

NEWS IN BRIEF

**INVESTIGATING
OFFICER SHALL NOT
ISSUE SUMMONS TO
LAWYERS
APPEARING FOR
ACCUSED: SC**

Diary Times Desk :
In a landmark ruling, the Supreme Court on Friday directed that investigating officers must not summon lawyers representing the accused, except under specific exceptions provided in law, and any such summons must clearly cite those exceptions.

A three-judge bench comprising Chief Justice B R Gavi and Justices K Vinod Chandran and N V Anjaria said that issuing summons to advocates could infringe upon the fundamental rights of the accused and violate statutory protections of lawyer-client confidentiality. The order came while setting aside a summons issued in a related case.

The court emphasised that investigators cannot seek details of a client from an advocate unless it falls within the exceptions listed under Section 132 of the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA), which protects confidential communications between lawyers and clients.

***ARVIND
KEJRIWAL'S SHEESH
MAHAL 2.0*: BJP'S
CHANDIGARH
MANSION PIC. AAP
REACTS**

Diary Times Desk :
The 'sheeshmahal' row is back.

The narrative the Bharatiya Janata Party used to good effect in the Delhi election eight months ago - accusing rival Arvind Kejriwal of having misused Rs 45 crore of taxpayers' money - resurfaced after the former shared a photo of a bungalow in Chandigarh's Sector 2 it said had been allotted to Kejriwal.

The "7-star bungalow", which is reportedly spread over two acres, was allotted to him by the Punjab government, which is controlled by Kejriwal's Aam Aadmi Party, the BJP declared in its post. The AAP countered by demanding proof the bungalow had, in fact, been allotted to Kejriwal, and accused the BJP of peddling misinformation after being caught out over air pollution in Delhi. And its national media officer, Anurag Dhanda, offered a cheeky response of his own, pointing out the Chandigarh administration is controlled by the BJP. "... when are you going to demolish it?"

**ARYA
MAHASAMMELAN
2025****PM MODI HAILS ARYA SAMAJ'S 150-YEAR LEGACY AS SYMBOL
OF INDIA'S VEDIC STRENGTH, REFORMIST SPIRIT**

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi, addressing the International Arya Mahasammelan 2025 on Friday, remarked that the energy of the mantras just heard could still be felt by everyone.

He highlighted that whenever he came among the gathering, the experience was divine and extraordinary, attributing this feeling to the blessings of Swami Dayanand.

The Prime Minister expressed his deep reverence for Swami Dayanand Ji's ideals. Modi remarked that the energy of the Vedic chants and the sacred havan rituals still felt as fresh as if they had taken place just yesterday.

"The 150th anniversary of the Arya Samaj is not merely an occasion for a particular community or sect—it is a celebration deeply connected to the Vedic identity of the entire nation," the Prime Minister said, adding that it is connected to the Indian philosophical tradition which, like the flow of the Ganga, possesses the strength of self-purification.

Shri Modi highlighted that this occasion is rooted in the great legacy of social reform that Arya Samaj has consistently advanced. He expressed regret that, due to political reasons, Arya Samaj's significant role in the independence movement did not receive the recognition it truly deserved. "The Arya Samaj has fearlessly upheld and promoted the essence of Indianness," he remarked.

Paying tribute to the many scholars of Arya Samaj, such as Swami Shradhdhanand, who gave a new direction to the course of history through religious awakening, the Prime Minister stated that the energy and blessings of such great souls were present in this historic moment. From the dais, he offered salutations to these countless noble souls and honoured their memory. "India is unique in many ways—its land, its civilisation, and its Vedic tradition have remained eternal through the ages, and whenever new challenges arise and time poses new questions, some great personality emerges with answers," Modi said.

The Prime Minister glorified Swami Dayanand Saraswati for his call to return to the Vedas. He described Swami Dayanand Ji as a visionary sage who recognised the vital role of women in both individual and societal development and challenged the mindset that confined women to the boundaries of the home.

STALIN URGES PM MODI TO STOP 'CHEAP POLITICS' TARGETING TAMILS AHEAD OF ELECTIONS

Diary Times Desk : Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin on Friday condemned Prime Minister Narendra Modi, alleging that he claimed, "DMK members harassed workers from Bihar in Tamil Nadu," and urged him to stop engaging in "cheap politics" by targeting Tamils and expressing hostility towards them in poll-bound states.

Sharing a short video clip of Modi's speech, Stalin criticised what he described as a "vengeful remark targeting Tamils for the sake of electoral politics".

The Bihar State Assembly elections are scheduled to take place in November.

The exact venue and date of Modi's address, highlighted by the Chief Minister in his social media post, could not be immediately confirmed.

Tagging the video clip, Stalin stated that he strongly condemned the BJP for showing "malice" towards the Tamil people in the pursuit of electoral gains in poll-bound states, possibly Odisha or Bihar.

In the 10-second video clip, Modi allegedly said that hardworking Bihar workers were harassed in Tamil Nadu by members of the DMK.

The Chief Minister urged the BJP and Prime Minister Modi to "give up engaging in cheap politics" that seeks to create division between communities, including Tamils and Biharis.

Instead, he insisted, the Prime Minister and the BJP should focus on the nation's welfare.

**CHIEF SECRETARIES MUST APPEAR
PHYSICALLY IN STRAY DOGS CASE: SUPREME
COURT**

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court has rejected requests by top bureaucrats seeking to appear virtually in the stray dogs matter for the second day in a row. The chief secretaries of all states and Union territories, except West Bengal and Telangana, must be present in the court on November 3, it asserted, lambasting the officials for "sleeping" on the court's directions.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had requested that the top officials be exempted from physical appearance. But Justice Vikram Nath turned down the request and asserted that they must appear in person and explain their non-compliance.

"No, let them appear in person. It is very unfortunate that the court is giving time here, (but) the government makes rules and takes no action," said Justice Nath. "They are sleeping (on the court order). Let them come; we will deal with them. They must appear in person and explain why compliance affidavits were not filed."

On October 27, the top court directed the chief secretaries of all states and Union territories, except the two states, to appear before it on November 3 and explain their non-compliance with its August 22 direction to file affidavits. On August 22, the court expanded the scope of the case and impleaded all states and union territories in the matter. It had also directed the states to ensure that the Animal Birth Control (ABC) rules were applied in a uniform manner across the country.

**ECI'S SIR IN 12 STATES: YOGENDRA YADAV
JOINS SOUTH CENTRAL ON VOTER RIGHTS**

Diary Times Desk : In this episode of South Central, hosts Dhanya Rajendran and Anisha Sheth first discuss the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of voter rolls across the country, and the controversies surrounding it. The hosts are joined by activist and psephologist Yogendra Yadav.

Dhanya starts the discussion by recalling the ECI's press meet about the lesson learnt from conducting the revision in Bihar.

"The ECI is no longer acting as a neutral, Constitutional body. Many of the press conferences are more like PR exercises. Gyanesh Kumar does not need to get votes, unlike politicians. The ECI's mention of how so many people cooperated with the Revision in Bihar is unnecessary," Yogendra Yadav says.

"In Bihar, a large number of enumeration forms were forged. So the ECI's claim of how everyone participated in the revision is not entirely true. The ECI has not learnt that a large-scale exercise like the SIR, mandates the question of whether this was the right move at all. ECI decided that SIR is the medicine and started looking for a disease to fit that. So the improvements mentioned in the media are nothing but ways of administering a medicine, whose efficacy is not tested. SIR fundamentally is a problematic exercise," he adds.

Yogendra Yadav also says that SIR in fact convinced him that our electoral rolls are even more faulty than any of us would think. "What we need is a simple, old style intensive revision in which home-to-home analysis is done about voters and the rolls are updated accordingly," he adds.

Dhanya explains the SIR procedure and asks why the normal procedure of BLOs going to every house and verifying information is not sufficient.

SARDAR VELLABHBHAI PATEL**1,466 POLICE PERSONNEL
AWARDED 'KENDRIYA
GRIHMANTRI DAKSHATA
PADAK' ON SARDAR
PATEL'S BIRTH
ANNIVERSARY**

Diary Times Desk : The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has announced the names of 1,466 personnel belonging to various Police organisations of the states and the Union territories (UTs), the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) and other Central Police Organisations (CPOs), who are being conferred with the 'Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak' for the year 2025 marking the birth anniversary of Sardar Vellabhbhai Patel.

The award has been instituted by the MHA for bestowing recognition for excellence and dedication in police service. The award is aimed at encouraging police personnel across the country to enhance their professional standards and boost their morale in doing public service.

The Kendriya Grihmantri Dakshata Padak, established through an MHA notification dated February 1, 2024, honours outstanding contributions in four key areas - Special Operations, Investigation, Intelligence and Forensic Science.

"Initiated under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the guidance of Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah, the award serves as a mark of appreciation for exceptional work and commitment within the policing and security ecosystem," the MHA said in an official statement.

The medal is conferred on members of the state and the UT Police forces, security organisations, intelligence wings/branches, the CAPFs, the CPOs and Forensic Science units at the Central, State and UT levels.

**CBI USES 3D LASER
SCANNER TO RECREATE
KARUR STAMPEDE;
QUESTIONS LOCAL POLICE,
RESIDENTS**

Diary Times Desk : The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) team led by Superintendent of Police (SP) Praveen Kumar on Friday visited Velusampuram in Karur district, where 41 people lost their lives in a crowd crush during a Tamizhaga Vetri Kazhagam (TVK) rally addressed by party leader Vijay on September 27.

This marked the CBI's first on-site inspection after taking over the probe from the Special Investigation Team (SIT). A 12-member CBI team examined the site using the Focus Laser Scanning Solution, a high-precision 3D mapping technology, to understand the geography of the area. State police officers, including DSP Selvaraj and Inspector Manikandan, were also brought to the site by the CBI during the inspection. Traffic was briefly restricted during the process.

As part of the investigation, officers were seen questioning residents and business owners in Velusampuram, including shopkeepers, tea stall operators, and employees of a nearby software company where the stampede took place.

CCTV footage from a petrol bunk and a grocery shop in the vicinity was also sought for review. Around four individuals from the area, including eyewitnesses to the incident,

NDA'S "FLOOD TO FORTUNE" PLAN IN BIHAR IF VOTED TO POWER AGAIN



Diary Times Desk : The National Democratic Alliance (NDA), led by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), on Friday released its manifesto for the upcoming assembly elections in Bihar and promised to make the state flood-free in five years if they retain the power. Rivers like Ganga, Kosi, Gandak, and Burhi Gandak cause severe floods in Bihar during monsoon every year, damaging crops. More than 25 lakh people were affected by the flood in the state this year. The NDA, which comprises the BJP, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United), Union Minister Chirag Paswan's Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas), Union Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi's Hindustani Awam Morcha and Rajya Sabha MP Upendra Kushwaha's Rashtriya Lok Morcha, said they will establish a flood management board if they get another term. They will construct river-linking projects, embankments, and canals under the "flood to fortune" model to promote agriculture.

DID NOT MAKE CALLS FOR VIOLENCE: UMAR KHALID, SHARJEEL IMAM, GULFISHA FATIMA TELL SUPREME COURT

Diary Times Desk : Activists Umar Khalid, Sharjeel Imam, Gulfisha Fatima, who are in jail in connection with the larger conspiracy case in relation to the 2020 North East Delhi riots, told the Supreme Court on Friday that they did not make any calls for violence and were only exercising their right to peaceful protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) [Umar Khalid v. State of NCT Delhi].

While Khalid told the Court that he was not even in Delhi when the riots took place, Imam said that he never made any calls for violence but only called for peaceful blockades.

"Petitioner was not even in Delhi when the riots took place. If I am not there, how can the riots be connected to it," Khalid's counsel said.

NDTV JOURNALIST CHASED, HER CAR'S WINDSCREEN BROKEN, 2 MEN ARRESTED

Diary Times Desk : A senior producer working with NDTV was chased by two men early Friday on her way home from her office in Sector-129, Noida. The journalist had left the office in her own car and was driving to her home in Delhi's Vasant Kunj when the incident took place.

Both men have been arrested by the police. Deepak and Shubham, residents of Delhi's Dabri, have several criminal cases registered against them. They are bartenders and were allegedly drunk when they harassed and attacked the journalist.

What Happened?

The journalist said that as she was driving her car- a Ford Figo- on the Noida-Greater Noida Expressway, the men riding a scooty started following her.

"They tried to stop me. Initially, I ignored them, but I later noticed that they were trying to block my car. The men gestured to me to stop, but I continued to drive. I took out my phone and started recording them in an attempt to ward them off," she said.

She added that as she slowed down due to traffic on the expressway, Shubham, who was riding pillion, jumped off the scooty and banged on her car's windscreen. He then came to her side and attempted to open the door, which was locked.

'BULLET MEANT FOR SOMEONE ELSE': JHARKHAND MAN'S LAST VOICE NOTE TO WIFE BEFORE DEATH IN SAUDI ARABIA

Diary Times Desk : A 27-year-old man from Dudhpania village in the Dumri subdivision of Giridih district was shot dead in a crossfire between police and an extortion gang involved in illegal liquor trade in Saudi Arabia earlier this month, reports said.

The deceased has been identified as Vijay Kumar Mahato. He sustained injuries during the encounter and was admitted to a hospital, where he later succumbed. His family was informed of his death on October 24.

According to reports, Mahato worked for Hyundai Engineering and Construction Company. On the day of the incident, he had gone to the work site to collect some materials when he was struck by a bullet fired by local police. In a final voice note to his wife, Mahato mentioned that he had been hit by a bullet meant for someone else.

"Before dying, he even sent a voice note in Kortha to his wife, saying he had been hit by a bullet meant for someone else and was pleading for help," his brother-in-law, Ram Prasad Mahato, was quoted as saying.



DEATH PENALTY FOR 5 FOR MURDERING CHITTOOR MAYOR, HUSBAND IN 2015

Diary Times Desk : A court in Andhra Pradesh on Friday handed out the death penalty to five men for killing former Chittoor Mayor Katari Anuradha and her husband, Katari Mohan, in 2015.

The couple was murdered inside the Chittoor Municipal Corporation office on November 17, 2015.

The prime accused was identified as Mohan's nephew, Sriram Chandrasekhar, who was found guilty along with Govinda Swami Srinivasaiah Venkatachalapathy, alias Venkatesh; Jayaprakash Reddy, alias Jayareddy; Manjunath, alias Manju; and Muniratnam Venkatesh.

They had come disguised in burqas and attacked the couple with knives and daggers and then shot dead Katari Anuradha.



'LIKE OTHER SIKHS, I FEARED FOR THE LIVES OF MY PARENTS': MINISTER HARDEEP PURI RECALLS 1984 RIOT HORRORS

Diary Times Desk : On the anniversary of anti-Sikh riots today, Union Oil and Natural Gas Minister Hardeep Puri recalled the horrors that the Sikh community faced at the hands of rampaging mobs out to revenge the assassination of then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi on October 31, 1984.

Puri, then a first secretary posted in Geneva, today said he feared for the lives of his parents who lived in Delhi.

"Like all other members of my Sikh Sangat, this violence also came close to my house. I was then a young first secretary posted in Geneva and was extremely worried about the safety and wellbeing of my parents who lived in a DDA flat in SFS, Hauz Khas.

They were rescued in time by my Hindu friend and taken to my grandparents' first floor house in Khan Market even as unimaginable violence raged across Delhi and several other cities," the minister said in his reminiscences of the day.

SC DIRECTS BCI TO CONDUCT PUNJAB, HARYANA BAR COUNCIL

ELECTIONS BY DECEMBER 31

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Bar Council of India (BCI) to notify elections for the Punjab and Haryana bar councils within ten days and hold the polls by 31 December 2025.

A bench comprising Justices Surya Kant and Joymalya Bagchi also instructed the apex bar body to conduct elections for the Uttar Pradesh Bar Council by 31 January 2026 and to address the genuine grievances of electors.

The directions came after it was pointed out that elections for the Punjab and Haryana bar councils had not been notified, and in Uttar Pradesh, the voter list had not been uploaded online.

Senior advocate Manan Kumar Mishra, who is also BCI chairman, noted that, as per rules, 180 days are required between the notification of elections and their holding, which could pose challenges for Punjab and Haryana.

Justice Kant asked Mishra to constitute a committee, headed by a retired high court judge, to oversee bar council elections in different states. Mishra confirmed that such a panel is already in place.

"FULL CIRCLE": MOHAMMAD AZHARUDDIN TO NDTV AFTER TAKING MINISTERIAL OATH



Diary Times Desk : Former Indian cricket captain Mohammad Azharuddin marked the start of a crucial new political innings as he took oath as a minister in the Telangana Cabinet on Friday.

Governor Jishnu Dev Varma administered the oath of office and secrecy at a simple yet dignified ceremony held at Raj Bhavan, as the Chief Minister Revanth Reddy-led Congress government added a the former high-profile batsman to its ranks.

Azharuddin's induction, which raises the cabinet strength to 16, is a key political move by the Congress government to ensure minority representation in the state Cabinet. It comes just ahead of the crucial Jubilee Hills Assembly by-election. Minutes after taking oath, an emotional and buoyant Azharuddin spoke exclusively to NDTV, reflecting on his political journey and the significance of the day.

MOTION DETECTORS, ELECTROSHOCK WEAPONS: ROHIT ARYA'S GEAR TO FIGHT MUMBAI COPS



Diary Times Desk : The final act of filmmaker Rohit Arya's life unfolded in a cramped studio in Mumbai's Powai neighbourhood, wired with motion detectors, surveillance cameras, and locks that he thought turned the studio into a fortress. His day began with an alleged audition for a web series, which spiralled into a three-hour hostage crisis involving 19 people, among them 17 children. When it ended, Arya was shot on the right side of the chest, died of his injuries during treatment.

According to police, the 38-year-old, once associated with a state-run cleanliness campaign, had installed motion sensors from the staircase up to the inner chamber of RA Studio, where the hostages were kept. The devices were configured to trigger alarms if anyone entered without permission.

SARDAR PATEL WANTED TO UNITE ENTIRE KASHMIR WITH INDIA, NEHRU DID NOT ALLOW IT: PM MODI

Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said that India's first Home Minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, had wanted to fully integrate Jammu and Kashmir into India, but was prevented from doing so by then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru.

Speaking at the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas celebrations near the Statue of Unity in Ekta Nagar, Modi said, "Sardar Patel wanted to unite the entire Kashmir, just as he did with other princely states. But Nehru ji stopped his wish from being fulfilled. Kashmir was divided, given a separate Constitution and a separate flag, and the nation suffered for decades because of Congress' mistake."

At the Statue of Unity in Kevadia, Prime Minister Narendra Modi marked Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's 150th birth anniversary with a fierce call for unity, declaring that India will root out every infiltrator and crush the remnants of Naxal-Maoist terror.

A PROJECT THAT TOOK MPI ROUTE AND INVOLVED MULTIPLE DEPTS, AGENCIES

Diary Times Desk : Kerala will declare itself the first extreme poverty-free state in the country on November 1. Though the government's claim has set off a debate across the nation, the journey it took it has been remarkable.

The formal declaration -- to be made at a stellar event scheduled to be held at the Chandrasekharan Nair Stadium, in Thiruvananthapuram -- will help Kerala conform with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of 'no poverty' and 'zero hunger'. As per latest World Bank criteria, people living on less than \$3 a day are considered to be living in extreme poverty. Its journey to eradicate extreme poverty took Kerala on the multidimensional poverty index (MPI) framework route -- which incorporates nutritious food, housing, cleanliness, education, and basic facilities. The key reasons for extreme poverty were identified as lack of housing, livelihood issues, ill-health due to chronic diseases, and the lack of access to government welfare schemes due to a lack of proper documents.

INDIA-US SIGN 10-YEAR DEFENCE PACT AMID TARIFF TURMOIL

Diary Times Desk : India and the US have signed a framework agreement to expand defence cooperation over the next 10-years.

The pact was announced after a meeting between US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth and his Indian counterpart Rajnath Singh in Kuala Lumpur.

The agreement will enhance "coordination, information sharing and tech cooperation" and advance "regional stability and deterrence", Hegseth said on X.

It comes as the two countries are trying to close a trade deal and tide over tense ties after US President Donald Trump slapped 50% tariffs on India, including a 25% penalty for buying Russian oil and arms.

The agreement is expected to provide policy direction to the entire spectrum of the India-US defence relationship.

"It is a signal of our growing strategic convergence and will herald a new decade of partnership. Defence will remain as a major pillar of our bilateral relations.

MALLIKARJUN KHARGE INVOKES SARDAR PATEL TO DEMAND BAN ON RSS, BJP HITS BACK

Diary Times Desk : Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge has reiterated that the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) should be banned in the country, stating that even Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel had banned the participation of government employees in RSS's activities. The ban was lifted by the BJP government in 2024; it must be reinstated, he demanded. "My personal opinion is that RSS should be banned," Kharge said at a press conference on Friday, comparing the RSS's ideology with "poison." The BJP has slammed the Congress for invoking Patel to attack the RSS after "ignoring" his contributions for decades.

"Sardar Patel also said that one should not work for the RSS while in government service. He had banned government employees from participating in the activities of the RSS and Jamaat-e-Islami, which the Modi government lifted on July 9, 2024. We demand that this ban be reinstated," said Kharge.



SAUDI ARABIA CUTS UMRAH ENTRY
VISA VALIDITY PERIOD TO ONE
MONTH

Diary Times Desk : Saudi Arabia has reduced the validity period for the entry visa for Umrah from three months to one month from the date of issuance. However, the validity period for the stay after the pilgrim's arrival in Saudi Arabia remains unchanged at three months, Al-Arabiya reported quoting sources from the Ministry of Hajj and Umrah.

The number of Umrah visas issued to foreign pilgrims since the start of the new Umrah season in early June has exceeded four million. This year's Umrah season is thus setting a record for the number of foreign pilgrims in just five months, compared to previous seasons.

The ministry has made some amendments in the Umrah visa regulations in this regard. According to the amended regulations, the Umrah visa will be cancelled after 30 days from the date of issuance if the pilgrim does not register to enter Saudi Arabia. The sources stated that the new regulations will come into force from next week onwards.

INSIDE THE UAE'S SECRET SUDAN
WAR OPERATION AT SOMALIA'S
BOSASO

Diary Times Desk : At Bosaso Airport in Somalia's Puntland state, the thunderous sound of large aircraft hitting the tarmac echoes out across the port city.

Minutes after landing, the aircraft can be identified. It is a white IL-76 heavy cargo transport plane, and it is parking next to a very similar aircraft.

For local residents, the sound of such planes was unusual two years ago, when they first began landing in Bosaso. Not anymore. Moments later, undisclosed heavy logistical materials are seen being offloaded from the aircraft.

"They're frequent and the logistics are transferred immediately to another aircraft that is on standby and is destined for the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in Sudan through the neighbouring countries," said Abdullahi, a senior Puntland Maritime Police Force (PMPF) commander at Bosaso Airport, who spoke to Middle East Eye using a different name for security reasons.

A THIRD OF AFRICA'S WILDLIFE POWER HAS VANISHED, SPARKING GLOBAL
BIODIVERSITY ALARM

Diary Times Desk : Africa's wildlife is losing its natural power, scientists say. A new Oxford-led study reveals that ecosystems across the continent are operating on less than two-thirds of the energy they once had. Published in Nature, the study exposes how the decline of large animals is weakening the natural processes that keep life thriving.

Africa's Lost Energy Flow and the Role of Megafauna

Can Africa's ecosystems survive without their biggest animals? Researchers from the University of Oxford say the continent has lost over a third of its natural energy since pre-colonial times. This energy represents the biological power driving essential functions like nutrient cycling, seed dispersal and water regulation.

TRUMP'S PACIFIC PIVOT: FROM UKRAINE
TO CHINA IN ONE PIROUETTE



Diary Times Desk : Donald Trump loves to pivot. He is restless, he has some form of attention deficit disorder, and he likes to keep his enemies and adversaries guessing. Sometimes he pivots so many times, as he has on the war in Ukraine, that he completes a full circle with his pirouette.

This week, Trump is pirouetting through Asia. He has abandoned for the moment his efforts to bring Russia and Ukraine to the negotiating table, though negotiations with the Chinese might prove useful in this regard. He has also left Israel and Hamas to work it out among themselves to implement the peace deal in Gaza—which seems to be in the process of unravelling—though he stopped off in Doha on the way to Asia to refuel and chat with the Qatari political leadership about regional peace. Like the last several US presidents, Trump wants to leave behind the problems of the Old World and the mess of the Middle East.

EMINE ERDOĞAN HOSTS GERMAN FIRST
LADY ON LIBRARY, EXHIBIT TOUR

Diary Times Desk : First lady Emine Erdoğan hosted Charlotte Merz, spouse of German Chancellor Friedrich Merz, during her visit to Türkiye, sharing highlights from their tour of the "Golden Age of Archaeology" exhibition and the Presidential Library.

In a social media post, Erdoğan wrote, "I hope this meaningful visit serves to strengthen the friendship between our countries." The post included a video of the visit.

The two first toured the exhibition at the Presidential Library, where they viewed 485 artifacts from various ancient cities and the bronze statue of Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius, returning to Anatolia after 65 years.

"I hope this encounter raises awareness about preserving cultural heritage and sustaining humanity's shared values," Erdoğan said.

PRINCE ANDREW STRIPPED
OF ROYAL TITLES, ORDERED
TO VACATE LODGE AMID
EPSTEIN LINKS

Diary Times Desk : Britain's King Charles has begun formal proceedings to strip his younger brother Prince Andrew of his royal titles and ordered him to vacate his Windsor residence, Buckingham Palace announced on Thursday (local time).

The decision comes amid renewed public scrutiny of the 65-year-old Duke of York's association with the late convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, following the release of Virginia Giuffre's posthumous memoir "Nobody's Girl". Giuffre, who died by suicide in April at the age of 41, had accused Andrew of sexually assaulting her when she was a teenager--allegations the prince has repeatedly denied, CNN reported.

In a statement, Buckingham Palace said, "His Majesty has today initiated a formal process to remove the Style, Titles and Honours of Prince Andrew." It further added, "Prince Andrew will now be known as Andrew Mountbatten Windsor.

JD VANCE WISHES HINDU
WIFE USHA CONVERTS TO
CHRISTIANITY, GETS

LABELLED 'HINDUPHOBIC'

Diary Times Desk : US Vice President JD Vance is facing intense backlash after expressing his hope that his Hindu wife, Usha Vance, will convert to Christianity. Speaking at a Turning Point USA event at the University of Mississippi, Vance said that while his wife often attends church with him, he wishes she will someday be "moved" by the Christian gospel.

"I honestly do wish that because I believe in the Christian gospel, and I hope eventually, my wife comes to see it the same way," Vance said, adding that their differing beliefs don't create conflict in their marriage. "If she doesn't, then God says everybody has free will, so that doesn't cause a problem for me. That's something you work out with your friends, with your family, with the person that you love." Vance's comments have sparked a heated debate online, with many criticising him for his remarks. Some have accused him of being "Hinduphobic" and trying to impose his Christian beliefs on his wife.

"Vance, a class A hypocrite," one user commented, noting that the vice president had credited his wife's faith with reinvigorating his interest in his own.

Transgender activist Ari Drennen took it a step further, suggesting that Vance's comments could lead to the end of his marriage. "He's going to be the first Vice President to get divorced while in office," she tweeted.



RUSSIA STRIKES UKRAINE ENERGY GRID, KILLING SIX, INCLUDING ONE CHILD



Diary Times Desk : Russia launched a barrage of drones and missiles at Ukraine’s energy infrastructure overnight, forcing nationwide power restrictions and killing six people, including a seven-year-old girl, Ukrainian officials said on Thursday.

Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko accused Moscow of targeting Ukrainian people and power supplies as the cold winter months approach.

“Its goal is to plunge Ukraine into darkness. Ours is to preserve the light,” Svyrydenko said on the Telegram app. “To stop the terror, we need more air defence systems, tougher sanctions, and maximum pressure on the aggressor.” Regional officials said two men were killed in the southeastern industrial city of Zaporizhzhia, and a seven-year-old girl from the central Vinnystia region died in hospital from injuries sustained in the attacks.

JD VANCE WARNS OF AIR TRAVEL
"DISASTER" AMID US GOVERNMENT
SHUTDOWN

Diary Times Desk : The ongoing US government shutdown, now completing one month, has sparked acute concerns in the aviation sector as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and other agencies struggle with depleted staff and unpaid essential workers. At the White House on Thursday, Vice President JD Vance warned that the disruption could trigger an air-travel “meltdown” next month if the impasse persists, citing that controllers would be missing three or more paychecks. “It could be a disaster, it really could be,” Vance said after meeting with aviation industry leaders. He expressed worry that delays may reach a point that “makes it very, very hard for the American people to fly.”

ISIS TERRORIST CONFESSES TO
TRAINING IN PAKISTAN AFTER ARREST
IN AFGHANISTAN

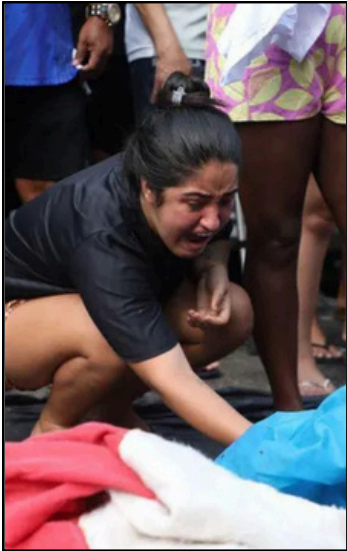
Diary Times Desk : Afghan security sources have confirmed the arrest of an ISIS terrorist identified as Saeedullah, who admitted to receiving terrorist training in Pakistan before infiltrating Afghanistan through the Torkham border crossing, Tolo News reported.

In a video released by authorities, the detained terrorist confessed that he entered Afghanistan using a fake identity card under the name “Mohammad.”

He further revealed that he underwent ideological and combat training in Pakistan’s Quetta region.

'THE BODIES JUST KEPT COMING' – PHOTOGRAPHER AT DEADLY RIO POLICE RAID

Diary Times Desk : A photographer who witnessed the aftermath of a massive Brazilian police operation in Rio de Janeiro has told the BBC of how residents came back with mutilated bodies of those who had died. The bodies “kept coming: 25, 30, 35, 40, 45...”, Bruno Itan told BBC Brasil. They included those of police officers. One of the bodies had been decapitated – others were “totally disfigured”, he said. Many also had what he says were stab wounds. More than 120 people were killed during Tuesday’s raid on a criminal gang – the deadliest such raid in the city. Bruno Itan told BBC Brasil that he was first alerted to the raid early on Tuesday by residents of the Alemão neighbourhood, who sent him messages telling him there was a shoot-out. The photographer made his way to the Getúlio Vargas hospital, where the bodies were arriving. Itan says that the police stopped members of the press from entering the Penha neighbourhood, where the operation was under way. “Police officers formed a line and said: ‘The press doesn’t get past here.’” But Itan, who grew up in the area, says he was able to make his way into the cordoned-off area, where he remained until the next morning.



TRUMP URGES SENATE TO
SCRAP 60-VOTE RULE AS
SHUTDOWN DRAGS ON

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump on Thursday called for the “Nuclear Option” of scrapping the key 60-vote threshold required for the Senate to advance legislation, as Republicans face mounting pressure to end the US federal shutdown. The move would get rid of a longstanding rule that enables 41 of the 100 senators to block any bill from debate or vote -- a longstanding procedural check on power, relied on by both parties in the past. The filibuster effectively forces Democrats and Republicans to find bipartisan solutions. “It is now time for the Republicans to play their ‘TRUMP CARD,’ and go for what is called the Nuclear Option – Get rid of the Filibuster, and get rid of it, NOW!” the 79-year-old Republican wrote in a post to his Truth Social platform Thursday night. “Well, now WE are in power, and if we did what we should be doing, it would IMMEDIATELY end this ridiculous, Country destroying ‘SHUT DOWN,’” he added in the post.

SNAP BENEFIT LAPSE: AS
NEW YORK DECLARES
EMERGENCY, WHAT IS THE
STATUS IN OTHER STATES?

Diary Times Desk : New York Governor Kathy Hochul has declared a state of emergency to allocate \$65 million to food banks, as federal funding for the national food stamp programme – officially known as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – is set to lapse on November 1.

Oregon and Virginia have issued similar declarations to release emergency funds for food assistance, amid fears that nearly 42 million Americans could lose access to federal food benefits during the ongoing government shutdown.

New York, which receives almost \$650 million each month in federal SNAP funds, will direct the emergency money to food banks and pantries already under strain. Neither Congress nor President Donald Trump’s administration has yet acted to extend funding for November SNAP benefits, which cost about \$8 billion per month. Here’s what the loss of federal funding means for each state: Roughly 749,000 people in Alabama rely on SNAP. The state’s Department of Human Resources (DHR) says applications and eligibility assessments will continue during the suspension, though no benefits will be issued until funding resumes. Recipients must continue to recertify and submit documentation so that benefits can be reinstated quickly once funding returns.

U.S. BOAT STRIKES SPREAD FEAR ACROSS THE CARIBBEAN

Diary Times Desk : In Trinidad and Tobago, a Caribbean island nation so close to Venezuela that on a clear day it's visible, the second homes off the northwestern coast lie empty. Fishers are staying close to the shore, and some have stopped working at night.

As U.S. forces launch lethal attacks on boats the Trump administration alleges are carrying illegal drugs to the United States, and the Pentagon masses fighter jets, warships and troops off the coast of Venezuela, the waters on which Trinidadians have long relied for their food, livelihoods, and leisure no longer feel safe. Jarrod, a fisherman in the northwestern peninsula of Chaguaramas, said bookings for the croaker, King mackerel and mahi-mahi fishing charters he operates have been down since the strikes began in early September. He spoke on the condition his last name be withheld for fear of retaliation.

**INDIA, AUSTRALIA PLAYERS WEAR BLACK ARMBANDS IN 2ND T20I. THIS IS THE REASON**

Diary Times Desk : Australia and India players, match officials and staffers at the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) are wearing black armbands in memory of 17-year-old cricketer Ben Austin, who died in Melbourne after being hit by the ball on the neck during training. Players of both the teams also observed the moment of silence before the play started. Austin died after being hit in the neck while facing a ball-throwing device in a nets session at Wally Tew Reserve in Ferntree Gully Cricket Club, before playing a local T20 game. Austin was rushed to hospital in critical condition but passed away at Monash Children's Hospital. "The tribute will include: At approximately 15 minutes before play, both teams will stand with match officials and representatives from Ben's Cricket Clubs, Cricket Victoria, and Cricket Australia on field, where a moment's silence will be observed. Ben's image will be on the big screen.

OPPOSITION SAYS 'HUNDREDS' KILLED IN TANZANIA POST-ELECTION PROTESTS

Diary Times Desk : Tanzania's main opposition party has claimed that hundreds of people were killed in protests following this week's disputed elections, while the United Nations says it has "credible reports" at least 10 people died. "As we speak, the number of deaths in [Dar-es-Salaam] is around 350 and there are more than 200 in Mwanza," Chadema party spokesperson John Kitoka told the AFP news agency on Friday, referring to the commercial capital in northern Tanzania. "If we add the figures from other places in the country, we arrive at a total of around 700 deaths." Chadema said its members had toured hospitals across the country to reach the figure. AFP reported it had received "a similar toll" from a security source. Al Jazeera has been unable to independently verify the number of deaths from this week's violence. Tanzania's government has also not released any estimates on casualties, only saying its forces were restoring order after "isolated incidents".

The opposition's estimated toll contrasted with that of the UN. In a Friday briefing, UN human rights spokesperson Seif Magango told Geneva reporters that credible sources had indicated at least 10 deaths at the hands of security forces so far.

'NO MERCY': SUDAN SOLDIER TELLS OF ESCAPE FROM RSF SLAUGHTER IN EL-FASHER

Diary Times Desk : Abubakr Ahmed was ready to die on the soil he had fought so hard to defend from Sudan's paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF).

For 550 days, he fought as a member of the "popular resistance", a neighbourhood group formed to help the army and aligned armed groups protect el-Fasher from the RSF, their rival in the two-and-a-half-year civil war. The besieged city was the last army stronghold in the sprawling region of Darfur, until it fell on October 26.

According to Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the army surrendered and negotiated the safe exit of its troops in the hope of stopping a bloodbath.

But their withdrawal left 250,000 people – starving and beleaguered civilians – to face the RSF alone.

**JAPAN PM TAKAICHI, CHINA'S XI TO HOLD FIRST-EVER TALKS IN SOUTH KOREA**

Diary Times Desk : Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi and Chinese President Xi Jinping will hold their first meeting on Friday afternoon in South Korea, the Japanese government announced, Kyodo News reported.

The meeting between the two leaders, taking place on the sidelines of the two-day Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit in Gyeongju, marks their first encounter since Takaichi assumed office as Japan's prime minister last week.

According to Kyodo News, the talks are expected to focus on reaffirming both nations' commitment to promoting a "strategic and mutually beneficial relationship" while pursuing "constructive and stable" ties amid strained relations.

INDIA WATCHES FROM SIDELINES AS APEC KICKS OFF

Diary Times Desk : Leaders are gathering in Gyeongju, South Korea, for the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, a grouping that promotes trade, investment and economic cooperation among the economies of the Asia-Pacific region.

Before its main event begins on Friday, this year's summit was already dominated by a meeting on the sidelines Thursday between Donald Trump and Xi Jinping, who agreed to cool trade tensions for the time being.

The meeting capped off a week of Asian diplomacy for Trump, who began his trip at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) summit in Kuala Lumpur. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi decided to skip the ASEAN summit in person, leading to speculation that he wanted to avoid a face-to-face with Trump amid rising US-India tensions over Russian oil purchases.

India has for years eyed joining APEC. Despite the country's growing economic influence and the support of some member economies, including the US and South Korea, its membership bid has repeatedly faced obstacles. And Trump's engagement with Asian partners at summits this week comes amid a cooling phase in India-US ties. Under the second Trump administration, "there is no active outreach to India or for other countries, and therefore, there is a standstill in these efforts," he added.

'THIS WILL COST YOU DEARLY': TALIBAN MINISTER SLAMS PAK FOR BORDER TURMOIL



Diary Times Desk : In a sharp escalation of diplomatic faceoff following weeks of deadly border clashes and failed peace negotiations, Afghanistan's Interior Minister, Sirajuddin Haqqani, has issued a scathing rebuke of Pakistan, accusing Islamabad of exporting its internal conflicts across the Durand Line. His fiery speech on Thursday, delivered at the closing session of a Firefighting Directorate training seminar, underscored deepening mistrust between the two uneasy neighbours.

"The people of Afghanistan may have internal problems, but they are united against foreign aggression," Haqqani declared, in remarks that appeared aimed squarely at Islamabad.

He warned Pakistan that "if you bring your problems into Afghanistan and create turmoil here, this mistake will cost you dearly."

US DEFENSE SECRETARY PLEDGES STRONG DEFENSE OF INDO-PACIFIC INTERESTS IN TALKS WITH CHINA WORLD

Diary Times Desk : The U.S. Secretary of Defense said Friday he told his Chinese counterpart during talks in Malaysia that Washington would "stoutly defend" its interests in the Indo-Pacific. He also signed a new agreement aimed at strengthening security ties with India. Pete Hegseth described as "good and constructive" his meeting with Chinese Admiral Dong Jun, held on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations defense ministers meeting in Kuala Lumpur. He said he raised U.S. concerns over Chinese activities in the South China Sea, around Taiwan and toward U.S. allies and partners in the region. Pete Hegseth described as "good and constructive" his meeting with Chinese Admiral Dong Jun, held on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations defense ministers meeting in Kuala Lumpur. He said he raised U.S. concerns over Chinese activities in the South China Sea, around Taiwan and toward U.S. allies and partners in the region.

CHINA'S XI IN THE LIMELIGHT AT PACIFIC SUMMIT WITH TRUMP CONSPICUOUS BY HIS ABSENCE

Diary Times Desk : Leaders of Pacific countries and territories, including China's Xi Jinping, are gathering in South Korea for a major summit Friday. But the leader of one global powerhouse is conspicuously absent: Donald Trump.

The US president flew out of South Korea Thursday, moments after his landmark meeting with his Chinese counterpart that appeared to de-escalate the protracted trade conflict between the world's two largest economies.

With Trump choosing to skip the annual summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation – which groups together countries accounting for more than half of global trade – Xi stepped into the limelight and will hold high-profile meetings, including with Japan's new leader Sanae Takaichi and Canada's Mark Carney.

Despite his absence, Trump's protectionist trade policies and punishing global tariffs loom over the two-day event in the city of Gyeongju.

US Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent is standing in for Trump during the discussions.

KING CHARLES HAS FINALLY BANISHED HIS BROTHER. IS IT TOO LITTLE TOO LATE?

Diary Times Desk : King Charles' decision to cast out his brother Andrew from the monarchy as well as the 30-room mansion where he's lived for more than 20 years was as sudden as it was dramatic.

It is the ultimate humiliation for the 65-year-old now-former prince, known to enjoy the trappings and privilege of royal life.

He will move out of Royal Lodge, his sprawling mansion in the heart of the Windsor estate just outside of London, and be exiled to the countryside to live in obscurity.

The monarchy has been under intense pressure to resolve the Andrew issue amid renewed public fury over his ties to the late convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein, which was further inflamed by the release of his sexual abuse accuser Virginia Giuffre's posthumous memoir. Andrew has repeatedly denied the allegations against him.

TRICK OR TREAT? DONALD TRUMP RECREATES 2019 VIRAL HALLOWEEN CANDY MOMENT

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump and First Lady Melania Trump welcomed children to the White House on Friday for the annual Halloween trick-or-treat event. The event allows kids to visit the South Lawn in costume and collect candy from the US President and his wife.

During the festivities, Trump repeated a funny and viral moment from 2019 that amused social media users. Instead of putting candy in a child's bag, Trump placed it on the child's head, reported Fox News.

This year, the moment was repeated when a child dressed as popular DJ Marshmello, wearing his signature rectangular marshmallow helmet, went to the president and first lady with a candy bag. Instead of putting the candy in the bag like usual, Trump playfully put a large candy bar on top of the helmet.

HOW TRUMP'S COMMENTS ON NUCLEAR TESTING SPARKED FEARS, CONFUSION IN US

Diary Times Desk : If US Navy Vice Admiral Richard Correll thought he was going to have an easy confirmation hearing on Thursday to become the commander of America's nuclear forces, those hopes surely vanished at 9:04 pm the night before he was to testify.

That was when President Donald Trump shocked the world by announcing on social media that he had asked the US military to "start testing our Nuclear Weapons", saying the United States could not fall behind Russia and China.

"Russia is second, and China is a distant third, but will be even within 5 years," Trump said. During a roughly 90-minute hearing on Thursday morning at the Senate Armed Services Committee, Correll faced repeated questions about Trump's comments from puzzled US lawmakers, embodying the confusion that the Republican president unleashed in Washington and beyond. The top Democrat on the committee, Senator Jack Reed, asked Correll whether a resumption of US nuclear explosive testing would be destabilising, triggering a global nuclear arms race.



AMAZON SAYS IT
DIDN'T CUT 14,000
PEOPLE BECAUSE OF
MONEY. IT CUT THEM
BECAUSE OF 'CULTURE'

Diary Times Desk :
Amazon chief executive Andy Jassy's explanation for why the company is cutting 14,000 employees? Not money. Not even AI, but "culture."

The layoff announcement this week was "not really financially driven, and it's not even really AI driven, not right now. It's culture," Jassy said in response to an analyst question on the company's earnings call Thursday. Amazon's quarterly sales grew 13% year-on-year to \$180 billion.

Jassy explained that as Amazon added headcount, locations and lines of business in recent years, "you end up with a lot more people than what you had before, and you end up with a lot more layers ... sometimes without realizing it, you can weaken the ownership of the people that you have who are doing the actual work."

Amazon's headcount peaked at more than 1.6 million in 2021; it ended last year with around 1.5 million employees, according to SEC filings.

TARGET WILL LAY OFF
AROUND 1,000
EMPLOYEES

Diary Times Desk :
Target will lay off 1,000 corporate employees and close 800 open roles — affecting roughly 8% of its global corporate workforce — the company said Thursday.

The layoffs and changes "set the course for our company to be stronger, faster and better positioned" for the future, incoming Target CEO Michael Fiddelke said in an email to employees.

Fiddelke will take over from veteran CEO Brian Cornell next year, the company announced in August.

The layoffs, which come ahead of the critical holiday shopping season, are the latest sign of struggles at the Minneapolis-based company.

It has been reeling from slumping sales and fierce blowback to its retreat on DEI programs.

AS THE SHUTDOWN DRAGS ON, HERE'S HOW IT CAN DRAG DOWN
THE ECONOMY

Diary Times Desk : The federal government shutdown has lasted all month and is on pace to become the longest on record.

While history has shown that the economy typically rebounds from a shutdown within a couple of months, each day it drags on brings a greater risk that the economy won't just bend but will start to break — and rupture livelihoods in the process, economists say.

"The economy is fragile and, therefore, something like a government shutdown could become a bigger problem a lot faster than people might think," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. Congressional Budget Office estimates released Wednesday projected that the shutdown has permanently sapped at least \$7 billion in output from the economy. The negative effects start to build on themselves very rapidly and the collateral damage becomes more widespread, said Diane Swonk, chief economist at KPMG.

"That's kind of like a snowball rolling down a hill, gathering momentum and mass," she said.

THIS BURRITO IS EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT
AMERICA'S ECONOMY

Diary Times Desk : America's economy and stock market keep growing, buoyed by robust consumer spending and AI mega-growth.

Fact 2: Hiring is at a standstill, inflation is rising, loan defaults are abundant and Americans give this economy a near-record-low rating.

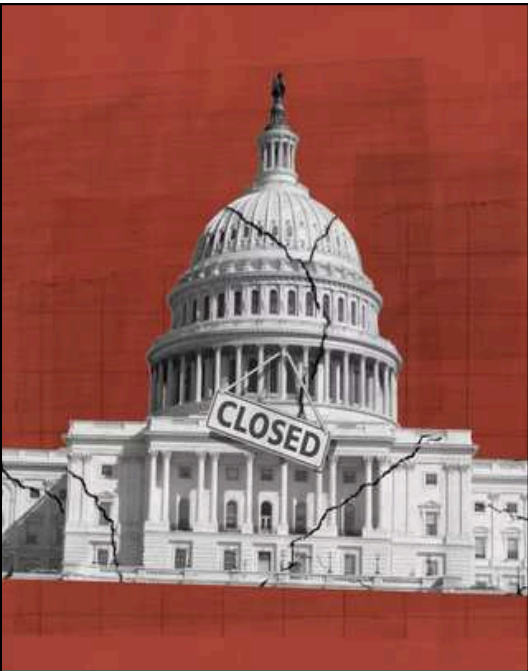
Confused? To understand how both of those things can be true, consider the burrito.

Chipotle on Wednesday reported miserable earnings and cut its sales-growth forecast for the third-straight quarter. The culprit: Young and lower-income consumers (Chipotle's core customers) are cutting back on their spending, and they're starting to skip the guac. Chipotle CEO Scott Boatwright on the company's earnings call: "We're not losing them to the competition; we're losing them to grocery and food at home. And so, that consumer is under pressure."

THREE BILLIONAIRES WENT OUT FOR CHICKEN AND BEER, AND PAID FOR
EVERYONE'S MEAL

Diary Times Desk : Three billionaires surprised diners when they walked into a popular fried chicken restaurant on Thursday — and picked up everyone's bill.

Jensen Huang, CEO of the world's most valuable company, AI chip giant Nvidia, went to the Seoul chicken-and-beer joint with the leaders of two of South Korea's global tech titans: Samsung Electronics chairman Lee Jae-yong and Hyundai Motor Group executive chair Chung Eui-sun. Fried chicken paired with ice-cold draft beer, known as "chimaek," is a must-have for anyone visiting South Korea, and the tech potentates got their fill at Kkanbu Chicken in the heart of the nation's capital, ahead of the APEC summit in Gyeongju.



DISNEY CHANNELS GO DARK ON YOUTUBE TV AFTER MEDIA GIANTS FAIL TO RESOLVE CARRIAGE DISPUTE

Diary Times Desk :
The Mouse House has gone dark on YouTube TV.

Disney's channels have been removed from YouTube's pay-TV platform after the two media giants failed to reach a new carriage agreement before Thursday's midnight deadline passed.

The blackout will leave subscribers unable to watch content from Disney networks, including ESPN, ABC, Disney Channel, FX, National Geographic and Freeform.

The two companies remain in talks, although neither company indicated when customers can expect programming to resume.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH WENDY'S?

Diary Times Desk : For a logo with a trademark grin, Wendy's has little to smile about nowadays.

The burger chain's stock has lost nearly 50% of its value this year. Wendy's executive suite has contended with several departures, and it's currently operating without a permanent CEO after its previous leader abruptly left after just a year-and-a-half on the job. Plus, a confusing mix of promotions hurt sales last quarter.

"We are not happy with our sales performance," Ken Cook, Wendy's CFO and interim CEO, bluntly admitted on its most recent earnings call in August.

The fast food industry is in a slump, and Wendy's isn't immune. Chief rivals McDonald's and Burger King also reported sluggish sales earlier this year as consumers cut back spending. However, both rebounded over the summer and fall thanks to an increased focus on marketing and targeted promotions.

US sales at stores open at least a year in the third quarter are forecast to fall 5.8% when the company reports earnings next week, according to Jim Salera, a research analyst for Stephens. That's even worse than the 3.6% decline in the previous quarter.

"Investors are really focusing on when the company can get same-store sales trends moving back in the right direction and we had seen little progress of that.

CBS NEWS ROILED BY RUMORS, WITH GAYLE KING'S FUTURE THE LATEST FLASHPOINT



Diary Times Desk : CBS News is in an unenviable position right now: It's the subject of anonymously sourced reporting and rumor-mongering that's sowing confusion while division-wide layoffs cause pain and corporate changes add to anxiety.

Many of the reported changes at CBS have not happened yet and may never happen. But each story adds to the uncertainty and unease in the air. The latest one is about Gayle King, with Variety reporting that she is "expected to depart" her longtime TV home, "CBS Mornings," next year.

King hasn't commented on the matter, and her current contract doesn't expire for another six months. So the CBS News management team is in whack-a-mole mode, trying to tamp down the speculation — and probably trying to avoid potential blowback from viewers.

Weiss, the entrepreneurial and opinionated co-founder of The Free Press website, is an irresistible story to the media chattering classes.

BIG TECH KEEPS SPLURGING ON AI. THE PRESSURE IS RAMPING UP TO SHOW WHY



Diary Times Desk : Silicon Valley's mega AI spending spree isn't slowing down anytime soon. But Wall Street's patience to see a return might be wearing a little thin.

That message rang clear when Meta, Microsoft, Amazon, Apple and Google parent Alphabet all said this week that they're forking over more on capital expenditures, like leases and equipment for data centers and infrastructure.

Based on the way analysts grilled executives from companies like Meta, Alphabet and Google on earnings calls this week, they're eager for signs that these massive investments will pay off in a big way.

AI spending continues to soar

Microsoft, Alphabet, Amazon and Meta all grew their overall revenue year-over-year and surpassed Wall Street's expectations. Microsoft and Google saw their cloud businesses expand by 40% and 34% respectively, while Amazon Web Services sales grew 20% year-over-year — a sign that companies are indeed relying on their services in the age of AI.

And they're continuing to pour tens of billions of dollars into AI infrastructure and data centers, an investment they call necessary for the internet's next era.

The dollar amounts involved are staggering.

Google expects to spend \$91 to \$93 billion in capital expenditures for 2025, up from the \$85 billion it previously forecast. Microsoft sees that spending up 74%, to \$34.9 billion this year, largely lining up with the more than \$30 billion it predicted for the quarter. Meta spent \$19.37 billion, up from \$9.2 billion a year ago and more than the \$18.4 billion analysts expected.

And Amazon estimates the 2025 bill will hit \$125 billion — and expects to increase that in 2026.

Even Apple, which is not a major cloud provider, expects to increase its capital expenditure spending related to AI investments, Apple Chief Financial Officer Kevan Parekh said on the company's Thursday earnings call.

Tech giants justify that spending by saying demand is outstripping supply. Amazon CEO Andy Jassy said that "as fast as we're adding capacity right now, we're monetizing it."

CPM PROTESTS AGAINST TRUMP FOR IMPOSING TARIFFS ON INDIA

Diary Times Desk : The Shimla district committee of the CPM today staged a protest outside the Deputy Commissioner's office against tariffs imposed by US President Donald Trump. The party also held a rally in Shimla, followed by a public meeting that was addressed by former Theog MLA and CPM leader Rakesh Singha.

Singha, while addressing the rally, said that Trump was intimidating those countries that did not accept America's trade terms by using the "terror" of tariffs. "Countries that do not enter trade agreements to protect US commercial interests are being coerced by arbitrary duties on goods they export, making those goods expensive in the American market. This causes heavy losses to producer countries while benefiting the US economy," he added.

"Agricultural products, horticultural produce, textiles, fish, diamonds, leather goods and goods produced by micro, small and medium enterprises are exported from India to the USA. If a 50 per cent duty is applied, these items will become very expensive, turning exports into loss-making deals. The production of these goods will fall and many factories will be closed. This will harm the national economy and increase unemployment because those employed in these sectors will lose their jobs," said Singha.

FOUR-YEAR-OLD-GIRL FALLS INTO SEWAGE TANK AT NALAGARH SCHOOL, DIES

Diary Times Desk : A four-year-old nursery student died after falling into a sewage tank at Bhagat Singh Memorial Public School at Dhabota in Nalagarh subdivision of Solan district this afternoon. Manjot Kaur's body was found floating in the sewage tank, one of the two lids of which was missing. According to an FIR lodged on the complaint of Jarnail Singh, who resides in the vicinity of the school, the school peon called him around 12.40 pm today from the school's gate and told him that a small girl's body was floating in the sewage tank located near the toilet.

RIGHTS PANEL TAKES SUO MOTU NOTICE OF CHAINED WOMAN, SON IN MUKTSAR VILLAGE

Diary Times Desk : Acting on a report the Punjab State & Chandigarh (UT) Human Rights Commission has taken a suo motu cognisance of the incident. Nirmal Singh (45) and his elderly mother Jaswinder Kaur were found shackled at their residence at Madhir village in the Gidderbaha Assembly segment here.

The Commission comprising Chairperson Justice Sant Parkash and Member Justice Gurbir Singh, has sought reports from the Deputy Commissioner, Senior Superintendent of Police and Civil Surgeon, Muktsar, regarding the circumstances of the incident and the health condition of the victims. The reports have been sought a week before the next date of hearing on November 24. According to the news report, the victims were rescued by local residents after allegedly being restrained by family members. Some villagers alleged that inhuman treatment was meted out to them at the behest of a commission agent who had lent money to Nirmal. But, the commission agent stated that Nirmal Singh's wife and relatives restrained him with a chain as he used to consume alcohol and quarrel with his wife and children, and his mother supported him.



MYSTERY SHROUDS SUSPECTED GAS LEAK IN NANGAL BORDER VILLAGES AS SOURCE STILL UNIDENTIFIED

Diary Times Desk : Panic gripped the residents of Malookpur village, located on the Punjab-Himachal border near Nangal, yesterday. At around 7.30 pm, a pungent smell filled the air, accompanied by a burning sensation in the eyes and difficulty in breathing.

The distress faced by villagers remains a mystery.

The villages near Nangal are home to two major chemical industrial units, National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) and Primo Chemicals. Residents say they are used to odour emanating from the plants occasionally. But what happened on Thursday night was far from routine.

"I was walking through the village when my eyes started burning, and I could hardly breathe," said Gurmukh Singh, a local resident. "I ran back home shouting that there was a gas leak. We warned everyone, and announcements were made from the gurdwara to stay inside. The smell lasted for about an hour."

SUSPENDED PUNJAB DIG BHULLAR'S JUDICIAL CUSTODY FURTHER EXTENDED BY 14 DAYS

Diary Times Desk : The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) court in Chandigarh on Friday further extended the judicial custody of suspended Punjab Police DIG Harcharan Singh Bhullar by 14 days.

Bhullar was produced before the court through video conferencing from Burail jail after his 14-days judicial custody ended today. Since the CBI has not demanded remand of Bhullar, the court sent him to further judicial custody till November 14, 2025.

The CBI had arrested middleman Krishanu Sharda and Bhullar on October 16, 2025.

According to the FIR, Bhullar had was allegedly seeking recurring monthly illegal payments from the complainant through Sharda.

The accused were arrested on the complaint of a scrap dealer from Mandi Gobindgarh, Naresh Batta.

YOUR HOROSCOPE
01-11-2025

Aries

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

Taurus

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

Gemini

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

Cancer

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

Leo

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

Virgo

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

Libra

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

Scorpio

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

Sagittarius

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

Capricorn

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.

SUPREME COURT TO
BCI: NOTIFY POLLS FOR
PUNJAB, HARYANA BAR
COUNCILS TO BE
CONDUCTED BY
DECEMBER 31

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Friday directed the Bar Council of India to notify elections for Punjab and Haryana bar councils in 10 days and hold the polls by December 31, 2025.

A Bench led by Justice Surya Kant also asked the BCI – which regulates the legal profession in the country – to hold elections for the Uttar Pradesh Bar Council by January 31, 2026, and address genuine grievances of electors.

The Bench issued the directions after it was pointed out that elections for Punjab and Haryana Bar councils had not been notified and in Uttar Pradesh the voter list was not being uploaded on the website.

‘RUN FOR UNITY’ HELD IN
KARNAL TO MARK
SARDAR VALLABHBHAI
PATEL’S BIRTH
ANNIVERSARY

Diary Times Desk : To mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, a ‘run for unity’ event was organised at NDRI Chowk on Friday to promote the message of national unity and integrity, inspired by Iron Man of India. Scores of people participated enthusiastically.

The programme was graced by Karnal MLA Jagmohan Anand as the chief guest, while Mayor Renu Bala Gupta attended as the guest of honour. All the guests offered floral tributes to Sardar Patel, after which the chief guest flagged off the run for unity, which started from NDRI Chowk, passed through Ambedkar Chowk, and concluded at Karna Stadium.

Addressing the gathering, MLA Anand said that Sardar Patel was a great visionary who dedicated his life to strengthening the unity and integrity of India.

He reminded everyone that Patel’s leadership was instrumental in the integration of 565 states into one united nation after independence.

THE FIRST LAWYER: HOW CJI SURYA KANT BROKE FAMILY TRADITION TO CHART
HIS OWN COURSE

Diary Times Desk : Belonging to a family of teachers from Petwar village in Hisar district, it was a completely different career path for Justice Surya Kant—now appointed as the Chief Justice of India—when he decided to pursue legal studies after graduating from Government College, Hisar.

“There was no advocate or judge in our entire family, or even among our relatives. In fact, Surya Kant was the first to gain admission to the LLB course when he joined Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak,” informed his elder brother, Rishi Kant, a retired teacher.

Rishi Kant said it was solely his brother’s decision to pursue law after graduation.

“Our father gave complete freedom to all of us to choose our careers. When he opted for LLB, it was considered as good a choice as any other. Though our grandfather, father, and two of the four brothers have been teachers, he decided to chart his own path,” he said.



SIRSA, FATEHABAD SOW
OPPORTUNITY IN ‘PARALI’ ASHES

Diary Times Desk : A quiet revolution is taking place in Sirsa and Fatehabad districts, where progressive farmers are transforming the problem of paddy stubble, or parali, into profit. What was once a major source of air pollution and soil degradation is now fueling a growing rural industry that provides income, jobs, and environmental benefits.

In Sirsa, farmer Ranjit Singh has become a pioneer in stubble management. Since 2017, he has managed over 10 lakh quintals of paddy residue from 10,000 acres, employing more than 400 local workers. His company’s turnover now exceeds Rs 100 crore.

Singh purchases crop residue from nearby villages, processes it into fuel pellets, and supplies them to power plants. By doing so, he prevents open-field burning while generating jobs for rural youth.

He also leases 30-40 acres each year to process stubble and its by-products. “If managed scientifically, parali can be a source of wealth, not waste,” Singh said.

COMMISSION FOR AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT HOLDS MEET WITH
PUNJAB, HARYANA AUTHORITIES
OVER RISING CASES OF STUBBLE-
BURNING

Diary Times Desk : Amidst reports of rising incidents of stubble-burning, especially during the evening in the region, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) is holding a crucial stakeholder meeting with the officials and pollution control board authorities of both Punjab and Haryana at Kisan Bhawan in Chandigarh today.

The meeting is being carried out as a virtual cat-and-mouse game is played out between stubble-burning monitoring agencies and farmers in Punjab.

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute’s Consortium for Research on Agroecosystem Monitoring and Modelling from Space starts tracking farm fires from September 15. The visible imaging radiometer suites (VIIRS) installed on Suomi NPP and MODIS Aqua satellites capture these images of farm fires as they pass over the region during the afternoon and midnight.

PADDY STOCK FRAUD EXPOSED IN KARNAL, TWO FIRS LODGED

Diary Times Desk : In a major crackdown on paddy procurement irregularities, the Karnal district administration has unearthed large-scale discrepancies in government paddy stock after physical verification of rice mills. The findings have led to the registration of two FIRs against several officials and millers for alleged misappropriation of paddy worth crores.

The action follows a series of reports highlighting unusual patterns in paddy arrivals despite lower yield this season. The reports prompted the administration to intensify scrutiny, with Deputy Commissioner Uttam Singh ordering multiple verification drives and enhanced vigilance at the Haryana-Uttar Pradesh border and local grain markets.

Following the verification exercise, two separate FIRs were lodged – one at Sadar police station and another at Taraori police station – naming a market committee secretary, four inspectors, one sub-inspector of the procurement agency and one miller among the accused. The first FIR was registered on the complaint of District Food and Supplies Controller (DFSC) Anil Kumar against Satish Kumar, proprietor of M/s Batan Foods, Salaru, along with mandi inspectors Yashvir Singh (Gharaunda), Sandeep Sharma (Jundla), Sameer Vashisth (Karnal) and Lokesh (Nissing).



Sean 'Diddy' Combs Checks Into Fort Dix To Begin Prison Sentence

Sean "Diddy" Combs was transferred on Thursday to Fort Dix, a low-security federal prison in New Jersey, to begin serving the rest of his sentence for prostitution-related charges, according to people familiar with the matter.

Combs, who was convicted of two counts of transportation to engage in prostitution, requested he serve his 50-month (just over four-year) prison sentence at the Fort Dix facility to take advantage of its drug treatment program and to be close to his family.

The music mogul will serve about two and a half years at the federal prison. Up until now, he had been in federal custody at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn, NY since his arrest in September 2024 and during the course of his federal criminal trial earlier this year. Those 13 months will be shaved off the remainder of his sentence, in addition to any credit he receives for participating in drug treatment. His projected release date is May 8, 2028, according to the Bureau of Prisons.

Combs' legal team is appealing his conviction and sentence, and this week asked a federal appeals court to set an expedited schedule. President Donald Trump

previously confirmed that Combs has asked him for a pardon, but no decision has been made. Fort Dix has housed other inmates that have graced the tabloids including Joe Giudice, a former cast member of "The Real Housewives of New Jersey."

At Fort Dix, inmates can buy rice cakes at the commissary for \$5.75, white tuna for \$3.75, and Pop Tarts for \$2.85. The commissary list does not include applesauce, which one witness testified Combs loves and would put on cheeseburgers.

The federal prison is low security, but Diddy's longtime lawyer, Mark Geragos, previously told Harvey on the "2 Angry Men" podcast that Diddy will have a target on his back wherever he ends up ... and concerns about sexual assaults and other violent assaults are real.

In fact, Diddy already got a taste of possible violence behind bars ... his team revealed at his sentencing hearing someone already planned to shank him in jail, and his close friend claimed Diddy woke up to a knife pressed against his neck.

Diddy's getting a change of scenery after spending over a year at MDC Brooklyn ... and the BOP is projecting him to be released on May 8, 2028 ... though it's not set in stone.

In the letter, obtained by Fox News Digital, Geragos said that Combs would be able to "address drug abuse issues" and "maximize family visitation and rehabilitative efforts" in the prison's RDAP program.

A jury convicted Diddy on two counts of transportation to engage in prostitution on July 2. The "I'll Be Missing You" rapper was acquitted of his most serious charges of racketeering and sex trafficking.

The prosecution claimed Diddy deserves a "substantial" prison sentence because the rapper is "unrepentant" in the sentencing recommendation filed earlier this month.



Kara Scannell

Days before Diddy was set to appear in court for his sentencing, Judge Subramanian rejected the rapper's last-ditch request for a new trial and demand

World's Most Expensive Rents

SOME LIVE IN 'HAUNTED' HOUSES TO CUT A DEAL

In land-starved Hong Kong a tiny, no-frills apartment far from the city center can eat up half of a monthly salary. But for bold renters there's one sure way to get a discount: choose a property haunted by a murder or unnatural death.



Chris Lau
In 2014, British banker Rurik Jutting brutally murdered two Indonesian women and hid one of the bodies in a suitcase in his upscale apartment in J Residence in Wan Chai, a popular nightlife district in Hong Kong.

The houses, often apartments inside the city's tall residential buildings, strike so much fear among residents that anyone willing to live there can negotiate hefty discounts in one of the world's most expensive property markets.

"The discount could be massive and many people who don't mind can rent these places below the market price" said Ng Goon-lau, an investor so well-known for owning dozens of these apartments that local media has dubbed him the "King of Haunted Houses." Lists of haunted houses can be found on most estate agent



In death, Ng, a veteran investor in his 70s, sees opportunity. He scoops up the so-called haunted homes from owners who are desperate to sell, and leases them out at up to 30% below market price.

websites. They are places where an unnatural or premature death has occurred and include the scenes of some of the city's most gruesome murders. Property-listing website Spacious.hk compiles a 92-page list that dates back to 2006, featuring details of how each death occurred. In a city known for its tightly packed residential towers, many entries state the cause of death as "fell from height." Other real estate agencies offer advice about how to identify spooky apartments, including checking death certificates and quizzing potential neighbors about the apartment's history.

In a city heavily influenced by Buddhism and Taoism, living in apartments associated with ghastly deaths often stokes fear of bad

fortune.

Feng shui master Andrew Kwan said people believe that those who died a tragic death may not get closure. "Their hatred may stay. (Their spirit) may remain in the apartment," he said.

The fear of a curse has created a unique market for bargain-hunting investors and tenants who are happy to try their luck.

Property prices plunge by an average of 20% after they are labelled haunted – and up to 34% in the event of a murder, according to Utpal Bhattacharya, Chair Professor of Finance at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, who led a study on the phenomena in 2019.

A ripple effect spreads to properties on the same floor, which often see their value drop 10%, and even flats in the same building can fall 7%, he told CNN.

"The belief in Feng Shui is quite strong among Chinese, and the population in Hong Kong is about 94% Chinese...implying that most buyers have a large distaste for haunted houses," said Bhattacharya.

Disclosure is not required under Hong Kong law, but regulators demand property agents provide accurate information about any death upon inquiry.

INFA

As The Shutdown Drags On

HERE'S HOW IT CAN DRAG DOWN THE ECONOMY

The federal government shutdown has lasted all month and is on pace to become the longest on record.



Alicia Wallace
As gruesome details of the murders emerged, the value of the one-bedroom apartment where they took place was estimated to have plunged from \$1.16 million to \$770,000, with its \$3,740 monthly rental halved, Bloomberg reported at the time.

While history has shown that the economy typically rebounds from a shutdown within a couple of months, each day it drags on brings a greater risk that the economy won't just bend but will start to break — and rupture livelihoods in the process, economists say.

"The economy is fragile and, therefore, something like a government shutdown could become a bigger problem a lot faster than people might think," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. Congressional Budget Office estimates released Wednesday projected that the shutdown has permanently sapped at least \$7 billion in output from the economy. The negative effects start to build on themselves very rapidly and the collateral damage becomes more widespread, said Diane Swonk, chief economist at KPMG.

"That's kind of like a snowball rolling down a hill, gathering momentum and mass," she said. Predicting something that has become increasingly unpredictable is an impossible task, but here's a look at how the

shutdown could ripple through critical avenues of everyday life. Jobs Prior to the shutdown, the US job market was already on its back.

It's been a low-hire, low-fire, low-churn environment. Employers, frozen by high economic and policy uncertainty, have held off making investments and adding workers. Some businesses have used this period to test the waters on artificial intelligence and other technologies — in turn putting to the test that "low-fire" descriptor by announcing mass layoffs in recent weeks.

"We're not creating any jobs of consequence, really," Zandi said.

Considering that backdrop, the tepid job gains can potentially turn into deeper job losses if safety nets become frayed, more paychecks are missed by federal workers and contractors, and spending pullbacks reverberate through the private sector, causing businesses to lay off workers or shut down, he said. A US Chamber of Commerce analysis released this week estimated that 65,500 small business contractors have billions of dollars in payments at risk because of the shutdown — \$12 billion in payments for the month alone. Rate cuts and some greater

clarity around trade deals and tariffs were supposed to fuel a rebound in hiring heading into 2026, noted Nicole Bachaud, labor economist at employment site ZipRecruiter. "However, tariffs are projected to dampen consumer spending before year's end, and a prolonged shutdown could further erode consumer confidence," she wrote in a note earlier this month. "This would delay hiring plans that might otherwise materialize, keeping the labor market stuck in place."

US consumer confidence during October dipped to its lowest level since April, when President Donald Trump announced a massive suite of steep tariffs on imported goods, according to The Conference Board's latest index released this week.

Health care and the care economy The expiration of the enhanced premium subsidies for Affordable Care Act coverage is at the crux of the Congressional stalemate to fund the federal government and end the shutdown. Democrats are demanding that a short-term funding package include an extension of the enhanced assistance, while Republicans say they won't negotiate until the government reopens.

Open enrollment starts on November 1, and the more than 22 million Americans who use the federal health insurance marketplace are expected to see their monthly premium leap by 26% on average, according to a KFF analysis. Also on November 1, more than 65,000 children and families in 41 states and Puerto Rico are at risk of losing access to Head Start programs, which provide early education and child development resources to low-income households.

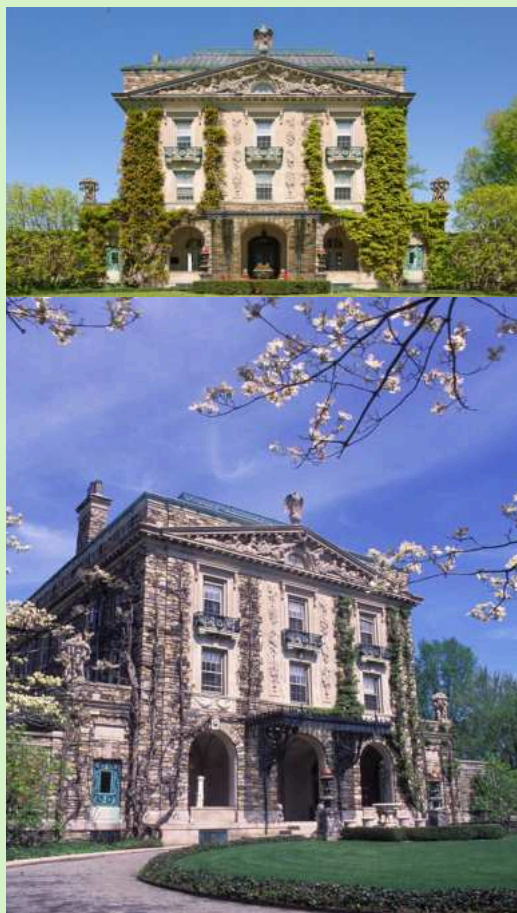
MR. AND MRS. JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 3RD'S FIELDWOOD FARM ESTATE SHOWCASED THE COUPLE'S ARTISTIC AND PHILANTHROPIC PASSIONS

Diary Times Desk : Just a few miles from the Rockefeller Estate at Kykuit and perched atop a hill overlooking New York's Hudson Valley is Fieldwood Farm, the idyllic rural retreat of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd. There the couple surrounded their family with fine and decorative art inspired by their diverse passions, from international diplomacy to classical music, dance, painting and sculpture. Beginning on 17 November, a choice selection of works collected by the couple, which have been lovingly preserved by their eldest daughter, who inherited Fieldwood Farm, will be offered in Property of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd from the Collection of Sandra Ferry Rockefeller, across Christie's marquee sales from November 2025 through April 2026.

The collection spans modern and postwar masters, jewels (Art Deco marvels from Cartier to Raymond Yard), Asian art and ceramics, including a rare Tang Dynasty gilt-bronze dragon, American paintings, Chippendale and Shaker furniture and works of decorative art. Highlights include a Kurama granite sculpture by Isamu Noguchi, which stood in Fieldwood Farm's pastoral garden, and an 18-carat sapphire cabochon ring, originally belonging to John D. Rockefeller Jr. and Abby Aldrich Rockefeller. 'The collection is eclectic and diverse, reflective of the broad interests of Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd. Their collection reveals the couples' delight in artistic practices from around the globe,' says Julia Jones, Associate Specialist, American Folk Art, at Christie's New York. A selection that reflects the character of their collection will be offered in The American Collector sale (January 2026).

The Rockefeller commitment to service

True to the Rockefeller spirit, Mr. and Mrs. John D Rockefeller 3rd dedicated their lives to philanthropic work, managing the family's funds across health, education, conservation, and the arts. The causes they supported dovetailed with the art and objects they chose to live with. Following in the footsteps of her mother-in-law, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller, who helped found the Museum of Modern Art in New York in 1929, Mrs. John D. Rockefeller 3rd became involved with MoMA in 1949 and later served as president from 1972 to 1985. She championed the European tour of the first major exhibition of Abstract Expressionism and was a prescient early collector of masterworks by Willem de Kooning, Clyfford Still, Sam Francis, and Cy Twombly. Sandra Ferry Rockefeller continued her family's philanthropic mission. A portion of the proceeds from the sale will benefit her foundation, which supports programs that empower youth from diverse backgrounds to connect and inspire one another about their potential impact on society.



9 ARTISTS HAVING MAJOR MUSEUM MOMENTS THIS YEAR AND NEXT

Diary Times Desk : The first monographic exhibition in France dedicated to John Singer Sargent's indelible portraiture, Sargent: Dazzling Paris at Musée d'Orsay explores the artist's immersion in the society of the City of Light with over ninety works, including some that have never been exhibited in France. Open through 11 January 2026, the show foregrounds the artist's attachment to the city where he trained, a connection which held strong even after his move to London in the 1880s.

Organised in collaboration with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, where it debuted earlier this year, the survey highlights Sargent's role in documenting late 19th-century cosmopolitan culture with masterpieces such as his infamous 1884 Portrait of Madame X, which Sargent would later describe as 'the best thing he had ever done'.

Alexander Calder's ingenious approach to sculpture takes centre stage this fall at both the newly opened Calder Gardens in Philadelphia and the Whitney Museum of American Art. Calder Gardens offers a friendly and immersive environment dedicated to the artist's inventive spirit and kinetic sculptures, with landscape design by Piet Oudolf.

Running through March 2026, High Wire: Calder's Circus at 100 honours the centennial of the artist's miniature multi-act spectacle comprising more than one hundred wire sculptures. Calder began the work as a young American artist living in Paris, and more than twenty works related to Circus — including drawings, paintings, and archival materials, along with loans from the artist's foundation in New York — will enlarge the scope of its latest presentation, reaffirming Calder's vital contribution to 20th-century American modernism with bold experimentation and innovative joy.

While The Drawing Center in Soho recently hosted a stunning and comprehensive survey of the Modernist painter Beauford Delaney's works on paper, the artist currently shines bright at the recently reopened Studio Museum in Harlem. A fitting venue, given that in 1978, one year prior to the artist's passing, the Studio Museum presented Delaney's first institutional retrospective.

The painter emerged as a unique figure with connections to both the early 20th-century bohemian scenes in Greenwich Village and Harlem, as well as the Parisian avant-garde — in his expatriate years he was supported by his close friend the writer James Baldwin. These exhibitions advocate for the legacy of a major artist who bridged the histories of European modernism and a distinctly American lens on identity and creativity.



ELCHE COACH TALKS FLICK, YAMAL, RASHFORD, PENA AHEAD OF BARCELONA CLASH – ‘I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WE HAVE TO DO’



Diary Times Desk : After a bitter defeat to rivals Real Madrid, Barcelona are desperately looking to get back on track as they take on Elche in La Liga this weekend.

Elche do not have the best of records against Barcelona, thus giving the Catalans an excellent opportunity to bounce back.

However, coach Eder Sarabia is not too keen on gifting Barcelona three points. Speaking to the press ahead of the game, the Spaniard talked about Elche’s chances of pulling off an upset, among other things.

What Elche coach said ahead of Barcelona tie
Despite the vast difference in resources, the Elche manager is approaching the game with a proactive and optimistic mindset, insisting his team can win. “With such a difference in budget across the board, a smaller team can beat a giant like Barça. I know exactly what we have to do.

CHELSEA MANAGER REMAINS HOPEFUL OF HAVING KEY SUPERSTAR AVAILABLE FOR BARCELONA CLASH

Diary Times Desk : Having lost the season’s El Clasico to Real Madrid, the pressure is on Hansi Flick to deliver, especially against top teams.

Barcelona’s next big game is against Chelsea on November 25, in what could prove to be a litmus test for Flick, having already lost to Paris Saint-Germain earlier in the season.

Earlier this month, it was reported that Chelsea will be missing out on Cole Palmer due to injury, in what was a massive boost for Barcelona.

Maresco not losing hope on Palmer
However, according to Mundo Deportivo, Chelsea manager Enzo Maresca is not yet ruling out his star player for the crucial Champions League match.

Speaking to the press on Friday ahead of his team’s Premier League clash against Tottenham, Maresca gave an update on the 23-year-old’s fitness. Maresca shared a joke he had with his star player about the frustrating recovery process: “I ran into him in the dining room having breakfast, and I told him, ‘In a week I’ll tell you you’re back.’ He laughed.”

THREE BARCELONA ACADEMY PLAYERS TRAIN WITH THE FIRST TEAM AHEAD OF ELCHE CLASH

Diary Times Desk : As Barcelona continue to battle a wave of injuries that has decimated Hansi Flick’s first-team squad, the one silver lining emerging from this crisis is the renewed involvement of La Masia talents.

The club’s academy, long celebrated for producing world-class players, is once again stepping up to fill the void left by injured stars.

Pedri’s latest setback, which is expected to keep him sidelined for six to seven weeks, has forced Flick to rethink his midfield options.

In response, the German manager has turned his attention towards the youth setup, particularly Tommy Marques, who trained with the senior team yesterday.

Numbers have been trimmed
However, according to Mundo Deportivo, the first-team dynamic shifted slightly ahead of Barcelona’s weekend clash against Elche. The report indicates that only three academy players, namely Toni Fernandez, Pedro ‘Dro’ Fernandez, and Xavi Esport, remained with the senior squad in today’s training session.

BARCELONA KEY DEFENDER RETURNS TO GROUP TRAINING; TWO STARS AWAIT MEDICAL CLEARANCE BEFORE ELCHE CLASH

Diary Times Desk : As FC Barcelona continued their preparations for Sunday’s La Liga encounter against Elche, there was a welcome boost in today’s training session.

Pau Cubarsi returned to group training after having not been involved in sessions over the past couple of days, confirms Mundo Deportivo.

After Tuesday’s rest day, Cubarsi was granted special permission by the coaching staff not to train on Wednesday.

On Thursday, he reported to the Ciutat Esportiva Joan Gamper, but was not a part of the group session and worked in the gym instead.

There was no physical issue involved, and the decision for Cubarsi to train individually was part of a scheduled training plan to manage his workload.

Earlier today, though, the young defender trained normally with the group under Hansi Flick’s supervision and is expected to be available for Sunday’s match against Elche at Estadi Olímpic Lluís Companys in Montjuic.

BARCELONA’S SPOTIFY CAMP NOU AND WEMBLEY VYING TO HOST 2029 CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINAL

Diary Times Desk : Even as FC Barcelona wait to return to the renovated Spotify Camp Nou, the stadium is already being presented as an option to host big events in the future.

As has already been reported, the stadium is under consideration for the 2030 FIFA World Cup final. Now, the Camp Nou appears to be in contention to host another huge blockbuster match.

2029 Champions League final at Camp Nou?
Indeed, UEFA has confirmed that Barcelona’s Spotify Camp Nou is one of the options to host the 2029 Champions League final, along with the iconic Wembley Stadium in England. Following the passing of the deadline for submitting bids, Spain and England have emerged as direct competitors to host the biggest game in European club football in 2029.

Wembley, without a doubt, is one of the most iconic stadiums in the world, with a rich history, tradition, and equipped with modern infrastructure.

ALARM BELLS SET OFF AT BARCELONA AFTER SUPERSTAR’S INJURY; TWO STAFF MEMBERS UNDER SCRUTINY

Diary Times Desk : Pedri’s latest injury setback, which is expected to keep him out for around six to seven weeks, has sent shockwaves through FC Barcelona.

The midfielder’s absence has not only added another name to the club’s ever-growing injury list but has also sparked serious questions about the team’s physical preparation and management behind the scenes.

This season has been a nightmare for Barcelona on the fitness front. Almost every key player has struggled with consistency, including Robert Lewandowski, Dani Olmo, Raphinha, Joan Garcia, and even Lamine Yamal. The constant rotation between recovery and relapse has severely disrupted Hansi Flick’s plans and has forced the team to repeatedly reshuffle its structure. According to a report from AS, frustration inside the club is at a boiling point, and the mood is one of anger and disappointment, with growing calls to put an immediate stop to what one insider described as a “bleeding situation.”

