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2 die in Russia's
largest aerial
attack on Ukraine



Edit Interest always, not friendship **P.8**

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MISHAP | Workers collapsed while cleaning tank, officials suspect delayed alert

Gas leak kills 3 at Pithampur oil plant

FP News Service
INDORE/MHOW

Three workers died after inhaling toxic gas during tank cleaning at Sagar Shri Oil Company in Pithampur's Bagdun area on Sunday night.

The victims Sunil (35), Deepak (30) and Jagdish were residents of Indorama, Pithampur.

The leak took place around 8:30 pm. One worker fainted first and two others collapsed while trying to help him.

All three were found unconscious and rushed to a nearby hospital, then referred to MY Hospital in Indore, where doctors declared them dead on arrival.

Company manager Lokesh Gupta confirmed the se-



quence of events. However, reports suggest a delay in informing authorities, raising serious questions about response time.

Bagdun police station in-charge Rajendra Soni reached the spot after being alerted. DIG Manoj Singh has ordered a detailed inquiry and formed a team to investigate the cause of the leak, the delay in reporting and potential safety lapses.

Bodies have been sent for postmortem. Families were

Probe to focus on safety compliance

Officials say the probe will also focus on gaps in safety compliance and recommend measures to prevent such incidents. Compensation details for victims' families are awaited

informed on site.

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Russian min pushes for Hindi in varsities

Online Report

Deputy Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation, Konstantin Mogilevsky has pushed for Hindi to be studied at university level in Russian Universities.

In an interview to news agency TASS, he explained that India is the world's most populous country today and more Indians are choosing to express themselves in

Hindi in their daily lives than English. "We want more of our students to study Hindi", he said.

Mogilevsky also said that young people who want to study Hindi have more opportunities now than before. He listed universities teaching Hindi in Moscow and said, "In Moscow alone, there is MGIMO, RSUH, the Institute of Asian and African Studies at Moscow State University, and the Moscow



State Linguistic University. The number of students enrolled in Hindi is increasing, and the number of groups is

two to three times larger."

Moreover, Hindi learning is not limited to Moscow but opportunities are also growing across Russia including at St. Petersburg State and Kazan Federal universities. This comes in the backdrop of the Trump administration doubling India's tariffs to 50 per cent on August 27, to punish it for buying Russian oil and fuelling the Ukraine war. New Delhi, in 2022, had become a major

importer of Russian crude at the start of the Russia-Ukraine war.

India is strengthening its ties with US adversaries such as China, Russia and North Korea. At a summit hosted by Chinese President Xi Jinping in Tianjin, Prime Minister Narendra Modi can be seen holding hands with Russian President Vladimir Putin.

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fp Briefs

SOUTHAMPTON

England erupts

England's batting juggernaut fired on all cylinders as they hammered 414/5 and then bowled out South Africa for just 72, sealing a 342-run victory – their biggest-ever ODI win by runs, surpassing the 242-run margin vs Australia (2018).

TOKYO

Japan PM Ishiba resigns

Japan's Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba announced Sunday he will step down following growing calls from his party to take responsibility for a historic defeat in July's parliamentary election.

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Undersea cable cut in Red Sea disrupts internet

AP DUBAI

Undersea cable cuts in the Red Sea disrupted internet access in parts of Asia and the Middle East, experts said Sunday, though it wasn't immediately clear what caused the incident.

There has been concern about the cables being targeted in a Red Sea campaign by Yemen's Houthi rebels, which the rebels describe as an effort to pressure Israel to end its war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip. But the Houthis have denied attacking the lines in the past.

Undersea cables are one of the backbones of the internet, along with satellite connections and land-based cables. Typically, internet service providers have multiple access points and reroute traffic if one fails, though it can slow down access for users.

Microsoft announced via a status website that the Mid-east "may experience increased latency due to undersea fibre cuts in the Red Sea." The Redmond, Washington-based firm did not im-



mediately elaborate, though it said that internet traffic not moving through the Middle East "is not impacted." Net-Blocks, which monitors internet access, said "a series of subsea cable outages in the Red Sea has degraded internet connectivity in multiple countries," which it said included India and Pakistan. It blamed "failures affecting the SMW4 and IMEWE cable systems near Jeddah, Saudi Arabia." The South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 4 cable is run by Tata Communications, part of the Indian conglomerate. The India-Middle East-Western Europe cable is run by another consortium overseen by Alcatel Submarine Networks. Neither firm responded to requests for comment.

► Continued on | P.10

Head of US lobbying firm hired by India meets Trump

PTI WASHINGTON

Political lobbyist Jason Miller, whose lobbying was hired by India, met US President Donald Trump and a few officials of his administration, against the backdrop of tensions in ties between the two countries over Washington's policy on trade and tariffs.

Miller heads SHW Partners LLC that was hired by the Indian embassy in April reportedly for USD 1.8 million for a year. Miller did not mention the purpose of his meeting with Trump and other officials, but posted several photos including one with Trump on social media.

Navarro criticises India again

White House trade adviser Peter Navarro has once again criticised India for continuing to procure Russian oil. "Wow. @elon-musk is letting propaganda into people's posts. That crap note below is just that. Crap. India buys Russia oil solely to profiteer. It didn't buy any before Russia invaded Ukraine. Indian govt spin machine moving high tilt. Stop killing Ukrainians. Stop taking American jobs," Navarro said in a post on X on Saturday.

INDIA'S KING-SIZED COMEBACK

FOUR-EVER FIERCE | Clinical India crush Korea 4-1, lift Asia Cup crown



India's Dilpreet Singh (2) celebrates with teammates after scoring a goal during a men's Hockey Asia Cup 2025 final against Korea in Rajgir on Sunday PTI

PTI RAJGIR

Dilpreet Singh struck twice as India roared past defending champions South Korea 4-1 to reclaim the Asia Cup hockey title after an eight-year wait and seal a direct berth for the 2026 FIH World Cup in Belgium & Netherlands.

► Continued on | P.10

Stat Attack

4 India's 4th Asia Cup title (2003, 2007, 2017, 2025). Korea stuck at 5 titles, India now second-most successful team.

‘Child’s testimony enough if reliable’

PTI NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has upheld a man's 12-year jail term for raping a 10-year old girl in 2017, saying the child's testimony inspired confidence and was reliable, and the conviction could rest upon it alone.

Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri passed the order on September 3, while dismissing an

Judge noted that child's stand remained consistent and credible, and the accused was not able to demolish her testimony in cross-examination

appeal filed by the convict Tonyy.

"The settled position of

law is that even if the victim is the sole witness to the incident, a conviction can be sustained if her testimony is found to be credible and reliable. If the testimony of the child victim inspires confidence and is reliable, the conviction can rest upon it," the judge said.

According to the FIR, the convict worked at a wood workshop near the child's school and lured her with

food items such as chowmein and 'kachori', before repeatedly raping her inside his shop.

He further threatened to "drown her in a drain or cut her like a piece of wood" if she disclosed the abuse.

The judge noted that child's stand remained consistent and credible, and the accused was not able to demolish her testimony in cross-examination.

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MONSOON SYSTEMS ACTIVE | East to see heavier showers, west slightly subdued

STATE DRENCHED, more rain in store

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Widespread rain will continue across Madhya Pradesh, as active monsoon systems bring steady weather activity, said officials of the meteorological department. While rain is expected in most parts, eastern MP is likely to witness more intense showers than the western region.

Between June 1 and September 7, MP has received 24% surplus rainfall. Regionally, eastern MP recorded a 20% surplus, while western MP registered a 28% surplus so far.

Bhopal remained under cloudy skies throughout Sunday, with intermittent showers



Cloudy weather in Bhopal on Sunday

continuing for the past three to four days.

A yellow alert has been issued for moderate thunderstorms with lightning and rain over Jabalpur, Narsinghpur,

Seoni, Chhindwara, Rewa, Mauganj, Sidhi and Singrauli. Light rain is likely in Katni, Damoh, Sagar, Satna (Chitrakoot), Raisen (Bhimbetka, Sanchi), Narmadapuram

(Pachmarhi), Betul, Balaghat, Pandhurna (Pench), Mandla (Kanha), Panna (TR), Chhatarpur (Khajuraho), Tikamgarh, Niwari (Orchha), Barwani (Bawangaja), Khargone (Mahesh-

Monsoon meter

- MP sees 24% surplus rainfall so far
- East MP: 20% surplus, west MP: 28% surplus
- Yellow alert in 8 districts for thunderstorms, lightning
- Troughs, depression, and cyclonic circulations fuelling rain

north Gujarat and adjoining southwest Rajasthan, moving through Sheopur, Guna, Damoh, and then east-south-east towards the Bay of Bengal.

The trough is now aligned with a cyclonic circulation associated with this depression. Another upper air cyclonic circulation lies over southeast Uttar Pradesh and its neighbourhood.

The depression over southwest Rajasthan and surrounding areas has moved south-westward, covering parts of north Gujarat and adjacent southwest Rajasthan.

These systems are expected to trigger widespread rain across MP in the next 24 hours, the department added.

war), Dhar (Mandu), Alirajpur, Jhabua, Indore, Ujjain (Mahakaleshwar) and Ratlam (Dholwad). The monsoon trough currently passes through the centre of a depression over

Cyber cops launch drive against PoS agents selling SIM cards to commen

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Cyber crime branch police have launched a crackdown on Point of Sale (PoS) agents who have been duping people by activating duplicate SIM cards using their Aadhaar card details. The move comes after investigators found that several agents across states were running a fraudulent scheme that supplied fake SIMs to cyber criminals.

According to cyber police officials, the modus operandi is simple yet dangerous. PoS agents lure customers by offering free or low-cost SIM cards at public places, markets under temporary canopies. Once a person agrees, the agent collects their Aadhaar details, photograph, and fingerprint. Pretending that the first biometric scan has failed, the agent asks the customer to provide the fingerprint for second time.

This allows the agent to activate two SIM cards on the same Aadhaar number, one is given to the unsuspecting customer, while the second is sold to fraudsters for a hefty price. Cyber cops said that these SIMs often ended up on dark online networks, where they are bought by cyber gangs to carry out scams and financial



frauds while remaining untraceable.

To curb the menace, Bhopal cyber crime branch has intensified its drive against such PoS agents. Over the past few months, agents from different states including Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Uttar Pradesh have been caught with dozens of illegally activated SIM cards. Investigations revealed that several of them were working in coordination with interstate networks that specialize in selling fake SIMs.

"People should be extremely cautious if someone offers them a free SIM card or asks for repeated biometric scans. These are red flags, and such cases must be reported immediately," Additional DCP (crime) Shailendra Singh Chauhan said.

Since December 2024, the branch has tracked down over 20 PoS agents and SIM sellers across different cases. Officials said that the campaign would continue till the supply chain of fraudulent SIM cards is dismantled.

Temple doors closed due to lunar eclipse



Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Temples across the city remained closed from 12 noon on Sunday as part of religious observance during the lunar eclipse. According to temple priests, the doors will be reopened at 3.45 a.m. on Monday (September 8) for purification rituals including Samprokshana.

Devotees will be allowed to resume darshan as per regular schedules after the completion of these rites, priests said.

The closure comes in line with the 'Sutak Kaal' — a period considered inauspicious in Hindu belief — which begins nine hours before a lunar eclipse. This was the second total lunar eclipse of 2025, a celestial event where

the Sun, Earth, and Moon align, casting Earth's shadow over the Moon and turning it a deep red hue.

President of Hindu Utsav Samiti (HUS), Pt Chandrashekar Tiwari, said temple doors were shut ceremoniously in view of the eclipse and will reopen after 'Suddhi' (purification) rituals are performed at around 3 p.m. on Monday.

"In many temples, doors were closed by 2 pm on Sunday. After necessary purification rituals, devotees will be allowed inside from Monday afternoon," Tiwari said.

The tradition, rooted deeply in Hindu customs, is meant to preserve spiritual sanctity of temple spaces during cosmic events like eclipses, considered unfavourable for worship or ritual activities.

Eclipse decoded at science centre

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

The Regional Science Centre (RSC) on Sunday organised a YouTube Live interactive session to explain the progressive stages of the Total lunar eclipse, drawing curious minds from across the city.

The session, held in sync with the celestial event, offered viewers real-time insights into how a total lunar eclipse unfolds, from penumbral shading to totality and back.

In addition to the live stream, RSC conducted an interactive-cum-demonstrative session that showcased the different types of solar and lunar eclipses using engaging models and hands-on demonstrations.

An open-house quiz titled "The Moon and the Eclipse" added to the excitement, with participants of all ages answering enthusiastically.

The event saw the active participation of around 50 people, including students and members of the general public, making it both an educational and enjoyable experience.

'Villages are examples of self-reliance'

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Chief minister Mohan Yadav dedicated to public and laid foundation stone of development works worth Rs 241.33 crore in Mauganj on Sunday. He also disbursed benefits of welfare schemes to the beneficiaries.

Addressing the function, he said that villages were a living example of self-reliance. Recently, approval was given for Hanumana lift irrigation project, which will irrigate more



Chief minister Mohan Yadav views Bahuti waterfall in Mauganj on Sunday

than 1.40 lakh hectare land in Rewa, Singrauli and Mauganj district. He reiterated that monthly benefit given to Ladli

Behnas would be increased to Rs 1,500 from Diwali and by 2028, this sum would go up to Rs 3,000 per month.

Minor girl rescued from Gujarat, accused held

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Shahjehanabad police on Sunday rescued a 13-year-old girl from abductors and arrested the accused from Morbi in Gujarat.

The girl's family had reported her missing from Eidgah Hills, following which police registered a case of abduction against unidentified person.

During investigation, suspicion fell on Rohit Malviya, 25, a resident of Thuna Kalan, Se-

hore, who had been staying near the victim's house and was also missing since the incident.

DCP Riyaz Iqbal said technical surveillance and questioning of his relatives revealed that he had taken the girl to Gujarat. A police team traced him to Morbi, where both the accused and the minor were found. The girl has been safely handed over to her family.

The accused has been produced before court and sent to judicial custody for 15 days.

Elderly man, granddaughter swept away in river

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

A tragic incident occurred in Berasia on Sunday morning when a 70-year-old man and his granddaughter were swept away in Baahi River when pitrapaksh ritual was being performed.

According to reports, Babulal Sahu (70), a resident of Khajuria Ramdas village, had gone with his 12-year-old granddaughter Chinko and a grandson to perform tarpan at 9 am.



During the ritual, the girl accidentally slipped into the river. In an attempt to save her, Sahu jumped into the water but was caught in the strong current along with the child. Locals tried to rescue them,

but the powerful flow carried both of them away. After nearly three-and-a-half hours of search, Sahu's body was recovered about half a kilometre downstream.

The girl, however, remains missing and is feared drowned. SDRF teams are continuing search operations in the river. Berasia police station incharge Virendra Sen said efforts were on to trace the child. Body of the elderly man has been sent for post-mortem.

Young woman raped by former tutor, FIR registered

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

A 19-year-old psychology student was allegedly raped by her former tutor. On her complaint, an FIR has been registered against the accused at Misrod police station on Saturday night. Further investigations are underway in this connection, police said.

As per the complaint, victim a resident of Agar Malwa, has been studying psychology in Bhopal and was living in a paying guest accommodation.

She had been in a relationship with her former tutor, Samarth Bhavsar, for four

years. She came in contact with Bhavsar as he used to teach her and her younger sister.

About four months ago, Bhavsar asked the victim to meet him. He took her to a local hotel where he allegedly sexually assaulted her multiple times.

When the victim resisted, he promised to marry her soon. Recently, Bhavsar severed all contact with the victim and blocked her mobile number. The victim then went to the Misrod police station and filed a complaint. Police have registered a case of rape against Samarth Bhavsar and are actively searching for him.

NHRC seeks action taken report from govt in 10 days

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

The NHRC has issued notices to the principal secretary of the state health department and Indore's district magistrate over a complaint alleging that a newborn died and others were injured due to "rat attacks" inside a hospital, officials said on Sunday.

The case, following the complaint related to the alleged incident, was registered by the National Human Rights Commission on September 4, according to its proceedings.

The member of the Commission Priyank Kanoongo in its notice, has directed authorities that the allegations levelled in the complaint be

INDORE RAT ATTACK CASE

inquired into, and asked to submit an "action taken report within 10 days" for commission's perusal. The complaint, as per the proceedings of the case is, 'Network for Access to Justice'.

The death of two newborn girls bitten by rats in the ICU of the government-run Maharaja Yeshwantrao Hospital was reported recently.

The complainant has alleged that, "this horrifying event highlights gross medical negligence and a complete failure to ensure basic hygiene and patient safety".

Such a "lapse" not only breaches the trust of citizens

in public healthcare, but also constitutes a serious violation of the Right to Life and Health under Article 21 of the Constitution, reads the proceedings.

The allegations made in the complaint prima facie seem to be serious violation of the human rights of the victims, the NHRC said. "The Registry is directed to issue a notice to the principal secretary, department of health and Family Welfare, government of Madhya Pradesh, Bhopal, and DM, Indore, with directions to get the allegations made in the complaint inquired into, and to submit an Action Taken Report within 10 days for perusal of the Commission," reads the proceedings.

district

Rising thefts, unsolved cases in Shivpuri raise eyebrows

FP News Service
SHIVPURI

Incidents of theft and firing are steadily increasing in Shivpuri, raising concerns about public safety. On Saturday, thieves struck two houses in Narendra Nagar under Physical police station and another in Gandhi Colony under City Kotwali. Shockingly, the culprits allegedly used anesthesia to render families unconscious before committing the crime.

Among the victims was the nephew of SDOP Rajiv Singh Bhadoria, whose house was burgled after thieves broke in through a rear window. Losses reported include Rs 15-17 lakh from the house of Vipin Rathore, Rs 3-4 lakh from neigh-



bor Neeru Tomar's residence, and jewellery and cash worth Rs 1.5 lakh from Divyansh Bhadoria's home.

Meanwhile, a poor family living in Professor Colony continues to await justice 23 days after their home was looted on Janmashtami night. Despite filing a complaint, the Physical police have allegedly avoided

registering an FIR, providing only a blank Panchnama instead. The distraught family claims even basic items including food from their fridge, were stolen.

Adding to public frustration, the firing case at the residence of senior clerk Gajadhar Prasad Khare, which occurred two months ago, remains un-

Culprits allegedly used anesthesia to render families unconscious before committing the crime. Among the victims was the nephew of SDOP Rajiv Singh

solved. Despite CCTV cameras installed in the area, police have neither identified suspects nor gathered concrete evidence. Locals allege that cameras often malfunction whenever major crimes occur, raising suspicions about negligence or collusion.

Additional SP Sanjeev Mule told Free Press that it was true that thefts have taken place in both the police station areas of Shivpuri. "We are tracing thieves. And to prevent such thefts, we are installing check points at various places," he added.

Over 5,000 runners join sixth half marathon, participants from 20 states

FP News Service
SATNA

The sixth edition of Satna Half Marathon organised by Pt Ganesh Prasad Mishra Seva Nyas, concluded with great enthusiasm on Sunday. The event, flagged off by Madhya Pradesh School Education and Transport Minister Rao Uday Pratap Singh, began at Government Utkrisht Venkat No. 1 Sports Complex, Dhawari.

The marathon featured three categories 21 km, 10 km, and 5 km. A total of 5,332 participants from 85 districts across 20 states joined the race including 972 women runners. The winners were awarded prize money exceeding Rs. 4 lakh.

The city witnessed a festive spirit as runners were wel-



comed with cheers and support at several points along the route. Senior leaders and dignitaries including State Minister Pratima Bagri, Mayor Yogesh Tamrakar, and Gramodaya University Chitrakoot Vice Chancellor Bharat Mishra graced the occasion.

Minister Rao Uday Pratap Singh praised Rakesh Mishra, stating that his efforts have brought national recognition to Satna Half Marathon. He also lauded VC Mishra's social

contributions in health, environment, education, and medicine, calling them a source of inspiration.

The district administration ensured smooth arrangements for the marathon, providing necessary facilities for participants and spectators. With growing participation each year, Satna Half Marathon has now established itself as a significant sporting and social event on the national calendar.

Vishwakarma Samaj formed in Seoni Malwa

Seoni Malwa: A meeting of Vishwakarma Samaj was held on Sunday at Dudhiyabad Hanuman Temple, beginning with the garlanding of Lord Vishwakarma's statue. Addressing the gathering, organisation head Kunwar Singh Vishwakarma of Naharkola said the aim was not only temple or building construction but also offer guidance to youth, women's protection, respect for elders, and overall social uplift. Members pledged unity, support in joy and sorrow, and resolved to plant saplings on family birthdays. A large number of community members participated in the event.



Overheard

Finally, an officer sent

An officer has been posted in a department considered important for the government but problematic for the officers. The officer previously posted in the department recently retired. So, someone was to be posted there. A senior IAS officer was posted in the department after the retirement of his predecessor. The officer who has been posted in the department was not on the list of officers whose names were doing the rounds for posting. Many officers were making efforts to avoid going to this department. An officer said at important places that he was not keen to go to the department. Similarly, another officer used his resources so that he may not be sent there. The name of this officer was recommended for transfer to the department, but he remained safe by using his clout. The real problem with the department is that someone else controls it; besides, there are many other issues associated with the post. This is the reason that the officers want to keep away from the department.

Good initiative

The state government has taken a good initiative. Two officers retired last month. The government promoted two officers to these posts on the pay scale of the chief secretary. As there were expectations that the CS would get an extension of his tenure, the people in the corridors of power said only one officer would be promoted. After the extension of the chief secretary's tenure, both officers have been promoted as additional chief secretaries. If one of them was not promoted, he would have to wait for promotion for seven months. The problem was that all the batchmates of this officer were promoted. Had he not been elevated, he would have been the only officer of his batch who may have had to wait for promotion for such a long period. This is the reason that the government approved an additional post 15 days before the retirement of these officers. Despite the CS's tenure being extended, these officers got promotions. Many officers are appreciating the government's initiative.

Boss's anger

A secretary-rank officer of the state recently faced the anger of the head of state. A meeting related to the farmers' issues was underway. The head of state was taking feedback on an important issue. The secretary-level officer was providing information, but he was unable to explain the reasons for the problems. After hearing the officer for some time, the boss got angry. He dressed down all officers of the department and told them that he did not want problems and that he wanted solutions. Although the secretary-rank officer tried to convince the boss, he was not ready to buy his arguments. Afterwards, he tore into the collectors of several districts. The officer got a proper posting after a long time. Now, he fears lest the government should remove him from the department. The head of state warned the officers that if there was any irregularity, anyone may get the stick. After the meeting, the officers are scared, thinking the axe may fall on any one of them.

Getting relief

An IAS officer and two IPS officers, who landed in trouble after an I-T raid, recently got relief. The names of the three officers were found in a diary that the I-T sleuths laid their hands on during a raid. There was a lot of noise when the names of these officers came to light. The I-T department also sent them notices. The IAS officer got relief by using his clout a long time back. Now, the two IPS officers also got relief on the grounds of the satisfactory reply they gave to the notices. They were told that there had been no evidence against them. The I-T department said that the information available in the pages of the diary was not enough for action. The name of a woman IAS officer also came up during the raid, but she did not get any relief. A few senior officers are helping her to get out of the mess.

All for carrots

A woman officer of the state is taking the benefits from a position she is holding. She did not get any important position, but she got the additional charge of a department a few days ago, after the transfer of an officer. Just after getting the additional charge, she is trying to make money. There are reports that Madam has called up the officials of the department posted in a few districts to give work to the suppliers sent by her. Madam clearly said if the suppliers sent by her were not given work, she would not release the budget for the districts. On the other hand, the minister of the department told the officers that the people mentioned by him should get the work. The officers of the department posted in the districts are scared because of the instructions issued by the minister and the officer. They feel if they fail to carry out the orders of either of the two, they will be in trouble. The minister, the principal secretary and the madam of the department never let an opportunity of making money go out of their hand.

Golmal hai bhai !

In the state, the way the government had previously cleaned up the mess in one department, the same situation seems to be starting again. It is heard that an officer posted in the department has started a new game to save his own skin. This gentleman has begun to oblige certain individuals. It is said that a senior officer also played a significant role in helping these individuals receive benefits from the department. Both of these officers wanted to fulfill some of their personal interests through these individuals. That is why they were favored. However, the real intentions of these individuals could not be fulfilled. Moreover, after obliging them once, both officers have now found themselves entangled. The people who were favored are now demanding even more from these officers. Meanwhile, other people have also come to know about this and are now trying to get benefits from the department as well. The head of the state had managed to clean up the mess with great effort, but this officer has started it all over again.

■ Nitendra Sharma

80-ton waste cleared from ghats post idol immersion

OVER 30,000 IDOLS: Immersed in 48 hours, more than 50 tons of worship material collected

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

A day after the grand Ganesh idol immersion, the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC) collected over 80 tonnes of waste, including 50 tonnes of worship materials, from the ghats. This waste was later segregated and sent to different transfer stations for recycling. Most of the waste consisted of flowers and garlands which will now be used to make incense sticks.

According to the BMC, within 48 hours, more than 30,000 small and large idols were immersed across the state capital. On Sunday, the corporation also removed 33 temporary immersion ponds set up in the city.

Due to the coincidence of specific dates and a lunar eclipse, the immersion process continued from Saturday afternoon until early Sunday morning till around 5 AM. Most of the ceremonies were completed during this period. The Bhopal Municipal Corporation had arranged immersion at eight traditional ghats, while 33 temporary ponds were set up across 21 zones for smaller idols. The idols collected at temporary ponds were later transported to the main ghats in 25 dedicated vehicles. The temporary facilities remained active until 2 AM.m, after which the staff wrapped up operations as the flow of idols decreased.



BMC removes waste after immersion of Lord Ganesha idols at Khatlapura ghat on Sunday

Mayor inspects cleanliness drive



Mayor Malti Rai and others remove puja remains after immersion of Lord Ganesha idols at Khatlapura ghat on Sunday

On Sunday, Mayor Malti Rai personally inspected arrangements at Khatlapura, Rani Kamalapati, Prem-pura and other ghats. She instructed the health department officials and workers to ensure thorough cleaning of all ponds and ghats. During her visit, the Mayor also joined workers in removing idol remnants and other waste materials from the immersion sites.

Over 30,000 idols immersed

Arrangements were made at key immersion sites includ-

ing Bairagarh, Kamalapati, Khatlapura, Prem-pura, Shahpura, Hathai Kheda, Malikhedhi and Samardha. According to the corpor-

50-ton worship material recovered

The immersion activities generated more than 50 tonnes of assorted waste across the eight ghats. Of this, 28-30 tonnes consisted of flowers and garlands and 8-10 tonnes of coconuts, with around 2 tonnes of cloth, nearly 800 kg of decorative items and plastic, 100 kg of glass items and photo frames, broken temple structures and about 500 kg of food items like fruits and fried snacks. The floral waste was transported to the Danapani transfer station plant, where it will be converted into incense sticks. Cloth waste was sent to the Anna Nagar facility for recycling.

ation, more than 30,000 idols were immersed at these ghats. For larger idols, cranes and poclain machines were deployed. Hathai Kheda, Prem-pura and Malikhedhi ghats had two poclains each, while the other ghats had one each. Twelve 12 cranes, 16 poclains, 25 immersion vehicles and additional support vehicles from all 21 zones were pressed into service.

First delivery in Govindpura civil hospital

The first delivery took place in Civil Hospital Govindpura, BHEL, Bhopal. As per CMHO, a woman resident of Patel Nagar, Raisen Road, has had a normal delivery. Mother and child are healthy. The prenatal check-up of the pregnant woman was done in the hospital itself. CMHO Dr Manish Sharma said, "With the start of delivery services, the people of the area will not have to go to JP Hospital, Katju or Hamidia Hospital 15-20 km away. All the necessary arrangements for delivery including labor room, modular OT, new born stabilization unit, maternity ward, PNC ward, pathology lab, autoclave are available there. The department has also provided gynecologist, trained nursing officer and other paramedical staff in the hospital. 24x7 health services are being provided in the 100-bed hospital."

In the initial phase, its focus will be on maternal health services. Gradually, other major schemes will be added to it. Citizens will be able to use it through WhatsApp.

Suman Sakhi Chatbot for pregnant women soon

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Suman Sakhi Chatbot service will start in Madhya Pradesh soon. Suman Sakhi will be an artificial intelligence based chatbot, which will provide information to women about care during pregnancy, information on high risk factors, and information about government health schemes and services related to women.

This service will not only provide quick access to information about schemes and services, but will also strengthen the transparency and public confidence of governance.

"Suman Sakhi Chatbot has been developed by National

To be available 24x7 in Hindi for women



Health Mission, Madhya Pradesh unit in association with Madhya Pradesh State Electronics Development Corporation," Mission director, NHM, Dr Saloni Sidana said.

Suman Sakhi Chatbot will be available 24x7 and will be in Hindi language, so that women from both rural and urban areas can take advantage of it.

Showroom owner booked for rape

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Nishatpura police on Sunday registered a rape case against a garment showroom owner following a married woman's complaint. The 28-year-old victim, a local resident, had been employed at the accused's tiles showroom for the past two months.

According to complaint, the woman was looking for a job when she met showroom owner Kuldeep Bhadoriya, a resident of Nizamuddin Colony. He interviewed her and offered her employment. On August 10, 2025, Bhadoriya allegedly called the woman on the pretext of work. He picked her up from Minal Gate No. 2 in his car and took her to a hotel. Inside a room Bhadoriya allegedly raped her.

The accused reportedly threatened to kill her if she disclosed the incident and tried to lure her with a promise of marriage. Following the assault, the woman stopped going to the showroom. After informing her family, she was persuaded to approach the police. Nishatpura police confirmed that an FIR has been registered against Bhadoriya under relevant sections of rape and criminal intimidation.

Only 10K of 35K private schools share fee details

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Out of nearly 35,000 private schools in Madhya Pradesh, only about 10,200 have uploaded their detailed fee structures on the School Education Department's designated portal, a requirement under the Madhya Pradesh Private School Act, 2017.

According to the department, schools that charge more than Rs 25,000 annually per class must upload class-wise and stream-wise break-up of fees under various heads, such as tuition, transport, lab, library and security deposit.

Schools charging Rs 25,000 or less annually are exempt from uploading detailed fee data, but must file an affidavit on the portal by the specified deadline. District-level fee regulation committees,

School fee norms

■ Only 10,200 of 35,000 schools have uploaded fee data so far

■ Rs 25,000/year is the exemption threshold for uploading fee structure

■ Collectors to head district panels for monitoring and action

■ Mandatory display of fee, books, uniform, and transport info at schools



Most schools skip uploading fees despite clear govt norms; non-compliance to attract action

headed by collectors, have been empowered to take legal action against non-compliant schools.

The department has also implemented measures to curb unjustified fee hikes and commercialisation of education. Rules prohibit schools from forcing students to purchase uniforms, books or other items from specific shops.

Schools are required to display complete details of fees and expenses, including stationery, reading material, bags, uniforms, sports kits, and transport facilities, both on school notice boards and their official websites.

Moreover, schools must upload the proposed class-wise, itemised fee structure for the upcoming academic session to the department's fee regulation portal.

Treated elephant from Kanha set for release in the wild



File pic of rescued wild elephant

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

An elephant that was under treatment for nearly a year at Kanha Tiger Reserve is now fit to return to the wild and will soon be released into the Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve, most likely day after tomorrow.

Animal to be radio-collared and monitored in Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve

The elephant will be fitted with a radio collar before release to enable forest officials to track its movements and intervene if necessary.

Deputy Director of Kanha Tiger Reserve, Puneet Goyal, told Free Press that the animal had turned aggressive after witnessing the electrocution death of another elephant in Anuppur a year ago. In a subsequent human-wildlife conflict, the distressed elephant injured a villager fatally and sustained injuries itself before being rescued.

Initially aggressive and untamed, the elephant posed a

Cheetah project prep at Veerangana Durgavati

Officials at Veerangana Durgavati Tiger Reserve are awaiting directions from higher authorities on preparations for the proposed cheetah translocation project. A team from the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) had already conducted a site survey several months ago to identify suitable areas within the reserve for introduction of cheetahs next year.

major challenge for the veterinary team. Over time, however, it formed a bond with the mahout, responding to commands like a domestic elephant.

Now that its physical and behavioural condition has stabilised, officials have decided to release it into Bandhavgarh, which has established elephant herds, unlike Kanha, which currently doesn't have any. "Once released, we'll observe whether it naturally joins a herd or not," said officials.

This is not the first time Kanha has successfully rehabilitated a wild elephant, sources said.

Lack of coordination among Cong leaders surfaces

BHOPAL: Lack of coordination between the Congress leaders have reached to such extent that the mass agitation of outsource workers scheduled on Sunday was cancelled.

On September 4 at the joint press conference of Congress and outsource frontal organisation have announced that they would stage agitation to press for their demands on Sunday. The Congress state president Jitu Patwari and other leaders were to join the agitation. On Sunday, when asked about the scheduled programme, Congress leader Vikarm Choudhary said Patwari took part in 'Vote Theft' rally in Damoh and so he was not able to attend the programme in Bhopal on Sunday. He said that new date of the agitation programme would be announced shortly.



NEGLECT | All complaints to authorities go unheard School building tottering, students study under trees

During heavy rain, students seek refuge in a nearby temple

FP News Service
MORENA

Students in the Government Primary School in Amli Pura, a village on the banks of the Chambal river, are forced to study under trees as their school building is dilapidated and unsafe. About 42 students



and two teachers attend classes in extremely adverse conditions as the structure has been declared unusable by the public works department.

According to school offi-

cials, the building has been in a damaged condition for five years due to flooding from the Chambal river. During heavy rain, the students seek refuge in a nearby temple.

Kallu Mallah, guardian of a student, said that the parents had repeatedly complained to local officials but to no avail. "When it is the time to vote, they make promises and go away", he said.

Though the local education department has sent a proposal to the state for a new building, no action has been taken so far, even after two years. The school's tap water system is also in ruins, forcing the students to rely on a single hand pump to quench their thirst.

Admin to auction KMJ properties

FP news service
GWALIOR

The district administration is set to auction approximately 35 properties of KMJ Land Developers India Limited in the first phase to repay depositors. This comes after the special judge, Madhya Pradesh Depositors' Interests Protection Act ordered the auction to begin.

The collector seized the properties under the Madhya Pradesh Depositors' Interests Protection Act. An initial attempt to auction the properties in 2022 was halted by a stay order from the high court, but it was lifted on February 24 this year. ADM and nodal officer, Chit Fund, CB Prasad said that



a re-survey of the confiscated properties was underway based on new guidelines. The administration aims to begin the process of distributing

funds to depositors as soon as the auction is complete. The remaining properties will be auctioned following a physical verification.

Youth shoots himself, reason not known

Gwalior: A 25-year-old man from Barana village, Datia, committed suicide by shooting himself in the temple with a pistol. His father discovered his body on Sunday morning. As per the reports, the deceased Abhishek Dangi was married and had a two-year-old son. At the time of the incident, his wife and child were away. The reason behind this drastic step is still not known. Police have recovered the weapon from the spot of the incident and are investigating the case. They registered a case and got the post mortem examination of the body conducted.

Man kills father over land dispute

Shivpuri : In a shocking case, a man along with his brother-in-law brutally murdered his father over a land dispute, a police official said.

As per the police, the incident occurred in Narwar village under Shivpuri on Sunday. The accused identified as Ghansundar, along with his brother-in-law Ankit, lured his father Imratlal to a forest on the pretext of finding a rare animal. They first intoxicated the victim and then Ghansundar attacked and killed his father with an axe.

Both were arrested and police recovered the murder weapon and their bikes. The motive behind the heinous crime was to claim ancestral land.

Fertilizer centre sealed over black-marketing, illegal storage

Fp news service
GWALIOR

A joint team of district administration, police and the agriculture department sealed the Shriram Krishi Seva Kendra fertilizer shop in Tekanpur following a raid. The action was taken after authorities received a complaint of alleged black marketing and illegal storage of fertilizers. During the raid, officials discovered 29 bags of urea in a vehicle without proper documentation. The vehicle was immediately seized. An additional 55 bags of urea and 50 bags of

Gangster Salman Lala's posters trigger row on Eid Milad-un-Nabi

FP News Service
GUNA

A controversy erupted after posters of Indore-based gangster Salman Lala surfaced here on Eid Miladunnabi. The posters carried the line: 'The body fades but not the name. Miss you king'. After the matter came to light, the police removed the posters and registered an FIR against unidentified persons in the Kotwali police station late on Saturday night.

Eid Miladunnabi was observed on a large scale in the city, with a procession starting from Colonelganj and concluding



ing at Khyavada Square. Banners and posters were displayed widely as part of the preparations. However, Salman Lala's poster triggered outrage.

The matter escalated when Abhishek Tiwari, who lives near Bhujaria Talab Mandir,

complained that he was assaulted while photographing the posters. According to the complainant, he was chased and thrashed at Jaistambh crossing. On getting the information, a large number of people from Hindu organisations reached the police station and registered an FIR. A case was registered against the unidentified accused under various sections, including robbery and assault. Later, on the complaint of Nazul Colony resident Bhagwanlal Dhimar, police filed another FIR, terming the posters an attempt to spread animosity. Investigations are underway.

Adequate fertilizer stock for farmers in district

Gwalior : The administration has assured that district has a robust supply of 19,700 metric tons of chemical fertilizers, with regular railway shipments ensuring continuous availability. The stock includes 4,056 metric tons of urea, 3,512 tons of DAP, 6,238 tons of NPK, and other key nutrients. The department of farmers' welfare and agricultural development has advised balanced use of fertilizers. Farmers are encouraged to use NPK, which is richer in nutrients than DAP, to boost soil fertility.



DAP were found in the shop's warehouse. The shop owner failed to produce a stock register, bills, or any other necessary documents. The district administration has prepared a Panchnama, a legal document and has sealed the shop.

Further legal action is being taken against the owner for the irregularities found during the raid. This is part of an ongoing effort to ensure a fair and systematic distribution of fertilizers to farmers in the district.

SPEEDING CAR HITS BIKE; THREE DEAD, 4 CRITICALLY INJURED

FP news service
JABALPUR

A speeding car collided with a bike, killing three people here on Saturday night, a police official said.

The deceased included a woman and her two sons. Four others were seriously injured. According to police, the accident occurred on the Patan-Shahpura Road. Shakeela Bi (45), a resident of Shahpura, was returning from Patan on a bike with her sons Ramzan alias Shoaib (19) and Faizan (12). Near Gwari village, a car hit their bike from behind. Shakeela Bi died on the spot,



while Faizan succumbed to his injuries on Sunday morning during treatment. Another victim Fagni Bai (60), a pedestrian from Gwari village, was also killed in the accident. Her body

was found in a 20-foot deep drain on Sunday morning during a search operation. She had reportedly gone to Patan on Saturday night and did not return home. The impact of the collision

was so severe that the bike was completely crushed after hitting an iron railing. Eyewitnesses said that had the railing not been there, the car would have fallen straight into the drain, putting the passengers' lives at greater risk.

Car driver Laxman Singh (80), along with three others, was injured and admitted to a private hospital here. Police confirmed that the condition of three of the four injured remained critical.

Authorities sent the bodies for post mortem examination. Further investigation is underway.

16-day Pitru paksha begins

Jabalpur: Pitru Paksha, the 16-day period dedicated to paying homage to ancestors through rituals such as Shradh and Tarpan, commenced on the full moon of the Bhadrpad month. A large crowd of devotees gathered on the banks of the Narmada River to perform rituals, with emotional scenes of reverence for departed loved ones. After a sacred bath, people performed "Dev Tarpan," "Rishi Tarpan," and "Pitru Tarpan" to offer water and prayers. Pind Daan was also performed for ancestors whose specific death date fell on the first day. The rituals are believed to bring peace to ancestral souls and ensure family harmony.

Congress burns 'Holi' of smart meters in protest

FP news service
JABALPUR

In a fiery protest on Sunday, Congress workers led by City District Congress Committee President Saurabh 'Nati' Sharma staged a symbolic "Holi" burning of smart meters outside the SE City Circle electricity office, accusing the government of pushing a scam-ridden project.

The protest was aimed at highlighting alleged irregularities in the smart meter rollout, with Sharma claiming the project was part of a conspiracy



to benefit foreign firms, including companies with links to Pakistan and relatives of officials in power. Sharma also alleged that the installation of smart meters has caused sharp increases in electricity bills, putting financial strain on consumers across the state. The Congress demanded an immediate halt to further installations until public concerns are addressed. The party also warned of intensifying the agitation if the smart meters are not removed.

Mayor steps in to resolve tax dues row

FP news service
JABALPUR

Mayor Jagat Bahadur Singh 'Annu' convened a crucial meeting on Saturday with senior officials from the Municipal Corporation and the Electricity Department to address the ongoing dispute over pending dues and taxes.

The mayor emphasized the importance of inter-departmental coordination, stating that public welfare must be the top priority and services should not suffer due to bureaucratic friction.

The discussion centred on taxes owed by the Electricity Department to the corporation and repeated billing issues affecting service efficiency.



Mayur Annu instructed officials to examine all issues from a technical standpoint and to act swiftly to prevent service disruptions. He also proposed

regular joint meetings between the departments to improve transparency and ensure faster resolution of future disputes. "The aim is to work as one system to serve citizens better," he said.

Hospital operator held for attack on journalist

FP news service
JABALPUR

Police have arrested Amit Khare, a private hospital operator and the alleged mastermind behind the attack on journalist Sunil Sen, who had been absconding for a week.

The assault, which took place on the night of August 29, left Sen seriously injured. He had been reporting on alleged corruption and patient mistreatment at Khare's hospitals. Prior to the attack, Khare had allegedly threatened Sen, according to police sources.

Khare, along with five accomplices, reportedly planned and executed the assault. The attackers, armed with sticks and rods, ambushed Sen, inflicting serious injuries.

Police have already arrested two of the accused, and a search is underway for the remaining two accomplices still at large. Sen has since been discharged from hospital and is reported to be in stable condition.

Newly-wed woman dies under suspicious circumstances

FP news service
JABALPUR

A 25-year-old woman, identified as Mahima Kushwaha, died under mysterious circumstances just four months after her marriage, prompting a police investigation in the Panagar area.

According to reports, Mahima's brother, Sahil Kushwaha, was informed by her in-laws that she had suddenly fallen ill and was being treated at the medical college hospital. However, when he arrived, he found her already deceased, lying on a stretcher. Her body was hot to the touch and had turned bluish, raising further suspicions.

The family alleges that the in-laws failed to provide any clear explanation about what led to her death and accused



them of concealing the truth. Following a formal complaint from the family, police have registered a case and sent the body for post-mortem examination. The exact cause of death remains unconfirmed and will be established based on the autopsy report.

Authorities stated that all possible angles are being thoroughly investigated.

Thieves loot cash, gold in midnight break-in

FP news service
JABALPUR

Tension gripped Shahpura's Balaji Colony after a midnight burglary left residents rattled and questioning the effectiveness of local policing. The incident took place around 3 am, while the victim's family was asleep inside the house.

Arpit Pandey, the homeowner, said his father briefly woke up after hearing a sound but didn't notice anything suspicious at the time. Later, the family discovered that a cupboard lock had been broken, and valuables were missing. The thieves made away

with approximately 2.5 tolas of gold, half a kilo of silver, and Rs 17,000 in cash. The burglary has intensified concerns over rising thefts and burglaries in the locality.

Residents allege that ineffective police patrolling and lack of surveillance have emboldened criminals in the area. Recent weeks have reportedly seen a spike in crimes ranging from bike thefts to home invasions.

Shahpura police have registered a case and launched an investigation. Officials said CCTV footage from the area is being reviewed, and assured that the culprits will be arrested soon.

Puja special trains from Sept 21



FP news service
JABALPUR

Indian Railways announced a major relief for passengers during the upcoming festive season, confirming 2024 additional trips with 150 Puja Special trains. The services will run from September 21

to November 30, 2025, to manage the increased travel rush. The majority of these special trains will serve routes to Bihar and Eastern India, catering to high demand. South Central Railway leads with 48 trains (684 trips), while East Central Railway has 14 trains (588

trips) to key cities like Patna and Gaya. Eastern Railway and Western Railway will also contribute with 24 trains each, completing 198 and 204 trips, respectively. The initiative aims to ensure smooth and comfortable journeys for passengers celebrating festivals.

WCR logs 24% freight surge in August

FP news service
JABALPUR

The West Central Railway (WCR) has reported a notable 24% increase in freight loading for August 2025, with total goods transported rising to 4.33 million tonnes, compared to 3.49 million tonnes in August 2024.

This significant growth has been attributed to the leadership of General Manager Shobhana Bhandopadhyay and the coordinated efforts of various departments within the zone. Railway officials stated that a combination of strategic initiatives played a key role in achieving

the milestone.

From April to August 2025, WCR handled 23.06 million tonnes of freight, marking a 9% rise over the 21.06 million tonnes recorded during the same period last year. The increase is the result of enhanced operational efficiency, made possible through round-the-clock loading and unloading, the development of new warehouses, and improvements in train speeds. These steps have helped streamline freight movement, reduce turnaround time, and support the broader goal of contributing to national economic growth, the officials said.

PANCHANG 8.9.2025
(DAKSHINAYAN)

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Month - Ashwin Krishna 1 Monday 9.12 P.M.
Nakshatra - Pu-Shadrag 8.03 P.M. then Utt-Bhadrapad
Yoga - Dhriti 6.30 A.M. then Shuk 3.20 A.M.
Karan - Balam 10.28 A.M. then Tatiti
Moon - Kumbha 2.28 P.M. then Min

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THE ROOTS | The b-schools research finds how resource redeployment and place identity shape each other in a small farm business

More than money, place identity shapes small farm business strategy: IIM-I study

Our Staff Reporter
INDORE

A study by Indian Institute of Management Indore has found that small farm business decisions are not solely driven by financial gain but are profoundly influenced by an emotional and symbolic attachment to a specific place. The paper, Tied to the land: How resource redeployment and place identity shape each other in a small farm business, co-authored by Prof Kajari Mukherjee of IIM Indore has published in Journal of Rural Studies. The finding provides a new framework for understanding the complex motivations of small business owners and offers critical insights for managers across various sectors, Mukherjee said.

The study drew from a rare 60-year longitudinal

case analysis of a family-owned Finnish farm, challenges the conventional view of resource management as a purely rational, economic exercise. Instead, it revealed a dynamic interplay between a business's assets and the owner's sense of place identity. Resource redeployment, which is the strategic shift of assets from one purpose to another, is shown to serve a dual function.

It is used not only to respond to market pressures and secure profitability, but also to reaffirm and protect the business owner's identity, which is deeply rooted in the land and its history. This means that a manager might forgo a seemingly profitable opportunity if it threatens the core identity of their business or their connection to the place, Mukherjee said.



For managers, the research has significant implications for strategic planning, particularly in sectors where the business is inseparable from its physical location, such as family farms, local shops and boutique manufacturers. It suggests that leaders must move beyond a narrow focus on financial metrics and consider the non-economic, emotional drivers that shape choices.

A strategy that fails to account for the owner's place

identity may face strong resistance or lead to unintended consequences. Effective management, therefore, requires a holistic approach that balances economic viability with the preservation of symbolic values.

Furthermore, the study highlighted that place identity is not a static concept, but a fluid one that evolves over time through active decisions and changing contexts. This dynamic is powerfully illustrated by the farm's transition

from traditional agriculture to a tourism-focused business.

This strategic shift not only addressed market needs but also redefined the meaning of the place itself, making it more accessible and meaningful to a wider audience. However, this transformation was not without its challenges, as initial resistance from local residents revealed the complexities of shifting identities. The community's eventual acceptance highlights the resilience required to navigate these changes. This dynamic process underscores a key finding: many family firms prioritise non-economic goals, a concept known as socio emotional wealth. This means decisions are often guided by deep emotional ties and a desire to preserve family legacy and

continuity, rather than just profit.

Ultimately, the farm's success in balancing its tourism operations with a connection to its agricultural roots, for example, through niche organic cattle production, demonstrates how leaders can honour their heritage while strategically preparing for future growth.

The research offers a crucial reminder that for many small businesses, success is not just measured in financial gain, but in the enduring connection to a shared sense of place. Conducted by a collaborative team of researchers from IIM Indore, LUT University and ESADE Business School, this study forwards a deeper understanding of entrepreneurial strategy and management in small enterprises.

Bee attack at Satti Ghat injures devotees during Lord Ganesh immersion

FP News Service
SEONI MALWA

The farewell of Lord Ganesh on Anant Chaturdashi took an unexpected turn at Satti Ghat when a swarm of bees attacked devotees and policemen during idol immersion. The bees, disturbed from a hive on a tree, stung dozens of people, including two policemen, causing chaos. The injured were rushed to the local community center for treatment.

Following the incident, the administration immediately halted immersion at Satti Ghat and shifted the remaining idols to nearby rivers and Maa Narmada Ghats. Despite the disruption, the immersion festivities continued with faith and enthusiasm. This year, DJs were completely banned, and devotees bid farewell to Ganpati Ji dancing to traditional drum beats

NOTICE
Transportation charge of Re 1 will be applicable in all locations except Bhopal city. This charge will be over and above the cover price of publication
■ Publisher

amid clouds of red and yellow gular. The municipality had arranged special facilities, including stopping the Kandeli river's flow for large idols and creating a separate kund for smaller idols. Security arrangements were tight with SDOP Mahendra Singh Chauhan, Tehsildar Nitin Kumar, Police Station Incharge Rajesh Dubey, and CMO Amar Singh Uikey monitoring the situation throughout.

Immersion procession

Adding grandeur to the celebrations, Shri Navdurga Ganesh Mandal of Thakur Mohalla organized a vibrant immersion procession. Performers from Ujjain's Bhasma Ramaiya Mandal and Delhi's Aghori Mandal captivated devotees with their unique acts, becoming the centre of attraction. The air resonated with chants of Ganpati Bappa Moriya, Pudhchya Varshi Lavkar Ya, as thousands of devotees bid farewell to the remover of obstacles with devotion and joy.

Two drown during Ganesha idol immersion, 3 rescued

BHOPAL: Two teenagers drowned during Ganesha idol immersion while three were rescued in Raisen district on Saturday, police said on Sunday. Two teenage boys drowned after falling into a stream during the immersion. The incident occurred at 8 pm on Saturday in Ghatkhedha village, police said. Umraoganj police station incharge Shailendra Singh Tomar said that five teenagers from the same family had gone to immerse the idols following the conclusion of 10-day Ganesh Utsav. While they were standing on a stone in the stream, the soil underneath gave way, toppling them into the water, he said. Some villagers rushed to the spot and began rescue efforts. After an hour, the body of Anuj Sahu (16) was recovered, while Nitin Sahu (17) was pulled out unresponsive. He was given CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) and rushed to a hospital in Bhopal where doctors declared him brought dead.

Nursing students spread awareness on pollution through rangoli



FP News Service
RAJGARH

As part of Clean Air for Sky Week, Rajgarh Nursing College and the District Hospital organised awareness programs on Sunday, blending creativity with social responsibility. Nursing students made vibrant rangolis depicting the dangers of air pollution and engraved thought-provoking messages promoting environment protection. Alongside this, students staged street plays at the district hospital to educate people on the health impacts of pollution.

Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr Shobha Patel visited the college, appreciating the artistic rangolis and posters prepared by the students. She said such initiatives not only showcase creativity but also serve as a powerful medium to spread awareness about environmental issues. Dr Patel

highlighted pollution sources such as vehicular smoke, industrial emissions, and dust particles, warning about their serious health consequences. She urged youth to actively spread awareness and adopt eco-friendly practices.

At the conclusion of the programme, students took an oath to contribute towards clean air. Their pledges included planting trees, avoiding garbage burning, cycling, and adopting sustainable habits to reduce pollution.

The college administration said such programmes contributed to students' holistic development while strengthening their sense of social responsibility. Civil Surgeon Dr Nitin Patel, Dr Mahendrapal Singh, College Principal Manisha Hatila, faculty, and a large number of students were present, making the event a meaningful step toward environmental awareness in Rajgarh.

Onam Utsav held on IGRMS premises

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

Onam Utsav was held at Bhadrakali Ambalam Temple, Chundannallam (Snake Boat) and Sarpakavu (Sacred Grove) at the Coastal Village Exhibition Complex of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (IGRMS) in the city on Sunday. It was organised under the joint aegis of IGRMS and United Malayali Association.

Onam symbolises the arrival of king Mahabali. Traditional worship was performed at Sar-

pakavu on the museum premises. The rituals were performed according to the community traditions and the deity of Kavu. During the worship, the traditional musical instrument, Chendamelam, was played. After the completion of the worship, prasad was distributed. According to museum director Amitabh Pandey, Onam festival is a symbol of collectivity, joy and cultural diversity. "The participation of everyone in this traditional festival organised in the museum made it more meaningful and unforgettable," he added.

200 senior citizens depart for Rameswaram

Our Staff Reporter
INDORE

As part of the Chief Minister's Teerth Darshan Yatra Scheme, a group of 200 senior citizens departed from Indore for the sacred city of Rameswaram on Sunday. The pilgrims were seen off by water resources minister Tulsiram Silawat, who extended a warm welcome to them before the journey. Speaking on the occasion, Silawat said, Taking parents and elders on pilgrimage is the greatest virtuous act. The state government is committed to ensuring that elderly citizens

from both urban and rural areas get the opportunity to visit holy sites free-of-cost.

Launched to support citizens above 60 years of age, the Chief Minister's Teerth Darshan Yatra Scheme enables pilgrims to travel to revered places such as Varanasi, Rameswaram, Mathura, Vrindavan, Amritsar and Vaishno Devi, with the entire cost borne by the state government. The scheme's primary aim is to provide senior citizens the chance to visit at least one pilgrimage site during their lifetime, benefiting particularly those from humble backgrounds.

Collector orders inspection of fertiliser distribution in 98 PACS societies

FP News Service
NARMADAPURAM

Acting on the instructions of collector Sonia Meena, inspections were carried out across 98 Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) in the district to review fertiliser distribution to farmers. Co-operative inspectors verified the supply system among 20 major farmers.

So far this Kharif season, co-operative societies have stored 16,700 MT of fertiliser, of which 12,390 MT has already been distributed. This includes 4,400 MT of Urea, 688 MT of DAP, 4,800 MT of Complex and 2,500 MT of



Super Phosphate. Fertilisers were issued on permit-based loans at 100% interest, generally at a rate of two bags per acre per farmer.

Inspections confirmed correct distribution in several so-

cieties, including Resalpur, Navalgao, Barangi, and Khaparia. However, irregularities were reported in PACS Navalgao and Barangi, where stock adjustments were not updated in POS machines and registers.

Notices have been issued against responsible managers. At PACS Babai, POS data was not updated, though farmers received fertiliser at the prescribed price.

Further checks in Dolriya, Kalaakhar, Patharouta, and Gunaura found minor lapses such as pending entries in registers, delayed ID updates, and absence of banners for alternative fertilizers. Despite this, distribution to farmers was largely found to be within prescribed limits.

The Co-operatives Commissioner has directed committee managers and administrators to resolve these discrepancies within three days.

12-yr-old drowns in Satna, SDRF search continues

Satna: A tragic incident occurred in Dagdiha village under Kotar police station on Sunday morning when 12-year-old Rajendra Singh drowned in the Semraul river. Rajendra, who had gone to bathe with friends, was swept away by the strong current following heavy overnight rain. Local villagers attempted rescue but failed. Kotar police called in the SDRF team from Satna, which has been searching the river since noon, but the boy remains missing. The incident has left his family devastated, waiting anxiously on the riverbank.

New Ayushman Arogya Mandir inaugurated

Narmadapuram: A newly constructed Ayushman Arogya Mandir (Ayurveda) building was inaugurated in Sangakheda Kala village. The ceremony was attended by MP Darshan Singh Chaudhary and Rajya Sabha MP Maya Narolia as chief guests, with MLA Vijaypal Thakur presiding. Officials said the center will not only provide treatment but also promote Ayurveda and support healthier communities in rural areas. A large number of public representatives, officials, workers, and villagers were present on the occasion.

5 Kworks of Hindi litterateurs at Pustak Utsav

5,000 book lovers visit fair at Hindi Bhavan

Our Staff Reporter
BHOPAL

A collection of around 5,000 books by well-known Hindi authors of the country of different genres are on display at Pustak Utsav at Hindi Bhavan in the city.

They include Premchand, Jaishankar Prasad, Mahadevi Verma, Shivani, Ramdhari Singh Dinkar, Phanishwar Nath Renu, Shrilal Shukla, Nagarjun, Faiz Ahmed Faiz, Namvar Singh, Raghuveer Sahay, Rahul Sankrityan, Amratya Sen, Kaif Aazmi, Gulzar, and Piyush Mishra. About 5,000 book lovers visited on Sunday- the second-day of the five-day book fair.

Besides exhibition, book

release and discussion sessions were held on Sunday. A book 'Maqbool Fida Husain: Jeevani aur Vichar, by senior painter Akhilesh and Gyan Chaturvedi's new collection of satires 'Roshni ki Shinakht and Radhavalabh Tripathi's book 'Naya

Book on Maqbool Fida Husain released, Gyan Chaturvedi, Radhavalabh Tripathi's works launched

Sahitya, Nai Sambhavaneyin, were released.

Akhilesh shared many interesting incidents related to the life and birth of Husain. He said that in this book, an attempt has been made to deeply understand the personal life of an artist and his artistic vision.



Satirist Gyan Chaturvedi said that the literature of every era arose from the challenges of its time. Today, dictatorship stories, he said, adding, currently, I am writing a novel titled 'Un Dinon'

and 'Bhabhoot' based on the stories of villages of Uttar Pradesh. Author Radhavalabh Tripathi shared his literary journey and said that his initial background was in science.

Stree Year of Hindi Novel

Rajkamal Prakashan declared this year as Stree-Year of Hindi Novel. The publication will publish novels of 8 important women story writers. They include Booker prize winner Geetanjali Shree: Saha-sa, Jaya Jwadani's Iss Shahar Mein Ek Shahar Tha, Sovla Limbu's Shukmayaa Hangma, Vandana Rag's Sarkafanda, Pratyaksha's Sheeshghar, Alka Saraogi's Calcutta Cosmopolitan: Dil Aur Daraar, Anamika's Door Desh Ke Parinde and Sujata's Saaboot Ghar.

Public Notice For E-Auction For Sale of Immovable Properties
Sale of Immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited (IIFL HFL) Corporate Office at Plot No.98, Udyog Vihar, Phase-IV, Gurgaon-122015, (Haryana) and Branch Office at: G. Floor, Balla Ka Dera, Gwalior Jhansi Road, Dabra, Gwalior, MP-475110 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter "Act"). Whereas the Authorized Officer ("AO") of IIFL-HFL had taken the possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued U/S 13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/properties, with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS AND WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS" for realization of IIFL-HFL's dues, The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.iiflhome.com

Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) / Legal Heir	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property/ Secured Asset	Date of Symbolic Possession	Reserve Price
Mrs. Mamta Mrs. Bholu Jain Bhola Jain Sadi Center (Prospect No- IL10360357)	17/03/2025 Rs.617720 (Rupees Six Lakh Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty Only) Bid Increase Amount Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing: Survey No. 787/51 - Part Of Plot 38 & 39 Patwari Halka No. 89 - R-C Puram - Bannore - Jaypur Urf Nayagaoon Budhi Pur Morena - Madhya Pradesh - 476444 - India - Area Admeasuring (IN SQ. FT.): Property Type: Land,Area, Built Up Area, Carpet Area Property Area: 864.00, 666.80, 600.10	20/06/2025 Total Outstanding as On Date 29/08/2022 Rs. 665884/- (Rupees Six Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty Four Only)	Rs.514000/- (Rupees Five Lakh Fourteen Thousand Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.51400/- (Rupees Fifty One Thousand Four Hundred Only)

Date of Inspection of property 08-Oct-2025 1100 hrs -1400 hrs.

EMD Last Date 10-Oct-2025 till 5 pm.

Date/ Time of E-Auction 13-Oct-2025 1100 hrs-1300 hrs.

Mode Of Payment:- EMD payments are to be made vide online mode only. To make payments you have to visit <https://www.iiflhome.com> and pay through link available for the property/ Secured Asset only.
Note:- Payment link for each property/ Secured Asset is different. Ensure you are using link of the property/ Secured Asset you intend to buy vide public auction.
For Balance Payment - Login <https://www.iiflhome.com> >My Bid>Pay Balance Amount
Important Information: This auction is published basis possession vide Sec 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act. Physical possession will be offered post receiving of Section -14 order as per process laid down under SARFAESI Act and as when physical possession will be taken. Bidder shall do necessary due-diligence in respect of documents and legality before participating in auction proceedings.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-
1. For participating in e-auction, Intending bidders required to register their details with the Service Provider <https://www.iiflhome.com> well in advance and has to create the login account, login ID and password. Intending bidders have to submit / send their "Tender FORM" along with the payment details towards EMD. copy of the KYC and PAN card at the above mentioned Branch Office.
2. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount". In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.
3. The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (after adjusting EMD) within 24 hours of the acceptance of bid price by the AO and the balance 75% of the bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. All deposit and payment shall be in the prescribed mode of payment.
4. The purchaser has to bear the cess, applicable stamp duty, fees and any other statutory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges, land and all other incidental costs, charges including all taxes and rates outgoings relating to the property.
5. The purchaser has to pay TDS application to the transaction/payment of sale amount and submit the TDS certificate with IIFL HFL.
6. Bidders are advised to go through the website <https://www.iiflhome.com> and <https://www.iifl.com/home-loans/properties-for-auction> for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale & auction application form before submitting their Bids for taking part in the auction sale proceedings.
7. For details, help procedure and online training on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the service provider E mail ID:- care@iiflhome.com, Support Helpline Numbers:@1800 2672 499.
8. For any query related to Property details, Inspection of Property and Online bid etc. call IIFL HFL toll free no. 1800 2672 499 from 09:30 hrs to 18:00 hrs between Monday to Friday or write to email:- care@iiflhome.com
9. Notice is hereby given to above said borrowers to collect the household articles, which were lying in the secured asset as the date of taking physical possession within 7 days, otherwise IIFL-HFL shall not be responsible for any loss of property under the circumstances.
10. Further the notice is hereby given to the Borrowers, that in case they fail to collect the above said articles same shall be sold in accordance with Law.
11. In case of default in payment at any stage by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the above stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid will be forfeited (including EMD) and the property will be again put to sale.
12. AO reserves the rights to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and condition of tender/auction without assigning any reason thereof. In case of any dispute in tender/auction, the decision of AO of IIFL-HFL will be final.

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (b) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002
The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of Tender/Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.
Place:- Morena, Date: 08-09-2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer, IIFL Home Finance Limited.

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा Bank of Baroda

Roshanpura Naka Branch, Bhopal

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Properties)
Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 09.05.2025 to the following borrowers/guarantors, calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the respective notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The under mentioned borrowers/guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers/guarantors and the public in general that undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on them under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 2nd day of September of the year 2025
The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section 8 of Sec 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda Roshanpura naka Branch, Bhopal for an amount herein below mentioned & interest thereon.

Name of Account / Borrower/ Guarantor	Description of Property	Amount outstanding as per Notice
Borrowers: Mrs. Shabnam Shekh W/o Sangeer Shekh Address:- B-626, Housing Board Colony Karond Kalan Berasiya Road, Bhopal M.P. -462038	Equitable Mortgage of Property (residential house) located at plot No. B-626, shed No. 626/B, Housing board Colony, Karond Kalan, Berasiya road, Ward no. 70, Tehsil-Huzur, Bhopal-462038, Admeasuring 450 Sq.Ft. Boundaries : East - Road, West- Plot No. 611, North- Plot No. 627, South - Plot No. 625	as on 29.04.2025 ₹ 7,64,492.41 + interest & Other charges

Date : 02-09-2025, Place : Bhopal

Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda



Interest always, not friendship

In politics, as in international relations, there are no permanent friends—only permanent interests. US President Donald Trump, however, seems to operate on the principle of “use-and-throw-away” friends, forgetting that statecraft is not a game of musical chairs. Nations forge relationships not on the whims of individual leaders but on shared interests, long-term goals, and global responsibilities. India and the United States have a great deal in common: vibrant democracies, a free press, a large population, and unmatched pools of scientists and technologists. These complementarities should have been the solid bedrock of bilateral ties. Instead, the relationship is often hijacked by transactional rhetoric, such as Trump’s claim that he and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will “always be friends.” Friendship may smoothen atmospherics, but history shows that it has little to do with the durability of ties. Nehru and Kennedy got along famously, yet Nixon and Indira Gandhi’s frosty equation did not derail relations in any fundamental way.

Today, India is no longer the food-aid-dependent country of the PL-480 days. With the world’s largest population and a rapidly expanding economy, India has the potential to emerge as the largest economy in a few decades—provided its

The 50% punitive tariff on Indian exports was both provocative and protectionist. Yet India has held its ground

advantages are not squandered. This confidence explains why the Indian political spectrum, not just Modi or his party, remains firm in facing Trump’s punitive tariffs. The 50 per cent punitive tariff on Indian exports was both provocative and protectionist. Yet India has held its ground, knowing that in the long run such tariffs will hurt the US economy as much as, if not more than, India’s. Against this backdrop, the exchange of pleasantries—Trump calling Modi a “great friend” and Modi “deeply reciprocating” sentiments—rings hollow. Only a day earlier, Trump lamented India’s Russian oil purchases and accused Washington of having “lost India to China” before hastily walking back the remark. Such contradictions underline why “friendship politics” is a poor substitute for consistent, interest-based diplomacy.

Modi’s bonhomie with Chinese president Xi Jinping and Russian president Vladimir Putin at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit—marked by handshakes, hugs, and smiles—was not lost on global observers. It was a reminder that India, while deeply invested in its partnership with Washington, will not be bullied into compromising its strategic autonomy. Ultimately, India-US ties are too important to be dictated by personal rapport or transient irritants. Trade frictions, tariffs, and disagreements over oil imports will come and go. What will endure is the recognition that the two countries, with their shared democratic values and converging strategic interests, stand to gain far more from cooperation than confrontation. That is the real foundation of this “very special relationship”—not sentimental proclamations of eternal friendship.

Bald hills bode ill for states

In an encouraging move, the Supreme Court has taken cognisance of shocking levels of deforestation in the Himalayan states of Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh, besides Jammu, Kashmir and Punjab, and called for action by the states and Union govts. A bench led by Chief Justice Gaiya echoed the concern of the entire country at the sight of a staggering number of logs floating down swollen rivers like the Ravi and issued notices to the National Highways Authority of India and others. It is no secret that furious road construction and dam building in montane states has rendered them greatly vulnerable to disaster, their losses aggravated by frequent extreme weather events. In fact, the petitioner before the court brought up the situation in 14 road tunnels between Chandigarh and Manali, which pose a threat to travellers whenever sudden, heavy rain occurs. Catastrophic annual events in coastal states like Maharashtra, Karnataka and Kerala have shown what unpredictable and extreme rainfall linked to climate change can do. What makes millions more vulnerable to deadly mudslides and floods is illegal logging. It is encouraging that Solicitor General Tushar Mehta will be taking up this crisis with the respective states, but an effective outcome would depend on the court continuing to review the action taken. This would be consistent with its reasoning in the landmark Godavarnam Thirumulpad case, where it treated a letter from a citizen in the Nilgiris as a petition and issued far-reaching ban orders on deforestation.

The deadly consequences for entire communities due to illegal and commercial-scale logging became all too evident in 1970, when floods in denuded hill landscapes in present-day Uttarakhand caused the death of scores of people. Chipko, a Gandhian movement that hugged trees and prevented logging in response, captured the imagination of the whole world. It would evidently be difficult to replicate Chipko’s success today, but judicial intervention can still save the remaining forests. This holds true also for the tens of thousands of old-growth trees in a 160 sq km area that face the axe for the Great Nicobar Project, involving a port and airport on a pristine island that is home only to tribal people. Sustainability principles call for strict restrictions on commercial activities in ecologically fragile areas, and scientific forecasts for the Himalayan states underscore this frequently. Govts have been unsuccessfully trying to introduce travel permits for hill stations in several states, since easier mobility, an explosion of personal vehicles, expanded road building, informal bed and breakfast arrangements and social media-inspired travel have all ratcheted up the pressure. Mehta’s description of floods as ‘nature’s payback’ is accurate, but then, it is not a new problem. The remedies, unfortunately, have few champions in government. It would take an activist court to change that.



Today, September 8, is a very special day for all those who are passionate about Indian culture and music. It is particularly special for my sisters and brothers of Assam. After all, it is the birth anniversary of Dr Bhupen Hazarika, one of the most extraordinary voices India has ever known. As you are all aware, this year marks the beginning of his birth centenary celebrations. It is an occasion to revisit his monumental contributions to Indian artistic expression and public consciousness.

What Bhupen Da gave us extends far beyond music. His works embodied emotions that transcended melody. More than just a voice, he was the heartbeat of the people. Generations have grown up listening to his songs, each word resonating with themes of kindness, social justice, unity and deep-rooted belonging.

From Assam emerged a voice that flowed like a timeless river, crossing borders and cultures, carrying with it the spirit of humanity. Bhupen Da travelled the globe, rubbed shoulders with the who’s who across all spectrums of society, but he remained deeply connected to his roots in Assam. The rich oral traditions, folk melodies and community storytelling practices of Assam deeply shaped

his early childhood. These experiences formed the bedrock of his artistic vocabulary. He always carried the spirit of Assam’s indigenous identity and the ethos of its people.

Brilliance came to Bhupen Da at a very young age. At the age of just five, he sang at a public event and quickly caught the attention of none other than Lakshminath Bezbaruah, the pioneering figure of Assamese literature. By the time he was a teenager, he had recorded his first song. But music was only one part of his personality. Bhupen Da was as much an intellectual at heart... curious, articulate and driven by an insatiable desire to understand the world. Cultural legends like Jyoti Prasad Agarwala and Bishnu Prasad Rabha left a deep impression on his mind and deepened his spirit of enquiry. It was also this desire to learn that made him excel at Cotton College, Banaras Hindu University, and took him to the United States, where he interacted with leading academicians, thinkers, and musicians of those times. He met Paul Robeson, a legendary artist and civil rights leader. Robeson’s song ‘Ol’ Man River’ became the inspiration for Bhupen Da’s iconic composition ‘Bistirno Parore.’ The much-admired former American First Lady, Eleanor Roosevelt, awarded him a Gold Medal for his performances of Indian folk music.

Bhupen Da had the option of remaining in the US, but he returned to India and immersed himself in music. From radio to theatre, and films to educational documentaries, he was well-versed in each of these media. Wherever he went, he emphasised supporting young talent. His works combined lyrical flair and gave social messages, touching upon justice for the poor, rural development, and strength of common citizens, to name a few. Through his music, he gave voice to the aspirations of boatmen, tea-estate workers, women, farmers, etc. In addition to being nostalgic, Bhupen Da’s works also became a powerful lens to view modernity. A lot of people, especially from the socially backward classes like him, derived strength and hope from his music.

The spirit of ‘Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat’ found powerful expression in Bhupen Hazarika’s life journey. His works transcended linguistic and regional boundaries to unite people across the country. He composed for films in Assamese, Bengali, and Hindi. He made Assam visible and audible to the rest of India. It is no exaggeration to say that he helped shape the cultural identity of modern Assam, both for those within the state and for the Assamese diaspora across the globe.

Bhupen Da, although not really a political person, did remain connected to the world of public service as well. In 1967, he was elected as an independent MLA from Nau-boicha constituency in Assam, demonstrating how deeply his public persona was rooted in the people’s trust. Though he never became a career politician, his passion for serving others was highly impactful.

The people and Government of India have recognised his enormous contributions over the years. He was conferred with several awards, including the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan, Padma Vibhushan, Dadasaheb Phalke Award, and more. In 2019, it was an honour for me personally and for the NDA government that the Bharat Ratna was conferred upon him during our tenure. This honour celebrated the principles that Bhupen Da held dear to his heart—that music, when grounded in truth, can transcend all barriers; that a song can carry the weight of a people’s dreams and move hearts across the world.

I remember the time Bhupen Da passed away in 2011. I had seen on television how lakhs of people attended his funeral. Every eye was moist that time. Even in death, like in his illustrious life, he brought people together. It was thus fitting that he was cremated at the Jalukbari hillock overlooking the

Brahmaputra, the very river that had been the lifeline of his music, metaphors and memories. It is glad-denning that the Assam government has supported the work of the Bhupen Hazarika Cultural Trust, which is working to popularise his life journey among youngsters. Bhupen Hazarika’s life teaches us the power of empathy, of listening to people, and of staying rooted. His songs continue to be sung by young and old alike.

His music teaches us to be compassionate and courageous. It asks us to remember our rivers, our labourers, our tea workers, our Nari Shakti and our Yuva Shakti. It encourages us to believe in unity in diversity.

Bharat is blessed to have Bhupen Hazarika. As we celebrate the beginning of his centenary year, let us reiterate our commitment to spreading his message far and wide. May it also inspire us to keep working to support music, art, and culture, to encourage young talent and make India a nurturing ground for creativity and artistic excellence.

It is only fitting that one of India’s most significant infrastructure projects, the bridge connecting Dhola and Sadiya, bears the name of Bhupen Hazarika. Just as his songs connected hearts across regions, this bridge connects lands and people.



Peace isn’t absence of violence, it is presence of alternatives

Peace is not utopian, and though we all crave it, it must be vibrant and vivacious. We don’t want eerie, icy and dead peace of the graveyard

Call it a coincidence or something uncanny, but both 9/11 and the International Day of Peace fall in September. The International Day of Peace is observed around the world each year on September 21. Established in 1981 by unanimous United Nations resolution, Peace Day provides a globally shared date for all humanity to commit to peace above all differences and to contribute to building a Culture of Peace. Nine-eleven needs no introduction. It’s etched in our collective consciousness as one of the most violent incidents in the annals of human civilisation. Some violent episodes in history become metaphors, like ‘Pearl Harbour’ and ‘9/11’.

During World War II, the huge destruction of Pearl Harbour by the Japanese Air Force prompted the US to obliterate Hiroshima and Nagasaki using atom bombs, and in 2001, the famous twin towers of New York were completely demolished on September 11. Both the epochal happenings changed the course of history and humanity. They also jolted the conscience of mankind and got all of us thinking. The question is: Can violence and retaliatory violence ever be the answer to any issue? Today, we’re standing at the crossroads of

human civilisation, tormented by ceaseless acts of violence, bloodshed and destruction of precious lives. Wars are being waged in many parts of the world. Violence has become a way of life. It’s not the sanctity of human life and existence that appeals to all of us anymore. It’s the brutality and savagery of human nature that has become our universal fate.

An act of violence begets counter-violence, and it goes on. Violence is a natural outcome of vengeance. Human beings will have to get rid of vengeance and vengeful behaviour to keep violence at bay. Agreed, revenge is an obvious reaction. But how long can we all afford to carry rancour and revenge in our hearts and minds? Somewhere in life’s journey, we need to drop all ill feelings for a better tomorrow. We all must believe in man’s inherent goodness and also believe that nothing bitter can survive forever. We all eventually recoil from violence and hatred. Didn’t the gory sight of the battle of Kalinga transform bloodthirsty King Ashok and turn him into Ashoka the Great? We all have inherent and intrinsic goodness to become non-violent.

So it’s time; we felt that mindless bloodshed and proclivity to avenge will lead us nowhere. When Gandhi was assassinated on January

30, 1948, his son Devdas, the managing editor of The Hindustan Times, requested the government of India to pardon Nathuram Godse and Narayan Apte because his father never believed in retaliatory action in his entire life. That the government politely declined his petition is inconsequential. The same happened when Mrs Coretta Scott King, the widow of the slain US human rights activist Dr Martin Luther King Jr, who was assassinated in Memphis on April 4, 1968, requested the US senate and the jury to pardon James Earl Ray, who was finally awarded 99 years of imprisonment sans parole. We all must emulate these greats to make this world a place for all to live in a peaceful coexistence. Remember, peace demands the most heroic labour and the most difficult sacrifice. It demands greater heroism than war. It demands greater fidelity to the truth and a much more perfect purity of conscience.

Peace is not only better than war but also infinitely more arduous. We want peace because if we’re at war with others, we cannot be at peace with ourselves. We all must be optimistic that love and peace will eventually vanquish war, hatred and all sorts of differences.

The pursuit of peace and progress cannot end in a few years in

either victory or defeat. The pursuit of peace and progress, with its trials and its errors, its successes and its setbacks, can never be relaxed and never be abandoned. Peace is an ever-ongoing process. It’s not an absence of war; it’s a virtue, a state of mind, a disposition for benevolence, confidence, and justice. Peace is not the absence of conflict but the presence of creative alternatives for responding to conflict—alternatives to passive or aggressive responses; alternatives to violence. The real and lasting victories are those of peace and not of war. It’s not enough to say we must not wage war. It is necessary to love peace and sacrifice for it. But peace must never be a weasel word. When you’re proclaiming peace with your lips, be careful to have it even more fully in your heart. Buddha aptly said, “Better than a thousand hollow words is one word that brings peace.” One does not need buildings, money, power, or status to practise the Art of Peace. Heaven is right where you are standing, and that is the place to train. Every goal, every action, every thought, and every feeling one experiences, whether it be consciously or unconsciously known, is an attempt to increase one’s level of peace of mind. Peace travels from being individual to being universal.

So, it’s naive to pray for world peace if you’re not going to change the form in which you live (and also think). For, behind all imperialism is ultimately the imperialistic individual, just as behind all peace is ultimately the peaceful individual. Remember, each one of us has the power to change the world. Just start thinking of peace, and the message will spread quicker than you think. The universe helps spread the fragrance of peace in all directions because peace subsumes and suffuses the Kainaat (Universe). We are one people; we are only family. And when we finally accept these truths, then we will be able to fulfil a visionary’s dream to build a beloved community, a nation, and a world at peace with itself.

Peace is not utopian. Rather, it’s the most sapient solution for the survival of sapiens. It demands the united efforts of us all because peace is inviolable. Lastly, though we all crave peace, it must also be vibrant and vivacious. We don’t want the eerie, icy and dead peace of the graveyard. Rather, it should be serene, salubrious and snug so that all of humanity can bask in its warmth.

Sumit Paul is a regular contributor to the world’s premier publications and portals in several languages.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reliance AI Launch

Mukesh Ambani’s Reliance Industries launched Reliance Intelligence, an AI subsidiary providing scalable, affordable AI tools nationwide. Gigawatt-scale clean energy data centers in Jamnagar and partnerships with Google and Meta support SMBs in telecom, retail, healthcare, and agriculture. Challenges include digital literacy, connectivity, and fragmented data. Success could transform India’s AI landscape, empower small businesses, and strengthen the economy.

Amarjeet Kumar,
Hazaribagh

Shanghai Brings Luck

Shanghai and other Chinese cities have proved lucky for India in sports. From the 2007 Special Olympics to the 2024 Archery World Cup and Asian Games in Hangzhou, India has seen major medal wins. Such shared victories should inspire peace and trade. Border monitoring via

drones/satellites, not human patrols, along with regular peace talks on disputed sites, can secure long-term cooperation between the two nations.

– Sreelekha PS,
Secunderabad

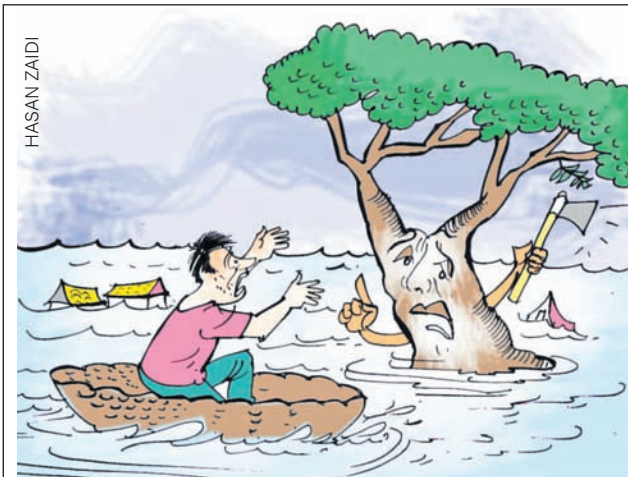
Unsafe Smart Cities

NARI 2025 reveals that Indian cities are unsafe for women. Despite smart slogans, 65% safety isn’t good enough. Instead of flyovers, cities need lit footpaths, trust-building authorities, and better planning. Women still fear walking alone at night. Real safety goes beyond post-crime outrage. Until planners prioritize everyday safety, urban areas will remain dangerous for half the population.

– K. Chidanand Kumar,
Bengaluru

Trump Tariff Setback

A federal appeals court has ruled Trump’s trade tariffs illegal, challenging a core pillar of his economic pol-



icies. The case is expected to go to the US Supreme Court. It raises critical questions about the limits of presidential power in trade policy. The ruling may change how future administrations approach tariffs and reshape the global economic framework moving forward.

– Ranganathan Sivakumar,
Chennai

75 Years Strong

On the 75th anniversary of China-India diplomatic ties,

both nations must adopt a strategic and long-term outlook. Multilateralism, a multipolar world, and institutional democracy are shared goals. PM Modi’s meeting with Xi Jinping during the BRICS summit marks progress after 2020 tensions. Strengthened trade ties and peaceful dialogue are vital. Accountability and peaceful engagement should define future relations.

– Dimple Wadhawan,
Kanpur

Deforestation Fuels Flooding

The severe floods sweeping through states like Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, and Assam underline the hidden costs of deforestation in India. They are a wake-up call about how human-induced ecological damage magnifies natural disasters. Villages get submerged, crops destroyed, and thousands displaced not only because rivers overflow, but because we have stripped away the very ecosystems that kept them in check. The hill states of Himachal and Uttarakhand are paying the price for the brazen plunder of their forest cover. Government should enforce strict afforestation and compensatory plantation laws and protect our natural buffers.

Gregory Fernandes, Mumbai

New Trade Quadrilateral

The rise of JIRC—Japan, India, Russia, China—signals a reshaped global trade bloc, largely due to US tariff hikes. If the EU joins, it could become a powerful five-member alliance. Such cooperation may ease Russia-EU tensions and foster peace. A future where Russia joins the EU could benefit all parties through shared prosperity and stability.

– PVP Madhu Nivriti,
Secunderabad

Modi At Seventy-Five

Debate over PM Modi’s age-based retirement is misplaced. Like sports veterans who played past 40, a capable leader should continue while fit and performing. Modi’s 12-year tenure has elevated India’s global image. The opposition, despite having older leaders, targets him unfairly. They should introspect before demanding retirement based on age alone.

– N. Mahadevan, Chennai

np Briefs

AMETHI
Dalit girl
raped, FIR
registered

A 13-year-old Dalit girl was allegedly raped by a man, who also filmed the act, in a village here, police said on Sunday. The accused, who is also from the girl's village, has been detained and is being questioned, they said.

LATEHAR
Man dies in
lightning
strike

Police had to coax and persuade relatives of a 45-year-old cattle breeder, who had died of lightning strike, to hand over the body for post-mortem examination, which was kept in the mound of cow dung out of superstition, hoping that he would come alive in Jharkhand's Latehar district, an officer said on Sunday.

KOCHI
Malayalam
filmmaker
detained

Malayalam filmmaker Sanal Kumar Sasidharan was detained at Mumbai airport on Sunday as there was a lookout notice issued by the Kerala police in a case related to a harassment complaint given by an actress, officials said on Sunday.

Rahul will be INDIA
bloc's face in Bihar
polls: Pappu Yadav

Dheeraj Kumar
PATNA

Independent MP Rajesh Ranjan aka Pappu Yadav, known for his political clout in the Seemanchal-Kosi region of north Bihar, is a great admirer of Congress leader, his ideology and his 'fight' for protecting people's rights. In the last Lok Sabha election, Pappu won from Purnea as an Independent candidate. His victory assumes special significance as he not only defeated the incumbent JD (U) MP Santosh Kushwaha but also relegated the RJD nominee Bina Bharti to the third position. He had joined Congress before the 2024 LS polls by announcing the merger of his outfit, Jan Adhikar Party.

He has his influence in about 15 assembly seats including Supaul, Madhepura, Saharsa, Araria and Purnia in the Kosi-Seemanchal region. In a frank and candid interview with the Free Press Journal, he touched upon various issues ranging from the present day politics, Rahul's Yatra to Congress' prospects in the upcoming assembly election.

Q What is your take on the chief ministerial candidate of INDIA bloc in the election?

In my view, we should push back on the issue of CM face of the opposition bloc, and instead all allies of the alliance should work in tandem as their focus should be on ousting the NDA from power in the state. BJP also does not declare its CM candidate before elections?

Q How Rahul's Voter Adhikar Yatra is going to impact Bihar election?

People's confidence in Rahul has improved a lot not only in Bihar but also across the country as they are now acknowledging the truth of the matter he raised during the Yatra. The perception about him as a serious and an authentic leader has traversed through the length and breadth of Bihar. Respect towards Congress workers has improved and people's attachment towards the party has also increased. BJP is increasing the issue of infiltration into Muslim-dominated Seemanchal region of the state but it will fail to make any major impact.

Q What are challenges be-

VOTE VIBE | RLJP JMM likely to join INDIA bloc amid
seat-sharing challenges

Seat sharing gets tougher
for Bihar's grand alliance

Dheeraj Kumar
PATNA

The INDIA bloc, which has become more optimistic about putting up an impressive show in coming Bihar assembly elections following Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's Voter Adhikar Yatra, may face a challenge in finalising the seat sharing deal for the polls as two more allies join the alliance.

Former minister Pashupati Kumar Paras's Rashtriya Lok Janshakti Party (RLJP) and Jharkhand chief minister Hemant Soren's Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) are two new entrants to the INDIA bloc in Bihar when the state assembly polls are round the corner.

RJD leader Tejashwi Yadav said that Paras had expressed his willingness to join the opposition alliance on the issues of secularism and socialism. He said that he had put forth Paras's proposal before all allies as a decision on it would be taken soon. He said that a decision on JMM's joining the INDIA bloc would also be taken soon.

A meeting of the INDIA bloc's allies was held at the official residence of Tejashwi Yadav on Saturday.

The INDIA bloc comprises RJD, Congress, CPI (ML), Mukesh Sahani's Vikasheel Insaan Party (VIP), CPI and CPI (ML). RJD was part of INDIA bloc in Jharkhand when the



assembly election was held in neighbouring state last year. RJD was given six seats in the seat sharing deal as Lalu Prasad's party emerged victorious on four seats. There is also a minister from RJD quota in Jharkhand, and in such a situation, there is all possibility of JMM's induction in INDIA bloc in Bihar too before the polls. The JMM can be given seats in areas of Banka, Munger and Bhagalpur, which are adjacent to Jharkhand.

With the induction of RSLP and JMM into the INDIA bloc

in Bihar, the state's 243 assembly seats will have to be divided among the 8 parties.

Although union minister and LJP (RV) chief Chirag Paswan holds support of a majority of Paswan votes (Paswans constitute 5.31 percent population of the state), INDIA bloc will try to make inroads into the Paswan votes through Paras.

Paras has been an MLA from Alauli assembly in Khagaria district for a long time before he was elected to Lok Sabha from Hajipur in 2019. Sources claimed that Paras's

OWAIS METAL & MINERAL PROCESSING LIMITED
CIN: U14290MP2022PLC063833
Registered Office: C/o Sayyad Akhtar Ali, Wahid Nagar, Old Bapass Road, Ratlam- 457001, Madhya Pradesh, India
Email: info@owaismetal.com Website: www.ommpl.com
Contact No.: +91 93000 96498

NOTICE OF 3RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, REMOTE
E-VOTING AND BOOK CLOSURE INFORMATION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the 3rd Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Company will be held on Monday, September 29, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. at Hotel Santa Sagar Palace, Mhow Rd, near Bus Stand, Santa Nagar, Ratlam- 457001, Madhya Pradesh, India. In accordance with General Circular No. 14/2020 dated 8th April, 2020 and subsequent circulars issued in this regard, the latest being Circular No. 09/2024 dated 19th September, 2024 issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2024/133 3rd October, 2024 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the Notice of 3rd AGM and Annual Report including the Audited Financial Statements for the financial year 2024 - 2025 have been sent in electronic mode to Members whose e-mail IDs are registered with the Company, Registrar & Share Transfer Agent (RTA) or the Depository Participants (DP). The electronic dispatch of Annual Report to Members has been completed on September 06, 2025.

Additionally, in accordance with Regulation 36(1)(b) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (Listing Regulations), the Company is also sending a letter to shareholders, whose e-mail IDs are not registered with Company / RTA / DP providing the weblink of Company's website from where the Annual Report for FY 2024 - 2025 can be accessed. The copy of the Notice of 3rd AGM and Annual Report is also available on the Company's website www.ommpl.com.

Instructions for Remote E-voting and E-voting during AGM:

- Pursuant to Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 44 of Listing Regulations, the Company is pleased to provide the facility to Members to exercise their right to vote by electronic means on resolutions proposed to be passed at AGM. Members holding shares either in physical form or dematerialised form, as on Monday, September 22, 2025 (cut-off date), shall cast their vote electronically through electronic voting system (remote e-voting) of BIGSHARE at https://vote.bigshareonline.com. Only those Members whose names are recorded in the Register of Members or in the Register of Beneficial Owners maintained by the Depositories as on the cut-off date shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e-voting. All the Members are hereby informed that the Ordinary and Special Business, as set out in Notice of 3rd AGM will be transacted through voting by electronic means only.
- The remote e-voting period will commence at 9:00 A.M. (IST) on Thursday, September 25, 2025 and will end at 05:00 P.M. (IST) on Sunday, September 28, 2025. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled for voting at 05:00 P.M. (IST) on Sunday, September 28, 2025.
- Once the vote on a resolution is cast by the Member, the member cannot modify it subsequently.
- Members, who have acquired shares after sending the Annual Report through electronic means and before the cut-off date, may obtain the USER ID and Password by sending a request at vote@bigshareonline.com. However, if a Member is already registered for remote e-voting, then the Member may use their existing USER ID and Password, and cast.
- Members attending the AGM who have not cast their vote by remote e-voting shall be eligible to cast their vote during the AGM. Members who have voted through remote e-voting shall be eligible to attend the AGM, however, they shall not be eligible to vote at the meeting.
- The procedure for e-voting is available in the Notice of the 3rd AGM as well as in the email sent to the Members along with the Notice of 3rd AGM and Annual Report. In case of any queries/grievances, you may refer to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Members and e-voting user manual for Members available in the downloads section of the e-voting website of Bigshare at https://vote.bigshareonline.com or mail us at vote@bigshareonline.com or call us at 022-62638338.
- The Notice of AGM is available on the Company's website www.ommpl.com and on the website of Stock Exchange i.e. National Stock Exchange of India Limited at www.nsdlindia.com.
- The Register of Members and Share Transfer Book of the Company will remain closed from Monday, September 22, 2025 to Monday, September 29, 2025 (both days inclusive).
- The Company has appointed M/s. Heena Gulrajani & Associates, Company Secretaries (Membership No.: 68255), to act as the Scrutinizer, to scrutinise the entire e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner.

By Order of the Board of Directors
For OWAIS METAL AND MINERAL PROCESSING LIMITED
(earlier known as Owais Metal and Mineral Processing Private Limited and Owais Al Overseas Private Limited)
Sd/-
Saiyyed Owais Ali
Managing Director
DIN: 08291144
Ratlam
September 07th, 2025

Public Notice For E-Auction For Sale of Immovable Properties
Sale of Immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited (IIFL HFL) Corporate Office at Plot No.98, Udyog Vihar, Phase-IV, Gurgaon-122015 (Haryana) and Branch Office at: 225, Napier Town, 2nd Floor, opp. Chandrika Towers, Shastri Bridge Road, JABALPUR-482001 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter "Act"). Whereas the Authorized Officer ("AO") of IIFL HFL has taken the possession of auction sale and auction application form before submitting their Bids for taking part in the auction sale proceedings nos. with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS AND WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS" for realization of IIFL HFL's dues, The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.iiflhome.com

Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property/ Secured Asset	Date of Symbolic Possession	Reserve Price
Mr. Javed Ansari Mrs. Shaheen Ira Bhatia (Prospect No- IL1022752)	15/08/2024 Rs. 2161160 (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Sixty One Thousand One Hundred and Sixty Only) Bid Increase Amount- Rs.20000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only)	All that part and parcel of the property bearing: Plot No. 74, Future Nagar, NB 664, PHN 17680, New 64, Kh. No. 67/1, New Ward No. 75, Tehsil Adhartal, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, India, 482001 Area Admeasuring (in sq Ft.): Property Type: Land Area, Saleable Area, Super Built Up, Ar ea Property Area: 1000.00, 1000.00, 1000.00	13/09/2024 Total Outstanding as On Date 29/08/2025 Rs. 2484796/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Eighty Four Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety Six Only)	Rs.800000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Only) Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.80000/- (Rupees Eighty Thousand Only)
Date of Inspection of property 08-Oct-2025 1100 hrs -1400 hrs.		EMD Last Date 10-Oct-2025 11 5 pm.	Date/ Time of E-Auction 13-Oct-2025 1100 hrs-1300 hrs.	

Mode Of Payment:- EMD payments are to be made vide online mode only. To make payments you have to visit https://www.iiflhome.com and pay through link available for the property/ Secured Asset only.
Note: Payment link for each property/ Secured Asset is different. Ensure you are using link of the property/ Secured Asset you intend to buy vide public auction.
For Balance Payment - Login https://www.iiflhome.com >My Bid >Pay Balance Amount.
Important Information: This auction is published basis possession vide Sec 13 (4) of SARFAESI Act. Physical possession will be offered post receiving of Section -14 order as per process laid down under SARFAESI Act and as and when physical possession will be taken. Bidder shall do necessary due-diligence in respect of documents and legal before participating in auction proceedings.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-
1. For participating in e-auction, Intending bidders required to register their details with the Service Provider https://www.iiflhome.com well in advance and has to create the login account, login ID and password. Intending bidders have to submit / send their "Tender Form" along with the payment details towards EMD, copy of the KYC and PAN card at the above mentioned Branch Office.
2. The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column "Bid Increase Amount". In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will be automatically get extended for 5 minutes.
3. The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (after adjusting EMD) within 24 hours of the acceptance of bid price by the AO and the balance 75% of the bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. All deposit and payment shall be in the prescribed mode of payment.
4. The purchaser has to bear the cess, applicable stamp duty, fees, and any other statutory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges, land and all other incidental costs, charges including all taxes and rates outgoings relating to the property.
5. The purchaser has to pay TDS application to the transaction/payment of sale amount and submit the TDS certificate with IIFL HFL.
6. Bidders are advised to go through the website https://www.iiflhome.com and https://www.iifl.com/home-loans/properties-for-auction for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale and auction application form before submitting their Bids for taking part in the auction sale proceedings.
7. For details, help procedure and online training on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the service provider E mail ID:- care@iiflhome.com, Support Helpline Numbers @1800 2672 499.
8. For any query related to Property details, inspection of Property and Online bid etc. call IIFL HFL toll free no. 1800 2672 499 from 09:30 hrs to 18:00 hrs between Monday to Friday or write to email:- care@iiflhome.com
9. Notice is hereby given to above said borrowers to collect the household articles, which were lying in the secured asset at the time of taking physical possession within 7 days, otherwise IIFL HFL shall not be responsible for any loss of property under the circumstances.
10. Further the Notice is hereby given to the Borrowers, that in case they fail to collect the above said articles same shall be sold in accordance with Law.
11. In case of default in payment at any stage by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the above stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid will be forfeited (including EMD) and the property will be again put to sale.
12. AO reserves the rights to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and condition of tender/auction without assigning any reason therefor. In case of any dispute in tender/auction, the decision of AO of IIFL HFL will be final.
STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002
The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of Tender/Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.
Place:- Jabalpur, Date: 08-09-2025 Sd/- Authorised Officer, IIFL Home Finance Limited.

RLSP would not get less than two to three seats, as he and his son could also contest polls. The opposition alliance could also field Paras from Hajipur with an objective to divide Paswan votes.

Possible roadblocks

This time Mukesh Sahni's VIP (Vikashsheel Insaan Party) is also in the Mahagachbandhan. Saini has asked for 50 seats and the post of Deputy Chief Minister if the alliance wins.

Mukesh Sahni also wants that along with declaring Tejashwi as the Chief Ministerial face, Mahagachbandhan also declare him as the Deputy Chief Minister face.

It will be a tough task for RJD's Tejashwi Yadav or the Congress to accommodate Mukesh Sahni, sources said. Chances are the party can get 20 to 25 seats.

Many parties have objections even to that number since last time Sahni contested 11 seats and won only 4.

This time Tejashwi Yadav wants to keep him in the alliance for the votes of the backward castes. The Congress might have to settle for 60 seats instead of the 70 they got last time. They are likely to agree provided the seats are winnable, sources indicated.

Oppn MPs to
participate in
mock poll

PTI
NEW DELHI

Opposition MPs would be briefed on Monday on the procedure to vote in the September 9 vice presidential polls, and will be hosted for dinner by Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge the same evening.

VP POLL

sources in the INDIA bloc said on Sunday.

They said a 'mock poll' would be conducted in the Central Hall of the Samvidhan Sadan at around 2:30 PM on Monday after the briefing on the procedure to vote in the vice presidential polls. At around 7:30 PM, Congress president Kharge will host a dinner for the opposition MPs at the Parliament annexe, the sources said.

It is a direct contest between ruling NDA nominee C P Radhakrishnan and joint opposition candidate B Sudershan Reddy on September 9.

Both candidates this time hail from southern India, with Radhakrishnan from Tamil Nadu and Reddy from Telangana. The vice-presidential election has been described by the Opposition as an ideological battle, even as the numbers are stacked in favour of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (NDA).

Appointments of 403 X-ray
technicians under lens

Biswajeet Banerjee
LUCKNOW

A major revelation has come to light in the 2016 X-ray technician recruitment scam in Uttar Pradesh. Investigations have uncovered that in several cases, more than one person secured appointments on the same post using identical names and details. In some instances, as many as six individuals drew salaries under one name for nearly nine years. The recruitment was conducted in 2016 for 403 X-ray technician posts in the health department. Officials found that six people were employed under the name Arpit and were continuously drawing salaries.

Fresh scrutiny has now revealed that two individuals were appointed under the name Ankur, while six were appointed under the name Ankit, all using slightly altered personal details.

According to documents shared by the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission with the Directorate of Health, one Ankur Mishra, born on December 5, 1994, was appointed in Mainpuri in June 2016 and is now posted at the District Tuberculosis Office in Mainpuri. Another Ankur Mishra, with a birth date of November 15, 1994, was also appointed the same year and is currently posted at a community health center in Muzaffarpur. Both have their permanent address listed as Mainpuri.

The case of Ankit Singh is even more serious. Records show six different individuals

were appointed under this name. One was posted in Har-doi, another in Lakhimpur, one in Gonda, and others in Azamgarh, Lalitpur, and Badaun. Two of them have gone missing from their postings, while one was dismissed from service.

Former Director General of Health Dr. Badri Vishal said the irregularities point towards large-scale lapses at every level. He raised the possibility of cloned appointment letters, forged Aadhaar documents, and failure of proper verification of joining certificates and bank accounts.

Officials said the posts occupied by fraudulent appointees will now be declared vacant and adjusted in future recruitments.

However, the department faces a major challenge in recovering the salaries disbursed over the past nine years.

The probe was ordered on the instructions of Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak. Chief Medical Officers from the affected districts have been summoned to Lucknow and directed to submit complete service records of the recruits. As the investigation gathered pace, several X-ray technicians employed under the name Arpit absconded from their postings.

In Farrukhabad, the CMO reported that a technician working under the name Arpit was later identified as Ajit Singh from Etah. He stopped reporting to duty last Friday and his mobile phone has been switched off since.

CAPRI GLOBAL HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
Registered & Corporate Office : 502, Tower-A, Peninsula Business Park, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Panel, Mumbai-400013
Circle Office : 9-B, 2nd floor, Pusa Road, Rajinder Place, New Delhi-110060

APPENDIX- IV-A (See proviso to rule 8 (6) and 9 (1))
Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and 9 (1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Capri Global Housing Finance Limited Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on dates below mentioned, for recovery of amount mentioned below due to the Capri Global Housing Finance Limited Secured Creditor from Borrower mentioned below. The reserve price, EMD amount and property details mentioned below.

SR. NO.	1.BORROWER(S) NAME 2. OUTSTANDING AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY	1. DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION 2. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF EMD 3. DATE & TIME OF THE PROPERTY INSPECTION	1. RESERVE PRICE 2. EMD OF THE PROPERTY 3. INCREMENTAL VALUE
1.	1.Mr. Brajesh Vishwakarma ("Borrower") 2. Mrs. Kalpana Vishwakarma (Co-borrower) LOAN ACCOUNT No. LHNHEJBL000061906(Old) /50400000557913(New) and LHNHJBL000061878(Old) /50300000798825(New) Rupees 44,35,872/- (Rupees Forty Four Lacs Thirty Five Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy Two Only) as on 26.07.2025 along with applicable future interest.	All that Piece and Parcel of property having land and building bearing Plot No. 30 (Area Admeasuring 1000 Sq. Ft.), Mouza Rimjha, N.B No. 397, PH No. 26/23 (Old), 79 (New), R.N.M. Maharajpur, out of Khasra No. 154 and 155 (after mutation 154/1 and 155/1), Vrandavan Nagar, Durga Mandi, Nagar Nigam New Ward No. 72, Tehsil Panagar, District Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh 482001, Bounded as under (As per Property Documents);, North: Plot No. 29, House of Shaikh Bakhtulla, South: House of Suresh Kumar Khampariya, East: Side Road, West: Plot No. 23	1. E-AUCTION DATE: 27.09.2025 (Between 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.) 2. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF EMD WITH KYC: 26.09.2025 3. DATE OF INSPECTION: 25.09.2025	RESERVE PRICE: Rs. 35,10,000/- (Rupees Thirty Five Lacs Ten Thousand Only). EARNST MONEY DEPOSIT: Rs. 3,51,000/- (Rupees Three Lac Fifty One Thousand Only) INCREMENTAL VALUE: Rs. 20,000/- (Rupees Twenty Thousand Only)
2.	1. Mr. Ajay Pandey ("Borrower") 2. Mrs. Ranjana Pandey (Co-borrower) LOAN ACCOUNT No. LHNHREJBL000072627(Old) /50300000812990 (New) Rupees 10,88,256/- (Rupees Ten Lacs Eighty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Six Only) as on 26.07.2025 along with applicable future interest.	All Piece and Parcel of property having Land and Building, Area Admeasuring 0.012 Hect. i.e. 121.561 Sq. Mts., Khasra No. 618/2/2/2 (S), Mauja Parsiya, PH No. 60, RNM Tala, Tehsil Amarpatan, District Satna, Madhya Pradesh - 485778. Bounded as follows: North: House of Savitri Pandey, South: House of Ramakant Pandey, East: Road, West: House of Seller	1. E-AUCTION DATE: 27.09.2025 (Between 3:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.) 2. LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF EMD WITH KYC: 26.09.2025 3. DATE OF INSPECTION: 25.09.2025	RESERVE PRICE: Rs. 7,20,000/- (Rupees Seven Lacs Twenty Thousand Only). EARNST MONEY DEPOSIT: Rs. 72,000/- (Rupees Seventy Two Thousand Only) INCREMENTAL VALUE: Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only)

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Capri Global Housing Finance Limited Secured Creditor's website i.e. www.caprihome.com/auction

TERMS & CONDITIONS OF ONLINE E-AUCTION SALE:-
1. The Property is being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS, WHATEVER THERE & WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS". As such sale is without any kind of warranties & indemnities.
2. Particulars of the property / assets (viz. extent & measurements specified in the E-Auction Sale Notice has been stated to the best of information of the Secured Creditor and Secured Creditor shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission. Actual extent & dimensions may differ.
3. E-Auction Sale Notice issued by the Secured Creditor is an invitation to the general public to submit their bids and the same does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or representation on the part of the Secured Creditor. Interested bidders are advised to peruse the copies of title deeds with the Secured Creditor and to conduct own independent enquiries /due diligence about the title & present condition of the property / assets and claims / dues affecting the property before submission of bids/
4. Auction/bidding shall only be through "online electronic mode" through the website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net Or Auction Tiger Mobile APP provided by the service provider M/s eProcurement Technologies Limited, Ahmedabad who shall arrange & coordinate the entire process of auction through the e-auction platform.
5. The bidders may participate in e-auction for bidding from their place of choice. Internet connectivity shall have to be ensured by bidder himself. Secured Creditor /service provider shall not be held responsible for the internet connectivity, network problems, system crash own, power failure etc.
6. For details, help, procedure and online bidding on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the Service Provider M/S E-Procurement Technologies Ltd. Auction Tiger, Ahmedabad (Contact no. 079-68136880/68136837), Mr. Ramprasad Sharma Mob. 800-002-3297/79-6120 0559. Email: ramprasad@auctiontiger.net.,
7. For participating in the e-auction sale the intending bidders should register their name at https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net well in advance and shall get the user id and password. Intending bidders are advised to change only the password immediately upon receiving it from the service provider.
8. For participating in e-auction, intending bidders have to deposit a refundable EMD of 10% OF RESERVE PRICE (as mentioned above) shall be payable by interested bidders through Demand Draft/NEFT/RTGS in favor of "Capri Global Housing Finance Limited" on or before 26-September-2025.
9. The intending bidders should submit the duly filled in Bid Form (format available on https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net) along with the Demand Draft remittance towards EMD in a sealed cover addressed to the Authorized Officer, Capri Global Housing Finance Limited Regional Office Unit No. 101-103, First Floor, Plot No. 103/4, Krishna Tower, Scheme No. 140, Above ICICI Bank, Pipliyane Square Indore, Madhya Pradesh latest by 03:00 PM on 26-September-2025. The sealed cover should be super scribed with "Bid for participating in E-Auction Sale - in the Loan Account No. _____ (as mentioned above) for property of "Borrower Name".
10. After expiry of the last date of submission of bids with EMD, Authorized Officer shall examine the bids received by him and confirm the details of the qualified bidders (who have quoted their bids only over and above the reserve price and paid the specified EMD with the Secured Creditor) to the service provider M/S eProcurement Technologies Limited to enable them to allow only those bidders to participate in the online inter-se bidding /auction proceedings at the date and time mentioned in E-Auction Sale Notice.
11. Inter-se bidding among the qualified bidders shall start from the highest bid quoted by the qualified bidders. During the process of inter-se bidding, there will be unlimited extension of "10" minutes each, i.e. the end time of e-auction shall be automatically extended by 10 Minutes each time if bid is made within 10 minutes from the last extension.
12. Bids once made shall not be cancelled or withdrawn. All bids made from the user id given to bidder will be deemed to have been made by him alone.
13. Immediately upon closure of E-Auction proceedings, the highest bidder shall confirm the final amount of bid quoted by him BY E-Mail both to the Authorised Officer, Capri Global Housing Finance Limited, Regional Office Unit No. 101-103, First Floor, Plot No. 103/4, Krishna Tower, Scheme No. 140, Above ICICI Bank, Pipliyane Square Indore, Madhya Pradesh and the Service Provider for getting declared as successful bidder in the E-Auction Sale proceedings.
14. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the bid amount (including EMD) within 24 hour of the sale, being knocked down in his favour and balance 75% of bid amount within 15 days from the date of sale by DD/Pay order/NEFT/RTGS/Chq favouring Capri Global Housing Finance Limited.
15. In case of default in payment of above stipulated amounts by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid (including EMD) will be forfeited and the property will be again put to sale.
16. At the request of the successful bidder, the Authorised Officer in his absolute discretion may grant further time in writing, for depositing the balance of the bid amount.
17. The Successful Bidder shall pay 1% of Sale price towards TDS (out of Sale proceeds) (if applicable) and submit TDS certificate to the Authorised officer and the deposit the entire amount of sale price (after deduction of 1% towards TDS), adjusting the EMD within 15 working days of the acceptance of the offer by the authorized officer, or within such other extended time as deemed fit by the Authorised Officer, failing which the earnest deposit will be forfeited.
18. Municipal / Panchayat Taxes, Electricity dues (if any) and any other authorities dues (if any) has to be paid by the successful bidder before issuance of the sale certificate. Bids shall be made taking into consideration of all the statutory dues pertaining to the property.
19. Sale Certificate will be issued by the Authorised Officer in favour of the successful bidder only upon deposit of entire purchase price / bid amount and furnishing the necessary proof in respect of payment of all taxes / charges.
20. Applicable legal charges for conveyance, stamp duty, registration charges and other incidental charges shall be borne by the auction purchaser.
21. The Authorized officer may postpone / cancel the E-Auction Sale proceedings without assigning any reason whatsoever. In case the E-Auction Sale scheduled is postponed to a later date before 15 days from the scheduled date of sale, it will be displayed on the website of the service provider.
22. The decision of the Authorised Officer is final, binding and unquestionable.
23. All bidders who submitted the bids, shall be deemed to have read and understood the terms and conditions of the E-Auction Sale and be bound by them.
24. Movable item (if any) lying in the property is not offer with sale.
25. For further details and queries, contact Authorised Officer, Capri Global Housing Finance Limited: Mr. Sandeep Dixit Mo. No. 989694769.
26. This publication is also 15 (Fifteen) days notice to the Borrower / Mortgagor / Guarantors of the above said loan account pursuant to rule 8(6) and 9 (1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, about holding of auction sale on the above mentioned date / place.

Special Instructions / Caution: Bidding in the last minutes/seconds should be avoided by the bidders in their own interest. Neither Capri Global Housing Finance Limited nor the Service Provider will be responsible for any lapses/failure (Internet failure, power failure, etc.) on the part of the bidder in such cases. In order to ward off such contingent situation, bidders are requested to make all the necessary arrangements / alternatives such as back-up power supply and whatever else required so that they are able to circumvent such situation and are able to participate in the auction successfully.

Place : SATNA, JABALPUR (Madhya Pradesh) Date : 08-Sept-2025 Sd/- (Authorised Officer) Capri Global Housing Finance Limited

From front page

Russian min pushes for...

In August, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar had termed ties with Russia as "steadiest" among relationships built in the world after the Second World War. He said, "We believe that relations between India and Russia have been among the steadiest of the major relationships in the world after the Second World War."

Russian President Vladimir Putin will also make an official visit to India in December as confirmed by the Kremlin.

Undersea cable cut...

Pakistan Telecommunications Co Ltd, a telecommunication giant in that country, noted, in a statement on Saturday, that the cuts had taken place.

Saudi Arabia did not acknowledge the disruption and authorities there did not respond to a request for comment.

In the United Arab Emirates, home to Dubai and Abu Dhabi, internet users on the country's state-owned Du and Etisalat networks complained of slower internet speeds. The government did not acknowledge the disruption.

Subsea cables can be cut by anchors dropped from ships, but can also be targeted in attacks. It can take weeks for repairs to be made as a ship and crew must locate themselves over the damaged cable.

The lines' cut comes as Yemen's Houthi rebels remain locked in a series of attacks targeting Israel over the Israel-Hamas war in the

Gaza Strip. Israel has responded with airstrikes, including one that killed top leaders within the rebel movement.

In early 2024, Yemen's internationally recognised government in exile alleged that the Houthis planned to attack undersea cables in the Red Sea. Several were cut, but the Houthis denied being responsible.

On Sunday morning, the Houthis' al-Masirah satellite news channel acknowledged that the cuts had taken place, citing NetBlocks.

From November 2023 to December 2024, the Houthis targeted more than 100 ships with missiles and drones over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. In their campaign so far, the Houthis have sunk four vessels and killed at least eight mariners.

The Iranian-backed Houthis stopped their attacks during a brief ceasefire in the war. They later became the target of an intense weeks-long campaign of airstrikes ordered by US President Donald Trump before he declared a ceasefire had been reached with the rebels.

The Houthis sank two vessels in July, killing at least four on board, with others believed to be held by the rebels.

INDIA'S KING-SIZED...

From the very first minute, India's high-press and Harmanpreet-led orchestration had the packed Rajgir stadium on its feet. Relentless attacking moves, rock-solid defence and a roaring home crowd proved too much for the Koreans, who barely threatened until the closing quarter.

For India, Dilpreet Singh – Brace hero (28', 45'), Sukhjeet Singh – Fastest opener (1') and Amit Rohidas – PC thunderbolt (50'), while Korea's only strike – Dain Son (51').

2 held for killing 18-yr-old; other accused include deceased's grandfather

PTI PUNE

Two persons allegedly involved in the "revenge" murder of the teen son of an accused couple in last year's killing of NCP leader Vanraj Andekar have been arrested, a Pune police official said on Sunday.

Ayush Komkar (18) was

PUNE FAMILY RIVALRY

gunned down in Nana Peth area here in the evening of September 5, with a Samarth police station official saying the hit was allegedly masterminded by Vanraj Andekar's father and the deceased's grandfather Bandu Andekar and other kin.

Vanraj Andekar was killed on September 1 last year in the same area.

"Ayush is Andekar's maternal nephew. Ayush's mother Sanjivani and father Ganesh Komkar are accused in the killing of Vanraj Andekar. Sanjivani is Vanraj Andekar's sister and last year's murder was the fallout of a family dispute regarding a property. Vanraj Andekar's family got Ayush murdered to extract revenge," the official said.

Following Ayush's killing, police had booked 13 people for murder and other offences under Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and Arms Act, the official added.

He identified these persons as Bandu Andekar, Krushna Andekar, Shivan Andekar, Tuskar Wadekar, Swaraj Wadekar, Abhishek Andekar, Vridavani Andekar, Shivraj Andekar, Laxmi Andekar, Aman Pathan, Yash Siddheshwar Patil, Amit Patole and Sujal Meragu.

They are doing this now when polls are close: Khaeage on GST reforms

ANI

KALABURAGI (KARNATAKA)

Congress National President, Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday alleged US President Donald Trump's "pressure is mounting" and the Union Government made the Goods and Service Tax reforms when the elections are close.

He also criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi following the US tariffs imposed by the Trump administration on the Indian exports.

"... They are doing this now when the elections are close, and Trump's pressure is mounting. These people kept saying that China was not allowed to infiltrate into the country, and now PM Modi himself went and met them... If we are supporting them, that doesn't mean they can make arbitrary decisions.. We

have been practising a non-aligned policy since the time of Jawaharlal Nehru. However, when PM Modi came to power, he made statements like 'Trump is my friend.' Then Trump made statements that ruined the environment in the country and the world. They are not executing our foreign policy properly..."

On Wednesday, the 56th GST council meeting decided to rationalise GST rates to two slabs of 5 per cent and 18 per cent by merging the 12 per cent and 28 per cent rates. The 5 per cent slab consists of essential goods and services, including food and kitchen item like butter, ghee, cheese, dairy spreads, pre-packaged namkeens, bhujia, mixtures, and utensils; agriculture equipment; handicrafts and small industries; also medical equipment and diagnostic kits.



MONSOON HAVOC| Yamuna, Ganga and other rivers flowing above danger mark, disrupting life across districts

UP REELS UNDER FLOOD FURY

Biswajeet Banerjee LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh is reeling under the impact of swollen rivers as the Ganga, Yamuna and other rivers have breached danger levels, flooding vast areas and throwing normal life out of gear. From Aligarh, Bareilly, Hathras and Mathura to Shahjahanpur, Lakhimpur Kheri, Prayagraj and Varanasi, floodwaters have entered habitations, forcing thousands to take shelter in relief camps. The administration is carrying out rescue operations and shifting people to safer locations.

In Shahjahanpur, floodwaters disrupted traffic on the busy Delhi-Lucknow highway. Nearly two feet of water flowed for about 1.5 km under the Bareilly Morh overbridge up to Mauzampur village. By evening, the current intensified, bringing two-wheelers, autos and tempos to a halt. Commuters were forced to wade through water on foot. Additional District Magistrate (Finance and Revenue) Ar-

Flash floods ravage paddy, apple crops in south Kashmir

Srinagar: Flash floods in Kashmir have destroyed standing paddy -- mainly rice and apple -- spread over thousands of acres in four southern districts of the valley, leaving farmers staring at cumulative losses running into hundreds of crores. As the Jhelum swelled due to incessant rains and cloudbursts, overflowing waters washed away rice fields in several areas of Anantnag and Pulwama districts.

Punjab schools, colleges to reopen from Monday

Chandigarh: All schools, colleges and universities in Punjab will reopen for students from September 8, Education Minister Harjot Bains said on Sunday, days after educational institutions across the state were closed due to floods. If any school or college is affected by floods, the decision on its closure will be taken by the respective deputy commissioner, the minister said.

vind Kumar said PAC flood units have been deployed to monitor the situation. Finance Minister Suresh Khanna also inspected the area and directed officials to provide all possible assistance.

In Lakhimpur Kheri, tragedy struck when a boat carrying 20 villagers capsized in the Sharda river near Nauwabpur ghat on Saturday morning. While most passengers were rescued, Kailash

(40) and his daughter Seema (15) went missing. NDRF teams launched a search operation but were unable to locate them till late evening. The family and fellow villagers had set out to collect flood relief material from across the river. The search operation will continue on Sunday.

Prayagraj and Varanasi are bracing for fresh threats as water levels of the Ganga and Yamuna crossed 82 metres

Farmers to be allowed to mine, sell sand from their flood-hit fields

Rajesh Moudgil CHANDIGARH

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government in Punjab has decided to soon announce a policy allowing farmers to mine and sell the sand deposited in their fields by the recent floods.

Briefing newspersons in this regard, Punjab affairs in-charge Manish Sisodia said on Sunday that the AAP government would be announcing a policy in this regard in the next two or three days.

The development comes ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's September 9 visit to Punjab to assess flood damage and announce relief for the flood-affected people.

Sisodia said that the government has consistently been working on the ground since the flood situation arose.

The farmers are worried not just the crops which have already been damaged but also about the next kharif season as the sand which has come with flood waters has accumulated in their fields. In numerous areas, sand layers

PM to visit flood-hit Punjab on Tuesday, to conduct aerial survey of flood-hit areas

Rajesh Moudgil CHANDIGARH

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Punjab on September 9 and will take the stock of flood-hit areas of the state, state BJP chief Sunil Jhakar said on Sunday. Sharing this information, Jakhar said in his post on X: "PM Shri Narendra Modi is deeply concerned about the flood situation in Punjab and is closely monitoring it. He is visiting Pun-

jab on September 9 to personally assess the local conditions and understand the ground realities to provide maximum assistance to the people of Punjab". "Earlier, Union Agriculture Minister Shri Shivraj Chauhan was sent to evaluate the situation. Two central government teams, which visited to assess the damage caused by the floods in Punjab, are set to submit their reports to the central government after their tour. The Govern-

ment of India stands firmly with the people of Punjab", he added. Meanwhile, according to information, the PM will come to Punjab on Tuesday from Kangra, which too was among several areas of the hilly state ravaged by the torrential rains and floods in the recent few days. Modi will conduct an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas and land in Pathankot where he is likely to hold a meeting with the state government officials.

and may rise to 84 metres in the coming days, officials warned. In Prayagraj, floodwaters are inching closer to residential areas, threatening to inundate large parts of the city again. In Varanasi, the Ganga rose for the third time this season due to flooding in the Yamuna, submerging the water police outpost at Dashashwamedh ghat and flooding the Assi ghat stage of the "Subah-e-Banaras" pro-

gramme. The Panchkosi Parikrama route is waterlogged up to Dai Kos, causing severe inconvenience to pilgrims and residents alike. Several roads leading to Baraighat, Kalisah Marg, Jugalghat, Shringarvat and Chirghat have been submerged.

Mathura and Vrindavan are among the worst-hit. Rising Yamuna waters inundated colonies like Laxminagar's Tiwari Puram and several ad-

joining villages, with seven to eight feet of water flooding homes in Isapur and Hansganj. District Magistrate Chandraprakash Singh and SSP Shlok Kumar had to use tractors to access submerged areas. Many families remain trapped, refusing to leave their homes for fear of theft and loss of their belongings. Shortage of drinking water and prolonged power cuts have added to their miseries.

LJP (RV) gives veiled threat of contesting polls

Dheeraj Kumar PATNA

Before the seat sharing deal reaching final stage, union minister Chirag Paswan's LJP (RV) on Sunday reminded the alliance's two major allies- BJP and JD (U) - of how it contested elections on its own in the last state polls when it was not given number of seats that could satisfy aspirations of the party workers.

While explaining why his party fought on all seats in the last state polls, Bharti said that only his party could dare to contest elections on its own without entering into any alliance.

LJP (RV) MP commented on 'X', "The workers are the true backbone of our party. It is the natural expectation of the workers who toil tirelessly for the party that one day they too will get the opportunity to serve the people as

representatives of the party. In 2020, when we could not fulfill this sentiment and expectation of our workers due to coalition obligations, we took the bold decision to contest the elections alone. This was not merely electoral politics, but a matter of respecting the sentiments of our workers. Even though we won only one seat in that election, the truth is that by contesting 137 seats, we secured 6 percent of the votes. If we had contested all 243 seats, our vote share would have been more than 10 percent."

"This was a living testament to the strength of our workers and the trust of the people. In reality, this has been a part of our strategic move and political character. The year 2020 made it clear that if any party in Bihar's politics had the courage to contest elections alone, it was only the Lok Janshakti Party," he added.

CHANGE OF NAME & DOB

I, ARMY NO - 14830354P RANK HAV /MT NAME **SALUNKHE MARUTI SUDAM** PRESENTLY RESIDING AT KHADKI PATOLE TAL. MAN, KHADKI ,DIST - SATARA, STATE MAHARASHTRA, PIN - 415509 PRESENTLY WORKING AT 536 ASC BN (RAPID STRIKE) C/O 56 APO I DECLARE THAT MY MOTHER TRUE AND CORRECT NAME & DOB IS **ANUSYA SUDAM SALUNKHE 01/01/1956**. THE SAME NAME & DOB WAS MENTIONED IN HIS AADHAR CARD, BUT IN MY ARMY SHEET ROLL/ARMY SERVICE RECORD MY MOTHER NAME & DOB WAS MENTIONED AS **ARUSHYA SUDAM SALUNKHE 01/07/1957**, INSTEAD OF MENTIONING AS **ANUSYA SUDAM SALUNKHE 01/01/1956**. VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED 08/09/2025 EXECUTED BEFORE DISTRICT COURT SAGAR M.P

CHANGE OF NAME & DOB

I, ARMY NO - 14841573W RANK HAV NAME **BAGAL VIJAYKUMAR JYOTIRAM** PRESENTLY RESIDING AT - SAMARTH KRUPA GAJANAN SOCIETY, BEHIND DATTA MANDIR, SAI NAGAR, GAHUNJE, PO - SALUMBRE SHIRGAON, DIST - PUNE , STATE - MAHARASHTRA, PIN CODE - 410506 PRESENTLY WORKING AT 536 ASC BN (RAPID STRIKE) C/O 56 APO I DECLARE THAT MY MOTHER TRUE AND CORRECT NAME & DOB IS **DRAPUADI JOTIRAM BAGAL 02/06/1960**. THE SAME NAME & DOB WAS MENTIONED IN HIS AADHAR CARD, BUT IN MY ARMY SHEET ROLL/ARMY SERVICE RECORD MY MOTHER NAME & DOB WAS MENTIONED AS **DRAPUADI JOTIRAM BAGAL 02/06/1956**. VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED 08/09/2025 EXECUTED BEFORE DISTRICT COURT SAGAR M.P

CHANGE OF NAME

I, **PRABHAVATI** MOTHER OF NAME **CHAVAN SOMNATH BALKRISHNA** HOME ADDRESS AT:- KAMTHI, POST- VELE, TAL - SATARA, DIST- SATARA, STATE MAHARASHTRA, PIN 415022 HAVE CHANGED MY NAME FROM **PRABHAVATI TO PRABHAVATI BALKRISHNA CHAVAN**. VIDE AFFIDAVIT DATED **06/09/2025** EXECUTED BEFORE DISTRICT COURT SAGAR MP

Office of The Executive Engineer PWD. Division Vidisha (M.P.)

Tender Notice

NIT No- 47 to 54/2025-26 Date 01.09.2025
Online Tender for mentioned below are being invited. The Tender have been uploaded on the e-Procurement system of Public Works Department on the Portal www.mptenders.gov.in Tender details are as below:-

S. No.	Tender No.	District	Nature of work	Name of work	Call No.	Cost of Project (PAC) (Rs. In lack)	Earnest Money
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	2025_PWDDB _448509_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of Approach road from Basoda Bareth Main Road (Dharamkata) via Vijay Nagar Phase-2 to Haripur village 1.80 km. and Noghai PMGSY road to H.S.S. Noghai road length 0.80 km. total length 2.60 km.	1st	89.79	89790
2	2025_PWDDB _448512_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Widening and Upgradation of Behlot Chouki Approach road length 2.00 km.	1st	432.48	432480
3	2025_PWDDB _448520_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of CC road from Haidergarh Panchayat Bhawan to Higher Secondary School on Norja road length 1.00 km.	1st	140.43	140430
4	2025_PWDDB _448531_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of Betoli (Swaroop Nagar) to Semra Road length 3.50 km.	1st	299.08	299080
5	2025_PWDDB _448538_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of Fairpur to Madiya Dhakli road length 3.00 km.	1st	276.56	276560
6	2025_PWDDB _448563_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of Karari to Karonda Khurd road lenth 3.00 km.	1st	283.22	283220
7	2025_PWDDB _448625_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of Pawai to Hirnoda (Missing Link) road length 0.50 km. Adwasi Basti (Dabra) to Kwetan River length 0.40 km. total length 0.90 km.	1st	79.19	79190
8	2025_PWDDB _448632_1	Vidisha	Construction of Road	Construction of Pradhan Mantri Road Ikodia Ikodia to Kachpura road 1.40 km.	1st	179.43	179430
				Total		1780.18	

The document can only be purchased online from the above website after making online payment. The last date & time for purchase of Document online is Dated 19.09.2025 up to (17:30) Detailed NIT and other details can be viewed on the above mentioned portal. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website only, and not in newspaper.

G-18374 **पाँक्सो है सुरक्षा का हथियार, बच्चों पर न करें अत्याचार** Executive Engineer PWD Division Vidisha

Briefs

KATHMANDU
Nepal-China
joint military
drill begins



The fifth edition of Sagarmatha Friendship, a joint military exercise between Nepal Army and the Peoples Liberation Army of China kicked off in Kathmandu on Sunday. There will be knowledge exchanged between the two armies during the 10-day long joint military exercise on matters related to disaster management, United Nations Peace Mission and counter-terrorism among others, a press release by Nepal Army said. The joint military exercise is being organised in Nepal and China on rotation basis since 2017.

LAHORE
Five killed as
flood rescue
boat capsizes



Five people were killed when a rescue boat carrying flood victims capsized in the Punjab province of Pakistan, an official said on Sunday. The incident took place on Saturday evening in Jalalpur Pirwala in the Multan district, which is around 350 km from Lahore. Punjab's Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) Director General Irfan Ali Kathia told a press conference here that around 30 flood victims were on board when the rescue boat overturned due to strong water currents. Five people – a woman and four children – drowned as they were without life jackets, while the others were rescued.

BEIJING
Typhoon
triggers
warning

As Typhoon Tapah, the 16th typhoon of the year, has formed, China's island province of Hainan issued a Level IV typhoon warning at 8 a.m. on Sunday. At 7 am on Sunday, the centre of Typhoon Tapah was located over the South China Sea, approximately 445 kilometres southeast of Dianbai District in Maoming City, south China's Guangdong Province, packing maximum winds of 23 meters per second near its centre, the Hainan provincial meteorological observatory said. Typhoon Tapah is forecast to move northwestward at a speed of 10 to 15 kilometres per hour while gradually intensifying, reports Xinhua news agency.

WAR ZONE | Smoke seen rising from roof of a key government building in Kyiv as Moscow strikes with over 800 drones, decoys

2 die in Russia's largest aerial attack on Ukraine

AP
KYIV

Russia hit Ukraine's capital with drone and missiles on Sunday in the largest aerial attack on the country since the war began, killing at least two people and leaving smoke rising from the roof of a key government building. Russia attacked Ukraine with 805 drones and decoys, officials said.

Yuri Ihnat, a spokesperson for Ukraine's Air Force, confirmed to The Associated Press that Sunday's attack was the largest Russian drone strike since the full-scale invasion of Ukraine began. Russia also launched 13 missiles of various types.

Ukraine shot down and neutralized 747 drones and 4 missiles, according to a statement from the Air Force.

There were nine missile hits and 56 drone strikes in 37 locations across Ukraine. Debris from shot-down drones and missiles fell on 8 locations.

Associated Press reporters saw a plume of smoke rising from the roof of Kyiv's cabinet



Smoke rises from a building of Ukrainian government headquarters, after Russian drone and missile strikes, amid Russia's attack on Ukraine, in Kyiv, on Sunday

of ministers building, but it was not immediately clear if the smoke was the result of a direct hit or debris, which would mark an escalation in Russia's air campaign. Russia has so far avoided targeting government buildings in the city centre.

The building is the home of Ukraine's Cabinet, housing the offices of its ministers. Police blocked access to the building as fire trucks and ambulances arrived.

Ukrainian officials said two people were killed and 15 in-

jured in the attack.

"For the first time, the government building was damaged by an enemy attack, including the roof and upper floors," said Ukraine's Prime Minister Yulia Svyrydenko. "We will restore the buildings, but lost lives cannot be returned."

"The world must respond to this destruction not only with words, but with actions. There is a need to strengthen sanctions pressure - primarily against Russian oil and gas," she said.

Trump confirms his top picks to replace Fed Chair Powell

ANI
WASHINGTON DC

US President Donald Trump has confirmed his leading choices to replace the current US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, naming three of his close aides as top picks for the position, The Hill reported.

According to The Hill, Trump on Friday (local time) has confirmed the names of Kevin Hassett, Kevin Warsh, and Christopher Waller as his leading choices to replace Jerome Powell, whose term is set to end in May 2026.

When Trump was asked if Hassett, who leads the White House National Economic Council; Warsh, a former Fed governor; and Waller, an economist and current Fed board member, are his top choices for the role, he replied, "Yeah, I would say you could say those are the top three. Good job," as quoted by The Hill.

Trump has signalled for months that he plans to replace Powell, whose term as the chair of the US Federal Reserve ends next May; however, his term as part of the Federal Board will end in January 2028.

The US President has consistently criticised Powell for not cutting interest rates and has allies preparing for the possibility of removing him, The Hill reported.

S Korea to bring home 300 workers detained in Georgia

AP
SEOUL

More than 300 South Korean workers detained following a massive immigration raid at a Hyundai plant in Georgia will be released and brought home, the South Korean government announced on Sunday.

Presidential chief of staff Kang Hoon-sik said that South Korea and the US had finalised negotiations on the workers' release. He said South Korea plans to send a chartered plane to bring the workers home as soon as remaining administrative steps are completed. US immigra-



tion authorities said on Friday they detained 475 people, most of them South Korean nationals, when hundreds of federal agents raided Hyundai's sprawling manufacturing site in Georgia where the

Zelenskyy says no to Putin's proposal for Moscow meet

Kyiv: Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has rejected his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin's suggestion to meet in Moscow, calling the choice of such an unrealistic meeting place a sign that Russia is not genuinely interested in negotiations.

The Ukrainian leader said in an interview with US media, "I can't go to the capital of this terrorist" because Ukraine is "under missile attacks, under fire every day."

"(Putin) can come to Kyiv," Zelenskyy said in response, as quoted by EuroNews.

US President Donald Trump has been pushing for face-to-face talks between the two presidents. A bilateral or trilateral meet was one of the main goals of Trump's summit with Putin in Alaska.

Highrise used for terrorist activities in Gaza hit: Israel

ANI
TEL AVIV

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said it struck a high-rise building, which they claimed was being used by Hamas in the area of Gaza City.

The IDF further said that it took appropriate steps to mitigate the killing of civilians in the strike.

In a post on X, the IDF said, "STRUCK: A high-rise building that was being used by the Hamas terrorist organisation in the area of Gaza City. Hamas terrorists installed intelli-

gence-gathering equipment and positioned observation posts in the building in order to monitor the location of IDF troops in the area. Hamas terrorists also planted numerous explosive devices near the building. Prior to the strike, steps were taken in order to mitigate harm to civilians."

Gaza's Government Media Office rejected the claims and called them "part of a systematic policy of deception used by the occupation to justify the targeting of civilians and infrastructure" and forcibly displace Palestinians from their

homes. It said that Israel has destroyed 90% of Gaza's infrastructure, as per Al Jazeera.

Houthi drone strikes near Israel's southern airport

A drone launched from Yemen by the Houthi militant group has hit Israel's southern airport, closing the airspace and halting flights, the Israeli military said on Sunday. Israel said the Houthis launched multiple drones, some of which were intercepted. At least one hit near the Ramon International Airport near the southern Israeli city of Eilat.



Police officers remove an agitator from the protest site during a stir to support Palestine Action in London

Israeli media begins reporting on Palestinian hardships

AP
TEL AVIV

The war in the Gaza Strip is starting to look different these days on the Israeli news. For most of the past two years, television stations in Israel have paid little attention to suffering in Gaza, giving viewers a steady stream of stories about Israeli heroism, the agony of hostages' families and the deaths of soldiers in combat.

But that is changing. In recent months, some Israeli stations have begun to share graphic images of malnourished children and a few deeply reported stories about the difficulties of daily life for Palestinians.

This subtle shift comes as Israel faces unprecedented global outrage over the war, and reflects deep divisions over whether the military offensive should be halted, though the growing protests and media coverage have had little effect

on Israel's policies.

"It's not just truly caring about the situation in Gaza, but also from an Israeli perspective, are we acting correctly in a way that serves the aims of this war?" said Eran Amsalem, a communications professor at Israel's Hebrew University.

Starmer has 'legal duty to stop genocide' Greta

Keir Starmer must obey his "legal duty to act to prevent a genocide", Greta Thunberg has told the Guardian while travelling onboard an aid flotilla heading for Gaza. The Swedish activist said there was a "huge absence of those whose legal responsibility it is to step up" under international law, and called out the UK prime minister before a potential meeting this week with Israel's president, Isaac Herzog.

Undersea cables cut in Red Sea, internet access in Asia disrupted

AP
DUBAI

Undersea cable cuts in the Red Sea disrupted internet access on Sunday in parts of Asia including India, and West East, experts said, though it wasn't immediately clear what caused the incident.

There has been concern about the cables being targeted in a Red Sea campaign by Yemen's Houthi rebels, which the rebels describe as an effort to pressure Israel to end its war on Hamas in the Gaza Strip. But the Houthis

have denied attacking the lines in the past.

NetBlocks, which monitors internet access, said "a series of subsea cable outages in the Red Sea has degraded internet connectivity in multiple countries," which it said included India and Pakistan. It blamed "failures affecting the SMW4 and IMEWE cable systems near Jeddah, Saudi Arabia."

The South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 4 cable is run by Tata Communications, part of the Indian conglomerate. The India-Middle East-Western

Europe cable is run by another consortium overseen by Alcatel-Lucent. Both firms did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

Saudi Arabia did not immediately acknowledge the disruption and authorities there did not respond to a request for comment.

In the United Arab Emirates, home to Dubai and Abu Dhabi, internet users on the country's state-owned Du and Etisalat networks complained of slower internet speeds. The government did not immediately acknowledge the disruption.

Boko Haram militants kill 60 in attack in Nigeria's northeast

AP
MAIDUGURI (NIGERIA)

Boko Haram militants killed dozens of people in a nighttime assault on a village in northeastern Nigeria that is home to residents who had recently returned from a camp for internally displaced persons, authorities said.

The attack on Darul Jamal in the Bama local government area took place late Friday and killed at least 60 people, a resident of the village, Mohammed Babagana, told The Associated Press.



Borno state Gov Babagana Zulum, who visited the attacked community late Saturday evening, confirmed to reporters that over 60 died in the attack.

"We sympathize with the people and have pleaded with them not to abandon their homes as we have made arrangements to improve the security and provide food and

other lifesaving items that they have lost," Zulum said.

The chairman of Bama's local government, Modu Guija, said over a dozen houses were burnt and more than 100 people were forced to flee.

Taiwo Adebayo, a researcher specialising in Boko Haram at the Institute for Security Studies, spoke to residents of Darul Jamal and said the killings on Friday night were carried out by a faction of Boko Haram known as Jama'atu Ahlis Sunna Lidda'awati wal-Jihad.

Ishiba exit triggers leadership race for Japan's next PM

Agencies
TOKYO

Japan's Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba announced his resignation on Sunday, bowing to pressure from within his ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) to take responsibility for a series of election

defeats, including July's bruising upper house loss.

His departure triggers a leadership contest within the LDP. With ruling coalition losing majorities in both houses of parliament, the next LDP president is no longer automatically assured of becoming prime minister. Analysts say

there is a slim chance an opposition leader could take the top post in the world's fourth-largest economy.

Among potential contenders from the LDP is Sanae Takaichi, 64, a party veteran who would become Japan's first female prime minister if chosen. A former internal af-

fairs and economic security minister, she lost to Ishiba in last year's leadership run-off. Known for her conservative stance on revising Japan's pacifist constitution and regular visits to the controversial Yasukuni shrine, Takaichi has also stood out for opposing Bank of Japan interest rate

hikes and urging more government spending to bolster growth.

Another name in circulation is Shinjiro Koizumi, 44, son of former PM Junichiro Koizumi. The Columbia University-educated politician, who previously served as environment minister, ran as a reformist

candidate in last year's LDP race and currently serves as agriculture minister. If successful, Koizumi would be the youngest modern-era Japanese premier.

Yoshimasa Hayashi, 64, the current chief cabinet secretary, is also expected to be a strong contender.

Trump threatens Chicago with apocalyptic force

AP
WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump on Saturday amplified his promises to send National Guard troops and immigration agents to Chicago by posting a parody image from "Apocalypse Now" featuring a ball of flames as helicopters zoom over the nation's third-largest city. "I love the smell of deportations in the morning," Trump wrote on his social media site.

"Chicago about to find out why it's called the Department of WAR." He offered no details beyond the label "Chicocalypse Now", a play on the title of Francis Ford Coppola's dystopian 1979 film set in the Vietnam war, in which a character says: "I love the smell of napalm in the morning."

AP
VATICAN CITY

Pope Leo XIV declared a 15-year-old computer whiz the Catholic Church's first millennial saint Sunday, giving the next generation of Catholics a relatable role model who used technology to spread the faith and earn the nickname "God's influencer."

Leo canonized Carlo Acutis, who died in 2006, during an

open-air Mass in St. Peter's Square before an estimated 80,000 people, many of them millennials and couples with young children. During the first saint-making Mass of his pontificate, Leo also canonized another popular Italian figure who died young, Pier Giorgio Frassati.

Leo said both men created "masterpieces" out of their lives by dedicating them to God.

"The greatest risk in life is to



waste it outside of God's plan," Leo said in his homily. The new saints "are an invitation to all of us, especially young people, not to squander our lives, but to direct them upwards and

make them masterpieces."

An ordinary life that became extraordinary Acutis was born on May 3, 1991, in London to a wealthy but not particularly observant Catholic family. They moved back to Milan soon after he was born and he enjoyed a typical, happy childhood, albeit marked by increasingly intense religious devotion.

Acutis was particularly interested in computer science

and devoured college-level books on programming even as a youngster.

He earned the nickname "God's Influencer," thanks to his main tech legacy: a multilingual website documenting so-called Eucharistic miracles recognised by the church, a project he completed at a time when the development of such sites was the domain of professionals. He was known to spend hours in prayer before

the Eucharist each day. The Catholic hierarchy has been trying to promote the practice of Eucharistic adoration because, according to polls, most Catholics don't believe Christ is physically present in the Eucharistic hosts.

But Acutis limited himself to an hour of video games a week, apparently deciding long before TikTok that human relationships were far more important than virtual ones.

That discipline and restraint has proved appealing to the Catholic hierarchy, which has sounded the alarm about the dangers of today's tech-driven society.

In October 2006, at age 15, Acutis fell ill with what was quickly diagnosed as acute leukemia. Within days, he was dead. He was entombed in Assisi, known for its association with another popular saint, St. Francis.

Briefs

India, Israel likely to sign BIT next wk

India and Israel are likely to sign a bilateral investment treaty (BIT) during the upcoming visit of Israeli Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich this week, while laying the groundwork for a free trade agreement (FTA) to boost trade between the two countries, according to sources. Smotrich will be on a three-day visit to India next week between September 8 and 10, during which he will meet Indian FM Nirmala Sitharaman, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs Manohar Lal Khattar.

Mcap of 7 of 10 most-valued firms up ₹1L cr

The combined market valuation of seven of the top-10 most valued firms jumped Rs 1,06,250.95 crore last week, with Bajaj Finance and Reliance Industries emerging as the biggest gainers, in line with an optimistic trend in equities. From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries, HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, ICICI Bank, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finance and LIC were the winners.

VW: Looking at India as potential mkt for small e-cars

Volkswagen is looking at India as a potential market for its affordable small electric cars and is working with partners on how to best introduce them in the market, its CEO Oliver Blume said on Sunday. The group feels that the reduction of GST on automobiles in India makes the Indian automotive market, already the third largest, more attractive, Blume told PTI.

LNJ GreenPET, Sumitomo Corp sign pact

LNJ GreenPET on Sunday said it has inked an initial pact with Japan-based Sumitomo Corporation to establish a strategic collaboration in the recycled polyethylene terephthalate (r-PET) sector in India. The agreement outlines a multi-pronged framework for cooperation, encompassing commercial development, raw material procurement, marketing, and potential investment opportunities for the company's upcoming r-PET project in India, a company statement said.

Hyundai to cut prices by up to ₹2.4 lakh

Hyundai Motor India on Sunday said it has reduced prices of its entire model range by up to Rs 2.4 lakh to pass on the GST rate cut benefit to customers. The company said the price cut ranging between Rs 60,640 on Verna to Rs 2.4 lakh on premium SUV Tucson will be applicable from September 22.

Nilachal Carbo Metalicks' IPO opens today

Nilachal Carbo Metalicks Limited, engaged in the manufacturing of Low Ash Metallurgical (LAM) Coke for the ferro-alloy, foundry and steel industries, proposes to launch its Initial Public Offering on September 8, 2025, to raise Rs 56.10 crore, with its shares to be listed on the BSE SME platform. The issue size is 66,00,000 equity shares with a face value of Rs 10 each with a fixed price of Rs 85 per share.

GST SHORTFALL | 'Will meet fiscal deficit target of 4.4% for FY26'

Spurt in consumption to drive revenue buoyancy: FM

PTI
NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has expressed confidence that revenue buoyancy driven by spurt in consumption will take care of the estimated GST shortfall of Rs 48,000 crore following reduction in tax rates on a host of items, and hence there will be no impact on public finances but definitely bolster GDP growth.

She also emphasised that consumption boost to be provided by landmark GST reform and better-than-expected first quarter GDP growth number may help in exceeding the projected pace of 6.3-6.8 per cent for FY26.

Asked about impact of GST rate cuts on fiscal deficit, Sitharaman said, Rs 48,000 crore financial implication is a static number based on a base year, but when it gets implemented, base situation changes.

"So, I think the consumption spurt from September 22 will increase income buoyancy. To a large extent, this Rs 48,000 crore amount we will be able to make it up this year itself. So I don't see an impact on my fiscal deficit or my fiscal management. I will stick to my



numbers (of 4.4 per cent of GDP)". Sitharaman told PTI in an interview.

The Centre estimates the fiscal deficit during 2025-26 at 4.4 per cent of the GDP, or Rs 15.69 lakh crore.

Govt keeping 'good watch' on rupee: Sitharaman

Sitharaman has said that the government is keeping a 'good watch' on exchange rates, stressing that besides rupee several other currencies have depreciated against the US dollar.

"The rupee slide is largely against the dollar, not against any other currencies. That's also because of the way globally, the dollar has strengthened," she said when asked if the slide of rupee against greenback is a concern.

"This is not the case only

with rupee versus dollar, it's the case with many other currencies versus the dollar. So we are keeping a good watch on this," she told PTI in an interview.

The rupee plummeted to a record low and closed at 88.27 against dollar after touching an intra-day low of 88.38 on Friday. The fall came amid concerns over US tariffs, while intervention by the Reserve Bank of India through state-run banks helped limit further losses. The steep tariff of 50 per cent imposed by the US on Indian goods took effect on August 27. The tariffs - among the highest in the world - include a 25 per cent penalty for buying crude oil from Russia.

'Ek baar aap GST dekh lo'

'Ek baar aap GST dekh lo' - Prime Minister Narendra

India Inc revenue to grow 7% this fiscal on GST restructuring

India Inc revenue will likely grow 6-7 per cent this fiscal because of the reduction in the goods and services tax (GST) rates, as per Crisil Intelligence's latest report.

However, the anti-profiteering rule in the GST system may prevent companies from seeing a major increase in profit margins, the report added.

The rating agency stated that the reductions in the Goods and Services (GST) will have a positive impact on consumption, which accounts for 15 per cent of the revenue of corporates. The firm added that the timing of the cuts is appropriate, as they occur during ongoing global uncertainty and align with India's festive and wedding season, when spending typically increases.

-PTI



Sources said Vedanta was identified as the H1 bidder for Jaiprakash Associates Limited (JAL) by the NARCIL-led Committee of Creditors (CoC).

"The entire pay-out is expected to be made in a staggered manner, wherein the first part of the payment is expected to be around Rs 4,000 crore, which will be post NCLT approval. This could easily take anywhere around a year, and the timeframe for the remaining payment would be approximately 5-6 years," said a person familiar with the bid terms.

JAL bid: Vedanta offers upfront payment of ₹4K cr, rest over 5-6 yrs

PTI
NEW DELHI

Vedanta Ltd in its winning bid for debt-laden Jaiprakash Associates Ltd (JAL) has offered Rs 4,000 crore payment post approval by NCLT and the balance amount over the next 5-6 years, sources said.

Vedanta beat Adani Group with a bid whose net present value comes to Rs 12,505 crore in an auction carried out by lenders to find suitors for JAL.

JAL is undergoing CIRP under the IBC process and the Resolution Professional invited Resolution Plans on June 24. As a part of the same process, a challenge process was conducted among the five bidders wherein Vedanta emerged as the H1 bidder at the NPV value of Rs 12,505 crore.

GST cuts elude detergents and cosmetics; analysts and FMCG players say it's surprising

PTI
NEW DELHI

Keeping detergents and cosmetics under 18 per cent tax rate with zero savings on these daily-use items for households under the government's sweeping GST restructuring move is surprising, say industry players and analysts.

The GST Council last week decided to reduce taxes on most of the common-use

goods as part of the government's measure to boost consumer spending.

The new structure of GST, which comes into effect on September 22, will have two slabs of 5% and 18% instead of the current four slabs of 5, 12, 18 and 28%.

Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) products such as hair oil, soap, face powders, shampoos, toothbrushes, and toothpaste have come under



the lower slab of 5 per cent from 18 per cent.

However along with detergents and cosmetics, duty on several items such as hair dye and household insecticides has not been reduced.

Food delivery may get costlier on platform fee hike, GST levy

The hike in platform fees by Zomato, Swiggy and magicpin ahead of the festive season is set to make ordering food costlier for millions of users across the country, which is likely to rise further due to the 18 per cent GST levy on delivery charges from September 22.

Swiggy has hiked its platform fee to Rs 15, inclusive of GST, in select markets.

Rival Zomato has raised its platform fee to Rs 12.50 (excluding GST), whereas the third-largest food delivery player, magicpin, has also revised its platform fee to Rs 10 per order, in line with broader industry trends, making it expensive for food delivery consumers.

Global trends, FIIs trading activity, inflation to drive mkts this week

PTI
NEW DELHI

Sentiment in the stock market this week will be guided by global trends, trading activity of foreign investors and inflation data, according to analysts.

Markets ended last week on a firm note, with the benchmarks surging more than one per cent, supported by strong domestic macroeconomic data and policy reforms, an expert said. "This week will be data-heavy both domestically and globally. On the domestic front, August inflation data (September 12) will be closely tracked. Globally, key US data releases, including consumer inflation, jobless claims, and consumer sentiment, will be critical in shaping Fed policy expectations and influencing flows. Additionally, any updates on the India-US trade deal could provide further sup-

India cautions against misuse of export measures at SCO meet

India has cautioned against weaponising export-related measures or misusing them to create artificial scarcity, distort markets, or disrupt supply chains at an SCO meeting, an official statement said on Sunday.

At the SCO (Shanghai Cooperation Organisation) Trade Ministers' Meeting in Vladivostok on September 6, India said that calibrated and transparent use of these steps is essential to maintain trust in international commerce.

India has also called for addressing persistent trade deficits by ensuring greater market access and simplifying processes for trade facilitation.

These remarks are important as India's auto and electronics sector faced issues due to export restrictions on rare earth magnets and fertiliser by China.

China is a member of the organisation.

India also warned that trade-linked climate measures should not result in arbitrary or unjustified discrimination.

-PTI

Adani Group looks to invest \$60 bn in power and RE sectors till FY32

PTI
NEW DELHI

Industrialist Gautam Adani-led Adani Group is looking to invest around USD 60 billion up to FY32 in power sector, especially in renewables, generation and transmission/distribution.

In an investor presentation, Adani Power said the group plans USD 21 billion investment by FY30 to scale up renewable energy capacity to 50 GW from 14.2 GW as of FY25.

Part of the Adani Group, Adani Green Energy Ltd (AGEL) develops, builds, owns, operates and maintains utility-scale grid-connected solar and wind farm projects.

The group would invest USD 17 billion in build transmission and distribution capabilities through Adani Energy Solutions Ltd (AESL).

AESL is a multidimensional organisation with presence in various facets of the energy domain, namely power transmission, distribution, smart metering, and cooling solutions.

The company looks to set up 30,000 km of transmission lines to support India's growing energy needs by FY30, from 19,200 km as of March 31, 2025.

The group looks to invest USD 22 billion through Adani Power by FY32 to have a 41.9



GW capacity from 17.6 GW in FY25.

Adani Power is the largest private thermal power producer in India with capacities spread over Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, and Tamil Nadu, and a 40 MW solar power project in Gujarat.

Adani Group said India is one of the fastest growing electricity market in the world, where overall installed capacity is expected to grow at a CAGR of 11 per cent to reach 1,000 GW by FY32 from 475 GW in FY25. The sector provides investment opportunities worth over USD 500 billion.

While in renewables, India ranks 4th globally with in total renewable energy installed capacity of 172 GW. The segment provides over USD 300 billion worth of investment opportunities by FY32 and reach to the level of 571 GW.

The thermal capacity is expected to reach 309 GW by FY32 from 247 GW in FY25, while 80 GW of additional coal capacity is required by FY32.

FPIs withdraw ₹12,257 crore in 1st week of Sep on strong dollar

Foreign investors pulled out Rs 12,257 crore (USD 1.4 billion) from Indian equities in the first week of September, weighed down by a stronger dollar, US tariff concerns, and persistent geopolitical tensions.

This came following a net outflow of Rs 34,990 crore in August and Rs 17,700 crore in July.

With this, the total outflow by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in equities reached Rs 1.43 lakh crore so far in 2025, data with the depositories showed.

In the coming week, FPI flows are expected to be driven by US Fed commentary, US labour market data, RBI rate cut expectations and its stance on rupee stability. Vaqarjaved Khan, Senior Fundamental Analyst, Angel One, said.

"While near-term volatility may persist, India's structural growth story, policy reforms, such as GST rationalisation, and expectations of an earnings revival could bring FPIs back once global uncertainties ease," Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research, Morningstar Investment, said.

Market experts believe that a combination of global and domestic factors triggered the latest withdrawals.

"Multiple factors contributed to this risk-off sentiment -- a stronger dollar, renewed US tariff threats, and continuing geopolitical tensions added to global uncertainty," Srivastava said.



Investmart Ltd, said.

Movement of crude oil prices and the rupee-dollar trend would also dictate market trends during the week.

"This week is set to be crucial for Indian markets, with the recent GST rate cut announcement acting as a potential stimulus that could lift sentiment and trigger sectoral rallies, countering the negative sentiment of tariffs in the near term," Puneet Singhania, Director at Master Trust Group, said.

The next major event for the markets is the upcoming US Federal Reserve policy meeting on September 16-17. "Key macro data this week includes Indian and US inflation, ECB (European Central Bank) interest rate decision and Japan's Q2 GDP," Siddhartha Khemka - Head Of Research, Wealth Management, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, said.

Coal import declines in Jul

India's coal import dropped 16.4 per cent to 21.08 million tonnes (MT) in July due to sluggish demand during monsoon and the high stock available in the system. We expect to see an uptick in demand before the festive season starting end-September," mjunction MD & CEO Vinaya Varma said.

Of the total imports in July, non-coking coal import stood at 11.54 MT, against 16.52 MT imported in July last financial year. Coking coal import was at 5.85 MT, against 4.81 MT recorded during July last fiscal year.

-PTI

Japan's Mitsui to operate ONGC's ethane carriers

Equity structure is under discussion

PTI
NEW DELHI

Japanese shipping firm Mitsui O.S.K. Lines will operate two very large ethane carriers for Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to import petrochemical feedstock for a subsidiary of the state-owned company, sources said.

ONGC has entered into a partnership to build, own and operate two very large ethane carriers (VLECs).

The two firms are currently discussing equity structure of the joint venture, two sources with direct knowledge of the matter said.

Mitsui is likely to own majority stake in the ships that would

be built in Korean shipyards, they said adding the exact equity structure would depend on ONGC's appetite.

The specialised ships, with an estimated cost of USD 370 million for the pair, are intended to secure the petrochemical feedstock for ONGC Petro Additions Ltd's (OPaL) Dahej facility, with ethane imports beginning around mid-2028. Sources said it would take about two-and-half-years to build the VLECs.

Mitsui and its partners currently own and operate four liquefied natural gas (LNG) ships for Petronet LNG Ltd, India's biggest LNG importer, and six ethane carriers for Reliance Industries Ltd.

13TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION HELD AT VIT CHENNAI



The 13th annual convocation of VIT Chennai was held on September 6, 2025. Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan, Minister for Information Technology and Digital Services, Tamil Nadu, participated in the convocation ceremony as the chief guest and presented medals and degree certificates to rank holders and PhD scholars. Shelley Salehin, Deputy High

Commissioner of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Deputy High Commission, Chennai, was the guest of honour. Dr. G. Viswanathan, Founder and Chancellor, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), presided over the convocation ceremony. VIT Vice-Presidents Sankar Viswanathan and Dr. G.V. Selvam took part in the convocation ceremony.

INDIA'S PACE TRIO EYE HISTORY IN UAE

MILESTONE MANIA IN THE DESERT | Arshdeep on cusp of 100, Bumrah & Hardik chasing twin landmarks

ANI
NEW DELHI/DUBAI

As India gears up for the Asia Cup 2025 in the UAE (Sept 9-28), three of its biggest match-winners — Jasprit Bumrah, Hardik Pandya, and Arshdeep Singh — are on the verge

of rewriting T20I history.

Bumrah – The Yorker King Returns

India's pace talisman Jasprit Bumrah is just 11 scalps away from the elite 100 T20I wickets club. In 70 T20Is, Bumrah has 89

wickets at 17.74, with a stunning economy of 6.27 – the best among Indian bowlers with 50+ wickets.

Last seen in blue lifting the T20 World Cup 2024 trophy as Player of the Tournament, Bumrah's return is a massive boost for India's title hopes.

Hardik – Double Barrel Chase

All-round dynamo Hardik Pandya is chasing two historic milestones: Needs 188 runs to reach 2,000 T20I runs. Needs 6 wickets to complete 100 T20I scalps. Currently, in 114 T20Is, he has 1,812 runs (SR 141.67) and 94 wickets.

Arshdeep – First Indian in 100 Club?

Left-arm seamer Arshdeep Singh is just one wicket away from becoming the first Indian to 100 T20I wickets, and the 25th overall in the world. In 63 T20Is, he has 99 wickets at 18.30, economy

8.29, with best of 4/9. Since the T20 World Cup 2024, he has taken 20 wickets in 11

matches at 15.15 average. The 26-year-old is now just a ball away from cricketing history.

With Arshdeep ready for instant history, Bumrah

set for a grand return, and Hardik chasing a rare double, India's Asia Cup campaign is as much about records as it is about redemption.

INDIA'S T20I MILESTONE CHASERS

PLAYER	M	R	WKTS	NEEDS FOR LANDMARK
Arshdeep Singh	63	—	99	1 wicket → First Indian to 100 T20I wickets
Jasprit Bumrah	70	—	89	11 wickets → Join 100-wicket club
Hardik Pandya	114	1,812	94	188 runs → 2,000 runs; 6 wickets → 100 wickets

sp Briefs

NINGBO

Indian shooters eye WC medals

Olympians Ramita Jindal and Divyansh Singh Panwar lead a 24-member Indian shooting team at the ISSF World Cup in China. The team looks to build on its strong performance at the recent Asian Championships.

NEW DELHI

Jain, Soni shine in TT

Delhi's Archa Jain and Rajasthan's Radhika Soni started strong at the UTT National Ranking Table Tennis Championships. Both players secured five-game victories in the Under-19 Girls' category, showing impressive composure.

HOUSTON

Pranavi makes cut at Aramco Houston



Indian golfer Pranavi Urs made a solid second-round comeback at the Aramco Houston Championship, shooting a 3-under 69 to finish tied for 26th. She was the only Indian to make the cut.

KONOPISKA

Talwar has tough day in Poland

Indian golfer Saptak Talwar shot a 2-over 72 on the third day of the GAC Rosa Challenge in Poland. His score puts him at tied-47th with one round remaining.

NEW DELHI

Pakistan to host tri-series

Pakistan will host its first-ever T20I tri-series in November, featuring Sri Lanka and Afghanistan. The tournament, held in Rawalpindi and Lahore, will serve as preparation for the 2026 ICC Men's T20 World Cup.

NEW DELHI

Subrayen's bowling action cleared



South African spinner Prenelan Subrayen has been cleared by the ICC after his bowling action was deemed legal. An independent assessment found his elbow extension was within the 15-degree tolerance limit.

VIZAG

Bulls break losing streak

The Bengaluru Bulls secured their first win of Pro Kabaddi League Season 12, defeating the Patna Pirates 38-30. Alireza Mirzaian was the star, scoring a Super 10 to lead the team to victory.

SABALENKA'S STEELY REVENGE

CONTROL | Mind over Meltdown as Aryna defends US Open crown

AP
NEW YORK

Aryna Sabalenka roared back into Flushing Meadows history with nerves of steel and strokes of fire, becoming the first woman since Serena Williams (2012-14) to successfully defend her US Open title.

The Belarusian world No 1 tamed American Amanda Anisimova 6-3, 7-6 (3) in a gripping final on Saturday night, proving that self-mastery can be the ultimate weapon.



Aryna Sabalenka of Belarus holds up the championship trophy after defeating Amanda Anisimova of the United States in the women's singles final of the US Open on Saturday in New York AP/PTI

Result

US Open Women's Singles Final 2025

Aryna Sabalenka (BLR) beat Amanda Anisimova (USA) - 6-3, 7-6 (3)

Oda's golden slam & Granollers-Zeballos' doubles glory

GLORY & GRIT | Wheelchair history, doubles drama – New York crowns champions in style

AP/PTI
NEW YORK

The US Open 2025 witnessed two contrasting but equally stunning tennis tales on Saturday – Japan's Tokito Oda completing a Golden Slam in wheelchair tennis, while Spain's Marcel Granollers and Argentina's Horacio Zeballos clinched their second Grand Slam of the season in men's doubles after a heart-stopping comeback.

Oda scripts Golden Slam history

Nineteen-year-old Tokito Oda etched his name in history, outlasting Argentina's Gustavo Fernández 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (11) in a pulsating 2-hour 12-minute final to win his maiden US Open men's wheelchair singles title. The victory completed his career Golden Slam – all four majors plus Paralympic gold. Overcome with emotion, Oda collapsed in tears before

lifting the trophy.

In the women's wheelchair singles, Japan's Yui Kamiji rallied from a set down to beat China's Xiaohui Li 0-6, 6-1, 6-3 for her 10th Grand Slam singles crown, showcasing trademark resilience.

The quad event saw Dutch World No 1 Niels Vink outclass compatriot Sam Schroder 6-1, 7-5.

Meanwhile, Oda & Fernández had already combined to win the men's doubles title, while Li &

Wang Ziyang claimed the women's doubles.

Granollers-Zeballos' great escape

Later in the day, the No 5 seeds Granollers-Zeballos staged an epic escape, saving three match points before stunning Britain's Joe Salisbury/Neal Skupski 3-6, 7-6 (4), 7-5 in the men's doubles final.

The Spaniard-Argentine duo, who also won Roland Garros earlier this year,

RESULT

US Open Wheelchair Finals

MEN'S SINGLES: Tokito Oda (JPN) bt Gustavo Fernández (ARG) 6-2, 3-6, 7-6 (11) (Oda completes Golden Slam)

WOMEN'S SINGLES: Yui Kamiji (JPN) bt Xiaohui Li (CHN) 0-6, 6-1, 6-3

QUAD SINGLES: Niels Vink (NED) bt Sam Schroder (NED) 6-1, 7-5

MEN'S DOUBLES: Oda/Fernández bt TBA

WOMEN'S DOUBLES: Li/Wang bt TBA

clinched their second Grand Slam of 2025 and pocketed \$1 million. The pair, who first teamed up in 2019, became the first men's doubles duo since Cabal-Farah (2019) to win multiple majors in a single year.

India scripts history with first-ever Compound Men's Team gold

ARROWSTORM | Golden arrows fly high at World Archery C'ships

IAN S
GWANGJU

India's compound men's team of Aman Saini, Rishabh Yadav, and Prathamesh Bhalchandra Fuge etched their names in history, clinching India's maiden Compound Men's Team Gold at the World Archery Championships 2025. The Indian trio displayed ice-cold nerves under fire, defeating France's Nicolas Girard, Jean Philippe Boulch, and François Dubois, who were appearing in their first Worlds final since Jakarta 1995.

In their golden run, India

Beat Australia in a shoot-off (232-232; SO 30-28) Pipped USA 234-233 in the quarterfinals Edged Turkey 234-232 in the semis Overpowered France in the summit clash

Meanwhile, Rishabh Yadav struck another medal, pairing with Jyothi Surekha Vennam to claim silver in the Compound Mixed Team Final. The duo fell to Dutch stars Mike Schloesser and Sanne de Laat, but not before producing brilliance — including a perfect 160 (7 Xs) against Germany in the pre-quarters.

RESULT

Men's Compound Team: India beat France (Final) for gold

Compound Mixed Team: India lost to Netherlands for silver

Earlier rounds: India beat Germany (160-0), Chinese Taipei (157-155)

Rishabh Yadav

This gold medal is not just ours, it belongs to every Indian who believed in compound archery.

Central, South seal final showdown

DULEEP DRAMA | First-innings firepower takes Patidar's men and Jagadeesan's brigade to summit clash

IAN S
BENGALURU

The 2025/26 Duleep Trophy is set for a blockbuster finale as Central Zone and South Zone stormed into the summit clash, both riding on commanding first-innings leads in their respective semi-finals at the BCCI CoE grounds here on Sunday.

At Ground 2, skipper Rajat Patidar's Central Zone flexed batting depth with half-centuries from Shubham Sharma (96), Upendra Yadav (87), Harsh Dubey, Saransh Jain, and Patidar himself, piling up 600 runs to outclass West Zone's 438. With a 162-run cushion, Central tightened their grip as Saransh Jain's 5/84 and Dubey's 3/96 dented West Zone's second-innings fightback despite Yashasvi Jaiswal's 64 and Tanush Kotian's unbeaten 60.

Meanwhile, at Ground 1, South Zone marched on the shoulders of vice-captain N Jagadeesan, who struck a majestic 197 followed by an unbeaten 52 not out, coupled



West Zones Yashasvi Jaiswal plays a shot on the final day of the Duleep Trophy 2025 first semi-final against Central Zone on Sunday PTI

BRIEF SCORES

Central Zone vs West Zone – Draw

West Zone - 438 & 216/8 (Jaiswal 64, Kotian 60*; Saransh Jain 5/84, Dubey 3/96) Vs Central Zone - 600 (Shubham 96, Upendra 87; Jadeja 4/130, Nagwaswalla 3/57) Central enter final by 162-run first-innings lead.

South Zone vs North Zone – Draw

South Zone - 536 & 95/1 (Jagadeesan 197 & 52*) Vs North Zone - 361 (Khajuria 128, Sindhu 82; Gurjapneet 4/96, Nidheesh 3/82) South enter final by 175-run first-innings lead.

with pacer Gurjapneet Singh's 4/96 and Nidheesh MD's 3/82 that bundled out North Zone for 361 in reply to South's towering 536. With a 175-run lead, Jagadeesan returned to hammer a fluent half-century, sealing South's passage in style. The stage is now set for a

Central vs South Zone final from Sept 11, promising fireworks between Patidar's balance and Jagadeesan's red-hot form.

STAT ATTACK

Jagadeesan's 197 is the highest score of this season's Duleep so far. Central Zone's 600 is their third 600+ total in Duleep history. Saransh Jain's match figures of 8/180 highlight his all-round impact. Both semis ended in draws, underscoring the dominance of first-innings leads in red-ball zonal cricket.

It's special when everyone contributes. We knew a big score was key and our bowlers backed it brilliantly."

Rajat Patidar, Central Zone captain

Lakshya storms into pre-quarters at World Boxing C'ships

PTI
LIVERPOOL

India's Lakshya Chahar delivered a commanding 5-0 win over Jordan's Hussein Isha-haish, a former Asian champion and Rio 2016 quarterfinalist, to reach the round of 16 in the men's 80kg category at the World Boxing Championships on Sunday.

The Hangzhou Asian Games boxer started aggressively, momentarily allowed the veteran to close in during the second round, but finished strongly in the third to seal a clinical victory.

Meanwhile, Pawan Bartwal (55kg) exited after a 0-5 defeat to Uzbekistan's Mirzakhilov Mirazizbek.

India has sent a 20-member contingent to the inaugural Worlds, organised under the newly formed World Boxing body. Later in the evening, Jaismine (57kg) faces Brazil's Jucielen Cerqueira Romeu, Sanamacha Chanu (70kg) takes on Kazakhstan's Natalya Bogdanova, and Abhinash Jamwal (65kg) meets Mexico's Hugo Barron.

England hit 400 fever again

ANI
SOUTHAMPTON

England finally roared in the dead rubber against South Africa at Southampton, smashing 414/5 in 50 overs – their seventh 400-plus total in men's ODIs, equalling India's tally and just one behind record-holders South Africa (8).

This white-ball statement came even as the series was already lost (2-0), but it reinforced England's reputation as ODI cricket's modern run-machines.

Root & Bethell lead the storm

Joe Root (100 off 96, 6 fours) silenced critics with a vintage century. Youngster Jacob Bethell (110 off 82, 13 fours, 3 sixes) announced himself with an explosive maiden ton. The duo stitched a 182-run stand for the third wicket to set up England's mammoth total. Late fireworks from Jos Buttler (62 off 32, 8 fours, 1 six)* and Will Jacks (19 off 8)* pushed the score past the magical 400 mark.

Most 400+ ODI Totals (Men's Cricket)

Team	400+ Totals
South Africa	8
India	7
England	7
Sri Lanka	2
Australia	2

Integrity

Shreyas turns snub into strength, eyes future comeback

ANI
NEW DELHI

Stylish Indian batter Shreyas Iyer has broken his silence after being left out of India's Asia Cup 2025 squad, admitting that the omission was "frustrating" but

stressing on integrity, hard work, and supporting teammates who deliver for the side.

Speaking on a podcast with IQOO India, Iyer said selection setbacks sting, but the team's success always comes first.

What Shreyas Said

"It is only frustrating when you know that you deserve to be in the XI. But when someone else

Shreyas Iyer by the Numbers

IPL 2025: 604 runs | 17 innings | Avg: 50.33 | SR: 175.07 | 6 fifties | HS: 97*

SINCE T20 WC 2024: 26 matches | 949 runs | Avg: 49.94 | SR: 179.73 | 1 century, 7 fifties | HS: 130*

is performing consistently, you support them. The goal is for the team to win." "Integrity matters – you

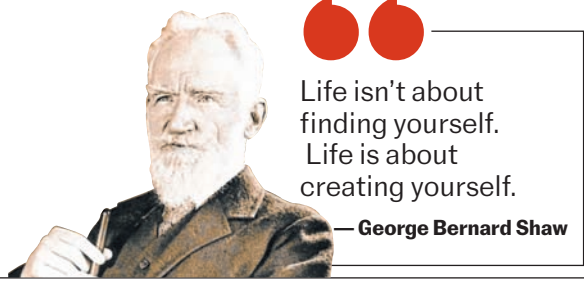


Asia Cup 2025 Snapshot

India's campaign vs UAE - Sept 10, Dubai vs Pak - Sept 14, Dubai vs Oman - Sept 19, Abu Dhabi Super 4: Sept 20-26 Final: Sept 28, Dubai

must work ethically, even when no one is watching."

INDIA SQUAD (SELECTED): Surya (C), Gill (VC), Abhishek, Tilak, Hardik, Dube, Axar, Jitesh (wk), Bumrah, Arshdeep, Kuldeep, Varun C, Samson (wk), Rinku, Harshit.



When It Comes Naturally

We want our food, our clothes, and our skincare to be natural.
Toranj Mehta of De Beers says diamonds should be no different.

Tsunami Costabir

Few companies have shaped culture the way De Beers has. With a long, layered history stretching across more than a century, De Beers has fundamentally shaped the way the world perceives diamonds. From the legendary 'Diamonds Are Forever' campaign — arguably one of the most successful advertising slogans of all time — to popularising the concept of solitaire engagement rings, De Beers has left an indelible mark on consumer culture.

At its peak, the brand did more than just market jewellery; it transformed diamonds from a luxury once reserved for royalty and the aristocracy into symbols of aspiration and love for the middle class — all by making diamonds more accessible. But times change. And as Toranj Mehta, Vice President of Marketing at De Beers, admits, the company today is engaged in a "fight for relevance."

The diamond industry faces new challenges — not from



another gemstone, but from lab-grown diamonds, a category that has quickly gained visibility, affordability and acceptance among younger consumers.

A Question Of Value

Lab-grown diamonds are chemically identical to natural ones, but Mehta is quick to point out that the two cannot truly be compared. "Yes, lab-grown diamonds are amazing in their own right, but they have a large application in industrial uses — from aerospace to electronics," she explains. "They're simply not the heirlooms that natural diamonds are."

The distinction, for De Beers, is not just about science but about symbolism. Natural diamonds are billions of years old, formed deep within the Earth's mantle and brought to the surface through rare volcanic eruptions. Of all the rough diamonds mined globally, only about 20–30% are of gem quality, fit to be cut and set into jewellery. Additionally, each natural diamond is unique, shaped by the random interactions of carbon with other elements during its growth. This gives them distinct patterns, colours, and internal "fingerprints." In contrast, lab-grown diamonds tend to have uniform structures, lacking the quirks and individuality born of nature.

Diamonds As Heirlooms

Mehta draws a sharp comparison: "Imagine you're buying a bag. Would you rather buy a Gucci, or a Gucci first-copy?" The implication is clear. To De Beers, a lab-grown diamond may serve as fashion jewellery, but when it comes to marking life's most significant moments — love, commitment, family — people still gravitate toward the natural and original.

This sense of permanence is what allows diamonds to transcend mere ornamentation. They become

heirlooms, treasures passed down through generations, carrying not just financial value but also emotional resonance. A diamond ring from a father to his daughter, or from a woman to her closest friend, embodies more than beauty; it embodies a story.

The Fight For Relevance

Yet, for a brand like De Beers, being relevant today means more than telling stories of love and luxury. It also means addressing questions of ethics, sustainability, and social responsibility — issues at the forefront for modern consumers.

In regions where De Beers operates, such as Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa, diamond mining contributes significantly to national GDP and community development. The company works with local governments to invest in infrastructure, education, and women's empowerment. "Communities that work in and around the mines benefit directly from our presence," says Mehta.

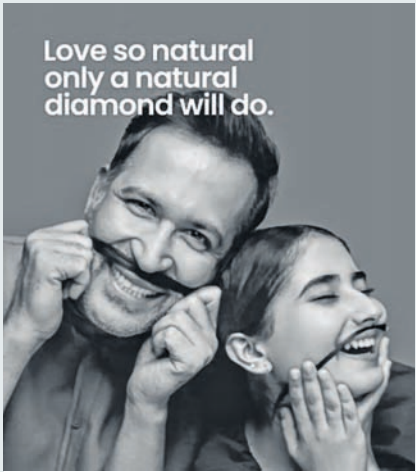
One of De Beers' most remarkable initiatives is 'Moving Giants', a conservation project that started with the creation of a nature reserve for elephants in South Africa. As the elephant population flourished, the area began facing challenges of overpopulation and deforestation.

To restore ecological balance, De Beers began relocating entire herds — carefully preserving family structures — from one region to another. Now in its seventh year, the project has become a model for wildlife conservation and reflects the company's commitment to protecting the environments in which it operates.

The India Story

India has always held a deep relationship with jewellery — particularly diamonds. Jewellery here is not merely decorative; it is a storehouse of both emotional and financial value. It plays a role in rituals, traditions, and personal milestones, often carrying forward stories across generations.

"India is a country where jewellery is as much about meaning as it is about beauty," says Mehta. Increasingly, diamonds are being gifted in new contexts — women giving them to their best friends as symbols of enduring bonds, fathers presenting them to daughters to express love, or even women buying diamonds for



themselves as declarations of independence and achievement.

Diamonds In Reflection

While De Beers is often credited with inventing the idea of the diamond engagement ring, Mehta reminds us that the tradition predates modern advertising. Royals like King Edward VII gifted diamond rings to their consorts, embedding the practice in cultural history long before De Beers amplified it. Today, the brand's campaigns, such as 'Best Friend Bands' or 'Love from Dad', do not seek to invent traditions but to reflect what people already practice — gifting diamonds as an expression of love, care, and permanence.

As De Beers navigates this era of change, its challenge is twofold: to protect the value and heritage of natural diamonds, while also aligning with the expectations of a younger, more conscious consumer. While the "fight for relevance" may be ongoing, Mehta is confident that the authenticity, rarity, and symbolism of natural diamonds will continue to shine through.

Heritage Meets Hustle

What legacy and new-age Indian brands must learn from each other.

In India, brands mean a lot. For decades, they've woven themselves into the cultural fabric of everyday life. Legacy names like Amul, Bajaj, Parle, Godrej and Tata have occupied this space with quiet consistency. They built trust over generations, speaking to Indian consumers in a language of stability, reliability and reassurance. From being mere commodities to becoming rituals of daily life. The biscuit that accompanied chai, the disinfectant that signaled safety, the ghee that stood for purity, the steel almirah that stood for security and reliability.

But culture itself has changed rhythm. The consumer of today scrolls, swipes, toggles, and tries on identities at a speed unimaginable even a decade ago. Into this world has arrived a new wave of brands: BoAt, Swiggy, Mamaearth, The Whole Truth, Wellbeing Nutrition. These brands are fluent in the grammar of immediacy. They thrive on agility, design-forward storytelling, and the ability to collapse aspiration into a shareable reel. Their edge lies in relevance, in making a product feel like it belongs to the now.

Yet, both sides have their blind spots. Legacy brands, for all their authority, often struggle with lightness. They can appear too grave, too rooted in the past, hesitant to embrace the playfulness and transparency demanded in the digital age. Meanwhile, the new-age insurgents, for all their speed and wit, risk building on fragile foundations. They win followers, but can they win loyalty? They generate noise, but can they sustain meaning?

The truth is that the Indian consumer lives in both worlds at once. She draws comfort from the familiar yet yearns

for the thrill of the novel. She buys Tata Salt because it feels like the right patriotic thing to do, but she experiments with fortified salts and seasonings from Urban Platter because they feel like the future. The same household fridge often holds both the legacy of Amul butter and the reinvention of Epigamia yogurt.

This is why the richest learning lies not in separating the past from the present, but in adapting and evolving with time. Legacy brands must learn to lighten their voice, to shed the weight of authority without losing credibility. They must show up in memes, reels and pop-culture conversations without appearing like tourists. Amul's topical billboards remain a masterpiece in this balance. Heritage wrapped in humour.



OPINION
Rutu Mody-Kamdar

Equally, new-age brands must learn the discipline of depth. They need to move beyond campaign bursts and influencer-led chatter to create enduring associations, cultural rituals and intergenerational trust. Paper Boat offers a lesson here: a relatively young brand that tapped into nostalgia with the seriousness of a heritage player, crafting products and stories that feel timeless, not fleeting.

At stake here is cultural relevance. In a country where consumers inhabit multiple eras simultaneously, tradition and modernity, ritual and experimentation, thrift and indulgence, brands that can straddle both weight and wit will endure. The rest risk being remembered only as passing fads or fading giants. Because in India, brands become part of the cultural memory. And memory, unlike a reel, is built to last.

(The author is the Founder of Jigsaw Brand Consultants)

IN BRIEF

Ad Legend Diwan Arun Nanda Passes On



Diwan Arun Nanda, the legendary Co-Founder of Rediffusion passed away on the 6th of September 2025. Nanda, along with his Co-Founders Ajit Balakrishnan and Mohammed Khan, established Rediffusion in 1973. What began as a young

agency quickly grew into a powerhouse, building some of the country's most memorable campaigns and enduring brand identities such as Airtel, Colgate, Eveready, Maruti Suzuki and more.

WPP announces new global leadership



WPP has announced a series of strategic global leadership appointments across its network. Devika Bulchandani, Global CEO of Ogilvy, has been appointed Chief Operating Officer of WPP. Laurent Ezekiel will take charge as

Global CEO of Ogilvy Group. And Floriane Tripolino has been appointed CEO of WPP Open X, WPP's bespoke agency team dedicated to The Coca-Cola Company.

Tesla reports underwhelming India debut



Automotive giant Tesla's India debut has been underwhelming, with the company reportedly receiving orders for 600 electric cars since it opened sales in the country on July 15. This number reportedly is much lower than Tesla's expectation. Ahead of the start of its EV deliveries, Tesla is mulling strengthening its EV charging infrastructure in the country by setting up supercharging stations across key regions.

Team BrandSutra

The Indian smartphone market is a battlefield where global giants dominate with deep pockets, constant innovation and aggressive marketing. In such a high-pressure arena, survival requires more than just good products — it demands cultural insight.

Amidst this intensity, Lava has carved out its space as a rare home-grown player that not only designs and manufactures phones in India, but also champions the aspirations of Bharat. In a conversation with BrandSutra, Puravansh Maitreya, Head of Marketing at Lava International Limited, shares how the brand goes toe-to-toe with global heavyweights while staying rooted with trust and accessibility.

Edited excerpts...

Q. Tell us about Lava's core positioning in the smartphone market and the audience it aims to reach out to.

A. As one of the very few companies that design and manufacture phones entirely in India, Lava stands as a symbol of self-reliance, innovation and national pride. Whether it's offering smartphones that support regional languages, upholding high standards of safety, or creating a customer support model that reaches even the remotest locations, like Kargil, where our team once travelled 200 km through snow to repair a phone, our focus is always on putting the user first.

Q. What shifts have you observed in consumer preferences for smartphones in India?

A. There's a clear shift toward smartphones that offer a balanced proposition: style, performance and smart features that add real value. High-refresh-rate displays, enhanced camera capabilities, and

Wired For Bharat

As 5G penetrates Tier-3 and beyond, a content creation surge is reshaping Bharat's smartphone needs; where high storage, in-built ring lights, and macro cameras are priorities, says **Puravansh Maitreya** of Lava.



fast charging are increasingly seen as essentials, even in the mid-range segment.

Another important trend we have observed is the growing aspir-

ation among young users to see their smartphones as an extension of their identity. This means a stronger focus on design aesthetics, display quality and content creation tools like macro cameras, AI editing features, and even ring lights.

Q. Could you share some insights into your current marketing mix — which platforms and strategies are delivering the strongest ROI?

A. Digital has become a central pillar of our marketing efforts, especially as younger consumers spend more time online. Urban audiences are generally more exposed to a variety of choices and are influenced by online reviews. However, our core strength lies in our understanding of Bharat, where Tier 3 and Tier 4 markets continue to drive significant volumes. Rural markets are driven by a need for holistic value, product reliability, easy access to service

and a sense of reassurance from the brand. Here, our strong retail network and below-the-line activations play a crucial role.

Currently, our marketing investments are distributed across digital and influencer-driven campaigns which account for nearly 50% to 60% of the mix. Around 25% to 30% goes into retail-focused activities including point of sale visibility, local outreach, and trade engagement. The remaining 10% to 20% is reserved for traditional media such as radio and print, which remain relevant in specific pockets.

Q. What trends do you see shaping the Indian smartphone industry over the next five years?

A. With an influx of global brands and the steady rise of Indian players, the market is rapidly evolving to serve a broader and more demanding consumer base. While the premium segment continues to

see innovation, the real momentum is in the sub-₹10,000 smartphones, where a large base of nearly two hundred million feature phone users is making the shift to smartphones.

5G is no longer a premium feature but it is fast becoming the new standard, reshaping consumer expectations across the board. This shift is being accompanied by a surge in content creation and consumption, driving demand for advanced cameras, larger storage, immersive displays, and faster processors, even in mid-range devices.

Artificial Intelligence is also starting to play a central role in shaping user experience. From smarter cameras to battery optimisation and voice assistance, AI is becoming integral to how consumers interact with their devices.

On the manufacturing front, initiatives like the Production Linked Incentive scheme are already driving capacity expansion and greater self-reliance. Indian brands are not just strengthening their domestic footprint, they are preparing to take the leap into global markets.

Q. Finally, what's the biggest lesson you've learnt from marketing in the tech space?

A. One of the biggest lessons I have learned is that relevance always wins over reach. Especially in a market as diverse and layered as India, visibility alone is not enough. Campaigns like #MyBharatWithLava or Free Demo@Home worked because they spoke to real needs and real emotions. They were not just stories we told. They were experiences we created.

Tech marketing has shown me that empathy is just as important as engineering. When brands put the user at the center of our thinking, and when creativity matches the pace of innovation, we create lasting impact.