

NEWS IN BRIEF

DMK TO HOLD STATEWIDE PROTESTS TOMORROW AGAINST VOTER LIST REVISION IN TAMIL NADU

Diary Times Desk : The ruling Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) will hold statewide protests across Tamil Nadu tomorrow, including a major demonstration in Chennai, against the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls being undertaken ahead of the 2026 Assembly elections. The DMK has alleged that the exercise is being carried out in haste, amid the northeast monsoon, and without adequate training for enumerators, which it says could result in widespread errors and omissions. The party has also pointed to confusion in the enumeration forms, claiming that the process lacks transparency and preparedness. Politically, the DMK views the SIR as an attempt to disenfranchise anti-BJP voters, citing the removal of about 64 lakh names in Bihar during a similar revision. The party has already moved the Supreme Court seeking a stay on the exercise in Tamil Nadu, arguing that it could deny voting rights to lakhs of genuine electors.

MASSIVE TRAFFIC JAM HITS MOHALI, ZIRAKPUR AMID 'PU BANDH' PROTESTS

Diary Times Desk : Long queues of vehicles created chaotic traffic movement in Mohali and Zirakpur on Monday as UT police barricaded the Chandigarh-Mohali border ahead of the 'PU Bandh' called by student groups and organisations demanding the notification of Panjab University Senate elections.

The UT police restricted entry into Chandigarh by barricading the Chandigarh-Mohali border near Phase-6 in Mohali.

Trucks and buses were stationed on the road, and barricades manned by police personnel restricted entry into Chandigarh, intensifying the traffic snarls.

DELHI'S RED FORT


Shah, in turn, briefed Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the blast. The Prime Minister expressed grief over the deaths of the eight people and offered prayers for the recovery of all those injured. The nature of the blast is unclear at this time, but all state security agencies are on high alert, and security has also been ramped up at the Indo-Nepal border, where stationed Border Security Force troops and intelligence officials are monitoring all visitors crossing the open border with that country.

The priority, sources told NDTV, is to provide medical care to the injured – nearly two dozen ambulances have been rushed to the blast site – and to secure the area.

Forensic and technical experts will then take over to collect evidence.

The blast came hours after Jammu and Kashmir Police recovered nearly 3,000kg of explosives from two residential buildings in Faridabad in Haryana.

The materials – which included 350kg of ammonium nitrate, a commonly-used fertiliser that can be turned into a deadly bomb – were seized based on intel from arrested J&K-based doctor, Adil Rather. Rather had been arrested from Uttar Pradesh's Saharanpur Sunday after CCTV footage showed him pasting posters in support of terrorist group Jaish-e-Mohammed across Srinagar.

MASSIVE DELHI BLAST HOURS AFTER 2,900 KG EXPLOSIVES FOUND IN FARIDABAD

Diary Times Desk : Eight people died and 20 were injured after a high-intensity blast in a car near Delhi's Red Fort – a popular tourist destination and one of the most crowded parts of the national capital – Monday night.

The car – sources told NDTV it was a Hyundai i20 with Haryana plates and registered to a Nadeem – exploded outside Gate 1 of the Lal Qila metro station. The intensity of the blast was such that nearby vehicles also caught fire. Horrific visuals showed a van with its doors blasted off and a completely mangled car, and shocked eyewitnesses told NDTV of body parts lying on the road.

Delhi Police Commissioner Satish Golcha told reporters, "Today at 6.52 pm a slow-moving vehicle stopped at the red light. An explosion happened in that vehicle and, due to the explosion, nearby vehicles were also damaged. Some people have died and some have been injured. The situation is being monitored. Home Minister (Amit Shah) called us. Information is being shared with him..."

PANJAB UNIVERSITY: 50-70 PROTESTERS TO STAY ON CAMPUS TILL SENATE POLL SCHEDULE IS FINALISED

Diary Times Desk : Panjab University (PU) witnessed heavy police deployment on Monday as students staged protests demanding the announcement of the long-pending Senate elections.

The demonstration turned tense as several students broke through police barricades, scaled university gates, and clashed with security personnel, prompting a mild lathicharge to restore order.

Protesters, shouting slogans such as "Go Back Chandigarh Police", accused the administration of denying them entry into the campus. Members of the Panjab University Bachao Morcha—which has been leading the agitation—were joined by farmer leaders who forced their way through barricades set up along the Chandigarh-Mohali border.

The agitation comes in the wake of the Centre's now-withdrawn decision to restructure the university's governing bodies—the Senate and the Syndicate.

Although the Ministry of Education withdrew its October 28 order on November 7 following student protests and political criticism, students continued their agitation, calling for a 'PU Bandh' until the Senate election schedule is announced.

Authorities imposed stringent security measures, including barricading entry points, deploying buses, and setting up checkpoints on surrounding roads. Security personnel were also stationed at the Chandigarh-Mohali-Zirakpur border.


POLLUTION DATA OUTAGE SPARKS OUTRAGE AS DELHI AIR CRISIS WORSENS


Diary Times Desk : On a day that a dense blanket of smog enveloped Delhi and choked the city, official air quality updates abruptly halted midday, leaving millions in the dark about the severity of the crisis.

The disruption came just 24 hours after widespread protests erupted across the capital, with demonstrators accusing authorities of manipulating pollution figures and eroding public trust in the Delhi government. On Monday, the Air Quality Index (AQI) readings ceased entirely after noon, even as the sky remained obscured and roads turned treacherous under low visibility.

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) last reported an AQI of 345 at 12:15 pm via its Sameer app and official website, before the feed went offline. Authorities attributed the blackout to a technical fault, promising a resolution by later in the day.

In response, the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) activated its sub-committee on the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) for an urgent review, emphasising ongoing vigilance over the deteriorating conditions.

Sunday had marked a grim peak, with the AQI climbing to 391 by 10 am – the worst level recorded this season so far. Despite the visible deterioration on Monday, including heavy traffic crawling through fog-like pollution on highways such as NH-9 near Ghaziabad, no further data emerged to guide residents or enforce anti-pollution measures.

ANDE SRI, POET WHO GAVE TELANGANA ITS ICONIC STATE ANTHEM, DIES AT 64


Diary Times Desk : Renowned poet and lyricist Ande Sri, author of the iconic Telangana State song "Jaya Jayahe Telangana," died in Hyderabad. His sudden demise, at 64, has been described as an irreparable loss to the literary and cultural world of Telangana.

Ande Sri, whose original name was Ande Yellanna, was taken to Gandhi Hospital after developing severe health complications at his residence. Despite receiving treatment, he died in the early hours of Monday morning. His last rites are expected to be performed with official honors.

The poet was best known for penning the 12-stanza composition, "Jaya Jayahe Telangana, Janani Jaya Kethanam," which became the rallying cry of millions during the movement for separate statehood and has been adopted as the official State Anthem.

Born in Rebarthi village of Siddipet district in 1961, Ande Sri's journey to becoming one of the most celebrated figures in Telugu literature was marked by adversity. He grew up as an orphan and, having no formal education, he worked initially as a shepherd and later as a construction labourer.

His song "Maayamaipothunnadamma Manishanavadu," written for the film Erra Samudram, was a major critical success and was included in the Telugu second-year graduation textbooks by the Andhra Pradesh University's syllabus committee in 2009. He also earned a Nandi Award for Best Lyricist in 2006 for his work on the film Ganga.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy expressed deep shock, stating that a "towering figure of Telangana literature has fallen." The Chief Minister recalled his association with the poet during the official re-composition and release of the State song.

FARIDABAD EXPLOSIVES

'NO ONE SUSPECTS DOCTORS': THE TERROR PLOT BEHIND FARIDABAD EXPLOSIVES HAUL


Diary Times Desk : The two doctors linked to the 2,900-kg haul of bomb-making material in Faridabad near Delhi were in regular touch with their handlers in Kashmir and were awaiting details of their target, top sources in the security establishment have said.

Dr Adeel and Dr Muzammil have told the police during interrogation that they were chosen for the task because the handlers believed "no one would suspect doctors in Delhi NCR", the sources said. The doctors were told to wait for details regarding their target.

The conspiracy, the sources said, was hatched in Pakistan, and the directions were coming through handlers in Kashmir. Police said this terror module was linked to Jaish-e-Mohammad and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind. The operation has led to the arrest of key operatives and recovery of a massive cache of arms, ammunition and explosives, during coordinated searches in J&K and other states.

The doctors' interrogation suggests that creating communal disturbance in Delhi NCR was also part of the plan, the sources said, adding that the target could have been anywhere in NCR.

Irfan Ahmed, a cleric and the Imam of a mosque, is the alleged kingpin behind the radicalisation of these doctors, the sources said. This cleric was also linked to the most-wanted terrorist Zakir Musa, who was gunned down in an encounter in 2019. The two doctors have also admitted to pasting posters supporting Jaish-e-Mohammad in Nowgam last month. Muzammil's colleague, Dr Shaheen Shahid, whose car was used to hide arms in Faridabad, has also been arrested.

'VVIP TREATMENT TO TERRORISTS': BJP SLAMS CONGRESS OVER KARNATAKA JAIL VIDEO


Diary Times Desk : The BJP on Monday accused the Congress government in Karnataka of providing VVIP facilities to an alleged ISIS recruiter and other inmates in state jails and demanded the immediate resignation of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Home Minister G Parameshwara.

This came after some undated videos surfaced on social media purportedly showing prison inmates using mobile phones, watching television and even partying inside the prisons.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, party national spokesperson Shezaad Poonawalla showed a video footage in which alleged ISIS recruiter Juhad Hameed Shakeel Manna is seen using a mobile phone inside the jail, and accused the Congress of giving patronage to him.

"We nab terrorists and when they are sent to jail, the Congress provides VVIP facilities so that they can freely execute their terror plans and recruit more people," he charged.

"On the one hand, the country's security agencies and the government are seriously engaged in foiling terrorists' nefarious plan and arresting them, while on the other hand, briyani, mobile phone and VVIP service is being provided to terrorists in Karnataka jail," he charged, adding the Congress has always been "soft on terror".

WHY BIHAR SAW HIGHEST GAP IN MALE-FEMALE TURNOUT IN PHASE I VOTING



Diary Times Desk : The voter turnout in the first phase of voting for the Bihar assembly polls has surpassed all records at 65.08%, much higher than the overall turnout of 57.29% in 2020. However, nothing can be said conclusively about these figures unless one analyses the respective turnouts for men and women.

Many believe that deletions under the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) process have contributed to the increased turnout. However, this is a misconception.

That is because at 7.42 crore, the total size of the electorate has increased, too, up from 7.36 crore in 2020. A high turnout in the first phase this time shows that the absolute number of votes polled is higher by 35 lakh from that in 2020.

Hence, even without SIR, the turnout would likely have increased by around 4%.

RAHUL: GOVT SET TO CHANGE, GUARD AGAINST 'VOTE THEFT'

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday turned the heat on Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Home Minister Amit Shah and Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar of 'vote theft' in the country.

Addressing a public meeting in Kishanganj on the last day of campaign, Rahul said that 'vote theft' would eventually be caught and these individuals would be no exception. "Protecting the Constitution and preventing vote theft is everybody's duty," he asserted.

He alleged that earlier votes had been stolen in Maharashtra, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh. "Similar attempts are being made in Bihar to steal votes," he said, adding that the Opposition party workers in cooperation with people would thwart vote theft attempts.

He referred to what he called a 'hydrogen bomb' in Haryana, saying the evidence of manipulation there had 'silenced' BJP. "BJP leaders are voting in two states each. PM Modi and Amit Shah don't win polls — they win by stealing votes."

MAN, BEAST AND BUREAUCRACY INSIDE MYSURU'S ESCALATING TIGER WAR

Diary Times Desk : The clang of a school bell echoes through Hale Heggudilu, but not many students returned to their houses. Instead, children gathered in small clusters outside the school gate, watching a convoy of jeeps, police vans and private cars snaking into their village. The sight of white SUVs with beacon lights and khaki-clad men was unusual in this remote forest fringe village of Saragur taluk.

At the centre of the crowd lay the small house of Danda Nayaka alias Chowda Nayaka, a 48-year-old farmer and labourer who had been mauled to death by a tiger only hours earlier.

As politicians, forest officers arrived to console the family, the village stood with murmurs of disbelief. "Come home before dark," parents called out. By the time Nayaka's body was taken for postmortem, the narrow lanes of Hale Heggudilu had fallen silent. Not a single villager dared to step out.

This is not a scene at this particular village. Dread now stalks every village along the edge of Saragur taluk -- from Badagalapura to Bennegere, Kurnegala to Mullur. As dusk falls, doors are bolted, fields abandoned.

SCHOOL HOLIDAY ON NOVEMBER 11: TELANGANA, BIHAR SCHOOLS SHUT AMID BYE-ELECTIONS

Diary Times Desk : Schools in Telangana and Bihar will remain closed tomorrow, November 11, 2025, in view of the ongoing Bye-Elections. Institutions, including government offices and schools designated as polling stations, will not hold classes, as announced by Collector and District Magistrate Harichandana Dasari of Hyderabad on November 7, 2025. Schools were also closed today and will remain shut again on November 14, 2025, when vote counting is scheduled.

In Bihar, schools will remain closed on November 11 for the polling day and November 14 for the counting day.

Which Districts in Telangana Will Have School Holidays?

The bye-elections are being held for the 61-Jubilee Hills Assembly constituency in Hyderabad district. Accordingly, November 10, 11, and 14, 2025, have been declared paid holidays for all schools and offices functioning as polling or counting centres. The notification was issued by the Collector and District Magistrate.



LET'S 'EAST PAKISTAN' PLOT EXPOSED: HAFIZ SAEED 'NOT SITTING IDLE', PLANNING TERROR ATTACKS FROM BANGLADESH

Diary Times Desk : LeT chief Hafiz Saeed is "not sitting idle" and is planning terror attacks against India from 'East Pakistan' (or Bangladesh, a senior commander of the terror organisation claimed at a rally.

Saifullah Saif made the claim at a rally held in Pakistan's Khairpur Tamewali on October 30. In a video from the event, Saif can be heard saying that Saeed was planning attacks against India from the new launchpad Bangladesh. "Hafiz Saeed is not sitting idle; he is preparing to attack India through Bangladesh," Saif said.

Saif further stated that LeT terrorists were already active in what he called "East Pakistan" and ready to "answer India (for Operation Sindoor)".

Intelligence agencies say that this could signal a dangerous shift in LeT's operational focus, with Bangladesh emerging as a key node in its terror network.

The video also shows Saif openly inciting the crowd - which included children - to wage "jihad" against India.

1.35 LAKH CRORE LITRE CAPACITY WATER TANK BURSTS IN KOCHI, HOUSES FLOODED

Diary Times Desk : A drinking water tank with a storage capacity of 1.35 crore litres burst in Kerala's Kochi early on Monday, resulting in flooding. The incident occurred around 2 am, catching several families in their sleep. No casualties have been reported, the officials said.

The tank, located near the Kuthappady Temple in Kochi's Thammanam, burst and released a gush of water into houses behind the reservoir. The flood, which caught people off guard, damaged walls and portions of several structures. Vehicles, including autorickshaws and two-wheelers, were swept away and sustained damage.

Shocked residents said the water force brought stones, mud and slush into homes, leaving several houses uninhabitable.

Visuals from the ground show people standing in muddy water outside their house. In the background, a fourth of bicycle tyres are submerged in water.

BLAST OCCURRED IN
SLOW-MOVING VEHICLE
NEAR RED FORT TRAFFIC
SIGNAL: DELHI POLICE CHIEF

Diary Times Desk : Soon after a car explosion near the Red Fort killing at least eight people, Delhi Police commissioner Satish Golcha on Monday said the blast took place in a slow-moving vehicle near the Red Fort traffic signal.

Talking to reporters at the blast site, he confirmed multiple deaths and injuries, and said Union Home Minister Amit Shah was being regularly briefed about the incident.

“There was a blast around 6.52 pm in a slow moving vehicle near Red Fort. There were passengers inside the vehicle,” Golcha said, adding other vehicles were damaged in the incident.

Earlier, officials said that the explosion happened inside a parked car. The police commissioner said all agencies, including Delhi Police, forensic team, NIA, NSG, are taking stock of the situation.

BJP CAN SEND ME TO JAIL
OR CUT MY THROAT, BUT
SHOULD STOP SIR
IMMEDIATELY: MAMATA
BANERJEE

Diary Times Desk : West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday dubbed the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls as “votebandi”, and urged the Election Commission to immediately stop the exercise.

Banerjee said she was unable to fathom the “hurry” to conduct the SIR just before elections.

“The BJP-led central government is harassing people in the name of SIR. Just like demonetisation was ‘notebandi’, SIR is ‘votebandi’. It is another form of super emergency,” she told reporters in Siliguri.

“I do not understand the hurry in conducting SIR just before elections. The EC must immediately stop this exercise. The revision of electoral rolls cannot be completed in two or three months. It is being carried out forcibly,” the CM alleged. Banerjee asserted that the BJP can send her to jail or “even cut my throat” for speaking out against SIR, “but do not curb the voting rights of people”.

ANDHRA STUDENT, 23, DIES IN US. FRIENDS
SAY SHE HAD BEEN COUGHING FOR 2 DAYS



Diary Times Desk : A 23-year-old Indian student has been found dead in her apartment in Texas, United States, leaving her family and friends in deep shock. The student, identified as Rajyalakshmi (Raji) Yarlagadda, was a resident of Andhra Pradesh and had recently graduated from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and was actively seeking employment in the US. Yarlagadda died on November 7. According to her cousin Chaitanya YVK, she had been sick with a severe cough and chest pain for the past two to three days. “Tragically, on the morning of Nov 7, 2025, she did not wake up while her alarm rang, leaving her family and friends heartbroken,” the cousin said, adding that her friends later found that she had passed away in her sleep. The medical examination of Yarlagadda’s body is underway in the US to determine the exact cause of death.

TOP COURT REJECTS RADICAL
PREACHER AMRITPAL SINGH'S PLEA
AGAINST DETENTION

Diary Times Desk : The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea filed by Khadoor Sahib MP Amritpal Singh challenging his continued detention under the National Security Act (NSA). A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and NV Anjaria observed that the appropriate course for the petitioner would be to first move the jurisdictional High Court.

Considering the duration of his continued detention, the Justice Aravind Kumar-led Bench requested the High Court to conclude the proceedings within six weeks. In his writ petition, Amritpal Singh - currently lodged in Dibrugarh Central Jail in Assam - contended that preventing an elected Member of Parliament from discharging his constitutional duties amounted to a violation of his fundamental rights as well as the collective rights of the Khadoor Sahib electorate.

ECHOES OF PAST: RED FORT BLAST BRINGS BACK MEMORIES
OF DELHI'S DARK DAYS

Diary Times Desk : Delhi was jolted once again after 14 years, as a powerful explosion near the Red Fort metro station on Monday evening killed at least eight people and injured 24 others.

The high-intensity blast gutted several vehicles and triggered panic in the busy area, which was teeming with commuters and visitors at the time. The injured were rushed to LNJP Hospital, located a few kilometres away. For a city that has often been at the heart of the country's most terrible terror strikes, the sound of another explosion felt like an unwelcome echo from the past. Delhi's historic markets, monuments and public spaces have, time and again, found themselves on the frontline of violence, each incident etching deep scars in its collective memory. The summer of 1996 remains one of the darkest chapters, when a powerful bomb ripped through Lajpat Nagar market, one of the capital's busiest shopping hubs, killing 13 people and injuring dozens.

"SEEN OUR MORPHED PICS
TOO": CHIEF JUSTICE SAYS
"JUDGES AWARE" OF AI
MISUSE

Diary Times Desk : Chief Justice BR Gavai on Monday acknowledged the growing misuse of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools and other digital tools against the judiciary, noting that he has seen the morphed pictures.

- “Yes, yes, we have seen our morphed pictures too,” the Chief Justice said while hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) seeking directions for framing guidelines or a policy to regulate the use of Generative AI (GenAI) in judicial and quasi-judicial bodies.

According to the petition - filed by advocate Kartikeya Rawal - there is a difference between AI and GenAI, with the latter capable of creating ambiguity in the legal system by generating new data and non-existent case laws. It also warned that GenAI may replicate, perpetuate, and even aggravate pre-existing biases, discrimination, and stereotypical practices, thereby presenting profound ethical and legal challenges.

'COLLECTED HANDS AND LEGS OF THE
DEAD SEPARATELY': AMBULANCE
DRIVERS RECOUNT HARROWING
DETAILS AFTER DELHI BLAST

Diary Times Desk : A few hours after the car explosion near the Red Fort Metro Station, scenes at Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan (LNJP) Hospital were grim. Ambulances lined the entry gate as drivers and hospital staff rushed in and out.

Zakir, a private ambulance driver, said he crossed the Red Fort gate to retrieve a leg from one side of the road. “The rest of the body was on the other side,” he said. “Body parts were lying everywhere. We picked up body parts and brought them separately.”

Another ambulance driver, Mohd Faizan, said seven ambulances were sent to the site along with the fire services. “I collected hands and legs of the dead separately,” he said. “It was a horrible scene.”



BIGGEST POLLUTERS SKIP COP30 FOR EUROPE TO PICK UP CLIMATE TAB

Diary Times Desk : The United States, China and India will be skipping for the most part the gathering as the global momentum to fight climate change recedes, leaving the European Union almost alone in its efforts to assist developing nations looking for technology and financial resources to combat the impact of climate change.

For Europe, it is a delicate balancing act as it tries to stay engaged and make good on its climate pledges but also facing a fast-changing set of priorities at home as the focus turns to rearming and boosting defense capabilities. Meanwhile, the US, China and India are turning their efforts to bolster national industrial capacities and their domestic agenda.

Chinese President Xi Jinping won't attend COP30, but his Vice Premier Ding Xuexiang will represent Beijing while India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi delegated the country's representation to its Ambassador to Brazil, Dinesh Bhatia.

The United States snubbed COP30 entirely, with no Washington delegates attending the UN climate summit. Washington's absence was an expected outcome following its withdrawal from the Paris Agreement, which marks 10 years since world leaders pledged to limit global warming to 1.5°C relative to 1990 levels.

CHINA'S FUJIAN SIGNALS INDIA'S CARRIER GAP: HOW PLAN SURGED AHEAD OF THE INDIAN NAVY

Diary Times Desk : Despite initiating aircraft carrier operations in 1961 – over half a century before China's People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) – and building decades of operational experience on such platforms, the Indian Navy has now been hopelessly overtaken by its nuclear-armed neighbour in maritime aviation capability.

This reality was laid bare last week, when PLAN commissioned its third flattop, the 80,000-tonne Fujian fitted with a locally developed Electromagnetic Aircraft Launch System, even as the Indian Navy remained mired in committees and deliberations over its own elusive third carrier. It was, indeed, a grim reminder, if any were needed, that Beijing built ships, while New Delhi amassed files.

SUDAN MEDICS ACCUSE RSF OF BURNING, BURYING BODIES TO CONCEAL 'GENOCIDE'

Diary Times Desk : A Sudanese medical organisation has accused the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) of engaging in a "desperate attempt" to conceal evidence of mass killings in Darfur by burning bodies or burying them in mass graves.

The Sudan Doctors Network said on Sunday that paramilitaries are collecting "hundreds of bodies" from the streets of el-Fasher, in Sudan's western Darfur region, after their bloody takeover of the city on October 26, saying the group's crimes could not be "erased through concealment or burning".

"What happened in el-Fasher is not an isolated incident but rather another chapter in a full-fledged genocide carried out by the RSF, blatantly violating all international and religious norms that prohibit the mutilation of corpses and guarantee the dead the right to a dignified burial," it said in a statement.

JAPAN TO RAISE VISA FEES FOR FOREIGN VISITORS IN FY 2026

Diary Times Desk : The Japanese government plans to raise visa issuance fees for foreign visitors in fiscal 2026, as current fees remain low compared with those in the United States and Europe, according to sources familiar with the matter.

It will be the first raise since the Foreign Ministry began to compile the data in 1978, and the government plans to use part of the extra revenue to combat overtourism, which has led to overcrowding and environmental damage in popular areas, the sources said.

The fees in Japan are about 3,000 yen (\$19.50) for a single-entry visa and 6,000 yen for a double-entry or multiple-entry visa, compared with \$185 for business or tourism in the United States and 127 pounds (\$167) for a short-term stay in Britain.

In euro-zone nations, a standard short-stay visa costs 90 euros (\$104) for a non-European Union national.

EMPLOYEE GETS FIRED WHEN BOSS FINDS HIM WALKING 16,000 STEPS DURING SICK LEAVE FOR FOOT PAIN



Diary Times Desk : A Chinese employee who was fired after his company discovered he had walked 16,000 steps while on sick leave for foot pain has won a legal battle against his employer, with a court ruling the dismissal illegal and awarding him 118,779 yuan (about Rs 15 lakh) in compensation. The case, was recently published by China's Ministry of Justice and has sparked widespread debate about workplace surveillance and employee rights, South China Morning Post (SCMP) reported. The man, identified only by his surname, Chen, worked at a company in Jiangsu province. He first applied for sick leave in February and March 2019, citing a back strain sustained at work. After submitting hospital documents and resting for a month, he returned to work but applied for another round of sick leave.

INDONESIA NAMES EX-DICTATOR SUHARTO A 'NATIONAL HERO'

Diary Times Desk : Indonesia has named former president Suharto a national hero, even as his controversial legacy as a dictator has sparked heated protests against the move.

During Suharto's New Order regime in the 1960s to 1990s, Indonesia saw an era of rapid economic growth but also violent political repression. Hundreds of thousands of political dissenters were estimated to have been killed during that period.

The national hero award is an annual affair, meant to honour individuals for their contributions to the country.

On Monday, the late Suharto was among 10 new names added to the list, in a ceremony presided over by current Indonesian president Prabowo Subianto, Suharto's former son-in-law.

In October, Indonesia's social and culture ministries nominated nearly 50 candidates to the award – including Suharto.

Receiving the award on Monday at the state palace in Jakarta were Suharto's children.

Suharto "rose to prominence during Indonesia's independence period" and had "led the disarmament of Japanese troops" during a battle in Yogyakarta in 1945, said a voiceover in the presidential office's livestream of the award ceremony.

But the honouring of Suharto as a national hero has been met with significant opposition from civil society.

US FACING HEADWINDS IN CONVINCING ZELENSKY, NATO ALLIES, READY TO MEET RUBIO: RUSSIAN FM LAVROV

Diary Times Desk : The US seems to be facing headwinds in persuading Kyiv and NATO allies not to interfere in its efforts towards settling the Ukraine crisis, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said Sunday.

Lavrov said he is ready to meet US Secretary of State Marco Rubio but maintained that ending the conflict is impossible without taking Russian interests into account and eradicating its root causes.

Lavrov's comments came weeks after unsuccessful efforts for a summit between Russian President Vladimir Putin and his US counterpart Donald Trump, as a follow up of the talks between the two leaders at Anchorage in Alaska on August 15 where they had not reached a deal to end the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The Americans assured us back then (Alaska summit) that they would be able to ensure that Zelenskyy would not impede the achievement of peace.



MOMENT WHEN RUSSIAN CHOPPER BROKE INTO 2 PARTS BEFORE CRASH
KILLING 4



Diary Times Desk : At least five people, including four senior executives of a Russian military factory, have been killed in a helicopter crash in the Republic of Dagestan. A Ka-226 helicopter was carrying employees of the EU-sanctioned Kizlyar Electromechanical Plant in Dagestan when it crashed in a village near the Caspian Sea. Video footage of the crash, which occurred on November 7, went viral on social media, showing the chopper trying to land on a beach when its tail hits a rock, causing the rotor at the back to break off. The helicopter lost its balance as the tail hung from its body. The helicopter later struck an unoccupied private house near the village of Achi-Su on the Caspian Sea, which was destroyed in the resulting fire, the state-run news agency TASS cited emergency service sources as saying.

A separate video showed the moment the helicopter made impact with the house. It showed the chopper tore through the roof of the house before bursting into flames. Videos were also posted online showing firefighters rushing to put out a blaze that reduced the beachfront home to rubble.

FROM LAB TO GOLD: NYUAD
TRIUMPHS AT THE PARIS IGEN
COMPETITION

Diary Times Desk : iGEM is a competition which focuses on synthetic biology, where teams think of a potential bioengineering solution to a problem they freely choose. On NYUAD's 10th year at the iGEM Grand Jamboree, the team won gold medal for the second year, and the title "Best Integrated Human Practices Team" for their project, "rEVitalyze." While many may view iGEM (International Genetically Engineered Machine) as just an annual synthetic biology competition – academic, research-heavy, and inaccessible to non-STEM students – being part of the team is far more complex. Beyond presenting a scientific project, iGEM participants must also market their idea.

DOZENS OF INMATES FOUND HANGED
IN ECUADOR PRISON

Diary Times Desk : At least 31 inmates have been found dead in a prison in southern Ecuador, including 27 who had been hanged, officials say. Four prisoners were killed and more than 30 injured in clashes between rival gang members in El Oro prison in the city of Machala in the early hours of on Sunday. Hours later, security guards who had been alerted to a fresh outbreak of gang violence found the others who had been hanged on the building's third floor, Ecuador's prison service said. The country's overcrowded prisons have been the scene of a series of deadly riots and gang fights in which hundreds of inmates have been killed in recent years.

THAILAND SUSPENDS CAMBODIA 'PEACE DEAL'



Diary Times Desk : Thailand says it is suspending the implementation its "peace deal" with neighbouring Cambodia over a disputed border – just two weeks after Donald Trump presided over its signing.

Thailand's announcement came after soldiers were injured in a landmine explosion near the Cambodian border in Sisaket province, a government spokesman said. Cambodia has said it remains committed to the deal, which was supposed to bring a lasting peace following border clashes which left more than 40 dead in July.

The two sides signed the agreement – which Thailand has refused to call a peace deal – in October during a ceremony with the US president in Malaysia. But on Monday, Thai Prime Minister Anutin Charnvirakul told a news conference on Monday that he agreed with the decision taken by the country's defence chiefs, saying the "security threat.... has not actually decreased".

PAKISTANI WARSHIP
DOCKS IN CHITTAGONG
AFTER 54 YEARS: WHY
INDIA MUST WATCH BAY
OF BENGAL CLOSELY

Diary Times Desk : A suspicious and significant geopolitical shift is taking shape in the eastern waters of South Asia. Earlier this month, a Pakistani warship – PNS Saif – docked at Bangladesh's Chittagong Port for the first time in more than five decades. The visit – the first such occurrence since 1971 – marked a symbolic milestone in Pakistan's outreach to Dhaka. It coincided with the visit of Pakistan's Navy Chief Admiral Naveed Ashraf to Bangladesh. His meeting with senior Bangladeshi military officials represents the highest level of military contact since the interim government of Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus came to power after Sheikh Hasina's ouster in 2024. The visit is not just about diplomacy. It signals a deeper shift in Bangladesh's foreign policy under Yunus's administration and a clear attempt by Pakistan to reinsert itself into a region where India has traditionally held dominant influence. Analysts quoted by Defence Security Asia noted that Pakistan is attempting to "establish a visible presence in the Bay of Bengal" through this naval engagement. For Islamabad, the visit of PNS Saif and the broader outreach form part of a strategy to gain new relevance in South Asia's maritime sphere.

MALIAN TIKTOKER KILLED BY
SUSPECTED JIHADISTS
AFTER PRO-ARMY POSTS

Diary Times Desk : A female TikTokker accused of helping Mali's army has been seized and killed execution-style by suspected jihadists. Mariam Cissé, said to be in her 20s and with over 100,000 TikTok followers, posted videos about life in her Tonka hometown in the northern Timbuktu region and often expressed support for the army. Her death has shocked the nation, which has been battling a jihadist insurgency since 2012. State TV said she had simply wanted to promote her community and support the army through her TikTok posts. Mali is grappling with a fuel blockade imposed on the capital by jihadist groups that has severely disrupted daily life, with the African Union expressing "deep concern".

Ms Cissé was seized by the suspected jihadists while live-streaming from a market in a neighbouring town, French public radio RFI reported.

"My sister was arrested on Thursday by the jihadists," her brother told the AFP news agency, saying they had accused her of "informing the Malian army of their movements".

SYRIA'S JIHADIST-TURNED-PRESIDENT CAPS EXTRAORDINARY TRANSFORMATION WITH WHITE HOUSE VISIT

Diary Times Desk : Less than a year after his lightning power grab, Syria's president is capping his transformation from jihadist to global statesman in a historic visit to the White House that says as much about the young leader as it does his push for his country's diplomatic reinvention. Ahmad al-Sharaa's meeting on Monday – the first ever visit to the White House by a Syrian head of state – will be his 20th foreign trip since appointing himself as president of Syria in January, and his second visit to the United States, following his attendance of the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September. But this meeting will be the most high-profile and high stakes yet, a once-unthinkable encounter between the US commander-in-chief and a man who has faced American forces on the battlefield. His broader objective, reflected in his extensive global travel, is to reverse Syria's isolation, a legacy of the previous regime that left the country economically devastated and diplomatically shackled to a narrow axis of allies.

**WHAT MAMDANI CAN TEACH THE CONGRESS – AND RAHUL GANDHI**

Diary Times Desk : "The working people of New York have been told by the wealthy and the well-connected that power does not belong in their hands... And yet, over the last 12 months, you have dared to reach for something greater. Tonight, against all odds, we have grasped it. The future is in our hands. My friends, we have toppled a political dynasty."

These words, by now, have been heard by millions across the globe. They have leapt out of newspapers, televisions, and, perhaps most potently, Instagram. All this has happened because Zohran Mamdani, a 34-year-old migrant Muslim, a self-declared democratic socialist of mixed parentage – a man who might easily have been consigned to the margins of contemporary political economy – has become the new mayor of New York City.

Mamdani's success has signalled a system reset: a toppling of a political dynasty that sought legitimacy from the common people even as it worked to de-power them.

ISRAEL RECEIVES BODY OF SOLDIER KILLED IN 2014 IN GAZA

Diary Times Desk : Israel has received the body of Lt Hadar Goldin, a soldier killed in an ambush by Hamas in 2014 and whose body has been held in Gaza since then. The Israeli military said Lt Goldin, who was 23 when he died, was formally identified and will now be buried. He left behind parents, a sister, two brothers, and a fiancée.

Hamas's armed wing had said on Sunday that it would hand over Lt Goldin's body as part of a ceasefire deal.

Hamas has now returned all 20 living hostages, and 24 out of 28 deceased hostages under the first phase of the deal.

On Sunday, Lt Goldin's father Simcha Goldin said in a statement: "Victory means bringing home the hostages and bringing home our soldiers to Israel." Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Isaac Herzog both said they had kept a picture of Lt Goldin in their offices for the past 11 years.

FORMER FRENCH PRESIDENT SARKOZY RELEASED FROM PRISON AFTER THREE WEEKS

Diary Times Desk : Former French president Nicolas Sarkozy has been released from jail, three weeks into a five-year prison term for taking part in a criminal conspiracy.

He will be subject to strict judicial supervision and barred from leaving France.

Sarkozy's car was seen leaving La Santé prison in Paris just before 15:00 (14:00 GMT), less than an hour-and-a-half after a court agreed to his early release. Soon after, he was seen arriving at his home in western Paris.

On 21 October, the former centre-right president, 70, was sentenced to five years for conspiring to fund his 2007 election campaign with money from late Libyan dictator Muammar Gaddafi.

His legal team immediately filed a request seeking his release.

One of the conditions of Sarkozy's release is that he does not contact any justice ministry employees.

CHINA DESIGNING NEW RARE EARTH LICENSING REGIME, UNLIKELY TO GO FOR COMPLETE ROLLBACK OF RESTRICTIONS

Diary Times Desk : China has begun designing a new rare earth licensing regime that could speed up shipments, but it is unlikely to amount to a complete rollback of restrictions as hoped by Washington, industry insiders said.

The Ministry of Commerce told some rare earth exporters they will be able to apply for new streamlined permits in the future and in industry briefings outlined the documents that will be required, two sources familiar with the matter said.

The export curbs have become Beijing's most potent source of leverage in its trade rivalry with Washington, as China produces over 90% of the world's processed rare earths and rare earth magnets, vital in products ranging from cars to missiles.

Following the agreement reached between Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping, China said last week it would pause for one year the restrictions it imposed in October.

7 DEAD, 13 RESCUED AFTER MYANMAR MIGRANT BOAT OVERTURNS NEAR MALAYSIA

Diary Times Desk : Rescuers in Malaysia recovered the bodies of seven migrants from Myanmar and found 13 alive from a boat that capsized with dozens aboard, officials said Sunday.

The vessel had departed from the town of Buthidaung, in Myanmar's Rakhine state, carrying some 300 people, said First Adm. Romli Mustafa from the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, citing a preliminary investigation.

Police and the maritime agency said the passengers were believed to have been split into three smaller boats once the vessel neared Malaysia. One of the boats was believed to have sunk near Tarutao Island in southern Thailand on Thursday, and some of the victims drifted into Malaysia's northern resort island of Langkawi, the authorities said.

The timing and exact location of the incident are not known. The fate of the other two boats is also unclear, officials said.

Local media quoted the Kedah state police chief in northern Malaysia, Adzli Abu Shah, as saying that some of those rescued were Rohingya Muslims, from Myanmar, where they have faced persecution for decades. Romli warned in a statement that cross-border syndicates are becoming increasingly active in exploiting migrants using perilous sea routes. The maritime agency said rescuers found 10 migrants and recovered the body of a woman.

"PEOPLE AGAINST TARIFF FOOLS": TRUMP PLEDGES \$2,000 "DIVIDENDS" TO AMERICANS



Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump once again defended his tariff policy, claiming the aggressive levies made the United States the "richest" and "most respected" country in the world. Dubbing his opponents as "fools", the President claimed every American -- except the wealthy -- will soon receive at least \$2,000 (approx. Rs 1,77,000) from tariff revenues collected by his administration. The remarks came days after the US Supreme Court raised doubts over the legality of Trump's sweeping tariffs in a case with implications for the global economy that marks a major test of Trump's powers. What Trump Said "People that are against Tariffs are FOOLS! We are now the Richest, Most Respected Country In the World.

USDA ORDERS STATES TO STOP ISSUING FULL SNAP BENEFITS AND TO 'UNDO' BENEFITS SENT FOR NOVEMBER

Diary Times Desk : The US Department of Agriculture ordered states to stop issuing full food stamp benefits for November and to "immediately undo" any issuance of the full allotments, after a Supreme Court justice on Friday paused a lower court order requiring the agency to pay Americans their full assistance.

In the Saturday directive, obtained by CNN, the USDA told states to instead proceed with issuing partial benefits -- which will provide 65% of the maximum allotments for November -- as ordered by the same lower court judge earlier in the week. (Many recipients will receive less than 65% of their usual assistance because of the way food stamp benefits are calculated.)

"To the extent States sent full SNAP payment files for November 2025, this was unauthorized," Patrick Penn, a top USDA official, wrote in the memo. "Accordingly, States must immediately undo any steps taken to issue full SNAP benefits for November 2025."

States that fail to comply could face a cancellation of federal cost-sharing of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or SNAP, as well as be financially responsible for over issuances of benefits, the memo said.

5 INDIANS KIDNAPPED IN MALI AMID AL QAEDA-LINKED UNREST, EMBASSY REACTS

Diary Times Desk : New Delhi is working closely with the Malian authorities to secure the safe release of five Indian nationals who were kidnapped by armed men in Mali last week, the Indian Embassy in Bamako said. The five Indians were employed by a company that is working on electrification projects. They were abducted last week by gunmen near Kobri, in western Mali, as the West African country reels from mounting unrest and jihadist violence.

"The Embassy is aware of the unfortunate incident of the kidnapping of five of our nationals in Mali on 6 November 2025. The Embassy has been working closely with the Malian authorities and the company concerned to secure their safe release as quickly as possible," the embassy said in a post on X. The kidnapping happened on Thursday, but so far, no group has claimed responsibility.

'K-VISA EQUIVALENT TO H-1B': INDIAN TECH TALENT EYES CHINA AS NEW VISA OPEN DOORS AMID RISING US BARRIERS

Diary Times Desk : China's new K-visa, designed to pull in science and technology workers, is suddenly drawing attention from Indian professionals who once wanted to live the American dream. The visa comes at a moment when the US H-1B system is getting more restrictive and expensive under Donald Trump's new immigration rules. As Beijing tries to be a welcoming hub for skilled workers, many Indians are now weighing whether the new Chinese visa could become the new H-1B for them. Indian students say the mood has changed. H-1B has always been the big dream, but now it feels out of reach for many. "Students studying in the US hoped for an H-1B visa, but right now that's a problem," said Bikash Kali Das, who is pursuing a master's in international relations at Sichuan University, in his comments to the Associated Press. Immigration consultants in China say they've already heard from Indian and Southeast Asian.

"STOP LEGAL IMMIGRATION TOO": NIKKI HALEY'S SON SAYS FRIENDS DON'T HAVE JOBS

Diary Times Desk : The United States should stop not only illegal immigration but legal settlement as well, Nalin Haley, son of former US ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley, has said. The 24-year-old cited the struggles of young Americans in the job market. "We don't just stop illegal immigration," Haley told UnHerd. "I think we need to stop legal immigration." He pointed to the challenges faced by his friends. "My friend group from high school, all graduated, great degrees from great schools. It's been a year and a half, and not one of them has a job, not one. So I'm angry at that, because I'm having to try and help my friends get jobs when their parents got jobs immediately, not just after graduating college, but out of high school." "So when you see a bunch of foreigners coming over here to take jobs that [my friends] wanted," he said, "they have every right to be pissed, and I'm pissed for them."

THE DEMOCRATS WHO BACKED REPUBLICAN SHUTDOWN DEAL - AND WHY



Diary Times Desk : Seven Senate Democrats plus one independent voted on Sunday to support a Republican deal to reopen the US government. The defections broke a weeks-long deadlock during which the Democratic Party resisted pressure to end the longest ever US shutdown. During that period, the main reason the Democratic senators gave for refusing to back a funding deal was the expiry of healthcare subsidies - which they said would hit millions of households. So who are the group who sided with the Republicans - and what have they said to justify crossing the floor? Tim Kaine The first thing to say about them all is that none of them faces re-election in 2026, and Virginia Senator Kaine is no different. Known to many as Hillary Clinton's running mate in the 2016 presidential election, he said he backed the Republican deal because it would protect workers and set the US on a path towards "fixing Republicans' healthcare mess". His state is home to about 300,000 federal employees, many of whom are off work without pay because of the shutdown.

THE FED’S NEWEST GOVERNOR BRINGS A TRUMP PERSPECTIVE ON THE ECONOMY. IS ANYONE BUYING IT?

Diary Times Desk : The Federal Reserve’s newest policymaker has an unconventional perspective on the US economy that’s proving tough to sell.

In September, President Donald Trump appointed Stephen Miran, one of his top economic advisers, to temporarily fill a vacated seat on the Fed’s powerful Board of Governors. So far, Miran has participated in two Fed meetings — and broken ranks with the vast majority of Fed officials each time.

At the central bank’s October policy meeting, Miran dissented from Fed officials’ decision to lower interest rates by a quarter point, backing a larger, half-point cut instead, just as he did in September.

He hasn’t wasted any time to leave a first impression in other ways, too.

WHY OPENAI WENT INTO CRISIS PR MODE THURSDAY

Diary Times Desk : OpenAI, the world’s leader in AI and ChatGPT parent company, went into panic mode on Thursday over what it said was a very public misstatement. Two top executives furiously backtracked from an earlier comment that suggested OpenAI might need government support to cover the \$1.4 trillion in chips and data center infrastructure it’s committed to buying. Here’s how the situation unfolded and why the since-retracted comment was so controversial. What OpenAI’s CFO said OpenAI’s Chief Financial Officer Sarah Friar raised eyebrows on Wednesday when she suggested that the US government should “backstop” the company’s aggressive investments in artificial intelligence infrastructure.

“The backstop, the guarantee, that allows the financing to happen, that can really drop the cost of the financing but also increase the loan-to-value, so the amount of debt that you can take on top of an equity portion,” she said at a Wall Street Journal event.

SAY ‘I DO’ TO HIGHER COSTS: HOW TARIFFS COULD IMPACT WEDDING BUDGETS

Diary Times Desk : Weddings can be expensive and stressful. But this year, prospective brides and grooms are dealing with an added layer, and it’s not cake. It’s tariffs.

Two million weddings take place in the United States every year, but they are very much an international affair. From the engagement ring to the cake, chairs, florals and the dress, all these items are touched by tariffs. Even those carefully crafted in the United States can contain multiple components from around the world.

President Donald Trump’s trade agenda isn’t helping the average cost of a US wedding, which had already risen by 18% to \$33,000 over the last five years, according to The Knot, a global wedding planning and vendor marketplace. With tariff rates as high as 50% for some countries, you can expect costs to rise.

Vendors are “forced to make tough calls about whether to absorb increased costs or adjust their pricing, all while maintaining the level of service and quality their clients expect,” said Raina Moskowitz, CEO of The Knot Worldwide.

One in five vendors have increased costs because of tariffs, according to the Knot, and 33% of engaged couples say they’re worried about price increases.



NASDAQ SUFFERS WORST WEEK SINCE APRIL AS AI RALLY WOBBLER

Diary Times Desk : Almost everyone agrees that the US air traffic control system is broken.

Longstanding staffing shortages. Antiquated technology. And now, air traffic controllers are caught in the middle of a political tug of war that has nothing to do with their operations.

The government shutdown has left controllers working unpaid, six-day-weeks. That’s worsened a staffing crisis, with some airports’ control towers occasionally being without any controllers at all. And now that crisis, combined with the shutdown, has led to Federal Aviation Administration limits on flights at the nation’s 40 largest airports, with hundreds of flight cancellations daily and disruptions across the country. Advocates of privatization, or at least separation of the service from the FAA, think the current crisis might create an opportunity for reform.



ANALYSIS: MANY FACTORS, NOT JUST TRUMP, CONTRIBUTED TO BBC RESIGNATIONS

Diary Times Desk : One word in outgoing BBC boss Tim Davie’s statement explains not just his resignation, but the political reality for media leaders in 2025: “Febrile.”

To save you from Googling, Dictionary.com defines “febrile” as “a more formal way of saying feverish — having a fever.”

Arguments over the BBC in recent days have certainly been fevered, but then again, those arguments are never-ending, owing to the broadcaster’s immense power and unique place in British public life. As a result, the job of BBC director general — though certainly prestigious — is also relentless and thankless. The current controversy over a misleading edit to a 2024 documentary about President Donald Trump illustrates the dynamic perfectly. In a vacuum, the more-than-a-year-old misstep by unnamed producers would not cause the very top heads of the organization to roll.

But Britain’s right-wing press has been “feasting like vultures” over the bad edit, as a source at the BBC put it on condition of anonymity.



TRUMP THREATENS TO
SUE BBC OVER
MISLEADING EDIT OF
JANUARY 6 SPEECH

Diary Times Desk :

The BBC is embroiled in a massive political fight over its future, with conservatives capitalizing on an editing screw-up and denouncing the British broadcaster while liberals argue that the institution is flawed but worth defending.

On Monday, Trump intensified the pressure by sending a threatening legal letter to the news organization over the misleading edit in a one-year-old documentary about his reelection campaign. He is demanding at least \$1 billion in damages.

A BBC spokesperson told CNN that “we will review the letter and respond directly in due course.”

Trump has sent several legal letters to other news organizations, including CNN, during his second term in office.

TRUMP IS TRYING TO
WILL LOWER PRICES
INTO EXISTENCE. IT
WON'T WORK

Diary Times Desk :

President Donald Trump keeps trying to convince Americans that gas costs \$2 a gallon. That’s a tall task when it costs \$3.

“We’re a little bit above \$2 right now for gasoline,” Trump said Friday. “We’re going to be approximately \$2 very soon.”

Trump and his administration have made that false claim repeatedly over the course of the year.

In April, Trump said, “You have gasoline that hit \$1.98 yesterday in a couple of states.” The next day, Trump said gas was sub-\$2 in “three states.” During a commencement address at the University of Alabama in May, Trump falsely asserted that gas cost just \$1.88 in three states.

In July, Trump claimed, “Gasoline just hit \$1.99 today in five states,” and he later clarified, “\$1.99, \$1.98.”

In August, Trump said gas cost \$2 in some places and “broke \$2” in some locations in the South.

On Thursday, Trump said, “If you look at energy, we’re getting close to \$2-a-gallon gasoline.”

VISA AND MASTERCARD STRIKE DEAL TO LOWER MERCHANT FEES



Diary Times Desk : Visa and Mastercard have struck a deal with retailers that would lower fees for merchants, potentially lowering prices but threatening prized consumer rewards. The two credit card giants have been entangled in a lawsuit brought by retailers for the last 20 years that alleged the companies have fixed the price of interchange fees — a large portion of the fees merchants pay when a customer makes a purchase with a credit card. The companies were close to reaching a settlement last year, but U.S. District Judge Margo K. Brodie rejected the \$30 billion proposal.

The proposal announced this morning would see the two companies bring down interchange fees by 0.1% over the next five years, give merchants the choice to add surcharges when customers pay with credit cards as well as the option to refuse premium cards, which often charge substantially higher fees.

Retailers have long chafed at the fees credit card companies charge to merchants. Fees charged to retailers when customers swipe their cards have increased nearly 70% since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, according to the National Association of Convenience Stores, which cited data from Nilson.

TRUMP FLOATS \$2,000 TARIFF REBATE CHECKS. WHAT YOU NEED TO
KNOW



Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump, embattled by America’s growing affordability problems, has once again floated a unique solution: Sending Americans rebate checks for the tariffs that his administration has collected.

“People that are against Tariffs are FOOLS!” Trump posted on Truth Social Sunday. “A dividend of at least \$2000 a person (not including high income people!) will be paid to everyone.”

It’s a bold promise with several significant complications.

What Trump proposed

Trump has frequently floated the idea of tariff rebate checks. Prior to this weekend’s proposal, Trump in August had said Americans could receive a portion of the tariff revenue. “We’re taking in so much money that we may very well make a dividend to the people of America,” Trump said at the time.

While American importers foot the initial tariff bill, they’ve been passing along some of those added costs to consumers, meaning Americans are indirectly paying for tariffs, too.

The idea sounds similar to stimulus checks that went out in the wake of the pandemic recession — once towards the end of Trump’s first term, in 2020; and again in 2021 when former President Joe Biden was in office.

FROM PRESCRIPTION TO ADDICTION: HIDDEN PHARMA PIPELINE FEEDING ILICIT DEMAND

Diary Times Desk : In the absence of any credible demand survey to assess the genuine medical need for psychotropic medicines prescribed for anxiety and insomnia, the non-medical consumption of these drugs has now overtaken their legitimate use. The recent spate of large-scale seizures by the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) in Punjab and Haryana has exposed a sprawling network of unauthorised markets thriving on this trade.

A case in point is the Kala Amb-based pharmaceutical company Digital Vision, which allegedly supplied over 48 lakh Tramadol capsules and nearly 12,000 bottles of cough syrup to fictitious firms over just 18 months. Investigators uncovered a trail of fake invoices and bank transactions linked to an accused already under arrest, illustrating how the legitimate pharmaceutical system is being manipulated for profit.

This was no isolated incident. In June, the Punjab Special Task Force unearthed another shocking case involving the manufacture of 20 crore Alprazolam tablets, a controlled psychotropic substance, within eight months by a Baddi-based company.

HIMACHAL POLICE LAUNCH CRACKDOWN ON RISKY ROAD STUNTS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA FAME

Diary Times Desk : The Himachal Pradesh Police has decided to take strict action against individuals performing dangerous stunts on highways and four-lane roads for social media content. The move comes in response to a growing trend of youth risking their lives, and those of others, for viral videos, particularly in accident-prone areas across the state.

Director General of Police (DGP) Ashok Tewari has directed all Superintendents of Police (SPs) to enforce a zero-tolerance policy against such reckless acts.

PUNJAB POLICE ON HIGH ALERT FOLLOWING CAR BLAST AT RED FORT IN DELHI

Diary Times Desk : In the wake of a powerful blast at Delhi's iconic Red Fort on Monday evening, the Punjab Police has swung into high-alert mode, launching a multi-pronged security overhaul to prevent any spill-over threats across the state. Police have sounded a red alert and started checking vital installations and vehicles.

DGP Gaurav Yadav presided over a virtual emergency meeting convened immediately after the Delhi blast, bringing together Punjab's top police brass – including Senior Superintendents of Police (SPs), Commissioners of Police (CPs), and Range Deputy Inspectors General (DIGs) – to assess and bolster the security apparatus. DGP Yadav said the high-level meeting focused on real-time intelligence sharing and rapid-response strategies to safeguard vulnerable sites in Punjab.

The Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) Counter Intelligence and the Special Director General of Police (DGP) Intelligence participated in the meeting.



RETIRED PSPCL ENGINEERS CONDEMN POLITICAL MEDDLING, DEMAND HALT TO ROPAR PLANT SHAKE-UP

Diary Times Desk : Retired engineers from across Punjab expressed deep disappointment over growing political interference in the functioning of the power sector, the erosion of autonomy, and the increasing disregard for technical expertise in decision-making processes.

In a letter to the Chief Minister of Punjab, the engineers demanded the immediate withdrawal of the termination order of the Director (Generation) and suspension of the Chief Engineer at the Ropar thermal plant. They also demanded an enquiry into private power-purchase agreements, to be headed by a retired high-court judge assisted by experts.

They further demanded that the principles of corporate governance and professionalism be reinforced as per the Electricity Act, 2003. A meeting was held at Patiala and attended by more than 60 engineers, who deliberated on the suspension of the Chief Engineer at the Ropar thermal plant and the removal from service of the Director (Generation).

MAN DISGUISED AS NIHANG SIKH SETS CAR ABLAZE, DIES

Diary Times Desk : A 50-year-old man, disguised as a Nihang Sikh, allegedly poured flammable material on his car and set himself ablaze, dying on the spot in Sriganganagar's Sadbhavna Nagar area. The deceased has been identified as Surjeet Singh.

Police have launched a thorough investigation into the matter. The incident was captured on CCTV, and documents recovered from the car have further complicated the investigation.

According to eyewitnesses, Surjeet Singh drove his car into the street at a very high speed. Suddenly, he poured some flammable material into the car and set it on fire. The car was engulfed in flames, and Singh was severely burned.

He disguised himself as a Nihang Sikh, but whether he was actually a Nihang is a matter of investigation, police said.

As the car caught flames, a neighbour, Parvati Chhabra's daughter Geeta, ran out of the house. Neighbours came out and attempted to douse the fire with buckets of water.

YOUR HOROSCOPE
11-11-2025

Aries

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

Taurus

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

Gemini

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

Cancer

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

Leo

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

Virgo

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

Libra

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

Scorpio

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

Sagittarius

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

Capricorn

Today you can invest especially in land and buildings. Employed people may have to travel long distances due to office work, due to which your health may deteriorate. People doing business may face difficulties in repaying business loans due to loss of money. High BP and cholesterol problems will increase the problems of your spouse.

Aquarius

Today you may have to face huge arguments in your family over small matters. Employees will be suspended due to indiscipline in the workplace. People doing business should solve all the problems of their customers in time. Due to worsening weather, problems related to cold and cough may increase in the family.

Pisces

Today your interest in creative work will especially increase. Employed people may be given an important project by their boss to handle important projects in the workplace. People doing business should control their speech and behavior with their customers. You should walk carefully on the road, problems may arise due to injury.

4,000 ACCIDENTAL DEATHS IN HARYANA TILL OCTOBER; DGP ORDERS SPECIAL MEASURES TO CURB ‘MAN-MADE DISASTER’

Diary Times Desk : In what yet again highlights the poor road safety situation in Haryana, 4,000 people lost their lives in accidents up to October this year. Calling it a “man-made disaster”, DGP OP Singh said that while 800 people died in murders, five times more died in accidents — which proves roads were bigger killers.

Gurugram tops the notoriety chart with 330 deaths and 805 accidents recorded; 595 people reportedly died in these accidents. Second in line is Sonapat, where 602 accidents were reported and 269 lives were lost. Panipat has recorded the third-highest number of accident deaths at 246, in 427 accidents so far this year. The state has reported 7,555 accidents up to October this year; last year the number stood at 7,123. Drawing attention to the havoc, the DGP has issued a special plan to state cops, including measures like jail term for drunk drivers.

In a letter sent to all field officers — including SHOs, DSPs and traffic police — Haryana DGP OP Singh has asked officers to identify accident-prone spots, repair damaged stretches, and ensure that broken-down vehicles are removed immediately. Until such vehicles are cleared, cones with reflective tape must be placed to alert other drivers.

HC QUESTIONS UT OVER PACE OF PROBE INTO IPS OFFICER’S SUICIDE

Diary Times Desk : Taking note that more than a month had passed since senior IPS officer Y. Puran Kumar “allegedly died by suicide”, the Punjab and Haryana High Court today questioned the Chandigarh Administration on the stage and progress of the investigation into the case.

“What is the latest position? Where has the investigation reached? Has it reached anywhere?” Chief Justice Sheel Nagu asked the UT counsel while hearing a public interest petition seeking a CBI probe into the matter.

MASSIVE ARMS HAUL: J&K POLICE RECOVER 2,900 KG EXPLOSIVES, AK RIFLES LINKED TO TERROR MODULE

Diary Times Desk : The Jammu and Kashmir Police has unearthed an interstate and transnational terror module of Jaish-e-Mohamamd and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind outfits by arresting seven persons, including two doctors, and recovering arms and ammunition, officials said here on Monday.

The operation was carried out jointly by Faridabad and Jammu and Kashmir Police and 2,900 kg of IED-making material was recovered besides other arms and ammunition.

Two doctors, including one in Faridabad, from whom arms and ammunition were recovered earlier, were also among the arrested. Police said on October 19, multiple JeM posters were found pasted at different locations in Bunpora Nowgam area of the city in Srinagar, threatening and intimidating police and security forces.



GURUGRAM STUDENT SHOOTING: CLASS XI BOY SHOT AT AFTER ‘IGNORING’ FRIEND’S QUESTION

Diary Times Desk : A ClassXI student remains in a critical condition after being shot in the neck by a classmate inside a rented flat in Sector 48 on Saturday night. The attacker used his father’s licensed pistol, and the bullet shattered the victim’s neck bone, leaving fragments lodged near the spine.

According to police, the incident occurred around 9:30 pm.

“The victim was looking at his mobile phone and didn’t respond when the accused asked him something. In a fit of anger, the accused fired a single shot,” said a senior investigation officer. The bullet pierced the neck, causing severe injuries. A two-month-old quarrel at school among the three students led to the attack.

Two minor suspects were apprehended within hours. Authorities recovered one pistol, two magazines, 70 cartridges and an empty shell from the scene. Both accused were produced before a Juvenile Justice Board and sent to a correction home in Faridabad.

JUSTICE SURYA KANT VISITS HIGH COURT BAR, PERSONALLY INVITES MEMBERS TO HIS OATH AS CJI

Diary Times Desk : As chief justices and judges from 11 nations prepare to assemble in New Delhi to witness his elevation as the next Chief Justice of India, Justice Surya Kant chose a different journey — one that led him back to where it all began, the Punjab and Haryana High Court Bar — to thank, remember, and personally invite those who once shaped his four-decade voyage from the Bar to the nation’s highest bench.

In an emotional interaction that turned the Bar hall into a reunion of sorts, Justice Surya Kant recalled his early years, his seniors, mentors and friends, and the lessons learned within the same corridors where he once stood as a young lawyer. “I belong to the Bar,” Justice Surya Kant said simply, drawing warm applause from advocates who packed the hall to capacity.

The Chief Justice (Designate) disclosed that Rashtrapati Bhavan had space constraints.

‘THAR, BULLET OWNERS ARE...’: HARYANA DGP VIRAL REMARK ON GURUGRAM’S VIBRANT NIGHTLIFE, CLUB CULTURE



Diary Times Desk : Haryana Director General of Police (DGP) OP Singh has sparked controversy by describing owners of Thar SUVs and Bullet motorcycles as “rogue elements” while discussing drunk driving and road accidents in Gurugram. Acknowledging Gurugram’s vibrant nightlife and club culture, Singh emphasized the need for effective measures to curb drunk driving while ensuring public safety. Rogue elements use Thar, Bullet’

“If it’s a Thar, how can we let it go? Or if it’s a Bullet... all rogue elements use these two. The choice of vehicle reflects your mindset,” Singh told reporters in Hindi.

Welcome To The Planet's Newest Oil Frontier

Off Brazil's northeastern coast, where the sediment-heavy water of the vast Amazon River tips out into the Atlantic, are two very different types of treasure. The first is an ecological gem: a 3,600 square-mile deepwater coral reef discovered less than a decade ago. The second treasure puts the first in immediate danger. Billions of barrels of oil may lie in the ancient sediments beneath the seabed, and licenses have just been approved to drill there.

A few hundred miles north, off the coast of Guyana, companies are already pumping around 650,000 barrels of oil a day from a huge deep-water reservoir discovered in 2015. The find has transformed this rainforest-carpeted country into the planet's newest petrostate and highest oil producer per capita.

Several thousand miles inland to the south, the wide, dusty plains of western Argentina's Vaca Muerta — "dead cow" in English — are dotted with oil wells. Fossil fuel production from this enormous shale deposit has boomed over the past decade, putting it on track to produce more than a million barrels a day by 2030, analysts predict. Welcome to South America's new oil frontier. "It's really incredible how fast and how much it's expanding," said Nicole Figueiredo de Oliveira, the executive director at environmental non-profit Arayara. Countries across the region are ramping up extraction but Brazil, Guyana and Argentina are at the forefront — among the top five drivers of global oil growth outside of OPEC, the group of major oil exporters.

They are three very different countries: an economic behemoth with an environment-championing president, a biodiversity hotspot with high rates of poverty and an economically volatile country led by a chainsaw-wielding climate denier. Yet they are united in their quest to expand oil production, arguing it's vital to their economic and social development.

This new fossil fuel boom is happening just as the impacts of the climate crisis — driven by fossil fuels — are beginning to bite in ever more alarming ways. People in South America are dying in fires, floods, storms and droughts made longer and more catastrophic by climate change.

Brazil's role as host of the COP30 climate conference, which is supposed to be a landmark summit where countries set out goals to radically reduce planet-heating pollution, adds a particular dissonance to this oil surge. The continent has a long history of fossil fuel extraction; it holds the second-largest reserves of oil and gas after the Middle East.

Yet it's one of the few regions that didn't take advantage of the oil boom at the beginning of this century due to political riskiness and an aversion to private investment, said Francisco Monaldi, director of the Latin America Energy Program at Rice University. "But that is changing very significantly," he told CNN.

Recent discoveries have stirred excitement, especially as the oil in South America is typically cheaper than average — deepwater sources, in particular, tend to produce large amounts.



Laura Paddison

Huge oil companies including Exxon and Chevron have plowed in, seeing dollar signs in South America's deep oceans and shale fields just as the US shale boom starts to plateau.

Wings, Fried Chicken And British Delicacies

HOW AN APPETITE FOR ORIGINALITY TRANSFORMED CELEBRITY INTERVIEWS

Woody Harrelson, the acclaimed actor known for his mellow and jovial energy, was breaking down, barely able to string together coherent sentences because his mouth was on fire from the ludicrously spicy hot sauce that coated his fried cauliflower. Of course, the pain is what you order by coming on Hot Ones, the beloved hot wings YouTube show.



Yahya Salem

In the mid-2010s, the format saw a new iteration of the approach emerge with a gourmet of YouTube shows featuring hungry celebrities — a disruption to what Evans called a "boring," "PR-driven flight pattern."

Once it was over, Harrelson still coughing, admitted to host Sean Evans, "You nearly killed me, dude ... and I say that with all due respect, because I know you nearly kill people on the daily."

Harrelson said that he never thought he'd do the show because he used to think he didn't have what it took to get to the end of the poultry gauntlet. "And now, here we are," he said, victorious.



Morning shows, too, have for decades welcomed celebrities into their set kitchens for early-morning meal-making.

That sentiment, while proclaimed in jest, captures a current appetite among many celebrities and fans alike to break away from conventional interviews in favor of more authentic and flavorful content.

And what else like breaking bread — or chicken wings or, you know, yeast extract — has the ability to break that artifice, foster trust and entice celebrities to lower their guards for a playful exchange to which audiences can relate.

"The hardest part of the interview is penetrating all of that artifice to get something real," Evans told CNN in a recent interview.

Ollie Kendal, one-half of the food content creator duo, JOLLY, put it even

more succinctly in a separate conversation with CNN: "It's the language everyone speaks: Food... Everyone's got to eat." And trust that people eat up the chance to see Gordon Ramsey serenade Evans with his trademark colorful language while chugging bubblegum-pink stomach soother on what has become Hot Ones' most watched episode, or John Cena stoically brave the potent musk of British Black pudding (blood sausage) with JOLLY as he declares it a sign of sophistication.

Hot Ones, JOLLY and Amelia Dimoldenberg's Chicken Shop Date — with billions of combined total views and tens of millions of subscribers — are some of the most visible examples of the genre's popularity.

Many descendants have followed, including traditional media companies that are still trying to find new spins on the concept. (See: The NYT's launch of "The Pizza Interview," which asks press-touring celebrities to toss some dough while trying not to get their likely borrowed outfits covered in sauce.)

In what is arguably the boom of the feed-the-famous frenzy, a natural question has emerged: Is it reaching the point of being bloated or is there more to feast on? INFA

Arctic Blast Spreads

OVER A FOOT OF SNOW PILES UP IN THE GREAT LAKES

Intense lake-effect snow is creating dangerous travel conditions in the Great Lakes and it's all being fueled by a record cold snap sending the eastern half of the United States into a brief bout of winter.



Chris Dolce

The good news: The cold snap won't stick around long. Temperatures across the central US rebound quickly on Tuesday, and most of the East warms up again on Wednesday.

The snow developed overnight in Chicagoland along with thunder and strong winds. Forecasts for the city on Sunday called for potential historic November snow totals over 10 inches, but the heaviest bands of snow have so far spared the downtown area from those kinds of totals.

Lake-effect snow totals often swing wildly from location to location depending on where heavier bands develop because of how narrow they are.

That's what we are seeing this morning near Lake Michigan. Up to a foot of snow has fallen more than 50 miles south of Chicago, and totals north of the city in Lake County, Illinois, have reached 6 inches in spots. Dangerous travel conditions from snow and strong winds have been reported along Interstate 57 south of Chicago in Kankakee and northern Iroquois counties in Illinois, the National Weather Service said. Chicago proper has been in a lull after an overnight burst of snowfall but could pick up another 1 to 2 inches. Cook County, Illinois,

which includes downtown Chicago, has been downgraded from a winter storm warning to a winter weather advisory since less snow is now expected. The snow threat stretches beyond Chicago across the Great Lakes. It's being spawned by a rush of Arctic air that's unusually cold for November pushing south and east and threatening dozens of low temperature records as far south as Florida over the next couple of days.

Over a foot of snow has fallen in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. In northwest Indiana, up to 10 inches of snow has fallen in spots, with more accumulation expected the rest of the day. Several inches of snow will pileup in the eastern Great Lakes through Tuesday, particularly in the snow belts of northeast Ohio, northwest Pennsylvania and southwest New York.

Record-setting cold to start the week

This brutal winter-like setup in the Midwest is being driven by the same Arctic air mass that's crashing across the eastern two-thirds of the country. This isn't just a "cold front." This is a full-scale polar plunge.

Some southeastern cities could face some of their coldest early-November temperatures in decades on Tuesday morning.

Daily record lows will be threatened parts of Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, the Carolinas, southeast Louisiana and even Florida. That includes places like Birmingham and Huntsville in Alabama, Baton Rouge in Louisiana, Savannah in Georgia and Tampa and Fort Myers in Florida.

Jacksonville, Florida, is predicted to hit 30 degrees Tuesday morning, marking the earliest it's been that cold in fall since 1976. That would also be the case in Savannah, Georgia, if the low drops to 28 degrees. Tuesday daytime highs in Florida could be some of the coldest on record for the date. Melbourne, Florida, could see its earliest day below 60 degrees since records began there more than 85 years ago.

Cold weather advisories for wind chills in the 20s or lower 30s have been issued in Florida for Monday night into Tuesday morning as far south as Naples. Freeze warnings cover parts of several other states in the Southeast.



BLUE GEMS BEYOND THE SNOW: A COLLECTING GUIDE TO KASHMIR SAPPHIRES

Diary Times Desk : A legendary origin

The Zaskar Range is an austere beautiful region of peaks, rivers and gorges in the northwestern Himalayas, so remote it has been called the land 'beyond the snows'. In 1881, a major landslide in the Zaskar mountains of Kashmir unexpectedly exposed a deposit of sapphires, bringing these buried rarities to light for the first time.

The Maharaja who ruled Kashmir at the time swiftly secured exclusive mining rights to this sapphire deposit. Located on a high plateau with a harsh climate, the Kashmir sapphire mines were only accessible for about three months each summer. From 1882 and 1887, miners worked day and night, unearthing sapphires of up to 3 x 5 inches in size. This period later became known as the 'Golden Age' of the Kashmir sapphire mines. After 1888, the 'Old Mine' was largely depleted, and the Maharaja appealed to the British Geological Survey of India for help, and the miners moved down to the valley floor.

The sapphires there were inferior in quality, however, and since 1927, nothing of note has been found at all, adding rarity to the beauty of these Kashmir sapphires, and lending them an almost mythical aura.
Unrivalled beauty and rarity

Top-quality Kashmir sapphires possess a saturated, deep and luscious colour that appears luminous in any light, akin to the 'cornflower blue' of a peacock's neck. This unique hue, naturally blended with a velvety soft glow, constitutes a typical characteristic of sapphires from this origin. The 'velvet' texture of Kashmir sapphires is due to the scattering of light caused by parallel microscopic silk inclusions within the stone, a key feature distinguishing them from sapphires of other origins.

The rarity of Kashmir sapphires stems largely from their brief primary deposit mining history. The period from the deposit's discovery until 1887 was the 'Golden Years', yielding the finest and largest sapphires. However, the rich layers of the vein were quickly exhausted, and coupled with increasing mining difficulties, production plummeted. After the legendary 'Old Mine' was depleted, although sporadic mining occurred later, the quality was incomparable to the early finds.

Official records show the mines officially closed in 1927. This means that all top-tier Kashmir sapphires with clear provenance on the market today originate from the 'Old Mine' over a century ago. For many gem enthusiasts, Kashmir sapphires are legendary stones not easily encountered in the market. One typically has the chance to see them only at major international auctions.

**10 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT FABERGÉ**

Diary Times Desk : While it was the magnificent jewelled enamel Easter eggs that made the House of Fabergé famous, they represent only a fraction of its artistic output. The company's head artisans, or workmasters, transformed everything from cigarette cases to mantel clocks into imaginative works of art.

It was this trademark ability to enhance everyday objects through the application of sophisticated enamelling techniques, goldsmithing and stone-setting that made Fabergé a paragon of Russian decorative arts, famous throughout Europe's royal courts.

Even its 19th-century rivals, such as Tiffany & Co. and Cartier, clearly drew inspiration from the great Russian jeweller. By studying the range of objects created by Fabergé — including frames, hardstone animals, flowers, bell-pushes and jewellery — we can gain insight into their importance, whether as imperial gifts or personal tokens.

The Russian imperial family were Fabergé's most important clients, and the Easter eggs its most important commissions. Peter Carl Fabergé — also known as Karl Gustavovich Fabergé, or simply Carl Fabergé — first attracted the attention of the family at the Pan-Russian Exhibition in Moscow in 1882, where he exhibited a replica of a 4th-century B.C. gold bangle from the Hermitage Museum's collection of Scythian treasures.

Emperor Alexander III was so impressed by the accuracy of Fabergé's copy that works by the jeweller were put on view at the Hermitage.

In 1885, the House of Fabergé received its first commission for an imperial Easter egg and was awarded the title of 'Supplier to the Court of His Imperial Majesty'. Only 50 Fabergé eggs were made, and each took the firm a year to complete. It is exceptionally rare, and therefore very exciting, when one of these objects comes to the market.

Following a grand tour of the treasures of Europe — and benefiting from his experience of repairing objects of vertu in the Hermitage — Fabergé revived various enamelling techniques and expanded their design possibilities. He went on to invent more than 145 new shades of enamelling.

Fabergé created varied designs on the surface of precious metals and covered them with richly pigmented layers of glass enamel. Most notably, he perfected the extremely challenging technique of enamelling en ronde bosse (in the round), which can be seen in the firm's most impressive eggs.



THE FULL DETAILS BEHIND LIONEL MESSI'S TRIP TO BARCELONA AND VISIT TO SPOTIFY CAMP NOU



Diary Times Desk : Barcelona fans have recently been treated to an absolute delight from none other than Lionel Messi, who made a surprise visit to the Spotify Camp Nou.

The Argentine even penned an interesting note upon his return to Camp Nou, admitting that he wants to return to the stadium one day.

Was this visit sudden, or is there a broader story to it? A recent report from SPORT has provided some useful inside scoop into the Argentine's surprise visit to Camp Nou.

How Messi made the trip to Camp Nou

According to the report, the visit was a lightning-fast trip, and its timing was key.

Messi landed yesterday on a private flight from Miami around 2:30 p.m., accompanied by his compatriot Rodrigo de Paul. Both players were scheduled to join the Argentine national team in Alicante this Monday.

BARCELONA LEAD EUROPE'S TOP FIVE LEAGUES IN THIS UNLUCKY STATISTIC

Diary Times Desk : Thanks to a 4-2 win over Celta Vigo and Real Madrid's goalless draw with Rayo Vallecano on Sunday, Barcelona are heading into the November international break as the league's highest scorer with 32 goals in 12 matches.

However, the tally from the Catalan club could have been significantly higher had it not been for their poor luck, especially when it comes to always hitting the bar.

Barcelona lead Europe in hitting the woodwork As reported by Mundo Deportivo, Barcelonave have hit the post 15 times this season, a statistic that puts them at the top of the five major European leagues.

The bad luck is spread across both competitions, with 12 shots hitting the post in La Liga and 3 in the Champions League.

This bad luck is the only thing slowing down an otherwise potent attack.

The 15 shots are distributed among a wide variety of players. Ferran Torres has been the most punished, leading this unlucky ranking with four shots off the woodwork.

NATIONAL TEAM MANAGER OFFERS UPDATE ON BARCELONA CAPTAIN'S FUTURE – 'CONFIDENT SOME CLUB WILL MAKE A MOVE'

Diary Times Desk : Marc-Andre ter Stegen is entering a crucial period. The goalkeeper is currently in the final stages of his recovery and should be back to full fitness soon.

But whether or not ter Stegen will play after returning to Barcelona is a massive question mark. With the January transfer window just around the corner, many expect the goalkeeper to move on and find more game time elsewhere.

This is especially considering the fact that ter Stegen wants to be Germany's first-choice keeper for the upcoming FIFA World Cup.

Nagelsmann on ter Stegen's situation

Keeping his situation in mind, German national team coach Julian Nagelsmann has offered a key update on the Barcelona star's current status.

Nagelsmann highlighted that he doesn't want ter Stegen to necessarily play for the top-tier outfit. But he made it mandatory that the goalkeeper play often during the second half of the season.

BARCELONA MIDFIELDER'S INJURY NOT SERIOUS, LIKELY TO RETURN AFTER INTERNATIONAL BREAK

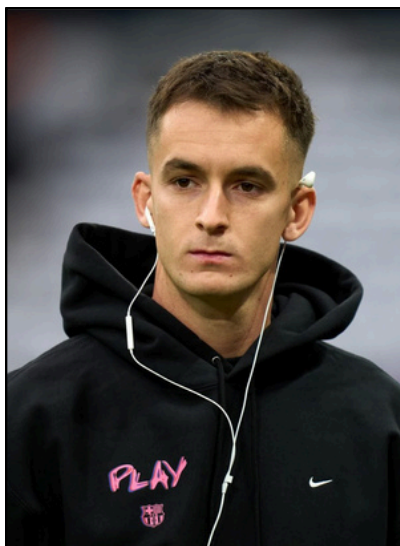
Diary Times Desk : The moments leading to kickoff in Barcelona's game against Celta Vigo last night were filled with tension and chaos and Hansi Flick was forced to make a last-minute change to his starting lineup.

Having already announced his starting midfield department on the night to be a combination of Marc Casado, Fermin Lopez and Frenkie de Jong, the manager faced an unexpected setback when Casado requested to be kept on the bench after feeling a niggle in his thigh.

Immediately, Dani Olmo warmed up and joined the team's dynamics on the field. While he did do well playing out of position, there was still worry about Casado's situation.

Reason to stay calm

As relayed in a recent report by SPORT, Casado underwent tests at the club facilities earlier today, and it has been confirmed that he has a very minor injury to his adductor muscle.



REPORT – THE TRUE STORY BEHIND LIONEL MESSI'S SURPRISE SPOTIFY CAMP NOU VISIT

Diary Times Desk : For a figure like Lionel Messi to arrive in Barcelona, make his way through the city and enter the Spotify Camp Nou in the middle of the night without anyone in the city batting an eye sounds to be an impossible task, especially given the sensational fan following he has. Yet, that was precisely what the club legend did last night as he arrived in Barcelona and entered the field at the stadium he has graced for years to take a first-hand look at the renovations, the new look of the stadium and relive his memories.

Neither the media nor the club offices knew anything of the player's arrival, and it seems that his social media post left them perplexed as to how and when he managed to enter the stadium without making any noise.

Two contrasting stories

As relayed in a recent report by Fernando Polo on Mundo Deportivo, it remains a mystery as to how Messi managed to enter the stadium so silently last night, and there are two theories in contention to explain that – one each by the club and Messi's entourage.

BARCELONA PRESIDENT DREAMS OF HAVING LIONEL MESSI PRESENT AT CAMP NOU REOPENING

Diary Times Desk : Lionel Messi paid the Spotify Camp Nou a surprise visit last night, and it is not surprising that the Spanish media are still reeling in shock at the development, given that nobody had even a remote idea of such a visit.

The Argentine star, who has not stepped onto the lawns in Catalonia since the day he left the club, arrived at the venue to take a look at the renovated stadium and thus graced the pitch with his presence in solitude.

Ironically, the player's last game at the venue came against Celta Vigo in 2021, and he returned last night just hours after Barcelona beat the same opponent in La Liga four years later.

Laporta's dream

Messi's arrival in Catalonia came as a surprise not only to the media but also to the club offices themselves, and no one was informed before his trip. His decision to pay a visit, needless to say, speaks volumes about the love he has for the Catalan club.

As relayed by Mundo Deportivo in a recent report, Barcelona president Joan Laporta wants Messi to be present at the renovated Spotify Camp Nou for the official reopening of the stadium – a game that is not too distant.