DIARY TIMES



Sunday 09 November 2025 | Shimla | Vol: 05 | Issue: 623 | Pages: 14 | Price: 4

www.diarytimes.com · twitter.com / thediarytimes · facebook.com/thediarytimes

NEWS IN BRIEF

70% OF PEOPLE BEHIND BARS IN INDIA HAVEN'T BEEN FOUND GUILTY, WARNS SC **JUSTICE VIKRAM** NATH

Diary Times Desk:

Seventy per cent of India's population consists of people who have not yet been found guilty, Supreme Court Justice Vikram Nath said on Friday, calling for urgent reform in the way legal aid and undertrial detention are handled.

He noted that most undertrials remain behind bars because the it, bu. ne system mandates i because the has failed them.

"There are undertrials who have spent time in prison exceeding maximum sentence for the very offence they are accused of. There are undertrials charged with bailable offences who remain custody simply because they could not furnish bail. There are undertrials who would have been acquitted or given suspended sentences had their trials concluded promptly, yet they continue to languish."

KHARGE CALLS IT FAILURE OF DOUBLE **ENGINE SARKAAR** IF THERE IS 'IUNGLE RAI'. 'INFILTRATORS' IN BIHAR

Diary Times Desk:

Congress leader and l eader of Opposition in Rajya Mallikarjun Sabha Kharge remarked on NDA's claims winning over 160 seats in the ongoing Bihar elections, and reiterated that Mahagathbandhan trusts the people of India to choose their elected

representatives fairly. He also retorted that if 'Jungle Raj' and 'infiltrators' exist in Bihar, it is a failure of the double engine sarkaar of the NDA, after their 20-year rule in the state.

Targeting the NDA's 'jungleraj' narrative, the Congress chief questioned the ruling alliance's failure to address law and order issues and infiltration during their long tenure. "Jungle Raj and all these things are old issues. Why did they not end jungleraj in 20 years? Why didn't the push out infiltrators? This is a failure of the central government and the state government. want to call out their double-engine

government for this failure," he added.

WHAT FOREIGN MINISTRY SAID ON TRUMP'S INDIA VISIT

TRUMP'S INDIA

Diary Times Desk: The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday clarified it has 'nothing' to share on US President Donald Trump's visit to India despite his recent remarks suggesting that the trip could take place next year.

The Quad comprises the United States, Australia, Japan, and India. New Delhi was scheduled to host the Quad summit in 2025. Addressing the weekly media briefing, when asked if the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) will take place without Trump or be rescheduled for next year during the US President's visit, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal underscored that the grouping remains a "valuable platform" for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific region.

"As far as the comments of President Trump regarding his visit to India are concerned, I do not have anything on this to share. I will let you know when I have something to share about it," Jaiswal

He highlighted the recent Quad engagements, including the Quad Ports of the Future Conference, held during the India Maritime Week in Mumbai on October 29 and 30.

"We see Quad as a valuable platform for discussion among the four Quad partners on issues of importance and of interest to them in the Indo-Pacific region. Quad is making steady progress. We recently attended the India Maritime Week in Mumbai. We had the Quad Ports of the Future Conference in Mumbai on 29th and 30th October. We had almost 24 countries participate in it, which included the

Earlier on Thursday, Trump had hinted at a possible visit to India for next year as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen trade relations

between the two nations.

Speaking to reporters at the White House after announcing a new deal to lower the prices of weight loss drugs, Trump praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi, calling him "a great man" and "a friend", while hinting at his possible visit,

"He (PM Modi) largely stopped buying from Russia. And he is a friend of mine, and we speak. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is a great man. He is a friend of mine, and we speak, and he wants me to go there. We will figure that out; I will go... Prime Minister Modi is a great man and I will be going," Trump said.

When asked directly if he planned to travel to India next year, Trump replied, "It could be, yes."

FINALLY, CENTRE ROLLS BACK PU OVERHAUL AFTER UPROAR IN PUNJAB

Diary Times Desk :A week after its controversial move triggered a political storm across Punjab and Chandigarh, the Centre on Friday night finally rolled back the restructuring of Panjab University (PU), fully rescinding the October 30 notification that had drastically altered the university's Senate and Syndicate.

The Union Ministry of Education, in its fourth notification on the issue since October 30, issued late on November 7, a copy of which is with The Tribune, said: "In exercise of the powers conferred by Sub-Section (1), read with Sub-Section (2) and (3), of Section 72 of the Punjab Reorganisation Act, 1966 (31 of 1966), the Central Government hereby rescinds the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Education, Department of Higher Education, number SO 5023 (E), dated November 4, 2025."

The order, signed by Joint Secretary Rina Sonewal Kouli, effectively nullifies all changes made in the governance structure of the PU.

The Tribune had first broken the PU overhaul story last Saturday, revealing the sweeping changes that trimmed the Senate structure, slashed its strength from 91 to 31, and replaced the elected Syndicate with a nominated body, sparking a major political firestorm and widespread protests.

Facing mounting backlash, the Centre had paused the reforms on November 4 but not withdrawn them, prompting students and opposition parties to intensify their



BULLIED IN SCHOOL

"DON'T SEND ME": PARENTS SAY 9-YEAR-OLD WHO JUMPED TO DEATH WAS BULLIED IN SCHOOL



Diary Times Desk :In a quiet Jaipur home, the voice of nine-year-old home, the voice of nine-year-old Amaiyra still echoes from a WhatsApp recording her mother made a year ago. In the clip, the Class 4 student can be heard sobbing: "I don't want to go to school... don't send me."

Her mother, Shivani Meena, recorded the audio and sent it to her daughter's class teacher, hoping it would alert the school to something troubling her child. "I would speak to the class teacher, I spoke to the class coordinator not once, but a number of times over the last one year, but they would either shrug me off or ignore me," the mother alleged.

A vear later, on November 1, the nine year-old student of Jaipur's prestigious Neerja Modi School jumped from the fourth floor of the school building. She died on the spot. Her parents allege that repeated complaints of bullying, teasing, and verbal abuse with "sexual connotations" went unaddressed by the school authorities.

Her husband, Vijay Meena, recalled a Parent-Teacher Meeting (PTM) where, according to him, a group of children signalled towards Amaiyra and another boy. She hid behind Vijay, embarrassed. Vijay brought up the issue at the PTM. "The teacher told me this is a coed

school and Amaiyra must learn to talk to all children, even the boys. I told the teacher that 'it is my daughter's choice if she does not want to talk to boys," Vijay

CCTV footage from the classroom reviewed by investigators, shows Amaiyra walking up to her teacher twice in the minutes before she climbed the railing and jumped. What she said is not because, despite guidelines mandating audio recording.

A TALE OF 2 HOUSES & 567 VOTES: WHAT THEPRINT FOUND IN HARYANA'S HODAL. NOW UNDER 'VOTE CHORI' SPOTLIGHT



Diary Times Desk: Lok Sabha Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi, in Wednesday's 'H-Bomb' press conference in Delhi, singled out two house numbers in Hodal assembly seat in Palwal district to 'substantiate' his claims of widespread voter fraud in the 2024 Haryana assembly

The two addresses were House No. (H/N) 265 in Hodal town, and H/N 150 in Gudhrana village. When ThePrint visited Thursday, residents and owners found at both addresses denied any "vote chori (vote theft)"

However, the picture is not as clear as they claim.

According to the Serot family, original residents of H/N 265, names from outside their clan began appearing in the voters' list against this address after 2016. These include voters from other castes living nearby, as well as some names the family says they do not recognise. However, one of the Serot clan members—Shiv Ram Serot —a BJP worker and former councillor of the Hodal municipal council, dismissed claims of addition of names.

In the voters' list of Booth No. 162-polling station HGM Senior Secondary School—502 votes (not 501 as stated by Gandhi) are registered against H/N 265. Not just that, there are two more votes against H/N 265/1, 14 against 265/A, 42 against 265/B, three against 265/K (of Hindi alphabet), and seven against 265/G (of Hindi alphabet).

WILL NOT TOLERATE BLACKMAIL, TELANGANA CM WARNS STRIKING PRIVATE COLLEGES



Diary Times Desk: With the private professional colleges in Telangana continuing their indefinite strike to demand release of pending dues under the fee reimbursement scheme, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on Friday, November 7, said that the government will not tolerate their blackmail. While making it clear that the government will clear the dues in a phased manner, he asked the managements of these colleges not to play with the lives of students. "We will release funds in phases. We will not tolerate students being inconvenienced for this. They are talking as if new problems have arisen after Revanth Reddy came, and this problem did not exist before," the Chief Minister said at a press conference. The Chief Minister also stated that the colleges were collecting huge

fees in violation of all rules and demanding fee reimbursement from the government. "Are you blackmailing the government? What talks can the government have with those who have shut down colleges? I know how much donations the colleges are taking," he said. CM Revanth Reddy reminded colleges that education is a service and

not a business. He also stated that there are many irregularities in granting permissions to colleges. "You are not so ignorant as to not know which political parties you are siding with," he remarked. Over 2,000 colleges across the state continued their strike for the fifth day on Friday, demanding that the government release funds towards

the pending dues. The strike was called off on Friday evening.

According to the Federation of Associations of Telangana Higher
Institutions (FATHI), the fee reimbursement dues amount to Rs 10,000 crore. It is demanding that the government immediately release Rs 5,000 crore and the remaining Rs 5,000 crore in monthly instalments of Rs 500 crore over 10 months.

NIRMALA SITHARAMAN **UNVEILS 2 MAIOR GUWAHATI LANDMARKS** WORTH RS 327 CRORE



Diary Times Desk: It's a moment of pride Guwahati as Assam's most ambitious urban beautification initiatives - the Guwahati Gateway River Terminal and the Brahmaputra Riverfront, were inaugurated today by Union Finance Minister Nirmala

Valued at over ₹327 crore under the Smart City Mission, the two projects are set to transform the Brahmaputra riverbank into a vibrant cultural and tourism destination, similar to Ahmedabad's Sabarmati Riverfront and Mumbai's Gateway of India.

The newly developed 1.2 km-long Guwahati Riverfront features seven intricately Riverfront features seven intricately designed gateways that celebrate Assam's rich cultural heritage, along with musical installations, open recreational zones, and walking plazas.

It also includes a sprawling landscaped riverside park, dedicated parking facilities, public utility areas, viewing decks, and designated spaces for cultural exhibitions and public gatherings. Every aspect of the design reflects Assam's identity, from indigenous musical instruments traditional motifs to historical elements.

EAGLE CRASHES INTO GLASS WINDOW, INJURING TRAIN DRIVER IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR



Diary Times Desk: An eagle crashed into the windscreen of a train in Jammu and Kashmir's Anantnag district, landing inside the cabin and causing minor injuries to the locomotive pilot on Saturday.

The incident occurred in the Baramulla-Banihal train between Bijbehara and Anantnag railway stations.

In a video that has surfaced, the eagle can be seen on the floor of the locomotive cabin. The windscreen has a hole with glass shards all around. The locomotive pilot can be seen communicating via radio and continuing his duty despite some facial injuries.

In a similar incident, a Bengaluru-bound Air India Express flight was cancelled in September after an eagle hit the nose of the aircraft at the Vijayawada Airport in Andhra Pradesh, an airline official told PTI, adding that the bird strike happened before takeoff.

MIGRANT WORKERS, YOUTH REAL X FACTORS OF BIHAR POLLS: PRASHANT KISHOR

Diary Times Desk: Jan Suraaj Party founder Prashant Kishor on Saturday claimed that migrant workers and the youth are the real "X factor" of the ongoing assembly elections in Bihar, and not the women.

Speaking to reporters in Supaul, the former poll strategist claimed the youth and migrant workers are determined to vote for change.

"Migrant workers are coming back home in large numbers to vote along with their families. Migrant workers used to vote for the NDA in the past because they had no alternative," he said, claiming that this time, they were voting for his party.

"The PM earlier used to get votes of migrant workers and people in general by spreading fear of RJD's 'jungle raj'. However, he is unable to get a sense of the current ground situation. People who apprehended the resurgence of 'jungle raj' in Bihar can see an alternative this election in Jan Suraaj," he added.

"BHAIYA MAT KARO": WOMAN IN BENGALURU SAYS RAPIDO RIDER TRIED TO GRAB HER LEGS

Diary Times Desk: A Rapido bike taxi rider in Bengaluru has been arrested and charged for allegedly trying to grab a woman passenger's legs during a ride in the city, police said.

The woman had recorded a video of the act and later went to the police.

According to the police complaint, the incident occurred at around 4 pm on Thursday. The Wilson Garden Police have registered a First Information Report (FIR) and begun investigating the matter.

The Rapido rider has been identified as Lokesh. He is 28 years old.

A response from Rapido in the matter is awaited.

"Bhaiya, Kya Kar Rahe Ho...?"

In a post on Instagram, the woman shared the ordeal. "While returning to my PG (Paying Guest) from Church Street on a Rapido ride, the captain (rider) tried to grab my legs while riding."

"It happened so suddenly that I couldn't even process it, let alone record it. When he did it again, I told him, "Bhaiya, kya kar rahe ho, mat karo." (What are you doing? Don't do this...) but he didn't stop."

PARLIAMENT WINTER SESSION TO BE HELD FROM DECEMBER 1-19: KIREN RIJIJU

Diary Times Desk: Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Saturday said that President Droupadi Murmu has approved the proposal of the government to convene the winter session of Parliament from December 1 to December 19.

"Looking forward to a constructive and meaningful session that strengthens our democracy and serves the aspirations of the people," he posted on X while announcing the dates.

This is likely to be one of the shortest winter sessions since the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government came to power in 2014.

The Centre is expected to pass some of the important bills, including the 129th Constitutional Amendment Bill, which amends the Constitution to conduct elections for Lok Sabha and all state assemblies together, and the 130th Constitutional Amendment Bill, which seeks to remove ministers from their posts in the eventuality of a jail term of 30 days or more, sources said.



INDIA DEMANDS CLIMATE JUSTICE AS FOSSIL FUELS, FINANCE DOMINATE COP30

Diary Times Desk: India took a powerful stand at the UN Climate Change Conference (CoP30) Leaders' Summit in Belem, Brazil, asserting that global climate action must be rooted in equity and the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC).

Ambassador Dinesh Bhatia delivered India's message, insisting that developed countries, as historical polluters, must lead the change by accelerating their emission reductions and fulfilling their promise to deliver adequate and predictable financial support to the developing world.

India stressed that for ambitious climate targets to be met, affordable finance, technology access, and capacity-building are not negotiable.

LUCKNOW-SAHARANPUR VANDE BHARAT: ROUTE, TIME AND ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW



Diary Times Desk: The Indian Railways has introduced a new Vande Bharat Express between Lucknow and Saharanpur, enhancing intercity travel across Uttar Pradesh with a faster and more comfortable service. On November 8, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new train from his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi, as part of the latest phase of Vande Bharat expansions. The Prime Minister noted that these trains reflect India's growing self-reliance and commitment to modern, passenger-friendly transport. With improved speed, safety, and onboard comfort, the new service is expected to significantly reduce travel time while strengthening connectivity between major cities in northern India, making it easier for both commuters and tourists to travel across the region.

2 TERRORISTS KILLED IN **ENCOUNTER IN J&K'S KUPWARA**

Diary Times Desk: Two terrorists were killed by security forces in an ongoing encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara district, officials said on Saturday.

Based on specific intelligence inputs about a possible infiltration attempt along the Line of Control, a joint operation was launched by security agencies in the Keran sector of Kupwara on Friday.

Alert troops detected suspicious movement and challenged the infiltrators, who opened indiscriminate fire, prompting the forces to retaliate.

In a post on X, Chinar Corps wrote, "Operation PIMPLE, Keran, Kupwara: On 07 Nov 2025, based on specific intelligence input from agencies, regarding infiltration attempt, a joint operation was launched in the Keran sector of Kupwara. Alert troops spotted suspicious activity and challenged which resulted in terrorists opening indiscriminate fire. Contact established and terrorists trapped."

"BIHAR'S CHILDREN NEED TO **DREAM OF STARTUPS, NOT 'HANDS UP'": PM MODI RIPS INTO RJD**

Diary Times Desk: The Rashtriya Janata Dal is poisoning the children's minds, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said at a rally in Bihar, tearing into the Tejashwi Yadav-led party with 'jungle raj' jibes. The RJD wants the children to become extortionists, he charged this morning, drawing a contrast with the NDA that he said is working for a better future.

"What RJD wants to do for the children of Bihar is clearly visible in their election campaign. Listen to the songs and slogans of the 'jungle raj' people. You'll be shocked. On RJD's stages, innocent children are being made to say that they want to become rangdar (extortionists). Should a child of Bihar become a rangdar or a doctor?" PM Modi said in an all-out attack on the RJD.

He was referring to a shocking incident in Samastipur where a minor was heard claiming from the stage of an RJD rally that they would be able to roam with country-made guns, or kattas, if the RJD forms the government in Bihar.

Jungle Raj means katta, krurta (cruelty), katuta (social resentment), (misgovernance), kushasan corruption," PM Modi reiterated at the rally in Sitamarhi. "What kind of people are they? They are filled with immorality and want a reign of misrule."

"Nahi chahiye katta sarkar, fir ek bar NDA sarkar (we don't want a government that promotes violence, we want the NDA government back),".

CLEANER START TO NOVEMBER, YET DELHI'S | CAN'T BE A 'YES MAN': CHIRAG AIR FAR FROM SAFE, DATA SHOWS



Diary Times Desk: Delhi's air may be showing signs of improvement compared to last year, but it's still far from clean. The Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) on Saturday said that while AQI levels this November have been slightly lower than in 2024, the city continues to breathe air in the "poor to very poor" range for most of the week.

At a press briefing by DPCC chairman Sandeep Kumar and member secretary Sandeep Mishra, the committee presented comparative data showing better readings on six of the last seven days, but acknowledged that pollution control remains "a continuous challenge.

"Unlike last year when stricter emergency measures under GRAP III began on November 13, pollution mitigation actions have started proactively this year," the official said.

PASWAN TO NDTV ON CRITICISING BIHAR LAW AND ORDER

Diary Times Desk: The NDA is united in Bihar this time and will put up a record performance, LJP (Ram Vilas) chief and Union minister Chirag Paswan has said, pointing out that the alliance had managed to form a government despite having a divided camp in 2020. He also justified his criticisms of the law-and-order situation in Bihar months back as a sign of a responsible alliance partner.

Paswan had contested solo in the 2020 elections over differences with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar even though he backed the BJP. But now the situation has changed. The NDA camp is now united, whereas the Mahagathbandhan lies divided, stung by friendly fights and vote splits, he told NDTV while flying to attend a rally in a chopper.

"The NDA was divided in 2020. Upendra Kushwaha ji and I contested separately (from the NDA). But despite the NDA being divided and a strong united Mahagathbandhan, we managed to form the government, though by a thin margin.

VET DEALS EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO "PAY FEES": AJIT PAWAR'S ADVICE FOR SON **AMID LAND ROW**

Diary Times Desk: Facing a volley of attacks from the Opposition over the alleged sale of government land in Pune worth Rs 1,800 crore for just Rs 300 crore to a firm in which his son is a partner, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar has said it should not have happened. He also had a piece of advice for his son, Parth: to treat this as a learning experience and vet all proposals thoroughly, even if he has to "pay fees" for it.

It has been alleged that Amadea Enterprises LLP, in which Parth Pawar is a partner, was sold 43 acres of government land in Pune for a sixth of the price. The land allegedly fell under the 'Watan' category awarded to the Mahar community and, under the Bombay Inferior Village Watans Abolition Act, 1958, it could not be sold without government permission.

A stamp duty waiver was also reportedly ordered two days after the deal, with Parth's firm paying just Rs 500 on the Rs 300-crore transaction.

PM ADDRESSES THE NATIONAL **CONFERENCE ON "STRENGTHENING** LEGAL AID DELIVERY MECHANISMS"

Diary Times Desk: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the National Conference on "Strengthening Legal Aid Delivery Mechanisms" at the Supreme Court of India today. Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Shri Modi stated that being present among all attendees on this important occasion was truly special. He remarked that strengthening the legal aid delivery mechanism and the programme associated with Legal Services Day will provide new strength to India's judicial system. The Prime Minister extended his best wishes to all for the 20th National Conference. He also greeted the dignitaries present, members of the judiciary, and representatives of the legal services authorities. "When justice is accessible to all, delivered in a

timely manner, and reaches every individual regardless of their social or financial background that is when it truly becomes the foundation of social justice", exclaimed the Prime Minister.

FLAGGED ISSUES IN JULY': AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS AFTER **DELHI AIRPORT GLITCH**

Diary Times Desk: The system failure incident that happened at Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport on Friday could possibly have been prevented, an organisation of air traffic controllers has said.

The ATC Guild of India said air traffic controllers at Delhi airport had informed about the issues and a need for upgrades to the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in July. They alleged their suggestions were not acted upon.

The guild said they also wrote to MPs on July 8, following the crash of the Air India Boeing 787 Dreamliner in Ahmedabad that killed 260, and emphasised that "it is essential that the automation systems used in air navigation services are reviewed and upgraded periodically."

The system should be upgraded to international standards, they said.



CANADA DEPORTS THREE FOREIGN NATIONALS LINKED TO EXTORTION TARGETING PUNJABI BUSINESS OWNERS

Diary Times Desk :

The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) has deported three foreign nationals following an investigation linking them to ongoing extortion threats, shootings, and violence targeting Indian-origin Punjabi businesses in the Lower Mainland of British Columbia.

The action was part of the newly formed BC Extortion Task Force. The agency has also initiated immigration investigations into 78 foreign nationals who may be inadmissible to the country.

The deportations, announced on November 7, are the first carried out under the 40-member BC Extortion Task Force, established earlier this year to coordinate intelligence and enforcement efforts against transnational organised crime groups operating in the province.

The operation involves the CBSA, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Abbotsford Police Department, Combined Forces Special Enforcement Unit – B.C. (CFSEU-BC), Delta Police Department, Metro Vancouver Transit Police, Surrey Police Service, and Surrey Provincial Operations Support Unit.

ISRAELI MALE HOSTAGE ACCUSES GAZA CAPTORS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Diary Times Desk: An Israeli hostage who was released in October has told an Israeli television channel he was subjected to sexual violence during his two-year captivity in Gaza by Palestinian militants -- the first male hostage to publicly make such an accusation.

Rom Braslavski, 21, who was abducted from the Nova music festival on October 7, 2023, made the allegation in an interview with Channel 13's Hazinor programme. Excerpts of the interview, broadcast late on Thursday, were shared with Reuters.

Describing being stripped naked and tied up while in captivity, he also recounted actions by one of his captors, saying: "It was sexual violence, and its main purpose was humiliation. Its goal was to humiliate me, to crush my dignity."

He said it was hard for him to talk about the experience.

"I was praying to God, like, please save me, get me out of this already," he said in the interview as he held back tears.

THAILAND ENFORCES NEW ALCOHOL LAW: STEEP FINES FOR AFTERNOON DRINKING, INCLUDING TOURISTS



Diary Times Desk: Starting Saturday, drinkers in Thailand face steep fines under amended alcohol control laws that tighten restrictions on consumption, marketing, and advertising. The revised Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, effective November 8, imposes penalties of at least 10,000 baht (\$300) for individuals caught drinking or being served alcohol during restricted hours or in prohibited places, marking one of the toughest enforcement crackdowns since the law first took shape in 1972, according to a Bloomberg report.

Thailand's long-standing alcohol sale ban, which typically lasts from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at most retail outlets and supermarkets, has been in place for over five decades. But under the amended Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, the new penalties shift responsibility directly onto consumers. The tightened rules also strengthen advertising curbs, limiting promotions strictly to factual content and banning the use of celebrities, influencers, or public figures in commercial campaigns.

"BIG LIE": IRAN JUNKS US' CLAIM THAT TEHRAN TRYING TO KILL ISRAELI ENVOY

Diary Times Desk: The United States and Israel on Friday accused Iran of trying to kill the Israeli ambassador to Mexico, with Tehran rejecting the claim as a "big lie" and the Mexican government saying it was not aware. The purported assassination attempt came as tensions soared to new highs between Israel and Iran, which have each attacked the other's territory. Israel said that Mexican authorities had intervened to stop the attempt to kill the ambassador, Einat Kranz-Neiger.

"We thank the security and law enforcement services in Mexico for thwarting a terrorist network directed by Iran that sought to attack Israel's ambassador in Mexico," Israel's foreign ministry said in a statement. But Mexico's foreign ministry, hours after the

But Mexico's foreign ministry, hours after the allegations were first raised, said it had "received no information" on the alleged incident.

STEFANIK HIT BY GOP RIVAL AFTER LAUNCHING NY GOVERNOR BID

Diary Times Desk: Republican Rep. Elise Stefanik's Friday morning campaign launch for governor came just days after one of her fiercest GOP rivals claimed victory in Long Island's purple Nassau County.

Now that rival — Nassau County Executive Bruce Blakeman — is criticizing her nascent bid as he mulls jumping into the gubernatorial race himself.

"I have tremendous respect for Elise, however our party must nominate a candidate that has broad based appeal with independents and common sense Democrats," Blakeman said in a statement. "The party must nominate the candidate with the best chance to defeat Kathy Hochul, and I have been urged by business, community and political leaders across the state to make the run and I am seriously considering it."

His statement Friday is bad news for New York Republican Chair Ed Cox, who endorsed Stefanik in a statement soon after she officially entered the governor's race. Cox declared in his endorsement there would not be a contested GOP primary.



BUDAPEST JOINS PRAGUE, VIENNA AND OTHER ICONIC CITIES FOR A MAGICAL EUROPEAN CHRISTMAS MARKETS TOUR IN 2025!

Diary Times Desk: Europe's winter season is synonymous with festive celebrations, twinkling lights, and the enchanting aroma of mulled wine wafting through the air. What better way to experience the magic of the holidays than by exploring the Christmas markets across some of Europe's most iconic cities? Prague, Vienna, and Budapest are home to some of the most celebrated markets in Europe, where visitors can enjoy ice skating, live music, traditional crafts, and a blend of local food and beverages that capture the heart and spirit of the season. Embark on a European Christmas Markets Tour experience these cities' historical charm and festive energy as you explore the joyful atmosphere they

Prague: A Winter Wonderland of Tradition and Craft

When winter arrives in Prague, the city transforms into a magical Christmas wonderland. Famous for its medieval charm and beautiful Gothic architecture, Prague offers a festive environment like no other. The city's Old Town Square is the heart of the holiday action, where visitors can enjoy the Prague Christmas Market, one of the oldest and most authentic in Europe. Each year, the market opens its wooden stalls selling traditional crafts, unique gifts, and food specialties.

NO TIKTOK, NO INSTAGRAM: DENMARK MOVES TO BAN SOCIAL MEDIA FOR THOSE UNDER 15

Diary Times Desk: Denmark's government has proposed a ban on social media access for individuals under 15 years of age, responding to rising concerns about the dangers of digital exposure for children. The plan would allow parents, after specific assessments, to permit access from age 13 if they wished. If the measure is imposed, it would be among the most sweeping steps yet by a European Union government to limit use of social media among teens and younger children.

According to Caroline Stage, Denmark's minister for digital affairs, 94% of Danish children under age 13 have profiles on at least one social media platform, and more than half of those under 10 do.

"The amount of time they spend online — the amount of violence, self-harm that they are exposed to online — is simply too great a risk.

Shimla | Sunday | 09-11-2025

5

RUSSIAN FORCES ARE POISED TO FINALLY CAPTURE POKROVSK, A SYMBOLICALLY IMPORTANT VICTORY WITH A HEAVY COST



Diary Times Desk: Russian forces appear to be on the brink of finally seizing the eastern Ukrainian city of Pokrovsk, a symbolic victory that President Vladimir Putin has been pursuing for 21 months at an increasingly heavy cost.

Fighting inside the city has intensified in the past few days, after Russian troops successfully infiltrated it. The fall of Pokrovsk – the strategic value of which has already been greatly diminished but would nevertheless represent the biggest win for Moscow since 2023 – now seems almost inevitable, according to those on the ground.

While Kyiv denied Russian claims that Ukrainian forces in Pokrovsk have already been surrounded, saying on Wednesday that active operations stopping the Russian advance were still ongoing,

Ukrainian soldiers on the ground have described an increasingly grim reality.

5 INDIANS KIDNAPPED IN MALI AMID RISING UNREST BY AL QAEDA, ISIS-LINKED GROUPS

Diary Times Desk: Gunmen have kidnapped five Indian nationals in Mali, their company and a security source said Friday, as the west African country reels from mounting unrest and jihadist violence.

The workers were kidnapped Thursday by gunmen near Kobri, in western Mali, the security source told AFP on condition of anonymity, saying they were employed by a company that is working on electrification projects.

"We confirm the kidnapping of five Indian nationals," a company representative told AFP.

TURKEY ISSUES "GENOCIDE" ARREST WARRANT AGAINST ISRAEL'S NETANYAHU

Diary Times Desk: Turkey announced Friday that it had issued arrest warrants for genocide against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and senior officials within his government.

Among 37 suspects listed are Israeli Defence Minister Israel Katz, National Security Minister Itamar Ben Gvir and army chief Lieutenant General Eyal Zamir, said a statement from the Istanbul prosecutor's office, which did not publish the complete list.

Turkey has accused the officials of "genocide and crimes against humanity" that Israel has "perpetrated systematically" in Gaza.

FUJIAN AIRCRAFT CARRIER: CHINA COMMISSIONS ITS "MOST POWERFUL" NAVAL VESSEL WHILE USS FORD STEAMS TOWARD SHOWDOWN

Diary Times Desk: China has finally commissioned the Fujian, its third and most advanced aircraft carrier, featuring electromagnetic catapults. Meanwhile, the US Navy's largest carrier, USS Gerald R. Ford, is currently on its way to Venezuela amid rising tensions between the US and Venezuela.

With the induction of Fujian, China has officially become the second country in the world (behind the United States) to have a flattop with a catapult-assisted take-off but arrested recovery (CATOBAR) system featuring electromagnetic catapults (EMALS).

This would allow the PLAN (People's Liberation Army Navy) fighter jets to take off with heavier weapons and fuel loads. Earlier, the USS Gerald R. Ford was the only carrier with EMALS.

The occasion marks China's entry into a "three-carrier era," with Fujian being the first fully indigenously designed and built carrier, skipping the ski-jump ramps of its predecessors, Liaoning and Shandong.



ISRAEL SAYS BODY OF LIOR RUDAEFF HAS BEEN RETURNED FROM GAZA

Diary Times Desk: The Israeli military says it has identified a body handed over from Gaza as that of Israeli-Argentinian Lior Rudaeff.

The 61-year-old was killed while attempting to defend Nir Yitzhak kibbutz during the Hamas attack on southern Israel on 7 October 2023 and his body was taken to Gaza by the Palestinian Islamic Jihad (PIJ) armed group, the military said.

PIJ said the body was found on Friday in Khan Younis in southern Gaza.

Hamas has now returned all 20 living hostages and 23 out of 28 deceased hostages under the first phase of a ceasefire deal that started on 10 October. Four of the five dead hostages still in Gaza are Israelis and one is Thai.

Israel has criticised Hamas for not yet returning all the bodies. Hamas says it is hard to find them under rubble.

PIJ is an armed group allied with Hamas. It took part in the 7 October attack and previously held some Israeli hostages.

SUPREME COURT RULES FULL SNAP FOOD BENEFITS CAN BE TEMPORARILY HALTED

Diary Times Desk:

The US Supreme Court has issued an emergency order temporarily allowing the Trump administration to withhold billions of dollars' worth of funding for food benefits used by millions of low-income Americans.

The White House appealed to the country's highest court after a lower court ruled that the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (Snap), also known as food stamps, should be paid out in full to recipients by Friday.

The programme has been left in limbo by the ongoing federal government shutdown, with the Trump administration arguing it could only afford to partially fund it.

Friday's ruling means \$4bn (£3.04bn) can be temporarily withheld pending further legal hearings.

The Snap programme is issued by 42 million Americans - around one in eight - and costs almost \$9bn (£6.9bn) a

On Thursday, a Rhode Island judge, John McConnell, accused the Trump administration of withholding food aid "for political reasons" and said that without the aid "16 million children are immediately at risk of going hungry".

He ordered the administration to pay out the programme in full.

The Thursday ruling followed another ordering the administration to dip into contingency funds to at least partially fund the programme for November.

The legal saga was spurred after the US Department of Agriculture (USDA), which oversees the Snap programme, announced benefits would be halted in November

INTERNATIONAL

US TO BOYCOTT G20 IN SOUTH AFRICA, TRUMP SAYS

Diary Times Desk: Donald Trump has said the US will not attend the G20 summit in South Africa over widely discredited claims that white people are being persecuted in the country.

The US president said it was a "total disgrace" that South Africa is hosting the meeting, where leaders from the world's largest economies will gather in Johannesburg later this month.

South Africa's foreign ministry described the decision by the White House as "regrettable".

None of South Africa's political parties - including those that represent Afrikaners and the white community in general - have claimed that there is a genocide in South

Trump posted on his social media platform Truth Social: "It is a total disgrace that the G20 will be held in South Africa. "Afrikaners (people who are descended from Dutch settlers, and also French and German immigrants) are being killed and slaughtered, and their land and farms are being illegally confiscated," he wrote.



PAKISTAN TABLES 27TH AMENDMENT BILL: A CONSTITUTIONAL BOOST FOR FIELD MARSHAL ASIM MUNIR'S POWER

Diary Times Desk: Pakistan has moved to strengthen the constitutional foundations of its military command, a step seen as part of a broader effort to modernise defence structures and reinforce civilian-military coordination. On Saturday, Law Minister Azam Nazeer Tarar tabled the 27th Constitutional Amendment Bill in the upper house. seeking to revise Article 243 to formally enshrine the appointments and parallel ranks of the Army, Air Force, and Naval chiefs.

Citing "lessons" from recent India-Pakistan standoffs, Tarar said the changing nature of warfare demanded constitutional adjustments to reflect evolving command realities.

"Recent Pakistan-India tensions have taught us many lessons. The nature and strategy of war have completely changed. Appointment procedures and some positions were previously in the Army Act but were not mentioned in the 1973 Constitution.

TRUMP BACKS "YOUNG, STRONG, SMART" VIVEK RAMASWAMY FOR **OHIO GOVERNOR RACE**

Diary Times Desk: Vivek Ramaswamy is "something special," US President Donald Trump has said in a social media post, throwing his weight behind the Indian-origin billionaire Republican for the 2026 Ohio Governor race. Calling Ohio a "Great State," he asserted Ramaswamy would be a "Great Governor" if he is elected."Vivek Ramaswamy is running for Governor of the Great State of Ohio, a place I love and WON BIG, THREE TIMES, in 2016, 2020, and 2024," Trump wrote on Truth Social, offering his "complete and total endorsement" for the Republican leader.

The president described the 38-year-old former biotech executive as a "young, strong, and smart" patriot.

Praising his policies, Trump asserted that Ramaswamy will stop crimes by the migrants and ensure law and order if he becomes the governor of Ohio.

Diary Times Desk: The European

Union on Saturday condemned Israeli strikes in southern Lebanon and asked it to respect a ceasefire with the militant group Hezbollah.

EU CONDEMNS ISRAELI

STRIKES IN LEBANON

Israel conducted fresh attacks in southern Lebanon on Thursday, claiming to target the Iran-backed organisation and accusing the group of rearming.

"The EU calls on Israel to cease all actions that violate resolution 1701 and the ceasefire agreement reached a year ago in November 2024," the EU's foreign affairs spokesman Anouar El Anouni stated. "At the same time, we urge all Lebanese actors and especially Hezbollah to refrain from any measures or responses that could further inflame the situation." he added.

"Focus by all parties must be on preserving the ceasefire and the progress achieved so far."

The Israeli army had previously told residents of four villages to evacuate buildings, warning that it planned to target Hezbollah's military infrastructure.

US GRANTS HUNGARY EXEMPTION ON RUSSIAN OIL SANCTIONS

Diary Times Desk: US President Donald Trump handed Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban an exemption from sanctions to keep buying Russian oil on Friday, as the right-wing allies held a chummy White House meeting.

As Orban and Trump heaped praise on each other, the Hungarian nationalist said it would take a "miracle" for Ukraine to beat Moscow, underscoring the gulf between him and other European leaders on the war.

Trump meanwhile wholeheartedly backed Orban on the touchstone issue of migration, saying that the Hungarian's European counterparts should show him more respect. Hungarian Foreign Minister Peter Szijjarto hailed what he called the "major outcome" of the meeting, Orban's first at the White House since Trump returned to power in January.

"The United States has granted Hungary a full and unlimited exemption from sanctions on oil and gas. We are grateful for this decision, which guarantees Hungary's energy security," Szijjarto said on X.

Trump had earlier said he would consider giving landlocked Hungary a pass because it has to rely on pipelines, leaving it heavily dependent on Russia despite EU efforts to wean it off.

"As you know they don't have the advantage of having sea," Trump told reporters.

SIX DEAD AS RUSSIA HITS ENERGY AND RESIDENTIAL SITES IN **UKRAINE**



Diary Times Desk: At least six people have died after Russia launched hundreds of missile and drone attacks on energy infrastructure and residential targets in Ukraine overnight. A strike on an apartment building in the city of Dnipro killed two people and wounded 12, while three died

in Zaporizhzhia. In all, 25 locations across Ukraine, including the capital city Kyiv, were hit, leaving many areas without electricity and heating. Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko said on Telegram that major energy facilities were damaged in the Poltava, Kharkiv and Kyiv regions, and work was under way to restore power.

The Ukrainian air force said Russia had launched more than 450 exploding bomber drones and 45 missiles. Nine missiles and 406 drones were reportedly shot down.

INTERNATIONAL

PALESTINIAN BOY, "ZOHRAN MAMDANI OF GAZA", CELEBRATES HIS MAYORAL WIN



Diary Times Desk: A young Palestinian boy, dressed in a black pair of pants and a white shirt, walks out of a tent with his admirers lined up to celebrate him. The boy, who also has a beard drawn on his face, waves to them, imitating none other than Zohran Mamdani, the new Mayorelect of New York.

The child, described as the "little Zohran" Mamdani of Gaza," shakes hands with the people. Moments later, one of the men lifts him onto his shoulders, prompting cheers and celebratory clapping.

The caption accompanying the clip reads, "Meet the Little Zohran Mamdani of Gaza. Taim said he wants to be just like you. Everyone is celebrating Mayor Mamdani." Responding to the post, people expressed affection for the gesture and hoped the newly elected mayor would see it.

US TO DENY VISAS TO APPLICANTS WITH DIABETES. OBESITY, OTHER CHRONIC CONDITIONS

Diary Times Desk: The Trump administration is understood to have directed American consular offices across the world to deem those individuals seeking to enter and live in the US ineligible if they have certain medical conditions, saying these people could end up relying on public benefits.

A report by KFF Health News said that foreigners applying for visas to live in the US "might be rejected if have certain thev medical conditions".

The report cited a guidance issued in a cable sent by the State Department to embassy and consular officials.

"You must consider an applicant's health...Certain medical conditions - including, but not limited to, cardiovascular diseases, respiratory diseases, cancers, diabetes, metabolic diseases, neurological diseases, and mental health conditions - can require hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of care," according to the cable cited by KFF.

UPS AND FEDEX GROUND SOME CARGO PLANES AFTER KENTUCKY AIR DISASTER

Diary Times Desk: American delivery firms UPS and FedEx have temporarily grounded part of their fleets of cargo planes after a mid-take-off crash in Kentucky on Tuesday left at least 14 people dead. The UPS aircraft burst into flames shortly after take-off when it collided with neighbouring business premises, triggering a huge fire that gutted several buildings and closed Louisville International Airport.

UPS said the decision to ground MD-11 models followed instructions from manufacturer Boeing, while rival delivery giant FedEx confirmed it would follow suit

Officials are yet to determine what caused the deadly crash.

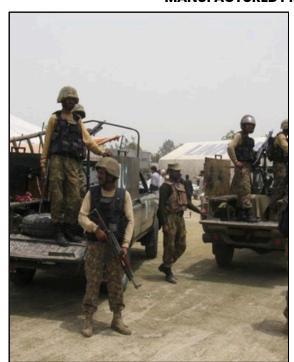
Hours before the fleet was grounded, officials confirmed the death toll had risen to 14 after another body was found, with buildings caught up in the fire still being searched for more victims.

'READY FOR WAR': TALIBAN WARNS PAKISTAN AFTER ISTANBUL TALKS COLLAPSE AGAIN

Diary Times Desk: The latest round of Afghanistan-Pakistan peace talks in Istanbul has ended in deadlock, exposing Islamabad's insincerity and its veiled attempts to shift blame onto Kabul. The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has issued a strongly worded statement accusing Pakistan of obstructing progress and acting irresponsibly despite mediation efforts by Turkey and Qatar.

In its official clarification released by Zabihullah Mujahid on November 8, the Taliban government expressed gratitude to "the Republic of Turkey and the State of Qatar - the two brotherly countries for hosting and mediating the talks." It stated that the Afghan representatives had attended the discussions "in good faith and with appropriate authority" on November 6 and 7, expecting Pakistan to finally approach the issue "seriously and constructively".

TALIBAN ACCUSES PAKISTANI MILITARY OF FUELING INSTABILITY THROUGH "MANUFACTURED PRETEXTS"



Diary Times Desk: The Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan has accused elements within the Pakistani military of pursuing anti-Afghanistan policies and attempting to create tensions through "manufactured pretexts," according to remarks shared by its spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid in a post

In a statement titled "Remarks by the Spokesperson of the Islamic Emirate Concerning Recent Developments and the TTP," Mujahid said, "Unfortunately, certain military elements in Pakistan appear to perceive a strong central government in Afghanistan, along with stability, security, and development, as contrary to their interests."

He added that for years, such elements had "taken advantage of Afghanistan's instability, conflicts, and displacement," and now "appear intent on creating tensions through manufactured pretexts." Mujahid clarified that the Islamic Emirate was aware that these policies were "not supported by the devout population of Pakistan, its political parties, or its respected religious scholars."

DNA PIONEER JAMES WATSON DIES AT 97

Diary Times Desk: Nobel Prizewinning American scientist James Watson, one of the co-discoverers of the structure of DNA, has died aged 97.

of the greatest breakthroughs of the 20th Century, he identified the double-helix structure of DNA in 1953 alongside British scientist Francis Crick, setting the stage for rapid advances in molecular biology.

But Watson's reputation and standing were badly hurt by his comments on race and sex. In a TV programme, he made claims about genes causing a difference in average IQ between black and white people.

His death was confirmed by Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, where he worked and researched for decades, before having to resign as its chancellor over the comments

Watson shared the Nobel in 1962 with Maurice Wilkins and Francis Crick for the DNA's double helix structure discovery.

"We have discovered the secret of life," they said at the time.

NOT USING THESE JOB INTERVIEW TIPS CAN REDUCE YOUR CHANCES OF GETTING THAT JOB

Diary Times Desk:

Megan Rathmell thought she'd bombed her job interview earlier this year, assuming her nervousness and lack of preparation had cost her the opportunity.

The 20-year-old later found out she got the job as a paralegal and what made her stand out was her ability to do two important things: maintain eye contact and carry on a conversation.

"My boss told me that I was a good communicator and that I was able to make strong eye contact, and that he hasn't seen this from a lot of my peers," said Rathmell, who is based in Virginia. "That was really surprising to me."

What Rathmell learned from her boss mirrors what hiring managers sav: Some Gen Z college graduates are unprepared for job interviews or behave unprofessionally during job interviews. They bring parents to in-person interviews, refuse to turn the camera on during virtual interviews, use inappropriate language, dress unprofessionally and struggle to make eye contact.

While there have always been people who interviewed badly for jobs, "it does seem to be more prevalent today," said Dr. Nathan Mondragon, chief innovation officer at the hiring platform HireVue.

SAUDI ARABIA IS MAKING A MASSIVE BET ON BECOMING A **GLOBAL AI POWERHOUSE**

Diary Times Desk:

Saudi Arabia is turning its oil wealth toward its massive Al ambitions.

Its chief investment vehicle is Humain, a homearown company that is building out a full stack of data centers, cloud capabilities, large language models and applications. It's owned by the Kingdom's nearly \$1 trillion sovereign wealth fund. Crown Prince Mohammad bin Salman unveiled Humain in May ahead of President Donald Trump's state visit to Riyadh. This week, at the annual Future Investment Initiative in the same location.

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

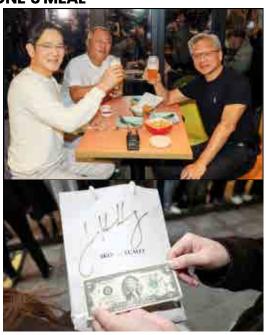
Diary Times Desk:

Three billionaires surprised diners when they walked into a popular fried chicken restaurant on Thursday - and picked up everyone's bill.

Jensen Huang, CEO of the world's most valuable company, Al chip giant Nvidia, went to the Seoul chicken-and-beer joint with the leaders of two of South Korea's global tech titans: Samsung Electronics chairman Lee Jae-yong and Hyundai Motor Group executive chair Chung Eui-sun.

Fried chicken paired with ice-cold draft beer, known as "chimaek," is a must-have for anyone visiting South Korea, and the tech potentates got their fill at Kkanbu Chicken in the heart of the nation's capital, ahead of the APEC summit in Gyeongju.

"I love fried chicken and beer with my friends, so Kkanbu is a perfect place, right?" Huang told livestreaming passersby as he arrived at the restaurant. As well as being the name of the restaurant chain, "Kkanbu" is a slang word for a very close friend.



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

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

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

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

Al spending continues to soar

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



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

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

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

Jassy explained that as Amazon added headcount, locations and lines of business in recent years, "vou end up with a lot more people than what you had before, and you end up with a lot more layers ... sometimes without realizing it, you can weaken the ownership of the people that you have who are doing the actual work." Amazon's headcount peaked at more than 1.6 million in 2021; it ended last year with around 1.5 million employees, according to SEC filings.



BUSINESS | FINANCE | DIARY TIMES | Shimla | Sunday | 09-11-2025



NASDAQ SUFFERS WORST WEEK SINCE APRIL AS AI RALLY **WOBBLES**

Diary Times Desk:

Tech stocks took a bruising this week as nerves persist about expensive valuations and a potential artificial intelligence bubble.

The Nasdaq Composite closed lower by 0.21% on Friday. The tech-heavy index fell 3.04% across the week and suffered its worst week since early April, when President Donald Trump's announcement of so-called reciprocal tariffs rocked markets.

The benchmark S&P 500 gained 0.13% on Friday after falling as much as 1.3% during earlier trading. The blue-chip Dow closed higher by 75 points, or 0.16%, after sliding more than 400 points earlier. The Nasdaq fell as much as 2.1% earlier before recouping losses.

Stocks bounced off their lowest levels of the day on Friday as investors bought the dip and embraced hopes that the US government shutdown - which became the longest in history this week - might come to an end soon.

TRUMP IS BEING CHALLENGED ON AFFORDABILITY BY A SURPRISING SOURCE -**FOX NEWS**

Diary Times Desk:

President Trump said Thursday that "I don't want to hear about the affordability." The comment which instantly became prime-time cable fodder came in the middle of a meandering and misleading response to a question from Fox News correspondent Jacqui Heinrich.

"Groceries are wav down. Everything is way down," Trump falsely claimed. "And the press doesn't report it. The press whatever reports the con people say. You know, I call the Democrats con men and They women. make numbers."

It's easy enough for Trump to blame the press when he is in a Q&A session with reporters. It's harder when he's hearing from a voter who is struggling.

That's why this was an especially savvy move by Fox News anchor Bret Baier on Wednesday.

WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT FEES AND TIPS WHEN DONATING TO A **GOOD CAUSE**



Diary Times Desk: Americans have strong views on paying extra fees and tipping for services, especially at the holidays.

But what about when making online donations?

The holiday season is usually a big one for charitable contributions. Take Giving Tuesday - which falls on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving in the United States. Last year it raised an estimated \$3.6 billion in the United States. Roughly one-third of that came from online donations -- made either on a thirdparty online fundraising platform or through nonprofit organizations' websites, which themselves may be powered by a third-party platform's fundraising software.

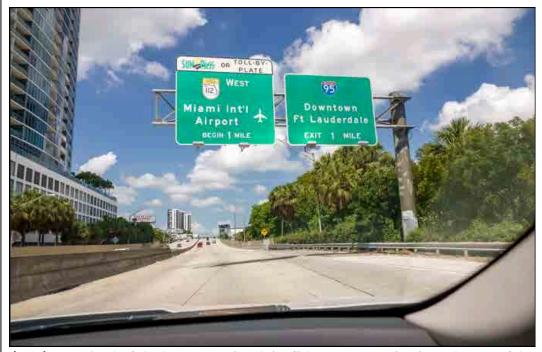
Such platforms have made it fast and easy to contribute to your favorite causes.

With that convenience, though, may come fees and sometimes the option for donors to leave a "tip."

But who pays the fees? And what is a tip for, exactly? Fundraising isn't free

The answers will depend on each individual platform's business model - and a charity's decisions about what to ask of its donors when it decides to use a third-party provider.

THE FAA IS LIMITING FLIGHTS AT BIG AIRPORTS. BUT PASSENGERS AT **SMALL AIRPORTS WILL FEEL THE MOST PAIN**



Diary Times Desk: The federal government is ordering flight cuts at 40 major airports because of the shutdown - but it's flyers in places like Pensacola, Florida; Moline, Illinois; Waco, Texas; and Shreveport, Louisiana who will have it the hardest.

That's because small feeder flights are largely the ones getting canceled, not the flights between major cities.

Canceling flights at the smaller airports can cause significant problems for those who depend on them, but it limits the disruption for the system overall. That allows the airlines to comply with the new Federal Aviation Administration limits.

For example, Miami International Airport is one of the airports where the FAA limits went into effect Friday. Pensacola International Airport, a small regional airport nearly 700 miles away on the Florida panhandle, definitely is not.

But some Pensacola flights were among those affected anyway.

All eight flights normally scheduled between Miami and Pensacola by American Airlines on Friday had been canceled. Pensacola travelers needing to get to Miami had a couple of unappealing choices – drive the 700 miles or fly in the wrong direction to Atlanta, Charlotte or Dallas and then fly to Miami.

Flight tracker FlightAware showed the US airports with the greatest percentage of canceled flights Friday were all small ones - Quad Cities International Airport in Moline, Illinois on the Mississippi River had 9% of its outbound flights canceled. Shreveport Regional in Louisiana had 7%. Northwest Arkansas National was one of a number of airports at a 6% cancellation rate. All were well above the overall 3% of domestic flights nationwide that had been grounded, according to aviation analytics firm Cirium.

STATES

DIARY TIMES | Shimla | Sunday | 09-11-2025

FACTS OF ESTATES **AUCTIONED BY PREVIOUS BJP GOVERNMENT TO BE REVEALED SOON: HIMACHAL CM**

Diary Times Desk: Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Sukhu Sinah announced on Saturday that details regarding the estates auctioned by the previous BJP government led by Jai Ram Thakur will be made public

Flagging off a vehicle carrying 1.43 lakh signatures in support of the 'Vote Chor, Kursi Chod' campaign led by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, the Chief Minister stated, "We will disclose how and where the previous BJP government auctioned the estates of Himachal Pradesh and reveal to the people how the interests of the state were compromised in the name of double-engine the government." Speaking to the media, Sukhu emphasised that Congress party was committed to strengthening democracy. He also informed that collected signatures had been sent to the All India Congress Committee office in New Delhi

Additionally, he criticised the state BJP, claiming it had fractured into five factions, with leaders making unfounded statements to maintain their political relevance. He also called on them to release the Rs 1,500 crore announced for the monsoon disaster-hit Himachal Pradesh by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

HIMACHAL WOMAN SLAPS ELDERLY MAN. **ATTEMPTS TO HUMILIATE HIM WITH SHOE GARLAND: CAUGHT ON CAMERA**

Diary Times Desk: A shocking incident unfolded outside the subdivisional office in Dehra, Kangra district, when a woman allegedly attacked an elderly man in full public view.

The woman reportedly poured oil over him and even attempted to place a garland of shoes around his neck before being restrained by bystanders and police.

PM MODI LAUNCHES 4 VANDE BHARAT EXPRESS SERVICES; PUNJAB'S FEROZPUR-**DELHI ROUTE STANDS OUT**

Diary Times Desk: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated four new Vande Bharat Express trains from Varanasi on Saturday, elevating India's semi-high-speed rail network to over 160 services.

Among them, the Ferozpur-Delhi route stands out, offering Punjab's border district a direct, rapid connection to New Delhi in just 6 hours 40 minutes, the quickest on this 486km corridor.

The Ferozpur Cantt-Delhi Vande Bharat departs Ferozpur Cantt at 7:55 am six days a week (except Wednesdays), halting at Bathinda, Dhuri, Patiala, Ambala Cantt, Kurukshetra, and Panipat before arriving in New Delhi by



PADDY STUBBLE-BURNING: BARNALA DC ISSUES NOTICES TO TEHSILDAR, DSP, SHO

Diary Times Desk: Taking serious note of paddy stubble found burning in certain areas of the district, Barnala Deputy Commissioner T Benith today issued notices to Barnala Naib Tehsildar, DSP and SHO of Sadar Barnala police station for alleged dereliction of

During an inspection conducted today, fire incidents were found in the areas allocated to these three officers

The Deputy Commissioner said that the district administration was on toes to ensure that not even single paddy straw field is set on fire.

He added that 37 FIRs had been registered and as many red entries made in the revenue records of the farmers in whose field the stubble was found burning. Apart from this, a fine of Rs 1.95 lakh has been imposed on the errants, he said.

PUNJAB CONGRESS SENDS 26 LAKH SIGNATURES TO RAHUL GANDHI'S 'VOTECHOR, GADDICHHOR' **CAMPAIGN**

Diary Times Desk: Punjab Congress today dispatched over 26 lakh signed forms against vote theft under the campaign 'VoteChor,GaddiChhor' launched by the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi.

A truck carrying 26,30,845 signed forms was flagged off by senior party leaders including Ravinder Dalvi, VijayInderSingla, RandeepNabha, PargatSingh and Kuljit Nagra from the PCC headquarters here today.

The signature campaign in Punjab was launched by PCC president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring over a month ago. Senior leader and AICC joint treasurer VijayInderSingla referred to the massive addition of votes in Maharashtra within a span of six months that completely turned the election results upside down from parliamentary to assembly elections.

YOUR HOROSCOPE





Ares

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.

Today you will get success as your long pending legal proceedings will come in your favor. There will be an atmosphere 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.

Today, you should offer water to Lord Shiva to avoid difficulties. A heated argument with HR in the workplace will

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

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 noblems of money. High BP and cholesterol problems will increase the problems of

Cemini
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 walking due to nerve pain problems.

checked by a doctor in case of any problem today.

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 deling 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.

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.

INDIA TO ENTER GLOBAL MOBILITY MAP WITH METRO: MANOHAR LAL KHATTAR

Diary Times Desk: Lauding the Metro as a transformative public transport system, Union Minister for Housing, Urban Affairs and Energy Manohar Lal Khattar today announced that Delhi Metro International Limited (DMIL) would be established, which would expand the network beyond India to other countries.

Chairing the inaugural session of the 18th Urban Mobility India Exhibition, Conference and Khattar said, "India currently ranks third in Metro service coverage, and within the next three years, it is expected to surpass the US to become one of the leading nations in Metro infrastructure. India advancing rapidly toward selfreliance and integrating transport networks will help position it as a developed nation by 2047, in line with the 'Make in India' initiative. Urban transformation is being carried out in alignment with evolving public needs, with a strong focus on sustainable and efficient urban transportation."

Khattar further said a Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) would also be developed in partnership with the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to strengthen interconnectivity and ensure safe, reliable transportation facilities and services for the public, in line with stringent safety and cyber security standards.

TWO SIRSA COPS BOOKED FOR EXTORTION BID IN HONEY-TRAP CASE

Diary Times Desk: The Civil Lines police have registered a case against two police officers — Sub-Inspector Jagdish Chandra and Exemptee Sub-Inspector (ESI) Vijay Kumar — on charges of corruption and criminal conspiracy.

Both were posted at the Sadar police station.

The case was filed following a complaint by a grain market trader, who alleged that the officers had framed him in a honey-trap case. The investigation has been handed over to the DSP Headquarters.

HC REJECTS BHUPINDER HOODA'S PLEA TO HALT MANESAR TRIAL

Diary Times Desk: The Punjab and Haryana High Court on Friday dismissed the plea of Bhupinder Singh Hooda, a former CM, claiming that the trial in the Manesar land case could not proceed against him alone as proceedings against the co-accused had been stayed by the Supreme Court.

Justice Tribhuvan Dahiya held that, "The stay of trial against the co-accused cannot be a ground to postpone the trial against the petitioner as well, since despite this stay charge can be framed and evidence can be recorded.

He is not accused of the offence of conspiracy alone, other offences under the IPC and the PC Act are also there."

Hooda was seeking quashing of orders dated September 19 passed by the Special Judge, CBI, Panchkula, rejecting his prayer to postpone the proceedings.



YAMUNANAGAR: TWO HELD WITH HEROIN WORTH RS 1 CRORE

Diary Times Desk: A team of the Anti-Burglary and Excise-cum-Special Staff arrested two persons and recovered 1.103 kg of heroin from their possession.

The value of the seized drugs is estimated to be around Rs 1 crore. The police said this was the largest heroin consignment ever seized in the district.

Additional Superintendent of Police Amrinder Singh said on the directions of Superintendent of Police Kamaldeep Goyal, a special campaign was launched against drug abuse in the district.

He said a team consisting of Sub-Inspector Makhan Singh, ASI Surinder Singh, Rajinder Singh, Pankaj and Constable Lokesh was formed under the leadership of in-charge of Anti Burglary Staff, Anil Kumar.

He further said the team was patrolling near the Western Yamuna Canal bridge on Saharanpur Road in Yamunanagar when the team received information that two persons had arrived in Yamunanagar with the intention of selling heroin and were waiting for customers on Saharanpur Road in Yamunanagar.

RAID CONDUCTED ON FERTILISER SHOPS IN HISAR

Diary Times Desk: The Chief Minister flying squad conducted a raid on fertiliser dealers' shops in Hansi and found several irregularities. The Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Department has issued a show-cause notice to the dealer concerned.

The team led by CM flying squad Hisar Range incharge Sunaina, along with ASI Surender, and Subdivisional Agriculture Officer Dr Preeti Verma inspected the stock and warehouse records.

Sunaina said the team had received information that some fertiliser dealers in the Hansi area were involved in irregularities related to stock, warehouse records, and fertiliser distribution. During the inspection, records were matched with the actual stock in the presence of the shop owner and it was found that the warehouse had 248 bags of DAP fertiliser, while the POS machine record showed 238 bags, indicating 10 extra bags. The stock of 3,750 bags of urea was found to be correct.

SUB-INSPECTOR KILLED FOR TAKING ON DRUNK YOUTHS IN HISAR

Diary Times Desk: A Haryana Police Sub-Inspector, Ramesh Kumar (57), was allegedly beaten to death by a group of hooligans outside his residence in the Dhani Shyamlal locality of Hisar last night.

The Sub-Inspector was posted in the office of the Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) in Hisar. Sources said he had confronted a group of drunken youths who were creating a nuisance near his house. Though they initially left, they returned after about 20-30 minutes and began hurling abuses. When Ramesh and his nephew Amit stepped out after hearing the commotion, they were attacked with sticks and bricks.

Ramesh Kumar sustained severe head injuries and was rushed to the hospital, where he was declared dead. His nephew suffered minor injuries. After receiving information, senior police officers, including ADGP Hisar Range KK Rao and SP Shashank Kumar Sawan, reached the spot.

A case was registered at the HTM Police Station on Amit Kumar's statement against 10 identified and several unidentified persons under Sections 103(1), 115, 191(2), 191(3), 333, 351(3) and 61 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).



EDITORIAL

Fourth Such Transfer This Week

srael has received remains of one of the last deceased hostages held in Gaza, in the fourth such transfer this week.

On Saturday morning, the Israel Defense Forces said the remains were identified as Command Sergeant Major Lior Rudaeff.

The 61-year-old was killed at Kibbutz Nir Yitzhak during the Hamas-led attack of October 7, 2023. He was the deputy security coordinator for the community's rapid response team. His remains were held in Gaza throughout the course of the war sparked by that attack.

Hamas transferred the remains to Israel via the Red Cross. The return means the bodies of five deceased hostages remain in Gaza.

of deceased hostages from Hamas to Israel is one of the key conditions of the first phase US-brokered ceasefire

Israeli intelligence assessed that Hamas may not be able to find and return all the remaining dead hostages in Gaza.





Hamami and Oz Daniel. Two days later, Israel received the body of Itay Chen, the last Israeli-American dual citizen whose remains were held Gaza. And on Wednesday, Hamas transferred the remains of Joshua Loitu Mollel, a Tanzanian agricultural student who was abducted from Kibbutz Nahal Oz on October 7, 2023.Adm. Brad Cooper, the commander of US Central Command, spoke at Neutra's funeral in Israel on Friday. "Omer made the ultimate sacrifice we hope no soldier ever has to make, but many have made it nonetheless, in service to a higher cause," Cooper said. "We express our deepest condolences for the loss of Omer.

The Hostages and Missing Families Forum has continued to organize rallies in Tel Aviv and elsewhere across Israel calling for the release of the remaining deceased hostages. Eitan Horn, who was recently freed after 738 days in captivity, said in Hostages Square on Saturday. "I cannot begin my journey of healing and recovery as long as I know there are families who are not with me on this journey. We have no future without the return of all the hostages.

Earlier this week, CNN also reported that Israel believes it has new information about the location of the longest-held remains in Gaza, belonging to Lt. Hadar Goldin, who was killed in the final days of the 2014 war between Israel and Hamas. Goldin's remains, according to two Israeli sources, are likely held in Rafah in southern Gaza near an area where up to 200 Hamas militants are hiding in underground tunnels in territory occupied by Israeli forces.

Catch-up immunization campaign for Gaza's children

In war-ravaged Gaza, the United Nations announced an immunization campaign to reach thousands of Palestinian children who have missed essential vaccines since the start of the conflict over two years ago.

"UNRWA, together with UNICEF, WHO, and partners, is launching a catch-up immunization campaign to reach 44,000 children with lifesaving vaccines and malnutrition screening." UNRWA, the main UN agency for Palestinian refugees, said on Friday



Crowd At Popular Local Bar

RANDOMNESS OF UPS AIR DISASTER SHOCKS HAPPY HOUR

he happy hour regulars were already gathering at Stooges Bar & Grill less than two hours before tipat Tuesday night's Kentucky University men's basketball season opener.

About 30 or so customers occupied the wooden stools of the old-school, saltv hangout in an industrial strip a few miles from downtown Louisville. the University Louisville Cardinals draw a larger pregame crowd.

Surrounded by big-screen TVs and signs for the domestic beer buckets and other specials, the no-frills, family-owned watering hole near Louisville Muhammad Ali International Airport is popular among workers from the nearby United Parcel Service package handling facility and the Ford SUV assembly plant.

For the Kentucky opener, Stooges was offering 59cent shrimp all day.



"I had just ordered my first beer and the lights went out," Stooges regular Bryson Beck recalled.

Kyla Kenady, working that afternoon, handed him a beer, turned around and looked outside to see "a plane in flames going down."

The first report of the "catastrophic" crash of a UPS MD-11 plane was at about 5:15 p.m. ET on Tuesday, according to state officials. The disaster killed at least 14 people and destroyed nearby businesses and buildings."This plane barely missed a restaurant/bar," Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear told CNN. "It was very close to a very large Ford plant with hundreds, if not a thousand-plus workers."

The randomness of the disaster has left locals in a state of shock. Debbie Self, who, along with her late husband Rodger, opened Stooges more than 40 years ago, said firefighters told her the plane came down roughly 100 yards from her husiness



"It was close. They said, 'We don't know how you made it," said Self, who was having dinner elsewhere at the time of the crash.

The UPS cargo plane came down after an engine detached during takeoff, officials said. It had reached an altitude of 475 feet and a speed of 210 mph when it plunged to the ground, according to crash investigators.

In addition to three UPS crew members identified from the plane, nine members of the community been reported missing, Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg said. They were believed to be in the area at the time.

A Winding Journey To Mars

WHY AN UNPRECEDENTED NASA MISSION IS SET TO TAKE OFF



Ray Sanchez

"I turned

around, ran

to everyone

that a plane

grabbed my

was crashing,

things, grabbed

my phone, my

purse, ran out

the door as

everyone, in

at the same

panic, ran out

time," she said.

down the bar

and screamed

The spacecraft will then loop endlessly in a kidney beanshaped orbit around L2 until next vear's Mars transfer window opens. The EscaPADE vehicles would then briefly swing back around Earth in November 2026, allowing them to head out on a path to Mars at

long last.

win spacecraft are set to take off on an unprecedented, winding journey to Mars, where they will investigate why the barren red began to lose atmosphere billions of years ago.

Called EscaPADE, the mission will aim for an orbital trajectory that has never been attempted before, according to aerospace company Advanced Space. which is supporting the project. If successful, it could be a crucial case study that can allow extraordinary flexibility planetary science missions down the road.

The robotic mission plans to spend a year idling in an orbital backroad before heading to its target destination. The project is part of NASA's SIMPLEx. or Small, Innovative Missions for Planetary Exploration, program, which aims to spur researchers and companies to devise ways to use small spacecraft to carry out science investigations pennies on the dollar.

EscaPADE, short for Escape and Plasma Acceleration Dynamics Explorers and led by the University of California, Berkeley, is among the most ambitious.

"We don't use the word 'cheap." We say, 'high value," joked Jeff Parker, chief technology officer at Colorado-based Advanced

Space, which is participating in the project along with Californiabased Rocket Lab. "We're providing science that is at the level of missions that cost hundreds of millions of dollars but with a low budget.

EscaPADE's cost was less than \$100 million, compared with the roughly \$300 million to \$600 million price tags of other NASA satellites orbiting Mars.

The spacecraft are slated to lift off atop Blue Origin's New Glenn rocket - marking the first time the new launch vehicle has flown with valuable cargo on board as soon as 2:45 p.m. ET Sunday from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida The launch attempt could be affected by the government shutdown if it's delayed after this weekend. Blue Origin said in a statement that it has "been working closely with the FAA (Federal Aviation Administration) to ensure that New Glenn's upcoming launch of the ESCAPADE Mission to Mars can proceed."

Outside the 'transfer window' Typically, spacecraft destined for Mars will wait until the planet is in prime alignment with Earth during a period called the "transfer window." Such launch opportunities span a few weeks

and occur about every 26 months, allowing spacecraft to take a quick-shot trajectory to the red planet.

When it was originally conceived, EscaPADE was expected to take a direct path

But a quagmire of launch delays, changes to mission plans and other quirks of timing left the orbiters without a ride when the last Mars transfer window closed in late 2024.

Rather than waiting for the next prime opportunity in 2026, mission designers opted to get creative — hashing out a "launch-andloiter" approach that could allow EscaPADE to take flight any day of any year and still reach Mars with fuel to spare.

"The idea is launch anytime, loiter until the planets are just perfectly aligned, and then to depart on your interplanetary cruise to Mars,"

After takeoff, the twin EscaPADE spacecraft will soar into deep space. But rather than turning toward Mars, the two orbiters will instead aim for Lagrange Point 2, or L2 - a cosmic balance point about 1.5 million kilometers (930,000 miles) from Earth











ARTS & INFOTAINMENT

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.

More than 70 works collected by the couple over the course of 70 years will be offered in Birth of the Modern: The Arnold and Joan Saltzman Collection during Christie's November marquee week in New York, beginning with a selection in the 20th Century Evening Sale on 17 November and continuing into the Impressionist & Modern Day Sale on 18 November.

It was Paris, above all, where modernism in the visual arts was born. Already established through the advances of the Impressionist movement in the previous century as a city of innovation, the years before the First World War saw the French capital welcome artists from across Europe. In the left bank district of Montparnasse alone, it was estimated that nearly half the resident artists had been born outside France. And it was here, in this international and youthful atmosphere.





COLLECTING GUIDE: WORKS ON PAPER

Diary Times Desk: The phrase works on paper encompasses a diverse range of media—from drawings and paintings to prints and multiples. Traditionally, artists utilize paper to test out new strategies or think through a larger idea with the immediacy of pencil and charcoal. Oftentimes, this gives outsiders a more intimate glimpse into their creative process, as if the artist is giving you a personal tour of how their mind churns and sifts through ideas. More and more, artists are turning to the medium as a unique way to showcase these visualizations.

Artists known for working in a diverse range of media are prized for their works on paper. Monumental sculptor, Richard Serra captures the same physical intensity on paper through texture by thickly applying lithographic crayon, paintstick or charcoal. Painter, photographer and printmaker, Ed Ruscha implements a wide range of innovative materials — from gunpowder and blood to Pepto Bismol and caviar — in his paper works as a way to reflect contemporary American life.

On the other hand, Vija Celmins' photo-realistic paintings and drawings bring a sense of intimacy, allowing the viewer to engage closer to nature, almost as if it is under a magnified glass. While Cy Twombly gives viewers the chance to get a closer, sometimes more explicit, look at the artist's style and motifs used through his unique masterworks. Conversely, Sam Gilliam's works narrow in to his focus on coloration and form, as key precedents of his most acclaimed series, such as his drape paintings.

Earlier, Pierre-Auguste Renoir, living close to the Louvre as a young boy, studied the works of the Old Masters, which informed some of his early pencil drawings. The spontaneity and mobility of working on paper perfectly suited Edgar Degas, who famously carried pencils and pastels to depict the delicate, fleeting movements of ballet dancers. Fernand Léger apprenticed in an architect's office before moving to Paris in 1900 to work as a draftsman, which, along with his fascination with machinery born from his experience in World War I, informed his dynamic and graphic works on paper. Marc Chagall explored the simplicity of line drawings in pen as well as the vibrancy of gouache and India ink.

Works on paper are generally an accessibly priced medium, making it perfect for emerging collectors looking to get their feet wet or even for more experienced collectors to expand their holdings of a particular artist. Though typically more accessible than works in other mediums, unique works on paper can manifest at a masterpiece level — estimated in the millions.





FLICK TALKS LAPORTA, DECO, JOAN GARCIA, ERIC, KOUNDE GAVI, LAMINE AHEAD OF CELTA VIGO VS BARCELONA



Diary Times Desk: Barcelona manager Hansi Flick spoke to the media ahead of his team's La Liga trip to Celta Vigo, addressing several key topics ranging from player fitness to the importance of consistency and confidence within the squad.

Speaking about Celta Vigo, Flick made it clear that the result will come down to the team's mentality.

"Right now, Celta is in good form, but ultimately it comes down to attitude. We've talked about it.

"It's important to win there. We want to come away with three more points," the German coach insisted, setting a focused tone before the away fixture.

In recent days, both Joan Laporta and Deco have publicly backed Flick, reaffirming their trust in his philosophy and long-term vision for the club. Flick acknowledged that support with gratitude, saying,

MEXICAN PRODIGY CONFIRMS EUROPEAN INTEREST AS BARCELONA AND REAL MADRID MONITOR SITUATION

Diary Times Desk: One of the world's most promising young footballers is emerging from North America. 17-year-old Gilberto Mora has captivated an entire nation with his performances for Tijuana, and his talent has attracted the attention of Europe's biggest clubs.

Among those closely monitoring the midfielder are FC Barcelona and Real Madrid. Barça, in particular, is said to admire Mora, believing he has the perfect profile to succeed at the new Camp Nou if his development continues.

However, they face stiff competition from Real Madrid, who have found great success in the American market with the signings of Mastantuono, Endrick, Vinicius, and Rodrygo.

Gilberto Mora confirms interest from Europe

Mora, who can play as a midfielder or winger, has enjoyed a meteoric rise. After a great U-20 World Cup, he is now set to join Javier Aguirre's senior Mexican squad for the upcoming international break, a sign of his importance ahead of the World Cup they will co-host.

BARCELONA MIDFIELDER EMERGES AS TARGET FOR THREE EUROPEAN HEAVYWEIGHTS IN JANUARY – REPORT

Diary Times Desk: Barcelona midfielder Marc Casado has emerged as a hot property in the transfer market, with Arsenal, Chelsea, and Napoli all reportedly keeping a close eye on his situation.

As per a new update from Fichajes, the 22-yearold could be on the move as Barcelona consider a sale during the upcoming winter transfer window to ease financial pressure and balance their wage

Casado, who recently joined forces with super agent Jorge Mendes, has been quietly developing into one of the most reliable young midfielders in the club's setup.

Known for his tactical awareness, clean passing, and ability to read the game, he has earned recognition as a player who could adapt quickly to more competitive environments across Europe.

Premier League interest

Among his potential suitors, Arsenal appear particularly serious. The current Premier League leaders are looking to reinforce their midfield and view Casado as a player who can offer depth and competition in high-intensity fixtures.

ATLETICO MADRID FORWARD ADDRESSES BARCELONA SPECULATION – 'WILL TALK AT THE END OF THE SEASON'

Diary Times Desk: Barcelona's long-term plans in attack continue to take shape, and the name at the top of Deco's list is reportedly Julian Alvarez.

The Atletico Madrid forward has finally addressed the growing speculation linking him with a move to Spotify Camp Nou, admitting that while there has been talk, he is not letting it distract him from his current focus.

The Catalan club are already thinking beyond Robert Lewandowski, whose contract runs until 2026.

With no active talks of an extension, Barcelona are preparing for a future without the Polish striker, aiming to secure a player capable of leading their frontline for years under Hansi Flick's project. Alvarez, with his versatility, pressing ability, and eye for goal, fits that vision perfectly. Speaking to France Football (h/t AS), the Argentine confirmed that Paris Saint-Germain had also shown interest while acknowledging Barcelona's growing presence in the conversation.



FATIGUED BARCELONA DEFENDER COULD SIT OUT AGAINST CELTA VIGO IF REPLACEMENT IS FIT

Diary Times Desk: According to SPORT, Barcelona manager Hansi Flick is seriously considering giving Jules Kounde a well-deserved rest for their upcoming La Liga encounter against Celta Vigo.

The 26-year-old defender, who has been a cornerstone in Barça's backline, is reportedly suffering from significant fatigue after an intense run of games.

As such, he has played nine consecutive matches, completing the full 90 minutes in eight of them, and did not take part in group training on Friday.

The accumulation of minutes is beginning to take its toll, and Flick may decide it's finally time to give the 25-year-old a breather.

Another factor behind Kounde's recent dip in sharpness is Lamine Yamal's fitness issues.

The youngster has not been at full capacity since the start of the season, which has affected his defensive contribution on the right wing.

BARCELONA SPORTING DIRECTOR RULES OUT JANUARY SIGNINGS – 'DON'T THINK IT'S NECESSARY'

Diary Times Desk: As Barcelona celebrated their long-awaited return to Spotify Camp Nou with an opendoor training session, Deco, the club's director of football, delivered a firm message of support for Hansi Flick.

The Portuguese executive made it clear that there should be no debate about Flick's philosophy or tactical identity, insisting that the club is fully united behind him.

Speaking during the event, Deco stressed the importance of recovering key injured players, arguing that the team's best performances this season came when they were near full strength.

"He insisted that it is vital for injured players to recover and that the Barça team has already shown its best form with them in matches against Valencia, Getafe, and Newcastle."

January transfer plans

When asked about possible reinforcements in the upcoming January transfer window, Deco ruled out any urgent moves unless circumstances change.

"If we are doing well and there are no surprises, I don't think it's necessary," he added.