

NEWS IN BRIEF

“OPTIONS ARE OPEN“: BIG HINT FROM TEJ PRATAP YADAV ABOUT POST-POLL PLANS

Diary Times Desk : Tej Pratap Yadav, the estranged son of Rashtriya Janata Dal chief Lalu Yadav, claimed he has "options" for after election. He also said the people of Mahua are his only family, and also hinted that he bears no enmity towards anyone - a loaded remark considering his current political and family situation. Asked who he would ally with after the election, he refused to give a straight reply. "Options are open. There are thousands of options... After victory, all options are open," he said.

Asked who his opponent is in Mahua - his constituency - Yadav said, "I have not done any wrong to anyone. Anyway, whoever it is, people of Mahua want jobs and people choose jobs".

Tej Pratap Yadav -- who was disowned by his family and dropped from the Rashtriya Janata Dal in May after his 12-year relationship with a woman came to light in a Facebook post that he claimed was hacked - soon formed the Janshakti Janata Dal or JJD.

NCP LEADER'S MURDER SC ASKS HC TO CONSIDER AFRESH CBI'S PLEA OVER AMIT JOGI'S ACQUITTAL

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Thursday asked the Chhattisgarh High Court to consider afresh the CBI's plea seeking permission to file appeal against the acquittal of Amit Jogi, the son of former Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Ajit Jogi, in a 2003 case linked to National Congress Party leader Ramavatar Jaggi. Jaggi was murdered on June 4, 2003, when Ajit Jogi was the chief minister of Chhattisgarh. A bench of Justices Vikram Nath, Sanjay Karol and Sandeep Mehta allowed the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) appeal against the high court's 2011 order, which dismissed its application seeking condonation of delay in filing the appeal against Amit Jogi's acquittal. The bench said that though the CBI had filed the application after a significant delay of 1,373 days, it was equally true that "the charges against respondent.

BENGALURU

WOMAN, MALE FRIEND HELD FOR INSTALLING SPY CAMERA IN WOMEN'S HOSTEL IN TN'S KRISHNAGIRI



1.5K woman employees stage protest, seek arrest When questioned by fellow employees, Gupta is said to have confessed to planting the camera. The matter was immediately brought to the attention of the hostel management. Tata Electronics provides accommodation for its women employees at Vidiyal Residency in Nagamangalam village. The facility comprises 11 blocks, nine of which house around 6,500 women employees. The incident occurred in the fourth block. Nearly 1,500 women employees protested on Tuesday evening, demanding arrest of Gupta and her accomplice, and action against the management for alleged lapses in ensuring employee safety. Krishnagiri SP P Thangadurai and Hosur Sub-Collector Aakriti Sethi rushed to the spot with around 150 cops. They pacified the protesters, assuring them that the matter would be investigated thoroughly. Based on a complaint lodged by the Maharashtra native, Uddanapalli police filed a case against Gupta under BNS Sections 77 and 126(2), Section 9 of the Women Harassment Act, and provisions of the Information Technology Act. She was arrested on Wednesday. Searches were conducted in all hostel rooms from Tuesday night until Wednesday afternoon. SP Thangadurai has formed a five-member team to trace the man involved in the case.

Diary Times Desk : A woman and her male friend from Bengaluru were arrested on a charge of installing a hidden camera in a bathroom of women's hostel in Nagamangalam in Hosur, police said on Thursday. The accused, identified as S Neelu Kumari Gupta (22) of Odisha, was allegedly acting on the instructions of her friend. During interrogation, Gupta allegedly told that she was in a relationship with the man who coerced her into planting the camera by threatening to expose her personal photos. She admitted to recording a video but said it was never shared with him. Police have launched a search for the man but did not reveal his identity. Police sources said the incident came to light after Gupta placed the camera in her own bathroom at the hostel near Uddanapalli on Sunday morning before removing it and fixing it in the bathroom of another room occupied by a 21-year-old employee from Maharashtra. When the latter returned after taking bath, Gupta entered the bathroom again, raising suspicion among other inmates.

COIMBATORE GANG RAPE CASE: THREE SUSPECTS REMANDED, BOOKED FOR ASSAULTING COP

Diary Times Desk :The three suspects allegedly involved in the gangrape of a 20-year-old college student in Coimbatore were formally arrested and taken into judicial custody on Wednesday. The magistrate directly visited the Coimbatore Medical College Hospital (CMCH), where they are admitted for treatment, and remanded them in judicial custody till November 19.

The suspects were also booked by the city police for hacking a police constable on his wrist with a sickle during a search operation at Vellakinaru in Coimbatore on November 3.

Based on a complaint by grade-I constable Chandrasekar (47) of Peelamedu police station, Thudiyalur police have filed a new case under sections 121 (1) and 109 (1) of the BNS on the suspects, T Sathish alias Karuppasamy (30), his brother T Karthik alias Kaleswaran (21) and their friend Guna alias Thavasi (20).

Singanalur police inspector Latha has been appointed as the investigating officer. Earlier in May 2025, the Coimbatore city police had written a letter to Sivaganga district police to keep the three suspects under the watch list, given their criminal history. "The siblings were on the list of 3,000 history-sheets prepared by the city police in May 2025 after their involvement in a theft case in Singanalur police limits," said A Saravana Sundar, commissioner of police. "Despite our recommendation to the court to reject bail to history-sheets, those petitions were rejected many times.



FIR AGAINST UNIDENTIFIED PERSON IN BILASPUR TRAIN CRASH THAT KILLED 11



Diary Times Desk : In the wake of the tragic train accident in Bilaspur district of Chhattisgarh, police have registered an FIR (first information report) against an unidentified individual, marking the beginning of a formal criminal investigation into the incident that left 11 people dead and 20 injured. The FIR was "lodged at Torwa police station following a memo from a railway official," as confirmed by Additional Superintendent of Police Rajendra Jaiswal. The accident occurred on November 4 near Gatora station, where a MEMU passenger train collided head-on with a stationary freight train. The impact was devastating, killing 11 passengers on the spot, including the MEMU train's loco pilot. Rescue operations were swiftly launched, and the injured were rushed to nearby hospitals. According to Bilaspur Collector Sanjay Agarwal, two of the injured remain in critical condition. The FIR has been registered under Section 106(1) of the Indian Penal Code for causing death by negligence, Section 125(A) for acts endangering life or personal safety, and relevant provisions of the Railway Act. The police investigation will run parallel to the inquiry initiated by the railway authorities. A five-member team led by the Commissioner of Railway Safety for the South Eastern Circle has begun a probe into the accident. The team is likely to question 19 individuals, including railway staff and witnesses, on November 6 and 7 to determine the sequence of events and identify lapses in protocol or communication.

VARANASI GHATS DAZZLE IN DIVINE SPLENDOUR AS DEV DEEPAWALI LIGHTS UP GANGA



Diary Times Desk : The ghats of Varanasi turned into a celestial panorama on Wednesday evening as lakhs of 'diyas' (earthen lamps) illuminated the banks of the river Ganga during the grand celebration of 'Dev Deepawali'. The divine spectacle, often called 'Diwali of the Gods', transformed this ancient Uttar Pradesh city into a shimmering sea of light, awe, and devotion. On this occasion, Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared breathtaking aerial images of the festivities on X with a caption: "Spectacular Dev Deepawali in Kashi!" PM Modi represents the Varanasi constituency in the Lok Sabha. He first won the seat in 2014 and is currently an MP for his third consecutive term after being re-elected from there in the 2024 general elections. The pictures showcased the ghats decorated in golden hues as thousands of devotees gathered in reverence, while the night sky was painted with vibrant fireworks.

The celebration, held 15 days after Diwali -- the festival of lights -- marks the victory of Lord Shiva over the demon Tripurasura. Devotees on this occasion light earthen lamps across all 88 ghats of Kashi, offering prayers and witnessing cultural performances that highlight the city's spiritual grandeur.

From Rajghat to Assi Ghat, every stretch along the riverbank was aglow with countless 'diyas', creating a mesmerising reflection against the sacred Ganga.

AMIT SHAH

“HE SHOULD BE ASHAMED“: AMIT SHAH ON RAHUL GANDHI'S ARMY CASTE REMARK



Diary Times Desk :Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Thursday said that Congress leader Rahul Gandhi should be ashamed for seeking to know about the caste and religion of Army jawans. Addressing back-to-back election rallies in Madhubani, West Champaran and Motihari districts, he said illegal Bangladeshi immigrants snatch jobs and pose security threats to the country, while asserting that the Bihar assembly elections are for making the eastern state "infiltrator-free". "Rahul Gandhi should be ashamed for seeking to know about the caste and religion of Army jawans. We do not discriminate among military personnel on the basis of caste or creed," he said. Gandhi, while addressing public rallies in Bihar on Tuesday, claimed that lower castes, tribal communities and minorities have little representation in private firms, the judiciary, the bureaucracy and the armed forces, and that 10 per cent of the population controls these institutions. Shah alleged that the RJD indulged in massacres and rapes while in power, while asserting that there is no place for 'bahubalis' (strongmen) in the NDA government. "Prime Minister Narendra Modi established Makhana Board... if 'Lalu & co' come to power, 'infiltrator ghusao board' will be set up," he alleged. Asserting that only the pair of Narendra Modi and Nitish Kumar can prevent 'jungle raj' in Bihar, he alleged that Lalu Prasad and Rahul Gandhi were trying to pave the way for infiltrators. Hitting out at the Mahagathbandhan, he said Champaran would turn into 'mini-Chambal' if the 'thagbandhan' comes to power in Bihar.

DEVENDRA FADNAVIS ORDERS PROBE INTO ALLEGED SCAM INVOLVING AJIT PAWAR'S SON'S FIRM



Diary Times Desk : Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has ordered a probe into the land scam allegations in Pune involving his deputy Ajit Pawar's son Parth Pawar. A company owned by the National Congress Party (NCP) chiefs' son faces serious charges over a land deal of Rs 300 crore for a property worth Rs 1,804 crore, with the opposition now alleging that they also received massive concessions in serious violation of the law. The Chief Minister asserted that his government won't tolerate such irregularities and assured strict action in the case. "If there are any irregularities, action will definitely be taken against them. Our coalition government believes in transparency, so this matter will be investigated to determine whether there are any irregularities, and if so, strict action will be taken," he said. Fadnavis said that he has sought more information from the Revenue and Land Records departments regarding the case. The government will take an official stand based on the findings of the investigation, he assured. "The issues that have come to light prima facie are very serious. Therefore, I'll comment on this matter in detail only after receiving all the information," said the Chief Minister.

'CONGRESS CAN NEVER WASH STAINS OF BHAGALPUR
MASSACRE': PM MODI IN BIHAR



Diary Times Desk : Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday launched a sharp attack on the Congress and the RJD during an election rally in Bhagalpur, accusing both parties of dividing Bihar along caste and communal lines while asserting that Congress can never wash the stains of the Bhagalpur massacre. "The RJD plunged Bihar into caste riots, while the Congress instigated communal riots. The Congress will never be able to wash away the stain of the Bhagalpur massacre, just as the stain of the killing of Sikhs cannot be erased. The stain of the Bhagalpur massacre will never be removed from Congress's record," PM Modi said. He alleged that the politics of the RJD and Congress pushed Bihar's youth into migration. "Those who practice the politics of destruction do not like Bihar's development. Because of their misdeeds, the youth of Bihar had to suffer the curse of migration. The NDA is determined that Bihar's youth will work in Bihar and bring glory to Bihar," he said.

KARNATAKA HIGH COURT
DISMISSES STATE APPEAL
AGAINST PUBLIC AREA

GATHERINGS

Diary Times Desk : In a major setback to the Congress-led government in Karnataka, the Dharwad bench of Karnataka High Court on Thursday dismissed the state's appeal petition over its order mandating permission for private organisations to hold activities in public areas. A division bench headed by Justice SG Pandit and Geetha KB refused to interfere with the single bench order and asked the state to again approach the single-judge bench to seek further action. The BJP and Hindu organisations claimed that the order was passed by the government targeting the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS). Minister Priyank Kharge, son of AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, openly stated that now people can't conduct foot marches by holding lathis, aiming at the RSS Centenary padayatra event.

ACCUSED UNDER ANY LAW MUST BE GIVEN GROUNDS OF
ARREST IN WRITING IN HIS LANGUAGE: SUPREME COURT

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Thursday held that police and investigating agencies must provide written grounds of arrest to every arrested person as soon as possible, regardless of the offence or statute under which the arrest is made [Mihir Rajesh Shah vs. State of Maharashtra & Anr.]. A Bench of Chief Justice of India BR Gavai and Justice AG Masih said the right to be informed of the grounds of arrest is a fundamental and mandatory safeguard under Article 22(1) of the Constitution and applies to all offences including those under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). In certain exceptional situations when it is not possible to supply written grounds immediately, the ground should be conveyed orally to the accused. Even in such cases, written grounds must be furnished to the accused within a reasonable time and no later than two hours before the accused is produced before the magistrate for remand proceedings, the Court ordered. The judgment came in a batch of appeals arising from the 2024 Worli BMW crash case in Mumbai. The appeals raised a question of law - whether not providing written grounds of arrest violates Article 22(1) and renders an arrest illegal.

POLITICAL HEAT RISES AS RJD ACCUSES EC OF 'ENGINEERED'
POWER CUTS

Diary Times Desk : As Voting for the phase 1 of Bihar Assembly Election kicks off today, covering 121 seats across all over 8 districts, RJD alleged a calculated and vindictive attempt to harm the electoral prospects Mahagathbandhan carries. The Pointless allegations received an immediate response from Election Commission Of India (ECI), which dismissed the allegations claiming it as 'misleading'. RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav claimed that the stronghold of Mahagathbandhan are being deliberately targeted by cutting off electricity at it's polling booths where it's supporters have gathered in large numbers to cast their votes.

"Electricity is being cut off intermittently at the strong booths of the Mahagathbandhan with the intention of slowing down the voting. Slow voting is being deliberately caused," the RJD claimed in a post on X.



ARUNACHAL CLASS 7 STUDENT FOUND
DEAD AT SCHOOL WAS BULLIED, SAYS
SISTER

Diary Times Desk : Days after a Class 7 student was found dead at the Sainik School in Arunachal Pradesh's East Siang district, his sister has alleged that he was tortured and bullied by seniors the night before he died. The victim's sister, Miss Arunachal 2024, Tadu Lunia, released a video on Instagram detailing what happened to her brother, Haro, who was 12 years old. Lunia said the school authorities had initially informed the family that Haro died by suicide. However, after speaking to his classmates and dormitory mates, the family learnt of alleged ragging and physical abuse. According to Lunia, her brother's dorm mates told the family that on October 31, eight students from Class 10 and three students from Class 8 reportedly entered the Class 7 dormitory at night, when no warden was present.

2 KILLED, 3 INJURED AFTER BEING HIT BY
LOCAL TRAIN IN MUMBAI

Diary Times Desk : Two people died and three sustained injuries after they were hit by a suburban train near Sandhurst Road railway station in south Mumbai on Thursday, officials said. The incident took place around 7:00 pm, just some time after the suburban train service on Central Railway was disrupted due to a flash strike by employees' unions over an FIR registered against two engineers in the June 9 Mumbra accident case. "Two persons were brought dead to the hospital, while three were injured. Of these, two took discharge against medical advice (DAMA), while one is being treated at the facility," an official. Earlier, the official said they had alighted from the wrong side and were moving on the tracks when they were hit. The Mumbra incident, in which four persons died, occurred on June 9 when two trains, one headed to Kasara and the other towards Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, were passing each other at a sharp curve.



'NATIONWIDE HEALTH EMERGENCY': PLEA FILED IN TOP COURT OVER AIR POLLUTION

Diary Times Desk : A public interest litigation (PIL) has been filed before the Supreme Court seeking urgent judicial intervention in the "nationwide public health emergency" caused by escalating air pollution across India. The petition, filed by wellness advocate and Fit India Movement champion Luke Christopher Coutinho, said that despite a dense statutory framework and repeated policy announcements, air quality in both rural and urban regions continues to remain "consistently poor, dangerous, and violative of the fundamental right to life". "The situation has reached a point where over 1.4 billion citizens are compelled to inhale toxic air every single day - a direct infringement of Article 21," the plea added. The writ petition highlighted that annual averages of PM2.5 and PM10 in major cities such as Delhi, Mumbai, Lucknow, Kolkata, Chennai, and Patna regularly exceed the permissible limits prescribed under the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), notified by the Central Pollution Control Board under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

BAR COUNCIL APPROVES KERALA'S PROPOSAL TO RESERVE SEATS FOR TRANS STUDENTS

Diary Times Desk : The Bar Council of India (BCI) has granted interim approval to the Kerala government's proposal to create two supernumerary seats for transgender students in all law colleges across the state. The move is being hailed as a significant step towards inclusivity in legal education. The approval follows a directive from the Kerala High Court on October 24, which had asked the BCI to consider and approve the government's request.

The Kerala government had submitted its proposal on August 6, seeking permission to introduce additional seats under the transgender category in both three-year and five-year LLB programmes. When the matter came up on Thursday, Justice VG Arun recorded his satisfaction over the progress made. "It is heartening to note that pursuant to this Court's order dated 24/10/2025, the Bar Council of India has granted interim approval to the proposal of the Government of Kerala for two supernumerary posts in each law college for the transgender category for the academic year 2025-26," the court observed.

MAMATA BANERJEE LIVID AFTER TRINAMOOL MOUTHPIECE REPORTS SHE FILLED SIR FORM



Diary Times Desk : Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, known to be a vocal opponent of the Special Intensive Revision of voter list, was left red-faced after her party mouthpiece Jago Bangla reported and a few other publications reported that she has personally received the voter enumeration form. In a Facebook post, the Chief Minister issued a flat denial, saying she would not do any such thing till every voter in the state has been registered. The BJP, which is having a field day with the episode, has questioned whether the Chief Minister was lying or it is her party mouthpiece. On Thursday, Jago Bangla reported on its front page that an official of the Election Commission distributing enumeration forms had gone to the Chief Minister's residence.

BIHAR DEPUTY CM ALLEGES RJD 'GOONS' ATTACKED HIS CONVOY IN HIS HOME TURF ON POLLING DAY

Diary Times Desk : Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Kumar Sinha on Thursday charged "goons" of the RJD, the main opposition party, with "attacking" his convoy in a village in Lakhisarai, his home turf, where he went following complaints that voters were being "terrorised".

The senior BJP leader also blew a fuse when some local officials suggested that the attackers were local residents venting their spleen on polling day over the lack of amenities like roads in the area. "Roads have been built and are being maintained. How dare you say such a thing?" Sinha screamed at officials after he complained that "slippers, stones, mud and cow dung" had been hurled at his convoy while it was approaching Buriyari village. The deputy CM's outbursts led Rakesh Kumar, the DIG of Munger Range, to come rushing from the divisional headquarters 60 km away.

BIHAR SEES HIGHEST-EVER VOTER TURNOUT OF 64.66% IN PHASE 1

Diary Times Desk : Seats voting in the first phase of the 2025 Bihar Assembly election recorded a provisional voter turnout of 64.66 per cent, the highest in the state's history. Before this, the highest figure for an Assembly election in Bihar was 62.57 per cent in 2000. For Lok Sabha elections, the state's highest voter turnout was 64.6 per cent in 1998. In a statement, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar thanked voters for coming out in such large numbers and poll workers for their dedication. The increased voter turnout is all the more significant because the special intensive revision of the state's voter lists - a contentious exercise the opposition called an attempt to disenfranchise voters from poor and marginalised groups who, they claimed, traditionally vote for them - deleted 47 lakh names. The reduction in the overall voter base - from 7.89 crore before the exercise to 7.42 crore after - could account for the increased turnout percentage, but only if the actual number of voters is the same.



"WHAT MADNESS IS THIS?" BRAZILIAN WOMAN VIRAL AFTER RAHUL GANDHI H-BOMB

Diary Times Desk : The 'Brazilian model' whose face went viral after senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's fresh allegations regarding the Haryana election is actually a hairdresser who posed for a photo eight years back, unaware that it would travel across the world and become the epicentre of a massive row. A video of the woman, identified as Larissa Nery, has now gone viral. She is seen clarifying that the photograph Gandhi shared during a press conference yesterday was clicked years back, when she was about 20 years old. "Guys, they are using an old photo of mine. It's an old photo, okay? I was like 18 or 20 years old. I don't know if it's an election or something about voting... And in India.

Ah! They're portraying me as Indian to scam people, guys. What madness! What craziness is this? What world do we live in?" the woman says in the video.

PHYSIOTHERAPISTS, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPISTS CAN'T USE 'DR' PREFIX: KERALA COURT

Diary Times Desk : The Kerala High Court has directed that physiotherapists and occupational therapists cannot use the prefix "Dr" without holding a recognised medical degree.

The interim direction by Justice V G Arun came on a plea filed by the Indian Association of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (IAPMR), seeking that physiotherapists and occupational therapists should not be allowed to present themselves as first-line healthcare providers. The court also issued notices to the Ministry of Health, the National Commission for Allied and Healthcare Professions (NCAHP), the State Allied and Healthcare Council, and the National Medical Commission (NMC), seeking their response to the petition by IAPMR. In its plea, IAPMR also sought directions that physiotherapists and occupational therapists should be confined to a supporting role in healthcare.

INDIA AIRLIFTS 270 NATIONALS FROM THAILAND WHO FLED MYANMAR'S CYBER SCAM HUB

Diary Times Desk : In a major rescue and repatriation effort, India on Thursday brought back 270 of its nationals, including 26 women from Thailand's Mae Sot town after they allegedly escaped from cyber scam centres operating across the border in Myanmar's Myawaddy region.

The operation was coordinated by the Embassy of India in Bangkok and the Consulate in Chiang Mai in close collaboration with Thai authorities. Two special Indian Air Force (IAF) flights were deployed to ferry the rescued citizens back home.

According to official sources, the Indian nationals were detained by Thai authorities for illegally crossing the border from Myanmar, where they were reportedly employed in cyber fraud syndicates. "The repatriation was facilitated in coordination with various agencies of the Royal Thai Government," the Indian Embassy in Thailand said.

AN AMERICAN MAN, HIS SON DIE AFTER SUFFERING STINGS FROM SWARM OF WASPS WHILE ZIPLINING IN LAOS

Diary Times Desk : An American man and his teenage son died last month after they were swarmed by wasps while ziplining at an adventure camp in Laos and stung many dozens of times, a hospital official said Thursday. Dan Owen, the director of an international school in neighbouring Vietnam, and his son Cooper were attacked by the insects on October 15 at the Green Jungle Park, as they were descending from a tree at the end of the zip line.

The camp is located outside the city of Luang Prabang, a popular tourist site in the Southeast Asian nation that was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995. The two were taken to a local clinic and then transported to Luang Prabang Provincial Hospital where they arrived in critical condition, said Jorvue Yianouchongteng, the emergency room physician who received them.

TRUMP'S ADVICE TO MAMDANI AFTER STUNNING NYC WIN: 'HE SHOULD BE NICE TO ME, I'M THE ONE...'

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has termed New York City Mayor-elect Zohran Mamdani's victory speech on election night a "very angry" address, saying he is off to a bad start and doesn't have a chance of succeeding if he is not respectful of Washington.

"Yeah, I thought it was a very angry speech, certainly angry toward me, and I think he should be very nice to me.

You know, I'm the one that sort of has to approve a lot of things coming to him. So he's off to a bad start," Trump said in an interview to Fox News in Miami on Wednesday when asked about Mamdani's victory speech.

In his fiery address, Mamdani challenged Trump and heralded the toppling of "political dynasty".



'VIBE CODING' EMERGES AS UK'S WORD OF THE YEAR IN NOD TO ACCESSIBLE AI



Diary Times Desk : Vibe coding, or an emerging software development that turns natural language into computer code using AI, was named as the Word of the Year by 'Collins Dictionary' in a nod to the proliferation and accessibility of artificial intelligence (AI) in our daily lives.

The term was coined by Andrej Karpathy, former director of AI at Tesla and a founding engineer at OpenAI, to describe how AI can enable someone to create a new app while being able to "forget that the code even exists".

Other trending words gaining traction in 2025 include 'glaze', to praise or flatter someone excessively, or undeservedly, and 'aura farming', or the deliberate cultivation of a distinctive and charismatic persona, essentially the art of looking cool.

"The selection of 'vibe coding' as Collins' Word of the Year perfectly captures how language is evolving alongside technology," said Alex Beecroft, managing director at Collins.

TRUMP BACKS OFF FEDERAL FUNDING THREAT, SAYS HE'LL HELP MAMDANI 'A LITTLE BIT'

Diary Times Desk : Days after warning that he could slash federal funding to New York City if Zohran Mamdani won the mayoral race, US President Donald Trump appeared to backtrack on his stance after Mamdani decisive win on Tuesday.

Speaking at America Business Forum in Miami on Wednesday, Trump, who had earlier called Mamdani a "communist", suggested he was open to offering limited federal support to New York, despite his sharp criticism of the incoming Mayor.

COMEDY OF ERRORS! WOMAN'S FINGER GETS STUCK IN CHAIR, FIREFIGHTERS TO THE RESCUE

Diary Times Desk : In a bizarre incident that's left everyone in stitches, a woman in Malaysia found herself in a sticky situation — literally! Her right pinky finger got stuck in a tiny hole in a plastic chair and she couldn't get it out.

The woman, whose name hasn't been revealed, tried everything to free herself, but her finger was having none of it. So, she did what any of us would do in a moment of desperation — she called the Fire Department! The firefighters carefully removed the section of the chair, making sure not to hurt the woman's delicate finger. The video, shared by @friendsofbombamalaysia on Instagram, is now going viral.

MISS UNIVERSE 2025 SPARKS CONTROVERSY AFTER THAI DIRECTOR CALLS MISS MEXICO 'DUMB' DURING SASHING CEREMONY

Diary Times Desk : The 74th Miss Universe pageant began with controversy in Thailand after a tense exchange erupted between Miss Universe Thailand (MUT) national director Nawat Itsaragrisil and Miss Universe Mexico 2025, Fátima Bosch, during what was supposed to be a ceremonial sashing event on Tuesday, Philstar Global reported.

The incident unfolded amid confusion between the Miss Universe Organisation (MUO) and Miss Universe Thailand, which is co-hosting the pageant. MUO had earlier disowned a "Special Dinner & Talk Show" promoted by MUT, calling it unsanctioned, while MUT insisted the activity was part of its approved marketing initiatives. All contestants had gathered for the sashing ceremony, marking the start of pre-pageant activities, when Nawat addressed the group. He defended MUT's promotional activities, reminded the contestants of their obligations, and raised issues including participation in promotional shoots and alleged ties to illegal online casino sponsors.

During the speech, Nawat asked anyone who disagreed with MUT's promotional plans to raise their hands. When no one did, he called out Miss Mexico, claiming he'd received reports that her national director instructed her not to promote Thailand.

TYPHOON KALMAEGI MAKES LANDFALL IN VIETNAM AFTER 142 KILLED IN PHILIPPINES



Diary Times Desk : Typhoon Kalmaegi has made landfall in central Vietnam with strong winds and heavy rain, after killing at least 142 people across the Philippines. Kalmaegi — one of the world’s deadliest cyclones this year — crashed into Gia Lai province late on Thursday, packing sustained winds of up to 149km/h (92.5mph) with much faster gusts, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment said. “The wind is so so strong, nothing can resist,” Vu Van Hao, 48, told the news wire AFP as he surveyed the shards of windows shattered by the storm in the lobby of a hotel in Gia Lai. The storm produced waves as high as 10 metres (33 feet) as it hit the central region’s coast, according to Vietnam’s national weather forecaster. “We here have never experienced such strong wind like this. It’s a natural disaster, what can we do?” Vu Van Hao told AFP. Before hitting Vietnam, the typhoon wreaked devastation across the Philippines, killing at least 142 people, and leaving another 127 people missing, as President Ferdinand Marcos Jr declared a state of emergency and warned of another incoming super typhoon.

MEXICO PRESIDENT TO SEEK CHARGES AFTER BEING GROPED ON STREET

Diary Times Desk : Mexico President Claudia Sheinbaum has said she will press charges against a man who groped her during a public appearance. Mobile phone footage of the incident on Tuesday shows Sheinbaum speaking to a group of supporters on a street near the National Palace in Mexico City. In the video, a man approaches her from behind and attempts to kiss her on the neck and place his hands on her body. Sheinbaum moved away quickly and a member of her team stepped in, but she was visibly shaken. The offender has been arrested.

AMID US SANCTIONS, INDIA TO CUT DIRECT RUSSIAN OIL IMPORTS FROM DECEMBER

Diary Times Desk : India is set to reduce its direct imports of Russian crude from late November, following new US sanctions on Rosneft and Lukoil, effective November 21. Indian refiners accounting for more than half of the country’s import of Russian crude oil, which is turned into fuels like petrol and diesel in refineries, are expected to comply with the latest sanctions on Moscow’s two largest oil exporters, analysts say. According to maritime intelligence firm Kpler, this will trigger a sharp decline in Russian arrivals in December, with gradual recovery projected through early 2026 via intermediaries and alternative trading routes. Top importer Reliance Industries Ltd, which has a long-term supply contract with Rosneft, will stop taking Russian oil. Two other state-controlled refiners said they were stopping Russian oil imports.

12 DEAD AS ENGINE FALLS OFF CARGO PLANE THAT CRASHED IN US’ KENTUCKY

Diary Times Desk : A UPS cargo plane’s left wing caught fire and an engine fell off just before it crashed and exploded after takeoff in Kentucky, a federal official said Wednesday, offering the first investigative details about a disaster that killed at least 12 people, including a child. Finding survivors seemed unlikely as first responders searched the charred area of the crash at UPS Worldport, the company’s global aviation hub in Louisville, Gov. Andy Beshear said. The inferno consumed the enormous aircraft and spread to nearby businesses. After being cleared for takeoff, a large fire developed in the left wing, said Todd Inman, a member of the National Transportation Safety .



CANADA PLANS TO POACH H-1B VISA HOLDERS, SKILLED WORKERS AMID US IMMIGRATION CRACKDOWN

Diary Times Desk : Amid its biggest immigration overhaul in decades, Canada is planning to reduce admissions of foreign students, including Indians, by 25-32 per cent starting next year, while creating special entry pathways for thousands of top international researchers and H-1B visa holders from the United States. In its first budget, Prime Minister Mark Carney’s government has unveiled a plan to attract international talent, earmarking over Rs 106 crore (\$1.2 billion) to recruit more than 1,000 skilled professionals. “The expertise of these researchers will help advance our global competitiveness and contribute to the economy of the future,” the budget document said. Team Carney is also planning to launch an “accelerated pathway” for H-1B visa holders in the coming months.

Canada’s new programme is likely to attract top-tier talent from the US and across the world. The move follows US President Donald Trump’s decision to increase fees for H-1B visas to \$100,000. Since Trump came to power, his administration’s ever-changing plans for the future of the H-1B visa programme and green cards have left several high-skilled immigrants in the US feeling anxious.

“COSTLY CUP OF TEA”: PAK DEPUTY PM SLAMS EX-ISI CHIEF FOR TALIBAN CRISIS

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan’s Defence Minister Ishaq Dar has accepted that a symbolic “cup of tea” in Kabul, Afghanistan’s capital, in 2021, turned into a costly mistake for Pakistan. Dar, who is also Pakistan’s Foreign Minister, cautioned that such mistakes should not be repeated. Dar was referring to the 2021 Kabul visit of General Faiz Hameed, the former head of Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) – Pakistan’s intelligence agency – weeks after the Taliban took over control of Afghanistan following the withdrawal of US and allied forces. The Minister blamed the visit for the entry of Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) members into the country, who have been behind several recent terror attacks in Pakistan. “Pakistan has done so much outreach that when we go there, we say that we are here for a cup of tea... May Allah ease everyone’s difficulties, but that cup of tea cost us the most... It was a big mistake and should not be repeated,” Dar said, speaking during a Senate session on Wednesday.

NEWLY FREED ISRAELI HOSTAGE SAYS HE WAS SEXUALLY ASSAULTED IN CAPTIVITY

Diary Times Desk : A recently freed Israeli hostage has alleged he was subjected to “horrific” and humiliating sexual assault while held captive in Gaza.

Rom Braslavski, who was working as a security guard when he was kidnapped from the Nova music festival on October 7, said in an interview with Channel 13’s “Hazinor” that he was stripped naked and tied up while he was held by Palestinian Islamic Jihad.

He is the first male hostage to publicly allege he was sexually assaulted while in captivity.

“They stripped me of all my clothes, my underwear, everything. They tied me up from the ...” Braslavski, 21, said, his voice trailing off without finishing his sentence. “When I was completely naked. I was wiped out, dying without food. And I prayed to God – save me, get me out of this already, and you just say to yourself like ... what the hell is going on?”



KHAWAJA ASIF’S “WAR” THREAT TO TALIBAN BEFORE AFGHAN-PAK PEACE TALKS IN TURKEY

Diary Times Desk : On the eve of renewed peace talks between Afghanistan and Pakistan in Istanbul, Pakistan’s Defence Minister Khwaja Asif issued a fiery warning to the Taliban government, threatening possible military action, a statement that has dramatically escalated tensions and cast a dark cloud over diplomatic efforts to end weeks of deadly border clashes and drone strikes.

“War will happen,” Asif said when asked by a reporter if the military confrontation was the only option to deal with the Taliban in Afghanistan.

The provocative remarks, made during a televised interview on Wednesday, come just hours before senior Afghan and Pakistani delegations were set to meet in Turkey under the mediation of Turkiye and Qatar.

PAKISTAN PUTS PRICE TAG ON ITS SOLDIERS: ASIM MUNIR WANTED \$10,000 PER TROOP FOR GAZA MISSION, ISRAEL OFFERED \$100

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan’s army has once again landed in controversy, this time for reportedly putting a price tag on its soldiers. Veteran Pakistani journalist Asma Shirazi has claimed that army chief General Asim Munir demanded \$10,000 per soldier from Israel for deploying Pakistani troops to Gaza as part of a proposed peacekeeping force.

If true, the revelation exposes the Pakistani military’s long-standing reputation as a “renter army” that fights for money, not principle.

It also makes a mockery of Islamabad’s self-proclaimed image as the “defender of Muslim causes,” showing that even in a crisis like Gaza, Pakistan’s military sees opportunity not in peace, but in profit.

MAMDANI SAYS READY TO WORK WITH TRUMP ON INFLATION, LIVING COSTS

Diary Times Desk : New York mayoral election winner Democratic socialist Zohran Mamdani said Wednesday that he was ready to engage with his arch-critic President Donald Trump on the issue of cost of living.

The Muslim-American lawmaker, whose rapid ascent from rank outsider to mayor-elect has stunned observers, joked at a briefing that the “White House hasn’t reached out to congratulate me.”

“I continue to be interested in having a conversation with President Trump on the ways in which we can work together to serve New Yorkers,” he said suggesting “delivering on his campaign promises around cost of living” as one.

Mamdani, like Trump, put the high cost of living, impact of inflation and elevated grocery expenses at the heart of his campaign which triumphed over former governor Andrew Cuomo’s platform.

US SUPREME COURT QUESTIONS LEGALITY OF DONALD TRUMP’S SWEEPING TARIFFS

Diary Times Desk : US Supreme Court justices raised doubts on Wednesday over the legality of President Donald Trump’s sweeping tariffs in a case with implications for the global economy that marks a major test of Trump’s powers.

Both conservative and liberal justices sharply questioned the lawyer representing Trump’s administration about whether the president had intruded on the power of Congress in imposing tariffs under a 1977 law meant for use during national emergencies. But some of the conservative justices also signaled that they were wrestling with their recognition of the inherent power that presidents have in dealing with foreign countries, suggesting the court could be sharply divided in the outcome of the case. The court has a 6-3 conservative majority. During arguments lasting more than 2-1/2 hours, the justices asked US Solicitor General D. John Sauer whether Trump’s application of this statute to impose tariffs of unlimited duration was a major action by the executive branch that would require clear congressional authorization.

Those questions related to the Supreme Court’s “major questions” doctrine, which requires executive branch actions of vast economic and political significance to be clearly authorized by US lawmakers. The arguments came in appeals pursued by the administration after lower courts ruled that his unprecedented use of the law at issue to impose the tariffs.

FROM SHAWARMA TO RAJNIGANDHA: ZOHRAN MAMDANI’S VIRAL SOUTH-ASIAN MOMENT



Diary Times Desk : A short clip of New York City’s newly elected mayor, Zohran Mamdani, casually munching on Rajnigandha mouth freshener during a street chat with content creator Nicolas Nuwan has taken social media by storm.

The Instagram video, posted by both Mamdani and Nuwan, opens with the mayor stepping out of a sleek black SUV and stopping for a quick conversation in Brooklyn. When Nuwan asks if he has eaten, Mamdani replies, “I did eat today, chicken shawarma.”

Moments later, he reaches into his pocket, pulls out a pack of Rajnigandha Silver Pearls, cardamom seeds laced with saffron and coated in silver, and adds, “I’ve also started having a lot of these. It’s like a mint.”

CHAI, MOMOS AT LUNCH MEET: INSIDE MAMDANI'S 1ST DAY AS NEW YORK MAYOR-ELECT



Diary Times Desk : Zohran Kwame Mamdani, New York's 34-year-old mayor-elect, has tightened his belt to step into his new role by kick-starting his first day after the historic win with some Indian lunch with Democrat firebrand Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez. The Indian-origin politician shared a glimpse of his "busy first day" as the mayor-elect, which he said was packed with interviews and meetings. "A busy first day as your Mayor-elect: early morning interviews, transition announcements and meetings. More to say on all of it tomorrow. But a highlight was lunch with my Congresswoman Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez."

NANCY PELOSI, FIRST WOMAN SPEAKER OF US HOUSE, ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT AT 85

Diary Times Desk : Nancy Pelosi, a towering figure in US politics and the first female speaker of the House of Representatives, announced on Thursday that she would be stepping down at the next election.

"I will not be seeking reelection to Congress," the 85-year-old Democrat said in a video heavily targeted at her hometown constituents in San Francisco. "With a grateful heart, I look forward to my final year of service as your proud representative."

WINDOW TO SAVE EARTH 'CLOSING RAPIDLY': COP30 HOST LULA



Diary Times Desk : President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva of COP30 host Brazil said Thursday that "extremist forces" were condemning future generations to life on a planet forever altered by global warming. Opening a pre-COP leaders' summit in the Amazonian city of Belem, Lula lashed out at "extremist forces (that) fabricate fake news...to obtain electoral gains and imprison future generations," as he warned that the window to prevent calamitous climate change was "closing rapidly."

Lula pointed to a recent UN report that found Earth will likely be 2.5 degrees Celsius warmer by 2100 from pre-industrial levels.

This would claim an estimated 250,000 lives per year and shrink global GDP by almost a third, he told dozens of leaders gathered in Belem.

"Now is the moment...to face reality and decide if we will have the courage and the necessary determination to transform things," the president urged.

But he pointed to a tendency of "selfish immediate interests" prevailing over the long-term common good.

Global climate efforts have been tarnished by "insecurity and mutual mistrust," said Lula, who has been involved in a heated tariff spat with counterpart Donald Trump of the United States, which was absent from the high-level climate talks.

WHAT TO DO IF THE FAA CUTS OR CANCELS YOUR FLIGHT

Diary Times Desk : The Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) planned flight cuts and reductions in response to the ongoing government shutdown could strand air travelers across the country.

Why it matters: The FAA plans to reduce 10% of flights at 40 major U.S. airports, suggesting delays and cancellations are coming, on top of the staffing headaches already plaguing airports.

This could lead to hundreds of daily flights getting cut, with hundreds of thousands of travelers impacted, per aviation analytics firm Cirium.

"You will see mass flight delays," Transportation Secretary Sean Duffy warned Tuesday. "You'll see mass cancellations."

State of play: Airports are already telling customers they can rebook or cancel their flights free of charge to avoid the anticipated chaos.

AFGHANISTAN CLAIMS PAK FORCES FIRED ACROSS BORDER DESPITE PEACE TALKS

Diary Times Desk : Afghan officials said Pakistani forces briefly fired across the border on Thursday as delegations from both countries were in Turkey for negotiations aimed at finalising a ceasefire agreement following deadly clashes.

The Istanbul talks are intended to finalise a truce approved on October 19 in Qatar that ended a week of deadly clashes between the South Asian neighbours. Security issues are at the heart of their dispute, with Islamabad accusing Kabul of harbouring terrorist groups, particularly the Pakistani Taliban (TTP), that launch attacks in Pakistan, accusations the Taliban government denies. "While the third round of negotiations with the Pakistani side has begun in Istanbul, unfortunately, this afternoon Pakistani forces once again opened fire on Spin Boldak, causing concern among the local population," Taliban government spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said.

"8 PLANES SHOT DOWN": TRUMP UPDATES KEY FIGURE IN INDIA-PAK PEACE CLAIM

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has repeated his claim of brokering peace between India and Pakistan, revising his count of fighter jets downed during the combat from seven to eight. The two nuclear-armed nations "made peace" in May only after he threatened to cancel their trade deals, he said, reiterating his wild claim at the America Business Forum in Miami yesterday. The India-Pakistan episode was among the eight conflicts that the President claimed to have stopped since taking office, besides Kosovo-Serbia and Congo-Rwanda, as he tried again to portray himself as a global peacemaker. "I was in the midst of a trade deal with India and Pakistan, and then I read on the front page of a certain newspaper...I heard they were going to war. Seven planes were shot down, and the eighth was badly wounded. Eight planes were shot down essentially. I said, this is war, and they are going at it. They are two nuclear nations. I said, 'I'm not going to make any trade deals with you guys unless you agree to peace,'" said Trump. The President claimed Delhi and Islamabad opposed such a threat and said their conflict had nothing to do with trade deals "The two nations said 'No way. This has nothing to do...'" I said, 'It has everything to do. You are nuclear powers. I'm not trading with you. We're not making any deals with you if you're at war with each other,'" he said, adding that he got a call the next day that the two countries had made peace. "I said, 'Thank you. Let's do trade'. Isn't that great? Without tariffs, that would have never happened," said Trump as the crowd cheered for him.

India denied the US President's claim and said a ceasefire was achieved on May 10 after Pakistani commanders pleaded with their Indian counterparts to stop the offensive.



THE SUPREME COURT
COULD UNDO TRUMP'S
SIGNATURE ECONOMIC
POLICY. BUT TARIFFS
AREN'T THE PROBLEM

Diary Times Desk :
Many Americans worried about high prices might expect some relief if a deeply skeptical Supreme Court reins in President Donald Trump's tariffs. If you're among them, don't get your hopes up.

In a consequential Supreme Court case Wednesday, a majority of the justices expressed concern that Trump may have overstepped his authority in levying tariffs with practically zero limits. Trump has imposed enormous import taxes in a number of unprecedented ways: He placed tariffs high enough to effectively serve as a temporary embargo on all Chinese goods, retaliated against Brazil's conviction of its former president and Trump ally Jair Bolsonaro, and pressured India to ditch Russian oil.

Those tariffs have begun to raise some prices for Americans, who raised the cost of living as the most important issue facing the country in a new CNN poll conducted by SSRS. Nearly three quarters (72%) of Americans say the US economy is in bad shape, and 61% say Trump's policies have made economic conditions worse.

QATAR AIRWAYS BOWS
OUT OF CATHAY
PACIFIC AFTER EIGHT
YEARS

Diary Times Desk :
Qatar Airways will sell its stake in Cathay Pacific Airways for \$896 million, ending its eight-year shareholding in Hong Kong's flagship carrier.

The Doha-based airline approached Cathay about selling its entire 9.6% holding, which Cathay will buy back at \$1.4 per share – subject to the approval of its independent shareholders, according to its Wednesday filing.

The state-owned flag carrier of Qatar became Cathay's third-largest shareholder in 2017 when it acquired the stake from Hong Kong-based Kingboard Chemical Holdings and other companies for \$662 million. The purchase was the first investment by a Middle Eastern carrier in an East Asian airline.

TARIFF REFUNDS ARE NOW A VERY REAL POSSIBILITY ... AND A GIANT
'MESS'

Diary Times Desk :
The chances of businesses getting tariff refunds grew significantly on Wednesday after the Trump administration's case to keep most of his levies in place was met with deep skepticism from multiple conservative and liberal justices on the Supreme Court.

The big question now: How would potential tariff refunds work?

The federal government has collected nearly \$90 billion in revenue from the tariffs being challenged, according to US Customs and Border Protection data as of September 23. That number is set to keep growing at least until a verdict is announced, which could be months from now.

The who
It's unclear who might be eligible for a refund if the justices rule against the Trump administration.

"If you win, tell me how the reimbursement process would work. Would it be a complete mess?" she said.



MAYOR-ELECT MAMDANI: NEW YORK BUSINESSES SHARE THEIR
HOPES AND WORRIES

Diary Times Desk : New York's wealthiest had warned of a business exodus if Zohran Mamdani won Tuesday's mayoral race. But for small business owners like Kadjahtou Balde, Mamdani's victory is a reason to stay in one of the country's most expensive cities.

"As somebody who is a young person, who is a mom, who is an entrepreneur, who's a (child of an) immigrant, existing in New York is something that is very difficult," said Balde, who runs a modest thrift store in Harlem. "Mamdani is now another reason for me to actually believe that I can make it in the city."

Mamdani's meteoric ascent from local politics to City Hall was boosted by a base that often works behind the scenes in the ever-fast-paced, high-cost city. "I speak of Yemeni bodega owners and Mexican abuelas. Senegalese taxi drivers and Uzbek nurses. Trinidadian line cooks and Ethiopian aunties," Mamdani said in his victory speech on Tuesday night.



WHY THE BLUE WAVE? IT IS, OF COURSE, THE ECONOMY, STUPID

Diary Times Desk :
It's the circle of political life: Now, as in 1992 when Bill Clinton was trying to unseat George H.W. Bush, what ails the electorate can be boiled down to a soundbite: It is, in fact, the economy, stupid.

Democrats trounced Republicans on Tuesday in three key races with little in common apart from one issue – affordability. It's the same problem that propelled President Donald Trump to a second term.

And the same problem that Trump, who promised lower prices on "Day One," has let fester as he carries out an economic agenda of tariffs, tax cuts and deportations that are, unavoidably, inflationary.

Elections in Virginia, New Jersey and New York City reflected an electorate that is financially exhausted after five years of inflation that peaked in 2022. Although prices have stopped rising rapidly, they have not come down, contrary to Trump's repeated lie that prices "are down" and that there is "no inflation."



**BEN & JERRY’S BOARD
CHAIR IS NOT FIT TO
SERVE, PARENT
COMPANY SAYS**

Diary Times Desk :
The Magnum Ice Cream Company has concluded that the chair of its Ben & Jerry’s independent board “no longer meets the criteria” to serve after internal investigations, according to a securities filing late Tuesday, the latest twist in an internal feud.
The spat between Magnum and the Vermont-based Ben & Jerry’s brand is heating up as consumer goods conglomerate Unilever prepares for the spinoff of the Magnum ice cream division in early December, which has been delayed by a month due to the US government shutdown.
Until the spin-off, Ben & Jerry’s and Magnum are both ultimately owned by Unilever. Magnum said in a filing that after commissioning investigations by external advisers, it found that the current chair “no longer meets the criteria to serve as a member of the Ben & Jerry’s Board.”

**LAYOFF
ANNOUNCEMENTS
SURGED LAST MONTH:
THE WORST OCTOBER IN
22 YEARS**

Diary Times Desk :
Company announcements of layoffs in the United States surged in October as AI continued to disrupt the labor market. Announced job cuts last month climbed by more than 153,000, according to a report by Challenger, Gray & Christmas released Thursday, up 175% from the same month a year earlier and the highest October increase since 2003. Layoff announcements surpassed more than a million in first 10 months of this year, an increase of 65% compared to the same period last year.
“This is the highest total for October in over 20 years, and the highest total for a single month in the fourth quarter since 2008. Like in 2003, a disruptive technology is changing the landscape,” the report said.
The outplacement and executive coaching firm said America’s labor market continued to normalize after a pandemic-era boom, but also cited “AI adoption, softening consumer and corporate spending, and rising costs”.

‘VIBE CODING’ NAMED COLLINS DICTIONARY’S WORD OF THE YEAR



Diary Times Desk : “Vibe coding,” a form of software development that involves turning natural language into computer code by using artificial intelligence (AI), has been named Collins Dictionary’s Word of the Year for 2025.
Overall, terms that describe humans’ relationship with technology feature prominently on this year’s list.

Although obviously two words, “vibe coding” was chosen by the UK-published dictionary at a time when AI plays an increasing role in our daily lives.

As Collins’ definition states, “vibe coding” is “the use of artificial intelligence prompted by natural language to assist with the writing of computer code.” Or, as a blog post on the dictionary’s website explains: “Basically, telling a machine what you want rather than painstakingly coding it yourself.”

The term was coined by AI pioneer Andrej Karpathy, former director of AI at Tesla and founding engineer at OpenAI, to describe creating an app with the help of AI while being able to “forget that the code even exists.”

OUTBACK ABRUPTLY CLOSED 21 RESTAURANTS



Diary Times Desk : Outback Steakhouse abruptly closed 21 restaurants in October as it begins a “comprehensive turnaround strategy” to keep up with its trendier competitors.

Bloomin’ Brands, Outback’s parent company, disclosed in its earnings report Thursday that in addition to those closures, an additional 22 locations will not have their leases renewed and will shutter over the next four years.

Outback has 670 US locations remaining, according to its website. That’s roughly 10% fewer than a decade ago, when it had about 750 locations.

Bloomin’ Brands also announced that it will take a \$33 million impairment charge for the closures and suspended its shareholder dividend to help pay for the turnaround plan.

The company revealed more details in a call with analysts Thursday morning, saying it’s investing \$75 million in the Outback turnaround plan over the next three years. Guests will soon see new menus highlighting the improved steaks the chain is selling. It is also increasing value offers and reducing the number of tables waiters serve from six to four to improve the dining experience.

“Outback Steakhouse has incredible brand equity,” said CEO Mike Spanos. “It is the pioneer of the casual steakhouse industry. We have strong brand awareness and a tremendous opportunity to convert that awareness into restaurant visits.”

All of its remaining restaurants will be renovated by the end of 2028. The redesign has brighter interiors with a newly designed bar and seats as well as smaller kitchens and expanded areas for pickup.

HIMACHAL'S
SUNDERNAGAR SEES
COMMUNAL TENSION
OVER BID TO KIDNAP
MINOR GIRL

Diary Times Desk : Sundernagar town of Himachal's Mandi district witnessed tense moments on Wednesday night when a member of the minority community allegedly attempted to kidnap a minor girl from the other community, leading to a fight and a heated argument in the area.

The kidnapping attempt was foiled by the locals, following which they beat up the accused, blackened his face and handed him over to the police. The incident led to the registration of three FIRs.

According to the available information, a 38-year-old married man had allegedly been stalking a 13-year-old girl for many days and on Wednesday, he came in an SUV near the house of the minor and tried to abduct her.

The girl's family intervened, but the accused allegedly misbehaved with them, following which the locals gathered at the spot, thrashed him, painted his face black and handed him over to the local police. A traffic jam was also reported in the area at the time of the incident.

COLD WAVE GRIPS
HIMACHAL; TABO
RECORDS -5.5°C,
KALPA SEES SNOWFALL

Diary Times Desk : Cold wave conditions persisted in the higher reaches and tribal areas of Himachal Pradesh, with Tabo in Lahaul and Spiti district recording a minimum temperature of -5.5°C on Wednesday night. An appreciable drop in minimum temperatures was witnessed at multiple places, with Keylong at -3.2°C, followed by Kukumseri at -2.1°C and Kalpa at 0.2°C, the meteorological centre said on Thursday. Kalpa in Kinnaur district also received traces of snow. Dense fog was observed in Sundernagar and shallow fog in Bilaspur, while gusty winds with speeds ranging between 35 and 39 kmph lashed Reckongpeo, Tabo, Seobagh and Kukumseri, the Met officials added.

POWER PURCHASE PACT BEHIND OVERHAUL IN ELECTRICITY DEPT IN PUNJAB

Diary Times Desk : In a week of sweeping changes, the Punjab Government has replaced the Chairman-cum-Managing Director of the Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) and Punjab State Transmission Corporation Limited (PSTCL), sacked the Director (Power Generation) and suspended a Chief Engineer overseeing two state-run thermal power plants. These actions have created ripples in the power corridors, especially as such action against as many top officers has been unprecedented. At the centre of the turmoil is the signing of a Power Sale Agreement (PSA) and a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between the PSPCL and two private power companies. While official orders cite "high fuel cost" at state-run plants compared to private thermal units as the reason for the dismissals and suspension, insiders say the real issue is the controversial renewable power deals. Senior officials in the Power Department allege the PSA and PPA, covering the purchase of 150 MW of solar power for 25 years.



PAKISTAN REJECTS ALLEGATIONS
THAT SOME HINDU PILGRIMS WERE
DENIED ENTRY INTO THE COUNTRY

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan on Thursday rejected the allegations that some Indian Hindus who were part of a Sikh group were denied entry into the country as "unfounded and misleading".

A group of nearly 1,900 Sikh pilgrims crossed over to Pakistan through the Attari-Wagah border for Guru Nanak's birth anniversary celebrations on Tuesday. A Hindu man said he was sent back along with six of his family members because of their religion.

"Pakistan categorically rejects the unfounded and misleading allegations that members of the Hindu community were denied entry into its territory," Foreign Office Spokesperson Tahir Husaain Andrabi said in response to media queries.

He said that a very small number of individuals were found to possess incomplete documentation and were unable to provide satisfactory responses to immigration authorities.

PUNJAB COUPLE'S BEDSIDE
DEATHS LINKED TO ILLICIT AFFAIR
AND BLACKMAIL

Diary Times Desk : A 50-year-old man and his 45-year-old wife were found dead on a bed in their house in Mehta village near Tapa on Thursday morning. The incident is linked to an alleged illicit relationship and blackmail. A handwritten note and similar wording on a wall were recovered from the room, and a video posted by the deceased man before his death surfaced on social media.

The deceased were identified as Nirmal Singh (50), a carpenter, and his wife Ramandeep Kaur (45). Police registered a case against four members of a family living near the deceased's house after the man, in his note and video, accused them of harassment and blackmail. Nirmal's brother also lodged a complaint with the police. According to police, the deaths appear connected to an alleged illicit relationship between Ramandeep Kaur and a neighbour. Sources said Nirmal Singh had learned about the affair some time ago and, disturbed by the matter and worried about his 15-year-old son's future, had spoken to the neighbour to end it.

YOUR HOROSCOPE
07-11-2025

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
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.

DELAY IN PROTECTION
TO COUPLES VIOLATES
RIGHT TO LIFE: PUNJAB
AND HARYANA HIGH
COURT

Diary Times Desk : Holding that delay in granting protection to couples amounts to a violation of the fundamental right to life, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has made it clear that protection must be extended immediately on receipt of a request, particularly in marriage cases. Any refusal must be supported by a detailed, speaking order.

Justice Parmod Goyal asserted the State authorities in a protection matters were bound to first provide safeguard and then proceed to find out “whether any threat perception is made out or not”.

Warning of personal liability for delay, the court asserted: “In case protection is not awarded immediately on receipt of application made by a citizen especially in case of marriage, the authorities shall be made liable for their inaction for not giving protection timely and seeking one or other report if any untoward incident takes place.”

RAHUL GANDHI SAYS
HARYANA POLL STOLEN
WITH 25 LAKH FAKE
VOTES, BJP CALLS HIM
'ANTI-INDIA'

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday alleged that the BJP “stole” the 2024 Haryana Assembly elections with the help of the Election Commission and called upon Gen Z to “restore democracy”. Addressing a press conference, he alleged that one in eight – 25 lakh of the two crore – votes in the 2024 Haryana elections were fake, including that of “a Brazilian model who appeared 22 times in the electoral roll at the Rai booth”. The BJP hit back, saying that the Leader of the Opposition was part of a larger conspiracy to defame the country. “Rahul targets the Army, the judiciary, the EC...Anti-India forces are using Rahul as a pawn to damage institutions,” Union Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said after Rahul claimed that the Congress’ “sure-shot sweep in Haryana was converted into a BJP victory through a well-crafted plan and the EC’s help”.

COLLEGE STUDENT RUN OVER BY ROADWAYS BUS IN YAMUNANAGAR, 5 OTHERS
INJURED

Diary Times Desk : A 21-year-old college student died while five others were injured after they fell on the road while boarding a Haryana Roadways bus and were run over by its rear wheel here on Thursday, said police. The incident took place at the Partap Nagar bus stand when some students tried to board the bus which was on its way from Paonta Sahib to Delhi.

The injured students were rushed to nearby hospitals, where five are currently undergoing treatment.

The local administration is in the process of providing compensation to the families of the deceased and injured students in accordance with government policies.

Meanwhile, Transport Minister Anil Vij said an inquiry had been ordered and strict action would be taken against anyone found responsible for this.



HARYANA EX-CM BHUPINDER
HOODA, PCC CHIEF RAO NARENDER
BACK RAHUL GANDHI, ANNOUNCE
STATEWIDE PROTESTS

Diary Times Desk : Announcing statewide protests and candle marches, senior Congress leader Bhupinder Singh Hooda on Wednesday backed Rahul Gandhi’s explosive claims of large-scale voter fraud in the 2024 Haryana Assembly elections, alleging that the Election Commission “collaborated” with the BJP to manipulate results and “steal” the people’s mandate.

Addressing a press conference, along with PCC chief Rao Narender Singh and former state president Udai Bhan, Hooda said the election results “defied logic and public sentiment”, claiming that “no survey had projected the BJP beyond 29 seats.” Hooda said Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi had presented “concrete evidence” of voter fraud, including sudden increases in vote counts, duplicate entries, and fake identities. “On polling day, the Election Commission reported 61.19% turnout. By the 7th, it became 67.9%. How did more than 6% votes appear overnight? Around 15,000 votes were added per constituency,” he claimed.

BRIJENDRA SINGH QUESTIONS
HARYANA GOVT'S LEGITIMACY

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Brijendra Singh has questioned the legitimacy of the state government following the disclosure by Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

Talking to ‘The Tribune’, Singh, who is on a Sadbhav Yatra, said it was surprising that despite so many facts being put in the open by Rahul Gandhi, the Election Commission of India is stonewalling everything.

“It puts into question the entire democratic process,” he said.

Singh, who lost the election from the Uchana Kalan Assembly segment in Jind district by 32 votes to BJP’s Devender Chatter Bhuj Atri, has sought the recounting of postal ballots in his amended submission to the Punjab and Haryana High Court.

He had stated in the petition that 215 ballots were declared invalid by the Returning Officer.

HC SEEKS MAGISTRATE’S COMMENTS ON ALLEGED KINSHIP WITH ACCUSED IN
BAIL MATTER

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab and Haryana High Court today sought comments from Judicial Magistrate First Class, Ambala, Vandana Walia, on allegations that she is related to accused Rishab Walia, whose bail she had earlier granted. The high court has already made it clear that issue of kinship was required to be adjudicated as a “preliminary question in order to arrive at a reasoned and lawful conclusion in the present petition”.

The case before Justice Sumeet Goel has its genesis in a petition filed by Akash Walia seeking the cancellation of regular bail granted to respondent Rishab Walia in an FIR registered on December 26, 2023, under provisions of the IPC at the Mullana police station in Ambala in the larger interest of justice, fair play and equity.

Taking up the petition filed through counsel Fateh Saini, Justice Goel referred to an order passed on February 27, 2024. Among other things, the order recorded the contentions of the petitioner’s counsel that the judicial officer was the Rishab Walia’s cousin. “The vacation Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate First Class, Vandana, ought not to have heard the matter being a close relative herself.



A Secret Garden In Beijing Has Opened To Visitors For The First Time In A Century

When Ho Puay-peng first visited Beijing's Forbidden City in the late 1980s, the Singaporean architect saw many of the historic courtyards used for storage, filled with garbage, and occupied by danwei (government offices). He summed it up with one word: "horrible." That was when the majority of the sprawling former imperial palace in the center of the Chinese capital was not yet open to the public. Besides government offices, many areas had been severely damaged by disrepair, and fires – easy to occur since most buildings were wooden structures. The Forbidden City was constructed in the 15th century during the Ming Dynasty as the imperial family's workplace and residence. It was later taken over by the emperors of the Qing Dynasty, who restored and reconstructed many parts. The Palace Museum opened on the site in 1925, after the already-abdicated last Qing emperor Pu Yi was forced out of the Forbidden City, but proper restoration works started much later. Since Ho's first visit decades ago, all the danwei have moved out of



Fred He
Major renovation work of the Palace Museum only started in 2002 after the State Council, China's cabinet, held a meeting on site and announced the initiative.

the Palace Museum, one of the most popular attractions in China. "So, it now owns the whole compound, and they will restore bit by bit to open it up," said Ho, the UNESCO Chair on Architectural Heritage Conservation and Management in Asia. "And I think that's a wonderful effort."As the Palace Museum celebrated its 100th anniversary in October, a small site in its northeastern section attracted outsized attention upon its public opening on September 30, with the museum describing it as "the most exquisite and beautifully decorated garden" of the entire compound.

The Qianlong Garden was closed for nearly a century. While its construction was completed within five years in the 1770s, the restoration took 25 years through a partnership between the museum and World Monument Fund. "I am happy to see they spent such a long time on this," said Ho.

This is one step in the museum's long-term conservation efforts. Last Monday, Chinese leader Xi Jinping visited the museum for an anniversary exhibition, where he said the museum is "an important symbol of the Chinese civilization" and should "work harder to protect, restore, and make good use of the cultural relics."

On the rainy last day of China's recent Golden Week holiday, long queues of domestic tourists formed inside Qianlong Garden, with the attraction trending on the country's social media platforms.

The garden, bearing the name of Emperor Qianlong, sits next to another popular tourist site inside the museum. Its discreet entrance speaks to the Qing ruler's design and desire to make it a personal retreat.

"The architecture has carved up the very tight space to accommodate many sceneries," explained Ho. "When you look at the sceneries from below and up on the inner pavilion, on the artificial hills, you get different perspectives."



40 Years in Washington

NANCY PELOSI ANNOUNCES SHE WILL NOT SEEK REELECTION

Nancy Pelosi, the first and only female speaker of the US House of Representatives and one of the most powerful figures in Democratic politics for decades, has announced she will not seek reelection.



Dana Bash
After a steady climb up the leadership ladder, Pelosi first won the speaker's gavel 18 years ago. Then, in 2019, Pelosi took the gavel again, becoming the first person to win non-consecutive terms as speaker in six decades.

"I have truly loved serving as your voice in Congress, and I have always honored the song of St. Francis, 'Lord make an instrument of thy peace,' the anthem of our city. That is why I want you, my fellow San Franciscans, to be the first to know. I will not be seeking reelection to Congress," Pelosi, 85, said Thursday in a sweeping video that stood as a love letter to the city she has represented for nearly 40 years in Washington.

"With a grateful heart, I look forward to my final year of service as your proud representative. As we go forward, my message to the city I love is this: San Francisco, know your



The animosity between the two reached a new level after the January 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol, during which pro-Trump rioters stormed the complex and among the widespread destruction broke into Pelosi's leadership suite and terrorized her staff.

power. We have made history. We have made progress. We have always led the way, and now we must continue to do so by remaining full participants in our Democracy and fighting for the American ideals we hold dear."

The announcement ends heightened speculation in recent days that the longtime Democrat would soon announce her intention to draw her congressional career to a close after 38 years. She was widely expected to leave Congress after this term, her first in decades as a rank-and-file member.

Reflecting on her many roles on Capitol Hill, Pelosi said Thursday: "I say to my colleagues in the House all of the time, no matter what title they had bestowed upon me – speaker,

leader, whip – there has been no greater honor for me than to stand on the House floor and say, 'I speak for the people of San Francisco.'"Pelosi was first elected to Congress in 1987, and made history as the House's first-ever female speaker in 2007. She remains the only woman to have wielded the gavel, which she earned after the 2006 and 2018 elections. Even now, decades after her ascent to the top of the House Democratic caucus, she remains one of the most influential voices in the party.

The congresswoman made public her decision to retire two days after one of her biggest political victories in recent years: a resounding win for a ballot measure in California that redraws the state's congressional map to favor Democrats ahead of the 2026 midterm elections. She personally raised tens of millions of dollars for the push, according to a person familiar with her fundraising efforts. Raised in Baltimore's Little Italy neighborhood, Pelosi grew up walking the halls of the Capitol, where her father served as a US congressman from Maryland. The daughter of one former city mayor and the sister of another, her colleagues have often attributed that upbringing to her sharp negotiating tactics and fierceness in politics.

INFA

Jim Morrison and Oscar Wilde

PARIS RESIDENTS CAN ENTER LOTTERY TO SHARE CEMETERY SPACE

The city of Paris has announced a lottery with a twist: Instead of a cash prize, entrants can instead win the chance to be buried in one of the French capital's most celebrated cemeteries.



Burial plots are leased for a fixed term, or in perpetuity. Description sheets for the available monuments suggest a burial plot will set buyers back €976 for a 10-year lease, €3,354 for 30 years or €5,260 for 50 years.

The unusual plan aims to restore tombs that have fallen into disrepair, while also giving Paris residents a rare opportunity to secure one of the sought-after plots, the city hall said in a statement published Friday.

Cemeteries within the city walls have been almost full since the beginning of the 20th century, with the clearing of abandoned tombs complicated by local regulations, the authority explained. But now, winners of the lottery will be granted the opportunity to buy and restore one of 30 tombs in three different cemeteries, with city hall agreeing to lease the corresponding burial plot to those who meet certain standards. "In recent decades, cemetery visitors throughout France have expressed an interest in restoring a historic funerary monument in order to obtain a burial plot concession in return," city hall said in the statement.

However, giving them a chance to do so has been complicated by the laws governing the land on which a tomb is located, which is

owned by the state, and concessions, under which a family rents the plot for a defined period of time. Now, city hall hopes to have found a solution, with 10 plots up for grabs in Père-Lachaise cemetery, which counts "The Doors" frontman Jim Morrison, playwright Oscar Wilde and singer Edith Piaf among its illustrious residents.

There are also 10 plots in Montparnasse cemetery, home to writers Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir and Susan Sontag, as well as 10 more in Montmartre cemetery, where painter Edgar Degas, author Émile Zola and dancer Vaslav Nijinsky are all buried. Each existing tomb will be available to buy for 4,000 euros (\$4,600), with the winners also on the hook for restoration costs.

They will then be able to buy a lease, the cost of which starts at 976 euros (\$1,120) for a 10-year contract and increases to 17,668 euros (\$20,290) for the right to rest there in perpetuity. Applications to the lottery opened on Monday and will close on December 31, according to city hall, with each entrant subject to a 125-euro (\$144) registration fee.

As well as Morrison, Piaf and Wilde, French novelist Marcel Proust and Polish composer Frederic Chopin are buried at

Père Lachaise. Writers Jean-Paul Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir, Samuel Beckett and singer Serge Gainsbourg were laid to rest at Montparnasse, while actress Jane Birkin's ashes were interred there. Painter Edgar Degas, writer Émile Zola and French New Wave director Francois Truffaut are buried at Montmartre.

There is no suggestion that any of these monuments are up for grabs under the scheme.

The 30 available gravestones, many now without distinguishable inscriptions, date back to the 19th Century.

Applications are only open to people who currently live in Paris. The council said it decided to run the scheme as a lottery after receiving so many expressions of interest. The draw will be held in January.

But a spot in one of the historic cemeteries is likely to come at a hefty cost for the winners. Under the conditions, they must restore the monument they buy within six months, with the new design "faithful to the original".

They must also make arrangements to acquire a burial plot nearby, also within a certain timeframe. If either condition is not met, the sale will be cancelled and buyers will lose their money.



A COLLECTION THAT CAPTURES THE REVOLUTIONARY SPIRIT OF MODERNISM

Diary Times Desk : Over the opening years of the twentieth-century, a generation of young artists from all corners of Europe changed forever how we make and look at art. Challenging centuries of convention, they embraced the rapidly developing world around them and forged new methods of recording their times.

Beginning with a class in art history taken at Columbia University in the 1930s, it became Arnold Saltzman's lifelong quest to build a collection that represented this revolution. In this 'adventure', as he termed it, Ambassador Saltzman was joined by his wife Joan, traveling to artists' studios, auction houses and dealers across Europe, deeply enjoying both the study and the chase of paintings and sculpture — the crafting of the collection. Their collection grew to represent the greater part of the 20th century in one of the most dynamic and deliberate examinations of modernism ever privately assembled. Saltzman's professional achievements as a businessman and diplomat complemented the pair's philanthropic commitments.

As an American envoy to Czechoslovakia, Austria and the Soviet Union, among other territories, Ambassador Saltzman — himself of Russian and Czech descent via émigré parents in New York City — was instrumental in nurturing political ties across post-war Eastern Europe. He shaped economic transitions after the disassembly of the Soviet Union and was honoured with a Presidential Commendation for the leading role he played in the transformative 1970 Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

The Saltzmans' approach to collecting mirrored the prerogatives of their public service — Joan was a dedicated activist, advocate and community organizer in support of social justice — and demonstrated an unwavering belief in art's capacity to spur innovation and dialogue and to bridge peoples and nations. As the 20th century saw the rise of the radical new art of the European avant-garde, the Saltzman collection stands as an exemplary expression of cultural diplomacy with special emphasis on the pan-European nature of modernism.

The first public group exhibition of Cubism, held in room 41 at the Salon des Indépendants in 1911, was a sensation. Léger was exhibited alongside Robert Delaunay, Albert Gleizes and Jean Metzinger.

It marked the consolidation of what became known as the Salon Cubists, a cohort in artistic dialogue with Picasso and Braque's innovations, but with broader aims. The show was the public's first comprehensive exposure to this unique technical revolution in art.

**THE WORLD'S FIRST MECHANICAL CALCULATOR, THE PASCALINE: 'THIS IS MUCH MORE THAN A MACHINE. IT EMBODIES AN ENTIRE CHAPTER OF HUMAN HISTORY'**

Diary Times Desk : A widower and father of three, Etienne Pascal quit Paris to settle in the city of Rouen early in 1640. He took up a job as president of Normandy's Cour des Aides (Board of Excise).

His middle child — a son called Blaise — was struck by the plethora of calculations Etienne had to do when it came to accounting and tax assessment tasks. Blaise wondered if such labour might be relieved by some sort of mechanical device.

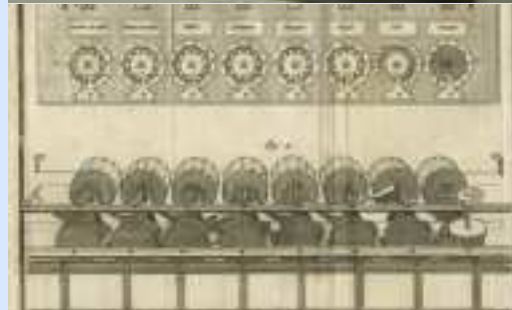
Aged 19, he set to work on what has come to be known as the 'Pascaline': the world's first mechanical calculator. Its invention was nothing short of a scientific and technical revolution. Only eight original versions survive, seven of which are held in European museums.

The sole Pascaline in private hands is about to be offered at auction for the first time, in the De la collection Léon Parcé sale on 19 November 2025 at Christie's in Paris.

Blaise Pascal — a man described by the writer-diplomat François-René de Chateaubriand as an effrayant génie ('scary genius') — was born in 1623. He lost his mother aged three, and suffered chronic ill-health throughout his life, some say as a result of contracting tuberculosis in early childhood. His physical struggles, however, were more than offset by his intellectual gifts.

Etienne took personal charge of his offspring's education (Blaise had two sisters: one older, one younger). The boy was a prodigy, so advanced in physics and mathematics that his father started inviting him to the weekly meetings of the Academia Parisiensis when he was barely a teen. Centred on the polymath Marin Mersenne, this was an informal Parisian circle of scientific and mathematical thinkers, to which Etienne belonged.

At 16, Blaise wrote a highly regarded essay on conics — shortly before the Pascal family moved to Rouen, the capital of Normandy. That region had borne something of the brunt of recent tax rises nationwide, resulting in several revolts, which prompted the secondment there of government officials such as Etienne. It was in this context that Blaise conceived the Pascaline, in 1642. Aimed principally at lightening his father's professional load, the invention ended up having far greater significance. For the first time in history, arithmetic went from being a mental activity to a mechanical one.



SHOULD BARCELONA RECONSIDER SELLING MARC-ANDRE TER STEGEN?



Diary Times Desk : As we near the halfway point of the season, Barcelona are increasingly facing a dilemma, one that pits financial necessity against sporting risk.

The club's new hierarchy under Hansi Flick was established this summer: Joan Garcia, the €25 million signing from Espanyol, is the undisputed number one goalkeeper.

This decision effectively demoted club captain Marc-Andre ter Stegen, with the German being relegated to becoming the club's third-choice keeper.

While Garcia has been impressive, a torn medial meniscus in September forced him to undergo surgery, sidelining him until after the international break. This has thrust the veteran backup, Wojciech Szczesny, into the spotlight.

And his performance is exactly why the club must now seriously reconsider its plan to sell Ter Stegen.

BARCELONA DEFENSIVE ACE SELECTED FOR NATIONAL TEAM DUTY DESPITE POOR FORM

Diary Times Desk : Following a string of disappointing performances against strong opponents, Barcelona are desperately in need of a breather.

Fortunately, the upcoming November international break could offer Hansi Flick some ample time to regroup and rethink their strategies.

However, not all the players will be available at the disposal of Flick, one of whom is Jules Kounde. Kounde makes into French team

As revealed by France Football, Didier Deschamps has selected Jules Kounde in the French team heading the team's World Cup qualifying campaign.

Kounde thus becomes the only Barcelona player to get selected for the French national team heading into the November international break. The French international will have a point to prove as well, having struggled with form throughout the course of the campaign. After enjoying his best-ever season at Barcelona last term, there has been a visible drop in Kounde's performances.

DUTCH FOOTBALL LEGEND CLAIMS CLUB BRUGGE WERE 'ROBBED' IN UCL TIE VS BARCELONA

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona's poor run of form continued this week as they were held to a 3-3 draw by Club Brugge in the UEFA Champions League.

In many ways, Barcelona were quite lucky to escape with a draw as Brugge had almost secured a late win.

Much to Barcelona's fortune, the match was overshadowed by a highly controversial VAR decision in the final stages, which has prompted a reaction from one of football's greats: Marco van Basten.

What was the incident?

The incident occurred late in the game when Barcelona goalkeeper Wojciech Szczesny, who has been in a terrible run of form, lost control of the ball near his own goal line.

Club Brugge striker Vermant pounced on the error, and the ball ended up in the net for what would have been a late, decisive goal for the Belgian side. However, referee Anthony Taylor, after VAR intervention, disallowed the goal, ruling that Vermant had fouled Szczesny in the process of challenging for the loose ball.

BARCELONA DEFENDER BACK IN CONTENTION TO PLAY AGAINST CELTA VIGO AFTER INJURY SCARE

Diary Times Desk : According to a report from Mundo Deportivo, Barcelona defender Andreas Christensen participated in the recovery session, offering Hansi Flick a welcome boost ahead of the upcoming La Liga clash against Celta Vigo.

The Blaugrana resumed training at the Ciutat Esportiva Joan Gamper following their frustrating 3-3 draw against Club Brugge in the Champions League.

The outlet mentions that this session focused on recovery for the starters, while the substitutes and fringe players underwent a more intense workout on the pitch.

Among those training with the group was Christensen, who is recovering from a calf injury in his right leg.

His condition has improved significantly, and his availability for Sunday's game will depend on how he responds in the coming days.



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BARCELONA LEANING TOWARDS ALAVES FIXTURE FOR CAMP NOU RETURN FOR ONE IMPORTANT REASON

Diary Times Desk : Barcelona's long-awaited return to the newly renovated Spotify Camp Nou is edging closer, and excitement is building among the fans.

According to a report from Cadena SER (h/t FCB World), while the club had initially considered making their comeback on November 22 against Athletic Bilbao, the internal discussions now suggest that the official reopening is more likely to take place a week later, on November 29, when Barça host Deportivo Alaves.

The timing could not be more symbolic, as the match coincides with Barcelona's 126th anniversary, and the club is already planning a special post-match celebration to mark both milestones – their return home and their founding date.

Gearing up for a special event

The reopening will see 45,000 fans welcomed into the newly modernised stadium, though notably, fan groups will not be present for this initial event.

The club plans to make the official announcement next week, following an open training session at the stadium.

Speaking to the media yesterday, club president Joan Laporta offered an optimistic update, suggesting that all systems are ready for the grand return. "Everything has been checked and is ready, and now we will conduct a public test to confirm this.