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NEWS IN BRIEF CBI PROBE INTO KARUR DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD FOR VIJAY'S PARTY, BLOW FOR DMK

Diary Times Desk : Supreme Court's order for courtmonitored CBI probe into the tragic loss of 41 lives at a political

rally held by actor-turned-politician Vijay's Tamizha Vetri Kazhagam is expected to have a big impact on the fierce political exchange over tragedy.

If the order is a jolt for the Tamil Nadu government -- which had appointed judicial com judicial commission and had blamed TVK for the tragedy -- the critical observations of the top court against the Madras High Court order appointing a special Team Investigation serious questions, both of procedure and the order itself. In its interim order on

Monday, a two-judge bench of the top court ruled that an independent investigation allay necessary concerns and ensure impartiality".

TWO MORE ARRESTED IN DURGAPUR RAPE CASE; ALL FIVE ACCUSED NOW IN CUSTODY: BENGAL POLICE

Diary Times Desk : West Bengal on Monday The Police arrested two more persons in connection with the alleged gang rape of a medical student in Durgapur, taking the total apprehensions in the case to five, a senior officer said.

23-year-old woman, hailing from Jaleswar in Odisha's Balasore district was gang-raped on Friday night when she went outside the private medical college with a friend to have dinner.

Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) Abhisekh Gupta of the Asansol-Durgapur

Commissionerate told PTI, "Two more arrests have been made. With these, all five accused have been taken into custody based on the complaint filed by the

Three persons were arrested on Sunday for their alleged involvement in the 'gang rape' of the student. Chief Minister Mamata described

Banerjee "shocking" and said her government has 'zero tolerance' such crimes.

RJD PATRIARCH LALU PRASAD YADAV

HOW CORRUPTION CASE AGAINST LALU YADAV MIGHT AFFECT BIHAR POLL NARRATIVE



Diary Times Desk: Corruption charges against RJD patriarch Lalu Prasad Yadav and his son Tejashwi Yadav, a potential opposition chief ministerial candidate in next month's Bihar election could have a big impact on how political parties line up against the ruling BJP-JDU and which way voters swing.

The charges filed against Lalu and Teiashwi Yaday and the The charges filed against Laiu and lepshiwing and and the former's wife, Rabri Devi, relate to the alleged IRCTC hotel scam. The allegation is that Lalu Yadav, as the Railways Minister in the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance government, influenced the tender process for maintenance contracts to two hotels in exchange for three acres of prime land in Patna.

All three have pleaded not guilty and will face trial.

The case against the Yaday clan will test various facets of the opposition Mahagathbandhan's resolve to contest this election together, starting with sharing Bihar's 243 Assembly seats.

Seat-sharing talks had rumbled on for weeks without resolution before the order this morning from Delhi's Rouse Avenue court Reports indicated the hold-up was partly due to the Congress demanding a much larger share this time; in 2020 the party contested 70 seats but won just 19

This time, however, the party believes it is capable of winning more, based on the positive response of the Rahul Gandhi-led Voter Adhikar Yatra that criss-crossed the eastern state.

This fresh round of corruption charges could weaken the RJD's hand in these talks.

Also, smaller allies might now hesitate to link up over fears that fighting the election under the shadow of a corruption case could hurt

One of the reasons talks were delayed, sources told NDTV, was the family's frequent appearances in court. All three - Lalu, Tejashwi,

and Rabri Devi - were in court this morning.

A second possible impact is the battle for voters' minds.

An expected start will be the RDJ slamming the BJP- alliance over the fresh case against Lalu Yadav. Their likely argument will be the case has been fast-tracked to divert attention from Nitish Kumar's failures - such as unemployment, farmers' issues, and lack of development.

SUPREME COURT ISSUES NOTICE TO CENTRE, TN ON PLEA BY KERALA NGO TO DECOMMISSION MULLAPERIYAR DAM, CONSTRUCT NEW DAM

Diary Times Desk: In a development with significant ramifications in Kerala and Tamil Nadu (TN), the Supreme Court on Monday issued notice to the Central government and the State of Tamil Nadu on a petition seeking decommissioning of the century-old Mullaperiya dam in Kerala and construction of a new dam at the same site

A Bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) BR Gavai and Justice K Vinod Chandran sought response of the Union government and the State of Tamil Nadu on a petition moved by a Kerala based organisation, Save Kerala Brigade.

CJI Gavai remarked that Mullaperiyar dam is one of the oldest dams. Senior Advocate V Giri, appearing for the petitioner concurred and submitted that it was 130 years old. However, he pointed to the problems with the dam.

"But the life of about 10 million people are at the risk of loss," he said.

CJI Gavai then remarked that perhaps some direction could be issued to strengthen the dam or appoint an expert body to assess it. However, Justice Chandran remarked that the petitioner would have to point out the problems with the existing dam since it involves two

"But you have to explain what exactly is the problem because if another dam is built then Tamil Nadu water...

Giri said another dam can come up and only the top court can pass such direction. The

Court then proceeded to issue notice in the matter



IDOL GARG AND APPEALED

TEIASHWI YADAV'S RID MAY CONTEST 135 SEATS. CONGRESS 61 IN BIHAR: SOURCES



Diary Times Desk : Bihar's opposition Grand Alliance, bickering over assembly seats for weeks, has finally come to an arrangement that involves marginal climbdown for both Lalu Yadav's Rashtriya lanata Dal and the Congress, sources said. The RJD, which was angling for 144 seats. will now contest 135. Its ally Congress, which had its eye on 70 seats, will contest 61, sources told NDTV. The balance of Bihar's 243 seats will go to the Left Front and Mukesh Sahni's Vikassheel Insaan Party or VIP. The Front - CPIML, CPI and the CPM, will get 29-31 seats, the VIP will

But the biggest factor the allies thrashed out was the one on which the Congress was fence-sitting for days -- projecting Tejashwi Yadav as the Chief Ministerial face of the alliance, sources said. There was no word on whether he would get any was no word on whether he would get any deputies. The Congress had been demanding over 70 seats, a chunk of which, they said, should give them a sure shot at winning. To push through the demand, the party had deliberately been withholding agreement to project demand, the party had deliberately been withholding agreement to project Tejashwi Yadav as the Chief Ministerial face. In fact, it had pointedly maintained silence on the matter, despite Yadav Junior's open statements on the matter. The tug-of-war between the two had been complicated further by the entry of two more parties in the alliance - JMM, the ally in Jharkhand and IIP. Initially, the alliance comprised six parties - the RJD, Congress, CPI CPM and VIP

Mukesh Sahni - whose party commands a chunk of backward caste votes -- had asked for 50 seats and the post of Deputy Chief Minister if the alliance won.

It was also considered necessary to give a seat to the JMM, because the RJD and Congress are also part of the government in Jharkhand.

CANADA SEEKS TO EASE CHINA, INDIA TENSIONS AS TRUMP DIGS IN



Diary Times Desk: Canada is pushing to strengthen ties with China and India, even as it remains in precarious trade talks with a US administration that has escalated its tariff war with Beijing.

Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand is travelling to New Delhi, Mumbai, Singapore and Hangzhou, China this week to meet with her counterparts and lay the

groundwork for boosting trade and investment. Her task is hard and extremely delicate: Canada's disputes with Asia's two most populous countries are serious, and any steps to ease tensions with China will need to be taken carefully to avoid triggering a reprisal from US President Donald Trump.

But Anand argues Canada is taking the same approach with every country - putting the interests of its workers and businesses first. It's a clear shift under Prime Minister Mark Carney, who has prioritised the economy above all else, scrapping many of the tenets of Justin Trudeau's foreign policy."
"It goes back to being a sovereign country," Anand said in

an interview with Bloomberg News, when asked how Canada can balance its relationships with China and the US. Trump threatened an additional 100 per cent tariff on Chinese products on Friday, causing equitie markets to dive, though on Sunday the president signalled openness to a truce.

"Having a stable relationship with a major global economic player is of exceeding importance in this geopolitical environment," Anand added.

BJP'S STRATEGIC MASTERY: A PRELUDE TO BIHAR ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS



Diary Times Desk: As the clock ticks down to the Bihar Assembly elections, the political landscape is a tapestry woven with both bold strokes and subtle nuances. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its allies in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) stand poised, having meticulously finalised their seat-sharing arrangement with a precision that speaks to a well-honed strategy. In stark contrast, their main rival, the Mahagathbandhan, finds itself entangled in a web of negotiations, grappling with the complexities of alliance politics less than three weeks before the polls are set to unfold.

For the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections, the NDA has carved out a clear path, with the BJP and Janata Dal (United) will each contest 101 seats, while the Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) is allocated 29 seats, and smaller parties like the Rashtriya Loktantrik Morcha (RLM) and Hindustani Awam Morcha (HAM) are granted 6 seats apiece

This strategic distribution is not merely a matter of arithmetic; it symbolises a crucial shift in the political dynamics between the BJP and JD(U). For the first time, the BJP is contesting an equal number of seats, a gesture that hints at an evolving partnership, one that may redefine the power balance in Bihar.

The BJP's methodology is reminiscent of the hunting strategies of lion - patient, calculated, and opportunistic. The party's master strategists embrace the adage of "two steps backwards, one step forward." This approach allows them to patiently observe the political terrain, waiting for the opportune moment to strike.

DALIT IPS OFFICER'S DEATH: **FAMILY DECLINES POLICE** ACCESS TO LAPTOP, CITES LACK OF TRUST IN PROBE



Diary Times Desk: The family ed Harvana IPS officer Y Puran Kumar stood firm on their demand for the arrest of senior officers named in the FIR, refusing to give consent for a post-mortem autopsy and declining to hand over his laptop to the Chandigarh Police for investigation. The family also refused to meet BJP ministers.

Meanwhile, the Haryana government is making efforts to persuade Kumar's wife senior IAS officer Amneet P Kumar to agree.

The family has reiterated its decision not to permit postmortem or cremation until the arrest of Haryana DGP Shatrujeet Kapur and Narendra Bijarniya and others named in the FID

Sources claimed that IAS Amneet has declined to hand over his laptop to the Chandigarh Police for investigation, citing mistrust in handling of the case.

The police had sought access to the officer's Interpolice had sought access to the onlicer's laptop for retrieving digital evidence and verifying the timeline of the 'final note' allegedly drafted and emailed by Kumar, based on which the FIR was registered by the police on October 9.

PROBE AGENCY ED RAIDS PREMISES LINKED TO FIRM BEHIND 'KILLER' COUGH SYRUP



Diary Times Desk: The Enforcement Directorate is conducting searches at seven premises in Chennai linked to Sresan Pharmaceuticals, which manufactured the poisonous 'Coldrif' syrup that alleaedly led to at least 20 children's deaths in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. According to officials, the probe agency is also raiding the residences of top officials of Tamil

A money laundering case has been filed against the pharma company, officials said. The company's owner, Ranganathan Govindan, was arrested last week and sent to a 10-day police custody in connection with the case.

The 'Coldrif' cough syrup was found to be "dangerously" adulterated with diethylene glycol (DEG), a highly poisonous substance. An investigation reportedly revealed over 350 violations at the company's Tamil Nadu plant, including 38 serious ones.

FOUR NRIS FROM SINGAPORE IN **ASSAM FOR QUESTIONING IN ZUBEEN GARG CASE**

Diary Times Desk: Three Non-Resident Indians from Singapore, who were part of the yacht party on September 19 with iconic singer Zubeen Garg and are key witnesses to the incident that led to his death, reached Guwahati today. The NRIs, who are also from Assam, have joined the investigation by Assam CID's Special Investigation Team.

Those who came are Jalongsat Narzary, Parikshit Sharma, and Siddhartha Bora. After five hours of questioning, their statement was recorded in front of the magistrate.

Last week, another NRI, Rupkamal Kalita, appeared before the Assam CID. His statement was also recorded in front of the magistrate. In all, 11 NRIs who were part of the yacht party

were summoned to Guwahati to join the investigation. So far, four have appeared.

INDIA'S MOST SOPHISTICATED ATOMIC REACTOR SET FOR **FUEL LOADING AFTER LONG ROAD OF REPAIRS**

Diary Times Desk: India's atomic energy program is poised to enter a transformative phase as its most advanced and complex nuclear reactor - the Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) - nears operational readiness. Located at Kalpakkam in Tamil Nadu. The PFBR is finally approaching fuel loading after years of delays and technical hurdles.

This week, the Indian nuclear regulator is expected to give the formal nod to begin loading nuclear fuel into the reactor core, a critical step that will mark the beginning of India's second stage in its three-phase nuclear energy program.

Speaking exclusively to NDTV, Dr Ajit Kumar Mohanty, Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, confirmed, "There was a mechanical problem with the fuel transfer arm and that has been resolved. Now the PFBR awaits a formal nod from India's nuclear regulator to begin the all-important step of fuel loading."

The PFBR is a 500 MW liquid sodium-cooled reactor designed to use plutonium as fuel and eventually transition to thorium, a resource in which India holds one of the world's largest reserves. Unlike uranium, which is limited in India, thorium offers the promise of long-term energy independence. Experts believe that if India can successfully harness thorium, it could unlock an energy source that lasts for centuries, often referred to as the 'Akshay Patra' of atomic energy.

SIGN \$10 BILLION GOOGLE DEAL IN DELHI

CHANDRABABU NAIDU TO MEET PM MODI,

Diary Times Desk: Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu leaves today on a high-stakes trip to the national capital, combining crucial political consultations with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and securing one of the nation's largest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) commitments: a \$10 billion Google Data Center project at Visakhapatnam.

The Chief Minister's two-day itinerary is seen by political observers as a powerful affirmation of the re-established rapport between the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) under the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) banner.

Chief Minister Naidu is scheduled to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi at 4:45 PM today, a discussion that holds significant political weight ahead of the upcoming legislative and parliamentary sessions.

PRASHANT KISHOR'S PARTY RELEASES 2ND LIST OF 65 NAMES FOR BIHAR POLLS



Diary Times Desk: Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj Party has released its second list of 65 candidates for the coming Bihar assembly elections, sticking to its core promise of inclusiveness and representation to every section. The suspense, though, remains on whether Kishor would contest. With this, Jan Suraaj has so far declared candidates for 116 seats. The party - which is contesting its maiden election and is seen as an untested entity -- has said it will field candidates from all 243 seats of

Announcing the list in Patna, the party's national president, Uday Singh, said, "According to our promise to give representation to every community, candidates from the largest Extremely Backward Class group (10 Hindu, 4 Muslim).

EPFO MEETING: MEMBERS CAN NOW WITHDRAW UP TO 100% OF 'ELIGIBLE **BALANCE' IN PF ACCOUNT**



Diary Times Desk: EPFO's Central Board of Trustees Meeting: In a major decision to boost 'ease of living' for members, the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has allowed withdrawal of up to 100% of the 'eligible balance' in the PF account, including employee and employer share. The decision was taken at the Central Board of Trustees' (CBT) 238th meeting held today in New Delhi.

Union Minister for Labour and Employment Mansukh Mandaviya chaired the meeting, which was also attended by Union Minister of State for Labour and Employment Shobha Karandlaje, Secretary in Labour and Employment Ministry Vandana Gurnani, and Central Provident Fund Commissioner Ramesh Krishnamurthi.

THREE TOP DELHI SHOPPING MALLS FACE SHUTDOWN AMID DIWALI SEASON

Diary Times Desk:

In what could come as a big shock for the shoppers this Diwali, three top malls in Delhi are facing shutdown fears. These malls are situated in south Delhi's Vasant Kunj area, which is famous for its vibrant night life and shopping options. Ambience Mall Vasant Kunj, DLF Promenade and DLF Emporio are struggling with severe water shortage, which may lead to their doors getting closed temporarily before Diwali.

These malls host a number of popular brands across sectors from apparels, beauty products, accessories, and watches among others. The closure would severely hit the business, along with the incentives that retail employees eye during the festive season. Diwali is the year's most-awaited and celebrated time for shopping and a serious impact on the business of these malls.

"INCOME HAS STOPPED": UNION MINISTER OFFERS TO RESIGN, WANTS TO RESUME ACTING

Diary Times Desk: Union Minister Suresh Gopi has expressed his desire to return to acting, stating that he wishes to continue his film career.

Addressing an event in Kannur, the Thrissur MP and actor-turned-politician said that his income has significantly decreased since taking up the ministerial role. "I really want to continue acting. I need to earn more; my income has now stopped completely," he said.

Gopi further noted that he is the youngest member in his party and suggested that Rajya Sabha MP C Sadanandan Master be appointed in his place as Union Minister.

"I have never prayed for becoming a minister. A day before the elections, I told reporters that I do not want to become a minister, I want to continue with my cinema."

"I took membership of the party in October 2008 ... it was the first MP chosen by people and the party felt they needed to make me the minister," said the Union Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Minister of Tourism.

Earlier this year, President Droupadi Murmu nominated the BJP veteran from Kannur, Sadanandan Master, to the Rajya Sabha.

Meanwhile, Suresh Gopi in his address at the event in Kannur said that many people were in the habit of twisting and misinterpreting his words.

UPSET OVER RAJYA SABHA SEATS, J&K CONGRESS WANTS TO END ALLIANCE



Diary Times Desk: The alliance between the Congress and the National Conference in Jammu and Kashmir is on the rocks following the rift between the two over Rajya Sabha seats. A break in alliance could put the Omar Abdullah government on sticky wicket, though there is no immediate threat to the government.

The Congress has six MLAs and the National Conference 41. Currently, the total strength of assembly is 88, making 45 the majority mark. Two seats are vacant. The National Conference has 41 members and enjoys the support of five Independents/associate members and one CPM MLA. So there is no threat to the government even if the Congress pulls out of the alliance.

The trouble between the ruling allies that won the 2024 assembly elections cropped up over the Rajya Sabha seats in the Union Territory.

PARTIES WAIT WITH BATED BREATH AS MIM HOLDS

CARDS CLOSE TO ITS CHEST

Diary Times Desk: As the notification for the Jubilee Hills byelection will be issued on Monday, all eyes are on the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) over whether it will enter the fray or not.

The question gains significance as the ruling Congress continues to describe the AIMIM as a "friendly party," and may not contest in the election, notwithstanding the fact that it is contesting nearly 100 seats in the upcoming Bihar Assembly elections.

Party insiders and political observers say the AIMIM's decision — either to contest or abstain — could shape the poll outcome in Jubilee Hills, where it enjoys a steady support base.

The Congress has fielded Naveen Yadav, who had contested on an AIMIM ticket in the 2014 Assembly elections. The BJP, gearing up for a high-pitched campaign, is expected to question the Congress over Yadav's past association with the AIMIM.

SHARJEEL IMAM MOVES DELHI COURT FOR 2 WEEKS' INTERIM BAIL TO CONTEST BIHAR ELECTIONS

Diary Times Desk: Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) scholar Sharjeel Imam has approached a Delhi court seeking interim bail for two weeks to contest the upcoming Bihar assembly elections.

Imam has filed the interim bail application before Additional Sessions Judge (ASJ) Sameer Bajpai of Karkardooma Courts, who has been hearing the Delhi riots conspiracy case.

He has sought bail from October 15 to October 29. Notably, Imam has been booked in a number of cases related to the protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and National Register of Citizens (NRC). He has been granted bail in other matters, but is incarcerated in the Delhi riots conspiracy case. The Delhi Police has invoked UAPA in the matter. He was denied regular bail in the case by the Delhi High Court on September 2. His appeal against that order is pending before the Supreme Court.

KERALA HIGH COURT DISMISSES PLEA AGAINST ARUNDHATI ROY'S BOOK COVER

Diary Times Desk: The Kerala High Court on Monday dismissed a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed against author Arundhati Roy's book 'Mother Mary Comes To Me' over its cover image showing the writer smoking. The petitioner had sought a stay on the sale of the book unless it carried a statutory warning label.

The PIL was filed by advocate Rajasimhan, who argued that the cover amounted to an "indirect advertisement" of tobacco products without the mandatory health warning.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Nitin Jamdar and Justice Basant Balaji dismissed the petition. The court noted that Penguin Random House India had already included a disclaimer stating: "Any depiction of smoking in this book is for representational purposes only. Penguin Random House India does not promote or endorse tobacco use."

THE NEXT BIG RAIL PLAY? 3 HIDDEN GEM STOCKS RIDING THE KAVACH OPPORTUNITY

Diary Times Desk: Kavach – India's Automatic Train Protection System is positioned as the nervous system for safe railway operations. Kavach is indigenously designed, patented, and manufactured in India, with 14 years of intellectual property rights, which is jointly owned by Indian Railways and three Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs).

Kavach automatically applies the brakes when crossing a signal at danger or at excessive speed, helping avoid accidents. Furthermore, it also imposes temporary speed restrictions, increasing flexibility and operational safety. With so many use cases, deployment of Kavach is a key focus area under the Government of India's Mission Raftar initiative, which aims to enhance both speed and safety in train operations.

India's total rail network spans approximately 85,000 kilometers. Of this, Indian Railways plans to implement the Kavach project in a phased manner on over 40,000 kilometers. The project's primary focus is currently on high-density.



INTERNATIONAL

CANADIAN POLICE ARREST 8 INDIAN-ORIGIN MEN OVER MAIL THEFTS

Diary Times Desk:

Canadian police have arrested eight Indianorigin men over mail thefts, including credit cards and cheques, and slapped them with over 300 charges, with some facing deportation, local media reported.

Peel police recovered more than 450 pieces of stolen mail, such as credit cards and cheques, worth more than CAD 400,000, from the suspects, CTV News reported.

"The investigation uncovered a group of individuals working together to target residential mailboxes, resulting in widespread theft and disruption to community members," the report quoted from a police news release on Friday.

Peel police, Halton police and Canada Post launched a joint operation called "Project Undeliverable" in April to investigate reports of a series of mail thefts in the region.

SECOND GROUP OF 13 HOSTAGES RELEASED FROM GAZA, AFTER 7 RE-UNITE WITH FAMILIES IN ISRAEL

Diary Times Desk: Another group of 13 Israeli hostages has been handed over to the Red Cross in Gaza, shortly after Hamas released the first seven hostages earlier on Monday, according to Israeli media i24.

The bodies of 28 other hostages remain in the terror group's hands, with plans to transfer most of them to Israel later in the day.

Earlier, the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) confirmed that seven hostages had already been transferred to the Red Cross and were on their way to Israeli forces waiting inside Gaza.

The IDF said the first group of seven, identified as Gali and Ziv Berman, Matan Angrest, Alon Ohel, Omri Miran, Eitan Mor, and Guy Gilboa-Dallal, was safely escorted out of the Gaza Strip by special Israeli forces.

AIRCRAFT DELAYS TO BURN \$11 BILLION HOLE IN AIRLINES' POCKETS, WARNS IATA



Diary Times Desk: The world's airlines are staring at losses of over \$11 billion in 2025 as persistent supply chain disruptions continue to throttle aircraft production and delay deliveries, according to a new joint study by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and consulting firm Oliver Wyman.

Titled 'Reviving the Commercial Aircraft Supply Chain', the report paints a grim picture of an industry struggling to meet soaring passenger demand amid clogged production lines, component shortages, and labour constraints. Global backlogs have reached a record 17,000 aircraft in 2024, up sharply from the pre-pandemic average of 13,000 between 2010 and 2019. This slowdown has forced airlines to keep older, less fuel-efficient planes in service far longer than planned.

FRANCE'S MACRON WON'T RESIGN, AS NO-CONFIDENCE VOTES THREATEN HIS NEW GOVERNMENT

Diary Times Desk: French President Emmanuel Macron rejected calls to resign and blasted his opponents on Monday, as his latest government was threatened by two no-confidence motions that could bring it down by the end of the week.

France is in the midst of its worst political crisis in decades as a succession of minority governments seek to push deficit-reducing budgets through a truculent legislature split into three distinct ideological blocs.

Macron has burned through five Prime Ministers in less than two years, and many of his rivals have said the only way out of the crisis is for the president to call fresh legislative elections or resign, both of which he has refused to do.

HAMAS SECURITY FORCES KILL 32 MEMBERS OF GAZA 'GANG': OFFICIAL

Diary Times Desk: Hamas forces have killed 32 members of "a gang" in Gaza City in a security campaign launched after a ceasefire came into effect on Friday, while six of its personnel were also killed in the violence, a Palestinian security source said on Monday.

The official said the security operation in Gaza City had targeted members of a "dangerous gang affiliated with a family in Gaza City". The operation had led to the arrest of 24 persons and 30 others being wounded, the official said.

Since the ceasefire in the two-year-long war with Israel, the Hamas-run Interior Ministry in Gaza has deployed security forces in what it has described as an effort to prevent a security vacuum that would be filled by lawlessness and looting.



'LONG NIGHTMARE' OVER FOR ISRAELIS AND PALESTINIANS: TRUMP IN ISRAEL'S PARLIAMENT

Diary Times Desk: US President Donald Trump said on Monday that a "long nightmare" was finally over for Israelis and Palestinians alike after the first phase of a Gaza ceasefire and hostage deal was agreed between Israel and Hamas.

"The forces of chaos that have plagued the region are totally defeated," he said in a speech before Israel's Parliament.

Trump was briefly heckled by a Leftwing member of the Knesset, who was promptly expelled.

Trump said that the Gaza deal recently was timely, as Israel's military operations were becoming "bad and heated."

"I said, Bibi, you're going to be remembered for this far more than if you kept this thing going, going, going - kill, kill," Trump said in the speech, referring to Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"I just want to congratulate you for having the courage to say, 'that's it, we've won and now let's enjoy our lives'."

INDIAN TEAM TO VISIT US THIS WEEK FOR TRADE TALKS

Diary Times Desk: A team of senior officials from India will visit the US this week for trade talks, and negotiations on the proposed bilateral trade agreement are progressing well, a top official said on Monday.

In February this year, leaders of the two countries directed officials to negotiate a proposed Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA).

It was planned to conclude the first tranche of the pact by the fall (October-November) of 2025.

So far, five rounds of negotiations have been completed.

"The Indian team will visit this week. Negotiations are going in a positive direction. Both sides are of the view that talks should be fast-tracked," the official added.



Shimla | Tuesday | 14-10-2025

WHO IS SUBU VEDAM? WRONGFULLY IMPRISONED FOR 43 YEARS, ICE MOVES TO DEPORT HIM



Diary Times Desk: Subramanyam "Subu" Vedam, an Indian-origin man from Pennsylvania, was released from prison after spending 43 years behind bars, only to be immediately taken into custody by US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) over a decades-old deportation order. Vedam's family has launched a major protest demanding his release. The 64-year-old, who was arrested as an infantimmigrant in 1982, had spent nearly his entire adult life in prison for a murder he insists he did not commit. He was accused of killing his friend Thomas Kinser.Vedam was convicted in 1983 and sentenced to life without parole, but he consistently maintained his innocence. New evidence in 2022 showed that the bullet wound in Kinser's skull was too small to match the previously identified weapon, paying the way for his exoneration.

GAZA DEAL: HAMAS RELEASES ALL **PRISONERS**

Diary Times Desk: Hamas released all 20 remaining living hostages on Monday as part of a ceasefire pausing two years of war that pummeled the Gaza Strip, killing tens of thousands of Palestinians.

The releases came as President Donald Trump was in Israel to celebrate the US-brokered ceasefire and hostage deal between Israel and Hamas, an agreement that he declared had effectively ended the war and opened the door to building a durable peace in the Middle East.

Under the deal, Israel released over 1,900 Palestinian prisoners and is to allow a surge of food and aid supplies into famine-stricken Gaza.

TRUMP ARRIVES IN EGYPT FOR GAZA SURVIVING HOSTAGES, ISRAEL FREES SUMMIT AFTER URGING ISRAEL TO SEIZE **CHANCE FOR PEACE**

Diary Times Desk: President Donald Trump arrived in Egypt on Monday for a global summit on Gaza's future as he tries to advance peace in the Middle East after visiting Israel to celebrate a US-brokered ceasefire with Hamas. The whirlwind trip, which included a speech at the Knesset in Jerusalem earlier in the day, comes at a fragile moment of hope for ending two years of war between Israel and Hamas. More than two dozen countries are expected to be represented at the summit, which Trump is hosting along with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was invited but declined, with his office saying it was too close.

2 ISRAELI LAWMAKERS INTERRUPT TRUMP'S SPEECH WITH 'RECOGNISE PALESTINE' SIGNS, GET DRAGGED OUT



Diary Times Desk: US President Donald Trump addressed the Israeli parliament on Monday, hours after Hamas released 20 living hostages from Gaza and Israel began releasing nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners as part of a cease-fire deal brokered in part by the US.

During his speech, two left-wing lawmakers, Aymen Odeh and Ofer Cassif, belonging to a joint Palestinian-Israeli political party, were ejected from parliament for displaying signs that read "Recognize Palestine".

The security personnel swiftly intervened, taking the lawmakers out while Trump stood at the podium, observing the proceedings. The remaining lawmakers responded with a standing ovation and chants of "Trump". Trump guipped, "that was efficient," prompting another burst of applause from Israeli parliamentarians.

Trump used the platform to praise US special envoy to the Middle East, Steve Witkoff, and his son-in-law and adviser, Jared Kushner, who helped broker the Gaza ceasefire deal.

PALESTINIAN JOURNALIST SALEH ALJAFARAWI SHOT DEAD IN GAZA CITY CLASHES

Diary Times Desk : Palestinian journalist Saleh Aljafarawi has been killed during clashes in Gaza City, just days after Israel and Hamas reached a ceasefire agreement in the Gaza

Palestinian sources told Al Jazeera Arabic that the 28-year-old, who had gained prominence for his videos covering the war, was shot and killed by members of an "armed militia" while covering clashes in the city's Sabra neighbourhood.

Al Jazeera's Sanad agency verified footage published by reporters and activists showing his body - in a "press" flak jacket – on what appeared to be the back of a truck. He had been missing since Sunday mornina.

Palestinian sources said clashes were taking place between Hamas security forces and fighters from the Doghmush clan in Sabra on Sunday, although this has not been confirmed by local authorities.

A senior source in Gaza's Ministry of Interior told Al Jazeera Arabic that the clashes in Gaza City involved "an armed militia affiliated with the [Israeli] occupation".

DAYS AFTER 2025 NOBEL SNUB, DONALD TRUMP GETS **ISRAEL'S BACKING FOR 2026** Diary Times Desk: Calling US President

Donald Trump the "President of peace", the Israeli Parliament today announced that it will rally support across the world to submit Trump's candidacy for a Nobel Peace Prize next year. This comes days after the US President, whose wish to win the Nobel honour is no secret, was snubbed as Venezuelan leader Maria Corina Machado won the award. Amir Ohana, the Speaker of Israel's parliament, Knesset, praised the US President for his role in brokering the ceasefire between Israel and Hamas. paving the way for the release of Israeli hostages in Hamas's captivity and Palestinian prisoners in Israel's jails.

"President Trump, you are the president of peace. There was not a single person on this planet who did more than you to advance peace. No one even came close," Ohana said after the Knesset gave a standing ovation to the US President.

"Your election to the presidency marked a turning point, not only for the United States, but for the entire world. Through your strength of character and unwavering resolve, you brought an end to bloody conflicts in no fewer than eight regions across the globe. In less than nine months, you became one of the most consequential presidents in history," he said.

INTERNATIONAL

WHO ARE PALESTINIAN PRISONERS BEING FREED IN EXCHANGE FOR ISRAELI **HOSTAGES**

Diary Times Desk: Under a ceasefire deal many hope will finally turn the page on a two-year war, Israel has been preparing to exchange nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners for the 48 hostages some alive, some dead — still held in the Gaza Strip. The releases have powerful resonance on both sides. For Israelis, they're deeply painful, since some of those being release have been convicted over attacks that killed civilians and soldiers. For Palestinians, the issue of prisoners is among the most politically charged, with nearly every Palestinian having a friend or family member who has been jailed by Israel, particularly young men. While Israel views them as terrorists, many Palestinians consider the prisoners as freedom fighters resisting a decades-long Israeli military occupation.

In previous exchanges, both sides have sought to tightly manage the releases - including the images, clothing and ceremonies.



YOUTUBE WARNS AUSTRALIA SOCIAL MEDIA BAN WON'T KEEP CHILDREN SAFE

Diary Times Desk: Australia's push to ban children from social media is "well intentioned" but will not make them safer online, video streaming giant YouTube warned on Monday.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese last year unveiled landmark laws that will ban under-16s from social media by the end of 2025.

Popular platforms such as Facebook, TikTok and Instagram face heavy fines for flouting the laws. YouTube, which will also fall under the ban, has argued that it is not a social media platform and should receive some kind of exception.

The firm's local spokeswoman Rachel Lord told a senate committee the ban was "well intentioned" but would risk "unintended consequences".

"The legislation will not only be extremely difficult to enforce, it also does not fulfil its promise of making kids safer online," she said on Monday.

DOUBLES DOWN ON INDIA-PAK TRUCE CLAIM

Diary Times Desk: US President Donald Trump has touted his tariff threats as the real peacemaker between India and Pakistan during the military conflict earlier this year. Speaking to reporters as he flew to the Middle East ahead of a hostageprisoner swap between Israel and Hamas, the American leader said he wouldn't have been able to "solve" eight global conflicts that he claimed to have ended.

He also talked about the ongoing border tensions between Pakistan and Afghanistan and alluded that he would resolve the issue, as he is good at "solving wars".

"I settled a few of the wars just based on tariffs. For example, between India and Pakistan. I said, If you guys want to fight a war and you have nuclear

THREATENED 200% TARIFFS': TRUMP

TOMAHAWK MISSILES TO **UKRAINE** Diary Times Desk: US President

TRUMP SAYS HE MAY SEND

Donald Trump is considering sending long-range Tomahawk cruise missiles to Ukraine. Asked by reporters on Air Force One

on Sunday whether he would provide Kyiv with Tomahawks, Trump replied: "We'll see... I may". The missiles would be "a new step of aggression" in Ukraine's war with Russia, he said.

The comments follow a phone call at the weekend between Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, who pushed for stronger military support to launch counterattacks against Russia.

Zelensky has said he will meet Trump in Washington on Friday for talks that will include air defence and long-range capabilities.

Moscow has previously warned Washington against providing long-range missiles to Kyiv, saying it would cause a major escalation in the conflict and strain US-Russian relations.

Tomahawk missiles have a range of 2,500 km (1,500 miles), which would put Moscow within reach of Ukraine.

Trump's attitude to Russia has hardened in recent months as he has become impatient Vladimir Putin's lack of cooperation in reaching a ceasefire deal with Kyiv.



TALIBAN SHUTS DOOR ON PAKISTAN: KABUL DENIES VISAS TO KHAWAJA ASIF AND ISI CHIEF THRICE

Diary Times Desk: In a major diplomatic snub to Islamabad, Afghanistan has reportedly denied entry to Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Asif, ISI chief Asim Malik, and two senior Pakistani generals, rejecting their visa requests not once, but three times in as many days, according to TOLOnews

The repeated rejections mark a sharp deterioration in relations between Kabul and Islamabad, effectively stalling Pakistan's latest efforts to initiate high-level talks with the Taliban regime amid escalating border tensions.

Afghanistan's Taliban forces launched attacks on Pakistani troops along their shared border late on Saturday, in what it called "retaliation for air strikes carried out by the Pakistani army on Kabul" on Thursday

Islamabad has not directly claimed responsibility for the strikes, but has repeatedly stated the right to defend itself against surging militancy that it says is planned from Afghan soil.

Zabihullah Mujahid, the Taliban government spokesman, said on Sunday that 58 Pakistani soldiers were killed and around 30 wounded in the clashes, while nine Taliban forces were killed.

The Pakistani military, meanwhile, said 23 of its soldiers and more than 200 Taliban and affiliated troops were killed.



"WELCOME BACK": **NETANYAHU'S HANDWRITTEN** NOTE IN WELCOME KITS FOR HOSTAGES

Diary Times Desk: Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his wife, Sara Netanyahu, have added a personal message for the hostages, who were released by Palestinian group Hamas after over two years, to the welcome kits prepared for them.

"On behalf of the entire people of Israel, welcome back! We have been waiting for you. We embrace you. Sara and Benjamin Netanyahu," the handwritten note in Hebrew said.

Netanyahu's office shared the picture of the note on X and said the welcome kits for returning hostages include clothing and personal equipment like a laptop, a mobile phone, and a tablet.

TRUMP'S INSISTENCE PRODUCED A CEASEFIRE IN GAZA. NOWATH! ASPES! TEMPLENT": **END THE WAR**



Diary Times Desk: When President Donald Trump flies home from the Middle East on Monday, the region fading from view out his windows will undoubtedly be a changed one: the hostages who suffered underground in Gaza the last two years are free, and the bombs that leveled the Strip have stopped falling.

But even the valedictory set-pieces that had been arranged for him in Israel and Egypt could not mask the major uncertainty that still lingers - including the basic question of whether the Israel-Hamas war is, in fact, over.

Trump insists it is, and used a long and winding speech to the Israeli Knesset to praise his counterpart, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, for having the "guts" to recognize the time was right to end his two-year military operation that followed Hamas' deadly October 7, 2023, attack.

WHAT'S BEHIND THE ESCALATING TENSIONS RETWEEN PAKISTAN AND **AFGHANISTAN?**



Diary Times Desk: On the night of Oct. 9-10, Pakistan conducted a series of air strikes on locations within Afghanistan. Relations between the two countries have been troubled for years over Pakistani allegations that Afghanistan offers a safe haven for anti-Pakistan terror and militant groups. To understand what just happened, Good Authority editor Christopher Clary checked in with Asfandyar Mir, senior fellow for South Asia at the Stimson Center.

PAKISTAN BURNS OVER GAZA AS PALESTINIANS REJOICE AFTER

Diary Times Desk: At least one officer and several protesters have been killed as supporters of a radical Islamist party in Pakistan clashed with police in Lahore during an anti-Israel march. The city was virtually paralysed following violent clashes between police and the Tehreek-e-Labbaik Pakistan (TLP) workers as they marched towards the capital, Islamabad, on Monday.

Punjab Police Chief Usman Anwar demonstrators opened fire on authorities, killing the officer and wounding others. He did not confirm casualties among the protesters, but TLP said in a statement that many of its supporters also were killed or wounded.

Among those injured is TLP chief Saad Rizvi. who reportedly sustained several bullet wounds when authorities opened fire on demonstrators, according to TLP. He is reportedly in a critical

CEASEFIRE

TO GET AN AWARD THAT **OBAMA RECEIVED** Diary Times Desk: US President

AFTER NOBEL SNUB, TRUMP

Donald Trump will receive a hero's welcome in Israel for his role in brokering the Gaza ceasefire. Before Trump's Knesset (Israeli parliament) speech, President Isaac Herzog will present the country's highest civilian award to him to acknowledge his contribution in securing the release of hostages from Gaza and helping to end the two-year-long war.

Israel had previously presented the award to former US President Barack Obama in 2013. Leading up to the big Nobel Peace Prize announcement, there had been speculation of the prize going to Donald Trump-- an honour previously bestowed on Obama.

Through his tireless efforts, President Trump has not only helped bring our loved ones home but has also laid the foundations for a new era in the Middle East built on security, cooperation, and genuine hope for a peaceful future," the Israeli President's office said in a statement.

Israel and Hamas started a hostage-prisoner exchange on Monday as part of the first phase of a peace plan proposed by Trump. The US-backed 20-point plan aims to end more than two years of war between Israel and Hamas, triggered by the Palestinian group's unprecedented attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, that killed around 1,200 people in Israel, with 251 taken hostage. Israeli airstrikes and ground assaults have since devastated Gaza, killing more than 67,000 Palestinians, the enclave's health officials say.

AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN IS THE LATEST CONFLICT TRUMP WANTS TO SOLVE, WHY HAS IT ERUPTED?

Dicky Times Desk: Border clashes over the weekend between Afghanistan and Pakistan led to the deaths of dozens of soldiers, the most serious clash between the two countries since the Taliban seized power in Kabul in 2021, and gained the attention of US President Donald Trump. By Monday, the exchange of fire had ceased.

WHAT HAPPENED?

Late on Saturday, Taliban forces attacked Pakistani military posts along the length of the 2,600 km (1,600 miles) border, with Pakistani forces later retaliating. Guns, artillery and drones exchanged fire into the early hours of Sunday. Some sporadic fighting continued on Sunday. Pakistan said 23 of its soldiers died and the Taliban said nine of its men were killed, though both sides claimed to have inflicted far higher damage on the other.

WHAT CAUSED THE FIGHTING?

Pakistan carried out an air strike on the Afghan capital of Kabul last week, which targeted the head of the Pakistani Taliban militant group, according to Pakistani security officials. It is not clear if he survived. The Taliban said its Saturday attack was in response to the violation of Afghan airspace.



TRUMP AS PROTESTER **DRAGGED OUT OF ISRAEL PARLIAMENT**

Diary Times Desk: "So back to Steve (Witkoff)," said Trump and began again after being disrupted by protesters mid-speech during his address to the Israeli parliament Monday morning, hours after Hamas released the last 20 living hostages from Gaza and Israel began releasing nearly 2,000 Palestinian prisoners as part of a cease-fire deal brokered in part by the United States.

Avmen Odeh and Ofer Cassif, two left-wing lawmakers belonging to a joint Palestinian-Israeli political ejected party, were from parliament during President Trump's speech for displaying signs that said "Recognize Palestine".

The security personnel moved in swiftly and took them out, while Trump stood at the podium, watching the proceedings. The remaining lawmakers clapped a big round of applause.

CANADA'S BOYCOTT AMERICA MOVEMENT IS HURTING INNOCENT BYSTANDERS

Diary Times Desk:

Virginia Distillery CEO Gareth Moore was bullish on his company's American single malt whisky sales north of the border when 2025 kicked off.

But then demand crashed as the centuries-long friendship between the United States and Canada broke down amid bruised feelings over tariffs and President Donald Trump's threat to make Canada the 51st US

"We were looking to triple the business. Instead, it collapsed to zero," Moore told CNN in a phone interview. "It was almost like suddenly the whisky didn't taste good because of where it's from."

TESLA'S SELF-DRIVING TECH KEEPS BEING INVESTIGATED FOR SAFETY VIOLATIONS, SO WHY IS IT ALLOWED?

Diary Times Desk : Federal safety regulators are once again looking into Tesla's selfdriving mode, the latest in a seemingly endless stream of investigations into the safety of the technology.

Last week, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced at least the sixth investigation into Tesla vehicles using the company's "Full Self Driving" (FSD), or other driver assist features. This probe covers dozens of dangerous driving incidents, including blowing through red lights, driving in the wrong lane of traffic, and three accidents that resulted in five injuries.

But there's relatively little NHTSA, or any federal regulator, can do to regulate the new features Tesla introduces amid its ambitious plans to fill the country with self-driving cars and "robotaxis."

That's because it's not a regulator's job to approve the technology - only to rein it in if it causes problems. American laws aren't equipped to deal with the fast-moving ambitions of CEO Elon Musk, and Washington doesn't seem in a hurry to regulate his company.

Tesla is not unique. Despite what most drivers might believe about the safety of the new cars they buy, much of the regulation actually takes place after cars are already on the road.

DOW GAINS 600 POINTS AFTER US-CHINA TRADE SHOWDOWN HITS THE PAUSE BUTTON

Diary Times Desk: US stocks rebounded sharply on Monday after Friday's widespread sell-off as investors tried to temper their concerns about renewed US-China trade tensions.

The Dow rose 615 points, or 1.35%. The S&P 500 gained 1.5%. The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite rose 2%. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq are coming off of their worst day since April. The S&P 500 on Friday shed \$1.56 trillion in market value, according to FactSet data.

The concerns about a trade spat come after President Donald Trump on Friday threatened to impose new triple-digit tariffs on Chinese imports.

Sentiment on Wall Street recovered in part after Trump posted on social media on Sunday: "Don't worry about China, it will be all fine!" The positive momentum gained steam Monday after Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said trade talks between US and Chinese negotiators went into overdrive over the weekend, and Trump's high-stakes meeting with Chinese leader Xi Jinping would likely still take place later this month. Trump on Friday suggested it might



SORA 2 AND CHATGPT ARE CONSUMING SO MUCH POWER THAT **OPENAI JUST DID ANOTHER 10 GIGAWATT DEAL**

Diary Times Desk: OpenAI is partnering with Broadcom to design and develop 10 gigawatts of custom Al chips and systems, a massive amount of power that will use as much electricity as a large city. The move further highlights just how power intensive the AI boom has become.

It's the latest partnership between OpenAI and a high-profile chip company, coming after it struck deals with Nvidia and AMD as the company seeks to secure more computing resources to serve its growing user base. ChatGPT now has 800 million weekly users, and an executive suggested on X that the recently released Sora video generation app is growing faster than ChatGPT.

"Partnering with Broadcom is a critical step in building the infrastructure needed to unlock Al's potential and deliver real benefits for people and businesses," Sam Altman, co-founder and CEO of OpenAl, said in a press release announcing the deal.



JAMIE DIMON ANNOUNCES MASSIVE \$10 BILLION BET ON US NATIONAL SECURITY: 'WE NEED TO ACT NOW'

Diary Times Desk: JPMorgan Chase on Monday announced a massive investment plan that places a substantial bet on industries it thinks are critical to the United States' economic security.

As part of the decade-long initiative, the bank said it's investing \$10 billion in select companies that are primarily based in the United States and do business in one of four key areas: supply chain resilience, energy independence, defense and strategic technologies like AI and quantum computing. The investment, which will come from JPMorgan's capital, directly, and from venture capital, is designed to enhance large and mid-sized companies' growth and drive innovation and strategic manufacturing, according to a press release.

The plan aims to facilitate \$1.5 trillion in investments over 10 years. JPMorgan had previously aimed at delivering \$1 trillion in investments to these initiatives.But the renewed tensions demonstrated how a major investment in companies aimed at US self-reliance could pay off in a new era of tariffs, trade wars and standoffs.



BUSINESS | FINANCE | DIARY TIMES | Shimla | Tuesday | 14-10-2025



'TRON: ARES' STEERS TO \$33 MILLION OPENING AT DOMESTIC BOX **OFFICE**

Diary Times Desk :

Disney's "Tron: Ares" revved up to gross about \$33.5 million at the domestic box office notching the top spot for the weekend.

The third installment of the decades-old "Tron" franchise short of analysts' expectations of a more than \$40 million opening. The sci-fi adventure film reportedly had a budget of about \$180 million.

"Let's give 'Tron' credit for being one of very few long-running franchises that can grab a No. 1 debut over 40 years after the said film " first Paul Dergarabedian, head of marketplace trends at Comscore.

While it outperformed the tepid debut of the first "Tron," which in earned \$16.7 million, adjusted for inflation, "Tron: Ares" fell well short of the opening weekend success of "Tron: Legacy" (\$65 million, adjusted for inflation) in 2010.

SWIFTIES FLOCK TO MOVIE THEATERS FOR 'TAYLOR SWIFT: THE OFFICIAL RELEASE PARTY OF A SHOWGIRL'

Diary Times Desk: In an unprecedented win for а theatrical release announced just two weeks ago, the album debut event from American pop superstar Taylor Swift topped the domestic box office with about \$33 million domestically.

"Taylor Swift: The Official Release Party of a Showgirl," released in theaters for a three-day run to coincide with Swift's latest album, "The Life of a Showgirl," played in more than 3,700 theatres in the United States and Canada and in another 3588 cinemas internationally The movie earned an estimated \$13 million internationally, according to AMC, bringing its global earnings to \$46 million.

"On behalf of AMC Theatres and the entire theatrical exhibition industry, I extend our sincerest appreciation to the iconic Taylor Swift for bringing her brilliance and magic to movie theatres this weekend," AMC CEO Adam Sunday in a Aron said statement shared with CNN. "Her vision to add a cinematic element to her incredible album debut was nothing less than a triumph."

STOCK FUTURES RISE AFTER TRUMP HINTS AT BACKING OFF FROM **NEW CHINA TARIFFS**



Diary Times Desk: US stock futures rose Sunday after President Donald Trump said, "Don't worry about China," following a sell-off on Friday.

Dow futures were up 0.8%, S&P 500 futures rose 1.04% and Nasdag futures climbed 1.34%, as of 6:32 p.m. ET.

Stocks closed sharply lower on Friday after Trump threatened an additional 100% tariff on Chinese goods, slated to take effect on November 1. That would bring duties on imports from Ching to 130% not far from the 145% rate imposed at the height of the tariff war. The S&P 500 and Nasdaq posted their worst day since April. The Dow posted its worst day since May. But on Sunday afternoon, Trump appeared to hint that he may not follow through with his tariff threat, posting on Truth Social that "it will all be fine!"The comments were a shift from last week, when he said China was "becoming very hostile" after Beijing on Thursday ramped up export restrictions on critical rare earth minerals, which are used to produce consumer electronic products.

NOBEL PRIZE IN ECONOMICS AWARDED TO MOKYR, AGHION AND HOWITT FOR EXPLAINING 'INNOVATION-DRIVEN' GROWTH







Diary Times Desk: Joel Mokyr, Philippe Aghion and Peter Howitt won the Nobel memorial prize in economics Monday for their research into the impact of innovation on economic growth and how new technologies replace older ones, a key economic concept known as "creative destruction."

The winners represent contrasting but complementary approaches to economics. Mokyr is an economic historian who delved into long-term trends using historical sources, while Howitt and Aghion relied on mathematics to explain how creative destruction works.

Dutch-born Mokyr, 79, is from Northwestern University; Aghion, 69, from the Collège de France and the London School of Economics; and Canadian-born Howitt, 79, from Brown University.

Mokyr was still trying to get his morning coffee when he was reached on the phone by an AP reporter, and said he was shocked to win the prize.

"People always say this, but in this case I am being truthful – I had no clue that anything like this was going to

His students had asked him about the possibility he would win the Nobel, he said. "I told them that I was more likely to be elected Pope than to win the Nobel Prize in economics - and I am Jewish by the way."

Mokyr will turn 80 next summer but said he has no plans to retire. "This is the type of job that I dreamed about my entire life," he said.

Aghion said he was shocked by the honor. "I can't find the words to express what I feel," he said by phone to the press conference in Stockholm. He said he would invest his prize money in his research laboratory.

Asked about current trade wars and protectionism in the world, Aghion said: "I am not welcoming the protectionist way in the US. That is not good for... world growth and innovation."

STATES

DIARY TIMES Shimla | Tuesday | 14-10-2025

WHAT DOES VIRBHADRA SINGH'S STATUE IN SHIMLA MEAN FOR CONGRESS. **FAMILY AND PARTY WORKERS**

Diary Times Desk: In a significant tribute to one of Himachal Pradesh's most iconic leaders. **Parliamentary** Party Chairperson Sonia Gandhi will unveil the statue of former Chief Minister Virbhadra Singh at the historic Ridge Ground in Shimla on Monday.

The event marks an emotional and symbolic moment for the Congress, Singh's family, and thousands of party workers Sonia Gandhi arrived in Shimla on Sunday afternoon, where she was received by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Deputy Chief Minister Mukesh Agnihotri, Public Works Minister and Singh's son Vikramaditya Singh, along with other senior leaders and dignitaries at Annadale Ground.

The ceremony would also see the presence of Congress General Secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, HPCC President and Virbhadra Singh's wife Pratibha Singh, AICC in-charge for Himachal Rajni Patil and several other senior party leaders.

The unveiling of the statue, organised by the Raja Virbhadra Singh Foundation chaired by Vikramaditya Singh, originally been scheduled for June 23, on Virbhadra Singh's birth anniversary.

CENTRE HAS WEAKENED RTI ACT, SAY PRATIBHA, **RAJNI PATIL**

Diary Times Desk : State Congress president Pratibha Singh today accused the Central Government of weakening the Right to Information (RTI) Act. She was accompanied by AICC in-charge for Himachal Rajni Patil and AICC spokesperson Kuldeep Rathore at a press conference held here to mark the completion of 20 years of the Act. Pratibha said "The Congress had given the citizens the gift of the RTI Act, under which any citizen of the country can seek information in a time-bound manner. Unfortunately, the NDA government has been consistently weakening the Act, denying citizens their right."

Rajni said that the government led by Manmohan Singh had introduced the RTI Act on October 12, 2005.

RAJVIR JAWANDA WAS REFUSED TREATMENT BY PRIVATE HOSPITAL AFTER ACCIDENT? CONFLICTING REPORTS OVER MISHAP IN PINJORE, NOT IN BADDI, **EMERGE**

Diary Times Desk: Punjabi singer and actor Rajvir Jawanda, who passed away on October 8, at the age of 35, did not meet with a road accident in Himachal Pradesh as initially reported.

A new investigation has revealed that the bike accident allegedly occurred in Pinjore, Haryana, and not in Baddi, Himachal Pradesh.

The accident took place on September 27, while Jawanda was reportedly on his way to Shimla. He suffered serious injuries and was allegedly denied initial treatment by a private hospital in Pinjore, a delay that may have cost him his life.

According to Lawyers for Human Rights International (LFHRI), a factfinding report based on local investigation and official police records (Daily Diary Report - DDR from Pinjore police station) revealed that Shourie Hospital, Pinjore, refused to provide emergency first aid to the injured singer.



SNIFFER DOGS IN JAILS, CROP LOSS RELIEF UP TO RS 20,000/ACRE: HERE'S WHAT ELSE PUNJAB CABINET **APPROVED**

Diary Times Desk: During a Cabinet meeting on Monday, the Punjab government approved several key decisions, including the deployment of sniffer dogs in jails to strengthen security and curb drug trafficking inside prisons, an official spokesperson of the chief minister's office said.

The Cabinet chaired by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann also approved revised compensation rates of up to Rs 20,000 per acre for farmers and residents affected by natural calamities, the spokesperson

The spokesperson said that six sniffer dogs will be purchased from the Border Security Force (BSF) or Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) to prevent criminal activities from inside the jails. The Cabinet also granted exemption under Section 63(1) of the Punjab Transparency in Public Procurement Act, 2019, to facilitate the purchase of the sniffer dogs, the spokesperson further said.

GURU GOBIND SINGH'S FOOTWEAR TO BE ENSHRINED AT **PATNA SAHIB AFTER 1,500-KM** NAGAR KIRTAN POST-DIWALI

Diary Times Desk: After establishing the authenticity of the 300-year-old Jore Sahib belonging to the tenth Sikh Guru, Guru Gobind Singh, and his wife Mata Saheb Kaur, it has been decided to enshrine the sacred relics at Takht Sri Patna Sahib following a 1,500-km nagar kirtan from Delhi to Patna.

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, whose family has served the holy pair of shoes for three centuries and now plans to institutionalise these, announced on Monday that the religious journey of the Jore Sahib will be organised with the support of the entire Sikh Sangat a few days after Diwali.

Puri's cousin, Jasmeet Singh, was the custodian of the relics. After his passing, the family decided to hand over the sacred Jore Sahib for the devotion of all Sikhs. Puri involved the government in the process, and a committee of senior Sikh leaders was formed to verify the relics' authenticity through carbon dating and to decide their final enshrinement location.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

14-10-2025

ue to irritation in the eyes, you should onsult an ophthalmologist.

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.

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

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 infinancial gain for business people, you can invest in a new business.
Problems like leg pain and headache may bother you.

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

money. High BP and cholesterol problems will increase the problems of

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. 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.

checked by a doctor in case of any problem today.

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

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

Shimla | Tuesday | 14-10-2025

TAKE ACTION AGAINST ALL NAMED IN IPS OFFICER Y PURAN KUMAR'S SUICIDE NOTE: PUNJAB SC COMMISSION ORDERS CHANDIGARH POLICE

Diary Times Desk: Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission chairman Jasvir Singh Garhi on Monday directed the Chandigarh Police officials to take immediate action and arrest the 14 individuals named in the suicide note of IPS officer Y Puran Kumar.

He issued this direction after the Chandigarh Police today submitted a report to the Punjab State Scheduled Castes Commission on the action taken so far in the case.

As per the report, a Special Investigation Team (SIT) has been constituted and the investigation is currently in progress.

Expressing dissatisfaction over the report, Garhi asked the police to proceed in accordance with the Supreme Court's verdict in Lalita Kumari vs. State of Uttar Pradesh.

CONGRESS TAKES OUT PROTEST MARCH IN REWARI, DEMANDS COURT-MONITORED PROBE INTO IPS OFFICER'S SUICIDE CASE

Diary Times Desk: The Congress workers, led by former MLA and AICC secretary Chiranjeev Rao, on Monday took out a protest march in the city demanding high court-monitored inquiry into the suicide case of senior IPS officer Y Puran Kumar. The protest was also joined by representatives of social people organisations, and belonging to Schedule Castes (SCs). The protest started from Rajiv Chowk and culminated at the mini secretariat, where a memorandum addressed to the President of India was submitted the Rewari Deputy Commissioner. The protesters were raising slogans such as "Justice for Y Puran Kumar" and "Stop atrocities on Dalits."

Speaking on the occasion, Chiranjeev Rao said the recent shocking incidents against SCs are not only a matter of concern for the state but for the entire nation

KAITHAL COUNCILLOR ARRESTED FOR DEMANDING RS 50 LAKH BRIBE IN VOTE-BUYING CASE

Diary Times Desk: In a major anti-corruption action, a team from Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) of the Kaithal district has arrested a councillor of Ward No. 14 of Municipal Council Cheeka for allegedly demanding a bribe of Rs 50 lakh in exchange for votes. The accused has been identified as Jitender Kumar.

Two of his fellow councillors are also accused of not voting in favour of a no-confidence motion against the MC vice-chairperson, which was scheduled for July 3, said an official.

The police official stated that Vijay Kumar, a resident of Cheeka, had filed a complaint on June 20 this year, alleging that Jitender and two other councillors had approached him and demanded the bribe of Rs 50 lakh, assuring him that they would not vote in favour of the noconfidence motion. They even asked for an advance of Rs 6 lakh in cash, promising to pay the rest later. Vijay secretly recorded the entire conversation and submitted the evidence to ACB in Ambala.



HIGH COURT STEPS IN TO HELP FLOOD-HIT REBUILD LIVES, EXTENDS BAIL TO REBUILD HOUSE

Diary Times Desk: As floodwaters continue to leave a trail of destruction across several parts of Haryana and Punjab, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has stepped in to extend relief to those whose lives and homes have been upended by the calamity.

The Bench made it clear that it "cannot overlook the devastating impact of the ongoing floods" while extending interim bail to a Hisar resident whose house had been severely damaged. The order came as part growing line of judicial interventions acknowledging the humanitarian fallout of the floods. The Bench held that courts could not remain insensitive to large-scale devastation when people were struggling to rebuild their homes and livelihoods. The court extended the petitioner's interim bail till November 28, noting that the floods had crippled entire localities and left many families without shelter. The ruling came in a wrongful confinement case registered in December 2023 at Adampur police station in Hisar under Sections 147, 149, 323, 342, 365 and 506 of the IPC. Attempt to murder offence and another offence under Section 307 and 325 of the IPC was added later on to the matter.

RAHUL GANDHI TO VISIT FAMILY OF DECEASED IPS OFFICER ON TUESDAY, POLITICS SET TO HEAT LIP

Diary Times Desk: Leader of Opposition (LoP) in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi is scheduled to pay a condolence visit on Tuesday to the residence of the late IGP officer Y Puran Kumar in Chandigarh. This visit marks yet another dramatic development in a case that has already roiled state politics and the police hierarchy.

Gandhi will arrive at 10.15 am on October 14 and meet Amneet P Kumar, the widow of the deceased IPS officer. The family had refused to permit a postmortem examination or last rites until the arrest of Haryana DGP Shatrujeet Kapur, ousted Rohtak SP Narendra Bijarniya, and other officers named in Kumar's "final note", creating a weeklong standoff. The visit comes after a condolence letter from Sonia Gandhi was delivered earlier to the family, which spoke of the "biased attitude of those in power" and pledged solidarity. In the past week, scores of high-profile leaders have converged on the family home, amplifying public pressure.

PROTESTORS DEMAND JUSTICE FOR IPS OFFICER Y PURAN KUMAR, SUBMIT MEMORANDUM TO KARNAL DC

Diary Times Desk: A large number of people, under the banner of 'Samast Samajik Sansthaayein' (all social organisations) along with leaders and workers of different political parties, protested in Karnal city on Monday, demanding strict action in connection with the alleged suicide of ADGP Y Puran Kumar. They staged a dharna outside the mini secretariat and demanded a fair probe to ensure justice for the deceased and his family members. The protesters further highlighted the recent incident of shoe-hurling at the Chief Justice of India. Meanwhile, commuters had to face difficulties and police had to divert traffic. The protest started from Karna Park and culminated at Sector 12, where the protesters submitted a memorandum to Deputy Commissioner Uttam Singh, addressed to the President of India and the Governor of Haryana, expressing deep resentment over the lack of action in the case and demanding a Supreme Court-monitored investigation under a sitting judge. Protesters comprising members of the SC community and supporters from different political parties – Congress, INLD, and BSP – joined the demonstration. Many were seen carrying posters of Dr BR Ambedkar, Y Puran Kumar, and the CJI, while raising slogans against the government and demanding justice and accountability.

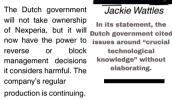


Dutch Government Takes Control Of Chinese-Owned Chipmaker Nexperia In Rare Move

 \overline{I} he Dutch government has taken control of Chinese-owned computer chipmaker Nexperia, ratcheting up tensions with Beijing as a global fight brews over technology intellectual property. especially around semiconductors.

The government said late on Sunday that it has intervened in Dutch-headquartered Nexperia, which manufactures chips for cars and consumer electronics. It cited worries about the possible transfer of technology to Nexperia's Chinese parent company, Wingtech.

Amsterdam invoked never-before-used powers under a Dutch known as the "Availability of Goods Act." The decision led to a 10% fall in Wingtech's Shanghai shares in Monday





Jackie Wattles

In its statement, the technological wledge" without

'Geopolitical bias'

US President Donald Trump is ratcheting up pressure on Chinese tech firms as part of a broader trade war that saw him threaten 100% tariffs on China's exports last week.

The United States and the Netherlands typically cooperate closely on computer chip industry export controls. A Dutch Economic Affairs Ministry spokesperson, however, said there was no US involvement in its decision regarding Nexperia and the timing was "purely coincidental.

Washington last month expanded a list of blacklisted firms seen as threats to national security to include subsidiaries.

Wingtech had already been placed on the US "entity list" in December 2024 for its alleged role "in aiding China's government's efforts to acquire with sensitive semiconductor manufacturing capability."

Nexperia, which is 100%-owned by Wingtech. said at the time that it would comply with the US rules, though it said its operations were kept at arm's length from its Chinese parent.

Wingtech called the Dutch government's intervention in Nexperia, once part of Dutch electronics group Phillips, "excessive interference driven by geopolitical bias."



Wingtech also alleged that non-Chinese Nexperia executives had tried to forcibly alter the company's equity structure through legal proceedings in a "cloaked power grab" on the company.

Wingtech said in a statement that it was consulting with lawyers and seeking government support to "protect the legitimate rights and

interests of the company." Nexperia, which Wingtech bought for \$3.63 billion in 2018, said it complied with all relevant laws and regulations.

Experts Are Starting To Worry

NASA HAS A WILD PLAN TO RETURN ASTRONAUTS TO THE MOON

alls for the United States to return astronauts to the moon before the end of the decade have been increasingly loud and frequent. emanating lawmakers and science advocates alike. But underlying that drumbeat is a quagmire of epic proportions.



Lisa Fadicicco

"Maybe I am competitive . I was angry about it," Duffy said. "I'll be damned if that is the story that we write. We are going to beat the

Chinese to

the moon."

NASA plans to use SpaceX's Starship — the largest rocket system ever constructed — for a key portion of the lunar journey. yet it's still unclear whether the vehicle will work. And a fierce competitor is nipping at the agency's heels.

"The China National Space Administration will almost certainly walk on the moon in the next five years," Bill Nye, the entertainer of "Science Guv" fame and CEO of the nonprofit exploration advocacy group The Planetary Society, said during a recent demonstration against the Trump Administration's plans to cut science funding. "This is a turning point. This is a key point this history of space exploration."

Starship is still in the nascent planned for mid-2027. stages of a long and laborious But, more recently, engineers at development process. So far, parts of the vehicle have failed in dramatic fashion during six of its



Even if NASA could resurrect its retro rockets, the space agency has made it clear that path wouldn't align with its goals.

Another prototype recently exploded during ground testing. SpaceX is set to launch its next test, Flight 11, as soon as 7:15 p.m. ET Monday from the company's South Texas launch facilities

The megarocket has yet to hit several key testing milestones. These include figuring out how to top off Starship's fuel as it sits parked orbit around Earth. Such a step is necessary given the vehicle's design and enormous size — but it's never been attempted before with any spacecraft.

Adding to the uncertainty is that no one knows exactly how many tankers full of fuel SpaceX will need to launch to give Starship enough gas for a moonlanding mission, which NASA has

NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston estimated that a single moon landing could require SpaceX to

Launch more than 40 tankers Starship vehicles which are designed to carry fuel, according to one former NASA official who spoke on condition of anonymity. That estimate may be specific to the current version of Starship. referred to as Version 2 or V2, that SpaceX is flying, the source noted. And the company is expected to debut an upgraded version of the vehicle after its next test mission on Monday that could change those predictions.

Still, even if the number of refueling flights is somewhere between 10 and 40 in general the nath NASA has chosen to return to the moon is "extraordinarily complex," Jim Bridenstine, who was NASA Bridenstine, administrator during President Donald Trump's first term, said at a Senate committee hearing in September. "This is an architecture that no NASA administrator that I'm aware of would have selected had they had the choice." Bridenstine said, referring to the decision to use Starship as the vehicle that will land astronauts on the moon. That choice was made in 2021 when the space agency was without a Senate-confirmed leader.

Acting NASA administrator Sean Duffy responded to the Senate hearing during a September 4 town hall with agency employees, saying the hearing amounted to "shade thrown on all of us."

Historic Cities

THE SPOOKIEST CITIES IN THE US — AND WHY THEY STILL SCARE US

claim to be king when it comes to Halloween. But three in particular Orleans



Scottie Andrew

It's a bizarre episode of American history, one that the city of Salem today honors today by memorializing the innocents killed during the trials and educating visitors — with a healthy dose of entertainment and occult intrigue.

Savannah, Georgia; New and Salem, Massachusetts have the haunting histories to truly earn The trio of historic cities, each of them at least a couple of centuries old, are charming and

Several locales across the US

cobblestone streets wellcenturies-old preserved, structures and other nods to days of old. But when night falls and the wind

welcoming in the light, with their

howls through empty streets, these cities cast a darker spell. For many visitors and year-round residents of these three cities, their macabre history is part of the draw.

"Becoming acquainted with a place's supernatural beings, and becoming a transmitter of a place's supernatural lore ... is a way of further weaving ourselves into the stories of a place, and proclaiming our own belonging within it," said Lowell Brower, a lecturer in the University of Wisconsin-Madison's Folklore program, where he teaches, among other courses, "The Supernatural in the Modern

Each is eerie in its unique way. though both Savannah and New Orleans claim to be the most haunted city in America. We'll leave that decision up to those who know these cities best ghosts, maybe,

"There is huge value in sharing (and studying) that which haunts us," Brower said. "It might just be the best way to understand what people fear, what they wish for, what they choose to remember or can't forget, what they are capable of, and what they might vet transform themselves into.'

Savannah, Georgia Southern gothic personified. Established: 1733

Spooky claim to fame: The 1994 book "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil" put Savannah's spooky bonafides on the national map, but locals have long spotted ghosts and encountered paranormal entities in their historic city. Just about any building over 100 years old can claim that a patron once felt a ghostly presence there.

Some spooky spots: The Mercer-Williams House is known to "Midnight" readers and film viewers as the home in which Danny Hansford and Jim Williams died. But even before their deaths, visitors have

reported seeing a young boy in its windows perhaps, they think, the boy who died there in 1969. The home is now a museum, where visitors can test the ghostly presences themselves.

There are several purportedly haunted hotels and B&Bs scattered about the historic downtown, including the Marshall House, a former Civil War hospital, and the Hamilton-Turner Inn, rumored to be the inspiration for Disnevland's Haunted Mansion. If you don't mind the cries of ghostly children running through the halls or encounters with an apparition of a man smoking a cigar, you can book a (pricey) stay.

At the old Colonial Park Cemetery, established in the 1750s, an estimated 12,000 people are buried, though there are



ARTS & INFOTAINMENT

THE CHIANG CHAO-SHEN COLLECTION: CHINESE PAINTINGS FROM THE LINGOU HALL

Diary Times Desk: Born in 1925 in She County, Anhui Province, Chiang (1925-1996), also known by his sobriquet Shuyuan, was raised in a cultured family. Under his parents' tutelage, he began reading, writing, and seal carving at an early age, displaying a remarkable talent. Together with family members, he often engaged with scholars in cultural dialogues and refined discourse. By the age of eight, he was already producing paintings and calligraphic couplets for patrons. At the age of nine, he had the opportunity to meet the master painter Huang Binhong in Shanghai, growing up in an environment rich in cultural influence. Later, in order to support his family, Chiang took on engraving and copying books, transforming the hardships of life into an artistic practice of calligraphy and engraving. His experience in the difficult times laid a solid foundation for his later mastery in engraving and solid skills in calligraphy.

Chiang moved from mainland China to Taiwan with his wife in May 1949. That same year, he wrote to the renowned artist Pu Ru, who had also recently arrived in Taiwan, seeking to become his student. Pu Ru accepted, and Chiang formally studied classical prose and poetry under his guidance. This bond between teacher and student was free from formalities and ostentation. Pu Ru advised him, 'Instead of learning to paint, it is better to study with me. After all, with a solid foundation in knowledge, you will naturally elevate the quality of your artistry.' During this period, he diligently followed the master, delving into various literary and history classics, including Zizhi Tongjian, Four Histories, Lao Tzu, Huainanzi, Lüshi Chunqiu, among other poetic collections. At times, he had the privilege of witnessing Master Pu's brushwork. Over the course of more than a decade studying with Pu Ru, Chiang amassed some of the most exquisite works by the master, personally inscribing titles, annotations and seals, attesting to the profound intellectual and artistic dialogue between master and disciple.

Beyond this formative mentorship, Chiang spent the next several decades immersed in Chinese history, literature, and art. He co-founded and actively participated in several influential art societies in Taiwan, including the Qixiu Jinshi Shuhua Hui (七修金石書畫會) with Fu Shen, Haijiao Yinji (海嶠印集) with Wang Zhuangwei, and Mingyi Shishe (明夷詩社) with Liang Hanchao. These groups promoted the study of painting, seals, and poetry, and helped establish Chiang's reputation as a prominent cultural figure. In parallel with his scholarship, Chiang remained deeply engaged in his own artistic practice. He held his first solo exhibition in 1965 and subsequently exhibited widely in both Taiwan and mainland China.



HOW PAULA REGO'S DANCING OSTRICHES SERIES 'CAPTURES THE FABLES, FANTASIES AND FRICTIONS OF THE FEMALE EXPERIENCE'

Diary Times Desk: When Paula Rego was a child, her father owned the first private cinema in Lisbon. Sitting with her grandmother in the subterranean darkness, she thrilled to the world of Walt Disney, relishing the mystery, the enchantment and the combination of delight and fear the animator instilled in his storytelling.

No surprise then that in 1995, when the Hayward Gallery in London invited Rego to create an artwork for the exhibition Spellbound: Art and Film (a celebration of 100 years of cinema in Britain), the artist found inspiration in Disney's brilliant 1940 folly, Fantasia

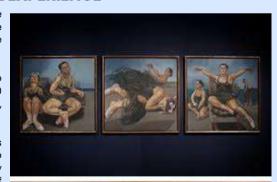
Taking the film's dancing ostrich sequence, in which a gaggle of coquettish birds perform Dance of the Hours from Amilcare Ponchielli's opera La Gioconda, Rego offered up a feminist perspective across eight large panels, translating Disney's witty anthropomorphism into a group of women who rail against balletic stereotypes of youth, beauty and femininity.

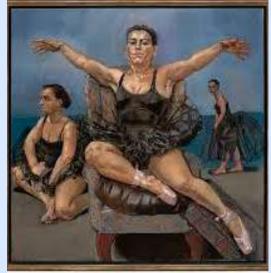
A triptych from the series, formerly part of the Saatchi collection, is to be offered in the 20th/21st Century: London Evening Sale on 15 October 2025. According to Katharine Arnold, Christie's vice-chairman 20/21 and head of Post-War and Contemporary Art, Europe, the work 'captures the fables, fantasies and frictions of the female experience'.

Born in Portugal in 1935, Rego grew up under António Salazar's dictatorship. Her father, an electrical engineer, opposed the regime, and although they had a comfortable middle-class existence, the family lived in fear of reprisals from the brutal government. Rego channelled this anxiety into her art, saying later, 'If you are frightened of something, the best thing is to draw it.'

As an adult, Rego retained this perspective, painting strange dramas in which women, children and animals acted out disturbing scenarios. She discovered that the best way to portray violence and tell stories about the oppression of women was to use flat colours, hard outlines and abrupt shifts in scale.

Dancing Ostriches features Rego's regular muse Lila Nunes in multiple positions, wearing a feathery black tutu similar to the ones in Fantasia. However, where Disney's animators drew their characters from 'a very tall, ostrich-like girl', Rego deliberately chose a different approach.





LA LIGA PRESIDENT DEFENDS MOVING VILLARREAL VS BARCELONA TO US - 'A WAY TO RESPECT OUR FANS ALL OVER

THE WORLD'



Diary Times Desk: Barcelona's game against Villarreal in La Liga will be played in the United States of America later this year. The clash in Miami, in fact, will be historically remembered as the first La Liga game ever played overseas.

La Liga president Javier Tebas has been one of the primary driving forces behind the decision, and both clubs have agreed to the proposal, given that they stand to benefit financially from the move.

Concurrently, however, it has found stiff resistance from several other La Liga clubs, including Real Madrid, who have come out and called it unfair and threatening to the integrity of the competition. Speaking to the media in a recent interview via Mundo Deportivo, La Liga president Javier Tebas once again came out to ruthlessly defend his idea of taking a few games of the league overseas to boost the popularity of

BARCELONA SUMMER SIGNING TAKES THINLY VEILED DIG AT PARENT CLUB -'INCONSISTENT ENVIRONMENT'

Diary Times Desk: It has been a few months since Marcus Rashford joined Barcelona on a loan deal, and although the forward hasn't set the world alight, the early signs have been rather positive.

After a slow start, the Englishman has been able to establish himself as a trusted option in the first team for Hansi Flick, though he is yet to become a first-team regular.

However, as Barcelona enter a period of consolidation, particularly with poor form and injuries, Rashford's presence has become vital for the club, and therefore, his consistency would become key.

Rashford's dig at Manchester United

To that end, Rashford has recently made a statement in which he talks about bringing consistency into his game.

However, the statement can be interpreted as a veiled dia at his former club Manchester United. as the Englishman indirectly blamed the 'environment' around him for his lack of consistency.

"I feel like I've been in an inconsistent environment for a very, very long time. So it's even more difficult to be consistent," Rashford told ITV (h/t Fabrizio Romano)."I think consistency is what I need to bring into my game. And yeah, I'm looking to do that," he added.

BARCELONA WINGER REMAINS A MAJOR **DOUBT TO FACE GIRONA - REPORT**

Diary Times Desk: In what could be a major setback for Barcelona, a recent report from SPORT suggests that Raphinha is finding it increasingly difficult to receive medical clearance for the upcomina Girona clash.

The Brazilian winger, who picked up a thigh injury during the match against Real Oviedo, remains the player whose recovery has raised the most concern within the club.

Barcelona have begun to receive positive news on the injury front as several key names are close to making their return.

As confirmed earlier, both Lamine Yamal and Fermin Lopez have resumed full training. Their return has lifted the mood in the dressing room, especially with the El Clasico against Real Madrid later this month fast approaching.

Raphinha's recovery still a concern

Unfortunately for Barcelona, the same cannot be said about Raphinha. Despite undergoing intensive recovery work, the winger has not responded as well as expected. According to reports, the medical staff remain cautious, as pushing him back too early could worsen his condition.

BARCELONA SET NEW RETURN DATE FOR SPOTIFY CAMP NOU - REPORT

Diary Times Desk: We are already several months into the new season and Barcelona are still yet to return to the fabled Spotify Camp Nou.

There have been repeated delays in construction, with questions now being raised about the club's appointment of Limak as the constructors.

Barcelona were initially hoping to return to Camp Nou end-September but have now ruled out a return in October as well.

New timeline for Camp Nou return According to MARCA, Barcelona are eyeing to return to the iconic stadium by mid-November. The club are hopeful of receiving the permit for Phase 1B during this period.

Therefore, if everything goes well, the club could return to Spotify Camp Nou for the La Liga game against Athletic Club, right after the international

FORMER ITALY STAR REVEALS HE WAS CLOSE TO JOINING **BARCELONA DURING YOUTH CAREER - 'SPENT ABOUT A MONTH THERE'**

Diary Times Desk: Barcelona, for decades now, has been one of the epitomes of the sport and is often seen to be the pinnacle of football by many players looking for a golden career.

Several clubs have risen and fallen back into the abyss over the years, but only a few clubs like the Blaugrana have managed to retain their glory, name, and allure, not only for players but also for fans and supporters worldwide.

To date, players wait for the Barcelona train to pass by their doorstep, and it is exactly the same as what the greats of the sport did decades ago in their day and age.

Time has flown by, but Barcelona's appeal to the biggest names on the planet has remained constant.

Inter Milan legend was close to joining Barcelona

Speaking to MARCA in a recent interview, former Italy striker Mario Balotelli opened up on how he was, in fact, close to signing for the Catalan giants very early on in his career and how a small factor turned the tables around.

"When I was 15 years old, there was a contact from Barcelona, and I spent about a month there, in Barcelona," he began.

REAL MADRID LEGEND AMAZED BY BARCELONA TEENAGE SUPERSTAR - 'HE EXCITES

Diary Times Desk: It is not often that a Real Madrid legend openly admits admiration for a Barcelona player.

Yet, Zinedine Zidane, one of the most respected figures in world football, has done exactly that. The French, who enjoyed glory days at Real Madrid both as a player and a manager, has once again praised Barcelona's teenage sensation Lamine Yamal, calling him the player who excites him the most in world football right now.

In a recent media appearance, Zidane was asked which players currently capture his imagination. Without hesitation, he named the 18-year-old Barça star.

"Regardless of position, one player who excites me when he touches the ball is Lamine Yamal.

