

AKHAND BHARAT SANDESH

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

UP SIR: Every fifth voter is excluded from the voter list

New Delhi

The Election Commission has released the Special Summary Revision (SSR) data for Uttar Pradesh. According to the preliminary data, the names of approximately 18 percent of UP's voters (2.89 crore) have been removed from the electoral rolls. Roughly one in five voters in the state has been excluded from the list this time. In assembly elections, the outcome of many seats is decided by a margin of just a few hundred or thousand votes. However, the SSR data shows that an average of 70-71 thousand votes have been removed from each assembly constituency. Given this, it can be said that this could have a significant impact on the results of the 2027 assembly elections. Amidst political accusations and counter-accu-



sations regarding the Special Summary Revision program, all political parties have begun calculating their potential gains and losses after the release of this data. All parties are trying to understand who will benefit and who will lose from the new equations created by the SSR. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has already expressed his displeasure regarding the SSR. There is considerable concern in the BJP camp about the removal of voters' names from urban areas. The BJP

has traditionally had a stronger influence in urban areas than in rural areas, so it is believed that the removal of a large number of votes could harm the BJP. This was also the reason for Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's displeasure. However, political analysts believe that the SSR will not result in a one-sided gain or loss for any party. The experience of Bihar has shown that the political party with a better caste equation and the ability to connect with the

public through development promises will likely gain an advantage in the elections. The data released by the Election Commission shows that the names of a large number of voters have been removed from one location because they have registered as voters in another city within Uttar Pradesh or in other parts of the country. The Chief Electoral Officer stated that although the voter list was frozen due to the Special Summary Revision (SSR), 15.78 lakh Form-6 applications have already been submitted for new voter registrations. Those who will turn 18 years of age on January 1, 2026, are eligible to register as voters. The final voter list will be published on March 6. Objections to the removal or addition of names to the voter list can be raised by filling out Form 7.

Yogi cabinet: Transfer of family property will become easier in the state

Lucknow

In a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, a proposal to further broaden the scope of the exemption being provided on stamp duty chargeable on gift deeds of immovable property executed between family members in Uttar Pradesh has been approved. This decision will now provide significant relief in stamp duty on the gifting of commercial and industrial properties between family members. Currently, under the Indian Stamp Act,



1899, stamp duty is payable on gift deeds in Uttar Pradesh as per the value of the property, similar to a conveyance deed, while registration of the gift deed of immovable property is mandatory according to the provisions of the Registration Act, 1908. Through a notification dated August 3, 2023, from the Stamp and

Registration Section-2, it was stipulated that if immovable property is gifted to family members, the stamp duty would be exempted, with a maximum of only five thousand rupees being charged. This exemption was previously limited to agricultural and residential properties. Under the proposal

passed by the Yogi cabinet, it has been decided to extend this exemption to the gifting of commercial and industrial properties between family members as well. This will make the process of property transfer between families simpler, more transparent, and less expensive. The state's Stamp and Registration Minister, Ravindra Jaiswal, stated that before 2022, if someone gifted property within a family relationship, they had to pay stamp duty equivalent to the entire circle rate.

High Court grants permission to light the lamps

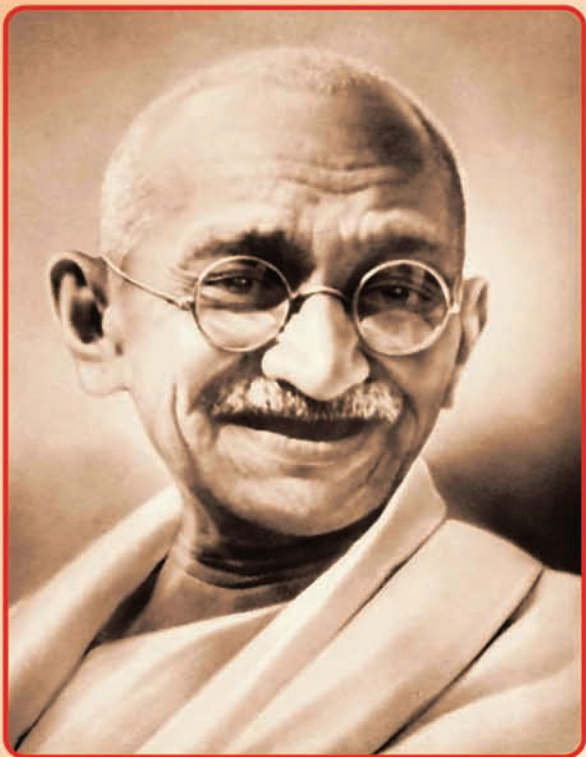
Madurai

The Madurai Bench of the Madras High Court in Tamil Nadu on Tuesday granted permission to light lamps on the lamp post near the dargah on the hill at the temple.



Under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban) scheme, 96.53 lakh houses have been provided to the homeless so far. This information was given by Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Manohar Lal. He said that 122.20 lakh houses have been sanctioned, and 96.53 lakh houses have been completed and handed over to the beneficiaries.

‘क्रियायोग-सनातन धर्म’ ही महात्मा गांधी का सिद्धांत



“I remember my meeting with Mahatma Gandhi. The great prophet brought a practical method for peace to the warring modern world. Gandhi, who for the first time applied Christ principles to politics and who won freedom for India, gave an example that should be followed by all nations to solve their problems.

Meaning of all nations is people of the all nations.

-By Paramahansa Yogananda in his last speech.



क्रियायोग आश्रम
महात्मा गांधी के
सिद्धांत पर सेवारत है।
आश्रम में रहने वाला
व्यक्ति चाहे वह आश्रम
के संस्थापक, निदेशक
के साथ सभी स्वामीगण
हों या कोई और हों,
सभी लोग अपने कमरे
और बाथरूम की सफाई
स्वयं करेंगे, अगर संभव
हो तो औरों की भी
मदद करेंगे।

Two Important Proposals of Higher Education Department Approved in Yogi Cabinet Meeting

Lucknow

In the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, two important and far-reaching proposals related to the Higher Education Department were approved. The Yogi cabinet approved the liquidation of JS University, Shikohabad (Firozabad district) and also approved the proposal to issue a Letter of Operation Permit (LOP) for IIMT University, Meerut off-campus in Greater Noida. Informing about the cabinet decisions, Higher Education Minister Yogendra Upadhyay stated that the Yogi government has decided to liquidate JS University, Shikohabad, adopting a zero-tolerance policy towards corruption and irregularities. Investigations revealed that the university, disregarding rules, issued fake and backdated mark sheets and degrees for the B.P.Ed. course, which were used by selected candidates in the Rajasthan Physical Education Teacher Recruitment Examination-2022. He further stated that the investigation by Rajasthan Police, the arrest of the university Chancellor and Registrar and the reports of inquiry committees formed at the government level confirmed serious irregularities.



The investigation also clarified that the university violated various sections of the Uttar Pradesh Private Universities Act, 2019 including misuse of the power to grant degrees, organized distribution of fake mark sheets and degrees, non-compliance with prescribed land standards and failure to provide mandatory information to the Uttar Pradesh State Higher Education Council. In view of all these facts, the Yogi government has decided to liquidate JS University, Shikohabad, Firozabad. After liquidation, all records of the university will be kept under the custody of Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Agra and the mark sheets and degrees previously issued by JS University will be authenticated based on those records. Additionally, a three-member interim committee has been

decided to be constituted under Section 55(6) for the operation of university activities during the liquidation period. It is noteworthy that JS University was established in 2015. The second important decision in the cabinet meeting was related to the establishment of IIMT University, Meerut off-campus in Greater Noida. The Higher Education Minister stated that the Uttar Pradesh Private Universities Act, 2019 and its second amendment Act, 2021 provide for the establishment of an off-campus. In this regard, the sponsoring institution, Association of Management Studies, Meerut, had identified 4.796 acres of land in the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority area, for which a Letter of Intent (LOI) was issued on February 25, 2025. Now, the Yogi government has approved.

Meeting of the Disability Committee Concludes Under the Chairmanship of the District Magistrate



Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. A joint meeting of the District Level Disability Committee, District Monitoring Committee, District Disability Rehabilitation Centre Management Committee, and Local Level Committee, constituted under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Uttar Pradesh, was held on Tuesday at the Sangam Auditorium under the chairmanship of District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma. During the meeting, the District Magistrate introduced all the members of the committee and inquired about their work. He instructed that a special campaign be launched to ensure the timely completion of the targets set for the various welfare schemes operated by the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The District Magistrate said that eligible persons with disabilities should receive 100% of the benefits of the schemes, and there should be no negligence at any level. District Disability Rehabilitation Centre to open at the divisional

headquarters. The meeting also discussed the establishment of a District Disability Rehabilitation Centre at the divisional headquarters, in accordance with the government's instructions. The District Magistrate instructed the concerned officials to temporarily take over the Remedial (training hall) located in the IASE premises and start its operation soon. Officers from various departments and representatives of social organizations were present. The meeting was attended by the Chief Development Officer, District Disability Empowerment Officer, District School Inspector, Joint Director Prosecution, District Program Officer, Principal IASE, Principal Government Women's Physical Education Training College, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, District Information Officer, District Coordinator Integrated Education, and other officers. Also present were Dr. K.N. Mishra, Principal Uttar Pradesh School for the Deaf and Dumb, Poonam Singh (Secretary, Bhavini Welfare Society), Lovelesh Singh, Pankaj Srivastava, and representatives of other social organizations.

Three girls, including two sisters, died in Kardhana village within 24 hours

Varanasi

Two sisters, Harshit (6), Anshika (3), and Nancy (4), died after eating oleander pod seeds in a 24-hour period between Sunday and Monday in Kardhana village, which falls under the jurisdiction of the police station. The family cremated the sisters without informing the police. Nancy died on Monday afternoon, after which the Mirzapur police took possession of her body. A post-mortem will be conducted. The family told the police of Mirzamurad police station that the three girls had eaten the seeds of Kaner, mistaking them for Amla. The stoves have not been lit in the houses of both the neighbors for two days. The tree from where the girls had eaten the poisonous seeds has also been uprooted and thrown away by the family members. Seven children, including Harshita and Anshika, daughters of Mithilesh Prajapati, a resident of Kardhana village and Nancy, daughter of their neighbor Manish Prajapati, were playing in the village at some distance from their house on Sunday morning. While playing, the children saw a Kaner pod and plucked it. Nancy, Harshita and They were playing a short distance from their home. While playing, the children spotted a oleander pod and plucked it. Nancy, Harshit and Anshika mistook it for a gooseberry (Indian gooseberry) and ate it. Shortly after, they developed stomach pains, so the three girls went home. By evening, Harshita health deteriorated. Her family rushed her to a private hospital, where doctors declared her dead. Before the family could recover from the shock, Harshita younger sister, Anshika also became ill on Monday morning. The family also took her to the hospital, where she died during treatment on Monday afternoon. The deaths of two girls from the same family cast a pall of gloom over the village. Meanwhile, Nancy health also deteriorated. The family immediately took her to the BHU Trauma Center, where she also died during treatment. The deaths of three girls within 24 hours have cast a pall of grief over the entire village. Police from Mirzamurad police station, who arrived on the information of villagers, inquired from the grieving families. Gomati Zone ADCP Vaibhav Bangar and Deputy Tehsildar Deepali Maurya also met with the family and inquired about the incident. A health department team arrived at the village and examined the children. Following the deaths of Harshita and Anshika, their only brother, Harsh, is in a bad state, crying profusely.

Disabled Persons Appeal for Blankets Amidst Biting Cold; Seek Help from Administration

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Ghazipur. In the Mohammadabad tehsil area of the district, where the cold wave is chilling people to the bone and normal life is severely affected by the biting cold, the suffering of disabled persons is even greater. To give voice to this human suffering, the office bearers of the Bharatiya Divyang Shakti Sangathan (Indian Disabled Power Organization) met with the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and appealed for relief from the cold. Under the guidance of the organization's National President, Dr. R.P. Pandey, and led by Tehsil President Uday Narayan Pandey, a delegation of the organization met with Sub-Divisional Magistrate Dr.



Harshita Tiwari on Tuesday, January 6, 2026. The delegation submitted a list of disabled persons from three development blocks who have not yet received blankets and made a heartfelt appeal for immediate relief. The organization stated that 52 disabled persons from Mohammadabad development block, 60 from

Barachawar, and 24 from Bhanwarkol are still forced to spend cold nights without blankets. In this severe cold, the lack of blankets is not just an inconvenience for them, but a serious threat to their health. Many disabled persons are struggling with limited resources to protect themselves from the cold. Through the

application, the organization drew the administration's attention to the fact that disabled persons already face physical difficulties. In such a situation, they need extra care and protection during the cold weather. Providing blankets on time will not only provide relief but will also protect them from illnesses. During this time, organization members Santosh Tiwari, Sukham Yadav, Santosh Yadav, and Gudiya Devi were also present. The organization expressed confidence that the administration will show sensitivity and take prompt action to provide relief to the disabled persons struggling with the cold, so that they too can find warmth and comfort in this cold weather.

CM Yogi Cabinet gives green signal to SOP-2025 of GCC Policy-2024

Lucknow

In a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, approval was granted to the Rules-2025 for the effective implementation of the Uttar Pradesh Global Capability Centres (GCC) Policy-2024. With the implementation of these rules, the state is expected to gain new momentum in global investment, high-end services and large-scale employment generation. Under the rules approved by the cabinet, Invest UP has been designated as the nodal agency.

These rules will be deemed effective from the date of notification of the GCC Policy-2024 and will remain in force until amended or withdrawn by the state government. Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, while informing about the cabinet decision, said, the investment climate in the state has significantly improved, due to which major industrial groups and multinational companies are approaching the government for investment. He stated, the GCC Policy is highly beneficial for Uttar

Pradesh and that the SOP has now been brought in to ensure its effective implementation. Investment under GCC in the state is continuously increasing and in the current financial year, 21 companies have already started investing under this framework. Through this, extensive employment opportunities will be created in the state. As per the rules, a GCC will be a captive unit established by an Indian or foreign company, which will carry out strategic functions such as Information Technology, Research and Development.

ATS Conducts Mock Drill in Magh Mela Area, Suicide Bomber Scenario Thwarted

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj. To further strengthen security arrangements in the Magh Mela area and to test preparedness for handling any emergency situation, the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) conducted a mock drill on Tuesday. The exercise, held near Pakka Ghat, depicted a hypothetical suicide bomber scenario, which was successfully thwarted in a timely manner. Scenario Depicted: Intrusion into a Crowded Area During the mock drill, a scenario was depicted where a suicide bomber enters a crowded area. Upon receiving the information, ATS commandos immediately arrived at the scene and cordoned off the entire area, taking control of the security. The area was secured, and civilians were moved to a safe distance. **Bomb Disposal and Dog Squad Deployed** Subsequently, the Bomb Disposal Squad (BDDS)



and the Dog Squad were called to the scene. With the help of sniffer dogs, the suspected explosive device was traced. During this time, the ATS team apprehended the suicide bomber and carefully removed the jacket he was wearing, which contained explosive material. Following safety protocols, the bomb disposal squad neutralized the explosive device. The entire operation showcased the ATS's rapid response, coordination, and strategic capabilities. Security Forces' Preparedness Tested This mock drill was conducted under the leadership of

ATS Magh Mela in-charge Layak Singh. Officials stated that the objective of such exercises is to test and further strengthen the preparedness of security forces to deal with any potential terrorist threat. Mela Administration and Security Officials Present Senior officials from the Mela administration and security forces were also present during the mock drill. The exercise conveyed the message that no lapse in security will be tolerated at the Magh Mela, and that security agencies are fully alert and prepared to handle any situation.

MUNPL Organizes Inaugural Ceremony of the Winter Workshop of the Girl Empowerment Mission 2026

Meja. On January 6, 2026, MUNPL organised the inaugural ceremony of the Winter Workshop 2025-26 of the Girl Empowerment Mission under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme at the auditorium of St. Joseph School. The Chief Guest of the programme was Shri G. Srinivasa Rao, CEO, MUNPL who extended his best wishes on the occasion and encouraged the girls to pursue education and move ahead confidently in life. The Special Guest of the programme was Shrimati Kavitha Rao, President, Aparajita Mahila Samaj. The welcome address was delivered by Shri Vivek Chandra, HOHR, while the programme concluded with a vote of thanks



by Shri Ajay Singh, DGM HR. Senior officials of MUNPL, office bearers of Aparajita Mahila Samaj, Association and union representatives, 40 girl students along with their parents, were present during the programme. Two girls who had benefited from the Girl Empowerment Mission also shared their experiences with those present. During the event, school bags were distributed to all participating girls. The objective of this one-week workshop is to

enhance the creative and artistic talents of the girls, boost their self-confidence, and promote awareness about social equality. MUNPL started the Girl Child Empowerment Mission in 2019, inspired by the Government of India's Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao initiative. The Girl Child Empowerment program organised by MUNPL aims to eliminate gender inequality by providing greater opportunities to girls.

J.K. Upadhyay appointed as Allahabad High Court Judge

Prayagraj: Advocate Jai Krishna Upadhyay has been appointed as a judge of the Allahabad High Court. A notification to this effect was issued today by Jagannath Srinivasan, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India. Mr. Upadhyay is currently the Additional Government Advocate for the Uttar Pradesh government at the Allahabad High Court. Recently, the Supreme Court collegium had recommended his name to the central government for appointment as a judge of the Allahabad High Court. The Ministry of Law and Justice of the central government has appointed Mr. Upadhyay as a judge of the Allahabad High Court based on the Supreme Court's recommendation.

Information

My name is incorrectly recorded as Maan Singh (MAAN SINGH) on my Aadhaar card (number 928306060726), while in other documents my name is Man Singh (MAN SINGH), son of Purushottam Singh, resident of Kadirpur Newada, Pargana and Tehsil-Chail, Kaushambi. Please correct my name on the Aadhaar card to reflect the correct spelling.

11.56 Lakh Voters' Names Deleted in Prayagraj

2.87 Lakh Voters to Receive Notices in Special Intensive Revision, Claim and Objection Period Begins

Akhand Bharat Sandesh



voters. This includes 19,60,593 men, 15,75,536 women, and 327 transgender voters. Special Intensive Revision Underway Since November The SIR process began on November 4. In the 12 assembly constituencies of Allahabad and

Phulpur Lok Sabha constituencies, the 2025 voter list had a total of 46,92,860 voters. This included 25,42,506 men, 21,49,884 women, and 470 other voters. In addition, 40,534 young voters in the 18-19 age group were also includ-

ed in the list. **Many Cases Came to Light During Door-to-Door Verification** During the revision, Booth Level Officers (BLOs) distributed enumeration forms door-to-door. During this process, a large number of voters were not found at home or their addresses could not be traced. The investigation also revealed that many voters had died, some had duplicate names, and many had shifted to other locations. All of these were placed in the Absent, Shifted, and Dead (ASD) category, the number of which was found to be

11,56,305. The names of these voters have been removed from the provisional list. **Opportunity to add incorrectly removed names** The Election Commission has clarified that if a voter's name has been mistakenly removed from the list, they can file a claim or objection between January 6 and February 6. **Identity documents to be requested from 2.87 lakh voters** In addition, 287,612 voters have been placed in the 'No Mapping' category. The names of these voters, or their parents or

grandparents, were not found in the 2003 voter list. Notices will be issued to these voters requesting identity documents. Verification and resolution of objections will be carried out from January 6 to February 27. **Final list to be released on March 6** The Election Commission has accepted several alternative documents for identification. Voters will have to submit one of these documents so that their names can be included in the final voter list, which will be released on March 6.

Janani Suraksha Yojana Faces Delays: Mothers Suffer as Payments Remain Pending, Administration Silent

Pradeep Kumar Pandey
Akhand Bharat Sandesh
Ghazipur

In several areas of the district, the Janani Suraksha Yojana—launched by the government with the aim of ensuring safe motherhood and providing financial support after childbirth—appears to be drifting away from its core objectives. Many mothers from both urban and rural regions have not received the prescribed financial assistance under the scheme even after several months. This delay has not only shattered their hopes but has also pushed them into a daily struggle for survival. Amid soaring inflation and limited resources, these women are finding it extremely difficult to arrange proper care, medicines, and nutrition for their newborn babies. In the hope of receiving the promised amount, they are repeatedly visiting the District Women's Hospital, the tehsil office, and the Community Health Centre in Tiwaripur. However, everywhere they go, they receive the same response: "Payments have not yet been released by the administration." Every day, these women leave their homes with hope, only to return disappointed in the evening. The exhaustion on their faces, coupled with a growing distrust in the system, is clearly visible. A scheme that was meant to ensure safe and dignified motherhood has today, due to administrative apathy, become a source of anxiety and suffering for mothers. What is most surprising and alarming is the complete silence of the administration on this serious issue. There has been no clear information, no fixed timeline, and no reassuring statement for the affected mothers. Due to this negligence, dozens of women are being deprived of the benefits of the Janani Suraksha Yojana. This raises critical questions: Has maternal security been reduced to mere paperwork? Will the suffering of needy mothers ever reach the administration? Women from the region have demanded immediate intervention by the authorities and the prompt release of the pending payments under the Janani Suraksha Yojana, so that the promise of maternal dignity and security does not remain just a slogan.

Magh Mela 2026: An Evening Adorned with Classical, Devotional, and Folk Arts at Kala Sangam

Cultural performances from Varanasi, Pratapgarh, Ghazipur, and Braj captivated and mesmerized devotees

Prayagraj: At Magh Mela 2026, a confluence of devotees, Sanatan traditions, and diverse cultures, a grand evening of cultural performances was held on Monday at Parade Ground Sector-3 under the Kala Sangam program organized by the Uttar Pradesh Culture Department. The enchanting presentations of classical music, bhajans, folk songs, and folk dances enthralled the devotees and spectators present. The pavilion resonated with the melodies of classical



music. The program began with a powerful performance by the renowned classical singer Devashish Dey from Varanasi. He impressively presented classical compositions such as

"Nilima Lalima, Kahun Shweta Kahun Veta" and "Shiv Ki Jata Mein Dekhiye, Kya-Kya Bahar Hai," which the audience listened to and appreciated with complete

devotion. **The evening at Sangam was steeped in devotion** Following this, the renowned bhajan singer Dr. Shivani from Pratapgarh sang soulful songs

praising the glory of Mother Ganga and Yamuna. With bhajans like "Daudat Ki Aaven Jahan Duniya Badli, Bahutai Neek Lage Sangam Ki Nagari" and "Ganga Dware Badhaiya Baje, Maiyya Ke Teere Tirath Basat Hai," she filled the hearts of the devotees with devotion.

Folk dances and folk songs added vibrant colors Saltu Ram and his team from Ghazipur received thunderous applause for their heartwarming performance of the Dhumiya folk dance. Meanwhile, Kapil Sharma, a folk singer from Braj in Mathura, won the hearts of the crowd with melodious folk songs like "Gopi Bankar Shankar Aaye, Maharas Ke Darshan Paaye." **"Folk dance drama captivated hearts"** Renowned artist Sonali Chakraborty and her team from Prayagraj presented a lively and emotional performance of the folk dance

drama "Ram May Hanuman," which filled the audience with a spiritual experience.

Captivating Performance by Celebrity Artist

The special attraction of the program was the renowned classical singer from Varanasi, Madhumita Bhattacharya. She mesmerized the audience with her performance of Vilambit Taal, Drut Khyal, Teen Taal, and Dadra in Raag Yaman, along with the rendition of melodious devotional songs.

Honors and Coordination The program was beautifully and effectively coordinated by the announcer Shambhavi Shukla.

Finally, all the artists and their teams were honored with shawls and certificates by Nodal Officers Subhash Chandra and Ghulam Sarwar. This cultural evening of Kala Sangam presented a unique glimpse of Indian art, culture, and spiritual heritage at Magh Mela 2026.

District Road Safety Committee Meeting Concludes Under the Chairmanship of the DM

Prayagraj: A meeting of the District Road Safety Committee was held on Tuesday under the chairmanship of District Magistrate Manish Kumar Verma. Reviewing road accidents in the district, it was reported that 133 accidents occurred in December 2025 compared to 149 in December 2024, showing a reduction of approximately 10 percent. The District Magistrate instructed the concerned departments to reduce road accidents by up to 60 percent in the coming months. During the meeting, the instructions from the previous meeting were reviewed, and discussions were held regarding the removal of boulders placed during the Mahakumbh at the Alopibagh flyover and in front of Pathar Girjaghar (protest site) to open the way for pedestrians.



Based on the committee's site inspection report dated December 12, 2025, instructions were given to obtain permission from the concerned departments and take effective action after the end of the fair period. The Transport Department and the Police Department were instructed to coordinate with the Additional District Magistrate (City) Prayagraj to prepare a detailed plan for e-rickshaw operation in the district, including color coding and route determination. They were also asked to take neces-

sary action to declare the Civil Lines area a "No E-rickshaw Zone." Special emphasis was placed on the effective implementation of the "No Fuel, No Helmet" rule. The Municipal Corporation and the Prayagraj Development Authority (PDA) were instructed to keep the PA system operational and conduct road safety awareness programs. The Transport Department was also instructed to conduct intensive enforcement drives against school vehicles without fitness certificates.

Renowned Physician and Social Worker Dr. Sunil Verma Passes Away, Wave of Grief in Prayagraj

Invaluable Contribution to Medicine, Sports, and Social Sector; Shanti Path (Prayer Meeting) on January 8

Akhand Bharat Sandesh

Prayagraj: Dr. Sunil Verma, a well-known physician, social worker, and sports enthusiast of the city, passed away on January 6, 2026, at 6:00 AM. His demise has sent a wave of grief through Prayagraj. His contributions to the medical field, as well as to sports and social work, will always be remembered. Dr. Verma was a Compassionate Physician and a True Leader. Dr. Sunil Verma was not only a skilled physician but was also particularly known for his deep compassion, humane approach, and dedication to his patients. Throughout his career, he served countless patients and always treated them like family members. His love for the city and society was clearly



reflected in his actions. Significant Contribution to Sports and Social Development. Dr. Sunil

Verma remained dedicated to sports throughout his life. He made remarkable contributions to promoting sports

activities in Prayagraj, organizing sports competitions, and community development. He served as the receiver of the Allahabad Cricket Association and also played a significant role as the president of the Sports and Cultural Society. His Legacy Will Live On Through His Work and Ideals. Dr. Verma conveyed a message of service, leadership, and dedication to society through his life. The lives he touched, the work he did, and the values he upheld are his true legacy, which will continue to inspire future generations. Shanti Path (Prayer Meeting) to be Held on January 8. The family has appealed to friends, relatives, and well-wishers to attend the Shanti Path (prayer meeting) for the peace of the departed soul.

Editorial

Constitutional Crossfire: President's Reference Puts Judiciary In The Dock

In an extraordinary move that has the scope to reshape the contours of the Indian Constitution, the President of India has invoked a rarely used power under Article 143 to refer a legal question to the Supreme Court. The question? The very scope and legitimacy of the Supreme Court's extraordinary powers under Article 142. At its heart, this momentous referral has placed two of the republic's most powerful constitutional authorities—the President and the Supreme Court—on a potential collision course. The reference from the Rashtrapati Bhawan paraded close to a month after the Supreme Court ruled that the President must decide on bills referred by Governors within three months. This landmark decision came after the court overturned the Tamil Nadu Governor's decision to withhold approval for pending bills. The court ruled that Governors cannot indefinitely delay assent to Bills passed by the state legislature. Such inaction amounts to a 'pocket veto', a concept alien to the Indian constitutional system. Bills can be reserved for the President only in specific circumstances (e.g., when required by Articles like 254(2), 31A, etc.). It cannot be used as a tool to block legislation falling within the State's domain," the bench, comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and R Mahadevan, had said in the verdict dated April 8, 2025. President Droupadi Murmu's reference in a way challenges the alleged judicial activism of the apex court, particularly questioning the reach and limits of its power to "do complete justice". Article 142 has often been described as a judicial wild card—a provision invoked to bridge legal gaps, deliver equitable outcomes, and, at times, sidestep the legislature. The invocation of the advisory jurisdiction by the President of India appears to seek clarity on the scope and extent of the extraordinary jurisdiction of the apex court. However, the said reference, if looked at from a wider lens, appears to be much more than unusual since an extraordinary constitutional power is being used to challenge another i.e. Article 143, which empowers the President to seek the advisory opinion of the Supreme Court on questions of public importance, but is a rarely used tool. When Was This Extraordinary Measure Last Used By A President? The last time this jurisdiction was invoked was in 2016, when then-President Pranab Mukherjee sought the court's opinion on whether the government could bypass the Rajya Sabha to enact the Goods and Services Tax (GST) by treating it as a Money Bill. On April 12, 2012, the then President Pratibha M Patil used it in connection with the 2G spectrum allocation, asking eight questions. These included judicial interference in policy matters and whether auction as the only method that can be used to allocate natural resources. President Murmu's current reference invoking the advisory jurisdiction is more than just a legal query—it is a moment of reckoning for the basic structure doctrine itself. Speaking to News18, senior advocate Siddharth Luthra said, "This reference to my mind is to determine what is the way going forward, to what extent the Supreme Court will direct Governors and Presidents to act, to what extent will they determine and sit over jurisdictions of Governors and Presidents."

Senior advocate Sanjay Hedge, meanwhile, said, "Reference is not a review. Presidential reference is a question to court in its advisory jurisdiction. Supreme Court had clarified its advisory jurisdiction is recommendatory and not binding." Judgment of court is a verdict of court, it can be overcome only through process known to law which is an adjudicatory process. This is an opinion; it cannot directly override a judgment," he added. The apex court, for the longest time, has asserted that certain foundational principles—like judicial independence, federalism.



No Pak general has survived an extended term

The Pakistan government has cemented its relationship with the powerful army chief, General Asim Munir, by rewarding him with the title of Field Marshal. While it's not clear whether the idea originated with the army or the government, Munir's elevation to a five-star rank signals the Shehbaz Sharif government's allegiance to the commander of the largest service branch, an act that will have far-reaching political and institutional implications. Notwithstanding the general sense of jubilation in the country over the popular perception of a tactical victory against India, this particular decision came as a shock and may not serve Asim Munir's interests in the long run. Many people who were previously silent after the end of the conflict, or who had been generally happy with the Pakistan Air Force's achievement, suddenly took to their keyboards to mock the decision. Some pointed out how Munir has been steadily accumulating prefixes, while others drew comparisons to Ugandan dictator and army chief Idi Amin or joked about whether the title of Quaid-e-Azam would be next. There is a growing sense among many that the government should have stopped at celebrating the military achievement, rather than indulging in this kind of overdrive. As some observers I spoke to suggested, the decision may reflect the political cunning of the government, which could be attempting to shift negative focus back onto the powerful army chief—previously hailed as a hero. Others said the initiative was entirely the government's



way of signalling to Munir that, since the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PMLN) could go so far as to make him Field Marshal, he should remain invested in this partnership and not consider rapprochement with Imran Khan or his party. Indisputably, the government prioritised short-term political gains over long-term institutional consequences. With his promotion to five-star general, Munir is now the most senior commander in the country—disrupting the institutional balance within the armed forces. Ironically, he now outranks the Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee (CJCSC), a four-star general who heads the body created in the 1970s to ensure parity among the three services and coordinate joint planning. A five-star army chief attending CJCSC meetings renders the proceedings practically ceremonial. This

institutional imbalance echoes a similar issue from the Zia-ul-Haq era when, after declaring martial law and becoming president in 1977, Zia could no longer participate in CJCSC meetings. As a result, the Vice Chief of Army Staff (VCOAS) attended instead, undermining the intended balance among the services. This not only weakened joint planning but also sidelined the question of political control over the largest service. Munir's elevation is likely to create similar complications. As some of my sources suggested, he may try to resolve the issue by appointing a four-star VCOAS—a move believed to be aimed at calming nerves within the army, where many are now uncertain about their futures. But history suggests that a four-star general in the army often ends up being the army chief's undoing. It would be a mistake to dis-

miss this decision as a mere political stunt, given its institutional implications. Crucially, the promotion is unlikely to make Munir more powerful than he already is. He and the institution he leads are already immensely powerful. No political party worth its salt today has even a notional interest in holding him or the military accountable. The last institution with any capacity to do so—the higher judiciary—backed off at the start of the conflict, when the Supreme Court conceded to the use of military courts to try civilians for treason. Furthermore, Munir has already outlined his vision for the state: a "hard state", hellbent on crushing dissent, refusing dialogue with those that appear belligerent, and upholding the national ideology through military means. One is also reminded of his earlier promises to transform Pakistan into a trillion-dollar

economy—a goal far more ambitious than convincing people to sacrifice for sustaining the military, especially in the wake of recent conflict. The civilian government's eagerness to appease the general also suggests that no one will raise questions this November when his current three-year term ends, and it comes time to legally extend it by another two years—taking him to November 2027. After that, another five-year extension seems likely. This is when the road may get bumpy for him. Even the two-year extension is already a problem: many three-star generals, who serve four-year terms, will now retire without a chance at promotion. Sadly, Pakistan has not seriously considered the implications of these extensions. Another five-year term after 2027 could open up a Pandora's box, as it has for previous generals during their second extended tenures. This is when all powerful generals tend to make mistakes, including caving in to international pressures, resulting in a push from within the institution. So far, no general has survived an extended term or managed to end their second term nicely—from Zia-ul-Haq and Pervez Musharraf to Ashfaq Parvez Kayani and Qamar Javed Bajwa, the ending for all of them was not as rosy as their beginning. Munir will struggle to maintain a balance within his own service, a task fraught with pitfalls. As many within army circles recall, even Musharraf had to negotiate hard with his corps commanders to get decisions accepted during his extended term.

Can China's Arms Market Recover From India-Pak War Embarrassment?

India's Operation Sindoor is haunting both Pakistan and China, the former due to the non-explanation for sponsoring cross-border terrorism and the massive physical loss of military assets and face, and the latter due to the utter failure of its military equipment sold to Pakistan and the diplomatic fallout of supporting an "ironclad" friend. Diplomatically, after the Pahalgalam terror attacks, China expressed its concern and called for restraint on India's part, while reiterating support for Pakistan both regionally and in the United Nations' #1267 al-Qaeda sanctions committee. China's Foreign Minister, Wang Yi, discussed issues with his Pakistan counterpart, Ishaq Dar, and India's National Security Advisor, Ajit Doval, without any concrete proposals in hand. Ironically, Chinese bloggers criticised India for 'escalation' and called its actions 'destabilising' even as they cheered Pakistan's drone strikes on Indian borders. Many even said

Pakistan was not involved in cross-border terrorism attacks in India, despite substantial evidence in this regard. Beijing offered mediation between the two warring South Asian countries but was at a loss when Pakistan preferred to approach the United States for a ceasefire. China's efforts to white-wash Pakistan-based terrorists and its diplomatic support to Islamabad have dented the image of China as a responsible country. Its myopic vision to back its "all-weather" friend at all costs is expected to cost it its long-term strategic objectives. However, it was in the military showdown that China's image took a dent. Most of its military equipment - estimated to have cost Pakistan more than \$20 billion - underperformed, missed their targets, malfunctioned, destroyed, or fell like duds in the war theatre. For instance, China sold to Pakistan its "vigorous dragon" J-10 C fighter aircraft at \$40 million a unit.

Calculated Pressure' Should Be India's Mantra As Pak Chooses Escalation

When the Pahalgalam attack took place on April 22 this year, with loss of innocent lives and the disgraceful religious and gender profiling, it was obvious that India's limit of tolerance had been crossed not by a few but by manifold notches. Although the government of India convened the Cabinet Committee for Security (CCS) immediately in the aftermath of the attack, the decisions of the CCS harped on politico-diplomatic-economic options to punish Pakistan. To strategic minds, it was obvious that it was a window of opportunity created for the armed forces to plan, acquire necessary intelligence and establish full readiness for both the launch of the designed offensive and the necessary guarding of flanks and depth to absorb any retaliation. Militaries usually work on surprise, but that may not be the most efficient way of executing an operation in which retribution is a major factor. In other words, failure or even non-attainment of the full aim cannot be an option. The delivery of the mission was a national compulsion, for, on it rested the image and the future status of India as a responsible nation that

could defend itself. Operation Sindoor, a very appropriate name of the operation, of which much has been written in the media, was designed to showcase India's capability for escalation dominance without a full-scale war. It was also conceived to impose material costs on Pakistan's hybrid war apparatus. With its emerging global strategic importance, India also ensured pre-emptive global diplomatic outreach to shape the post-strike narrative as a legitimate act of self-defence. In the operational-strategic domain, the shift from 'surgical strikes' and single objective missions, to strategic, punitive missile diplomacy has been a marked change in the strategy that India has followed. It's important to break down the components of the entire operation and look at these from angles that have hitherto not been considered strategically significant. The codename is one of them. The choice of the name, 'Operation Sindoor', is a lesson in strategic communication and is reputed to have the Prime Minister's personal stamp. 'Sindoor' (vermillion) symbolises a sacred mark on the forehead in Indian cul-

ture, often associated with martyrdom (evoking the blood of fallen soldiers), resolve, and sanctity (especially, feminine strength in mythology). It is also a symbol conveying the betrothal of a woman to her husband. Thus, it's a sacred red line - which, once crossed, invites decisive retaliation. The psychological messaging from the codename was the reflection of India's restrained but resolute posture. On the choice of the nine targets and the means of hitting them, it's also good to understand why women officers of the Indian and the Indian Air Force (IAF) were nominated to sit on the Foreign Secretary's panel and explain the operation in detail. The era of strategic optics is now decidedly upon us. Most of India makes up its mind by watching visuals and staring at their mobile screens. The optics of the briefing focused on India's modern, inclusive, and capable armed forces. It countered stereotypes about patriarchal militaries. There was a symbolic projection of 'Nari Shakti' (women power) in national security roles to also link it with the tragedy that befell the unfortunate women who lost their husbands

What If Nuclear War Breaks Out? Here Are The 7 Devastating Consequences

Amid the ongoing tensions between India and Pakistan, one thing that's constantly making the rounds on the internet is the possibility of a nuclear war between the two countries. Nuclear weapons are the most destructive man-made thing ever created, because of the extensive devastation they cause and their distinctive, persistent, and genetically damaging radioactive fallout that spreads uncontrollably. The atomic bombings of the Japanese cities of Hiroshima on August 6, 1945, and Nagasaki on August 9,

1945, carried out by the United States, during World War II, were the first and only use of atomic weapons in warfare, till now. As per the estimates, the bombing had killed an estimated 140,000 people in Hiroshima, and 74,000 people in Nagasaki by the end of 1945. A single nuclear weapon has the potential to destroy a city and kill most of its people. Multiple nuclear explosions over urban areas could lead to catastrophic consequences. This scenario could wipe out tens of millions of lives. According to reports, A

nuclear explosion's fireball comes to its maximum size in just about 10 seconds, unleashing massive energy in the form of blast, heat, and radiation. The shockwave, after the explosion, travels at hundreds of kilometres per hour, and has the potential to cause destruction beyond imagination. The blast can claim many lives near ground zero and inflict injuries, including lung damage and internal bleeding, at far distances. Collapsing structures and flying debris also harm people. Near ground zero, thermal radiation's extreme heat

vaporizes everything, which leads to severe burns and sparking massive fires that merge into devastating firestorms. The disaster can also kill people in underground shelters due to lack of oxygen or carbon monoxide poisoning. Talking about the long-term, nuclear weapons produce ionizing radiation. This could contaminate the environment, including rivers and air, which kills or sickens those exposed, and has long-term health consequences, including cancer and genetic damage.

29-Year-Old Undergoes Rare Life-Saving Hybrid Aortic Surgery at Fortis Gurugram

Gurugram

In a landmark medical achievement, doctors at Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Gurugram successfully performed an exceptionally rare and complex hybrid cardiac surgery on a 29-year-old man suffering from a ruptured and massively dilated thoracic abdominal aorta—one of the most life-threatening vascular conditions. According to available medical literature, this is the first such reported case in South-East Asia. The patient, Saif Alam, a resident of Palamau district, Bihar was admitted in a critical condition after his ailment was misdiagnosed at multiple hospitals as fluid accumulation in the chest. A chest tube insertion led to severe complications and uncontrolled internal bleeding. Over the following months, his condition deteriorated rapidly with heart function dropping to nearly 15%, leaving him bedridden and at constant risk of fatal bleeding. Several hospitals across Bihar, Kolkata and Bengaluru declined surgery due to the extremely high risk before he was finally referred to Fortis Gurugram as a last resort. Upon detailed evaluation, the Cardio Thoracic Vascular team led by Dr Udgeeth Dhir Principal Director – Cardio Thoracic



Vascular Surgery, found that the patient entire thoracic abdominal aorta was severely dilated and filled with extensive clots, critically compromising blood supply to vital organs such as the kidneys, liver and intestines. Conventional open surgery was ruled out due to the high risk of paralysis, organ failure and death. Explaining the procedure, Dr Dhir said, “Given the patient’s critically low heart function and the complexity of the condition, we adopted an advanced hybrid approach combining open bypass surgery with minimally invasive endovascular repair.

A stent graft was first placed to seal the rupture and control bleeding, followed by a highly specialized aortic debanching procedure to maintain blood flow to vital organs while protecting the spinal cord. Despite an estimated mortality risk of nearly 50%, the patient recovered remarkably well and was discharged within six days.” Dr Anand Kumar, Senior

Director –Cardiac Anaesthesia, highlighted the anesthetic challenges involved due to unstable blood pressure, poor cardiac performance and high neurological risk, requiring continuous monitoring and precise management. Expressing gratitude, Saif Alam said, “After months of suffering and being turned away by multiple hospitals, Fortis Gurugram gave me a new chance at life. I am deeply thankful to the doctors who treated me.” Yash Rawat Facility Director & Senior Vice-President, Fortis Memorial Research Institute, Gurugram, said the case reinforces the hospital leadership in managing highly complex and high-risk cardiovascular conditions through advanced surgical expertise. About Fortis Healthcare Limited: Fortis Healthcare Limited is a leading integrated healthcare provider in India, operating 33 healthcare facilities across 11 states with over 5700 operational beds and 400 diagnostic labs.

DM Shailesh Kumar inaugurated the district level career guidance fair by cutting the ribbon

Bhadoli

Under the aegis of Samagra Shiksha Madhyamik, a district level career guidance fair was organized by PM. with the aim of providing information and proper guidance about various career options after 12th to the students of classes 9 to 12 studying in government secondary schools. Done at Vibhuti Narayan Government Inter College, Gyanpur. The program was inaugurated by District Magistrate Shailesh Kumar by garlanding the picture of Goddess Saraswati and lighting the lamp. In the fair, students from 38 government secondary schools of the district set up stalls based on various career options including science, commerce, arts, medicine, law, administrative services and presented attractive models. The District Magistrate inspected all the stalls and interacted with the students and appreciated their talent and innovation. On this occasion, District Magistrate Shailesh Kumar while addressing the students said that today time is full of opportunities. With right guidance, discipline and continuous hard work, every student can make his



dreams come true. “Students should choose career option according to their interest, ability and goal.” He said that such career guidance fairs provide direction to the students and instill confidence in them. Motivating the morale of the students, the DM said that they should set goals, fly with wings and bring glory to the district and state. In the fair, important career related information was given to the students by experts from different fields. Professor Rajneesh Dwivedi, Advocate Shirish Upadhyay, Prof. Ajay Yadav, Dr. Om Prakash Shukla (ACMO) Rajbali Mishra (Chartered Accountant) and President Award winning teacher Shrinath Pandey threw light in detail on the opportunities, challenges and preparation methods available in their respective fields. The program was concluded by District School Inspector

Anshuman. Describing the event as a meaningful initiative towards building the future of the students, he praised Samagra Shiksha Madhyamik. The program was conducted by Dr. Harishchandra Yadav, Vibhuti Narayan Government Inter College, Gyanpur. On this occasion, Alok Tiwari, Principal, Vibhuti Narayan Government Inter College, Suryabaali, Principal, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Government Model Inc., Sargarapur, Arvind Patel, Principal, Pt. Deendayal Upadhyay Government Model Inc, Girdabadagaon, Indramani Mishra, Principal, Government Girls High School, Sadaupur, Pradeep Pandey, District Coordinator, Samagra Shiksha Secondary and Ashutosh Shukla, Assistant Accountant, Samagra Shiksha Secondary were present.

BUNKERMAN RECHNOLOGY OUTPERFORMS AT GUWAHATI REFINERY

BUNKERMAN

Technology of Direct Carbon Capture at Negative Cost (DCCNC) was installed at the DDCS Control Center Guwahati as a Pilot Project on 08 July 2024.

The chemical filters used in the system were guaranteed to work for 12 months without replacement. However, on observing the



outstanding performance of the filters during quarterly checks of their residual capacity, BUNKERMAN requested the users (Guwahati Refinery) to permit using the same filters for another 6 months time without replacement so that their performance can be evaluated even beyond the guarantee period on 12 months. Guwahati Refinery agreed for the same and the performance of the system with filters was evaluated for the extended period of 18 months. It was found that the systems and filters performed satisfactorily and maintained the desired corrosive atmosphere at Level G1 (Mild), CO2 concentration below 800 ppm and TVOC below 400 ppb continuously for 18 months period, against the 12 months guarantee period. Maj Gen Dr Shri Pal, Chairman of BUNKERMAN informed that this outperformance of the system is contributed to the inbuilt safety and redundancy factors considered by him in design of these systems, considering the importance of these facilities and to avoid or reduce any possibility of disruptions/ down times in their operation.

Guwahati Refinery has now replaced the filters and awarded the Annual Maintenance Contract for next two years to replace the filters on annual basis. Based on the outstanding performance of BUNKERMAN Technology in this Pilot Project, the oil refineries, industries and other departments in India, are now initiating the works for their main projects incorporating this technology of Direct Carbon Capture at Negative Cost (DCCNC).

Martyr Sub-Inspector Kamlesh Pal Laid to Rest with Full State Honours

Dahariyapur

Sub-Inspector Kamlesh Pal, a resident of Dahariyapur village under Bidhuna tehsil, who attained martyrdom while serving the nation in Jammu and Kashmir, was accorded a final farewell with full state honours on Tuesday in his native village. As the tricolour-wrapped mortal remains reached the village, the atmosphere turned emotional with tearful eyes and resounding slogans of patriotism echoing across the area. Kamlesh Pal, also known as Kulter Singh, son of Shivram Singh was serving as a Sub-Inspector in the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and was posted in the difficult terrains of Udhampur district, Jammu and Kashmir. On



Monday morning, he suffered a sudden cardiac arrest due to extreme cold conditions, leading to his untimely demise. After completion of post-mortem and official formalities, his body was brought to the village in a special vehicle on Tuesday morning. As soon as the martyr body entered the village boundary, a massive crowd gathered holding the national flag and raised slogans such as “Bharat Mata Ki Jai” and

“Jab tak suraj chand rahega, Kamlesh tumhara naam rahega.” Amid these patriotic chants, the final procession moved towards his residence, reflecting both grief and pride. Upon arrival at the village, CRPF personnel paid a solemn Guard of Honour to the fallen officer. Later, his last rites were performed with full state honours at a private field near the Bela-Bidhuna road, following all official protocols. The

final farewell left the family inconsolable. The martyr wife Sarojini Devi, sons Kashmir Pal and Amresh Pal, daughter Malti, daughters-in-law, brother Master Singh Pal and other relatives were overwhelmed with grief. Villagers remembered Kamlesh Pal as a disciplined, duty-bound and affable personality. They said the region has lost a true son of the soil whose dedication and service to the nation will always be remembered.

A wave of mourning has spread across Dahariyapur village and the entire Bidhuna region. Administrative officials and a large number of local residents paid floral tributes to the martyr and saluted his supreme sacrifice in the service of the nation.

Salaries of Absent Officers to Be Deducted, DM orders strict action for non-attendance in Zoom meeting, issues stern warning

District Magistrate Dr. Indramani Tripathi has directed strict action against officers and employees who remained absent from an official Zoom meeting. Taking a serious view of the negligence, the District Magistrate ordered deduction of one day salary of the concerned officials. He also issued a strong warning to district-level and tehsil-level officers for failing to join Zoom meetings on time, even during Samadhan Diwas proceedings. The instructions were issued during a meeting convened to ensure that beneficiaries identified under the Zero Poverty initiative are provided benefits of all government schemes strictly as per eligibility and the intent of the government.



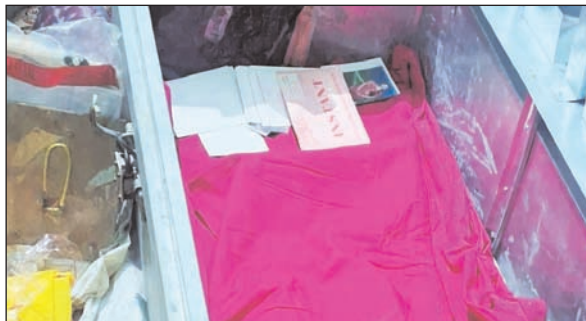
under various pension schemes, so that eligible beneficiaries receive timely benefits through all departmental schemes. Additionally, the ITI Principal was instructed to provide skill training to youth in the age group of 18 to 35 years under the Skill Development Mission. The District Magistrate also reviewed the disposal of complaints received through the IGRS portal and the CM Helpline. He directed all Block Development Officers (BDO) to conduct daily reviews with block-level officers, including CDPO, ADO (Panchayat), Block Education Officers and the Chief Veterinary Officer, to ensure effective grievance redressal. The objective, he

said, is to improve the quality and factual accuracy of complaint disposal and to enhance the satisfaction percentage. The District Magistrate further instructed the Chief Development Officer to issue written directions to BDO holding additional charge, mandating them to sit in their respective blocks at least three days a week from 10 am to 2 pm to ensure timely execution of work. He also directed all Sub-Divisional Magistrates and Tehsildars to dispose of pending cases older than five years and three years on a priority basis in their respective courts. The Social Welfare Officer, Backward Class Welfare Officer and Minority Welfare Officer were instructed to expedite the disposal of scholarship cases at both district and school levels. Furthermore, the Chief Veterinary Officer was directed to prepare a concrete action plan for capturing stray cattle roaming at various locations and ensuring their protection by shifting them to nearby gaushalas.

Police Challenged, Thieves Have a Field Day

Gazipur

In a brazen challenge to the police, thieves committed thefts at five locations in a single night near the old South Gate of Ward Three in Sadat Nagar Panchayat. Residents have criticized the police for their inaction following these incidents. It is reported that the thieves cut the locks of the closed doors of four houses and made off with valuables from all four. They also stole a Pulsar motorcycle parked outside one of the houses under the cover of darkness. According to reports, Wasim runs a tailoring shop near the old South Railway Gate. The thieves cut the lock of his shop and stole customers' clothes and money. According to Wasim, they stole about ten thousand rupees, two lehengas and eight to



ten sets of customers' clothes that were kept for tailoring. The thieves then targeted the closed house of Santosh Jaiswal, located a short distance away. They broke open two boxes and a Godrej cupboard and took away jewelry and other valuables. Santosh Jaiswal family is currently in Dhanbad, so the extent of the loss is unknown. Similarly, the thieves stole a Pulsar motorcycle parked outside the house of Sanjay Mali in Mali Tola. They also broke the lock of Hansraj Gupta house in the neighborhood and stole essential items.

Neighbors informed Hansraj Gupta, who is currently living in Varanasi with his family, about the theft. The thieves also cut the lock of the betel shop belonging to Ramdhani Rajbhar of Budhanpur, located in front of the liquor store and stole the goods inside. Upon receiving information about the thefts, Sub-Inspector Anirudh Dwivedi of Sadat Police Station inspected the scene and examined the footage from nearby CCTV cameras. Based on the evidence, the police are working to identify the thieves involved in the incidents.

Dibiyapur

A review meeting of Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANM) was held at the Dibiyapur Community Health Centre (CHC) on Tuesday under the chairmanship of the Superintendent. During the meeting, details of the work carried out by ANM were reviewed and necessary directions were issued to address the shortcomings found. CHC Superintendent Vijay Anand reviewed the progress of various health programmes, including routine immunisation, institutional deliveries, vaccination of pregnant women, antenatal services, Ayushman cards and



ABHA ID, among other ongoing health initiatives. During the review, certain deficiencies were observed, following which the Superintendent directed all ANMs to rectify them with immediate effect. He emphasised ensuring regular immunisation of children and pregnant women. In addition, ANM and ASHA workers were instructed to facilitate the

issuance of Ayushman cards for all eligible beneficiaries, including persons above 70 years of age, and to ensure the creation of ABHA IDs.

Health Education Officer Vivek Trivedi, BCPM Jameer Ahmad, Monitor Abhishek Kumar, BPM Ashwani Kumar, IO Himanshu Chandan and other officials were present during the meeting.

Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign to run from January 30th



Ghazipur

Under the National Leprosy Eradication Program, National Leprosy Prevention Day and the Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign will be observed from January 30th to February 13th. A review meeting regarding this was held under the chairmanship of Chief Medical Officer Sunil Kumar Pandey. All NMA, NMS and medical superintendents associated with the National Leprosy Eradication Program participated in the meeting. ACMO and District Leprosy Officer Dr. Ramkumar informed that the National Leprosy Prevention Day and the Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign will be conducted in Ghazipur district from January 30th to February 13th, 2026. The meeting reviewed the guidelines received from the Government of India. Chief Medical Officer Dr. Sunil Kumar Pandey thoroughly reviewed the work done previously and the upcoming tasks. He instructed everyone to participate wholeheartedly in this campaign. Leprosy is an infectious disease caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium leprae, which affects the nerves of the hands and feet, the skin and the upper respiratory tract. If leprosy is not treated in time, it can lead to physical disability.

Priyanka counts her blessings

Priyanka Chopra reflects on family, gratitude and self-kindness as she welcomes 2026, sharing a heartfelt beachside moment on Instagram

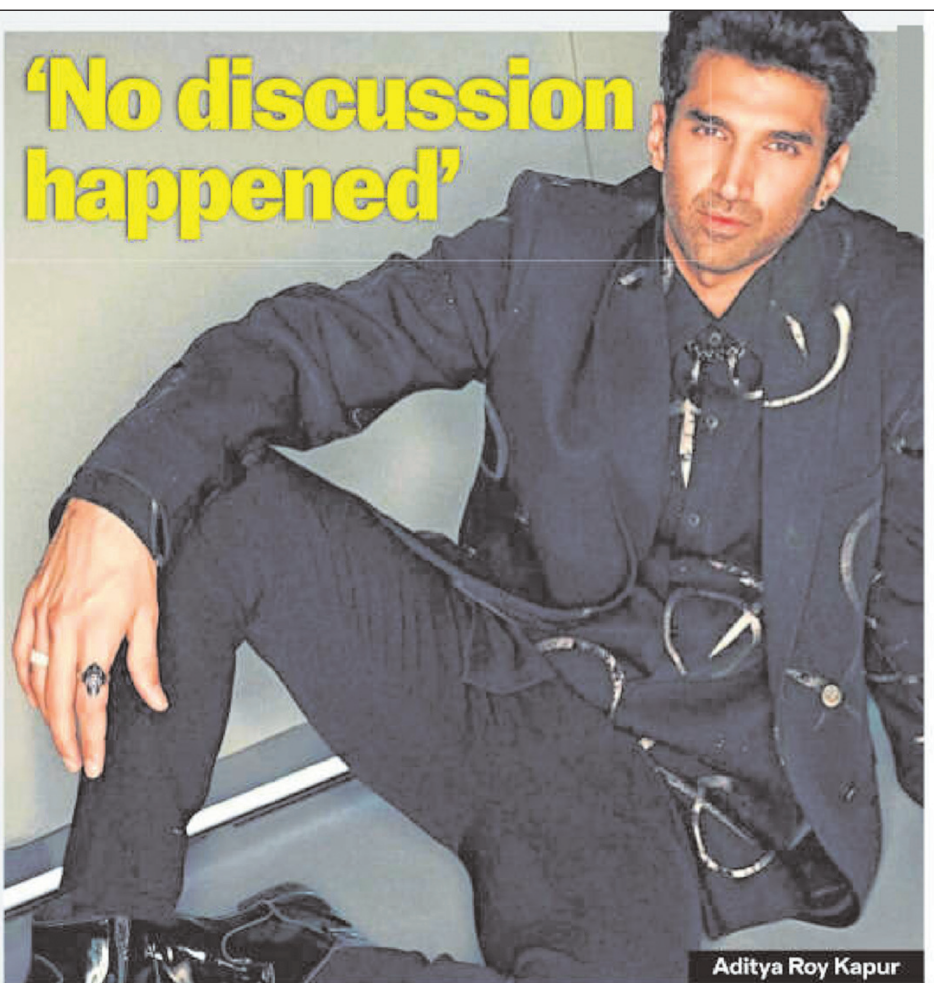
Global star Priyanka Chopra Jonas decided to take a pause and express gratitude for her biggest blessing, her family, as she steps into 2026. PeeCee dropped a post on her Instagram Stories where she was seen taking a stroll by the beach, looking back at what all life has bestowed upon her.

Priyanka also hilariously admitted that she has been discussing with her friends that 2026 sounds like something from the future. The *Fashion* actress was heard saying, "Okay, I told myself I will get better at this, which is talking to the camera. Look at that, my first few footsteps in 2026. That sounds like the future. I've been telling my friends that 2026 sounds like the future. How is that even possible? But here we are."

PeeCee shared that at times life moves at such a fast pace that one forgets to step back and applaud oneself for simply coming this far. Deciding to be a little kinder to herself, the diva added, "You know, I was just looking back at my family, my beautiful footsteps, and just felt grateful for how lucky I am. You know, it's like having run for such a long time at such a fast speed, you kind of forget to give yourself a little bit of a pat on the back for surviving. So here's me, giving myself a pat on the back, being kind to myself, being really grateful for being able to build this life."

Priyanka Chopra further went on to remind everyone that "There's always light on the other side of the tunnel. So, all one needs to do is to have faith in the process, persevere, and just keep moving." Work-wise, Priyanka will next be seen as the leading lady in SS Rajamouli's highly talked about project *Varanasi*. The drama has already managed to create massive buzz among cinephiles.

'No discussion happened'



Aditya Roy Kapur

Filmmaker Mohit Suri dismisses reunion rumours with Aditya Roy Kapur, clarifying that his next YRF-backed film's script and cast are not finalised

For weeks now, speculation has been rife that filmmaker Mohit Suri was set to reunite with his *Aashiqui 2* (2013) actor Aditya Roy Kapur for an upcoming project. Reports even suggested that after multiple script readings and discussions, Aditya had opted out of the film, forcing the makers to look for a new male lead. However, Mohit Suri has now put all rumours to rest.

Speaking to *Bombay Times*, the director clarified that there is absolutely no truth to the casting buzz surrounding his next YRF-backed film. "I meet Aditya Roy Kapur and Shaad Randhawa to play cricket. We hang out together," Mohit said, adding that their recent interactions have been purely personal.

Addressing the speculation further, Mohit ex-

plained, "Aditya is a close friend of mine, but we haven't met for work at all. The script that I am working on is not even ready, and no discussions have happened on the same. The script that I am writing isn't for Aditya Roy Kapur. I will reveal everything once my script and cast are in place."

When contacted, Aditya echoed Mohit's statement and dismissed the rumours with humour. Laughing off the reports, the actor said, "The only place Mohit and I have been meeting is on the cricket field, where I've been getting him clean bowled! So, no role is going to be coming my way from there. The news of me opting out of his film is totally false."

Following the success of *Saiyaara*, starring newcomers Ahaan Panday and Aneet Padda, expectations are high from Mohit Suri's next directorial venture. However, the filmmaker has made it clear that fans will have to wait a little longer for official announcements regarding his upcoming project's script and cast.

Filmmaker Mohit Suri

Miley Cyrus open to acting comeback

Singer and actor says she's open to acting again if the script and character are right, while celebrating Hannah Montana milestone

Singer and actor Miley Cyrus has said she would be open to returning to acting if the right opportunity presents itself, nearly six years after her last on-screen appearance, according to *E! News*.

Speaking to *Entertainment Tonight* on the sidelines of the 37th annual Palm Springs International Film Festival Awards, Cyrus said a comeback to acting would depend entirely on the script and the character.

"If the opportunity or the script or the character was right or designed in a way that it would make sense, I'm totally there," the Grammy-winning singer said.

Cyrus last appeared on screen in a 2019 episode of *Black Mirror*. At the Palm Springs event, the 33-year-old also reacted to her 2026 Golden Globe nomination for her song *Dream As One* from *Avatar: Fire and Ash*, for which she received the Outstanding Artistic Achievement award.

"It's just all really exciting for me," she said. "Everything that I could have dreamed is a reality and so everyday I'm grateful," as quoted by *E! News*.

The singer also hinted at special plans marking the 20th anniversary of *Hannah Montana*, the Disney Channel series that made her a household name. The anniversary celebrations are set to take place in March. Cyrus recently debuted a blonde hair transformation inspired by the character's iconic look, complete with signature bangs.

Reflecting on the show's legacy, Cyrus said the anniversary would be meaningful both for her and her fans. "It's very rare that someone grows up with their fanbase," she said, adding that she wants to honour the long-standing relationship she has built with audiences over the years, *E! News* reported.

Cyrus also addressed speculation about a possible reboot of *Hannah Montana*, saying she does not see the character being recast. "This is the only Hannah," she said in a recent interview.



Photo: Instagram @miley Cyrus

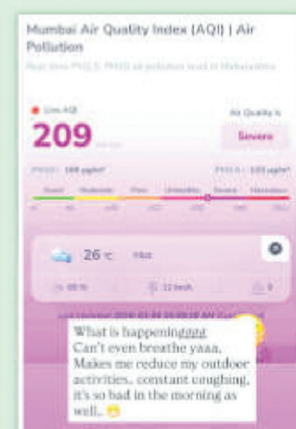
'Can't ever breathe'

Hina Khan shares health update on social media, reveals she is having difficulty breathing due to deteriorating air quality

Polluted air continues to hamper the daily life of people living in Mumbai, and popular television actress Hina Khan is no exception. Sharing her health update on social media, the *Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai* actress revealed that she is having a hard time breathing, thanks to the deteriorating air quality in the city.

Hina further stated that she has been coughing constantly as the polluted air in Mumbai is having a bad effect on her health, something which she has already been struggling with, given her battle with breast cancer.

The *Bigg Boss 11* contestant added that the pollution has also restricted her outdoor activities, something which is crucial to maintain optimal health.



She took to the Stories section of her Instagram handle and posted a screenshot of the Air Quality Index of Mumbai, which marked the AQI levels in the city at 209, implying that the Air Quality in the city is 'severe'.

Sharing her ordeal with the netizens, Hina wrote a note that read, "What is happening? Can't ever breathe, yaaa. Makes me reduce my outdoor activities."

Constant coughing. It's so bad in the morning as well (sic). Meanwhile, during her recent appearance on actress Soha Ali Khan's podcast *All About Her*, Hina opened up about her challenging journey with cancer.

She shared that during her treatment, she faced both good and bad days. Hina said that she used to take chemo every three weeks, out of which she used to be in a lot of pain for the first week; however, she enjoyed her life to the fullest in the remaining two weeks.

She revealed, "It's the way you look at it. People, as soon as they are diagnosed with something, they think their life is over, but it is not. I used to think the same way, but as soon as I started experiencing, I realized that even if there is a side of life which is bad and devastating, there are good days too when you live a normal life with your loved ones, with so much love around."



Abhijeet Ghoshal reimagines Hanuman Bhakti

Indian youth are increasingly turning to *bhajans*, but not in the traditional slow format. They seek devotion they can feel, not just hear, and high-energy remix versions of spiritual songs are helping them connect with faith in a way that suits modern lifestyles.



Abhijeet Ghoshal, versatile singer and 11-time *Sa Re Ga Ma Pa* winner from Prayagraj, has reimagined one of India's most beloved chants with his latest release, Clubmix *Hanuman Chalisa*. "Young people today are drawn to *bhajans* that have rhythm, energy, and life," he says. "When the music moves them physically, emotionally, and spiritually, it becomes part of their daily rhythm." The track blends traditional melodies with electronic beats, dynamic tempos, and contemporary production techniques, keeping the devotional essence intact. Ghoshal arranged, composed, and lent his vocals to the track, while Jeson Malu handled the music, and Ajay Kumar Singh oversaw dubbing, mixing, and mastering at Swarit Studio, Mumbai.

Rahu Ketu trailer unveiled

The makers of the upcoming film *Rahu Ketu* have unveiled the much-awaited trailer, offering a glimpse into a storyline full of humour and chaos.

The film stars Pulkit Samrat and Varun Sharma in lead roles, with the trailer highlighting their camaraderie and comic timing.

The trailer opens with veteran actor Piyush Mishra lending his distinctive voice to narrate the

story of Rahu and Ketu. It then moves into a fun introduction of Rahu and Ketu, played by Pulkit Samrat and Varun Sharma. Their innocent, clueless nature and easy chemistry, paired with silly antics, bring laughter.

Backed by Zee Studios and Blive Productions, *Rahu Ketu* positions itself as a light-hearted entertainer. Earlier, Pulkit and Varun opened up about what fans can expect from the movie, which is directed by Vipul Vig. *Rahu Ketu* is set to be released on January 14.



Briefs

PARSA

Mosque row: Tension grips Nepal town

The District Administration Office (DAO) of Parsa has extended the curfew order in Birgunj city in the wake of the continued religious tension over a TikTok video. The local administration on Monday afternoon issued the prohibitory order in parts of the district, but the two sides held simultaneous protests defying the order, prompting authorities to impose curfew. The controversy is said to have begun when two youths, Haider Ansari and Amanat Ansari, uploaded a video on TikTok in Janakpur, Dhanusha. Locals claimed the video hurt religious sentiments and handed the youths over to the police. Tension had started to flare in ward 6 of Kamala Municipality after a mosque was vandalized.

LAHORE

Pak church ransacked after dispute

A church has been attacked by a group of Muslim men who ransacked it and desecrated the Bible in Punjab province of Pakistan, police said on Tuesday. The Feroz Din Memorial Church in Kot Radha Kishan, Kasur district, some 50 kms from Lahore, came under attack in early hours of Monday by a group of unidentified men. Police, however, claim to have arrested a prime suspect, Allah Rakha, and booked him under blasphemy and other charges. Rakha had a quarrel with some members of Christian community in the village over some issue, police officer Mohammad Essa said. "To vent his anger, he entered the church and ransacked it. Some Christian religious symbols and church property were damaged and the holy book of Christians was also desecrated," the police officer said.

RESTORING ORDER | South American country must be first stabilised and its infrastructure rebuilt, says US President

No Venezuela elections in next 30 days, says Trump

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump said the United States is not at war with Venezuela and will not push for elections there in the near term, arguing that the country must first be stabilised and its infrastructure rebuilt following the capture of its leader, Nicolas Maduro.

In an exclusive interview with NBC News, Trump said Venezuela would not hold elections in the next 30 days. "We have to fix the country first," Trump said. "You can't have an election if people can't even vote."

Trump said Washington's focus is on restoring basic order and rebuilding the economy. "We have to nurse the country back to health," he said, indicating that the transition would take time.

The president said US oil companies could play a central role in rebuilding Venezuela's energy infrastructure, an effort he suggested could take less than 18 months.



Assange lawyer in Maduro team

WASHINGTON

The legal proceedings against captured Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro took a high-profile turn in a Manhattan federal court on Monday, as the embattled leader appeared with Barry Pollack as his private counsel. Pollack, a renowned trial lawyer, is most famous for his years-long representation of

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, a role that culminated in Assange's 2024 release from a UK prison. The choice of such a prominent defender signals a high-stakes legal battle as Maduro prepares to fight a litany of federal charges.

A partner at the Wall Street-based firm Harris St. Laurent & Wechsler, Pollack is no stranger to complex, international litigation. His new client, whom the U.S. government has

characterized as an "illegitimate president" and a "narcoterrorist," pleaded not guilty on Monday to several severe counts. These include drug-terrorism conspiracy, cocaine-importation conspiracy, and the illegal possession of machine guns and destructive devices. If convicted on these charges, the former Venezuelan leader faces a maximum sentence of life in prison.

After Maduro op, Rubio will lead US strategy in Caracas

WASHINGTON

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio has been designated by President Donald Trump to lead implementation of Washington's post-operation strategy in Venezuela, the White House said, outlining a whole-of-government effort that spans diplomatic, economic, financial, and military tools.

Stephen Miller, a close adviser to the president, told reporters at the White House on Monday that Rubio has been asked to enforce the president's guidance and coordinate across agencies.

"The President of the United States has asked Secretary Rubio to directly enforcement of the President's post guidance and direction to be the lead on this process," Miller said, adding that the work involves "energy policy, Treasury policy, financial policy, military policy."

Miller pointed to US control over key pressure points. "We have an oil embargo on Venezuela," he said. "For them to do any kind of commerce, they need our permission."

He also cited the continued US military posture in the region. "We have our massive



Rubio and other top officials briefed leaders in Congress on Monday on the brazen military operation

fleet, our Armada still present there," Miller said. "This is an active and ongoing US government military operation. So, of course, we set the terms and conditions."

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Marco Rubio and other top officials briefed leaders in Congress late Monday on the striking military operation in Venezuela amid mounting concerns that President Donald Trump is embarking on a new era of U.S. expansionism without consultation of lawmakers or a clear vision for running the South American country.

B'desh Hindu man killed, 2nd in 24 hrs

DHAKA

A 40-year-old Hindu man, who owned a grocery shop, has been murdered in Bangladesh's Narsingdi city after unidentified attackers struck him with a sharp weapon, media reports said on Tuesday. The killing on Monday night, fifth since December 18 and second in the past 24 hours, underscores a spate of violence targeting members of the minority community ahead of the polls next month.

The victim, Moni Chakraborty, was attacked at Charsindhur Bazar in Palash Upazila at 11pm on Monday, bdnews24 reported. Police and local residents said he was returning home after closing his shop when unidentified attackers struck him. He collapsed on the spot. Locals rushed him to a hospital, where doctors declared him dead. His body was later sent to the Narsingdi Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Police name 17 in Hadi killing chargesheet

DHAKA/NEW DELHI

Student leader Sharif Osman Hadi was killed due to "political vengeance" at the behest of the Awami League, Bangladesh police said on Tuesday as it pressed formal charges against 17 people in connection with the murder.

"Through public rallies and social media, Hadi had strongly criticised the past activities of the now-banned Awami League and Chhatra League. Hadi's outspoken remarks angered leaders and activists of Chhatra League and its affiliated groups," Md Shafiqul Islam, Additional Commissioner of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police's (DMP) Detective Branch, was quoted as saying by news portal tbsnews.net.

The Chhatra League is the student wing of deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's Awami League party.

Nobel winner Machado vows to return home, bats for polls

WASHINGTON

Venezuela's main opposition leader Maria Corina Machado has vowed to return home quickly, praising U.S. President Donald Trump for toppling her enemy Nicolas Maduro and declaring her movement ready to win a free election.

Trump appears, however, to hope for now to work with interim President Delcy Rodriguez and other senior officials from Maduro's government, disappointing the



opposition and contributing to the nervousness gripping Venezuela.

"I'm planning to go back to Venezuela as soon as possible," said Machado, 58, an indus-

trial engineer and mother of three who escaped from Venezuela in disguise in October to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, which she dedicated to Trump.

Europe stands by Denmark as US prez eyes Greenland

BERLIN

Several European leaders pushed back Tuesday on US President Donald Trump's comments seeking an American takeover of Greenland.

The leaders issued a statement reaffirming the strategic, mineral-rich Arctic island "belongs to its people." The leaders of France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom joined Danish Prime Minister

Mette Frederiksen in



defending Greenland's sovereignty in the wake of Trump's comments about Greenland, which is a self-governing territory of the kingdom of Denmark.

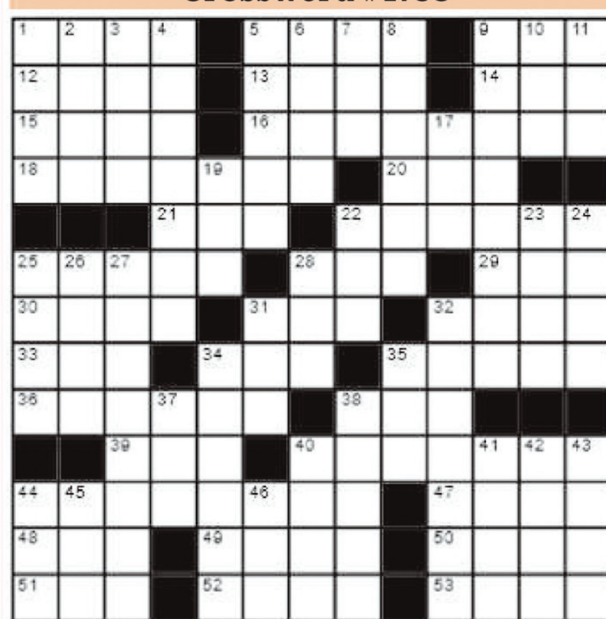
Stephen Miller, the White House deputy chief of staff, said Monday that Greenland

should be part of the United States in spite of a warning by Frederiksen that a US takeover of Greenland would amount to the end of the NATO military alliance.

MEXICO DISMISSES US THREATS

After the United States military intervention in Venezuela, the Mexican government and analysts discounted the likelihood of unilateral US military action against Mexican drug cartels, despite threats from President Donald Trump.

Crossword #1738



Across

- 1 Entrance
- 5 Ms Bhatt of Bollywood
- 9 Ancient or aged
- 12 Preposition
- 13 Indian river
- 14 Value Added Tax, abbr.
- 15 The badger's home is called this
- 16 Hemp used as narcotic - "he has she" anagram?
- 18 Cube of fried bread
- 20 For each
- 21 And not either?
- 22 Goodness
- 25 Obscene
- 28 Snare
- 29 In addition
- 30 Ms Deol or Ms Gupta of Bollywood
- 31 Baby's bed
- 32 Similar or related to
- 33 Indonesia's earlier name
- 34 In water : in trouble?
- 35 Environmental activist Thunberg
- 36 Body decoration
- 38 Two-year old sheep
- 39 Loire's contents
- 40 Japanese warrior
- 44 Amitabh's son
- 47 Electrically charged particles
- 48 Prefix or combining form meaning of living things
- 49 Inst. of Elec. and Electronics Engrs.
- 50 Mr. Patekar of Bollywood
- 51 Air Data Tester, abbr.
- 52 Sports channel
- 53 Became larger

Down

- 1 Flat circular plate
- 2 Unique or singular person
- 3 Palindromic German
- 4 Circular building
- 5 Despire or loathe
- 6 Slender
- 7 Indian Administrative Service, in short
- 8 Hole for fire residue - "at hips" anagram?
- 9 Pull ahead of
- 10 Gambler's haven Vegas
- 11 Tata Sky offers this service
- 17 Always in verse
- 19 Kite for one, doll for another
- 22 Pug physician
- 23 Single entity
- 24 Ferber : "So Big" author?
- 25 Type of grass
- 26 On the briny
- 27 Warmer than red! (5,3)
- 28 right : wrong?
- 31 Dove-call
- 32 Debating or bickering
- 34 Lotto or bingo?
- 35 Precious stone
- 37 chi: Chinese exercises
- 38 Spoken for
- 40 Leak through
- 41 Animal noise
- 42 Actress Bancroft?
- 43 Middle of Caesar's saying (1,3)
- 44 Arab sleeveless garment
- 45 Invitation or request
- 46 He is or he has contracted?

YOUR DAY By Vinayak Vishwas Karandikar



ARIES: The day supports progress in studies, travel plans, and career-related activities. Spending on housing, advertising, communication, or travel will help create future opportunities. People in education, the travel field, publication, and communications will experience



TAURUS: The day encourages thoughtful planning and mindful decision-making. Expenses related to children, entertainment, communication, or insurance will support stability and comfort. People in networking, journalism, entertainment, hardware, and occult-related professions will benefit. Patience and calm dialogues will help restore harmony with family and children. Lucky no: 6; Lucky colour: Pink



GEMINI: Today is favourable for earning, learning, and business development. Spending on business growth, education, vehicles, or properties will strengthen foundations. People in education, communications, publication, courier services, and property-related fields will achieve success. Lucky no: 5; Lucky colour: Green



CANCER: The day supports travel planning, investment, and purposeful spending. Expenses on health, travel, or communication tools will contribute to efficiency and comfort. People in journalism, tourism, and communication will experience success. Travel or focused care of a family member will deepen emotional bonds. Lucky no: 2; Lucky colour: Silver



LEO: The day brings maturity and positive results from past investments. Spending on travel, medical care, children, or entertainment will bring satisfaction. People in finance, communications, and consultancy will benefit steadily. Enjoyable moments with family will uplift your mood. Take care of your skin and throat. Lucky no: 1; Lucky colour: Orange



VIRGO: The day favours focus on career goals and educational progress. Expenses on advertising, communication, housing, education, or self-development will be productive. People in advertising, communications, publication, and education will move forward. A healthy balance between work and family time will be achieved. Take care of your knees and respiratory health. Lucky no: 5; Lucky colour: Green



LIBRA: The day supports learning, travel, and personal growth. Spending on travel, education, business, or career development will bring progress. People in tourism, education, law, and marketing will receive benefits. Long journeys or spiritual activities will bring peace and



SCORPIO: The day encourages patience and flexibility in higher studies and travel plans. Expenses on education, travel, or insurance will contribute to long-term security. People in networking, the occult sciences, and journalism will experience growth. Respectful communication with your father will strengthen bonds. Take care of your skin and respiratory health. Lucky no: 9; Lucky colour: Red



SAGITTARIUS: The day highlights perseverance and learning through experience. Spending on insurance, businesses, or health will support stability and protection. Consultants, communication experts, occultists, and maintenance workers will achieve success. Work responsibilities will encourage better time management and appreciation of family moments. Lucky no: 3; Lucky colour: Yellow



CAPRICORN: The day is supportive for investment, education, and travel. Expenses related to education, businesses, spouses, or travel will strengthen foundations. People in the medical field, communications, publication, and tourism will benefit positively. Take care of your skin and lungs. Lucky no: 8; Lucky colour: Blue

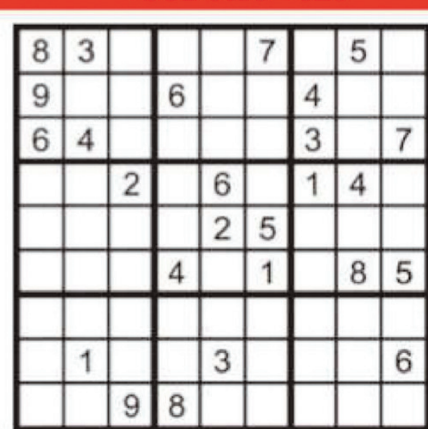


AQUARIUS: The day encourages careful planning and conscious action. Spending on children, insurance, maintenance, or health will support security and wellbeing. People in the occult sciences, insurance, communications, and entertainment will benefit. Calm communication and patience will help restore family harmony. Lucky no: 8; Lucky colour: Black

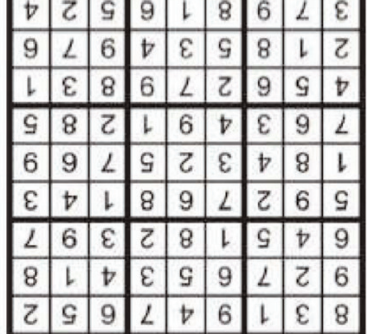
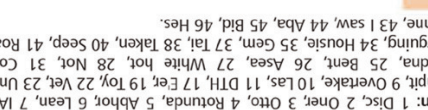


PISCES: The day is ideal for celebrations, reunions, and productive business activities. Spending on businesses, children, education, or entertainment will bring joy and growth. People in sports and publication will experience progress. Family gatherings and shared happiness will create memorable moments. Seasonal care and breathing comfort will support overall energy. Lucky no: 3; Lucky colour: Yellow

- SUDOKU - 628



Solution



WHAT TO DO: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Every puzzle has only one correct solution.

Vishwabhara Nadam

Dr. S. Ainavolu

The first three names used to address or describe the Almighty in the Vishnu Sahasra Nama Stotram are "Vishwam Vishnur Vshatkara". 'Vishwam' is used in the sense of 'universe', and we use it limitedly as 'world'. Nadam is the tune. The Almighty is reverentially addressed as the universe itself (holding the power of the universe), the one who is all-enveloping (Vishnu) and the one who is invoked with Vashat Karam. We learn that the universe originated with the sound of Aum+karam. The originated AUM sound has A, U, and Ma, with an extension. These, respectively, denote the beginning, sustenance, and the end state. Thus, we can correlate this with our own experience of the beginning, the continuing, and the end state. As 'kala' (time) is denoted, the longer unit of time of a year begins, continues for a fixed twelve months, and then comes full circle. The fourth-half sound after the three syllables of A, U, and Ma represents the Turiya sthiti, which is beyond the three states.

Jagrat is a well-known awakened state of external focus. Swapna is the dreamy state of internal focus. Sushupti is the blissful state and is beyond the external/internal state. The fourth is beyond all the three states. As the famous example goes, we are

aware of being awake and dreaming in the first two stages. We are also aware of the third deeper stage of "we are not aware". The absence of self, who is witnessing all these three, is the Turiya state. In Turiya, the self is all-encompassing. Some schools propose the Turiyateeta state, meaning "beyond all beyonds". In the third, the experience is absent, and in the fourth, there is no one to know whether the experience is happening. A thousand-mile journey begins with the first step.

How do we experience the Pranavam or Aum or Omkar? Is it an external sound or internally generated and experienced? Is Anahata the source of this primordial shabdha? How do we experience this "Shabdha Brahma"? Will losing or turning off the external open the internal? Is the absence of all experience Purna? If the experiencing person is part of the Purna, how can experiencing happen? Submergence? Convergence? May this year sharpen the quest and inspire more to travel the path, where the journey itself is the destination. The current cacophony shall end, and the Vishwam will vibrate to a sustainable AUM.

About the author
Dr. S. Ainavolu is a Mumbai-based teacher of Management and Tradition.

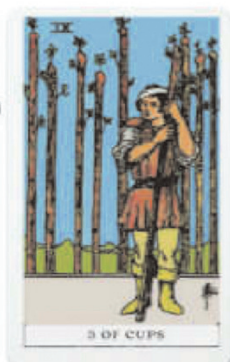
TAROT MESSAGE FOR THE DAY
9 OF WANDS

A day to move on, let go of the past, especially fears and march ahead with determination and grit.

The patterns that you are reliving contain a lesson in self-worth and love; learn it.

Worry and anxiety are forms of manifestation; address them and replace them with hope and faith.

Tip for the day: Keep affirming, "Everything is working out for my well-being and joy."



Lots of divine miracles your way, Sheetal Sapan Mhatre.

sp Briefs

NEW DELHI

Lanka reveal T20 squad

Sri Lanka named their squad for the Pakistan T20I series, captained by Dasun Shanaka. The series, starting January 7, serves as a final warm-up for the T20 World Cup. Legend Lasith Malinga joins as a fast-bowling consultant.

SYDNEY

Hazlewood joins Sixers



Pacer Josh Hazlewood has regained fitness and signed a supplementary contract with Sydney Sixers for the BBL. After battling hamstring and Achilles injuries, the veteran aims to find rhythm ahead of the 2026 T20 World Cup.

DIU

PKL star hits beach

Maharashtra's Dadaso Pujari is competing in beach kabaddi at the Khelo India Beach Games in Diu. The Purni Paltan defender credited the Khelo India pathway for his professional success, joining six other PKL stars on the sands.

NEW DELHI

Henry eyes WPL success



West Indies all-rounder Chinnelle Henry is set for the WPL with Delhi Capitals after a Rs 1.3 crore bid. Henry views the tournament as vital preparation for the T20 World Cup following the Windies' painful ODI World Cup exit.

GURUGRAM

BMW Golf Cup returns

BMW Group India announced the 16th BMW Golf Cup, the nation's largest amateur tournament. Spanning 13 cities and 19 qualifiers, over 2,200 golfers will compete for a chance to represent India at the global World Final.

STRASBOURG

Rosenior set for Chelsea



Liam Rosenior has confirmed his exit from Strasbourg, announcing an agreement to become the next Chelsea manager. The 41-year-old replaces Enzo Maresca, becoming the first Black British coach to lead the Blues in the Premier League era.



MILESTONE | Top seed powers past Egyptian rival, eyes Joshna's legacy

Anahat storms into British Junior Open U-19 final

NEW DELHI

In a display of sheer dominance, top-seeded Indian squash sensation Anahat Singh stormed into her maiden women's under-19 final at the prestigious British Junior

Open, defeating Egypt's Malika El Karakasy in straight games at the University of Birmingham on Monday.

The 17-year-old prodigy, already a winner of 12 PSA Tour titles, needed just 28 minutes to secure an 11-8, 11-7, 11-9 victory. Employing a sharp, attacking game, Anahat consistently targeted the

front corners to seal her place in the summit clash.

Historic Pursuit

This marks Anahat's ninth British Junior Open final across various age groups. She now stands on the cusp of history, aiming to become only the second Indian to win the U-19 title, two decades after Joshna Chin-

appa's triumph in 2005.

Final Hurdle

Anahat will face a formidable challenge in the final against second seed Lauren Baltayan of France, the reigning European junior champion.

Other Result

There was disappoint-

ment in the boys' U-17 category as India's second seed Aryaveer Dewan fell in the semifinals to Egypt's Philopater Saleh.

All eyes will now be on Anahat as she prepares for the final, carrying the hopes of a nation in the tournament's landmark 100th-anniversary edition.

17-year-old Indian prodigy reaches maiden U-19 final in straight games; aims to become second Indian Champion after 21 years

HEAD-SMITH STORM

FROM HEAD'S HAYMAKERS TO SMITH'S SYMPHONY | Twin tons put Australia firmly in command with 134-run lead in Ashes finale

SMITH IN A LEAGUE OF LEGENDS

SYDNEY

Australia seized absolute control on Day 3 of the final Ashes Test, powered by centuries from two of their modern greats. Travis Head's explosive 163 (off 166 balls) and Steve Smith's unbeaten, grafting 129 guided the hosts to 518/7, securing a commanding 134-run first-innings lead.

BRIEF SCORES

ENGLAND INNINGS - 384 all out (Joe Root 160, Harry Brook 84; Michael Neser 4-60, Scott Boland 2-85) Vs **AUSTRALIA INNINGS** - 518/7 (Travis Head 163, Steven Smith 129*; Brydon Carse 3-108, Ben Stokes 2-87) lead by 134 runs.

CENTURIONS: CONTRASTING BRILLIANCE

TRAVIS HEAD (163): The series' standout batter notched his third century of the rubber, becoming the first Australian opener since Matthew Hayden (2002-03) to achieve the feat. His innings was a barrage of 24 fours and a six, full of audacious stroke-play.

STEVE SMITH (129*): In a series where he had been relatively quiet, Smith chose his home ground to roar back. His 13th Ashes century (37th overall) was a classic display of concentration and eccentric genius, featuring his trademark fidgets and supreme control.

Nice batting wicket out there. Nice to start my innings on the back of a great innings from Travis Head. When you're out there with him they forget about you and I was able to get into my work. Worked out well today. Couple of nice partnerships. Greeny batted really nicely and then Slug came out and kept it going."

Steve Smith



Australia's Steve Smith bats during play on day three of the fifth and final Ashes Test against England in Sydney on Tuesday AP/PTI

THE TRAVBALL PHENOMENON

7

150-plus scores by Head in his 12 Test hundreds so far. Only four batters had more 150-plus scores within their first 12 hundreds - eight each by Bradman, Zaheer Abbas, Virinder Sehwag and Dennis Amiss.

152

Balls that Head needed to bring up his 150. It is the equal-third fastest 150 in the Ashes since the ball-by-ball data is available (starting with the 2001 Ashes).



13

Hundreds for Steven Smith in the Ashes, the second-most by any batter, behind Don Bradman's 19. Smith was tied second with Jack Hobbs (12) before the SCG hundred.

3682

Runs scored by Smith in the Ashes so far, making him the second-highest run-getter of the competition, behind Bradman's 5028. He went past Hobbs' total of 3636 runs during his unbeaten 129 on Tuesday.

37

Test hundreds for Smith, the sixth-most by any batter, taking him past Rahul Dravid's tally of 36 tons. It took 219 innings for Smith to score his 37th Test century; only Ponting (212) and Kumar Sangakkara (218) got there quicker.

18

Hundreds for Smith as captain in Tests. Only three batters have scored more Test hundreds as captain. Eleven of those 18 came across 26 home Tests, equal-most for any captain, alongside Ricky Ponting.

5

Hundreds for Smith in Tests at SCG, the second-most by any batter at the venue, behind Ponting's six. Smith has also scored five Test hundreds at MCG. Smith is also the second-highest run-getter in SCG Tests, behind Ponting.

KEY MOMENTS & PARTNERSHIPS

EMOTIONAL FAREWELL: The SCG crowd gave a heartfelt standing ovation to Usman Khawaja (17) in his final Test innings, celebrating a remarkable career.

MISSED CHANCE: England's Will Jacks dropped Head on 121, a costly error that allowed the left-hander to accelerate further.

LOWER-ORDER SUPPORT: Valuable contributions from Cameron Green (37) and an unbeaten 42 from Beau Webster stretched Australia's lead, with Webster adding 81 with Smith for the eighth wicket.

THE STATE OF PLAY & WHAT'S NEXT

With a lead of 134 and three wickets still in hand, Australia aims to push the advantage beyond 200 on Day 4. England's bowlers toiled with little reward on a flattening SCG pitch. The visitors now face a monumental task to save this Test and avoid a 3-1 series defeat, needing a massive second-innings effort to set any kind of target.

THE VERDICT

Day 3 was a brutal demonstration of Australia's batting depth and a reminder of Smith's enduring class. While the Ashes are already retained, this performance reinforces their dominance.

NEW DELHI

The Vijay Hazare Trophy league stage surged towards its business end on Tuesday with heavyweight performances, runaway victories and quarterfinal tickets being stamped across groups — headlined by Karnataka's ruthless demolition of Rajasthan and Delhi's long-awaited return to the knockout stage.

Karnataka crush Rajasthan, march into quarters

Star-studded Karnataka sent out a loud title warning as skipper Mayank Agarwal (100) and Devdutt Padikkal (91) stitched a mammoth 184-run opening stand, flattening Rajasthan by 150 runs in a one-sided Group A clash at Ahmedabad. Karnataka's 324/7 proved far beyond reach before Prasad Krishna (5/36) ripped through Rajasthan, bowling them out for 174. With six wins from six, Karnataka sit pretty atop the group with 24 points, already sealed into the quarterfinals.

Kerala stay alive

Kerala rode on a sensational Vishnu Vinod 162 (84 balls) — his career-best List A knock — as they crushed Puducherry with 21 overs to spare, keeping their quarterfinal hopes alive.

UP seal knockouts

Uttar Pradesh stormed into the quarterfinals after Abhishek Goswami's 103 anchored a commanding 339/5, followed by a disciplined bowling effort to beat Vidarbha by 54 runs. UP remain unbeaten and top Group B with 20 points, while Vidarbha, Bengal and Baroda are locked in a tense three-way tie on 16 points.

Aman Rao's 200 blows Bengal off course

The innings of the day came from US-born Aman Rao, who smashed a breathtaking 200 off 109 balls — peppered with 13 sixes — as Hyderabad thumped Bengal by 107 runs. Fast bowler Mohammed Siraj (4/58) then tore through Bengal's chase, leaving their quarterfinal hopes hanging by a thread.

Baroda stay in the hunt

Twin centuries from Vishnu Solanki (132) and Priyanshu Moliya (114) powered Baroda to a convincing 76-run win over Jammu & Kashmir, keeping them firmly in the qualification race.

Pant's Delhi storm back after five years

In Group D, Rishabh Pant-led Delhi confirmed their return to the Vijay Hazare Trophy quarterfinals for the first time in five years, crushing Railways by six wickets.

CAPTAIN CLIMBS AS CROWN SLIPS

RANKINGS RESHUFFLE | A mixed bag for India's T20I stars

DUBAI

Indian captain Harmanpreet Kaur's match-winning 68 off 43 balls in the fifth T20I against Sri Lanka has propelled her two places up to 13th in the latest ICC Women's T20I Batting Rankings. This move inches her closer to the top 10 after a dominant 5-0 series whitewash.

Other Indian batters holding firm

Smriti Mandhana: No 3 (Steady)

Shafali Verma: No 6 (Steady)

Jemimah Rodrigues: Slipped to No 12 (Down from top 10)

Australia's Beth Mooney continues her reign at the top.

Bowling blow: Deepti's narrow slip

In a major shift, India's spin ace Deepti Sharma has been displaced from the No. 1 bowling spot. Despite taking a wicket in the final T20I, her return of 1/28 wasn't enough to hold off Australia's Annabel Sutherland, who reclaimed the top position by a mere one rating point (736 to 735).

Other Bowling Movements

Shreyanka Patil: Gained five places to reach 47th. Sri Lanka's Kavisha Dilhari (up 1 to 32nd) and Chamari Athapaththu (up 3 to 48th) also advanced.

The bigger picture

The rankings update reflects the intense competition

at the pinnacle of women's T20 cricket. While Harmanpreet's return to form is a huge positive for India, Deepti's slip—however narrow—underscores the constant pressure to perform.

With a T20 World Cup on the horizon, these rankings will be a key battleground for psychology. A 150-plus score within their first 12 hundreds - eight each by Bradman, Zaheer Abbas, Virinder Sehwag and Dennis Amiss.



ISL to return on Feb 14 with all 14 clubs

NEW DELHI

Ending months of uncertainty, the Indian Super League (ISL) has been given the green signal to begin its new season on February 14, sports minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya announced on Tuesday.

The league's future had been in limbo due to a stand-off between the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and Football Sports Development Limited (FSDL) over the renewal of the Master Rights Agreement (MRA), which was set to expire midway through the 2025-26 season.

"Due to a court dispute, there was uncertainty about ISL, but today the government, AIFF, and all 14 club representatives have decided to restart the league. The national football league will kick off from February 14," Mandaviya told reporters.

MUSTAFIZUR'S MILLION-DOLLAR MISFORTUNE

KOLKATA

In a move that exposes the fragility of player protection in global leagues, Bangladesh speedster Mustafizur Rahman is set to receive no financial compensation after being released by Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR). This follows a direct instruction from the BCCI, citing unspecified "developments all around", despite the player having no role in the circumstances leading to his contract termination.

LACUNA

Bangladesh pacer unlikely to receive any compensation after release, as IPL insurance doesn't cover politically-driven contract terminations; BCB retaliates with T20 WC venue demand.

THE FINANCIAL FALLOUT: A Rs 9.2 CR VOID

Mustafizur was bought by

KKR for a staggering Rs 9.2 crore at the IPL auction. However, standard IPL player insurance covers only scenarios like injury after joining the camp or during the tournament, typically paying up to 50% of the salary. Since his release was due to non-cricketing, administrative reasons, the insurance clauses offer no safety net, leaving KKR with "no official obligation to pay a penny."

THE LEGAL MAZE & GEOPOLITICAL REALITY

Weak Legal Recourse: While theoretically an option, legal action under Indian law or via the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) is seen as a lengthy, costly deterrent for an overseas player.

BCB's Retaliation & Weakened Case: The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has not only withdrawn Mustafizur's No Objection Certificate (NOC) but has also demanded shifting their T20 World Cup matches from India to Sri Lanka.

POWER SHIFT

India will be a scary side in 5-10 years: Gardner

MUMBAI

Australian all-rounder Ashleigh Gardner has issued a stark warning, stating that the newly-crowned Women's ODI World Champion India is "well on its way" to be-

coming a "very hard to beat" side in the next five to ten years. Gardner, part of the Australian team that lost to India in last year's World Cup semifinal, called the prospect "exciting" but also "scary as an Australian."

Confident Yet Cautious

While acknowledging India's damaging potential, Gardner firmly backed her own team: "I still think we're the best team in the world... If we played any team ten times in a row, I would say we're probably going to win eight or nine times."

On Gujarat Giants' WPL Campaign

Turning her focus to the upcoming Women's Premier League, where she represents Gujarat Giants, Gardner dismissed concerns over the franchise's lack of a frontline Indian batting star. "Certainly, we would have loved a more experienced Indian batter...

but we have to win with who we've got. We've got a fantastic squad this year; there's no reason that we can't win."

She highlighted the overseas firepower of Beth Mooney, Danni Wyatt-Hodge, and Sophie Devine, and expressed confidence in having Indian pacer Renuka Singh Thakur as a team-

mate. "Knowing I've got someone that I can throw the ball to at the start and someone that I've got faith in certainly helps," she said.

Renuka's Resolve

Renuka, the lone World Cup winner in the Giants' camp, spoke about moving past her previous WPL performances by working on

her mental strength. With the women's T20 World Cup in England later this year, she emphasised the team's focus on the "next goal."

Gardner's comments underscore the rising stature of Indian women's cricket, setting the stage for an intriguing WPL season and future global contests.

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Email ID:
akhandbharatsandesh@gmail.com
Mob. 9415235084, 9565333000