

NEWS IN BRIEF

TWO-WHEELER SKID KILLED RIDER MOMENTS BEFORE BUS RAN OVER IT IN ANDHRA'S KURNOOL: POLICE

Diary Times Desk : The police on Saturday said the two-wheeler involved in the bus accident in Kurnool district had earlier met with an accident, leading to the instantaneous death of its rider.

Kurnool district Superintendent of Police Vikrant Patil said Siva Shankar died on the spot after his two-wheeler skidded on the road and he hit the divider, moments before the bus ran over the vehicle. However, the pillion rider, Erri Swamy, survived with minor injuries, Patil added. "While approaching Chinna Tekuru village, the two-wheeler skidded, and Siva Shankar fell to his right, hitting the divider. He died on the spot, but pillion rider Erri Swamy survived with minor injuries," Patil said in a press release.

SC TO EXAMINE IF WOMAN CAN BE PROSECUTED UNDER POCSO ACT FOR SEXUALLY ASSAULTING MINOR BOY

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court has decided to examine if provisions of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012 have gender neutral application and if a woman can be prosecuted under POCSO Act for sexually assaulting a minor boy.

Acting on a petition filed by a woman accused of sexually assaulting a minor boy, a Bench of Justice MM Sundresh and Justice Satish Chandra Sharma issued notice to the Karnataka Government and stayed the criminal proceedings against her under the POCSO Act before the trial court.

The accused, Archana Patil, has challenged the applicability of provisions of the POCSO Act to prosecute a woman as an accused.

The order came after senior counsel Siddharth Luthra submitted on behalf of the petitioner that Sections 3(1)(a) to 3(1)(c) of the POCSO Act, 2012 being gender-specific, had no application to her case.

DISASTER READINESS MODEL

Depression is a weather condition followed by a low-pressure area and preceded by a cyclonic storm, a scientist at IMD at Bhubaneswar Centre said.

"It is likely to move nearly west-northwestwards, intensify into a deep depression by October 26 and into a cyclonic storm over southwest and adjoining west central Bay of Bengal by October 27 morning," it said, adding that thereafter, it is likely to move north-westwards, then north-northwestwards and intensify into a severe cyclonic storm by morning of October 28. "Continuing to move north-northwestwards, it is very likely to cross the Andhra Pradesh coast between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam around Kakinada during evening/night of October 28 as a severe cyclonic storm with a maximum sustained wind speed of 110 kmph," IMD said. Though the system will not have direct impact on the state, a portion of South Odisha remains within the "cone of uncertainty", with the possibility of heavy rainfall and strong winds in some districts.

According to Dr Manorama Mohanty, the director of Meteorological Centre, Bhubaneswar, IMD has issued red warning of rains and wind in certain districts of southern and coastal districts on October 28 and 29.

While red alert (rainfall of 20 cm and above) has been issued for the districts of Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada, Koraput and Malkangiri, Orange warning of heavy to very heavy rainfall of 12 cm to 20 cm has been issued for the districts of Puri, Khurda, Nayagarh, Kandhamal, Kalahandi and Nabarangpur on October 28.

TECHIE NAMED BY MAHARASHTRA DOCTOR IN SUICIDE NOTE HELD FROM PUNE, SENT TO 4-DAY POLICE CUSTODY

Diary Times Desk : Police on Saturday arrested a software engineer in connection with the alleged suicide of a 28-year-old woman doctor in Maharashtra's Satara district, an official said.

A team from the Phaltan police arrested Prashant Bankar, one of the two men the doctor had named in a suicide note written on her palm, from Pune, around 125km from Satara, in the morning, he said.

Bankar, accused of mentally harassing the victim and now facing abetment of suicide charge, was later produced before a Satara district court which sent him to police custody for four days, according to the official.

The doctor, hailing from the Beed district in the Marathwada region of central Maharashtra and posted at a government hospital in the Satara district, was found hanging in a hotel room in Phaltan town on Thursday night.

In the suicide note written on her palm, she alleged that Sub-Inspector Gopal Badane raped her on multiple occasions, while Bankar, a software engineer, mentally harassed her.

A case of rape and abetment of suicide was registered against the duo in Phaltan in the Satara district.

According to the police, Bankar is the son of the landlord of the house where the doctor resided.

She had allegedly called him over the phone and chatted with him before ending her life, they said.

**TENSION FLARES IN ALIGARH AFTER RELIGIOUS SLOGANS ALLEGEDLY FOUND WRITTEN ON WALLS OF FOUR TEMPLES**

Diary Times Desk : Tension gripped two villages of Aligarh, prompting protests by locals and members of the Karni Sena, as religious slogans were allegedly found written on the walls of four temples in Bulakgadh and Bhagwanpur villages on Saturday. As per Police sources, an FIR was lodged and investigation was underway to verify the allegations.

Slogans were written at four different locations, and the police promptly removed them to maintain peace and prevent any disturbance to law and order. However, the protestors demanded immediate action against the culprits.

As per Circle Officer (CO) Sanjeev Kumar, the slogans were written at four different locations, and the situation in the area was now under control. Soon after the news spread, members of the Karni Sena reached Bhagwanpur and created a ruckus, alleging that the act was a deliberate attempt to disturb communal harmony in the area.

Based on a complaint by Gyanendra Singh Chauhan, national vice-president of Karni Sena, police registered the case against seven people under BNS Sections 299 (deliberate and malicious acts, intended to outrage religious feelings of any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and 351 (criminal intimidation) at Lodha police station in Aligarh.

According to police sources, all the accused except one are residents of Bhagwanpur village. No one has been arrested so far.

INDORE SHOCKER: 2 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WORLD CUP CRICKETERS 'STALKED', 'MOLESTED'; SUSPECT ARRESTED

Diary Times Desk : Two Australian women cricketers, taking part in the ICC Women's Cricket World Cup, were allegedly stalked, and one of them was molested by a motorcycle-borne man in Madhya Pradesh's Indore, police said on Saturday.

The police on Friday arrested the man involved in the incident that occurred on the Khajrana Road area, on Thursday morning, an official said.

Sub-Inspector Nidhi Raghuvanshi said that the two cricketers had stepped out of their hotel and were walking towards a cafe when a man on a motorcycle started following them. He allegedly touched one of them inappropriately and rode off, she said.

The duo contacted their team security officer, Danny Simmons, who coordinated with local security liaison officers and dispatched a vehicle for assistance.

On receiving information, Assistant Commissioner of Police Himani Mishra met the two players, recorded their statements and registered a first information report under Section 74 (use of criminal force to outrage a woman's modesty) and 78 (stalking) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) at the MIG police station.

The official said that a bystander noted the vehicle number, based on which the accused, Akil Khan, was apprehended. "Khan has prior criminal cases registered against him, and an investigation is on in the case," she added.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF CITIZENS (NRC)

LEFT-LEANING RIGHTS GROUPS RALLY IN KOLKATA AGAINST ALLEGED BID TO INTRODUCE NRC THROUGH SIR

Diary Times Desk : Hundreds of people from rights and civil society groups protested on Saturday against what they alleged is a plan to introduce the National Register of Citizens (NRC) through Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in West Bengal ahead of the 2026 Assembly election.

The rally from College Square to Esplanade was called by left-leaning civil society groups, including APDR, No NRC Movement, Sangrami Shramik Manch, among others.

Speaking on behalf of the organisers, Ranjit Sur said, "While we support an error-free voter list, we have a hunch that despite updating the rolls multiple times, the current move to undertake SIR is aimed at collecting data that could be used to roll out NRC. This goes against the spirit of the Indian justice system, and the Election Commission has no right to undertake such an exercise."

"We can't comprehend why a citizen has to mandatorily refer to his parents' birth date and place of birth details with documentary evidence if that is not included in the voter ID," he said.

"In a country of poor and semi-literate people, this is impractical and could effectively deny citizenship rights to genuine citizens who cannot produce the required documents or alternatives like passports," he added.

DELHI-BOUND AIR INDIA AIRCRAFT SUFFERS BIRD-HIT, RETURNS TO NAGPUR

Diary Times Desk : An Air India plane en route to the National Capital suffered a bird-hit shortly after take-off on Friday and returned to Nagpur.

The aircraft landed safely, the airline said in a statement on Saturday.

Details about the number of passengers and the type of aircraft could not be immediately ascertained.

"Flight AI466, operating from Nagpur to Delhi, on 24 October, experienced a bird-hit shortly after take-off.

The crew decided to return to Nagpur as a precautionary measure, as per standard operating procedure, for inspection of the aircraft," Air India said.

The airline said that after landing safely, the aircraft underwent maintenance checks, which required extended time for rectification, resulting in the cancellation of the flight.

DRUG-ADDICT COUPLE IN PUNJAB'S MANSA SELLS 5-MONTH-OLD SON FOR RS 1.8 LAKH

'WE DON'T DO DEALS WITH A GUN TO OUR HEAD': PIYUSH GOYAL ON INDIA-US TRADE TALKS



Diary Times Desk : A drug-addict couple from Akbarpur Khudal village in the Budhlada subdivision of Punjab's Mansa district allegedly sold their five-month-old son to a family in Budhlada town for Rs 1.8 lakh to "fund their addiction".

The case came to light after the child's maternal aunt approached the police, seeking help to reunite the infant with his biological parents.

Sources said the child's 19-year-old mother was once a state-level wrestler, but her husband's addiction pushed the family into despair. Over time, she too got hooked to drugs. The couple, who met on Instagram, now live in penury, with a makeshift kitchen set up on the floor of their house's verandah.

Diary Times Desk : India will not enter into trade agreements hastily or under pressure, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal stated on Friday. He noted that such pacts must be based on long-term interests, trust, and mutual benefit rather than arbitrary deadlines.

Speaking at the Berlin Global Dialogue, Goyal said India is actively negotiating trade agreements with several nations and regions, including the European Union (EU) and the United States, but will continue to adopt a measured and strategic approach.

"We are in active dialogue with the EU. We are talking to the US, but we do not do deals in a hurry and we do not do deals with deadlines or with a gun to our head," Goyal said during the discussion.

DEVOTIONAL CHHATH SONG FILLS SHIMLA STATION WITH FESTIVE SPIRIT

BENGALURU POTHOLE CLAIMS ANOTHER LIFE, 26-YEAR-OLD BANKER RUN OVER BY TRUCK

Diary Times Desk : The atmosphere of Shimla Railway Station is lively and emotional today as a melodious note echoes through the premises, "Kanch hi baans ke bahangiya." This soulful Chhath song, sung by the legendary Sharda Sinha, fills the air with devotion and the charm of Indian folk music. People are returning to their home to celebrate the festival with their families and this song playing at the platform make their journey more memorable and joyful.

The railways' initiative has not only captivated passengers but has also turned into a heartwarming experience for those heading back home.

Chhath Puja is an important and highly revered festival in Hinduism, celebrated to worship Sun God and Chhathi Maiya. The festival begins today with Nahay Khay. It is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion, especially in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and other parts of eastern India.

Social media users have filled the comment box praising the Indian Railways for playing the Chhath song at the railway station. On the other end, some users are remembering Late Sharda Sinha.

One user commented, "In the valleys of Devbhoomi Himachal, the heart was filled with devotion after listening to the touching Chhath song of Padma Vibhushan Sharda Sinha. Jai Chhathi Maiyaan."

CHHATH PUJA 2025: SIGNIFICANCE AND RITUALS OF NAHAY KHAY



Diary Times Desk : Chhath Puja is an important and highly revered festival in Hinduism, celebrated to worship Lord Surya (Sun God) and Chhathi Maiya. It is celebrated with great enthusiasm and devotion, especially in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and other parts of eastern India. It is also known by the names Surya Shashthi, Daala Chhath, Chhathi Mai Puja, and Pratihara.

In 2025, Chhath Puja begins on Saturday, October 25, and will end on Tuesday, October 28.

The first day, known as Nahay-Khay, marks the beginning of Chhath Puja and emphasises purity, cleanliness, and self-discipline. On this day, devotees focus on purifying their bodies and minds to prepare for the arduous fast and rituals ahead. Bathing in rivers or ponds, is considered auspicious, and those who cannot do so can bathe at home with Ganga water.

Diary Times Desk : A 26-year-old banker working in Bengaluru died on Friday after she was run over by a truck while travelling in a two-wheeler with her brother near the Hoskuru road. Priyanka Kumari Poonia was working with the UK-based OneSavings Bank Group in the city.

Priyanka's brother Naresh Kumar Poonia was driving the motorcycle, and she was seated behind.

How Did The Accident Happen?

Speaking with NDTV, Naresh said he applied an urgent brake to his motorcycle after a car in front of him slowed down due to a pothole on the road.

"As usual, I used to leave my sister at the Madavara Metro Station every day. I don't know what happened yesterday. A car in front of us stopped due to a pothole in the road. I had to brake (my motorcycle) and I was not able to comprehend what to do there. My sister (Priyanka) died on the spot," Naresh said.

2 TRIBAL MINORS GANG RAPED IN ODISHA, 3 SUSPECTS IN CUSTODY

Diary Times Desk : Two tribal girls were allegedly gang-raped by five men in Odisha's Mayurbhanj district when they were returning home along with their friends, police said on Saturday.

The incident happened on Wednesday night but came to light after a complaint was lodged by their parents at the Rasgovindpur police station on Friday, they said.

The girls, aged 13 and 14, had gone to a nearby village along with two boys to see a 'jatra' or theatre. While returning home, some young men intercepted their motorcycle and took the girls away after assaulting their friends, police said.

The girls, who are students of classes 8 and 9, were allegedly raped by the five men, they added.

Police said three persons have been detained in connection with the incident, while a search is underway for the two others.

A case was lodged under various sections of the BNS and the POCSO (Protection of Children from Sexual Offences) Act.

The opposition BJD claimed that in the last 16 months, over 5,000 women have been raped in Odisha.

"The horrifying statistic reflects the deteriorating condition of women under the present BJP government in the state," BJD spokesperson Lenin Mohanty said.



MAN TRIES TO STAB HIM,
UNARMED SENIOR COP
GRABS COLLEAGUE'S GUN
AND FIRES

Diary Times Desk : A police officer shot at a man during a chase at the Victoria playground in Hyderabad on Saturday. According to initial reports, the Deputy Commissioner of Police (South East Zone), S Chaitanya Kumar, and his colleague were pursuing a man suspected of cell phone theft when the incident occurred. In an attempt to arrest the man, the gunman fell, and the suspect allegedly tried to stab the unarmed DCP. In response, the DCP grabbed the gunman's weapon and fired three rounds at the thief. The injured suspect was immediately taken to a hospital.

AIR QUALITY IN DELHI
IMPROVES BUT REMAINS
UNDER "POOR" CATEGORY



Diary Times Desk : The Air Quality Index (AQI) in the national capital improved on Saturday morning but remained under the "poor" category, with Stage II of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) already in effect across Delhi-NCR. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the overall Air Quality Index (AQI) in the national capital stood at 259 as of 8 am today. In south-west Delhi, the AQI in RK Puram remained at 265, while Patparganj recorded 263, both classified as "poor." However, Anand Vihar in east Delhi recorded an AQI of 412, placing it in the 'severe' category. Truck-mounted water sprinklers were deployed on Janpath Road to tackle the high levels of particulate matter, as air quality in several areas remained largely in the 'very poor' range. Other areas of concern included Bawana, where the AQI was recorded at 336, classified as 'very poor,' and ITO, which registered an AQI of 248. Dwarka recorded a comparatively lower AQI of 276, still within the 'poor' range, highlighting the uneven distribution of pollution across the capital. As Delhi continues to grapple with deteriorating air quality, Chief Minister Rekha Gupta on Friday said that cloud seeding has become a necessity for the national capital and termed it a pioneering step in addressing the city's persistent environmental crisis.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FAILS TO MAKE
CLEAN SWEEP IN J&K RAJYA SABHA
ELECTION, OMAR CRIES BETRAYAL



Diary Times Desk : The ruling National Conference on Friday won three of the four Rajya Sabha seats from Jammu and Kashmir, its outreach to INDIA allies failing to deliver the expected clean sweep. The BJP won the fourth seat, aided apparently by cross-voting from some INDIA members or Independents who had pledged support to the ruling party. BJP candidate Sat Sharma secured 32 votes although the party has only 28 MLAs, and no other legislator had publicly offered support to it. A fuming chief minister, Omar Abdullah, alleged sabotage by non-NC members.

AFTER BIHAR ELECTIONS,
GOVERNMENT TO HIKE PRINT
ADVERTISEMENT RATES BY 27%

Diary Times Desk : In a major development for India's print media sector, the government is set to revise advertisement rates for print media by 27 per cent after the Bihar Assembly Elections. The announcement was made by a Union Information and Broadcasting official, who said the move is part of the government's efforts to strengthen the livelihood of media professionals and support conventional media platforms. "There are a lot of changes taking place in conventional media. To protect livelihoods and encourage growth, we are introducing reforms across print, television, and the film sector. After the end of the Model Code of Conduct in Bihar, we will notify a 27 per cent increase in print media advertisement rates," the official said. This will be the first rate revision in six years. The last hike was 25 per cent in January 2019, while before that, rates were revised in 2013 with a 19 per cent increase over the 2010 structure.

IN DOCTOR SUICIDE CASE, FATHER'S DEATH PENALTY APPEAL TO
DEVENDRA FADNAVIS

Diary Times Desk : The father of the 26-year-old doctor who died by suicide in Maharashtra's Satara has sought the death penalty for the culprits responsible for her daughter's death. The doctor, posted as a medical officer at a government hospital in Phaltan, was found hanging on Thursday night. In a suicide note written on her palm, she accused a police officer of sexual assault and a techie of mental harassment. Making a direct plea for justice to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, he said, "My only demand is that the culprits should be punished with death by hanging. That's all. There is nothing else. This is my demand." "This happened to my daughter. But at least from now on, such atrocities should not happen to other daughters. So, the people who do this should definitely be punished with the death penalty," he added.



PAKISTAN ISSUES NOTAM
AHEAD OF INDIA'S TRISHUL
TRI-SERVICES EXERCISE NEAR
SIR CREEK

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan has issued a notification restricting several air traffic routes across its central and southern airspace for October 28-29, just as India prepares for its tri-services exercise, Trishul, along the border.

The move follows India's own Notam for Exercise Trishul, scheduled from October 30 to November 10 near Sir Creek, involving the Army, Navy, and Air Force. Such parallel notifications have become routine since Operation Sindoor, where both countries routinely issue Notams to secure airspace during major military activities.

Satellite images shared by analyst Damien Symon show the airspace reserved for Trishul extends up to 28,000 feet, a scale he described as "unusual." The Defence Ministry stated that the exercise aims to demonstrate joint operational capabilities, atmanirbharta (self-reliance), and innovation of the forces.

RIFT IN KERALA LEFT OVER PM SHRI: CPI
CRITICISES GOVERNMENT, SKIPS
CABINET MEET

Diary Times Desk : A rift has emerged within the ruling Left Democratic Front (LDF) government in Kerala after the state government signed an agreement with the Centre to join the PM SHRI school scheme on Thursday. The CPI, a key partner in the LDF, publicly criticised the Pinarayi Vijayan-led state government for signing the MoU and went into a huddle at its state headquarters in Thiruvananthapuram on Friday. Speculation was rife that the four CPI ministers in the cabinet offered to step down in protest. The party believes that the PM SHRI initiative would compel the state to adopt the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. CPI state secretary Binoy Viswam claimed that the cabinet was unaware of the MoU signed by general education secretary K. Vasuki. "Why this unusual haste, and for what? This is the question on everyone's minds," he said.



ZELENSKY URGES US TO EXPAND RUSSIAN OIL SANCTIONS, SEEKS LONG-RANGE MISSILES

Diary Times Desk :

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Friday urged the United States to expand sanctions on Russian oil from two companies to the whole sector, and appealed for long-range missiles to hit back at Russia.

Zelenskyy was in London for talks with two dozen European leaders who have pledged military help to shield his country from future Russian aggression if a ceasefire stops the more than three-year war.

The meeting hosted by British Prime Minister Keir Starmer aimed to step up pressure on Russian President Vladimir Putin, adding momentum to recent measures that have included a new round of sanctions from the United States and European countries on Russia's vital oil and gas export earnings.

'END GRAVE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN OCCUPIED AREAS': INDIA REBUKES PAKISTAN AT UN

Diary Times Desk : India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Parvathaneni Harish, called upon Pakistan to end the "grave and ongoing human rights violations in the areas illegally occupied by it", particularly in Jammu and Kashmir.

"We call upon Pakistan to end the grave and ongoing human rights violations in the areas illegally occupied by it, where the population is in open revolt against Pakistan's military occupation, repression, brutality and illegal exploitation of resources," Ambassador Harish said, while addressing the United Nations Security Council during the open debate organised on the 80th UN Day on Friday.

Reiterating that Jammu and Kashmir will always be an "integral and inalienable part of India," the Ambassador said that while the people in the region exercise their fundamental rights, such concepts are "alien" to Pakistan.

"Let me emphasise that the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has been, is, and will always be an integral and inalienable part of India. The people of Jammu and Kashmir exercise their fundamental rights in accordance with India's time-tested democratic traditions.

US, CHINA SEEK TO AVOID TRADE WAR ESCALATION, SALVAGE TRUMP-XI MEETING IN MALAYSIA TALKS

Diary Times Desk : Top economic officials from the US and China will face off in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday to try to avert an escalation of their trade war and ensure that a meeting happens next week between US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping. The talks on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit will seek to find a way forward after Trump threatened new 100 per cent tariffs on Chinese goods and other trade curbs starting on November 1, in retaliation for China's vastly expanded export controls on rare earth magnets and minerals. The recent actions, which also include an expanded US.

8 KILLED, 10 INJURED AS JEEP PLUNGES INTO RAVINE IN NEPAL



Diary Times Desk : Eight people were killed and 10 others injured when a jeep carrying 18 passengers plunged some 700 feet down a hillside in Nepal's Karnali province, police said on Saturday.

The accident occurred on Friday night in the Jharmare area of Bafikot in Rukum West district, approximately 500 km west of Kathmandu, when the vehicle was heading towards the Syalikhadi area of Athbiskot Municipality from Khalanga in Musikot.

Preliminary investigation suggests the accident occurred due to overspeeding, police said. According to police, seven people died on the spot while one succumbed to injuries during treatment at a local hospital. The victims were aged between 15 and 30 years.

Ten others who sustained injuries are undergoing treatment at Rukum's District Hospital in Salle.

JAISHANKAR EXTENDS GREETINGS TO KAZAKHSTAN ON ITS REPUBLIC DAY, STRESSES STRENGTHENING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Diary Times Desk : External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar extended greetings to Kazakhstan on the occasion of its Republic Day on Saturday, reaffirming India's commitment to deepening its long-standing ties with the Central Asian nation.

"Greetings to FM Yermek Kosherbayev, the Government and the people of Kazakhstan on their Republic Day. Look forward to further strengthening our multifaceted Strategic Partnership," Jaishankar said in an X post.

Kazakhstan's Republic Day also drew messages of goodwill from world leaders. Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, while the Russian Foreign Ministry conveyed Moscow's continued support for Astana.

FOUR DEAD AS TROPICAL STORM MELISSA THREATENS CATASTROPHIC FLOODING IN CARIBBEAN

Diary Times Desk : At least four people have been killed as Tropical Storm Melissa sweeps across the Caribbean, bringing torrential rains, destructive winds, and a growing threat of catastrophic flooding, Al Jazeera reported, citing officials.

According to Al Jazeera, three fatalities were reported in Haiti, two from a landslide in the capital, Port-au-Prince, and another after being struck by a falling tree in Marigot.

A fourth person was killed in the Dominican Republic, where another remains missing, authorities said.

The United States-based National Hurricane Centre (NHC) warned that Melissa is expected to strengthen into a hurricane later on Saturday and could intensify into a "major hurricane" by Sunday, as reported by Al Jazeera.

The storm, moving slowly at just 5 kilometres per hour, is dumping relentless rain across the northern Caribbean.

US: EARLY VOTING BEGINS IN NEW YORK MAYORAL RACE WITH MAMDANI LEADING IN SURVEY

Diary Times Desk : Early voting in New York City's mayoral race began on Saturday, with voters across the city starting to cast their ballots ahead of the November 4 general election, the New York Post reported.

The contest will determine whether the city, often called the "capital of capitalism", will be led by a socialist for the first time in history.

Democratic nominee Zohran Mamdani, a Queens Assemblyman and self-described socialist, is the front-runner to succeed Mayor Eric Adams. If elected, Mamdani would oversee New York City's USD 115 billion budget and a workforce of nearly 300,000, as reported by the New York Post.

Mamdani's lead is bolstered by the presence of former Governor Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat running as an independent, and Republican Curtis Sliwa, both of whom are expected to divide support among moderate and conservative voters.

Despite withdrawing, Adams remains on the ballot as an independent, alongside lawyer Jim Walden.





NEPAL CONTINUE TO REMAIN IN FATF'S GREYLIST



Diary Times Desk : The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) kept Nepal and 17 other countries on its 'greylist' and reviewed their progress in addressing strategic deficiencies in combating money laundering, terrorist financing, and proliferation financing. These countries were placed on the list due to strategic deficiencies in their financial systems and have 24 months to implement necessary legal, policy, and structural reforms. The global watchdog against terror financing reviewed the progress made by Nepal, Algeria, Angola, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Lao PDR, Monaco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, South Africa, South Sudan, Syria, Venezuela and Vietnam.

THAILAND PM CANCELS ASEAN TRIP
AFTER QUEEN MOTHER SIRIKIT'S
DEATH

Diary Times Desk : Thailand's prime minister cancelled his trip to Malaysia ahead of the ASEAN Summit on Saturday due to the death of the kingdom's Queen Mother Sirikit, and may miss the signing of a ceasefire deal with Cambodia that US President Donald Trump is set to witness this weekend. Foreign ministers of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations were meeting on Saturday to start a weekend of global diplomacy in the Malaysian capital, with teams from the United States and China holding trade talks alongside the summit. Trump is due to arrive in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday morning on the first stop of his trip through Asia, and was set to watch Cambodia and Thailand.

NURSE USED 'DISINFECTION' EXCUSE
TO MOLEST MALE VISITOR AT RAFFLES
HOSPITAL IN SINGAPORE

Diary Times Desk : A staff nurse at Raffles Hospital in Singapore has been sentenced to one year and two months in jail and two strokes of the cane for molesting a male visitor under the guise of 'disinfection'. Elipse Siva Nagu, a 34-year-old Indian national, committed the offence in June and was later suspended from duty. He pleaded guilty to a molestation charge and was sentenced on October 24, The Straits Times reported. According to Deputy Public Prosecutor Eugene Phua, the incident took place on 18 June when the victim visited his grandfather, who was warded at the hospital on North Bridge Road. Around 7.30pm, the victim entered a patient toilet, where Elipse looked inside while he was using it.

"YOUR PARENTS TRIED STEALING": TRUMP'S SON VS BILL CLINTON'S DAUGHTER

Diary Times Desk : Donald Trump Jr, the son of US President Donald Trump, has hit back at Chelsea Clinton after she criticised the demolition of the White House East Wing to make way for a new \$300 million ballroom. Chelsea Clinton, the daughter of former President Bill Clinton and former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, expressed her disapproval on X (formerly Twitter), writing, "The White House became my home when I was twelve years old. I always understood that it wasn't my 'house'; it was The People's House." She added that US President Donald Trump's action to demolish the East Wing was an attack on American heritage and democratic values. "The erasure of the East Wing isn't just about marble or plaster - it's about President Trump again taking a wrecking ball to our heritage."



SWEDEN SAYS NO TO RAPE
CONVICT'S DEPORTATION
AS CRIME "WASN'T LONG
ENOUGH"

Diary Times Desk : A Swedish court's decision not to deport an Eritrean refugee convicted of raping a 16-year-old girl has sparked global outrage, with Donald Trump Jr, the son of US President Donald Trump, asking, "What the hell is going on in this world?" The Court of Appeal for Upper Norrland ruled that the man, Yazied Mohamed, will not be deported after serving his three-year prison sentence due to the "duration of the incident," according to local media. The court, in its ruling, said the rape was "not serious enough" to justify deportation. It stated that the rape "did not last long enough" to be classified as an "exceptionally serious crime," so it did not necessitate deportation. "Rape is, in many cases, considered an exceptionally serious offense that could lead to the deportation of a refugee, but an assessment must be made based on all circumstances in the individual case," the court said. It added, "Given the nature and duration of the offense in question, the Court of Appeal finds that while the crime is serious, it does not constitute an exceptionally serious offense that would warrant a deportation order for Yazied Mohamed. The request for deportation is therefore rejected."

LINGERING GOVERNMENT
SHUTDOWN CAUSING
FLIGHT DELAYS AND
MAKING AIR TRAVEL 'LESS
SAFE' EVERY DAY

Diary Times Desk : Every day of the federal government shutdown air traffic controllers calling out sick have caused flight delays, Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy said Friday. "It's different every day," he told reporters at a news conference at Philadelphia International Airport. "The average... is about 5% of our delays come from staffing shortages with air traffic controllers. We've gone up as high as 53% of the delays... because of staffing shortages." On Friday, 12 air traffic control facilities were short-staffed, including the control towers in Dallas Fort Worth, Newark and Phoenix, TRACONS which handle flights approaching and departing Houston, Newark, Southern California as well as centers, which handle high altitude flights around Albuquerque, Atlanta, Denver and New York. There have been 222 staffing shortages reported since the start of the shutdown, more than four times the number reported on the same dates last year. Air traffic controllers, like Transportation Security Administration screeners, are required to work during the government shutdown but are not being paid.



THE REAGAN FOUNDATION DID TRUMP A SOLID ON TARIFFS – AT THE EXPENSE OF REAGAN’S IDEALS

Diary Times Desk : One of President Donald Trump’s superpowers as a politician is getting entities and people who might disagree with what he’s doing to set aside their principles and priors just enough to allow him to plow forward. It happens all the time with Republicans in Congress, who have willingly relegated themselves to second-class citizens in Washington.

They don’t necessarily endorse what he’s doing, mind you. But they do acquiesce. And sometimes they even do Trump a solid by steering the focus towards a common enemy.

Think: Trump’s legally dubious deportation policies, the draconian and rushed DOGE cuts, his pardons of violent January 6 defendants, and his administration’s handling of the Jeffrey Epstein files.



‘NO BENEFIT IN FIGHTING INDIA’: EX-CIA OFFICER WHO LED PAK OPERATIONS

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan would lose any conventional war with India, a former US intelligence officer has said, recalling that the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) believed the two nuclear-armed nations would go to war after the 2001 Parliament attacks.

John Kiriakou, who has served in the CIA for 15 years, opened up about the unease between Washington and Islamabad and his years leading counterterrorism operations in Pakistan during an interview with news agency ANI.

Islamabad needs to arrive at a policy conclusion that it would gain nothing from a war with India, the former CIA officer noted. “Nothing, literally nothing good will come of an actual war between India and Pakistan because the Pakistanis will lose. I’m not talking about nuclear weapons. I’m talking just about a conventional war. There is no benefit to constantly provoking Indians,” he added.

HAMAS, PALESTINIAN FACTIONS AGREE TO HAND GAZA TO TECHNOCRAT PANEL

Diary Times Desk : The main Palestinian political factions, including Hamas, said Friday they had agreed that an independent committee of technocrats would take over the running of post-war Gaza.

During a meeting in Cairo, according to a joint statement published on the Hamas website, the groups agreed to hand “over the administration of the Gaza Strip to a temporary Palestinian committee composed of independent technocrats.”

It said the committee would “manage the affairs of life and basic services in cooperation with Arab brothers and international institutions.”

The statement also said the factions had agreed to work on unifying a common position “to confront the challenges facing the Palestinian cause.”

US NAVY’S ‘MOST LETHAL COMBAT PLATFORM,’ THE CARRIER USS GERALD R FORD, IS BEING SENT TO THE CARIBBEAN

Diary Times Desk : The aircraft carrier USS Gerald R Ford, billed by the US Navy as “the most capable, adaptable, and lethal combat platform in the world,” is being sent to the Caribbean as the Trump administration ramps up military pressure on Venezuela over alleged drug trafficking.

Here’s a look at the Ford and the military assets it will bring to US operations in the region.

With a displacement of more than 100,000 tons and a length of 1,100 feet (334 meters), the Ford is the largest warship the US has ever put to sea.

Commissioned in 2017, it’s the first of its class, the successor to the Navy’s 10 Nimitz-class carriers, the oldest of which will be retired next year. It carries a crew of almost 4,600, including its air wing. That’s about 20% less personnel than the Nimitz class, which the Navy says is possible because of more efficient systems on the Ford.

Those efficiencies are what make the Ford the most advanced carrier in the world and result from its two nuclear reactors, whose exact specs are classified but that put out three times the electrical power of those on the Nimitz-class ships, according to the Navy.



RETHINKING GLOBAL COOPERATION AS THE UN TURNS 80

Diary Times Desk : As the United Nations (UN) completed its 80 years this week, it appeared in urgent need of thoroughgoing reform to remain relevant to growing challenges and changing times. Secretary-General António Guterres’ impassioned reminder that the inception of the world organisation was a result of a deliberate choice in favour of cooperation over chaos, law over lawlessness and peace over conflict does not appear to have cut much ice among many member countries.

Crisis of confidence
The United States (US) President, Donald Trump, took the podium of the General Assembly in September to launch a frontal attack against the UN for failing to deliver on multiple fronts, including ending major long-standing conflicts in the Middle East, Ukraine and elsewhere. His relentless, if not reckless, broadsides since the beginning of his second term early this year are threatening to upend the 20th-century US-inspired, rules-based international order managed through the UN and a web of multilateral institutions designed to facilitate interstate cooperation in security and economic and social areas under conditions of complex interdependence.

SPOT THE DOVES: EDITORIAL ON THE ABSENCE OF INDIA IN GLOBAL PEACE NEGOTIATIONS OF 21ST-CENTURY

Diary Times Desk : The Vietnam War ended with the Paris peace talks. The United Nations, which formed the bedrock of the post-World War II consensus, was established through a conference in San Francisco. A generation before that, Versailles played host to the peace treaty that ended World War I. But when the ceasefire agreement to – hopefully – end Israel’s war on Gaza was inked recently, it was done in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. The negotiations that led to that moment took place either in Cairo, Egypt, or in Doha, Qatar. And this was no one-off instance. As the UN’s credibility declines as an institution that can deliver peace, and with trust in the United States of America and its traditional Western allies as peacemakers at an all-time low, new countries have emerged as the diplomatic nerve centres of 21st-century peace negotiations. With global power increasingly spread out among a range of countries, this decentralisation has also spawned a decolonisation of diplomatic clout in many ways.



2 DIE, SEVERAL INJURED IN MASS SHOOTING AT PARTY IN US' NORTH CAROLINA



Diary Times Desk : A shooting at a large weekend party in southeastern North Carolina killed two people and critically wounded several others, a sheriff said Saturday. Robeson County Sheriff Burnis Wilkins' office said in a news release that 13 individuals were shot. He said early Saturday that homicide investigators and others were at the scene of the party in a rural area outside of Maxton, which is about 150 kilometres southwest of Raleigh near the South Carolina border.

"There is no current threat to the community as this appears to have been an isolated incident," the release said. More than 150 people fled the location before law enforcement officers arrived, Wilkins' office said while asking that anyone with information about what happened or who were at the scene to contact sheriff's investigators.

More information about the shooting, including names of those who died or were injured, was not immediately released Saturday. No arrests had been announced.

WHO IS JIMMY LAI, THE JAILED HONG KONG TYCOON TRUMP PLANS TO ASK XI JINPING TO RELEASE?

Diary Times Desk : As Donald Trump departed Washington for his high-stakes Asia tour, he's carrying one more item on his already full diplomatic checklist: the fate of Jimmy Lai, Hong Kong's most prominent pro-democracy media mogul. According to a report by Bloomberg, the US president said he plans to raise Lai's case when he meets Chinese President Xi Jinping later this week. The statement came shortly after a bipartisan group of over 30 US lawmakers, led by Florida Senator Rick Scott, urged him to personally intervene. "I have a lot of respect for Rick Scott and a lot of them that are asking me to do that, and it's on my list, I'm going to ask," Trump told reporters before leaving Washington.

The letter, signed by senators and members of Congress, warned that Lai's health is deteriorating. "Time is not on his side, he must be released immediately," the lawmakers wrote, calling the case "a humanitarian emergency."

TRUMP'S \$100K H-1B FEE SPARKS PULLBACK BY TOP US FIRMS; HERE'S WHICH COMPANIES HAVE HALTED SPONSORSHIP

Diary Times Desk : Several major US companies have halted or reduced their sponsorship of H-1B visas following the Trump administration's decision to impose a \$100,000 fee on new applications. US President Donald Trump last month signed an executive order increasing the H-1B visa fee from \$10,000 to \$100,000, a move that sent shockwaves through the global tech industry, particularly in India, which accounts for about 70% of such visa holders. Although the US administration later made it clear that new fees will apply only to new applicants and not to renewals or current holders. Cognizant, an IT firm founded in India and headquartered in New Jersey, posted a job listing on October 14 for a software engineering role in South Carolina, stating that it would "only consider applicants for this position who are legally authorized to work."

EXIT FROM GREY LIST NOT BULLETPROOF AGAINST TERROR FINANCING: GLOBAL WATCHDOG FATF WARNS PAK

Diary Times Desk : The Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the global terror funding watchdog, has warned Pakistan that its removal from the 'greylist' in October 2022 doesn't make it immune to money laundering and terrorist financing.

FATF President Elisa de Anda Madrazo emphasised that countries, including Pakistan, must continue implementing measures to prevent and deter crimes. "Any country that is on the grey list but also exists on the grey list is not bulletproof for actions of criminals, either money launderers or terrorists. So we do invite all jurisdictions, including those who have been delisted, to continue their good work to prevent and deter crimes," said FATF president Elisa de Anda Madrazo during a press conference in France.

Pakistan was removed from the FATF 'greylist' in October 2022 and has been under follow-up to ensure it is implementing anti-terror financing measures. However, Pakistan is not a member of the FATF, so the Asia Pacific Group (APG) has been conducting the follow-up. The list contains various countries and jurisdictions that have been placed under increased monitoring due to significant strategic deficiencies in countering terror financing and money laundering, the FATF president said. The comments by the FATF president come amid reports of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) using digital wallets to fund terror camps, masking financial flows.



RUSSIAN MISSILE, DRONE STRIKES KILL 4 AS ZELENSKY PLEADS FOR AIR DEFENCE

Diary Times Desk : Russian missile and drone attacks on Ukraine overnight into Saturday killed at least four people and wounded 20, officials said, and prompted fresh pleas from Ukraine's president for Western air defence systems.

In the capital, Kyiv, two people were killed and 13 were wounded in a ballistic missile attack in the early hours of Saturday, Kyiv's police said. A fire broke out in a non-residential building in one location, while debris from intercepted missiles fell in an open area at another site, damaging windows in nearby buildings, Ukraine's State Emergency Service wrote on the message app Telegram.

"Explosions in the capital. The city is under ballistic attack," Mayor Vitali Klitschko wrote on Telegram during the onslaught.

In the Dnipropetrovsk region, two people were killed and seven wounded, acting regional Gov. Vladyslav Haivanenko said, adding that apartment buildings and private homes were damaged in the strikes.

ZOHRAN MAMDANI DEFENDS HIS MUSLIM FAITH AMID 'RACIST, BASELESS ATTACKS'

Diary Times Desk : New York City mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani gave an emotional speech addressing "racist, baseless attacks" from his opponents, a day before early voting begins in the race he is projected to win.

Speaking outside a mosque in the Bronx on Friday, Mamdani criticised his opponents for bringing "hatred to the forefront", noting that their Islamophobia not only affects him as the Democratic nominee for mayor but also close to one million Muslims living in New York.

"To be Muslim in New York is to expect indignity, but indignity does not make us distinct. There are many New Yorkers who face it. It is the tolerance of that indignity that does," Mamdani said in his speech, less than two weeks ahead of the November 4 general election.

Mamdani, who is currently a member of the New York State Assembly, said that while he had tried to focus his election campaign on his core message of affordability, his opponents in recent days had shown that "Islamophobia has emerged as one of the few areas of agreement". His speech also came a day after his top opponent, former New York State Governor Andrew Cuomo, laughed after radio host Sid Rosenberg said that Mamdani "would be cheering" if another September 11 attack occurred.



WHAT THE RONALD
REAGAN AD THAT GOT
TRUMP SO ANGRY WAS
REALLY ALL ABOUT

Diary Times Desk :

President Donald Trump has canceled trade negotiations with Canada over what he called a “fake” ad that featured parts of an anti-tariff speech delivered by conservative hero and former President Ronald Reagan. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation & Institute also said the ad misrepresented the former president’s words.

It wasn’t fake. It was edited. But Reagan really did spend a five-minute speech — an April 25, 1987, national radio address that the Reagan Library has published on YouTube — railing against tariffs. It was a full-throated expression of support for free and fair trade.

The ad, purchased by the government of Ontario and broadcast on major US television networks, aired clips of the address, delivered from Camp David, where Reagan was soon to meet the prime minister of Japan at a time when American attitudes toward Japan were hardening. In the recent past, Japanese companies like Toyota and Sony had flooded America’s market with high quality but inexpensive cars and electronics, harming the business of great American brands, including General Motors and RCA.

STOCKS RALLY AND
DOW CLOSES ABOVE
47,000 FOR FIRST TIME
AFTER COOLER-THAN-
EXPECTED INFLATION
REPORT

Diary Times Desk : Better-than-expected inflation data Friday morning sparked an end-of-week rally in stocks, sending the Dow, S&P 500 and tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite soaring to fresh record highs. The Dow gained 473 points, or 1.01%, and closed at 47,207.12. The blue-chip index closed above 47,000 for the first time ever.

The broader S&P 500 climbed 0.79%. The Nasdaq gained 1.15%. Wall Street’s fear gauge, the VIX, sank 5%.

Wall Street sentiment got a boost Friday after Consumer Price Index data for September showed annual inflation heated up in September but less than expected.

THE FED CAN’T HELP AMERICA’S YOUNG TECH WORKERS WHO ARE
STRUGGLING TO FIND A JOB

Diary Times Desk : Hundreds of thousands of young Americans fresh out of college with a computer science degree have struggled to find a job over the past year. And their luck may not change anytime soon.

The Federal Reserve began to lower interest rates last month to support the labor market and is expected to deliver another rate cut in the coming days. Companies across most industries, including technology, have pumped the brakes on hiring this year, hesitant to make those kinds of investments without knowing the full effects of President Donald Trump’s sweeping economic policies.

A string of rate cuts should eventually bolster hiring by making it more feasible for companies to expand headcounts. But lower rates cannot easily counteract the economic uncertainty that continues to bedevil businesses or address AI’s structural impact on entry-level tech jobs.

“Layoffs and reductions in hiring plans due to AI use are expected to increase, especially for workers with a college degree,” Fed Governor Christopher Waller said during an October 15 event in Arlington, Virginia.

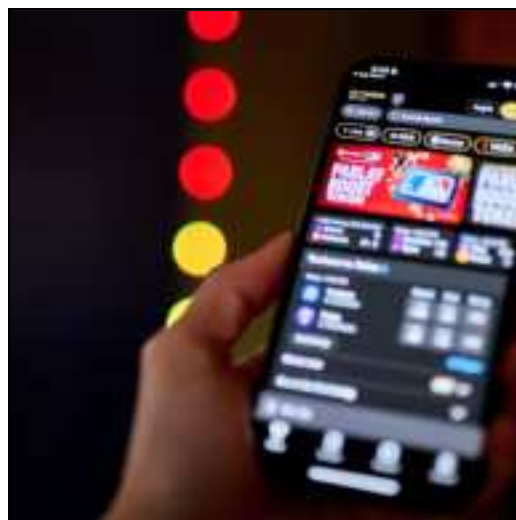


DO RECENT SPORTS GAMBLING SCANDALS MEAN THE END OF
LEAGUES’ DEALS WITH SPORTSBOOK APPS? IT’S A LONGSHOT

Diary Times Desk : American sports suffered another black eye after the arrests this week of an NBA coach and a current NBA player for their alleged ties to illegal sports betting and rigged poker games.

It’s the latest example of gambling and players breaking the rules. But for those who think this means leagues and teams will step back from their ties to sports gaming apps, here are four words for you: don’t bet on it.

Direct sponsorship deals between various legal sports books and the top American sports leagues are worth billions of dollars spread over several years and likely more than \$1 billion annually, said Victor Matheson, an economics professor at the College of the Holy Cross and an expert on the business of sports and gambling. Such sponsorship deals are “clearly very important” to the finances of sports leagues and teams, Matheson said. No matter how rich leagues are, the gambling sponsorships are “not something that anyone wants to turn down.”



HOW A TINY BUG SPIRALED INTO A MASSIVE OUTAGE THAT TOOK DOWN
THE INTERNET

Diary Times Desk : A massive AWS outage Monday that brought down some of the world’s most popular apps and services all started with a glitch.

The bug — which occurred when two automated systems were trying to update the same data simultaneously — snowballed into something significantly more serious that Amazon’s engineers scrambled to fix, the company said Thursday in a postmortem assessment.

The massive cloud service’s outage meant people couldn’t order food, communicate with hospital networks, access mobile banking, or connect with their security systems and smart home devices. Major global companies, including Netflix, Starbucks and United Airlines, were temporarily unable to give customers access to their online services.

“We apologize for the impact this event caused our customers,” Amazon said in a statement on the AWS website. “We know this event impacted many customers in significant ways. We will do everything we can to learn from this event and use it to improve our availability even further.”





JOURNALISTS TURN IN
PRESS PASSES AS
PENTAGON CLAMPS
DOWN ON ACCESS IN
'UNPRECEDENTED'
MOVE

Diary Times Desk :
A flyer with the words "journalism is not a crime" appeared Tuesday on the wall outside the "Correspondents' Corridor" where journalists operate at the Pentagon. It was a silent protest of Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth's new policy that severely restricts press access. The policy criminalizes routine reporting, according to media lawyers and advocates, so news outlets are refusing to abide by it. Instead, they are giving up their access to the building, while vowing to continue thoroughly covering Hegseth and the military from outside the Pentagon's five walls. On Tuesday, as Pentagon beat reporters started to turn in their press passes, some noticed and appreciated the "journalism is not a crime" poster.

PROTEST FROGS VS.
MAGA MEDIA
INFLUENCERS: THE INFO
WAR OVER ICE IN
PORTLAND AND
CHICAGO

Diary Times Desk :
As the Department of Homeland Security floods social media with "propaganda" videos, and pro-Trump commentators flock to Portland and Chicago in search of a "rebellion," local residents are responding with... chicken suits and clever jokes.

Thursday night on ABC, Jimmy Kimmel tossed to a "special report" from Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, "reporting from war-torn Chicago." Pritzker, wearing body armor, played a TV reporter in the video clip. "We've seen people being forced to eat hot dogs with ketchup on them," the governor quipped. While Kimmel's show was airing, a real reporter for The Oregonian was recording a video outside the ICE facility that has long been a magnet for protests in Portland. The topic: "Protest frogs are multiplying."

The video showcased how Portlanders are wearing inflatable costumes to mock what one of the frog cosplayers called "insane government overreach."

WHAT GOT MORE EXPENSIVE IN SEPTEMBER

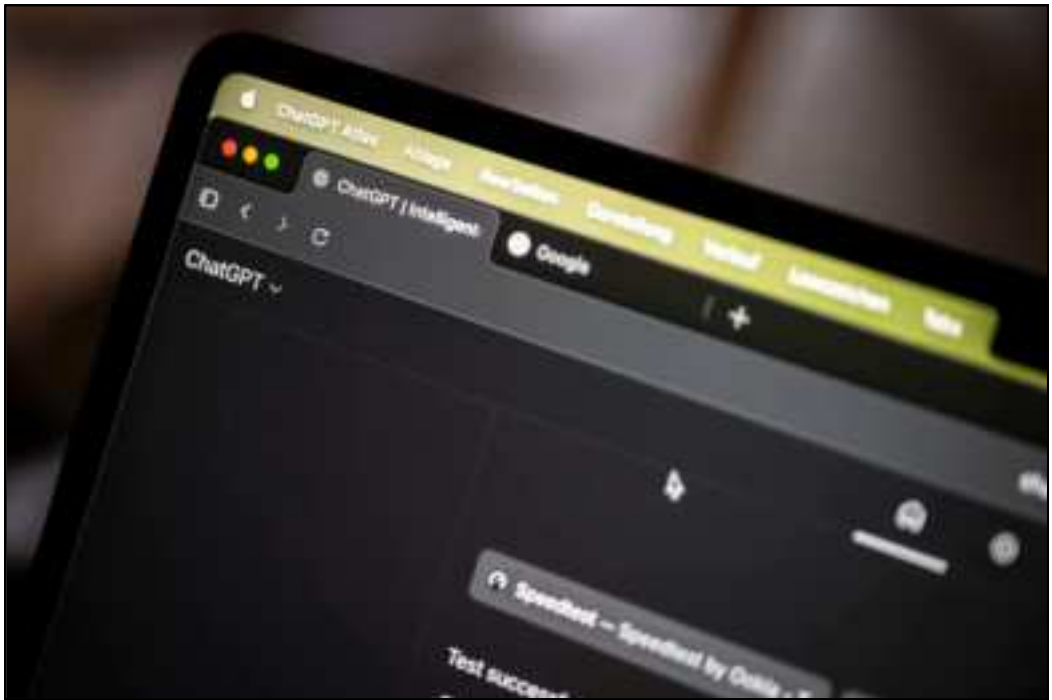


Diary Times Desk : Here's a rundown of what got more expensive in September's Consumer Price Index report — as well as a couple of key areas where consumers are seeing relief.

But first, a caveat: Monthly data can be quite volatile — and that could be even more volatile amid federal cuts and BLS staffing limitations that have impacted how data is collected — so it's important to look at longer-term trends.

At the grocery store
Grocery prices bolted higher in August, rising 0.6%, which was the highest in nearly three years; however, in September, they rose at a comparably modest 0.3%. For the year, they're running below overall inflation at a 2.7% rate, BLS data shows. The dairy case is doing its part to cool down overall food-at-home inflation: Egg prices have dropped after the avian flu-related issues were resolved, and plentiful production and supply for milk and butter and food oils have kept price hikes at bay.

THE BATTLE FOR THE FUTURE OF THE INTERNET IS UNDERWAY



Diary Times Desk : The tug-of-war over the internet's future escalated dramatically on Tuesday after OpenAI unveiled a new product that takes direct aim at the heart of Google's core business: controlling the world's front door to the internet. OpenAI this week released ChatGPT Atlas, a desktop web browser infused with the popular AI chatbot. The product is more than just a way to expand ChatGPT, which now has more than 800 million weekly users. It's an attempt to become the pathway to websites, social media and other online services, giving it a more direct role in everything people do online. Google has dominated that business for two decades. OpenAI is betting it can start to take over. OpenAI's ChatGPT Atlas isn't the first and only AI-driven web browser; AI search company Perplexity launched its Comet browser in July. Yet ChatGPT's massive reach makes it the most formidable threat to Google, marking a turning point in the transition away from lists of blue links. "Your browser is where all of your work, tools, and context come together," OpenAI CEO Sam Altman said in a blog post announcing Atlas. "A browser built with ChatGPT takes us closer to a true super-assistant that understands your world and helps you achieve your goals." Google's search engine — which is at the core of its Chrome browser — isn't going away anytime soon. But there's some data to suggest consumers are indeed embracing AI for some of the tasks they may have previously relied on search links for. A study from Pew Research found that people are less likely to click on links when AI-generated summaries are displayed in Google. And Apple's senior vice president of services said earlier this year in court testimony, per Bloomberg, that search queries on its devices declined for the first time in April.

The launch of Atlas, and whether it's successful, will test whether consumers are truly ready to make a more dramatic shift to AI for their daily needs.

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.



KAITHAL POLICE BUST
FAKE OVERSEAS JOB
RACKET; RESCUE 5
YOUTHS FROM LIBYA

Diary Times Desk : In a major breakthrough, the Kaithal police have busted a gang allegedly involved in kidnapping youth on the pretext of sending them to Canada.

A team of Special Detective Unit, Kaithal, solved a case of fraud and kidnapping related to fake overseas employment. The team members also played a key role in rescuing five youth, who had been held hostage in Libya and arresting one of the main accused, said Upasana, Superintendent of Police (SP) while interacting with media persons on Saturday.

She informed that the case came to light after a complaint by Suresh Kumar and Rambir of Fariyabad village and Krishan Kumar of Barsikri Khurd village, who wanted to send their sons – Aditya, Vikrant, and Sumit – abroad. The families had been introduced to Manjit, a resident of Gajuwala village, Fatehabad, who runs an IELTS/PTE centre in Tohana. Through him, they came in contact with Mann Singh, a resident of Sadhanawas village. He promised to send each youth to Canada for Rs 26 lakh.

LEOPARD SIGHTED IN
HARYANA'S AMBALA,
SEARCH OPERATION
UNDERWAY

Diary Times Desk : A search operation for a leopard was launched and an alert sounded by the forest department in Dhulkot after receiving information about the big cat's sighting in the village in Ambala district, officials said on Saturday.

CCTV footage from the nearby area showed a wild animal resembling a leopard, they said, but the forest department is yet to confirm its presence.

Police received information about the sighting on Friday evening, after which a joint team of the police and the forest department, along with villagers, conducted a search operation.

The forest department made an announcement in the village, urging residents to remain vigilant.

HISAR COURT REFUSES BAIL TO YOUTUBER JYOTI MALHOTRA ARRESTED IN
ESPIONAGE CASE

Diary Times Desk : A court in Haryana's Hisar district has dismissed the bail plea of YouTuber Jyoti Malhotra, who was arrested in May on the suspicion of espionage, and said there is a reasonable apprehension that her release on bail may impede the probe.

Hisar police had arrested Malhotra (33), who ran the YouTube channel 'Travel with JO', on May 16 under provisions of the Official Secrets Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Malhotra at present is in judicial custody.

In its detailed order, the court of Additional Sessions Judge Dr Parminder Kaur dismissed the regular bail plea.



GOVT ROLLS OUT NEW POLICY TO
BOOST EWS HOUSING

Diary Times Desk : The housing for the economically weaker sections (EWS) is set to get a boost, with the Saini government putting in place a new policy. Under the policy, the Housing for All Department will be the nodal agency for the allotment of the plots and apartments to eligible beneficiaries.

Builders have been mandated to reserve 20% of the total residents plots, measuring from 50 sqm to 125 metres, in a plotted colony at a rate of Rs 600 per sqm. However, the builder will reserve 15% of the total residential flats, with a covered area ranging from 200-400 sq ft, in group housing societies. The rate of the apartment is pegged at Rs 1.5 lakh per flat or Rs 750 per sq ft, as per a notification issued by the Additional Chief Secretary, Town and Country Planning Department (TCPD).

Now, the EWS plots will be transferred to the Housing for All Department by the builders. The department will allot the EWS units after construction to the beneficiaries.

JHAJJAR MAN 'KILLED' FATHER,
BROTHER

Diary Times Desk : The matter pertaining to the reported death of a man and his son at Kaloī village in Jhajjar district in a road accident more than two months ago now seems to be a case of double murder.

As per the police, it is now being indicated that Ashok had allegedly murdered his father Khajan and brother Sanjay owing to a dispute over family property.

"It was earlier stated that Khajan and his son Sanjay had died in a road accident more than two months ago.

However, we recently got a tip-off that they were murdered by Khajan's elder son Ashok.

Preliminary investigation also indicates that this. We have registered a case against Ashok. He will be arrested soon," said a police official.

WHY FARMERS ARE AT LOGGERHEADS WITH AUTHORITIES OVER PADDY
PROCUREMENT

Diary Times Desk : Farmers under the banner of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) are at loggerheads with the authorities of procurement agencies, rice millers, arhtiyas and officials of the market committees over issues concerning paddy procurement, minimum support price (MSP), and alleged corruption in grain markets to adjust the arrival of paddy from UP and other states. Here is what you need to know the key questions surrounding the conflict and what it means to the farmers.

What has triggered the farmers' protest?

Non-procurement of paddy or procurement below the MSP triggered the farmers to protest. After slapping an official in public at Kurukshetra over allegedly non-procurement of paddy, BKU president Gurnam Singh Charuni is visiting the grain markets, accusing officials, rice millers of large-scale irregularities in the procurement of paddy. Charuni alleged that paddy from UP and other states was being illegally brought into Haryana, sold at higher prices in local grain markets, and shown as local produce under MSP procurement. This practice, he claims, has the backing of certain rice millers and officials, forming a nexus that exploits the system and deprives genuine Haryana farmers of their due.





Bill Clinton Once Called The White House Movie Theater The ‘Best Perk’ Of The Job

One of the stars of the White House is no more.

The White House Family Theater, the movie theater which first came to be in 1942 when a cloakroom was converted into a screening room, was demolished this week as part of the destruction of the East Wing to make room for President Donald Trump's planned \$300 million ballroom.

From sporting events to film screenings, the theater provided entertainment and enjoyment to presidents and their families since the latter part of Franklin D. Roosevelt's presidency.

According to The White House Historical Association, Roosevelt enjoyed watching World War II-era news reels in the former cloakroom in the East Terrace at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, "and took special interest in the battles fought in Europe and Asia."

The 32nd US president demonstrated an understanding of the importance of pop culture, including movies. "Entertainment is always a national asset," Roosevelt said in 1943



Lisa Respers France
The White House Family Theater is one of several historically significant East Wing features that have been destroyed to make way for Trump's ballroom.

as the United States was engaged in WWII. "Invaluable in time of peace, it is indispensable in wartime."

Not that there weren't movies shown in the White House before that. Well before the installation of the White House Family Theater, then-President Woodrow Wilson screened 1915's "The Birth of a Nation," with the film projected onto the walls of the East Room. Later presidents greatly enjoyed showing movies in the theater, and the George W. Bush Library detailed that film screenings would run the gamut from official events with members of the public invited as guests to "private events and intended for the enjoyment of the President, his family, and his close friends and staff."

"The best perk out in the White House is not Air Force One or Camp David or anything else," said former President Bill Clinton. "It's the wonderful movie theatre I get here, because people send me these movies all the time."

The 42-seat theater had different looks over the years. Business Insider reported that "it went from green chairs and mustard curtains to white chairs and floral drapes" before donning its most recent "all-red design."

Sometimes referred to as the "first movie theatre," it hosted a variety of genres of film.

In January 1977, then-President Jimmy Carter let it be known that only "family friendly" films should be shown, which was short-lived when, the following Christmas, he unwittingly screened an X-rated picture at the White House – John Schlesinger's Oscar-winning "Midnight Cowboy," which tells the story of a male prostitute in the underbelly of 1960s-era in New York City.

In 2011, Steven Spielberg talked about screening his hit 1982 film "E.T." for then-President Ronald Reagan.



Refugee Children Going Hungry

MARCO RUBIO SAID US AID CUTS WERE TO SLASH BUREAUCRACY



Rebecca Wright
"More and more children are being detected with the severest form of malnutrition, and they are at a risk of mortality because of that," said Deepika Sharma, the Chief of Nutrition and Child Development in Bangladesh for UNICEF.

On the floor of their tiny makeshift home in a refugee camp in Bangladesh, her mother Fatima Begum feeds Sofiya by rubbing her gums with a food paste designed to treat severe malnutrition. These life-saving packets were provided by the US government, labeled with the logo of USAID – a legacy of the now-defunct organization which was dismantled by the Trump administration in January. With US aid cuts of \$8 billion annually, a gaping hole has been left in international aid. The impact is already being felt in the world's largest refugee camp in Cox's Bazar, where UNICEF reports an alarming 11% rise in the number of children with acute malnutrition between January and September this year. The remaining USAID supplies are now running out, and Begum says their regular food donations are also



"The Trump Administration is significantly enhancing the efficiency and strategic impact of foreign assistance programs and continues to deliver life-saving assistance around the world, including to vulnerable populations like the Rohingya refugees while remaining accountable to the American taxpayer," the spokesperson said.

decreasing. "Before, they gave more food, but now they don't," Begum said. "They don't give fruits like before. They don't give fish. Still, I'm thankful for whatever they give." An ethnic Rohingya Muslim, Fatima Begum fled her home in western Myanmar's Rakhine state in 2017, after the military carried out what the US and UN experts call a genocide. Now, she is crammed alongside 1.2 million Rohingya in sprawling refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Begum fled one type of hell, only to land in another – now facing a daily battle to keep her baby alive. Sofiya is currently receiving 2.5 portions of the ready-to-use therapeutic food packets (RUTF) every day, with each one providing 500

calories from the mix of powdered milk, peanuts, vegetable oil and vitamins. Over the past few decades, this simple product has helped to bring millions of children back from the brink of starvation. As of July this year, UNICEF has had to cut the number of RUTF packets given per child in the camps, to try to stretch resources. "Cox's Bazar is ground zero for the impact of budget cuts on people in desperate need," said United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres after he visited the camps in March, adding that "people will suffer and even people will die."

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has repeatedly denied that US aid cutbacks caused any deaths, and has defended the move as a way to cut bureaucracy and prioritize "our national interests." But a study published in The Lancet predicts the cuts will result in 14 million deaths over the next five years – and an online impact tracking tool run by a Boston University professor estimates that there are already 88 deaths per hour. In a statement to CNN, a US State Department spokesperson said the US announced "an additional \$60mn in life-saving humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh" in September, including emergency food assistance and RUTF packets. INFA

International Fraud Network

THE YOUNG TYCOON ACCUSED OF MASTERMINDING A MULTIBILLION-DOLLAR



Helen Regan
With the casinos and online gambling came organized crime, money laundering, prostitution, drug trafficking and online scamming. The town was described as a "wild west" where a prolific business-crime nexus emerged.

He is a baby-faced tycoon who rose to the highest echelons of power in his adopted home of Cambodia, where he bestows scholarships and runs philanthropy programs while overseeing one of the country's largest and best-connected conglomerates.

But behind this façade, Chen Zhi, 37, runs one of the largest transnational criminal organizations in Asia, US authorities say, an empire fueled by forced labor and cryptocurrency scams that at one point were allegedly earning Chen and his associates \$30 million every day.

The money went on buying Picasso artwork, private jets and properties in upscale neighborhoods of London, as well as supplying bribes to public officials, according to prosecutors in New York, who last week announced they had seized \$15 billion in cryptocurrency from Chen following a years-long investigation.

That action has thrown a rare light on an alleged kingpin of Southeast Asia's murky and criminal world of online scams, which US authorities say operate under the protection of powerful politicians, and conned victims in

the US alone out of at least \$10 billion dollars last year. Chen's Prince Group employs thousands of people and bills itself as one of the biggest conglomerates in Cambodia, with investments in luxury real estate, banking services, hotels, major construction developments, grocery stores and even luxury watches.

But last week, the company was declared a transnational criminal organization by United States authorities, and Chen was charged in absentia in New York with money laundering conspiracy and wire fraud conspiracy, along with several associates.

He is still at large, and currently faces no legal threat in Cambodia, which has no extradition treaty with the US.

Prince Group, American and British authorities allege, was the umbrella for more than 100 shell companies and entities allegedly used to funnel laundered cash across 12 countries and territories from Singapore to St Kitts and Nevis. "Chen Zhi isn't a mob boss as we traditionally conceive of them – he is (or rather was) the polished face of a state-protected criminal economy," said Jacob Sims, visiting fellow at Harvard

University's Asia Center and a transnational crime expert.

CNN has reached out to Prince Group for comment. CNN has also reached out to the Cambodian government and interior ministry for comment.

Prince Group has previously denied allegations of wrongdoing as "false and defamatory" in statements published on its website. Those statements have since been taken down.

Who is Chen Zhi? Little was known about Chen, also known as Vincent, until he arrived in Cambodia and began splashing enormous amounts of cash.

He was born in China's southeastern province of Fujian on December 16, 1987, according to the US Treasury Department.





HOCKNEY'S FIRST DOUBLE PORTRAIT IS A MASTERPIECE OF PICTORIAL DRAMA

Diary Times Desk : Amongst David Hockney's rarest and most revered works are his double portraits, which offer audiences a glimpse into the captivating figures of his social universe. Created between 1968-1975, this series of just seven works began with an arresting painting of Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy. Isherwood, one of the most important writers of the 20th Century, is renowned for his 1964 novel *A Single Man*, famously adapted by Tom Ford into a celebrated feature film in 2009, as well as for his 1939 novel *Goodbye to Berlin*, which served as the basis for *Cabaret*. In the painting, Isherwood is seated beside his partner, the artist Don Bachardy, a native Californian 30 years his junior, in their sunlit Santa Monica living room. Suffused with tenderness and tension, it is a masterpiece of human and pictorial drama that captures Hockney at the height of his powers.

Offered during Christie's Fall Marquee Week in November in New York City, Hockney's Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy will be a major highlight of the 20th Century Evening Sale. With its virtuosic composition, rich art historical references and extraordinary psychological depth, it tells an enduring story of intimacy and love, animated by Hockney's genius use of perspective and his close friendship with the painting's subjects. Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy has been included in every one of Hockney's most important retrospectives, including those held at the Whitechapel Gallery (1970), LACMA (1988), Palais des Beaux-Arts (1992), Tate Britain, Centre Pompidou and The Met (2017-2018), and most recently Fondation Louis Vuitton earlier this year.

There are only seven of Hockney's double portraits in existence: four are held in institutional collections while two constitute the artist's world record and second highest price achieved at auction. Christopher Isherwood and Don Bachardy has been held in the same private collection for the last 40 years.

California: a beacon of freedom

Isherwood, a friend of Truman Capote and British writers W. H. Auden and Aldous Huxley, found fame as an author with novels such as *Goodbye to Berlin*, a semi-autobiographical account of his experiences of Weimar Germany. He and Auden had left Europe for New York in January 1939, before Isherwood headed west to Los Angeles, where he joined a distinguished milieu of European exiles. In Hollywood, he would later write *A Single Man*, which followed its protagonist through a day of his existence as he mourned the death of his partner. This book has become one of the keystone texts of romantic literature.



10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT MAHMOUD SAÏD

Diary Times Desk : He was the son of a prime minister and the uncle of Queen Farida of Egypt

Mahmoud Saïd was born in Alexandria on 8 April 1897, the son of Mohamed Pacha Saïd, who was prime minister at a critical time in Egypt's history (1910-1914 and again briefly in 1919) — a period that witnessed the rise of nationalism which ultimately paved the way to the country's independence. Saïd was brought up in a privileged aristocratic milieu, and was educated by foreign private tutors. He was also the uncle of the future queen of Egypt, Safinaz Zulficar, better known as Queen Farida.

In the 1920s, Saïd took art classes in Paris and explored Europe's museums

Saïd attended some of the most prestigious schools in Alexandria and Cairo. In the early 1920s, he embarked on a cultural trip across Europe, which included three weeks in Paris in July 1921. He took drawing lessons in the 'free' section of the prestigious Académie Julian, as well as attending classes at Antoine Bourdelle's school, L'Académie de la Grande Chaumière. During his stay in Europe, Saïd also visited Spain, Belgium, the Netherlands and Switzerland, discovering masterpieces of Western art in museums and churches. The work of 15th-century Flemish artists such as Jan van Eyck, Rogier van der Weyden and Hans Memling, and the vibrant colours of the early Italian Renaissance painters — including the Bellini brothers and Vittore Carpaccio — had a particular impact on the young artist.

Art was his passion — but his full-time job was as a judge

Following his father's wishes, Saïd pursued a career in law, graduating from the French Law School of Cairo in 1919. He was appointed assistant judge at the Mixed Courts of Egypt in 1922, first judge in Mansoura in 1927 and in Alexandria in 1937. He only resigned from his legal career in 1947, aged 50. Up until then, he had painted in his spare time, torn between his passion for art and his professional obligations.

Saïd was a pioneer of modern Arab art

Although his work was somewhat figurative in style and sometimes classical in subject matter, Saïd broke away from academic art and the traditions of European painting, using them as stepping stones to his own signature style. In doing so, he became a pioneer of modern Arab painting, producing art that was truly groundbreaking. Even the rebellious young artists of the Art et Liberté group — the so-called Egyptian Surrealists, who were highly critical of their country's other pioneers — invited Saïd to participate as a guest of honour in their first and second exhibitions, held in Cairo in 1940 and 1942.





BARCELONA STAFF ASSUMES FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR KEY FORWARD’S INJURY SETBACK – REPORT



Diary Times Desk : It was not long ago when Barcelona had almost taken it for granted that Raphinha would return to action and would be available for the season’s first El Clasico on October 26.

However, in a dramatic turn of events, it was confirmed yesterday that Raphinha will not be a part of the team as he is yet to fully recover from his injury.

The Brazilian international did not suffer any fresh injury, but he was simply not fit enough to get back on the pitch and may miss more matches for Barcelona.

Raphinha’s injury was rushed
A recent report from MARCA has offered some perspective on Raphinha’s injury and how it was handled, as well as the factor that led to him being ruled out for a longer period – with the club’s technical staff taking full responsibility for the setback.

INJURED BARCELONA CAPTAIN’S GREAT GESTURE AHEAD OF EL CLASICO VS REAL MADRID

Diary Times Desk : Even though it seemed like Raphinha would return for FC Barcelona’s heavyweight clash against Real Madrid, the Brazilian international has been ruled out of the tie.

The 28-year-old winger, one of the club captains, has been out for a month due to a hamstring injury. But he resumed training with the group this week. However, with the discomfort not easing up, it was confirmed that he will miss the Clasico at the Bernabeu.

A captain’s guesure
According to SPORT, despite his absence being confirmed, Raphinha visited Barcelona’s Ciutat Esportiva this morning to greet his teammates and show his support ahead of El Clasico.

Despite not being in his best spirits after being ruled out of the trip to the Bernabeu, the Brazilian acted like a true captain, showing up on an important day for the team. What he did on Saturday was a true captain’s gesture. Although he was under no obligation to attend, he chose to visit the facilities to wish good luck to those travelling.

FLICK’S ASSISTANT TALKS LAMINE, RAPHINHA, FERRAN, KOUNDE AHEAD OF REAL MADRID VS BARCELONA

Diary Times Desk : FC Barcelona will lock horns with bitter rivals Real Madrid in the first El Clasico of the 2025/26 season on Sunday at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Ahead of the big game, Barça’s assistant manager, Marcus Sorg, appeared in front of the media for the pre-match press conference in place of head coach Hansi Flick, who is suspended for the game.

Sorg addressed a plethora of topics during his interaction with the press, including Lamine Yamal’s recent comments aimed at Real Madrid that have caused quite a stir.

Sorg previews El Clasico

Kicking things off, Sorg spoke about the opportunity to be in charge of things for Barcelona tomorrow in a big game such as the Clasico, saying:

“I’m very proud to be managing from the bench. It will be a very tough game. It will be important to control possession and apply pressure.”

WHY HANSI FLICK’S ASSISTANT WILL HOLD THE PRE-MATCH PRESS CONFERENCE BEFORE EL CLASICO

Diary Times Desk : The responsibility for the pre-match press conference ahead of Sunday’s clash against Real Madrid, on 26 October at the Santiago Bernabeu, has fallen to FC Barcelona’s assistant manager, Marcus Sorg.

Head coach Hansi Flick is serving a one-match suspension and will not be on the touchline against Los Blancos, with Sorg set to take over the mantle.

Last season, when he was suspended, Flick himself attended the pre-match conferences before the matches against Leganes and Atletico Madrid. This time around, however, Sorg will take that responsibility.

Here’s why

According to Mundo Deportivo, Flick himself believes that his assistant should also take on the press duties due to the one-match suspension he will be serving, despite that not being the case in the past.



BARCELONA CAPTAIN OFFERED TO SEVERAL PREMIER LEAGUE CLUBS INCLUDING CHELSEA, MAN UNITED

Diary Times Desk : Even as Marc-Andre ter Stegen continues his recovery after undergoing back surgery during the summer, his future at FC Barcelona continues to be a major topic of discussion.

After all, Joan Garcia has now become the preferred starter in goal for Hansi Flick, meaning the German international will have to settle for a reduced role when he returns.

However, that would hamper Ter Stegen’s World Cup ambitions as he wishes to be Germany’s No. 1 in the mega tournament next year.

As such, the possibility of a January exit, on loan, is no longer ruled out, and there is already interest in the Barcelona captain.

Chelsea, Manchester United, Tottenham, and West Ham offered Ter Stegen
Now, according to reports in England, as relayed by Mundo Deportivo, Ter Stegen has been offered to a number of English clubs – including Chelsea, Manchester United, Tottenham Hotspur, and West Ham United.

PEDRI RATES BARCELONA’S SEASON SO FAR AHEAD OF EL CLASICO – ‘WELL, THE TRUTH IS...’

Diary Times Desk : With just 24 hours remaining before Barcelona’s big match against Real Madrid, the club’s star player, Pedri, recently spoke to DAZN.

The young midfielder, who has received praise from several stars, including his teammate Marcus Rashford and Barcelona legend Iniesta, talked about his team’s start to the season as well as how Real Madrid have performed under Xabi Alonso.

Pedri ranks Barcelona’s start to the season
Pedri was notably asked to rate Barcelona’s start to the new season and how the club have performed in the first nine matches.

Pedri, in response, did not sugarcoat things and handed a rating of ‘six or seven’ on a scale of ten.

“Well, the truth is that we started off decently, but in the recent period, there are things we need to improve, and we’ve noticed that and we know exactly what needs to be developed,” he said. “The great thing is that with the coach and the technical staff, we’re working on correcting the mistakes we made previously.”