

NEWS IN BRIEF

"DON'T WANT VOTES OF NAMAK HARAAMS": UNION MINISTER GIRIRAJ SINGH TARGETS MUSLIMS AT BIHAR RALLY**Diary Times Desk :**

Union minister Giriraj Singh has sparked controversy once again with a scathing remark against the Muslim community, saying he does not need the votes of "namak haraams" (betrayers).

He made the remark while addressing a public rally in Bihar's Arwal district on Saturday.

The BJP MP from Begusarai said, "Once I asked a 'maulvi' (cleric) whether he has an Ayushman Bharat health card, and he replied in the affirmative. I asked whether such cards were distributed on the basis of Hindu-Muslim, and he replied in the negative."

"When I asked him whether he had voted for me, he replied in the affirmative, but when I asked him to swear on Khuda (God), he said no."

THE CHURN IN 2025: MAKING SENSE OF BIHAR'S POLITICAL MOMENT**Diary Times Desk :**

Bihar's 2025 assembly elections present a masterclass in how political upheaval can masquerade as routine democratic competition.

The Special Intensive Revision has added to uncertainties. But what appears as electoral chaos is actually a profound moment of political churning, a samudra manthan, where traditional alliance structures are being fundamentally recalibrated by the revelations of the state's groundbreaking caste census.

This churning creates a uniquely deceptive political moment, where surface appearances belie deeper structural transformations. The Mahagathabandhan's visible discord and the NDA's apparent organisational superiority mask complex undercurrents that could reshape Bihar's political landscape.

The release of Bihar's caste survey data has fundamentally altered the state's political calculus beyond simple vote-bank arithmetic. The revelation that Extremely Backward Classes constitute 36% of the population.

AIR QUALITY INDEX**ENHANCED ANTI-POLLUTION CURBS UNDER GRAP-2 INVOKED IN DELHI AS AQI DIPS**

Sweeping and water sprinkling will be done every day on some roads to control dust pollution, and attempts will be made to ease congestion.

These will be in addition to measures under GRAP-1, which include a ban on labour-intensive construction activities without dust mitigation, mandatory water sprinkling at all project sites, heightened inspections of polluting industries and enhanced CNG compliance for public transport.

Citizens have also been advised to take steps like using public transport.

Experts warned that the AQI is likely to worsen after Diwali, with the bursting of firecrackers adding to the pollution and climatic conditions not being favourable for the dispersal of the pollutants.

AQI between 0 and 50 is considered 'good', 51 to 100 'satisfactory', 101 to 200 'moderate', 201 to 300 'poor', 301 to 400 'very poor', and 401 to 500 'severe'. Delhi-NCR witnessed over 50 'severe' days last year.

Diary Times Desk : Anti-pollution curbs under GRAP-2 have been invoked for Delhi and surrounding areas as the Air Quality Index has plunged ahead of Diwali. Curbs under GRAP-1 had been enforced for the first time this season on October 14.

In an order on Sunday, the Commission for Air Quality Management, which is the Centre's anti-pollution panel, said the Air Quality Index (AQI) has dipped and is expected to worsen.

"The AQI of Delhi has shown an increasing trend since morning and has been recorded as 296 at 4:00 PM and 302 at 7:00 PM. The forecast by IMD/IITM also predicts further deterioration of AQI in the coming days," it noted.

Under GRAP-2, which is the second stage of the Graded Response Action Plan, there will be restrictions on the use of coal and firewood as well as diesel generator sets in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR).

DELHI'S DIWALI GETS ITS CRACKLE BACK. THIS TIME THE GREEN WAY

Diary Times Desk : Happiness and excitement returned to the national capital's markets on Sunday as the sale of green firecrackers began ahead of Diwali, following the Supreme Court's nod to allow the use of certified eco-friendly crackers this year.

At Sadar Bazar, one of the city's busiest wholesale markets, long queues formed outside firecracker shops as families, many accompanied by their children, waited eagerly to make their festive purchases.

Traders were seen attending to customers patiently while ensuring that every packet carried the NEERI stamp and scanner code, certifying them as "green crackers".

"We are really thankful to the Supreme Court for allowing green firecrackers this Diwali. It is such a special festival for us, and every year we miss celebrating it fully because of the ban. This new initiative is both environment-friendly and full of lights and colours that bring back the joy of Diwali in the right way," said Vishwanand Singh, a customer, adding that he bought only green-labelled crackers this year.

A shopkeeper at Sadar Bazar said traders had faced huge losses over the past few years due to the blanket ban on firecrackers.

"Now that the Supreme Court has given its nod, we are at least able to sell some crackers openly this year. The demand is high, but due to the short notice, the stock is limited. Whatever we could collect, we are offering to customers with the NEERI stamp and scanner confirming authenticity," he said. Gurmeet Singh, who travelled from Durgapur to Sadar Bazar to buy crackers, said the move had brought festive cheer back to families.

On October 15, the Supreme Court permitted the sale and use of certified green firecrackers in Delhi and the NCR under regulated conditions, aiming to balance festive celebrations with environmental responsibility.

**TOP COURT CONCERNED OVER 8.82 LAKH UNIMPLEMENTED VERDICTS IN CIVIL DISPUTE**

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court has termed as "highly disappointing" and "alarming" the pendency of over 8.82 lakh execution petitions before different courts across the country.

Execution petitions are the pleas filed by a decree holder seeking enforcement of court orders passed in a civil dispute.

A bench of Justices J B Pardiwala and Pankaj Mithal made the remarks while reviewing the compliance of its March 6 order that had directed all high courts to instruct civil courts within their jurisdiction to decide execution petitions within six months.

The court had also made it clear that presiding officers would be held liable for any delay in presiding with its directive.

"The statistics which we have received are highly disappointing. The figures of the pendency of the execution petitions across the country are alarming. As on date, 8,82,578 execution petitions are pending across the country," the bench said.

The bench said in the last six months from March 6, a total of 3,38,685 execution petitions have been decided and disposed of.

The bench, in its October 16 order, said, "As observed in our main judgment, after the decree is passed, if it is going to take years and years to execute the decree, then it makes no sense and would be nothing short of travesty of justice".

GST RATE CUT KEEPS INDIA'S CONSUMPTION RISING BEYOND FESTIVE SEASON, SAYS SITHARAMAN

Diary Times Desk : The impact of the GST rate cut will sustain even after the festive season is over, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman argued on Saturday, claiming that India's consumption story will continue.

Addressing a joint press conference in Delhi along with commerce minister Piyush Goyal and IT minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, Sitharaman said the benefit of the GST rate cut is reaching consumers, translating into 'record' sales.

Asked if the spike in sales for automobile and consumer durables — where the rate cut benefit has been most visible in terms of price reduction — would continue after the festive period, she said, "Yes, it will."

"It (rate cut) would benefit consumers on day-to-day items...the consumption story will continue," she said, scotching speculation that reported sales spikes were due to pent up demand.

However, the FM declined to hazard a guess if the spike in sales will translate into higher GDP growth for this fiscal. Commerce minister Piyush Goyal buttressed the claim that upswing is not a flash in the pan by pointing towards the September GST collection which was up by 9 per cent year-on-year. Even as the Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on August 15 that GST cut will bring down prices of daily items, the sales were not dampened by deflationary expectations, he said noting that September GST data reflected business activities in August.

GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS

AYODHYA'S DEEPOTSAV CREATES GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS WITH DISPLAY OF 2.6 MILLION DIYAS

Diary Times Desk : Two new Guinness World Records were set during this year's Deepotsav celebrations in Ayodhya, as 26,17 lakh diyas were lit across the temple town and 2,128 people performed 'aarti' together, the Uttar Pradesh government said.

Representatives from the Guinness Book of World Records made the announcement after verifying the diya count using drones, according to a government statement.

UP Tourism and Culture Minister Jaiveer Singh and Principal Secretary Amrit Abhijat presented the Guinness World Records certificates to Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

The first Guinness award was conferred for the largest display of oil lamps (26,17,215), a record achieved jointly by the Uttar Pradesh Department of Tourism, the Ayodhya administration, and the Rammanohar Lohia Avadh University.

The dual recognition marks another milestone for Ayodhya's Deepotsav, celebrated annually as a symbol of faith, devotion, and the city's deepening spiritual and cultural heritage.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday received the Guinness World Records certificates for both achievements, marking another milestone in Ayodhya's Deepotsav festivities.

Deepotsav, held annually under the leadership of the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, symbolises faith, unity, and devotion. The festival celebrates the return of Lord Ram to Ayodhya after 14 years of exile and reinforces the city's growing identity as a global centre for spirituality and tourism.

AMID RSS MARCH ROW, BJP VS CONGRESS ON SIDDARAMAIAH'S 'SANATANI' WARNING

Diary Times Desk : Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has sparked controversy with his comments on "Sanatani" that incorporated a warning -- stay away from the right wing and remain cautious about the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh or RSS, the BJP's ideological mentor, and the organisations under it. His comments came amid a row over a planned march by the RSS for which the government had not given permission. The High Court, though, allowed it, but on a different date.

"Keep your company right. Associate with those who stand for society, not with those who oppose social change or with 'sanatanis'," Siddaramaiah had said after inaugurating the silver jubilee celebrations of Mysore University and dedicating the new Jnana Darshana building.

In this context, he cited the incident in which a shoe was hurled at the Chief Justice of India. "The fact that a 'sanatani' threw a shoe at the Chief Justice of India shows 'sanatanis' and orthodox elements still exist in society. This act should be condemned not just by Dalits but by everyone," he said.

The RSS, he added, had historically opposed B R Ambedkar and the Constitution he framed.

Tamil Nadu, Kerala lead by example
In Tamil Nadu – including its capital Chennai – public signage, name boards and milestones overwhelmingly feature Tamil, with almost no trace of other languages. Similarly, in Kerala, Malayalam dominates public spaces, reflecting deep-rooted linguistic pride.



INDIA DISSECTS CHINA'S
PL-15 MISSILE; REPORT
CLAIMS DRDO TO REVERSE-
ENGINEER TECH FOR
INDIGENOUS AAM

Diary Times Desk : The 87-hour war between India and Pakistan in May has yielded a treasure trove of information on Chinese weapons. India laid its hands on an intact Chinese Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air Missile (BVRAAM) PL-15E, and now its premier defense research organisation is unravelling its secrets.

Media reports claim that India's Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is incorporating advanced features of the PL-15 air-to-air missile into its indigenous Astra Mark-2 program.

The recovery of the Chinese-made missile would help the Indian defense establishment to glean important details regarding its capabilities and limitations. This would be insightful in developing new countermeasures and tactics, techniques, and procedures. While various fragmented PL-15s have been recovered by India, one PL-15E was recovered fully intact in a field near Hoshiarpur, Punjab, on May 9.

BIHAR ELECTIONS: PAPPU
YADAV TARGETS RJD
CHIEF, WARNS OF
CONSPIRACY TO BREAK
MAHAGATHBANDHAN
AHEAD OF POLLS

Diary Times Desk : As the Bihar Assembly Elections 2025 draw closer, visible tensions have surfaced within the Opposition's Mahagathbandhan (Grand Alliance). Independent MP and Congress leader Pappu Yadav from Purnia has issued a stern warning to alliance leaders, emphasising the need to respect longstanding partners like Congress and Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) to maintain unity.

Yadav criticised the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and its chief Lalu Prasad Yadav, challenging the party's approach amid seat-sharing disputes. "This is not the 1990s anymore. Follow the alliance principles," he said, urging all partners to uphold the spirit of the coalition. He accused certain forces of attempting to weaken the India alliance by fostering internal divisions. Highlighting Congress's commitment, Pappu Yadav said, "Congress dared to contest 13 seats. We faced harassment from Munna

Shukla's supporters, who troubled us by wearing green scarves and abused us.

SUSPENDED ROPAR DIG BHULLAR BOOKED
UNDER EXCISE ACT AFTER RECOVERY OF
108 LIQUOR BOTTLES FROM FARMHOUSE



Diary Times Desk : Harcharan Singh Bhullar, the recently suspended Deputy Inspector General (DIG) of the Ropar Range, is now facing charges under the Excise Act and a case in this regard was registered by the Samrala police under Khanna police district. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had seized 108 bottles of liquor — during a search of his farmhouse located in Bondli village in Samrala. The Samrala police registered the case on Saturday, confirmed Samrala DSP Tarlochan Singh. The FIR was registered at the Samrala police station on the statement of CBI inspector Romipal. A case was registered under Sections 61 (pertaining to unlawful activities such as possession or transport of intoxicants in violation of the Act), 1 and 14 (which grants officers the power to summon individuals for evidence in proceedings related to the act).

PUSHPAM PRIYA CHOUDHARY: THE
EMERGING BIHAR LEADER WHO WEARS
ONLY BLACK AND A MASK

Diary Times Desk : Back from the United Kingdom, the daughter of a former lawmaker aspires to bring a big change in the traditional political landscape of Bihar. Pushpam Priya Choudhary, who founded 'The Plurals Party' in 2020, wants to introduce the state to a new brand of politics that transcends religious and caste lines.

An emerging young leader with foreign education, she brings new energy to the 2025 Bihar Assembly Elections, trying to blend her views with her aspirations for change. She is contesting from Darbhanga in the 2025 Bihar Assembly elections.

In 2020, she announced her entry into politics with a mega declaration: that she was her party's chief ministerial candidate. Seen only in black attire and a mask, she has reiterated her vow that she would remove her mask only after she wins an election.

PUNE COLLEGE DENIES DALIT STUDENT'S CASTE BIAS CLAIM, SAYS
UK JOB VERIFICATION WAS SENT

Diary Times Desk : A college in Pune has rubbished a former Dalit student's allegations of caste bias and his claim that it had withheld his job verification, clarifying that it had sent the document to the UK-based employer and he had not lost his job.

Prem Birhade, a former BBA student of Modern College of Arts, Science and Commerce, had claimed in a social media post that the college failed to send the reference verification to his London-based employer, where he was recently recruited.

The incident invited criticism from NCP (SP) leader Rohit Pawar, who accused the college of showing "Manuwadi" ideology and harassing the former student. Birhade, in a video clip, alleged caste discrimination and claimed that when he asked the college authorities to send the necessary verification, they questioned him about his caste.

AN EXTRAMARITAL AFFAIR,
PREGNANCY, THEN DOUBLE
MURDER IN DELHI

Diary Times Desk : A dispute over an extramarital affair has left two people dead in central Delhi. In the horrifying incident, a pregnant woman was stabbed to death by her lover in public view in the Ram Nagar area, while her husband managed to kill him.

Shalini, a 22-year-old homemaker, was a mother to two daughters. Her husband, Akash, 23, an e-rickshaw driver, is now battling for life in the hospital. Aashu alias Shailendra, 34, was a local criminal who had an affair with Shalini.

Aashu claimed that Shalini was pregnant with his child and was angry with her decision to live with her husband, police said.

The attack occurred late last night when Akash and Shalini had gone to meet the latter's mother at Qutub Road. Aashu appeared out of the blue and attacked Akash with a knife, but he dodged the blow. He then noticed Shalini in an e-rickshaw and stabbed her multiple times, police said.

INDIA, TALIBAN AND PAKISTAN: AN
UNEASY GEOSTRATEGIC DANCE

Diary Times Desk : The four-day visit of Afghan Taliban Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi to New Delhi widely represents the highest-level engagement between the Taliban and India since the group took over Kabul in August 2021. For New Delhi, the gradual building of ties with the Taliban has been essentially driven by pragmatic diplomacy, but, more significantly, by a calculated effort to reclaim strategic space in Afghanistan. Since the Cold War, Afghanistan served as a critical third space for the India-Pakistan rivalry, with both countries vying for strategic depth in the region. In that context, New Delhi extended support to Western-backed governments in Kabul, while Islamabad cultivated the Taliban insurgency. India's engagements with the Taliban could be viewed through a lens of deliberately calibrated stages. In 2022, New Delhi deployed a "technical team" to Kabul after closing down its diplomatic missions after a year of closing down its embassies and consulates.





PEOPLE ARE USING AI TO TALK TO
GOD

Diary Times Desk :

In India and around the world, worshipers are turning to purpose-built AI for religious worship and spiritual guidance. What happens when the machines become our new spiritual middlemen?

Faced with the questions and challenges of modern life, Vijay Meel, a 25-year-old student who lives in Rajasthan, India, turns to God. In the past he's consulted spiritual leaders. More recently, he asked GitaGPT.

GitaGPT is an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot trained on the Bhagavad Gita, the holy book of 700 verses of dialogue with the Hindu god Krishna. GitaGPT looks like any text conversation you'd have with a friend – except the AI tells you you're texting with a god.

"When I couldn't clear my banking exams, I was dejected," Meel says. But after stumbling on GitaGPT, he typed in details about his inner crisis and asked for the AI's advice. "Focus on your actions and let go of the worry for its fruit," GitaGPT said. This, along with other guidance, left Meel feeling inspired.

TRUMP URGED ZELENSKY TO CUT
DEAL WITH PUTIN OR RISK
DESTRUCTION: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump urged Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky to accept Russia's terms for ending the war between Russia and Ukraine in a White House meeting on Friday, warning that President Vladimir Putin threatened to "destroy" Ukraine if it didn't comply, the Financial Times reported on Sunday. During the meeting, Trump insisted Zelensky surrender the entire eastern Donbas region to Russia, repeatedly echoing talking points the Russian president had made in their call a day earlier, the newspaper said, citing people familiar with the matter.

Ukraine ultimately managed to swing Trump back to endorsing a freeze of the current front lines, the FT said. Trump said after the meeting that the two sides should stop the war at the battle line; Zelenskiy said that was an important point.

The White House did not immediately respond to a Reuters request for comment on the FT report. Zelensky arrived at the White House on Friday looking for weapons to keep fighting his country's war, but met an American president who appeared more intent on brokering a peace deal.

"25,000 AMERICANS WOULD'VE DIED": TRUMP AS US STRIKES 'DRUG-
CARRYING SUBMARINE'

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump said Saturday the United States was sending two suspected drug traffickers back to their native Ecuador and Colombia, after a military strike on their "drug-smuggling submarine" in the Caribbean that killed two others.

"It was my great honor to destroy a very large DRUG-CARRYING SUBMARINE that was navigating towards the United States on a well known narcotrafficking transit route," Trump said on his Truth Social platform, adding that the vessel was loaded with fentanyl and other drugs.

"Two of the terrorists were killed. The two surviving terrorists are being returned to their Countries of origin, Ecuador and Colombia, for detention and prosecution."

\$60 MILLION DIAMOND, CROWNS:
WHAT WAS IN GALLERY TARGETED IN
LOUVRE HEIST



Diary Times Desk : Authorities have yet to say what pieces were stolen from Paris' Louvre on Sunday, but here are details of some of the treasures housed in the museum gallery the thieves targeted.

Among the items displayed there are gems making up France's crown jewels, including one of the world's most valuable diamonds.

The thieves pulled up outside the Louvre on Sunday morning, on a road along the Seine river, and used an extendable ladder to break into an upper window that looks into the Galerie d'Apollon, or Apollo Gallery, authorities said.

In 1661, after a fire broke out at the Louvre, Louis XIV began works on what is now the gallery, entrusting them to architect Louis Le Vau.

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT PAKISTAN-
AFGHANISTAN CEASEFIRE, WILL IT
HOLD?

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan and Afghanistan have agreed to an "immediate ceasefire" after a week of deadly clashes along their border, as the ties between the two South Asian neighbours plunged to their lowest point since the Taliban returned to power in 2021.

Both countries agreed to stop fighting and work towards "lasting peace and stability" after peace talks in Doha, the Qatari Ministry of Foreign Affairs said on Sunday, about the deal it mediated alongside Turkiye.

Dozens of people have been killed and hundreds wounded in the worst bout of violence in recent years. The violence erupted on October 11 at multiple fronts along their 2,600km (1,600-mile) border, after Islamabad allegedly carried out strikes in Kabul and the southeastern province of Paktika against what it said were armed groups linked to attacks inside Pakistan.

So, what do we know about the truce agreement and what might come next?

US STRIKES ANOTHER
COLOMBIAN DRUG-
RUNNING BOAT, THIS TIME
A REBEL VESSEL

Diary Times Desk : The United States announced Sunday another strike against what it called a drug-running boat, this time attacking an alleged Colombian leftist rebel vessel in an apparent expansion of a US military operation off the coasts of South America.

Word of the attack from Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth came as President Donald Trump said the United States is halting financial aid to Colombia, accusing its president of condoning the production of drugs. This took embattled relations between two longstanding allies to a new low.

The United States has had warships deployed in the Caribbean off Venezuela since August and attacked at least six boats it said were running drugs toward the United States, killing at least 27 people so far.

Experts question the legality of attacking such boats in international waters without trying to intercept them or arrest the crew members and bring them to trial.

TAIWANESE AIRLINE
APOLOGISES FOR
REQUESTING SICK LEAVE
PAPERWORK FROM DEAD
EMPLOYEE

Diary Times Desk : EVA Air, a Taiwanese airline, issued an apology for asking for sick leave paperwork from a flight attendant who had died, BBC reported. The incident went viral on local social media, sparking outrage with cabin crew union members demanding reforms in leave policies.

The 34-year-old flight attendant, surnamed Sun, died on October 10 after falling ill during a flight from Milan to Taoyuan. According to reports, Sun felt unwell on September 24 during the flight and was hospitalised upon arrival. Her condition continued to worsen, but still, she was asked to provide proof of her sick leave application after her death. Some social media users, claiming to be her colleagues, alleged that she was pushed to continue working despite being ill. Notably, Taiwan's Central News Agency (CNA) reported that flight records in the last six months showed that she had flown an average of 75 hours per month, which is within regulatory limits. The family alleged that on the day of her funeral, a company's representative reportedly sent a message to her phone regarding the submission of documents for sick leave she had taken in September. Her family was forced to respond with a copy of her death certificate.





HAMAS TO ATTACK GAZA CIVILIANS? US SAYS IT HAS "CREDIBLE REPORTS"



Diary Times Desk : The US State Department on Saturday said it had "credible reports" that Palestinian armed group Hamas was planning an imminent attack against civilians in Gaza, a move Washington said would be a "ceasefire violation."

"This planned attack against Palestinian civilians would constitute a direct and grave violation of the ceasefire agreement and undermine the significant progress achieved through mediation efforts," said the State Department in a statement.

"Should Hamas proceed with this attack, measures will be taken to protect the people of Gaza and preserve the integrity of the ceasefire." The statement did not elaborate on what those measures would entail, although President Donald Trump had this week threatened Hamas over the killings of civilians.

BANGLADESH GARMENT EXPORTERS
FEAR \$1BN LOSSES AFTER HUGE
AIRPORT FIRE

Diary Times Desk : A fire that decimated a cargo complex in Bangladesh's largest airport has caused devastating losses to garment exporters during the peak export season.

The blaze – which ripped through the cargo import area of Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport on Saturday afternoon – gutted storage areas holding huge quantities of raw materials, apparel and product samples belonging to exporters.

"We have witnessed a devastating scene inside," said Faisal Samad, director of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA).

WHY ARE SUDDENLY INDIANS BEING
REMOVED FROM CANADA? THE
REASON IS...

Diary Times Desk : The number of Indian nationals being 'forcibly' removed from Canada is set to surpass the previous record of 2024.

According to a report by Hindustan Times, the removals for Indians have only swelled over the past years, especially since 2019, when it was just 625, less than a third of the numbers in 2024.

According to the data from the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA), the figure till July 28 for Indian nationals removed from Canada was already at 1,891 in 2025. The number of Indians removed from the country follows that of Mexicans, 2,678 of whom have been removed till July 28, 2025.

MASSIVE 'NO KINGS'
PROTESTS SWEEP US
CITIES, TRUMP RESPONDS
WITH "CROWN" CLIP

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has a one-line and visual response to the millions of people carrying out 'No Kings' protest across the United States against his hardline policies and "strong-arm tactics" – including attacks on the media, political opponents, and undocumented immigrants. While the Republican leader insisted that he's "not a king", he posted a series of AI-generated videos depicting himself as one.

"They're referring to me as a king. I'm not a king," he told Fox Business, adding that the Democrats could stay out of the government "forever," so that the president could continue cutting "Democrat priorities", such as welfare programs.

Hours later, he posted an AI-generated clip on his Truth Social platform in which he can be seen wearing a crown and piloting a fighter jet that drops what appears to be feces on anti-Trump protesters. Among them was Democratic activist Harry Sisson – who frequently criticises Trump.

JAPAN COALITION SET TO
BACK TAKAICHI AS FIRST
WOMAN PRIME MINISTER:
REPORTS

Diary Times Desk : Japan's governing party and the main opposition are set to form a coalition government, setting the stage for Sanae Takaichi to become the country's first female prime minister, local media report.

Sanae Takaichi, the leader of the conservative Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), and Hirofumi Yoshimura, the head of the smaller right-leaning Japan Innovation Party (JIP), known as Ishin, are set to sign an agreement on their alliance on Monday, Japan's Kyodo news agency reported on Sunday.

Takaichi became leader of the governing LDP earlier this month, but her bid to become Japan's first female premier was derailed by the collapse of her governing coalition. Since then, the LDP has been working to cobble together a different political alliance, putting her chances for the top job back on track.

"The LDP has entrusted Takaichi with handling the coalition matter, while the JIP will hold an executive board gathering in Osaka on Sunday and a plenary meeting of lawmakers the following day before giving final approval to the agreement with the LDP," Kyodo reported.

Japan's leading Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper also said that Takaichi and Yoshimura were "likely to sign a coalition agreement after talks on Monday".

WHY CROSS-BORDER TERROR HAS AFGHANISTAN AND PAKISTAN'S ADDRESS



Diary Times Desk : On September 22, Pakistan's air force bombed select villages in the country's remote Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province bordering Afghanistan. Several JF-17 jets flew over the area and dropped eight Chinese-made LS-6 precision-guided glide bombs – in an apparent bid to obliterate parts of the villages. Initial reports said at least 30 civilians, including women and children, were killed in the pre-dawn strikes that flattened multiple houses killing the inhabitants in their sleep.

The unusual attack sparked protests in the Pashtun-dominated province and raised questions.



WAR IN GAZA NOT OVER UNTIL HAMAS DISARMS: ISRAELI PM BENJAMIN NETANYAHU

Diary Times Desk : Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned on Saturday that the war in Gaza would not be over until Hamas was disarmed and the Palestinian territory demilitarised. His declaration came as Hamas's armed wing, the Ezzedine Al-Qassam Brigades, handed over the remains of two further hostages on Saturday night under a US-brokered ceasefire agreement. Netanyahu's office said late Saturday that a Red Cross team had received the remains of two hostages from Hamas and handed them to Israeli forces in Gaza, from where they would be taken to Israel to be identified.

The issue of the dead hostages still in Gaza has become a sticking point in the implementation of the first phase of the ceasefire. Israel has linked the reopening of the key Rafah crossing to the territory to the recovery of the hostages' remains.



AFGHANISTAN, PAKISTAN AGREE TO IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AFTER TALKS IN DOHA

Diary Times Desk : Afghanistan and Pakistan have agreed to an immediate ceasefire in talks mediated by Qatar and Türkiye following a week of fierce and deadly clashes along their disputed border.

Qatar's Ministry of Foreign Affairs early on Sunday said the two South Asian nations agreed to the ceasefire "and the establishment of mechanisms to consolidate lasting peace and stability between the two countries".

Doha said the two countries also agreed to hold follow-up meetings in the coming days "to ensure the sustainability of the ceasefire and verify its implementation in a reliable and sustainable manner".

Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar welcomed the deal, calling it a "first step in the right direction".

LNG TANKER ON FIRE OFF YEMEN COAST AFTER EXPLOSION

Diary Times Desk : A liquefied natural gas (LNG) tanker has caught fire in the Gulf of Aden off Yemen after an explosion, according to the UK's maritime security firm Ambrey and the European Union's naval task force.

The incident occurred on Saturday in the Gulf of Aden, about 60 nautical miles (110km) south of Ahwar, on the southern coast of Yemen, according to Ambrey.

The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO) said the vessel, identified as the MV Falcon, was "hit by an unknown projectile, resulting in a fire". "Authorities are investigating," it said.

Ambrey described the ship as a Cameroon-flagged tanker en route from Sohar, Oman, to Djibouti.

The EU's naval force Aspidos said the cause of the explosion was unclear. It added that 15 percent of the vessel was on fire, according to initial indications.

ISRAEL DETONATES HOME, ARRESTS PALESTINIANS IN OCCUPIED WEST BANK RAIDS

Diary Times Desk : The Israeli army detonated a home and arrested 10 Palestinians in military raids in the occupied West Bank on Sunday, local media and witnesses said.

The state news agency Wafa reported that Israeli forces raided dozens of homes and blew up a residential apartment in Tubas in the northern West Bank before withdrawing from the area.

A similar raid was staged in the same city on Saturday, with Israeli forces closing its southern entrance with barriers, and carrying out bulldozing operations in the city centre.

According to Kamal Bani Odeh, the director of the Palestinian Prisoner Society in Tubas, the army held several residents for field interrogation in the city.

CZECH CHECKPOINT: MAN VERSUS MACHINE AT PRAGUE AIRPORT



Diary Times Desk : "Border Control Registration": if you travel to the European Union and wider Schengen area, start getting used to the term. This is one of the extra hurdles the British awarded themselves by bravely deciding to take back control and leave the EU.

The entry-exit system (EES) means "third-country nationals" such as UK passport holders travelling to the European Union and wider Schengen area must be photographed and fingerprinted at the frontier. To do that, European countries are adding an extra hurdle ahead of the usual passport check.

The process of providing your biometrics is formally known as Border Control Registration. At many frontiers it comprises a legion of tall kiosks, generally glowing red or green, towering over travellers as they tentatively approach. These machines have been gathering dust at airports around Europe for a year or more, but are now being pressed into action.

LOUVRE MUSEUM THEFT! THIEVES STEAL CROWN JEWELS IN JUST 4 MINUTES

Diary Times Desk : In a minutes-long strike Sunday inside the world's most-visited museum, thieves rode a basket lift to the Louvre, forced a window into the Galerie d'Apollon – while tourists pressed shoulder-to-shoulder in the corridors – smashed display cases and fled with priceless Napoleonic jewels, officials said.

It was among the highest-profile museum thefts in recent memory and comes as Louvre employees have complained of worker and security understaffing.

One object was later found outside the museum, according to Culture Minister Rachida Dati. French daily Le Parisien reported it was the emerald-studded crown of Napoleon III's wife Empress Eugénie – gold, diamonds and sculpted eagles – recovered just beyond the walls, broken.

Dati called the strike the work of "professionals," describing it on TFI TV network as "a four-minute operation carried out without violence." Images from the scene showed confused tourists being steered out of the glass pyramid and adjoining courtyards as officers closed nearby streets along the Seine.





HIT-AND-RUN DRIVER CRASHES INTO BIRTHDAY PARTY, INJURING 9 KIDS IN MARYLAND

Diary Times Desk : A hit-and-run driver slammed into an outdoor birthday party in suburban Washington, DC, injuring nine kids and two adults on Saturday evening, police said.

A girl and a toddler had critical injuries from the crash in Bladensburg, Maryland, according to statements from the city's police department and the Prince George's County Fire and EMS Department.

Video of the scene posted on social media showed a white tent with its front torn off on a lawn outside a home.

Seven other kids and two adults had serious but not life-threatening injuries, officials said. The children ranged in age from 2 to 9 years old, Bladensburg Police said in a statement.



TRUMP CALLS COLOMBIA'S PETRO AN 'ILLEGAL DRUG DEALER', ANNOUNCES AN END TO US AID TO COUNTRY

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump said Sunday he would slash US funding to Colombia because the country's leader "does nothing to stop" drug production.

In a social media post, Trump referred to Colombian President Gustavo Petro as "an illegal drug dealer" who is "low rated and very unpopular." He warned that Petro "better close up" drug operations "or the United States will close them up for him, and it won't be done nicely."

The post, which came while Trump was at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, is the latest sign of friction between the United States and one of its closest allies in Latin America. In September, the Republican administration accused Colombia of failing to cooperate in the drug war, although at the time Washington issued a waiver of sanctions that would have triggered aid cuts.

ISRAEL STRIKES SOUTHERN GAZA IN TEST OF CEASEFIRE

Diary Times Desk : Israel said it struck Hamas militants in southern Gaza on Sunday after they shot at Israeli soldiers who were inside the area that is still under Israeli control, according to the conditions of the October 10 ceasefire.

Israeli aircraft and artillery struck the area, the military said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu held consultations with Israel's security heads and directed the military to take "strong action" against any ceasefire violations, but did not threaten to return to war.

Hamas said that it was not connected to any clashes in Rafah.

GOVT TRYING TO ARREST ME WITHOUT SUFFICIENT GROUND: NEPAL'S EX-PM OLI

Diary Times Desk : Nepal's deposed Prime Minister K P Sharma Oli on Sunday said the current government is trying to arrest him without sufficient ground while claiming that it is not serious in conducting the general election on March 5, 2026.

During his first interaction with editors and senior journalists in Kathmandu over a month after his ouster from power, Oli said his party, CPN-UML, will seek reinstatement of the dissolved House of Representatives.

The former PM added that the government was trying to arrest him by hook or crook, though there was no sufficient ground for the same.

PARIS' LOUVRE MUSEUM CLOSES AFTER ROBBERS FLEE WITH JEWELLERY: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : A theft occurred at the Louvre on Sunday, France's culture minister said, as the museum closed for the day while authorities investigate.

"A robbery took place this morning at the opening of the Louvre Museum," Rachida Dati wrote on X.

The Louvre said it would close "for exceptional reasons," offering no further details on the heist. No injuries were reported.

Dati said she was on site and that an investigation was underway. French daily Le Parisien reported that the criminals entered the world's most visited museum and former palace via the Seine-facing facade, where construction is underway. The report said they used a freight elevator to gain direct access to the targeted room in the Apollo Gallery.

After breaking windows, they reportedly stole "nine pieces from the jewellery collection of Napoleon and the Empress," Le Parisien said.

The Louvre has a long history of thefts and attempted robberies. The most famous was in 1911, when the Mona Lisa vanished from its frame, stolen by Vincenzo Peruggia, a former worker who hid inside the museum and walked out with the painting under his coat. It was recovered two years later in Florence — an episode that helped make Leonardo da Vinci's portrait the world's best-known artwork.

'KURTAS' FOR TWO! WATCH FRENCH EMBASSY'S HILARIOUS DIWALI DATE DILEMMA

Diary Times Desk : Diwali 2025 is causing quite a stir, with people scratching their heads over whether to celebrate on October 20 or 21. Amidst the uncertainty, the French Embassy has brought some much-needed comic relief with their hilarious take on the Diwali date confusion.

In a playful video, Embassy employees poke fun at the confusion, showcasing humorous scenarios that will leave you in stitches. From buying 'two kurtas' to 'splitting' a flower bouquet, their comedic skits add a lighthearted touch to the uncertainty. But what's behind the confusion?

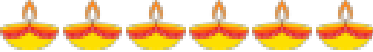
According to traditional calendars, Diwali is celebrated on 'Kartik Amavasya', which falls on October 20 this year.

However, some calendars suggest a "split Diwali," leaving people wondering which date to celebrate.

As one social media user said, "Celebrate both days. Life is to celebrate. Happy Diwali guys!" After all, Diwali is the festival of light over darkness, and a little extra celebration never hurts anyone!

So, let's take a cue from the French Embassy and laugh our way through the confusion. Happy Diwali, everyone!





HOW A COMPANY
FROM THE GILDED AGE
COULD BE THE FUTURE
OF US MANUFACTURING

Diary Times Desk :
Oversized crowbars bend wood for a piano's rim. Circular sanders smooth rough edges on costly Sitka spruce soundboards. Hammers and chisels notch a bridge to allow piano strings to vibrate freely.
For 30 years, Bernard Craddock has been one of the roughly 200 workers handcrafting pianos at the 150-year-old Steinway & Sons factory in Astoria, a neighborhood in the New York borough of Queens.
"Everybody has a specific job here," Craddock said, working on a piano frame. "My job is to set this straight for the hammers to hit the strings."
President Donald Trump has vowed to start an American manufacturing renaissance, one of the main aims of his trade war. But manufacturing isn't easy anywhere in the United States thanks to high costs, strict regulations and lack of workers with the necessary skills.

THE LATEST CHAPTER OF
THE TRUMP-XI
'SITUATIONSHIP'
EXPLAINED

Diary Times Desk :
Another spat between the leaders of the world's two largest economies has quickly escalated, and if President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping don't lower the temperature soon, both nations stand to pay an exorbitant price.

Sky-high tariffs had brought trade between the two countries to a screeching halt earlier this year, before they reached a monthslong truce and substantially lowered levies on one another.
But trade tensions have reignited, with Trump threatening to impose tariffs starting at 130% on Chinese exports by November 1, up from the 30% minimum rate currently in effect. Trump also said he's prepared to impose export controls on what he referred to as "any and all critical software" to China. Beijing has signaled it would retaliate to all these actions.
On Friday, Trump sounded confident he and Xi could resolve matters amicably, telling reporters that he intends to still meet with the Chinese leader.

CREDIT CARD REWARDS BENEFIT THE RICH THE MOST. HERE'S WHO
ACTUALLY PAYS FOR THEM

Diary Times Desk : Americans are feeling bleak about the economy. Yet, despite headwinds, high earners are still spending like mad – and credit card companies are offering more and more perks to attract them.

But some experts are worried these additional rewards for the rich are raising costs for everyone else, from merchants to customers.

"Credit card companies (are) working to serve the most affluent customers more and more," said Doug Kantor, general counsel at the trade group National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS). These companies "try to get (high earners) more rewards at everyone else's expense by pushing those costs on to everyone."

This year, both American Express and JPMorgan Chase added luxury perks to their top rewards cards. For example, the Amex Platinum Card now offers a \$200 credit for an Aura ring, while the Chase Sapphire Reserve comes with a credit of up to \$500 for high-end hotels; both cards have many other benefits like access to airport lounges.



TRUMP'S TARIFFS ARE BREWING TROUBLE FOR COFFEE ROASTERS

Diary Times Desk : The rising costs of coffee beans are keeping roasters and their customers on edge.

Retail coffee prices jumped nearly 21% in August compared to the same time last year, and the Trump administration's tariffs are partially to blame: In July, Brazil was slapped with one of the highest duties, at 50%, while Vietnam has 20% tariffs and Colombia has 10% tariffs.

America imports more than 99% of its coffee, according to the National Coffee Association. Most of it comes from Brazil – 30.7% of US coffee imports based on net weight, according to the UN Comtrade Database – Colombia (18.3%) and Vietnam (6.6%).

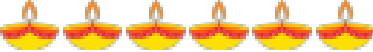
The average price of regular coffee at restaurants in August was 10 cents more than the same time last year, according to data from Toast, a restaurant management software provider. The increase brought the average price to \$3.52.



US-CHINA TRADE DISPUTE OVER A LITTLE-KNOWN DUTCH CHIPMAKER
COULD HALT CAR PRODUCTION AND SEND PRICES HIGHER

Diary Times Desk : Few car buyers have heard of Nexperia. But this Dutch company makes chips that are essential for making cars – and now, it's at the center of a trade dispute that could shutter global auto plants and send already-record-level car prices even higher.
The dispute is just one part of wider trade tensions between the United States and China. The Nexperia saga began in earnest this past December when the US Commerce Department put Nexperia's parent company, China-based Wingtech Technologies, on a list of companies facing trade restrictions.
Then, this October, China's Ministry of Commerce banned Nexperia China and its subcontractors from exporting specific finished components and sub-assemblies manufactured in China. The Dutch government took control of Nexperia following this move.
The tensions have prompted concerns of possible auto plant shutdowns, since the chips Nexperia makes are critical to the assembly of the cars and trucks in which they're installed. The fear is that the trade dispute could halt Nexperia's production of the chips, and it would be difficult to replace them.





BOEING CAN HIKE 737 MAX PRODUCTION TO 42 PLANES PER MONTH, FAA SAYS

Diary Times Desk :

Boeing can hike 737 MAX production to 42 planes per month after the Federal Aviation Administration lifted a 38-plane-per-month cap that had been in place since January 2024, the agency and planemaker said on Friday.

The FAA imposed the unprecedented production cap shortly after a 2024 mid-air emergency involving a new Alaska Airlines 737 MAX 9 that was missing four key bolts.

The announcement is a significant milestone for the U.S. planemaker, which was plunged into a safety crisis following the mid-air incident.

The FAA said on Friday its safety inspectors "conducted extensive reviews of Boeing's production lines to ensure that this small production rate increase will be done safely."

SMARTMATIC INDICTED IN FOREIGN BRIBERY CASE, POSSIBLY ENDANGERING ITS LAWSUITS AGAINST FOX NEWS AND GIULIANI

Diary Times Desk :

The Justice Department on Thursday filed foreign bribery charges against Smartmatic, the voting technology company that is suing Fox News and other prominent pro-Trump figures for defamation over their promotion of 2020 election lies.

The bribery and money laundering charges against Smartmatic arose from an existing case filed last year against some of its current and former executives, including its founder.

The indictment relates to an alleged \$1 million bribe paid to the top election official in the Philippines to secure lucrative contracts for that country's 2016 elections. The indictment doesn't include any allegations of voter fraud or election-rigging against Smartmatic.

The news could be catastrophic for Smartmatic, potentially weakening its hand in pending 2020 election-related defamation lawsuits against Fox News, the Fox News host turned US attorney Jeanine Pirro, ex-Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani and MyPillow CEO Mike Lindell.

WHY THIS ANALYST SAYS THE AI BUBBLE IS 17 TIMES BIGGER THAN THE DOT-COM BUST



Diary Times Desk : At this point, even the concept of an "AI bubble" seems to be a bubble. (In fact, Deutsche Bank analysts said last month that the "AI bubble" bubble has already burst.)

Perhaps some corners of the internet are bored of the bubble talk. That's not making the market any less, um, bubbly.

Just this week, the Financial Times wrote that 10 AI startups — not a dollar in profit among them — have gained nearly \$1 trillion in market value over the past 12 months. (That is, to use a technical term, bananas.)

Even as Wall Street analysts and tech media increasingly question the hype, drawing uneasy comparisons to the late 1990s, the AI industry's response has been to shrug and watch their valuations tick higher and higher. The AI faithful believe the technology will disrupt (in a good way, hopefully!) virtually every aspect of modern life.

MARC BENIOFF APOLOGIZES FOR SUGGESTING NATIONAL GUARD BE SENT TO SAN FRANCISCO



Diary Times Desk : Salesforce billionaire Marc Benioff backtracked on Friday from comments suggesting President Donald Trump should send the National Guard to San Francisco. The tech CEO's remarks initially drew a wave of criticism.

"Having listened closely to my fellow San Franciscans and our local officials, and after the largest and safest Dreamforce in our history, I do not believe the National Guard is needed to address safety in San Francisco," Benioff posted on X on Friday.

"My earlier comment came from an abundance of caution around the event, and I sincerely apologize for the concern it caused," he added.

The company's annual Dreamforce conference took place this week and drew tens of thousands to the city. Last week, Benioff told the New York Times that he supported Trump's deployment of federal troops into Democrat-led cities and thought it could help reduce crime in San Francisco.

"We don't have enough cops, so if they can be cops, I'm all for it," he said to the Times.

Benioff is the latest tech billionaire in the Bay Area, once a liberal bastion, to cozy up to Trump in the president's second term.

Benioff's comments sparked a swift backlash, including within his circle. The Times reported that prominent venture capitalist Ron Conway quit the Salesforce Foundation board over Benioff's Trump comments. CNN has reached out to Salesforce to confirm the departure.

The Times also reported on Thursday that Benioff's ties to Trump extended beyond support for his mobilization of the National Guard in American cities. The report cited internal documents showing Salesforce pitching itself as a tool to boost hiring for Immigration and Customs Enforcement, which seeks to ramp up deportations across the country, and suggesting how AI could help evaluate tips and improve ICE investigations.



CANADIAN PARAGLIDER

STRANDED IN
DHAULADHAR RANGES
AFTER CRASH LANDING

Diary Times Desk : A Canadian paraglider, Megan Elizabeth, has been stranded in the higher hills of the Dhauladhar ranges in Talan Jot, north of Himani Chamunda temple, for the past 24 hours after her paraglider crash landed.

The Baijnath administration has launched a rescue operation with the help of climbers and volunteers from the Bir Billing Paragliding Association (BPA).

Elizabeth, a solo flier, took off from Billing on Saturday and was supposed to land at Chogan after two hours, but she lost her route and was trapped in the high mountains near Talan Jot, north of Himani Chamunda temple, at an altitude of 14,000 feet above sea level. She spent the night in freezing temperatures, but fortunately, she had a radio set and mobile phone with her, which allowed her to inform members of the Bir Billing Paragliding Association.

5 HELD FROM
RAJASTHAN'S
JODHPUR FOR RS 68
LAKH CYBER FRAUD

Diary Times Desk : The Cyber Police Station, North Range, Dharamsala, has arrested five men from Jodhpur district of Rajasthan in connection with three cases of cyber fraud involving the siphoning of over Rs 68.85 lakh. A police team comprising Inspector Kamlesh Kumar, Sub-Inspector Amit Katoch, Sub-Inspector Vishal Patial and Sub-Inspector Anish Kumar carried out the arrests after conducting investigations in Rajasthan. A total of Rs 9.20 lakh in cash was recovered from the accused. In the first case registered under Section 420 of the IPC and Sections 66C and 66D of the IT Act on June 2, 2023, accused Khushdeep Diwakar, a resident of Maderna Colony, Jodhpur, was arrested for allegedly duping people of Rs 40 lakh. In the second case registered under Section 420 of the IPC and Section 66D of the IT Act on September 30, 2023, three alleged fraudsters--Shahrukh Khan, Ahmed Raaz, and Rahul Chaudhary, all residents of Jodhpur--were arrested for a Rs 6.60 lakh fraud.

RECORD 33 NEW CASES, FARM FIRE COUNT NEARS 250

Diary Times Desk : The state witnessed 33 stubble-burning incidents on Saturday, the highest this kharif season so far. According to official figures, 241 incidents of farm fire have been recorded in the state till now, largely attributed to the delay in the harvesting of paddy crop. Farm fires in Punjab and neighbouring Haryana are often blamed for poor air quality in the Delhi-National Capital Region during winter months. Meanwhile, the air quality was the poorest in Mandi Gobindgarh among all major cities and towns of the state. Mandi Gobindgarh's air quality index (AQI) reading touched 231, followed by Jalandhar (148), Ludhiana (116) and Patiala (101). As per the AQI standards, the air quality between 0-50 is considered 'good', 51-100 'satisfactory', 101-200 'moderate', 201-300 'poor', 301-400 'very poor', and 401-500 'severe'. According to health experts, the deterioration in air quality triggers breathing discomfort in people suffering from lung, asthma and heart issues. The second highest number of farm fires was reported on October 14, when 31 cases were witnessed. Of the fresh cases, 23 were reported from poll-bound Tarn Taran, while three were recorded in Amritsar.



SC PULLS UP STATES OVER FAILURE
TO FRAME ICU STANDARDS;
SUMMONS HEALTH OFFICIALS OF
PUNJAB, HP & CHANDIGARH

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court has summoned additional health secretaries/senior-most health department officials of states and Union Territories, including those of Punjab, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi, for failing to comply with its directions to frame uniform standards for patient safety in intensive care units (ICUs) and critical care facilities.

A Bench led by Justice A Amanullah asked the Additional Chief Secretaries or senior-most Health Department officials concerned of defaulting states/UTs to personally appear before it on November 20 – the next date of hearing – to explain the failure.

Terming it a "serious" issue, the Bench said, "In our considered opinion, it is now time for the court to take serious cognizance of such casualness shown by the States/Union Territories."

HEALTH, POLICE DEPARTMENTS
SEIZE 18 QUINTALS OF SUSPECTED
ADULTERATED SWEETS IN
FARIDKOT

Diary Times Desk : In a crackdown on food adulteration, the Health Department and police administration in Faridkot jointly raided a local sweets manufacturing unit and seized around 18 quintals and 50 kilograms (1,850 kg) of sweets suspected to be adulterated.

The raid was conducted following a tip-off received by the authorities.

According to officials, the seized stock included approximately 14.5 quintals of 'patisa', 180 kilograms of 'barfi' and about 1 quintal 20 kilograms of milk cake. All the sweets were immediately sealed on the spot and four samples were collected for laboratory testing. During the inspection, officials observed serious lapses in hygiene and cleanliness inside the unit. The preparation and storage conditions were found to be substandard, prompting authorities to issue a challan under Section 56(A) of the Food Safety Act.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

20-10-2025

Aries

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

Taurus

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

Gemini

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

Cancer

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

Leo

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

Virgo

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

Libra

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

Scorpio

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

Sagittarius

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

Capricorn

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

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.



'GOT A LATE-NIGHT
CALL...': HARYANA DGP
TURNS ACCIDENTAL
CALL BY CHILD INTO
STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN
AGAINST SCREEN
ADDICTION

Diary Times Desk : Haryana Police chief OP Singh has turned an accidental late-night call from a child into a statewide public-safety advisory, broadening the policing focus to include the growing threat of screen addiction among children.

Responding to the call, Singh personally verified the caller's well-being and briefly spoke with the family to ensure everything was fine. The director general of police posted a short account of the interaction on X on Sunday, using it to raise awareness and warn parents about excessive screen time.

Singh backed his message with an expert-led video and Hindi explainer on how constant screen exposure can harm developing brains, derail attention spans, disrupt sleep cycles, and stunt social skills — risks that often go unnoticed until grades, mood, or behaviour begin to slide.

VARIOUS EVENTS TO BE
HELD IN CITIES, VILLAGES
TILL DEC 31 TO MARK
RASHTRIYA EKTA
DIWAS: KHATTAR

Diary Times Desk : The Union Minister for Power, Housing, and Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal Khattar, said, "A series of programmes will be organised across the country for two months to strengthen national unity in celebration of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's birth anniversary."

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day) would be observed on October 31, followed by various events related to national integration continuing until December 31. Khattar shared this information during a press conference held in Karnal on Saturday. He said Padayatras would be organised in villages and cities on October 25, 26, and 27. These Padayatras, spanning 8 to 10 km, would see participation from a large number of people and youth, spreading the message of national unity.

ON DIWALI EVE, HARYANA HIKES SUGARCANE RATES FROM RS 400 TO RS 415 PER
QUINTAL

Diary Times Desk : The Haryana government on Sunday said it has announced a bonanza for sugarcane farmers on the eve of Diwali with a hike in rates for their crops up to Rs 415 per quintal.

Chief Minister Nayab Saini announced a gift to sugarcane farmers on Diwali, an official statement said, adding that the state government has decided to provide farmers with the highest sugarcane rates in the country.

The rate for early varieties has been increased from Rs 400 per quintal to Rs 415 per quintal, while the price for late varieties has been increased from Rs 393 per quintal to Rs 408 per quintal, it said. "With this significant decision, the Haryana government has taken a historic step by offering the highest sugarcane price in the country -- a major move aimed at enhancing farmers' income and ensuring their economic prosperity," an official statement said.



HARYANA POLICE CONSTABLE RUN
OVER BY TRUCK AT CHECKPOINT IN
PANCHKULA

Diary Times Desk : A Haryana Police constable was killed after being run over by a truck at a checkpoint here, an official said on Sunday.

The truck driver fled from the spot after breaking the police barricade, but was later nabbed, the official added.

According to the police, constable Deepak was on duty at the checkpoint when the incident took place around 11 pm on Saturday.

A 'naka' point near the Chandimandir toll plaza had been set up to check drunken driving.

"A speeding truck broke through a barricade and crushed Deepak, while the driver fled from the scene," the official said.

The truck driver was arrested near ITBP Bhanu, he said, adding that the accused has been subjected to a drug test and further investigation is underway.

STOP PADDY, RICE-LADEN
TRUCKS COMING FROM UP TO
STATE: GURNAM CHARUNI TO
FARMERS

Diary Times Desk : Accusing rice millers of purchasing paddy and rice at cheaper rates from Uttar Pradesh (UP) and stocking in their mills to adjust against proxy procurement, the Bhartiya Kisan Union (Charuni) has called upon farmers to stop paddy and rice-laden trucks entering Haryana from the bordering state. The BKU (Charuni) spokesman, Rakesh Bains, said, "Paddy and rice from other states are purchased at cheaper rates and then adjusted against proxy procurement with the help of bogus registrations on Meri Fasal Mera Byora (MFMB) portal and generating gate passes of the stock. The government is not taking adequate steps. A large number of trucks from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar are reaching Haryana daily. Farmers have started catching these trucks and handing over these vehicles to the administration for action." Union chief Gurnam Singh Charuni said, "We have been receiving complaints that hundreds of trucks laden with rice and paddy are entering Haryana daily from Uttar Pradesh. Due to the influx, paddy farmers from Haryana are suffering losses."

KHATTAR DISMISSES OPPN'S 'DUMMY CM' JIBE AGAINST SAINI, SAYS BJP
CULTURE DIFFERENT

Diary Times Desk : Reacting on two recent suicides of police officials, including IPS Y Puran Kumar and ASI Sandeep Lathar, the Union Minister for Power, Housing and Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal Khattar, described the incidents as "extremely unfortunate", saying that "two families have lost responsible citizens".

He expressed concern over some people attempting to politicise these incidents, saying, "Politics should not be done over such sensitive matters — this is my humble appeal." He also cautioned against giving the issue a caste-based colour, clarifying that "if there is one common factor to discuss, it is corruption."

Khattar was in the city on Saturday. Earlier, he met sanitation workers at the PWD Rest House and people of his constituency to listen to their issues. He extended Diwali wishes to them. Later, he met party workers at the BJP's district office and wished them Happy Diwali.

While interacting with mediapersons, he said awareness among people regarding corruption had increased significantly.





Here's The History Of The Term
Often Associated With Far-Right

A nine-letter social media post was all it took for the Department of Homeland Security to spark a torrent of backlash online this week, drawing the ire of politicians and prompting comparisons to Europe's far right.

On Tuesday afternoon, DHS posted a declaration on X for immigrants to "remigrate," threading a link to the agency's self-deportation app.

At first glance, the post could be seen as a straightforward reference to the Trump administration's long-standing immigration policies, which have called for immigrants to "voluntarily self-deport" back to their home countries.

But experts who study and monitor extremism and the far right told CNN they'd urge caution when invoking the word, which has historic roots, including Nazi ideology and, more recently, a violent conspiracy theory that's inspired terrorist attacks in the US and abroad.

A brief, dark history of a loaded word

Extremism expert Cynthia Miller-Idriss was researching Nazi iconography for her 2019 book when she said she came across an image that made her pause.

The picture – emblazoned on a T-shirt – showed Jewish people being loaded onto a ship bound for Madagascar. It was captioned, "Have a nice trip," she said.

And it was a reference to the Nazis' "Madagascar Plan."

In the late 1930s, "before the concentration camps and gas chambers ... there was a solution to remigrate Jews to Madagascar," Miller-Idriss explained.

Indeed, Adolf Hitler weighed multiple remigration policies and other antisemitic proposals before arriving at his final, devastating solution to the "Jewish Question" – the Holocaust.

And although the world vowed "never again," Miller-Idriss said decades later, neo-Nazis were proudly wearing references to the antisemitic remigration proposal on T-shirts.

Remigration is "this idea that you should send people 'who don't belong in this country' to another place," Miller-Idriss said.

While remigration isn't often used in daily conversation, Miller-Idriss told CNN in recent years the concept has found a champion in a new far-right conspiracy: The Great Replacement Theory.

The far right believes "any particular state that has a White majority population that wants to retain it – or restore it – you would have to get rid of people of color," Miller-Idriss said.

"And you either do that violently ... or by remigrating them."

A dubious solution to a racist conspiracy

Although many have likely never heard of the replacement theory, we've all lived through its violent consequences.



Chelsea Bailey
"Italy is the Texas and California of the United States, in terms of irregular migration, and the Mediterranean Sea is the Rio Grande," Latza Nadeau said.

Dig Up Dirt On Accuser

POLICE LOOKING INTO WHETHER PRINCE ANDREW ENLISTED OFFICER

Palestinian forensic experts are working to identify 120 bodies returned to Gaza by Israel marked only with numbers, some of whom were blindfolded, bound at the hands and feet, or bearing gunshot wounds.

Under the ceasefire agreement reached with Hamas last week, Israel agreed to transfer the bodies of what it called 360 "Gazan terrorists" into the enclave. Israel hasn't provided any information about their identities or how they died.



Rebecca Cairns
Andrew was widely criticized for failing to show empathy for Epstein's victims and for offering unbelievable explanations for his friendship with the disgraced financier.



Andrew in 2022 reached an out-of-court settlement with Giuffre after she filed a civil suit against him in New York. While he didn't admit wrongdoing, Andrew did acknowledge Giuffre's suffering as a victim of sex trafficking.

The base has been used by Israel as a detention center, where a number of cases of abuse of Palestinian detainees had been reported during the war in Gaza.

After the October 7 attacks, Israeli first responders were overwhelmed by the number of bodies found across multiple attack sites.

At that time, members of the ZAKA, an Israeli volunteer search and rescue organization that was called in to recover the bodies near the Israel-Gaza perimeter, told CNN that the victims were taken to the Shura Army Base, while remains of the attackers were stored at a different base in the Negev desert. Doctors at the forensic department at Gaza's Nasser Hospital described to CNN the state they found the bodies that were handed over this week, saying they showed "signs of abuse and torture."

"Each martyr is given a number, and all martyrs are bound at the hands and feet. Some are blindfolded, and there are signs of gunshot wounds," the doctors said.

The health ministry official said the bodies had broken bones and looked like they had been "crushed by heavy vehicles."

CNN has seen photographs, including closeup shots, of some of the bodies. Zip ties, blindfolds, and gunshot wounds are clearly visible on some of them.

INFA

Many were militants who went on to kill 1,200 people and kidnap 251 others, mostly civilians, in communities across southern Israel. Others were ordinary Gazans who crossed into Israel but didn't participate in the attacks.

The unidentified remains were handed over by Israel to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), which then delivered them to the Nasser Medical Complex in Khan Younis, Gaza, where forensic experts began examining them.

An official from the Ministry of Health in Gaza told CNN each of the bodies had a document that indicated they were, at some point, held at Sde Teiman, a military base in the Negev desert, and that DNA tests had been performed on them there.

‘Brander In Chief’
TRUMP PUTS HIS MARK ON THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

P resident Donald Trump made his money by slapping his name on hotels and products. Now he's doing the same thing to the US government.

There's TrumpRx, a website for prescription drugs. The Trump Gold Card, a high-dollar ticket to citizenship. A Trump coin. A Trump fighter jet.

Beginning with his decadeslong career in real estate, Trump has been deeply attuned to branding and marketing — capturing the public's attention in simple but memorable ways.

In his second term as president, Trump and his team have built upon that skill with a sophisticated operation — the federal government now utilizing the lessons learned at the Trump Organization. And the president has been hands-on, treating his administration like a business to be promoted — a precedent that could be adopted by future campaigns and administrations on both sides of the aisle, but that has raised concerns about the commoditization of the White House.

Trump's most significant marketing effort in his political career has been MAGA: "Make America Great Again," a tagline for his 2016 campaign adopted



Betsy Klein
Trump has also called on US military officials to develop a "Golden Dome" defense system, a riff on Israel's Iron Dome.

from a 1980 Ronald Reagan slogan. MAGA has subsequently become the signifier of a much broader political movement — spawning not just hats and T-shirts, but a rallying call and identity.

"What Trump understands is how to capture attention. That is his master stroke," said Camille Moore, a branding expert and influencer.

"He understands that simplicity and repetition create stickiness. 'Make America Great Again' triggers aspirational feelings. These are very simple concepts that anybody can get behind, and that's what the best branding is based on," said Moore, who has worked with companies including Saks Fifth Avenue, Netflix and L'Oréal.

Trump and his team have sought to take that success beyond the Oval Office. There are the visual manifestations: a proposed commemorative \$1 coin featuring the president's likeness, a draft of which has been confirmed by the US Treasury. It's not clear whether the design will be minted, since it's against US law to display the image of a sitting president or living former president on a coin.

Tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars have been spent on

banners with portraits of Trump hung atop three federal buildings in Washington, DC, according to a report from Democratic Sen. Adam Schiff of California.

There are branded products, services and spaces: The president recently unveiled TrumpRx, a direct-to-consumer website for discounted drugs set to launch early next year.

The name, one White House official said, was the result of a brainstorming session and an effort to reflect Trump's personal involvement.

"He was not involved in picking the name, but it was not a difficult one to land on. We thought it had a catchy element to it," Dr. Mehmet Oz, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services administrator, said in the Oval Office earlier this month.





COLLECTING GUIDE: 7 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT DELFTWARE

Diary Times Desk : When thinking of the Netherlands, one of the first images that comes to mind is the blue and white pottery known as Delftware. To achieve the effect of Asian porcelain, earthenware is covered in a white tin glaze, producing a solid light background for designs to be added. The style spread rapidly across Europe during the 17th and 18th centuries — it remains highly sought after there and has become a mainstay of great American collections, like that of patron and philanthropist Ann Getty. Ahead, discover the most important aspects of this decorative collecting category, sure to bring charm and timelessness to any interior.

Delftware was a response to the craze for Chinese blue and white porcelain

While Delft potters certainly existed during the 16th century, their creations surged in popularity in the years that followed. When Chinese porcelain came into the Netherlands via the Dutch East India Company, Delft imitations became a more cost-effective means to achieve similar designs. As unrest grew in China during the mid-17th century, blue and white wares were harder to come by, so Dutch potters met the demand, and the Delft market exploded.

Delftware isn't just blue and white

While Delftware is most commonly associated with the blue and white colour combination, its chromatic possibilities are endless. In addition to Asian porcelain, Italian maiolica — a coloured earthenware pottery dating back to the Renaissance — was a key inspiration for Delftware, hence the polychrome varieties that also flooded the market.

Delftware was beloved by aristocrats and nobles across Europe

By the 18th century, Delftware — especially imposing tulipieres — was a frequent fixture in grand homes across the United Kingdom and continental Europe. Amongst its key admirers was Queen Mary II who displayed it at Hampton Court, her royal palace in England, and Het Loo Palace, her summer residence in Apeldoorn, Netherlands.

Pieces range from small figures to elaborate tulipieres

Delft manufacturers produced a vast spectrum of styles, ranging from modest tiles to painting-like plaques and opulent tulipieres, designed to grow bulb flowers like tulips and hyacinths indoors. Contrary to popular belief, tulipieres became fashionable during the 1680s, about half a century after the 'Tulip mania' phenomenon swept through the Netherlands. Also highly covetable are puzzle jugs and large garnitures of vases.



MASTERS OF THE AVANT-GARDE: FIVE ARTISTS WHO REWROTE THE RULES

Diary Times Desk : Jannis Kounellis, Sans titre, 1959

Jannis Kounellis was born in Piraeus, Greece, in 1936. Aged 20, he moved to Rome, to study at the Accademia di Belle Arti. By 1967, he was a key member of the burgeoning Arte Povera movement, known for its use of found materials. Newspaper, road signs, burlap, bed frames, earth and even live animals would be incorporated into his paintings, sculptures, collages and installations.

It was some years previously, in the late 1950s and early 1960s, that Kounellis — then a young, unknown graduate — produced his first influential body of work: the Alfabeti (Alphabet paintings).

The series consists of large, monochrome canvases covered with a seemingly random assortment of letters, numbers and arrows painted in black enamel. 'Kounellis's radical idea was to try to liberate symbols from their traditional roles,' says Renato Pennisi, an international specialist in Christie's Post-War and Contemporary Art department. 'He wanted to see if he could strip them of their contexts and meaning. He turned them into non-conforming structures, icons detached from reality. It was a groundbreaking idea.'

The two-metre-wide Sans titre is an important early work from this series, made in 1959. It was purchased from the artist in the late 1970s, and has remained in the same private Italian collection for half a century. Other Alfabeti paintings hang in the permanent collections of MoMA in New York, the Tate in London, the Centre Pompidou in Paris, and Rome's Galleria Nazionale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea.

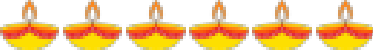
Alberto Giacometti, Femme debout, 1961-62

Femme debout (1961-62) by Alberto Giacometti is 'an exciting rediscovery that hasn't been seen in public for more than half a century, since the current owner purchased it at auction,' says Valérie Didier, head of Christie's Impressionist and Modern Art department in Paris.

Standing 80 centimetres high, the bronze represents one of the artist's most powerful and iconic motifs: the monumental female nude — also the subject of what was arguably his most famous project, Femmes de Venise.

In 1956, Giacometti exhibited a group of nude female torsos at the 28th Venice Biennale. The works were greatly admired, and the female figure became a major feature of the final period of the artist's career.





LAPORTA DEFENDS MIAMI PLAN AND STRESSES BARCELONA WILL GAIN FINANCIALLY – ‘WE WILL BE THE BIGGEST BENEFICIARIES’



Diary Times Desk : FC Barcelona president Joan Laporta has addressed the controversy surrounding the Villarreal-Barcelona match held in Miami, a decision that sparked significant backlash from players and other La Liga teams.

Despite the criticism, Laporta defended the move, highlighting the financial and promotional benefits for the club.

While speaking during the General Assembly, he said, “We are not enthusiastic about the Miami issue, but we have to be involved in everything.

“The limits are set by the football management and Hansi Flick. Playing the Super Cup in Jeddah is profitable for the club.

“It gives us the pleasure of bringing in money, just like in Miami. Money will be made in Miami. Villarreal and Barça will be the biggest beneficiaries.

BARCELONA FORWARD TO MISS OLYMPIACOS CLASH AS FOCUS REMAINS ON EL CLASICO RETURN

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona will have to make do without Raphinha for their midweek UEFA Champions League clash against Olympiacos, journalist Helena Condis (h/t FCB World) has confirmed.

The Brazilian winger, who has been recovering from a muscle injury, is still not ready to return to full training and will instead continue his recovery plan with the clear goal of being fit for El Clasico.

Earlier today, we reported that both Raphinha and Ferran Torres had taken part in individual training sessions at the Ciutat Esportiva, raising doubts about their availability for Tuesday’s game.

While there remains cautious optimism that Ferran might feature in some capacity, the club has decided not to take any risks with Raphinha. The focus is now firmly on ensuring that he returns at full strength for the meeting with Real Madrid later this month. The medical team is pleased with how his body has responded to the tailored recovery schedule. In training, he has been working specifically on acceleration, changes of direction, and striking technique.

BARCELONA SUPERSTAR DUO STILL TRAINING AWAY FROM THE GROUP; DOUBT FOR OLYMPIACOS TIE

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona are carefully managing the recovery of Ferran Torres and Raphinha as the countdown to El Clasico intensifies.

With just one week to go before the showdown with Real Madrid, Alex Pintanel reports that both players are still training away from the group as they completed individual sessions at the Ciutat Esportiva to accelerate their return.

Right now, the focus is to be fit and available for the El Clasico, and if all goes well, they will undergo final tests later in the week.

As a result of this event, it is almost certain that neither will feature in Tuesday’s Champions League fixture against Olympiacos.

More bad news for Barcelona
Ferran is dealing with a hamstring strain in his left leg. Thankfully, it is not a structural injury, and Barcelona’s medical staff has designed a specific plan to manage his minutes.

This means that with careful monitoring, he remains a candidate for league action.

BARCELONA TREASURER ASSURES CLUB’S FINANCES ARE UNDER CONTROL – ‘WE’RE NOT A SICK PATIENT’

Diary Times Desk : FC Barcelona treasurer Ferran Olive has reaffirmed that Barça Licensing and Merchandising (BLM) is not for sale, putting an end to the recurring speculation surrounding the matter.

Speaking during the Ordinary General Assembly, Olive made it clear that the club’s board of directors has never considered selling any percentage of the merchandising division, which continues to be one of Barcelona’s key sources of revenue.

The statement came after President Joan Laporta’s opening remarks, followed by the assembly’s approval of the club’s financial statements for the 2024–25 financial year.

Defending the finances
Despite recording overall losses of €17 million due to extraordinary factors, the club posted an ordinary profit of €2 million.

When he took the stage, Olive defended the figures, noting that the auditor had not issued any reservations in the report.

He used an interesting analogy to describe the club’s financial condition, saying, “Economically speaking, we do not have a sick patient today. Barça is a gentleman who is at home living a normal life.”

However, he followed that with a note of caution. “But we have to be careful. We have to keep an eye on sports spending.

“Sometimes great sporting successes come with great economic defeats,” he added, warning that the wage bill must remain under control to avoid past mistakes.

BARCELONA YOUTH TEAM STAR HAS GONE FROM BEING AN OPTION TO AN INDISPENSABLE FIGURE

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona are discovering just how valuable Fermin Lopez is this season.

With Dani Olmo and Raphinha sidelined through injury, the La Masia graduate has become a crucial figure for Hansi Flick.

Just months ago, there were doubts about his future at the club, but now he is proving indispensable.

In yesterday’s match against Girona, Fermin returned from a muscle injury and immediately made his presence felt.

Substituted on at half-time for Toni Fernandez, he displayed the aggression and creativity that define his game.

He came close to scoring multiple times, showing Barcelona fans why he could have been a key player all along.



LAPORTA REVEALS BARCELONA NEARLY MISSED UCL SPOT DUE TO FINANCIAL ISSUES THIS SEASON

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona have come a long way from where they were under the presidency of Josep Maria Bartomeu, the man who took the club’s finances to an all-time low and left the club sinking in debt. A series of economic levers, contract renegotiations, and smart transfer manoeuvres have helped them get past the worst, although they are still not at the financial 1:1 rule – something Joan Laporta has set as a target for the foreseeable future. The road to getting to where the club is, however, has been anything but easy. After all, Barcelona have not only had to put up with La Liga’s strict regulation enforcements and struggle