big relief is in sight for thousands of unauthorised industrial units, with the state government rolling out a new policy for the provision of basic infrastructure aimed at creating healthier working environment in illegal industrial colonies across Haryana.

The ball has been set rolling after a notification by Ritu Garg, Secretary, Law and Legislative Department, following the Governor's assent to the Haryana Management of Civic Amenities and Infrastructure Deficient Areas Outside Municipal Area (Special Provisions) Amendment Act, 2025, which will pave the way for provision of basic amenities to illegal industrial colonies.

"In case of regularisation of unauthorised industrial establishments, an online portal for receiving applications from entrepreneurs shall be created and all punitive action initiated against the applicants shall be deemed to have been suspended from the date of submission of the application on the portal until the government takes a final decision.

ROLLER-COASTER YEAR FOR SAINI GOVERNMENT

Diary Times Desk : It has been a roller-coaster year for the Nayab Singh Saini-led BJP government as it oscillated between battling challenges of "collapsing" law and order, rainwater that inundated fields and cities alike, and implementing promises made in its manifesto after it was handed out a majority in the Assembly elections last year.

Even as the government juggled challenges through the year—extortion calls to traders, flood-damaged crops, DAP fertiliser "shortages", tardy crop procurement, unemployment—it hit the ground running after the Cabinet-formation on October 17 last year by fulfilling a key electoral promise—offering Group-C government jobs to 24,000 youth.

Another flagship initiative under Saini's leadership was the launch of Deen Dayal Lado Lakshmi Yojana, which provides Rs 2,100 monthly assistance to women from families earning less than Rs 1 lakh annually. Other public-centric decisions included an effort to improve the sex ratio by constituting the State Task Force, providing free dialysis for kidney patients in district civil hospitals, purchase of 24 crops on MSP, launching anti-drug campaigns and enactment of a law to regulate travel agents in view of the increasing illegal migration.



Cristiano Ronaldo Becomes The Sport's First Billionaire

Portuguese soccer superstar Cristiano Ronaldo has become the sport's first ever billionaire player following a contract he signed with Al Nassr earlier this year, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

Although the former Real Madrid, Manchester United and Juventus star – now in the latter stages of his playing career – has always been one of the top earners in soccer, it's his current stint at Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr that has catapulted him onto the exclusive list of billionaire athletes.

After moving to the Saudi Pro League in January 2023, he became the highest-paid player in the sport's history with an annual salary of around \$200 million, according to Saudi state media.

"It's really on all of us to try to do our part in reducing emissions," Feldman said.

And in June 2025, the 40-year-old signed a new two-year deal with

the Saudi outfit, reportedly worth more than \$400 million in tax free earnings.

That contract has boosted Ronaldo's net worth up to \$1.4 billion, according to Bloomberg. The Portuguese superstar's earnings aren't the only stream of income that have skyrocketed his net worth.

The five-time Ballon d'Or winner signed a decade-long Nike deal worth almost \$18 million a year, as well as sponsorships with brands such as Armani and Castrol – adding over \$175 million to his net worth, according to Bloomberg. Ronaldo has also amassed a global real estate portfolio and invested in a number of businesses in multiple countries, including Portugal and Spain.

The five-time Champions League winner now joins the likes of basketball legend Michael Jordan and retired tennis superstar Roger Federer on the sought-after list of billionaire athletes. The latter mainly earned the status from a stake in Swiss sportswear brand On as part of a sponsorship deal.

Jordan, however, made much of his fortune from longtime endorsement deals with Nike as well as having owned a majority stake in the NBA's Charlotte Hornets up until 2023.



As the soccer superstar approaches retirement, club ownership is something that he has teased in the past.

"If I can be a club owner, why would I be a manager, sporting director or CEO?" Ronaldo said in an interview with Portuguese television channel Canal 11 earlier this year.

"This is my dream and I'm sure I'll get there. I'll even say more: I hope to not only have one club but to own several clubs."



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Recent years have seen efforts to reconnect the three Tabarchine communities after years apart. In 2024, some 75 representatives gathered in Pegli, near Genoa, their ancestors' home. There is even talk of nominating the Tabarchine saga for UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list.



Ayushi Shah According to airport officials, travelers can expect shorter lines, faster check-ins powered by biometrics and smoother connections as airlines begin to expand their routes.

Stage Every Day For A Month

How This Runner Did A Marathon And Tour De France

Imagine this: every day, you wake up in a motorhome in an unfamiliar part of the country in the early hours of the morning, and after cramming down as much oatmeal as can muster, you start on the day's adventure – cycling the equivalent of a grueling Tour de France stage, and then, armed with crampons, an ice axe and a rope, running and climbing the equivalent of a marathon up one of the United States' highest mountains. After spending the day (and night) scrambling up ice encrusted slabs, dirt tracks, glaciated terrain and exposed rock, and battling exhaustion after being on the move for 18 hours, you allow yourself no more than five hours of sleep, because tomorrow, you're doing it all over again. And again. And again.

This is what Spanish ultrarunner Kilian Jornet has been doing for a month after challenging himself to ascend and link up all of the USA's Fourteeners – mountains at least 14,000 feet in height – in the lower 48 US states. The journey – which he dubbed "States of Elevation" – saw him connect 72 peaks across mountain ranges in Colorado, California, and Washington, traveling almost 3,198 miles and climbing 403,638 ft in 31 days, through blistering heat and frigid temperatures.



This included about 629 miles traveled on foot and 2,568 miles by bike. On average, the Spaniard traveled roughly 103 miles and 13,021 feet per day in his challenge.

This epic display of endurance, which Jornet completed all by human power – running, hiking, mountaineering or cycling the entire time, even for the journey between the peaks – was just the Spanish athlete's latest foray into exploration.

Last year, he successfully climbed all 82 of the Alps' 4,000-meter (about 13,123 feet) peaks in record time, taking just 19 days to complete the remarkable feat, which was also human powered.

"I was kind of in a no-fault zone, where every mistake I could make, I would die. And that, for like, 14, 17, 18 hours every day, was so mentally draining, day after day after day," Jornet told CNN Sports about last year's challenge.

But still, this year, the Catalan set himself an even more audacious task. Starting at Longs Peak in Colorado, he made his way up the state's 56 Fourteeners, before heading to California's Sierra Nevada, and then to Washington's imposing volcanoes.

"What inspires me the most? It's exploration, and that exploration is both geographical (and) geological ... to explore the mountains and to explore the different regions, and also like the people that are living there, the creatures," he told CNN Sports.

"And then also like inner exploration to try to see, 'What are my limits?'" he added.

Exerting himself for so many hours a day is something Jornet has been perfecting for years.

The secret? "It's just years and years of training. "It's technical capacities that I have been working for the past 20 years, and physically just being capable of doing multiple days of 20 hours of effort – that's something that helps the body to reach those capacities," he explained.

"It's years of silent work that makes up the body, gets adaptations to then be able to do these things," he said. "Putting the body to these extreme challenges ... we can have a better knowledge of understanding who we are as humans."

"What are those limits?" Jornet, 37, is known for his speed and endurance: he has won several elite ultrarunning races, including four wins at the 100-plus-mile mountain race Ultra Trail du Mont Blanc (UTMB). INFA

Flattened Hills Diverted Rivers

INDIA'S NEW MEGA-AIRPORT OPENS AFTER DECADES OF DELAYS

After decades of bottlenecks and delays, Mumbai, one of the world's most crowded cities, finally has a second airport. For travelers, the new Navi Mumbai International Airport promises shorter lines, more flights and a smoother start or finish to their trip than before. For the city, long throttled by a single overburdened airport, it's an engineering feat.

The airport has been nearly 20 years in the making, a process that involved flattening hills, diverting rivers and bridging creeks. Phase one alone gives the city a terminal built to handle 20 million passengers annually, immediately easing the strain on Mumbai's existing airport, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International, or BOM.

In 2019, BOM handled 48.83 million passengers. And today, as one of Asia's busiest airports, it already serves more than 54 million travelers a year, making delays, long lines and overcrowding part of the city's air travel experience.

"It's a great airport. It's a terrific location," says Mark D. Martin, an India-based aviation analyst. "But the area is not yet developed. The viability and sustainability of an airport in India purely depend on its access to the population."

The vision for the new Navi Mumbai airport — NMI — takes into account future growth. By 2032, the airport is expected to have four terminals with the capacity for 90 million passengers a year — putting Mumbai in the same league as global multi-airport hubs like London, New York and Dubai.

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the airport on October 8. Addressing media on site at NMI, he said "In 2014, we only had 74 airports. Today, we have more than 160. With this new airport, Maharashtra farmers will be able to connect with the supermarkets of Europe and Middle East. And the fishermen's produce can quickly reach the global market." And they are already lining up. Air India Group says its low-cost arm, Air India Express, will begin to offer 20 daily departures out of the new airport, which includes international destinations.

IndiGo, the nation's largest carrier, will move dozens of daily flights to the airport once operations commence, and add international routes by November. Homegrown budget airline Akasa Air is also moving in, with more than 100 weekly flights to start. Cargo operations will be just as vital.

The airport debuts with 800,000 tons of annual capacity, vital to Mumbai's role as a pharmaceutical and e-commerce hub. A general aviation terminal will house up to 75 business jets, the largest such facility in India.

It's no secret that NMI was intended to bring India's aviation industry up to par with other Asian mega-hubs.

Jeet Adani, director of airports for the Adani Group, which is the key funder of NMI, cited top Asian airports as benchmarks.

"Singapore Changi is known for efficiency and passenger experience. NMI is designed to exceed it in ultimate capacity, while matching its digital backbone. Seoul Incheon and Tokyo Narita are examples of Asian order and technology. We aim to meet those benchmarks on airside, while surpassing them in growth headroom," he said.



A GUIDE TO GERMAN EXPRESSIONISM

Diary Times Desk : In 1920 the artist Max Pechstein was asked, 'What is German Expressionism?' His response was as evocative of a riot as it was an art movement: 'Work! Intoxication! Brain-racking! Chewing, eating, gorging, rooting up! Rapturous birth pangs! Jabbing of the brush, preferably right through the canvas. Trampling on paint tubes.'

Pechstein was a member of Die Brücke ('The Bridge'), an association of avant-garde artists that flourished for a short period in Germany before and after the First World War. They wanted to convey the truth about the rapidly changing world around them. 'An Expressionist does not look, he sees!' declared the writer Kasimir Edschmid.

In the decades following unification in 1871, Germany experienced an economic boom. By 1900 the country was making more steel than any other European nation and becoming a world leader in electrical goods. As workers flooded into the cities to toil in the many chemical and electrical plants, poverty and disease followed.

This deprivation was powerfully conveyed by Käthe Kollwitz, one of the most influential avant-garde artists of the pre-war era. Her work is often seen in tandem with that of Die Brücke and another group that emerged in the early 1900s, Der Blaue Reiter ('The Blue Rider'). Together they are known as the German Expressionists. Inspired by the philosophy of Friedrich Nietzsche, they strove to project their inner psyches onto canvas, shocking the public in the process.

Die Brücke was founded in Dresden in 1905 by the charismatic and highly strung artist Ernst Ludwig Kirchner. The 'bridge' symbolised the group's desire to connect with the reality of modern life — one in which desperation was never far from the surface. Joining Kirchner were Karl Schmidt-Rottluff, Erich Heckel, Otto Mueller, Emil Nolde and Pechstein. Their livid, angry paintings, with juddering angles and paroxysms of colour, convey a feverish delirium.

Der Blaue Reiter came later, in 1911. It was the brainchild of the Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky and the German Franz Marc. The group, which also included August Macke, Paul Klee, Heinrich Campendonk, Alexej von Jawlensky and Gabriele Münter, was united by a love of nature — what Kandinsky called the 'Great Organic'.

**10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT PAUL CEZANNE****Diary Times Desk : He grew up with Emile Zola**

Paul Cezanne, whose innovative Post-Impressionist paintings would pave the way for 20th-century modernism, was born in Aix-en-Provence. He was a childhood friend of Emile Zola, who would become the most prominent French novelist of the late 19th century.

While studying at the Collège Bourbon, together with Louis Marguery and Jean-Baptiste Baille, they formed a close-knit group they nicknamed Les Inséparables. Cezanne defended Zola from bullies in the schoolyard, and one day Zola thanked him with a basket of apples. The moment had a great impact on Cezanne, and the apple would become one of his favoured subjects.

The two continued to support each other until 1886, when Zola used Cezanne as the basis for the failed artist character in his novel L'Oeuvre, putting a strain in their relationship.

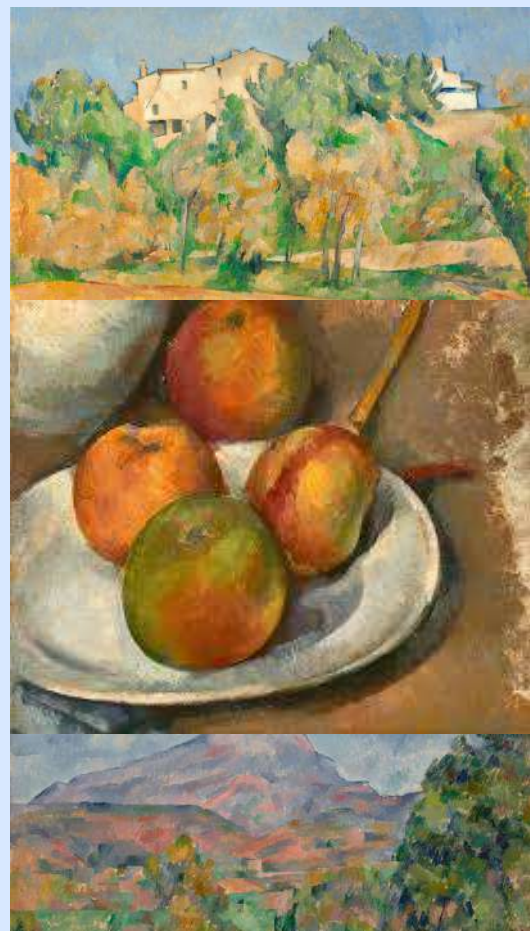
Cezanne had to fight to become an artist

Cezanne's father didn't initially support his artistic career. He wanted him to study law and manage their family-owned bank.

After two years at the law school of the University of Aix-en-Provence, Cezanne dropped out. Zola was then living in Paris and urged him to join the community of avant-garde artists and writers there. With his mother's support, Cezanne convinced his father to let him go to the capital to study painting.

Once in Paris, Cezanne applied to the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, the training ground of Salon painters, but he was rejected. He took classes at the Académie Suisse, a walk-in studio school, but even there he wasn't fully accepted — fellow attendee Camille Pissarro later recalled that Cezanne's life studies 'provoked roars of laughter from all the impotents of the school'. During this time, Cezanne was in his 'Dark Period', using expressive brushwork and dark tones to convey romantic and classical themes.

His submissions to the Salon were rejected year after year, and he participated in the famous 1863 Salon des Refusés, a showcase for artists who found themselves in the same position. Among the exhibitors were Pissarro, James McNeill Whistler and Edouard Manet, who presented his scandalous painting Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe. The Salon des Refusés brought a new type of art, beyond the bounds of the traditional establishment, into the mainstream.



SPAIN NT DIRECTOR CLEARS THE AIR ON BARCELONA PRODIGY’S INJURY HANDLING – ‘THERE HAS BEEN TRANSPARENCY’



Diary Times Desk : Lamine Yamal being called up by the Spanish national team for the ongoing international break was scandalous enough, especially given that he just seemingly recovered from a major injury blow.

The player eventually withdrew from the list after suffering a relapse, and playing for the national team even if he had been fit would not have had great consequences.

Lamine had been dealing with pubic discomfort last month, which was exacerbated after he played two games in a space of a few days for Spain.

It led to him missing four matches for Barcelona, with Hansi Flick criticising Spain boss Luis de la Fuente over how he handled the youngster’s fitness and injury. After all, it emerged that the winger was given a painkiller injection to play against Turkey.

PREMIER LEAGUE DUO SUPPORT VILLARREAL VS BARCELONA BEING PLAYED IN US – ‘NOT BAD FOR LA LIGA’

Diary Times Desk : In recent days, Barcelona’s upcoming La Liga clash against Villarreal, proposed to be held in the United States, has become one of the most talked-about topics in Spanish football. A

fter weeks of speculation, debates, and mixed opinions, UEFA finally gave the green light for the match to be played in Miami on 20 December, which is a landmark decision that marks a new chapter in La Liga’s global expansion.

For years, Javier Tebas, the president of La Liga, has been pushing for a league fixture to take place on American soil, aiming to grow the league’s visibility and commercial footprint abroad.

This time, it seems his efforts have paid off. The fixture between Villarreal and Barcelona will now serve as the competition’s first-ever official match to be hosted in the United States, marking a major step forward in the globalisation of Spanish football.

Interestingly, the decision has not been free from controversy. Several coaches, clubs, and players have voiced opposition to the idea of taking league matches away from local fans.

INJURED BARCELONA FORWARD DOUBTFUL FOR GIRONA MATCH AS RECOVERY TAKES LONGER THAN EXPECTED

Diary Times Desk : According to a report from Luis Rojo of MARCA, it has been learned that Barcelona forward Raphinha is unlikely to feature in the upcoming La Liga clash against Girona, which will take place immediately after the current international break.

The journalist mentions that the Brazilian remains doubtful as his recovery is progressing slower than expected.

On the brighter side, the same report provides encouraging news about Fermin Lopez, who is recovering well from the muscle injury he suffered in his left leg.

As reported before, the young midfielder is expected to be fully fit in time for the Girona match and is likely to make his return to action, giving Hansi Flick a much-needed boost in midfield options. The injury, suffered in his right thigh, initially required around three weeks of recovery time.

BARCELONA SUMMER SIGNING UNLIKELY TO RECOVER IN TIME FOR EL CLASICO – REPORT

Diary Times Desk : According to a recent report from AS, Barcelona are facing a significant setback ahead of the upcoming El Clasico against Real Madrid, as first-choice goalkeeper Joan Garcia is unlikely to recover in time for the crucial encounter.

Notably, the Catalan side have been hit by a string of injuries in recent weeks, and Garcia’s situation is now becoming one of their biggest concerns.

Barcelona have already been dealing with a series of fitness problems following their defeats to Paris Saint-Germain and Sevilla.

Players such as Fermin Lopez, Raphinha, Gavi, and Lamine Yamal have all been nursing injuries.

While there is optimism that several of them will return after the international break, Garcia’s case appears more complicated.

What happened to Joan Garcia?

It must be remembered that the 24-year-old goalkeeper underwent arthroscopic surgery on his left meniscus towards the end of September.



LAPORTA MEETS PSG PRESIDENT AT ECA ASSEMBLY TAKING ANOTHER STEP TOWARDS SUPER LEAGUE EXIT

Diary Times Desk : According to an update from MARCA, Barcelona president Joan Laporta attended the General Assembly of the European Club Association (ECA), chaired by Nasser al-Khelaifi,

It must be noted that Laporta now shares warmer ties with the PSG president, especially after last week’s Champions League clash in Barcelona.

The outlet assures that Laporta was accompanied by Vice President Rafa Yuste, and Al-Khelaifi personally welcomed him at the hotel hosting the ECA Annual Assembly.

Although Barcelona are not yet a member of the ECA, the club is maintaining increasingly close relations with the organisation.

This gathering comes amid renewed European club opposition to the Super League, with discussions taking place since yesterday.

VILLARREAL STAR STANDS BY LA LIGA DECISION TO MOVE BARCELONA GAME TO US – ‘I HAVE NO PROBLEM’

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona’s clash against Villarreal being scheduled in the United States later this season, has become one of the hottest talking points in Spain, and understandably, so given that it directly threatens the integrity of domestic football in the country.

It has been Javier Tebas’ dream for a long time to take a league game overseas in a bid to improve popularity in foreign countries, and after years of fruitless efforts, it now appears closer than ever before to taking place.

Barcelona and Villarreal have shown no resistance against the travel and scheduling of the game, but several teams in the competition have put their foot forward in condemning the decision.

Villarreal goalkeeper speaks Speaking to the media in a recent interview, Villarreal goalkeeper Arnau Tenas was asked to give his opinion on the burning issue of the clash being played in Miami, in the United States.

The former La Masia trainee, however, showed complete cooperation with the club and the official decision, which has now been ratified by UEFA as well.

“We are all one. I have no problem,” he began.