

# AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

Title Code - UPENG04488

MORNING EDITION PRAYAGRAJ

Sunday, 07 December, 2025

UNIQUE GIFT OF KRIYAYOGA ASHRAM AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE TO GIVE IMPETUS TO WORLD BUILDING AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

## 'Supreme Court is for the common man, aim is to reduce litigation'

New Delhi

Chief Justice Surya Kant said in a statement on Saturday that the Supreme Court is for the common man. He added that a unified national judicial policy to resolve pending cases is his top priority. The CJI also stated that he aims to reduce litigation costs and set a time-



frame for case resolution. Disposal of Pending Cases a Priority Speaking at the Leadership Summit, CJI

Surya Kant said, "My top priority is to establish a fixed timeframe and a unified national judicial policy to expe-

dite the resolution of pending cases. I am not saying that all pending cases will be eliminated. That will never happen. It should not be because litigation is a continuous process. People have faith and trust in the judicial system." The CJI added, "New cases will be filed, but it is also important to resolve old

cases. Mediation will also be used, and this could prove to be a game changer." The Chief Justice stated that the Supreme Court will see some reforms in the coming days, and litigation will continue to receive priority. The CJI said, "I want to send a strong and clear message that the Supreme Court is for the com-

mon man, and that there is enough space in the Supreme Court for ordinary litigation." However, he also stated that he cannot do this work alone and needs the cooperation of other judges. The Chief Justice also stated that the judiciary needs upgrades, as issues like digital arrests and cybercrime.

## Government sets deadline for refunds for cancelled flights

New Delhi

New Delhi The cancellation of over 2,000 IndiGo flights over the past five days has affected thousands of passengers. In light of this, the Civil Aviation Ministry on Saturday directed the airline to complete the refund process for cancelled flights by Sunday evening. The ministry also directed the airline to ensure that passengers' luggage is delivered within the next two days. Strict Government Instructions on Refunds A day after the country's largest airline, IndiGo, faced difficulties on Saturday after canceling over 1,000 flights for the fifth consecutive day, the ministry said that any delay or non-compliance in the refund process will result in immediate regulatory action. The ministry said in a statement that the refund



### Airlines will not be able to charge fares exceeding Rs 18,000

Amid the Indigo crisis, the government on Saturday put a stop on the arbitrary fares of airlines. The government said that all airlines cannot sell tickets at a price higher than the fare cap. The government said that this system will remain in force until the situation becomes normal. The purpose of this step is to stop irregularities in airfares, maintain pricing discipline in the market and stop exploitation of passengers in distress.

process for all cancelled or disrupted flights must be completed by 8 pm on Sunday. The instructions issued said, "Airlines have also been directed not to charge any rescheduling fee from passengers whose travel has been affected by the cancellations." IndiGo tweeted that in light of recent events, all passenger cancellation refunds will be automatically returned. "We will fully waive all cancellation/rescheduling requests for your bookings for travel

IndiGo Airlines, which is facing a crew shortage, has canceled flights for the fifth consecutive day, causing chaos at airports. Distressed passengers created a ruckus at many locations. Suitcases piled up at the airport, and people haven't received their luggage for three to four days. Those waiting for flights spent the night on the ground. Passengers were seen crying at Bengaluru Airport due to flight cancellations. At Lucknow Airport, passengers clashed over queues. At Bengaluru Airport, a passenger's cat appeared distressed.

between December 5, 2025, and December 15, 2025," IndiGo said. More than 400 flights were cancelled at various airports across the country on Saturday. IndiGo has also been directed to establish

## Former judges and lawyers object to Supreme Court's remarks on Rohingyas

New Delhi

A letter was written to CJI Surya Kant, asking, "Should infiltrators be given a red carpet welcome?" New Delhi On December 2, the Supreme Court questioned the legal status of Rohingya Muslims living in India. Former judges, lawyers, and the Campaign for Judicial Accountability and Reforms expressed their objection in a letter to Chief Justice of India Surya Kant.



While hearing a habeas corpus petition, the bench comprising Surya Kant and Justice Joymalya Bagchi asked, "Should someone who enters India illegally be given a 'red carpet welcome' when the country's own citi-

zens are struggling with poverty?" The letter stated that the comments made against the Rohingya were inhumane and against constitutional values. They were described as one of the most persecuted minorities in the world.

### Sitharaman praised Omar Abdullah's efforts

New Delhi

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has praised the efforts of Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah to revive the state's economy. Sitharaman made this statement while discussing India's economic journey since 2019 at a newspaper's leadership summit here on Saturday.

Addressing the event, she described it as a time marked by many difficulties both globally and within the country. She described Jammu and Kashmir as a prime example of economic strength and specific policy interventions. She said that

## Remove the words secular and socialist from the preamble of the Constitution

New Delhi

A private member's bill introduced in the Rajya Sabha by BJP MP Bhim Singh has sparked a new political debate in the country. The bill seeks to remove the words "secular" and "socialist" from the Constitution's preamble. Singh argues that these words were added without democratic process during the Emergency, and that it is now necessary to remove them and restore the Constitution to its



ues. Therefore, the government in Uttar Pradesh is taking an important decision to ensure the security of statues of Baba Saheb by constructing boundary walls. A canopy will also be installed over the statues, ensuring their safety. The government will guarantee minimum honorarium to Class IV, contract, and sanitation workers

within a month or two. CM Yogi referred to Dr. Nirmal's statement in which he said that Class IV, contract, and sanitation workers should receive a fair honorarium. CM Yogi said that his government has formed a corporation. Within the next month or two, the government will guarantee minimum honorarium to Class IV, contract, and sanitation workers.

They also asserted that the Rohingya people have the right to protection under Article 21. The CJI is not only a legal officer but also the custodian of the rights of the poor and the final arbiter, whose words carry weight in the nation's thinking and have far-reaching impact. The Rohingya are an ethnic minority in Myanmar, who have long faced violence and discrimination in the country's Buddhist-majority society.

## PM Modi pays tribute to Ambedkar on his death anniversary

New Delhi

Today is the 69th death anniversary of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar, the architect of the Constitution. The entire nation is remembering him on this occasion. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Vice President C.P. Radhakrishnan, and other leaders paid their respects at the statue of Dr. Ambedkar in the Parliament House complex. Remembering Dr. Ambedkar, Prime



Minister Modi wrote in a social media post, "Remembering Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar on Mahaparinirvan Diwas. His visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and the Constitution will continue to guide our national journey. He inspired generations to uphold human dignity and strengthen democratic values."

## India-Russia relations have become stronger: External Affairs Minister



New Delhi

India's Foreign Minister S. Jaishankar stated that the relationship between India and Russia is one of the strongest major relationships in the world. He stated that President Vladimir Putin's recent two-day visit to India has given a new direction to the relationship between the two countries. Jaishankar stated that this visit accomplished tasks that had previously lagged, especially in economic cooperation. Jaishankar stated that while India and Russia have always had strong ties in the defense and energy sectors, economic ties have not progressed as much as before. He stated that

during this meeting, both countries emphasized addressing this gap. He explained that, unlike other countries, India's economic relations with the United States and Europe have grown, but the defense sector has not. The opposite is true for Russia: defense remains strong, but trade lags behind. Referring to the 78-year-old trusting relationship, the Foreign Minister stated that while the world has seen many changes over the past 78 years, India-Russia relations have remained stable. Russia's relations with China, the United States, and Europe have fluctuated, but trust with India has remained strong.

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath attended the tribute meeting held in Lucknow on the occasion of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar's Mahaparinirvan Diwas. On this occasion, he showered flowers on the statue of Baba Saheb Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar.

## 'No means no...', Shashi Tharoor introduces bill criminalising marital rape

New Delhi

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor, who is often in the news for his statements that cross party lines, has introduced three private member bills in the Lok Sabha. The most

significant of these bills is to criminalize marital rape. Tharoor stated that even after marriage, a woman's body should be controlled by her own will. The law must recognize this. Tharoor also emphasized that India must

uphold its constitutional values. Suggestion to criminalize marital rape The MP from Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, stated in a post on the social media platform X that marital rape should be criminalized. It should be

## Singer Neha Singh Rathore suffers no relief, suffers setback in PM's remarks

Allahabad

Allahabad High Court rejected the anticipatory bail plea of Bhojpuri singer and YouTuber Neha Singh Rathore in a case related to alleged derogatory remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi. According to news agency ANI, a case was registered at Lucknow's Hazratganj police station earlier this year over com-

ments made by Neha Singh Rathore in April. Several FIRs have been filed against the singer across Uttar Pradesh for similar allegations. The case relates to Rathore's comments regarding the Pahalgam terror attack in April. In her April 23 post, "Bihar Mein Ka Ba" fame singer Neha Singh Rathore alleged that the "Modi government is playing politics based on caste and religion."

## India Development Council inaugurates Panch-Sutra Katha Mahotsav, focusing on Environment and Civic Duties

India Development Council inaugurates Panch-Sutra Katha Mahotsav, focusing on Environment and Civic Duties "Nature worship is the essence of Indian culture, environmental protection is our collective responsibility"- Dr. Rajeshwar

Lucknow

The India Development Council (Bharat Vikas Parishad), Awadh Prant, inaugurated the five-day Panch Sootri Katha Mahotsav on Friday at Sumitnath Sewa Bhawan, Krishna Nagar. Inspired by the centenary year of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) the event commenced in a spiritually uplifting and culturally vibrant setting. As the Chief Guest, Sarojinagar MLA Dr. Rajeshwar Singh emphasized that the Council Panch-Sutra philosophy—Sampark (Contact), Sahayog (Cooperation), Sanskar (Values), Seva (Service) and Samarpit (Commitment)—forms the five foundational pillars of effective nation-building and collective consciousness. Dr. Singh in-depth analysis on environmental protection: Addressing the gathering, Dr. Singh highlighted that Indian cultural philosophy is deeply rooted in harmony with nature, but rapid over-exploitation of natural resources has now taken the form of a serious environmental crisis.

**He shared key facts:** Between 2013 and 2023, groundwater levels in several areas of Lucknow have fallen by up to 20 meters. Globally, 6.7 million people die prematurely due to air pollution every year. In India alone, this number ranges



from 1.7 to 2 million, which is extremely alarming. To explain the global ecological imbalance, Dr. Singh referred to World Overshoot Day.

He said: "In 1970, World Overshoot Day fell on 25 December, meaning humanity lived within the Earth ecological capacity for nearly the entire year. Today, this date has shifted dangerously backwards to 24 July, indicating that we exhaust a full year natural resources within just half the year." Dr. Singh shared that Sarojinagar has taken significant strides in environmental conservation: More than 50% of Lucknow total installed solar capacity is located in Sarojinagar. Over 30,000 Eco-Friendly Bags prepared by Tarashakti Centres have been distributed among schoolchildren to promote environmental awareness. He emphasized that local initiatives are critical for safeguarding the planet limited resources.

## Sirathu administration issues notice to remove illegal encroachment from government grazing land



**Akhand Bharat Sandesh**

The Sirathu Tehsil administration has swung into action following the discovery of a case of illegal encroachment on government land in Naudhiya Amad Karari village in the Kaushambi Sirathu Tehsil area. The administration has issued instructions for immediate action, imposing a financial penalty against the encroachers, Vijay Singh and Uday

Singh, for illegal construction on Gram Sabha grazing land. The case relates to plot number 289 Mi, measuring 1.0360 hectares, which is registered as government grazing land.

The local accountant's report found that the accused had encroached upon Gram Sabha land by constructing houses without prior permission. Upon receiving the report, the Tehsil administration issued notices to the encroachers, asking them to

present their case within the stipulated time-frame.

However, the accused failed to submit any response or evidence within the stipulated timeframe. The administration is now proceeding with the process of removing this illegal encroachment and recovering the related financial penalty. Officials have clarified that encroachment on government and Gram Sabha land will not be tolerated under any circumstances.

## SP Workers Launch Campaign to Expose Municipal Corruption

Ghazipur

Under the leadership of Samajwadi Party youth leader Abhinav Singh, Samajwadi Party workers and local residents jointly toured the Shastri Nagar area as part of a campaign to expose the corruption in the municipality. Abhinav Singh stated that the deplorable condition of all the wards of the municipality, as well as the main and important roads of the city, is a result of gross negligence by the administration. Businesses are completely shut down due to the dilapidated condition of the roads. Heaps of



garbage are piled up everywhere in the city, and filth is rampant throughout the entire neighborhood. The municipality is completely mired in corruption and has no concern whatsoever for the problems of the city.

Kanchan Rawat, District Vice President of the Women Wing, said that the municipality has no regard for the comfort and convenience of the city residents. This campaign to expose the corruption will continue

until the roads are completely repaired. The statues of great personalities installed in the city are also neglected. The program was conducted by businessman Arun Kushwaha.

## Preparations are underway to develop Uttar Pradesh into a global honey hub in collaboration with New Zealand

Lucknow

On Friday, Ashan Jayawardene, Manager-Trade Plan Implementation, Ministry of Agriculture, New Zealand, met with Dinesh Pratap Singh, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Horticulture, Agricultural Marketing, Agricultural Foreign Trade and Agricultural Exports, at his residence in Lucknow, to promote and export Uttar Pradesh honey to national and international markets and to exchange technology under the New Zealand-India Agriculture and Honey Productivity Partnership Program. This meeting was aimed at preparing and finalizing a cooperation program in the agricultural sector under the proposed free trade agreement. The New Zealand High Commission in New Delhi has designated Jayawardene to outline this cooperation program.



New Zealand's "Manuka" honey brand is world-renowned. To bring the state honey to the same level, honey has been included as a key cooperation product under this partnership. It was also decided to establish a "brand name" to recognize the state honey. The meeting noted that Uttar Pradesh is the largest honey-producing state in the country with a wide variety of honey varieties, including natural, wild, organic, herbal, multi-flora, mustard and eucalyptus. India and New Zealand have extensive cooperation opportunities in the areas of quality improvement, certification, technology transfer,

value addition and export promotion. During the visit, Jayawardene will inspect honey collection and harvesting centers and interact with producers, beekeepers, collectors and exporters. He will also assess opportunities for technology exchange, capacity building, standards harmonization and strengthening the production-export chain. Following the meeting, the delegation held detailed discussions with honey producers and exporters at the Horticulture Directorate, chaired by Additional Chief Secretary B.L. Meena.

The meeting discussed fur-

## Abhimanyu Manglik Takes Salute at Weekly Parade

Bhadohi

Superintendent of Police Abhimanyu Manglik took the salute at the weekly parade on Friday and inspected the parade. Personnel from the police lines, those posted in various offices and recruit police officers participated in the parade. A run was organized to ensure physical and mental fitness. During the parade, necessary instructions were given to the concerned officers to make the squad-wise drill procedures, conducted for discipline and uniformity, more effective. The newly selected constables undergoing training were briefed on discipline and rules after inspecting their PT/parade.

After the parade, necessary instructions were given to the training instructors to ensure that the trainees are thoroughly acquainted



with all important points and instructions. The Dial 112 PRV vehicles and equipment participating in the parade were checked by the Superintendent of Police, Bhadohi and necessary instructions were given to the concerned personnel. After the inspection, Superintendent of Police Abhimanyu Manglik inspected the building under construction in the police lines premises and the police lines itself, paying special attention to cleanliness and giving necessary instructions to the concerned personnel. During the

## One-Day Workshop Organized



Ghazipur

A one-day workshop was organized by the Department of Community Medicine at Maharishi Vishwamitra Medical College in collaboration with the World Health Organization and the Government of Uttar Pradesh. The workshop was presided over by the college principal, Prof. Anand Mishra, while Prof. Dhananjay Singh served as the Organizing Secretary. During the technical sessions, experts shared important information related to the subject. More than 100 participants, including faculty members, senior residents, junior residents and MBBS students, enthusiastically participated and found the workshop content extremely useful. At the end of the program, the organizing chairman, Prof. Anand Mishra, congratulated all the guests, participants and the organizing team for the successful event. He also emphasized the need to organize similar educational programs in the future.

## Our Health is Linked to Soil Health: Sarita Agarwal

Ghazipur

Addressing a district-level Rabi crop seminar and soil health workshop organized at the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.G College, Ghazipur on the occasion of World Soil Day, Municipal Chairperson Sarita Agarwal appealed to farmers and citizens, stating that the deteriorating health of the soil is affecting everyone's health. She said that along with chemical-free farming, natural farming must be adopted to prevent various types of cancer-related diseases, diabetes, obesity and disabilities in newborns. Deputy Director of Agriculture, Vijay Kumar highlighted all aspects of soil health and urged farmers to use fertilizers and pesticides only in balanced quantities. He appealed to



the farmers to improve soil health by using animal manure and urine, crop residue, green manure and proper crop rotation. Scientists from the Krishi Vigyan Kendra, P.G College, Ghazipur, Dr. D.K. Singh, Dr. Omkar Singh and Dr. S.K. Singh provided detailed information on soil health. On this occasion, information on soil testing, biopesticides, natural neem oil and natural farming was provided through stalls. On

## Armed Forces Flag Day to be celebrated on December 7th

Bhadohi

As per the letter from the Additional Chief Secretary Uttar Pradesh, Armed Forces Flag Day will be celebrated throughout the state on December 7th. Emblem flags and car flags for sale have been received from the Directorate of Soldier Welfare and Rehabilitation, Lucknow. The funds collected from the sale of these flags are sent to the Director, Directorate of Soldier Welfare and Rehabilitation, Uttar Pradesh. On the eve of Armed Forces Flag Day, the in-charge of the Soldier Welfare and Rehabilitation Office respectfully affixed the Armed Forces Flag Day emblem to District Magistrate Shailesh Kumar, Additional District Magistrate Kunwar Virendra Maurya and District Information Officer Dr. Pankaj Kumar. Following this, the aforementioned officers deposited their contributions into the donation box. The voluntary contributions are used for the welfare of ex-servicemen/widows/dependents. These are the soldiers who sacrificed their lives to secure and protect your future. The funds you donate are used to alleviate the suffering of the widows, children and elderly and helpless parents of these brave soldiers and to bring a smile to their faces. The funds collected from the sale of flags should be deposited as soon as possible via account payee check or cash into the Soldier Flag Fund account number 10795005827, payable to State Bank of India, Keshavpur Sarpathaha branch and the office should be informed. Alternatively, the funds can be sent by post to the District Soldier Welfare and Rehabilitation Office, Bhadohi or deposited via QR code. Please collect the receipt from the office in person. In this regard, please take personal interest and make every effort to collect as much money as possible.



## 5-Year-Old Boy Dies, Family Blocks MG Road, 2,000 Vehicles Stuck



### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Prayagraj.** Family members created a huge uproar over the death of a 5-year-old boy. The father said, "The doctors killed my son. They have also made his body disappear." Angry family members blocked MG Road on Saturday morning, lying down on the road and vowing not to leave until they

receive justice. During this time, more than 2,000 vehicles were stuck in the traffic jam. Upon receiving the information, police and hospital administration arrived at the scene and attempted to pacify the crowd.

The family is demanding that the child's body be returned to them immediately and action be taken against the hospital staff. Guddu, a



resident of Amilia village, said, "On November 30th, my 5-year-old son, Vansh, was playing.

While hitting a stick against a wire, he got hit by it. We admitted him to SRN Hospital." When we went to call doctors at 6 a.m. on Saturday, they said, "Let's go." When they arrived, they began pounding on his chest. They said, "Your son is dead."

They immediately called the police and threw us out. "My child died due to the negligence of the doctors." DCP City Prayagraj Manish Kumar Shandilya said, "The blockade has been cleared. The family is being counseled. If they refuse to undergo a post-mortem, appropriate legal action will be taken after obtaining their consent."

## Security vigilance increased in the city: Joint administration and police team conducts extensive patrolling



### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Ghazipur.** Under the guidance of Sub-District Magistrate (SDM) Dr. Harshita Tiwari, a joint team of administration and police conducted a comprehensive patrolling campaign on Saturday, December 6, to maintain peace and law and order in the city under the jurisdiction of the Kotwali Muhammadabad police station. The team visited major markets, crowded areas, and various neighborhoods to conduct a detailed review of the

security situation. A large police force, including Circle Officer (CO) Sudhakar Pandey, was present during the joint operation. Along the way, officials interacted with local residents, urging them to adhere to the rules and maintain peace and harmony.

They also assured them that any activity that could disrupt law and order would be strictly prevented. SDM Dr. Harshita Tiwari stated that special vigilance is being maintained at sensitive areas in the city, and

security is being strengthened at all levels. He stated that indiscipline or disorder will not be tolerated under any circumstances. CO Sudhakar Pandey stated that the police are constantly monitoring the situation through regular patrols and special operations. He clarified that the safety of citizens is paramount, and the police are always vigilant. This patrol campaign further strengthened residents' confidence in security and spread a message of peace throughout the area.

## Five major resolutions were passed concerning education, Bangladeshi infiltration, natural disasters, divisive forces, and social change

### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Prayagraj.** The 71st National Convention of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) was successfully held on November 28-30, 2025, at the General Bipin Rawat Auditorium in 'Bhagwan Birsa Munda Nagar', located at the Parade Ground in Dehradun. More than 1,500 students, professors, academics, full-time workers, and other distinguished guests from across the country attended the three-day event. Important decisions were made after serious discussions on organizational development, educational policies, and socio-cultural issues. A press conference was organized at the ABVP Prayagraj



office to provide information about the convention, addressed by National Minister Abhay Pratap Singh. Today, on 06 December 2025, on the occasion of the death anniversary of Baba Saheb Bhimrao Ambedkar, ABVP spread the message of unity and harmony in the society through Baba Saheb Sandesh Yatra, seminar and various programs in

Prayagraj. In the convention, special place was given to three Yatras that enriched the cultural and spiritual dimension of India. Among these, Rani Abbakka Kalash Yatra, which started from her birthplace in Karnataka and reached Dehradun after covering a distance of more than 3000 km. The presence of this Yatra introduced the youth to

the bravery of Rani Abbakka and the cultural pride of India. To commemorate the 150th birth anniversary of Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the Bhagwan Birsa Sandesh Yatra was organized. It began in Ulihatu, Jharkhand, and traveled through numerous locations, reaching youth with the message of land, water, and forest conservation and awareness of tribal rights. To commemorate the 350th martyrdom anniversary of Sri Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji, a sacred water pot brought from Gurudwara Sheeshganj Sahib in Delhi was reverently welcomed and enshrined in the main auditorium, providing a historical and spiritual urgency to the convention. The welcoming of these processions and their presence on campus were central to the convention's cultural platform, instilling a sense of national dedication among the delegates. At the convention, Abhay Pratap Singh, provincial minister of Kashi Province and research scholar at Banaras Hindu University, was appointed national minister. Alok Tripathi and Aanchal Singh from Allahabad University were appointed national executive members. Sarvesh from Banaras Hindu University, Vanshika Shukla from Varanasi, and Manmohan Nishad from Sonbhadra were appointed national executive members. A total of five resolutions were passed at ABVP's 71st National Convention.

## Three accused sentenced to rigorous life imprisonment for raping and murdering a woman

### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi** On March 26, 2022, in the Kaushambi West Sharira police station area, a woman was brutally murdered by slitting her throat with a sharp-edged weapon at midnight. FIR No. 54/2022 under Sections 302/34 of the Indian Penal Code was registered at the West Sharira police station. Based on the evidence, during the investigation, Section 376D of the Indian Penal Code was added and the charge sheet was filed in court.

During the trial, the court found all three accused guilty of murder and rape, wherein the three accused Mustaq Ali alias Gunga alias Baura son of



Toofan Ali resident of Maulani ka Purwa, Turtipur police station Karari and Deepak son of Nandlal resident of Vibhav police station Mau district Chitrakoot and Bhola alias Devendra son of Satan resident of Amina police station Paschim Sharira were sentenced to life imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 40,000-40,000/- by the court ASJ/FTC-II district Kaushambi on 06.12.2025 and accused Mustaq Ali was punished with an additional fine of Rs. 10,000/- in FIR No. 60/22 Section 307 IPC and FIR No. 61/22 Section 3/25 Arms Act and FIR No. 62/22 Section 4/25 Arms Act.

## Police arrested two accused in a robbery case and sent them to jail

### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

On November 12th, after receiving numerous complaints against Lekhpal Kuldeep Shukla of Majra Babhan Purva, Gram Panchayat Unau, in the Kaushambi Manjhanpur Tehsil area, the District Magistrate visited Babhan Purva village to assess the status of the pond number on the spot. He then directed the Tehsildar Manjhanpur to form a team and measure the pond number and take necessary action. He also directed the Tehsildar to investigate the fisheries lease allotment and take action. The Sub-District Magistrate was instructed to suspend Lekhpal Kuldeep Shukla for negligence in not reporting encroachment on the pond and violation of the terms of the fish-



eries lease, and to seek clarification from the Kanungo. However, Lekhpal Kuldeep Shukla remained unsuspended and has continued to work since the November 12th directive. On Saturday, villagers again complained against Lekhpal Kuldeep Shukla at the Tehsil Samadhan Diwas. Previously, Gulab Pasi had submitted a complaint at the Tehsil Samadhan Diwas, accusing the Lekhpal of sowing paddy in the pond

number. Action should be taken by measuring the pond number, on which the accountant was found guilty and was ordered to be suspended. The powerful people cultivate the 44 bigha pond land of the village and sell the crop and the accountant takes his share.

Despite the instructions of the District Magistrate, after more than 3 weeks have passed, questions have been raised on the arrangements after the accountant has not been suspended.

## Sampoorna Samadhan Diwas concluded in Saidpur; 364 complaints received, 38 resolved on the spot

### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Ghazipur.** Sampoorna Samadhan Diwas, a day for the prompt resolution of public problems, was held in the Tehsil auditorium in Saidpur, chaired by Avinash Kumar and in the presence of Superintendent of Police Dr. Iraj Raja. 63 complaints/requests were received, and four were resolved on the spot.

According to information from all seven tehsils, a total of 364 complaints/requests were received during the Sampoorna Samadhan Diwas, of which 38 were resolved on the spot. Similarly, in Tehsil Sadar, under the chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate of the Sub-Divisional



Magistrate, 30 complaints/requests were received, of which six were resolved on the spot. In Tehsil Sevrai, under the chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, 21 complaints/requests were received, of which two were resolved on the spot. In Tehsil Kasimabad, under the chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, 28 complaints/requests were received, of which five were resolved on the spot. In Tehsil

Muhammadabad, under the chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, 72 complaints/requests were received, of which 12 were resolved on the spot. In Tehsil Jakhania, under the chairmanship of the Magistrate, 95 complaints/requests were received, of which three were resolved on the spot. In Tehsil Zamania, under the chairmanship of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate, 55 complaints/requests were received, of

which six were resolved on the spot. On the occasion of the Sampoorna Samadhan Diwas, the District Magistrate listened to the public's complaints seriously, resolved some of them on the spot, and forwarded the remaining complaints to the concerned officials, directing them for timely and quality resolution. He stated that resolving public complaints is a priority of the government, and any negligence or indifference in this regard is unacceptable. Present on the occasion were the Sub-Divisional Magistrate Saidpur, District Development Officer, Tehsildar Saidpur, Circle Officer Saidpur, and all relevant officials and police officers.

## Three arrested with 50 liters of illicit liquor

### Akhand Bharat Sandesh

**Kaushambi** Police launched a campaign against illicit liquor, destroying one quintal of raw material. Under the direction of Kaushambi SP Rajesh Kumar, in the ongoing campaign against

the manufacture and smuggling of illicit liquor in the district, police from Karari, Sarai Akil, and Kadadham police stations conducted a campaign and arrested three individuals involved in the illegal liquor manufacturing. Police recovered 50 liters of illicit liquor from the arrested individuals and

destroyed one quintal of raw material. Karari police station arrested Raju, son of Shrinath, resident of Newari, currently residing at Barai Bandhwa, Karari police station, with 15 liters of illicit liquor. Sarai Akil police station arrested Indraraj, son of Sambar, resident of Purkhas, Sarai Akil police station, with 20 liters of illicit liquor. Kadadham police station arrested Vishram, son of the late Ramnihore, resident of Rasidmai, Kadadham police station, with 15 liters of illicit liquor. Police have filed a complaint with all the accused. He was produced in the court from where he was sent to jail.

## Editorial

## Europe amid great power contestation

On his first visit to Europe post-pandemic, Xi Jinping met French President Emmanuel Macron. Xi lauded China's ties with France as a "model for the international community amid threats of a trade war over Chinese electric cars and French cognac". Xi Jinping's tour through Europe, analysts point out, highlighted China's audacious strategy to exploit the fissures within Europe amid great power contestation. Among many other developments, the armed forces of China and France announced the setting up of a new inter-theatre cooperation and dialogue mechanism. This collaboration between the two militaries' naval and air forces is aimed at further deepening mutual trust and cooperation and jointly safeguarding regional security and stability.

Such a move towards forging closer Sino-French military ties, especially amid Beijing's assertive manoeuvres in the Indo-Pacific and the South China Sea, begs the question: Can Europe, and particularly France, remain a reliable ally, or will it become more accommodating of China's controversial actions in its neighbourhood? Countries like India are watching closely, concerned about France and Europe in the future and potentially succumbing to China's diplomatic and economic enticements. China claims to be "not at the origin of the Russian-Ukraine crisis, nor a party to it, nor a participant", and thus legitimises its silence. Can we anticipate a similar approach by Europe on issues concerning Taiwan and the Philippines? In the past few years, France's relationship with China has been marked by a mixture of scepticism and strategic engagement, reflecting broader geopolitical objectives and national interests. In the recent past, France has been quite critical of China, viewing it as a 'strategic threat'. The 2021 update to France's 2017 Defence and National Security Strategic Review painted China as a 'systemic rival', 'economic competitor', and 'sometimes an important diplomatic partner'. Even as Paris sought engagement with Beijing in 2019, substantial tensions clearly existed. During Xi Jinping's previous European tour, President Macron rallied a united European front to challenge Beijing on critical European issues like unfair trade practices, restricted market access for European companies, opaque financing under the BRI, and human rights abuses in Tibet and Xinjiang.

Recent events and official statements have further underscored this stance. A parliamentary report on foreign interference in France, requested by Marine Le Pen's far-right party, highlighted China's "aggressive and increasingly malicious methods". Labelling China as the "second most serious threat to France after Russia", the report echoed sentiments from Bernard Emié, Director of French External Intelligence (DGSE), who described China as an 'aggressive power' with 'unbridled diplomacy'. Furthermore, the issue of France selling arms to Taiwan resurfaced during the pandemic when Taiwan announced plans to buy defence equipment from France to upgrade missile systems on French warships purchased in 1991 and 1992. Beijing expressed 'serious concern' and urged Paris to avoid actions that could strain Sino-French ties. Following Chinese air intrusions into Taiwan's air defence zone, a French delegation led by former defence minister Alain Richard visited Taipei to meet



This visit was seen as a powerful symbol of France's commitment to opposing China's unilateral aggression and supporting peace, security, and stability in the Indo-Pacific.

## India's stand should Iran want a revival of its nuclear plan?

Samay Sharma

What will, for example, be India's stand should Iran want a revival of its nuclear plan? India's past tussles with the West over its own nuclear programme may trigger another round of strategic unpleasantness over New Delhi's stance. India has a long-standing policy of strategic autonomy, and the complexity of its relations with the West is par for the course. The question is only of degree. The scope of India's support to its alliance partners in any overtures, real or perceived, against the West needs to be clearly defined, if not announced. While BRICS has achieved precious little in tan-

gible terms in the past 15 years, the symbolism of grouping may have consequences for India as ongoing conflicts stretch into the future and new challenges around them emerge. On the other hand, the internal dynamics of the expanded BRICS are going to pose another challenge. BRICS, only a little more than an ad hoc grouping with diverse challenges and interests, has miles to go to emerge as a counter-force to alliances like the G7 or the Five Eyes, where members have been able to thrash out at least a common minimum programme. All eyes have been on Iran for more than a year. Naturally, the first

BRICS summit with Tehran's membership is bound to breed speculation about what the prospective new world order would look like. At home, there needs to be an examination of India's bilateral ties with a country that is seen firmly anti-West in its outlook. Iran and India are sailing in the same boat, at least momentarily: of the West's castigation. The temptation may be high on both sides to form a joint front against Western hegemony in the security space. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has held bilateral talks with the new Iranian President, Masoud Pezeshkian, with a focus on strategic cooperation

in and beyond the Middle East. It can be endlessly debated without itching anywhere close to a resolution whether multilateral global groupings make any difference to realpolitik either domestically or internationally. The signalling, however, remains crucial. To begin with, the West is already perceiving the summit as Russia's show of strength. Headlines like 'Putin Gathers Allies' and 'Putin Hosts Global South Leaders at BRICS Summit Meant to Counterbalance Western Clout' in Western media outlets expose apprehension. A complex interplay of sectarian interests and regional dynamics.

## The regime's policy changes with vision

Mahesh Singh

Roam around Riyadh, the capital, and you see it buzzing with young and aspirational Saudis making the most of the newfound freedoms and opportunities. According to the 2022 census, 63% of Saudis are under the age of 30. And the regime's policy changes are guided with this key statistic in mind. The biggest beneficiaries of the new openness are the Saudi women, who never had it so good. The Kingdom's inclusive Vision 2030 aims to diversify and strengthen the nation's economy. According to a World Bank report, Saudi Arabia is now ranked at the top in terms of economic and social progress for women out of 190 economies. The country's women are now truly in the driver's seat. The lifting of restrictions on their movement and choices has meant that Saudi women are steering the social, cultural and economic transformation of their country. Till a few years ago, they had to look to their fathers, husbands and brothers for even the basics like permission to travel or work. With Vision 2030, female workforce participation has gone up to nearly 40% now compared to about 15% a few years ago. This progress is evident in the increasing number of women receiving advanced degrees, enrolling in STEM fields, and owning 40% of small and medium-sized startups. Right from the moment you land in Riyadh, you see women taking up



AP

key jobs. From immigration counters to shopping malls to government offices, Saudi women are everywhere. I saw women making presentations at key government events, doing camera work, running stalls at local markets.

The presence of women in the workforce has also meant increased intermingling of genders and rewriting of many social norms and gender behaviours. A big focus of Vision 2030 is also the cultural and social integration of all those living and working in Saudi Arabia. The Media Ministry's Global Harmony project is aimed at enhancing understanding and collaborations between diverse groups that call Saudi home. According to the Saudi Deputy Minister of Media, Dr Khaled Bin Abdulqader al Ghamdi, the Global Harmony project aims

to make expats feel more at home. But more than that, it aspires to make local Saudis understand better the various communities that live among them. So, during the Riyadh Season, which starts in September and continues till February-March, you see a host of public cultural and social events to bring communities together. It's a true celebration and appreciation of diversity. Even among the expats, special attention is on Indians, who are the largest expat group in Saudi Arabia. At present, 2.6 million Indians live in the Kingdom, working in the domestic sector as well as private jobs, and running both start-ups as well as big companies. Recognising the role of India, Dr Khaled calls the community "an integral part of the Saudi story". This year, the Media Ministry dedicated the Suwaidi Park

festival exclusively to India. The 10-day festival saw a celebration of Indian culture, food, music and art. People from all communities streamed into the vast Suwaidi Park to savour a slice of India. The Global Harmony project attempts to present Saudi as an inclusive and harmonious society where people from all backgrounds live and celebrate their own cultures, traditions and festivals. And, it's not some civil society gig. It's a government policy initiative with clear objectives and plans.

That makes it an attempt worth emulating for many countries that are facing social fissures due to their diversity. As Saudi strides into modernity, it is also conscious of its history and heritage. It's encouraging studies and excavations at heritage sites, such as at al Ula, and is promoting its pre-

## India was a British colony, robbed of its wealth and morale

Suman

The original "Great Game" was fought in the mid-1800s between the Russian Empire and the combined might of the British, French and Ottoman Empires over control of Central Asia. The British feared an attack by the Imperial Russian Army through Afghanistan on their Indian colony. The Ottomans, though in decline, wanted to guard against Russian incursions into their Balkan possessions. As a report by Kallie Szczepanski (thought.com) described it: "Britain's Lord Ellenborough started 'The Great Game' on January 12, 1830, with an edict establishing a new trade route from India to Bukhara, using Turkey, Persia, and Afghanistan as a buffer

against Russia to prevent it from controlling any ports on the Persian Gulf. Meanwhile, Russia wanted to establish a neutral zone in Afghanistan allowing for their use of crucial trade routes." The Great Game officially ended with the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1907, which divided Persia (Iran) into a Russian-controlled northern zone, a nominally independent central zone, and a British-controlled southern zone. The Convention also specified a borderline between the two empires running from the eastern point of Persia to Afghanistan and declared Afghanistan an official protectorate of Britain." Russia's invasion of Ukraine nearly two centuries later has trig-

gered a new Great Game but with vastly different actors, motives and possible outcomes. In the mid-1800s the United States did not count. It was convulsed by a Civil War (1861-65) between northern unionist states and southern confederate states over slavery. China had been humiliated by Britain during the Opium Wars (1839-60). It lay in repose. India was a British colony, robbed of its wealth and morale. Today Russia lies weakened, its Soviet-era satellite states absorbed into NATO. They form a Western knife aimed at Moscow's jugular. Ukraine remains a non-NATO buffer state. If it joins NATO in future, Russia would be completely encircled.

## The emergence of new-era 'Leviathans'

Rashi Singh

In China, the fear of chaos that can come from within and from without is a central rationale that legitimises Xi Jinping's power grab. Image: REUTERS

Thomas Hobbes' seminal work, Leviathan, published in 1651, posits the necessity of a powerful, centralised authority to prevent societal chaos and ensure peace and security. Hobbes had a way with words; he famously said that without an all-powerful state, whom he calls the Leviathan, life would be nasty, brutish, and short. Those powerful words have a global resonance today, giving the state across the world a free run. We saw it in Washington when more than \$3 trillion was printed in monetary easing. In Paris, monetary welfare spending is out of hand, and the Leviathan dares not withdraw the free fund, for that itself causes riots and chaos.

In China, state capitalism is running wild, and in India, the state subsidises everything from fertiliser and maternity care to free food to the tune of \$10 billion a year. Everywhere, a man who wrote 350 years ago rules. In our turbulent world, Hobbes's premise of avoiding chaos is so powerful that both autocracies and democracies are utilising it to empower the state further. It is not as if he has not been proved right. In fact, rarely in contemporary history has Hobbes gone wrong. In Iraq, Libya, and Egypt, when the Leviathan was toppled, it created chaos beyond imagination,

only to be replaced by the iron fist of the state. In China, the fear of chaos that can come from within and from without is a central rationale that legitimises Xi Jinping's power grab. Indeed, it's replacing the promise of prosperity as the basis of the communist party's hold over China. The fact that the Federal Reserve's policy of quantitative easing following the 2008 financial crisis and the purchase of government securities to increase the money supply were unquestioned exemplifies Hobbes' idea of the sovereign exercising control to prevent economic disorder and maintain stability. That, in the bastion of capitalism, it did not raise concerns about the erosion of financial autonomy and the distortion of free markets underlines the astonishing relevance of Hobbes. France's robust welfare state epitomises Hobbes' notion of the sovereign's responsibility to ensure the well-being of its citizens. The French government maintains an extensive social safety net, including comprehensive healthcare, unemployment benefits, and retirement pensions. During the COVID-19 pandemic, France's welfare spending surged as the government implemented measures to protect jobs and support incomes. However, this extensive welfare system can be critiqued for fostering dependency and reducing individual responsibility. The welfare-to-GDP ratio in 2023 was an astonishing 36 per cent. This is clearly unsustainable, but every time France has tried to

pull back the Leviathan or cut back welfare, there have been dramatic riots. Once you create the Leviathan, clearly, there is no way back. In 2020, the French government introduced the 'Solidarity Fund', providing financial aid to businesses affected by the pandemic, and expanded unemployment benefits to cover those furloughed under the 'partial activity' scheme. These interventions, amounting to over €100 billion in expansive welfare spending, can lead to high taxation, which burdens individuals and businesses, and totally stifles entrepreneurial spirit and innovation. Additionally, the extensive welfare system creates a culture of dependency, reducing the incentive for personal initiative and self-reliance. France and its Leviathan are in a doom loop. China's model of state capitalism illustrates Hobbes' concept of the sovereign's expansive control over economic life. The Chinese government exercises significant influence over the economy through state-owned enterprises (SOEs), which dominate key industries such as energy, telecommunications, and finance. While this control allows the state to direct economic development and maintain social order, it also restricts economic freedom and individual rights.

The role of SOEs in China's economic strategy is particularly evident in the "Made in China 2025" initiative, aimed at transforming China into a global leader in high-tech industries.

## ED tightens noose around Reliance Power

MUMBAI

The ED has filed a supplementary prosecution complaint (PC) against Anil Ambani's group company, Reliance Power Ltd., and 10 other entities in an alleged money laundering case linked to a reportedly fake bank guarantee worth Rs 68.2 crore submitted to the Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). The guarantees were reportedly used to secure a major battery energy storage project tender; the central agency said on Saturday.

The complaint, filed under the PMLA, follows two FIRs registered by the Delhi Police Economic Offences Wing (EOW). One FIR was lodged based on SECI's complaint against Reliance NU BESS Ltd., a subsidiary of Reliance Power, while the second was filed by Reliance NU BESS Ltd. against Bhubaneswar-based Biswal Tradelink Pvt Ltd and its Managing Director, Partha Sarathi Biswal.

In its response to the ED's supplementary chargesheet, Reliance Power Ltd said the allegations levelled by the agency have not undergone judicial scrutiny and the company has not been held guilty of any wrongdoing. It added that, as per settled law of the Supreme Court, the company will have an opportunity to present its case and facts before the court even prior to cognizance, and therefore the filing of the complaint "does not affect the affairs of the company in any manner."

## Briefs

GUWAHATI

## Stage set for Malone's concert

The Assam administration on Saturday announced special traffic and logistical arrangements for American singer-rapper Post Malone's debut concert in Guwahati, scheduled for Monday. The Assam government had in May approved a new policy to promote 'concert tourism' and partnered with Bigtree Entertainment, which operates the BookMyShow platform, to organise national and international musical events in the state. More than 20,000 people are expected to attend Post Malone's show.

CHANDIGARH  
SAD: Extend date for nominations

Alleging that nominations of many of its candidates contesting the Block Samiti and Zila Parishad elections have been rejected across Punjab, the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) on Saturday demanded that the deadline for filing nominations in all areas where there were complaints be extended.

money special  
'Households expect ease in inflation pressures to continue'

NEW DELHI

Indian households are anticipating a notable softening in inflation expectations for the next three months and one year ahead, the RBI's latest Households' Inflation Expectations Survey showed. The RBI released the results of November 2025 round of its bi-monthly inflation expectations survey of households on Friday evening. The survey was conducted during November 1-10, 2025, in 19 major cities, with 6,061 responses. Households' perception of the current median inflation declined

**GLOBAL EQUATION** | Jaishankar disagreed with views that Putin's visit could complicate India's negotiations with the US

## Ties with Russia among 'stadiest' globally: EAM

NEW DELHI

The India-Russia partnership has been among the "stadiest big relationships" in the last 70-80 years and President Vladimir Putin's visit to New Delhi was about "reimagining" the ties with a focus on economic engagement, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Saturday.

In an interactive session, he also disagreed with views that Putin's visit could complicate India's negotiations with the US on a bilateral trade agreement.

"No, I disagree with you. I think everybody knows that India has relations with all the major countries in the world," S Jaishankar said at the Hindustan Times Leadership Summit.

"I think for any country to expect to have a veto or a say in how we develop our relations with others is not a reasonable proposition." S Jaishankar was asked if Putin's two-day visit to New Delhi focused largely on significantly enhancing the



Union External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar greets Russian President Vladimir Putin as the latter prepares to depart from New Delhi

economic dimension of India-Russia ties will have a bearing on the negotiations with the US for the proposed trade deal.

"Because remember, the others can expect the same. I think we've always made it very clear that we have multiple relationships. We have a freedom of choice," he said.

"We talk about what is called strategic autonomy and that continues and I cannot imagine why anybody would have reason to expect the contrary," he added.

The external affairs minister acknowledged that the focus of the Trump administration has been on trade and noted that India's approach in navigating it is totally driven by national interests.

"I think clearly right now trade is the most important issue there. We have, it's clearly very central to the thinking in Washington, much more than it was to earlier administrations, which is something which we have recognized and we are prepared to meet," he said.

"Attended the @rashtrapatibhavn banquet for President Putin last night. A warm and engaging atmosphere reigned. Enjoyed my conversations with many of the attendees, especially my dining companions from the Russian delegation!" he posted.

## Engaging atmosphere: Tharoor on dinner

NEW DELHI: Senior Congress leader Shashi Tharoor on Saturday described the Rashtrapati Bhavan banquet for Russian President Vladimir Putin as a "warm" and "engaging" evening, even as his party publicly questioned why its top leaders were not invited and took veiled digs at him for attending. "Attended the @rashtrapatibhavn banquet for President Putin last night. A warm and engaging atmosphere reigned. Enjoyed my conversations with many of the attendees, especially my dining companions from the Russian delegation!" he posted.

## Grand Indian gastronomic journey

NEW DELHI

The official dinner organized for Russian President Vladimir Putin and his delegation was a meticulously curated affair, designed to offer a comprehensive gastronomic journey through the regional flavours of India.

The diplomatic meal commenced with a starter course that provided a diverse taste of Indian regional cuisine. The menu featured the South Indian soup Murungelai Chaaru (Rasam), alongside the Kashmiri delicacy Guuchi Doon Chetin (Morels with Walnut Chutney). Other appetizers included the pan-grilled Kaale Chane Ki Shikampuri (Black Gram Kebab)



and the Himalayan specialty, Vegetable Jhol Momo with hot chutney.

The main courses were largely representative of North Indian cuisine. Highlights included the rich Zafraani Paneer Roll (Saffron Paneer Roll), the seasonal favorite Palak Methi Matar Ka Saag (Spinach, Fenugreek, and Peas), Tandoor

Bharwan Aloo (Stuffed Potato), and the tangy Achari Baingan (Pickled Eggplant), rounded out by a comforting Yellow Dal Tadka.

These main offerings were served with a saffron and dry fruit pulao, accompanied by an extensive selection of Indian breads, including Lachha Paratha, Magaz Naan, Satajan Roti, Missi Roti, and Biskooti Roti.

The sweet ending to the diplomatic evening featured a pair of traditional Indian desserts: the rich Badam Ki Halwa (Almond Pudding) and the frozen delight Kesar-Pista Kulfi (Saffron-Pistachio Kulfi). President Putin was also served a "healthy drink" composed of a fresh mixture of pomegranate, orange, carrot, and ginger juices.

## Probe into Zubeen's death almost complete

BENGALURU

Investigation into the death of Assam's cultural icon Zubeen Garg is almost complete, and the charge sheet will be filed on December 12, a senior police officer said on Saturday. Garg died while swimming in the sea in Singapore on September 19.

Special Director General of Police of Criminal Investigation Department, Munna Prasad Gupta, while addressing a press conference here, said, "The investigation is almost complete. The details will be given in the charge sheet." Gupta, who is leading the Special Investigation Team probing Garg's death, said seven arrests have been made so far and over 300 witnesses examined.

"From the beginning, we have been cooperating with the investigation and there is no hide and seek in this. After all these developments, ED has filed a charge sheet in the issue. We don't

## Nat'l Herald: ED issues notices to DK brothers

## Covid violation cases to be withdrawn

LUCKNOW

know why police had to register another case with this regard. We will fight it legally," he said.

"ED has issued summons to us and we have already given replies to their questions. It is shocking that they have issued summons to us. Delhi police have sought details from us before December 19," he said.

"National Herald and Young India are Congress party organisations and we had donated money to our organisations through our tax paid money."

We helped our organisations which were facing some financial difficulties. They had registered cases under PMLA also and what happened then? The motive of this case is to harass the supporters of Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi," he said.

Reacting to the notice, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said that the ED was harassing him and his family through this issue and he would condemn the move of ED.

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**STRATEGIC REALIGNMENT** US asks EU NATO members to boost intelligence and missile capabilities by 2027

# Trump files for divorce from NATO over Ukraine

WASHINGTON DC



The US Supreme Court has agreed to review President Donald Trump's controversial birthright citizenship order, which aims to deny automatic citizenship to children born in the United States to parents who are in the country illegally or temporarily.

LONDON

Mini Gandhi statue for auction



A miniature model of the iconic Mahatma Gandhi statue located in London's Tavistock Square is set for auction in the UK next week, with an estimated guide price of 6,000 to 8,000 pounds. The 27-cm bronze maquette represents the earliest complete vision of the sculpture created by Polish artist Fredda Brilliant, whose full-scale statue has stood in Bloomsbury since 1968.

WARSAW

Zelensky criticised for Warsaw visit

Diplomatic tensions flared between Ukraine and Poland as Warsaw's top diplomat, Radoslaw Sikorski, criticized President Zelensky for not visiting new Polish President Karol Nawrocki during his recent trip to France. Sikorski said Zelensky's "crown would not have fallen off" if he had requested a meeting, while also condemning Nawrocki's demands for Ukrainian gratitude.

SAINTE-ANNE

Christmas tragedy in Guadeloupe

A car rammed into a Christmas crowd in Sainte-Anne, Guadeloupe, killing 10 and injuring nine. Authorities are investigating whether the driver suffered a medical emergency. A crisis team has been activated to assist victims' families.

ISRAEL

Israel to supply LMGs to India

Israeli firm IWI will deliver the first batch of 40,000 LMGs to India early next year and is finalizing a contract for 170,000 carbines. The company is also pursuing advanced weapon tech collaborations.

BERLIN

Berlin OKs home spy

Berlin has passed a sweeping new police law allowing officers to secretly enter private homes to install spyware when remote access is impossible. Approved by the CDU-SPD coalition and the AfD, the law grants authorities expanded physical and digital surveillance powers, including hacking phones and computers and activating bodycams inside homes if danger is suspected.

The Eurovision contest, es-

## Slams EU over X fine

The US has accused the European Union of targeting American interests after Brussels fined Elon Musk's platform X €120 million for violating the Digital Services Act. Washington called the ruling an "attack on the American people," escalating tensions over Europe's strict digital regulations. The EU said X misled users with its blue checkmark system, lacked ad transparency, and failed to provide required data for researchers.

downgrading China to an "economic competitor" and accepting a multipolar world where regional powers manage their own spheres. The document credits Trump personally for conflict resolution efforts, including the India-Pakistan ceasefire and Gaza hostage return, while elevating immigration as a national security threat.

On Ukraine, the strategy places the burden of sustaining the country on European allies, critiquing their political

instability and overreliance on Russia. It warns of "civilizational erasure" in Europe due to demographic shifts and calls for self-reliance, sparking concern over alliance cohesion. Critics in Europe and the US warn of weakened partnerships, while China views limited engagement on sovereignty positively.

Overall, the NSS positions the US as a hemispheric power focused on pragmatic diplomacy, economic strength, and dealmaking. It

signals de-escalation in China, cautious engagement globally, and a retreat from ideological missions. Success will depend on Trump's willingness to follow through on the written strategy, balancing inward priorities with maintaining credibility among allies. The strategy risks a "lonelier, weaker" US if Europe resists its burden-shifting approach, while potentially securing domestic gains through industrial revival and hemispheric focus.

## 'EU targets platforms that refuse to censor free speech'

Agencies

The EU is unfairly targeting social media platforms that allow dissenting or critical speech, Telegram founder Pavel Durov has said.

He was responding to a 2024 post by Elon Musk, the owner of X, who claimed that the European Commission had offered the platform a secret deal to avoid fines in return for censoring certain statements. The EU fined X €120 million (\$140 million) the day before. According to Durov, the EU imposes strict and unrealistic rules on tech companies as a way to punish those that do not comply with quiet censorship demands.

"The EU imposes impossible rules so it can punish tech firms that refuse to silently censor free speech," Durov wrote on X on Saturday. He also referred to his detention in France last year, which he called politically motivated.

## Canberra curbs on Taliban ministers

SYDNEY

Australia on Saturday imposed financial sanctions and travel bans on four officials in Afghanistan's Taliban government, citing a worsening human rights situation in the country, particularly for women and girls.

Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong said the officials were involved "in the oppression of women and girls and in undermining good governance or the rule of law" in the Taliban-run country.

The sanctions targeted three Taliban ministers and the group's chief justice, accusing them of restricting access for girls and women "to education, employment, freedom of movement and the ability to participate in public life," Wong said.

Australia was one of several nations that pulled troops out of Afghanistan in August 2021, after being part of a NATO-led international force that

trained Afghan security forces and fought the Taliban for two decades following their ouster from power.

Since regaining control, the Taliban has been criticised for imposing severe restrictions on the rights and freedoms of women and girls, including bans on education and work.

The group maintains it respects women's rights in line with its interpretation of Islamic law and local custom.

Wong said the sanctions were part of a new Australian government framework enabling it to "directly impose its own sanctions and travel bans to increase pressure on the Taliban, targeting the oppression of the Afghan people."

Australia has also taken in thousands of evacuees from Afghanistan, mostly women and children, after the Taliban returned to power in the war-torn country, where much of the population now depends on humanitarian aid to survive.

## Gen Z protests sweep Germany as Merz moves to revive conscription

BERLIN



Thousands of demonstrators have marched in cities across Germany to protest Chancellor Friedrich Merz's plan to overhaul the country's military service system, accusing the government of laying the groundwork for forced mobilization.

On Friday, the German parliament approved changes to the military-service law expanding recruitment and giving Berlin tools to reactivate conscription if volunteer numbers fall short.

Rallies took place in around 90 cities – including Berlin, Hamburg, Munich, and Cologne – both before and after the vote. Footage showed protesters chanting anti-war slogans and carrying banners reading "No to conscription," "We will not be cannon fodder"

and "Your war – without us." Protesters slammed the reform as "recruitment of death" and urged investment in education and welfare instead of weapons.

One protester told Ruptly she feared her teenage sons would soon be drafted, while another said: "Merz should go to the front himself and risk his own life." Some linked the reform to Germany's broader military buildup, warning that Berlin is preparing for a war against Russia.

Germany abolished compulsory military service in 2011 and moved to an all-volunteer force. But amid a NATO-driven military, Berlin now seeks to expand the Bundeswehr, citing a worsening security environment.

## Heavy exchange of fire at Pak-Af border

ISLAMABAD

The Pakistani and Afghan forces engaged in a heavy exchange of fire along the border amid mounting tensions, with both sides accusing each other of igniting the clash, local media reported on Saturday.

The latest confrontation on late Friday comes after renewed efforts by Saudi Arabia

## Hungary blocks Eurobond plan to fund Ukraine war

BRUSSELS

Hungary has blocked the European Union's proposed Eurobond plan to fund Ukraine's war effort, leaving a 'reparations loan' tied to frozen Russian assets as the primary alternative, Politico reported.

The move comes amid ongoing debate over how the EU should finance Kiev's defense against Russian aggression.

After the 2022 escalation in Ukraine, EU nations froze around €210 billion (\$245 billion) in Russian central bank assets, most held at Euroclear in Belgium. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen proposed two options: joint EU-level borrowing through Eurobonds or a reparations-style loan using the frozen assets. While the Eurobond plan requires

## 'Don's gross incompetence led to Putin's India visit'

WASHINGTON DC

Former Pentagon official Michael Rubin said that Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to India is seen as US President Trump's "gross incompetence" by the majority of the US people, who dislike Trump, which he claimed is around 65 per cent according to recent polls.

It is being perceived in two different ways. If you're Donald Trump, it's being perceived through the lens of "I told you so" that this embrace of India towards Russia is affirming what Donald Trump wants his spin to be. Because Donald Trump isn't going to admit that he is the one at fault. If you're the 65 % of Americans who dislike Donald Trump, according to the recent polls, then what we are seeing now is the result of Donald Trump's gross incompetence," he said. Michael Rubin further said that the US is being "hypocritical" by "lecturing" India on its purchase of discounted oil from Russia, as Washington itself is involved in trade with Moscow, and justified New Delhi's position to prioritise its

## Orban slams EU corruption

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban accused the EU of "drowning in corruption," claiming Brussels and Kiev shield each other from scandals. He condemned EU leaders over fraud charges and Ukraine's alleged misuse of billions in aid, saying Brussels ignores the truth.

unanimous consent, the reparations loan can proceed with a qualified majority.

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban has long opposed additional aid to Ukraine, likening it to "helping an alcoholic by sending another crate of vodka," and urging diplomacy with Moscow. Budapest has not officially confirmed a veto, though reports suggest it for-

## Russian hits Kyiv

Russia launched missile and drone attacks across Ukraine on Saturday, causing power outages in multiple regions and disrupting rail traffic. Three people were injured, and fires broke out in warehouses and depots. Blackouts done in major cities.

unanimously ruled out the Eurobond option.

The European Commission maintains that its proposals address legal and financial risks, but several EU members, including Belgium, warn of potential "disastrous consequences" if Russia challenges the plan in court. EU leaders aim to finalize a decision before the December 18 summit.

## Top Ukrainian Gen lays out demand for 'just peace'

KYIV

A "just peace" between Russia and Ukraine is only possible if the sides agree to halt the fighting along the current front lines and then move on to talks, Ukraine's top military commander, Aleksandr Syrsky, has said. Moscow has argued that a pause would only benefit Kiev and allow it to regroup its battered army.

In an interview with Sky News published on Friday, the general argued that it would be unacceptable for Ukraine to "simply give up territory" in a settlement with Russia. "What does it even mean – to hand over our land? This is precisely why we are fighting; so we do not give up our territory."

He added that a just peace is "peace without preconditions, without giving up territory. It means stopping along the current line of contact." Stop. A ceasefire. And after that, negotiations, without any conditions," he said, stressing that "any other format would be an unjust peace."

In a statement, the general said: "We are not asking for a peace without preconditions, without giving up territory. It means stopping along the current line of contact." Stop. A ceasefire. And after that, negotiations, without any conditions," he said, stressing that "any other format would be an unjust peace."

Quetta who spoke on the condition of anonymity, Pakistan's daily newspaper Dawn reported that an exchange of fire broke out around 10 p.m. on Friday and continued late into the night.

According to the medical superintendent of Pakistan's Chaman district hospital, Muhammad Owais, three people, including a woman, were brought in with injuries.

Citing a senior official in

## US lost up to \$29bn in Afghanistan

KABUL

istan Reconstruction (SIGAR), which identified 1,327 instances of waste, fraud, and abuse totaling \$26-29.2 billion, most of it lost through inefficiencies and improper use of assets.

Fraud accounted for around 2% of the total and abuse for 4%.

The watchdog noted that more than \$4.6 billion of taxpayer money could have been saved.

America's "20-year mission

to broker a ceasefire between Kabul and Islamabad, which reportedly failed to yield results. Zabihullah Mujahid, spokesman for the caretaker Afghan government, took to his social media platform, stating that Pakistan carried out attacks in the Spin Boldak district of Kandahar, prompting the Islamic Emirate forces to respond," Mujahid posted on X.

Citing a senior official in

## Epstein files to be released

Washington DC: A Florida federal judge has cleared the US Justice Department to release grand jury transcripts from its sex trafficking case against Jeffrey Epstein. The move follows a new law requiring the release of all unclassified files on Epstein and Ghislaine Maxwell. The documents could reveal links to powerful figures, including President Donald Trump, who initially opposed the release but later signed the bill.

According to the watchdog, Afghanistan should serve as a cautionary tale, warning policymakers that any future reconstruction effort of similar scale must acknowledge the risk of failure from the start.

The watchdog has both symbolic and practical consequences. Spain's absence marks its first since 1961 and is particularly significant given its status as one of Eurovision's "Big Five" backers, alongside France, Germany, Italy, and the United Kingdom.

Germany, meanwhile, had made it clear that its artists would perform only if Israel were allowed to participate. German Culture Minister Wolfram Wenzel told Bild newspaper that "Israel is part of Eurovision just as Germany is part of Europe," emphasising dialogue over exclusion.

## Israel participation in Eurovision 2026 ignites backlash and boycotts

PARIS

Israel will be allowed to participate in the 2026 Eurovision Song Contest. On 4 December, the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) confirmed the Hebrew state's participation despite two years of heated internal debate and escalating calls for its exclusion. The EBU's decision in Geneva has sparked boycotts from several European countries and exposed the ever-increasing challenges of sparing the world's biggest music competition from global geopolitical tensions.

The Eurovision contest, es-

entially conceived to foster cultural cooperation through music across a Europe deeply scarred by war.

Today, the event boasts 40 participating countries and an annual audience of nearly 200 million. Not all of these countries are European—Israel and Australia have long held a place in the competition. Each nation selects a musical act and competes in televised semi-finals and a grand finale. Votes are cast by national juries as well as viewers across the world, and the winning nation hosts the following year's edition.

Nevertheless, these measures have not convinced all broadcasters. Critics argue that allowing Israel to compete contradicts the contest's tradition of neutrality, especially at its general assembly in Geneva on Thursday, the EBU, a collaboration of public broadcasters across Europe, chose not to hold a direct vote on Israel's participation.

Instead, members voted on new contest rules aimed at increasing transparency and reducing politically motivated campaigning. Sixty-five percent supported the changes, which the organisation said were designed to "protect trust in Eurovision as a neutral, cultural event."

Nevertheless, these measures have not convinced all broadcasters. Critics argue that allowing Israel to compete contradicts the contest's tradition of neutrality, especially

given the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza. Israel has faced accusations of using Eurovision for political promotion and of influencing public voting.

Similar concerns surfaced during the 2025 edition, when Israel's contestant placed second amid allegations of widespread vote rigging. French broadcaster France Télévisions, which leads the EBU, confirmed France's participation and its support for Israel's inclusion on 5 December.

France's Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot welcomed the EBU's decision, saying it represented a refusal to "give in to political pressure."

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**Malti calls Amaal a 'liar'**

*Bigg Boss 19's evicted contestant Malti Chahar calls out Amaal Malik for denying their past meetings*

**A**fter her eviction from *Bigg Boss 19*, Malti Chahar has finally addressed the growing conversation around her equation with co-contestant Amaal Malik. Despite knowing each other before entering the show and meeting multiple times outside, Amaal repeatedly denied their past interactions inside the house - a move Malti says left her shocked, demeaned, and disrespected. What started as a mutual decision to keep their acquaintance low-key soon turned into Amaal allegedly portraying her as his 'fangirl' while distancing himself from the truth. In an explosive conversation with

### Views

Malti reveals how Amaal 'looked her in the eyes and lied,' why she confronted him, and how she responded to rumours calling her Amaal's 'secret girlfriend.'

Malti took a stand for herself and called out Amaal for disrespecting her. She said, "First of all, I had no idea Amaal was doing all this because he used to be nice to me on my face, so how would I know that he's doing all this behind my back. When Shehzad (Badesha) came and told me that Amaal said we met only for a few minutes, I got really angry. I couldn't believe Amaal is going and saying all this. When I confronted Amaal, he said we had met at someone's party for only two minutes. This isn't true. We had decided before going inside that we would maintain that we had just met once because we didn't want people to link us up. So we didn't want to tell everyone how much we had met and all. We were cordial about that. But I never said that we've met for only 5 minutes. Shehzad made it look like I am a fangirl of Amaal, so that's what made



**S**onu Sood has urged passengers to remain "calm" and stop "targeting" airline ground staff after a series of IndiGo flight delays and cancellations triggered chaos across several airports in India. The disruptions have left thousands of travellers stranded, leading to heated arguments and shouting matches inside terminals, many of which are now circulating on social media.

Over the past few days, multiple videos have gone viral showing angry passengers confronting staff members and demanding clarity on flight schedules. Sood took to X (formerly Twitter) on Saturday morning to share a video message condemning the behaviour of passengers who were seen yelling at airline employees.

While explaining that he understood the "frustration" and "pain" caused by long delays, he urged people to be compassionate towards staff who are equally "helpless." "Friends, this video is a small message for those who have been suffering for the past 2-3 days on IndiGo flights. My own family was travelling, and they had to wait for 4.5-5 hours. Then, the flight finally took off and reached its destination. Many flights didn't take off, many were cancelled, and many people couldn't attend weddings. Meetings were cancelled, events were cancelled."

"But the saddest thing was seeing how people were shouting at the ground staff at the airports. I know in such situations, there is frustration, there is pain, and you end up taking out your anger. But imagine yourself in their shoes. Those who are helpless themselves don't know what the future schedules are, whether the flights will take off or not. And those who get messages from above can only pass them on to you," Sood continued.

"As responsible citizens, it is very important for us to make sure that we do not react to them because they are helpless and they do not have any answers. Please try to stay calm. Control your anger and respect them," Sood further said.

## Sonu Sood urges calm amid flight chaos

**Actor appeals to travellers, urging patience and compassion toward airline staff during widespread IndiGo cancellations and chaos**

### KIRAN RAO'S TOKYO PLANS DERAILLED DUE TO INDIGO DELAYS

**F**ilmmaker Kiran Rao's travel plans were disrupted on Friday as significant IndiGo flight delays affected thousands of passengers, including her, whose international journey was derailed due to repeated delays and lack of clarity from the airline. Rao, who was scheduled to travel to Tokyo, said she had already spent over eleven hours since leaving home and should have reached her destination by then. Instead, she remained stranded inside Mumbai Airport's Terminal 2 without a confirmed update from the carrier. Rao took to her Instagram story to share her frustration, but with a touch of humour, saying she had now gotten to know Terminal 2 "really well." She also referenced checking on Delhi's pollution alert status. In her funny post, Rao wrote, "By now (11 hours since I left home) I should've reached Tokyo, but it was nice to get to know Mumbai T2 really well, thanks to IndiGo. And now I'm checking on how Delhi is doing with GRAP II. Good day, all in all."



### CAUGHT ON CAM

Nita Ambani hosted a special event in Mumbai on Friday to honour Indian artists and celebrate traditional craftsmanship at the Swadesh flagship store in Eros. Several Bollywood celebrities attended the event.

## Taylor Swift, Travis Kelce to wed June 13

As per reports, Taylor will marry Travis Kelce on June 13, 2026, in Rhode Island after dating for 2 yrs

**I**t's happening! Taylor Swift and Travis Kelce are officially heading toward the aisle, and their wedding date, venue, and the meaning behind it have Swifties spinning with excitement. According to Page Six's report, the couple is set to marry on June 13, 2026, at the ultra-luxurious Ocean House in Watch Hill, Rhode Island, New England.



as per Numerology.com. For a couple starting a new chapter, it feels poetically aligned.

### The venue shuffle

Originally, Swift reportedly hoped to host an intimate ceremony at her own Watch Hill mansion, but with the guest list ballooning (because, well, it's Taylor Swift), the pair shifted plans to Ocean House, a grand New England resort nearby. And in a very Swiftian move, she even compensated a bride who had already booked the venue for that date, ensuring that June 13 remains a fine day.



GUWAHATI

**Assam CM honours Simu Das**

Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma awarded ₹10 lakh and promised a government job to Simu Das, a B1 category cricketer who won the Blind Women's T20 World Cup with India. This recognition is a major step toward inclusion in Indian sports.

CUTTACK

**Gill fit for 1st T20I**

India's T20I vice-captain Shubman Gill has been cleared by the BCCI's Centre of Excellence to play the opening T20I against South Africa. He successfully rehabilitated from a neck injury sustained in the Kolkata Test.

NEW DELHI

**Jadeja turns 37**

All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja turned 37, marking a career with 7,472 international runs and 633 wickets. He is India's fifth-highest wicket-taker across all formats and a multiple-time IPL winner.

NEW DELHI

**Bumrah turns 32**

Indian pace sensation Jasprit Bumrah turned 32. He has 234 Test wickets at an average of 19.79 and was Player of the Tournament at the 2024 T20 World Cup, taking 15 wickets.

CHENGDU

**China tops ITTF World Cup rankings**

Title favourites China defeated Germany 8-4 to remain top in the ITTF Mixed Team World Cup. Despite Wang Chuqin's men's singles upset, victories in mixed and men's doubles secured the win, maintaining China's unbeaten record in the round-robin stage.

LONDON

**Premier League: Villa hosts Arsenal**

Third-placed Aston Villa, on a four-game win streak, faces league leader Arsenal on Saturday. Other key matches include Manchester City vs Sunderland and Chelsea travelling to face a struggling Bournemouth side.

VARANASI

**Fit India Sundays' celebrates CWG 2030 bid**

The 'Fit India Sundays on Cycle' event in Varanasi will celebrate India hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games. The event will feature fitness sessions.

English Daily  
**AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH**Title Code  
**UPENG04488**Prayagraj  
Printer, Publisher &  
Owner Swami Shree  
Yogi Satyam for  
Yog Satsanga SamitiPrinted at  
**PARASHAKTI OFFSET**  
118A/2A Chauhan  
Kydganj, Prayagraj-211003  
Uttar PradeshPublished from  
Kriyayoga Ashram  
& Anandhan Sansthan  
Jhansi, Prayagraj-211019Editor  
**SWAMI SHREE YOGI SATYAM**  
All disputes of news and  
publication against the  
**AKHAN BHARAT SANDESH**  
are the subject matter of  
Allahabad Jurisdiction.akhandbharatsandesh1@gmail.com  
Mob: 9415235084, 9565333990

# GAMBHIR SLAMS SPLIT-COACHING TALK

**GAMBHIR'S BLUNT RESPONSE**

The India head coach expressed his displeasure over recent debates – sparked after India's 0-2 Test series loss to South Africa – where several prominent voices, including an IPL team owner, pushed for separate coaches for red and white-ball cricket.

"Look, there were a lot of talks because the results didn't go in our favour (in Test

series). But the most surprising thing is that not once did any media or journalist write that our first Test match (in Kolkata) was played without the captain (Shubman Gill), who didn't bat in both innings because of a neck injury."

He took direct aim at Delhi Capitals co-owner Parth Jindal, who had publicly advocated for split coaching on social media platform 'X': "Some people also said things that have nothing to

do with cricket. An IPL team owner also wrote about split coaching. So this is surprising. It's very important for people to stay in their domain. Because if we don't go into someone's domain, then they also don't have the right to come into our domain."

**DEFENDING HIS RED-BALL RECORD**

Gambhir, who recently highlighted his red-ball coaching achievements in Guwahati, reiterated the

challenges faced during the Test series: "I don't give excuses in press conferences. It doesn't mean that you don't show the facts in front of the world or the country. When you go through a transition and when you lose your captain, who is also your main batter in red-ball cricket against such a team (SA).... Then obviously the results are difficult because you don't have that much experience in red-ball cricket."

He pointed out the lack of

discussion around Shubman Gill's injury absence and instead, excessive focus on pitch conditions and speculative theories.

**WHAT'S AT STAKE**

Gambhir, appointed head coach until the 2027 ODI World Cup, is in his first major assignment.

The Test series loss was his second high-profile setback after the T20 World Cup exit earlier this year. Calls for split coaching re-

flect growing impatience among sections of fans and experts, but Gambhir's firm pushback signals his intent to oversee all formats with a unified vision.

**THE ROAD AHEAD**

With the T20I series against South Africa starting December 9 and major tours ahead, Gambhir will be keen to build on the ODI series momentum and silence critics through consistent performances.

**DECIDER DOMINANCE | Jaiswal's maiden ton, Kohli's flair power India to commanding series win**

# FROM HAMMERED TO HERALDED

**PTI  
VISAKHAPATNAM**

In a display of batting maturity and calculated aggression, Yashasvi Jaiswal crafted a flawless, unbeaten maiden ODI century (116\* off 121) to guide India to a commanding nine-wicket victory over South Africa, clinching the three-match series 2-1 in front of a roaring near-capacity crowd.

**BRIEF SCORES**

**SOUTH AFRICA** - 270 in 47.5 overs (Quinton de Kock 106, Temba Bavuma 48; Prasidh Krishna 4/66, Kuldeep Yadav 4/41) lost to **INDIA** - 271/1 in 39.5 overs (Yashasvi Jaiswal, Rohit Sharma 75, Virat Kohli 65 not out) by nine wickets.

**The Chase: A Symphony of Batting**

Set 21 to win, India's chase was never in doubt after openers Jaiswal and Rohit Sharma (75 off 73) laid a rock-solid foundation with a 155-run partnership in 25.5 overs.

**ROHIT'S GUIDANCE:** The captain, who became the fourth Indian to cross 20,000 international runs, shepherded the young Jaiswal through a cautious start before unleashing his trademark swivel-pulls for six.

**JAI SWAL'S COMING OF AGE:** Initially scratchy, the 23-year-old left-hander grew in confidence post his fifty, accelerating elegantly to reach his hundred in 111 balls. His celebration—a helmet-toss, sprint, and roar—spoke volumes.

**KOHLI'S SIGNATURE FINISH:** Virat Kohli (65 off 45)\* joined Jaiswal to add an unbroken 116-run stand, sealing the win with 61 balls to spare and showcasing his enduring class.

**The Bowling Turnaround**

Earlier, India's bowlers staged a remarkable comeback after Quinton de Kock's blazing 106 (89 balls, 8x4, 6x6) had

**STATS DIGESTS****20000+**

Indian opener Rohit Sharma became the fourth Indian cricketer to complete 20,000 runs in International cricket. The other three cricketers are Sachin Tendulkar (34,257 runs), Virat Kohli (27,910 runs) and Rahul Dravid (24,064 runs) in the all-time international charts. Rohit continued his fine run in ODIs at 38 during his side's third and final ODI against South Africa at Visakhapatnam.

**2000+**

South Africa captain Temba Bavuma became the oldest player from his country to achieve the milestone of 2,000 runs in One Day Internationals (ODIs) during the third and final ODI against India on Saturday.

Temba Bavuma, who is aged 35 years and 203 days, is the oldest SA batter to reach the landmark of 2000 ODI runs, followed by Rassie van der Dussen, who reached the milestone at 34 years and 247 days.

**20**

After 20 failed attempts, India finally won the toss and elected to bowl first against South Africa in the third ODI.

**KL Rahul**

Most pleasing thing has been how we've been able to handle pressure. Plans and processes have been consistent, and doing the same thing worked out today."

**Virat Kohli**

Yashasvi Jaiswal celebrates his century during the third ODI against South Africa at Dr YS Rajasekhara Reddy ACA-VDCA Cricket Stadium in Visakhapatnam on Saturday ANI

South cruising at 168/2.

**PRA-SIDH KRISHNA'S REDEMPTION:**

Hammered early (2-0-27-0), he was brought back for a second spell that changed the game: 4-0-11-3, dismissing Matthew Breetzke, Aiden Markram, and the dangerous de Kock.

**KULDEEP YADAV'S CLEAN-UP:** The left-arm wrist-spinner (4/41) then dismantled the lower order, as South Africa collapsed from 168/2 to 270 all out,

losing 8 wickets for 102 runs. **The Takeaway**

This victory was built on resilience—bowlers fighting back after a de Kock assault, and a young batter flourishing under the guidance of seasoned stalwarts.

**Yashasvi Jaiswal**  
Sometimes I need to be more attacking and sometimes get singles — I was only thinking of how to balance the innings. I have to control my thoughts and know exactly when to go after bowlers."

**MILESTONE WATCH**

Player of the Series Awards - Most in International Cricket

**All Formats**

20 – Virat Kohli  
19 – Sachin Tendulkar  
17 – Shakib Al Hasan  
14 – Jacques Kallis

**INDIA'S HOME DOMINANCE**

**10/11**  
10 wins in 11 bilateral ODI series at home since the 2019 World Cup.

**VIRAT KOHLI: THE VIZAG MASTER & BEYOND**

**VIZAG LOVE:** 8 innings, 652 runs at 108.66 avg, SR 103.49 – most runs at highest average at any venue in ODIs.

**RECENT FORM (LAST 4 ODI KNOCKS):** 74, 135, 102, 65 – 379 runs, dismissed once.

**STREAK MASTERY:** Nine separate streaks of 4+ consecutive 50+ scores in ODIs – next best is 4 (Sanakakka, Williamson).

Century stands for India's first two wickets in ODI chases – featured in all three instances (vs NZ 2010, vs AUS 2013, vs SA 2025).

**YASHASVI JAISWAL: INNINGS PROGRESSION (vs SA)**

0-25 RUNS | 50 BALLS | SR 50

26-50: 25 BALLS | SR 100

51-75: 11 BALLS | SR 227.27

76-100: 25 BALLS | SR 100

100-116\*: 10 BALLS | SR 160

**SIXES RECORD IN THREE-MATCH SERIES**

70 – IND vs ENG, 2021

63 – WI vs BAN, 2024

63 – IND vs SA, 2025

58 – IND vs NZ, 2023

**CENTURY PARADE IN A THREE-MATCH SERIES**

7 – SA vs ZIM, 2010

6 – ZIM vs NZ, 2011 / PAK vs AUS, 2022

6 – IND vs SA, 2025

(De Kock 2, Bavuma, Jaiswal, Kohli, Rohit)

**YASHASVI JAISWAL: INNINGS PROGRESSION (vs SA)**

0-25 RUNS | 50 BALLS | SR 50

26-50: 25 BALLS | SR 100

51-75: 11 BALLS | SR 227.27

76-100: 25 BALLS | SR 100

100-116\*: 10 BALLS | SR 160

**STARC STRIKES TWICE**

and later Harry Brook (15).

Michael Neser struck twice, dismissing Ollie Pope (26) and the dangerous Crawley.

Starc returned to claim Joe Root (15) and Jamie Smith (4) before stumps.

England 2nd innings: 134/6 – still trailing by 43 runs with only 4 wickets left.

**BOLAND: 'PUT BALLS IN RIGHT AREAS'**

Scott Boland highlighted Australia's simple, effective plan after stumps:

"We just wanted to put as many balls in the right area as we could... This kind of wicket, with some up and down, if we put as many balls in the right areas they're

going to give you some chances."

He also praised Starc's resilience: "Every fast bowler is in a little bit of pain but he seems to push through better than most."

**WHAT'S NEXT ON DAY 4**

England's hopes rest on Ben Stokes (14\*) and the tail to somehow erase the deficit and set a target. Australia need just 4 wickets to wrap up the innings and will likely be chasing a small total in their fourth innings.

With the pitch showing variable bounce and the Australian attack in full rhythm, an early finish on Day 4 looks probable.

## Greaves & Roach defy history in 9-hour epic

infection to score a century in both innings.

After Hope fell, Greaves found an unyielding ally in No