

NEWS IN BRIEF

**"DISOWNING
FAMILY, QUITTING
POLITICS":****TEJASHWI YADAV'S
SISTER AFTER RJD
ROUT****Diary Times Desk :**

Dropping a bombshell a day after the RJD suffered a devastating loss in the Bihar Assembly elections, party chief Lalu Yadav's daughter Rohini Acharya has said she is disowning her family and quitting politics.

In a cryptic post on X on Saturday, Acharya indicated that she had been asked to do so by senior RJD leader Sanjay Yadav, who is a close aide of Tejashwi Yadav. Acharya, who had donated a kidney to Lalu Yadav in 2022, also appeared to take the blame for something, though it was not clear whether she was referring to the Bihar election defeat or something else.

"I'm quitting politics and I'm disowning my family... This is what Sanjay Yadav and Rameez had asked me to do ...and I'm taking all the blame's (sic)," she wrote.

Rameez, according to a report by news agency PTI, is an old friend of Tejashwi Yadav and is from a political family in Uttar Pradesh.

Asked about her post later, Acharya said those who question Tejashwi's aides are thrown out of the house.

**SIR IS BEING HELD
AS PER SCHEDULE,
SAYS KERALA
CHIEF ELECTORAL
OFFICER****Diary Times Desk :**

Kerala Chief Electoral Officer Rathan U Khelkar here on Saturday said the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral roll in the state is being carried out as per the schedule set by the Election Commission of India (ECI).

Addressing reporters after a meeting with representatives of various political parties, Khelkar said around 85 per cent of the enumeration forms had been distributed and the process was expected to be completed by November 25.

He clarified that the voters' list for the upcoming local body elections is different from the electoral roll being prepared under the SIR.

"The focus of the SIR is the electoral roll for the 2026 Assembly elections. It will not affect the local body polls," he said.

Khelkar said the SIR is being conducted with the participation of Booth Level Officers.

**NOWGAM
POLICE STATION****9 KILLED, 32 INJURED AS EXPLOSIVES SEIZED IN FARIDABAD
ACCIDENTALLY DETONATE AT J&K POLICE STATION**

Diary Times Desk : At least nine people were killed and 32 injured after what officials said was an accidental blast that tore through the Nowgam police station on the outskirts of Srinagar on Friday night. Officials said the explosion occurred as authorities were extracting samples from a cache of explosives seized in the Faridabad terror module case, adding that the blast was triggered by the unstable nature of the chemicals.

The material was part of the 360 kg of explosives, including ammonium nitrate, recovered from the rented accommodation of arrested accused Dr Muzammil Ganaie from Faridabad and stored at the police station.

The explosion took place during a routine inspection and sampling process involving a Forensic Science Laboratory team, local police personnel and revenue officials, sources said.

The blast caused extensive damage to the building and set several vehicles in the compound on fire.

Windowpanes of nearby houses were also shattered, and the impact was felt few kilometres away.

Those killed in the incident included three personnel from the Forensic Science Laboratory, two from the Revenue Department including a Naib Tehsildar, two police photographers, one member of the State Investigation Agency, and a tailor. The bodies have been taken to the Police Control Room in Srinagar.

At least 24 police personnel and three civilians have been admitted to various hospitals in the city, the officials said.

The massive blast smashed the quiet of the night and damaged the police station building. Small successive explosions prevented immediate rescue operations by the bomb disposal squad. Jammu and Kashmir Director General of Police (DGP) Nalin Prabhat on Saturday said the explosion at the Nowgam police station was an "accidental blast", adding that the cause was under investigation. The blast caused extensive damage to the police station and shook the surrounding area. Windowpanes of many residential houses were shattered, and the impact was felt 2-3 kilometers from the site.

NDA TSUNAMI TAKES OVER FORT SEEMANCHAL, ONCE AN OPPN BASTION

Diary Times Desk : As the ruling alliance stormed back into power in Bihar on Friday, a key takeaway from the Assembly elections is a significant political shift in the Seemanchal region in favour of the National Democratic Alliance (NDA). Of the 24 seats in the region, which has a sizeable Muslim population and has long been considered an Opposition stronghold, the NDA secured 15.

The Congress managed to get three seats, while the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), which once enjoyed solid Muslim support, was reduced to a single seat. Among NDA constituents, the BJP, JD(U), and the LJP won 8, 5, and 2 seats, respectively. Significantly, the Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM secured five seats out of the 25 it contested. Muslims account for around 17.7% of the state's population. An estimated 47% of them reside in Seemanchal.

Seemanchal, which borders Nepal and Bangladesh through West Bengal, has always drawn attention and often shapes the broader narrative of state politics.

The BJP's campaign in the region was largely framed around the issue of infiltration, with Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Prime Minister Narendra Modi promising to deport illegal immigrants. Comprising four districts—Purnea, Araria, Katihar, and Kishanganj—the region has long been considered a bellwether. The Grand Alliance had hoped to make gains here, but analysts say voters showed a decisive shift towards the National Democratic Alliance this time.

In the 2020 Assembly election, the BJP won eight seats in Seemanchal, JD(U) secured four, and the Congress won five. The CPI(ML) and the RJD each took one seat.

**SURGEON WITH PREVIOUS LINK TO AL
FALAH UNIVERSITY DETAINED IN PUNJAB**

Diary Times Desk : Investigating agencies have detained a doctor from Punjab's Pathankot for questioning in connection with the Delhi blast earlier this week, police sources said on Saturday. The 45-year-old surgeon has been working at a private medical college and hospital in Pathankot for more than two years, they said. He had previously worked at the Al Falah University in Haryana's Faridabad district, to which the prime suspects in the "white collar terror module" case were also linked, sources added.

On Friday, two doctors hailing from Haryana's Nuh district were detained for questioning in connection with the case. One of the doctors did his apprenticeship at the Al Falah University after completing his MBBS course. His apprenticeship ended on November 2.

The other doctor was a former student of the university and was currently working with a private hospital in Nuh, police sources said.

On Monday, agencies busted a "white collar terror module" with links to terrorist outfits Jaish-e-Mohammed and Ansar Ghazwat-ul-Hind and spread across Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. They seized 2,900 kilograms of explosive substances and arrested eight people, including three doctors linked to Al Falah University.

Hours later, a high-intensity blast ripped through a slow-moving car in the heavily crowded Red Ford metro station area in Delhi, killing 13 people and injuring several others. A DNA test confirmed that Dr Umar Nabi, an assistant professor at the university, was driving the exploded car.

**CLASS 6 GIRL FORCED TO DO 100 SIT-UPS FOR
BEING LATE TO SCHOOL, DIES**

Diary Times Desk : On Children's Day - a celebration when schools shower students with extra care and kindness - a 12-year-old student in Maharashtra died after being given corporal punishment by her teacher for reaching school just ten minutes late.

Kajal Gond, a Class 6 student at Vasai's Shree Hanumant Vidya Mandir High School, was allegedly made to do 100 sit-ups as punishment on Friday. Shortly after completing them, she began experiencing severe pain in her lower back.

When Kajal returned home, her health continued to deteriorate, leading to her being admitted to a hospital in Nalasopara.

However, when her condition worsened, she was transferred to JJ Hospital in Mumbai, where she died while undergoing treatment.

Kajal's family has alleged that the harsh punishment caused her health to deteriorate rapidly and ultimately led to her death. They also claimed that she was wearing her schoolbag while being forced to do the sit-ups, which aggravated her pain.

The incident has led to outrage among parents and locals, who have demanded strict action against the teacher and the school.

The Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) has warned that the school will not be allowed to reopen until a criminal case is filed against those responsible.

BIHAR POLL DEFEAT

**'NO SORROW IN DEFEAT,
NO ARROGANCE IN
VICTORY': RJD AFTER
BIHAR POLL DEFEAT**

Diary Times Desk : The Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) on Saturday said that the "ups and downs" are "inevitable" in the "endless journey of public service", a day after it faced one of its worst setbacks in the Bihar assembly elections.

In a post on X, the RJD said it is the "party of the poor" and will continue to raise their voices.

"Public service is an unceasing process, an endless journey. Ups and downs are inevitable in it. No sorrow in defeat, no arrogance in victory," it wrote in Hindi.

The RJD, which bagged 75 seats in the 2020 elections, the most by any party, however, recorded the maximum vote share this year. It secured 23 per cent of votes, 2.92 per cent more than the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and 3.75 per cent more than Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal United (JDU).

The RJD-led Opposition bloc, Mahagathbandhan, could only manage 35 seats, with the Congress getting six seats, down from 19, the CPI(ML) two seats, the CPI(M) one, and the CPI zero.

While Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi's AIMIM won five assembly seats, the former poll strategist Prashant Kishor-led Jan Suraj Party and Mukesh Sahani's Vikassheel Insaan Party (VIP) couldn't open their accounts.

Bihar voted in two phases on November 6 and November 11. The state recorded a voter turnout of over 66 per cent, its highest since 1951. The turnout among male voters was at 62.8 per cent, while it was 71.6 per cent among female voters.

**PRASHANT KISHOR,
MAYAWATI, A OWAISI: SMALL
PLAYERS' BIG IMPACT ON
BIHAR POLLS**

Diary Times Desk : The Bihar Assembly elections have delivered a verdict reminiscent of the NDA's big victory in 2010, but with new political dynamics. The people of Bihar have chosen the NDA again, giving the ruling alliance 202 seats, while the Mahagathbandhan (MGB) managed to win just 35. The outcome was unexpected for both blocs.

Congress General Secretary KC Venugopal expressed disbelief, saying, "This result is unbelievable for all of us. Not just Congress, even the people of Bihar and our alliance partners are unable to believe it. A 90% strike rate for a party - this has never happened. We are doing a thorough analysis and collecting data from across Bihar."

Beyond the headline numbers, however, a big part of the story lies in the role of smaller parties and their impact on winning margins.

This election was significant because the Jan Suraj Party, founded by political strategist-turned-politician Prashant Kishor, contested for the first time. Despite not winning a single seat, the party secured 3.4% of the total vote share, emerging as a potential disruptor in Bihar politics. While Jan Suraj failed to open its account, it ended up being a "vote-cutter" for both alliances.

BY CM PRAVATI PARIDA INAUGURATES ODISHA PAVILION AT IITF



Diary Times Desk : Deputy chief minister Pravatī Parida inaugurated the Odisha Pavilion at 44th India International Trade Fair (IITF) 2025 in New Delhi on Friday. Set up at Hall number 4 on the first floor of Bharat Mandapam, the Odisha Pavilion has been designed as an immersive experience that reflects both the timeless traditions and modern aspirations of the state. Inaugurating the pavilion, Parida expressed confidence that it would be a centre of attraction as the design presents an evocative narrative of the state’s indigenous art, culture, heritage and transformative developmental journey. “The pavilion reflects Odisha’s development in agriculture, tourism, heritage, art and crafts, handlooms, industries, trade and other sectors. Odisha is the foremost state in women empowerment and extensive participation of women in the trade fair is a testament to that,” the deputy chief minister said.

HERE IS WHAT HOME MINISTRY SAID ON NOWGAM POLICE STATION EXPLOSION

Diary Times Desk : A late-night explosion tore through Nowgam Police Station in Jammu and Kashmir on Thursday, killing nine people and injuring more than 30 others, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said in an official statement on Friday. The blast occurred around 11:20 p.m. on November 14 while police personnel were handling a large cache of explosives and chemicals recovered earlier this week during the investigation of a terror module case. The materials had been seized after Nowgam Police cracked a terror module based on leads obtained from a poster, officials said. According to the MHA, the seized substances—volatile and highly sensitive—were being processed for forensic and chemical examination as part of standard operating procedure. Because of the volume of the recovery, the examination had been underway continuously for two days under expert supervision.

BIHAR SAW ‘NORTH KOREA–STYLE’ POLLS, CLAIMS DIGVIJAYA SINGH

Diary Times Desk : Congress leader Digvijaya Singh on Saturday claimed that the Bihar assembly election results were similar to the polls held in North Korea, Russia and China, where “all votes go to one party”.

The BJP-led NDA decimated the Mahagathbandhan, an alliance of Congress, RJD and other parties, in the Bihar elections, winning over 200 seats in the 243-member House. The Congress won only six seats.

“Sixty-two lakh names were deleted, and 20 lakh names were added. The Election Commission (EC) has not clarified whose names were removed and whose were added. “The results that have come resemble elections in North Korea, China and Russia, where all votes go to one party,” the Rajya Sabha member told reporters at Awan village, about 40 km from the Guna district headquarters in Madhya Pradesh. Singh said it is one’s right to know whether the vote he cast went to the intended candidate.

3 LAKH VOTERS ADDED IN BIHAR POST SIR FINAL LIST: EC OFFICIALS RESPOND TO CONGRESS POSER



Diary Times Desk : Election Commission officials on Saturday said three lakh voters were added to Bihar’s electoral roll after the publication of final list post the Special Intensive Revision.

They were responding to a social media post by the Congress which pointed out that while the EC’s statement announcing the schedule for the Bihar Assembly polls had put the number of voters at 7.42 crore, in subsequent releases the number climbed to 7.45 crore.

The officials said the figure of 7.42 crore voters mentioned in the October 6 statement was based on final electoral roll published on September 30 after the Special Intensive Revision.

BIHAR RESULTS: OPPOSITION PARTIES QUESTION ELECTION COMMISSION’S ROLE, BLAME SIR

Diary Times Desk : Stunned by the Bihar election results, Congress and other opposition parties on Saturday questioned the Election Commission’s role during the poll process and blamed the “hurried” Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls for their poor show.

The BJP claimed that the massive mandate for NDA reflected the people’s approval of SIR and they have “punished” the opposition alliance for defaming the country and creating divisions on the lines of castes and religion. The ruling party claimed that the electoral verdict will pave the way for NDA victory in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Congress leaders cannot explain the poll rout to its allies and even to their workers, so they have “found an easy way out by blaming the EVMs (Electronic Voting Machines), the Election Commission and electoral rolls revision”.

DAY AFTER RESOUNDING VICTORY, NDA LEADERS MEET NITISH OVER GOVERNMENT FORMATION IN BIHAR

Diary Times Desk : With a landslide victory in Bihar Assembly poll placing NDA firmly in the saddle, leaders of the alliance on Saturday appeared to have got down to the brass tacks of forming a new government in the state.

Coalition partners made a beeline at 1, Anne Marg, the official residence of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, the longest-serving incumbent, who heads JD(U).

Notable visitors included Union Minister Chirag Paswan, who is excited at the prospects of his Lok Janshakti Party (Ram Vilas) sharing power in the state as well.

“I have congratulated Nitish Kumar ji on the victory. NDA’s win puts paid to the Opposition’s false narrative that there has been a rift between the two of us. Even during the campaign, the CM canvassed in seats where our candidate was contesting. We reciprocated the gesture and supported the JD(U) candidate in Alauli, which has been our home turf,” Paswan told reporters.

SETBACK TO OPPOSITION
AS KERALA HIGH COURT
REFUSES TO DEFER SIR IN
STATE

Diary Times Desk : In a setback to the opposition's anti-SIR agenda, the Kerala High Court has refused to entertain the state government's petition seeking to defer the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in the state till completion of local body polls.

Noting that petitions against SIR in other states were pending before the Supreme Court, Justice VG Arun on Friday said, "Judicial discipline and comity also require this court to refrain from entertaining the writ petition. For the aforementioned reasons, the writ petition is closed."

Justice Arun, however, left it open to the Kerala Government to move the Supreme Court or approach the high court depending on the outcome of the petitions pending before the apex court.

FIR AGAINST KSHATRIYA
KARNI SENA CHIEF RAJ
SHEKHAWAT IN RAIPUR FOR
'THREATENING' POLICE

Diary Times Desk : An offence was registered against Kshatriya Karni Sena (KKS) president Raj Shekhawat in Chhattisgarh capital Raipur on Saturday for allegedly threatening police and making inflammatory remarks on social media, an official said.

During a 'Facebook live' broadcast on November 10, Shekhawat allegedly levelled allegations against Raipur Police over the arrest of Virendra Singh Tomar, a local resident who is a vice-president of the KKS and president of its Chhattisgarh unit.

He would "enter the houses" of police officers and others involved in the action against Tomar, Shekhawat was heard saying. A First Information Report (FIR) was registered against him at Moudhapara police station here based on inspector Yogesh Kashyap's complaint, Raipur Senior Superintendent of Police Lal Umed Singh told PTI.

The case was registered under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) sections 296 (obscene acts), 224 (threat of injury to public servant) and 351 (criminal intimidation) as Shekhawat allegedly used threatening words against police officials, Singh said, adding that investigation was underway.

"PAPA, DON'T GO," SAID TAILOR'S
DAUGHTER. HE DIED IN J&K BLAST MINUTES
LATER



Diary Times Desk : A 57-year-old tailor was among the nine people who died in an accidental blast at a police station in Nowgam on the outskirts of Srinagar. The blast took place when the police and forensic team were extracting samples from a large cache of explosives seized recently from Haryana's Faridabad.

The relatives of Mohammad Shafi Pare said the police had taken him to the police station to stitch bags for individual packets of explosives. "The police took him away yesterday morning. He came to pray once in between," said his cousin Mohammad Shafi Sheikh.

When he returned home for dinner around 9 pm, his daughter had pleaded with him to stay back, citing the cold. "Papa, don't go," she said. But he said he had to return to the police station to finish the job. "I'll finish work and come back," were his final words.

The family did not know they would never see him again.

AMID DELHI BLAST PROBE, KANPUR
MEDICAL COLLEGE REMOVES DR
SHAHEEN'S NAME FROM DEPT BOARD,
IMA INITIATES REVOCATION

Diary Times Desk : The Ganesh Shankar Vidyarthi Memorial Medical College here has removed Dr Shaheen Sayeed's name from its pharmacology department board after her name emerged during the ongoing Delhi blast investigation, a senior official said on Saturday.

The Indian Medical Association's Uttar Pradesh chapter has also begun the process to revoke the lifetime membership of Dr Sayeed.

The official, requesting anonymity, said the college decided to remove her from the board "as a precautionary measure" following inputs by the Delhi Police and the Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS). It acted promptly to prevent any "misidentification or reputational impact," the official added.

TEEN GIRL MISSING FROM MADHYA PRADESH SINCE SEPTEMBER
RESCUED NEAR PAKISTAN BORDER IN JAISALMER

Diary Times Desk : In a major breakthrough under 'Operation Muskaan', a 17-year-old girl who went missing two months ago was rescued by Raghogarh police of Madhya Pradesh from Rajasthan's Jaisalmer district, which is a 1,000 km away and close to the border with Pakistan, an official said on Saturday.

The probe into the case began after a woman lodged a complaint at Madhusudangarh police station on September 9 stating that her daughter had been missing since the night of September 7-8, Superintendent of Police Ankit Soni told reporters.

"As part of Operation Muskaan, the Raghogarh area police activated informers and used technical analysis to trace the girl. After sustained efforts, police found out the minor had been seen near the Pakistan border in Jaisalmer. The team immediately left for Rajasthan and rescued her," he said.

BIHAR 2025: IN 11 SEATS, SIR
DELETIONS OUTNUMBERED
VICTORY MARGINS

Diary Times Desk : To understand the procedural issues, it is crucial to distinguish between two key figures in the SIR debate.

The 47 lakh figure represents the total scale of the cleanup. This number is the net reduction of the electoral roll over the entire revision period and includes routine removals of deceased, duplicate or permanently shifted voters. It is the metric for the overall shrinkage of the electorate.

The 3.66 lakh figure, in contrast, relates directly to the integrity of the process. This number isolates the deletions made in the final, critical phase – between the publication of the draft roll and the final roll. These are the names removed after the public had a chance to review the list, making them the focus of allegations of targeted, last-minute removals.

This distinction is why the Supreme Court specifically sought details on the 3.66 lakh deletions, identifying them as most relevant to claims of procedural malpractice.

JAFFNA-BOUND FLIGHT CARRYING 44
PASSENGERS CANCELLED DUE TO BAD
WEATHER

Diary Times Desk : An aircraft carrying 44 passengers bound for Jaffna on Saturday was diverted to Tiruchirappalli due to bad weather in the northern city of the island nation, sources said.

However, as the weather did not clear and nearly after a delay of more than 3 hours, the airline cancelled its service, sources said.

The flight, operated by a private airline, departed at 10.20 am and shortly after take-off, the pilot was informed about the adverse weather conditions in Jaffna, they said.

Later, the plane was diverted to Tiruchirappalli.

"Right now the plane has landed safely in Tiruchirappalli with all the passengers. The flight will resume its journey once the weather is clear in Jaffna," they added.



THOUSANDS HIT AS ONTARIO
ORDERS FULL SUSPENSION OF
SKILLED TRADES STREAM OFFERING
FULL REFUNDS

Diary Times Desk :
Ontario has triggered one of its most sweeping immigration reversals in recent years, announcing that every application filed under the Express Entry Skilled Trades Stream will be returned, refunds included, effective immediately.
The move, confirmed in the official November 14 update, comes just days after the program was quietly suspended in the OINP e-Filing Portal, a development first reported on November 10. At the time, applicants believed only new submissions would be affected. Instead, Ontario has opted for a total reset—sending shockwaves across the skilled trades community. Thousands who spent months gathering documents, securing employer backing, paying for language tests, and filing in good faith have now been told their applications will not be processed at all.

WORLD’S TALLEST HOTEL IS FIVE
TIMES TALLER QUTUB MINAR, HAS
CLUBS, POOLS ON TOP, ITS LOCATED
IN..., NAME IS...

Diary Times Desk : Did you know where the world’s tallest hotel is located? It’s in Dubai and it stands more than five times taller than India’s Qutub Minar. Dubai has now opened this record-breaking luxury hotel, setting new standards in height, design, and architecture.
The newly inaugurated Ciel Dubai Marina stands at 377 meters. The hotel officially opens on November 15, and bookings are already in high demand.
Developed by The First Group, the skyscraper features 82 floors, adding another architectural marvel to Dubai’s rapidly rising skyline and showcasing the city’s continued investment in tourism and ultra-luxury hospitality.
Inside the World’s Tallest Hotel

Designed by the award-winning architectural firm NORR, Ciel Dubai Marina features a stunning glass facade to enhance views and natural light.

Each of the hotel’s luxury rooms offers breathtaking views of Palm Jumeirah and the Marina skyline.

KERALA-BORN WINS UAE’S ‘OUTSTANDING WORKFORCE’ AWARD, TAKES
HOME RS 24 LAKH, GOLD COIN, APPLE WATCH

Diary Times Desk : A Kerala-born human resources professional based in Abu Dhabi was recognised as the top performer in the ‘Outstanding Workforce’ category at the Emirates Labour Market Awards, marking a major milestone in his 16 years in the UAE’s healthcare sector, a report in Gulf News stated.

Anas Kadiyarakam, who serves as Human Resources Manager at LLH Hospital under Burjeel Holdings, received the distinction in the ‘Management and Executives’ division of the skilled workers subcategory. He shared the recognition with Abdullah Albriki, Head of Cybersecurity at Emsteel.

The awards were held under the patronage of Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Vice President, Deputy Prime Minister and Chairman of the Presidential Court. Winners were presented with honours by Sheikh Theyab bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.



CROWN PRINCE’S WHITE HOUSE VISIT
COULD CHART THE COURSE FOR THE
NEXT 80 YEARS

Diary Times Desk : It may be a coincidence, but history rarely writes itself without purpose. Next week’s meeting in Washington between Saudi Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman and US President Donald J. Trump falls 80 years after the seminal 1945 encounter between King Abdulaziz and President Franklin D. Roosevelt aboard the USS Quincy. That meeting laid the foundation for a strategic partnership that has endured wars, oil shocks and political transitions.

RUSSIA DEVELOPS GUIDED AERIAL
BOMBS WITH RANGES UP TO 400 KM –
UKRAINIAN INTELLIGENCE

Diary Times Desk : Russia has been developing modifications of guided aerial bombs capable of reaching up to 400 km, which would let Russian aircraft strike many more Ukrainian cities without using missiles.

Source: Vadym Skibitskyi, Deputy Head of Defence Intelligence of Ukraine (DIU), in an interview with Reuters

Details: Skibitskyi said that mass production of new bombs with ranges up to 200 km has already begun. Russia plans to manufacture about 500 of these by the end of the year. Versions with ranges up to 400 km are still in development.

Russia plans to manufacture up to 120,000 guided aerial bombs in 2025, including modernised versions of standard munitions. Skibitskyi says that Russian forces are firing between 200 and 250 such bombs every day. In October, the daily average was about 170.



CHINA MUST CRACK DOWN
ON INDO-CHINA FRAUD
NETWORKS BEFORE THE
WORLD FACES A SCOURGE
— PHAR KIM BENG

Diary Times Desk : China and five Southeast Asian neighbours — Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, and Vietnam — have finally taken an important step forward in combating the metastasising cancer of cross-border telecom and online fraud.
Meeting in Kunming, Yunnan Province, their senior officials pledged joint operations, intelligence-sharing, repatriation of suspects, and the creation of a permanent coordination mechanism. This is a welcome development.
But the urgency is far greater than any communiqué can capture. Unless China pushes forcefully, and unless its Indo-China neighbours cooperate wholeheartedly, the world will soon be confronting a scourge too entrenched, too transnational, and too profitable to dismantle.

For Malaysia and Asean, the cross-border fraud epidemic is not a distant, abstract problem. It is here, now, and growing.

These syndicates are not merely “scam call centres.” They have mutated into sprawling criminal ecosystems linked to human trafficking, money laundering, forced labour, and financial crimes that target victims from China to Europe to Southeast Asia — including Malaysians.

PAKISTAN INTERIOR
MINISTER VISITS WANA
CADET COLLEGE AFTER
SUICIDE BOMBING

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan’s Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi on Saturday visited Wana Cadet College, which was hit by a suicide bombing earlier this week that injured six people.

The minister received a detailed briefing from tribal elders about the attack, which took place on Monday in the restive Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province’s South Waziristan district, bordering Afghanistan.

Naqvi said that terrorism in Pakistan is being “orchestrated from abroad”, and no one will be allowed to disturb the country’s peace.

He had earlier said that the attackers were from Afghanistan.

The minister said that the terrorists who targeted the Cadet College had no religion, and attacking children is against every principle of humanity.

Six people were injured after the suicide bomber detonated explosives at the main gate of the college. According to security officials.

HOW WOULD RENEWED US STANCE ON H-1B VISAS RESHAPE GLOBAL TECH HIRING



Diary Times Desk : US Congresswoman Marjorie Taylor Greene is soon set to introduce a bill to "completely eliminate" the H-1B visa programme which she says "has been displacing American workers for decades." After implementation, the bill will take away the pathway to citizenship, "forcing" immigrants to "return home" when their visa expires. The H-1B visa programme paves a pathway to American citizenship through the Green Card route. Companies can apply for permanent residency for their H-1B employees, who can apply for US citizenship five years after receiving their green cards.

Taking about how the renewed US stance on H-1B visas could reshape global tech hiring and training priorities, Raghav Gupta, founder and CEO, Futureense says now only talent with strong AI, data, cloud, or cybersecurity capabilities is likely to qualify. "Renewed US approach to H-1B visas is shifting global tech hiring towards deeper specialisation. Fewer roles will move purely for capacity and only talent with strong AI, data, cloud, or cybersecurity capabilities will be in demand. While most opportunity will grow in remote and hybrid global roles, countries that invest in workforce readiness are best placed to benefit from this transition." Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump recently softened his stance on his administration's aggressive immigration reforms. In an interview, he said, America needs to bring in foreign talent for certain fields. The Republican leader acknowledged that long-term unemployed Americans cannot be tasked with complex roles in sensitive sectors like defence without extensive training, and the US needs skilled foreign nationals to fill such roles.

U.S. TESTS B61-12 NUCLEAR BOMB FROM F-35 STEALTH FIGHTER SANS WARHEADS; CONFIRMS B61-12 & F-35 RELIABILITY

Diary Times Desk : The tests were conducted at a test site in Nevada from August 19 to 21, the statement said. During the tests, F-35 fighter jets delivered and dropped inert weapons. The tests were conducted in coordination with the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA). The National Nuclear Security Agency completed a program to extend the service life of those aerial bombs by 20 years in late 2024, according to the statement. The tests yielded positive results as inert units of the B61-12 nuclear gravity bomb were successfully carried and dropped by an F-35 aircraft, marking a significant milestone.

6 KILLED, 23 INJURED AS BLAST ROCKS HYDERABAD IN PAKISTAN'S SINDH PROVINCE

Diary Times Desk : A powerful blast occurred near Mochi Goth Airport in the Latifabad area of Hyderabad, Sindh. The explosion is believed to have been triggered by a fire at a local firecracker manufacturing unit, which then led to the deadly incident.

So far, six people have lost their lives, and 23 others have been injured in the blast, reports added.

Medico-legal officer Dr Mohammed Hussain told Dawn that two bodies of unidentified males were brought to the mortuary, while Assistant Medical Superintendent Dr Mujeeb Kalwar said one more completely charred body was taken to the burns ward.

The Rescue 1122 spokesperson added that a fire and rescue team, along with an ambulance and a fire brigade truck, were dispatched to the scene as soon as the information was received.

Sindh Home Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar took strict notice of the incident and summoned a detailed report.

"The legal status of the factory should be immediately investigated. Whether the legal license and safety principles required for making fireworks were being followed or not.



PAKISTAN ADMITS 'STALEMATE' WITH AFGHANISTAN AFTER FAILED TALKS ON CROSS-BORDER TERRORISM

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan on Friday confirmed that its relations with Afghanistan were in a "stalemate" following a deadlock in three rounds of talks that failed to produce an agreement on tackling terrorism.

The third round of talks held in Istanbul on November 7 ended without any agreement to address the main concern of Pakistan on the alleged use of Afghan soil by militants to attack it.

Foreign Office spokesperson Tahir Andrabi, when asked about the current state of bilateral ties, said he would be "very careful" in choosing words to describe the relationship.

"Stalemate," you can say. Obviously, there is a "deadlock" and "impasse" in the negotiations. "You can use these words," he said, adding that Pakistan remains committed to resolving bilateral differences through dialogue.

US AGREES DEAL TO SLASH SWISS TARIFFS TO 15% AFTER GOLDEN CHARM OFFENSIVE

Diary Times Desk : Switzerland and the US have agreed to cut President Donald Trump's steep 39% tariffs on Swiss imports to 15%, as part of a deal that involves a Swiss promise to invest \$200bn (£150bn) in the US.

"It's a great relief for our economy," said Swiss Economics Minister Guy Parmelin, who said significant damage had been done since the additional tariffs had kicked in last August.

Parmelin said a move by Swiss business leaders to meet Trump in the White House last week had proved "decisive" in reaching a deal.

Industry chiefs visited the Oval Office, bearing gifts including a Rolex gold watch and a specially engraved gold bar from Swiss-based gold refining company MKS.

Initial attempts by Swiss President Karin Keller Sutter to change Trump's mind had fallen on deaf ears. Trump said she "was a nice woman, but she did not want to listen".

But after the 4 November encounter with Swiss business leaders, Trump revealed this week a deal was being worked on.



IRAN CONFIRMS SEIZURE OF TANKER CARRYING PETROCHEMICAL CARGO

Diary Times Desk : Iran on Saturday confirmed its Revolutionary Guards seized a tanker carrying petrochemical cargo bound for Singapore in Gulf waters on Friday, Iranian media reported.

Following inspections, authorities said “the tanker was in violation for carrying unauthorized cargo.” They did not provide further details.

The ship, the Talara, had been traveling from Ajman, United Arab Emirates, onward to Singapore when Iranian forces intercepted it, a US defense official said, who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss intelligence matters.

A US Navy MQ-4C Triton drone had been circling above the area where the Talara was for hours on Friday observing the seizure, flight-tracking data analyzed by The Associated Press showed.

A private security firm, Ambrey, described the assault as involving three small boats approaching the Talara.

The British military’s United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center separately acknowledged the incident, saying a possible “state activity” forced the Talara to turn into Iranian territorial waters.



PAKISTAN’S ARMY HAS ALWAYS BEEN INFLUENTIAL – NOW ITS CHIEF HAS NEW POWERS

Diary Times Desk : Pakistan’s parliament has voted to give army chief Field Marshal Asim Munir new powers and lifetime immunity from arrest and prosecution, a move that critics say paves the way towards autocracy.

The 27th constitutional amendment, which was signed into law on Thursday, will also make significant changes to the way the country’s top courts operate.

Those defending the changes say they provide clarity and administrative structure to the armed forces, while helping to ease a backlog in the courts.

Pakistan’s military has long played a prominent role in the nuclear-armed country’s politics – sometimes seizing power in coups, and, on other occasions, pulling levers behind the scenes.

Throughout its history, Pakistan has oscillated from more civilian autonomy to overt control under military leaders like General Pervez Musharraf and General Zia-ul-Haq. Analysts refer to the balance between civilian and military as hybrid rule.

Some see the amendment as a sign that the balance is shifting in the military’s favour.

HOW ISRAEL–PAKISTAN HANDSHAKE IN LONDON TRIGGERS DIPLOMATIC UPROAR

Diary Times Desk : A brief encounter at a global travel fair in London has triggered political uproar in Pakistan and renewed questions about Islamabad’s evolving strategic posture – particularly as United States President Donald Trump promotes a new regional plan involving an International Stabilisation Force for Gaza.

The incident comes at a time when Pakistan is already being mentioned in diplomatic discussions surrounding Trump’s proposed ceasefire architecture, raising the stakes of any perceived engagement with Israel.

How the London incident unfolded

Earlier this month, delegations from more than 180 countries gathered at the World Travel Market (WTM) in London – one of the world’s largest tourism conferences. The 2025 edition was held from 4 to 6 November.

During the event, a video circulating on social media showed Michael Izhakov, Director General of Israel’s Ministry of Tourism, approaching the Pakistani pavilion and greeting Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan.

‘CHEAP LABOUR’: JD VANCE PUSHES ANTI-IMMIGRANT LINE EVEN AS TRUMP DEFENDS NEED FOR SPECIALISED H-1B SKILLS

Diary Times Desk : The H-1B visa – long a bridge connecting Indian talent to the American dream – has erupted once again into a political battleground in the United States. With Indian technology workers, engineers, and physicians forming the largest cohort of H-1B holders, every shift in US immigration policy sends ripples across India’s skilled workforce and its \$150-billion IT services industry.

Now, the debate has reignited with a new force. US Vice President JD Vance has sharpened his rhetoric against foreign workers, dismissing them as “cheap workers” and arguing that America no longer needs immigrant labour to sustain its economy.

His comments, delivered in a conversation with conservative host Sean Hannity, signal a deepening ideological divide at the highest levels of the American government.

COLOMBIA’S PETRO INKS \$4.3BN DEAL FOR 17 FIGHTER JETS AMID REGIONAL TENSION

Diary Times Desk : Colombian President Gustavo Petro has announced a \$4.3bn deal to buy Swedish warplanes at a time when his country is locked in tension with the United States.

Speaking on Friday, Petro confirmed an agreement was reached with Sweden’s Saab aircraft manufacturer to buy 17 Gripen fighter jets, giving the first confirmation of the size and cost of the military acquisition that was initially announced in April. “This is a deterrent weapon to achieve peace,” Petro said in a post on social media.

The purchase of warplanes comes as Colombia and much of remaining Latin America are on edge due to a US military build-up in the region, and as US forces carry out a campaign of deadly attacks on vessels in the Caribbean and eastern Pacific.

INDIAN-ORIGIN CEO STOPPED BY FBI DESPITE O-1 VISA, SLAMS RISING US XENOPHOBIA

Diary Times Desk : Mindvalley CEO Vishen Lakhiani has raised concerns about growing xenophobia in the United States after claiming he was stopped by the FBI at a US airport despite possessing a valid O-1 visa, typically granted to individuals with extraordinary ability.

In a detailed Instagram post, the Malaysian-born entrepreneur of Indian descent said the incident made him “dread visiting” a country he has long admired. Lakhiani stressed that he has been contributing to the US economy for over two decades, noting that he has paid American taxes for 22 years and leads a company with 230 employees globally.

He criticised what he described as increasing fear-based political rhetoric targeting immigrants, saying the US is becoming “closed and narrow-minded” due to leaders who “blame immigrants instead of offering real solutions.” Lakhiani expressed hope that the next election would bring change.

His comments have resonated widely online, sparking debate about immigration policies, airport screenings, and the broader political climate in the US. His video has already crossed one million views, boosted by his large Instagram following. Many supporters shared similar experiences, while others argued that heightened security protocols affect travellers regardless of visa category.

“Yes! That’s exactly why I left, even though I also had a talent visa. I couldn’t live there anymore; it gave me anxiety,” one user wrote.



CHINA URGES CITIZENS NOT TO VISIT JAPAN OVER TAIWAN ROW



Diary Times Desk : China has urged its citizens not to travel to Japan and summoned the country's ambassador in Beijing over Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi's comments on Taiwan.

China and Japan have been locked in an escalating war of words this week, set off by Takaichi's suggestion that Japan could respond with its own self-defence force if China attacked Taiwan.

Both countries' foreign ministries have lodged serious protests with each other. A Chinese diplomat also made a comment which some interpreted as a threat to behead Takaichi.

The spat touches on the historical animosity between China and Japan, as well as longstanding "strategic ambiguity" on the sovereignty of self-governed Taiwan.

Here's what else you need to know about it:

BBC NOW FACES TOUGH LEGAL BATTLE WITH WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL MAN. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Diary Times Desk : Anyone who thought the BBC's apology to Donald Trump was going to stop his threat of a lawsuit was, quite frankly, deluded.

The BBC chairman Samir Shah perhaps summed it up in the interview he gave me the day after the director general and the CEO of News resigned. He called the president "a litigious fellow".

That's an understatement, evident in the number of legal cases Trump has taken out against various US media companies.

The president, based on his GB News interview, is clearly hurt by what he sees as an "egregious" edit, and he has now apparently upped the amount he says he will sue the corporation for.

While on board Air Force One on Friday, Trump told reporters the figure would be "anywhere between \$1bn [£759m] and \$5bn".

TRUMP RESCINDS SUPPORT FOR MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE, MARKING MAJOR POLITICAL BREAKUP

Diary Times Desk : President Donald Trump announced Friday he is officially rescinding his endorsement of Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene and attacked her in personal terms, while the congresswoman countered that Trump was trying to make an example of her to prevent the release of files on convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein. The president's post marked a major political breakup weeks in the making – a dramatic intensification of a simmering back-and-forth between the two former allies, who grew apart as Greene criticized Trump on a number of fronts. It spilled into a messy exchange of blows as the controversy around Epstein again took center stage in Washington. "I am withdrawing my support and Endorsement of 'Congresswoman' Marjorie Taylor Greene," Trump said in a post to social media, adding that Greene, who is running for reelection in 2026, has "gone Far Left."

TRUMP ROLLS BACK TARIFFS ON DOZENS OF FOOD PRODUCTS



Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump has signed an executive order allowing a range of food products, including coffee, bananas and beef, to escape his sweeping tariffs.

The move comes as his administration faces mounting pressure over rising prices. While Trump previously downplayed concerns about the cost of living, he has focused on the issue since his Republican Party's poor performance in last week's elections.

The dozens of products included on the White House's list of exemptions range from avocados and tomatoes to coconuts and mangoes.

These goods, the Trump administration said on Friday, cannot be produced in sufficient quantities domestically.

Trump has long said that his tariffs – currently a baseline 10% on imports from all countries, with additional levies on many trading partners – would not lead to increased prices for US consumers. He also said affordability was a "new word" and a "con job" by Democrats.

He has argued the taxes are necessary to reduce the US trade deficit – the gap between the value of goods it buys from other countries and those it sells to them.

FATHER, COUSIN PLOTTED KILLING OF 7-YEAR-OLD FOR INSURANCE MONEY IN CHINA

Diary Times Desk : A deeply disturbing case from China has resurfaced in public attention after new details emerged about a man who conspired with his cousin to murder his own seven-year-old son to claim insurance money. Although the crime took place in 2020, investigative findings and court revelations reported recently have shed fresh light on the brutality and deception behind the act.

Family tensions and the murderous plot

According to a report by the South China Morning Post, the accused father, identified as Zhang, had been going through continuous marital disputes. He frequently quarrelled with his wife over their financial difficulties and her alleged extra-marital affair. Enraged and desperate, he devised a shocking plan: to kill their child and collect insurance compensation.

Zhang turned to his cousin, a truck driver, seeking help. The truck owner had taken out two high-value insurance policies, and Zhang believed these could be used to stage a believable road accident. Convinced that this scheme would solve his financial troubles, he proceeded with the plan.

TRUMP LIKELY TO SELL F-35 FIGHTER JETS TO SAUDI ARABIA: REPORT

Diary Times Desk : US President Donald Trump said on Friday that he is considering agreeing to a deal to supply Saudi Arabia with F-35 stealth fighter jets, which are made by Lockheed Martin.

"They wanna buy a lot of jets," Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One.

"I'm looking at that. They've asked me to look at it. They want to buy a lot of '35' – but they want to buy actually more than that, fighter jets."

The potential sale comes as Trump plans to host Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman at the White House next week, when they are expected to sign economic and defense agreements.

Asked about the talks, Trump told reporters it was "more than meeting, we're honoring" Saudi Arabia.

He repeated that he hoped Saudi would soon join the Abraham Accords, which have normalized relations between Israel and Muslim-majority nations. Riyadh has resisted such a step absent agreement on a roadmap to Palestinian statehood.

A Pentagon intelligence report has raised concerns over the potential F-35 deal.

THE TRUMP
ADMINISTRATION IS
LOWERING ITS MEGA
TARIFFS ON
SWITZERLAND

Diary Times Desk : The Trump administration plans to lower the United States' tariffs on goods from Switzerland, according to an announcement Friday from the White House and the Swiss government following a meeting with US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer. The tariff rate the US charges on Swiss imports will fall to 15% from 39%, which had been among the highest levies the United States charges for any country's goods. As part of the agreement, Swiss companies committed to investing "at least \$200 billion into the United States, with at least \$67 billion worth of investment occurring in 2026," according to a White House fact sheet published on Friday. In a separate statement, the Swiss government said the total investments would be completed by 2028. It also said it agreed to lower tariffs on "a range of American products."

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

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

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

It's easy enough for Trump to blame the press when he is in a Q&A session with reporters. It's harder when he's hearing from a voter who is struggling. That's why this was an especially savvy move by Fox News anchor Bret Baier on Wednesday. Baier used his access to Trump, on the sidelines of a business forum in Miami, to read a message from Regina Foley, a retiree in Greensboro.

JUDGE SAYS HE'LL APPROVE OPIOID SETTLEMENT WITH OXYCONTIN
MAKER PURDUE AND SACKLER FAMILY

Diary Times Desk : A federal bankruptcy court judge on Friday said he will approve OxyContin-maker Purdue Pharma's latest deal to settle thousands of lawsuits over the toll of opioids that includes some money for thousands of victims of the epidemic.

The deal overseen by U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Sean Lane would require members of the Sackler family who own the company to contribute up to \$7 billion and give up ownership.

The new agreement replaces one the US Supreme Court rejected last year, finding it would have improperly protected members of the family against future lawsuits. The judge said he would explain his decision in a hearing on Tuesday.

The deal is among the largest in a series of opioid settlements brought by state and local governments against drugmakers, wholesalers and pharmacies that totaled about \$50 billion.

It could close a long chapter — and maybe the entire book — on a legal odyssey over efforts to hold the company to account for its role in an opioid crisis connected to 900,000 deaths in the US since 1999, including deaths from heroin and illicit fentanyl.



WHY MARKETS ARE SUDDENLY ON EDGE

Diary Times Desk : For months, it felt like nothing could knock stocks off their steady ascent — but November has been a rough month on Wall Street.

The tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite is down almost 3.5% this month and on track for its first losing month since March. The Nasdaq has shed roughly \$1.74 trillion in market value in two weeks as investors have dumped tech stocks.

Stocks opened sharply lower Friday before bouncing off their lows as investors bought the dip. The major indexes wavered into the closing bell. The Nasdaq turned positive and closed higher by 0.13% after briefly falling almost 1.9%. The S&P 500 fluctuated and closed lower by 0.05%. The Dow fell 310 points, or 0.65%.

"Stocks were set for another horrific session at the open following yesterday's debacle but investors saw the sharp dip as an opportunity to accumulate shares," said José Torres, senior economist at Interactive Brokers. The benchmark S&P 500 is still down 1.55% this month while the Dow is down 0.87%. The S&P 500 has shed more than \$1.3 trillion in market value in just over two weeks as it has retreated from a record high set in late October. After months of gains, investors have outsized expectations, making them easier to disappoint. Tech stocks have become relatively pricey.



THE GOVERNMENT IS BACK OPEN. HERE'S WHAT THAT MEANS FOR
ECONOMIC DATA

Diary Times Desk : The US government has reopened following its longest-ever shutdown, setting the stage for the eventual release of the gold-standard federal data that is crucial in analyzing the health and trajectory of the nation's economy.

Data nerds (and government officials, and Federal Reserve policymakers, and business owners, and, well, everyone else for that matter), rejoice!

Starting next week, the backlog of federal data will start flowing, and the long-awaited September jobs report (originally due out October 3) will publish Thursday, November 20, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced Friday.

"It's been like flying in fog without any instrumentation," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics. However, expect some choppiness when the air starts to clear. The very nature of the 43-day shutdown has created an unprecedented situation: Some datapoints were not gathered when they typically should have been, increasing the potential for big holes in what's expected to be already messy data.



TRUMP'S LATEST TARIFF
TACO PROBABLY
WON'T MAKE YOUR LIFE
MORE AFFORDABLE

Diary Times Desk :
Americans could soon see some goods get cheaper after President Donald Trump exempted certain agricultural imports from a set of tariffs on Friday. But any price drops likely won't be enough to make life feel more affordable any time soon.

The executive order exempted products like coffee, beef and some fruit from Trump's "reciprocal" tariffs, which began rolling out in April.

The new exemptions are part of what traders have dubbed TACO, or Trump Always Chickens Out, to describe times when the president backs off a policy after unintended consequences pop up. In the case of tariffs, Trump has already reversed a number of his measures, a sign that the administration is reshaping his signature economic tool.

The latest TACO comes after voters, worried about affordability, gave Republicans a drubbing in recent off-year elections.

DISNEY CONTENT WILL
RETURN TO YOUTUBE TV
UNDER A NEW DEAL

Diary Times Desk :
Disney and YouTube TV struck a multi-year deal late Friday to get the entertainment giant's content back onto the streaming site, ending the two-week blackout that spanned a historic election night.

The new carriage deal means Disney sports, entertainment and news programming, such as ESPN and ABC, will return to YouTube's pay tv platform. The companies said content has begun returning to the platform.

"This new agreement reflects our continued commitment to delivering exceptional entertainment and evolving with how audiences choose to watch," Disney Entertainment Co-Chairmen Alan Bergman and Dana Walden and ESPN Chairman Jimmy Pitaro said in a statement.

In a statement, YouTube said it was happy the agreement "preserves the value of our service for our subscribers and future flexibility in our offers."

SINGLE TICKET IN GEORGIA CLAIMS \$980 MILLION MEGA MILLIONS
JACKPOT



Diary Times Desk : A Georgia player has won an estimated \$980 million Mega Millions jackpot on Friday, the eighth-largest prize in the game's history, according to the lottery.

The winning ticket matched all six winning numbers: 1, 8, 11, 12, 57, and Mega Ball 7.

The win ends a 40-drawing streak without a jackpot winner, making it the first time since June that the top prize has been claimed. In that previous drawing, a Virginia ticket won \$348 million.

The winner can choose to receive the \$980 million in annual payments over 30 years, or a lump-sum cash payout of \$452.2 million, all before taxes.

The winning ticket was sold at a Publix supermarket in Newnan, a city roughly 40 miles southwest of Atlanta, according to the lottery. The store will receive a \$50,000 retailer bonus from the Georgia Lottery for selling the jackpot ticket, the lottery said.

"We are thrilled to congratulate the largest winner in our state's history," Georgia Lottery President and CEO Gretchen Corbin said in the news release.

TARIFFS ARE COMING FOR YOUR HOLIDAY WINE



Diary Times Desk :
Choosing the right wine to pair with your Thanksgiving meal can be as stressful as cooking the turkey. And this year, it's going to be worse.

Shoppers can expect higher prices and possibly slimmer selections at their local wine shops, as importers are facing steep tariffs and shopkeepers are dealing with declining demand.

Bottled wine prices have risen nearly 20% over the past 25 years and 8% over the past decade, according to the latest government data. Several reasons are to blame, including climate change, inflation and rising production costs.

Wine prices at McCabes Wine & Spirits shop in Manhattan are between 5% to 12% higher this year because "it's the reality of the tariffs, shipping, manufacturing and labor," said owner Daniel Mesznik.

His shop, like others in the United States, are working to strike a delicate balance. They're dealing with higher upfront costs due to a hodgepodge of tariffs from President Donald Trump's administration — notably, a 15% tariff on European Union imports — while trying not to pass too any of those costs to their customers

"We're doing our best to keep those increases to a minimum for our guests," he told CNN. "But, I think folks understand that this is the current reality and they're receptive to it and they're understanding of it."

Tariffs are affecting the bottom line even more for importers of wine. Elenteny Imports, a logistics and distribution company that works with 9,000 retailers and restaurants, said wine sales are down 13% year over year. Wine volume consumed in the United States declined 3% between 2019 and 2024, and it's expected to fall another 4% from 2024 to 2029, according to IWSR, an alcohol data insights firm.

CYBER FRAUD VICTIMS
TO RECEIVE THEIR
BLOCKED MONEY
IMMEDIATELY VIA LOK
ADALAT

Diary Times Desk : The Haryana Police has taken a historic step to ensure immediate and easy justice for citizens who fall victim to cyber fraud. Under the leadership of Director General of Police (DGP) OP Singh, the state police, in collaboration with the Haryana State Legal Services Authority (HALSA), has implemented a new mechanism under which the defrauded amount — once 'blocked' (frozen) in the bank account — will now be returned to the victim directly through Lok Adalat, without the need for a lengthy legal process or a lawyer.

This arrangement has been made especially for cases where the money was blocked immediately after the complaint was filed, but no FIR has been registered yet.

NIPER'S ACTION
AGAINST FACULTY
MEMBER ROOTED IN
'MALICE IN LAW': HIGH
COURT

Diary Times Desk : The Punjab and Haryana High Court has held that the disciplinary proceedings initiated by the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) against Assistant Professor Dr Neeraj Kumar were vitiated by "malice in law", before setting aside his compulsory retirement and imposing Rs 10 lakh costs for a decade-long "harassment and victimisation".

The Division Bench of Justice Ashwani Kumar Mishra and Justice Rohit Kapoor directed his immediate reinstatement with continuity of service, after finding that none of the charges levelled against him were "even remotely proved."

Allowing an appeal, the Bench held: "None of the charges were even remotely proved against the appellant and, therefore, the punishment of compulsory retirement is also unsustainable." The court disapproved the findings of the Single Judge, who had dismissed Dr. Kumar's writ petition in 2015 by holding that the penalty did not shock judicial conscience.

'HOW CAN MY ORDERS BE DEFIED': HARYANA MINISTER ANIL VIJ IN HEATED
ALTERCATION WITH COP IN KAITHAL

Diary Times Desk : A District Grievance Redressal Committee meeting in Haryana's Kaithal witnessed Anil Vij getting into an altercation with a police official for allegedly ignoring the directives of the state minister.

For several minutes, there was a forceful exchange of words between Vij, who was chairing the meeting on Friday, and the police official.

The Transport, Energy and Labour minister alleged that the police official had ignored his earlier directive to register a Zero FIR in a fraud case.

Zero FIR can be registered by any police station, irrespective of jurisdiction.



DELHI BLAST: 2 DOCS, 2 TRADERS
DETAINED; AL-FALAH LAND UNDER
SCANNER

Diary Times Desk : The crackdown linked to the recently unearthed terror module intensified on Friday as two doctors from Nuh and two fertiliser and seed sellers from Sohna were detained for questioning, even as Al-Falah University in Faridabad continued to remain under the scanner of multiple Central and state agencies.

Police sources said a doctor identified as Mustkim, a resident of Sunhera village in Nuh district, was picked up for questioning. He had reportedly completed his MBBS and was doing his apprenticeship at Al-Falah University, which ended on November 2. He allegedly travelled to Delhi on November 9. However, neither local police nor Central agencies have officially confirmed his detention.

Sources also revealed that another doctor, Dr Rehan, a former student of Al-Falah University who is currently employed with a private hospital in Nuh, was detained from Ward 3 for questioning.

8 THREAT CALLS MADE TO
COMPLAINANT FROM GURUGRAM
JAIL LANDLINE

Diary Times Desk : Taking cognisance of allegations that a complainant in a criminal intimidation and rioting with a deadly weapon case received threat calls from a landline installed inside Gurugram District Jail, the Punjab and Haryana High Court has ordered a probe into the matter.

Justice Surya Partap Singh said it was alleged during the course of a bail petition's hearing by the counsel for the complainant that he had been receiving threat calls from the landline number installed on the jail premises and screenshots showing eight calls were placed on record. "If the allegations are true, it is a very serious matter, which requires a thorough probe. Hence, it is hereby ordered that the copy of this order be forwarded to the Director-General of Police (Prisons) with a direction to get the matter inquired by a senior-ranking responsible officer, and take appropriate action against the erring officers/officials," the Bench said.

NIA ARRESTS AL-FALAH UNIVERSITY MBBS STUDENT IN BENGAL FOR 'LINKS' WITH
TERROR OUTFITS



Diary Times Desk : An MBBS student has been arrested by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) in West Bengal's Uttar Dinajpur district for his alleged links to terror outfits, a senior police officer said on Saturday.

The accused, identified as Janisur Alam alias Nisar Alam, an MBBS student of Al-Falah University, Haryana, and resident of Ludhiana with ancestral roots in Konal village near Dalkhola in Uttar Dinajpur, was picked up from the Surjapur Bazar area on Friday morning, he said.

Alam was arrested from the Surjapur Bazar area in Uttar Dinajpur while returning from a wedding ceremony at his ancestral home, on suspicion of alleged terror links by sleuths of the NIA, he said.

Trump Rescinds Support For Marjorie Taylor Greene

President Donald Trump announced Friday he is officially rescinding his endorsement of Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene and attacked her in personal terms, while the congresswoman countered that Trump was trying to make an example of her to prevent the release of files on convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein.

The president's post marked a major political breakup weeks in the making – a dramatic intensification of a simmering back-and-forth between the two former allies, who grew apart as Greene criticized Trump on a number of fronts. It spilled into a messy exchange of blows as the controversy around Epstein again took center stage in Washington.

"I am withdrawing my support and Endorsement of 'Congresswoman' Marjorie Taylor Greene," Trump said in a post to social media, adding that Greene, who is running for reelection in 2026, has "gone Far Left."



Betsy Klein

But Greene's message has also extended more broadly to target Trump's economic policies, suggesting that the White House needs to improve its messaging on affordability issues.

He added: "She has told many people that she is upset that I don't return her phone calls anymore, but with 219

Congressmen/women, 53 U.S. Senators, 24 Cabinet Members, almost 200 Countries, and an otherwise normal life to lead, I can't take a ranting Lunatic's call every day." Greene has publicly warned in recent weeks that Trump has been too focused on foreign policy and is not doing enough to sell his domestic agenda at home – taking her message to outlets like CNN and ABC's "The View." Greene, who arrived in Congress in 2021, has until recently been an ardent and outspoken Trump supporter.

The Georgia Republican responded to Trump in a social media post Friday, writing, "Of course he's coming after me hard to make an example to scare all the other Republicans before next weeks vote to release the Epstein files."

Earlier Friday, Trump defended his efforts to engage with foreign leaders and travel abroad amid Greene's criticism, suggesting that his relationships on the world stage have benefited her district and expressing openness to endorsing a potential primary challenger.

"Marjorie Taylor Greene said, 'Oh, gee, I'm spending too much time overseas. So let's say I don't meet with China. You know what's happened right now to Georgia? To every other state?'" Trump said aboard Air Force One.

He continued: "They're not working because your magnets and your rare earths would've kicked in, and there wouldn't have been a factory in the world working if I didn't have a relationship overseas with China."

Trump said that he is in the United States "95, 98% of the time."

"The last thing I want to do is travel 22 hours in an airplane, as nice as this plane is," he said.

Trump warned that Greene has "changed" politically in recent weeks as the Georgia congresswoman has publicly lambasted the White House's messaging on the government shutdown and Jeffrey Epstein.

"I think that her constituents aren't going to be happy. Already, I have people calling me. They want to challenge her to a race in her district in Georgia," Trump said.

He also said he was open to endorsing a rival GOP candidate in a primary race.



Weeks Into Gaza Ceasefire

SCORES OF HAMAS FIGHTERS REMAIN STUCK IN TUNNELS UNDER GAZA

Deep underneath the wreckage of Rafah, southern Gaza, the war is not over.

Scores of Hamas militants, split up into independent cells, are trapped in tunnels underground behind Israeli lines, as mediators try to find a solution that doesn't collapse the month-old ceasefire in Gaza.



It is likely that these isolated cells - removed from Hamas command and control - were responsible for recent attacks on Israeli forces that prompted massive Israeli retaliation and twice threatened the ceasefire.

disarmament of Hamas, and the further withdrawal of Israeli forces. Every element requires challenging negotiations with multiple countries, And the Hamas militants in Gaza are one more piece of an increasingly difficult diplomatic puzzle.

One idea was to deport the militants to a third country, with Turkey considered a possible option, the other source said. But no such solution has materialized.



Tal Shalev

The IDF said the actions were in accordance with the US-brokered ceasefire agreement, which allows for the destruction of military and tunnel infrastructure in Gaza. But Hamas views them as a clear violation of the 20-point plan.

The issue of how to deal with up to 200 Hamas militants in Israeli-occupied territory in Gaza, is more than just a tactical problem for Israel's military. It is a sensitive diplomatic matter with no clear way out.

These cells – and it's unclear exactly how many there are or their precise locations – have fortified themselves in these tunnels since the ceasefire divided Gaza along the so-called yellow line one month ago: Israel occupies territory east of the line while Hamas reasserts power west of it.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has made clear he has no intention of simply letting the Hamas cells walk out of the tunnels and return to the Hamas-controlled part of Gaza. Hamas has said its militants will never turn themselves in and hand over their weapons.

The Trump administration is pushing Israel to make progress towards some sort of viable solution, according to two Israeli sources, and Trump's son-in-law - US envoy Jared Kushner - brought up the issue with Netanyahu in meetings earlier this week.

"The Americans want to move ahead to the next phase and close the Rafah prisoners file," one of the sources said. The second phase of the ceasefire involves the creation of an international security force in Gaza, the

Throughout the week, Netanyahu's office issued several denials regarding various reports about the release of what Israel sees as terror cells. "The prime minister did not commit to the Americans to release the prisoners from Rafah," a senior Israeli official said in statement on Tuesday, adding a few hours later that "contrary to reports, no agreed-upon solution exists."

Without a resolution, the cells are a ticking time-bomb. With little or no access to food and water, the Hamas militants are left with a simple choice: surrender or fight. Muhammad Shehade, a Gaza expert with the European Council on Foreign Relations, previously told CNN that "Hamas doesn't even know how many are there that are still alive."

INFA

Causing Rifts Years On

THE EXPLOSIONS THAT TORE THROUGH RUSSIA'S PIPELINES TO EUROPE

It was a late September night when muffled blasts and a stream of bubbles broke the surface of the Baltic Sea. Explosions had ripped through the two Nord Stream gas pipelines, Russia's gas highway into Europe, months after Moscow's full invasion of Ukraine. Years later, shockwaves from that night are still rippling across the continent.



Joseph Ataman

For many in Europe's north, the attention on who blew up Nord Stream is a distraction from remembering how it was built in the first place.

The 2022 attack on the hugely controversial pipelines triggered an international whodunnit, with suspicion falling immediately on Russia and even the US being forced to deny involvement.

Today, intrigue continues to swirl around the blasts even as Germany readies a prosecution against the suspected Ukrainian saboteurs.

And Poland's efforts to stymie the case – seemingly to shield its ally Ukraine - has thrown up new tensions in Europe.

Germany seems determined for Nord Stream to get its day in court, filing arrest warrants for two Ukrainian men – Volodymyr Zhuravlov, who was detained in Poland, and Serhii Kuznietsov, who was detained in Italy - suspected of involvement in the blast.

A decision by a Polish court in mid-October to free Zhuravlov, after slow-balling the man's extradition, has severely undercut Berlin's hopes of a prosecution. In the eyes of the judge, if the Nord Stream blasts were a Ukrainian act of sabotage, that would be a justified response to an unprovoked invasion.

"If Ukraine was indeed the organizer of this act of aggression, then only Ukraine can be held responsible for this event," Judge Dariusz Lubowski said in his verdict halting Zhuravlov's extradition to Germany, CNN affiliate TVN24 reported.

The 49-year-old Ukrainian claims he had nothing to do with the attack and that he was in Ukraine at the time it happened, according to TVN24. German prosecutors allege Zhuravlov, a "trained diver," was "part of a group of individuals who placed explosives on the Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 gas pipelines near the island of Bornholm in September 2022." The team allegedly used fake identities to rent a yacht to ferry them and their equipment to the blast site. Serhii Kuznietsov, a 49-year-old former Ukrainian soldier and an alleged coordinator of the operation, was detained on a German warrant in Italy in late August.

Kuznietsov's defense lawyer Nicola Canestrini told CNN that the Ukrainian denies any wrongdoing and he is currently appealing Italy's Supreme Court's decision to extradite him to Germany.

"Europe's problem, Ukraine's problem, the problem of Lithuania and Poland, is not that Nord Stream 2 was blown up, but that it was built," Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk told journalists in early October.

"It is certainly not in the interest of Poland, nor in the interest of decency and justice, to prosecute or extradite this citizen to another state," he added.

As far back as 2007, Poland's then-defense minister Radek Sikorski railed against the proposed Nord Stream 1 pipeline as, "the most outrageous attempt by Mr Putin to divide and damage the EU." In Europe, the Polish stance exposed divisions in Europe.



BIG NAMES AT SURPRISING PRICES: CHRISTIE'S MUST-HAVE FINDS UNDER \$50,000

Diary Times Desk : Best known for his spindly bronze sculptures of abstract human forms, the Swiss-Italian artist spent much of his career exploring how to reduce forms into their essence. When discussing Alberto Giacometti's work, the philosopher Jean Paul Sartre described it as 'always mediating between nothingness and being'. In this drawing, Giacometti studies the form of a classic Italian coffee maker, perhaps the one used in his own home. *Cafetière à Stampa* was completed after the war in 1955, at the peak of Giacometti's creative output.

Primarily known for his abstract wrought iron sculptures, the Catalanian artist Julio González made a series of works dedicated to maternity over the course of his lifetime. In this emotive drawing made two years before González passed, a mother tenderly embraces her child. Although González never conformed to a singular style, he often gravitated towards Cubist forms, largely beginning in 1928 after he befriended Picasso while teaching him in metalwork.

Drawn in 1901, *Saint Tropez* depicts one of the artists' favourite motifs in a compelling Neo-Impressionist palette. Paul Signac first came to Saint-Tropez in 1892, falling in love with the colours and charm of what was then still a quaint fishing village. It was there that Signac created many of his most prized works, paving the way in establishing the French port town as an important destination for fellow painters such as Henri Matisse.

Born in 1886, the Japanese French artist Leonard Tsuguharu Foujita was an important figure in 1920s Paris, who became well known for marrying East Asian and European sensibilities in his own unique style. At Foujita's first solo show in the city, with Georges Chéron — also Modigliani's dealer — Picasso left with 'as many works as he could carry under his arm'. Jeanette captures both the modernity of the 20th century and the influence of traditional Japanese art, evoking the delicate lines and flatness of Japanese lacquer, which was all the rage in 1920s Paris.

This early sculpture was conceived one year after Pablo Picasso painted *Les Femmes d'Alger*. Like two of the five women depicted in the seminal painting, *Poupée* carries on themes of African artistic tradition, resembling a spiritual totem pole with an African masklike face. The sculpture, cast in bronze with a golden brown patina, has resided in the same collection since 1975.

Marie Laurencin, an influential figure amongst the Parisian avant-garde known for her genre-defying, female-centred works, didn't confined herself to the canvas; she was also beloved for her poetry, set designs, and wallpaper illustrations.

**COLLECT WITH PASSION, CURATE WITH KNOWLEDGE: THE JOHN SHAW PATEK PHILIPPE COLLECTION**

Diary Times Desk : The Shaw family commands profound respect in the business world in Hong Kong and Southeast Asia. John Shaw's grandfather, Runde Shaw (1898–1973), founded the Tianyi Film Company in the 1920s, which, together with 'Shaw Brothers', became Asia's most famous film production empire. John himself has inherited his family's passion for collecting, with diverse interests spanning Eastern and Western art, music, furniture, and, of course, watches. He is also recognised as a leading authority and judge in the realm of pedigree Pekingese dogs, owning and breeding many of the world's top show dogs. Nestled in the lush, green hills of Kowloon, we were invited into John Shaw's home to view his proud collection of timepieces and meet his charming and noble Pekingese dogs. John's longtime friend, Kevin Ching, Chairman of Christie's Asia, remarked that the breadth and depth of John's passions truly make him 'a modern-day Renaissance man.' Amidst laughter and lively conversation, John's collecting journey unfolded before us.

'My father and grandfather were both watch enthusiasts. I was given my first Rolex in Grade one, and my first Patek Philippe in Grade Four, which started my whole collecting endeavour.' John revealed that from a young age, his family taught him that collecting is not merely about ownership but requires passion and dedication. He has channeled his insatiable curiosity and meticulous research into the realm of rare timepieces, making each acquisition a fulfilling and memorable experience.

John's first university degree was in Mathematics, instilling in him a discipline of precision and perfection in all things. He lives by the philosophy that if something is worth doing, it is worth doing excellently. This ethos has led his purebred dogs to win top awards worldwide, just as the watches he collects represent the pinnacle of horological artistry.

'The precision and accuracy of well-made watches were particularly appealing to me.' John explained. This is why Patek Philippe remains his most cherished brand. Patek Philippe has long been regarded as the pinnacle of Swiss watchmaking, creating mechanical masterpieces that embody generations of expertise and craftsmanship. Each Patek Philippe watch is a work of mechanical art, embodying the wisdom and skill of the most outstanding watchmakers and designers across generations. The Patek Philippe watches in Mr. Shaw's collection showcase a remarkable variety of models, featuring iconic complications that have defined the brand's legacy, and spanning both modern pieces and highly important vintage wristwatches from the mid-20th century—often regarded as the 'golden era' of Patek Philippe's design and craftsmanship.



REPORT – HOW HANSI FLICK IS ATTEMPTING TO CORRECT
BARCELONA’S DEFENSIVE PROBLEMS



Diary Times Desk : “We are Barça and we want to play our football,” said Hansi Flick after the draw against Club Brugge, a game in which the Catalans’ defensive line showed its most vulnerable version.

The Barcelona coach’s message was that he would win or lose, but always with his ideas. This season, the team is not executing the high defensive line and the offside trap with the same level of success as last season.

Putting in the efforts to correct things

And, according to Mundo Deportivo, Flick is working to correct the problems that have stopped Barcelona from being as effective as they were in their defensive work last season.

To work on defensive structure, Flick and one of his assistants, Heiko Westermann, who is mainly responsible for this area, make use of the giant screen installed at the training pitch. They project videos to review and correct actions that have occurred. The adjustments made with the defensive line are mainly about when to step up or drop back and how to maintain proper body positioning.

PREMIER LEAGUE DEFENDER NAMES
BARCELONA, REAL MADRID AMONG HIS
DREAM CLUBS

Diary Times Desk : Daniel Munoz has attracted the attention of several major European clubs that have been monitoring his performances for Crystal Palace.

The right-back has become one of the strongest players in his position in the Premier League, showing consistent form that has led to links with FC Barcelona, as well as French and European champions PSG.

Daniel Munoz names his dream destinations

Munoz is also a regular starter for the Colombia national team, which will face New Zealand and Australia in its final international fixtures of the year as preparation for the 2026 World Cup.

Before the first friendly match, the 29-year-old defender spoke about the interest from top clubs and admitted that the possibility excites him.

“First of all, I think there’s a lot of talk about one club or another. If you ask me, it would be a dream come true to play for one of these clubs, whether it’s Barcelona, PSG, Real Madrid, or Manchester United,” he told AS Colombia.

OFFICIAL: TWO BARCELONA STARS
NAMED IN SPAIN STARTING LINEUP VS
GEORGIA

Diary Times Desk : The Spanish national team is in action today as they take on Georgia in a 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifying fixture in Tbilisi.

Ahead of kickoff, the La Roja manager, Luis de la Fuente, has announced the starting lineup that will take the field against Georgia. And, two FC Barcelona stars feature in the side.

Indeed, Pau Cubarsi starts at the heart of the Spain defence, where he is partnered by Aymeric Laporte of Athletic Club.

Meanwhile, Barcelona forward Ferran Torres starts up top in attack for the reigning European champions, where he is partnered with Alex Baena and Mikel Oyarzabal.

Two other Barcelona stars, Fermin Lopez and Dani Olmo, have been left out on the bench by De la Fuente, even though it was suggested in the buildup that both players had strong chances of starting.

Spain go into the game without several important players, including Barcelona duo Lamine Yamal and Pedri, both of whom are out with physical discomfort.

BARCELONA SET TO FACE
ARSENAL, MANCHESTER
UNITED BATTLE FOR KEY
ATTACKING TARGET

Diary Times Desk : Etta Eyong has been grabbing attention from top clubs across Europe thanks to his eye-catching performances for UD Levante this season.

Among the many clubs pursuing the young centre-forward are reigning La Liga champions FC Barcelona, who had their sights on the Cameroonian last summer as well.

The 22-year-old forward is one of several candidates that the Blaugrana are looking at as potential successors to Robert Lewandowski.

Arsenal, Manchester United also want Etta Eyong

However, competition for Eyong’s services seems to be getting intense by the day as many other teams also want the Levante star.

ROBERT LEWANDOWSKI ON
BARCELONA FUTURE – ‘I’LL
SOON BE READY TO DECIDE...’

Diary Times Desk : The future of Robert Lewandowski at FC Barcelona has become a major topic of speculation in recent weeks.

After all, the 37-year-old superstar striker is out of contract at the club in June and there have been no talks of an extension.

It has even sparked rumours of a January departure or possible retirement at the end of the season – both of which have been dismissed by his agent, Pini Zahavi.

Lewandowski opens up on future

Now, in an interview with TVP Sport (h/t Mundo Deportivo), Lewandowski has acknowledged that, at 37, his career is entering its final chapters and that he will make a decision on his next move soon.

The striker, who has scored 108 goals since joining Barcelona in 2022, explained that he is thinking things through calmly and is in no hurry.

“I’m calm. I don’t know where I’ll be or what I’ll want to do in a few months. I don’t have to do anything and I’m in no hurry,” Lewandowski stated.

“I’ll soon be ready to decide which path I want to take and I’ll see what my options are,” he affirmed.

After more than a decade in Germany playing for Borussia Dortmund and Bayern Munich, Lewandowski admitted:

“The move to Barcelona and life in a different culture also changed me.”

BARCELONA, REAL MADRID MIDFIELD TARGET COULD COST AROUND €25
MILLION – REPORT

Diary Times Desk : Kees Smit is quickly becoming one of the most sought-after young midfielders in Europe, having impressed with AZ Alkmaar and the Netherlands youth national teams.

The 19-year-old starlet, recently compared to Barcelona midfield maestro Pedri by Ronald Koeman, happens to be on the radars of the Blaugrana.

Meanwhile, Real Madrid are also very much interested in the young Dutchman, while other clubs from across Europe are also tracking his development.

Smit to cost a little over €25 million

Now, according to a report from Sky Sport (h/t AS), AZ Alkmaar are prepared to let Smit leave in the summer transfer window next year.

Furthermore, it is claimed that the Dutch giants will ask for a transfer fee of a little over €25 million for the teenage prospect – a sum that should not be an issue for any of the interested parties, including Barcelona.

