

NEWS IN BRIEF

VICE PRESIDENT'S
SECRETARY AMIT
KHARE NAMED
SANSAD TV CEO

Diary Times Desk :

Amit Khare, Secretary to Vice President CP Radhakrishnan, has been given additional charge as Chief Executive Officer of Sansad TV.

A Parliament of India notification said the governing council of the Sansad TV has decided to give Khare additional charge as Sansad TV CEO "with immediate effect and until further orders".

He will take over the charge from Lok Sabha Secretary General Utpal Kumar Singh, whose extended tenure in Lok Sabha ends next month.

Under former VP Jagdeep Dhankhar, Sansad TV management had raised many eyebrows with sources long signalling an overhaul. Khare, a retired bureaucrat who served as secretary higher education and secretary Information and Broadcasting, has earlier been Advisor to the PM in the PMO.

SPEEDING CAR
DRIVING ON
WRIGHT SIDE RAMS
INTO MULTIPLE
VEHICLES IN DELHI;
MANY INJURED

Diary Times Desk :

A speeding car being driven on the wrong side of National Highway-9 rammed into multiple vehicles, leaving many people injured and disrupting traffic movement for some time in east Delhi's Pandav Nagar area on Tuesday, police said.

The collision involved a car, a tempo traveller and a scooter. The impact was so severe that the tempo traveller overturned on the highway, while the scooter rider sustained serious injuries.

"A team rushed to the spot soon after receiving information and found the three vehicles in a mangled condition. The injured had already been shifted to nearby hospitals by passers-by and residents," a senior police officer said.

The driver of the car, Mohammad Naushad (28), and his associate Kashim (23), were found at the scene and taken to the police station for questioning.

NATIONAL MEDICAL
COMMISSION (NMC)SUPREME COURT RAPS NMC FOR NON-
PAYMENT OF STIPENDS TO MEDICAL INTERNS

Diary Times Desk : Pulling up National Medical Commission (NMC) for failing to ensure payment of stipends to medical interns across the country, the Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the regulator of the medical profession to 'get up from slumber'.

A bench comprising Justices Aravind Kumar and NV Anjaria – which expressed strong displeasure over NMC's inaction – noted that medical interns often worked for more than 18 hours a day and that payment of a stipend was the bare minimum they deserved.

Terming the lapse as "deeply concerning" and "unjustified", particularly in light of the long working hours endured by young doctors, the top court said, "The conduct of NMC requires to be deprecated in as much as the payment of the stipend to the interns has been pending since long before this court and yet, NMC seems to be dragging its feet without any serious

consideration.

"As such, we are forced to make this observation. We hope and trust NMC would get up from its slumber and take appropriate steps as indicated in its own communication dated July 11, 2025, at least by the next date of hearing."

The court's outburst came after advocate Tanvi Dubey pointed out on behalf of the petitioners that NMC had not complied with the July 11 communication on the payment of stipend.

The bench directed NMC to file an affidavit enclosing the list of medical colleges/institutes which have published the details as indicated in the July 11 communication and produce the copy for its perusal.

It asked the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to ensure that NMC complied with the July 11 communication.

The top court has been hearing petitions of medical students, including those having foreign MBBS degrees, raising the issue of non-payment of stipends for internships.

In its July 11 communication, NMC sought mandatory disclosure of fee structure and medical stipends from colleges and said that non-compliance with its order would attract regulatory measures, including a show-cause notice, imposition of financial penalties, withdrawal of course recognition and suspension of admission.

COVID DEATHS OF DOCTORS: 'SOCIETY WILL NOT FORGIVE US IF WE DON'T TAKE CARE OF
OUR DOCTORS,' SAYS SC

Diary Times Desk : "Society will not forgive us if we don't take care of our doctors and don't stand for them," the Supreme Court said on Tuesday as it reserved its verdict on a petition against non-inclusion of doctors and health workers who lost their lives battling Covid at private clinics, dispensaries and non-recognised hospitals in insurance policies.

A bench of Justice PS Narasimha and Justice R Mahadevan disapproved of the assumption that private doctors were working for profit during Covid and stressed that the government must ensure that insurance companies settle the valid claims.

"You should compel the insurance company to pay if, according to you, the condition is met that they were on Covid response and they died because of Covid," it said.

It asked the Centre to bring on record relevant data and information regarding other similar or parallel schemes available apart from the Pradhan Mantri insurance scheme.

"We will lay down the principle and, on that basis, claims can be made to the insurance company. It is for the insurance company to consider and pass orders on the basis of our judgment," it said while hearing a petition filed by Pradeep Arora and others against the Bombay High Court's March 9, 2021 order that held private hospital staffers were not entitled to receive benefits under the insurance scheme, unless their services were requisitioned by the state or the Centre.

DELIVERY AGENT ARRESTED FOR SEXUALLY
ASSAULTING BRAZILIAN MODEL IN
BENGALURU

Diary Times Desk : A Blinkit delivery agent was arrested on Saturday for sexually harassing a 21-year-old Brazilian model while delivering an order at her residence in Bengaluru's RT Nagar area.

According to the FIR filed by an employer of the victim, the incident took place on October 17 at the victim's apartment, where she resides with two other women.

Babasaheb Nemagoud, Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) North Division Bengaluru, confirmed that the accused has been arrested and identified as Kumar Rao Pawar.

"The accused was arrested on the same day when the complaint was filed. He is a Diploma student in a private college in Bengaluru and was working as a part-time delivery agent at Blinkit," he said.

On the day of the incident, the model had ordered food through the Blinkit app around 3:20 pm. According to the FIR, the delivery agent allegedly behaved inappropriately and touched her in a manner that violated her dignity while delivering the order.

She rushed back inside the home and did not disclose the incident immediately due to fear.

Days later, she confided in her roommates, who then informed the employer about the matter.

The complainant then reviewed the CCTV footage from the apartment premises, and a formal complaint was filed on October 25.

THE COMPLAINANT THEN REVIEWED THE CCTV
FOOTAGE FROM THE APARTMENT PREMISES,
AND A FORMAL COMPLAINT WAS FILED ON
OCTOBER 25.

Diary Times Desk : The Indian Air Force has waited a long time for new mid-air refuelling aircraft, and the process has now reached a decisive point. Defence sources reveal that a government-owned aviation firm from Israel is moving into the position of the preferred supplier for six aerial tankers under an acquisition valued at around Rs 8,000 crore.

The sources indicate that the Israel Aircraft Industries has presented a proposal that consists of six Boeing 767 commercial aircraft drawn from existing stocks, followed by full conversions that turn each airframe into a modern flight refuelling platform and these aircraft then join the Indian Air Force fleet after delivery.

The company has remained committed to meeting the offset obligations that bring around 30 per cent of the content into the "Made in India" domain. This commitment places the proposal at the front of the evaluation.

Industry officials point out that the wider contest included offers from Russian manufacturers and European aviation companies during the earlier stages of the competition. The Indian requirement laid down the need for Indigenous components between 3 and 30 per cent on second-hand platforms. Only the Israeli bid aligned with every part of the criteria.

PUSHKAR CATTLE FAIR IN RAJASTHAN

RS 15 CRORE HORSE FROM
CHANDIGARH ATTRACTS
ATTENTION AT PUSHKAR
FAIR

Diary Times Desk : A horse worth Rs 15 crore, a Rs 23-crore buffalo and a cow just 16 inches tall are the star attractions of the Pushkar Cattle Fair in Rajasthan, one of India's most prominent livestock fairs known for showcasing elite breeds and record-breaking valuation of animals.

Although the fair will start on October 30 and continue till November 5, livestock traders and enthusiasts have already started to gather at the site.

Of the more than 4,300 animals, including 3,028 horses and 1,306 camels, that have been registered for the fair, the centrepiece is a two-and-a-half-year-old stallion, Shahbaz, owned by Chandigarh-based breeder Gary Gill, which has drawn a massive crowd.

"Shahbaz has won multiple shows and comes from a prestigious lineage. His covering fee is Rs 2 lakh, and the asking price is Rs 15 crore," Gill said, adding that he has already received offers up to Rs 9 crore for the Marwari breed horse.

Another showstopper is 1,500-kg Anmol, a buffalo priced at Rs 23 crore. Its owner, Palmindra Gill, said the animal is "raised like royalty" and is fed milk, desi ghee, and dried fruits daily.

Joining the line-up is Rana, a buffalo from Ujjain valued at Rs 25 lakh and weighing 600 kg. The animal consumes food worth Rs 1,500 a day, including gram flour, eggs, oil, milk, ghee, and liver tonic.

Also at the fair is Badal, a veteran Marwari stallion and father of 285 colts, who has reportedly attracted offers of up to Rs 11 crore but remains unsold.

SUPREME COURT REJECTS
CENTRE'S PLEA AGAINST
ORDER TO IMPLEMENT
MGNREGA IN BENGAL

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday dismissed the Centre's plea challenging the Calcutta High Court order which directed that MGNREGA, the 100-day job guarantee scheme, be implemented prospectively in West Bengal from August 1, 2025.

A bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Sandeep Mehta refused to entertain the plea filed against the June 18 order of the high court, saying the high court's order did not warrant interference.

In its order, the high court said the Centre is fully empowered to impose special conditions, restrictions and regulations, which have not been imposed in other states, to ensure that no irregularity occurs while the scheme is being implemented in West Bengal.

Allowing the Centre to continue its enquiry into the allegations of irregularities in some districts of the state, the high court had directed that the MGNREGA (Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act) scheme be implemented prospectively with effect from August 1.





HOPE FOR J&K'S STATEHOOD RESTORATION FADING: OMAR ABDULLAH



Diary Times Desk : Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah on Monday said optimism over the restoration of statehood was gradually fading, warning that further delays could erode whatever hope remains among the people.

Speaking to reporters in Srinagar, Omar said he had been optimistic from the beginning, but the continued uncertainty was dampening that sentiment. "My hopefulness has come down a little, but it is still there. The more this process drags on, it is human nature that hope will diminish, not increase. The longer you make us wait, the less hopeful we will be," he said. He, however, added that since only a year had passed since the government formation, "there is still hope," and it would be best if statehood was restored while that hope remained alive.

FLIGHT TO CHINA FROM CALCUTTA FULLY BOOKED, FEW SEATS TO BE AVAILABLE AT HIGH FARES FROM OCTOBER 30

Diary Times Desk : The daily direct flight from Calcutta to Guangzhou is fully booked for the next three days, until October 29, with only a few seats available at high fares from October 30 for the following four days, as of Monday evening.

IndiGo's Calcutta-Guangzhou service was relaunched on Sunday night, with the first flight carrying 176 passengers. The journey takes approximately 3 hours and 35 minutes.

"Demand for the Guangzhou flight is unprecedented. There are no seats for the next three days, and since November 1, only a few are available at higher fares. We haven't seen such demand for a new flight even for Bangkok," said Anil Punjabi of the Travel Agents Federation of India, eastern region.

TEJASHWI YADAV'S PARTY EXPELS 27 LEADERS FOR ANTI-PARTY ACTIVITIES AHEAD OF BIHAR POLLS

Diary Times Desk : The Rashtriya Janata Dal, the principal challenger to Nitish Kumar-led NDA government in Bihar, on Monday expelled 27 leaders from the party for six years, accusing them of anti-party activities.

The move comes as Bihar is celebrating Chhath festival and just days before it goes to polls. Polling will be held in two phases: November 6 and 11. The votes will be counted on November 14.

Those expelled include sitting MLAs, former legislators and key functionaries at state and district levels.

The party said the expelled leaders had either contested as independent candidates or campaigned against party nominees in various constituencies across the state.

In another development on Monday, the BJP expelled four rebel leaders from the party for six years, accusing them of indiscipline and anti-party activities.

As part of the seat-sharing arrangement, both the BJP and JD(U), alliance partners, are contesting 101 seats each. It is for the first time that both parties are contesting an equal number of seats since 2005.

Earlier, Nitish Kumar's party, the JDU, expelled 16 rebel leaders in two days for anti-party conduct.

DELHI TO BAN ENTRY OF NON-BS-VI COMMERCIAL VEHICLES STARTING NOV 1



Diary Times Desk : All commercial goods vehicles registered outside Delhi and not compliant with BS-VI norms will be prohibited from entering the national capital from November 1, in line with the direction of the Commission for Air Quality Management.

BS-VI compliant vehicles meet stricter emission standards, contributing towards curtailing pollution.

A public notice issued by the transport department said BS-IV commercial goods vehicles will be permitted to enter Delhi up to October 31, 2026, as a transitional measure. There will, however, be no restrictions on the entry of commercial goods vehicles registered in Delhi, BS-VI compliant diesel vehicles, BS-IV compliant diesel vehicles till October 31, 2026, or those running on CNG, LNG, or electricity.

A WOMAN FARMER TOOK KANGANA RANAUT TO COURT OVER 'RS 100 PROTESTER' REMARK. HERE'S WHAT HAPPENED

Diary Times Desk : A Bathinda court on Monday granted bail to actor-politician Kangana Ranaut in a criminal defamation case where she was accused of posting defamatory remarks on social media about an elderly woman farmer during the 2020-2021 farmers' protests. Saying that there was a "misunderstanding" about her 2021 post and that she respects every 'mata' or mother, Kangana also added that she was deeply apologetic over the incident. However, the aggrieved family is yet to accept her apology.

Speaking to ThePrint, complainant Mahinder Kaur's lawyer Raghbir Singh Behniwal said, "The family's stance is, why is she apologising four years after the incident, and that too after having gone to the Supreme Court and challenging our case. However, they maintain that they have full faith in the legal system."

NATIONAL CONFERENCE RIFT WIDENS, MP SAYS OMAR ABDULLAH SHOULD RESIGN

Diary Times Desk : In a sign of the rift within the National Conference widening, the party's Srinagar MP Aga Ruhullah has accused Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah of failing to deliver on the promises made by the party and said he should resign.

Ruhullah has been critical of Abdullah over issues such as the restoration of Article 370, statehood for J&K, and reservations, and the other NC Lok Sabha MP, Mian Altaf, also appeared to criticise the chief minister on Sunday.

Abdullah said he accepts Altaf's advice like he would his father's, but added that Altaf should not be compared to Aga, stating that there was a huge difference between the two MPs. "I don't want to talk about him (Aga Ruhullah). Why are you trying to bring him on a par with Mian Altaf (who is the MP from Anantnag)? There is no comparison between Mian Altaf and him. There is a world of difference between the two," Abdullah had said on Monday.

Hitting back, Ruhullah said he's only following the ideology of the National Conference and raising the issues the party promised in the manifesto, and blamed Abdullah for deviating from it. "Ask him (Abdullah) if the questions and issues I am raising are not on the agenda of the National Conference. If it's the agenda of the NC, then how come I am being accused of separating and going against the party? It's he who is following a wrong path. And, if anyone has to resign and apologise, it is he (Abdullah), and not me," the Srinagar MP said.

FOLLOW COURT ORDER OR
FACE CONTEMPT FOR
STALLING NEW PILOT
FATIGUE RULE, PILOTS'
BODY TO DGCA

Diary Times Desk : The Federation of Indian Pilots (FIP) on Tuesday warned the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) that any attempt to delay or relax the rollout of the new Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTL) regulations, known as CAR 2024, would amount to contempt of court and breach of a solemn undertaking given before the Delhi High Court.

The federation also demanded that the DGCA "immediately withdraw or rescind any communication, order, or instruction granting extension or relaxation to airlines in implementation of CAR 2024 (FDTL Regulations)". It also asked the regulator to "reaffirm in writing, within 48 hours," that CAR 2024 will be implemented strictly as per the timeline affirmed before the High Court.

In a strongly worded letter addressed to the DGCA chief, FIP said the regulator is "bound by its own solemn undertaking and the directions of the Hon'ble Court," and that any move to extend or modify the implementation timeline "would be contrary to law, in breach of judicial assurance, and tantamount to wilful disobedience of the Court's orders."

HE LET DAUGHTER'S HANDS
BURN TO COVER UP RAPE.
HOW POLICE UNRAVELLED
PLOT

Diary Times Desk : A sexual assault, a police complaint, toilet cleaner burns, a stalker story, and the dramatic unravelling of it all -- the twists and turns in the Delhi "acid attack" case -- the attack that wasn't -- would leave scriptwriters with writer's block. The case is also deeply problematic for the way in which Aqeel Khan used his daughter to cover up his sexual crimes against a woman, and the family's decision to misuse a law made to protect women from a despicable crime. Officers of the Delhi Police meticulously detangled the acid attack story narrated by a 20-year-old college student over a day and a half. The investigation, which had started with the woman's hospitalisation and shocking allegations, ended with her father's arrest. Ravindra Yadav, Special Commissioner of Police, Law and Order, shared with NDTV how Delhi Police cracked the bizarre case.

KARNATAKA'S ORDER ON PUBLIC
GATHERINGS PAUSED AMID TUSSELE WITH
RSS



Diary Times Desk : In a setback for the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah-led government, the Karnataka High Court on Tuesday paused the order that mandated prior permission for gatherings of over 10 people in public spaces. Siddaramaiah said they will appeal against the order. The Congress government on October 18 issued an order making prior permission mandatory for any private organisations, associations or a group of persons to use government property or premises for their activities, with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) alleging that the move was aimed at restricting the activities of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). While the government order did not specifically name the RSS, the BJP's parent body, the provisions of the order are said to be aimed at impacting the activities of the Hindu right-wing organisation, including its route marches.

CYCLONE MONTHA MAKES LANDFALL
IN ANDHRA WITH WIND SPEED OF 100
KMPH

Diary Times Desk : Severe cyclonic storm Montha in the Bay of Bengal has started making landfall near Andhra Pradesh's Kakinada, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Tuesday night. Montha means a fragrant flower in Thai language.

It will continue to move north-northwestwards and cross Andhra Pradesh coast between Machilipatnam and Kalingapatnam around Kakinada during next 3-4 hours as a severe cyclonic storm with a maximum sustained wind speed of 90-100 kmph gusting to 110 kmph, said the weather body IMD in its latest update.

The impact of the cyclone is likely to be severe in Kakinada, Krishna, Eluru, East Godavari, West Godavari, Dr BR Ambedkar Konaseema, and Chinturu and Rampachodavaram divisions of Alluri Sitarama Raju district in Andhra Pradesh.

SUPREME COURT REFUSES CONTEMPT ACTION FOR SHOE THROWN
AT CHIEF JUSTICE

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday refused to initiate contempt action against a lawyer who had attempted to throw a shoe at Chief Justice of India BR Gavai but said it will consider laying down guidelines to prevent such incidents. Noting that the CJI himself had refused to proceed against 71-year-old Rakesh Kishore, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Joydalya Bagchi said shouting slogans in court and hurling shoes are clear cases of contempt of court but it all depends on the judge concerned under the law whether to proceed or not. "Issuing contempt notice will only give undue importance to the lawyer who had hurled shoe at the CJI and would increase the shelf life of the incident," the bench said, adding the incident should be allowed to die its own natural death. The bench was hearing a plea of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) seeking contempt action against advocate Kishore, who attempted to hurl the shoe towards the CJI on October 6 during court proceedings.

HAL SIGNS MOU WITH
RUSSIAN FIRM TO PRODUCE
SJ-100 CIVIL AIRCRAFT IN
INDIA

Diary Times Desk : Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has signed an MoU with a Russian public Joint Stock Company United Aircraft Corporation for the production of SJ-100 civil commuter aircraft in India. In a social media post, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh hailed the landmark step for the civil aviation sector of the country.

The Minister said that the SJ-100 will be a game changer for short-haul connectivity under the UDAN Scheme and marks a major stride towards achieving 'Aatmanirbharta' in civil aviation. He added that SJ-100 will be the first complete passenger aircraft to be made in the country.

The Minister further added that the manufacturing of the aircraft will strengthen the private sector and create direct and indirect jobs in the aviation industry.

TEJASHWI YADAV PRESENTS
MAHAGATHBANDHAN MANIFESTO,
PROMISES GOVERNMENT JOB FOR ALL
BIHAR FAMILIES

Diary Times Desk : The opposition Grand Alliance in Bihar was the first off the blocks to release its manifesto ahead of the election, making a series of promises topped by jobs for every family. "Within 20 days, one member from every family will be given a government job," the first of the 25-point of the manifesto said, formalizing the main promise Tejashwi Yadav has made to the voters. The manifesto also said Jeevika Didis will be granted permanent status as government employees. Making all contractual and outsourced workers permanent and reverting to the Old Pension Scheme are among the other salient points. "The INDIA bloc manifesto for Bihar polls has 25 major points assuring practical solutions," Tejashwi Yadav said on the occasion that was also attended by Mukesh Sahani, the Deputy Chief Ministerial candidate of the Grand Alliance.



BANGLADESH, PAKISTAN PLEDGE TO BOOST TRADE TIES AFTER TWO DECADES

Diary Times Desk : Bangladesh and Pakistan pledged to elevate economic, trade and investment relations to a "new strategic level" in a further sign of warming ties between the former foes.

The two countries held the ninth meeting of the Joint Economic Commission in Bangladesh's capital Dhaka, marking its first session since 2005.

The meeting focused on bilateral cooperation in a range of areas, including agriculture, energy, education, banking and tourism, the Economic Relations Division in Dhaka said in a statement Monday.

The two nations, which separated more than half a century ago after a deadly civil war, have taken gradual steps to reset ties following the ouster of Sheikh Hasina as leader of Bangladesh. Hasina's government had close ties with India, a political rival of Pakistan.

LUDHIANA-BORN ENTREPRENEUR DARSHAN SINGH SAHSI GUNNED DOWN IN CANADA

Diary Times Desk : A prominent Indian-origin Punjabi businessman, Darshan Singh Sahsi, and a leading figure in the community of Abbotsford city in British Columbia, Canada, was shot dead outside his house on Monday. He hailed from Rajgarh village near Doraha in Ludhiana.

The 68-year-old Sahsi was the President of Canam International, one of the world's leading clothing recyclers. He lived in the Ridgeview Drive area of Abbotsford, near Surrey, and was about to get into his car to leave for his office in Maple Ridge when he was shot dead. He died on the spot after sustaining multiple gunshot wounds. It is learnt that the shooter was waiting in a car parked on the roadside, and as soon as Sahsi sat in his vehicle, the assailant opened fire and fled the scene.

The Canadian Police have launched a formal investigation into the killing and are probing a possible connection to a ransom case. Reports suggest that Sahsi had received ransom calls in the past, which he had ignored.

According to the Abbotsford Police Department, the shooting took place at 9:22 a.m. in the 31300 block of Ridgeview Drive. "When officers arrived at the scene after receiving information, they discovered a 68-year-old man inside a vehicle suffering from life-threatening injuries.

EX-PAK ENVOY JABS SHEHBAZ SHARIF FOR "FLATTERING" TRUMP, SHASHI THAROOR REACTS

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan's former ambassador to the US, Husain Haqqani, on Monday took a jibe at Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif after he once again praised President Donald Trump.

In a social media post, Sharif complimented Trump for his "instrumental role" in brokering peace between Cambodia and Thailand.

"My deep appreciation to President Donald Trump for his instrumental role in advancing peace through the Kuala Lumpur Accord, the Gaza Peace Plan, and his resolute efforts for peace and stability in the Middle East and South Asia - saving millions of lives across the globe," Sharif, who nominated the US President for the Nobel Peace Prize this year, wrote on X.

ZOHRAN MAMDANI FACES PUSHBACK OVER HIS STORY ABOUT A FAMILY MEMBER'S POST-9/11 FEARS



Diary Times Desk : In the final days of New York City's mayoral race, Democratic nominee Zohran Mamdani has faced pushback over a story he told about his aunt being afraid to wear her hijab while riding the subway after the September 11, 2001, attacks.

National Republicans including Vice President JD Vance mocked Mamdani's story, which the nominee told during a Friday speech criticizing his rival Andrew Cuomo for appearing to laugh along with a radio host who suggested Mamdani would cheer another 9/11.

Accounts on X flagged a LinkedIn profile belonging to Mamdani's father's sister in which she is not wearing a head covering.

PAKISTAN POLICE NAB FOUR SUSPECTS IN MURDER OF ANCHORPERSON IMTIAZ MIR

Diary Times Desk : Police in Pakistan's southern Sindh province have arrested four suspects in the murder case of anchorperson Imtiaz Mir, they said on Monday.

Mir, who hosted the show "Aaj Ki Baat With Imtiaz Mir" on Metro 1 News channel, was shot by two persons riding a motorbike in Karachi's Malir area on Sept. 21, according to police. He passed away during treatment a week later.

In a statement, a spokesman for police in Sindh's provincial capital of Karachi said they conducted several raids, along with a federal intelligence agency, and arrested the suspects affiliated with a group, Lashkar-e-Sarullah. The arrestees, Ijlal Zaidi, Shahab, Ehsan Abbas and Faraz Ahmed, were arrested amid Karachi police action against suspects involved in a recent spate of targeted killings in the city, which has had a history of violent crimes.

TURKIYE SIGNS DEAL WITH THE UK TO BUY 20 EUROFIGHTER JETS

Diary Times Desk : Turkiye has reached a deal with the United Kingdom to buy 20 Eurofighter Typhoon jets for almost \$11bn, as Ankara seeks to bolster its air defences while it develops its own fifth-generation KAAAN fighter planes.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan met in Ankara on Monday to sign the agreement.

The UK's Ministry of Defence described the move as the "biggest fighter jet deal in a generation", while Erdogan hailed it as "a new symbol of the strategic relations" between "two close allies".

Speaking in Ankara, Starmer said the agreement was also a win for NATO, which counts the UK and Turkiye among its members.

"This is the southeast flank of NATO, and so having that capability locked in with the United Kingdom is really important for NATO as well," the British prime minister said.

The first Typhoons ordered under Monday's agreement are expected to arrive in Ankara in 2030, according to Starmer.

THAILAND IN MOURNING: WHAT TOURISTS MUST KNOW AFTER QUEEN SIRIKIT'S DEATH

Diary Times Desk : Thailand is currently observing a period of official mourning after the passing of Queen Sirikit, The Queen Mother, at the age of 93 on 24 October 2025. The Royal Household Bureau said she died in a hospital in Bangkok. Since October 17, she had been suffering from a blood infection but despite her medical team's efforts, her conditions did not improve.

What's Changing for Travellers

Mourning protocols in effect: According to the official website for the Public Relations Department (PRD) of Thailand, Thai government has ordered flags at government buildings and schools to be flown at half-mast for 30 days. Civil servants and state enterprise staff will observe a full year of official mourning. The public is encouraged to wear black or dark clothing for 90 days as a mark of respect.

Tourism remains operational: Tourist attractions, hotels, resorts and transport services continue to operate normally. Travellers can proceed with their plans, but should remain mindful of local etiquette.

Dress and behaviour suggested: While there's no formal ban on events or nightlife, organisers have been advised to tone down festivities. Visitors are asked to show awareness of the national mood by avoiding loud celebrations and dressing modestly when visiting temples or royal sites.



IS ZOHRAN MAMDANI THE FUTURE OF US DEMOCRATS?



Diary Times Desk : Zohran Mamdani may not solve all of the beleaguered US Democrats' problems, but the surprise frontrunner in the race for New York mayor does offer hints on how to win back voters and power. The Democrats -- shut out of power in the White House and both chambers of Congress -- are seen negatively by 63 percent of US voters, according to a July poll in the Wall Street Journal, the party's lowest approval rating in 30 years.

John Kane, a professor of political science at New York University, said the party needs to reconnect with parts of their traditional base, such as lower-income Americans and young voters. Mamdani, a 34-year-old self-described democratic socialist, has developed a plan aimed at luring working-class people and young adults, for whom famously expensive New York is becoming harder and harder to call home.

US ANNOUNCES LIST OF APPLICANTS THAT QUALIFY FOR H-1B \$100K FEE EXEMPTION

Diary Times Desk : President Trump has issued a proclamation making it mandatory for all US employers to pay \$100,000 fee before hiring a foreign worker under the H-1B visa program. The proclamation states that all US employers hiring foreign workers in the 2026 H-1B lottery and other H-1B petitions submitted after September 21, 2025, will be required to pay a \$100K fee. The new H-1B \$100K fee has already prompted many companies to change their plans for hiring foreign workers. A US employer, under the new rules, filing a H-1B petition on behalf of an international worker, will initially have to pay the \$100,000 fee, thus making the cost of hiring foreign labour costlier.

PAKISTAN TO SEND 20,000 TROOPS TO GAZA: TASK IS TO 'NEUTRALISE HAMAS'; IRAN, TURKEY, QATAR MAY SEE 'BETRAYAL'

Diary Times Desk : In what intelligence officials describe as a desperate attempt to buy legitimacy and financial relief, Pakistan is reportedly preparing to send nearly 20,000 troops to Gaza under a Western-backed post-war stabilisation plan. According to a CNN-News18 report citing top intelligence sources, the proposal follows a series of secret meetings between Pakistan's Army Chief, General Asim Munir, Israel's Mossad officials, and the US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Egypt earlier this month. If confirmed, this would mark Pakistan's first-ever indirect engagement in Israeli security operations, an extraordinary shift for a country that has never formally recognised Israel and has long used anti-Israel rhetoric to mobilise domestic Islamist sentiment.

A covert pact under Western watch
As reported by CNN-News18, the plan envisions a "controlled Pakistani military presence in Gaza" disguised as a humanitarian mission focused on rehabilitation and reconstruction. However, intelligence sources said Pakistan's real task would be to "neutralise remaining Hamas elements and stabilise the territory under Western instructions."

EUROPEAN COMMISSION SIGNS UN CONVENTION TO STEP UP FIGHT AGAINST CYBERCRIME

Diary Times Desk : The European Commission has signed the United Nations Convention against cybercrime on behalf of the EU in Hanoi, Vietnam.

The fight against cybercrime is a priority for the EU, the Commission said, adding that cybercrime knows no borders; it can create disruption of essential services, financial losses for individuals and businesses, and it can compromise personal and sensitive information.

The convention enhances the EU's ability to fight cybercrime together with international partners. It enables international cooperation with and between those 115 UN Member States that are not parties to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. It thus fills an important gap in combating crimes with global reach.

AS ASIA-PACIFIC LEADERS GATHER IN SOUTH KOREA, A LOOK AT WHAT APEC IS

Diary Times Desk : Leaders from 21 Pacific Rim economies will gather this week in Gyeongju, South Korea, for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation, or APEC, forum. Meetings began Monday and will run through Saturday, though talks are expected to be overshadowed by US President Donald Trump's sweeping global tariffs and high-stakes trade standoffs with China and other nations. Trump will arrive on Wednesday but is scheduled to depart before the APEC leaders' summit itself. He is expected to see Chinese President Xi Jinping for their first in-person meeting of Trump's second term, as the two countries seek to dial down trade tensions.

The following are facts about the APEC meeting:

- APEC, which was founded in 1989, has 21 members that represent more than 50% of global GDP and are home to some 2.7 billion people, or 40% of the world's population. China, Russia and the US are three of the group's largest members. The APEC region generated 70% of the world's economic growth during its first 10 years of existence.
- Leaders of the countries meet annually. The last gathering was in November 2024 in Peru, dominated by worries over the incoming Trump administration's vows to enact tariffs and reverse course on issues like climate change.
- The economic club aims to encourage cooperation and reduce trade and investment barriers, though decisions made at meetings are non-binding and consensus has been increasingly difficult.

META, TIKTOK AGREE TO OBEY AUSTRALIA'S UNDER-16 SOCIAL MEDIA BAN

Diary Times Desk : Tech giants Meta and TikTok said Tuesday they will obey Australia's under-16 social media ban but warned the landmark laws could prove difficult to enforce. Australia will from December 10 force social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and TikTok to remove users under the age of 16.

There is keen interest in whether Australia's sweeping restrictions can work, as regulators around the globe wrestle with the dangers of social media.

Both TikTok and Meta -- the parent company of Facebook and Instagram -- said the ban would be hard to police, but agreed they would abide by it.



TRUMP CALLS RUSSIA'S NUCLEAR CRUISE MISSILE TEST 'INAPPROPRIATE', ADVISES PUTIN TO END UKRAINE CONFLICT

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has called Russia's nuclear-powered Burevestnik cruise missile test "inappropriate" and advised Russian President Vladimir Putin to focus on ending the conflict with Ukraine. Trump also highlighted the US' nuclear capabilities, stating that they have a nuclear submarine. "They know we have a nuclear submarine, the greatest in the world, right off their shores. So, I mean, it doesn't have to go 8,000 miles. And they're not playing games with us. We're not playing games with them either. We test missiles all the time," Donald Trump said while interacting with reporters on Air Force One. "I don't think it's an appropriate thing for Putin to be saying either. By the way, he ought to get the war ended. A war that should have taken one week is now in its fourth year. That's what he ought to do instead of testing missiles," he added.



CHINA, ASEAN SIGN UPGRADED FREE TRADE PACT AMID GLOBAL TRADE TENSIONS

Diary Times Desk : The Southeast Asian bloc ASEAN and China on Tuesday signed an upgrade to their free trade agreement, which is expected to include sections on digital, green economy, and other new industries. The 11-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations is China's largest trading partner, with bilateral trade totaling \$771 billion last year, according to ASEAN statistics. China is seeking to intensify its engagement with ASEAN, a region with a collective gross domestic product of \$3.8 trillion, to counter hefty import tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump's administration on countries around the world.

Beijing has been seeking to position itself as a more open economy, despite criticism from other major powers of its expanding export restrictions on rare earths and other critical minerals.

IF YOU THINK TRUMP'S CHINA DEAL IS THE END OF THE STORY, YOU HAVEN'T BEEN PAYING ATTENTION

Diary Times Desk : Financial markets kicked off the week by gleefully cheering the weekend's headlines that trade talks between the United States and China went smoothly. Just weeks earlier, Trump had threatened to impose a 100% tariff on Chinese exports and said he might call off a meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping. Now, that meeting looks set to take place this week. If all that seems like a rerun of a movie we've seen before but no one quite remembers how it ends, that's because it never really did. The rare-earth chokehold The latest escalation between Trump and Xi arose after Beijing announced plans to restrict exports of rare-earth minerals, critical materials needed to power a wide range of electronics. But that's hardly anything new — China, which controls the majority of the world's supply of rare earth minerals, began putting measures in place to limit foreign access to them over 30 years ago. And as demand for China's rare earths has increased since, so have the safeguards for allowing other countries to purchase them. After meeting with Chinese trade negotiators in Malaysia over the weekend, US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said he anticipates the high-stakes meeting between Trump and Xi could result in "some kind of deferral" on rare-earth export controls.



SUDAN ARMY WITHDRAWS FROM DARFUR'S EL-FASHER, UN WARNS OF RSF ATROCITIES

Diary Times Desk : Sudan's army chief has announced the withdrawal of his soldiers from their last stronghold in Darfur, as the United Nations issued a stark warning over reports of "atrocities" by the paramilitary group now in control of the city of el-Fasher.

The announcement by Abdel Fattah al-Burhan came late on Monday, a day after the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) seized control of the main Sudanese army base in el-Fasher and declared victory there.

The army's withdrawal from el-Fasher leaves more than a quarter-million people — half of them children — under the control of the RSF. Aid groups reported chaotic scenes there, including killings, arrests and attacks on hospitals.

TRUMP SAYS HE "WOULD LOVE TO" RUN FOR THIRD PRESIDENTIAL TERM

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has kept the possibility of running for a third presidential term in 2028 open. When asked about former White House strategist Steve Bannon's recent suggestion that he seek an unconstitutional third term, Trump, during his interaction with the media aboard Air Force One, said, "I would love to do it. I have the best numbers ever." However, he quickly added that he "hasn't really thought about" running again. Trump also hinted at the potential successors to lead the Republican Party after his tenure, naming Secretary of State Marco Rubio and Vice President JD Vance as top contenders for the 2028 presidential race.

"We have some really good people," Trump said, pointing toward Rubio, "We have great people -- I don't need to get into that. One of them is standing right here," he added.

HOW HARD WILL TRUMP'S 'TREMENDOUS' RUSSIAN OIL SANCTIONS HIT MOSCOW? CHINA AND INDIA MAY DECIDE

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump's attempts to financially choke Moscow's Ukraine war machine by imposing sanctions on Russian oil firms sent immediate ripples through offices in India and China.

Some oil companies started canceling orders to beat a November 21 deadline following the sanctions of Russia's two largest oil firms, Rosneft and Lukoil, according to industry insiders.

Until now, the world's two most populous nations, India and China, have largely resisted the American leader's pleas that they stop buying Russian oil — and his threats of what might happen if they don't.

But early signs of adherence to Trump's "tremendous" sanctions may just be a holding pattern, analysts say, as players figure out new ways to deliver and acquire cheap Russian black gold via a sophisticated workaround system that involves middlemen and a "shadow fleet" of tankers with opaque ownership.

How hard Trump's sanctions hit Russia could ultimately be decided in Asia. Between them, India and China import between 3.5 and 4.5 million barrels of Russian oil daily, a significant portion of which comes from the newly sanctioned firms, analysts say.

US AIR FORCE FLIES INTO EYE OF HURRICANE MELISSA, STRONGEST STORM OF 2025



Diary Times Desk : A US Air Force aircraft pierced Hurricane Melissa, capturing footage from inside the eye of what is being called the most powerful storm of the year.

The mission, conducted by the USAF's famed "Hurricane Hunters," was to gather meteorological data for the US National Hurricane Center as the Category 5 system moved towards Jamaica. The aircraft entered the eye from the southeast just after sunrise, through thick grey clouds, with faint light behind them. Ahead, the towering eye wall curved in a wide circle. A bright arc on the far northwest side showed where sunlight was breaking over the storm's rim. "We are entering from the southeast just after sunrise, and the bright arc on the far northwest eye wall is the light just beginning to make it over the top from behind us," the USAF Hurricane Hunter unit posted on X.

MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO KILLING JAPAN'S FORMER PM SHINZO ABE

Diary Times Desk : A man accused of killing former Japanese prime minister Shinzo Abe has pleaded guilty on the first day of his trial. Tetsuya Yamagami, 45, told a court in the capital Tokyo that "everything is true", according to local media. Yamagami used a homemade gun to shoot Abe during a political campaign event in the western city of Nara in 2022. Abe - who was known for his hawkish foreign policy and a signature economic strategy that popularly came to be known as "Abenomics" - was struck several times, and died in hospital later the same day, sending shockwaves around the world. The assassination shone a spotlight on links between Abe's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the Unification Church, more popularly known as the "Moonies". Yamagami is reported to have told investigators he targeted Abe because he blamed the 67-year-old for allegedly promoting the church, which he said had bankrupted his mother and the wider family.

INDIAN MAN STABS TWO TEENS WITH METAL FORK ON US-GERMANY FLIGHT, ARRESTED

Diary Times Desk : An Indian national, Praneeth Kumar Usiripalli, has been charged in the US with allegedly stabbing two teenagers with a metal fork and slapping a passenger on board a Lufthansa flight from Chicago to Germany, according to a statement by the US Attorney's Office for the District of Massachusetts. According to court documents, Usiripalli allegedly stabbed a 17-year-old passenger in the shoulder with a metal fork and then subsequently attacked another 17-year-old and stabbed him in the back of his head with the same fork. The first victim was sleeping in a middle seat when he woke up to find Usiripalli standing over him, after which the 28-year-old accused struck his left clavicle area with the fork and lunged to attack the second victim, who suffered a laceration on the back of his head.

TOURIST PLANE CRASH IN KENYA KILLS 11 ON BOARD

Diary Times Desk : A plane crash near Kenya's coast has killed 10 European tourists and a local pilot, officials have said. The aircraft was flying from the popular beach resort of Diani to an airstrip in the world-famous Maasai Mara game park when it went down at 05:30 local time (02:30 GMT), the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) said. Mombasa Air Safari said the plane was carrying eight Hungarians, two Germans and a Kenyan pilot, all of whom had been killed in the crash. "Our primary focus right now is on providing all possible support to the families affected," it added in a statement. Local media have published images of the plane in flames, with debris scattered at the site of the crash. Kwale County Commissioner Stephen Orinde told the BBC that the plane crashed about 10km (six miles) from Kwale town after flying out of Diani. It was on its way to Kichwa Tembo, an airstrip in Maasai Mara, popular with holidaymakers because of its wildlife. "The passengers were all tourists," Orinde said. He said that investigations into the cause of the crash were ongoing but suggested it could have been due to bad weather. "The weather is not very good here at the moment. Since early in the morning, it is raining and it is very misty, but we cannot preempt [the findings]," Orinde said. In August, a light aircraft belonging to the medical charity Amref crashed on the outskirts of the capital, Nairobi, killing six people and injuring two others.



RARE EARTHS, NOBEL NOMINATION AND CHEERS: TRUMP ENDS JAPAN LEG OF ASIA TOUR

Diary Times Desk : Praise, Nobel nominations and promises of foreign investment in the US - Japan's newly-elected Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi rolled out the red carpet for Donald Trump on Tuesday. Trump in turn had warm praise for Takaichi, telling her that the US would be there for "anything you want, any favours you need, anything... to help Japan". The two leaders signed a deal on rare earth minerals, as well as a document heralding a new "golden age" of US-Japan relations which reiterated the commitment of the two countries to implement deals struck earlier, including the 15% tariff deal negotiated earlier this year. The pageantry and the venue also seemed tailor-made for the US president. A full military guard of honour and band welcomed Trump to the ornate Akasaka Palace, with its vaulted ceilings and gold-encrusted walls not unlike what the president wants in his planned White House ballroom. **PAK-AFGHAN PEACE TALKS FAIL AMID US DRONE DISPUTE, DIPLOMATIC MELTDOWN IN ISTANBUL** **Diary Times Desk :** The much-anticipated peace talks between Pakistan and the Afghan Taliban in Istanbul have dramatically collapsed, plunging bilateral relations to a new low and leaving mediators from Qatar and Turkey stunned at the breakdown, sources have told NDTV. What was meant to be a step toward regional stability has instead exposed deep mistrust, disunity, and competing agendas, particularly over the issue of US drone operations and cross-border terror. A Fragile Dialogue Unravels According to multiple diplomatic sources, the Istanbul meeting began with cautious optimism. The agenda was reportedly finalised, with only one key issue left unresolved when the talks suddenly fell apart. Witnesses say the Pakistani delegation's behaviour deteriorated rapidly, marked by disorganisation, heated exchanges, and disrespect toward their Afghan counterparts and mediators. The immediate trigger for the collapse appears to have been Pakistan's stunning admission, for the first time publicly, that it has an agreement with the United States permitting drone operations from its territory. Pakistani officials reportedly insisted that this pact "cannot be broken".

A ‘SOYBEAN FARMER’
HIMSELF, TREASURY
SEC. BESSANT SAID HE’S
FEELING ‘PAIN’ FROM
CHINA, TOO

Diary Times Desk :
Hundreds of thousands of American soybean farmers are suffering from a monthslong effective embargo by China as part of a global trade war. Among them: Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent.

“I’m actually a soybean farmer,” Bessent said over the weekend in an ABC News interview. “I have felt this pain, too,” he told Martha Raddatz.

China, usually the largest buyer of American soybeans by far, significantly increased tariffs on the legumes in May after President Donald Trump enacted import levies on Chinese goods. Since then, China hasn’t purchased any American soybeans.

But the pain from that de facto boycott might not be shared equally. Many soybean farmers rely on their crops for most of their income. That doesn’t appear to be the case for Bessent, whom Forbes estimates has a net worth of around \$600 million.

TRUMP IS SOON
EXPECTED TO
ANNOUNCE HIS FED
CHAIR PICK. HERE’S
WHO’S WHO ON THE
SHORT LIST

Diary Times Desk : The Trump administration’s search for who will lead the Federal Reserve next year is well underway, and there are five people on the short list to become the most powerful figure in the US economy. Few people wield as much influence over financial markets and the global economy as the head of the US central bank. A few words from the Fed chair can move markets and shift billions of dollars. It’s a role so consequential that President Donald Trump has even mused about taking it for himself. Trump has made no secret of his distaste for Fed Chair Jerome Powell, whose term ends in May. Trump has, at various points, said he would fire Powell or force him to resign; berated him for not lowering interest rates; and called on the Fed’s Board of Governors to oust him.

APPLE IS NOW WORTH \$4,000,000,000,000

Diary Times Desk : Apple has just joined an exclusive club: It just became one of the few publicly traded companies to surpass \$4 trillion in market value, joining fellow tech giants Nvidia and Microsoft, both of which reached that milestone earlier this year.

Shares of Apple (AAPL) rose 0.1% Tuesday, continuing a sharp rebound, buoyed by strong iPhone 17 sales – including in China, a key market where the company has previously underperformed.

The trend is a reversal of Apple’s fortunes from earlier this year, when the company’s stock tumbled as it navigated a myriad of challenges, from President Donald Trump’s tariffs to AI product delays and pressure to build its smartphones domestically. It lost over \$310 billion in market value in one trading day in April.

But the tech juggernaut’s rebound can be taken as a sign that the iPhone is still enough to excite consumers and Wall Street, even as the company falls behind in the AI race.

Still, Apple shares are up just over 7% this year, a far cry from the 30.7% gain it saw in 2024, and less than the 17% broader-market gain.



ELON MUSK’S POLITICS COST HIS FIRM TESLA MORE THAN ONE
MILLION EV SALES, REPORT REVEALS

Diary Times Desk : Elon Musk’s polarizing political actions since acquiring Twitter, later rebranded X, in 2022 dramatically hurt the automaker’s U.S. sales, underscoring how deeply its fortunes are intertwined with the billionaire’s persona.

The findings quantify for the first time how the political actions of the world’s wealthiest person – including his role in U.S. President Donald Trump’s administration – may have cost Tesla billions in lost vehicle sales while benefiting rival electric carmakers.

Tesla’s U.S. sales would have been between 67% and 83% higher, or about 1 million to 1.26 million additional vehicles, from October 2022 to April 2025, had it not been for what researchers call the “Musk partisan effect,” according to a working paper from the National Bureau of Economic Research by Yale University economists.

Tesla did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the report.



BILL GATES MAKES A STUNNING CLAIM ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

Diary Times Desk : In a stunning and significant pushback to the “doomsday” climate activist community, Bill Gates, a leading proponent for carbon emissions reductions, published a remarkable essay Tuesday that argued resources must be shifted away from the battle against climate change.

Instead, Gates argues, the world’s philanthropists must increase their investment in other efforts aimed at preventing disease and hunger.

Climate change is not going to wipe out humanity, he argued, and past efforts that strive for achieving zero carbon emissions have made real progress. But Gates said that past investments fighting climate change have been misplaced, and too much good money has been put into expensive and questionable efforts.

Although Gates said investment to battle climate change must continue, he argued that President Donald Trump’s cuts to USAID threaten a more urgent problem, inflicting potentially lasting global damage to the fight against famine and life-threatening preventable sickness.



THERE’S AN ECONOMIC EXPLANATION FOR WHY EVERYTHING FEELS SO TENSE RIGHT NOW

Diary Times Desk : It’s been a whirlwind year for invA collective angst is taking root. Maybe you feel it watching the news, scrolling social media, standing in line at the grocery checkout. Something’s off, and maybe it’s been that way for a while, but it hasn’t always been this tense, right?

While there are myriad reasons for our individual anxieties, there are also economic realities underpinning our agita. Some call it a K-shaped economy, in which the wealthy are getting richer and the poor are becoming worse off. None of that is especially new, but what makes this moment different is the utter flimsiness of it all. The sense — amplified by tech outages, a government shutdown and volatile markets — that we’re just one slip-up away from calamity.

If you’re standing somewhere on the top rung of the K, the views are nice, but the ground may feel unsteady. That’s because the gains at the top are largely predicated on a speculative artificial intelligence stock market boom that even some AI proponents say could quickly fizzle — and potentially take the US economy down with it. Absent those AI investments, some analysts say, we’d be in a recession.

ACTIVIST INVESTOR GROUP THAT INCLUDES TRAVIS KELCE AIMS TO REVIVE STRUGGLING SIX FLAGS

Diary Times Desk : A group that includes activist investor Jana Partners and NFL player Travis Kelce says it has accumulated one of the largest ownership stakes in Six Flags Entertainment and intends to press the company’s leadership on ways to improve the struggling amusement park operator’s business.

Jana said Tuesday that the investor group now owns an economic interest of approximately 9% in Six Flags. The group plans to “engage” with Six Flags’ management and board of directors to discuss ways to enhance shareholder value and improve visitors’ experience.

AMAZON JUST CUT 14,000 JOBS, AND IT’S NOT DONE



Diary Times Desk : Amazon said it would cut 14,000 corporate staffers this year in a mass layoff aimed at readying the company for wide adoption of AI technology.

The company noted that it would be hiring in key areas and would prioritize those who lost their jobs for those roles. But the company also said it wasn’t done with layoffs.

“We expect to continue hiring in key strategic areas while also finding additional places we can remove layers, increase ownership, and realize efficiency gains,” said Beth Galetti, Amazon’s senior vice president of people experience in a memo to employees that the company put on its public blog.

Reuters, which on Monday first reported Amazon would lay off staff, said the job cuts could ultimately reach 30,000.Layoffs will begin Tuesday. Most employees will be given 90 days to look for new roles internally, while people that can’t get new jobs at Amazon will be given severance pay and additional benefits.

NEW YORK AND CALIFORNIA ARE TAKING ON THE NIMBYS



Diary Times Desk : New York City voters are currently deciding on one of the most polarizing issues in decades. But it has nothing to do with 34-year-old democratic socialist mayoral frontrunner Zohran Mamdani.

Instead, it will determine who has the power to greenlight — or block— affordable housing development in the city.

Several proposals on the ballot could speed up affordable housing development and land use approvals in the city.The proposals have pitted the City Council against the mayor, and developers against unions. The fight is symbolic of a larger power struggle playing out in liberal cities and states like New York and California. Despite championing inclusion, these places are some of the most unaffordable in America and have policies that empower local voices to block affordable housing, often called NIMBYism “Not In My Backyard.”“Everyone wants new housing, but no one wants it on their block,” said David Schleicher, a Yale University professor of property and urban law.

Power to block housing

One ballot proposal in New York City would speed up review for affordable housing developments in the neighborhoods that have built the fewest. Another would remove a local city council member’s ability to kill a housing project.

Supporters of these reforms say zoning laws have been hijacked by NIMBYs, and control should be shifted away from local leaders to cities and states. Local government is typically most responsive to vocal, well-funded homeowners who oppose affordable buildings on their blocks over fears their property values will decline or strain school systems.

10-YEAR-OLD GIRL IN HIMACHAL'S BILASPUR ALLEGES ABUSE, REFUSES TO LIVE WITH PARENTS

Diary Times Desk : A 10-year-old girl in Himachal Pradesh's Bilaspur was taken under protection by the Women and Child Development Department after she dialled the child helpline, alleging physical and mental abuse by her parents, officials said on Tuesday.

In her complaint to child helpline 1098, the minor claimed that her parents frequently beat and scold her, creating a tense atmosphere at home, they said.

Following the complaint, the Women and Child Development Department informed the Bharari police. Subsequently on Monday, a police team, led by a female officer, visited the girl's home and inquired about the situation.

The police warned the girl's parents not to engage in any kind of physical violence or reprimand in the future and an attempt was also made to convince the girl that her parents would now treat her well. However, the girl flatly refused to live with them, they said.

**BBMB-OPERATED
NANGAL-BHAKRA
TRAIN DERAILS NEAR
NEHLA VILLAGE; NO
CASUALTIES REPORTED**

Diary Times Desk : One bogey of the train operated by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB), which plies between Nangal and Bhakra Dam, derailed yesterday evening near Nehla village. At the time, many BBMB employees were on board. However, no injuries were reported as the train was moving very slowly when the incident occurred.

Parminster Singh, executive engineer (mechanical), who was responsible for maintaining the train, said that the track and train have become old and that some mechanical fault may be responsible for the bogie getting derailed. "We shall restore the train in the next few days," he added.

PUNJAB CABINET GIVES NOD TO STILT-PLUS-FOUR FLOORS IN URBAN AREAS

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Cabinet has today approved the construction of stilt-plus-four floors in all new constructions coming up in urban areas, in the newly launched sectors.

Those having minimum 250 square yards of plot can go in for still-plus-four floors of construction, with the approval of Punjab Unified Building Rules, 2025, by the Council of Minister Bhagwant Mann in the Cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann today. This will be allowed only in the licenced colonies and sectors.

Under the rules, quite similar to what has been approved by the neighbouring state of Haryana, the permissible height of residential buildings has been increased from 17 metres to 21 metres. Chief Minister Mann said that this has been done to ease the pressure of housing in big cities. "We have also given a go ahead for deemed approval of building plans, for houses up to 250 square yards," he said, adding that additional ground coverage has also been allowed.



RSS TO COMMEMORATE GURU TEGH BAHADUR'S 350TH MARTYRDOM DAY WITH YEAR-LONG EVENTS STARTING NOVEMBER 24

Diary Times Desk : The ruling BJP's ideological mentor, the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), will commemorate the 350th anniversary of the martyrdom of the ninth Sikh Guru, Guru Tegh Bahadur, with year-long events starting November 24.

Top RSS functionary Sunil Ambekar, chief of Sangh communication, today said a special resolution and statement will also be issued to mark November 24, the 350th anniversary of Guru Tegh Bahadur, who laid down his life to protect the religious rights of Hindus and stood up to the tyranny of Mughal emperor Aurangzeb.

Ambekar said the RSS will participate in Guru Tegh Bahadur's martyrdom commemoration events and also hold its own programmes for a whole year. Tribal leader and freedom fighter Birsā Munda's birth anniversary on November 14 will also be marked, Ambekar added.

MAN LINKED TO CROSS-BORDER DRUG CARTEL ARRESTED IN FEROZEPUR, 5 KG HEROIN SEIZED

Diary Times Desk : Punjab Police on Tuesday claimed to have busted a cross-border drug cartel with the arrest of one operative and recovered 5 kg of heroin from his possession in Ferozepur.

DGP Gaurav Yadav said the accused was identified as Gurpreet Singh alias Gora, from Habib Wala village in Ferozepur.

Police also impounded his motorcycle. Preliminary investigation suggests the consignment was smuggled from across the border. Further investigation is under way to trace backward and forward linkages in the case to unearth the entire network, he said.

Assistant Inspector General, Counter Intelligence, Ferozepur, Gursewak Brar, said that based on reliable inputs, a secret operation was carried out in the Ferozepur area, leading to the arrest of Gurpreet from the link road Basti Khushal Singh Wala at Hassan Dhut village.

YOUR HOROSCOPE

29-10-2025

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.

Lec

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.

CLASS 8 STUDENT
GANG-RAPED AFTER
BEING KIDNAPPED IN
FARIDABAD

Diary Times Desk : An eighth-grade girl student was allegedly gang-raped after being kidnapped by four youths in their car. According to reports, the 15-year-old victim was held hostage from 7 pm on October 26 to 4 am on October 27. Afterward, the accused left her outside her house and fled in their car.

An FIR has been registered at the Faridabad Old police station based on a complaint filed by the victim's sister. According to the complaint, the victim had gone to the Sector 18 market to eat momos on October 26 around 7 pm. When she didn't return home for a long time, the family became concerned. Despite extensive searching, she was nowhere to be found.

The victim's sister stated, "My sister arrived home around 4.30 am on October 27. She revealed that she had been abducted by four youths in a car earlier that evening. They took her to a secluded area, drugged her, and raped her." The victim is currently hospitalised and is not fit to give a statement yet.

AMBALA MAN'S
AMERICAN DREAM ENDS
IN CHAINS

Diary Times Desk : The dream of a better life in the US has ended for Harjinder Singh of Jagoli village in Ambala, who was deported on Sunday after being caught for illegal stay.

Harjinder, who went to the US in 2021, said he had dreamt of working hard and earning well for his family's future. But his hopes were crushed when US authorities deported him under the Trump administration's policy of removing illegal immigrants. "They should have deported us with dignity instead of sending us in chains. We remained in chains for nearly 25 hours. There is swelling in my legs and other body parts are also in pain. They shouldn't have treated us like this," said an emotional Harjinder, narrating his ordeal.

He recalled that he had learnt cooking after reaching the US and was employed in Jacksonville, Florida.

GANGSTER SUNIL SARDHANIA ARRESTED AFTER TRAVELLING 15 COUNTRIES VIA
DONKEY ROUTE

Diary Times Desk : During interrogation, gangster Sunil Sardhania, who was on police remand, revealed that he had first travelled to Dubai after obtaining a passport from Delhi using fake documents. From Dubai, he travelled through 15 countries via the donkey route and reached Rico Coast in Central America. However, before he could proceed to America, the Gurugram police apprehended him at the Delhi airport in the early hours of Sunday.

The Gurugram police had arrested Sardhania, the main accused in the firing on Haryanvi singer Rahul Fazilpuria and the murder of property dealer Rohit Shaukeen in Gurugram. Sardhania is now on a five-day police remand. During interrogation, he disclosed that after obtaining a passport using fake documents, he reached Dubai and then travelled through 15 countries via the donkey route to Central America.



DEATH OF EX-PUNJAB DGP'S SON:
HARYANA POLICE QUESTIONS
SEVERAL PUNJAB COPS

Diary Times Desk : The Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Haryana Police probing the death of former Punjab DGP Mohammad Mustafa's son said on Tuesday that they have questioned several Punjab police personnel who were part of a security team provided to the family.

The SIT of the Panchkula police also took possession of the deceased Aqil Akhter's mobile phone, which will be sent for forensic examination and data recovery.

In addition to the mobile phone, Akhter's diary and a laptop have also been handed over to SIT by his family. Giving these details, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), Panchkula, and SIT in-charge Vikram Nehra on Tuesday said the cause of Akhter's death is yet to be ascertained as various reports, including the viscera analysis, are still awaited. Mustafa and his wife Razia Sultana, a former Punjab minister, have been booked by the Panchkula police in Haryana in connection with the death of their 35-year-old son.

ACP'S ANTI-ENCROACHMENT
ACTION CAUGHT ON CAMERA,
RELIEVED OF TRAFFIC CHARGE

Diary Times Desk : A video showing ACP (Traffic) Dinesh Kumar getting vegetable vendors removed from a road in Bahadurgarh town during an anti-encroachment drive with the help of a JCB machine has gone viral on social media, drawing the attention of Director General of Police (DGP) OP Singh. Following the video, the Traffic charge has been withdrawn from the ACP and he has been attached to the district headquarters in Jhajjar. Bahadurgarh ACP (Crime) Pradeep Nain has been assigned the Traffic charge, confirmed Rajshri Singh, Commissioner of Police, Jhajjar.

Taking note of the matter, the DGP issued a message to the district police, emphasising the need to ensure that field officers discharge their duties carefully in an era where every action is recorded. He also shared the message through his official social media handle, accompanied by a video statement from Bahadurgarh DCP Mayank Mishra. In his statement, DCP Mishra said, "I want to discuss a video circulating on social media in which one of our officers is seen using a JCB machine to move vegetables.

DEPORTED HARYANA YOUTHS FACE SOCIAL REJECTION, POLICE SCRUTINY

Diary Times Desk : For several Haryana youths deported from the US, the nightmare hasn't ended with their return. Back home, they now face social stigma and police scrutiny in their villages.

Many of these deportees are avoiding mediapersons to escape public embarrassment. Families say some of them are unmarried and now worry this episode could ruin marriage prospects.

A relative of one of the three youths from a Jind village told 'The Tribune' that they were unwilling to speak to reporters. "He is unmarried and went to the US via the 'donkey route' by selling two acres of farmland. It took about Rs 40 lakh to reach the US. He went there to support his family as he is the only earning member. Now, after being deported and losing his land, it will be difficult to find a girl willing to marry him," he said, requesting anonymity.

Police, meanwhile, have begun verifying the antecedents of those deported to check for any unlawful activity. In one instance, a youth from Taragarh village in Kaithal district was detained in connection with a pending cheque-bounce case.



Nighttime Light Exposure May Be Linked With Top Killer Disease

Turning off the lights at night has long been known to support restful sleep, but new research suggests it may have another significant benefit. Sleeping in total darkness may lower the risk for cardiovascular disease, the top cause of death worldwide.

People who slept in the brightest conditions — similar to having overhead bedroom lights on — had a 56% greater risk of developing heart failure. Those who slept under such intense light also had a 32% higher risk of coronary artery disease and a 28% higher risk of stroke.

Wrist wearables tracked the study participants' exposure to light intensity between 12:30 a.m. and 6 a.m., according to Dr. Daniel Windred, co-first author of the study published Thursday in the journal JAMA Network Open.

"One limitation is that we do not know the sources of personal light exposure, only the intensity," said Windred, a research associate at Flinders University's College of Medicine and Public Health in Australia. "Understanding typical sources of night light exposure might allow for more informed recommendations beyond



Kristen Rogers

The study is also "one of the few to present compelling evidence that high daytime light exposure, for example after rising in the morning, is linked to good cardiovascular health," Fernandez-Mendoza said.

'avoid bright light at night.' Light can block your brain's production of the sleep-inducing hormone melatonin, so reducing light exposure at night can start with making changes to your wind-down routine. Limit screen time as much as possible and switch off unnecessary household lights within four hours of bedtime, said Dr. Julio Fernandez-Mendoza, a clinical psychologist and director of behavioral sleep medicine at the Penn State Health Sleep Research and Treatment Center, via email. He wasn't involved in the study.

If turning the lights off isn't possible, try to use dim or warm lighting instead of bright overhead lights, Windred said. In your bedroom, avoid using bright alarm clocks and sleeping near windows, if possible. Light-blocking window shades and blackout curtains can be helpful, as can a sleep mask over your eyes.

To the study authors' knowledge, their work represents "the largest known study" of long-term associations between individual light exposure and cardiovascular disease risk, they wrote.

"We analysed 13 million hours of light data (for nearly) 89,000 people," Windred said via email. The research builds upon previous studies that found similar associations and established disruption to circadian rhythms as a known risk factor for poor cardiovascular health.

Circadian rhythms are 24-hour cycles "in virtually every cell and tissue in our body, including our cardiovascular system" Windred said. That internal clock controls your sleep and wake cycles, detecting light as a signal to be awake and darkness as a signal to fall asleep. Light's possible impact on heart health

The study participants, about age 62 on average, were from the UK Biobank study, which has followed the health outcomes of more than 500,000 people ages 40 to 69 in the United Kingdom since 2006.

They wore light trackers for a week during their normal lives between 2013 and 2022 and then were monitored for certain health outcomes for nine years on average — one of the factors that made "the study unique and highly innovative," Fernandez-Mendoza said. People who had cardiovascular issues before the tracking period were excluded.

Those exposed to the brightest light also had a 47% greater risk of having a heart attack and a 32% higher risk of developing atrial fibrillation. A-fib is an irregular, quivering or often rapid heart rhythm resulting from the heart's upper chambers, the atria, beating out of sync with the lower chambers, the ventricles. Women faced greater odds for heart failure and coronary artery disease, while younger people were more affected by heart failure and A-fib.

If 100% Healthy

LIONEL MESSI AIMS TO PLAY 2026 FIFA WORLD CUP

Argentina soccer superstar Lionel Messi has said he hopes to play at the 2026 FIFA World Cup, though acknowledges that his health will dictate his role in the competition.



"I'm trying to feel good and, above all, being honest with myself. When I feel good, I enjoy it, but when I don't, honestly, I don't have a good time, so I prefer not to be there if I don't feel good. So we'll see."

"I'm trying to feel good and, above all, being honest with myself. When I feel good, I enjoy it, but when I don't, honestly, I don't have a good time, so I prefer not to be there if I don't feel good. So we'll see." Although his club career is vastly decorated — particularly after a trophy-laden spell at Barça — international success has eluded Messi up until 2021 when he claimed the Copa América and in 2022, when he captained the Albiceleste to its first World Cup victory since 1986 after a thrilling final against France in Qatar.

In an interview with NBC News, the 38-year-old hinted at playing in soccer's biggest competition next year, which will take place next summer across the United States, Mexico and Canada.



Frank Nunns O'Connell

"It was also true that it was the only thing missing at a professional level because I had been lucky enough to have achieved everything at an individual level, at a team level with Barcelona, and I think that's every player's dream."

"I am going to assess that on a day-to-day basis when I start the preseason next year with Inter (Miami) and see if I can really be 100%, if I can be useful to the group, to the national team, and then make a decision," said the eight-time Ballon d'Or winner.

"I'm really eager because it's the World Cup. We're coming off winning the last World Cup and being able to defend it on the field again is spectacular

because it's always a dream to play with the national team, especially in official competitions, so hopefully God will allow me to do it once again."

After qualifying for next year's World Cup during the September international window, Messi told the media that he would wait to make a decision regarding his participation in next year's competition.

"Same as I said before about the World Cup that I don't think I'll play another. Because of my age, the most logical thing is that I won't make it," the former Barcelona and Paris Saint-Germain star told reporters after a 3-0 victory over Venezuela. "But well, we're almost there, so I'm excited and motivated to play it. Like I always say, I go day by day, going by how I feel.

The former Blaugrana standout scored twice in the 2022 final as well as netting his penalty in the shootout on his way to lifting soccer's most prestigious trophy.

"It was the dream of my life," Messi said of the triumph.

"It was also true that it was the only thing missing at a professional level because I had been lucky enough to have achieved everything at an individual level, at a team level with Barcelona, and I think that's every player's dream."When you ask a player what their dream is, it's to be world champion."

The Argentine has scored 114 goals for his country since making his debut in 2005.

INFA

Dodgers' Freddie Freeman's

LONGEST WORLD SERIES GAME IN YEARS ENDS IN THE 18TH INNING

The Los Angeles Dodgers defeated the Toronto Blue Jays 6-5 on Monday in 18 innings, which matched the longest World Series game ever, to take a two games to one lead in the best-of-seven series.



Kevin Dotson

With neither team able to score, the contest dragged on into the 18th inning and passed the six-hour mark. It tied the record for longest World Series game ever, matching 2018's Game 3 between the Boston Red Sox and Dodgers, also at Dodger Stadium.

In a thrilling back-and-forth extra innings battle, the Dodgers needed a history-making night from their two-way superstar Shohei Ohtani, who had three RBIs and three runs scored in an incredible four-hit, two-homer performance that saw the three-time MVP reach base safely an astonishing nine times.

In the end, it was an 18th-inning, walk-off home run from 2024 World Series MVP Freddie Freeman that delivered the win for the Dodgers.

Toronto's 41-year-old starting pitcher Max Scherzer put his name in the MLB history books in the opening inning Monday night, becoming the first pitcher ever to appear in the World Series with four different teams. The three-time Cy Young Award winner was greeted rudely by a Shohei Ohtani lead-off double, but Scherzer managed to escape the inning unscathed.

Los Angeles right fielder Teoscar Hernández would get the Dodgers on the scoreboard in the bottom of the second with a solo home run off Scherzer for a 1-0 lead.

Ohtani would double the Dodgers' lead in the third inning, turning on a Scherzer fastball and sending it 389 feet into the Blue Jays' bullpen.

Los Angeles was poised to add another run, but a perfect throw from Toronto right fielder Addison Barger cut Freeman down at the plate after a single from Dodgers catcher Will Smith.

The Blue Jays got two runners on base with no one out in the fourth inning after Dodgers second baseman Tommy Edman made a fielding error on a possible double play ball off the bat of Toronto's Bo Bichette. Blue Jays catcher Alejandro Kirk then turned the game on its head with a three-run homer off Dodgers starter Tyler Glasnow to put the Jays in front 3-2. Toronto would tack on another run on an Andrés Giménez sacrifice fly.

The Dodgers bounced back with a two-run fifth inning to tie it up. Ohtani collected his third extra-base hit of the game with a double to plate Kiké Hernández. Freeman then drove in Ohtani with a single down the first base line to knot the game at 4-4.

Toronto reclaimed the lead 5-4 in the seventh inning on a spectacular play. Bichette laced a double down the first base line that sent Vladimir Guerrero, Jr. racing around the bases,

slapping his right hand down on the plate just ahead of a diving tag attempt from Smith.

Ohtani once again came to the rescue, belting his second home run of the game in the seventh inning to tie the game at 5-5. The reigning National League MVP's fourth extra base hit of the game tied a World Series record set by Frank Isbell of the Chicago White Sox in 1906. Ohtani also established his own MLB record with his third multi-homer game in a single postseason.

The game would remain tied into the bottom of the ninth inning, when Toronto manager John Schneider made the decision to intentionally walk Ohtani rather than give him a chance to do more damage at the plate. Ohtani was promptly caught stealing when he slid past the base and was tagged out by second baseman Isiah Kiner-Falefa to snuff out the rally.

As the game progressed to extra innings, the Blue Jays threatened to score in the top of the 10th inning, but a great throw from Teoscar Hernandez in right field and a perfect relay from Edman.



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

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

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

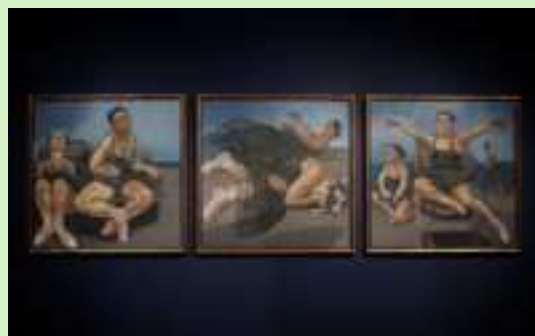
Taking the film's dancing ostrich sequence, in which a gaggle of coquettish birds perform *Dance of the Hours* from Amilcare Ponchielli's opera *La Gioconda*, Rego offered up a feminist perspective across eight large panels, translating Disney's witty anthropomorphism into a group of women who rail against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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

It was, in his opinion, the richest and most sensory of colours. (Klein is known to have been impressed by the intense blue in Giotto's frescoes for the Basilica of Saint Francis in Assisi, which he visited more than once.) He was dissatisfied with traditional oil paints, however — specifically, the way that pigments dulled when mixed with binders. With the help of chemists, he went on to develop an innovative fixative, which suspended pigment without compromising its luminosity. The result was International Klein Blue (IKB), a deep and unique shade of blue that he patented.



A CLOSER LOOK AT BARCELONA’S CONCERNING DEFENSIVE FORM THIS SEASON



Diary Times Desk : Before the start of the season, one of Hansi Flick’s top priorities was to improve the team’s defensive numbers and make them more solid at the back.

But as we approach November, this has been far from reality. Barcelona, in fact, are enduring a difficult season defensively and are hugely underperforming their competitors Real Madrid.

Barcelona’s defensive performances this season are backed by numbers, which paint a worrying picture for coach Flick.

Barcelona’s poor defensive output in 2025/26 According to Mundo Deportivo, Barcelona have now conceded in seven consecutive matches across all competitions.

During this stretch, the club have faced Oviedo, Real Sociedad, PSG, Sevilla, Girona, Olympiacos, and Real Madrid.

BARCELONA AND LAMINE YAMAL AGREE TO CANCEL INTERVIEW WITH STREAMER SCHEDULED FOR TODAY – REPORT

Diary Times Desk : Lamine Yamal finds himself in the eye of the storm following FC Barcelona’s 2-1 loss to Real Madrid on Sunday in El Clasico.

The 18-year-old winger had made some comments in the buildup to the match that did not go down well at the capital club.

The youngster, as such, was constantly jeered by fans at the Santiago Bernabeu during the match, where he failed to perform, while he was also involved in a melee with several opposition players after the final whistle.

Scheduled interview cancelled Amidst all the controversy, there have been concerns about Lamine and his off-the-field actions within the Barcelona camp.

Now, according to Jose Alvarez of El Chiringuito TV, Barcelona and Lamine have agreed to cancel an interview that he had scheduled for today.

The teenage La Masia gem was allegedly set to have a chat with French streamer AmineMaTue.

SEVEN BARCELONA STARS TRAIN VOLUNTARILY DESPITE FLICK GIVING THE DAY OFF

Diary Times Desk : It goes without saying that Barcelona must rethink their tactical approach, especially after losing further ground to Real Madrid in the La Liga title race.

Following their 1-2 defeat at the Santiago Bernabeu, the Catalan giants now trail their arch-rivals by five points, and with the November international break approaching, it is clear that several things need to change.

This period calls for serious self-reflection. Excuses related to injuries or fatigue can no longer be used as shields for underwhelming performances.

While Hansi Flick has had to cope with a growing list of absentees, Barcelona’s issues have also been tactical and psychological.

A lack of sharpness in attack, vulnerability in transitions, and an inconsistency in intensity have cost them crucial points.

Players are owning up In a positive sign, some players appear to have recognised the gravity of the situation.

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BARCELONA OFFICIALLY SUMMONED TO COURT IN NEGREIRA SCANDAL HEARING

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona’s situation in the Negreira scandal has taken yet another steep turn, and the club seems to be stuck in a never-ending circle of accusations for making payments to the former vice president of the Technical Committee of Referees, Jose Maria Enriquez Negreira.

As relayed by AS in a recent report, the judge investigating the case has now cited the club as a witness for the proceedings and summoned the representatives of the club and the former president of the club, Joan Gaspart.

While Gaspart must appear in person as a witness on February 6th, the club will be represented by vice president Elena Fort in the hearing scheduled on January 27th.

A long list of orders As furthered by the Spanish outlet, the court has also requested the club to submit the original contracts they had in place with Negreira Dasnil 95 SL and Nilsad SCP, the companies to whom the payments were made for refereeing reports between 2001 and 2014. While Laporta and the club had indeed been exonerated from the said bribery charges, the summoning of the club now, however, comes as a step in the wrong direction for the Blaugrana.

BARCELONA WINGER’S DISCOMFORT HAS PRACTICALLY DISAPPEARED, BUT PLAYER STILL NOT AT 100% – REPORT

Diary Times Desk : According to journalist Adria Albets, sources from within FC Barcelona have revealed that Lamine Yamal’s pubic discomfort has “practically disappeared,” although the young winger has yet to reach his full physical sharpness.

The 18-year-old sensation has been struggling with a pubalgia issue since returning from duty with the Spanish national team in September.

That persistent pain has affected both his availability and performance levels.

During this period, he was sidelined for five matches and, in those he did play, he looked far from his usual dynamic self, lacking the burst and agility that define his game.

He made a brief return in the clash against Real Sociedad, where he played a crucial half-hour and helped his team secure a victory.

