

NEWS IN BRIEF
'NO INVOLVEMENT':
MEA CLARIFIES ON
EXCLUSION OF
WOMEN
JOURNALISTS FROM
AFGHAN FM
MUTTAQI'S DELHI
PRESS CONFERENCE

Diary Times Desk :
The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Saturday clarified that it had no involvement in the press interaction held by Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi in New Delhi on Friday, which later sparked controversy after reports emerged that women journalists were allegedly barred from attending. "MEA had no involvement in the press interaction held yesterday by the Afghan FM in Delhi," the ministry said in a statement. The press conference, organised at the Afghanistan Embassy in New Delhi following bilateral talks between External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Muttaqi, drew widespread criticism after women journalists claimed they were denied entry.

MEDICAL STUDENT
OUT WITH FRIEND
GANG-RAPED IN
WEST BENGAL'S
DURGAPUR

Diary Times Desk : A medical college student from Odisha was allegedly raped by unidentified men in West Bengal's Paschim Bardhaman district, police said on Saturday.

The incident occurred outside the private medical college campus in Durgapur on Friday night when the second-year student went out with one of her friends for dinner, her family members said. The student, from Jaleswar in Odisha, is undergoing treatment at a nearby hospital, a police officer said.

"On the basis of a complaint lodged by the family members of the medic, we have started an investigation," he said. Later, DC (East) of Durgapur Commissionerate, Abhishek Gupta, said, "The matter is sensitive. The investigation is being conducted with all aspects in mind. As soon as more information is available, it will be shared." Talking to reporters, the parents of the student said they reached Durgapur this morning after getting a call from their daughter's friends.

BIHAR
ELECTION**BJP, NDA ALLIES HOLD MEETING ON BIHAR ELECTION;**
SEAT-SHARING FORMULA TO BE DECLARED ON SUNDAY

Diary Times Desk : Senior BJP leaders, including Home Minister Amit Shah and party president JP Nadda, held a meeting with party leaders and those of the allies on the ensuing Bihar election here on Saturday, with the BJP state unit chief Dilip Jaiswal, indicating that seat-sharing arrangements with the NDA partners will be announced by Sunday.

This came a day ahead of the expected meeting of Central Election Committee of BJP, which includes Prime Minister Narendra Modi and other senior leaders, to finalise the names of the party candidates for the Bihar Assembly election scheduled to be held in two phases on November 6 and 11.

Sources said the seat-sharing formula with the Janata Dal (United) [JD(U)] and LJP (Ram Vilas) [LJP(RV)] has almost been

finalised while discussions were on with other two allies — Hindustan Awam Morcha (Secular) [HAM(S)] supremo Jitan Ram Lam Manjhi, also a Union Minister, and Rashtriya Lok Morcha (RLM) chief Upendra Kushwaha.

According to NDA sources, JD(U) is likely to contest around 101 or 102 seats and BJP on one seat less than JD(U).

Ahead of the meeting, BJP Bihar unit president Dilip Jaiswal said, "All is well in NDA and the seat share of the allies will be announced today or by tomorrow at 11 am."

"Everything has been decided in NDA. NDA is moving forward with firm unity. All is well," he told reporters, when asked about NDA's seat-sharing formula.

"I think the central leadership will make an announcement this evening or by 11 am tomorrow," he added.

Whether the announcement will be made in Patna or in Delhi, Jaiswal said the NDA leadership will decide on this.

BJP's in-charge for political affairs in Bihar Vinod Tawde and Bihar election in-charge Dharmendra Pradhan, also a Union Minister, were present at the meeting.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Samrat Choudhary, who was also here to attend the BJP core group meeting, said discussions were on with the allies on seat-sharing for the state assembly polls.

"Nobody has any kind of resentment. Everyone has expressed their views... all are happy," the BJP leader told reporters when asked if Kushwaha and Paswan had any resentment over the sharing of seats.

J&K ACB DETAINS POLICE INSPECTOR FOR QUESTIONING IN
DISPROPORTIONATE ASSETS CASE

Diary Times Desk : The Jammu and Kashmir Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Saturday said it has booked a police inspector for allegedly amassing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income and taken him into custody for questioning.

Addressing a press conference here, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), ACB, Javid Hassan, said verification of allegations against Inspector (Ministerial) Peer Zada Mushkoor Ahmad Shah, posted as cashier at District Police Office (DPO), Bandipora, was conducted.

During the probe, it surfaced that Shah has acquired various movable and immovable assets in his name and his family members' names, Hassan said.

These include land measuring 32 kanals and 6 marlas in Budgam district, out of which 17 kanals and 14 marlas are in Sholipora Wudder, and a double-storey palatial residential house with an attic constructed on a plot purchased by him in Ompora Colony, the SSP said.

The accused has a bank balance of over Rs 48 lakh and different types of vehicles, he added.

**CARGO 'LION' AT HYDERABAD**
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Diary Times Desk : One of the world's largest cargo aircraft, the Antonov-124 Ruslan, made its maiden flight at the Shamshabad Airport on Friday. Ruslan means lion in Turkish. It was named so because of its high cargo capacity.

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The aircraft, which left Abu Dhabi with a huge cargo, touched down on the runway at the Hyderabad International airport at 12 noon. After unloading the cargo here, it took off again at 3:30 pm and left for Dubai. It is reported that only 26 Antonov-124 Ruslan aircraft are currently in operation.

This aircraft has four large turbofan engines. Its specialty is carrying 150 tons of cargo, it has a multi-leg landing gear, the wingspan is 6760 square feet. The empty aircraft weighs 1,81,000 kg.

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On May 13, 2016, an Antonov -225 Mriya aircraft, which was carrying a huge generator from the Czech Republic to earth, Australia, landed at Shamshabad Airport for a rest en route.

137, 120... IN 100 MARKS PAPER: JODHPUR
ENGINEERING UNIVERSITY'S RESULT GAFFE
SPARKS OUTRAGE

Diary Times Desk : The MBM Engineering University in Rajasthan's Jodhpur got into controversy after it came to light that lots of students got between 103 to 137 in a 100 marks paper, as per reports.

Following outrage, the university withdrawn result from its official website- mbm.ac.in and asked the private agency tasked with preparation of results to explain the discrepancies in results.

As per the university's controller of exams, the mismatch in marks happened from a technical snag during the uploading of result. "As soon as the issue was brought to our notice, we immediately directed the online call to remove it from the site and also issued a notice to them seeking an explanation for this error," TOI quoted controller of exam, as saying. VC Ajay Sharma has also admitted the mistake.

According to the report, around 800 students who had appeared for the exams found discrepancies in marks ranging from 103 to 137. One of the marksheet which went viral on social media showed that a student received 104 out of 100 in Universal Human Values and Communication Skills, Machine Drawing- 131, Physics Lab- 110, Mechanical Lab- 113, Workshop Practice- 124.

As per the students, this is not the first time, the university has uploaded faulty marksheets, earlier also faulty marksheets were uploaded on the portal.

HOPEFUL OF STRONGER TIES WITH INDIA**AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTER**
MUTTAQI VISITS DARUL
ULOOM DEOBAND ISLAMIC
SEMINARY

Diary Times Desk :

Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi on Saturday expressed confidence that the India-Afghanistan ties will grow stronger in future as he visited Darul Uloom Deoband in Saharanpur, one of the most influential Islamic seminaries in South Asia.

A raging controversy over the absence of women journalists from his presser in New Delhi a day earlier, which sparked sharp criticism from opposition parties and media bodies, followed the Afghan minister for the second day, but the seminary maintained that there were no restrictions from any side on women journalists covering its events on Saturday.

"I am thankful for such a grand welcome and the affection shown by the people here. I hope that India-Afghanistan ties advance further," the Afghan leader told reporters as he was greeted by Mohtamim (vice-chancellor) of Darul Uloom Deoband, Abul Qasim Nomani, president of Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind Maulana Arshad Madani and officials of the seminary, amid a floral shower.

Hundreds of students of the Islamic seminary and a large number of locals who had gathered at the Deoband campus jostled to shake hands with the visiting foreign dignitary, but were stopped by security personnel.

"We will be sending new diplomats, and I hope you people will visit Kabul as well. I have hopes for stronger ties in the future from the way I was received in Delhi. These visits may be frequent in the near future," Muttaqi said.

BCI DISSOLVES BAR
COUNCIL OF DELHI,
APPOINTS SPECIAL
COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE
AFFAIRS, CONDUCT POLLS

Diary Times Desk : The Bar Council of India (BCI) has dissolved the Bar Council of Delhi (BCD) and constituted a three-member special committee to take over its functions and conduct fresh elections by January 31, 2026.

The development came about after repeated delays in completing the mandatory verification of advocates and the preparation of electoral rolls.

In a letter issued to the BCD on October 10, the BCI said that Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Chetan Sharma would be the chairperson of the committee. Senior Advocate Maninder Singh and advocate Neeraj (President, Central Delhi Court Bar Association) will be the other two members of the committee.

"These directions are intended to restore compliance with binding judicial orders to secure accurate verification and to ensure that the electorate of Delhi is represented by a lawfully elected Council by 31.01.2026 on the basis of a verified and reliable roll. The measure is curative and time bound and is taken after successive extensions and advisories since 28.06.2023 have not produced the necessary results," the BCI said.

PROTECTION OF THE GIRL CHILD MUST BE CORE PRIORITY OF DIGITAL GOVERNANCE: CJI BR GAVAI

Diary Times Desk : Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai on Friday said that technology must become "a tool for liberation rather than exploitation," as he urged stronger digital safeguards to protect young girls from emerging forms of abuse.

Speaking at the 10th National Annual Stakeholders Consultation on Safeguarding the Girl Child: Towards a Safer and Enabling Environment for Her in India held at the Supreme Court, the CJI said that the protection of the girl child must be made a core priority of digital governance.

"Our institutions, policy frameworks and enforcement authorities must therefore be attuned to the realities of our times... Training programs for police officers, educators, health professionals and local administrators should consequently incorporate a sensitive approach, equipping them to respond with empathy, nuance, and contextual understanding," he said.



HYDRAA RECLAIMS ENCROACHED GOVERNMENT LAND WORTH RS 1,100 CRORE

Diary Times Desk : The drive against land encroachment continued on Friday with the HYDRAA clearing government lands across Hyderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri and Rangareddy districts, reclaiming 12.5 acres of property worth ₹1,100 crore. This included five acres of prime land in Banjara Hills valued at ₹750 crore.

HYDRAA carried out the removal of illegal structures in Banjara Hills, where an individual, Parthasarathy, had illegally claimed ownership of five acres, including 1.2 acres allotted to HMWSSB for a water reservoir. Parthasarathy allegedly fabricated a sub-division number (403/52) and, during the pendency of the court case, erected fencing, built temporary sheds, and deployed bouncers and dogs to prevent official access.

Authorities also received complaints that the encroacher used the premises for illegal activities, including alcohol consumption.

'MUSLIM POPULATION GROWING DUE TO INFILTRATION': AMIT SHAH

Diary Times Desk : Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday claimed that some political parties were treating infiltrators as a vote bank and questioned why infiltration does not take place along the Gujarat and Rajasthan borders.

Shah said this while delivering a lecture in memory of Dainik Jagran's former editor-in-chief Narendra Mohan on the topic "Infiltration (ghuspaith), demographic change and democracy".

He said infiltration was not a political issue but a national issue, which is a threat to democracy.

The opposition says it is the responsibility of the Centre to stop infiltration as the Border Security Force (BSF) is under its control, but there are certain areas on the border which cannot be fenced due to topography, he said.

"Centre alone cannot stop infiltration. State governments protect such infiltrators as some parties see a vote bank in them," he said.

The minister asked if a person illegally enters the country and the district administration fails to identify them, then how can infiltration be stopped? He said that when a person does not understand the difference between a refugee and an infiltrator, they are deceiving their own soul.

MADRAS HIGH COURT UPHOLDS TAMIL NADU HILL'S NAME AMID DISPUTE, CURBS SACRIFICIAL PRACTICES



Diary Times Desk : The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court has delivered its third-judge ruling on the Thiruparankundram Hillock dispute, settling the split verdict delivered in June this year. Justice GR Vijayakumar, the third judge nominated to decide the matter, largely concurred with the views of Justice S Srimathy, affirming that the name of the hillock shall remain Thiruparankundram Hill and not Sikkandar Malai.

The judgment resolves three contentious issues - the name of the hillock, the practice of animal sacrifice at the Sikkandar Badusha Dargah, and the right of Muslims to offer prayers at the Nellithoppu area.

JAGAN IS MISLEADING PUBLIC OVER NEW GOVERNMENT MEDICAL COLLEGES:

ANDHRA HEALTH MINISTER SATYA KUMAR

Diary Times Desk : Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav on Friday hit back at former chief minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy over his comments during a visit to Narsipatnam, accusing him of misleading the public about the construction of new government medical colleges.

Reacting strongly, the minister said Jagan's claim that construction of the Parvathipuram Government Medical College was progressing was 'a blatant lie,' asserting that even land

acquisition for the project had not been completed during the YSRCP regime.

Challenging the former CM, Yadav said, "If a fact-finding committee proves that land acquisition or construction has taken place, I will resign immediately. Otherwise, Jagan should apologise."

He demanded an immediate response, stating that silence would amount to an admission of misleading the public.

AS AQUA LINE TAKES OFF, MUMBAI'S TAXIS AND BUSES ARE LEFT BEHIND



Diary Times Desk : With the Aqua Line between Aarey and Cuffe Parade now operational, Mumbai's traditional transport options, kaali-peeli taxis and BEST buses, are already feeling the squeeze.

Within just two days of the Metro's launch, the city's commuting patterns have begun to shift, leaving taxi stands half-empty and bus routes noticeably lighter.

At Nariman Point, a line of taxi drivers stood idle on Friday evening, watching empty back seats instead of waving down passengers.

A Metro ride from Nariman Point to CSMT costs ₹10 and takes under 10 minutes. The same trip by taxi costs ₹80-100 and takes twice the time in traffic.

OUT WITH FRIEND, MEDICAL STUDENT GANG-RAPED NEAR PRIVATE COLLEGE IN BENGAL

Diary Times Desk : A second-year MBBS student from Odisha was gang-raped near a private medical college in West Bengal's Durgapur on Friday night. Officials said the student, who is from Jaleswar in Odisha and studies at the IQ City Medical College in Durgapur's Shivapur area, had gone out with a male friend when some men accosted them near the gate of the college around 8.30 pm on Friday, took the woman to a wooded area, and raped her. The 23-year-old's father said her friend fled and the family suspects he is also involved. In the police complaint, the survivor's father said her friend "misled her and took her to a vacant place under false pretexts". He said the attackers also snatched his daughter's mobile phone and took Rs 5,000 from her. The student was then admitted to a hospital in Durgapur, where her condition is said to be critical.

TAMIL NADU GOVERNMENT SHIFTS BLAME TO AIADMK OVER DRUG TEST SHORTFALLS

Diary Times Desk : The DMK-led Tamil Nadu government has blamed the previous AIADMK regime for the shortfall in drug tests flagged by central auditors. The findings were part of a 2024 report by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India that has resurfaced following the death of 23 children linked to the Coldrif cough syrup, produced by a Tamil Nadu-based company. The CAG report, tabled on December 10, 2024, had revealed alarming lapses in drug safety monitoring by Tamil Nadu authorities. The audit found that the state drug control department had fallen drastically short in its inspection and sample collection targets, a failure that experts say could have contributed to poor oversight of pharmaceutical manufacturers like Sresan, the company that manufactured Coldrif. The shortfall occurred between 2016 and 2021 when the AIADMK led by Edappadi Palaniswami was in power, said Tamil Nadu Health Minister Ma Subramanian. "EPS ought to respond to these failures," the minister said. According to the CAG report, in 2016-17, Tamil Nadu was required to conduct 1,00,800 drug inspections, but only 66,331 were carried out - a 34% shortfall. By 2020-21, during the pandemic years, the gap had widened; only 62,358 inspections were done against the same target, a 38% shortfall.

HARYANA COP'S BODY SHIFTED TO ANOTHER HOSPITAL WITHOUT ASKING: MLA RELATIVE



Diary Times Desk : The family of Haryana IPS officer Y Puran Kumar, who allegedly shot himself dead at his Chandigarh residence on Tuesday, claimed on Saturday that his body has been shifted to the PGIMER without consulting them, as they sharpened the pitch seeking "justice" for the officer's death. The body of the IPS officer, which was kept at the Government Multi Speciality Hospital in Sector 16 here, was shifted to the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER) on Saturday. Kumar's family is yet to give their consent for conducting the autopsy, sources said. Speaking to reporters here, Amit Rattan, the AAP MLA from Bathinda Rural and brother-in-law of Y Puran Kumar, said, "They have shifted the body without asking us. Injustice is being done with us. Five days have passed since a DGP-level officer died, but we have not got justice yet." Rattan is the brother of the victim's wife, IAS officer Amneet P Kumar.

ON TEJASHWI YADAV'S TURF, PRASHANT KISHOR'S "HE SHOULD BE WORRIED" REMARK

Diary Times Desk : Jan Suraj founder and political strategist-turned-political leader Prashant Kishor made a high-profile visit to the Raghupur Assembly constituency - an RJD bastion from where Tejashwi Yadav has won the last two elections - on Saturday, as speculation about a possible contest between him and the former Bihar chief minister reached a fever pitch. Often called a VIP seat in Bihar politics, Raghupur has long been dominated by the Lalu Yadav family. The RJD chief won the seat in 1995 and 2000, then vacated it for his wife, Rabri Devi, who held it till 2010, when she was defeated by Satish Kumar of the Janata Dal (United). In 2015, Tejashwi Yadav won the seat for the first time, going on to become the deputy chief minister of Bihar, and retained it in 2020.

ANIL AMBANI'S AIDE ASHOK KUMAR PAL ARRESTED IN MONEY LAUNDERING CASE

Diary Times Desk : Reliance Group Chairman Anil Ambani's aide and senior Reliance Power Limited officer, Ashok Kumar Pal, was arrested on Saturday in connection with money laundering charges linked to a fake bank guarantee case. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) took Pal into custody under the provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). According to officials, Pal, who has been working as a Chief Financial Officer at Reliance Power for more than seven years, submitted a bogus bank guarantee of over Rs 68 crore to the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) - a public sector company under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. To pass the fake bank guarantee as genuine, Pal used fake and spoofed domains of commercial banks such as 'sbi.17313@s-bi.co.in', 'Indiabank.in', 'Indusindbank.in', 'pnbindia.in', 'psdbank.co.in', 'siliguripnb.co.in', 'lobbank.co.in', and 'unionbankofindia.co.in' - each using single-character swamps.

'FOR TALIBAN, WOMEN NOT HUMAN': TASLIMA NASREEN ON ROW OVER JOURNALIST 'BAN'

Diary Times Desk : Bangladesh's exiled writer Taslima Nasreen has slammed Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi for not allowing women journalists to attend a press conference in Delhi on Friday. Nasreen, who escaped from Bangladesh in 1994, said the Taliban "refuse to grant women human rights because they do not consider women to be human." She also criticised male journalists who attended the Afghan leader's press conference in Delhi, saying they would have walked out if they had any conscience. "The Afghan Foreign Minister, Amir Khan Muttaqi, has come to India and held a press conference. However, he did not allow any female journalists to attend. In Islam as practiced by the Taliban, women are expected only to stay at home, bear children, and serve their husbands and children," Nasreen said in a post on X. "These misogynistic men do not want to see women anywhere outside the home - not in schools, not in workplaces."



"HAD AN INCREDIBLE MEETING WITH PM MODI": US ENVOY SERGIO GOR TO NDTV

Diary Times Desk : US Ambassador-designate Sergio Gor today said he held a "great series of meetings" with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and is optimistic about the days ahead, amid continuing strains in India-US ties over US President Donald Trump's imposition of 50 per cent tariffs on Indian exports. "I had an incredible meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. We discussed trade, critical minerals and defence," the US envoy said in his first comment after the senate confirmed his appointment as the next ambassador to India. Gor, accompanied by US Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources Michael J Rigas, is on a six-day visit to Delhi. In a post on X, PM Modi welcomed the new US envoy to India. Both held a large framed photo in which PM Modi and Trump were seen in a joint address. Before the meeting with PM Modi today, Gor held discussions with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar.

BANGLADESH TAKES 15 SERVING
AND FORMER ARMY OFFICERS INTO
MILITARY CUSTODY

Diary Times Desk : Fifteen army officers, both serving and retired, against whom arrest warrants were issued for alleged involvement in "disappearances and crimes against humanity" during Sheikh Hasina's tenure, have been taken into military custody.

"15 former and current army officers accused of crimes against humanity have been taken into military custody," Major General Md Hakimuzzaman, Adjutant General of the Bangladesh Army, told reporters on Saturday.

He added that the Bangladesh Army would "fully support" the ongoing legal process.

Earlier, on October 8, Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal (ICT) issued warrants against 30 accused, including former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, in two separate cases related to crimes against humanity committed through enforced disappearances during the Awami League regime.

CANADIAN FM ANITA ANAND TO
VISIT INDIA, SINGAPORE AND CHINA
FROM OCTOBER 12-17

Diary Times Desk : Canada Foreign Affairs Minister Anita Anand is set to embark on a diplomatic visit to India, Singapore, and China from October 12 to October 17 to advance bilateral relations and cooperation with these countries as part of Canada's Indo-Pacific Strategy, the Canadian government said in a release.

During her visit to India, Anand will hold meetings with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal in New Delhi. The discussions will focus on advancing a framework for strategic cooperation encompassing trade diversification, energy transformation, and security issues.

In addition to Delhi, Anand will travel to Mumbai to engage with Canadian and Indian businesses fostering investment, job creation, and economic opportunities in both Canada and India, the release added.

TAIWAN DETECTS 7 CHINESE AIRCRAFT, 8 VESSELS, 1 SHIP AROUND NATION

Diary Times Desk : Taiwan's Ministry of Defense detected seven sorties of Chinese military aircraft, eight military vessels and one official ship around its territorial waters as of 6 am (local time) on Saturday.

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

In a post on X, the MND said, "7 sorties of PLA aircraft, 8 PLAN vessels and 1 official ship operating around Taiwan were detected up until 6 a.m. (UTC+8) today. 3 out of 7 sorties crossed the median line and entered Taiwan's northern and southwestern ADIZ. We have monitored the situation and responded."

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER
STILL CLAIMING THE LIVES OF OCTOBER 7
SURVIVORS



Diary Times Desk : Following the news that Roy Shalev, one of the Nova community's key members, who was also a co-organiser of the Nova festival, had taken his own life, the issue of survivors' suffering from October 7 has resurfaced once again.

The Nova Festival ended in tragedy on October 7, 2023, when 378 people were massacred by Hamas terrorists.

"Roy was one of the pillars of the community, and his death is devastating news for us," the community announced. "We share the grief of his family, friends, as well as the community at this profound loss," the statement added.

NEPAL PRESIDENT HOSPITALISED,
HEALTH CONDITION NORMAL: HOSPITAL
ANNOUNCES

Diary Times Desk : Nepal President Ram Chandra Paudel was admitted to the Manmohan Cardiothoracic Vascular and Transplant Centre in Kathmandu on Saturday after experiencing health-related complications. According to the hospital, the President's health condition is currently stable and being closely monitored.

In an official statement released by the Centre under the Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, the hospital said, "Honourable President Ram Chandra Poudel has been admitted to this centre for treatment after experiencing health problems. We would like to inform you that his health is currently being examined and his health condition is normal."



US CENTCOM CHIEF VISITED
GAZA TO OVERSEE
IMPLEMENTATION OF
COORDINATION CENTRE

Diary Times Desk : US Central Command (CENTCOM) Admiral Brad Cooper, on Saturday, stated that he returned to Israel after visiting Gaza to oversee the implementation of a coordination centre as a ceasefire took hold in the territory. US Central Command wrote on X, "Just returned from a visit inside Gaza to inform how we are moving forward to establish a CENTCOM-led Civil-Military Coordination Centre (CMCC) that will synchronise activities to support post-conflict stabilisation."

"America's sons and daughters in uniform are answering the call to deliver peace in the Middle East in support of the Commander in Chief's direction in this historic moment. This great effort will be achieved with no US boots on the ground in Gaza," the CENTCOM Commander added. Notably, US service members had begun arriving in Israel as part of an effort to establish the post-ceasefire coordination centre. About 200 service members will be involved.

PM MODI RECEIVES US
AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE
SERGIO GOR; HOPES TENURE
WILL BOLSTER INDIA-US TIES

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi received Sergio Gor, the Ambassador-designate of the United States to India, on Saturday. PM Modi expressed confidence that his tenure would further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership. In a post on the social media platform X, Prime Minister Modi posted, "Glad to receive Mr. Sergio Gor, Ambassador-designate of the US to India. I'm confident that his tenure will further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership."

The US Embassy in India has officially welcomed Ambassador-designate Sergio Gor, who is set to strengthen the ties between the United States and India. He will meet with Indian government counterparts to discuss opportunities to further deepen our ambitious strategic partnership and promote a safer, stronger, and more prosperous relationship. In a post on X, the US Embassy in India wrote, "Excited to welcome Ambassador Sergio Gor to India! He will meet with Indian government counterparts to discuss opportunities to further deepen our ambitious strategic partnership and promote a safer, stronger, and more prosperous relationship."

THREE DEAD IN LIGHT PLANE CRASH IN AUSTRALIA'S NEW SOUTH WALES



Diary Times Desk : A light plane crashed at an airport in Australia's New South Wales state on Saturday morning, killing three people on board, police said.

The plane went down at Shellharbour Airport, about 85 km (53 miles) south of the state capital Sydney, shortly after taking off around 10 am (2300 GMT Friday), police said.

"Upon impacting with the ground, the aircraft caught on fire which was extinguished by Fire and Rescue NSW," police said in a statement. "Three people are confirmed deceased." Aerial footage of the crash site on the Australian Broadcasting Corp news site showed charred wreckage of the plane on a runway.

Police said a crime scene has been established and that the Australian Transport Safety Bureau had been notified.

"ANITA ANAND'S VISIT COULD MARK A FRESH START," SAYS CANADIAN POLITICAL COMMENTATOR ON INDIA-CANADA BILATERAL TIES

Diary Times Desk : Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand's visit to India marks a significant step toward strengthening diplomatic and trade ties between the two countries. Experts believe the visit could signal a new chapter in India-Canada relations, moving beyond past challenges and focusing on cooperation and mutual growth, Clyde Nichols, a Canadian political commentator, said.

In an exclusive interview, Nichols highlighted that Canada's approach to international trade is shifting under new leadership.

POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER STILL CLAIMING THE LIVES OF OCTOBER 7 SURVIVORS

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MALTE HOHLFELD HIGHLIGHTS INDIA'S UNITY DURING INDO-GERMAN YOUNG LEADERS' VISIT TO DELHI



Diary Times Desk : Malte Hohlfeld, Executive Chairman of the German nonprofit organisation Global Bridges, highlighted India's unity during the Indo-German Young Leaders visit to Delhi.

Speaking to ANI, he said, "During our stay in India, we were received with great hospitality. A big shout-out also to the team of the Indo-German Young Leaders Forum because they have done an amazing job of putting us all together."

Reflecting on his first trip to India in 2023 with a German business delegation, Hohlfeld said the experience revealed the forward momentum of India. "As a matter of fact, it was my first time coming to India in 2023 with a German business delegation, where we first experienced the kind of momentum forward that India has, and we wanted to bring this to the next generation of leaders. And so when I returned to Germany, we had the idea of initiating a youth format between the two countries in order to bring young voices from different fields together and really find common solutions to shared problems," he said.

FRENCH PRESIDENT EMMANUEL MACRON TO VISIT EGYPT FOR MIDDLE EAST PEACE DISCUSSIONS

Diary Times Desk : French President Emmanuel Macron will travel to Egypt on Monday to express his support for the ceasefire agreement between Israel and Hamas, CNN reported, citing the French Presidency announcement.

Macron's visit comes at a critical moment, as global leaders rally around efforts to end the conflict and lay the groundwork for long-term peace in the region.

Macron will show his "full support" for the ceasefire deal and "also consult with his partners on the next steps in implementing the peace plan," the presidency said.

He is among several world leaders expected in Egypt early next week. US President Donald Trump is also set to host a summit in the country on Monday, as per CNN.

ALMOST 30 SUICIDE BOMBERS OPERARTING IN PAK SINCE 2 YRS ARE AFGHANS: PAK DG ISPR ALLEGES

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan's Director General Inter-Services Public Relations (DG ISPR) Lieutenant General Ahmed Sharif Chaudhry on Saturday alleged that nearly 30 suicide bombers involved in attacks over the past two years were Afghan nationals, trying to orchestrate terrorism against Pakistan, ARY News reported.

Addressing a press conference at Corps Headquarters, Peshawar, the DGD ISPR said that a terror-crime nexus lies behind ongoing terrorist activities, without acknowledging their own security lapses, as per ARY News.

Chaudhry added that a "political-criminal nexus" is behind the recent surge in terrorism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP).

The military's spokesperson stated that certain elements are promoting a false narrative against ongoing anti-terror operations, which he said not only misleads the public but also mocks the sacrifices of Pakistan's security forces.

He added that this deliberate campaign reflects the political-criminal nexus is behind the terrorism in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

HAMAS PRESSES ISRAEL TO FREE PROMINENT PRISONERS AS PART OF GAZA DEAL

Diary Times Desk : Hamas is pressing Israel to include prominent Palestinians in a prisoner-release list - part of a ceasefire deal that will also see hostages returned from Gaza.

Hamas's insistence comes after the Israeli justice ministry published the names of 250 prisoners to be freed, but excluded seven high-profile prisoners, including Marwan Barghouti and Ahmad Saadat. The men, who are serving sentences after being convicted of involvement in separate deadly attacks in Israel, have long been seen by Palestinians as symbols of resistance. Twenty Israeli hostages are expected to be released before 12:00 (09:00 GMT) on Monday as part of the deal proposed by US President Donald Trump. A senior Palestinian official familiar with the talks told the BBC that US envoy Steve Witkoff had promised to raise the exclusion of the Palestinian prisoners with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.



INDIGO TO START FLIGHTS FROM DELHI TO GUANGZHOU, HANOI FROM NOVEMBER 10

Diary Times Desk : Expanding its international network, IndiGo will start flights from the national capital to Guangzhou in China and Hanoi in Vietnam from November 10.

On October 2, IndiGo said it will resume services connecting Kolkata and Guangzhou from October 26.

Direct air services between India and China will be resuming after more than five years.

On Saturday, IndiGo said it will start flights from Delhi to Guangzhou and Hanoi effective November 10 and December 20, respectively.

In recent times, IndiGo has announced services to a few new international destinations, including London and Athens. Earlier this week, it commenced flights to Copenhagen from Mumbai.

TRUMP, 79, HAS 'CARDIAC AGE' OF 65-YEAR-OLD, DOCTOR SAYS

Diary Times Desk : Donald Trump was found to be in "exceptional health" in a medical evaluation, the U.S. president's doctor said in a memo released by the White House on Friday, with his "cardiac age" 14 years younger than in "chronological age." Trump, 79, was the oldest person to assume the U.S.

presidency when he retook the White House in January, and he is the second oldest person to ever serve as the country's president.

In office, the Republican president has maintained a high-tempo schedule and a fondness for red meat. On Sunday, he plans to travel to the Middle East after brokering a Gaza ceasefire deal.

"Trump remains in exceptional health, exhibiting strong cardiovascular, pulmonary, neurological, and physical performance," Trump's physician Sean Barbabella said in the memo, which was made out to White House press secretary Karoline Leavitt.

Trump also received preventive health screenings and immunizations, including annual flu and updated COVID-19 booster vaccinations, in preparation for his upcoming international travel.

UK JETS FLEW 12-HOUR MISSION WITH US, NATO NEAR RUSSIAN BORDER



Diary Times Desk : Britain said on Saturday that two Royal Air Force aircraft flew a 12-hour mission earlier this week alongside US and NATO forces to patrol the border of Russia.

The move comes amid a series of recent Russian drone and aircraft incursions into the NATO airspace.

"This was a substantial joint mission with our US and NATO allies," Defence Minister John Healey said.



NO SURVIVORS FOUND AFTER TENNESSEE EXPLOSIVES PLANT BLAST

Diary Times Desk : No survivors are expected to be found after a major explosion at a Tennessee munitions factory on Friday that has left 18 people unaccounted for.

Recovery teams don't expect to find any of the missing alive, but they are not giving up hope, Humphreys County Sheriff Chris Davis told a news conference on Saturday.

"As we get into this, we find it even more devastating than we thought initially," Sheriff Davis said.

It's still unclear what caused the explosion at the plant in Bucksport, Tennessee - roughly 56 miles (90km) south-west of Nashville. The facility specialises in the development, manufacture, handling and storage of explosives.

Video footage taken on Friday showed fires still burning, charred vehicles, and smoke rising from the razed building. Officials said debris was scattered in a half-mile radius around where the building once stood.

Accurate Energetic Systems, which runs the plant, has suspended its operations.

WORLD'S LONGEST TRAIN JOURNEY: 18,755 KILOMETRES ACROSS 13 COUNTRIES IN 21 DAYS

Diary Times Desk : The longest train journey in the world can be found in 13 countries, spanning 18,755 kilometres; this is a feat of contemporary rail transport. This epic route begins in the capital of Portugal, Lisbon and ends in Singapore, highlighting the sheer amount of connectivity that can be achieved by train in 2025. It provides travellers with a rare chance to travel all of Europe and Asia without flying any plane, all by rail.

It is an incredible trip which passes through Portugal, Spain, France, Germany, Poland, Belarus, Russia, Mongolia, China, Laos, Thailand, Malaysia, and finally Singapore. It integrates various international networks, such as the high-speed routes of Europe and transcontinental lines of Asia. The approximate journey will last 21 days, based on the connections and stops, and is a test of endurance as well as a dream trip for railway lovers.

The various geography, culture and architecture of the continents are exposed in each leg of the journey. Travellers are taken through snow mountains.

WHY NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNER MARIA CORINA MACHADO IS FACING CRITICISM



Diary Times Desk : A controversy has surfaced after Venezuelan democracy activist Maria Corina Machado was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 2025. Critics pointed out that she supported Israel and its bombing of Gaza and that she had also called for foreign intervention to overthrow the government in her country. Machado is a key figure in Venezuela's pro-democracy movement who has emerged as a powerful symbol of civilian courage in recent years. The Nobel Prize Committee announced her as the Peace Laureate yesterday for her work in promoting democracy and fighting dictatorship in Venezuela. Within hours, the announcement drew criticism from the White House for "placing politics over peace" after a failed campaign to portray President Donald Trump as a global peacemaker who stopped half a dozen conflicts around the world.

WHY UP'S DEOBAND WAS ON TALIBAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S INDIA ITINERARY

Diary Times Desk : In a significant diplomatic development, Amir Khan Muttaqi, Foreign Minister of the Taliban-led government in Afghanistan, is in India for a seven-day visit aimed at engaging on bilateral and regional matters. As part of his itinerary, Muttaqi will visit the historic Darul Uloom Deoband in Uttar Pradesh on Saturday. He is scheduled to arrive at the Islamic seminary by road at 10:30 am and will spend nearly five hours at the institution. This will be the first visit by a senior Taliban leader to Darul Uloom Deoband since the regime change in Afghanistan. During his time at the seminary, Muttaqi is expected to meet with prominent Islamic scholars, including Mufti Abul Qasim Nomani, the head of Darul Uloom, and Maulana Arshad Madani, President of the Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind. He will also tour the campus and engage in discussions with its faculty and leadership. Darul Uloom Deoband holds significant symbolic and ideological relevance for the Taliban.

7 COPS, 6 TERRORISTS DEAD IN SUICIDE ATTACK AT PAK POLICE TRAINING CENTRE

Diary Times Desk : Three more terrorists were killed after a five-hour gun battle that was triggered by a suicide attack at a police training centre school in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province in northwestern Pakistan, police said. Six more police personnel died in the exchange of fire, officials said on Saturday. Three terrorists were earlier neutralised in retaliatory fire by police personnel after the attack on Ratta Kulachi Police Training School in Dera Ismail Khan district, and a few others were said to be holed up inside the compound. During a clearance operation late Friday night, three more terrorists were killed, while six more police personnel died. Earlier, one policeman was reported dead, taking the number of security personnel killed in the attack to seven, while 13 policemen sustained injuries.

AFTER NOBEL SNUB, TRUMP THANKS PUTIN FOR PRAISING EFFORT ON SOLVING CRISES

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has thanked his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, for recognising his efforts in resolving global crises. He wrote, "Thank you to President Putin!" and posted a video in which the Russian President said that Trump "solves complex issues, crises that last decades". Putin did not comment on Venezuelan opposition leader Maria Corina Machado's Nobel Peace Prize win, but he did question some previous decisions, claiming the award had been granted to people who did little to promote peace. "They've given Peace Prizes to undeserving folks. These choices hurt the award's reputation. The committee discussed the prize for people who have done nothing for the world."



FOUR KILLED IN MASS SHOOTING AFTER MISSISSIPPI FOOTBALL GAME

Diary Times Desk : Four people have been killed and 12 others injured, four critically, after a mass shooting in the US state of Mississippi. The shooting happened at around midnight on the main street in Leland, a small town 120 miles (190km) north-east of the state capital Jackson, the small city's Mayor John Lee told the BBC. Four of the injured were airlifted to hospital, Lee added. No suspects were in custody, but a police manhunt was under way. Leland was busier than usual on Friday with the local high school scheduled to play a football game to mark homecoming, an annual US tradition, usually in autumn, when former students are welcomed back to celebrate school spirit and community. The mayor said that the shooting did not take place on the Leland High School campus. "This is an event where we have held yearly for years and hadn't had any incidents of this sort, ever," Lee told BBC. "And we're a city that, not high crime and about 3,700 people. We all get along, and everybody knows everybody. So this is definitely a tragedy to us."

US SANCTIONS NINE INDIAN FIRMS FOR TRADING IRANIAN OIL AND OIL PRODUCTS

Diary Times Desk : Nine Indian firms and eight Indian nationals are among those to be placed under US sanctions for trading Iranian oil, liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) and petroleum products, in what was Donald Trump administration's latest move to tighten the noose around Iran's revenues. The new sanctions on Indian companies and citizens have not elicited a response from New Delhi as yet. On October 9, the US Department of State imposed sanctions on nearly 40 persons, entities and vessels for trading Iranian products, while the US Department of Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets (OFAC) put 60 similar entities under the scanner for facilitating the shipment of oil and LPG from Iran to end users across the world. Firms and individuals who faced such sanctions are from various countries, including China and the United Arab Emirates. The eight Indian petrochemical companies to face sanctions include Mumbai-based firms C J Shah & Co, Chemovick, Mody Chem, Paarichem Resources, Indisol Marketing, Haresh Petrochem, and Shiv Texchem, and Delhi-based BK Sales Corporation.

WHY IS NVIDIA, THE
WORLD’S LEADING AI
CHIPMAKER,
ENTANGLED IN THE US-
CHINA TRADE WAR?

Diary Times Desk : Tech giant Nvidia is the world’s leading artificial-intelligence chipmaker, but the company’s success has also put it in the crossfire of trade tensions.

The Santa Clara, California-based company, which is approaching a market capitalization of \$5 trillion, has seen rapid growth due to its chips, which are predominantly used to power massive data centers used by other tech firms, like OpenAI, the creator of popular AI chatbot ChatGPT.

But Nvidia’s leading technology has been used as a negotiating tool in President Donald Trump’s trade spat with China, which was kickstarted by Trump’s sweeping tariffs in April and has escalated over rare earth mineral disputes.

It’s further complicated Nvidia’s relationship with China, where it was doing roughly 25% of its graphics processing unit sales, estimates Gil Luria, head of technology research at D.A. Davidson. Nvidia’s popularity has also embroiled the company in a steep controversy for potentially allowing China to skirt around export restrictions as trade tensions continue.

TRUMP ANNOUNCES
130% TARIFFS ON
CHINA. THE GLOBAL
TRADE WAR JUST CAME
ROARING BACK

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump announced he will impose an additional 100% tariff on goods from China, on top of the 30% tariffs already in effect, starting November 1 or sooner. The threat is a massive escalation after months of a trade truce between the two nations.

“The United States of America will impose a Tariff of 100% on China, over and above any Tariff that they are currently paying,” Trump said in a post on Truth Social Friday afternoon. “Also on November 1st, we will impose Export Controls on any and all critical software.” Trump’s announcement is tied to Beijing ramping up export controls on its critical rare earths, which are needed to produce many electronics.

WHAT ARE RARE EARTH MINERALS, AND WHY ARE THEY CENTRAL TO
TRUMP’S THREATS AGAINST CHINA?

Diary Times Desk : The US trade war with China has a major sticking point: rare earth minerals.

China increased its restrictions on its rare earth exports Thursday, leading US President Donald Trump to threaten economic retaliation and imply he would cancel a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping during an upcoming visit to Asia.

The tussle over rare earths precedes the current administration; China for years has built up near-total control of the minerals as part of its wider industrial policy. China’s restrictions are also seen as a response to Trump’s “reciprocal tariffs” on Chinese goods announced in April. After agreeing on a trade truce in Geneva, US officials had expected China to ease export restrictions on those minerals. Here’s what you need to know about rare earths.

What are rare earths, and are they actually ‘rare’?

Rare earths include 17 metallic elements in the periodic table made up of scandium, yttrium and the lanthanides.

EXPERTS ON HOW TO RAISE THE COST OF WAR FOR RUSSIA: ‘BE
CLEVERER’

Diary Times Desk : Three and a half years since Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine, with a US-led peace process on ice and a stalemate on the battlefield, Kyiv’s allies are calling for renewed economic pressure on Moscow. The aim: to raise the cost of war for the Kremlin to a level that forces it to change course.

Eighteen packages of European Union sanctions and dozens more from the United States, United Kingdom and others have weakened Russia’s economy – but not its resolve to carry on fighting. What’s needed, then, is not just more but smarter penalties, experts say. “We just need to be cleverer,” said Timothy Ash, a Russia researcher at the UK-based Chatham House think tank who has advised a number of governments on the impact of sanctions against Moscow.

A massive rise in military spending helped the Russian economy grow more than 4% in 2023 and 2024.

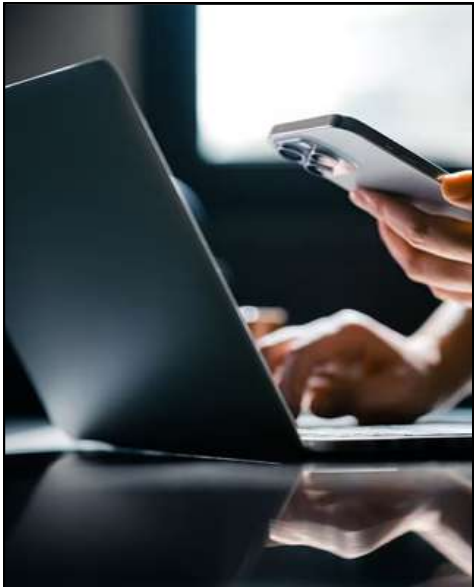
THE NEXT ERA OF SOCIAL MEDIA IS COMING. AND IT’S MESSY SO FAR

Diary Times Desk : A baby running from a T-Rex with Lady Gaga playing in the background. Cats dancing on their hind legs dressed in streetwear. Bodycam footage of police arresting a pile of macaroni and cheese.

Big Tech wants to give social media an AI makeover – and so far, it’s a bit of a mess.

ChatGPT’s Sora app, where some of those scenes popped up last week, is just the latest entrant into the AI social media sphere. Meta’s AI app has a TikTok-like video feed called Vibes. You can chat with AI personas on Instagram in your direct messages. And TikTok’s AI Alive tool turns images into videos with just a simple command.

The moves are part of a high-stakes race that could shape the next era of the internet. Winning that race is critical for tech giants as they figure out how to make money from AI amid fears of a bubble. Efforts to push AI into our social feeds have raised sweeping concerns across the web, from whether these tools violate copyright laws to how they might contribute to the rampant spread of fake content.



WITH SOCIAL SECURITY'S COLA ON THE LINE, THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION PLANS TO RELEASE INFLATION DATA DELAYED BY THE SHUTDOWN

Diary Times Desk :

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is calling some staff back to work to prepare its closely watched inflation gauge, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) report, despite the government shutdown, a Trump administration official told CNN.

The CPI report, postponed from October 15 to October 24 due to the shutdown, will be released just in time to meet the deadline for adjusting Social Security payments for next year.

"This release allows the Social Security Administration to meet statutory deadlines to ensure the accurate and timely payment of benefits," the BLS said in a statement on its website Friday, adding that no other releases will be rescheduled or produced until the government reopens.

The BLS has stopped all operations since October 1, when the government's funding lapsed. Only one employee was assigned to continue working full-time at the bureau throughout the shutdown, according to contingency plans released by the US Department of Labor, which oversees the bureau. This meant that data collection and analysis were effectively halted.

SHUTDOWN THREATENS TO STALL RURAL LOANS AND FLOOD INSURANCE

Diary Times Desk : Slower mortgage approvals, stalled rural home loans and a freeze on new flood insurance policies: The government shutdown, which began at midnight on October 1, could gum up some of the gears that keep the US housing market running. It is unclear how long the shutdown will remain in effect. Experts say most housing programs will continue amid the closure, and most people may not be impacted yet. But with home sales already stalled by high prices, the government's first shutdown in nearly seven years threatens to slow parts of the housing market even further.

DOW TUMBLES NEARLY 900 POINTS AFTER TRUMP REIGNITES TRADE WAR BETWEEN THE WORLD'S TWO LARGEST ECONOMIES



Diary Times Desk : US stocks closed sharply lower Friday after President Donald Trump threatened to hike tariffs on imports from China, reigniting fears of a trade war that rocked global markets earlier this year.

The Dow fell 879 points, or 1.9%. The broader S&P 500 dropped 2.71% and the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite slid 3.56%.

The S&P 500 and Nasdaq each posted their worst day since April as a slide in tech stocks led the market lower. The Dow posted its worst day since May. The S&P 500's drop of 2.71% saw the index shed roughly \$1.56 trillion in market value in one day, according to FactSet data.

Trump said in a social media post he is considering a "massive increase" in tariffs on imports from China, adding "There is no way that China should be allowed to hold the World 'captive'" over rare earth exports. US stocks had been hovering near record highs. Wall Street in recent months has tried to look past concerns about tariffs, instead focusing on better-than-expected corporate earnings.

HOW 'KIDULTING' HELPED MAKE BUILD-A-BEAR A WALL STREET DARLING



Diary Times Desk : Build-A-Bear Workshop, the nearly 30-year-old toy brand, is having a breakout moment, eclipsing some of Wall Street's biggest winners by targeting customers across a broad age range.

The toy company's revenue grew 11% in the second quarter to a record \$124.2 million, and it even raised full-year guidance – all while mitigating the cost of tariffs. That's a stark contrast to years of unprofitability before 2012.

Investors have taken notice. In the last year alone, Build-A-Bear's stock is up 76%. In the last five years, the toy company's share price (BBW) has risen nearly 2,000% – besting even tech companies riding the AI boom like Palantir, Nvidia and Microsoft.

But the company faces potential headwinds, including the impact of tariffs and increasingly squeezed consumers, who might pare back on non-essentials as they tighten budgets while inflation stays hot. Build-A-Bear broadened its customer base beyond kids and capitalized on customer trends that emerged after the pandemic, focusing on experiences and tapping into what Sharon Price John, the company's CEO, calls the "nostalgia economy."

"'Kidulting,' (is) adults wanting to be kids, and they're buying things that they loved when they were kids. So we leaned into that with really interesting licenses that played on their memory," John told CNN. Build-A-Bear has licensing deals with nostalgic brands like Hello Kitty, Pokémon and Harry Potter. John said adults and teens are now 40% of the company's business.

DIDI CONTRACTOR — THE WOMAN WHO BUILT WITH MUD AND MAGIC

Diary Times Desk : The name Didi Contractor still echoes through the valleys and villages of Dharamsala, Palampur and beyond. Though she is no longer with us, her spirit lives on – in the mud walls of homes she designed, in the hands of craftsmen she empowered and in the movement she ignited across Himachal Pradesh.

Born Delia Kinzinger on October 11, 1929, in Minneapolis, USA, Didi was deeply influenced by the organic architecture of Frank Lloyd Wright. After marrying Indian civil engineer Narayan Ramji Contractor, a close friend of Kishore Kumar, she found herself amidst India's cultural icons. Her first project, a humble cottage for Prithviraj Kapoor, evolved into the iconic Prithvi Theatre in Bombay.

Soon, her talent took her to Rajasthan, where Maharana Bhagwat Singh of Mewar entrusted her with redesigning the interiors of the Udaipur Lake Palace, later immortalised in the James Bond film *Octopussy*. She also lent her creative vision to the film *The Guru*, starring Michael York.

KANGRA'S MELODIOUS VOICE FALLS SILENT

Diary Times Desk : The melodious voice that once resonated through the valleys of Himachal Pradesh has fallen silent. Sunil Sufi, renowned singer and music professor, passed away yesterday at Tanda Medical College after a prolonged illness. Loved for his heartfelt renditions of Himachali folk and Sufi music, he gifted timeless melodies like “Mata Kangra Waliye” and “Sone Mukhde Da Lein De Najara” that continue to echo across the hills.

Gautam Vyathith, noted literary figure and Sufi's mentor, recalled him with emotion: "He did his MPhil under my guidance on Chhinjhoti, our folk tradition. Deeply humble and spiritually grounded, he embodied the essence of Sufi singing." Remembering the Cultural Tradition Festival held on June 21, Vyathith said, "Even after an operation, he performed, his son by his side, singing about the bond between soul and the Supreme. It was as if he was preparing for his final journey."

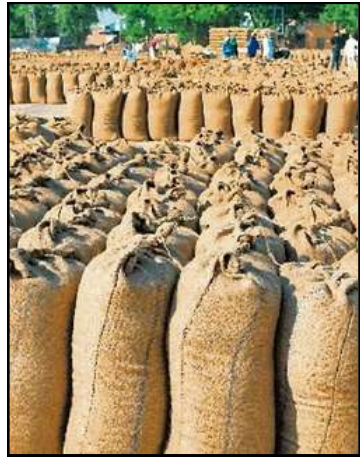
CHECKPOSTS, FLYING SQUADS ACROSS PATIALA TO CURB BOGUS PADDY PROCUREMENT, ILLEGAL INFLOW FROM OTHER STATES

Diary Times Desk : To prevent bogus purchases and illegal recycling of paddy and rice during the ongoing procurement season, the district administration has formed several teams, including police personnel.

These teams have been deployed at strategic points such as Sanjarpur Mor Shambhu Barrier, Sarala Head (Ghanaur–Ambala Road), Rohar Jagir (Julka–Pehowa Road), T-Point (Balbera–Cheeka Road), Dharmedi (Nawan Gaon–Cheeka Road), Ghaggar Bridge (Arnetu Badshahpur–Kaithal Road), and Dhabi Gujran (Patran–Narwana Road).

As many as seven teams consisting of 200 government officers, including those from food supply, the mandi board, and police, have started checking truck bills, bilties, and other documents to verify details of vehicles entering Punjab from other states.

Sharing details, Dr Preeti Yadav, District Magistrate-cum-Deputy Commissioner, Patiala, said that the action has been taken to ensure that farmers face no inconvenience during the current kharif procurement season 2024-25.



FORMER BJP MLA SUKHPAL SINGH NANNU QUILTS AAP, JOINS SAD

Diary Times Desk : Former CPS and two-time MLA from Ferozepur Urban, Sukhpal Singh Nannu – who had earlier left the BJP to join AAP – today again quit his newly adopted party and joined the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) during a political rally held in Tarn Taran. SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal personally inducted Nannu into the party fold. Sukhbir termed Nannu's induction as a “major setback” for the ruling AAP regime on his social media account.

Following denial of ticket from Ferozepur Urban in 2022 Assembly polls, Nannu had joined AAP on May 21 last year, when Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann had inducted him in the party. However, after joining AAP, he was not active in local party activities and was rarely seen at any event.

Speaking to The Tribune, Nannu said he had high hopes from AAP, but all of them were dashed in no time. "I had a lot of experience, yet I was given no responsibility by the party — neither at the local level nor at the state level. I was never invited to any local AAP event, nor was I ever informed of one," he said, expressing his disillusionment with AAP. He added, "They say one thing, and do another."

PUNJAB CM MANN SEEKS JUSTICE FOR IPS OFFICER'S FAMILY, SLAMS HARYANA GOVERNMENT

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann on Saturday urged the Haryana Government to give justice to the family of late IPS officer Y Puran Kumar instead of safeguarding its favoured officers. Interacting with the media after meeting the family, Mann appealed to the Government of India and Haryana Government to stand with the bereaved family in this hour of crisis.

He said that he had flagged this issue with the Governor of Punjab, who is also the Chief Administrator of Chandigarh, requesting that the officers named by Y Puran Kumar in his suicide note be booked immediately.

Mann expressed that the entire family is in trauma after the death of the senior IPS officer, who hailed from a humble background. "The wife of the deceased officer is a daughter of Punjab and a senior officer's wife in Haryana," he said. "It's unfortunate that such cases of targeting weaker sections are on the rise in the country."

YOUR HOROSCOPE

12-10-2025

Aries

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

Taurus

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

Gemini

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

Cancer

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

Leo

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

Virgo

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

Libra

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

Scorpio

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

Sagittarius

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

Capricorn

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

Agurius

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

Pisces

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

PUNJAB SC
COMMISSION SEEKS
REPORT FROM
CHANDIGARH DGP IN
HARYANA IPS OFFICER'S
SUICIDE CASE

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission has taken suo motu cognizance of the suicide of Haryana IPS officer Y Puran Kumar in Chandigarh and has sought a detailed report from the Chandigarh Director General of Police. Commission chairman Sardar Jasvir Singh Garhi said the matter came to his attention through media reports, following which the Commission immediately initiated action.

In a directive issued to the Chandigarh DGP, the Commission has asked for a comprehensive report through an officer not below the rank of ADGP. The report is to cover the progress of the investigation into the officer's death, the contents of his alleged suicide note, and the status of the complaint submitted by his wife, Amneet Kaur, to the Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission. The Commission's action underscores its concern over the circumstances surrounding the death of a senior Scheduled Caste officer and its commitment to ensuring that justice and accountability are upheld.

Chairman Garhi further informed that he will personally visit the bereaved family on Monday, October 13, to offer condolences and to understand their grievances directly. He said the Commission would closely monitor the case and take appropriate measures to safeguard the interests and dignity of the deceased officer's family.

THREE HARYANA
YOUTHS KILLED IN
RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR,
10 STILL STUCK: BJP MP

Diary Times Desk : When questioned about the delay in the process of bringing them back, Jangra attributed it to the legal agreements signed by the youths. "Our youths have signed formidable legal agreements to join the army on the assurance of hefty annual packages of up to Rs 50 lakh per month," he revealed.

SURINDER SINGH BHORIA ASSUMES CHARGE AS ROHTAK SP AS BIJARNIYA
TRANSFERRED AMIDST PROBE

Diary Times Desk : Surinder Singh Bhoria, a 2014-batch IPS officer, assumed charge as the Superintendent of Police (SP) of Rohtak today. The previous SP, Narendra Bijarniya, was transferred after he was named in an FIR lodged by the wife of former Inspector-General of Police (IGP) Y Puran Kumar, who recently took his own life. Bhoria was earlier posted as the Commandant of the 5th Battalion at HAP, Madhuban, and SP, Haryana State Narcotics Control Bureau. Prior to that, he held the posts of SP at Yamunanagar, Ambala, and Kurukshetra. Listing his priorities, Bhoria stated that the major functions of the police were to maintain law and order, prevent crime, and take legal action against criminals. "No one will be allowed to take the law into their own hands," he said. "Anyone who acts against the law will face the strictest legal action. The Rohtak police will make tireless efforts to curb crime and solve criminal incidents as quickly as possible. Additionally, appropriate steps will be taken to address traffic problems, illegal sale of drugs, and other illicit trades."



HARYANA IPS OFFICER'S DEATH:
ROHTAK SP REPLACED;
DEVELOPMENT IN LINE WITH
FAMILY'S DEMANDS

Diary Times Desk : Four days after the family sought "action" over IPS officer Y Puran Kumar's death by suicide at his Sector 11 residence, the Haryana Government today replaced Rohtak Superintendent of Police (SP) Narendra Bijarniya with Surinder Singh Bhoria. The order issued today said that Bijarniya's posting orders would be issued separately. The family, after the recovery of the IPS officer's suicide note, had initially pressed for the immediate arrest of the DGP and SP, Rohtak. However, sources said that after the registration of the FIR, they had scaled down the demand for arrest and instead demanded that the two officers be "removed" from their positions and sent on long leave. Government officers, who met the family yesterday, had conveyed to them that the same was unlikely but had agreed to consider their demand after the post-mortem permission was granted.

With the family agreeing on the post-mortem this morning, the government has now transferred Bijarniya in partial acceptance of the family's demand.

'WHY THE RUSH OVER POST-
MORTEM': IPS OFFICER'S WIFE
BLASTS CHANDIGARH POLICE FOR
'UNDIGNIFIED' HANDLING OF BODY

Diary Times Desk : Perturbed over the "rush created by the Chandigarh Police" in carrying out the post-mortem of Haryana IPS officer Y Puran Kumar, his wife, senior IAS officer Amneet P Kumar, in an exclusive interview to The Tribune, lashed out at the police, alleging that they "did not show any dignity" in handling the body.

"The Chandigarh police have shown no dignity towards my deceased husband, who belonged to the Dalit community. I agreed to the post-mortem but clearly stated that the children would pay their last respects to their father before the body was taken away for the process. However, in complete disregard, the police took away the body from the hospital for the formalities despite the absence of any family member," the officer alleged. "Crucial evidence may have been destroyed in transferring the body from the Sector 16 hospital to the PGI where the post-mortem has to be conducted. The Chandigarh Police will be responsible for any lapses," she said.

'SHOCKING, PAINFUL': SONIA GANDHI WRITES TO LATE IPS OFFICER'S WIFE

Diary Times Desk : Congress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Saturday wrote a condolence letter to Amneet P Kumar, wife of late Haryana IPS officer Y Puran Kumar, who died by suicide citing prolonged caste-based discrimination by senior cops of the state.

In her letter, Gandhi termed the suicide as "shocking and deeply painful".

"The passing away of Mr Y Puran Kumar reveals that even the highest level officers can be denied social justice on account of the discriminatory attitude and the preconceived notions of the powers that be. Crores of Indians stand with you in your fight for justice," she wrote.

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and party leader Rahul Gandhi have also condemned Puran Kumar's suicide and the circumstances that drove him to take the drastic step.



Trump Speaks With Nobel Peace Prize Winner Machado

US President Donald Trump spoke on Friday with Nobel Peace Prize winner Maria Corina Machado after his administration denounced the committee awarding her the honor.

Trump has made no secret of his desire to win the prize. A growing number of world leaders have also said he should win the award. Those calls increased as his Gaza peace plan gained momentum in recent days. However, the nomination window closes at the end of January for the year, according to the award's website.

On Friday, the Nobel Committee announced the 2025 accolade would go to Machado for promoting democratic rights in Venezuela and "for her struggle to achieve a just and peaceful transition from dictatorship to democracy."

Machado said in an interview with the Spanish newspaper El Pais that she had spoken with the US president but declined to offer details about their conversation. The opposition leader, as she had in her post accepting the award, expressed gratitude to Trump.

In remarks Friday evening, Trump confirmed he spoke with Machado, adding that she was "very nice" in their call.

"The person who actually got the Nobel Prize called today, called me and said, 'I'm accepting this in honor of you, because you really deserved it,'" the president said.

"A very nice thing to do. I didn't, I didn't say, 'Then give it to me,' though I think she might have. She was very nice," Trump joked.

"I've been helping her along the way," Trump added. "They need a lot of help in Venezuela, it's a basic disaster. So, and you could also say it was given out for '24 and I was running for office in '24."

Shortly after the Nobel Prize announcement, the administration reacted negatively.

"The Nobel Committee proved they place politics over peace," White House communications director Steven Cheung said in a post on social media.

Machado won the award after years of efforts to promote democracy and has described her life's work as promoting "ballots over bullets." She was driven into hiding in Venezuela amid a sharp crackdown on dissent by Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro.

Many in the Trump administration had previously praised Machado's work. The administration has also repeatedly denounced Maduro and has deployed a substantial military presence to the region to combat "narcotrafficking" – a campaign that many see as an attempt to weaken and potentially drive the Venezuelan leader from power. Secretary of State Marco Rubio was among a group of lawmakers, including now US Ambassador to the UN Mike Waltz, who nominated Machado for the Nobel Peace Prize in 2024.



Jennifer Hansler

"In our work as policymakers who strive for democracy and human rights in the face of dictatorial regimes in the Western Hemisphere and beyond, we have rarely witnessed such courage, selflessness, and firm grasp of morality as we have in Maria Corina Machado," they wrote in a letter in November 2024.

Dressing A Professor In Crisis

THE DESIGNER BEHIND JULIA ROBERTS' OUTFITS IN LUCA GUADAGNINO'S

NEW FILM



Guadagnino's latest film presents messy characters navigating a 2019 landscape shortly after the rise of the #MeToo movement, which held men accountable for the sexual abuse and exploitation of women, and a time of heightened debate around cancel culture and social justice.



Kati Chitrakorn

Beyond what a person might wear, Piersanti said she thinks about "their psychology" including "what they might like and what music they might listen to." The goal, she continued, is to ensure the viewer "understands the character without making too obvious choices but still adding personality where the script allows freedom."

In Luca Guadagnino's new psychological thriller "After the Hunt," Julia Roberts stars as a Yale professor who is forced to choose sides when a star pupil accuses another faculty member of sexual assault. Each scene that unfolds is thorny and tense. And as the cast — including Ayo Edebiri and Andrew Garfield who play the accuser and the accused, respectively — engage in an unflinching battle of wits, navigating one knotty maneuver after another, what stands out is their clothes, which are as sharp as the dialogue.

"After the Hunt" brings Guadagnino into more volatile territory as a filmmaker, but it has similarities to his past work in the visually rich sartorial choices of its cast, where the clothes contain deeper meaning and expresses the power dynamics between its characters. The result is made possible by the film's costume designer Giulia Piersanti.

Whether teaching a class at the pristine Ivy League institution or grabbing a drink at a bar after hours, Roberts' character Alma Imhoff has an unmistakable penchant for preppy, tailored cream-colored pieces, achieved with a wardrobe of luxury labels like The Row, Celine and Lemaire, though she also

occasionally opts for vintage Ralph Lauren and L.L. Bean. And her style is mimicked throughout by Edibiri's character Maggie Price (who wears clothes by young British designer Grace Wales Bonner, which is just as classy but not at the same extortionate price point). It is through these subtleties that viewers can deduce she has a yearning for Alma's approval, and possibly more.

"I wanted to play around with the idea of the same type of looks but worn by different personalities and therefore with different styling and proportions," said Piersanti in an interview with CNN in August from the Venice Film Festival, where the film premiered. "If you notice the women in the film, they all wear very similar items: blazers, button downs, it's very academic. But Alma is the chicer contemporary version, while Maggie, who emulates Alma, wears a younger version of her looks."

Paris runways vs the big screen

Piersanti was born in Rome but moved to Paris with her mother and sister, when she was seven. She relocated again, as a teen to

Los Angeles for a few years, and then to New York to study at Parsons' Design School of Fashion. When she turned 20 in the '90s, she was offered the opportunity to work at Miu Miu, so she packed her bags and headed to Milan.

Piersanti, who today lives between Milan and the Italian capital, found herself gravitating towards knitwear and decided to specialize in the craft, subsequently taking on design responsibilities at Paris-based labels Balenciaga, Larvin, and Alaïa. Today, she works as the head of knitwear across womenswear and menswear for Celine, the French house owned by the world's biggest luxury group LVMH, while also continuing her work in costume design.

"Being a fashion designer was my dream ever since I was young, but costume design is something that I fell into," Piersanti said. In hindsight, however, perhaps it isn't too surprising. "When I was a teenager, I loved movies and used to skip class to go to the nearby theater by myself, and with my lunch money I watched film after film," she said.

Piersanti's professional relationship with Guadagnino stretches back to 2015. After meeting in Milan through mutual friends, the Italian film director approached her to work on "A Bigger Splash," starring Tilda Swinton, Ralph Fiennes and Dakota Johnson.

FREE SPEECH FREE COUNTRY

TRUMP'S FREE SPEECH BACK FLIP WAS 250 YEARS IN THE MAKING



Zachary B. Wolf

Courts and people have complex and nuanced views on free speech. Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote the unanimous majority opinion upholding Debs' conviction, but he also wrote a key dissent in a case involving the conviction of Russian immigrants who distributed leaflets calling for a general strike in the US to interrupt the war effort.

"I we don't have FREE SPEECH, then we just don't have a FREE COUNTRY," then-candidate Donald Trump said in a campaign video.

But less than nine months into his second term, he was explaining his administration's stance this way:

"We took the freedom of speech away," he said at a White House event Wednesday as he tried to explain his call to put people who burn the American flag behind bars for years despite a very clear Supreme Court decision that lists flag burning as free speech.

Trump's complete turnabout on speech is indicative of the contradictions and ironies in the bedrock principle of the American liberties in the Bill of Rights and the First Amendment.

While Trump came to office promising to restore free speech, particularly on college campuses and on social media, he's now engaged in a multi-front war over what people can say in the US:

- A Ronald Reagan-appointed judge accused Trump's administration of a "full-throated assault on the First Amendment" for targeting and deporting pro-Palestinian academics.

- Conservative Supreme Court justices were skeptical at oral arguments over a Colorado law that bans debunked LGBT conversion therapy, suggesting it may step on the free speech rights of therapists.
- Trump wants colleges and universities to clamp down on campus speech in exchange for federal funding.
- He applauded his FCC chairman, Brendan Carr, for trying to get Jimmy Kimmel's show canceled by ABC, an effort that backfired.
- His lawsuits against media companies and law firms, none of which appear to stand on firm legal ground, have nonetheless been wildly successful in extracting settlement payments and sending a message to firms that would oppose him.
- Companies like YouTube have reinstated accounts or made plans to do so for members of his administration, such as FBI Deputy Director Dan Bongino, who were suspended for spreading misinformation during the pandemic.
- His attorney general, Pam Bondi, promised to go after "hate speech" by people who she perceived as celebrating the death of Charlie Kirk.

The hate speech element is particularly concerning to experts because in recent decades, it has become a tenet of Supreme Court cases and free speech advocates that "hate speech" is such a nebulous term that leaving it unprotected would invite exactly the type of selective viewpoint-policing that the administration now stands accused of. The hate speech in question was not any obviously repugnant White supremacist or racist ideology, but rather comments related to Kirk's death, potentially including those who celebrated it. But we don't really know since Bondi has not been specific.

The First Amendment, adopted shortly after the Constitution, guarantees Congress shall make no law "abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press." But within a few years, Congress passed the Alien and Sedition Acts, which made it a crime to criticize the president.



MEET ROSE UNIACKE: 'AN EXPERT IN MAKING HISTORY LIVEABLE'

Diary Times Desk : Sitting in her London office, Rose Uniacke humbly describes her job as 'part-dealer and part-designer'. In reality, though, that's only half the picture.

Since she launched her eponymous company just 16 years ago, it's evolved into a small empire that encompasses an antique and modern furniture gallery, an interior and architectural design office, and a production studio that has created countless tables, chairs, lights, ceramics, textiles and homewares. She also has no fewer than three showrooms on the capital's Pimlico Road — home to Britain's most distinguished names in the decorators' trade — and an army of 75 staff.

Uniacke's success is thanks to the demand for her unique touch, which seamlessly pairs period design with modern elements, creating environments with an emphasis on harmony and balance. The Wall Street Journal recently described her as 'an expert in making history liveable'.

'I'm interested in creating spaces in which you feel able to do the things you might want to do. I'm not so interested in shock,' she explains. 'There's a tranquillity, a comfort, and a feeling of possibility in the work that I do.'

'I'm often guided by buildings, listening to what they might need and how they are going to function. And I am passionate about furniture from across the centuries.'

As a child, Uniacke was constantly drawing, painting and sewing, as well as reorganising her bedroom. 'I always felt the space in which we live and how we surround ourselves was important,' she says. 'I learnt early on that you can change the way you feel by changing the way your room is.'

In the 1970s, her mother, the antiques dealer Hilary Batstone, added a light-filled modern extension to the family home, a converted 17th-century almshouse in Oxfordshire. 'The way you moved through the old to the new was very beautifully done. I'll never forget it,' she says.

After completing a philosophy degree at University College London, Uniacke began an apprenticeship at a restoration workshop near her home — training as a furniture restorer, gilder and specialist in paint and lacquer. The knowledge she acquired would become the foundation of her tactile approach to working.

**YVES KLEIN'S 'OPEN WINDOW TO FREEDOM': CALIFORNIA, (IKB 71), 1961**

Diary Times Desk : On visiting the United States for the first and only time in his life, Yves Klein longed to visit Disneyland. While staying at a guesthouse in Malibu, he and his partner Rotraut duly — and unforgettably — flew to the theme park one morning by helicopter. Enjoying a day's worth of rollercoaster rides and more, the artist also took the opportunity to propose. Rotraut had no hesitation in accepting.

It should be said that Klein was in the US principally for work. Following on from a successful start to his career in Europe, he was now mounting his debut exhibitions across the Atlantic: at Leo Castelli Gallery in New York (11-29 April 1961) and the Dwan Gallery in Los Angeles (29 May to 24 June 1961).

The shows each included a selection of blue monochrome paintings, the artworks for which Klein is best known today. One of these — the sublime California, (IKB 71) — will be a highlight of the Avant-Garde(s) including Thinking Italian sale at Christie's in Paris on 23 October 2025.

With the exception of the examples he installed in 1959 at Musiktheater im Revier — a performing arts venue in the German city of Gelsenkirchen — Klein never produced a monochrome bigger than the one coming to auction. It measures more than four metres across and nearly two metres high.

Klein was born in Nice in 1928. As a young man, after the Second World War, he travelled for a year to Japan, where he studied at a prestigious judo school and earned a fourth-degree black belt. Initially, Klein's plan was to pursue a career in judo — but, upon his return to France, the authorities refused to recognise his Japanese qualification. Martial arts' loss was to be visual arts' gain.

Basing himself in Paris, Klein hadn't been working as a painter for long when he embarked upon the practice of monochrome abstraction (using a single colour over an entire canvas). He described it as an 'open window to freedom'. At first, he adopted different colours in each case, but from 1956 onwards he concentrated his attention on blue.

It was, in his opinion, the richest and most sensory of colours. (Klein is known to have been impressed by the intense blue in Giotto's frescoes for the Basilica of Saint Francis in Assisi, which he visited more than once.) He was dissatisfied with traditional oil paints, however — specifically, the way that pigments dulled when mixed with binders.



OLMO BREAKS SILENCE ON EL CLASICO AVAILABILITY AFTER RETURNING TO BARCELONA WITH INJURY



Diary Times Desk : Barcelona's latest injury blow is that of Dani Olmo, for the team's attacking midfielder suffered an injury while training with the Spanish national team during the ongoing international break.

The player was poised to have an important role for La Roja, especially given the team's injuries in attack, but eventually fell prey to injury even before playing a minute for Luis de la Fuente's men.

Needless to say, this comes as a massive blow for not only the Spanish national team but also for Barcelona, who have some big clashes awaiting them after the international break.

As relayed by SPORT in a recent report, Olmo returned to Catalonia after his injury earlier today and will undergo tests at the club's medical facility soon to determine the extent of his injury and the duration of his setback.

FORMER BARCELONA STARLET AIMS SUBTLE JAB AT HANSI FLICK OVER 2024 EXIT – 'THE TRUTH IS THAT...'

Diary Times Desk : Just over a month remains before Chelsea and Barcelona face off in the UEFA Champions League – a clash between two of Europe's heavyweights and one of the most anticipated fixtures of the league phase.

It will be a special moment for all players, to be involved in a blockbuster clash like that, but more so for some stars, such as Marc Cucurella and Marc Guiu, two former La Masia talents now at Chelsea.

Cucurella recently reflected on his time at Barça and how he never regretted leaving Barcelona in order to further his senior career.

Marc Guiu opens up
Now, in an interview with TV3 (h/t SPORT), Marc Guiu opened up on his decision to leave Barcelona in 2024, despite having a contract offer on the table from the club.

"Honestly, I could have played a little more, but it was clear that the club had other plans. Lewandowski was there, and Vitor Roque had just signed. It was clear that there was no place for me there," he said.

BARCELONA YOUNGSTER EARNS PRAISE FROM TEAMMATE AFTER NATIONAL TEAM DEBUT – 'A RAY OF LIGHT'

Diary Times Desk : Having earned his maiden call-up to the Sweden senior national team, Barcelona youngster Rooney Bardghji got his big moment on Friday as he made his debut against Switzerland.

It was not the dream debut he might have hoped for. Bardghji only played the final five minutes of the match and could not prevent Sweden from slipping to a 2-0 loss that further jeopardises their chances of qualifying for the 2026 FIFA World Cup.

Nevertheless, those few minutes were enough for the young Barcelona forward to showcase his talent and spark excitement among fans and teammates alike. Alexander Isak hails Bardghji
One of the leaders of the Swedish national team, Alexander Isak, publicly praised Bardghji after his debut against Switzerland. "He's a top-level player. I wouldn't consider him a talent who's been given a chance, but rather an established player. He's where he is for a reason," said the Liverpool record signing, as quoted by SPORT.

BARCELONA AT THE RISK OF MISSING OUT ON PAYDAY FROM FORMER DEFENDER'S FUTURE TRANSFER

Diary Times Desk : Oscar Mingueza has made a name for himself as a reliable right-back after leaving Barcelona for Celta Vigo in 2022.

But even though it has been more than three years since he left Barcelona, the Catalans have still retained 50% control of the player's transfer rights. That means the Blaugrana are entitled to half of Mingueza's transfer value, should he leave Celta Vigo.

Mingueza yet to renew his contract
However, as reported by Mundo Deportivo, Barcelona are running the risk of losing their leverage on Mingueza's future.

That is because the defender's contract at Celta Vigo expires at the end of the season, with the player yet to renew his contract.

If the right-back doesn't renew his contract this season and ends up leaving Celta Vigo on a free transfer, Barcelona won't be able to yield any inflows from the clause.

The value of Mingueza's release clause stands at around €20 million, which means Barcelona could have gained as much as €10 million from a potential sale. This essentially means a missed revenue opportunity for a Barcelona team looking to remain operationally profitable for the 2025/26 campaign.



INJURED BARCELONA CAPTAIN STILL SEEN AS NATIONAL TEAM'S NO. 1 CHOICE FOR WORLD CUP

Diary Times Desk : Even after Germany's convincing 4-0 victory against Luxembourg in Friday's World Cup qualifier, which included a clean sheet, the debate over who should be the starting goalkeeper for the national team remains open.

Barcelona captain Marc-Andre ter Stegen had taken over the mantle of the No. 1 after UEFA Euro 2024, but an injury kept him out of action for large parts of the last season and the same scenario has repeated again this term.

Ter Stegen remains the first preference
According to BILD (h/t Mundo Deportivo), Germany head coach Julian Nagelsmann is growing weary of the ongoing discussion, to the point that he has now delegated part of the decision-making to his assistant, Andreas Kronenberg.

BAYERN MUNICH AND LIVERPOOL WEIGH UP WINTER MOVE FOR BARCELONA CENTRE-BACK TARGET

Diary Times Desk : Despite heading into the new season with considerable depth, injuries have shown that Barcelona do require more reinforcements, and that is why the summer of 2026 is going to be an important one for the club.

Since the club's finances are not expected to get better anytime soon, Barça will rely on signing free agents, and that is where Marc Guehi comes into the fray.

The English international has been on Barcelona's radar for quite some time, with his contract at Crystal Palace expiring at the end of the season.

Liverpool and Bayern to make a January move?

According to SPORT, acquiring the services of Guehi could be tricky for Barcelona, especially considering the intense competition.

The English international, after all, has also been tracked by the likes of Real Madrid, Liverpool and Bayern Munich. Bayern and Liverpool are even prepared to get ahead of the race by making a move for Guehi in the upcoming January transfer window. The two clubs are willing to pay Palace a premium to sign the defender, before clubs like Real Madrid and Barcelona can swoop in with a free transfer at the end of the season. This doesn't bode well for Barcelona, who are not in a position to indulge in a bidding war or make any kind of January move for the defender.