

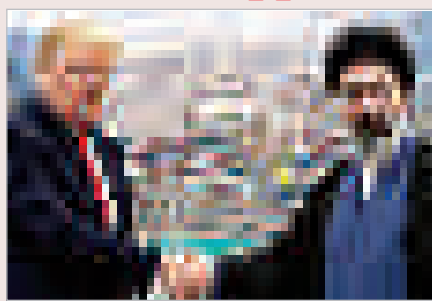


US and Iran Sign Interim Deal to End Conflict Ahead of Schedule

Trump and Pezeshkian Approve Agreement; Military Action to Cease

Tehran / Washington DC, Agency: The United States and Iran have signed an interim agreement aimed at ending the ongoing conflict between the two countries, a day ahead of the originally scheduled date.

US President Donald Trump signed the agreement on Wednesday night at the Palace of Versailles in France in the presence of French President Emmanuel Macron. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian



later approved the deal electronically from Tehran.

The agreement was formally announced early Thursday morning, Indian time, and took immediate effect.

Under the terms of the accord, military operations

Germany Dispatches Ships for Possible Mine-Clearing Mission:

German Defence Minister Boris Pistorius said Germany has sent two naval vessels toward the Red Sea as part of preparations for a potential mission to clear naval mines in the Strait of Hormuz. He said a minesweeper and a supply ship were currently transiting the Suez Canal and heading towards the region.

involving Iran and Lebanon

will cease, the Strait of Hormuz will be reopened for navigation, and the US naval blockade in the region will be lifted.

The agreement had originally been scheduled to be signed on June 19 in Lucerne, near Geneva, Switzerland, but was finalised a day earlier.

Pistorius noted that any mine-clearing operation would require the consent of both Iran and Oman and would also depend on the outcome of future diplomatic talks between Washington and Tehran.

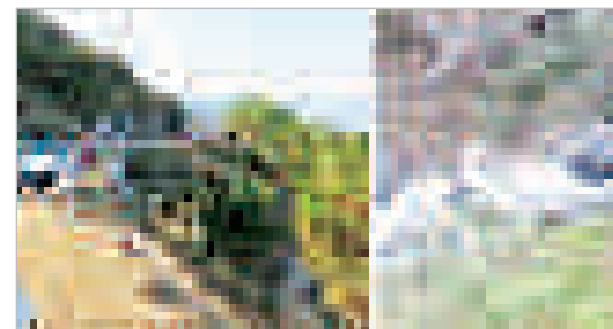
Seven Killed as Bolero Plunges into Gorge in Himachal Pradesh

Six Members of One Family Among Dead

Bharmour (Chamba), Agency:

Seven people, including six members of the same family, were killed after a Bolero vehicle plunged into a deep gorge on the Chamba-Masrood road in Himachal Pradesh. Police said the victims were returning home late Wednesday night after attending a tonsure ceremony in Kakrotha village when the vehicle lost control and fell nearly 1,200 feet into the gorge. The seventh victim was the driver. The impact completely wrecked the vehicle.

Victims Identified:



The deceased have been identified as Chuni Lal (65), Devi Lal (62), Babli Devi (45), Moti Ram (45), Anita Kumari (20), Kunta Devi (53), all residents of Mehal village, and Manohar Lal (34) of Dharo village. The victims included two brothers as well as a husband

and wife. **Accident Detected Hours Later:** As the accident occurred around midnight, no one became aware of it immediately. Police received information on Thursday morning and rushed to the scene with rescue teams.

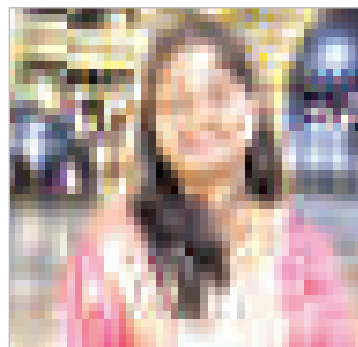
Four NEET Aspirants Die by Suicide in Two Days

Gujarat Student Jumps from Sixth Floor; Tamil Nadu Girl Says She Feared Re-Examination

Coimbatore, Agency: A 19-year-old NEET aspirant, Anukeerthana, allegedly died by suicide by consuming poison in Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, on Wednesday morning. Before her death, she reportedly sent WhatsApp messages to her uncle and close relatives expressing her fear of having to reappear for the NEET examination.

In her message, she wrote, "I had taken the NEET examination and was waiting for admission to a medical college, but the exam was cancelled. I am afraid of taking the examination again. My father has spent a lot of money on my education, and I do not know how I will face him."

In a separate incident, a 17-



year-old NEET aspirant allegedly jumped from the sixth floor of Anandam Flats in Ahmedabad's New Ranip area around 2:30 a.m. on Wednesday. Police said the student was preparing for NEET, though the exact reason for the suicide is yet to be established. These are the fourth such

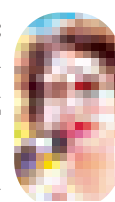
cases involving NEET aspirants reported over the past two days. Earlier, a 23-year-old student in Dehradun and a 17-year-old girl in Lucknow allegedly died by suicide on June 16. Reports suggest that nearly a dozen students across the country have taken their lives since the NEET examination was cancelled on May 12.

Dream of Becoming a Doctor: Anukeerthana, a resident of Park Town in Kovaipudur, Coimbatore, was the elder of two daughters. Her father, Senthil Prabhu, is a district secretary of a TASMACE employees' union affiliated with CITU.

Priyanka Alleges NEET Aspirants Spend Rs 1.32 Lakh Crore Annually

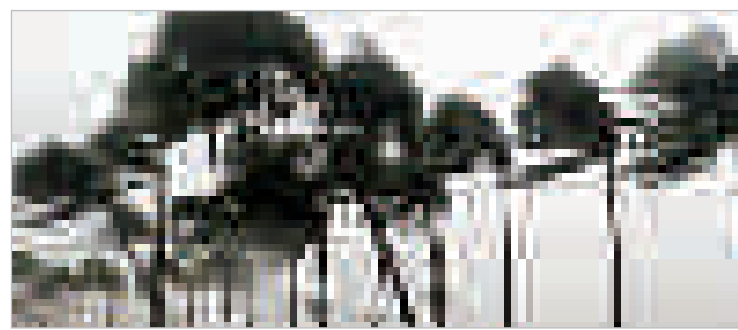
Says Amount Nearly Equals Education Budget

New Delhi, Agency: Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra has alleged that nearly 22 lakh NEET aspirants and their families collectively spend around Rs 1.32 lakh crore every year through the existing examination system. In a post on X on Wednesday night, Priyanka said the amount is almost equivalent to the Union government's annual education budget of Rs



1.40 lakh crore. She also claimed that the Central Government had written off loans worth Rs 16 lakh crore for what she termed its "favoured business groups." Priyanka's remarks came a day after Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's visit to Kota, where he interacted with students during the 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' programme and discussed the increasing pressures faced by students.

Monsoon Stalled Since June 8; Third Consecutive Year of Extended Pause



Bhopal/Jaipur/Lucknow/Patna, Agency: The southwest monsoon has remained stalled over Bhadrachalam in Telangana since June 8, marking the third consecutive year of a prolonged pause in its advance. While the monsoon typically reaches Uttar Pradesh by June 18-20, Madhya Pradesh by June 15-16 and Rajasthan by June 20, meteorologists now expect it to enter these states only after June 22.

After making landfall in Kerala on June 4, the monsoon covered 19 states within 13 days before losing momentum.

Although similar early-season breaks in 2024 and 2025 eventually resulted in above-normal rainfall, this year the country has recorded a rainfall deficit of 37.8 per cent as of June 17.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast that the monsoon may resume its northward advance

El Nino Conditions Developing: According to a satellite-based assessment by the US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Intertropical Convergence Zone (ITCZ) has not become sufficiently active, slowing the monsoon's progress. Normally, the ITCZ shifts northward by mid-June, drawing moisture towards the Indian subcontinent. Meteorologists have also indicated the development of El Niño-like conditions, which could lead to prolonged dry spells and uneven rainfall distribution. Satellite data suggests active thunderstorm activity over eastern India, while cloud cover remains sparse over Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan and other parts of western India.

over the next four to five days, with the overall pause likely to last between 13 and 15 days.

Two Arrested in Petrol Bomb Attack on RSS Office in Ranchi

Ranchi, Agency: Police have arrested two accused in connection with the petrol bomb attack on the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) office at Nivaranpur in Ranchi. The Special Investigation Team (SIT) apprehended the suspects late Wednesday night while they were allegedly attempting to flee aboard the Swarna Jayanti Express. According to officials, the accused were initially identified at Koderma Junction, but the train had already departed. Acting swiftly, the police had the



train stopped at Rafiganj railway station in Bihar's Gaya district, where both suspects were taken into custody. They are currently being interrogated, and investigators expect further revelations in the case.

Attack Captured on CCTV: The incident occurred around 12:30 a.m. on Tuesday night. CCTV footage showed two men arriving near the RSS office in a car and parking it some distance away before approaching the premises on foot. They allegedly lit petrol-filled glass bottles and hurled them into the compound. The first bottle was thrown at around 12:38 a.m., followed by a second about a minute later. One bottle landed on the roof and shattered, spilling petrol and causing flames to erupt.

Record 1.65 Lakh Millionaires Expected to Migrate Globally This Year

UAE and Singapore Top Destinations; India Scores 56.5 on Wealth Hub Index

Mumbai, Agency: A record 1.65 lakh millionaires worldwide are expected to migrate to other countries in 2026, according to the Henley Private Wealth Migration Report 2026. The figure marks a significant increase from about 1.42 lakh millionaire migrants last year, 1.34 lakh in 2024 and just 51,000 in 2013.

The report says wealthy individuals are increasingly relocating not only for tax advantages but also for



political stability, personal security and better investment opportunities.

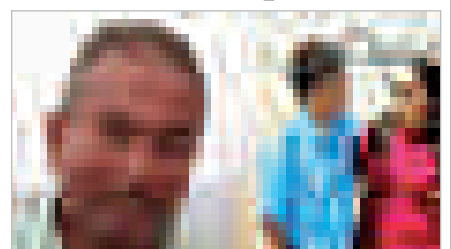
The United Arab Emirates has emerged as the world's most attractive wealth hub with a score of 85.3, while India's score stands at 56.5.

US Sees Highest Outflow of Wealthy Families: The United States recorded a wealth mobility score of 62.3 and

continues to witness the highest number of affluent individuals seeking alternative citizenship or residency. Applications doubled in 2025 and have continued to rise in 2026. Only seven per cent of applications came from Americans already living abroad, while the majority were filed by wealthy residents within the country. Nearly half preferred Europe, while more than a quarter chose Latin America and the Caribbean.

Britain Witnessing Rising Exodus: Applications linked to UK addresses increased by 15 per cent during 2024-25. In 2026, foreign citizenship applications accounted for 53 per cent, with British nationals making up nearly half the total. Britain has climbed from the 20th-largest source market in 2018 to one of the world's top

Martyred IAF Officer's Family Alleges Widow Took Rs 21 Lakh Compensation



Jehanabad, Agency: A dispute has erupted over the compensation paid to the family of Indian Air Force officer Lieutenant Shubham Kumar, who was killed in an aircraft crash in Jorhat, Assam, on June 13.

The martyr's father, Amarendra Sharma, has alleged that Shubham's wife, Shreya, colluded with a government official to secure and take away a compensation cheque worth Rs 21 lakh without informing the family. According to Sharma, the family was unaware of the financial assistance sanctioned by the Bihar government. He questioned why, if Shreya was legally married to his son, she did not stay with the family during the funeral rites and subsequent rituals.

'She Left with the Money on the Day of the Funeral': Amarendra Sharma claimed that Shreya attended the funeral wearing a mask and remained quietly with her father throughout the ceremony.

He alleged that the Circle Officer (CO) of Hulasganj in Jehanabad handed over the Rs 21 lakh compensation cheque to Shreya privately on the day of the cremation without informing the martyr's parents or other family members. "The official neither informed me nor any member of my family. Shreya also did not mention the compensation and quietly left for her parental home in Azamgarh with her father and brother," Sharma alleged.

A grand aarti was performed on the banks of the Yamuna River

people pledged to lead a healthy life by practicing yoga

Auraiya, Agency: In Auraiya district of Uttar Pradesh, under the joint aegis of the Forest Department, District Ganga Committee, AYUSH Department, District Administration and social service organization 'Ek Vichitra Pahal Seva Samiti', a grand program was organized on the banks of Yamuna at Shergarh Ghat on Thursday morning as part of the 12th International Yoga Day. The program



started with the ritualistic worship of Yamuna Maiya and divine Aarti, after which a group yoga practice was conducted. In the program organ-

ized at 7 am, Homeopathy DMHO Dr. Parveen, Ayurvedic Medical Officer Dr. Hari Pratap Singh and members of the organization performed the Aarti of

Yamuna Maiya with chanting of mantras amidst the sound of loudspeakers, bells, gongs and conch shells. The devotees present praised Mother Yamuna, praying for happiness, prosperity, and peace for their families.

After the Aarti, Dr. Shashi Raj Seth, the master trainer appointed by the Lucknow Mission for Auraiya district, led various yoga asanas and pranayama exercises accompanied by prayer

mantras. During the yoga practice, those present also took a pledge to practice yoga daily and lead a healthy life. Speaking at the event, the organization's president, Rajiv Porwal (Ranu), stated that by incorporating yoga into daily life, one can maintain physical and mental health. Advocate Anand Nath Gupta, a member of the District Ganga Committee, stated that maintaining river cleanliness is a moral responsibility.

He explained that the organization has been continuously running the cremation ground cleaning campaign and the Jeevandhara tree plantation campaign for the past 11 years. He urged people to plant as many trees as possible and to refrain from dumping dead animals, birds, religious materials, and other waste into the Yamuna River. Advocate Anand Nath Gupta conducted the program. On this occasion, District Ganga Committee's Project Officer Sakshi Shukla,

Forest Department's Deputy Ranger DS Gautam, Area Forest Officer Angad Singh Chandel, Municipal Corporation's Sanitation Inspector Ashish Pandey, Jagriti Porwal, Deepal, Sharmishtha Gupta, Advocate Anupam Seth, Aarohi, Satish Kumar Srivastava, Brajraj Singh, Rishu Kumar Singh, Rahul Mishra, Prem Kumar, Deepak Kushwaha, Ashwani Kumar, Himanshu Dubey, Ramchandra Soni and a large number of people were present.

While decorating the house for a wedding, the lamp in the house went out, a young man died due to electric shock

Mirzapur, Agency: A tragic accident cast a pall of gloom over the joyous wedding celebrations in Mirzapur, Uttar Pradesh, on Thursday. An 18-year-old man working on electrical decorations was electrocuted to death. The incident dampened the joy of the wedding venue, and mourning spread through the deceased's village. Abhishek Prasad (18), son of Pradeep Prasad, a resident of Majhigwan village in the Chilh police station area, had gone to work on electrical decorations and connections at a wedding ceremony in Chilh village. He was suddenly struck by high-voltage current. He suffered severe burns and collapsed at the scene. The incident caused panic among those present. Family members and locals rushed Abhishek to the district hospital, but doctors declared him dead after examining him.



to console the family. Upon receiving the information, Chilh police arrived at the scene and began investigating the matter.

Station House Officer Baidyanath Singh stated that based on a complaint filed by the deceased's elder brother, Ankit Kumar, the body has been taken into custody and sent for post-mortem. The police are taking the necessary legal action. While the lights were being lit for wedding preparations, the next moment, the light of a family was extinguished forever. This tragic incident left everyone devastated.

Upon receiving the news of Abhishek's death, the family was devastated. The deceased was the youngest of two brothers. The parents are inconsolable at the untimely death of their young son. The entire village of Majhigwan is in mourning, and people are trying

7 bikes without number plates and modified silencers seized in Jalaun, 3 Bullet silencers confiscated

Orai, Agency: In Jalaun, Uttar Pradesh, the police took strict action against vehicles violating traffic rules and causing noise pollution. Seven bikes were seized. Modified silencers fitted to three Bullet bikes were also seized.

Under the direction of the Superintendent of Police, Jalaun, Additional Superintendent of Police, and CO City, a police team conducted a foot patrol and special checking campaign in the Station Road area



until late at night. During the campaign, police checked vehicles violating traffic rules. A total of seven bikes were found operating without number plates and with

modified silencers. Action was taken against all these vehicles under the Motor Vehicles Act and they were seized. Additionally, modified silencers fitted to three

Bullet bikes were also seized on the spot. Police officials stated that modified silencers produce excessive noise, causing inconvenience to the public and contributing to noise pollution.

Orai Kotwali in-charge Anand Singh said that drivers have been appealed to follow traffic rules, install the prescribed number plate on their vehicles, and refrain from using illegally modified silencers. Similar strict action will continue against those violating the rules.

UP Board cancels recognition of 465 unaided schools

Prayagraj, Agency: The Uttar Pradesh Board of Secondary Education (UP Board) has revoked the recognition of 465 unaided secondary schools in the state. This information was given by Board Secretary Bhagwati Singh on Thursday. He stated that this action was taken based on non-compliance with the prescribed standards and

recognition conditions, and due to the schools not having a single student enrolled for two consecutive years.

He explained that these schools were recognized under the Uttar Pradesh Self-Financed Schools (Recognition and Regulations). During investigations and verifications conducted at various levels, it was found that educational

activities were not being conducted effectively in these schools and the prescribed standards were not being followed.

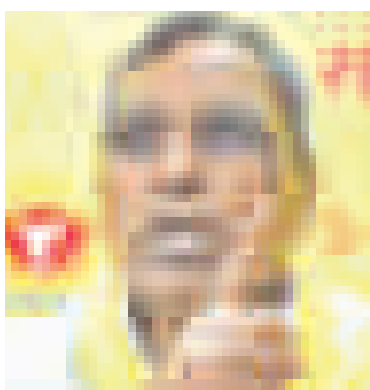
Before taking action, the Board issued show-cause notices to the concerned schools and provided them an opportunity to present their side. After examining the explanations received, it was decided to cancel their

recognition if a satisfactory answer was not received.

Bhagwati Singh, Secretary of the Uttar Pradesh Secondary Education Council, said that the Board is committed to a quality and transparent education system. He said that it is mandatory for all recognized schools to follow the prescribed standards and rules.

'Toot hokar rahegi': Samajwadi Party rebellion will be led by a Brahmin MP from Ballia, claims OP Rajbhar

Lucknow, Agency: A day after claiming that the Samajwadi Party (SP) was heading for a major split, Uttar Pradesh minister and Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) chief Om Prakash Rajbhar on Thursday doubled down on his assertion, asserting that a group of disgruntled SP MPs was preparing to break away from the party under the leadership of MP from Ballia.



Pradesh's 'rebel land' Ballia," Rajbhar posted on X account.

Without naming any MP, Rajbhar claimed that the move had gained momentum following an incident at the SP headquarters during a Brahmin conference. He

said that members of the Brahmin community were "insulted" at the event, which had deeply hurt the Ballia leader he referred to.

The Ballia reference has sparked political speculation, though Rajbhar stopped short of identifying the leader he believes could spearhead any potential rebellion within the party.

Ballia, as a matter of fact, is represented by SP's Brahmin MP Sanatan Pandey. Pandey could not be reached for comment.

"The plan was already in place, but yesterday's incident acted like fuel to the fire. The split will happen," Rajbhar said.

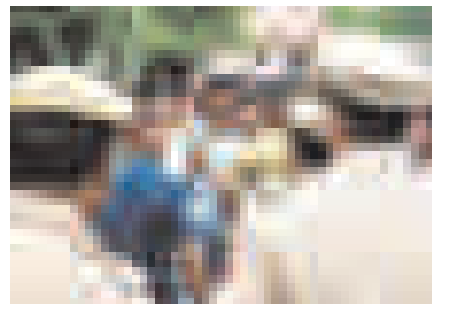
The SBSP chief said that his remarks have triggered a strong reaction from the "entire Saifai family." "Instead of engaging in politics through Twitter and press conferences, Akhilesh should start a campaign to save his MPs and personally visit unhappy and disappointed MPs," Rajbhar said.

Rajbhar's latest remarks come amid an escalating war of words between the ruling NDA allies and the opposition Samajwadi Party. The SP has so far dismissed all such claims of an internal rebellion. There has been no indication from any party MP of plans to leave the organization either.

6-year-old found dead, bank manager held after CCTV trail in Meerut

Meerut, Agency: A manager at a private bank in Muzaffarnagar was arrested on Wednesday on the charge of abduction and murder of a six-year-old boy. Accused Arpit Parashar, 28, allegedly kidnapped the child, Angadveer, from outside his house in Meerut's Bahsuma area on Tuesday.

According to Meerut police, CCTV footage showed a man taking the boy in a car, leading investigators to Parashar. Additional SP Abhijeet Kumar said the accused initially tried to mislead police by claiming he had disposed of the body in a canal, but later confessed to killing the child by slitting his throat with a sharp



weapon. The boy's body was recovered from a field about 10 km away. Angadveer, who studied at a boarding school in Patiala, was visiting his mother, Gurpreet Kaur, 30, in Bahsuma. His father is a driver in Saudi Arabia. Police said preliminary probe revealed that Parashar and Gurpreet Kaur had allegedly been in a relationship for the past three years.

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Lava International hosted an 'Insiders Meet' in Delhi, showcasing its latest portfolio and engaging directly with the industry ecosystem

Lava brought together creators and the media to experience its new devices and consumer-centric innovations

Tisha Varshney/Sheli News

New Delhi: Lava International Limited, India's leading mobile phone manufacturer, hosted the Delhi edition of its community engagement program—the 'Insiders Meet'—today at the Andaz Hotel, Aerocity. The event saw participation from prominent technology creators, gadget enthusiasts, and media professionals. Attendees engaged in direct dialogue with Lava's leadership team, discussing the company's future roadmap, innovations being developed in India, and the role of AI in enhancing future mobile experiences. Guests also enjoyed a live, hands-on experience with Lava's latest product portfolio. As part of the showcase, guests experienced Lava's latest smartphones—such as the Agni, Blaze, and Shark series—designed for various



consumer segments, alongside select audio accessories:

Agni Series: This flagship smartphone series highlights the brand's focus on advancing Indian technology and innovation. Its latest model, the Agni 4, features Lava's in-house 'Vayu AI,' a premium AMOLED display, and advanced camera capabilities. It stands out as the only

Indian-origin smartphone in its segment to offer on-device AI and authentic homegrown design.* **Blaze Series:** Designed for consumers who seek a blend of style and performance, Lava's latest Blaze smartphone range exemplifies purposeful innovation. Featuring a striking design, AI-powered capabilities, excellent display quality, reliable performance, and

advanced camera features, the series is crafted to elevate the everyday smartphone experience.

Shark Series: Designed for budget-conscious consumers, Lava's Shark Series delivers accessible, genuine 5G connectivity alongside robust design and reliable performance. The latest Shark 2 5G, featuring a powerful 6000 mAh battery, highlights the brand's focus on providing a durable smartphone experience in the sub-₹15,000 segment.

Bold Series: Tailored for users seeking reliable performance at an affordable price, Lava's Bold Series focuses on delivering a quality smartphone experience through modern design, dependable battery life, and features that meet daily usage needs.** **Smart Series:** Designed for first-time upgraders moving from feature phones to smartphones, Lava's Smart Series offers a clean Android experience, reliable performance, robust design, and an accessible price point, making the transition to smartphones incredibly simple and

easy. Over the past year, the brand has recorded 50% growth in its smartphone business, reflecting growing consumer preference and an expanding market footprint. To maintain this momentum, Lava plans to further strengthen its presence by doubling its retail network, bolstering distribution across various markets, and driving smartphone adoption through a broad portfolio and consumer-centric innovations that address evolving needs. To enhance the daily user experience, the company offers a completely bloatware-free Android experience, devoid of any unwanted pre-installed apps. Additionally, it provides industry-leading 'Service@Home' after-sales support. Through this 'Insiders Meet,' Lava has reaffirmed its commitment to deepening its engagement with the technology community. The event created excellent opportunities for direct dialogue, hands-on product experiences, and meaningful conversations regarding innovation, consumer needs, and the future of connected devices.

Elections pending for vacant MCD posts, several projects in limbo

New Delhi Agency : The functioning of MCD's standing committee has come to a halt due to delays in completing elections for vacant posts, raising concerns over the approval of nearly 70 civic proposals and key financial decisions, according to sources. The committee last met on March 31, when nine out of 18 members retired through a draw of lots - a mandatory exercise undertaken after the committee's formation. Since then, the positions remain vacant, leaving the committee without the required strength to function or convene meetings.

Under the normal process, the election of a new mayor at the beginning of each financial year is followed by the election of three standing committee members from the House. Subsequently, six more members are elected from various zones to complete the full strength of 18 members.

"Nearly three months have passed since the start of the financial year, but six members - from Narela, Central, Shahdara South, Keshavpuram and Najafgarh zones -- are yet to be elected, along with zonal committee chairpersons," said a source.



Councillors said the standing committee and zonal committees serve as important platforms for questioning senior officials over delays in projects and civic works, but that oversight mechanism is currently absent. Proposals awaiting nod include projects related to fresh waste management and processing facilities at three landfills, and transfer of land to Delhi govt, including a proposal to hand over 6.5 acres in Haiderpur for the construction of a mother-and-child care hospital.

Mayor Pravesh Wahi told Media the process was delayed due to several engagements, including sanitation drives undertaken by MCD. "We expect the notification to be issued within the next three-four days, after which elections for zonal committees and the standing committee members will be conducted," he said.

I took a risk': Ex-Delhi Police officer quits government job, starts over in Australia as real estate

New Delhi Agency : New behind the security of a government job, a former Delhi Police sub-inspector chose to start afresh in Australia, a decision he says many considered "crazy".

Years later, his journey from wearing the police uniform to working as a real estate agent has struck a chord with thousands online.

Nishant Tomar, who previously served as a sub-inspector with the Delhi Police, recently shared his story in an Instagram reel, reflecting on the uncertainty, challenges and fresh beginnings that came with moving overseas.

"A few years ago, I took a risk that many people thought was crazy," Tomar wrote in the caption accompanying the video.

"I left a secure government job in India, moved to Australia with uncertainty about the future, started from scratch, faced challenges, built



my own home, and today I'm helping other families achieve the dream of owning their first home in Australia," he added.

The video shows Tomar's transition from his life in India to his new career in Australia, showing glimpses of his journey over the years. It highlights the dramatic shift from a stable government position to rebuilding his life in a foreign country, eventually establishing himself in the Australian real

estate sector.

Describing the transition, Tomar said the journey was far from easy. "This journey wasn't about luck. It was about taking chances, adapting to a new country, and never giving up when things got difficult. If you're planning to move abroad, buy your first home, or simply need proof that life can change completely in a few years, this video is for you," he wrote.

He concluded the post

with a message that resonated with many viewers. "Sometimes the biggest opportunities come from the decisions that scare you the most."

The reel has since gained significant views on social media. Many users flooded the comments section with questions about how he made the transition from policing to the property business, while others praised his decision to pursue a new career despite the uncertainties.

One user asked "One question I have. Looking back, do you think you made the right decision to come to Australia?" with another adding "Good luck."

For many Indians considering a move abroad, Tomar's story reflects the reality of beginning from scratch, leaving behind professional identity, adapting to a new environment and gradually rebuilding a career.

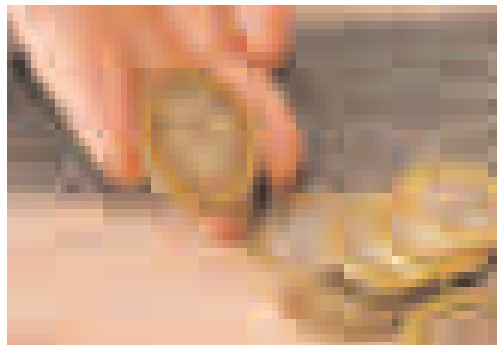
Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh & Tamil Nadu top dole givers, says CAG report

New Delhi Agency : Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Punjab have emerged as the biggest dole givers, with subsidies accounting for over 13.5% of their total expenditure in 2024-25, Comptroller & Auditor General has said in its latest report on state finances.

Subsidy spending by states has nearly tripled over the past decade, touching almost Rs 4.4 lakh crore in 2024-25, with Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Punjab emerging as the biggest spenders relative to their overall expenditure, according to the Comptroller and Auditor General's latest report on state finances.

In absolute terms, subsidies offered by states have jumped three-fold, with 28 of them spending nearly Rs 4.4 lakh crore in 2024-25, compared with 1.4 lakh crore in 2015-16. During this period, their total expenditure rose 2.3 times.

As a proportion of revenue spending, subsidies increased from 1.1% to 1.4%, the report pointed out. Similarly, as a share of state GDP, it rose to 10.2% in FY25, compared with 7.7% in FY16. The numbers



indicate that in FY25, as more and more states, irrespective of political affiliation, handed out direct cash transfers, the share of subsidies in revenue expenditure went into double digits for the first time.

The CAG report is, however, silent on cash transfers, which have emerged as the go-to option in every assembly as well as general election, with parties promising direct fund transfers to women, farmers and other groups.

The federal auditor's data showed that energy - largely power subsidies - accounted for 43% of the subsidy payments in FY25, followed by 30% for agriculture, comprising price support, arrear waivers, fertiliser and seeds.

Rajasthan offered the highest

subsidy for power - in absolute and percentage terms - followed by Karnataka. Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan accounted for Rs 2.3 lakh crore or 54% of the state subsidies, the reports said.

Ktaka, MP & TN top dole givers, says CAG report

Within states, there was a huge gap on subsidy outgo. Six states spent over 10% on subsidies, while and equal number spent under 1%.

Six states in the Northeast - Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Tripura and Assam - were less than 1% when it came to subsidies as a proportion of their overall expenditure. Then, there were the likes of Kerala, Mizoram, Uttarakhand, Mizoram and Manipur, which spent under 2% on subsidies.

"The relatively low subsidy levels in these states is attributable to smaller consumer bases, limited industrial and irrigation activity. In these states, subsidies are primarily directed towards transport, food, and social-sector support rather than energy or agriculture," the federal auditor's data said.

mercury likely to remain below 40 degrees Celsius



New Delhi Agency : The maximum temperature is likely to remain below 40 degrees Celsius over the next few days. India Meteorological Department said there are chances of rain and thunderstorms till June 21 but no colour coded warning has been issued for the same.

The maximum temperature on Wednesday rose to 38.1 degrees Celsius, one degree below normal. It was 33.3 degrees Celsius a day earlier. No rain was received from 8.30 am to 5.30 pm. "A rise in maximum temperature by 3-4 degrees Celsius is likely during the next three days, fall by 2-3 degrees

Celsius is expected during the subsequent 24 hours. However, it may rise by 2-3 degrees Celsius thereafter," said a Met official.

The minimum temperature on Wednesday was recorded at 23.8 degrees Celsius, four notches below normal. It was 25.7 degrees Celsius the previous day. The minimum temperature is expected to remain between 25 and 27 degrees Celsius on Thursday.

In June so far, Safdarjung, which is the city's base station, logged 31.2 mm of rainfall. The normal rainfall for the entire month is 74.1 mm. The normal monsoon onset date for Delhi is June 27.

Rejuvenation through revolution

Suresh Seth

I've met a few great men who, as soon as they meet, expect us to bow down to them. If they can't, they immediately throw us out of their group. They declare war on us unilaterally. But how can you provoke someone who's already defeated in your arena to fight? You have certain principles for living life successfully. Even if you raised an army against someone who failed to follow them throughout

their lives, what did you achieve? You declared someone who never entered your arena a deserter. What did you achieve? He was a fool. He tried to adapt what he'd read in books into his life, so he could never belong here or here. Success never kissed his feet, and fail alone his forehead, and failure became his only identity. How could someone associate him with extremist standards? We asked Chhakkan, "Who are you talking about, brother?" Are

you talking about me and my writing, which no one has read at least once, and yet you always refused to acknowledge me as a writer? Despite this, you persisted in writing until your death.

He must have been convinced that this born obsessive had a problem from the beginning, and it remained so until his death. He must have said it. It doesn't seem strange to hear such things about yourself. We weren't extraordinary from the start;

whatever we undertook, we would ruin it with our extreme ordinariness. Now it seems we're not narrating the story of our own lives. We're narrating the story of every street person walking on the streets of this country. Whatever is told to them again and again, they believe it. He is told, and will continue to be told, that one day good days will come, and he will believe it every time. Like the harvest in the fields, when the season of vote-gathering is over, he will

find that those who were supposed to bring him good days have themselves taken them away, leaving his good days postponed to a distant future.

For now, to survive, he will have to queue outside subsidized ration shops and beg middlemen for their turn. These middlemen are numerous. Their names change as they move from place to place. Sometimes they are given the civilized name of contact culture, and sometimes there are

attempts to justify their brokerage business as legitimate. Today, without the right connections, you are nothing, my friend.

From filing a theft report at the police station to finding a small job, one has to cultivate the right connections. "Without connections, the world is silent" is the new mantra of today's era. In uncivilized language, it's called a recommendation, and in civilized language, it's called recognition of ability.

Editorial

Offerings stolen from Ram temple

There are thieves and robbers even in the magnificent Ram Temple of Ayodhya. Hearing this and constantly examining the news, it is becoming clear that thieves are embezzling the donations and offerings made to the temple as a mark of deep faith in Lord Ram. Corruption and scams are thriving in the Ram Temple as well. This is not just a criminal incident, but a cultural and spiritual disgrace. According to what has come to light so far, these thieves and robbers are part of the Ram Temple's internal system. The allegations of theft of offerings and offerings amounting to ₹200 crore have been made. This may be a political allegation, as no official confirmation has been received. The Special Investigation Team has yet to submit its interim report, and the final report should be out by the end of this month. However, what is shocking and surprising is that neither has the Ram Temple Trust filed an FIR at the police station, nor has the Trust's questionable and accused General Secretary, Champat Rai, resigned. Champat Rai is fundamentally and morally responsible for the entire situation. They weren't appointed solely to serve as VIPs at the temple. Nripendra Mishra, formerly Prime Minister Modi's Principal Secretary, is also the chairman of the Ram Temple construction committee. He has spoken of the Chief Minister's guidance and blessings.

Public facilities under the shadow of encroachment

Protection of traditional routes, conservation of public land, scientific town planning, parking arrangements and awareness are essential...

Over the past few decades, the pace of development in India's villages, towns, and cities has accelerated, but it has also led to a rise in problems related to civic amenities, transportation, and public life. Foremost among these problems is the increasing encroachment on public roads, streets, lanes, drains, ditches, and other public spaces. Today, temporary structures, overgrown shopfronts, haphazard parking, hawkers, and private encroachment on public land have become common sights in most parts of the country.

Anuj Acharya

This is not merely an administrative problem, but a serious issue related to good governance, civic responsibility, and planned development. Recently, the Himachal Pradesh High Court delivered an important decision regarding the protection of traditional paths. The court clarified that if a path has been used by a rural community for a long time, it cannot be closed merely by claiming private ownership. The court also stated that in such cases, the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) is authorized to take necessary action and remove the obstructions.

This decision not only upholds the legal system but also protects community rights and the necessities of rural life. In mountainous states like Himachal Pradesh, the importance of traditional routes is even greater. These routes are not only a means of transportation, but also provide access to fields, pastures, water sources, cremation grounds, and religious sites. Blocking such a route by a single individual can impact the lives of an entire village. Therefore, protecting pub-



lic access rights should be considered a primary responsibility of any civilized society. The problem of encroachment is not limited to rural areas; it is also rapidly increasing in urban areas. According to the 2011 census, Himachal Pradesh's total population was 68.64 lakh, of which approximately 6.89 lakh lived in urban areas. Over the past three decades, the state's per capita income has increased significantly, and people's standards of living have improved. As a result, the number of private vehicles, residential construction, and commercial activities have increased rapidly. Unfortunately, town/urban infrastructure has not expanded in proportion, leading to

increasing pressure on traffic, parking, and public spaces. Today, many towns and cities in the state face problems such as illegal roadside parking, encroachment on footpaths, under-sold shops, and private use of public spaces, while public toilets are nonexistent. In many places, half the width of the road is occupied by parked vehicles or temporary encroachments, obstructing traffic and increasing the risk of accidents. Emergency services such as ambulances and fire engines also often face difficulties. The administration must develop organized vending zones for these individuals, where they can earn respectable living and ensure public order is not

affected. Himachal Pradesh has adequate financial resources available for urban development.

The Smart City Mission, the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), the Swachh Bharat Mission, the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana, the National Urban Livelihood Mission, and hundreds of crores of rupees received from various Finance Commissions have provided municipal bodies with the opportunity to strengthen infrastructure, but traffic congestion remains a common problem. Citizens' expectations have also changed over the past few years. People now want better roads, wider streets, sewerage systems, streetlights, multi-level parking, footpaths, clean markets, and smooth traffic. They want illegal encroachments on public land removed and transparency in development work ensured. To achieve this, administrative officials must regularly visit the field for inspections instead of remaining confined to their offices, and politicians must refrain from obstructing the work of administrative officials.

Touch the touch-screen!

There's a very simple rule in life that can transform a person's entire world. Instead of keeping it to themselves, we should express it. Don't suppress it. If you write a letter, send it. Express it before it's too late. And remember to express your love and gratitude without hesitation to the people you meet in life and to God's blessings. Our hearts are like the touchscreens of modern smartphones. If you keep touching it, caressing it, and pampering it, love will remain, and the sweetness of relationships will remain. Children struggling with loneliness amid their parents' busy schedules, unable to express their feelings, often turn to the wrong path. Mobile phones, the internet, and bad company can push them in any direction that leads only to regret later.

Siddha Guru Pramod Nirvana

Who doesn't know Albert Einstein? Einstein wasn't just an ordinary scientist; he was a great scientist and theorist. With his revolutionary ideas and discoveries, he changed the course of modern science. He formulated many theories that have influenced today's technology, space science, and even nuclear energy. His most famous discovery is the theory of relativity. He demonstrated that time, distance, and speed are not constant, but can change according to circumstances. This theory has led to the understanding of black holes, gravitational waves, and many other cosmic phenomena. Another major discovery was that matter and energy can be converted into each other. This theory later paved the way for the development of nuclear energy and the atomic bomb. His discovery of the photoelectric effect proved that light is not just a wave but also acts as tiny energy particles called photons. This discovery earned him the Nobel Prize in 1921. Many technologies related to solar panels,

camera sensors, televisions, and electronic devices are based on this principle. These theories of Einstein led to the development of the GPS system, nuclear energy, space research, laser technology, and solar energy, which are used today. Einstein loved music and played the violin regularly. He was a supporter of peace and spoke against war. This is why Einstein is considered not just a scientist, but one of the most influential thinkers in human history. Albert Einstein could explain the mysteries of the universe – light, time, gravity, and even the structure of this world. But a sad chapter in his life is that he could not bridge the distance between himself and his son.

His younger son, Eduard, was very emotional, intelligent, and talented. He loved poetry, played Chopin's music beautifully, and dreamed of becoming a psychiatrist. Einstein loved him deeply, but when Einstein's marriage broke down, he gradually became distant from his son's life. He remained a father in letters, but could not be there in real life. As Einstein

grew older, Eduard suffered from mental illness and spent most of his life in a mental hospital in Zurich. By then, Einstein had become famous worldwide and was living in Princeton. He sent money, occasionally wrote letters, and inquired about his son's well-being, but he never visited him again. Many years after his death, a letter was found among Einstein's papers, written for Eduard but never sent. In it, he recalled how his son used to play Chopin as a child. Then, he wrote a line that said it all: "I should have spent more time with you." I kept chasing thoughts, when I should have been chasing you.' That letter was never sent. Eduard never got to read it. During his final days, Eduard remained in the hospital. A photograph of his father was always kept by his bedside. When Einstein died, Eduard was given the news. He sat silent for a long time. Then he went into the room and started playing Chopin's music. This isn't just Einstein's story. It's the story of the words we want to say, the phone calls we keep putting off, the letters

we never send. Life's greatest regrets are often not about the actions we took. They're about the feelings we felt but never expressed. The truth is, one should never suppress the thoughts of the heart. This leads to misunderstandings and fantasies. When there's too much silence, people tend to overthink, so learn to express your feelings more openly. Not everyone can understand what is in your mind on their own. If we want something, we should say it clearly. It is wrong not to get angry and expect that the other person will understand our silence. Even if we like someone, we should tell them. Nothing changes by being sad in our heart. If we do not like something or a person, it is better to tell the truth politely. It is not wrong to maintain distance and expect that the other person will understand the hint. There is a very simple rule of life, which can change the entire world of a person. Instead of keeping it to ourselves, we should express our feelings. Don't suppress them. If you write a letter, send it. Express it before it's too late. Remember to always

express your love and gratitude to the people you meet in life and to God's blessings without hesitation. Our hearts are like the touchscreens of modern smartphones. If we keep touching it, caressing it, and pampering it, love will remain, and the sweetness of relationships will remain. Children struggling with loneliness amid their parents' busy schedules, unable to express their feelings, tend to veer off course. Mobile phones, the internet, and bad company can push them in a direction that will only lead to regret. Understand your child's feelings, give them the opportunity to speak, make mistakes, and learn. Take care of your child, encourage them, and guide them at the right time, but don't be harsh. Discipline should not become a restriction. Let it do as it pleases sometimes. Let it vent its anger and simmer, so the pressure cooker doesn't burst. We must remember that the mind is delicate, as sensitive as a touchscreen. Keep touching it, keep sharing happiness, and be happy yourself. This is the meaning of life.

Deepti Sharma Achieves a Major Milestone, Equaling Jhulan Goswami's Historic Record



New Delhi, Agency:

In the 2026 Women's T20 World Cup, the Indian team performed brilliantly and defeated the Netherlands by

95 runs in the 10th match. India's star all-rounder Deepti Sharma achieved a special achievement in this match. Deepti has now reached the joint first position in the list of highest wicket-takers in women's international cricket. With the wicket taken against the Netherlands, Deepti equaled

Jhulan Goswami's record. Deepti now has 355 wickets in international cricket. Jhulan also has 355 wickets.

England's bowler Katherine Sciver Brunt is at third place in this list, having taken a total of 335 wickets.

Meanwhile, Australia's legendary all-rounder Alyssa Perry is at fourth place with 332 wickets. England's spin bowler Sophie Ecclestone is at fifth place with 327 wickets.

Batting first against the Netherlands, the Indian team posted 209 runs for the loss of 5 wickets in 20 overs.

Smriti Mandhana led the team with a superb batting performance, scoring 74 runs off 47 balls. Mandhana hit 11 fours and a six in her innings.

Shefali Verma also scored 55 runs off 38 balls. Shefali and Mandhana

added 115 runs for the first wicket in 11.4 overs. Jemimah Rodrigues contributed 19 runs off 13 balls. Richa Ghosh scored an unbeaten 20 runs off just 8 balls, hitting a four and two sixes. Captain Harmanpreet Kaur contributed 12 runs, and Deepti scored an unbeaten 10 runs off 2 balls.

Chasing the mammoth target of 210, the Netherlands were bowled out for 114. Babette de Leede top-scored for the team with 28 runs. Sri Charani's spin bowling was the key for India, taking four wickets for just 19 runs in four overs.

Shefali Verma took three wickets for 20 runs, while Nandini Sharma also took two wickets.

Three Jalandhar athletes selected for Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2026



vided through the coaching centres of the Punjab Sports Department. He added that the college's synthetic athletics track and modern sports infrastructure have played a significant role in nurturing athletes who have gone on to compete at national and international levels.

Highlighting the institution's academic offerings, Dr Singh said the college currently

Jalandhar, Agency: Three athletes associated with Government Arts and Sports College, Jalandhar, have been selected to represent India at the Commonwealth Games-2026, scheduled to be held in Glasgow, Scotland.

Principal Dr Ranbir Singh congratulated the athletes on their achievement and expressed confidence that they would bring glory to both Punjab and the country through their performances on the international stage.

The selected athletes are Gurindervir Singh in the 100 metres, Tajinder Pal Singh Toor in the shot put, and Rashdeep Kaur in the women's 4x100m relay team.

Dr Singh said the athletes' selection reflected the institution's rich sporting tradition and the high standard of training pro-

grammes including BA (General), Bachelor of Physical Education and Sports (BPES), Postgraduate Diploma in Yoga, and MSc Yoga. He further announced that Integrated BSc-MSc (4+1) and BCom-MCom (4+1) programmes will be introduced from the forthcoming academic session.

Established in 1961 under the leadership of the then Chief Minister Partap Singh Kairon, the institution was originally recognised as Asia's first sports college. Now known as Government Arts and Sports College, Jalandhar, it boasts a distinguished sporting legacy and has produced several renowned athletes, including hockey legends Surjit Singh and Harcharan Singh, popularly known as the "Flying Eagle", as well as celebrated athletes Ishar Singh Deol and Jagdeep Singh.

FIFA World Cup 2026: Caleb Yirenkyi's late strike helps Ghana beat Panama 1-0 in Group L clash

Toronto, Agency: Ghana began their FIFA World Cup 2026 campaign with a dramatic 1-0 victory over Panama in their Group L clash, thanks to a stoppage-time winner from Caleb Yirenkyi on Wednesday (local time).

The match looked destined to end in a goalless draw as both sides struggled to break the deadlock in a tightly contested encounter. Ghana enjoyed more possession but found it difficult to penetrate a disciplined and well-organised Panama defence, which remained compact and limited clear scoring opportunities throughout the game.

Panama also posed occasional threats on the counter-attack and kept Ghana goalkeeper Lawrence Ati Zigi alert at key moments.

However, just when the match appeared set to finish level, Yirenkyi struck in



stoppage time to seal a hard-fought win for the Black Stars.

The late goal denied Panama a valuable point and ensured Ghana made a winning start to their World Cup 2026 campaign.

The game witnessed dramatic scenes as a Panama player made contact with Ghana goalkeeper Asare.

The only two winning goals scored in the 90th

minute or later at the 2026 FIFA World Cup so far have both secured 1-0 victories for African nations, with Caleb Yirenkyi netting for Ghana against Panama and Amad Diallo scoring for Cote d'Ivoire against Ecuador.

The result leaves Ghana second in Group L behind England on goal difference after the opening round of fixtures. Panama sits third,

while Croatia are bottom following their defeat to England.

Earlier, World Cup contenders England secured a convincing 4-2 win over Croatia in what has been the most entertaining match of the tournament so far.

The England skipper, Harry Kane, delivered a commanding display, scoring a brace against Croatia, with one goal coming from the penalty spot in the 12th minute and another in the 42nd minute, helping England secure a strong start to their campaign.

The in-form Jude Bellingham and substitute Marcus Rashford sealed the victory with impressive second-half strikes as England pulled away in a high-intensity contest.

Croatia had twice fought back to level the scores in a seesaw first half.

"A performance to be proud of"

UK PM Starmer on England's 4-2 win over Croatia in World Cup

Dallas, Agency: The United Kingdom Prime Minister Keir Starmer hailed England's 4-2 win in their FIFA World Cup 2026 campaign opener against Croatia at the Dallas Stadium in Dallas, Texas, on Wednesday (local time), calling it "a performance to be proud of".

In a post on X, PM Starmer congratulated the team on their victory over Croatia and expressed confidence ahead of the next match, which England will play against Ghana on June 23.

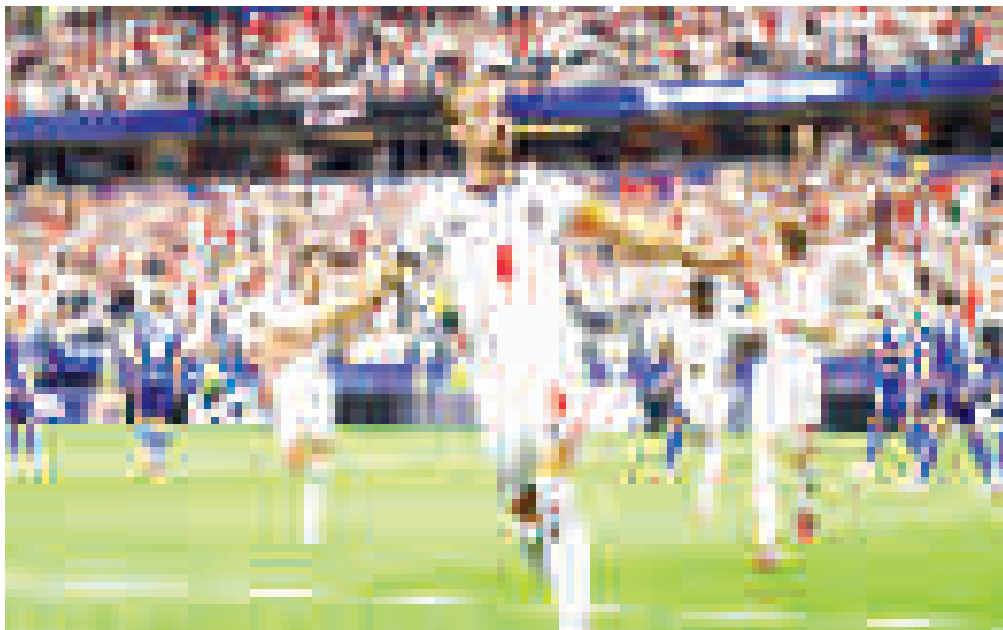
"A fantastic result against Croatia and a performance to be proud of. On to the next one," he said in the X post.

Coming to the match, England captain Harry Kane scored twice, Jude Bellingham produced a standout second-half strike, while substitute Marcus Rashford added a late goal to complete the victory as Thomas Tuchel's side overcame a determined Croatian challenge.

England were handed an early opportunity when Noni Madueke was fouled by Luka Modric inside the box, winning a penalty in the 11th minute.

Dominik Livakovic initially saved Kane's effort, but VAR ruled that the goalkeeper had stepped off his line early, forcing a retake. Kane converted the second attempt to give England the lead.

Croatia responded well and levelled the score in the 36th minute



through Martin Baturina. Luka Sucic's incisive run ended with a cut-back to Baturina, who fired a powerful shot past Jordan Pickford during a strong phase of Croatian pressure.

The England skipper Kane delivered a commanding display, scoring a brace against Croatia, with one goal coming from the penalty spot in the 12th minute and another in the 42nd minute, helping England secure a strong start to their campaign.

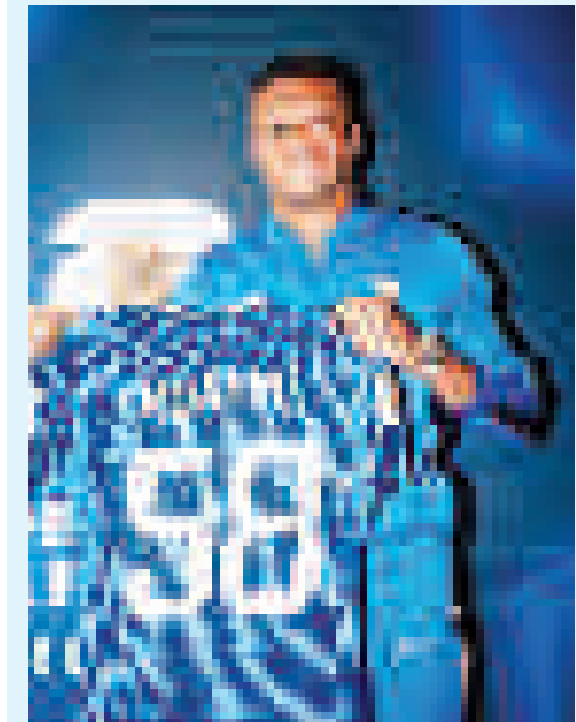
Kane became only the second England player to score in three separate FIFA World Cup tournaments (2018, 2022, 2026), joining legend David Beckham (1998, 2002, 2006).

The Bayern Munich striker also equalled another major milestone, reaching 10 FIFA World Cup goals -- the joint-most by an England player alongside Gary Lineker.

In addition, Kane set a new global benchmark by scoring the most non-penalty shootout penalties in FIFA World Cup history, taking his tally to five.

During the clash, Ivan Perisic also became the second player to register an assist at four different FIFA World Cup tournaments. The Croatian player joined Argentine legend Lionel Messi as the only players in history to achieve the feat.

"58 goals, great pride": Kylian Mbappe shares heartfelt note after special jersey honour



New Jersey, Agency:

France captain Kylian Mbappe has expressed pride after becoming the all-time top scorer for the national team, following a special recognition that saw him receive a jersey marked with the number 58.

In an X post, Mbappe reflected on the milestone and thanked his teammates, coaching staff and the French Football Federation (FFF).

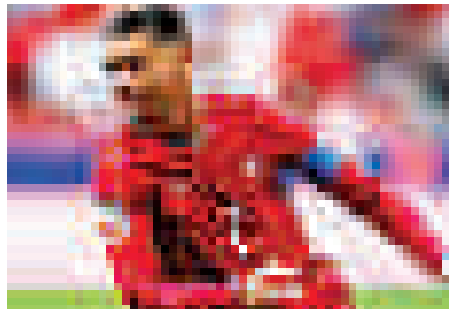
"58 goals. A great pride in being able to become the top scorer in the history of our national team, a country that has seen so

many great players come and go. Thanks to all my teammates, the staff, and the French Football Federation for the unwavering trust from day one. And thanks to you for your support. We keep going, there's still so much to do," France skipper wrote.

Mbappe continued his remarkable rise in international football, rewriting several records as France opened their FIFA World Cup 2026 campaign with a convincing 3-1 victory over Senegal.

The French captain struck twice as Les Bleus avenged their famous 1-0 defeat to Senegal from the 2002 World Cup, making an emphatic start to another title challenge after lifting the trophy in 2018 and finishing runners-up in 2022.

Cristiano Ronaldo scripts history, becomes oldest outfield starter in FIFA World Cup



ing the 2022 edition, according to FotMob.

The Portugal forward achieved the milestone as he was named in the starting XI against DR Congo, extending his remarkable longevity and continuing presence at the highest level of international football.

Additionally, Ronaldo has also become only the second men's player in history to feature in six FIFA World Cups, joining Argentina's Lionel Messi in the elite list.

Texas, Agency: Portugal captain Cristiano Ronaldo has set a new FIFA World Cup record by becoming the oldest outfield player to start a match in the tournament's history, aged 41 years and 132 days, during his side's clash against DR Congo in the FIFA World Cup 2026 on Wednesday (local time). Ronaldo broke the previous record held by Canada's Atiba Hutchinson, who had started a World Cup match at 39 years and 296 days against Croatia dur-

Ronaldo first featured at the 2006 World Cup in Germany, followed by successive editions in 2010 (South Africa), 2014 (Brazil), 2018 (Russia), 2022 (Qatar), and 2026 (North America), consistently representing Portugal across two decades at the highest level.

Global Analytics and Cyber Security Talent in Demand as NAB and Adani Recruit Deakin GIFT City Campus Students

Gandhinagar, Agency: Deakin University GIFT City Campus, India, has announced strong placement outcomes across two of its flagship post-graduate programs, with students securing career opportunities at leading global and Indian organisations, further validating the industry relevance and workforce alignment of its academic offerings.

In a significant endorsement of Deakin's industry-integrated education model, the National Australia Bank (NAB) Innovation Centre India has returned for a second consecutive placement cycle, selecting four students from the second cohort of the Master of Business Analytics program for dual offers, comprising structured internships and full-time



employment opportunities.

The selected students, Ruhani Patel, Aryan Chasia, Raghav Agrawal, and Arushi Jain, will be based at NAB's Gurgaon operations and contribute across a range of high-impact domains, including business performance analytics, advanced analytics solutions,

and more.

The continued engagement from NAB builds on the success of last year's inaugural placement cycle and reflects growing industry confidence in the quality, capability, and global readiness of talent emerging from Deakin's India campus.

Adding to this momentum,

students from Deakin University GIFT City Campus' inaugural Master of Cyber Security cohort have also secured employment opportunities with the Adani Group, highlighting strong industry demand for specialised cyber security talent. These outcomes reinforce the increasing alignment between Deakin's globally benchmarked curriculum and the evolving workforce needs of organisations operating in data-driven, technology-intensive environments.

Speaking on the development, Prof. Deepak Bajaj, Academic and Campus Director, Deakin University GIFT City Campus, said, "The return of NAB signals a strong validation of the quality, capability, and global readiness of our students.

New ZentrumsHub Report: AI Agents Are Starting to Book Hotel Rooms - Is the Travel Industry Ready

Pune, Agency:

Soon, it may not be a person booking your hotel room. It may be their AI assistant. That's the shift at the heart of Hotel Distribution 2026, a new free report from ZentrumsHub, the hotel technology company that connects travel businesses to 100+ hotel suppliers through one simple API.

Instead of guessing about the future, ZentrumsHub looked at hard data: more than 1.5 million real hotel bookings made through 90+ online travel agencies over the past year. The team then compared what they found with research from Phocuswright, CoStar, and SiteMinder. The headline finding is simple: AI agents - tools that search, compare, and book on a traveller's behalf - are starting to enter the booking process. ZentrumsHub estimates that by the end of 2027, 5-8% of OTA bookings could be made by AI agents instead of humans clicking through websites. Why does that matter? Because AI agents don't shop like people do. "An AI agent doesn't scroll through pretty pictures.



SED to Develop India's Advanced 2G Ethanol Biorefinery with 150 Crore Government Financial Assistance under PM JI-VAN

Mohali, Agency: In a significant milestone for India's advanced biofuel journey, Spray Engineering Devices Limited (SED) has received approval for 150 crore financial assistance under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG)'s PM JI-VAN Yojana through the Centre for High Technology (CHT) for setting up a 91 KLPD Second Generation (2G) Ethanol Biorefinery at Wave Sugar, Dhanaura, Uttar Pradesh.

The project is among India's first privately developed commercial-scale 2G ethanol biorefineries integrating biomass gasification with advanced gas fermentation technology, creating a new pathway for converting agricultural residues into low-carbon fuels and future green chemical applications.



By integrating LanzaTech's globally recognized gas fermentation platform with Ankur Scientific Energy Technologies' indigenous oxygen-enriched biomass gasification technology in a thermally integrated configuration, the biorefinery will convert biomass-derived syngas into sustainable ethanol while creating

a pathway for the future production of green chemicals, sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) intermediates, and other renewable molecules. SED's collaboration with LanzaTech represents a significant step in bringing global carbon recycling innovation to India's biofuel ecosystem. Together with SED's decades of expertise in sugar and bioenergy engineering, the project demonstrates how indigenous capabilities, global technology partnerships, and supportive government policies can accelerate commercialization of advanced biofuels.

Speaking on the milestone, Mr. Vivek Verma, Managing Director, SED, said, "The future of the sugarcane industry lies beyond sugar and conventional ethanol. It lies in creating integrated bio-industrial

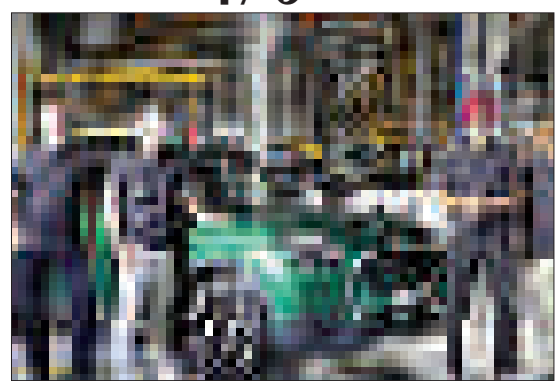
ecosystems where agricultural residues become a valuable resource for clean fuels, green chemicals, and sustainable economic growth." "This project is a major step towards realizing SED's Smart Village vision, where rural India can become a hub for next-generation bio-manufacturing. The Government's support under PM JI-VAN reinforces the role of advanced biofuels in strengthening India's energy security and reducing carbon emissions. By bringing together indigenous engineering, global technology partnerships, and local manufacturing capabilities, the project aligns with the vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India, while contributing to the broader ambitions of the Global Biofuel Alliance."

MINI starts India production of Countryman C, prices SUV at 47.5 lakh

New Delhi, Agency:

British premium automobile brand MINI has commenced local manufacturing of the all-new Countryman C at BMW Group's Chennai plant and launched the model in India at an introductory ex-showroom price of 47.5 lakh. The locally manufactured Countryman C becomes the most affordable variant in the Countryman range available in India and the second most affordable MINI model after the MINI Cooper, which is priced at 44.5 lakh.

"We are thrilled that this car will now be made in India, strategically strengthening the portfolio and offering an absolutely great value proposition. MINI is a highly aspirational brand for modern, urban Indian luxury customers. The Countryman C is tailor-made for individuals who demand robust utility and everyday versatility, but still want to make a distinct, expressive statement," said Hardeep Singh Brar, president and



chief executive officer, BMW Group India. The all-new MINI Countryman C will be available in five exterior colours - British Racing Green, Smokey Green, Nanaq White, Chili Red and Slate Blue.

"The all-new MINI Countryman C is definitively 'a new kind of BIG'. It beautifully evolves the traditional MINI silhouette into a commanding SUV with a bold look and a highly practical cabin tailored for family adventures, all while remaining entirely true to our iconic go-kart feeling," Brar added.

MAXHUB Showcases AI-Powered Collaboration and Display Solutions at InfoComm 2026

LAS VEGAS, Agency: As MAXHUB takes part in InfoComm 2026, the trusted solution provider in integrated commercial display and unified communications is showcasing its latest innovations in AI-powered collaboration and professional display technology. The exhibition runs from June 17-19 at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Opening Session at MAXHUB Booth So, what can visitors experience at MAXHUB Booth C7036 AI Meeting Experience in Action At InfoComm 2026, MAXHUB is demonstrating its AI Meeting Experience on the XBoard V7, showcasing how AI can simplify hybrid collaboration through intelligent audio and video optimization, real-time transcription, AI-assisted meeting controls, and automated meeting summaries.

Visitors can explore AI-enhanced workflows designed to

improve productivity before, during, and after meetings. Live meeting scenarios are simultaneously streamed to MAXHUB CMB Series commercial displays via NDI®, demonstrating seamless, low-latency content distribution across meeting and display environments.

Smarter Solutions for Modern Workspaces Alongside its AI collaboration capabilities, MAXHUB is presenting a portfolio of solutions designed to create more connected, efficient, and scalable workplace experiences.

Highlights include the CMB Series commercial displays with built-in NDI® technology, the Pivot platform for centralized device and content management, and an expanded Microsoft Teams Rooms portfolio featuring the Scheduling Panel SP10, Mic Pod DM30, and Universal Console TCP33T.

Asia Tech World Emerges as Connaught Place's Premier Boutique IT Studio Backed by 15+ Years of Digital Leadership and a 5.0-Star Google Reputation

New Delhi, Agency: The New Delhi-based studio, founded by industry veterans Chandan Singh and GS Negi, is rapidly becoming the go-to digital partner for ambitious Indian brands across EdTech, healthcare, real estate, jewellery, lifestyle sectors and many more sectors.

In the heart of Connaught Place, just five minutes from Rajiv Chowk Metro, sits an IT studio that has been quietly redefining what an Indian digital partner can deliver. Asia Tech World, founded by industry veterans Chandan Singh and GS Negi, has emerged in recent years as one of New Delhi's most trusted boutique IT and digital marketing studios - combining the craftsmanship of a design house with the technical depth of a software agency and the strategic muscle of a growth marketing firm. The studio's rise has been built not on aggressive marketing, but on some-



thing far rarer in the Indian agency landscape: consistent, senior-led delivery and a refusal to take on work it cannot be proud of. With a perfect 5.0-star rating on Google backed by veri-

fied client reviews, Asia Tech World today serves brands across nine industries - EdTech and civil services coaching, healthcare and hospitals, real estate, jewellery, fashion, hospitality, home decor, pharma and medicine, and FMCG retail.

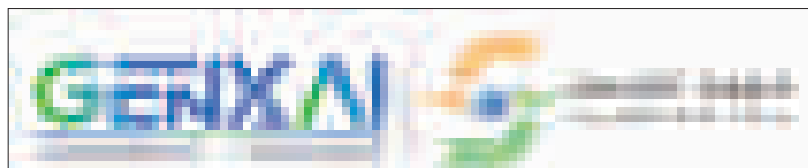
A Studio Born from Inside Experience: Asia Tech World's origin story is what sets it apart from a crowded Indian digital agency market.

Founder and Director Chandan Singh built his career on the client side, most prominently as the Head of Digital at Raus IAS, one of India's most respected civil services preparation institutes. Over his tenure, he led digital transformations that scaled revenue streams into 400 crores+, navigated 50 cores+ in Google Ads and major Google algorithm update of the past decade, and worked alongside dozens of digital agencies - many of which, he has often noted, were the inspiration for how Asia Tech World should not operate.

GenXAI Bets Big on Defence AI with ShortOrbit Partnership, Eyes USD 100 Million Growth Potentials

New Delhi, Agency: GenXAI, a fast-growing global EPM and AI company has joined hands with ShortOrbit Defence, a deep-technology company building AI-powered defence systems. This partnership puts homegrown Indian artificial intelligence at the centre of next-generation defence. The tie-up brings GenXAI's AI platforms into mission-critical defence applications.

The partnership grew out of a working relationship taking up co-innovation approach in various business segments with Content AI platform developed by GenXAI as one of its kind. ShortOrbit Defence went on to acquire a specialised Vision AI



model from that platform which is now integrated into SDRStrike Pro, an indigenous Software Defined Radio Testing Software being delivered to the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.

This platform capability deployment is a clear demonstration of GenXAI's core belief: that Indian-built AI can meet the highest standards of security, precision, and reliability demanded by national defence. The same technology founda-

tion now supports a broader suite of ShortOrbit products, including the post-quantum cryptographic platform CipherStrike Pro and the secure documentation system CryptoDoc.

As part of the partnership, Rakesh Agrawal, Founder and Executive Chairman of GenXAI, joins the board of ShortOrbit Defence as Executive Advisor. An IIM Lucknow alumnus with more than 25 years of leadership

experience, he will help guide the company's product strategy and its expansion into key international markets.

The collaboration marks a significant milestone for GenXAI as it enters a new chapter as a listed company. It also deepens the company's commitment to building world-class AI in India, for India and the world.

"We reaffirm our commitment to India's AI vision and the mission of Viksit Bharat," said Rakesh Agrawal, Founder and Executive Chairman of GenXAI. This partnership is about more than technology. It is about proving that AI developed in India can compete and

lead on the world stage, and about building the talent, skills, and industry readiness that will carry that ambition forward for years to come."

The partnership also advances the goal of self-reliance in defence technology. By replacing dependence on foreign systems with indigenous innovation, it strengthens the path for Indian-built solutions to reach international markets while easing pressure on domestic defence budgets through home-grown production. "India's future security will not be defined by the technologies we import, but by the technologies we create. At ShortOrbit, we are building

intelligent defence systems that empower our nation to detect, understand, and respond to emerging threats with complete technological sovereignty. This partnership is more than the development of an advanced Counter-Unmanned Aircraft System; it is a foundational step toward our larger vision of building a fully indigenous Electronic Warfare ecosystem for India.

By combining ShortOrbit's defence technology expertise with GenXAI's artificial intelligence capabilities, we are creating systems that can perceive, understand, and respond to modern threats with unprecedented speed and intelligence.

Vessels at the Strait of Hormuz, as seen from Musandam, Oman, June 15, 2026. REUTERS

Washington: Senior US officials on Wednesday read the memorandum of understanding with Iran to journalists after days of secrecy over what is in the document.

The officials spoke on condition of anonymity to read the deal before a formal signing ceremony set for Friday. Iranian state TV later released the text that largely tracked what the US put out.

Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, whose country has been mediating between the sides, later said the leaders of the US and Iran had signed the deal and it "shall enter into force with immediate effect".

Here is what is in the deal. The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran and their allies in the current war by signing this MOU declare the immediate and permanent termination of military operations on all fronts, including in Lebanon, and undertake from now on not to initiate any war or any military operation against each other and to refrain from the

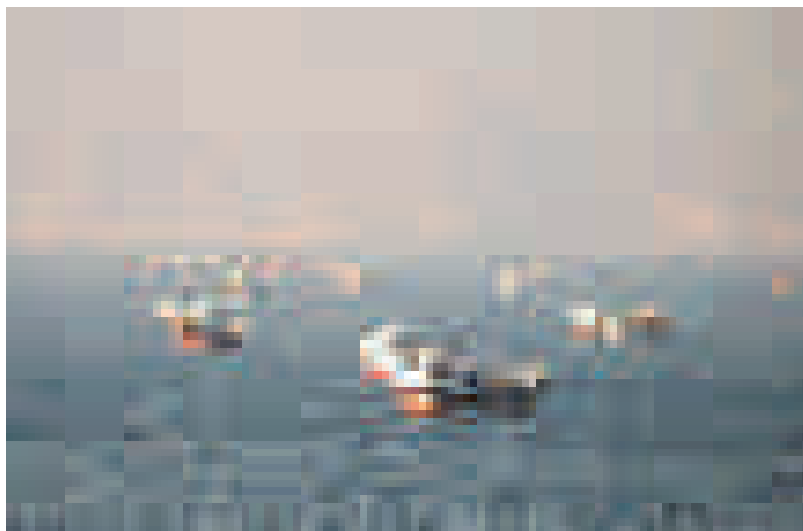
threat or use of force against each other and ensuring the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Lebanon.

The final deal will confirm the permanent termination of the war on all fronts including in Lebanon and other provisions of this paragraph.

The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran undertake to respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity and to refrain from interfering in each other's internal affairs.

The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran commit to negotiating and achieving the final deal in maximum 60 days extendable with mutual consent.

Immediately upon the signing of this MOU, the United States of America will begin the removal of its naval blockade and any disturbances or impediments against the Islamic Republic of Iran and will fully end the naval blockade within 30 days. During this period, the traffic of vessels will be in



proportion to the numbers of prewar traffic being restored by the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The United States of America further undertakes to remove its forces from the proximity of the Islamic Republic of Iran within 30 days after the final deal.

Upon the signing of this MOU, the Islamic Republic of Iran will make arrangements using its best efforts for the safe passage of commercial vessels with no charge for 60 days only from the Persian Gulf to the Sea of

Oman and vice versa.

The traffic of commercial vessels will immediately start and, considering the needs for removing the technical and military obstacles and demining by the Islamic Republic of Iran, will be instated within 30 days.

The Islamic Republic of Iran will conduct dialogue with the Sultanate of Oman to define the future administration and maritime services in the Strait of Hormuz in discussion with other Persian Gulf littoral states in line with the applicable

international law and the sovereign rights of coastal states of the Strait of Hormuz.

The United States of America undertakes with regional partners to develop a definitive mutually agreed plan with at least USD 300 billion for the reconstruction and economic development of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The mechanism for the implementation of this plan will be finalised as part of a final deal within 60 days.

All required licences, waivers and permissions needed for the relevant financial transactions will be granted by the United States of America.

The United States of America undertakes to terminate all types of sanctions against the Islamic Republic of Iran, including the United Nations Security Council resolutions, IAEA Board of Governors resolutions and all unilateral US sanctions, primary and secondary, in an agreed upon schedule as part of the final deal.

The Islamic Republic of

Iran and the United States of America acknowledge the critical importance of the sanctions termination issue above mentioned and express their intentions to immediately address these issues in the negotiations in order to achieve mutual agreement on them.

The Islamic Republic of Iran reaffirms that it shall not procure or develop nuclear weapons.

The United States of America and the Islamic Republic of Iran have agreed to resolve the disposition of stockpile enriched material pursuant to a mechanism that will be mutually agreed upon in accordance with the schedule mentioned in Paragraph 7 with the minimum methodology to be downblending on site under the supervision of the IAEA.

The two parties also agreed to discuss the issue of enrichment and other mutually agreed matters related to the Islamic Republic of Iran's nuclear needs, based on a satisfactory framework being agreed upon in the final deal.

If they were attacked, we'd be there to help them Trump reaffirms defence ties with India

Washington: US President Donald Trump on Wednesday praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a "very tough negotiator" and said he would visit India in the future, as the two leaders met on the sidelines of the G7 Summit here.

Responding to a question on India-US defence relationship, Trump said: "I think it is a great relationship - If they (India) were attacked, we would be there to help them."

If anybody attacks that man (Modi), we are going to be there," Trump said.

Trump also said India has a "big role" in West Asia as long as PM Modi is a leader.

Responding to a question on how close the two



countries were to finalising a trade deal, Trump lauded Modi's negotiating skills.

"Very close," Trump said while speaking alongside Modi. "We have been there for a little while. He is a very tough negotiator. One of the toughest."

Praising the prime minister in his trademark style, Trump said, "He is the most beautiful looking man, he looks so nice, he is like an angel. But actually he is just tough, he is a killer.

But he looks so good, he gets you by surprise. People say he is such a nice man, I say he is very tough, he is a tough trader," the US president said, as Modi sat beside him smiling and visibly amused.

And he loves the Indian people. But he also loves the US," Trump said as he

referred to the "Howdy, Modi!" event held in Texas in 2019.

As Modi interjected with a reference to the "Namaste Trump" event held in Ahmedabad in 2020, Trump said, "We will be going to India some time in the future."

Trump recalled his 2020 India visit and said he had a "great time", highlighting the large crowd that had gathered to see him. The remarks came during a press briefing after talks between the two leaders on the sidelines of the G7 Summit held in this French commune. Their wide-ranging talks focused on the proposed bilateral trade deal, defence and security ties, and the West Asia crisis.

Modi, Zelensky discuss restoring India-Ukraine trade to pre-war levels

Paris: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday held talks with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Evian, with the two leaders reviewing bilateral cooperation and agreeing on the need to restore trade ties to pre-conflict levels.

In a post on X after the meeting, Modi said India and Ukraine had witnessed extensive engagement in recent times across different sectors and that the discussions focused on various aspects of bilateral cooperation.

"We both agree that trade ties need to be restored to what they were in the pre-war time," the Prime Minister said.

Modi also reiterated India's long-standing position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict, asserting that New Delhi would continue to stand on the side of peace.

India will always be on the side of peace, placing the values



of humanity over everything else," he said.

The meeting comes amid renewed diplomatic efforts by several countries to seek an end to the Russia-Ukraine War and restore economic stability disrupted by the prolonged conflict.

India has maintained close engagement with both Kyiv and Moscow, while consistently advocating dialogue and diplomacy as the only path to peace.

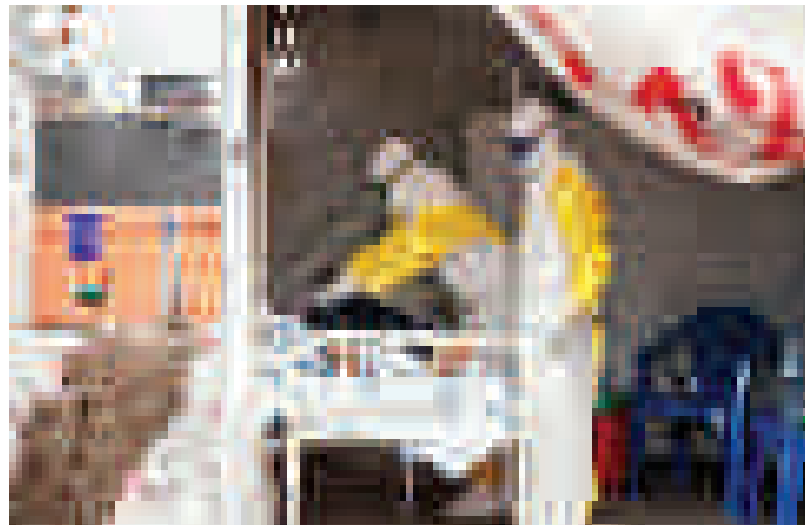
Traditional healers pose a challenge to Africa's efforts to control Ebola outbreak

Bunia: Whenever Ebola comes, some of the afflicted choose the road to the nearest hospital. Others take the path to the shrine of a traditional healer, often with devastating consequences.

Many view the onset of hemorrhagic fever as a spiritual affliction and seek out herbs and prayers instead of going to the hospital. This is the case now in Congo, which is suffering its seventeenth outbreak of Ebola since 1976, when the virus was first identified in the rich Congo Basin ecosystem.

Five decades later, the virus continues to mystify many of the sick in Africa while turning religious leaders into first responders in a deadly emergency. The current outbreak's victims include health workers without protective gear as well as pastors and worshippers who gathered while Ebola was spreading, according to humanitarian workers and others who spoke to The Associated Press.

Ebola spreads through



close contact with sick or deceased patients' bodily fluids. The current outbreak is particularly worrisome in a region where many are distrustful of health workers and refuse to seek medical care.

In Bunia, a town in Ituri province that is the outbreak's epicenter, misinformation about Ebola has made it harder for health workers to respond to the outbreak that has so far killed at least 181 people. One rumor suggests that

Ebola is spread by malicious people who drop magical charms tied to dollar bills down pit latrines.

Some people still describe Ebola as something mysterious, spiritual, or brought by outsiders, rather than a disease that needs medical care," said Onesphore Banganza of the aid group Mercy Corps, speaking from Bunia. "When people do not trust the health system, they often go first to traditional healers, faith leaders, or people they already know.

Jeremy Clarkson reveals cancer diagnosis on his show, leaving fans absolutely devastated: 'You're so brave. I'm sorry

Doncaster : British TV personality Jeremy Clarkson revealed that he had been diagnosed with prostate cancer in the final 'Clarkson's Farm' episodes. Prior to the show's airing, he took to social media to warn his fans that he would share sombre news.

"Ordinarily we try to keep the show bucolic and charming, and cheerful, but two episodes which drop in the middle of the night tonight are, they're none of those things," he said on Instagram. "They're a difficult watch, they're really, really difficult."

Later, in the show, he told "I've cancer" to farm manager Kaleb Cooper and consultant Charlie Ireland.

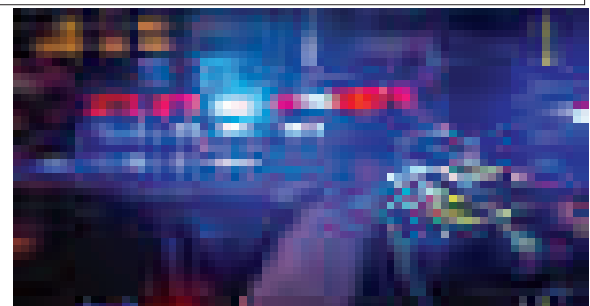
The 66-year-old former Top Gear presenter didn't clarify what stage of cancer he had been diagnosed with. However, he described it as "aggressive".

"I disappeared off the other week and I had a biopsy, and it is cancer, and it's aggressive, but it's really early," he said. He said that he had known about the diagnosis since May, and as part of the treatment, a part of his prostate was removed.

"I promise I'll be fine," said Clarkson after revealing his illness. While Cooper asked the presenter to look after himself, Ireland said, "I wish you a very speedy recovery."

Fans are devastated:

The shocking news left fans devastated, prompting a massive wave of emotional reactions across social media. While many users expressed profound sorrow over his



cancer diagnosis, countless others rallied behind him, offering unwavering support and wishing him a full, speedy recovery.

An individual wrote, "You're so brave. I'm so sorry." Another added, "We're all rooting for you, Jeremy. Stay strong, mate, you mean so much to so many people, take care of yourself."

A third expressed, "That was the last thing we were expecting to hear. Sending you guys all our love and best wishes." A fourth commented, "Keep fighting, Jeremy. My dad had prostate cancer twice, once in his 40s and again in his 70s. He made a full recovery both times and lived to the grand age of 91. Sending prayers."

Jeremy Clarkson's partner shares a post: Lisa Hogan, an Irish former model and sculptor, who has been dating Clarkson since 2017, shared an Instagram story in support. She posted a screenshot of a post by Prostate Cancer UK, where the organisation thanked Jeremy Clarkson for "sharing his prostate cancer diagnosis and treatment in #ClarksonsFarm, raising vital awareness with the millions of men and families watching.

Raj Arjun's emotional post for his daughter Sara

He said, "My life changed with your arrival."

On actress Sara Arjun's birthday, her father, actor Raj Arjun, penned an emotional note to wish her. In this heartwarming message shared on social media, he described how Sara's arrival transformed his life, filling it with happiness and meaning. Posting special photos with his daughter on X (formerly Twitter), Raj Arjun wrote, "Sara, my child... today is your birthday. Whenever I sit down to write your name, it feels like a poem is taking shape. Perhaps because some names aren't just names; they are a feeling, a prayer, a sense of peace, an entire sky." He continued, "Life was moving along even before you arrived. Days passed, nights went by. I had everything—yet it was like a house where a lamp is lit, but the light doesn't quite linger. Then you came, and radiance began to fill the scattered moments of my life. The

peace of your presence is like the shade of a tree after long exhaustion, or the silence that settles over the heart after a prayer. Some bonds transcend prayers; one simply bows one's head in gratitude for them—gratitude to the Almighty, to time, and to that blessing which descended into my arms one day, inscribing your name upon the pages of my life." He added, "Happy birthday, my darling. Because of you, there is light in my mornings. Because of you, there is peace in my evenings. Because of you, there is faith in my prayers, and because of you, I have a world." As for Sara Arjun, she has been one of the most well-known child artists in the Indian entertainment industry. She began her career at a very young age, working in numerous television commercials before successfully transitioning into films. Over

the past few years, she has worked on several acclaimed projects across multiple languages.

Raj Arjun said, "People often ask what life has given me. I never offer an answer, because some answers cannot be put into words; they can only be seen and felt. For me, that answer is you—and the truth is, I don't pray for you."



Tum Hi Ho Bandhu' to resonate again in Cocktail 2

Shahid, Rashmika, and Kriti showcase electrifying dance moves in the new music version.



In Bollywood, there are certain songs that remain etched in people's memories long after their release. One such popular track is "Tum Hi Ho Bandhu" from the film *Cocktail*; it remains a favorite among music lovers to this day. Now, this iconic track is set to make a comeback in a fresh avatar through the film *Cocktail 2*. The song will be pre-

sented with a completely new musical touch and a modern sound. The makers state that reimagining an old song is a significant responsibility, as people hold emotional attachments to it, requiring any changes to be handled with great care. Actor Shahid Kapoor shared a glimpse of the song on his Instagram; the video features Shahid

Kapoor, Rashmika Mandanna, and Kriti Sanon performing an energetic dance routine to the track. In the caption accompanying the post, Shahid wrote, "The film *Cocktail 2* is set to release on June 19, and we are incredibly excited about it." The original version of the song was composed by renowned music director Pritam Chakraborty. The lyrics were penned by famous lyricist Irshad Kamil, while the vocals were provided by Kavita Seth and Neeraj Shridhar. The song is celebrated for its energy, fun vibe, and themes of friendship. This new version has been produced by music producer Abhijit Vaghani. He has endeavored to adapt the song to contemporary musical styles, ensuring it appeals to today's youth while preserving the cherished memories of long-time fans. Abhijit Vaghani remarked, "Recreating such a popular and beloved song is no easy task. Its greatest strength is its timeless charm, which resonates with people even today. Consequently, we had to be extremely careful during the recreation process. Our goal was to retain the song's original magic while infusing it with new musical textures and a modern touch, making it even more appealing for today's audience."



There is so much to do; Amitabh Bachchan said, "I wish the day had 36 hours instead of 24"

Bollywood megastar Amitabh Bachchan once again amused his fans with his witty style. He remarked that a 24-hour day is insufficient and suggested it should be 36 hours long, as there is still so much left to do. However, wrapping up on a lighthearted note, he mentioned that it was time to watch a football match. Amitabh Bachchan, famously known as 'Shahenshah', shared his thoughts on the scarcity of time in his blog. He wrote that there is so much to accomplish within 24 hours that the day ought to be 36 hours long; yet, the philosophy of life suggests that even if that were to happen, the conversation would eventually shift to making it 48 hours. Sharing his experience, he noted that time keeps moving forward, and everything else moves along with it. While mentioning his plan to watch a football match, 'Big B' added, "So come on, folks, let's watch the game played with the feet." He also posted on the social media platform X, writing, "T 5775 - Hahahaha. what fun. This post was likely related to a match—possibly a 1-1 draw—involving Portugal and Congo during the FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers. On the work front, Amitabh Bachchan is currently busy with his upcoming film, Kalki 2898 AD. Directed by Nag Ashwin, this is a fantasy sci-fi film featuring actors such as Prabhas, Kamal Haasan, Deepika Padukone, and Disha Patani in pivotal roles."

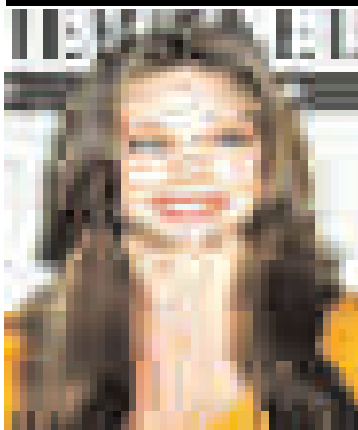
Speaking about Tamasha, Imtiaz Ali said, "Sometimes, even one's own film feels strange"



Filmmaker Imtiaz Ali's film Main Vyapar Aaunga is getting good response from the audience. Meanwhile, he said an interesting thing about his famous film Tamasha, which attracted the attention of the fans. He said in an interview to IANS that sometimes even he himself does not feel that he had made this film. During the interview, IANS asked Imtiaz Ali whether he feels some kind of emotional connection with the films made by him or does he distance himself from them with time, to which he said, when I watch my film Tamasha, sometimes I do not even feel that it is my film. He said, when I watch a scene, for a few moments I feel that it has been created by someone else.

Film industry plunged into grief

Actress who became a household name at the age of 35 passes away



Sad news has emerged from the Hollywood film industry: renowned actress and voice artist Daveigh Chase

has passed away at the age of 35. News of her sudden demise has left fans and the entertainment world in deep shock. Thousands of fans are paying tribute and sharing memories on social media. Daveigh Chase became a household name thanks to the horror film *The Ring*; even today, she is widely recognized by that association. Fans are devastated by the news of her passing. She had

been battling illness; according to media reports, Daveigh Chase had been facing serious health issues for some time. It is reported that she was suffering from pneumonia and a severe blood infection. The spread of the infection affected multiple organs, causing her condition to deteriorate steadily. Ultimately, she passed away while undergoing treatment.

Tina Datta will reveal a new avatar in 'Personal Trainer 2'

She said, "Both my character and I are fitness enthusiasts"

There is a lot of buzz in the OTT world about the new web series *Personal Trainer 2*. Popular TV actress Tina Datta plays the role of fitness trainer Neha Malhotra in the show. Expressing her excitement about the project, she mentioned that she connected with the role instantly because fitness is an integral part of her real life. Her daily routine includes yoga, gym workouts, and Pilates, which made it easier for her to understand the char-



acter. Tina Datta said, "My character, Neha Malhotra, is a fitness enthusiast with many shades. As the story progresses, the true nature and various facets of the character will gradually be revealed. That is what makes the role so interesting." She added, "Viewers will see me in an avatar I have never portrayed before. As soon as I understood the story of the

first season, I immediately agreed to the second season. This project promises to be a unique and fresh experience in my career. Alongside Tina, actors like Akanksha Puri, Poonam Pandey, and Rahul Sudhir will also appear in pivotal roles in the series. Speaking about her experience working on the series, Tina Datta said, "I had a wonderful time during the shoot; working with Akanksha Puri, in particular, was a delightful experience. We are both very serious about fitness, so we would often share workout and health tips on set."

